



Greater Norwalk Amateur Radio Club

Newsletter

"The Voice of GNARC"

May 2008

President's Blog

By Toy Alladin K1WYQ

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER:

It is already the month of May and quite a few things are on the table for the ham community.

Among them, are the preparations for the annual Dayton Hamvention which takes place on the weekend of May 16th to May 18th. To those who are making the annual trek, whether to have fun and make purchases, or, as a vendor, I am quite sure you will have a grand time.

On the home front; we are preparing to assist the Ct Special Olympics on Sat May 17th, and the Bloomin Metric bike ride the following day. There is a need to recruit radio operators for both days or part of any one of these events. I might add that this is a wonderful opportunity to show the public what ham radio is all about.

As I write, there are 10 new satellites launched from India and believe it or not, they are all functioning.

This has been a first for the Indian space agency. If you need further information about uplinks and downlinks, check the ARRL webpage.

Our plans for Field Day are materializing and the planning committee are working towards having another memorable one and gearing ourselves towards record breaking scores this year. We need everybody to support this undertaking like others, so please come out and be proud of your club.

Our next meeting will be on May 14th at 8pm at the Community room of the Shop Rite supermarket on Connecticut Ave. Do not forget to join the gang for pizza at John's Best at 6pm.

The program for the evening will be presented by Tim Walker/W1GIG. Tim will be discussing the legal issues surrounding antenna towers in Fairfield County.

FACT: HOLLAND IS THE ONLY COUNTRY WITH A NATIONAL DOG.

(Actually during WWI the American Bulldog was named the US National Dog— ED)

Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting of GNARC is May 14 at 8pm in the community room of the Shop Rite Supermarket, Connecticut Ave, Norwalk.

Secretary's Minutes

Minutes of the GNARC Meeting 4/9/2008

Toy, K1WYQ opened the meeting at 8:05 PM. There were 28 members in attendance. Toy turned the meeting over to Allan, NN1H for the presentation. Tim, W1GIG who was scheduled to present was ill, so Allan stepped in and continued his presentation on EMS Message Handling.

Allan defined messages as communications, information in motion, and outlined the three basic elements: Sender, Receiver and Medium. He stressed that messages are third party traffic and pointed out our responsibilities as message handlers. He talked about the package that the ARRL has for message handling and explained in detail the components of the Radiogram.

Business meeting:

The minutes from the last meeting were accepted.

Treasurer's Report: Ed, K3EIN said we were financially as good as we have ever been.

ARES: Only four members checked into this months net. Please mark your calendars for the ARES Net on the first Monday of the Month. At the Southington Annual Meeting, Toy was appointed Assistant District Coordinator.

Repeaters: All OK

New Business:

Events: The club is supporting two events in May. May 17 is the CT Special Olympics at Trumbull High School and is followed by the Bloomin' Metric bike race, starting from Calf Pasture Beach, on May 18. Toy made an appeal for help for both events, since both will require a number operators.

ARRL New and Renewal Memberships: The club can receive a rebate for each new and renewal membership sent in through the club. So, submit your form for either to

"The Voice of GNARC"

May 2008

Page 2

Ed, K3EIN with your check made out to GNARC instead of the ARRL.

Field Day: Steve, NA1SV is this years chairman. He said we will operate 3A and have a grid for showing operating and support times on our web page. To sign up for a particular operating slot or support role, email Steve at na1sv@arrl.net. We hope to have networked computers for logging and we may change logging software to achieve this. We will still have some rigs available from the club, but operators are urged to BYORig and Key or Keyer. If we are able to get some updated laptops, we may not have to BYOComputers. Since Mark, KB1JGL our Chef will be undergoing treatment he will need help with the food and refreshments, so please volunteer.

Next meeting will be our annual Field Day Meeting to complete planning.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Jim Francoeur-KC1FB, Secretary.

WA4SIR, Ronald Praise, SK

From the ARRL Bulletin ARLX004

Dr Ronald A. Parise, PhD, WA4SIR, passed away Friday May 9, 2008 after a very long and courageous battle with cancer. He was 57.

Parise flew as a payload specialist on two space shuttle missions: STS-35 on Columbia in December 1990 and STS-67 on the Endeavour in March 1995. These two missions, ASTRO-1 and ASTRO-2 respectively, carried out ultraviolet and x-ray astronomical observations, logging more than 614 hours and 10.6 million miles in space.

Parise was one of the first astronomers to operate a telescope from space, making hundreds of observations during the mission. Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) Chairman Frank H. Bauer, KA3HDO, said Parise's personal contributions to these two missions provided scientists with "an unprecedented view of our universe, expanding our understanding of the birth, life and death of stars and galaxies."

