



The IARU Region 3 Newsletter

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The Triennial Region 3 Conference was held in Viet Nam in November 2012. This is the first issue of the Newsletter after the triennial conference

A word from the Chairman Gopal Madhavan VU2GMN

The 15th Regional Conference was held in Ho Chi Minh City early November 2012 under the shadow of the passing away of Chairman Michael Owen VK3KI.

It was difficult to prepare for such a situation but Peter Lake ZL2AZ, who took over as chairman after Michael's passing, along with our secretary Katsumi (Ken) Yamamoto JA1CJP worked in close cooperation with officials of the Vietnam Amateur Radio Club (VARC) and it was conducted very smoothly.

A record number of societies attended and several important decisions were taken, notably the increase of subscriptions from member societies by 20 %, and an increase in the number of directors from the erstwhile five to six.

Full details of the conference appear elsewhere.

The minutes of the conference setting out all the resolutions etc will be shortly with all of you.

Apart from four directors from the previous year, two new directors Geoffrey (Geoff) Atkinson VK3TL and Wisnu Widjaja YB0AZ, were elected and I welcome them. I am thankful to the directors in choosing me as chairman and will strive to do what is needed in the next triennium.

The new set of directors formally took charge on the 15th of December 2012, as per the constitution, and immediately started the task of dealing with the several resolutions and decisions.

I look forward to support from everyone to achieve our objectives.
73 Gopal

Michael J. Owen VK3KI Award Announced.

In memory of Michael Owen VK3KI, the IARU Administrative Council announced a new award. "The Michael J. Owen, VK3KI, Award" was established to recognize an individual or individuals that best exemplify the dedication and hard work of IARU volunteers.

In addition, at the Region 3 conference, the WIA proposed an annual award/trophy to be awarded to the highest individual operator score located in Region 3 in the IARU HF Contest. Further details will be announced before the next IARU HF Contest.

This proposal was warmly endorsed.

15th Triennial Region 3 Conference

The International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) Region 3, 15th Triennial Conference was held on 5 - 9 November 2012, hosted by the Vietnam Amateur Radio Club (VARC) in Ho Chi Minh City (HCMC), Vietnam.

Some highlights of the Conference were:

- Agreement for future funding for IARU R3 next triennium.
- Agreement for a Michael Owen VK3KI Award associated with IARU HF Contest.

Open discussion between member societies on emergency communication experiences, and how to deal with local administrations. The WIA and NZART experiences were shared openly.

The Conference opened on Monday 5th November. Following the passing away of the former Chairman Michael Owen VK3KI in September, the meeting observed a minutes silence in Michael's memory.

The Conference was opened by the Chairman of VARC Mr Nguyen Minh Duc 3W2REH. Local officials Mr Lee Manh Ha Vice Chairman of the HCM City People's Committee and Mr Nguyen Van Thu Deputy Manager Radio Frequency Management Department and Director of the Centre for Regional Frequency Management 2 of the Ministry of Telecommunications of Viet Nam warmly welcomed everyone to HCMC.

The conference saw participation with a record number of 16 societies in person and one by proxy. Also attending were the IARU President Tim Ellam, from Region 1 President Hans Timmerman PB2T and Secretary Dennis Green ZS4BS and from Region 2 President Reinaldo Leandro YV5AM and Secretary Ramon Santoyo XE1KK.

Terry Carrell ZL3QL from New Zealand was appointed the Conference Chairman.

Two Working Groups were formed:

- WG1 - Policy matters that included education, training, development of amateur radio and international and regional conferences involving radio administrations
- WG2 - Operational and Technical Matters, including emergency communications, the IARU R3 Award and band plans.

The Finance Committee was attended by all 16 delegates.

A total of 61 documents were discussed by the Working Groups and recommendations were then submitted to the conference.

A major item for consideration was the possible increase in subscriptions as the current subscription rates had just about balanced the expenses of the region without generating a reserve balance or covering inflation.

The conference debated this issue extensively and voted for an increase of 20% over the current IARU Region 3 subscription rates.

The WIA and NZART had submitted resolutions for increasing the number of directors from the present five to either six or seven to provide greater representation from societies, and the Director resources to be able to work on the region strategic plan. It was agreed by the conference to increase the number to six.

Attendance at APT/APG meetings is vital to the build-up for WRC 15, and the budget has provided for the region to be adequately represented.

Steps will also be taken to modernize the IARU Region 3 website.

The Conference accepted a proposal from WIA to sponsor and implement an annual award in memory of the late Michael Owen, VK3KI. It is to be awarded to the highest Region 3 individual score in the annual IARU HF Contest. The WIA will fund and present a suitable

trophy each year.

