



WCARS.org
September 2009

The Official Publication of
The Western Carolina Amateur Radio Society, Inc

President's Microphone...

We have several events to offer a chance to operate field stations during the next two months, including the BRARC club station at the state fair, and the Blue Ridge Bonanza. Please review the sign up sheet sent to each member, and offer to fill the gaps in the operating schedule for the WNC Fair special event station between September 10th and 20th. Also, please consider your preferences for officers' positions that must be voted on by the membership this November. If an opening presents itself, please consider the position yourself.

The Blue Ridge Bonanza is the weekend of September 19 & 20. There will be several stations set up along the Blue Ridge Parkway. Special certificates will be given for station contacts. The club can always utilize your talents as operators. Hope to see everyone at the next club meeting.

73 Dean - k2jb

W4MOE Repeater

Dean K2JB visited the repeater site on Saturday, August 8th. It appears the storm on August 5th got the repeater controller. The internal fuse was blown. Upon replacing the internal fuse, nearly all the LEDs lit up and remained that way. A hard CPU reset changed nothing. The company was contacted for information. Dean conducted further diagnostics and reset procedures. The repeater is back on the air, with an apparent positive side effect of de-sensitivity in the receiver no longer a problem.

When the repeater is off the air, the usual practice is to utilize the 146.760 for our nets. Thanks to Randy - KE4RQL for its use. N4SET

National Preparedness Month

The Department of Homeland Security has designated September as National Preparedness Month. The **NC Simulated Emergency Test (SET)** is scheduled for **October 3rd and 4th**; planning for it in September is a logical step. In 2008, more than 100 ham radio clubs registered, about 5% of 2,000 organizations that signed up on the Ready.gov site. Amateur Radio constituted the largest group to respond! Any group that wants to participate should register for the SET at <http://ready.adcouncil.org/>.
From NC ARRL

Upcoming Events

Sept 5 & 6: Shelby Hamfest, Dallas
Oct 3: State SET
Oct 10: Pfafftown Swapfest
Oct 17: Scouting Jamboree on the Air
Oct 17: State ARES meeting, Morganton
Oct 17: Gray, TN Hamfest
Oct 25-26: Ten Tec Hamfest

WCARS Information Net (Callsign W4MOE)

8/3/09; with K2JB as NCS; 16 check-ins
8/10/09; with K2JB as NCS; 18 check-ins
8/17/09; with N4SET as NCS; 17 check-ins
8/24/09; with KD4IMA as NCS; 14 check-ins

August 6th Minutes...Bob - WD4CNZ

The Aug. 6, 2009 regular monthly meeting of WCARS was called to order at 7:32pm with WCARS president Dean Blair K2JB presiding.

The group was then asked to join him in the pledge of allegiance. This was followed by a moment of silence to honor two silent keys.

Attendees were asked to introduce themselves, giving a name, call sign, and QTH. A total of 34 were in attendance at this meeting.

Tickets for the 50-50 drawing were sold with ½ of proceeds becoming a cash prize and ½ going into the club treasury.

The Treasurer's report was given by Steve N4SET.

A report was given that the MOE Van needs the state inspection plus additional work to correct a leak in the transmission.

Randy KE4RQL gave an update on the Mt. Mitchell repeaters with a successful contract signed to continue operations. He reported that all parties are happy with the new contract.

Mountain State Fair - Dean strongly recommends that WCARS help the Blue Ridge ARC and Haywood ARC plus others to support operation of a special event station to showcase amateur radio. The September 11-19 time frame is set for this event.

A tentative operation time block sign up sheet was passed around, asking for operators to sign up for 3-4 hour time blocks where possible.

An update was given by Dick K8SKX about antennas to be set up at EOC for VHS/UHF, 75meter phone, and 40meter phone. He reported that costs for materials was covered via donations outside of WCARS for this project.

Dean K2JB spoke about a possible membership drive needed to initiate interest about WCARS. He suggested using e-mail and for a direct mailing of Smoke Test. Volunteers are needed - contact Dean K2JB. The use of the special event N4C to make contact with potential members was greatly received and recommended.

