



The IARU Region 3 Newsletter

Issue 18 – April to June 2010, Released July 2010

A major event in the region was the centenary celebrations of the Wireless Institute of Australia which marked 100 years of organized amateur radio. The celebrations were attended by a large number of radio amateurs from various parts of Australia and other parts of the world. The directors met in Canberra between the 27th and 29th May 2010. Several important issues were discussed especially the Monitoring System and Finances. The financial resources of Region 3 were a major discussion point on the agenda for the directors. The directors also participated in the Centenary Celebrations of the Wireless Institute of Australia, the oldest such association in the world.

A Word from the Chairman of IARU Region 3

Michael Owen VK3KI

The Directors Meet in Canberra

The IARU Region 3 Directors met in Canberra, Australia on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday the 26, 27 and 28 May 2010, immediately before the WIA Centenary celebrations including the Centenary Dinner on the Saturday night.

Also participating in most of the meeting were Tim Ellam VE6SH, IARU President, Panayot Danev LZ1US Executive Committee Member from IARU Region 1 and Keigo Komuro JA1KAB Special Advisor to the Directors.

Unfortunately, because of illness, Secretary Jay Oka JA1TRC was unable to participate

We identified two matters of primary importance for the meeting. One was the finances of the organisation, referred to the Directors by the last Region 3 Conference in Christchurch, New Zealand and the other was the IARU Region 3's relationship with the Asia Pacific Telecommunity's (the APT) WRC preparation meetings, the APG.

While it was very pleasing to accept the offer of ORARI to fully meet its financial obligations to the Region by payments spread over each of the years of the triennium, it was clear that this was not an answer to the basic issue. A number of member societies had responded to the Directors invitation to offer information and suggestions and we considered all of those opinions.

However, I think we all felt that we still did not really know the whole story. We believed that a number of societies faced particular difficulties and these had not been identified to us.

We see our task as identifying particular problems that face individual member societies, and seeing if those problems can be met by our changing how we collect subscriptions, for example, and recommending accordingly to the next Conference.

We set up a smaller Working Group and they developed a series of issues that we accepted required addressing.

We intend to seek further advice from the Member Societies by a further letter from our Secretary, and I urge all IARU Region 3 Member Societies to give us as much information as possible about their own situation, including identifying any factors that particularly affect their ability to meet the IARU Region 3 annual subscription.

The question of the relationship with the APT's APG took much time, and quite a bit of writing, as it seems that a formal document between the Region and the APT is required as the basis as our future participation in the APG is concerned, as a result of certain changes to the APT internal rules as adopted at the last APG meeting.

All very important, but not terribly exciting!

Other items we addressed included the matter of the IARU Monitoring System, so carefully reviewed at the Christchurch Conference, where we wrote a paper in response to the request of the IARU Officers, planning for the next APG meeting and the present position in respect of the next ITU WRC, where the proposal for the allocation of a small band on a secondary basis to the amateur service around 500 kHz will be considered. We were given some helpful briefings by Tim Ellam and Panayot Danev.

While the Directors are in constant email contact with each other, I believe that personal meetings are also essential, if we are to make real progress.

I believe that we did make real progress at our meeting in Canberra.

The WIA Centenary Weekend in Canberra A report from Jim Linton VK3PC

The afternoon programme

The afternoon was devoted to a programme examining the history of wireless and the WIA, with a variety of presenters, who had devoted significant time to researching their topics and used a variety of presentation methods. The programme was brought together and introduced by Peter Wolfenden VK3RV.

The Centenary Dinner

In the evening, over 200 people attended the WIA Centenary dinner.

Features of the dinner were the ARISS contact with the students from Trinity Christian School, the address by the Chairman of the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA), Chris Chapman and the talk by Dick Smith VK3DIK (each of these is the subject of a separate story).

During the evening, Takashi Aoki VK3NON, Manager of ICOM Australia made a presentation to Peter Westerhof VK1NPW, the Canberra Region Amateur Radio Club President of a new D-STAR Repeater for Canberra, to be owned by the WIA and operated by the club as a D-STAR club.

