AmRRON

B E A C O N

May 18, 2023 / Vol 10

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"For if the bugle produces an indistinct sound, who will prepare himself for battle?"

1 Corinthians 14:8

From AmRRON Headquarters

CQ CQ AmRRON!

Greetings patriot radio operators!

The plans of mice and men, right? My 'intention' is to have an AmRRON Beacon out once per week, but then life makes other plans.

As mentioned briefly in the 'Authentication' section of this issue, you may have noticed the PGP public key linked below the Check Sum Hash on the website sidebar. For those of you who are familiar, and comfortable, with using PGP/GPG, feel free to download the AmRRON Actual PGP key. We are implementing this so that all AmRRON members will be able to authenticate official radio traffic from AmRRON, even if the website or the internet is down. I still encourage learning and/or maintaining proficiency with GTKHash, and using check sums for verifying the integrity of received files over the radio. It is a simple copy/paste tamper evidence tool that we should all be well-practiced in.

On another note, we still have operators who are beaconing (or heartbeating -- JS8Call) during the nets. What's worse, is sending SNR queries during nets. This triggers stations to respond (who forgot to turn their TX off) thereby missing traffic or block fills.

Be sure to turn off beaconing of apps running at 1500 on the waterfall as well, as it does interfere with MFSK32 signals being transmitted at 1000 on the waterfall.

Let's all do our part to tighten things up on the air... talking to my self here as well.

God bless, and 73 everyone!

-JJS
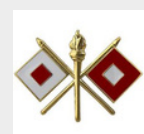
RADIO NEWS

CHINA BUILDING ANTI-SATELLITE WEAPON SITE

> ALTHOUGH THIS MAY NOT BE DIRECTLY RELATED TO "RADIO" NEWS, THESE DEVELOPMENTS IN ENEMY MILITARY TECHNOLOGY CREATE THE IMPETUS FOR CIVIL DEFENSE PREPAREDNESS AND NON-CONVENTIONAL COMMUNICATIONS. ANTI-SATELLITE AND OTHER WEAPONS SYSTEMS ARE A SERIOUS THREAT THAT BECOMES MORE LIKELY EVERY DAY.
> -JJS

ForwardObserver.com
Geospatial intelligence company BlackSky reported commercial satellite imagery showed what appears to be a large Chinese anti-satellite ground-based facility in western Xinjiang province. The imagery shows two laser gimbals housed in hangers with retractable roofs, which open during solar noon when U.S. satellites are most active. The site, ubbed Korla, also houses electromagmetic pulse (EMP) and aerostat facilities.

AC - Analyst's Comment:
The Kola site, originally built in 2003 has remained secretive, and most of its activities are un-documented. Ground-based EMP and laser systems at the site would likely be used against the U.S. and its allies in the run-up to People's Liberation Army (PLA) military operations against Taiwan. Expect the PLA to attempt to blind U.S. surveillance satellites to defet long-range targeting of Chinese fores and critical infrastructure. China very likely plans to use anti-satellite weapons to turn the U.S. reliance on networked technology into an exploitable ulnerability. -- M.M.

MORE HEADLINES

COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK MONITORING AND ANALYSIS FOR U.S. AIR FORCE TO BE PERFORMED BY GOTENNA

MilitaryEmbedded.com
GoTenna won a small business innovation research contract award for "Decoupled Network Operations Platform (DNOP) for Secure Decentralized Mesh Communications," which will "allow goTenna radios and smartphones to collect mesh networking insights with the eventual goal of transforming every radio in the goTenna mesh network into a distributed radio frequency (RF) sensor," the statement reads.
The company will provide these services to the U.S. Air Force 818th Operations Support Squadron.

US ARMY EVALUATING RADIOS FOR BOTH INDO-PACIFIC AND EUROPE

CISRnet.com
WASHINGTON — The U.S. Army is assessing its future distribution of radios and related gear that provide vital links to far-flung soldiers in both the Indo-Pacific and Europe.
The Army is shifting away from a reliance on brigades and smaller units — mainstays for the U.S. war on terror — and toward the division (15k soldier formation).
PEO C3T is targeting the division with its so-called Capability Set 25, batches of upgraded gear, known as the integrated tactical network, meant to make communications more intuitive, insulated and tailorable to the theater. Trials of kit are happening in both the Indo-Pacific and Europe.

THE CACTUS CHRONICLES (PART 4)

Follow along as Cactus chronicles his real-life radio journey towards being a better prepared radio operator for his family, his friends, and his faith. Over the next few months, Cactus will share about his successes and failures as he works to improve his communications skills and abilities.

