



The Long Wire



February 2008



PUBLISHED BY THE LIVERPOOL AMATEUR REPEATER CLUB



Don't Miss the February Meeting, With Special Guest

Dan O' Shea, N2MRE

For the February meeting we are scheduled to have Scott Bauer, W2LC- the ARRL Western New York Section Manager, on hand to speak. He will speak on operating during the sun spot inactivity period. He will also update us on the news from ARRL Headquarters, as well as provide an update on BPL. Be there to ask questions of Scott, who just this weekend made contact with 42 countries on 160 meters.

Update on Last Month's Piece- Radio Antics on the North Side

Lee Badman, KC2IYK

As reported last month, an individual on the city's north side was using an FRS radio to spread claims of past and future terror activities (among other ravings). These activities have ceased after several months, though which agency finally dealt with him remains a bit unclear. All I'm told is that he was paid a visit, and the situation is taken care of. This person obviously has some problems- hopefully he gets the help he needs.

Marconi Memorial- Poldhu Cornwall, UK Online

Fred Herbs, WB2PEM

We all have places we dream of visiting- for the scenery, to touch history, or for any of a hundred other reasons. Some locations just feel "magic", and one such spot is in Cornwall, England. Specifically, Poldhu is the sight of a memorial to the Big Daddy of Radio, Mr. G. Marconi- and regardless of whether you have a

passport and funds to jump across the pond, you can go to the memorial online. And with the pictures and information available at <http://www.radiomarconi.com/marconi/memorial.html>, You'll be glad you stopped in. Here's just one of the many pictures from the website:



Marconi Memorial- Poldhu Cornwall, UK

And from one of the plaques:

One hundred yards north east of this column stood from 1900 to 1935 the famous Poldhu wireless station designed by John Ambrose Fleming and erected by the Marconi company of London from which were transmitted the first signals ever conveyed across the atlantic by wireless telegraphy. The signals consisted of a repetition of the morse letter 'S' and were received at St Johns Newfoundland by Guglielmo Marconi and his British associates on 12. 12. 1901.

Time Passages- 2 Local Hams Visit the MoST, Reflect on the Building's Past Life

Steve Auyer, N2TKX

Jim O'Keefe-W2SY and Roger Hamilton-WA2AEW recently toured the Museum of Science & Technology. Both had visited the facility in its prior incarnation - as

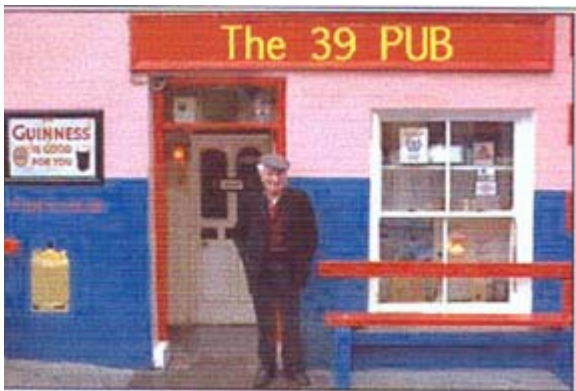
the Army National Guard Armory. W2SY learned that the ring where he boxed as a Golden Gloves competitor is now occupied by the IMAX theatre. WA2AEW commented: "The building alone brought back many memories, 1960 to 1966 motor pool track and wheeled vehicle mechanic, 27th Armored Division. Up at Camp Drum, driver for CWO, Maintenance Motor Officer."

Both enjoyed visiting the one area of the museum that has not been renovated and looks as it did when the National Guard vacated the facility in the early 1990's - Examining the officer's locker room and the meeting room with its working fireplace.

Then then visited the KC2APG amateur radio station where Dan O'Shea-N2MRE and John Rockdashil-WB2DVE demonstrated the various operating positions for them.



Dan, Roger, Jim, and John



Al Meeker, KA1EIX Takes Us to The 39 Pub...

...and gives us a glimpse of radio club life in Massachusetts.

Al says:

“Good Afternoon Lee, When in the area of Scituate, Massachusetts, I used to check in to the net on Saturday nights. Since then, it was connected to IRLP. Dick ACIM is a long standing member of this group. Dick & I went to Dayton with members of the group, for several years. I thought this might be an interesting tid bit for the monthly newsletter.”