Mr Aoki also presented the WIA with a plaque from Tokuzo Inoue JA3FA, the founder of ICOM.

A number of presentations were made. While not directly represented, the Radio Society of Great Britain, through IARU President Tim Ellam VE6SH, presented a magnificent tray. In his letter, RSGB General Manager Peter Kirby G0TWW extended the congratulations of the President, Board and members of the Society, and went on to say, "This wonderful achievement would not have been reached without the outstanding commitment of the many thousands of volunteers who have worked tirelessly for the WIA over the past 100 years. They are to be congratulated."

Other gifts were presented by NZART President Roy Symon ZL2KH, Keigo Komuro JA1KAB and Isamu Kobayashi JA0AD on behalf of JARL, Jay Bellows K0QB, International Affairs Vice President on behalf of the ARRL, Gopal Madhavan VU2GMN President of the

Amateur Radio Society of India, ARSI, Region 3 Director Professor Joong-Guen. Rhee HL1AQQ on behalf of KARL, Panayot Danev LZ1US Executive Committee Member on behalf of IARU Region 1, the Directors of IARU Region 3 and the IARU represented by President, Timothy Ellam VE6SH.

A number of other societies had sent their best wishes and these appear on the WIA website.

A further presentation was made to the WIA. Marilyn Syme VK3DMS has for many years put together a thematic collection of stamps related to telecommunications, and she presented that collection to the WIA.

Marilyn VK3DMS said the collection, which had won a gold award at a major stamp show, will now be in the care of the WIA for future generations to enjoy.

The WIA President, in accepting the gift, said that it was a very moving gesture, and promised that the collection would be looked after with great care.

It is proposed that an article providing more detail about the collection will appear in a future edition of Amateur Radio magazine.

In his closing comments the WIA President Michael VK3KI said that the theme that had emerged for him from the history of wireless in this country was how what the WIA exists to do is as relevant today as was 100 years ago, that is to act as the voice of what was in those days the experimenter is today the amateur service.

WIA Centenary Award

This limited issue amateur radio operating award is available to celebrate the 100th year of the Wireless Institute of Australia (WIA), the world's oldest national radio society.

To qualify for an award certificate two contacts are required with the WIA's special station VK100WIA.

The WIA operated the station in May and since then, through its affiliated radio clubs, will operate this unique callsign until 31 October 2010, with a different club rostered every three days.

The award will be issued to radio amateurs in Australia who accumulate 100 points and amateurs outside Australia who accumulate 50 points.

A contact with VK100WIA operated by the WIA or operated by a Club is worth 10 points (only one contact with VK100WIA operated by the WIA and only one contact with each Club) and there must be a minimum of 2 contacts with VK100WIA. Contacting any WIA Member between 1st May 2010 and 31st October 2010 is worth 5 points.

Any mode may be used, cross mode and cross band contacts are permitted. Contacts via satellites and terrestrial repeaters are permitted for this award. Send \$AUD5 or 3 IRC and a list of contacts, QSL's not required, to the WIA Office.

It is operating on all amateur bands available to VK radio amateurs including the popular HF bands and the WIA Centenary Award is expected to be well sought after.

Full details of the award, the schedule of clubs operating etc., are available on the WIA's website www.wia.org.au and online logs are also now available

Selva 9V1UV Silent Key

K.C. Selvadurai, "Selva" 9V1UV, passed away on 30 June 2010.

Selva was born in Colombo, Sri Lanka. He was educated at St. Thomas's College Mt. Lavinia and the University of Peradenia in Kandy and later moved to Singapore where he worked for DBS Bank, achieving a very high position.

As a member of SARTS he held various positions, Council Member, Treasurer and President, contributing greatly to his national society.

He is particularly remembered for establishing a new and constructive relationship with the regulators and changing the character of the SARTS monthly meetings.

Selva was elected a Director of IARU Region 3 at the Darwin Conference at the end of August 2000 and was re-elected at the Taipei Conference in February 2004. He did not seek re-election at the Bangalore Conference in August 2006.