First licensed when he was 11, Parise kept Amateur Radio at the forefront of everything he did, including his operations from space. During his two shuttle flights, he spoke with hundreds of hams on the ground. He was instrumental in guiding the development of a simple ham radio system that could be used in multiple configurations on the space shuttle; as a result, his first flight on Columbia ushered in what Bauer called the "frequent flyer era" of the Shuttle Amateur Radio Experiment (SAREX) payload.

Parise was the first ham in space to operate packet radio. "His flight pioneered the telebridge ground station concept to enable more schools to talk to shuttle crew members despite time and orbit constraints," Bauer said. "In his two shuttle flights, he inspired countless students to seek technical careers and he created memories at the schools and communities that will never be forgotten. Ron was also the ultimate ham radio operator -- in space and on the ground."

Bauer said that Parise's love for Amateur Radio and his love of inspiring students continued well beyond his two shuttle flights: "During the formation of the ARISS program, Ron was a tremendous resource to the newly forming international team. I know of many instances where Ron's wisdom and sage advice was instrumental in helping our international team resolve issues when we reached critical technical or political roadblocks. He was a key volunteer in the development of the ham radio hardware systems that are now on-board ISS. The ARISS team is deeply indebted to WA4SIR for his leadership, technical advice and tremendous vision."

Parise worked hand-in-hand with the students at the US Naval Academy and Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University on the development of their student satellites. He helped develop Radio Jove, a student educational project to listen to the radio signals emanating from Jupiter. Parise spoke at numerous schools over the years, inspiring students to pursue careers in science, math and technology.

"Ron Parise was--and continues to be--an inspiration to countless students, ham radio operators, and friends the world over. His accomplishments were many, including space explorer, pioneer, astrophysicist, pilot, ham radio operator, avionics and software expert, inspirational speaker and motivator, student satellite mentor, husband, father and friend. While he certainly did some truly extraordinary things in his lifetime, Ron Parise is best known and cherished for keeping family and friends first, and for this, we will miss him most," Bauer said.

In an effort to continue Parise's work to inspire the next generation, his family has set up a scholarship fund in Parise's honor for students pursuing technical degrees at Youngtown State University, Parise's alma mater. In lieu of flowers, those interested are welcome to send donations to the Dr Ronald A. Parise Scholarship Fund, Youngstown State University, One University Plaza, Youngstown, OH 44555.

“The Voice of GNARC”
May 2008
Page 3

WA7BNM Contest Calendar
May/June 2008

Contest Name	Time/Date/(Band)
RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data	1900Z-2030Z, May 14
EU PSK DX Contest	1200Z, May 17 to 1200Z, May 18
His Maj. King of Spain Contest, CW	1200Z, May 17 to 1200Z, May 18
Feld Hell Sprint	1500Z-1700Z, May 17
Manchester Mineira All America CW Contest	1500Z, May 17 to 2359Z, May 18
Baltic Contest	2100Z, May 17 to 0200Z, May 18
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0100Z-0300Z, May 19
NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint	0030Z-0230Z, May 22
RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW	1900Z-2030Z, May 22
CQ WW WPX Contest, CW	0000Z, May 24 to 2359Z, May 25
VK/Trans-Tasman 80m Contest, CW	0800Z-1300Z, May 24
ARCI Hootowl Sprint	2000 local - 2400 local, May 27
MI QRP Memorial Day CW Sprint	2300Z, May 26 to 0300Z, May 27
SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, May 28
Kids Roundup	1400Z, May 31 to 2200Z, Jun 1
June, 2008	
RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data	1900Z-2030Z, Jun 2
NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Jun 6
Digital Pentathlon	1800Z-2200Z, Jun 6
Wake-Up! QRP Sprint	0400Z-0429Z, Jun 7 and 0430Z-0459Z, Jun 7 and 0500Z-0529Z, Jun 7 and 0530Z-0600Z, Jun 7
DigiFest	0400Z-1200Z, Jun 7 and 2000Z, Jun 7 to 0400Z, Jun 8 and 1200Z-2000Z, Jun 8
SEANET Contest	1200Z, Jun 7 to 1200Z, Jun 8
UKSMG Summer Contest	1200Z, Jun 7 to 1200Z, Jun 8
RSGB National Field Day	1500Z, Jun 7 to 1500Z, Jun 8
IARU Region 1 Field Day, CW	1500Z, Jun 7 to 1459Z, Jun 8
Alabama QSO Party	1600Z, Jun 7 to 0400Z, Jun 8
SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	0000Z-2400Z, Jun 8

BIG or SMALL

We Ship it all

Shipping Services, Packing Services, Freight Services, Moving Supplies, Copying Color Black & White, Faxing, Printing

Greg Bryson

The UPS Store

304 Main Ave.

Norwalk, CT 06851

PH 203 847-6166

Fax 203 849-1868

8-6:30 m-f 9-3 sat