

The Oscillator

Published BI-Monthly by the Tri-Town Radio Amateur Club, Inc. PO Box 1296, Homewood, IL 60430
Volume 63 Number 3 May 2017 Club Call W9VT

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Up-Coming Events

May - Social Night at W9VT - Friday, May 19, 2017. Because so many Club member go to the Dayton Hamvention, we will have a social night at the bunker in lieu of a regular meeting starting at 7:30 PM. Refreshments will be available. There are several boxes of leftovers from previous flea markets that will be up for grabs. Plan to attend and bring a friend.

June - Event Planning - Friday, June 16, 2017. A general meeting will be held at the Hazel Crest Village Hall starting at 7:30 PM. The program for the evening will be planning for the Driving the Dixie and Field Day events. Refreshments and raffle will be available. Plan to attend and bring a friend.

From The President's Shack

Todd, KA9IUC.

I cannot believe we are in the second quarter of the year already. Busy times are coming with Dayton, Driving the Dixie and Field Day. I hope we can all find time to participate in these activities. Talking about participating, we have yet to have anyone inquire about being a net controller or helping with refreshments at the meetings. I enjoy doing the nets. Some weeks they are my only on the air time. I sometime wonder if some of the things we do are worth the effort. Then I think - sure they are! That is what makes a club a club and brings us together for the enjoyment of ham radio and the social interactions. It is not a club sponsored activity but the Tuesday morning breakfasts, 9:30 AM, at Brian's Bar in Monee is a great social get together. There are guys there from four different ham clubs with a wide range of interests and knowledge.

Before I close for this issue, I want to thank Peter, KE9YX, for his presentation on satellite communications at the April meeting. It was very informative and I have a better understanding of all that is involved to make satellite contacts. It takes a lot of skill and operating knowledge and I guess that is why ARRL gives 100 points for such a contact.

The closing words are four: Participate in Ham Radio!

Dues for 2017 are due

Tri-Town memberships run from the first of the year till the end of the year. Please renew your membership or start a new one now. Dues are the same as last year. Regular membership is \$25. Family members are \$6. Membership applications can be found in each issue of The Oscillator. Please be sure to keep your mailing address, phone number and email address up to date. Thank you for your support of Tri-Town with your 2017 membership.

Officers, Board Members, & Committee Heads for 2017

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Members of the Tri-Town Radio Club Inc. publish the Oscillator 6 times a year. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Officers or members of the Tri-Town RAC, but of the contributors. All articles may be reprinted as long as full credit is given. Other publications are asked to reciprocate their newsletter. Some Articles printed here are from AMSAT, ARRL Letter, TAPR, World Radio, QRZ.COM, Eham, and Other Amateur Radio Publications.

Club Meetings & Nets

Club meetings are the 3rd Friday of each month at the Village of Hazel Crest Village Hall, 170th and Holmes. All are welcome and refreshments will serve. Don't forget to bring a Friend.

Club Hangouts:

The Club's Repeater 146.805 WD9HSY/R & 146.49 Simplex
442.375 Homewood, 441.300 Grant Park WA9WLN/R, "Waldofar"
443.325 Frankfort WD9HSY/R & 147.165 Kankakee Co. WD9HSY/R
All UHF's use a 114.8 PL & All VHF's use a 107.2 PL

Club Nets

2 Mtr FM 49'ers Net	Wednesday, 8:00 PM Local,	The Club's Repeater 146.805 -600kc 107.2 PL
2 Mtr FM Preparedness Net	Sundays, 8:00 PM local,	The Club's Repeater 146.805 -600kc 107.2 PL
10 Mtr SSB Net	Thursdays, 8:00 PM Local,	28.490 SSB USB.
40 Mtr Tri-Town Alumni Net	Weekdays, 2200 UTC	7.285 SSB LSB
80 Mtr SSB Net	Saturdays, 9am local	3.860 SSB LSB

Hamfests in the Area

05/20/2017	Dayton Hamvention	Xenia, OH	www.hamvention.com
06/04/2017	Princeton Starved Rock	Princeton, IL	www.w9mks.org
06/18/2017	6 mtr Hamfest	Wheaton, IL	www.K9ONA.ORG
07/09/2017	FRRL Hamfest	Aurora, IL	http://www.frri.org/
07/16/2017	KARSFEST	Peotone, IL	http://w9az.com/karsfest.html
08/06/2017	Hamfesters	Peotone, IL	http://ham-ham.org
09/16/2017	Peoria Superfest	Peoria, IL	http://www.w9uvi.org
09/23/2017	RADIO EXPO	Belvidere, IL	http://chicagofmclub.org

Dayton Hamvention, 146.49 Simplex and a 107.2 PL Tone

Brian, WD9HSY

As we all know, the 3-day Dayton Hamvention is the biggest “RF Jungle” in the world. As in past years, 146.49 will be the freq of choice for all of us Tri-Town’ers at Dayton. A number of us on 146.49 also had our radios in Full PL encode / decode (TX/RX) using 107.2 (the same PL as the Repeater) This ALMOST eliminates all the noise, junk, garbage, and nonsense on 146.49. It also just about removed all non-club activity so that when the squelch opens it was usually a Tri-Town’er on the air! If you want to hear all 146.49 activity just turn on your TX PL on, so we will hear you while we are in PL mode. Go PL TX and PL RX to hear nothing but peace and quiet and us! Not sure how to set up your radio? Check your manual for setting your PL. If you have lots of memory positions set up 2 memories:

- 1) On 146.49 with TX only on 107.2 TX PL so you hear all traffic on 146.49
- 2) On 146.49 with TX & RX set to 107.2 PL so you hear only 146.49 w/107.2 PL

That way you can play both ways and if the noise gets too bad you can flip over to full PL! Have I have confused you yet? Give me a call and I'll talk you through it! Always make sure the TX PL is on, & set for 107.2

Note from Brian, I am asked to reprint this article just about every year because it makes a lot of sense at Dayton. Remember, set one channel for just PL on TX, no PL on RX (so you hear everything on 49) and one with PL on both TX & RX! (That way you only stations with 107.2 PL on 146.49!)