Tommy K4BNP spoke about Miriam Smith KB4C and her history of supporting emergency communications in Buncombe County. The KB4C memorial award was then presented to Richard "Dick" Burns K8SKX to honor his work in this area.

The program "Regulatory Affairs, Legislative Action and Amateur Radio" was then presented by Dan Henderson N1ND, ARRL Regulatory Information Manager (and WCARS member).

Dan entertained questions and comments after his presentation.

WCARS members were strongly asked to write a letter to their congressman asking for support of H.R. 2160: The Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Enhancement Act.

Members were asked to keep the letter brief and to ask the congress member to become a co-sponsor. Dan stated that the letter should also contain a "thank you" for the consideration.

The 50-50 drawing was won by N4SET. Several prizes left over from the Hamfest were given out.

The meeting was adjourned at 2116 (9:16pm) with an invitation to come back for the September meeting and to check the WCARS web site often.

Refreshments were made available for all to enjoy.

Hamfest Calendar

5-6 Sep Shelby Hamfest, Shelby Amateur Radio Club, <http://www.shelbyhamfest.org>

Talk-In: 146.88 & 147.12 Contact: Robby Hamrick, WA4RH Box 1408 Ellenboro, NC 28040 Phone: 828-453-9121 Email:

chairman@shelbyhamfest.org Dallas, NC Gaston County Park 1301 Dallas-Cherryville Highway

25-26 Sep Ten Tec Factory Hamfest, 1185 Dolly Parton Parkway Sevierville, TN 37862

Register: <http://radio.tentec.com/hamfest/>

26 Sep SEDCO V Conference, MainStay Suites Conference Center 410 Pine Mountain Road Pigeon Forge, TN SEDCO KB4C (SouthEastern DX & Contesting Organization

<http://sedco.homestead.com/> Talk-In: None

Contact: Lynn Lamb, W4NL 3134 Allen Drive Maryville, TN 37803 Phone: 865-681-2279 or 865-898-7388 (cell) Email: W4NL@charter.net

3 Oct York County Amateur Radio Society (K4Y TZ) Faith Assembly of God 2800 Faith Blvd Rock Hill, SC

<http://www.rockhillhamfest.com> Talk-In: 147.030 neg (no tone) Contact: Sheila Parrish, KG4CDF 2358 J P Dirt Road Edgemoor, SC 29712 Phone: 803-328-5983 Email:

coy@navacore.net

17 Oct GrayHamfest Association Appalacian Fairgrounds 101 Lakeview Street Gray TN

<http://GrayHamfesttn.com> Talk-In: 145.290 (PL 103.5) Contact: Charles Stuchell, K4CWA 222 River Road Bluff City, TN 37618 Phone: 423-538-3868 Email: k4cwa@arrl.net

VE Exams

Greenville, South Carolina - 146.61 **First Saturday each Month**, 8:30 AM Red Cross Building - 940 Grove Road Walk-ins normally accepted Sue L. Chism, N4ENX 139 Mustang Circle Simpsonville, SC 29681-5753 864-967-0001

Asheville, North Carolina - 146.91 & 146.76 & 224.60 2:00 PM, **third Sunday, second month of quarter** Room 134, Elm Building - AB Tech Walk-ins only Steve Lanford, AG4BY 101 King St. Weaverville, NC 28787 828-645-3511 Michael Robinson, AD4XZ 99 High Point Rd. Weaverville, NC 28787 828-626-3270

Hendersonville, North Carolina - 146.64 & 442.450 Mountain Home Fire Department, Hwy 25 9:00 AM **Second Saturday of second month of quarter** Sid Hendricks, W4IOE 144 Duncan Creek Rd Fletcher, NC 28732 828-684-8130 Michael Parente, AI4GR PO Box 2577 Hendersonville, NC 28793 828-891-8970

Contact VE for Exam Dates:

Burnsville, NC - 147.375 Yancey County Public Library - Town Square Burnsville David McCarty, W4TDM 391 E. Main Street Burnsville, NC 28714 828-675-9044 Barry McKinney Rt 2 Box 1122 Burnsville, NC 28714 828-682-9270

