

# Lanierland ARC



<http://www.lanierlandarc.org>

March 2009

## President's Corner



Philip Loggins K4PDL



For many years, we've seen an increase in books of all kinds. What used to be considered a highly regarded craft has become so commonplace that you can hardly turn around, without seeing a review for the latest self-help guide, millionaire builder, or success manual. Well, I am not an author (and I do not play one on TV), but I am seeing something special within our growing Club and I have to talk about it for a bit.

The concept of the "Team" approach is nothing new. I've seen it in my work. Team Build" is what they call it. Each person, regardless of seniority, works every job within his or her work group for a period of time. This allows the company to move workers around to fill their needs. If Rick is sick today, Adam can cover his job because he has been trained to do so. It's an awesome concept and one that works quite well.

At the Lanierland Amateur Radio Club, we are looking for several members to step forward to offer their assistance with jobs that a small handful used to do. And that same small handful

did those jobs for years...some wearing several hats to get it all done. This led to a small group of tired people, some of which felt resentment, because they were overworked in a volunteer organization. We don't want LARC to be that way these days, we want to be proud of our progress.

Did anyone read a recent issue of the QST magazine? Specifically, a column by ARRL CEO, David Sumner (K1ZZ)....entitled, "It Takes a Club". Briefly, Sumner made a brilliant correlation between Club growth and an active TEAM! Now, I am paraphrasing here, but in essence, he was talking about LARC...or at least it seemed that way. If you read the entire page, the recipe for a Club's growth and success begins with a friendly membership. Add some interesting programs, Ham Classes, and a fun-filled Field Day and the rest is easy. He called it a, "perpetual motion machine".

*"Looking at variations in Amateur Radio licensing activity and new ARRL membership around the country", said Sumner, "it's apparent that there are "hot spots" where newcomers are joining our ranks in relatively large numbers compared to other areas."*

Boy, if that isn't the Lanierland Amateur Radio Club, I don't know what is! LARC has now recorded an amazing growth in the last eight months. If we continue our hard work and dedication to educating new licensees and making them feel part of the family, it is not out of the realm of possibility that we could see 175 before the end of the year.....and more if we try hard. (Why not? There are over 300 living Amateurs right now in the Greater Hall County Area). However, it IS going to take some work. I have a quote in my office, "If you aim at nothing, you're sure to hit it".

When asked to help out on a committee, or any other position, step up to the plate and be proud to do your part. I am ready for the fun. How 'bout you?

Get out and enjoy this great hobby. Be RADIO – ACTIVE!

As always, email ( [k4pdl@bellsouth.net](mailto:k4pdl@bellsouth.net) ) me with your thoughts, ideas, and /or criticisms. This is YOU'RE CLUB, be an active part of it.  
Help us preserve the good and build for tomorrow. Start today.

Until next time,



# **Daylight Savings Time Officially Begins at 2am March 8**

**Advance your clock/watch 1 hour before you retire Saturday evening**

**March 7. Time changes are also a good time to change the batteries in you smoke detectors. Changing these batteries twice a year is a overkill but isn't your family's safety and piece of mind worth the cost? Get into the habit !**

## **No Longer that uniformed little boy An Eagle.....A Man**



**Hunter Leming, K4PWN officially became an Eagle Scout at McEver Methodist Church on Saturday, February 21. Hunter is a member of scout troop 221 here in Gainesville. The Eagle Court of Honor Ceremony included special gifts from Hunters sister of two US flags, one flown over our Nations Capitol and one flown over the US embassy in Iraq. He was also presented a Georgia State flag flown over our State Capital in his honor.**

**At approximately 13:30 on February 21, Hunter took an oath to continue to live by the Scouting laws and was then awarded the Eagle "medal" making him official.**

**Earning this distinction was a lot of hard work according to Hunter but work he would gladly do again if he had to. He has learned skills that he can carry with him for the rest of his life.**

**Also at the ceremony was Hunters proud Mom and Dad, Vickie & Chuck W4EDT.  
A very nice reception followed the ceremony.**

**Congratulations Hunter. We're all proud of you.....WELL DONE**

# In The Spotlight



## Roger Gibson WB4T

Roger was born, grew up and lived in Hampstead, Md. for 60 Years. At 18 he started his career as an IBM Operator after Business School. At 20 Roger entered the U. S. Navy and became a Computer Operator. After his hitch in the Navy he wound up in Banking and stayed at the same bank for 33 Years through several mergers.

