

Big Island Amateur Radio Club

June 2019 Newsletter

June meeting venue

BIARC will meet at 2 p.m. Saturday, June 8, at the Keaau Community Center.



Public Safety Communications on the Big Island of Hawaii



Presented by: William Polhemus - BIARC
May 11, 2019

(See Page 3...)

Party #1 crew:
Chris, WH6FSK;
Gary, KK6GM;
Terry, KH6L;
Jeremy, AH6V;
Mel, KH6EKD;
Jim, K6MIO.



Photos by Gary Miller, KK6GM

Kennedys put out call; ham friends turn out for 'antenna parties'

Jim Kennedy, K6MIO, and wife Linda, WH6ECQ, are leaving their QTH of 22 years in Papa'ikou mauka and heading back to St. Augustine, Florida.

They cite "a variety of

aging problems," and a longing "to be near our kids again."

"With some real sadness, it's time to finally go 'home'," said Jim.

At the April BIARC meeting,

he had put out a call for "some muscle to help taking down a couple of towers (**above, the 30-footer comes down**) and their antennas, during the next two months."

His ham friends have

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responded with aloha, with some organizational help from Mel Uchida, KH6EKD. Two big "antenna parties" and lots of additional kokua later, the

'Antenna Party' Day 2 crew: Mel, KH6EKD; Jeremy, AH6V; Jim, K6MIO; Gary, KK6GM.

Kennedy homestead is looking a little bare. On the first work day, Mel rounded up the needed volunteers and, together, they all helped Jim lower his 30' tower and antennas. While helping to



round up the part-two crew, Mel noted that: "It's time to lower the 50' tower and we're looking for a group of men to assist."

After the second tower came down on May 21, it was serious nuts-and-bolts time, as the guys disassembled the tower and other antenna equipment already on the ground.

"Linda and I deeply appreciate everyone's help," said Jim.

Jim and Linda are most grateful

to all who helped with their major landscaping downgrade, and send their aloha to all of the folks they've enjoyed knowing here in Hawaii over the last quarter of a century.

They plan on a move during mid-to-late June.

If you'd like to bid them a fond aloha, send a note to: jimkennedy@hawaii.rr.com, or call Jim at 937-5387.



**BIARC meeting
minutes
May 11, 2019**

The meeting was called to order by President Pascal Nelson, AC7N, at 1400 in the main nave of the Kea'au Community Center.

Guests: Dan Petty (no call) and Chastity; Eric Grabowski (NH7ZF) and Mary Kay from Waikoloa; Kyra Bernhardt, WH6FSD, who made one of our J-Pole antennas while visiting a BIARC meeting and now has a call sign and can use it!

Announcements:

Leslie Hittner, K0BAD, announced that the Constitution and Bylaws voting at the designated voting table, would continue throughout the meeting.

Barbara Darling, NH7FY, announced that a former club president, Tom Thornton, who suffers from Parkinson's disease is now in a long-term care facility. Tom donated a Hexbeam to the amateur radio efforts in Micronesia several years ago and the antenna is still in use according to John Bush, V63JB.

Pascal introduced Tim Bryan, KH6TOB, who has taken on the project of editing video and photo slide media of the visit of Puerto Rican SCM, Oscar B, to the Big Island after hurricane Maria devastated Puerto Rico. He showed a 2 minute preview of that soon to be full-length video

**BIARC Board Meeting
May 18, 2019**

10 a.m.: Meeting called to order:

Roll call (6) [Quorum (5)] Board Members:
Pascal Nelson - President
Leslie Hittner, Secretary
Tony Kitchen, Treasurer
Mel Uchida, James Huntley, Peggy Gentle, Station Custodian Paul Ducasse.

Minutes of two last Board meetings:

Regular meeting on 4/27/2019;
Special meeting on 5/18/2019.

Mel moved and Tony seconded that the minutes of the above

two meetings be approved as published. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report:

There have been \$638 in disbursements since the start of the calendar year.

Peggy moved and Mel seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report subject to audit. Motion passed.

Member input opportunity:

There were no other BIARC members in attendance.

10:10 Old Business

Mission Statement:

No action taken.

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documentary of Oscar's presentation.

Pascal summarized the Kulani Cone repeater situation for people who were not at the April meeting and included more recent updates concerning that situation. Tony Kitchen is working through the access agreement insurance issue that exists between landlord, Kamehameha Schools, and BIARC.

KH6TOB offered 4-foot fiberglass mast sections (government surplus) to the club.