Columbus, NC Wayne Ackerman, W3GYK 621 Laurel Lake Drive, Unit B-104 Columbus, N C 28722-7436 828-894-5542 Rutherford County, North Carolina - 147.24 Isothermal College, **Spindale, NC** F. Bruce Tessinear, KD4OJ P. O. Box 341 Henrietta, NC 28076 828-657-5464 A. B. Brackett, AB4E 117 Toney Rd Bostic, NC 28018 828-245-6334

Special Events

Sep 19-20, 1300Z-2100Z, **Blue Ridge Bonanza**, VA. Roanoke Valley Amateur Radio Club, W4CA. Rock Fish Gap Mile Post 0. 14.228 7.228 - Covington Amateur Radio Club, W4CA Buena Vista Mile Post 45.6. 14.233 7.233 - Franklin Amateur Radio Club, W4CA. Blue Ridge Music Center Mile Post 213. 14.273 7.273 - Covington Amateur Radio Club, W4CA. Buena Vista 45.6. 14.233 7.233 - Doughton Park, NC. Forsythe Amateur Radio Club, W4NC. Doughton Park. 14.278 7.278 - Peaks of Otter, VA. Roanoke Valley Amateur Radio Club, W4CA. Peaks of Otter Mile Post 84. 14.248 7.248 - Rock Fish Gap, VA. Valley Amateur Radio Club, W4CA. Rock Fish Gap Mile Post 0. 14.228 7.228 - Certificate for each location. Ray Crampton, 1670 Catawba Rd, Troutville, VA 24175. www.w4ca.us

Oct 3 Robbinsville, NC. Smoky Mountains Amateur Radio Team, N4GSM. Opening of Cherohala Senic Skyway. 14.242 7.242. Certificate. SMART, PO Box 983, Robbinsville, NC 28771-0983. w4fmf@arrl.net or www.main.nc.us/graham/smart

THE SMOKE TEST

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 PO Box 1488, Asheville, NC 28802
www.wcars.org
 W4MOE/146.910 - /PL 91.5 Spivey Mountain/Asheville

2008 OFFICERS

President	Dean Blair	K2JB	655-1830	k2jb@arrl.net
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Secretary	Bob Dockery	WD4CNZ	254-0513	wncgeneao@aol.com
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Executive Committee	Elwood Miles	KN4ST	253-4490	elwood3@charter.net
Trustee	Norman Harrill	N4NH	253-1192	nharrill@bellsouth.net
Quartermaster	Elwood Miles	KN4ST	253-4490	elwood3@charter.net
Awards Chair	Bob Dockery	WD4CNZ	254-0513	wd4cnz@arrl.net
Public Information	Bob Dockery	WD4CNZ	254-0513	wd4cnz@arrl.net
Hamfest 09	Elwood Miles	KN4ST	253-4490	Elwood3@charter.net
Smoke Test Editor	Steve Emory	N4SET	658-0261	n4set@arrl.net

American Radio Relay League Affiliate No. 0602 WCARS meets at 7:30 PM the first Thursday of each month at the Simpson Building at AB Technical Community College. Everyone is welcome to attend. Membership dues are \$20 per year payable in January.

