



# The Monitor

August 2001



## From the Prez:

With summer upon us, thoughts turn to everything EXCEPT ham radio. It is unfortunate that Amateur Radio must take a back seat at times to more pressing matters, but one thing we must always remember - ham radio is a hobby. Most of us have become 'Professional Amateurs', that is, experts in the field we choose to enjoy as a hobby. Whether it is contesting, VHF/UHF, digital modes, public service or FM repeaters, it is a hobby that can be enjoyed and shared by many. Whatever it might be that brings us together in so many ways, we must remember it is still a hobby, and hobbies should be fun. And along with fun, summer is a time to relax and enjoy what makes you happy. Please take some time and reflect on all that we should be happy for.

The Prouty ride was a resounding success, thanks go to Dan - K1DAN for organizing the Amateur Radio end of things. Thanks also to those who donated their time and efforts to make this event such a success. Please remember we have several Public Service events that we as a club and individuals participate in, such as the upcoming Shriners Parade (August 4th) and the American Diabetes Association Walk in Hanover (Sept 30). If you can help out, please let the appropriate person know.

A non-binding vote was taken at the July meeting to see if there was interest in purchasing a new 2M repeater for the Moose Mountain site. The unanimous vote was a good sign, a formal vote will be held at the August meeting if a quorum is present. Please make an effort to attend this important meeting on August 11th, there will be a brief discussion before the vote.

Repeater maintenance has gone well, a recent trip up the mountain by N5IEP, KB1FDA, WA1ZCN and K1XH resulted in the installation of 2 attic exhaust fans as well as site maintenance as per our agreement with NHPTV. Lets hope we can maintain this agreement, anytime there is a work party scheduled to go up the mountain, please try to help in any way you can.

All in all, we are poised for a very busy and fun-filled summer, so get out and enjoy all of it that you can!

Micky Corrow - K1XH

## Disclaimer

Opinions expressed in The Monitor are those of the individual authors and do not reflect the opinions or policies of The Twin State Radio Club, Inc.

## Upcoming Events

<b>Shrine Parade</b>	August 4th, 9:30am Hanover, NH
<b>TSRC Meeting</b>	August 11th, 9:00am Gillam's Restaurant, WRJ, VT
<b>Pan Am 100 Mile Endurance Ride</b>	August 25th, Bob N1NCT - leabob@sover.net
<b>TSRC Meeting</b>	Sept 8th, 9:00am Gillam's Restaurant, WRJ, VT
<b>ADA Walk-A-Thon</b>	Sept. 30th, 8:30am to 12:00pm Hanover HS, Hanover NH
<b>Hosstraders</b>	October 5,6 Hopkinton, NH

## Shrine Parade

Anyone that's interested in giving me a hand at the Shrine Parade and Football Game on August 4th please let me know. It usually runs from about 930am until the games over at about 5. In the past, we've had about 8 people, any help will be greatly appreciated.

TNX,

Doug N1KDVB n1kdv@cyberportal.net

## The Pan Am 100 Mile Endurance Ride

The event is The Pan Am 100 Mile Endurance Ride Championship. The ride starts at 5:00 am Saturday Aug 25th and continue till all that are still in the race finish or 5:00 am Sunday the 26th. There are 21 stations that we will need hams. The Net will open at 0500 hrs and continue till the race has concluded. During the race we will provide emergency, health and welfare communication. There are 3 horse ambulances on stand by that we can dispatch if a horse is injured or lame. The race passes through 3 dispatch areas. If a person is injured the NCS will have the proper ambulance dispatched for that area. We have ten years experience in long duration events and you will find this a new experience. This past July we did a 100 mile endurance run and horse ride that took 30 continuous hours. If you would like I would be happy to talk about the event and answer questions. Send me an E-mail at leabob@sover.net or call me at 802 484-3363. If there is no answer at that phone call 802 484-7866 and leave a message.

73's Bob N1NCT - leabob@sover.net

## Walk-A-Thon

We have been contacted by the American Diabetes Assoc. to help out again this year with their Walk-A-Thon.

Date: Sept. 30th  
Time: 8:30am to 12:00pm  
Location: Hanover HS / start, finish  
Needed: 3 rovers / with vehicles  
3 rest stops  
1 start/finish  
Breakfast and lunch provided.

If you can help out please let me know.

Thanks

Verne Burden - N5IEP BurdenV@aol.com

Voice & Fax 802-295-7533

## Outgoing QSL Service

Hey DXers!

Don't forget that the club offers members an outgoing QSL card service. Under 25 cards are free!

Contact Nancy, N1QW for more all of the details.

## ARRL PETITIONS FOR NEW 60-METER AMATEUR BAND

A petition filed this week by the ARRL could result in a new high-frequency band for US amateurs. The ARRL has asked the FCC to allocate 5.250 to 5.400 MHz to the Amateur Service on a domestic (US-only), secondary basis.

The League told the FCC that the new 60-meter band would aid emergency communication activities by filling a "propagation gap" between 80 and 40 meters. "There are times on certain paths when a frequency in the 80-meter band is too low, and a frequency in the 40-meter band is too high for reliable ionospheric propagation," the ARRL said in its petition. The ARRL said the propagation gap can hamper communication between the US and the Caribbean during severe weather emergencies.

The ARRL Board of Directors approved the proposal at its July 20-21 meeting. The FCC has not yet invited public comments on the petition. Even if the petition finds favor with the FCC, it's likely to be several years before the new band actually becomes available.

As proposed by the ARRL, amateurs General class and higher would be permitted to operate phone, CW, data, image and RTTY on the new band running maximum authorized power. No mode-specific subbands were proposed.