The meeting broke for pupus at 1430 and resumed with the program presentation by

William Polhemus at 1445.

Program: Hawai'i County Communications Systems and Amateur Radio EMCOMM Opportunities.

Three important county communications systems include:

1. Hawai'i County Trunked Radio System
2. State Shared Blended State Trunked System
3. State-wide Medicom System
4. And many others...

William noted that state and county agencies do not interoperate regularly. These systems are on different bands and run different modes. William then spent a fair amount of

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May 11 minutes: continued

time describing the Trunked (P-25) systems, as these have some significant – and important – vulnerabilities. P-25, it seems – can run a very complicated network of independent and interlaced systems capable of passing voice and data.

All of this traffic is controlled by a complicated computer system. The system therefore depends on a control channel that passes important network command and control data to all of the network switches (repeater sites), etc.

The cost of the entire system is such that government entities often fail to build redundancy into the control channel. Such is the case in Hawai'i County.

William noted that there are excellent opportunities for BIARC to build up an amateur radio infrastructure that is capable of supporting continued operation of the control channel into emergency areas. High-speed digital systems, HSMM Mesh systems, etc. could be a part of that amateur radio infrastructure.

William also stressed the fact that HCCD is not the only government agency that can benefit from amateur radio assistance during civil and natural emergencies.

After his presentation, William offered the floor for some EMCOMM discussion.

The meeting was adjourned at 1543.

Respectfully submitted,
Leslie D. Hittner, Secretary

**May 18 BIARC Board meeting minutes
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HCCD MOU: No action taken.

Status update of the Kulani Cone repeater:
No report.

Pascal noted that he has donated a 55 amp-hour battery (like new) to the club for use on Kulani. William Polhemus has the battery.

10:30 a.m. New Business

**Officially register the results of the
Constitution and Bylaws Acceptance vote:**

Leslie moved and James seconded to certify the vote to establish the new Constitution and Bylaws as correct and to record that the proposal passed. The motion passed.

Certify Interim Board members:

Leslie moved and Mel seconded to approve the following Interim Board Members:

William Polhemus

Leslie Hittner

Tony Kitchen

Mel Uchida

James Huntley

Peggy Gentle

Paul Ducasse (Station Custodian)

This motion passed.

**Nomination and Election of Interim Board
officers:**

Leslie moved and Mel seconded that Pascal should continue to run this meeting. The motion passed.

The following were nominated to officer positions:

[Name/Position Nominated/Seconded by]

Leslie Hittner, Secretary (Tony/Mel)

Tony Kitchen, Treasurer (Pascal/Mel)

William Polhemus, President (Pascal/Peggy)

James Huntley, Vice-President
(Pascal/Tony).

Peggy moved and Paul seconded to accept the slate as proposed by unanimous consent. Motion passed by a unanimous vote.

**Assign board members to chair or serve on
standing committees:**

1. Public Service Committee: Tony Kitchen

(Chair), Leslie Hittner, Paul Ducasse (Custodian),
Peggy Gentle

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2. Operating Activities Committee:
VACANT

3. Programs Committee: James Huntley (vice president and chair), Mel Uchida

4. Digital Systems Committee: Mel Uchida, James Huntley, Paul Ducasse

5. Voice Repeaters Committee: William Polhemus (Chair), Paul Ducasse (Custodian)

6. Education & Outreach Committee: Leslie Hittner, Peggy Gentle, (Doug Wilson also will be asked).

This committee structure and membership was approved by the board by acclamation.

Consider the authorization of an ad hoc committee to prepare a membership booklet:

Peggy moved and Mel seconded that an ad hoc committee be established to create a new member information booklet and that this committee be chaired by Leslie Hittner. The motion passed.

11 a.m. Other Business

P4 Dragon Modem:

Les moved and Tony seconded that the P4 Dragon Modem (Property of Joe Speroni) be placed in possession of James Huntley to be used for Winlink during EMCOMM training and activation. Motion passed and modem was turned over to James.

Set time and place of next board meeting:

Tony moved and Mel seconded that the board meeting normal schedule will be one week after the monthly club second-Saturday activity at 10 a.m. Meetings will normally be held at Puna Covenant Church. Upcoming meeting dates: June 15, July 20, August 17. Motion passed.

Adjournment: With no further business, Pascal adjourned the meeting at 11:12 a.m.

**BIARC Special Board Meeting
May 11, 2019**

The special meeting was called to order at 1435 at the Kea'au Community Center.