Net	Freq (MHz) offset/PL	Day	12 Hr Time	NOTES
WCARS Information Net	146.910-/91.5	Monday	9:00 pm	Informal, Everyone Welcome
Oasis Shrine Radio Corp. Net.	145.190	Sunday	9:00 pm	
BRARC Net	146.640/91.5	Sunday	8:00pm	
Good Morning Net	146.760	M-W-F	9:00 am	Informal, Everyone Welcome
Madison Co. Am.Rad.Com.Tm	224.660/100	Tuesday	9:00 pm	Madison Co. Emerg. Comm. Net
Buncombe Co. Emerg Mgt Net	146.910/91.5	Wednesday	9:00 pm	Directed Net, ARES / RACES
Haywood County Roundtable	147.390/94.8	Monday	8:00 pm	Informal, Everyone Welcome
Volunteer Net	147.180+/136.5	Friday	9:00 pm	Info, News and Swap Net
6600 Net	145.190	Saturday	9:00 pm	Many Check-Ins - Wide Coverage
Blue Ridge Traffic Net	146.610	Nightly	9:00 pm	May be ARES / SKYWARN in bad WX
Mount Pisgah 220 Net	224.260	Sunday	9:00 pm	Informal, Everyone Welcome
Mount Mitchell 220 Net	224.540	Monday	8:00 pm	Informal, Everyone Welcome
Mount Mitchell Rag Chew Net	442.225+/107.2	Monday	9:00 pm	Directed, Everyone Welcome
SATERN Net	14.265	Daily	3:00 pm	Salvation Army Team Emergency Net
K4UUQ Morning Net	7.225	Daily	7:00 am	Rag chew
NC Morning Net	3.927	Daily	7:45 am	SSB Traffic Net
NC Evening Net	3.923	Daily	6:30 pm	SSB Traffic Net
Carolinas Net (early)	3.573	Daily	7:00 pm	CW (20-22 wpm) Traffic Net
Tarheel Emergency Net	3.923	Nightly	7:30 pm	Directed, NC Emergency Mgt/Traffic
Carolinas Slow Net	3.571	Nightly	8:00 pm	Slow CW (8-10 wpm) Traffic Net
Carolinas Net (late)	3.573	Nightly	10:00 pm	CW (15-18 wpm) Traffic Net

Vanity Call Sign Fees to Increase

The cost of an Amateur Radio vanity call sign will increase \$1.10, from \$12.30 to \$13.40. Notice of the increase was published in the Federal; the increase will take effect on September 10, 2009. For more information, see the recent ARRLWeb article, "FCC Looks to Raise Vanity Call Sign Fees for Second Consecutive Year" at, <http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2009/05/18/10825/?nc=1>.

From SB QST ARL ARLB028

CNN News via CW

From an Austin QRP group's list, I got this in today:

I was talking to folks about copying CW press stations many years ago. It was great for increasing your skills. I discovered that CNN news in CW is on the internet. Here are the details. My Windows Media player seems to play it OK.

Chris Kantarjiev K6DBG has set up an application that takes the CNN news feed on Twitter and converts it to Morse code. The Morse audio is streamed in a WinAmp format and so will NOT work with Windows Media Player. You need to install WinAmp on your PC, which is available from the URL below. Two variants of the Morse CNN news are available, slow and fast, at

<http://cw.dimebank.com:8080/CNNslow.m3u> and

<http://cw.dimebank.com:8080/CNNfast.m3u>

Chris K6DBG has also made available NN9U's CW practice tables and W1AWCW practice at <http://cw.dimebank.com:8080/> WinAmp Media Player <http://www.winamp.com/> GLEN REID K5FX

Founding Member Austin QRP Club

Trustee KQ5RP k5fx@arrl.net



MFJ Acquires Cushcraft

(Aug 7, 2009) -- On August 7, MFJ Enterprises

announced the purchase of Cushcraft Amateur Radio antennas product line from Laird Technologies effective July 31. According to

WCARS Smoke Test September 2009

MFJ, Cushcraft amateur antennas will continue to be manufactured in Manchester, New Hampshire. "This product line increases our ability to offer our customers a wide range of antenna options at different prices. Customers will be able to choose from Cushcraft Amateur Radio antennas, Hy-gain and MFJ antennas through one source", says Martin F. Jue, President and founder of MFJ Enterprises, Inc. MFJ purchased Hy-gain in 2000. The company also owns Ameritron, Mirage and Vecronics. The 120 page 2010 MFJ catalog will include the entire Cushcraft Amateur Radio antenna product line. MFJ has set up a special customer support line -- 662-323-5803 -- to handle Cushcraft antenna product technical support, parts requests and customer services.

From ARRL

SKYWARN Training



All interested hams, and others: The NWS will conduct a SKYWARN class on 10 October from 0900 to 1200 at the Blue Ridge Mall, Hendersonville.

