The IARU Region 3 Newsletter
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A word from the Chairman

In August the directors met in Tokyo, just after the Tokyo HamFair, where they participated in the opening ceremony of the Fair. The Tokyo HamFair, an annual event brings together amateurs from all over the world. New products are showcased and sellers offer great deals for those looking for adding to their collections and especially for homebrew projects. JARL reported a much larger number of visitors this year compared to last year.

During the directors meeting, the directors took stock of actions required and follow up on resolutions approved during the Bali conference in 2015. The finances of the region also were looked at.

At the moment, Director Shizuo Endo and I are in Viña del Mar in Chile representing Region 3 at the Region 2 conference. They also participated in the Administrative Council meeting which was held on the 7th and 8th October. The Region 2 conference is held bilingual with simultaneous translations in English and Spanish. The report about the AC meeting is shown in other section and report about the Region 2 conference will be made in the next newsletter.

Gopal VU2GMN

IARU Region 3 Directors Meeting

The directors of IARU Region 3 met in Tokyo on August 22-23, 2016 at the office of JARL HQ. Present were Directors Prof. Rhee HL1AQQ, Peter Young VK3MV, Don Wallace ZL2TLL, Wisnu Widjaja YB0AZ, Shizuu Endo JE1MUI, Gopal Madhavan VU2GMN, and Secretary Ken Yamamoto JA1CJP. Also present were Tim Ellam VE6SH President IARU and Reinaldo Leandro YV5AM President Region 2 also attended the meeting.

The directors reviewed the actions taken to implement various resolutions that were recorded during the Region 3 conference held in Bali Indonesia last year. All documents in general use, including all guidelines, have been reformatted uniformly for ease of reading and have been posted on the Region 3 webpage. Special attention was made to study actions required by all societies to support the move by IARU for spectrum defense and expansion at the upcoming WRC in 2019.

IARU is seeking the support of Region 3 societies for Agenda Item 1.1 - 50 MHz amateur allocation in Region 1 for harmonisation worldwide.

IARU Region 3 will have representation at the APG meetings leading up to WRC 19.

Communication between societies and the IARU R3 has been identified as an essential requirement and the Region 3 webpage will soon have interactive pages where the societies can update information themselves and post important news items that concern them. Major work is underway to reformat the Region 3 band-plan to bring it in line with other regions and also make it easier to obtain relevant information.

The reactivation of amateur radio in Fiji and the other Pacific islands in the region is being actively pursued. Discussions also took place on assisting newcomers to the hobby, especially young operators, with low cost entry level transceivers. An award has been instituted by WIA to recognise excellent Single Operator achievement within Region 3 in the IARU HF Championship.

The next meeting of the directors has tentatively been set for the first week of September 2017, soon after the Tokyo Ham Fair.

IARU Region 3 http://iaru-r3.org/

IARU Administrative Council Establishes Priorities and Strategies for WRC-19

The Administrative Council (AC) of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) held its annual in-person meeting on 7 and 8 October 2016 in Viña del Mar, Chile, immediately prior to the IARU Region 2 Conference. The AC is responsible for the policy and management of the IARU and consists of the three IARU international officers and two representatives from each of the three IARU regional organizations.

The AC assigned priorities to the agenda items for the 2019 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-19) of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and affirmed the adoption of a matrix approach to WRC preparation as agreed earlier in the year. The matrix approach is designed to ensure effective coordination among the numerous IARU volunteers who are participating in and monitoring the preparatory meetings of the ITU and regional telecommunications organizations. The agenda includes, along with several items of potential concern to radio amateurs, a possible allocation in Region 1 of 50-54 MHz to the amateur service to harmonize with the allocations in the other two regions.

The permanent working document setting out the long-term spectrum requirements of the amateur and amateur-satellite services was reviewed and updated to reflect WRC-15 decisions. A strategic plan to develop support for amateur spectrum allocations in the period 2016-2020 was adopted.

The IARU budget for the years 2017-2019 was reviewed and adopted. The budget is based upon anticipated financial contributions from the three regional organizations to defray a portion of the expenses, in accordance with previously adopted policy, and reflects ongoing efforts to minimize expenses.

The IARU travel expense reimbursement policy was revised to reflect the current and anticipated future financial challenges facing many IARU member-societies, which are the ultimate source of IARU funding.
Proposals for improving the consistency of IARU branding were considered, and a way forward was agreed.

