



IN-NEWSLETTER

Vol. 42, No. 31

August 4, 2017

Covers the period July 23 – July 29, 2017

Upcoming In-Person Meetings and Events:

Huntville Hamfest

August 19 – 20 @ Huntsville, AL

Tokyo HAMFEST

September 2 – 3 @ Tokyo, Japan

New England Division Convention

September 8 – 10 @ Boxboro, MA

United States Telecommunications Training Institute (USTTI)

October 2 – 6 @ HQ, Newington, CT

Pacificon (Pacific Division Convention)

October 20 – 22 @ San Ramon, CA

ARRL Audio News

Below is a link to last week's edition of the ARRL Audio News podcast, dated July 28, 2017:

<https://www.blubrry.com/arrlaudionews/25580803/arrl-audio-news-july-28-2017?sbe=1>

Chief Executive Office

Reported by Tom Gallagher, NY2RF

Tom Gallagher and Barry Shelley met with ARRL managers for their monthly reviews.

Tom spent time with the teachers participating in this year's Teacher's Institute, Newington. This year's was one of the best TI classes in history, with a wide diversity of students (including two university-level participants from ND and WI.) The students bonded quickly to form a cohesive team. They were all most cooperative with the instructor—no disrupters were in attendance. Promises to stay in touch and advise on how they will use the materials were made all around. The two most common expressions were: "thank you" and "this has been really fun." The classes were weighted to independent schools, charter schools, and university-level instructors.

Education

Reported by Lisa Kustosik, KA1UFZ

Education & Technology Program

We completed the second session of the Teachers Institute (TI-1) held here at HQ last week. Tommy Gober, N5DUX was the instructor for the week. There were 13 students. Lisa reports that all arrangements, hotel, transportation, study materials, etc. were taken care of. She was corresponding with

Tommy throughout the week making sure that he and the students were comfortable and had everything they needed. Two of the students took the ham radio test and both passed.

A few pictures of the TI classes, below:



Teacher Registration	Instructor Registration	Graduation Kit Requests	License Class Listings
1	6	2	13

Field Services

Reported by Dave Patton, NN1N

Leona Adams reports that a Section Manager nomination petition was received for Ray Hollenbeck, KL1IL of the Alaska section for the term beginning January 1, 2018. The deadline to receive the nominations for this term is Friday, September 8, 2017.

W1AW

W1AW hosted several Teachers Institute teachers over the week. At least three of them were active on the air. They had a good time at the station and asked quite a number of questions about radio in general.

Joe created the W1AW Qualifying Run texts for the month of August. He also processed regular QSL card requests, and updated the weekly CW code practice QST source web page. Scott worked on slow and fast code practice texts for the upcoming week. He also processed five paper, and thirteen electronic VUCC applications, with a total of 725 credits.