Alan KA1EIX

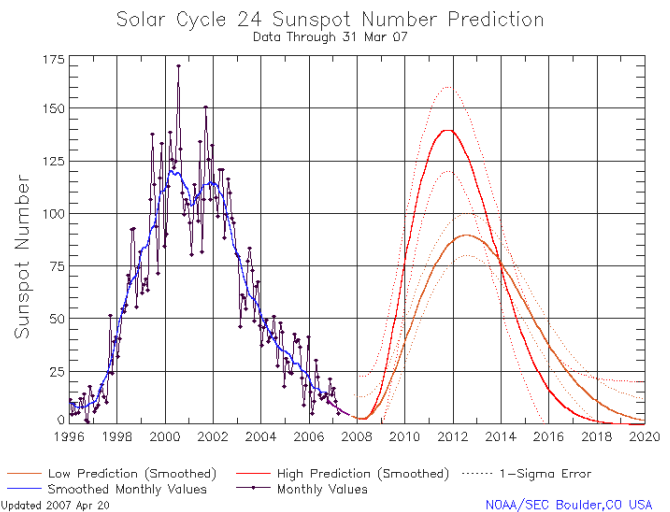
See information on the W1QWT repeater, those who keep it up, and much more at

www.geocities.com/NapaValley/9231/

Where Are We With the Sunspot Cycle?

Jerry Monroe, KC2UT

Some optimistic members of the radio community are saying we are into the infancy of the next solar cycle, but the data available is somewhat contradictory. For example, this projection from NOAA still shows us in decline:



From www.swpc.noaa.gov/SolarCycle/

Regardless of whether we are at the end or the beginning of a cycle, the current trough has a silver lining: this sure makes for some excellent Long Wave AM, BCB, and 160 meter propagation.



Mark Your Calendars- Drumlins ARC Hamfest on the Horizon

Dave Taylor, KB2KBY

On April 19, 2008, the Drumlins ARC will host their 22nd annual hamfest at the Marbletown Fire Hall in Newark, NY. Watch for news of the fest at LARC club meetings, and via the LARC mailing list.

More information?

David Taylor, KB2KBY
228 W. Jackson Street
Palmyra, NY 14522
(315) 597-4293

Minutes of the January 24, 2008 Meeting of the Liverpool Amateur Repeater Club,

submitted by Carrie Williams-KC2OPF, Secretary.

The meeting was called to order at 7:25pm by John Rockdashil-WB2DVE. Present were: N2VZD, KC2GFT, KD6BWE, WA2DAD, W2JST, N2ZPI, KC2QJJ, N2MRE, KC7UNK, W2LGA, WB2DVE, N2QDW, W2AKD, WA2RMD, WA2DGC, KC2SAB, KC2BHE, KC2CZH, WB2BJW, N2KQL, KC2QNE, K2JDD, KC2IXV, N2JOM, KB2TXR, N2TAI, N2MGU, K9CHP, K2SYR, WB2PKO, WA2ISC, KC2QHC, KK5MM and son Ben, KB2VSJ, WB2KFX, KC2OPF, N2IK, KE2FV, W2ELV, KC2SOL, KC2UT, KC2IQM, WA2IMX and his XYL, and KA2VEE.

Old Business:

Secretary –

The minutes of the October 25, 2007 General Membership Meeting as recorded by KC2OPF and published in the November LongWire were approved on a motion by KD6BWE, seconded by WA2IMX. KC2OPF reminded those members who had not signed in yet to do so at the end of the meeting.

Treasurer –

The club's recent raffle of an Icom V82 HT was very successful. The balance in the checking account on January 24, 2008 is \$272.54, with a deposit of \$100.00 in raffle start-up funds yet to be deposited. The balance in the savings account (repeater fund) on January 24, 2008 is \$1,134.21. The Treasurer's Report was accepted on a motion by W2AKD, seconded by KC7UNK.

Membership –

KC2IQM reminded members to let the club know if the LongWire is not being received, especially if one's email address has changed. He also announced that renewals are now half-price until June 30th (with the additional charge for a hardcopy LongWire remaining at full price).

Repeaters –

146.91 – working properly.

147.21 – There has been a wind breakage of the antenna main element. KC2UT, N2IK, and WB2DVE are planning on going to the site to further assess damage and/or make repairs.

224.12 – The repeater is working properly; the board is looking into possibilities of a new site.

443.30 – working properly.

Constitutional Revision –

The board will be revising the club constitution and presenting proposed changes to the membership sometime in the next few months.

New Business:

Upcoming Programs –

February – ARRL Representative W2LC will present a program on new developments at the ARRL.

March – K2SYR will give a talk on WSYR: Past, Present, and Future, accompanied by photographs taken by N2TKX.

