Editor’s Note

Happy New Year to all Societies, members and interested persons.

Thank you to all those who have contributed to this edition of the Region 3 Newsletter. I would like to see more articles from Societies that may be of interest to other societies and regions. If a member society has an upcoming event please consider making a news item - the editor will assist you.

Contributions may be sent to me at the email address at the end of the Newsletter. Items appearing in newsletter may be used by societies freely to inform their members.

The deadline for the next edition is 31st March 2018.

73 Peter, VK3MV

A word from the Chairman January 2018

I would like to wish all of you and your families a very Happy, Prosperous, Peaceful, and more importantly, Healthy New Year. Hopefully the band conditions will improve and help all of us to enjoy our hobby to a greater extent.

In preparation for the next WRC, two of our directors will be attending the APG meeting scheduled for March in Perth in Australia. There are items on the agenda relating to amateur radio and our representation at these meetings play an important part in molding the voting pattern by administrations.

We invite the attention of all societies to World Amateur Radio Day (WARD) which is observed each year on 18th April. We hope societies will take this opportunity to showcase this wonderful hobby to the general public and conduct events in their respective areas to give hands - on experience to those who are not already radio amateurs.

Tackling the menace of intruders on our bands is a constant effort that needs attention from all and getting administrations to act on the reports of intruders we generate is a difficult but necessary activity.

Gopal VU2GMN

IARU addresses new radio spectrum pollution threat

The Administrative Council (AC) of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) held its annual in-person meeting on September 15-16, 2017 in Landshut, Germany, immediately prior to the IARU Region 1 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 reviewed its priorities and positions with regard to the agenda items for the 2019 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-19) of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU).

High Power Wireless Power Transmission (WPT) for electric vehicles is seen as having a significant potential for interference to radiocommunications. Addressing this threat requires an increased commitment of resources by potentially affected radiocommunication services, including amateur radio.


IARU notes progress toward 50 MHz Region 1 allocation

Significant progress was made in preparing for the World Radiocommunication Conference in 2019 (WRC-19) at a two-week meeting at the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) in Geneva in November 2017. However, there remains a lot to do before the reservations and concerns of regulators and spectrum users are adequately satisfied.

The team representing IARU in Working Party (WP) 5A of the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R) consisted of amateurs from Australia, Brazil, Canada, Germany, Ireland, Japan, Norway, the Netherlands, United Kingdom and the United States.

For IARU the main focus was on the WRC-19 agenda item which will consider a frequency allocation for the amateur service in Region 1 from 50 to 54 MHz similar to Regions 2 and 3. The current, mainly secondary, allocation of 50-52 MHz in most European countries is a regional agreement. During the meeting input documents from IARU, France, the Russian Federation and Switzerland were considered with the following intermediate results:

- A rough consensus was achieved on the text which will provide the technical basis for discussions concerning the access to 50-54 MHz for the amateur service in Region 1.

- A method for calculating the spectrum needs of the amateur service in 50-54 MHz was proposed by IARU and has been accepted by some administrations. More information to justify the requested bandwidth however will be required.

- For sharing studies particularly in relation to the land mobile
service and radiolocation applications in 50-54 MHz, a mutually agreed propagation model remains to be determined. No major objections to sharing with analogue television broadcasting in 50-54 MHz in Region 1 remain, provided that a time limited field strength limit is applied. In addition to an amateur allocation in Region 1 at 50 MHz other key issues for the amateur service at WRC-19 include securing protection for amateur service primary allocations at 24 GHz and 47 GHz and minimising possible interference arising from Wireless Power Transmission for the charging of electric vehicles.

Following the meeting of Working Party 5A and other meetings related to the work of ITU-R Study Group 5 the ITU hosted the first of three planned Inter-Regional Workshops on WRC-19 Preparation. IARU Vice President Ole Garpestad, LA2RR, who also attended the WP 5A meeting, represented the IARU at the workshop to hear reports on progress by the regional telecommunications organizations.

IARU Region 1 http://iaru-r3.org/

HERO network activate for storms events
Date : 24 / 12 / 2017

Ham Emergency Radio Operations have been in support of two weather events in the Philippines, Kai-Tak and Tembin, which brought significant damage and loss of life. The first was tropical storm Kai-Tak killed about 33 people, followed by tropical storm Tembin that swept through the southern Philippines, with reports that 200 lives have been lost.

Roberto C Vicencio ‘JoJo’ DU1VHY says HERO had HF coordination through the national emergency net at 7.095 MHz with three nets being held, 0700, 1700 and 1900. Local clubs embedded with the government responders used designated channels and club frequencies. JoJo says Kaitak ravaged the Central Visayas area, almost the same entry point as the Super Typhoon Haiyan in 2013, and maintained a stationary position for about three days. “Much rain was dumped in the Samar and Tacloban areas of the Central Visayas region,” he said. “In situations like this, most of radio amateurs in the affected areas fold into the government's regional/provincial disaster risk reduction management offices to consolidate the actions of the amateur and civic groups as well as the military and police forces.”

But after a respite of two days the southern island of Mindanao was threatened by Tembin. HERO reported that this was anticipated and the government was able to mobilise the assets of radio amateurs and civic communications group as well as the police and armed forces. Jojo says the wind strength and volume of rains inundated the island and the system took a direct path from east to west of Mindanao island. Flooding hit houses and many lives were lost when people were trapped in their homes by the flash flooding. He said: "Bridges, roads and agricultural fields were damaged. There was a shortage of communications too. Many major transportation arteries were affected further stranding others who tried to escape. About 200 have been declared dead with the final count not yet determined."

Ed Escabarte DU8EE embedded with the regional disaster risk reduction management office mentioned that search is ongoing for survivors and bodies. It is only the start of the season for adverse weather in the Philippines, with the HERO network prepared for other activations.

Jim Linton VK3PC, Chairman IARU Region 3 Disaster Communications Committee

Chinese CAS-4A and CAS-4B Amateur Radio Satellite Transponders Activated

The Amateur Radio linear (SSB/CW) inverting transponders on the CAS-4A and CAS-4B satellites were activated on October 18. CAMSAT’s Amateur Radio payloads piggybacked on the optical remote-sensing micro-satellites OVS-1A (CAS-4A) and OVS-1B (CAS-4B), launched on June 15.

CAS-4A (call sign BJ1SK) has a CW telemetry beacon on 145.855 MHz, and 4.8 kB GMSK telemetry on 145.835 MHz. The uplink is 435.220 MHz, the downlink is 145.870 MHz (20-kHz passband).

CAS-4B (call sign BJ1SL) has a CW telemetry beacon on 145.910 MHz, and 4.8 kB GMSK telemetry at 145.890 MHz. The uplink is 435.280 MHz, the downlink is 145.925 MHz (20-kHz passband).

AMSAT-UK

Stop Press - 5 MHz trial in New Zealand

NZART is pleased to announce that it has negotiated with RSM and a Primary user (who has licences covering much of 5 MHz band agreed at WRC-15) to obtain a licence to allow limited operation by ZL amateur operators on 60m on a trial basis.

The purpose of the trial is for RSM, NZART and primary users to investigate the ability for the amateur radio operators to operate on the frequencies of operation on a secondary basis without causing interference to primary users.

Please see the NZART website - http://www.nzart.org.nz/info/60m for further information.

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 nonfunctional data.

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

Newsletter details:

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

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Region 3 Societies can submit articles for inclusion to the next bulletin by 31st March 2018.

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**IARU Region 3**