



IN-Newsletter

Vol. 42, No. 18

May 12, 2017

Covers the period April 29 – May 5, 2017

Upcoming In-Person Meetings and Events:

National VOAD Conference

May 15 – 18 @ Houston, TX

SEA-PAC 2017

June 2 – 4 @ Seaside, OR

Hamvention 2017

May 19 – 21 @ Xenia, OH

HAM RADIO 2017

July 14 – 16 @ Friedrichshafen, Germany

Rocky Mountain Division Convention

May 26 – 27 @ Cody, WY

ARRL 2nd Board Meeting

July 21 – 22 @ Farmington, CT

ARRL Audio News

Below is a link to last week's edition of the ARRL Audio News podcast, dated May 5, 2017:

<https://www.blubrry.com/arrlaudionews/23374335/arrl-audio-news-may-5-2017?sbe=1>

Business Services

Reported by Debra Jahnke, K1DAJ

Staff continues to solicit advertising for the July issue of QST, edging closer to our goal for the month.

Chief Executive Office

Reported by Tom Gallagher, NY2RF

Tom Gallagher filmed a new episode of “60 Second Century” for his June 2017 *QST* editorial (“Fighting the Last War, or the Next?”). We will share that link when the webisode is ready to be posted ARRL’s social media accounts.

Tom, Director Woolweaver (attending in his capacity as Education Sub-Committee) and key ARRL staff had several conversations with ARISS Chair Frank Bauer, KA3HDO, and his NASA associate Rosalie White, K1STO, regarding the ARISS space program and ARRL’s continuing partnership moving forward successfully in light of management changes in Educational Services.

Planning and preparations have begun for July’s committee and board meetings.

Development

Reported by Lauren Clarke, KB1YDD

The Legislative Issues Advocacy Fund solicitation continues to draw donations; \$32,443 has been raised to date. As we near the end of the first quarter, the Diamond Club is showing strong results; \$96,403 to date.

The Development Office is busy with last minute preparations for Hamvention. Nearly 150 guests have rsvp'd for the ARRL Donor Recognition Reception scheduled for May 18, 2017 in Dayton, Ohio at America's Packard Museum.

Education

Reported by Lisa Kustosik, KA1UFZ

ARISS Contacts:

- May 5, a direct contact between students from Collège Georges Brassens, Saint-Venant, France, Collège René Cassin de Lillers, Lillers, France, and Lycée Polyvalent Anatole France, Lillers, France, and astronaut Thomas Pesquet, KG5FYG was successful.
- April 29, a direct contact between students at the 14th Elementary School Katerini, Greece, and astronaut Thomas Pesquet, KG5FYG was successful.
- April 27, a direct contact between students from Lycée Hélène Boucher, Thionville, France, and astronaut Thomas Pesquet, KG5FYG was successful.

Teachers Institute

A total of 38 applications to the Teaching Institute were submitted with a May 1 deadline. Selection was completed on May 10 for the candidates accepted to the TI 2017 class, with the active participation and concurrence of ETP, Membership, Finance, and the current instructor cadre. Slots for Dayton and Newington were assigned as of that date and letters are going out to both accepted and declined applicants next week.

Teacher Registration	Instructor Registration	Graduation Kit Requests	License Class Listings
2	4	1	9

Field Services

Reported by Dave Patton, NN1N

Field Organization

Los Angeles Section Manager Diana Feinberg, AI6DF, has been nominated to run for a new term of office that begins October 1. The nomination period remains open until June 9.

Through the organizational leadership of Ohio Section Manager Scott Yonally, N8SH, all Section Managers who are heading to Hamvention next week have been invited to a meeting on Thursday afternoon, May 18. Thanks to Bob Inderbitzen for helping to set up arrangements at the hotel for this meeting.

WIAW

Thanks to members of the Candlewood Amateur Radio Association (CARA) for operating WIAW in this past weekend's New England QSO Party (NEQP). They made 381 QSOs on 20 meters using CW and SSB.

Scott worked on slow and fast code practice texts for the upcoming week. He also processed 6 electronic VUCC and 2 paper VUCC applications, and processed 611 VUCC credits between the two. Joe processed 3 Qualifying Run certificates and 2 endorsements. He also updated the weekly CW practice QST source web page.

IT

Reported by Michael Keane, K1MK

A (security mandated) upgrade of the operating system for the server that hosts the ARRL web site was performed Monday evening (May 8). The bulk of web site functionality was restored after about two hours of downtime. Several relatively minor issues (to those unaffected!) resulting from the upgrade continue to be worked on and resolved in prioritized order.