Many of us know him as the person who somehow kept the IARU Region 3 Newsletter as a regular feature of IARU Region 3.

I first met Selva many years ago, but just after WRC 03 I discovered that Selva regularly visited Melbourne, staying with his daughter who lived only a couple of streets from where I live.

So, when he was here we often had a lunch together. And that was when I discovered his passion. His passion was the advancement and protection of amateur radio. He saw that as the task of us all, and he particularly saw the IARU as the means of achieving this.

But he did not accept things as they were, and this to me was his strength because he worried about so many things he thought that we did as amateurs could do better. One example: he worried that the important Regional roles were always undertaken by the Directors, and it concerned him that this did not always guarantee the appropriate skill for a particular task or provide continuity, so he suggested that some of these roles be given to others selected for their skill and appointed to positions that allowed continuity. He questioned many things, had many ideas and was always looking for ways to improve the effectiveness of our amateur radio organisations.

Selva brought passion to his tasks for amateur radio - perhaps, at times, too much passion for some of us.

But passion, a great intellect, a questioning approach and a commitment to a vision of amateur radio across national borders could only contribute to our common interest.

I will miss a friend.

Michael Owen VK3KI

Thailand's NTC authorizes temporary 6-metre band activity

Thailand's National Telecommunications Commission (NTC) has authorized the Radio Amateur Society of Thailand's club station, HS0AC, to use the six-metre band during the CQ World Wide VHF contest on July 17-18, 2010. This is the first time that permission has been granted for Thai radio amateurs to use this band in almost 18 years, with the most recent permission having been granted for a special station operated during the Southeast Asia Network (SEANET) Convention hosted by RAST in November, 1992, in Chiang Mai, northern Thailand.

The authorization came in response to a request by RAST to the NTC that Thai radio amateurs be permitted to use frequencies in the 50-54 MHz (six-metre) band during this contest on a trial basis. However, Thailand's telecommunications regulator only granted this authorization

to operators of the society's club station, which is located near Bangkok at the Asian Institute of Technology

Reminder - Host required for the High Speed Telegraphy World Championships 2011

Following the decision made at the last HSTWC, the IARU Region 1 HST Working Group is looking for an IARU Region 3 Member Society to host the next (9th) IARU High Speed Telegraphy World Championship in 2011. Societies willing to undertake the organization of this event can obtain full details of requirements from:

HST WG Chairman Oliver Tabakovski Z32TO
Bul. Partizanski odredi 74/41
1000 Skopje, Republic of Macedonia or
E-mail: oliver.z32to@gmail.com

SEANET 2010

This year's SEANET, organized by the Shanghai Radio Sports Association (SRSA) (under authorization of Chinese Radio Sports Association (CRSA) will be held at the Olympic Club Hotel in Shanghai, China, between 5th and 9th November 2010

The programme details are available at <http://seanet.cc/programme.htm>

WRC-12 –Region 3 Preparations

To recap, WRC-12, which will be held in Geneva from January 23-February 17, 2012, will review the international treaty that governs Radiocommunication -- the ITU Radio Regulations <http://www.itu.int/publ/R-REG-RR-2008/en>.

The WRC-12 conference will be preceded by the Radiocommunication Assembly (RA-12), also to be held in Geneva, January 16-20, 2012.

Much activity has started in preparing for this important conference

600 Metres/ 500 kHz

At the next ITU World Radio Conference (WRC) in 2012, agenda item 1.23 is of particular interest to the amateur service. This agenda item refers to a possible secondary allocation in the 600 metre band spectrum segment:

- *Agenda item 1.23: To consider an allocation of about 15 kHz in parts of the band 415-526.5 kHz to the amateur service on a secondary basis, taking into account the need to protect existing services.*

Various radio societies under the IARU banner have already sought temporary or experimental licenses in a number of segments in this band for the purposes of conducting investigations into propagation and potential interference issues to other radio communications services as well as the potential application of this spectrum segment for amateur emergency communications services. The most recent radio society to be granted a temporary license is the NZART. They have been granted temporary use of the 505 kHz to 515 kHz segment.