LAB

Reported by Bob Allison, WB1GCM

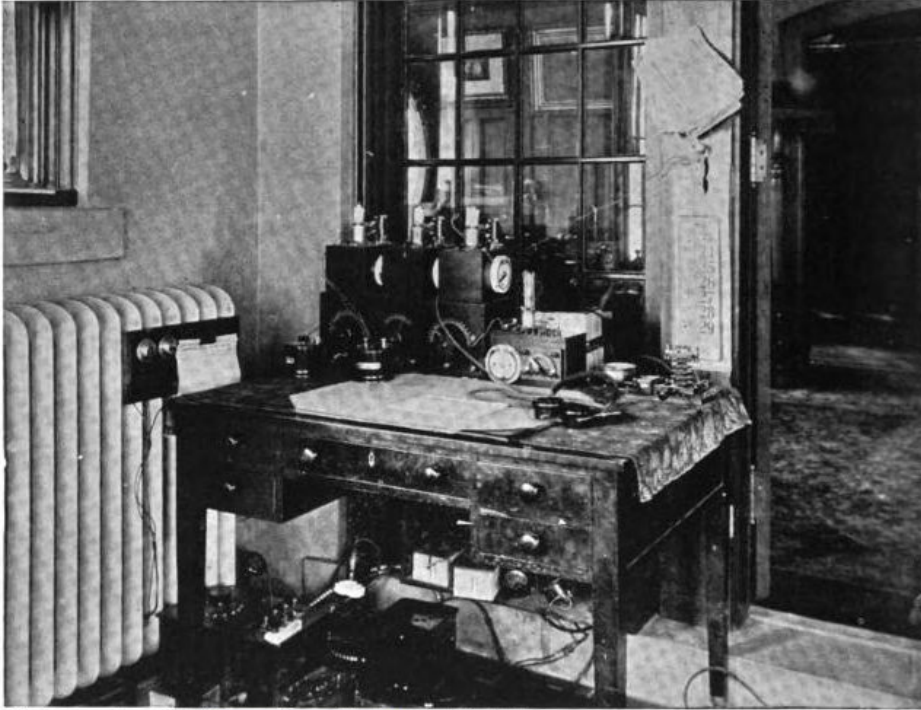
RFI

Mike Gruber, W1MG, completed a comprehensive report on behalf of the EMC Committee, which was presented by ARRL EMC Committee Chairman Kermit Carlson at the Board of Directors meeting. Mike also worked with Ward Silver and Mark Wilson on the upcoming EMC Chapter in the 2018 ARRL Handbook.

Mike chaired a meeting of the IEEE Working Group for p1897. This group is developing a recommended practice for the resolution of power line noise complaints. After the meeting, we began the editing and updates as agreed upon by the Working Group members.

ARRL Laboratory Volunteer Activities

ARRL Heritage Museum Curator, Mike Marinaro, WN1M, discovered a photo of Hiram P. Maxim's station on a very obscure web site, showing receiving equipment located within the living area of his house in Hartford; circa early 1920's. A photo of his rotary spark transmitter (Old Betsey) was published in QST in 1920, but his receiving apparatus was unknown to us. It is noted in the caption that Mr. Maxim had quite a grounding system, which was also bonded to the natural gas line of his house!



Photo, courtesy Mr. Hiram Percy Maxim, Hartford, Conn.

One Home Apparatus That is Well Installed.

The radio signaling apparatus in the home of Mr. Hiram Percy Maxim, Hartford, Conn. Mr. Maxim is president of the American Radio Relay League. Most amateur experimenters locate their station in their home, and inasmuch as they are unable to change the surroundings they must, to a certain extent at least, take things as they are. A careful study of the conditions will, however, often enable one to overcome any seeming handicap which may exist. This is just what Mr. Maxim has done. As a result, he has an efficient equipment without some of the unfortunate hazards which surround other amateur stations. Mr. Maxim made frequent grounds inside and outside of his home. He made at least twenty driven pipe grounds, running the ground conductor from the pipes to a water pipe outside of the foundation wall. Inside of the house, Mr. Maxim connected, electrically, all soil, gas, heating and other metal conductors by means of a copper bonding wire, and connected this bonding wire to a water pipe, thus providing means for the "draining" of any static accumulation within his home.

Lab volunteers, Pete Turbide, W1PT and Ray Thornton, W1YFF, continue to process equipment donated to the ARRL, with letters of acknowledgement sent to each donor promptly.

The Gates BC-1T Vintage AM Broadcast Transmitter, located in the Lab, generated RF for the first time since it was retired from service at station KPGE, Page, Arizona on 1340 kHz. A video of the first application of plate voltage was made by Michelle Patnode for posting on social media. Volunteers from the VRCMCT continue to perform tests on the modulation circuits. Bob Allison contacted the person that initially rescued this transmitter; Grant Bagley, W3GB will be visiting the Lab later this month.

TIS

Zack Lau, W1VT, handled a higher than normal amount of technical questions last week, due to Mike Gruber being away on vacation. Mike normally receives many radio frequency interference related telephone calls and emails each week. Such calls are time consuming, due to the nature and history of each interference case.

Product Review

Bob Allison, WB1GCM, completed testing of a software defined receiver. Though the receiver was sensitive and covered DC to 2 GHz, the optimum sensitivity had to be determined in which all three dynamic ranges were maximized. A thorough data table was compiled and passed along to QST Product Review Editor, Mark Wilson, K1RO.

Bob also completed testing of a QRP transceiver kit. In this case, a third version of this transceiver was tested by Bob. The previous versions generated Key Clicks on transmit and had poor receive sensitivity. The third version had enough rise and fall time on the keying waveform to prevent the transmitter from generating Key Clicks, which are not permitted per FCC Part 97 rules. The receiver sensitivity also improved to a usable level. The manufacturer of the kit thanked the ARRL Lab for their assistance. They now have a quality product.

Industry Representation

Ed Hare, W1RFI, will be traveling to Washington, DC to attend the IEEE EMC National Convention.