April – KB2TTT of the National Weather Service will present a program on SKYWARN. This will be an overview of the program, rather than training.

Program –

The club was glad to welcome WA2IMX back as auctioneer, assisted by N2TAI and WA2ISC. The top selling item this year was a Yaesu FT-747 GX, which sold for \$80.00. The favorite and often-used quote of the night was “Is it analog”?

The February Club Meeting will be held on Thursday, February 28th, at 7:00pm at the Roxboro Road Middle School.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15pm.

Scenes from January’s LARC Auction

Warning- what you are about to see may shock and amaze you. Raw auction carnage is seldom pretty, and with WA2ISC in the mix, you know it’s going to be a wild ride!

Things were bought, things were sold. Items changed hands, and the crowd was electric with excitement- brace yourself for the following images:





Kris Bearscove, KC7UNK, gets a big thank-you for doing photography duty at this free-wheeling free-for-all!

From NetworkWorld Magazine-

This story appeared on Network World at <http://www.networkworld.com/news/2008/010908-congress-investigates-fcc.html>

Congress to investigate FCC procedures

Rep. Dingell expresses "grave concerns" about FCC's decision-making process

By Brad Reed, Network World, 01/09/08

The U.S. [House Committee on Energy and Commerce](#) announced this week that it was launching a formal investigation into the [FCC's](#) regulatory procedures "to determine if they are being conducted in a fair, open, efficient and transparent manner."

The investigation stems from concerns raised last year by committee chairman John Dingell (D- Mich.) about the committee's rule-making process on a number of issues, including rules designed to promote competition in local media markets. In a statement made to the FCC last year, for instance, Dingell said he had "grave concerns" about proposed rule changes that would allow for greater media consolidation because of "the lack of time to review comments on the proposed rule." Dingell pointedly said at the time that he

believed the lack of time provided to review the proposed rule changes was indicative of a broader breakdown within the FCC itself.

"In recent months, we have heard about many FCC agenda meetings postponed all day while closed-door negotiations on important public matters are conducted," he said. "We have heard too many tales of a short-circuited decision-making process. In sum, the FCC appears to be broken."

Days earlier, Dingell had written to FCC Chairman Kevin Martin and had informed him of his concerns regarding the FCC's procedures. In particular, he said the FCC gave "little public notice for certain proposed Commission actions" and that "Commissioners are often not informed of the details of the draft items until it is too late to provide the necessary scrutiny." Dingell also made reference to some colleagues within the FCC who "alleged that relevant data was withheld from public view in order to influence a vote in your favor."

In a response letter, Martin defended the FCC's procedures by noting that his approach "has been to try to address concerns raised by my colleagues whenever possible including those raised a day before or even an hour before a scheduled open meeting." While he acknowledged that this practice could result in "a less orderly process," he said it was necessary to build bipartisan consensus within the commission. Currently, the FCC is composed of three Republicans and two Democrats.

In their investigation announcement this week, the Energy and Commerce Committee members said they would address "a growing number of allegations received by the Committee relating to management practices that may affect the agency's operation." The committee informed the FCC that it would be interviewing FCC employees, and requested that the FCC notify all its employees of their right to communicate with Congress. Additionally, the committee instructed the FCC to preserve all of its electronic records, including work and personal e-mail.

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Reminder- the LongWire and You!

Lee Badman, KC2IYK

To all LARC members- just a few reminders:

- This newsletter is for club goings-on and radio related stories of interest. We have a pretty diverse membership, and could use more input. Anyone working RACES? Running an HF Net? Found an excellent radio website? If it interests you, it would probably interest others.
- Public service event opportunities seem to be dwindling- if you get wind of any, please share by forwarding the information for publication.
- Have gear for sale? Space permitting, you might find the pages of the LongWire to be the perfect venue for moving your stuff along. But we can't print what we don't know about!
- Your contact information is your responsibility. Many of us change email as often as we change socks- but when a recently abandoned email address shows up as invalid, no one has the time to do the forensics to find your new info. Thanks!
- Pictures are always welcome!

Radio Links:

www.hamsexy.com

(weird, but some good content)

www.radiointel.com

(great reviews on shortwave gear, among other things)

<http://www.k8zt.com>

(K8ZT's got a pretty good collection of reference links here)

<http://www.billearl.blogspot.com/>

(...when radio was boss, baby!)

Where's the Tallest Building in the World?