In October 2002 he retired and moved to Georgia to be closer to his Grandchildren. A move he and his wife Diane say they have never regretted.

His radio hobby started out with CB. Later, he became a Novice (KA3WAA) Amateur operator in March 1990 and two weeks later a Tech, (N3ICJ). He was grandfathered into Tech-Plus, where he remained for 11 Yrs. During those 11 years Roger devoted all his amateur energy to Navy-Marine Corps MARS where he held several different leadership roles. *Roger:* When we moved to Georgia I was out of radio for about a year. When they dropped the code requirement for General class license to 5wpm, it gave me an opportunity to advance and to resume this wonderful hobby. The attraction of HF operations was to much for me resist. He was successful in attaining General and about a year later, earned Extra at which time Roger went to the Vanity call W4RLG and than WB4T. He says he will continue his VE Team Leader activities this year.

Roger: Bass Fishing has become my passion. I have Bass Fever really bad! Does anyone know the cure? Here's hoping we will all have more good times together. I for one am looking forward to it.

73  
Roger  
A Real Lucky Guy! <""))><

## A Small Power Supply for Portable Use

Ed Cravey KF4HPY

Needing a small power supply for travel able to fit in my travel cases, I set out in search for a 20-25A unit. Visiting the web and catalogs gave me much news on the sizes, weights and attributes of the smaller switching power supplies. I have been using an Alinco DM-330 MV switching power supply since January 2001 without a bit of comment all this time. That's right, no complaints at all, no hums, or hash, just a trusted appliance.

Operating a portable station did show one problem, the Alinco was rather wide, long, and not fitting in my designated travel case, plus the radios were now smaller than the power supply. So the search was on for a smaller, cheaper, simpler machine.

After reading Eham.net product reviews I settled on the MFJ- 4125 Switching Power Supply. The price was \$110 the size was the smallest I was able to find in the 20-25A range. At 5.5 inches wide, 2.5 inches high, 2.5 inches deep, and weighing only 3.5 pounds; it seemed to be ideal. It would be working along side an ICOM 718 or 706MKIIG so the size, output and price were right. The reviews were mostly praise, save for the loud fan noise. More reading revealed a resistor in the power lead of the fan would slow the fan enough to insure quiet. I thought to try the power supply in stock form anyway.

I have been using the MFJ-4125 since November and the fan is very powerful and a bit loud. Using an ICOM 706 with the power cable stretched out and the 4125 well away from you the fan sound doesn't intrude. The small size allows this unit to complement any transmitter site and not get in the way. One of my relatives, Perry, KI4YYY, used the Volt/Ampere meter model (MFJ-4225MV) while our families were on vacation in Florida. I was quite impressed. Both these are small and work well, fit in field kits, and are reasonably priced.

The MFJ-4125 mated well with my ICOM 706 and 718 on PSK and SSB. Since buying this power supply, I have been able to redo my jump kit into smaller, less bulky packaging. The usage over several years will tell the full story. Until then I will look for you on the waterfall on PSK.

73  
Ed KF4HPY

**CLUB LOGO ITEMS**  
**“SHOW YOUR TRUE CLUB COLORS”**  
(See John Brandon KE4PCF, supplies are limited)

Ball Caps with Embroidered Logo



\$10.00

T-Shirts (Silk Screen LOGO)



\$10.00

4 size “medium”  
available

Embroidered  
Patches



\$3.50

**Special order golf and/or button up shirts are also available.  
Club logo, name and call sign are embroidered.  
See any club officer for more information.**

# Upcoming HAMFEST

March 21

Kennehoochee Amateur Radio Club, Marietta GA, Jim Miller Park  
[www.w4bti.org](http://www.w4bti.org)

June 6

Georgia State Convention Atlanta Radio Club (W4DOC), Marietta GA  
Jim Miller Park  
[www.atlantahamfest.com](http://www.atlantahamfest.com)

## Policy Statement From ARRL's Executive Committee

From ARRL Headquarters  
Newington CT February 3, 2009  
To all radio amateurs

**SB QST ARL ARLB011**  
**ARLB011 ARRL Executive Committee Issues Mobile Amateur Radio**  
**Operation Policy Statement**

On January 30, at the instruction of the Board of Directors at its January 2009 meeting, the ARRL Executive Committee adopted a policy statement on mobile Amateur Radio operations. The statement addresses the growing number of proposed state and local laws and ordinances regulating the use of cellular telephone and text messaging, inadvertently affecting Amateur Radio mobile communications.