The following BIARC Board members were present:

Pascal Nelson – President

William Polhemus – Vice President

Leslie Hittner – Secretary

Tony Kitchen – Treasurer

James Huntley, Mel Uchida, Peggy Gentle

There being a quorum present, Pascal moved on to the special meeting agenda.

Secretary Leslie Hittner, reported that he had failed to set the deadline for email votes as specified in the previous board meeting.

William moved and Mel seconded to extend the email voting period to midnight, Friday, May 17, 2019 and that the Secretary be directed to communicate this deadline to all club members by email. Motion approved.

There being no further business, Pascal adjourned the meeting at 1440.

Respectfully Submitted,

Leslie D. Hittner, Secretary

Tech License course schedule

Doug Wilson's annual free Technician License training across the Big Island offers six-week classes, with five evening training sessions, and licensing exams open to all given on the final week.

The current session began May 23 in Waimea. The final class series of 2019 will begin on Oct. 17 at the Keaau Community Center. In addition to these two venues, Doug and his crew of instructors also have taught the Tech Prep classes in Ka'u, Kona and Hilo.

The classes are free, with the normal \$15 testing fee to ARRL, whose volunteer VEs (volunteer examiners) conduct the testing for the Federal Communications Commission. As always, current licensees wanting to upgrade also may take tests for advanced licenses at that time. To register for the Tech training classes, or for more info, contact Doug, KH7DQ, at douscelle@aol.com.

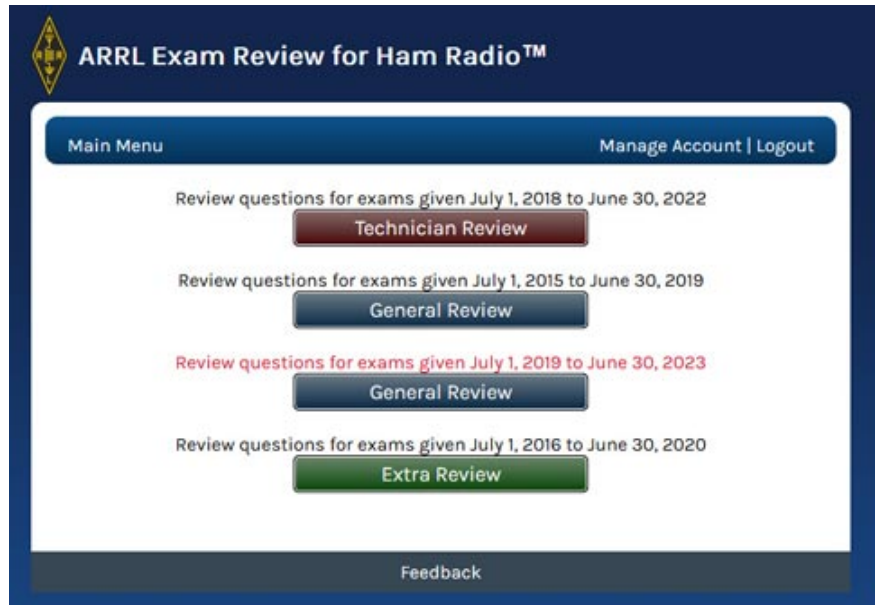
ARRL's free Exam Review for Ham Radio updated

The "ARRL Exam Review for Ham Radio" has been updated in advance of the release of the ninth edition of The ARRL General Class License Manual for Ham Radio.

ARRL Exam Review is a free online resource for use with current editions of ARRL License Manuals. The service can be accessed via a web browser, and uses the official examination question pools to construct chapter-by-chapter reviews.

Upon completing study, Exam Review helps the license candidate take practice exams with the same number and variety of questions that he or she will encounter on exam day.

Practice tests can be taken over and over, scored in complete privacy, or even



printed with an answer key. Exam Review includes quick feedback about the questions missed.

The update to Exam Review and the new edition General Class License Manual coincides with a new General Class question pool released earlier this year by the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC).

The new 2019-2023

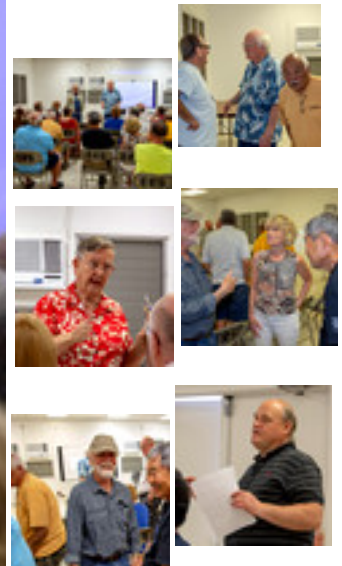
General Class question pool becomes effective on July 1, 2019 for examinations in the Amateur Radio Service.

