



SCARA NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2015



Celebrating over 50 Years Affiliation with the ARRL

SCARA P.O. Box 121 Linwood, NJ 08221

Repeaters 146.745 MHz PL 142.6 and 448.775MHz

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Meeting Notice

Our next regular club meeting will be held on Thursday, March 12th, 7:30 PM at the Canale Training Center.

Plenty of room, conversation and refreshments for everyone!



Silent Key

Ann Duffy KB2CIZ



SCARA 2015

Monthly Calendar

AUXCOMM RACES Net: Every Monday at 7 PM on 146.745 MHz, K2BR /R

SKYWARN NET: Immediately following the AUXCOMM RACES Net

SCARA VHF KISS Net: Every Thursday at 7:00 PM on K2BR Repeater. Net Control will be Bill Paulus Jr. KD2EOY except on the third Thursday of each month Net Control will be Larry Schall KB2MN

SCARA HF Net: Third Sunday of every month at 10:00 AM 3.928 MHz +/- QRM

Board Meeting: Last Thursday of every month at 7:30 PM at the Canale Training Center

VE Test Session: 1st Thursday of each month. Doors open at 6:30 PM, testing begins at 7:00 PM at the Canale Training Center. Pre-registration is required!

Monthly VE Test Sessions

On the first Thursday of each month SCARA holds a VE test session. For information call Larry Schall KB2MN at 609-287-5340. The test location is the Canale Training Center, 5033 English Creek Ave. Egg Harbor Twp., NJ 08234. The doors open at 6:30 PM and testing begins at 7:00 PM. Pre-registration is required. Be sure to bring your photo I.D. and current license if you are upgrading to a higher license class. The current testing fee is \$15.

President's Note

Congratulations to the new hams who got licensed at our last VE sessions and the new members who have recently joined SCARA. Anyone care to participate in a SCARA Fox Hunt?

DUFFY, ELIZABETH ANN (nee Lecklikner) - 87, of Atlantic City, went home to God on Saturday, February 28, 2015. Mrs. Duffy was born on September 7, 1927 in Maple Shade, NJ. She was raised and lived most of her life in Atlantic City. During WWII, she worked at repairing airplanes at Marine Corps Base, Quantico, Virginia, and was discharged after the war. She returned home where she met and married her loving husband of 55 years, John J. (Jack) Duffy, Jr., an Atlantic City Fireman for 40 years. While raising her family, Mrs. Duffy

was an active member of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas and held numerous posts, including Regent, and she ran the group's retreats for many years. She was also a ham radio operator, KB2CIZ, and was active in the local radio groups, SCARA and SPARC. In the 1950's and 60's, she was politically active in the Hap Farley Boosters Club (the Republican Woman's group), serving as President several times. During the same period, she was active in the Catholic Women's Bowling League and Chelsea Women's Softball League. Mrs. Duffy was predeceased by her parents, Philip and Eugenie (aka Ninette) Lecklikner, her husband, her youngest son Michael, and her siblings; sister Eugenie (aka Ninette) Flodin (Victor) and brothers Francis (Catherine), Nelson (Jacqueline), and Philip (Lois) Lecklikner. She is survived by her sons; John Patrick Duffy of Atlantic City and Philip J. Duffy of Norfolk, VA. and her daughter Marie T. Duffy of Ventnor, as well as numerous nieces and nephews. A Mass of Christian Burial will be Celebrated for Elizabeth Anne Duffy 11:00am Thursday, March 5, 2015, at Our Lady Star of the Sea Church, 2651 Atlantic Avenue, Atlantic City. Relatives and friends may call at the church from 10:00am. The Rite of Committal will be offered at Laurel Memorial Park Cemetery, Tilton Road and English Creek Avenue, EHT following Mass. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Our Lady Star of the Sea Church and Regional School. Arrangements by the Gormley Funeral Home LLC, AC.

2015 Contests

All ARRL contests for 2015 can be found on the ARRL Contest page of their website at : <http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar>.

A generic ARRL contest calendar is provided that gives the weekends for all our events, to assist with long-term planning of your contest operations. The Contest Corral files include non-ARRL events.

Special Events

SCARA will be presenting a Fox Hunt-Morse Code-Radio Event on the first Saturday of each month at the Jersey Shore Children's Museum located on the upper level of the Hamilton Mall near Sears.

Children visiting the museum can participate in:

- talking to operators around the world
- play FOXHUNT
- learn about Morse Code and more!

With enough participation there is the possibility of expanding this to a weekly event.

If you have any questions, about this or any other event, please contact Bill McCord KC2ONQ at 609-435-0598.