Reports from the following coordinators and advisers to the AC were received with thanks: Peter Jennings, AB6WM/VE3SUN, International Beacon Project Coordinator; Hans Blondeel Timmerman, PB2T, Satellite Adviser; Hans Zimmermann, HB9AQS, International Coordinator for Emergency Communications; and Thilo Kootz, DL9KCE, EMC Coordinator. All four volunteers were reappointed for three-year terms. The report of the International Coordinator for Emergency Communications included reports from the three regional coordinators documenting effective responses by radio amateurs to bridge communications gaps following natural disasters.

Reports from IARU representatives to ITU meetings in the past year were received and reviewed. Most recently, in late September the IARU accepted an invitation to participate as a panelist at the ITU-D Study Group 2 Workshop on Emergency Telecommunications and Disaster Relief in Geneva.

Relations with member-societies were reviewed. Following the determination that the former IARU member-society representing Belize no longer existed, a proposal for the admission of a new member-society will be forwarded to member-societies for consideration. At the request of Region 1, the rights of Amateur Radio Association Bahrain were suspended. A transition in the representation of the People’s Republic of China is nearing completion.

Following the discussion at the 2015 in-person meeting, the AC reviewed its resolution concerning QSL bureaus and will be seeking input from its member-societies.

A program for recognition of IARU volunteers was adopted.

The governing documents of the IARU will be reviewed to identify the issues related to the registration of the IARU as a corporate entity.

Attending the meeting were IARU President Tim Ellam, VE6SH/G4HUA; Vice President Ole Garpestad, LA2RR; Secretary Rod Stafford, W6ROD; regional representatives Don Beattie, G3BJ, Reinaldo Leandro, YV5AM, José Arturo Molina, YS1MS, Gopal Madhavan, VU2GMN, Shizuo Endo, JE1MUI and Assistant Secretary David Sumner, K1ZZ. Also present as an observer was Ramón Santoyo, XE1KK, from Region 2.

It was determined that a virtual meeting will be held early in 2017. The next scheduled in-person meeting of the AC will be held in the vicinity of Munich, Germany, on 14-15 September 2017 in conjunction with the IARU Region 2 Conference.

IARU Secretary


There’s good news regarding the future of Amateur Radio’s primary allocation at 47 GHz in the US. Still a test bed for point-to-point propagation experimentation by dedicated enthusiasts, the 47–47.2 GHz band is among those under consideration at the next World Radiocommunication Conference in 2019 (WRC-19) to accommodate so-called 5G wireless broadband devices. Early this year, some FCC commissioners indicated they would include bands on the WRC-19 agenda in the Commission’s “Spectrum Frontiers” 5G initiative. As the Commission put it this week it as made nearly 11 gigahertz of spectrum above 24.25 GHz available for licensed, unlicensed, and shared use: “High-band millimeter wave spectrum is key to unlocking the potential for 5G.” The FCC’s Spectrum Frontiers included several of the bands set for consideration at WRC-19, but not the 47 GHz band — although it did target 47.2–50.2 GHz.

“Maintaining the status quo in the 47–47.2 GHz band is a win for continued Amateur Radio use of the band in the United States, and amateurs continue to do great things there,” ARRL Chief Technology Officer Brennan Price, N4QX, allowed. He pointed to the new US-Canada distance record of 215 kilometers set recently by radio amateurs from both countries. But, he suggested, Amateur Radio could be doing more there.

Spectrum in the millimeter range has come under increasing scrutiny, because the demand for greater throughput has driven demand for bandwidth — hence, the greater focus on spectrum above 24.25 GHz for next-generation 5G wireless broadband applications. As Price explains, “it’s easier to find 200 megahertz of spectrum in the millimeter range than at UHF.

Price noted that radio amateurs have set up broadband networks on several lower microwave bands — nearly all of them allocated to hams on a secondary basis. “The 47 GHz band is allocated to the Amateur Service and the Amateur-Satellite Service on a worldwide primary and exclusive basis,” Price pointed out. “We don’t have to work around others in this space.”