The Burj Dubai tower in the United Arab Emirates- soon to be the tallest building in the world. <http://burjdubai.com/>

Electricity originates inside clouds. There, it forms into lightning, which is attracted to the Earth by golfers. After entering the ground, the electricity hardens into coal, which, when dug up by power companies and burned in big ovens called 'generators,' turns back into electricity...where it is transformed by TV sets into commercials for beer, which passes through the consumers and back into the ground, thus completing what is known as a "circuit".....Dave Barry

Q: How do you greet a ham radio operator?

A. With a short wave.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27 ●2359Z—CQ WW 160-Meter Contest ends	28	29 ●7:30pm—Madison-Oneida ARC Meeting, Verona (last) ●8:00pm—"This Week In Amateur Radio", 147.18R (KB2FAF)	30 ●7:00pm—Swap Net, 147.00R ●8:30pm—5WPM CW Practice, 147.00R (K2JMA)	31	1 ●7:00pm—Rome ARC VE Session (K2GVI) (1st)	2 ●Groundhog Day
3 ●North American Phone Sprint	4 ●7:30pm—OCREC Net, 147.30R (WA2PUU) (1st)	5 ●8:00pm—"This Week In Amateur Radio", 147.18R (KB2FAF)	6 ●Ash Wednesday ●7:00pm—Rome Radio Club Meeting, Griffiss (1st) ●7:00pm—Swap Net, 147.00R ●8:30pm—5WPM CW Practice,	7 ●Lunar New Year ●7:00pm—Camilus VE Session (KB2ERJ) (1st)	8	9 ●CQ WW WPX RTTY Contest
10 ●CQ WW WPX RTTY Contest ●North American CW Sprint	11 ●1300Z—School Club Roundup begins	12 ●Lincoln's Birthday ●1300Z—School Club Roundup continues ●8:00pm—"This Week In Amateur Radio", 147.18R (KB2FAF)	13 ●1300Z—School Club Roundup continues ●7:30pm—Skyline ARC Meeting, Cortland (KC2BQZ) (2nd) ●7:00pm—Swap Net, 147.00R ●8:30pm—5WPM CW Practice,	14 ●Valentine's Day ●1300Z—School Club Roundup continues ●7:30pm—RAGS Meeting (W2BCH) (2nd)	15 ●2400Z—School Club Roundup ends ●7:00pm—MOARC VE Session (KG2DI) (3rd)	16 ●ARRL International DX Contest—CW
17 ●ARRL International DX Contest—CW	18 ●President's Day ●7:30pm—OCREC Net, 147.30R (WA2PUU) (1st)	19 ●8:00pm—"This Week In Amateur Radio", 147.18R (KB2FAF)	20 ●7:00pm—Swap Net, 147.00R ●8:30pm—5WPM CW Practice, 147.00R (K2JMA) ●"I Have My License Class" begins (W2BCH)	21 ●Total Lunar Eclipse—North America	22 ●Washington's Birthday	23 ●CQ WW 160-Meter SSB Contest ●North American QSO Party—RTTY
24 ●Long Island Mobile ARC Hamfest, Hicksville (K2KNB) ●CQ WW 160-Meter SSB Contest ●North American QSO Party—RTTY	25	26 ●8:00pm—"This Week In Amateur Radio", 147.18R (KB2FAF) ●7:30pm—Madison-Oneida ARC Meeting, Verona (last)	27 ●6:30pm—Fulton ARC VE Session (KC2PAM) ●7:00pm—Fulton ARC Meeting (W2TQF) (4th) ●7:00pm—Swap Net, 147.00R ●8:30pm—5WPM CW Practice, 147.00R (K2JMA)	28 ●7:00pm—LARC Meeting, Annual Equipment Auction (WB2DVE) (4th)	29 ●11:30am—QCWA Luncheon, Weber's restaurant (WB2PEM) (last)	1 ●ARRL International DX Contest—Phone

The LongWire February 2008

Liverpool Amateur Repeater Club
Web Page: www.LiverpoolAmateurRepeaterClub.org
Club Call: W2CM

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2nd Vice President Sam Coffey-KC2IQM, 673-1828
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222.52/224.12 Art Bronstein-W2YPP, 445-1637
448.30/443.30 Bob Jackson-WB2BJW, 458-9685

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Lee Badman
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Material may be submitted electronically to any of the club officers through the club web site. Articles may be on any subject of general interest to radio amateurs. The deadline is generally about the end of the month. This allows us to meet our goals of having the electronic edition to members by the end of the first week of the month with the hard copy edition following within a week.

The February deadline is February 29.

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