

AmRRON BEACON



April 14, 2023 / Vol 8

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“Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong.

1 Corinthians 16:13

From AmRRON Headquarters

CQ CQ AmRRON!

Greetings patriot radio operators!

Just a couple updates here. I'm excited to announce that we have finally upgraded our internet to Starlink. This has been a serious challenge for us over the past few years, and what a difference. Lady Liberty is caught up with the AmRRON Corps new and renewal memberships.

Prior to the upgrade it was an extremely slow and difficult process. Everything is faster and more efficient now, and we're able to get so much more done in less time.

I'm also happy to announce that in the coming weeks we will be able to begin producing videos again.

This is another thing that was hindered by a deteriorating internet

situation. There is a lot of training that needs to take place. The ability to begin producing videos will allow us to address many topics and will be a great help to the AmRRON community.

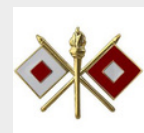
Also, we look forward to being able to do interviews on the Radio Free Redoubt podcast again. Glen Tate (author of the 299 Days series) is lined up for next weekend (Apr. 23rd).

Thanks for your patience as the upgrade and everything related to it has set me back on a couple projects, such as the Beacon and the Partisan Operator Journals.

Have a safe weekend, and keep your powder (and antenna connections) dry!

God bless, and 73 everyone!

-JJS



RADIO NEWS

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HAM WARS UKR VS RU

UKRAINIAN AND RUSSIAN RADIO AMATEURS COMPETE FOR SUSPECTED RUSSIAN MILITARY SHORTWAVE FREQUENCY 4625 KHZ

Radio hobbyists have begun spamming Russian military radio frequencies with memes and propaganda after the frequency allegedly began transmitting encoded messages to Russian military personnel.

The frequency suspected of Russian military shortwave radio broadcasts, dubbed the "buzzer" for its recognizable repeating channel markings, has become a battleground for rival Russian and Ukrainian radio enthusiasts who have been trying to hijack the frequency to broadcast memes and publicity.

As tensions rise between Russia and Ukraine, hobbyists are noticing that encrypted radio messages are becoming more frequent.

After this flurry of military radio activity, radio hobbyists decided to use the station themselves, vying for the frequency with memes, propaganda and pirated music. Radio hobbyists, including many users suspected of living in Ukraine, are using internet-based radio transmitters to stream South Korean hits "Gangnam Style," MGMT's "Little Dark Ages," and other hits.

Read the full article at:
<https://tinyurl.com/4czpuwp6>

MORE HEADLINES

IRANIAN CYBER ATTACK TARGETS ISRAELI WEBSITES

7IsraeliNationalNews

An Iranian cyber attack is affecting the websites of the Israel Electric Company and the Red Alert website to warn of incoming rocket attacks.

NASA NAMES THREE HAMS FOR ARTEMIS II MOON MISSION CREW

ARRL

NASA and the Canadian Space Agency (CSA) announced the four astronauts who will venture around the moon on Artemis II. This will be the first crewed mission on NASA's path to establishing long-term moon science and exploration development.

Three of the four crew members are amateur radio operators.

Commander Reid Wiseman, KF5LKT, Pilot Victor Glover, KI5BKC, and Mission Specialist 2 Jeremy Hansen, KF5LKU.

The Artemis II mission is scheduled to launch in November 2024. The approximately 10-day flight test will launch on the agency's powerful Space Launch System rocket, prove the Orion spacecraft's life-support systems, and validate the capabilities and techniques needed for humans to live and work in deep space.

THE CACTUS CHRONICLES (PART 2)

AmRRON member [code name] CACTUS recently started a local net in his area. He offered to share his experiences on his journey of setting up a local net and overcoming the hesitation of stepping into the unknown. We hope this will be an encouragement and a source of inspiration for many more of you!

The Cactus Chronicles (PART 2)

The Cactus Chronicles

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.

Cactus Chronicles (#2) 2023.04.03 - The Instance of the Ink Stick

With my second AmRRON net, I found myself both eager and excited to get on the air again. Overall, the net went well, but I still managed to make some beginner errors.