In its statement, the Executive Committee urges state and municipal legislators to limit the scope of their proposals, limiting them to devices such as full duplex wireless telephones and related hand-held or portable equipment. Alternately, it suggests that licensed Amateur Radio operation be listed specifically as an exclusion to the proposed regulations.

"At the start of each new session, you see a flurry of this type of proposal in state legislatures across the country," said ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND.

As of February 1, 2009, Henderson said that the ARRL is aware of proposals in 11 states: Georgia, Hawaii Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Montana, Texas, Utah, Virginia and Wyoming, as well as several local city or town proposals.

"These proposals are usually intended to regulate cellular telephone and text messaging by drivers as a matter of safety but, when they

are written in very broad terms, can include Amateur Radio mobile operations in the 'net' they cast," Henderson continued. "The Executive Committee's policy statement gives a good, concise background of the role the Amateur Service plays in public safety and service communications. It also highlights the differences between communications conducted by cellular telephone and those using Amateur Radio. Finally, the statement offers some suggested statutory language for state motor vehicle codes which would protect Amateur Radio mobile operation."

The ARRL recognizes that driver inattention is a leading cause of automobile accidents. The policy statement raises the fact that cell phones utilize full duplex communications -- where the user is talking and listening simultaneously. The Executive Committee statement says "Two-way radio use is dissimilar from full-duplex cellular telephone communications because the operator spends little time actually transmitting; the time spent listening is more similar to, and arguably less distracting than listening to a broadcast radio, CD or MP3 player. There are no distinctions to be made between or among Amateur Radio, public safety land mobile, private land mobile or citizen's radio in terms of driver distraction. All are distinguishable from mobile cellular telephone communications in this respect."

The ARRL Policy Statement also recognizes the responsibility of the amateur community to conduct its activities in a manner that does not create unsafe operation of their motor vehicle. "Safety has to be a top concern at all times," Henderson concluded.

The ARRL Policy Statement can be found on the web at, <http://www.arrl.org/govrelations/MobileAmateurRadioPolicyStatement.pdf>.



## **OSCAR STATUS**

<http://www.amsat.org/amsat-new/satellites/status.php>

**OSCAR FREQUENCIES :**

<http://www.amsat.org/amsat-new/satellites/frequencies.php>

## **Satellite Prediction Software**

(various platforms) <http://www.satobs.org/orbsoft.html>

## **March Club Meeting**

SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 31

Holiday Inn / Lanier Center

400 EE Butler Parkway Gainesville, Georgia-----Dinner @18:00 with meeting following @ 19:00

**Lunch Bunch** Every Friday at 11:30 there is a lunch get-together at a local restaurant. The location is announced on the Wednesday night net, our web site under the activities tab and under the calendar icon as well as announced on the 146.67 repeater. ALL are welcome

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Hall County Nets W4ABP repeater 146.67 (-) 131.8 Hz PL

Hall County ARES Net, Wednesday @ 20:00 & LARC Net Wednesday @20:30  
"Everyone is welcome to check in"

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## **Quote of the Month**

"Obstacles don't have to stop you. If you run into a wall, don't turn around and give up. Figure out how to climb it, go through it, or work around it."

-Michael Jordan-

## **Proverb of the Month**

A bird does not sing because it has an answer.  
It sings because it has a song.

## **SB QST ARL ARLB012**

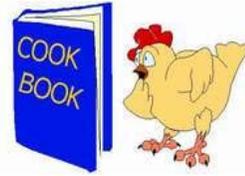
### **ARLB012 W1AW to QSY on 160 Meters**

ARRL

Starting Monday, March 9, Maxim Memorial Station W1AW will be using a new 160-meter frequency for its CW transmissions. To accommodate increasing activity near the current bulletin frequency of 1817.5 kHz, W1AW will move to 1802.5 kHz to reduce the possibility of interference.

