Radio_____**A**mateur_____**I**nformation_____**N**ews

Number 490   **January 2018**

Clam Beach RUN >This weekend<

Come on out for a day at the beach providing communication support for the Trinidad Clam Beach Run on Saturday January 27, 2018. The 8 ¾ mile race begins at 1230 approximately 2 miles north of Trinidad on Patrick's Point Drive near Westgate, proceeds south onto Stagecoach Road, detours east on Anderson Lane, turns south Patrick's Point Drive, goes through Trinidad, along Scenic Drive crossing Little River to the finish line at Strawberry Creek. We will start the day with breakfast at Niveen's at 2145 Central Avenue in McKinleyville at 0930. If you would like to help, contact me at the phone number at the bottom of this email or just show up at breakfast or at the event. We will be using the Far West Repeater System and 146.430 simplex. For more info on the event see the attached map and go to http://www.trinidadtoclambeach.com/.   To see the menu at Niveen's go to http://niveensrestaurant.com/.

Don Campbell, 707.834.0042

Winter Field Day (WFD) THIS WEEKEND, contact Anthony kg6lhw

New Net on the HARC Repeater

Hey Hams!
At the last HARC meeting we talked about starting up a new net on the HARC repeater on Thursdays at 1900L. We'll have a sign-up for the coming months so anyone can practice being Net Control.

In my enthusiasm to get it started I didn't realize that I will be gone three of the four Thursdays this month. So I will start the net on the first Thursday in February, not tonight.

Thanks, and 73!
Jim Armstrong - KW6JIM
Humboldt Amateur Radio Club

Humboldt County EMCOMM Group
JANUARY 18, 2018

Here are the meeting notes, thank you Don KE6HEC. Also thanks to those who volunteered. Howard and Carl have already checked out St. Jo's and it's set for the Feb 17 Exercise. I'll contact SHARC and see if they have someone to cover Jerold Phelps in Redway.

The meeting was convened by Peter Esko, W6IES, at 1900 on the Far West Repeater System.
In attendance;

Peter Esko, W6IES	Howard Lang, KB6NN	Anthony Weise, KG6LHW
Jessica Formoe, KM6PJQ	Forrest Schafer, KI6GRU	Carl Eggleston, KM6LIQ
Ben Adams, KK6SYJ	Barron Clark, W6BTC	Jackson Ridlon, KM6DFQ
Don Campbell, KE6HEC		

Hospital Exercise, February 17, 2018
Purpose of the exercise is to test communication capabilities from the four area hospitals to the Humboldt County EOC using the FWRA system and simplex.
Hospital/ Ham(s) Assignments

- St. Joseph – Carl and Howard

- Redwood Memorial – Jackson

- Mad River – Barron, Angelina Gregorio KG6JWN (not positive on the call sign), Brenda Ruegg KB6RPX

- Jerold Phelps – Peter will discuss with Jack Foster KM6TE

Peter will operate from the EOC and Forrest will be alternate Net Control from the HCSO Command Van.
Mary Ann Murphy, KI6DPZ, will test the HCSO ATV trailer operating position as well.
Other Business
Forrest reminds us that the Thursday HARC Net on the Club 145.470 repeater begins on February 1.
Anthony advises that anyone planning to attend the next HARC Second Tuesday Workshop on the Logbook of the World should contact ARRL to obtain a digital key.

The next EMCOMM meeting will be on February 15.

73
Peter Esko, W6IES

Humboldt Amateur Radio Club
Minutes of Meeting – January 2, 2017

Officers Present: Anthony Wiese **KG6LHW** , Vice Pres./
Dan Eaton **KB6DE**, Secretary/
Jaye Inabnit **KE6SLS**, Newsletter Editor Pro Tem/
Jim Armstrong **KW6JIM**, Past President 2016-2017

Anthony called the meeting to order at 19:03 PST in the Eureka Municipal Auditorium (Muni) Meeting Room @ 406 11th St. (11th and E).
Introductions were made and the log book was passed around. 19 members attended including

new General License holder, Jessie Formoe **KM6PJQ**.

Health and Welfare: Our President, Peter Esko **W6IES** and our Secretary, Marcy Campbell **KE6IAU**, are not feeling well tonight. We wish them well.

Secretary Report: Dan's December 5th minutes were reviewed. Corrections were made and the minutes were accepted unanimously by acclamation.