Like last week, having the AmRRON net control station script pre-printed and readily available was tremendously helpful. Knowing that the script was my guide for the net, it allowed me to focus on other tasks, like proper enunciation and fundamental radio operations. Using the script gave me confidence to speak clearly and concisely.

Additionally, this week, I decided to stand while leading the net because I find it more comfortable to be standing while talking to others. Standing up while addressing others

it just feels more respectful, formal, and proper. I found that by simply changing my posture, it greatly improved my delivery.

However, not following best practices caught up with me, because I simply overlooked having a writing utensil at the ready. Moments before going on the air, I realized I didn't have anything to write with, so I scrambled to find an ink stick and was back at the mic just in time to start the net.

My long term correction was to use the old bootcamp method of connecting an ink stick to my notebook with a shoelace. It's crude, overly simplified, but it works.

Again this week, I didn't have the Net Word Of The Week (NWOTW). It felt awkward hosting the net without this information and it's somewhat embarrassing, but that has become the push I needed to grow as a radio operator. I remember hearing that "Change happens outside of your comfort zone." And it's awfully uncomfortable not having that NWOTW!

Because of my work schedule, I don't always have time to be at my HF radio station to get the NWOTW. If I'm honest, I'm just using that as an excuse, because there are other ways to

Water Filtration

You have to have it! (click below)



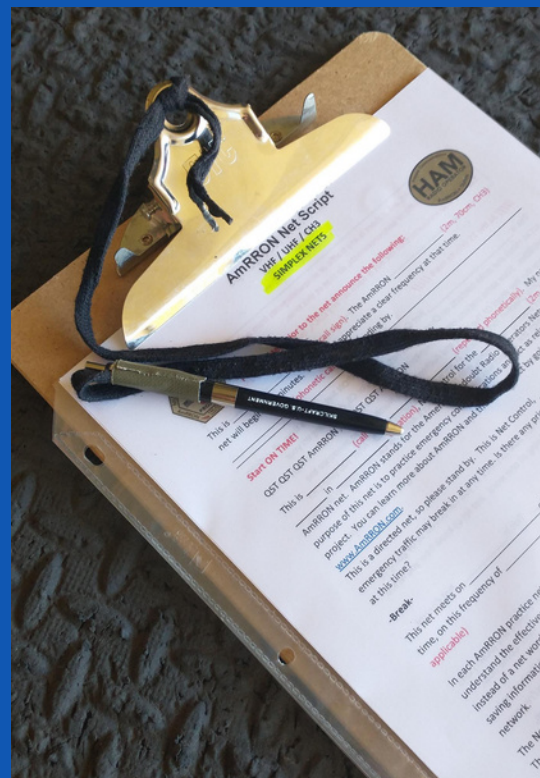
(Cactus Chronicles Cont..)

get the info, I just haven't put for the effort to learn. Having near zero experience with digital radio comms, I think jumping off into that world would be overwhelming and frustratingly complicated. I need to stop the excuses and start the work.

This week, I am going to pour over the AmRRON Digital Communications Resources so I can get my station set up and communicating with digital modes. I'm targeting to have digital comms up and running by the end of the month, but the sooner the better!

73's

Cactus



Note from JJS on getting the NWOTW (or other traffic for your net):

Whether one is an NCS needing net traffic for his local net, or one is the comms person in your family or group who tasked with keeping yourself and those around you informed, learn how to capture the signals out of the air, and make use of them! Go to:

<https://amrron.com/2022/01/13/how-to-receive-net-traffic-and-nwotw-if-not-an-hf-station/>

And for more information on receiving signals over Shortwave (SW) Radio Receivers and Software Defined Radio (SDR) receivers (with more resources), go to:

<https://amrron.com/2023/03/28/regional-and-national-comms-how-to-listen/>

QUESTION: AmRRON Intelligence Brief (and nets) help

"I'm a newer HAM and newer member of AmRRON. I've not been able to receive any of the AmRRON nets in my area (Near Everett, WA). What is the best way to find out if I am listening in at the right time and frequency?"

2nd Question: Are the intelligence briefs only available via digital modes Thank you or your help."