# "GOOD EATS" COLUMN

Susie Q      KF00D



## *Sausage-Cheese Balls*



**These little appetizers make a big hit with any crowd.**

**Prep Time: 20 min**

**Total Time: 45 min**

**Makes: About 8 1/2 dozen cheese balls**

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**3 cups Original Bisquick® mix**  
**1 pound bulk pork sausage**  
**4 cups shredded Cheddar cheese (16 ounces)**  
**1/2 cup grated Parmesan cheese**  
**1/2 cup milk**  
**1/2 teaspoon dried rosemary leaves, crushed**  
**1 1/2 teaspoons chopped fresh parsley or 1/2 teaspoon parsley flakes**  
**Barbecue sauce or chili sauce, if desired**

- 1. Heat oven to 350°F. Lightly grease bottom and sides of jelly roll pan, 15 1/2x10 1/2x2x1 inch.**
  - 2. Stir together all ingredients, using hands or spoon. Shape mixture into 1-inch balls. Place in pan.**
  - 3. Bake 20 to 25 minutes or until brown. Immediately remove from pan. Serve warm with sauce for dipping.**
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### **Do-Ahead Tip**

**Want to make these savory cheese balls ahead? Your options are many! You can:**

**☑ Cover and refrigerate *unbaked* balls up to 24 hours. Bake as directed.**

**☑ Cover and freeze *unbaked* balls up to 1 month. Heat oven to 350°F. Place frozen balls on ungreased cookie sheet. Bake 25 to 30 minutes or until brown.**

☑ Bake as directed; cover and freeze up to 1 month. Heat oven to 350°F. Place frozen balls on ungreased cookie sheet. Bake 10 to 12 minutes or until heated through.

☑ Bake as directed; cover and freeze up to 1 month. Place 6 frozen balls on microwavable plate. Loosely cover with waxed paper. Microwave on High 45 seconds to 1 minute or until heated through.

## ***AARP Endorses Amateur Radio***

Amateur Radio and the ARRL received a significant public relations boost recently. Promoting life-long learning for their members, Susan Ayers Walker wrote “Finding your hobby online” for the AARP website. What is the first and most prominent activity listed to keep the mind active and functional? Amateur Radio!

## **COLORADO HAMS WIN EXEMPTION TO CELLPHONE LAW**

We all know of the concern in many States swirling around legislation to restrict communication devices while you’re driving. This includes Amateur Radio. In Georgia, HB 19 was introduced. The way the bill is worded has brought the “Ham” community up-in-arms in efforts to exempt “Hams” from this bill if it becomes law.

Colorado amateur radio operators appear to have won a significant legislative victory before the Transportation and Energy Committee of the Colorado House of Representatives. This in relation to a bill concerning wireless telephone prohibitions on drivers that hams feared might impact on their ability to operate mobile.

Hopefully, lawmakers in Georgia will see and understand our concerns and take necessary action on HB 19 and re-word this bill to allow “amateurs” use of their radio while mobile.

## **FCC NAMES LAURA L. SMITH TO ENFORCE THE HAM RADIO RULES**

Ham Radio News-line

Laura L. Smith has been named as the new Special Counsel for the Spectrum Enforcement Division of the FCC's Enforcement Bureau. She replaces Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, who retired last July 3rd.

Attorney Laura L. Smith is a 1990 graduate of the Pepperdine University School of Law. She began her legal career with the FCC, working in the Mass Media Bureau and Wireless Telecommunications Bureau. She also served as Deputy Division Chief of the Public Safety and Private Wireless Division.

**In 1998, Smith departed FCC service to become Executive Director of Governmental Affairs for the Industrial Telecommunications Association.**

**In 2001, she was named as the organization's President and Chief Executive Officer. She has also served of counsel with the Maryland law firm of Shulman Rogers, where she dealt primarily with telecommunications issues.**

**Smith has served as an industry consultant and written columns for a variety of trade publications including Mobile Radio Technology Magazine and The Private Wireless Magazine. She is currently licensed to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia.**

**Her appointment has been very welcome news to the nation's ham radio community, which in recent months has seen a noticeable increase in overt rules violations. Smith's appointment will make it clear to those who break the rules that the FCC intends to continue to work with the ham radio community to get regulatory violators to reform or, if necessary, take them off the air.**

## ***Just A Radio Operator***

This poem was written just after the battle of the Bulge in 1944  
Robert Alexander Wallace W1MQV / W1HH

**Oh, I'm winning the war with a telegraph key, thought I as I finished a stack.  
I hope this is not all the action I see, just wearing my pants out in back.  
I idly shuffle the blanks in my hand, and glance at the five letter groups.  
I think of my brother in far foreign land, fighting up front with the troops.**