ARRL Warns Experimental Licensee to Avoid Interference to HF Ham Activity

The ARRL has asked a Massachusetts company that plans to conduct experimental transmissions over wide portions of the HF spectrum either to

avoid Amateur Radio allocations or to announce the times and frequencies of their transmissions in advance. The FCC last fall granted MITRE Corporation of Bedford, Massachusetts, a 2-year Part 5 Experimental License, **WH2XCI**, to operate 21 transmitters at 10 fixed New York and Massachusetts sites. MITRE plans to test wideband HF communication techniques on a variety of bands between 2.5 MHz and 16 MHz.

“[I]t will not be possible for MITRE to operate these transmitters within the Amateur Radio Service allocations...without causing harmful interference to a large number of Amateur Radio operators on an ongoing basis,” ARRL Chief Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, said in a February 12 letter to MITRE.

Imlay said that if MITRE does not agree to avoid ham radio bands or to announce times and frequencies of transmissions ahead of time, it will ask the FCC to rescind the company's Experimental License or to impose a prior notification requirement “in real time for each and every use of the transmitters authorized at each site.”

The WH2XCI Experimental License authorizes maximum bandwidths of 5 kHz, 500 kHz, and 1 MHz at effective radiated power levels of 6 W, 24 W, or 122 W. MITRE has indicated that most bandwidths would be between 100 and 300 kHz.

“At these power levels with the operating parameters proposed, it will be impossible to conduct your tests at any time within the Amateur Radio allocations and, at

the same time, avoid harmful interference,” Imlay said. He noted that MITRE already conceded this point in a technical exhibit submitted to the FCC with respect to its 1 MHz bandwidth mode.

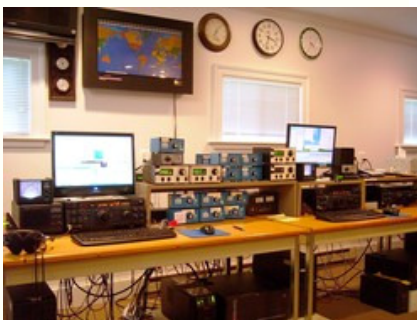
Imlay said that when interference from MITRE’s wide-bandwidth transmitters “inevitably occurs in the narrow-bandwidth, sensitive receivers” hams use, amateur licensees will have no way to determine the source of the interference or know to whom they might complain. “Thus, your assurance of operation on a ‘non-interference basis’ is meaningless under the circumstances, and yet that is both a special condition of operation” of the WH2XCI license and under FCC Part 5 regulations, Imlay told MITRE.

“It is ARRL’s intention to ensure that this experimental authorization, improvidently granted to the extent that it includes heavily used Amateur Radio allocations, is not permitted to cause interference to ongoing Amateur Radio HF communications,” Imlay concluded.

MITRE obtained the Experimental License to investigate high data rate wideband HF communication systems that exploit polarization diversity multiple input, multiple output concepts to expand the bandwidth of the communication channel. ARRL 2/13/2015

No One In The Shack As Station Logs 4200+ Contacts in ARRL DX CW Contest

The six-person group operating as K3TN in the recent ARRL International DX Contest (CW) may have made Amateur Radio history by mounting the first completely remote-controlled multioperator contest effort. The scattered K3TN team worked via the Internet through the station of Jack Hammett, K4VV, on Catocin Ridge in Northern Virginia. All of K4VV's operating positions were vacant over the February 21-22 weekend, because the operators were elsewhere. One participant even managed to operate during the contest from *two* states -- Maryland and Florida.



Note the absence of chairs in the K4VV shack. The station can be operated remotely as well as on site. [Photo courtesy of Mike Lonneke, W0YR]

"No one was in the K4VV shack for the entire contest!" said Mike Lonneke, W0YR, who took part in the contest via K4VV from his own shack in Virginia. Two other operators were in North Carolina. "Perhaps this is a new category -- Totally Remote (TR)." Lonneke said 3-minute timers at the remote-capable positions allow FCC requirements to be met. ARRL Letter 2-26-2015

Make Your Own Dipoles With These Center Insulators



by Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

One of the things that always gets my goat is the price some companies charge for dipole antennas. It’s not that they’re charging an outrageously large sum of money, and I certainly don’t begrudge them making a profit for their efforts. It’s just that if hams would just buy their own wire and parts, they would not only save money over the long run, but be encouraged to experiment with antennas. That’s what I started doing about ten years ago, and I’ve been very happy with the results.



The Budwig HQ-1 center insulator is a great way to build a dipole

One of the first things that I did was to purchase ten Budwig HQ-1 center insulators and ten HQ-2 end insulators. I purchased these directly from Budwig and saved some money doing so. I've made a bunch of antennas with these insulators, including several 40m/20m inverted vees for portable use (such as Field Day and special events), a 17m dipole, and a 10m loop antenna. Universal Radio now sells the set for \$18.50.