The AIB can be sent out over voice, and is usually only done over some VHF/UHF/CH3 nets. It's not practical over HF voice nets. It is recommended that stations receive the AIB over the digital nets so they can be authenticated by a check sum hash, posted on the website, as a way of authentication.

We are in the process of auditing the nets to remove those listed on the website but which are no longer operational, so it's possible you may be trying to tune in to a local net which is no longer running. If there is not a net in your area, you are welcome to start one. To learn more, go to the Join or Start a Net page at <https://amrron.com/net-resourcestools/join-or-start-a-net/>

Video of interest....

(click image to view vid on YT)

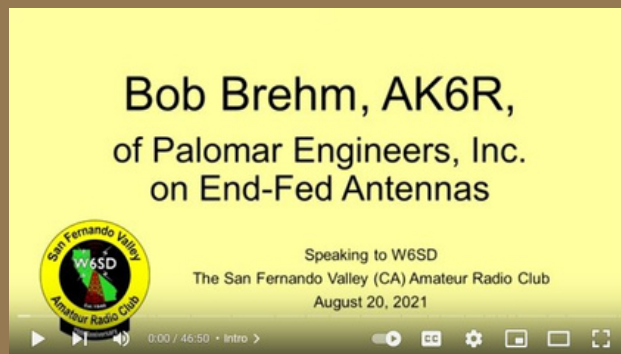
This is by far the most fascinating and comprehensive presentation I have seen on the topic of antennas.

- HF and VHF/UHF
- Wire Dipoles (Center fed and Off Center Fed)
- J-Poles, 'Zeps', and folded J-Poles
- Performance Characteristics
- -MORE!

He covers so much information, so quickly, you'll likely want to watch it more than once.

I plan to watch/review all of his other presentations at:

<https://palomar-engineers.com/speaker-presentations>



Bob Brehm, AK6R, is the Chief Engineer at Palomar Engineers, Inc., which makes antennas and RFI control devices for the ham, commercial and military markets. Bob here discusses the many advantages of non-resonant end-fed antennas.

Fascinating Radio History



The Secret Coded Shortwave Messages Of The MOSSAD

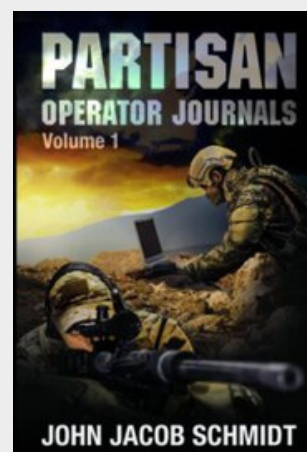
Produced by Ringway Manchester

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NEmZ1XfzDk8>

X-DRAGON Monocrystalline Portable Solar Panel 20W Dual USB Ports



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<https://amzn.to/3Y4wniJ>

FEATURED NET

South Central Regional Texas Net



**SCRaT Net - Monday Nights
2000L (Central) - 3588Mhz
FSQ Mode**

The South-Central Regional and Texas Sub-Regional nets began collaborating to better organize emergency communications procedures and to support the movement of parallel traffic between regional NVIS stations and from regional to national stations.

The SCRaT Net participants conduct their nets according to the standard AmRRON protocols, but they also take advantage of the features of FSQ like efficient low-power and narrow bandwidth operation, SELCAL, remote-initiated file transfers and image transmission to

enhance our comms capabilities.

In addition to typical message handling, statrep & sitrep exchanges and the challenge & authenticate practice common to other AmRRON nets, they also cover a variety of preparedness topics each week. All net participants are welcome to present on topics that they wish to share. No rules except that the presentation must adhere to AmRRON and part 97 guidelines.

Get the full SCRaT PDF at:

<https://tinyurl.com/3wh6s56>

x

Some Recent SCRaT Net Topics Include:

- GOT NVIS?
- Develop Your Reaction Plan
- Bugout Solar Power
- Basic Science as a Prepper Tool
- Black Echo
- Operating Your Station in Grid-Down
- Surviving a Disaster to Communicate
- Red List Events/What Would You Do?
- Origins of ANTIFA
- Agenda 2030 and the Great Reset
- Land Nav
- Situational Awareness/Route Planning
- Revisiting the importance of standards, layers and PACE