**I check with my watch – where the heck's my R.J.? I'm getting as hungry as sin.  
An eight hour trick is enough for the day. And I'm practically deaf from the din.  
The trick chief gets up from the teletype chair, and says that he has one for me.  
Get your key oiled up, get that rig on the air, Here's a honey – a long one O.P.  
My relief gets a curse on his unknowing head, for his tardiness costs me my chow.  
And this is a heck of a time for a sked, the net's QJZ about now.  
But I slip on the cans and I rattle the key, and the rig is again on the air.  
I give with the dits and the dahs just to see, if the station I'm calling is there.  
A couple of calls and he sends QRU? So I tell him I have an O.P.  
He sends me a K and I start a tattoo – pounding brass on my telegraph key!  
I pass the first fifty, then wait for a sec, while he starts the next block on the sheet.  
I've found if you don't make an op break his neck, you get fewer requests to repeat.  
A hundred and fifty, and then fifty more, she's long, I've a thousand to go.  
My head's getting tired, my wrist's getting sore. Can't use bug for this guy is too slow.  
I'm passing a thousand, my fist is near beat, do I want an R.J. from T.C?  
Not a chance, Chief, you know once my sign's on a sheet, no one's sending that  
message but me.  
We finally clear and I send him AR, and get one from him with his ack.  
The look that I give my relief leaves a scar, as I grab my hat on the rack.**

Later:

I read how a shipment of arms saved a corps because it arrived there in time.  
The corps that it saved was my brother's. What's more, the message that sent it was mine!

Oh, I'm fighting the war with a telegraph key, but as long as they want me I'll stay.  
It may not be combat but now I can see, how a message can help save the day.

Glossary:

*Ack = acknowledgement*

*AR = end of transmission*

*Bug = semiautomatic telegraph key*

*O.P. = Operational Priority*

*K = Invitation to transmit*

*R.J. = relief operator*

*QJZ = on stand by*

*QRU = have you traffic for me?*

*T.C. = trick chief*

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## EXTRA CLASS GENIE

*KØMC*

Man granted three wishes by a genie. Man wishes to be 100% smarter. Zap! He's a Technician. Man wishes to be 100% smarter again. Zap! He's a General. Man wishes to be 100% smarter again. Genie asks Man "Are you sure?" "Yes" he replies. Zap! She's an Extra.

## Swap Shop

Wendell KG4GMV is looking for a desk top battery charger model 2GTAX and is also looking for a reel to reel tape player.

Wendell can be reached at 770-995-7109 between 10am and 9pm



*'This rig is great! I can work Australia on the third harmonic!'*

## IOTA News



### Island activities:

**AS-056.** Activity this past weekend by Joe, JA4PXE, as JA6PXE/6 was from Danjo-Archipelago a rare IOTA. This is a very narrow sheer rock or steep rocky island located 130 miles west of Kyushu Island in the South China Sea. Joe was only on 40 meters CW using an IC-703 running 10 watts into a Inverted V antenna. QSL via his home callsign, direct or by the Bureau.

**EU-008.** Operators Doug GM0ELP and Simon M0GBK will be active as MM3T from the Isle of Skye (IOSA NH07, SCOTIA CN14, WW Loc. IO67QN), Inner Hebrides), during the RSGB IOTA Contest (July 25-26th) as a Multi-Op/All-Bands/Low-Power/Mixed/Assisted/Expedition/ 24-hours. QSL only via eQSL. Visit their Web site at: <http://freespace.virgin.net/douglas.maxwell/MM3T/mm3t.htm>

**OC-164.** John, VK6HZ, will once again be visiting Rottneest Island this year. Dates of operation will be March 3-9th. Operation will be holiday style (he states "in between beer, swimming and, of course, quality time with my family!) Equipment will be IC-7000 running 100w into a Buddipole, running all modes. QSL via VK6NE. Online log will be available after the trip at: <http://www.vk6hz.com>  
All logs will be uploaded on LoTW.