Treasurer's Report: None. (This item was not discussed at the meeting. Dan submitted receipts for reimbursement to Don Campbell **KE6HEC** in Marcy's absence for pre-approved purchases made on behalf of the club in 2017; 1) July 15, six Military Mast guy tensioners, $258.00 2) August 7,   Stainless Steel #10 hex-bolts for refurbished Ham VI rotor, $12.20   3) December 15, two sets Stainless Steel bolts and clamp plates for the rotor, $80.00. Total $350.20. The club-owned rotor will turn the club Hex-Beam)

Old Business: Anthony and Jaye displayed our present website Net Schedule and noted changes needed to update it. Carl Eggleston **KM6LIQ** is working on a new parallel website that he will administer. It is not yet finished.   Don Nelson **WA6NBG** again suggested we get a repeater up and running on 220MHz. Amateur radio has lost bandwidth on this band due to lack of use and the amateur radio community should demonstrate we still need and want to use it. Six members indicated they have they have radios with 220 MHz capability. It could be especially useful in EmComm because of lack of traffic locally.

New Business: None

EMCOMM Report:
- REMINDER: The next *EMCOMM event* is scheduled for **Saturday, February 17, 2018**. we will populate the Eureka Courthouse and four hospitals; Mad River in Arcata, St. Joseph in Eureka, Redwood Memorial in Fortuna and Jerold Phelps Community Hospital in Redway. Mad River has 3 HAMs on staff.

Past Event Report: None

Future Events: Anthony reminded us the first event (yearlong) is an **ARRL International Grid Square Chase, 2018** for all bands except 60 m. He showed us his spiffy laminated Grid Map from ARRL.

- Jan. 9th, *2nd Tuesday Workshop*; Winlink and FLDigi Part 2. Jim and Howard Lang **KB6NN**
- Jan. 23, 7pm, clubhouse, *Winter Field Day Logistics meeting*.
  https://www.winterfieldday.com/   or the ARRL site.
- Jan. 27, *Clam Beach Run*. (PENDING an invitation from the organizers)
  If we participate, there will be a pre-race meeting at Niveen's at 9:00 am in McKinleyville. Don C. is our race coordinator.

- Jan. 27, 1900 UTC to Jan. 28 UTC 1900, *WFD – Winter Field Day*. We have not planned a formal club event, but Anthony says we can join him in Blue Lake.
- Jan. 30 – Feb 1 *ARRL VHF Contest*. Don N. says he usually sets on Grouse Mtn. http://www.arrl.org/news/a-vhf-contest-in-january-how-cool-is-that
- Feb. 13, *2ⁿᵈ Tuesday Workshop*: The topic will be Cross-Band Repeating.

Misc.   Future topics suggested for the 2ⁿᵈ Tuesday Workshop are FT-8 digital mode and getting, using the LBOTW, Log Book of the World and programming the Boefang HT.
- Recommended YouTube programs are; "The Doctor is In," "Ham Nation," and "OH8STN" (Survivaltech Nord).
- Anthony reminded us we will begin a new Net check-in using the HARC (clubhouse) repeater on each Thursday at 19:00 PDT on 145.470MHz, Tone 103.5, Offset -600. Dates coming up are Jan 4, 11, 18 and 25.
- Jim, Steve Isherwood **KK6MPV**, Dan and Sherry Eaton **KK6MPY** will attend QuartzFest , Jan. 21-27.

Presentation: Anthony gave a slide show and video presentation of his trip to Oregon for the August 21, 2017 Solar Eclipse. Great fun.

Break and Raffle: Thanks to Don C. for the cookies and juice.
- Raffle winners were Don C, Gordon Inkeles **N6IJB**, Dan, Greg Deja **AA6GD**, and Mark Nelson **AA6DX**. Thanks to Don N. for running the raffle.

The meeting was adjourned at 20:45 PST.

Note to new or prospective Members:
The club has an informal lunch every Thursday, 11:30 at the Pantry Restaurant on Broadway in Eureka (next to the Motel 6). All are welcome.

Minutes submitted by Dan Eaton **KB6DE**

HF Conditions
(Now and in the Future)

It is apparent to anyone that has been on HF over the past year or two that our current solar cycle (Cycle 24) is poor and getting poorer - but an important aspect to take note of is that it won't bottom out for another two years. That slide to the lowest solar activity of the cycle is shown below in the smoothed sunspot number estimates covering the period from January 2016 to December, 2019, courtesy of Ham Cap, a HF propagation prediction tool(1).

Once we get to the bottom of the cycle, the process reverses and things start to improve. And, about four years from now, two years after the minimum, it is estimated that we will be experiencing the same low level of solar activity as we are today at two years *before* the bottom of the cycle. Think of the sunspot cycle like the curve of a sine wave; I have estimated the estimated sunspot numbers for two years after the minimum to illustrate this "sine wave" type behavior and it is apparent when comparing the sunspot numbers of 2018-2019 to those of

2020-2021, with the sunspot minimum at the bottom of the "sine wave".