He suggested that Amateur Radio broadband experimenters consider and develop upon the work of Ted Rappaport, N9NB — the founding director of NYU Wireless at New York University’s Tandon School of Engineering — whose investigations have demonstrated that the millimeter waves may serve next-generation broadband systems. “For a long time, millimeter waves were thought to be most suitable for the point-to-point work that radio amateurs perfected and continue to advance,” Price said. “Ted’s work indicates that point-to-multipoint systems are feasible at this range, and the world has taken notice.”

Price stressed the need going forward for the worldwide Amateur Radio community to maintain a staunch defense of all spectrum allocated to the Service, as the 47 GHz band remains under consideration by other countries. The International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) is organizing the protective effort on this and other issues as it continues to get ready for WRC-19.

ARRL

Changes to CEPT Licensing Arrangements

Recent changes to the relevant CEPT recommendations now make it easier for countries outside Europe to join the framework of the CEPT licence and the CEPT Novice licence. At the same time the syllabus for the Harmonized Amateur Radio Examination Certificate (HAREC) has been amended to include questions on the Radio Amateur Code of Conduct and on operating practices. The changes, initiated by IARU Region 1, were approved by the Working Group Frequency Management (WGFM) of CEPT and are now in force.

For many years radio amateurs in Europe have enjoyed free and unbureaucratic short-term cross-border operation in 42 countries that have implemented CEPT recommendation T/R 61-01. The recommendation also provides for Non-CEPT countries to join the CEPT licence scheme. However so far only Australia, Canada, Israel, Netherlands overseas countries within the Kingdom of the Netherlands and overseas territories of the Netherlands in ITU Region 2 , New Zealand, Peru, South Africa and the United States have implemented T/R 61-01.

CEPT
Statement of Conformity for Non-CEPT countries

To facilitate the participation of countries from outside Europe, IARU Region 1 proposed to introduce the concept of a «Statement of Conformity» to be included in the latest version of T/R 61-01. The administration of a country wishing to join the CEPT licence framework now can, after careful scrutiny of its licence requirements, declare which of its national licence classes is equivalent to the CEPT licence and vice-versa. Until now CEPT’s European Communications Office (and its predecessor) in Copenhagen had to examine the equivalency of licence requirements in a complicated process. WGFM approved this IARU Region 1 simplification initiative and in addition determined that the same «Statement of Conformity» concept should also be introduced into ECC Recommendation (05)06, the CEPT Novice licence.

Responsibility and Good Operating Practices

WGFM also approved amendments to the examination syllabus for the Harmonized Amateur Radio Examination Certificate (HAREC) in recommendation T/R 61-02. To date the syllabus has not contained any references to responsible conduct on the air and to operating practices. This has been corrected by amending the syllabus to include these topics. IARU Region 1 is convinced that these change are necessary considering the increasing problems that the Amateur Service is having with deliberate and unintentional QRM. IARU Region 1 president Don Beattie says: «These amendments are both appropriate and consistent with CEPT and ITU objectives of achieving efficient and effective utilisation of the radio spectrum and will play some part in helping create better understanding of the duty of all radio amateurs to practise responsible behaviour on the bands.»

These changes are already in place for the CEPT licence examination (HAREC). A slightly modified version of the T/R 61-02 amendment is likely to be included in the syllabus for the CEPT Novice licence. WGFM is going to consider this at its meeting in Bordeaux, France in October 2016.

The new version of T/R 61-01 can be found here

T/R 61-02 is available here. The updated syllabus can be found in Annex 6 of the T/R 61-02 document

IARU Region 1

Region 3 Director Meets up with Fijian Hams

Don Wallace, ZL2TLL R3 Director during his travels around the Pacific Island nations often catches up with local amateurs. Here he is posing with two well known 3D2 hams, 3DAG and 3D2ER.

Young Australian’s and Amateur Radio

The WIA Board at its August meeting received a report outlining a proposed Science Technology Engineering Arts and Mathematics or STEM symposium, to be held in Canberra in November.

This WIA initiative is not aimed at the recruitment of young people into Amateur Radio, but to tap into the resources of those few radio amateurs who are interested or already have involvement in youth education.

It is hoped that by sharing ideas the WIA can develop some workable ideas for Amateur Radio involvement in the STEM program in schools.

The next step will be setting the framework of the event program and calling for expressions of interest.

