



The past few weeks have been one of extreme distress for Japan. The treble strikes dealt to them by a massive earthquake, followed by a huge Tsunami and then the disastrous happenings at a nuclear plant have caused untold damage and hardships. True to their character the Japanese have been taking the natural disasters with stoicism and have started the rebuilding in earnest. The Japanese radio amateurs have been extremely active lending their support wherever required. Christchurch (where the Region3 held their triennial conference some months ago) were rocked by another earthquake, this time of a more severe magnitude causing widespread damage to the central part of Christchurch rendering many historic buildings to rubble. This time much causality occurred. Radio amateurs assisted with relief operations wherever it was needed. Australia also went through a period of storms and floods destroying much property

A Word from the Chairman of IARU Region 3-

Michael Owen VK3KI

Tragic Times

2.46 pm local time on Friday 11 March 2011 is a time and a date that I will not forget.

I was in the Kamogawa Inn, Sugamo Toshima, Tokyo about to leave for the railway station with IARU Region 3 Director Shizuo Endo when the massive strength 9 earthquake, centred off Sendai, struck.

I will not forget the force of the moving earth or the noise of the buildings shaking.

It was a disaster for Japan, creating a tsunami that did untold damage to communities, people and structures including the Fukushima nuclear power plant.

A tragedy in our Region;

Not that much earlier, 12.50 local time, on 22 February 2011, another tragedy struck, another earthquake, in Christchurch, New Zealand where we held our last Conference.

Before that, floods and a cyclone with tragic consequences had affected Australia.

Radio amateurs, through their radio, know people in other countries. In a way, this often means that a natural disaster is not a remote event for many of us, as so often we know someone from the area where it happened.

The outpouring of concern around the world for all affected by these disasters should give us all hope for mankind.

The work of radio amateurs to assist where needed in these disasters should give us all some pride in our colleagues.

And, for all of us I express our real concern for all the people who have suffered as a result of these disasters, and hope that with time the tragedy of today may be overcome.

Our thoughts are with you.

Radio Amateurs in Japan Provide Communications Support

Amateur Radio operators became involved in the rescue effort soon after the March 11, 8.9 earthquake and devastating tsunami that hit northern Japan, and that effort continues nearly two weeks later.

In the early stage following the earthquake and tsunami, several radio amateurs were able to activate their stations with car batteries or small engine generators, despite the electric power outages. IARU Region 3 Secretary Ken Yamamoto, JA1CJP, told the ARRL.

They transmitted rescue requests and information on the disaster situation -- including refugee centers and their needs -- and the availability of basic infrastructures, such as electricity, water and gas supplies. After the earthquake and tsunami, there was no electricity, water or gas service in many of the affected areas.

In his report to the ARRL, Yamamoto said that the Japan Amateur Radio League (JARL) quickly activated JA1RL, its headquarters station in Tokyo, to assist in the rescue effort.

With the help of many other amateurs, it also activated its regional headquarters station JA3RL in Osaka to communicate with amateurs in the areas devastated by the tsunami, including its Tohoku headquarters station JA7RL in Sendai.

The communications were mostly on the 7 MHz band in daytime and the 3.5 MHz band at night, Yamamoto explained. Short range communications were also made on the 144 and 430 MHz bands.

The information gathered through Amateur Radio communications was reported to the rescue and disaster relief organizations for their appropriate deployment. Some other amateurs accepted health-and-welfare inquiries from the [impacted] areas and then posted the information on the Internet.

Japan's Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications -- that country's equivalent of the FCC -- approved the use of an additional 300 UHF/VHF transceivers in the affected areas.

With gasoline and natural gas in short supply, Yamamoto said that the fuel shortage was a very serious problem in the cold climate. Calls for fuel were received over radio from many disaster areas, but delivery remained very difficult at least for the first week as the access roads were backed up everywhere.

Several days later, some Amateur Radio clubs reached the affected areas with their radio equipment and established communications for supporting disaster relief.

Yamamoto told the ARRL that several radio equipment manufacturers offered hundreds of VHF/UHF transceivers to JARL for their use at refugee centers and local disaster relief centers.