No matter how you slice the data, it appears we have four years of tough propagation conditions ahead of us. That puts some urgency on station planning and expectations. As you can see in the smoothed sunspot numbers below, January, 2018 has over four times the expected solar activity (18.2) than that of December 2019, the estimated bottom of the sunspot cycle (4.1). The higher the sunspot count, the better the HF propagation, of course. For those of us who regularly use HF for nets or DX, it is no surprise to find that Cycle 24 is the weakest cycle in 100-200 years, and the weakest of our Ham Radio lives[2][3]. That also means we are heading into somewhat uncharted territory as to how tough the next few years may be on us as HF radio operators.

Consequently, any improvements we can make to our low band systems (40/80/160 Meters) now will pay benefits as the bands from 30 Meters and up continue to deteriorate and languish and the low bands come into their own as our best performers (40 Meters is the new 20 Meters). Whether it's raising an antenna, putting down more radials, getting a better antenna in the air, upgrading coax, adding an isolation balun, investing in receive DSP or phasing equipment, or buying an amp - anything we can do as Hams to be better our radio systems looks to be worth the effort. Solar Winter is here and it may be time to hunker down.

Smoothed sunspot numbers:

Jan 2016=46.8 <--- 2 years ago	Jan 2018=18.2 <--- Today	Estimate of cycle reversal
Feb 2016=45.5	Feb 2018=17.2	Jan 2020=4.4 <---
Mar 2016=44.0	Mar 2018=16.3	Feb 2020=4.8
Apr 2016=42.1	Apr 2018=15.4	Mar 2020=5.1
May 2016=40.4	May 2018=14.5	Apr 2020=5.5
Jun 2016=39.5	Jun 2018=13.7	May 2020=5.9
Jul 2016=38.7	Jul 2018=12.9	Jun 2020=6.4
Aug 2016=38.0	Aug 2018=12.2	Jul 2020=6.8
Sep 2016=37.1	Sep 2018=11.5	Aug 2020=7.3
Oct 2016=35.7	Oct 2018=10.8	Sep 2020=7.8
Nov 2016=33.8	Nov 2018=10.1	Oct 2020=8.3
Dec 2016=32.2	Dec 2018=9.5	Nov 2020=8.9
Jan 2017=25.0	Jan 2019=8.9	Dec 2020=9.5
Feb 2017=24.9	Feb 2019=8.3	Jan 2021=10.1
Mar 2017=24.5	Mar 2019=7.8	Feb 2021=10.8
Apr 2017=24.4	Apr 2019=7.3	Mar 2021=11.5
May 2017=24.7	May 2019=6.8	Apr 2021=12.2
Jun 2017=25.4	Jun 2019=6.4	May 2021=12.9
Jul 2017=25.1	Jul 2019=5.9	Jun 2021=13.7
Aug 2017=23.7	Aug 2019=5.5	Jul 2021=14.5
Sep 2017=22.5	Sep 2019=5.1	Aug 2021=15.4
Oct 2017=21.4	Oct 2019=4.8	Sep 2021=16.3
Nov 2017=20.3	Nov 2019=4.4	Oct 2021=17.2
Dec 2017=19.2	Dec 2019=4.1 <---	Nov 2021=18.2
	Estimated bottom of cycle	Dec 2021=19.2

(1) Ham Cap, a free propagation prediction tool. http://www.dxatlas.com/hamcap

(2) https://nextgrandminimum.wordp.com/2017/12/09/historical-quiet-sun-headed-towards-ne-solar-minimum/

(3) https://en.wikipedia.org/w/Dalton_Minimum

73,
Gary, WA6HZT   wa6hzt@arrl.net

HARC Is Getting A NEW WEBSITE

Everyone,
I have made some progress on the website and now is a good time to give you a progress report and explain my suggestions on the direction the site could go.

I have talked to Roy and he will give me the hosting and domain account information this weekend. I reviewed the features of the current web host and it meets all of the new sites requirements at a competitive price. We can stay with the current host but I want to change the way the accounts are handled. I do not want the site to be controlled by one person. I am going to change the administer account to the club's name and address and submit a write up to the board with all the website accounts, user names, and passwords. Then the board can create an user account for whoever they want to be the website admin at that point in time. The same is true with the web site its self. The board will have two admin accounts and will create user accounts for whoever they want to admin the site, make changes, post events, RAIN, etc. This way the club will never loose control of the site again.