Marketing and Public Relations

Reported by Sean Kutzko, KX9X

Top Posts Across Social Media Platforms:

Facebook: Many hams are planning on participating in the Solar Eclipse QSO Party (<http://hamsci.org/seqp>) on Aug 21st and the HamSCI team has been asked where to tune for activity. There will be plenty of activity - on CW and Phone, tune for stations calling "CQ SEQP" toward the middle and lower portions of the various license class allocations. Activity on RTTY, PSK, and JT modes will be close to the usual activity centers but - please - spread out! With many stations active, assist the receiving decoder stations to make accurate and quick measurements by leaving a little space between signals. You can find band planning information at: <http://www.arrl.org/band-plan> http://www.ciarc.org/downloads/Digital_Mode_Band_Plan.pdf <http://wspnnet.org/drupal/node/218>
(Reactions: 138/ Comments: 10/ Shares: 93/ Total engagements: 241)

Main Twitter: Oklahoma Radio Amateur is First to Score Satellite VUCC from Greenland
<http://ow.ly/GzHq30dVC6g> #ARRL #HamRadio
<https://twitter.com/arrl/status/890218936335257601/photo/1> **(Retweets: 23/ Replies: 4/ Quotes: 2/ Likes: 73/ Total engagements: 102)**

Instagram: Following the meeting last weekend of the ARRL Board of Directors, ARRL announces the release of its 2016 Annual Report. This year's report departs from past reports in that it focuses on the people who make up ARRL and the larger Amateur Radio community. More than 140 call signs appear in the report, and more than 80 of these call signs belong not to ARRL Headquarters staff or Board members, but rather, to ARRL members. In his letter, CEO Tom Gallagher, NY2RF, writes about "...the people of ARRL: the Board, the staff, the membership, the various volunteers arrayed across the country, by our patrons and donors, by our served agencies, and by the Amateur Radio community, writ large. These are the people of ARRL, and here are their stories. This annual report celebrates their contribution and tells the stories of how each of them labors mightily, every day, to advance the art, the science, and

the enjoyment of Amateur Radio.” <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-publishes-its-2016-annual-report>
#ARRL #HamRadio (Likes: 103/ Comments: 0/ Total engagements: 103)

Instagram Story - 24-hour period: Boe-Bot maze! (photo) (Impressions-times seen: 490)

Membership

Diane Petrilli, KB1RNF

We ended July with 159,878 members – 167 members ahead of year-to-date goal. A loss of 1,010 members was forecast for the month; we lost 1,240 members. The on-time renewal rate for July is 71.81% vs. 70.20% last July. This is the fourth month in a row where renewal rates have been higher than the same month in the previous year.

Last week, an e-mail was sent to current member Technician class licensees who have been an ARRL member 1 year (n=688). They were sent a link to a survey and were asked questions to ascertain what they expected from their ARRL membership and whether or not we were meeting their expectations. We also asked what the biggest issue they faced in Amateur Radio was (that we could help them resolve) and what we could do to increase their success with, or enjoyment of, Amateur Radio. Five days out, the response rate is just under 9%. Responses will be tabulated and disseminated to those interested shortly. In brief, 57% of respondents said, “YES” we are meeting their expectations and 43% said “NO” or “SOMEWHAT.”

Radiosport

Reported by Norm Fusaro, W3IZ

Paper/Fieldcheck Processing Time	1 – 2 Weeks
Logbook Processing Time	1 – 2 Business Days
2017 DXCC Applications	6929
2017 WAS Applications	775
2017 VUCC Applications	371
2017 WPX Applications	368

Sales and Marketing

Reported by Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R

The 2018 *Handbook* will begin shipping in October. This edition is the most comprehensive revision since the 2014 edition. Pre-orders can be placed now: <http://www.arrl.org/shop/arrl-handbook-2018-hardcover>. Members who pre-order a hardcover edition *Handbook* before September 30th will receive a first-ever ARRL Member call sign badge, laser engraved with their name and call sign. The handsome black badge features a magnetic fastener, and a slot for attaching a bulldog-clip-style lanyard.

For many years, *The ARRL Handbook* has included a bundled-in CD-ROM containing the fully-searchable eBook and supplemental content and software. However, since fewer computers include a CD drive today, the upcoming 2018 edition *Handbook* will include instructions and a unique code (per book) to download the eBook and related material.

Publication and product sales in July were \$185,692, falling short of the sales forecast of \$208,351. Despite the shortfall, net sales were ahead of plan this month by \$3,711. Direct sales were \$116,999; dealer sales were \$68,693. Year-to-date sales are \$1,637,737; \$20,277 short of forecast. Royalties earned on sales of our Kindle e-books in July were \$7,302 (\$53,650 year-to-date; \$61,835 forecast).

Yvette Vinci picked up a repeat order from a manufacturer of RF and microwave components who will mail their newest catalog to a selection of ARRL members.