These transceivers helped to establish mutual communications between refugee and disaster relief centers, and to facilitate smooth and appropriate delivery of disaster relief goods.

Many people were killed and untold numbers missing

JA1CJP New IARU Region 3 Secretary

IARU Region 3 Secretary Seiichi (Jay) Oka JA1TRC resigned with effect from 9 March 2011.

The Directors have formally recorded their acknowledgement of his contribution to amateur radio and IARU Region 3 over so very many years.

As we have announced, the Directors have appointed Katsumi (Ken) Yamamoto JA1CJP as Secretary of IARU Region 3 on the nomination of JARL.

Those who attended the IARU Region 3 14th Regional Conference in Christchurch, New Zealand, in October 2009 will have met Ken, and all of us would have been conscious of the fact that Ken was a very effective advocate for whatever view that JARL was advancing in the debate.

While we were very pleased that JARL nominated Ken to take Jay's position, we were conscious of the fact that as Secretary, Ken should be neutral, and not an advocate for his society, any more than any of the Directors should be an advocate for the position of their society on a particular matter.

While we had no doubt that this would be the position, we felt it important that we made sure that there was no possibility of any misunderstanding and so with Director Shizuo Endo I discussed the matter with Shozo Hara as President of JARL, and then we recorded our understanding in a letter which we both signed.

Our understanding was recorded in these words:

" ... the JARL nomination of Mr Yamamoto is on the basis that as Secretary of IARU Region 3 he will be entitled to and will be expected to fully express his own opinions and to provide independent advice to the Directors and would not as Secretary or otherwise advocate or promote to the Directors or any Member Society any JARL position inconsistent with the views of the Directors but rather would generally explain and promote the views of the Directors of IARU Region 3 and the views of IARU Region 3 as formulated by a Conference."

That is the way it should be and is really just saying the obvious.

But sometimes saying the obvious avoids misunderstanding.

Ken was first licensed as a radio amateur in 1967 and today continues to have an active interest in DX and contests, and recently has paid a role in the amateur communications in the Japanese emergency.

As we said in our formal announcement, Ken holds a Bachelor of Science degree in electronics engineering and worked for KDD, now KDDI, in the satellite communications field for many years. During that time he worked in many countries, including five years stationed in the United Kingdom working with the International Maritime Satellite Organisation.

He retired from KDDI in 2002.

Let me say this: I am delighted with the appointment of Ken and very confident that we have an effective and energetic Secretary for our organisation, and if JARL continues to nominate Ken on the Japanese delegations to represent the amateur service, amateur radio will have a valuable advocate.

High Speed Telegraphy Contest

The Deutscher Amateur Radio Club (DARC) e.V. is pleased to invite High Speed Telegraphy enthusiasts from all countries and continents to

the 9th IARU High Speed Telegraphy World Championship which will take place in Bielefeld, Germany between October 19th and 23rd, 2011.

On <http://www.hst2011.de> you will find all necessary information about HST in general, the rules, the venue and much more.

IARU-Societies and/or individuals that are interested in taking part are kindly requested to read Bulletin No. 1 that is published on the website and send in the Letter of Intent until May 31st, 2011. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us via the following e-mail-address: info@hst2011.de.

APG Meeting in Pusan, Korea

The 5th and last APG meeting in the cycle of meetings before WRC-12 is scheduled tentatively to be held in Pusan, Korea, from 29 August to 3 September 2011.

IARU Region 3 proposes to submit a brief input paper on Agenda item 1.23 to the next APG Meeting in Pusan next August to request for an allocation at 500 kHz

It would assist us if your administration was able to submit a paper supporting our position, which is to propose an allocation to the amateur service. Essentially, we suggest support for either the new Method A or the new Method B or a combination of those methods.

If your administration is willing to submit such a paper, it would be very helpful if the paper includes some of the information requested in Section 6 of APG document APG2012-4/OUT-15 (Rev.1). Please remember that the Methods B and C identified in that APG document are now changed to Methods A and B by the final CPM report.

For your reference the Part of Section 6 of APG document APG2010-4/OUT-15 (Rev.1) says:

"6. Issues for Consideration at APG2012-5 Meeting:

Encourage APT Members to submit preferred Method at the 5th APG2012 meeting,

Also encourage administrations to provide frequency and geographical location information on the current status of maritime and aeronautical NDB usage, in the allocations under consideration in Methods B and C."