In order to add new features to the site I had to rebuild the site in WordPress. WordPress is a content management system (CMS) where the entire site is create and modified through a web browser and stored on the server. This way no one has the site on their personal computer. It also allows the site to have a dynamic events calendar that can link with the Facebook page. I tried to make the site very clean and as similar to the old site as I can. I do not want to make a dramatic change in the website's style at this point. The nice thing about WordPress is you can change the "Theme" with very little work and all the content stays. I am building the site on a development domain on my servers at http://harc.humhost.com. Once the site ready, I will transfer it to the current server and domain. We can continue to add feature to the site after the transfer.

I travel alot, all over the country, and I always bring my HT with me. Before I leave I try to program in repeaters and nets for my destinations city. So I have seen a lot of club pages and listen to a lot of nets. A lot of clubs have integrated their website into the regular operations. I believe that over time the website should grow to preform the following functions:

- Public Out Reach
    - Event advertisement and information
    - New member recruiting and sign-up
- Amateur Radio Information
    - Local and regional repeaters
    - Local and National Nets
    - Links to near by groups
    - Links to related sites
        - ARRL, W1AW, QST, FCC, etc
    - Educational links
    - Solar and weather info (auto update)
- Club Information
    - Events and Calendar
        - Linked to Facebook
        - Posted by users
    - Class and meeting schedule
        - Class resources
    - Forum (Q & A)
    - Membership information
    - HARC general info information / promotional
    - RAIN
    - Past evens and pictures
- Mailing list control and sign up.

A lot of these points have been completed, and other point I will work on down the road. Before I publish the site I want to complete the following tasks:

- Setup and populate the events calendar
    - Setup different categories and views for regular monthly, special events, and more
    - Link to Facebook
- About HARC page
    - Can someone write up a paragraph about the ckub and maybe a "why you should join" paragraph
    - Add membership form
    - Finish "Contact Us" form
- Check and add more repeater
- Check and add more nets
- Add social media "Like" icons
- Add informational paragraph to RAIN page. Jaye is working on this
- Add images to add "color" to the site.
    - Can anyone send me any images, club member photos, banner images, etc?

You all need to make the decision if we are going to make any changes to how the mailing list is handled. We can keep it the same or we can setup a new mailing list that will administered through the WordPress site. Users can sign up themselves, and an admin can manage the list via secure pages on the site. The mailer would also come form a humboldt-arc.org email address. I was going to setup the mailing list and pages so I can demo the new mailer. That way you be able to make an informed decision.

I was pushing to have the site done in the next few weeks. But I think I should wait to publish it till after the next monthly meeting. This way we can demo the site to everyone before we go live.

Give me a call or send an email if you have any questions, comments, or suggestions.

KM6LIQ - Carl
carl@humhost.com 928-299-0905

I want to thank Carl for all this amazing work. I am WAY behind at getting more stuff ready for this but am so grateful to our members Like Carl who get in the trench and create stuff we all get to use and enjoy for years to come. Thank you Again om, looking forward to this!
/ed

FWRA MEETING SEPTEMBER 10, 2017

Meeting called to order by President Bernie Christen, WA6HZG, at the Picnic in Scotia.

SECRETARY'S REPORT
The Minutes from the August and September, 2016, meetings need to be distributed.

TREASURER'S REPORT   No Treasurer's Report
COMMUNICATIONS   No communications.
COMMITTEE REPORTS   No reports.

OLD BUSINESS
Mt. Pierce – The siding on the south wall was installed last September. Siding has yet to be installed on the west wall around the door and antenna work needs to be done. A work party is scheduled for October 14.
Horse Mtn. – Antenna, hardline, and mounting hardware are ready to go. A work party is scheduled for October 28.
NEW BUSINESS
Winston Lowe, KJ6ICA, works for KRCR TV, Redding and wants FWRA to consider a new linked site on
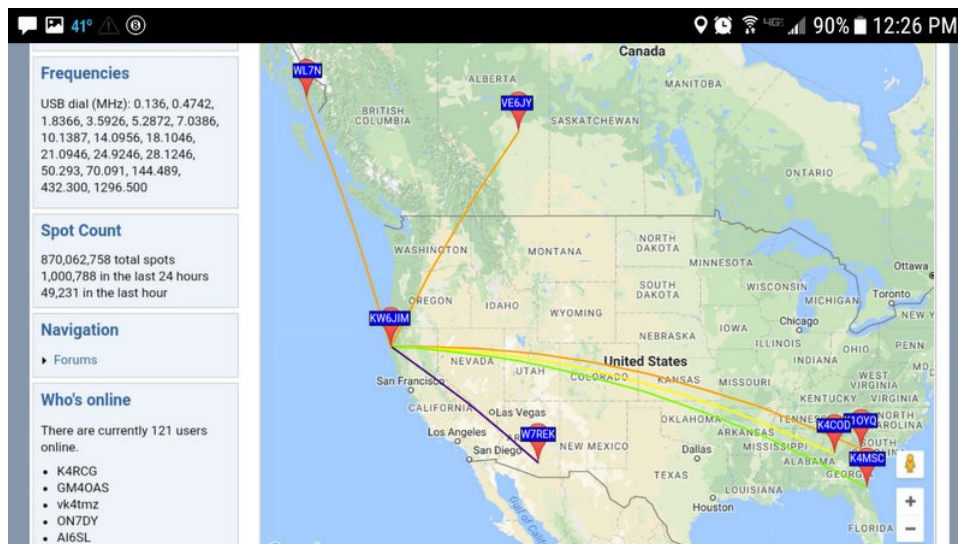Shasta Bally collocated with KRCR.
Next FWRA Board meeting is tentatively scheduled for January 14 at Loleta Fire. Discussion to include