The 2015-2019 General Class pool remains in effect for exams given until June 30, 2019.

ARRL Exam Review provides access to both the current and new General Class questions.



May BIARC meeting photos by Gary Miller, KK6GM



The President's Paragraphs



This is a bittersweet but exciting month for the Nelsons.

We are leaving our home in Volcano and moving all the way to North Carolina.



We have been very fortunate to have had nearly 6 years of Hawaii life. Of course, one of the great happenings of that time was getting involved with the Hawaii

amateur radio community, and coming to BIARC.

It has been our delight and privilege to be with you for these 2+ years, and for me to serve as your president for the last 18 months.

As I leave the club in the good hands of the Board and William Polhemus, the new president until the elections in November, I wish you all great success in the year and years to come.

Hawaii is a special place, and its ham community is such a wonderful part of it.

I'll always have an open spot in my heart for you all.

I am also delighted that the culmination of all of the hard work towards revising the Constitution and Bylaws was soundly accepted by the club membership. I believe that this

puts BIARC on a firm path to the future. Thank you all for making these needed changes possible through your support and votes.

As a last word of encouragement for the club, let me stress how important your involvement in the working Committees is for the vitality and viability of the club.

The club exists for your interest and edification -- but the only thing that keeps it alive and moving is your involvement in its activities and missions.

There is room for lots of diversity of interests, and levels of activity. But, remember! The only way that things happen is when you (that's each of you) make them happen through your work and support of the various aspects and activities of the club.

These activities and responsibilities are accomplished through engagement with one or more of the club committees. Find one that you care about, and jump in and get busy. Your enthusiasm and energy can make it happen.

One of the things that the board discussed and considers very important is the Education and Outreach committee. This committee is working on new informative printed and web material for members and new members to help you understand the working of the club, and the responsibilities of you as a member.

Please avail yourself of a good read of the new Constitution and Bylaws, and the new educational material as it becomes available. Identify your areas of interest and abilities, and get engaged and making a difference.

May you prosper!

Aloha (in its meaning of farewell)
and 73,

Pascal ac7n

Introducing: The BigIslandRadio@groups.io

The BigIslandRadio@groups.io is the result of the EmComm Roundtable discussion at Hamfest and is hosted by KHRC, the Kohala Hamakua Radio Club. RADIO is the acronym for Radio Amateur Disaster Information Operators.

KHRC@groups.io is the parent club's everyday business site. To subscribe, send an email to: khrc+subscribe@groups.io

The club currently has two active projects; the first is the August countywide EmComm exercise. The second, the Around-the-Island Simplex challenge, although a fun project, is intended to support the August plan by giving VHF operators a chance to extend their range.

The islandwide hub and spoke EmComm exercise will be held one of the last two weekends in August; please let us know if you have a preference. And please be thinking about whether you'll be participating and, if so, in what capacity. VHF operators will act as spokes sending messages to their HF hubs who will, in turn, send messages to an NCS. There will also be the opportunity for digital operators to organize and be a part of the plan. Messages will be in HCCDA format used by ACS.

In deciding how to prepare, first you need to identify your role. If you choose to be a VHF spoke, you'll need to practice with other VHF operators in your area and with an available HF hub. Similarly, HF hubs will want to practice with other HF operators as well as identify VHF operators near you. Many of you are already doing this by participating in nets.

The Hamakua North Kohala simplex net has been practicing for several months and has completed its initial task of connecting stations from North Kohala to Hilo. Propagation as well as

the terrain has often been challenging but location and equipment adaptations have been successful.

The net, Monday, 146,40, 10:30 AM, has these operators:

Kapaau, Terry, KH6L
 Kapaau, John, WH7RE
 Ahualoa, Bebo, WH6FRF
 Kapulena, Jim, AH6AE
 Kalopa, Eric, WH6FSG
 Pohakea Mauka, Don, WH6FIV
 Pohakea Mauka, Rick, AH6RK
 Pohakea Mauka, Ceri, AH6CS
 Laupahoehoe, Mel, KH6EKD
 Papaaloa Mauka, Kyra, WH6FSD
 Ninole, Gary, KK6GM
 Ninole, Jeremy, AH6V
 Hakalau, Earl, WH6ECX
 Pepeekeo, Kerry, WH6EPB
 Papaikou, Jim, K6MIO
 Hilo, Mark, WH6FSA
 Hilo, Paul, WH6EXL
 Keaau, Stan, AH6KO

As the number of hams in Hilo increases, we've made provisions for each group, moving forward, to document and post its activity along with the current list. Anyone interested in participating, just listen on Mondays, 10:30 AM, to see who's there and suggest that your current connections join you. Any questions can be directed to Gary, KK6GM, millerninole@gmail.com. who will be coordinating the hams in Hilo and south.