The ARRL said a new 150-kHz allocation at 5 MHz also could relieve substantial overcrowding that periodically occurs on 80 and 40. If the new band is approved, hams would have to avoid interfering with—and accept interference from—current occupants of the spectrum, as they already do on 30 meters. The band 5.250 to 5.450 MHz now is allocated to Fixed and Mobile services on a co-primary basis in all three ITU regions.

The ARRL's petition cites the success of the League's WA2XSY experimental operation in the 60-meter band, carried out since 1999, which confirmed its communication reliability.

"An amateur allocation in this band would improve the Amateur Service's already exemplary record of providing emergency communications during natural disasters when even modern communications systems typically fail," the ARRL concluded.

A copy of the ARRL petition is available on the ARRL Web site, <<http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/5MHz>>.

## AMSAT DETAILS NEW SATELLITE PROPOSAL, KICKS OFF FUND DRIVE

AMSAT has begun to flesh out details of its next Amateur Radio satellite. Preliminary plans call for the new bird to have capabilities similar to those now offered by AO-40, plus a digital transponder that will be different from anything now available in Amateur Radio satellites. A campaign was begun to fund the new satellite project—dubbed "Project JJ" and now planned to launch in 2004.

AMSAT-NA President Robin Haighton, VE3FRH, has promised an open design process and invited comments and suggestions. Twenty of AMSAT-NA's designers and officers were on hand at a planning meeting July 14-15 in Denver to hammer out some project parameters.

In a President's Letter this week, Haighton said current plans call for the satellite to offer SSB uplinks on 435 MHz (U band) and 1.2 GHz (L band) and a downlink on 2.4 GHz (S band). It also will have a digital time-domain multiple-access (TDMA) L-band uplink with an S-band downlink; a 145 MHz (V band) telemetry beacon; gain antennas for U, L, and S-bands; and omnidirectional antennas for initial commands.

The new satellite will be placed into an orbit akin to that of AO-40, providing hours of daily access.

Haighton told ARRL that Project JJ planners still were looking at the possibility of including a U band transponder for Mode U/V work. "It hasn't been ruled out and hasn't been ruled in," he said.

Haighton's especially enthusiastic about the proposed TDMA digital transponder, which would handle digital voice-mode communication. "I liken it to the introduction of SSB back in the days of AM," he said. "I think it's going to be a lot of fun."

The new satellite will incorporate a propulsion system "only if absolutely necessary," Haighton's letter said.

More information and a copy of Haighton's President's Letter is available on the AMSAT-NA Web site, <<http://www.amsat.org/amsat/news/ans.html#02>>;

## **AeroAstro Square Off Over 2300-2305 MHz**

In a spectrum battle pitting Amateur Radio against a commercial interest, the ARRL and AeroAstro this week filed comments with the FCC to bolster their respective--and competing--proposals for 2300 to 2305 MHz. ARRL has petitioned to elevate the Amateur Service from secondary to primary status on the band and requested that no commercial operations be introduced. AeroAstro seeks co-primary status with the Amateur Service to accommodate a Miscellaneous Wireless Communication Service satellite-based position-monitoring system.

The ARRL has characterized AeroAstro's petition as "a Trojan horse" and said there's no possibility that hams and an auctioned MWCS service could coordinate operations on the band.

AeroAstro claims that the 1 W spread-spectrum uplinks of its proposed Satellite Enabled Notification System (SENS) and Amateur Radio can share the 5 MHz of spectrum and still protect the nearby NASA Deep Space Network. While

contending that it "does not seek to cut back current Amateur operations in the band," AeroAstro also called on the FCC to impose severe power and antenna limitations on hams at 2300-2305 MHz.

Under the AeroAstro proposal, Amateurs would be limited to 100 W output and antennas with a beamwidth no greater than 5 degrees for "narrowbeam" operation such as Earth-Moon-Earth communication. For other operation, AeroAstro wants the FCC to limit amateurs to 25 W EIRP.

"This is totally unacceptable," the ARRL retorted in its comments, adding that the restrictions would preclude most amateur operations in the band.

A co-primary allocation such as AeroAstro proposes also would make no provision to mitigate interference.

The ARRL said the FCC already has made "adequate accommodation" for services such as the one AeroAstro has proposed "without compromising the 2300-2305 MHz Amateur allocation."

The ARRL concluded that technical limitations proposed for MWCS in the band "would not be sufficient to avoid interference to sensitive Amateur receivers, and no coordinated operation between the two services is possible under the circumstances."

## **New ISS Crew to Launch August 9**

NASA says the International Space Station Expedition 3 crew will head into space August 9 aboard the shuttle Discovery. Frank L. Culbertson Jr, KD5OPQ, will head up the Expedition 3 team. His Russian crewmates are Mission Pilot Vladimir Dezhurov and Flight Engineer Mikhail Tyurin. NASA says that Discovery's launch on the 12-day STS-105 mission has been set for 2138z.

In addition to the new crew, Discovery will transport a host of supplies and scientific racks and experiments to the ISS. The launch follows by only a couple of weeks the return of the shuttle Atlantis from the ISS.

Once in space, Culbertson, Dezhurov and Tyurin are scheduled to conduct three space walks and continue scientific research aboard the space station. The new crew also will oversee the arrival of the Russian docking compartment, set to launch in mid-September.

The station's second resident crew, directed by Russian Commander Yury Usachev, RW3FU, with American astronauts Susan Helms, KC7NHZ, and Jim Voss will return to Earth aboard Discovery on August 21, ending more than five months in orbit.

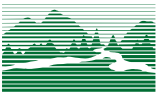
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Don't forget to check the TSRC Home Page! Make it your  
default start page! <http://www.mindpictures.com/TSRC>



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