Compiled by [OPDX](#)

# A BIG TOWER VICTORY FOR A CALIFORNIA HAM

Ham Radio News Line

*A big win in a highly publicized California antenna case.*

**Alex Zubarau WB6X will be allowed to put his tower back up after a Los Angeles County Superior Court judge rules the city of Palmdale was wrong to force him to remove it after granting him a valid permit.**

**Judge David Yaffe handed down the ruling on Feb. 6.**

**Zubarau found himself caught up in a neighborhood dispute that spilled over into a petition filed with the City of Palmdale after it had granted him permission to install his tower.**

**As with most cases, this one goes back a few years to 2005 when Zubarau first applied for a permit. It was approved and Zubarau put up a 22-foot crank-up tower which had the ability to rise to 55 feet.**

**But he didn't put a 4-element, 20 meter antenna on the tower until January 2007.**

**That's when his problems began and the neighbors raised such concerns as the aesthetic impact it was having, potentially suppressing property values and, the big one, causing interference with other electronic devices.**

**After getting the neighbors petition, the Palmdale council voted to revoke Zubarau's permit and he was directed by the planning commission to take not only the antenna but the tower structure down.**

**Enter the American Radio Relay League with volunteer counsel Len Shaffer WA6QHD and lots of support from hams in the Palmdale area as well as individuals and organizations from around the region who contributed money to his legal fight.**

**The ARRL also voted to contribute 5-thousand-dollars to the Zubarau defense fund.**

**Before going to court, Shaffer - Zubarau's attorney - tried to convince the council and its attorney that the antenna and the tower posed no interference to the neighbors.**

**As Zubarau's case was heading to court, the Palmdale Planning Commission began drafting an amendment to the community's antenna ordinance that would severely hamper amateur radio operators.**

**The amateur community quickly got word about it and began efforts to derail it.**

**Among those writing to the Palmdale authorities to raise concern was the ARRL's General Counsel Chris Imlay W3KD.**

**Imlay pointed out very succinctly to Palmdale officials that their proposed ordinance is unenforceable because it is pre-empted by federal and state laws.**

**As to the radio interference issues, Imlay noted those matters are strictly in the hands of the Federal Communications Commission.**

**In spite of that, it appears Palmdale officials are willing to spend tax dollars to continue their efforts to work on the proposed ordinance. It's unclear, however, whether they'll appeal the judge's ruling in the Zubarau case.**

**Still to be decided is the fate of that Palmdale's proposed anti-ham radio antenna law. A hearing on that was supposed to have taken place but was put on hold when the city realized the level of response that hams in the area had organized. (K7FE, ARRL, ARNewslineT)**

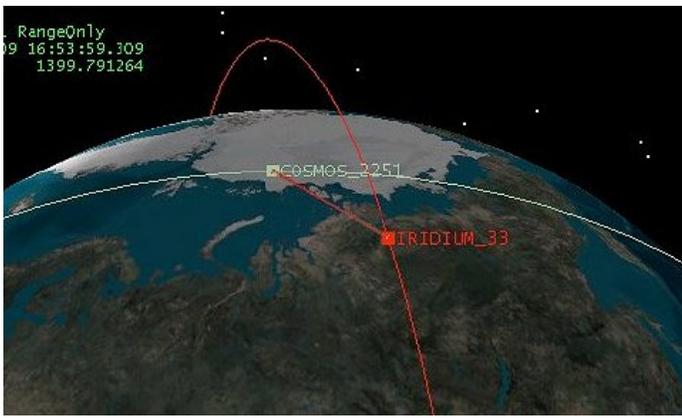
## **US and Russian satellites collide in 'unprecedented' accident**

**See video of fireball over Texas <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f1wgPyzIL2M>**

**For the first time ever, two large satellites have collided in Earth orbit. It happened on Tuesday, Feb. 10th at 1655 UT, when Kosmos 2251, an operational Russian Strela 2M communications satellite launched in 1993, crashed into Iridium 33, an operational US Iridium communications satellite launched in 1997, approximately 800 km over northern Siberia. Both satellites were completely destroyed.**

**U.S. Strategic Command is tracking hundreds of satellite fragments. In the 48+ hours since the collision, the debris swarm has spread around both orbits. Experts characterize the distribution as a pair of "clumpy rings"; one ring traces the orbit of Iridium 33, the other traces the orbit of Kosmos 2251.**

**This injection of debris substantially increases the population of space junk at altitudes near 800 km. Collisions are now more likely than ever. Fortunately, the International Space Station orbits Earth at a much lower altitude, 350 km, so it is in no immediate danger. The Hubble Space Telescope is not so safe at 610 km. In the days ahead, researchers will carefully study the make-up and dynamics of the debris cloud to estimate when bits will begin to drift down to lower altitudes.**



*Tracks*



*Iridium 33*

***There are over 8,000 artificial orbiting objects and over 22,000 tons of “space junk” floating around over our heads. Gives a whole new meaning to “the sky is falling”***

