



BROOKHAVEN NATIONAL LABORATORY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

JULY 2013

NEWSLETTER

Echolink Is Back!

Thanks to the efforts of Jon, K1IMD



MATTITUCK, NY - Thanks to the efforts of Jon (K1IMD), our Echolink connection is alive! Even though the EchoRLP node is located 20

miles away it works amazingly well using a UHF yagi. Thanks Jon for the countless hours you have spent helping our club to remain on the air!

In the Shack

As you may know, the Yaesu G-800s rotor in the shack was damaged during Hurricane Sandy. So now it is in need of replacement. If you would like to contribute to the replacement fund, contact me.

We still need copies of our FCC Licenses to hang in the shack. You can scan yours into an image or pdf file, email it to me and I will do the rest.

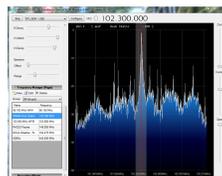
Also we are still looking for volunteers interested in restoring some vintage ham gear. Let me know if you are interested.

Lastly, if you have a key to the shack that you are not using, please return it to me.

*-Gary Stevens
KD5SFQ*

SDR (Software Defined Radio) is touted to be the biggest thing in Ham Radio since the invention of the integrated circuit. It clearly has much potential but it tends to have a steep entry price. However, you can get a receiver going for under \$20.

All you need is a USB DVB-T/RTL2832U Dongle and free SDR# software and



you have an SDR receiver that works from 25MHz to 1.7GHz. It also requires a Windows Computer to run on.

I bought a TERRATEC Dongle on eBay for \$16 with free shipping. It worked so well I bought a second one for the office!



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Brookhaven National Laboratory Amateur Radio Club

www.arc.bnl.gov/BNLARC/Home.html

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Brookhaven National Laboratory Amateur Radio Club
Sponsored by the Brookhaven Employees Recreation Association (BERA)

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Technician License Class

The BNL Amateur Radio Club will be holding a multi-week course where you can learn everything you need to earn your Technician (Entry Level) FCC Amateur Radio License.

The Technician license is your gateway to the world-wide excitement of Amateur Radio...
... and no you do NOT need to learn Morse Code!

Classes begin on September 9th, 2013 at noon in the Building 515, ITD Seminar Room. Classes will meet on Monday, Wednesday and Friday during the lunch hour. Brown bag lunches are welcome.

Registration is required!

For more information Contact:
gstevens@bnl.gov

[Download Flyer](#)

Our website is being remodeled. Check back

Today, 3:45 PM
[Yasme Foundation Funds Transceivers for New Ethiopian Hams](#)

The Yasme Foundation has provided a grant that will permit three members of the Ethiopian Amateur Radio Society to become licensed and get on the air. When Ethiopia came back on the air in the spring of 2011 with the reopening of the EARS station ET3AA, the Yasme Foundation provided a grant to pay license examination fees for 25 club members. Many were successful, but Ethiopian radio regulation...

Today, 10:12 AM
[The K7RA Solar Update](#)

Unsettled geomagnetic conditions continued this week, punctuated by periods of relative quiet. The most active days were July 14-15. The planetary A index was 20 and 25, and the mid-latitude A index was 15 and 33 on those dates. Of course Alaska's College A index was higher, at 58 and 34.

The A index is a daily value, and it is calculated from eight measurements per day (once every three hours)...

July 17, 10:55 AM
[Scouts Planning for Fun During Jamboree on the Air 2013](#)

Scouting's 56th Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) 2013 takes place the weekend of October 19-20, from 0000 local time Saturday to 2400 local time Sunday. Held each year on the third weekend of October, JOTA provides an opportunity for members of the Boy Scouts of America to experience Amateur Radio firsthand, perhaps planting the seed for a lifetime of hamming. JOTA is the largest Scouting event in th...

July 16, 10:57 PM
[Ham-Astronauts' Spacewalk Curtailed](#)

According to NASA, International Space Station Expedition 36 Flight Engineers Chris Cassidy, KF5KDR, of NASA and Luca Parmitano, KF5KDP, of the European Space Agency ended their July 16 spacewalk at 1329 GMT, just 1

Note:

If you have not paid your dues for 2013, please do so now. We have some projects that need funding in addition to our normal expenses.

Volunteer Opportunities.

In order for our hobby and club to grow, we need to help others get started. Most of the work for the Tech class has been done but I will need help folks. If you can donate time during the lunch hour class to teach or be available to help answer questions, please let me know!

gstevens@bnl.gov

NEW CLUB WEBSITE

by Gary Stevens

If you have not been to the club website lately, you might want to check it out. It has a whole new look and feel to it. We also now have our own URL. www.arc.bnl.gov

The first thing you will notice is the ARRL live news feed. It's a great way to keep up with the news if your ARRL membership has lapsed.

Then you should take note of the countdown clock for the Technician License Class. Time is tick for those thinking about registering.

By clicking on the Download Flyer link, you can download the pdf file and

share it with a lab employee or retiree who would like to take the class.

There is also a blog page! Though I can't open it up for everyone to directly blog, you can email it gstevens@bnl.gov and I will be happy to enter it for you.

Share your latest ham project, photos of your shack, tales from your work bench... What ever you wish to share. Come on.... You know secretly you have always wanted to blog!

Please report any errors to me and I will correct then ASAP.



FIELD DAY 2013

by Gary Stevens

When the topic of field day came up this year, all that could be heard was the sound of crickets. I know that many of us are busy and we tend to treasure those few moments when we are not working but we may be missing out on some critical skills we could use in the event of catastrophe.

Many members of our club participated with other clubs like the Suffolk County Radio Club. Above is Vincent, KC2WPP watching as contacts are being made.

So here's the deal folks. We have almost a full year to plan and organize field day 2014. We have the technology! We have the talent! If we plan ahead of time, perhaps we can make a go at resurrecting field day!

Once the Brookhaven National Laboratory Amateur Radio Club held a proud tradition of participating each

and every year. It was a regular media event at the lab. Public announcements were made, articles in the lab bulletin were printed. It was a big deal!

Maybe some of the flair of field day past is gone and forgotten but the fact is that BERA, our sponsor has noticed our activity level dropping. This means we must radiate our enthusiasm to all employees!

So who is with me? Someone please step up to lead a field day committee and steer our club back to our former glory if not a new thriving club with copious members eager to learn and participate in our beloved hobby!

If you are not willing to take lead on a committee, at least commit to participating in 2014!

Calendar

August 20th at 12 noon

Club meeting onsite at the Shack.

September 9th at noon

Technician License Class begins, building 515 in the ITD Seminar Room.

Contributors



GARY STEVENS
KD5SFQ
CLUB SECRETARY

Gary has been in Amateur Radio since 2002 and holds a General License



JON ANDREWS
K1IMD

Jon holds an Advanced License. He not only

donated the equipment and space for the Echolink Node, He put built it for us as well!