Laboratory

Bob Allison, WB1GCM Reporting

Experimentation

Zack designed a dual band collinear for 12 and 15 meters. It uses both traps and section of window line. It has 3.2 dBi of gain in free space, 1 dB more than a dipole. Zack plans to put one up at his house, pointed toward Europe, so all of his dipoles will be aimed that way on 40, 30, 20, 17, 15, 12, and 10 meters.

Product Review

Bob Allison tested a small, five band, QRP transceiver. Testing was halted, once it was found to have a keying waveform with nearly zero rise and fall time, causing bad key-clicks to be transmitted. Bob contacted the manufacturer to share the test results. They are currently working on a fix. Bob then started testing of a dual band handheld transceiver.

Bob also took part in a Product Review video featuring a spectrum analyzer as the reviewed item. While setting up for the video shoot in the Lab's screen room, Bob discovered that this compact, low priced spectrum analyzer has the ability to measure conducted emission levels (used with the appropriate Line Impedance Stabilization Network). This feature is very useful for measuring the unintentionally generated noise from consumer devices, such as switch-mode power supplies and grow lamps. As part of the review process, this analyzer was calibrated at Essco laboratories, in Chelmsford, MA. With a fresh calibration sticker on it, the analyzer is ready to serve our membership!

Radio Frequency Interference

Mike Gruber received a response to a letter that he had sent to SolarEdge concerning RFI issues from their systems. In the letter, SolarEdge indicated that they do not recommend installing their equipment near a ham station(!) At the moment, there are four active complaints involving SolarEdge equipment. The primary source of RFI problems involving PV systems seems to be SolarEdge "optimizers."

Mike attended Tony Brock-Fisher's, K1KP presentation at NEARfest on Friday. Tony is the author of a QST Article involving RFI remediation from his SolarEdge PV system. Tony indicated that he has helped a number of hams since that article was published and will be happy to show Mike his system and help take some field strength measurements, probably in June. Tony will also be at the Dayton Hamvention.

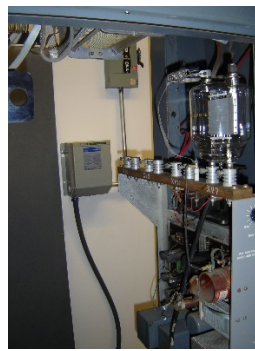
Technical Information Service.

Jeff, W2JEB, called Zack Lau to say he was having trouble finding the latest STB80F03L used in the May, 2017 QST over-voltage protection project. Mouser's web page suggested it had 410 in stock, but for some reason they weren't available for order. Zack suggested he call Mouser. Zack also found that Mouser had a large quantity of the older STP80NF03L that could be used with a slightly higher voltage drop that wouldn't matter for most amateur applications.

Volunteers

This was a busy week for the Lab's volunteers. Mike Marinaro, WN1M and Jonathan Allen, K2KKH, met with Bob Allison to discuss future plans for the ARRL Heritage Museum. Additional written material will soon be added to the museum's web page. A solid plan was made for the thinning out and cleaning of the ARRL Library. Volunteers Ray Thornton, W1YFF, Lori Kosior, N1SMK and Pete Turbide, W1PT all worked on equipment that was recently donated to the ARRL.

Volunteers from the Vintage Radio and Communications Museum of CT were also on hand, working on the Gates BC-1T transmitter (see photos below). This work is spearheaded by Dan Thomas, NC1J, who is a former radio and television broadcaster, spending his career in front of the mic/camera and inside of a broadcast transmitter. Please stop by the Lab on Tuesday mornings and say "hello" to Dan. The Gates transmitter will be ready for test transmissions by the end of this month.



Media & Public Relations

Reported by Sean Kutzko, KX9X

Preparations for PR efforts at Hamvention are in full swing. Sean and Becky Schoenfeld will lead the news/PR coverage of Hamvention for ARRL. Sean is working on interview schedules, pre-posting reminders for attendees for certain events and functions, and testing some tech gear for use in live streaming while at Hamvention.

With considerable assistance from Bob Inderbitzen, Sean is helping with ham radio displays at the Bay Area Maker Faire, held the same weekend as Hamvention. Several items will be shipped to David

Witkowski, W6DTW, who wrote an article on how to present ham radio at Maker Faires for the January 2017 *QST*.

Two new videos were shot last week: The July *QST* Product Review and the June 60-Second Century promo.