restructuring the FWRA Board.
Meeting adjourned.
Respectfully submitted, Don Campbell, KE6HEC, Secretary.

Hi Jaye,
I wanted to pass this along to the gang. I was playing with my WSPRLite gizmo today at about 1230L using my hexbeam at 5 milliwatts. Here is the result. Radio is just magic!

73 and Happy New Year!
kw6jim

The Second HARC meeting
--January--

Howard kb6nn presented this months 2nd Tuesday meeting at the HARC club house. We were able to see digital modes in operation using several computers running Fldigi software. I have to admit, watching two computers that were not connected to each other, chatter their digital noise and be copied with 100% reliablity using only their built in speakers and microphones was pretty amazing!
We also had some demos of the winlink

applications. Howard also made some movies and presented them as a sort of slide show, pretty impressive. One thing about our 2nd Tuesday meetings is that we do away with the formal club routine and drill straight into very interesting talks and demonstrations of current technology and resources. Anthony is planning to present logging software and Log Book Of The World (LOW) during our February 2nd Tuesday meeting. Plan to be there!

Thanks to Howard and all the support staff who helped gear up for this evenings work shop.

Vietnam Vet, Radio Amateur Granted Dying Wish to Get on the Air One More Time

Vietnam War veteran John Nugent, WA2EQJ, got on the air for what likely will be his final time earlier this month, thanks to help from the Amateur Radio community. The 75-year-old US Army Signal Corps veteran, who has cancer, lives at the James A. Lovell Federal Health Care Center in North Chicago, Illinois. Licensed since he was 16, he told a social worker at the facility that one item on his "bucket list" was to operate on ham radio one last time. Staffers at the facility got in touch with the Lake County Veterans Assistance Commission, and replies came from the American Legion Amateur Radio Club, the North Shore Amateur Radio Club, and Lake County Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES), among others.

"He was just over the moon," social worker Alesia Behnke told the *Chicago Tribune*. "We had no idea we were going to pull it off."

The various Amateur Radio volunteers did, however, setting up an antenna outside the facility and a simple HF station inside. David Hartnett, K9DRH, and crew Don Whitney, K9DRW; James Nelson, K9QF; Harry Hahn, WB9R, and Scott Campbell, KC9SJP, were among those who made it happen. ARRL Illinois Section Manager Ron Morgan, AD9I, spread the word that WA2EQJ would be on the air.

"John is terminally ill and wanted to make some 20-meter radio contacts one last time," a post on the Lake County RACES page recounted. "He has been in the [Lovell Center] for more than 3 years." Nugent had volunteered to serve in the Army and was wounded during his Vietnam service.

On December 5, Nugent -- with help from his family members and Lovell Center staff -- turned on his radio and contacted stations in California, Illinois, and Texas. After the contacts were in the log, Nugent's son, Chris, thanked the Lake County RACES and other volunteers who facilitated his dad's last wish.

John Nugent, WA2EQJ (center), with his son, Chris (right), and daughter-in-law Nina. [Don Whitney, K9DRW, photo]

Among the stations Nugent contacted was special event W9F, operated by members of the Fermilab Amateur Radio Club (WB9IKJ) to mark the 50th anniversary of the National Accelerator Laboratory (Fermilab).

"We were able to add dying Army vet John Nugent, WA2EQJ, to the W9F special event log because of the rapid e-mail alert from the ARRL Illinois Section Manager, notifying ARRL members that it was Mr. Nugent's dying wish to make a final radio contact," Michaline Przekop, KC9ARP, told ARRL. "It was truly a touching and unforgettable experience."