The classroom is in the center court in the area with the large "SHERIFF" sign. Parking in the rear will save walking. The room only holds about 30, so let me know if you intend to be there so we can get an idea of the "crowd."

Duke Knief W4DK ARES DEC NC Area 15 828-891-4359 Home 828-606-7773 Cell

In Search of

From: NASA Science News

snglist@snglist.msfc.nasa.gov

NASA Science News for August 14, 2009

A powerful cosmic ray detector to be installed on the International Space Station will search for antimatter galaxies and other exotic phenomena in the Universe.

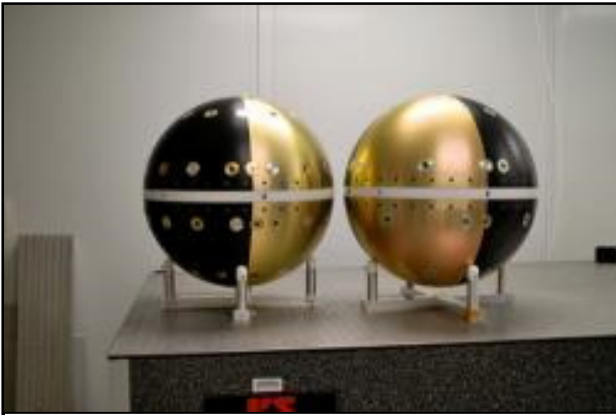
FULL STORY at

http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2009/14aug_ams.htm?list1302104

From N4K0X

Student-Built Satellites

Just before departing orbit on Friday, July 31st, the shuttle Endeavour deployed four satellites, each with telemetry downlinks in either the 2-meter or 70 cm ham bands.



CastorPollux
The spherical Pollux (left) and Castor satellites. [Photo courtesy of Naval Research Laboratory]

The twin spherical satellites -- named Castor and Pollux -- were designed by students in cooperation with the Naval Research Laboratory as part of the Atmospheric Neutral Density Experiment (ANDE). Both satellites will transmit 1200-baud packet radio telemetry on 145.825 MHz. Hams are encouraged to submit telemetry reports with special QSLs and mission patches planned (check the ANDE Web site for updates).

Castor and Pollux will carry an FX.25 experiment that adds Forward Error Correction to standard AX.25 packets. The hope is that FX.25 will improve communication efficiency while still being compatible with existing packet equipment. The satellites will also occasionally run GMSK/FX.25 modulation experiments at 9600 baud.

September Meeting - The next WCARS meeting will be September 3, 2009, at 7:30 p.m. in the Simpson Auditorium, Simpson Bldg, at AB Tech. Program: To be announced.



BevoAggie
BEVO-1 (left) and AggieSat2. [Photo courtesy of Texas A&M University]

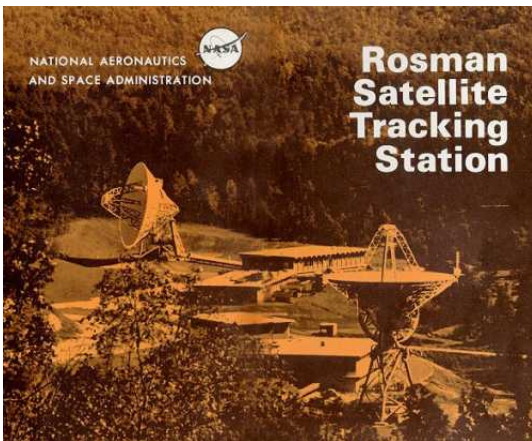
In addition to Castor and Pollux, Endeavour will also deploy student satellites from the University of Texas and Texas A&M. The tiny picosatellites, christened BEVO-1 and AggieSat2 respectively, are part of an ambitious experiment that will ultimately culminate in autonomous docking of picosats in orbit. For this mission, however, BEVO-1 and AggieSat2 will launch as one unit and then separate to collect position data and test a new NASA Global Positioning System receiver known as DRAGON.

