

# WOMG FEEDBACK

Since 1929

September 2000

## NEIRAA OFFICERS 2000

President: Jerry Jones (KIØIH)  
Vice President: Curt Wilson (NKØT)  
Secretary: Jay Nabholz (KCØAKJ)  
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Dennis Orona (NØRWY) > 2001  
Chris Conklin (NØCF) > 2003

The Northeast Iowa Radio Amateur Association on a monthly basis publishes the Feedback. The NEIRAA meets the second Saturday of each month (except August) in the lower level of the American Red Cross, 2530 University Ave. Waterloo. Meetings start at 7 P.M.; anyone interested in amateur radio is invited to attend.

Feedback editor this month: Earl Taggart (K8YWT) E-mail [k8ywt@gcuni.net](mailto:k8ywt@gcuni.net)

## Area Repeaters:

\* Indicates 136.5 Tone Coded Squelch

### Waterloo/ Cedar Falls

WØMG: 14694 \*, 444.975 \*  
WAØINC: 146.82\*, 443.75\*,  
444.925\* (Linked SEITS)  
NØCF: 444.65\*  
KMØK: 146.655\*  
NKØT: 224.90 (-1.6)

### Independence

NIØL: 145.33\*

### Oelwein

KFØHA: 147.345, 443.950

### Waverly

NØRJJ: 145.43\*

## CLUB WEB PAGE

<http://wØmg.cfiowa.net>

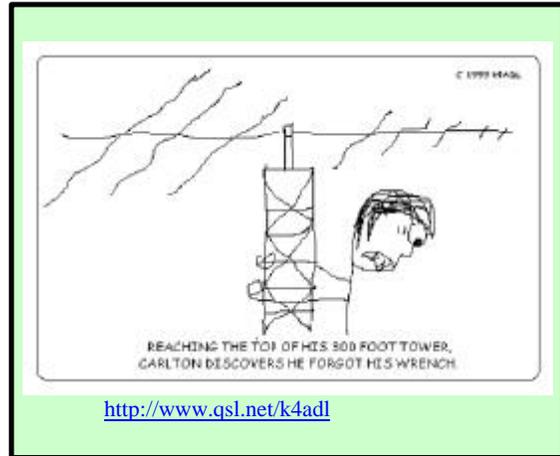
## NEIRAA TREASURERS REPORT

07-08-00

General Fund:----- \$772.82  
Repeater Fund:----- \$155.78  
Savings:----- \$25.00  
VE Testing:----- \$127.00  
Cash:----- \$20.00

## Program for September Meeting

The Red Cross presentation will be held next month because of previous commitments. The program is open at this time.



## MONDAY BREAKFAST MEETING

Monday mornings at 9AM Waterloo Airport. Enjoy Ham Chatter and a great breakfast.

## AMATEUR RADIO LEGEND LEW "MAC" MCCOY, WIICP, SK

Amateur Radio legend and former ARRL Headquarters staff member Lew "Mac" McCoy, WIICP, of Mesa, Arizona, died July 31. He was 84. His daughter, Marsha Ashurst, WIHAQ, said McCoy had not been feeling well for about seven weeks and was diagnosed as being seriously ill only three weeks before he died.

As a member of the ARRL Headquarters staff from 1949 until 1978, McCoy gained a national and international reputation primarily for his articles in QST and his early work to combat TV interference. "He became a hero of all the Novices and beginners because his stuff was so down to earth and easy to read," said retired ARRL Communications Manager George Hart, W1NJM, a good friend.

ARRL Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ, described McCoy as "one of a kind" and "versatile." Sumner said McCoy "left his mark on future generations of amateurs as QST's 'Beginner and Novice' editor." When FM repeaters came along, Sumner said, McCoy made it his mission to educate his ARRL colleagues about their potential.

An ARRL Life Member, McCoy was first licensed as W9FHZ. He arrived at ARRL Headquarters in 1949, eventually landing in the Technical Department. There, he was able to take advantage of his ability to explain technical concepts in simple terms.

McCoy earned a reputation as a tireless traveler and goodwill ambassador for Amateur Radio. He first started hitting the road in the early 1950s after TVI had become troublesome for amateurs and soon became the League's TVI expert.

Ashurst recalls how the family toured with McCoy as he demonstrated TVI cures for hams and TV service personnel alike. "As children we also sat through many of his presentations and knew more about TVI than any other kids in the country," she said. "We were the first in town to have a TV set so that Dad could monitor interference. Having a TV also made us very popular with the other kids, especially when Ed Sullivan had Elvis Presley [on]."

ARRL Lab Supervisor Ed Hare, W1RFI, credited McCoy with providing the foundation for the ARRL's current RFI expertise in helping hams to deal with interference to consumer equipment and interference to hams from other sources. McCoy also was well-known for one of his projects, "The Ultimate Transmatch," an antenna tuner he described in a July 1970 QST article. After leaving the ARRL Headquarters staff, McCoy continued as a QST contributing editor. He subsequently was a major contributor to other Amateur Radio publications, including CQ.