I was disappointed to miss my last scheduled net due to a scheduling conflict. It was a good reminder that I can't do it all and that I need to have a documented plan for running a net, as well as a backup plan for my absence.

Although it was frustrating to miss a net, it served as a valuable learning experience and reminded me that training reinforces good habits, improves our processes, and exposes gaps that can be mitigated. And that exposure is well and good, but what sets the good apart from the great is the follow through to make improvements.

And, as if missing a weekly net wasn't enough, I also missed my target of having a fully functional digital station before the start of May. After receiving a DigiRig and setting it up with a Xiegu G-90, I was eager to get on the air. Unfortunately, I realized I could receive JS8CALL heartbeats, but I never got confirmation that I was sending them.

During my recent experiences, I realized that one of my shortcomings was the lack of written protocols. It's crucial to have better documentation that provides clear guidance on how to set up equipment and run a net, not only for my personal reference but also for others who may need the material in my absence.

It's important to remember that if a plan hinges on just one person, it isn't reliable. Amateur radio is all about reliable communication and preparedness. Having a well-documented plan (and a backup plan) is essential to ensure that the net can continue even if someone is unable to attend. By working together and sharing knowledge and resources, we can build a strong community of radio operators.

Water Filtration
You have to have it! (click below)

(Cactus Chronicles Cont..)

Operating the weekly net from a portable station has been a solid tutor. Setting up and tearing down my station every week has taught me a lot about logistics and my abilities.
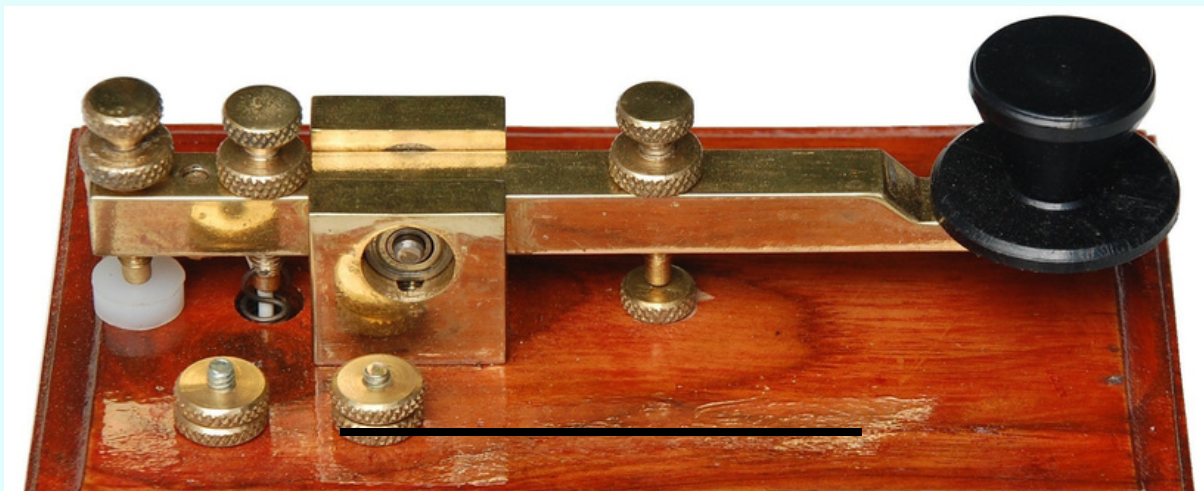
Looking to the future, I'm still working on setting up my digital communications with a specific focus on JS8CALL. I plan to develop a set of written instructions for setting up my radio station, and I look forward to sharing them with you as soon as they are complete.

I'll see you next week. God bless and 73's!
Cactus

New CW Net

ACN | AMRRON CW NET | SLOW SPEED PACIFIC NORTHWEST CW NET

Introduction & Purpose:

The AMRRON CW Net ACN will be aimed to serve beginner CW ops that have learned enough to copy almost all of the alphabet and numbers but who have not had the opportunity to put CW to good use yet. Or for anyone that wants to come practice with us. ACN will meet on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of the month at 7:00 pm PST 0200Z summer time, on the frequency 7110 kHz.

