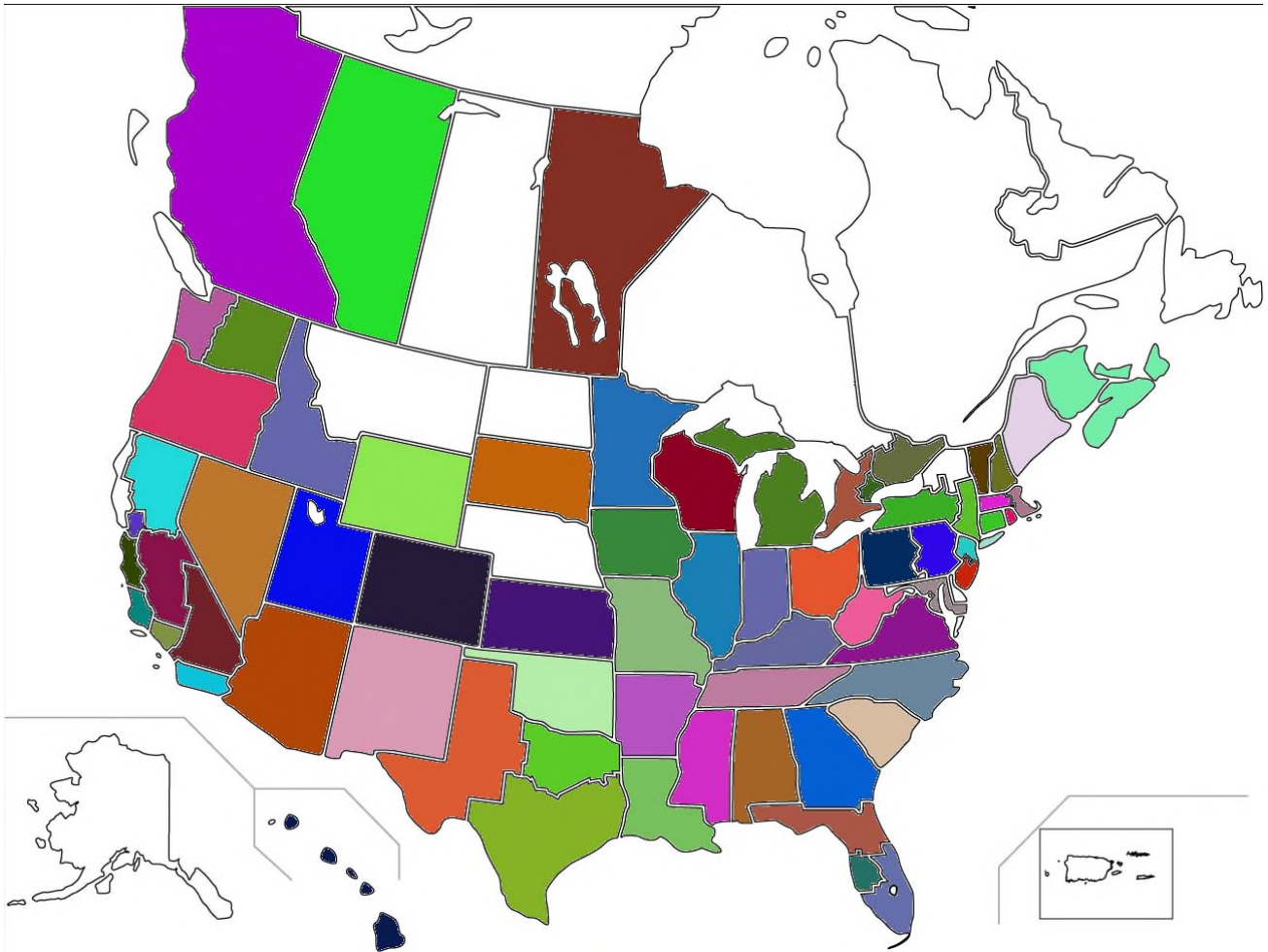


THE PLATTSMOUTH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Communicator

July 2016



Field day June 25-26

Field Day is held the fourth full weekend in June and everyone is invited to join us Murray for all or any part of the weekend for some operating, to learn, or just to visit with others. We are located right by the water tower so it makes a pretty good marker as well as antenna support. Setup starts around 9am followed by lunch and the meeting with the operating starting at 1 pm. The ending time is 1 pm Sunday and we usually have lunch and teardown beginning by that time. The map above shows our results from last year.

