A Word from the Chairman of IARU Region 3

Michael Owen VK3KI

The 15th IARU Region 3 Conference

I am sure we are now all very busy preparing for the 15th IARU Region 3 Conference in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam from the 5th to the 9th November 2012. I am sure that the host society, the Vietnam Amateur Radio Club, VARC, has been busy preparing for the Conference.

Please remember the theme the Directors suggest for the Conference (apart from the issue of finances) which is emergency communications. The papers that are prepared and submitted set the business of the Conference, and so determine the value we get out of the Conference.

I have just written a letter to all member societies about the Conference setting out some of the changes the Directors have made for this Conference, and I would like to repeat here one of the points made in the letter.

The Directors looked at what lessons could be learned from our last Conference, the 14th IARU Region 3 Conference in Christchurch, New Zealand in October 2009.

The cost of hiring photocopier machines and the cost of photocopying papers was a significant part of the cost of the Christchurch Conference.

Another lesson from the Christchurch Conference was that with computer and intranet technology the reports for the final Plenary meetings were ready much sooner.

Obviously, the Directors have made minimising costs and achieving efficiencies wherever possible a very important priority, and so the Directors have decided that the 15th Conference will, as far as possible, be a paperless conference. Of course, anyone requiring hard copy of documents or hard copy of a particular document, will be catered for.

We took advice from the NZART Organising Committee for the 14th Conference, who advised that we could do with substantially less photocopying equipment than was hired for the Christchurch Conference and that has been passed on to VARC.

But what I do want to stress is that we do urge all participants in the 15th Conference to make sure that they bring their computers with them to Ho Chi Minh City.

In today’s world we don’t need to destroy a forest to run a Region 3 Conference.

9V1UV Selva’s Special Fund

It may be recalled the former Director 9V1UV OM Selva had made a generous contribution of US$5000.00 to be used by the Directors for special projects. No formal guidelines were made for utilising this fund.

We have not received any requests from any society for a contribution from this fund so far.

Considering that the entire club station of RAST was destroyed by flood, the directors have decided to make a contribution of US$1000.00 to RAST from Selva’s fund to help rebuild the station and more particularly towards the cost of a tower and antenna to be erected at a new location they have decided upon.

Richard “Dick” Baldwin W1RU- Silent key

Richard “Dick” Baldwin, W1RU, of Damariscotta, Maine, passed away on Thursday, June 21, after a long struggle with Parkinson’s Disease. He was 92. An ARRL Charter Life Member, Baldwin capped a long career on the ARRL staff with service as General Manager from 1975 until his retirement in 1982. He served as Secretary of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) from 1976-1982. After retirement, he continued his involvement as a volunteer, serving as IARU President from 1982-1999 and as ARRL International Affairs Vice President from 1982-1986.

IARU President Tim Ellam, VE6SH said “Dick was instrumental in securing new HF allocations at 10, 18 and 24 MHz during WARC-79. He was a key figure in the work of the IARU, and the Amateur Radio Service is in a better place today because of his leadership.”

Work of ITU-R for WRC-15

Work was begun at Working Party 5A (WP 5A), which is the responsible group on WRC-15 Agenda item 1.4 (to consider possible new allocation to the amateur service on a secondary basis within the band 5 250-5 450 kHz in accordance with Resolution 649 (WRC-12)), from 22-31 May 2012 in Geneva, chaired by José Costa (Canada). Amateur Services is handled at Working Group 1 of the Party, chaired by Brennan Price (USA).

A work plan and milestones for the agenda item were adopted. The following two working documents toward preliminary draft new Reports on compatibility and spectrum occupancy were drafted based on the contributions from Canada and US.

- a preliminary draft new Report ITU-R M.[AMATEUR] - Compatibility analysis of possible amateur systems with fixed, land mobile and maritime mobile services in the frequency band 5 250-5 450 kHz
- a preliminary draft new Report ITU-R M.[HF SPECTRAL OCCUPANCY] - Spectral occupancy of fixed and mobile allocations within the band 5 250-5 450 kHz

The Korean Communication Commission (similar to US FCC) formed an Official Team for the preparation of WRC-15, and has started the series of meetings. Region 3 director Prof Rhee is one of the government delegates which take care of Agenda 1.4.

India activates ARES for fire

Date : 29 / 06 / 2012
Author : Jim Linton - VK3PC

Members of ARES were activated by the Thane Disaster Management Authority for communications at a fire at Mantralaya, India, in which two people died. The blaze broke out on the fourth floor of the Mantralaya building which houses the state secretariat in South Mumbai on 22 June, also injuring 16 people.
The drama began with a call to Milind Korde VU2IZO requesting team members to assemble at Thane Emergency Operations Centre (EOC). Emergency communications were established between EOC and the fire by Milind Korde VU2IZO and Parin Gangar VU2PIC.

The following team members confirmed they were available at their home qth on standby with radio support were Jaiprakash VU2JPN, Satheesh Menon VU2WSM, Prahlad Bodke VU2TBV, Rohit Purohit VU2TOO and Nitin Ainapure VU2CAN went to the Thane EOC and activated the Emergency Station on both the Mumbai and Matheran Repeaters. The station was shut down after 10 hours when the fire was nearly extinguished.

(Jim Linton VK3PC, Chairman IARU Region 3 Disaster Communications Committee, and Jayant Bhide VU2JAU, National Coordinator for Disaster Communications in India.)

GAREC 2012 - A Reminder

The 2012 Global Amateur Radio Emergency Conference (GAREC), nicknamed ‘MyGAREC 2012’, will be held at the Thistle Port Dickson Resort, Negeri Sembilan, Malaysia, from November 12 to 14.

Seanet 2012

Registrations have started for the SEANET 2012 which will be held between 23rd Nov 2012 and 27th Nov 2012 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia at

Dynasty Hotel, Kuala Lumpur.
218 Jalan Ipoh, 51200 Kuala Lumpur.
Tel : (+603) 4043 7777
Fax : (+603) 4043 6868
Website : http://www.dynasty.com.my

Registration forms are now available

For details please see: http://2012seanet/

15th Region 3 Triennial Conference

As we approach the dates for this conference here are the details: November 5th (Monday) at 09:00 local time to November 9th (Friday), 2012 at

Kimdo-Royal City Hotel
133 Nguyen Hue Avenue, District 1
Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam

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E-mail: aivara @ yahoo.com.vn
Full details: http://www.iaru-r3.org/15r3c/15rcc.htm

All societies in the region are reminded to submit their reports, papers and also give details of their delegations well in advance.

Societies are especially reminded that this conference will be run “paperless” which means that all delegates and participants should bring their laptop computers to access conference documents - printed documents will not be available as in previous conferences

On November 9th (Friday) one-day tour is planned - booking and payment at conference

The Region 3 Web Site: Go to: http://www.iaru-r3.org.

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