These insulators are very well-made, and can easily be reused, too. I'm getting ready to purchase another ten sets as I've just about run out of my original supply.

There are a bunch of other center insulators on the market, including:

The Alpha Delta Delta-C antenna hardware kit consists of a Delta-C Center Insulator, antenna connecting hardware, 1 SEP Arc-Plug™ static protector (installed in Delta-C) and 2 Delta-CIN end insulators. This is a little heavier-duty than the Budwig insulators, but it costs more, too (\$30 at Universal Radio). Unless you're going to be running a kW, I don't see the need to spend nearly twice as much money on these insulators.

The TEN-TEC ACRO-BAT Antenna Connector & Hanger is an interesting product. Unlike the Budwig and Alpha-Delta insulators, this product does not have an SO-239. Instead, this insulator clamps over the coax and antenna wire, and in doing so, provides strain relief. I haven't tried this one, but it seems like a nice design. The cost is \$10, directly from TEN-TEC or from Universal Radio.

The Unadilla W2AU ANsulator is made from PCV tubing and include eyelets for terminating the antenna wire and for supporting the insulator in the middle. For \$15, I think I'd rather have the Budwig insulator. Also, you should be able to make one of these insulators for less than 15 bucks.

The Hy-Gain C-1C Center Insulator has a screw for tightening down the antenna wire, so you don't have to do any soldering, but overall, I don't think I like the looks of this model. And, at 30 bucks, it seems kind of pricey.

The W8AMZ Dipole Antenna Starter Kit comes a center insulator made from PVC pipe, similar to the Unadilla W2AU ANsulator and two end insulators. It costs \$18.

If none of these strikes your fancy, you can always make your own. WP4AOH has some very good instructions on how to do this using PVC pipe and fasteners that you can find at your local hardware store. Whatever route you take, I encourage you to keep several on hand and enough antenna wire and coax to complete the antenna. You never know when the urge will strike you to build an antenna, and if you don't have the parts you've missed an opportunity to do some experimenting. *KN6NU's Ham Radio Blog February 15, 2015*

Membership Recruitment Incentive

New for 2015 is the SCARA Membership Recruitment Incentive Program. For every new member joining SCARA for the first time, who presents a SCARA business card with your name and call-sign on the back, you will

receive a one dollar credit towards your next year's membership.

Swap Shop

Keep an eye on this section in future news letters. You never know when someone nearby may be looking to sell off some excess equipment. To have your equipment listed here please email Dave Holmes KD2AYQ at kd2ayq@aol.com with a list of items you have for sale. Please include make, model, age, condition, asking price of your items and preferred method of contact.



*I AM A RADIO OPERATOR
THAT MEANS I LIVE IN A CRAZY
FANTASY WORLD WITH
UNREALISTIC EXPECTATIONS
THANK YOU FOR UNDERSTANDING*

<http://www.sunfrogshirts.com/LifeStyle/I-am-a-Radio-Operator-7820-Black-18637012-Guys.html?13582&shellon&navon&showall&ppOn&txt=b&btn=b>

Reminder: SCARA has an online amateur radio swap shop. Go to our website to see current listings. E-mail your "Wanted" items to LarrySchallKB2MN kb2mn@verizon.net

**Assistant Treasurer
Position Available**

This position entails aiding the treasurer with the sale and distribution of club merchandise including, but not limited to, mugs, lapel pins, decals and bags. If interested, contact Bill McCord at 609-435-0598.

Club Information 2014

Officers

President:	Bill McCord	KC2ONQ	(609) 435-0598
Vice Pres:	Bill Paulus, Jr.	KD2EOY	(609) 694-7976
Treasurer:	Bob Webb	WA2YSA	(609) 646-6843
Secretary:	Mandy McCord	KC2QOG	(609) 435-0598

Board of Directors

Stan Friedman	WA3JMV	Bob Nicotera	KB2ERL
William Paulus	W2MWI	Donnamarie Adams	KD2ERC
Tim Adams	KD2EGR		

Committee Chairs

VE Coordinator	Larry Schall KB2MN	ARRL QSL Card Mgr	Arnie Oberson W2OB
Sunshine Refreshments	Bob Webb WA2YSA KC2ONQ	Dinner Chair:	Harry Cohen KD2AYT
ARLHS Coordinator	Ed Clark W2KP	Field Day Repeater	Bill Schwoer KC2AAY Ed Clark W2KP
Newsletter Editor	Dave Holmes KD2AYQ		Bill Schwoer KC2AAY
Trustee:	Bill Schwoer KC2AAY	Web site Ed.	Larry Schall KB2MN
E-mail	SCARA@k2br.com		