<http://www.arrl.org/field-day>

Meeting Calendar

Field Day June 25-26 at Murray

Meeting at Noon, June 25

8am, July 30, 2016

8am, August 27, 2016

at Mom's Café

**2016
PAID MEMBERSHIP**

- AGØLSteve Loyd [E]
- AIØN..... Chuck Engberg* [E]
- K3CRF.....Dave Smith [E]
- K5LBS Jerry Gault [E]
- KBØFSI Pat McCollum [T]
- KBØOGORoger Behrns* [E]
- KBØSJB.....Tom Katalenich [G]
- KCØHYD John Titsworth [G]
- KCØHYE.....Shirley Titsworth [T]
- KDØNMD.....Dudley Allen [G]
- KDØBxB..... Kim Allen [T]
- KEØXQ.....Bill McCollum [E]
- KGØKR Beth Engberg* [E]
- KIØPY Kevin Faris [E]
- N5SEZ..... Ray McNally[E]
- WØDBW..... Derek Winterstien [G]
- WØZY Dave McLaughlin[E]
- WØZYD..... Debbie McLaughlin[G]

**Charter Members #New Ham*

Note: Thanks to all who have paid their dues and many who have given additional donations. All donations are greatly appreciated. Please let me know of any corrections.

Meetings are 8am the last Saturday of most months at Mom's Café in Plattsmouth.

Tuesday night get-togethers at Plattsmouth Burger King at 7 PM



P.A.R.C. Officers

President
KBØOGORoger Behrns
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Vice President
KCØHYDJohn Titsworth

Secretary
N5SEZ.....Ray McNally

Treasurer
KIØPY Kevin Faris

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Repeaters:

443.45⁺ is located in downtown Omaha

443.225⁺ is located in Murray.

147.48 Simplex is also in Murray.

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**MINUTES of
the
MEETING**

The Minutes of the May meeting were not available at press time.

The April 30, 2016 meeting was called to order at 8:25 am at Mom's Café by President Roger Behrns.

Those in attendance were Roger (KBØOGO), Linda, Kevin (KIØPY), Steve (AGØL), Fred (KBØLF), and John (WR5I).

Kevin made a motion to accept the January meeting minutes and Fred seconded. Passed

The treasurer reported \$260 in the repeater fund and \$62.85 in the general fund for an ending balance of \$322.85. \$320 was paid for our annual liability insurance. Steve moved to accept the treasurer's report and Fred Seconded. Passed.

The Village of Murray approved our request to use the park for Field Day.

Kevin reported on progress on the repeater enclosure at the Murray water tower.

Spiral is looking to distribute WiFi from the Murray water tower and bring fiber to the site. They may be interested in use of the enclosure. Nebraska Emergency Management may also be interested in space for some microwave relay equipment.

There would be adequate room in the enclosure for Spiral, NEMA, George's commercial repeater and the club equipment. George is working with NPPD to bring 220V for the air conditioners to the site.

Steve moved and Fred seconded a motion to approve Roger and Kevin to negotiate with the interested parties on the use of the repeater enclosure and the financial arrangements. The motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 8:53.

N5SEZ, Nebraska Ham of the Year

We have received word that Ray, N5SEZ was declared the Nebraska Ham of the Year at the Nebraska State ARRL Convention on April 23 in Lincoln.

All our congratulations for Ray who certainly is deserving of the honor. He is always helping, whether it's scouts working on a badge, a new ham or a fellow club member.

PLATTSMOUTH ARC MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION FORM					
Name		Call Sign		Class	
Address		City	State	Zip	
E-Mail			Phone #		
Spouse Name			Call Sign		Class
Membership Type <input type="checkbox"/> Primary(\$15) <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse (\$5) <input type="checkbox"/> Student (\$5) <input type="checkbox"/> New Ham	● Additional donations are gratefully accepted. ● New Hams are free during the year they receive their first license. ● Please give this form and dues to the club treasurer or any club officer.		Donation for: <input type="checkbox"/> Repeater fund <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ <input type="checkbox"/> General	Amount: <input type="checkbox"/> I prefer my donation to be anonymous.	
Any additional e-mail or cell phone #s?					