SARTS Meeting

Singapore Amateur Radio Transmitting Society (SARTS) monthly ordinary meeting has been changed from SAFRA Toa Payoh to Members' Meeting Room, Alumni Medical Centre #01-00, 2 College Road, Singapore 169850. They meet every last Thursday of the month at 8:00pm except in August & December.

Since Singapore is a major transit point in the region, many hams may be able to schedule their visits to also attend the SARTS monthly meetings.

Qinghai Province earthquake - an update from China

The 7.1 Richter scale earthquake that struck China's Qinghai Province on 14 April 2010 killed more than 2,000 people and relief efforts are continuing for those left homeless. A day of national mourning was held on 21 April 2010.

Amateur radio operators in China were widely involved in the disaster relief actions. They were from Beijing, Sichuan, Shandong, Anhui, Qinghai and Jiangsu, travelling to the disaster centre.

There, in poor weather conditions, they helped in the transportation of medicines, tents, food and clothes to the disaster area.

The amateur radio operators were even directly involved in disaster rescue activities. One Beijing amateur radio rescue team saved 6 people.

The high altitude caused 90% of the amateur radio rescue team members to have Plateau Reaction (altitude sickness), but no one was injured during their efforts to help others affected by the disaster.

The CRSA reports that the experience and lessons learnt from the Great Sichuan earthquake in 2008, resulted in amateur radio disaster relief evolving into a practical level.

The radio hams were connected to government disaster relief organizations to synchronize the operation and enhanced the government's disaster relief efforts

The CRSA says that this time hams joined Non Government Organizations such as Red Cross Society of China, China Charity Federation, volunteer rescue team, and The One Foundation to get financial and facilities support to perform the task.

All amateur radio teams brought relief supplies such as clothes, tents, medicine, food and lighting to the disaster area, and one team brought AM/FM radio to the area to help get information from outside.

With rich experiences gained by 2008 Sichuan earthquake, the Sichuan amateur radio rescue team arrived in Yushu very quickly, and set up a 70cm repeater to help communication and coordinate all amateur radio operators coming into the area. HF was also used during the disaster relief and mainly on the 40m band.

They gained good experience during the rescue operations. Due to high altitude, one generator did not work; and one of the Beijing teams had to reduce their communication power.

The Sichuan team had an operator who could speak the local language and that greatly helped in disaster relief.

(Report provided by Fan Bin BA1RB, CRSA Coordinator IARU Region 3 Disaster Communications Committee and Chairman Jim Linton VK3PC)

The 53rd Jamboree on the Air

The 53rd Jamboree On The Air (JOTA) will take place on 16 and 17 October 2010.

Clubs in Region 3 are encouraged to assist local scouting groups to conduct the event

Expansion of 40 Metre band

Most Societies have now reported that access has been obtained to the additional spectrum 7.1 to 7.2 MHz now allocated exclusively to radio amateurs as a result of very hard work by the IARU team at WRC-2003. The change of status was effective from 29 March 2009. However in some countries this has not yet been effected and efforts to get HF broadcasters to vacate that portion of the band is continuing to achieve uniformity across the Region.

Full details are available at:

Region 1: <http://www.iaru-r1.org>

Region 3: <http://iaru-r3.org/news/7MHz200903.htm>

Region 2: Already have use of the full spectrum 7.0 to 7.3 MHz

The Region 3 Web Site: Go to: <http://www.iaru-r3.orgNewsletter>

Editor: Gopal Madhavan VU2GMN, Director IARU Region3.

E-mail: vu2gmn@gmail.com

Publisher: The International Amateur Radio Union Region 3

P. O. Box 73, Toshima, Tokyo 170-8691, Japan.

E-mail: secretary@iaru-r3.org

Tel: +81 3 5395-3125 Fax: +81 3 3943 8282

The statements or opinions in this Newsletter do not, unless otherwise stated, necessarily reflect the views of IARU Region 3, the Directors or the Secretariat. Items from this Newsletter may be freely copied for publication by Member Societies of IARU.