## Skywarn Ready

National Weather Service

### Skywarn Notes

With the start of the Storm season appearing to come earlier this year, this would be a good time to review SKYWARN procedures that have been established to help maintain a quality and efficient net that will best serve the National Weather Service, other agencies, and our local communities. Spotters are encouraged to follow the following net operating guidelines:

1. **Direct all traffic to the Net Control Operator.** The Net Control Operator directs the Net's activities, coordinates spotters, forwards reports, and announces National Weather Service statements.
2. **Be aware of the situation.** Always listen to the reports of other spotters. If what you are experiencing is of less priority than what is occurring in another area, then please yield the frequency to the spotters with the most urgent reports.
3. **Keep transmissions as brief as possible.** This keeps the frequency open for others to use. As always, reports with the most priority should have the most use of the frequency.
4. **Do Not report general phenomena that are always associated with thunderstorms,** such as rainfall, lightning, thunder, etc. Such reports are unnecessary and take up time on the air, possibly preventing more important reports from being passed.
5. **Only report severe weather related observations** that are described in training and supplemental materials. These reports are essential vice during severe weather events.
6. **Be as accurate as possible.** Use proper measurements such as 1/4 inch or pea size, 3/4 inch or dime size, one inch or size of a quarter, golf ball size, etc. When estimating wind speeds, use the following tips from the National Weather Service's Spotter's Guide:
  - a) 25-31 mph: Large branches in motion; whistling heard in telephone wires
  - b) 32-38 mph: Whole trees in motion; inconvenience felt walking against wind

- c) 39-54 mph: Twigs break off trees; wind generally impedes progress
- d) 55-72 mph: Damage to chimneys and TV antennas; pushes over shallow rooted trees
- e) 73-112 mph: Peels surface off roofs; windows broken; light trailer houses pushed or overturned; moving auto mobiles pushed off roads

7. **Be sure to check out if away from your radio.** This is important as Net Control counts on you being where you say you are. If something is happening in your area and you have not checked out, Net Control has no idea if something may have happened to you due to the weather.

### **ADDITIONAL TIPS**

- The first sign of a tornado may not be a funnel at the cloud base. Your first clue may be debris or dust at the surface, so be alert to events at ground level, as well as in the clouds.
- At night, lightning flashes can aid in identifying the Rain Free Base, Wall Cloud, and Precipitation Area. Although a loud roar is frequently associated with a tornado, strong straight-line winds can also produce such a sound.
- If you spot from a fixed location, use a map to determine distances and directions to known land marks such as water towers, TV towers, etc. This will help you estimate distance and direction in your reports. Mobile spotters should always have up-to-date maps and be familiar with the area in which they are operating.
- When available, use binoculars to look for rotation and other cloud features. Once you spot a funnel, tornado, or wall cloud, be alert for the formation of others in the area.
- If you find yourself in large hail, remember you are in or near the area where tornado formation is most likely in a tornadic thunderstorm.
- Always follow the basic safety rules. In open country, a spotter may be able to use his knowledge of the tornado's motion and available escape routes to drive away from the tornado safely. In urban areas this is usually not possible because of traffic congestion. Make certain your family knows what to do in tornado emergencies as you may not be available to assist or direct them. When severe weather is occurring and a SKYWARN Net is in operation, please reserve the frequency for the use of TRAINED spotters (unless there is an out-side emergency). This assures the accuracy of the reports. If not a trained spotter, find out when the next available Skywarn class will be. Trained spotters in the field provide a valuable service to the National Weather Service.

## **Georgia Skywarn Linked Repeater System WX4PTC (NWS, Peachtree City)**

**Dalton 224.740**  
**Jasper 146.805 + 100 Hz**  
**Dahlonega 146.835 + 100 Hz**  
**Dallas 146.895 + / 224.88 – 77 Hz**  
**Atlanta 146.820 – 146.9 Hz**  
**Tyrone Hub Repeater 444.675 + 77 Hz**  
**Fayetteville Remote Base 444.600 + 77 Hz**  
**Fayetteville 145.210 – 131.8hz**  
**Peachtree City Backup Remote 442.500 + 77 Hz**

Concord 145.250 – 110.9 Hz / 224.460 –  
Thomaston 147.390 + 131.8 Hz  
Pine Mountain 145.190 –  
Macon 146.850 – 77 Hz  
Macon 145.430 -  
Cumming 441.900 + 141.3 Hz  
Forsyth 147.315 +  
Forsyth 147.315 +  
Irwinton 147.240 + 77Hz  
Cedar Grove 147.150 +  
Eastman 145.210 – 103.5 Hz  
Wayside 145.370 – 88.5 Hz  
Eatonton 146.655 – 186.2 Hz

The NWS in Peachtree City is still working on repeater locations and a way to show repeater coverage within a URL.