Leigh has challenged us to make it around the island using simplex only. From what we've seen already, we can do it! And Gary has suggested that an appropriate celebration for our succeeding is a Hamboree ... who's in?

Ceri Sanders, AH6CS

W5LFL, SK

Astronaut thrilled hams around world with first contacts from space in 1983

Owen K. Garriott, W5LFL, the US astronaut who pioneered the use of amateur radio to make contacts from space, died April 15 at his home in Huntsville, Alabama. He was 88. Garriott's ham radio activity ushered in the formal establishment of amateur radio in space, first as SAREX (the Shuttle Amateur Radio Experiment), and later as ARISS (Amateur Radio on the International Space Station).

"Owen inspired legions of amateur radio operators worldwide to support human spaceflight amateur radio endeavors and for countless individuals to become ham radio operators," observed ARISS-International President Frank Bauer, KA3HDO.

Garriott, an Oklahoma native, thrilled radio amateurs around the world by making the first contacts from space during 10 days aboard Spacelab-1 during a 1983 Space Shuttle Columbia mission. Thousands of hams listened on 2-meter FM, hoping to hear him or to make a contact. Garriott ended up contacting stations around the globe, among them such notables as the late King Hussein, JY1, of Jordan, and the late US Senator Barry Goldwater, K7UGA.

"I managed to do it in my off-duty hours, and it was a pleasure to get involved in it and to talk with people



NASA astronaut and pioneer for amateur radio in space Owen Garriott, W5LFL, SK.

-- NASA photo

who are as interested in space as the 100,000 hams on the ground seemed to be," Garriott recounted during an interview published in the February 1984 edition of QST.

Garriott simply used a handheld transceiver with its antenna in the window of Spacelab-1. His first pass was down the US West Coast.

"[A]s I approached the US, I began to hear stations that were trying to reach me," he told QST. "On my very first CQ, there were plenty of stations responding."

His first contact was with Lance Collister, WA1JXN, in Montana.

ARRL
So Now What?
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10-10 International Aloha Chapter

Local hams active on 10 meters encourage amateur radio licensees at all levels to join in the fun.

[More info on the world of Ten-Ten is available on Facebook and at <https://www.ten-ten.org>]



Aloha, from Pacific SM

Hi all,

I was fortunate to attend the Seattle based Communication Academy last month and had the opportunity to attend many interesting presentations.

The Communications Academy is an annual event for Amateurs following EmComm technologies and activities.

If you have the chance, consider participating next year. Lots to learn and experience. How about a really complete overview of "Installing Coax and Network Connectors" (presentation #3)?

Presentations are posted on their web site at <http://commacademy.org/index.php?page=2019-coming-soon>

It is worth the time to scan the subjects and maybe study one or two of interest. Several of the speakers have offered to make their presentations to Hawaii Amateurs using the ZOOM conferencing system.

The first of these covered the HamWan 5.9 GHz network and gave Hawaii participants a chance to ask questions (see presentation #4 in the 2019 list).

Let me know if you see any presentations of interest. We may be able to arrange additional presentations on subjects of interest.

**ARRL Pacific Section
Section Manager Joseph Speroni,
AH0A
ah0a@arrrl.org**



FCC Chair Ajit Pai

FCC chairman proposes call blocking by default to combat robocalls

FCC Chair Ajit Pai is proposing action to help consumers block unwanted robocalls. He has circulated a declaratory ruling that, if adopted, would allow phone companies to block unwanted calls to their customers by default. In addition, companies could allow consumers to block calls not on their own contacts lists. A draft Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking would propose a safe harbor for providers that implement network-wide blocking of calls that fail caller authentication under the SHAKEN/STIR framework, once it is implemented.

"Allowing call blocking by default could be a big benefit for consumers who are sick and tired of robocalls," Pai said. "By making it clear that such call blocking is allowed, the FCC will give voice service providers the legal certainty they need to block unwanted calls from the outset." Pai encouraged carriers to start providing these services free of charge and by default to current and future customers.