Sean was interviewed for an article on portable ham radio in Alabama. The article is here: <https://rootsrated.com/stories/hamming-it-up-on-the-trail-the-story-of-alabama-s-ham-radio-hikers>

Social Media stats for May 1-6:

Facebook – Monthly Goal: 500 New Followers

Number of followers as of Friday May 5th – **74,673** (up 84 since April 28)

Top post: The new book “More Arduino Projects for Ham Radio” by popular author and experimenter Glen Popiel, KW5GP (**Reactions: 197/ Comments: 4/ Shares: 56/ Total engagements: 257**)

Main Twitter - Monthly Goal: 250 New Followers

Number of followers as of Friday May 5th – **30,240** (up 51 since April 28)

Top post: #ARRL Field Day Site Locator is Live for 2017, Public Service Announcements Available <http://ow.ly/11ig30booq6> #HamRadio <https://t.co/cG77XvEybe> (**Retweets: 26/ Replies: 0/ Quotes: 0/ Likes: 21/ Total engagements: 47**)

Instagram – Monthly Goal: 100 New Followers

Number of followers as of Friday May 6 – **2,635** (up 14 since April 28)

Top post: It's #NationalGetCaughtReadingMonth! Post a photo of yourself reading anything #HamRadio related and be sure to tag @arrlhq #QST Managing Editor Becky Schoenfeld, WIBXY, got caught reading the April 2017 issue of QST. #ARRL #HamRadio (**Likes: 96/ Comments: 5/ Total engagements: 101**)

April Podcast downloads:

ARRL Audio News: **11,888**

ARRL Doctor Is IN: **30,249**

Membership

Reported by Diane Petrilli, KB1RNF

We ended April with 162,371 members – 272 members *ahead* of year-to-date goal. Responses to the April membership mailing are starting to come in. The May mailing is set to mail May 26 and will be the last monthly membership mailing until September. The on-time renewal rate for April is 71.73% vs. 69.14% last April.

Production/Editorial

Reported by Becky Schoenfeld, WIBXY

June 2017 edition of digital QST went live on Wednesday, May 10th. In addition, PageSuite has scheduled the process to finish the implementation of <https://> across the platform's websites during a time that will cause minimal disruption.

Radiosport

Reported by Norm Fusaro, W3IZ

Paper/Fieldcheck Processing Time	2 – 3 Weeks
Logbook Processing Time	1 – 2 Business Days
2017 DXCC Applications	4,507
2017 WAS Applications	525
2017 VUCC Applications	167
2017 WPX Applications	247

Regulatory Affairs/Secretary

Reported by Dan Henderson, N1ND

Lots has been going on during the last couple of months keeping the Regulatory Information /Assistant Secretary quite busy. As we approach the busy summer travel months, we are receiving a steady stream of requests for information about reciprocal operating. Several items on the ARRL webpage about reciprocal operating have been reviewed and updated. The most common question is from visitors to the US wanting to know how to obtain a US callsign. Most are let down when we explain that while we have reciprocity with many countries that permits them to operate during their visit to the US, the only way to obtain a US callsign is to pass the US License exams. We also explain that once they obtain a US license of any kind, they are no longer eligible to operate under the privileges they have under reciprocity.

We continue to work actively with the Official Observer modernization working group, chaired by Vice-President Milesosky. As part of those efforts, we have taken the lead in the re-write of the training manual for OOs. In addition, we recently had the opportunity to have a face-to-face meeting with Laura Smith at the FCC, where we discussed several action items the group is considering. We also had an opportunity to meet with former FCC Special Counsel Riley Hollingsworth, who is participating in the discussions at the invitation of Vice-President Milesosky, who has been very helpful in highlighting several issues for the group to consider in its deliberations.

The various state legislatures are still actively in session, and to date over 2,000 bills that have been introduced have been reviewed. Fortunately, most the bills that are “tagged” by our service for review (using key words such as “tower” or “restrictive covenants” among others) have no connection to the Amateur Radio service. We also continue to receive calls every week inquiring on the status of HR 555 – The Amateur Radio Parity Act. We explain that while there is no fresh news to report, our DC team continues to work diligently on the matter – that it is a continued ongoing concern for the ARRL. A RallyCongress letter for Oklahoma Senator Inhofe was recently prepped and distributed, thanking him for his efforts on addressing problems for Amateurs with last year’s legislation on tower marking and painting for short towers.

Preparations are in place for the counting of ballots for the SW Division Vice-Director election, which will take place on Friday May 19th. We have worked with Elections and Ethics Chairman Tom Frenaye to get the team in place for opening and counting ballots at ARRL Headquarters that afternoon. Many thanks to ARRL HQ staff and managers for their cooperation with staffing the project for that afternoon. We are also involved with the preparations for the July Committee and Board meetings.

As a member of the Awards Committee, we have been involved in multiple discussions over the DXCC status of the Midway and Kure entities. Though no longer running Field Day, we have touched base several times with ARRL Contest Manager Bart Jahnke on various aspects of preparations for the event.

Sales and Marketing

Reported by Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R

Many items were completed to finalize planning for ARRL EXPO at Hamvention. We accommodated a handful of last minute requests for hotel rooms and additional volunteers. Steve Capodicasa reports that our shipment for ARRL’s exhibits arrived in Ohio; 10 pallets - 6,500 lbs.