A pretty close representation can be found at

<http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?client=firefox-a&hl=en&ie=UTF8&msa=0&msid=101138301589073402373.000463612bd69ac9d8c96&t=h&z=7>

(ALL ONE LINE WITH NO SPACES)

*Robert Burton K4YDC DEC NWS / Peachtree City, GA writes:*

If WX4PTC gets activated, please remember to provide only severe reports to the NCS (unless otherwise asked for). Also please be patient with people...who do not. These same people may just bring the critical info to the net to issue that warning which may save some lives. Also remember when calling in, be sure and "Call for WX4PTC" and not just blurt out the report. Many times the NCS may be discussing a "desired location" or other details with the staff there. We are within a arm's length away from them and they often ask for our assistance. Also please remember to give your information at a speed that it can be written easily. In some cases the operators have been there for several hours, and the hand does cramp at times ;-)

We also have several brand new NCS's that will start soon. Giving your report at "Writing Speed" will also help them.

It is a strong possibility that if the activation is "Heavy" (as far as traffic) on the link system, WX4PTC may not be able to monitor HF. In that case, help would greatly be appreciated in bringing any severe reports over to the link system.

## Fast Forward Field Day June 27 and 28



Plans are in the works for this years "Field Day"  
Make your plans now to attend and share the fun !!!!!!!  
More information coming soon.....

# **BORN AGAIN AMERICAN**

By Keith Carradine

Just a workin' man without a job  
It got shipped off to China via Washington, D.C.  
And I know I'm nothin' special, there are plenty more like me  
Just the same  
I thought I knew the rules of the game

I stood up for this country that I love  
I came back from the desert to a wife and kids to feed  
I'm not sayin' Uncle Sam should give me what I need  
My offer stands  
I'll pull my weight you give me half a chance

I went up to a congressman and said to him "you know  
Our government is letting people down"  
He said he'd need a lot of help to buck the status-quo  
I said there was a bunch of us around

I'm a Born Again American, conceived in Liberty  
My Bible and the Bill of Rights, my creed's equality  
I'm a Born Again American, my country 'tis of me  
And everyone who shares the dream from sea to shining sea

My brother's welding chassis at the plant  
He's earning what our granddad did in 1948  
While CEOs count bonuses behind the castle gates  
How can they see  
When all they care about's the do re mi

It's getting where there's nowhere left to turn  
Not since the crash of twenty-nine have things been so unfair  
So many of our citizens are living in despair  
The time has come  
To reaffirm that hope's not just for some

The promise of America's surrendering to greed  
The rule is just look out for number one  
But brace yourself 'cause some of us have sown a different seed  
A harvest of the spirit has begun

I'm a Born Again American conceived in liberty  
My Bible and The Bill Of Rights  
My creed's equality  
A Born Again American, my country 'tis of me  
And everyone who shares the dream from sea to shining sea

It's clear my country's soul is on the line  
She's hungering for something that she lost along the way  
The principle the framers called upon us to obey  
That in this land  
The people's will must have the upper hand

I felt the calling once before and took a sacred vow  
And faithful to that vow I have remained  
I hear the calling once again, my country needs me now  
And to her cause I have been re-ordained

I'm a Born Again American conceived in liberty  
My Bible and the Bill Of Rights, all people living free  
A Born Again American, my country 'tis of me  
And everyone who shares the dream  
From sea to shining sea  
And everyone who shares the dream  
From sea to shining sea  
A M E R I C A

See the video at  
<http://www.bornagainamerican.org/index.html>

**If this song and video does not move you, you are in the wrong country**



**Many thanks go to those who submitted news, information and articles for this edition. Send you newsletter contributions to [W4DJG@bellsouth.net](mailto:W4DJG@bellsouth.net)**

**As a reminder, the newsletters are archived within our web-site. Each issue is listed with the most recent edition first.  
<http://www.lanierlandarc.org/newsletters.html>**



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