ACN will be at 12 wpm with exaggerated spacing like Farnsworth method when I am hand sending but pre/post-ambles will be loaded in memory keyer for automation and sent slower usually 5wpm not Farnsworth. This will be a practice net with minimal QN codes,

Procedures:

Pre check-in via Commstat1 "Net Check In" is optional up to an hour before net on 7110khz. Include name and words per minute you are comfortable receiving instead of the default NTR please. This roster will be checked in after preamble. QNA meaning check-in in order where NCS calls youworking down the list. FCC callsign, name, state, and K; will be sufficient for ACN check-ins. Net word of the week will be acceptable too and NCS will provide it in preamble but ACN participation will focus on simple. Colon would be sent as _ _ _ . . . if it is needed.

Read the full posting and get the downloadable PDF at:

www.amrron.com
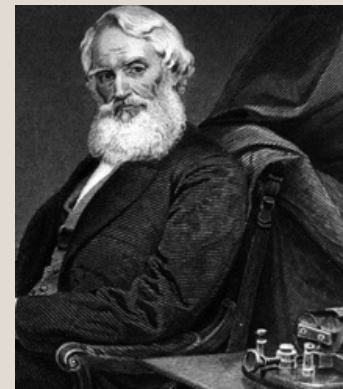
Samuel Morse

April 27th was Morse Code Day

As we were coordinating with '7W' for the new Pacific Northwest 'ACN' net, it was noted that the father of Morse Code was being remembered.
Samuel Morse, born 27 April 1791

1ST & 3RD FRIDAY | 7PM PACIFIC | 7110 KHZ

Weekly videos of interest....

DigiRig: Compact Low Cost Alternative to the Signalink Soundcard

Most hams who operate digital modes are familiar with the tried and true Signalink external sound card. But they've gotten quite spendy. Here are two great vids; the first by KM4ACK, and the other by Tech Prepper. Learn about the (semi) new DigiRIg for running digital modes on VOX.

Available at most all Amateur Radio online stores and **Amazon**. --> Don't forget **the cables for your radio**!

AmRRON SWAG is Returning!

The first T-Shirt design is now available in the Redoubt Gear Store.
Prices vary depending on size and material.
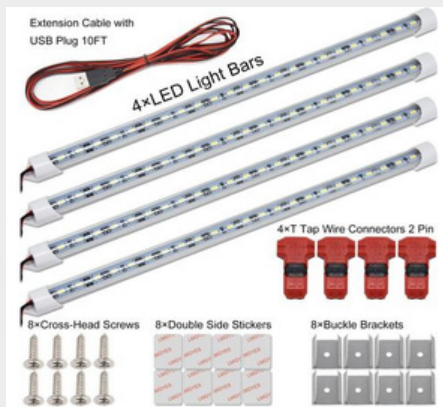
Click on the image below to check them out!

Available in OD Green and White

Cotton Blend or Tri-Blend

Extremely efficient
5v USB powered backup lighting
every ham shack should have!

GET THE PARTISAN OPERATOR JOURNALS VOLUME 1

https://amzn.to/3Y4wniJ

AUTHENTICATION

A QUICK REVIEW OF AMRRON OPS

SHA-1 Hash File for:

AIB-20230516 (custom .k2s file)

bbaa57b00bbccec9f3ae1dd6e7a3a2bf21dd64b9

- Learn more about checksums
- Learn more about the AIB

Download the (AmRRON Actual) AmRRON PGP public key. This key will be used for digitally signing official AmRRON traffic, enabling radio operators to authenticate traffic if the internet is down or the website is otherwise inaccessible.

>>> AUTHENTICATING ON AMRRON.COM

How can you be certain that 'official' AmRRON traffic (such as the weekly AIB) received over the air actually came from AmRRON National? If you receive a message that calls for members to carry out illegal activity, or it just doesn't seem right, how can you be sure?

As many of you know, it's easy to 'spoof' another FCC call sign and send messages imposing as another.   We authenticate 'official' traffic by posting a check sum hash string on the side-bar of the website.

CHECK SUM HASHING USING GTKHASH <<<

GTKHash is a free downloadable application that you can use on any file to ensure it has not been corrupted or tampered with. We post the SHA1 Hash on the side bar of the website.

Click **HERE** to learn more about check sums.

>>> PGP SIGNED FILES

What if the website or the internet is down? You may have noticed something new below the check sum hash on the website sidebar.   We have begun using **GnuPG Privacy Assistant (GPA)**, a free downloadable cross-platform application, for digitally signing traffic from AmRRON National. More information and guidance will be forthcoming, but for those of you familiar with PGP/PGP, you can download the AmRRON ACTUAL PGP Key from the sidebar, or **by clicking here**.