FCC Technological Advisory Council Initiates Noise Floor Inquiry

(ARRL 06/17/2016) Radio amateurs frequently complain about increasing noise from a variety of sources, so it should be welcome news that the FCC Technological Advisory Council (TAC) — an advisory group to the FCC — is investigating changes and trends to the radio spectrum noise floor to determine if there is an increasing noise problem, and, if so, its extent. The FCC Office of Engineering and Technology (OET) announced the TAC study this week in a Public Notice and invited comments and answers to questions that the TAC has posed in the notice. The comment deadline is August 11. The TAC said it is trying to determine the scope of any noise issues and has invited “quantitative evidence” of noise problems, as well as recommendations on how to perform a noise study.

“The TAC is requesting input to help answer questions about the study of changes to the spectrum noise floor over the past 20 years,” the announcement said. “Noise in this context denotes unwanted radio frequency (RF) energy from manmade sources. Like many spectrum users, TAC members expect that the noise floor in the radio spectrum is rising as the number of devices in use that emit radio energy grows.”

The ARRL representative on the TAC, Greg Lapin, N9GL, co-chairs the TAC Spectrum and Receiver Performance Working Group with Lynn Claudy of the National Association of Broadcasters. Lapin also serves as chairman of the ARRL RF Safety Committee.

The TAC said that its search for “concrete evidence of increased noise floors” has turned up only “limited available quantitative data” to support its presumption of a rising noise floor. The TAC said it wants to find ways to add to the available data so it can “answer important questions” on the topic for the FCC.

The TAC noted that many types of devices generate radio spectrum noise. In the case of incidental radiators — devices not designed to emit RF but do so anyway — there is little regulation governing such noise. “Most electric motors, light dimmers, switching power supplies, utility transformers, and power lines are included in this category,” the TAC announcement explained.

Devices designed to generate RF for internal use, or send RF signals to associated equipment via connected wiring, but which are not intended to emit RF energy, are called unintentional radiators. This category includes computers and many portable electronic devices, as well as many new high-efficiency lamps. FCC regulations limit the levels of emitted RF energy from these devices.

A third group of devices categorized as intentional radiators (unlicensed and licensed) and industrial, scientific, and medical (ISM) radiators — are designed to generate and emit RF energy by radiation or induction. Intentional radiators include cellular phones and base stations, unlicensed wireless routers, Bluetooth devices, broadcast TV and radio stations, and radar systems. Amateur Radio transmitters also fall into this category. Microwave ovens, arc welders, and fluorescent lighting are examples of ISM equipment.

“Such emitters contribute to the noise floor with emissions outside of their assigned frequencies,” the TAC said. “These are

“Scanning RF Seismograph” Monitors HF Propagation in Real Time



(ARRL 06/17/2016) A “Scanning RF Seismograph,” a real-time HF propagation-monitoring tool developed by the MDSR Team and Alex Schwarz, VE7DXW, of the North Shore Amateur Radio Club (NSARC), has been established in Western Canada. The site is in Lynn Valley (CN89li), North Vancouver, British Columbia, at 500 feet ASL.

A Yaesu FT-950 transceiver connected to an omnidirectional multiband antenna monitors JT-65 frequencies on six HF bands (for 8 seconds each, repeating the scan every 52 seconds). Recorders monitor the background noise of the band and display the result in six color-differentiated (one color per band), long-duration graphs displaying a total 6 hours of scans. When signals are present on a band, its graph trace starts to resemble a series of vertical bars.

Small, irregular jiggling of the graph traces is caused by changes in noise level and by the reflection of noise off the D Layer of the ionosphere, Schwarz explained.

The web link is updated every 10 minutes. For more information, contact Alex Schwarz, VE7DXW.

<http://www.arrl.org/news/scanning-rf-seismograph-monitors-hf-propagation-in-real-time>

http://www.nsarc.ca/hf/rf_seismo/main.html

<http://www.tapr.org/pdf/DCC2015-Mod-DemodSoftwareRadio-VE7DXW-ON6MU.pdf>

sometimes generated as spurious emissions, including, but not limited to, harmonics of desired frequencies and intermodulation products.” FCC regulations permitting the operation of these devices specify emission limits outside of the device’s licensed or permitted operating frequencies.

The TAC said that responses to the questions it has posed in the Public Notice will help it to “identify aspects of a study to determine trends in the radio spectrum noise floor.” The Public Notice includes information on all methods of responding to the inquiry. The ARRL is planning to comment.

For more information, contact Greg Lapin, N9GL.

<http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-technological-advisory-council-initiates-noise-floor-inquiry>

http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2016/db0615/DA-16-676A1.pdf