Source: Wireless Institute of Australia

Radio hams from various professions chasing passion

The Hindu newspaper reports on amateur radio involvement with the Krishna Pushkaram festival taking place August 12-23

It’s 12.30 p.m. on Saturday and a senior High Court advocate Kuthumbaka Ramesh VU3FTP was reporting the situation of a ghat in interiors of Srisailam in Kurnool to the Command and Control Centre (CCC) at Durga Ghat via a hand-held transmitter.

Tiruvidhula Satish VU3INZ, a Chartered Accountant, was passing on information of pilgrim rush at the Vijaya Krishna Ghat in Vijayawada to the CCC, which is monitoring entire Krishna Pushkaram. He was there for a six-hour shift passing on the information.

The duo is not part of any government team monitoring the Pushkaralu, but is part of the Ham Radio network — an alternative and definite medium of communication during the Pushkarams.

“We are all doing this voluntarily as back up for the government communication systems. Round the clock, we are gathering information from all the ghats in the city and four of our mobile teams will be moving in districts,” Mr. Ramesh told The Hindu.

Out of passion for the electronic hobby of operating the radio all our
team is working voluntarily, there are many from Hyderabad and other places and from many professions, Mr. Ramesh said.

When all networks fail or during emergency, authorities can rely on our network for information, he added.

Read the full story at http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/tp-andhrapradesh/ham-operators-from-various-professions-chasing-passion/article8987265.ece

ARSI

VDSL Interference - a guidance leaflet

Don Beattie G3BJ reports the number of instances of interference from VDSL has increased over the last couple of years in the UK

On the IARU Region 1 site he says:

To help amateurs to detect interference from VDSL the RSGB has drawn up a leaflet, the 15th in a series of EMC leaflets which the RSGB EMCC has produced.

The leaflet has been uploaded to this site by Hilary Claytonsmith G4JKSin response to an action agreed at the first EMC Committee meeting at the Interim Meeting or Permanent Committees in Vienna on 16th to 17th April 2016.

Click here to download the leaflet

IARU Region 1

Indian Hams Respond to Floods

The recent flooding in India triggered by monsoonal rains has a death toll of 300 and forcing many villages to flee to higher ground. National Coordinator for Disaster Communication in India, Jayu Bhide VU2JAU reports that in the eastern region Ambrish VU2JFA, Dutta VU2TTC and their team are busy in providing necessary communication in North Pargana.

The emergency communications and help being provided by hams coordinates the responding administration. Jayu VU2JAU also reports on flooding in central India with hams again helping the administration as it seeks to prevent any accidents. So far five people have been saved from deep flood waters and brought to safety. Hams deployment has been through the District Commanders with Jayu VU2JAU in frequent liaison with them.

Jim Linton VK3PC
Chairman IARU Region 3 Disaster Communications Committee.

Indonesian Floods get Hams Help with Communications

The flooding in West Java that caused landslides and killed at least 30 people remains a disaster scene with recovery work continuing.

Chief of Organisation & International Affairs of ORARI, Gjellani J. Sutama YB1GJS said that early on September 21 after heavy rain fell and the Cimanuk River burst its banks, and soon after emergency communications began.

ORARI (Organisasi Amatir Radio Indonesia) is the IARU member society, and its Garut District set up the emergency station at a base camp for the worst hit area.

Gjellani YB1GJS reports that it had an HF net on 7.110 MHz, with a VHF repeater for Operation and Coordination to support the government and search and rescue team.

The height of the drama included a report that two houses were buried by landslides, a mosque was destroyed, affecting thousands of homes with many of under water. About three dozen were injured and villages in the path of floodwaters were evacuated. Among the work is looking for the 22 people who are still missing in the disaster area.

The ORARI Garut District is waiting for further advice from the government but hopes the recovery phase will soon wind down as the flooding eases.

Jim Linton VK3PC
Chairman IARU Region 3 Disaster Communications Committee
IARU Region 3 Directory

Official R3 Directory. Further information can be found on the Region 3 website: http://iaru-r3.org/secretariat/

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 is up to date on the listings shown at http://iaru-r3.org/ under member societies. Some details have not been amended or updated for a number of years and have non functional data.

Current details can be forwarded to the Secretary of Region 3 for updating of the web information.

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Region 3 Societies can submit articles for inclusion to the next bulletin by 30th December 2016.

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