During his active years on the air, McCoy was an avid DXer. More recently, he was active in the Quarter Century Wireless Association, had served as QCWA president and a board member and had just been elected again to the QCWA's Board of Directors, something his daughters never got to tell him before he died. QCWA President Emeritus Leland Smith, W5KL, remembers McCoy as a proponent of a no-code license for beginners

who also advocated the 5 WPM maximum code requirement subsequently adopted by the FCC.

McCoy's first wife (of 60 years), Martha, died in 1998. Survivors include his wife, Clara Gibbs McCoy, and his daughters, Marsha Ashurst, WIHAQ--licensed at age 8 and said at the time to be the youngest ham in the world--and Sharon Armann, ex-WN1GQR, as well as grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

In accordance with McCoy's wishes, there will be no funeral. The family is planning a memorial service for McCoy in early December. In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting memorial donations in Lew McCoy's name to Hospice of the Valley, 1510 E Flower St, Phoenix, AZ 85014-5656. Condolences may be sent to the family care of Marsha Ashurst, PO Box 2260, Lakeside, AZ 85929.

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## ISS HAM GEAR CLEARED FOR TAKEOFF

The way has been cleared for the Amateur Radio gear destined for use aboard the International Space Station to be launched into space. The initial amateur gear is scheduled go up to the ISS on mission STS-106 aboard the shuttle Atlantis on September 8. As part of the multinational Amateur Radio on the International Space Station project, the gear will be stowed aboard the ISS for use by the Expedition 1 crew, which comes aboard in late October.

"We have been working for years to bring the first ISS hardware to fruition," ARISS Administrative Chairman Frank Bauer, KA3HDO, said this week. "It looks like the final issues that have held us back are now over, and we are moving ahead toward the launch of the initial hardware on STS-106."

Bauer said three events over the past couple of weeks were key to moving the ARISS project forward. The first was the launch and docking of the Russian-built Zvezda service module that eventually will house the ARISS gear. In addition, Bauer said, a series of RF, power-up and other tests on the amateur equipment were successfully completed in Russia, thanks to Lou McFadin, W5DID, of ARISS and AMSAT and Carolyn Conley, KD5JSO, of NASA. He said NASA also signed off on the required flight safety package, giving the go-ahead to release the amateur hardware for flight aboard the upcoming shuttle mission.

The Expedition 1 crew will consist of three amateurs: US astronaut Bill Shepherd, KD5GSL, and Russian cosmonauts Sergei Krikalev, U5MIR, and the recently licensed Yuri Gaidzenko, whose call sign was not available.

So that the station will be available to the first crew, the ARISS initial station gear will be installed temporarily

aboard the ISS functional cargo block and use an existing antenna that's being adapted to support FM voice and packet on 2 meters but not on 70 cm. Eventually, the ARISS gear will find a more-permanent home aboard the Zvezda service module.

A Russian call sign, RZ3DZR, has been issued for the ISS ham radio station. A German call sign, DL0ISS, also has been issued, and a US call sign will be applied for. The ARRL and AMSAT have been providing leadership and consulting services for ARISS. ARRL Field and Educational Services Manager Rosalie White, K1STO--a member of the Space Amateur Radio Experiment Working Group--says this is an exciting moment for the project, which has one goal of letting students on Earth communicate with the ISS inhabitants via Amateur Radio.

"All of the hard work from the many volunteers is starting to pay off," she said. "We have so many people to thank--all of the AMSAT volunteers, ARRL people, the NASA folks--so many of whom are hams. But seeing the youth of the United States and other countries benefit is our reward."

Bauer says the astronauts and cosmonauts plan to take some time off for educational outreach contacts with schools, even during the busy years of ISS construction that lie ahead. "NASA's Division of Education is a major supporter of the Amateur Radio activity," he said. Bauer says access to Amateur Radio also is considered a morale booster for ISS crew members by providing family and general contacts "for people who will be in space many weeks at a time." The initial crew will be aboard the ISS for three to four months.

As the International Space Station takes its place in the heavens, Bauer said, "the Amateur Radio community is prepared to do its part by helping to enrich the experience."

For more information about Amateur Radio on the ISS and SAREX, visit the SAREX Web site, <http://sarex.gsfc.nasa.gov/>.

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## NEW AMATEUR SATELLITES IN THE OFFING

New amateur satellites are reported on the way as payloads from Saudi Arabia and Malaysia are set to launch later this month from Russia.