Video of the event is available.

The ARRL International Grid Chase Kicks Off with the New Year!

Ready, set, go! The ARRL International Grid Chase 2018 gets under way on January 1 UTC (New Year's Eve in US time zones). The objective of the year-long event is to work stations on *any* band (*except* 60 meters) in as many different Maidenhead grid squares as possible, and then upload your log

data to ARRL's Logbook of The World (LoTW). Many hams are familiar with grid squares from the VHF/UHF and satellite realms, and everyone lives in one. An online calculator by David Levine, K2DSL, can determine your grid square. Enter a postal address, ZIP code, or a call sign, and the calculator will return the grid square for that location. Each new grid square contact confirmed through LoTW will count toward your monthly total.

Any contact you make in 2018 can count for your Chase score; as long as the other operators participate in LoTW, you'll get credit automatically when they upload their logs. This means that contest contacts will also count, as will contacts with special event stations, or other on-air activity that uses LoTW to confirm contacts.

There are no restrictions on modes or bands, as long as they are legal. Satellite contacts are valid for the Chase. The event is open to *all* radio amateurs.

Complete details of the ARRL International Grid Chase 2018 appeared in the December 2017 issue of *QST*. For more information, contact the ARRL Contest Branch.

Hardware Bugs?
It Isn't The Software That Is Broken, It Is The Cpu Inside Your Computer This Time!

If you haven't been following the news lately, there's been lots of concern and talk about recently discovered computer HARDWARE bugs. Software hackers (developers) around the world have been working at a frenzied pace to write software to work around these nasty bugs, but this work is very involved and will take time. Unlike a software exploits (bugs) that bad people take advantage of all the time, this problem is the actual CPU manufacturers like Intel corporation. The good news is that you will get updates on your computers, portable things (smart phones), and Ipads etc. Do make sure you keep up with your software vender's recommendations for updating safely.

The bad news is that these bugs are very serious. Large organizations that use massive computer systems will see huge slow-downs as the software updates will stop some of the normal functions that the CPU was designed to do—think Amazon, Google, Cloud storage companies and the like. The software is going to make these machines take longer to do some things. When you look at stores that relay on the internet to do their business, the idea of software updates that will make their web servers go slower is a pretty hard pill to swallow! However, that is exactly what is happening now to provide internal security of data that no one wants to loose—especially data like our passwords, bank information, or secure networks.

Intel, the largest manufacturer of CPUs in the world has released new microcode (firmware) for many of their computer CPUs. However, Arm processors and AMD processors have their very own special hardware bugs to deal with too.   I just read that the Intel firmware update is breaking some current computers and causing them to reboot spontaniously and have stated they will have to release another

firmware update. Follow these updates from your Operating system's vendor carefully so you don't find you in a position of having to repair a repair!

Makers of CPU hardware will be designing new machines that will avoid these pitfalls, and hopefully, figure out ways of speeding the processors back up like the good old days. Obviously, other hardware manufacturers will also have to be designing things like mother boards and all the other nifty things that are built inside that computer or phone you carry in your pocket. You will see these new machines this year to be sure. Other type of processors were never vulnerable to any of these bugs since they handled their systems is a more aware way at the very beginning. I've added a couple of links for those that might be interested in further reading.

One interesting note is that our fun, kit capable, Raspberry PI is not affected by these bugs!

Again, back up your data on your computer devices asa BASIC precaution, and then run your vendor supplied updates. There will be more of these updates as the software code and time marches on, so stay on top of it and do your part.

https://www.raspberrypi.org/blog/why-raspberry-pi-isnt-vulnerable-to-spectre-or-meltdown/

https://lwn.net/Articles/743363/

73
Jaye, ke6sls

A Message to Members from ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR

In the last few weeks, the ARRL's Board of Directors has been the subject of an organized misinformation campaign. It is being orchestrated by a group of hams, some of whom are well-intentioned but have been misled. This effort, which consists of a series of mis-characterizations, initially dealt with (1) the ARRL Board's censure of an ARRL Director, and (2) some proposed revisions to ARRL's *Articles of Association* and *Bylaws* that are likely to be considered at the upcoming ARRL Board meeting and which were circulated by a member of the Board. None of the proposed *Article* and *Bylaw* changes has yet been addressed by the Board of Directors. More recently, other equally erroneous and false statements have been made with respect to completely unrelated issues, in an effort to draw into question ARRL's decision-making processes. The principal suggestion is that ARRL operates under some "cloak of secrecy." The criticism is unfair and undeserved.