BEVO-1 will transmit Morse code beacons (20 WPM) or packet radio data telemetry at 437.325 MHz. AggieSat2 will beacon at 436.250 MHz. The satellites will primarily transmit 9600-baud packet telemetry when over the United States. As with Castor and Pollux, reception reports are welcome. <http://paradigm.ae.utexas.edu/ops/> Orbiting at a relatively low altitude of 185 miles, these satellites should be easy to receive with standard FM transceivers and omnidirectional antennas. They should enjoy an operational life of 3-6 months and will likely re-enter the Earth's atmosphere within a year.
ARRL

Rosman Research Station



The Rosman Research Station is located in the Pisgah National Forest of North Carolina's Smoky Mountains, near Balsam Grove, NC, off Route 215 approximately 11 kilometers north of Route 64. Approximately 250 NSA, Bendix Field Engineering and TRW employees operated the station, which closed in 1994.



The National Aeronautics and Space Administration began operations at the Rosman Spaceflight Tracking Station in 1963, and ceased activities there in January 1981. During NASA's tenure the station supported a number of space projects, including the Apollo and Apollo-Soyuz missions. NASA turned over the station at Rosman to the General Services Administration on 1 February 1981. The facility was converted by the Department of Defense for use as a Communications Research Station, a process that was completed in early July 1981. Initially there were approximately 35 contract personnel living in the area, but when the project became operational in July, this number

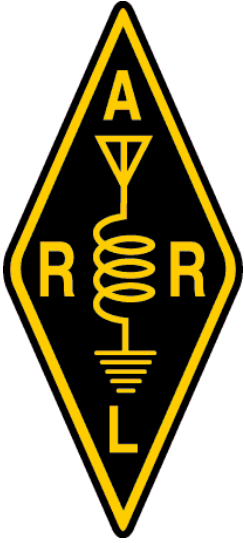
increased to approximately 75 employees. The NSA role at Rosman apparently began almost immediately thereafter. By 1985 this number was reported to have grown to 250 employees, with annual payroll at \$5 million, an average of \$20,000 a year [The Asheville Citizen 20 June 1985]. NSA requested \$500,000 for construction of an electric substation to provide additional electric transformer capacity that is required to support station operations for FY 85. It is difficult to ascertain the total number of satellite receiving antenna at the facility. These at least include two very large dishes, approximately 27.5 feet in diameter (the size of the biggest dish left by NASA), and a smaller 6.2-meter radome.

The Rosman Station was used to intercept telephone and other communications traffic carried by commercial and other communications satellites in geostationary orbit over the Western hemisphere. Potential targets of interest could include Latin American military, diplomatic and commercial traffic as well as domestic US traffic and drug traffickers in the Caribbean.

<http://www.fas.org/irp/nsa/> John Pike, Steven Aftergood

N4SET, as a native of WNC, visited this facility soon after it opened and again 12 yrs later.

ARRL Seeks Member Support for HR 2160



To support HR 2160 -- *The Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Enhancement Act of 2009* -- the ARRL is asking its membership to contact their members of the US House of Representatives with a request to become co-sponsors of this significant piece of legislation.

"Getting a bill successfully through Congress is a formidable task -- one that is going to require the involvement of every ARRL member," said ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND. "Working with our Washington consulting firm Chwat & Co, we are laying a dynamic approach that will allow us to make our case most effectively. We have developed a strategy to maximize our impact when dealing with each member of Congress."

Since the anthrax scare that followed the 9-11 attacks, all incoming mail to Congress is delayed anywhere from four to six weeks while it is screened. This means using normal US Mail is no longer an effective method of letting Congress hear your voice. While e-mail is convenient, it is not effective, due to the large volume of e-mail that each Congressional office receives.

"To ensure that ARRL members' letters are quickly and expediently received by Congress, our strategy is to ask ARRL members send their letters directly to Chwat & Co," said Henderson. "Chwat's staff will sort the letters by Congressional district and hand-deliver them to the appropriate House offices, providing a direct point of contact with the Congressman and their staff. This personal contact gives us the chance to provide not only letters from constituents, but

information from the ARRL on why this legislation is important."