Jackie Ferreira conducted a handful of email solicitations featuring ARRL publications and products. This regular effort has contributed significantly to online sales traffic this summer.

Diane Petrilli and Bob Inderbitzen administered a bulk emailing, carrying the appeal from President Rick Roderick rallying members to [contact their US Senators](#) to support The Amateur Radio Parity Act.

Bob Inderbitzen has been working with kit designer-and-seller Rex Harper, WIREX, of QRPme. Rex's most simple kits, such as his Morse Sender, have been particularly popular among ham radio demonstrations at Maker Faires. His transmitter, receiver, and transceiver kits, such as the 40m Tuna Tin 2 transmitter and a version of K1SWL's Rockmite transceiver, have been popular with club and hamfest build-a-thons and construction nights. Our interest in working with QRPme and other kit producers is to help encourage more hams, particularly new licensees, to have a successful project-building experience. We are exploring ideas to 'package' these experiences with video tutorials, *QST* articles and publications, online community groups, social media, webinars, and on-air events.

Materials were assembled for ARRL's membership booth at the upcoming Huntsville Hamfest, Aug 19-20. Yvette is traveling to the convention to lead the exhibit with volunteers from the Southeastern Division and Alabama Section. Dan Wall is accompanying her as a staff representative and speaker. Also on our radar is planning for ARRL's exhibits at the New England Division Convention in Boxborough, Massachusetts, Sep 8-10, and the Pacific Division Convention in San Ramon, California, Oct 20-22.

Summary of Sales and Marketing Department telephone group, reported by Yvette Vinci:

Week Ending	Calls Answered	Calls Per Hour	Total Talking Duration	Average Speed of Answer
7/28/2017	743	16.5	24:19:57	14 seconds
7/21/2017	708	15.7	24:14:47	10 seconds
7/14/2017	711	15.8	24:59:39	8 seconds
7/7/2017 (3 days)	446	16.5	14:45:40	7 seconds

Summary of warehouse fulfillment activity, reported by Steve Capodicasa:

Week Ending	Packages fulfilled	Member Premiums
7/28/2017	1,251	343
7/21/2017	784	320
7/14/2017	581	475
7/7/2017 (3 days)	606	231

Hamfest/Member Contact/ARRL Representative/Meetings/Vacations

Bob Allison	08/24 – 08/28	PTO
Steve Capodicasa	08/21 – 08/25	PTO
“	08/30	PTO
“	09/18 – 09/22	PTO
Joe Carcia	08/07 – 08/11	PTO
“	08/25	PTO
“	09/01	PTO
“	09/28 – 09/29	PTO
“	10/09	PTO
“	12/01	PTO
“	12/08	PTO
Jackie Ferreira	08/14 – 08/15	PTO
“	08/24 – 08/25	PTO
Steve Ford	09/05 – 09/08	PTO
Tom Gallagher	08/18	PTO
Scott Gee	08/18 – 08/23	PTO
“	09/14 – 09/15	PTO
“	09/22 – 09/25	PTO
“	10/26 – 10/27	PTO
“	11/02 – 11/03	PTO
Mike Gruber	08 21 – 08/25	PTO
“	09/25 – 09/29	PTO
Ed Hare	11/11	IEEE EMC National Convention, Washington DC
Dan Henderson	08/28 – 09/05	PTO and ARRL NC State Convention / Shelby Hamfest
“	09/21 – 09/26	SEDCO/W4DXCC and PTO
Gail Iannone	08/10 – 08/16	PTO
“	08/23 – 08/28	PTO
Bob Inderbitzen	08/21 – 08/25	PTO
“	09/08 – 09/10	New England Division Convention, Boxborough, MA
“	10/19 – 10/23	Pacific Division Convention, San Ramon, CA
“	10/24	PTO
Deb Jahnke	08/10 – 08/16	PTO
Monique Levesque	07/31 – 08/11	PTO
Maryann MacDonald	08/14 – 08/29	PTO
Carla Pereira	09-05 – 09/08	PTO
“	10/19 – 10/23	Pacific Division Convention, San Ramon, CA
“	10/24	PTO
Diane Petrilli	08/04 – 08/11	PTO
“	09/29	PTO
Barry Shelley	08/14 – 08/25	PTO
Jon Siverling	08/18 – 08/23	PTO
“	10/06	PTO
Yvette Vinci	08/07	PTO
“	08/18 – 08/21	Huntsville Hamfest, Alabama State Convention
“	08/25	PTO
Dan Wall	08/18 – 08/20	Huntsville Hamfest, Alabama State Convention

*Compiled and Edited by:
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