ARRL's representative system of governance, which has worked exceptionally well in the advocacy and promotion of Amateur Radio and the interests of ARRL members for more than 100 years, is unchanged. And the legislative and other advocacy positions currently being pursued are critical to the long-term survivability of the Amateur Radio Service.

The ARRL Board does seek thoughtful, informed input on policy issues concerning Amateur Radio from its roughly 150,000 members. ARRL's governance structure

provides that regionally elected, volunteer Directors will represent the interests of the members in their respective Divisions, working collectively and collegially within our Board to make policy and to advocate their constituents' interests. ARRL's Board members hold cabinet meetings and forums at hamfests and conventions, and they staff ARRL booths at hamfests and conventions in order to find out what interests and concerns you have as ARRL members. They take this feedback from you, and they come to Board meetings twice a year to make policy for the organization. They work together collegially to develop the best policy decisions. This structure presumes that the Board's collective wisdom is far greater than that of any one Board member, and each Board member is obligated by our *Articles* and *Bylaws* to come to meetings with a good idea of what the members need and what is best for Amateur Radio as a whole.

As is the case with most large, national nonprofit associations, ARRL Board meetings are not open to the public. It has always been that way, as a matter of necessity. That is because, at all such meetings, confidential issues such as spectrum protection, employee compensation, financial information, and FCC submissions are candidly discussed, and the members' interests at those meetings are advocated by the Directors on a representative basis.

Unfortunately, it was necessary for the Board to take the highly unusual action of publicly censuring one of its members recently. The Board heard the allegations made by an ARRL member of what transpired at an Amateur Radio event; it heard reports from other amateurs who were there, and it heard all the information that the Director involved chose to present. Everyone had a chance to speak and to evaluate the presentations. The Board, in an 11 to 3 vote with one abstention, took action to protect the organization's integrity based on the information presented. This process and procedure are what nonprofit associations have to be prepared to employ, and do employ, to maintain order within their organizations and to ensure that the interests of the affected Director are protected as well. This is not a procedure that any nonprofit organization would conduct publicly.

> *ARRL Directors are volunteers. They are smart, dedicated radio amateurs who each devote thousands of hours per year of their own time to representing you as best they can. -- ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR*

The ARRL *Policy on Board Governance and Conduct of Members of the Board of Directors and Vice Directors* has been drawn into question, probably as the result of the fact that the Board's censure decision was based upon a violation of that policy by the Director involved. The Policy is intended to protect the democratic decision-making processes by which ARRL has operated effectively for so long, and to set forth principles to guide an organization's decision making and the behavior of individual board members when acting on behalf of ARRL. When it was adopted by the Board a year ago, it was posted for ARRL members to read. The policy calls for honesty, integrity, transparency, confidentiality, and equity. The purpose of adopting such a statement formally is to provide employees, volunteers, and board members with guidelines for making ethical choices and to ensure that there is accountability for those choices.

When board members of a nonprofit adopt a code of ethics, they are expressing their commitment to ethical behavior. It is intended to protect the Board's deliberations and to protect the staff from inappropriate actions by

Board members. It seeks to preclude precisely the type of selective disclosures and unilateral and subjective characterizations of proposed Board actions that have happened recently. There is nothing at all insidious about the policy, which is subject to regular review and modification, as are all other ARRL organizational documents.

As to the criticism of the proposed *Articles* and *Bylaws* changes, the Board has not yet considered them. It may or may not adopt some or all of the changes recommended by its Executive Committee or by an individual Director. Any responsible Board of Directors regularly reviews, amends and updates its *Articles* and *Bylaws*. And ARRL member input is welcome on all such subjects. Indeed, the recommended *Article and Bylaws* changes were not considered to be Board confidential. The problem, however, is that it is not fair to members, or to the representative Directors who have yet to evaluate them collectively, to have the proposals mischaracterized or misrepresented.

ARRL Directors are volunteers. They are smart, dedicated radio amateurs who each devote thousands of hours per year of their own time to representing you as best they can.

To those who try to suggest that the Board has abandoned its obligation to the members in favor of the organization -- you draw a distinction that doesn't exist. The Board absolutely understands that the members are the organization. The members of ARRL are always best served by an informed Board that works together to make policy that is in the best interests of the organization. The divisive tactics that are being used now, commenced through disinformation and a lack of candor, are harmful not only to the organization, but to Amateur Radio operators everywhere, the good work of the ARRL staff, and the Service that we love so much.

Fox-1D Amateur Radio CubeSat Launches Successfully
Now Designated as AO-92

Right on schedule on January 12, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) launched, taking AMSAT-NA's Fox-1D CubeSat and 30 other satellites on board toward a sun-synchronous orbit. By 27 minutes into the flight, confirmation came that all nanosatellites had been deployed. Fox-1D was in orbit!