Following the decision of conference to elect six directors, six nominations were received and declared elected, unopposed:

- Peter Lake ZL2AZ
- Joong Geun Rhee HL1AQQ
- Shizuo Endo JE1MUI
- Geoff Atkinson VK3TL
- Wisnu Widjaja YB0AZ
- Gopal Madhavan VU2GMN

The Directors then elected Gopal Madhavan VU2GMN as their Chairman, which was then endorsed by the conference.

Katsumi (Ken) Yamamoto JA1CJP was returned unopposed as Secretary. The auditor was also reappointed. Most Regional Coordinators were reappointed. The Conference appointed Onno W Purbo YCOMLC to the vacant EMC Coordinator's position due to the resignation of Chang HL3QVU. The EMR Coordinator's position remains vacant after the passing away of Keith Malcolm, VK1KM.

The re-elected and two new Directors of Region 3 met after the conference, on 10 November, to prepare for the next triennium of work.

One invitation and presentation was received from ORARI to host the 16th Regional Conference of IARU Region 3 at Jogjakarta in Central Java, Indonesia in late 2015. The conference adopted the motion to hold the next conference in Indonesia.

Hams provide emergency communications

Typhoon Bopha (local name Pablo) has hit The Philippines on Dec 4, 2012 uprooting trees, downing power lines, sparking landslides and making 40,000 people head for shelters. It was the strongest of about 20 typhoons to affect the country this year with its heavy rain and wind gusting up to 210km/h as it came ashore at Mindanao.

The Philippine Amateur Radio Association (PARA) had its ham emergency radio operations (HERO) working when the typhoon struck the southern Philippines. PARA is using all available means of communication like HF radio (7.095 MHz) VHF radio (144.740 MHz), the internet and social media (Facebook, email, echolink) to monitor the situation and give updates to all concerned.

Ham emergency radio operators have been assisting in the communication needs of these cities (as reported by DW5JMJ, DU5AOK and DU8BGA). RADNET 5, a local club of amateur radio operators in Tacloban City, is very active in helping provide the city with vital communications link. It is in constant coordination with the City Disaster Risk Reduction Management Council (CDRRMC). So far, 5,700 families have been evacuated from Saint Bernard. RADNET 5 is also assisting the Red Cross in Tacloban and Saint Bernard. The City Government of Tacloban City has used the Tacloban Convention Centre as one of its evacuation centres.

The casualties have been minimal, due to preparations, the cooperation of evacuees and the mammoth response and recovery efforts.

(Jim Linton VK3PC, Eddie Valdez DU1EV).

Tropical storm Quinta hits the Philippines

Activated again for Tropical Storm Quinta are members of the Philippines Amateur Radio Association emergency net on 7.095 MHz and VHF, to handle any emergency and welfare traffic. PARA Vice Chief Operating Officer, Ramon J. Anquilan DU1UGZ, requested that the HF channel be kept clear to deal with whatever contingencies may

arise.

The Ham Emergency Radio Operators know what to do with about 20 typhoons in the archipelago every year, often causing death and destruction. Communities were on put on alert Christmas Day as a low pressure area developed into a storm and made landfall on Wednesday, December 26 to travel through the Visayas. Officials warned that the areas within a 350 kilometre diameter of Tropical Storm Quinta should expect heavy to intense rainfall. The public warnings included more heavy rains, possible flash floods and landslides over the next few days.

Pre-emptive evacuations were ordered for several islands and low lying areas, which included some areas already badly affected earlier by Typhoon Pablo that destroyed houses and agricultural land in early December. Hundreds of ferry passengers are left stranded during the latest storm. Warnings have been also issued to fishing and small seacraft to stay tied up over the eastern seaboard off Luzon and over the Visayas and Mindanao.

(Jim Linton VK3PC/Ramon J. Anquilan DU1UGZ)

JARL Hamfair 2013

The Amateur Radio Festival, also known as JARL Hamfair will be held in Tokyo Big Sight, Ariake, Tokyo on Saturday 24 and Sunday 25th of August 2013. Displays of Industry and Club booths, Guest Speakers, Special Event Station and many other activities to satisfy the inquisitive needs of the amateur.

NZART Membership Drive

NZART conducted a membership promotion, mailing letters to NZ amateurs who were not members of NZART. The result to date has been very positive with many new first time members and a similar number of renewals of lapsed memberships. The value of membership of national amateur radio organisations cannot be stressed as being very important to the future of our great hobby. There is strength in numbers.

630 Meters in New Zealand

Amateurs in New Zealand now have access to the new 630 metre band on a secondary basis, after allocation at World Radiocommunication Conference in early 2012. Alterations to the Amateur General User Licence will be made by the Administration in early 2013.

Many other countries around the world are also moving to allow use of this new band segment to amateurs.