Contribution from your administration would be very much appreciated.

2011 8th Region 3 ARDF Championships- A reminder

Host Society:

Wireless Institute of Australia (WIA)
PO Box 2042
Bayswater, Victoria, 3153
Australia
www.wia.org.au

Organizing Group Victorian ARDF Group

Program:

- Friday 23rd September: Arrival Day
- Saturday 24th September: Equipment Check & Opening Ceremony
- Sunday 25th September: 2m ARDF Competition
- Monday 26th September: Tour Day
- Tuesday 27th September: 80m ARDF Competition & Closing
- Banquet/Prizes
- Wednesday 28th September: Departure Day

Location Bendigo District, Victoria, Australia.

Local Area Info <http://www.bendigotourism.com/>

ARDF - Rule Changes- A reminder

Those societies or individuals who are planning to participate in the ARDF, please ensure you look up the changed rules suggested

During the World ARDF Championships Mr. Bruce Paterson, VK3TJN outlined some proposed rule changes which would, if accepted, be used for the 8th Region 3 ARDF Championships in Australia. So far we have received no complaints regarding the proposed rule changes.

Event Categories

These will be based on the new Region 1 Working Group age groups.

Competitors belong to the M19 or W19 category up to the end of the calendar year in which they reach the age of 19.

Men and Women competitors aged 45 or older belong to each category from the beginning of the calendar year in which they reach the given age.

At this stage we have teams from the following Region 3 Societies attending China (CRSA), Korea (KARL), New Zealand (NZART), Japan (JARL), Malaysia (MARTS). Non Region 3 teams to attending the event are from Czech Radio Club (CRC) and Kazakhstan Federation of Radio Sport. (KFRR). Entries are expected from ARRL USA, VK and CRC Croatia. In all it is expected that over 100 internationals will attend.

Contact: For more information regarding the event please email VK3WWW Jack Bramham Chairman of the Organizing Committee. vk3www@wia.org.au

Rugby World Cup 2011:

NZART Council has declared the Rugby World Cup being held in New Zealand to be a Special Event and is encouraging amateurs to use the "ZM" prefix during this event. The regulator, the Ministry of Economic Development's Radio Spectrum Management group has officially declared that: *"To Promote the Rugby World Cup, New Zealand Amateurs are encouraged to use the ZM call sign prefix during September and October 2011"*.

A Map of New Zealand has been placed on the NZART website (see: <http://www.nzart.org.nz/home/>) with game locations linked to contact details of local branches, any planned special events, on air events, and local repeater frequencies.

ITU Telecom World 2011

ITU Telecom World 2011 to convene leading lights from public and private sectors - Players from all walks of life to collaboratively design a Manifesto for a Connected World

This year's forthcoming ITU Telecom World 2011 event will play host to industry CEOs and world leaders, government ministers and technology gurus, city mayors and grassroots technology pioneers, who will come together to share vision, knowledge and build consensus and solutions to real world challenges.

Taking place at Geneva Palexpo from October 24-27, ITU Telecom World 2011 will welcome major players such as Airtel, Alcatel-Lucent,

AT&T, China Mobile, Cisco, Ericsson, Fujitsu, Intel, Qualcomm, Research in Motion, Samsung, Swisscom, Verizon and more.

For full text see

http://www.itu.int/net/pressoffice/press_releases/2011/05.aspx

WRC-12 –Region 3 Preparations

To continue with our information on this important event, 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 and this was discussed in detail at the recently concluded Administrative Council Meeting so that all regions make a concerted effort for amateur radio.

Seanet 2011

The Seanet 2011 will be hosted by BDARA, Brunei Darussalam Amateur Radio Association at the Center Point Hotel between the 17 and 21 November 2011

Full details at: <http://seanet2011.com/>

The 2012 International YL Meet

This meeting is now scheduled from the 3rd to 9th May 2012 at Adelaide

Full details are available at

http://ylinternational2012.com/index.php?p=1_6_Adelaide-Meet

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