"At about 0517 UTC, the satellite came to life, and its antennas deployed over the North Pole," AMSAT reported. "The AMSAT Engineering team and Amateur Radio operators worldwide were watching various WebSDRs for signs of life. Around 0525 UTC, the characteristic 'Fox tail' of the Fox-1 FM transmitter was seen on multiple WebSDRs. Fox-1D was alive!"

In addition to a Fox-1 U/V FM transponder, Fox-1D will carry several university experiments, including a MEMS gyro from Pennsylvania State University-Erie, a camera from Virginia Tech, and the University of Iowa's High Energy Radiation CubeSat

Instrument (HERCI) radiation mapping experiment. This week the Virginia Tech experimental camera payload returned some very clear photos of our planet as seen from low-Earth orbit.

The PSLV launcher also carried the French PicSat, which includes a V/U FM transponder.

The satellite will not be available for general use until the on-orbit checkouts are complete. Read more.

Ready to earn your Ham Radio Licence?

Thank you to all the VE teams for helping our community with this very important work.

Fortuna CA 95547 EXAM SESSION 02/17/2018 **Sponsor:** Unsponsored **Date:** Feb 17 2018 **Time:** 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed) **Contact:** Daniel R. Martin (707) 768-9147 **Email:** Dan.AG6JW@gmail.com **VEC:** ARRL/VEC **Location:** Fortuna Volunteer fire Dept 320 S Fortuna Blvd Fortuna CA 95547	**Eureka CA 95501** EXAM SESSION 03/17/2018 **Sponsor:** Humboldt ARC **Date:** Mar 17 2018 **Time:** 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed) **Contact:** Irma D. Ruegg (707) 601-7520 **Email:** hamradio1991@hotmail.com **VEC:** ARRL/VEC **Location:** Fire Dept (Classrooms) 6th & C Street Eureka CA 95501

And Another Thing

This is the end of another addtion of R.A.I.N. It was big this month. Thank you all for submitting the work presented here. I welcome, heck I NEED your submissions. Pictures are great, but send them as attachments and not in PDF format. Our club has new officers this year, THANK you new OFFICERS for your many efforts.
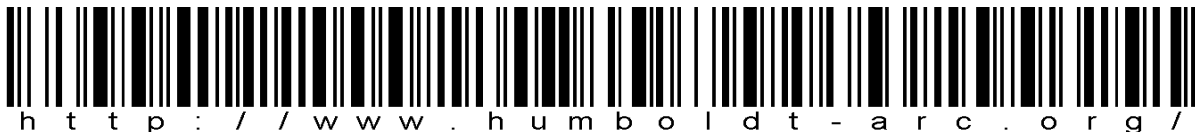
This is the last page of normal Text for R.A.I.N. but the Very last page is our NETS page along with a mailing label. Check out the net times, some have changed. Thanks to Carl, we'll also have this information available 24/7 on the web.

See you all next time.

73
Jaye, ke6sls

RAIN
Box 5251
Eureka, California, 95502-5251

North Coast Nets

Day	Time	Net	Frequency
Sunday	0800	North coast emergency net	3.855 MHz LSB
Monday	1830	Humboldt County HF emergency net	3.955 MHz LSB
Monday	1845	Humboldt HF Digital emergency net	3.581 USB MFSK32
\Monday	1900	Arcata Emergency simplex net	146.430 MHz
Monday	1900	Eel River Emergency net	147.090 PL103.5
Monday	1900	Eureka Emergency simplex net	146.460 MHz
Monday	1900	Southern Humboldt Emergency net	146.790 PL 103.5
Monday	1915	Eureka & north UHF Emergency net	444.400 +5000 PL103.5
Monday	1930	Humboldt county Emergency net (nearest FWRA repeater to you)	146.700 PL103l.5 147.000 PL103l.5 146.760 PL103l.5 146.610 PL103l.5
~~Monday~~	~~1930~~	~~Humboldt HF Digital emergency net~~	~~3.581 USB MFSK32~~
~~Monday~~	~~1945~~	~~Humboldt County HF emergency net~~	~~3.955 MHz LSB~~
Monday	2000	California State net	3.992 MHz LSB
Tuesday	1930	ORCA digital operations net	3.581 MHz USB
Tuesday	1930	California-Mendocino net	3.915 MHz LSB
Wednesday	1000	California State net	7.230 MHz LSB
Wednesday	1930	FWRA net	146.760 PL103.5

http://www.humboldt-arc.org/

humboldt-arc.org