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According to an FCC news release, many voice providers have held off developing and deploying call-blocking tools by default because of uncertainty about whether these tools are legal.

"Allowing default call blocking by voice providers could significantly increase development and consumer adoption of such tools," the FCC said. "This blocking could be based on analytics and consumer 'white lists.' Similar analytics are currently used by third-party developers in call-blocking apps." The FCC said consumer white lists could be based on a customer's own contacts list.

Pai also proposed seeking public comment on how caller ID authentication standards, known as SHAKEN/STIR, can inform call blocking. He has demanded that carriers adopt these standards to combat malicious spoofing. This system of signing calls as legitimate as they pass through the phone networks may be useful for call-blocking tools, the FCC said.

The action would mark the first by the FCC to directly combat robocalls that spoof legitimate, in-service numbers. This follows adoption of new rules in 2017, which allowed blocking of calls before they reach consumers when they are highly likely to be illegitimate. "These calls might appear to come from nonexistent area codes or from numbers on the Do Not Originate list that do not make outbound calls -- like the FCC's own consumer help line, which was added to the list following scam calls that spoofed the agency's 888-CALL-FCC number," the Commission said.

The FCC will consider these measures at its June 6 meeting.

Radio amateurs demonstrate emergency messaging capabilities for Red Cross, FEMA

Just days ahead of the 2019 hurricane season, dozens of hams along the US East Coast demonstrated Amateur Radio's ability to deliver messages without commercial power, infrastructure, or permanently established stations for officials of the American Red Cross and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

The May 23 event was staged in coordination with ARRL during a joint meeting with Red Cross and FEMA officials in Baltimore.



During the mock response to a simulated disaster scenario -- a major hurricane with mass casualties striking the east coast -- hams at portable stations from New England to the Carolinas delivered messages to W1AW, which then coordinated and sent the info to the folks at the meeting in Baltimore.

Messaging was handled using digital modes, which can allow for the transmission of images as well as text, as a showcase for the full range of modern amateur radio technology.

The Red Cross also had a NexGen Emergency Response Vehicle parked at W1AW in Connecticut as part of the training exercise, which ran from 1330 to 1530 UTC.

World Scout Jamboree gearing up for significant amateur radio presence

Amateur radio will be a part of this summer's 24th World Scout Jamboree in West Virginia, the first World Jamboree held in North America since 1983. The Jamboree has chosen the theme "Unlock a New World."

Thousands of Scouts and Scout leaders from some 200 countries are expected to attend. The Jamboree's Amateur Radio Exhibit will use the call sign NA1WJ -- North America's 1st World Jamboree. It will be on the air during the event, July 22 until August 2, at the Summit Bechtel Reserve, hosted by Canada, Mexico, and the US.

Amateur radio testing is expected to begin as early as July 14. Operating frequencies will be posted in real time via Facebook and Twitter or via an NA1WJ email group.

"The goals of the amateur radio station at the World Scout Jamboree are to introduce Amateur Radio to Scouts and Scout leaders through hands-on participation in two-way communication with other stations across the globe. This activity will also serve as the amateur radio voice of the Jamboree," the World Scout



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Jamboree Amateur Radio Exhibit Operational Vision document states. Other facets of amateur radio at the Jamboree will include amateur radio direction finding (ARDF), amateur radio satellite contacts, and a scheduled Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) contact with an ISS crew member.

"We also expect to launch one or two balloons with Amateur Radio payloads and track them as they cross the Atlantic," the vision document continues.

Organizers are encouraging radio amateurs around the globe to get on the air during the World Jamboree to help NA1WJ demonstrate amateur radio for Jamboree visitors.

ARRL invites applications for Volunteer Monitor positions

ARRL is accepting applications for the new Volunteer Monitor program, a joint undertaking of the FCC and ARRL. The program seeks volunteers who -- working under the direction of ARRL -- will monitor and survey the amateur radio bands both to detect improper activity and to recognize exemplary on-the-air behavior.

Prospective monitors must be ARRL members. They will undergo vetting, training and certification by ARRL and will serve 3-year terms.

Volunteer Monitors must be able to

utilize state-of-the-art receiving equipment and to access no-cost remote receive sites, if requested. Applicants must possess strong writing and communication skills and an understanding of the importance of thorough documentation. They must have basic word processing and data entry skills and be able to send such information, including recordings, to ARRL electronically.

Applicants must have no history of warning letters or other enforcement-related action from the FCC, must hold a Technician or higher class license, and must have been licensed for at least 3 years.