The IARU Region 3 Newsletter

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A word from the Chairman Gopal Madhavan

VU2GMN

Last month we had mentioned that IARU would be working closely with ITU and APT to further amateur radio services.

With this in mind IARU Region 3 will be making a presentation in Manila between $23^{\rm rd}$ and $25^{\rm th}$ July at the 4th APT Workshop on Disaster Management/Communications

The Philippines Society, PARA, will make the presentation assisted by Chairman Gopal VU2GMN.

Chairman Gopal VU2GMN will be calling on ITU and APT offices in Bangkok on his way back from Manila to move forward the MOU with APT and also discuss avenues of cooperation with ITU regional office.

India saw unprecedented havoc played by torrential rain in the Uttarkhand region of the Himalayas. That region has several holy sites and is a popular area for pilgrims. During this year's pilgrimage season very heavy rains caused massive flooding which swept away many pilgrims and stranded many thousands.

Radio amateurs are assisting with communications from some relief camps - getting to the actual disaster area was difficult as most roads had been totally washed away and only helicopter drops were available, and those were reserved for rescue operations.

GAREC is holding their meeting at this time in Zurich and many societies will have representation there.

Region 3 directors will be meeting in Tokyo on the 26th and 27th August 2013 and we will have a press release for you after that.

73 Gopal

IARU HF Championship and Michael J. Owen VK3KI Award.

The 2013 IARU HF World Championship Contest takes place annually on the second full weekend of July, beginning at 1200 UTC on Saturday and ending at 1200 UTC Sunday (13-14 July 2013).

Both single and multi operator stations may operate for the entire 24 hour period.

All licensed amateurs worldwide are eligible to participate in this contest. The objective is to contact as many other amateurs, and especially IARU member society HQ stations, around the world.

The 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 meter bands may be used.

Multipliers are the total number of ITU Zones plus IARU member society HQ stations worked on each band (not mode).

Region 3 has 29 potential society stations. Last year 9 societies participated in the contest from Region 3.

IARU officials represent a maximum of four multipliers per band (AC, R1, R2 and R3) Regional EC members who are not AC members must use the designator "R3". Look out for Region 3 Councillors and society stations.

The complete rules of the championship can be found at http://www.arrl.org/iaru-hf-championship

This year there is an added incentive for an amateur from Region 3 as it will be the first time the Michael Owen VK3KI award is issued for the Region 3 amateur who receives the highest number of points during the championship.

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 will be available soon.

IARU Region 3 Directors will be visiting the Amateur Radio Festival over the weekend.

On the Monday & Tuesday following the Hamfair Region 3 Directors will be meeting to discuss and action items relevant to the Region now and in the future.

Wireless Institute of Australia Annual Conference

The 2013 was held at Fremantle on the West coast of Australia at the end of May and attracted almost 90 people. Considering the distance from the East coast of over 3000 kilometres, a good number made the journey across the country to attend.

A special callsign VI103WIA was on air for the event.

We extend congratulations to Robin Harwood VK7RH on his receiving of honorary Life membership of the WIA, in recognition of his long service to amateur radio in particular in Tasmania.

The conference dinner was addressed by the Chief Scientist of Western Australia Professor Lyn Beazley.

NZART 2013 Annual Conference

The 2013 NZART Conference was held at the Copthorne Hotel and Resort, Solway Park, Wairarapa, Masterton, New Zealand on June 1 & 2 2013, on the Queens Birthday weekend, with over 130 amateurs attending.

Of special note on this Conference weekend was the recognition of Region 3 Director Peter Lake ZL2AZ by NZART. Peter was appointed an Honorary Life Member of NZART. The certificate notes "In recognition of distinguished service to Amateur Radio and this Association (NZART)".

We extend our congratulations to Peter on this well deserved honour, in recognition of his many years of service to amateur radio in New Zealand.

Region 3 Website

At Conference discussion also centred on the Region 3 website and **Resolution 11-F/XV** was passed.

That the Directors be requested to consider the appointment of a volunteer webmaster with the objective of modernizing the Region 3 website.

The Directors have acted on this resolution and much work has been completed towards the objective of providing a modern and user friendly web site.

The website is now online at:

http://iaru-r3.org/

We look forward to your positive feedback and practical suggestions of how the web pages can be further developed as a regional resource for member societies and a promotional tool for aspiring amateur radio operators.

The RSGB Centenary 2013

The Radio Society of Great Britain, an IARU Region 3 member society is celebrating its Centenary during 2013.

A special event callsign Gx100RSGB (x is secondary location identifier) has been established and will be operated by various sites around the country.

To celebrate the formation of the RSGB in 5th July 1913 the Society will be holding a Centenary dinner on the same date in 2013. The dinner will follow the Centenary activity at Bletchley Park on the same day and will be held at the local Horwood House.

Region 3 has sent formal congratulations and greetings to RSGB on the occasion of them celebrating 100 years of organized amateur radio in Great Britain and an inscribed plaque as a more permanent momento has also been sent.

Asia Pacific Telecommunity Meeting in Bangkok, Thailand.

Asia-Pacific Telecommunity will hold the 2nd Meeting of the APT Conference Preparatory Group for WRC-15 (APG15-2) from 01 to 05 July 2013 in Bangkok, Thailand.

One of the objectives of the APG meeting is to develop preliminary APT Views on WRC-15 agenda items based on members' contributions.

From Region 3, directors Peter Lake ZL2AZ and Shizuo Endo JE1MUI will attend. Secretary Ken Yamamoto JA1CJP will also attend representing JARL. IARU Region 3 will express its views and positions on the agenda items for WRC-15 which concern the Amateur services by submitting its information paper.

Society Update Officials and Contact Information

A request is extended to all Region 3 Society Liaison Officers or other responsible officers to ensure that all details about their society are up to date on the listings shown at www.iaru-r3.org

Hams in India provide emergency communications

As we go to press we hear of emergency communications being called into action. This release was filed by Jim Linton VK3PC Chairman of IARU Region 3 Disaster Communications Committee with help from India's National Coordinator for Disaster Communication Jayu Mbide VU2JAU).

In northern India, the early seasonal monsoon rains are three times as heavy as usual, causing flooding, mudslides and a death toll of at least 800. The disaster caught everyone by surprise. The emergency communications provided by radio amateurs are well known to disaster authorities and the government, through their preparedness drills and other presentations.

India's National Coordinator for Disaster Communication Jayu Bhide VU2JAU said two amateur radio stations were active in the disaster area, at Dehradun and Uttarkshi. He has personally been in contact with them. They have been sending messages via coordinating stations in Gwalior, New Delhi and elsewhere. The emergency communications they provide will continue for some time.

Government officials estimate 33,000 people have been rescued so far and around 63,000 are missing. Rescue efforts involving soldiers are continuing, and more than 50 air force helicopters have dropped food, water and medical supplies to people trapped by the flood.

Region 3 Newsletter

A recommendation was passed as a Resolution of the recent Conference: Resolution 11-E/XV

That Conference recommends that Member Societies support the work of the Region 3 Newsletter Editor by sending the Editor timely news items.

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".

As Editor I would encourage R3 member societies to provide me with material about activities in your country for inclusion in the newsletter. The next due date for material is mid September or earlier is most acceptable.

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