The ARRL has provided a sample letter for League members to personalize and send to their Congressional representative. "Personalized letters make a better impression than a standard form letter or petition," Henderson explained. You can find the name and address for your Congressman on the ARRL Members Only Web page.

Once personalized, ARRL members should send their letter to Chwat & Co using one of three methods:

As a signed attachment to an e-mail to arrrl@chwatco.com

As a signed fax to 703-684-7594

As a regular letter to:
John Chwat
Chwat & Co.
625 Slaters Ln
Suite 103
Alexandria, VA 22314

If you choose to e-mail your letter, please send it as an attachment to the e-mail instead of it being the text of the e-mail. This allows the letter to be easily printed and delivered. Should you decide to draft your own letter supporting HR 2160 instead of editing the sample, Henderson asked that you please remember a couple of things:

Identify the bill by number and title: HR 2160 -- *The Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Enhancement Act of 2009*

Keep the letter brief and on topic -- one page at the most

Ask them to consider becoming a cosponsor

Thank them for their consideration

"Simple is better when making this kind of request to a representative," said Henderson.

"They and their staff are looking to gauge interest and support for the Bill. A lengthy letter that strays off-topic can detract from the focus of asking for support for the legislation."

Should you decide not to send your letter to Chwat & Co but directly to your Representative, it is still important that you send a copy of your correspondence to Chwat & Co. This allows them to discuss accurately with the Congressman and their staff the amount of support for the bill in each individual district. "There is strength in numbers," Henderson added.

Besides bill sponsor Representative Sheila Jackson-Lee (TX-18), the ARRL is fortunate to already have six additional members of Congress who have signed on as co-sponsors of HR 2160 -- Madeleine Bordallo (Guam), Brett Guthrie (KY-02), Mary Jo Kilroy (OH-15), Zoe Lofgren (CA-16), Blaine Luetkemeyer, (MO-9) and Bennie Thompson (MS-02).

"We congratulate ARRL Division Director Jim Weaver, K8JE, and his grassroots legislative action team in Kentucky for securing the support of Representative Guthrie -- the first new co-sponsor of the bill," Henderson said. "It shows that our grassroots effort can work!"

You may be asking yourself "What should I do if my Representative has already signed on as a co-sponsor for HR 2160?" The answer is simple: Thank them for their support. If your Congressman is one of those listed as a co-sponsor, please send them a letter thanking them for their support. Use the same contact information for Chwat & Co. "It is important to convey your appreciation to your Representative when they sign on as a co-sponsor or support the bill," Henderson explained. "That simple 'thank you' may help open the door the next time their help is needed."

Once you have prepared and sent your letter supporting HR 2160, your job is not over: Feedback is an important part of the process. "What your Congressman has to say in regards

to your contact can provide the ARRL with important information as we try to push our bill forward," Henderson noted. "This feedback can possibly help us identify potential new support for the bill or a weakness in the legislation we may need to address."

When you receive a response from your Congressman, please forward a copy to the Regulatory Information Office at ARRL Headquarters via e-mail or hard copy to Regulatory Information, ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111.

"HR 2160 presents the Amateur Radio Service with a unique opportunity -- but also carries with it the important responsibility of making your voice heard," Henderson summarized. "HR 2160 stands as the first step in trying to address the long standing problem of extending the protections afforded Amateur Radio operators under PRB-1 to deed restrictions and covenants. To be clear, passing HR 2160 is not going to achieve that goal right away. But it will help lay the ground work by assessing the impact such restrictions have on our ability to train for and respond to disasters and other emergencies."

Text from the ARRL Web, in its' entirety

ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, also a WCARS member, presented information on this subject at the last club meeting.

Involvement from the amateur community is vital in enacting this legislation. No one else will do it for us.

As an e-mail attachment, or hard copy, attached is a sample letter for each member to use when preparing a letter to this districts representative (Heath Shuler, U.S. House of Representatives)

Please complete and send a copy of your efforts to the address indicated within the above text, by the means available to you.
N4SET - WCARS Smoke Test Editor