SAUDISAT-1A and SAUDISAT-1B, the first Amateur Radio satellites from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, are under construction at the Space Research Institute in Riyadh. Tentatively set to launch August 25 from the Baikonur Cosmodrome, Kazakhstan, the two satellites will be capable of 9.6 kb digital store-and-forward operation as well as FM bent pipe mode.

SAUDISAT 1A will have a downlink on 437.075; SAUDISAT-1B will downlink on 436.775 MHz. VHF uplinks will be announced after commissioning. "Amateur Radio is in its infancy in Saudi Arabia," said Dr Turki Al Saud, director of the Space Research Institute. "With these satellites we hope not only to add satellites to the space resources available to hams worldwide, but to increase the awareness of the value of Amateur Radio in the Kingdom."

The first Malaysian amateur satellite, TIUNGSAT-1, is also to be launched on the same vehicle. The new bird will offer FM and FSK (at 9.6, 38.4, and 76.8 kb) with uplinks at 144.46, 145.85, and 145.86 MHz and downlinks at 437.300, 437.325, 437.350, and 437.375 MHz. The package also includes the Multi-Spectral Earth Imaging System and Meteorological Earth Imaging system payloads. The Malaysian spacecraft is the result of a technological collaboration between Astronautic Technology and Surrey Satellite Technology Ltd. An animation of the TIUNGSAT-1 launch is available at the SSTL site,

[http://www.sstl.co.uk/missions/mn\\_tiungsat\\_1.html](http://www.sstl.co.uk/missions/mn_tiungsat_1.html). -- AMSAT News Service

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## FEWER THAN ONE-FIFTH OF HAMS ARE ULS-REGISTERED

The FCC has confirmed that fewer than one-fifth of US Amateur Radio licensees--including club stations--are registered on the Universal Licensing System. The FCC deployed the ULS for the Amateur Service just under a year ago, although registration has been available far longer.

The question of how many hams now were ULS-registered arose during the July 21 meeting of the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators, held in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. Not even the FCC officials on hand had an answer. After the meeting, RC Smith, W6RZA, of the Greater Los Angeles VEC crunched some numbers to see if he could supply one for his colleagues.

Starting with the 717,629 licensees in the FCC database at that point, Smith subtracted the 31,449 determined to be expired but within the two-year grace period. Sorting on the Licensee ID Number field, Smith came up with 129,947 ULS registrants, or 18.9% of the remaining 686,180 licensees.

The FCC's Steve Linn, N4CAK, says the Commission ran its own numbers and came up with a similar figure--although without subtracting for those within the two-year grace period. "The quick run done here looked at all

active records--717,314--and how many had Licensee ID numbers, giving 18.1%," Linn said this week. "Take out the grace records and we're in the same ballpark."

During his comments at the Dayton Hamvention FCC forum, Linn encouraged amateur licensees to register with ULS to "lock in" their FCC records. ULS registration, he said, "protects your call sign within the system" and could prevent it from inadvertently being deleted or reissued due to a filing error.

All amateurs must be registered with the ULS in order to file applications with the FCC, even for such routine matters as a change of address or a license renewal. Registration requires that licensees supply a Taxpayer Identification Number, or TIN--a Social Security number for an individual. Some amateurs have protested that requirement citing privacy concerns, but the FCC has maintained that it's bound by the Debt Collection Improvement Act to require it.

Last month, the FCC announced that it has begun implementing the new Commission Registration System, or CORES. Registration in CORES eventually will replace ULS registration, although the FCC has not indicated just when the switch will occur. CORES registration also will require registrants to supply a TIN. Those already registered in ULS need not register again in CORES, however. The FCC says the ULS will continue to be the primary Amateur Radio licensee database and the only means to file applications and updates.

The FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau recently announced expanded hours for ULS technical support. ULS users may now reach the FCC Technical Support Hotline, 202-414-1250, from 7 AM to 10 PM weekdays. Weekend service is newly available. On Saturdays the Hotline will be available from 8 AM until 7 PM and on Sundays from noon until 6 PM (all times Eastern). Users also may contact tech support via e-mail at [ulscomm@fcc.gov](mailto:ulscomm@fcc.gov).

For more information, to access the ULS or to register, visit the FCC's ULS site, <http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/uls>.

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## VE SESSIONS

- AMES - September 9, December 2, 9:30 AM, Fire Service Institute Extension Building, Iowa State University. (I-35 to Exit 113 (13th Street); West 4.5 miles to Haber Road, South 1.5 blocks (2nd building on west side of the road). For information, contact Ken Anderson, NØAS, (515)-291-0481. Talk in on Ames Repeater.

- DES MOINES - September 17, November 19, 1:00 PM. Saylor Township Fire Station, 211 NW 54th Ave (1/2 mile north of I-80/I-35 on 2nd Avenue). For information, contact LeRoy Koder, WDØCZO, (515) 262-2390
- WINTERSET - August 18, October 20 7:30 PM, Madison County Extension Office, east side of the courthouse square. For information, contact John Sawhill, WAØO, (515) 462-1342.