Wireless Institute of Australia Annual Conference

The WIA Annual General meeting and Conference will be held in Fremantle Western Australia from 24-26 May 2013. This is an opportunity to review the years activities of the WIA, and participate in the Open Forum and consider the future needs of the members, to interact with the WIA Board of Directors and members, benefit from expert teaching sessions on many AR topics, socialize and even extend the visit to take in the many tourist highlights of Western Australia.

NZART 2013 Annual Conference

The 2013 NZART Conference will be held at the Copthorne Hotel and Resort, Solway Park, Wairarapa, Masterton, New Zealand on June 1 & 2 2013, on the Queens Birthday weekend. Registration details are available from www.nzartconference2013.co.nz

Emergency Communication

As this news letter was being compiled, fires have again taken hold in Australia during the very hot summer, compounded by below average rainfall. The Southern State of Tasmania was the scene of the first intense fires, followed by a large number of fires in Victoria and New South Wales.

WICEN (Wireless Institute Civil Emergency Network) amateur operators have again brought their emergency communication skills and preparedness to the service of the community and have been providing operators to assist the Emergency Service Providers in maintaining continuous communication services.

Provision of emergency communication support by trained amateur operators is a wonderful contribution to the community at large.

World Amateur Radio Day 2013

Each year on 18 April, radio amateurs around the world celebrate World Amateur Radio Day. On that day in 1925 the International Amateur Radio Union was founded.

In 1913 there occurred the first recorded instance of amateur radio being used to provide communications in a natural disaster, during severe flooding in the Midwest of the United States.

Accordingly, the theme of the event for 2013 is "Amateur Radio: Entering Its Second Century of Disaster Communications."

Activities on the occasion of World Amateur Radio Day 2013 can be a great opportunity to spread the word about what the "hams" are doing in the field of disaster communications in the 21st Century.

ITU Working Party

Dales Hughes VK1DSH attended the ITU working party meetings at ITU in Geneva from 5th to 15th of November 2012. These meetings are to prepare input contributions for the next WRC in 2015 and to ensure the ongoing work of the current ITU reports and recommendations.

The 2nd meeting of the APT Preparatory Group for WRC-15, will be held from 01-05 July 2013, Brunei Darussalam.

WRC-15 Agenda Item 1.4 (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)) will be discussed in Working Party 1 at APG15-2.

IARU Region 3 will be represented by Director Endo JE1MUI and Director Lake ZL2AZ. Member Societies are encouraged to participate in national delegations.

Following the stepping down of WG5A1 chairman, Dale was nominated by the Australian Administration, supported by the IARU and WIA, to take over as WG5A1 Chairman. This was accepted by the ITU WP5A plenary meeting and Dale will chair meetings until at least WRC15. WG5A1 is the responsible group for amateur issues.

New IARU Societies

On 1 November 2012 voting was completed on the admission of Federation of Radio Sport of Azerbaijan (Proposal No. 247) and St. Vincent & Grenadines Amateur Radio Club (Proposal No. 248) to IARU membership.

With 53 affirmative votes required for approval there were 60 votes in favour of Proposal No. 247 and 61 votes in favour of Proposal No. 248. Accordingly, both proposals were adopted. All participating member-societies voted in favour.

The IARU Region 3 welcomes both new member societies.

IARU Region 2 Cancun Mexico 2013

The IARU Region 2 XVIII General Assembly will take place in Cancun, Mexico from September 23 to 27. This event is hosted by the Federación Mexicana de Radio Experimentadores (FMRE). Cancun 2013 will deal with many important issues regarding the promotion and defense of amateur radio, HF, VHF and higher band plans and other issues of importance to Member Societies within Region 2, therefore it's indispensable to have their participation.

SEANET

The SEANET Conference held in the Dynasty Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in Nov 2012 and was well attended by 113 representatives from twenty countries interested in the role and activities of SEANET. This was the 40th anniversary meeting.

There were seminar topics on:

Introduction of Kiwisat and amateur radio satellite communications by Terry Carrell ZL3QL.

Synergy between amateur radio systems and other engineering can raise the technical quotient of a nation, a second session Fishing for DX (some hints on making the most of DX opportunities) were presented by Professor Joseph Kesser G3ZC.

A report on 10M activities in Malaysia by Syamsul Bahri 9M2ESM.

Ham for Kids by Thida S HS1ASC, telling how she works with young children to get them interested in ham radio activities.

Role of amateur radio during the flooding disaster in Thailand by RAST.

Details of papers presented are available from <http://2012sea.net>

The next SEANET 2013 conference will be held in Yokohama Japan. Also at SEANET 2012 it was announced ORARI would host the SEANET 2014 Conference in Bali, Indonesia.

The newsletter is an opportunity to share news of your Societies activities and future plans. Your contributions would be most welcome and can be forwarded to the email address below marked "R3 News".

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