ARRL earned \$4,644 in March, and \$2,850 in April for royalties attributed to the ARRL Visa Credit Card. The largest source of program growth is email conducted by ARRL on behalf of U. S. Bank. YTD (Jan-Apr), ARRL has earned \$13,872 (\$13,103 in 2016). There are 2,677 open cards. Card holder sales volume was over \$2.4 million YTD. ARRL earns royalties on newly opened cards and on net purchases. U.S. Bank will have representatives in the ARRL exhibit area during Hamvention. The bank included special messaging on its card holder statements in April/May, encouraging customers to visit the ARRL exhibit area, and offering incentives for using their cards while in Ohio during the convention.

Jackie Ferreira reports that we are now shipping a new black mug for the ARRL Collegiate Amateur Radio Initiative, which includes the program logo and slogan “We Want U.”

Yvette Vinci reports that in May we processed 34 paid-in-full Life Memberships and 14 Life Membership pledges.

Hamfest/Member Contact/ARRL Representative/Meetings/Vacations

Leona Adams	05/26	PTO
“	06/26 – 06/30	PTO
Bob Allison	05/12 – 05/15	PTO
“	05/18 – 05/24	Dayton Hamvention, Xenia, OH
“	06/15 – 06/19	PTO
Margie Bourgoin	05/17 – 05/21	Dayton Hamvention, Xenia, OH
Steve Capodicasa	06/04	PTO
Joe Carcia	05/26	PTO
“	06/09	PTO
“	06/16	PTO
“	07/05 – 07/07	PTO
“	07/14	PTO
“	07/21	PTO
“	07/28	PTO
“	08/04	PTO
“	08/07 – 08/11	PTO
“	08/25	PTO
“	10/09	PTO
Lauren Clarke	05/17 – 05/21	Dayton Hamvention, Xenia, OH
Michael Corey	05/15 – 05/18	National VOAD Conference, Houston, TX
“	05/18 – 05/21	Dayton Hamvention, Xenia, OH
Jon Faasen	05/17 – 05/21	Dayton Hamvention, Xenia, OH

Steve Ford	05/19	PTO
“	05/26	PTO
Norm Fusaro	05/18 – 05/21	Dayton Hamvention, Xenia, OH
Tom Gallagher	05/12	Garden School ARC, Jackson Heights, NY
“	05/18 – 05/21	Dayton Hamvention, Xenia, OH
“	06/01 – 06-04	SEA-PAC, Seaside, OR
“	06/26	PCC.II Meeting, Orlando, FL
Regina Galuppi	05/17 – 05/21	Dayton Hamvention, Xenia, OH
Scott Gee	05/18 – 05/19	PTO
“	05/30 – 06/02	PTO
“	06/29 – 06/30	PTO
“	09/15 – 09/18	PTO
Jen Glifort	05/19	PTO
Perry Green	TBD	Medical Leave
Mike Gruber	05/18 – 05/24	Dayton Hamvention, Xenia, OH
Ed Hare	05/08 – 05/13	ANSI asc C63 EMC Committee, Frederick, MD
“	05/17 – 05/22	QRP ARCI Four Days in May, Xenia, OH
Dan Henderson	05/30 – 06/02	PTO
“	06 28 – 06/30	PTO
“	07/19 – 07/23	PSC Committee and Board of Directors meetings, HQ
“	07/05	PTO
Bob Inderbitzen	05/17 – 05/22	Dayton Hamvention, Xenia, OH
“	06/01 – 06/04	SEA-PAC, Seaside, OR
“	06/30 – 07/05	PTO
“	07/11 – 07/17	HAM RADIO, Friedrichshafen, Germany
“	07/18	PTO
“	08/21 – 08/25	PTO
Sabrina Jackson	05/18 – 05/21	Dayton Hamvention, Xenia, OH
Caroline Kenney	05/19 – 05/22	Maker Faire Bay Area, San Mateo, CA
Sean Kutzko	05/17 – 05/21	Dayton Hamvention, Xenia, OH
“	05/25 – 05/30	Rocky Mountain Division Convention, Cody, WY
“	06/29 – 06/30	PTO
Kimberly McNeill	05/17 – 05/21	Dayton Hamvention, Xenia, OH
Jodi Morin	05/22 – 05/23	PTO
Dave Patton	05/17 – 05/21	Dayton Hamvention, Xenia, OH
Michael Scharr	05/17 – 05/21	Dayton Hamvention, Xenia, OH
Becky Schoenfeld	05/18 – 05/21	Dayton Hamvention, Xenia, OH
Barry Shelley	05/19	PTO
“	06/09	PTO
Yvette Vinci	05/17 – 05/21	Dayton Hamvention, Xenia, OH

*Compiled and Edited by:
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