## UPCOMING HAMFESTS, FLEA MARKETS & CONFERENCES

Iowa:

- DES MOINES - Hamfest Iowa. October 29th. 8 AM to 2 PM. Iowa State Fairgrounds 4H Building. Contact: Jim Wieder, KGØUF, (515) 276-0500 or <mailto:wiederj@netscape.net>
- West Liberty - Southeast Iowa Hamfest Oct 1 Muscatine County Fairgrounds
- Davenport - Davenport RAC Hamfest Nov 5<sup>th</sup>. Mt Joy Airport IA. National Guard Hanger

IL

- Peoria Superfest 2000. Sep 16 - 17 Peoria IL. Exposition Gardens
- Chicago FM Club - Radio Expo Sep 23 - 24. Grayslake IL. Lake County Fairgrounds

## CENTRAL IOWA AMATEUR RADIO NETS

- Sunday - 7:45 AM to 8:30 AM, 3900 Club Slow Speed CW Net, 3.560
- Sunday, 9:00 AM, 3900 Club Net (Voice), 3.896
- Sunday - 5:30 PM - Iowa Traffic & Emergency Net (ITEN), 3.970
- Sunday - 6:00 PM - Central Iowa Radio Amateur Society Net (Marshalltown), 147.135+ (CTCSS 141.3)-
- Sunday - 7:00 PM - Story County ARES Net (Ames), 147.240+
- Sunday - 7:00 P.M. - Central Iowa Ragchewers Net (Mingo), 146.67-
- Sunday - 8:00 PM - Central Iowa ARES Net (Des Moines), 146.940- (Simulcast on many other repeaters)
- Sunday, 8:30 PM (or following ARES Net) - Central Iowa Packet Net (Des Moines) - 146.940- (simulcast on many other repeaters)
- Sunday - 9:00 PM - North East Iowa ARES Net (Waterloo), 146.94

- Sunday - 9:00 PM - Boone County ARES Net (Boone), 146.850-; 443.900+ UHF net follows
- Monday - Saturday, 12:30 PM & 5:30 PM, Iowa Section Net (Voice), 3.970
- Monday - Saturday, 6:30 PM & 10:00 PM, Iowa Section Net (Tallcorn Net) (CW), 3.560
- Monday, 7:00 PM, Southwest Iowa CW Net, 3.691
- Wednesday, 7:00 PM, Iowa QRP Club Net, 7.113
- Wednesday, 8:00 PM, Eastern Iowa/Western Illinois 10 Meter net, 28.313
- Wednesday, 9:00 PM, Cyclone Amateur Radio Club (Iowa State University) net (Ames), 147.375+/443.375+
- Wednesday (2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> of each month) 9:00 PM, Slow Scan TV Net, 147.075+
- Thursday, 7:00 PM, Polk County ARES Net (Des Moines), 146.940-

### National Nets:

- 7.255 ECARS
- 7.251 & 14.325 SOUTHCARS
- 7.258 MIDCARS
- 14.300 MARITIME MOBILE NET (12N – 9PM)
- 7.2815 GOOD SAM RV NET
- 14.336 COUNTY HUNTERS NET

### FOR SALE

Please submit any Amateur Radio related equipment for sale to [k8ywt@gcmuni.net](mailto:k8ywt@gcmuni.net) or send me a list at "Earl Taggart, 1041 L Ave. (T69 or Dinsdale Blacktop), Reinbeck, IA. 50669"

The following items are from K8YWT, Earl Taggart 319-345-2033

- Dentron Clipperton L HF amplifier 1000W output. 872B Tubes (4) are a little soft and the output is approx. 800 watts. \$350.00.
- JRC JST-100 Transceiver 160-10meters all solid-state 100 watts. \$350.00
- Murch UT-2000B Antenna Tuner 2000 watts, 160-10 meters, balanced and unbalanced outputs. \$125.00.
- Butternut Butterfly 20-10 meter 2 ele. Quad Beam. Rated for 400 watts. Great for hams

with limited space to put up an antenna. Can be turned with a TV Rotor. \$150.00.

- Alinco 2 meter Linear Amplifier, 3w in 30w out. SSB or FM. \$50.00
- I.C.E. Model 421 Low Pass Filter. DC – 30 Mhz. 50 ohm, 80db attenuation above 32Mhz. \$50.00.
- Radio Shack DSP40 CW & SSB noise reduction digital signal processor. \$35.00

The following is from Don W0DT at 277-6031

- Kenwood TS-850AT \$825.00
- Hammarlund HQ 170 rough condition but works \$45.00.

# WONG FEEDBACK

NEIRAA

PO Box 92

Waterloo, IA. 50704