For Sale: ICOM IC-208H VHF/UHF Dual Bander

The **Icom IC-208H** 2M/440 dual-bander Includes: detachable control panel, wideband receive, three power settings, built-in CTCSS decode/encode, PC compatibility and 500 alpha memory channels. Power output is 55/15/5 watts on 2 meters and 50/15/5 watts on 440 MHz. It is 9600 BPS packet ready too (6 pin DIN). The IC-208H also includes a built-in duplexer, OPC-600/R separation cable, HM-133 remote hand mic, mobile mounting bracket, power cord. Comes with Remote head cable and software, but no software programming cable.

\$130.00 -- Call Ron WB9JYZ, 708.957.3625

Carole Perry, WB2MGP, Set to Host Her 30th Hamvention Youth Forum

Carole Perry, WB2MGP, who may be Amateur Radio’s premier supporter of youth, will moderate her 30th Hamvention Youth Forum later this month, when [Hamvention®](#) convenes for the first time at its new venue in Xenia, Ohio, May 19-21. And she is showing no signs of slowing down. The Youth Forum is set for Saturday, May 20, 9:15 AM until noon, in Room 2. She’s lined up nine young presenters who will speak on a variety of topics of interest to radio amateurs of all ages. The Youth Forum is open to all.

“To say I am super excited about my upcoming Hamvention forums is a huge understatement,” Perry told ARRL. “While I am always looking forward to my ‘Dayton Adventures’ every year, this year is especially unique and important to me.”

Perry praised Hamvention’s sponsor, the Dayton Amateur Radio Association (DARA), with setting up her forum in a room where the many loyal Youth Forum followers will be able to support the young presenters in comfort.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/tritownrac>
Check out the Club Website: WWW.W9VT.ORG

Book Review - Grounding and Bonding for the Radio Amateur

By Todd Schumann,KA9IUC

This book, written by H. Ward Silver, N0AX and published by the ARRL, is a comprehensive text on the subject. There are chapters on basics, AC power systems, lightning protection, RF management and good practice guidelines. Illustrations are plentiful and references are given for appropriate sections of the National Electrical Code and other recognized reference publications. While the subject matter is very technical, the book is an easy read due to easy to understand explanations and examples. The author prefaces the book by saying "This book is largely a distillation of expertise contributed by others, both professional and amateur". It's a good book for your library.

Tri-Town's Tentative 2017 Event Calendar

May	Bunker Social Night Friday May 19th, 7:30 PM at the Club Station W9VT (No meeting due to Dayton Hamvention)
June	General meeting Friday June 16, 7:30 PM at the Hazel Crest Village Hall. Program will cover Driving the Dixie and Field Day 2017.
June	Driving the Dixie - June 17th.
June	Field Day June 24th and 25th.
July	Bunker Social Night Friday July 21st, 7:30 PM at the Club Station W9VT.
August	Bunker Social Night Friday August 18th, 7:30 PM at the Club Station W9VT.
September	Club Picnic, Saturday September 16th, Noon at the Monee Reservoir.
October	General meeting Friday October 20th, 7:30 PM at the Hazel Crest Village Hall. Program to be determined.
November	General meeting, Friday November 17th at the Hazel Crest Village Hall. Program will be nomination of officers for 2018, Show and Tell, and White Elephant Sale.
December	Christmas Party, Saturday December 9th at Aurelio's in Frankfort. Short program for the election of officers for 2018.

Board of Directors Meetings - 2 ND Monday of the Month, 7:30 PM at the Club Station. Members are welcome.

Help Needed!

The Club is in need of a Refreshment Chairman for 2017 and hopefully beyond. Mark Thompson, KA9MDJ has retired from the position. Anyone who comes to Club meetings knows what the position entails. Drinks and snacks must be purchased along with paper goods such as cups, napkins and paper towels, for which you are reimbursed. The counter and floor must be cleaned and it is believed Mark has the Club's vacuum to help with that chore.

We are also in need of net control operators for the Wednesday and Sunday night nets. At present, three guys run eight or more nets a month.

Please contact any Club officer if you can help.

Annual Armed Forces Day Cross-Band Test Set for May 13

The US Army, Air Force, Navy and Coast Guard will cosponsor the Armed Forces Day Military/Amateur Radio [Cross-Band Communications Test](#) on Saturday, May 14, 2017. The event gets under way at 1200 UTC, with activity continuing throughout the day. Some military stations may not operate for the entire period.

“New for Armed Forces Day this year, military stations and Amateur Radio operators are authorized to directly communicate on the 60 meter interoperability channels,” US Army MARS Program Manager Paul English, WD8DBY, pointed out.

This year marks the 66th Armed Forces Day ([AFD](#)) observance, a week later than the radio event. Armed Forces Day is observed this year on May 20, but the Military/Amateur Radio Cross-Band Communications Test is held earlier in order to avoid conflicting with Dayton [Hamvention](#)®.

The annual communications exercise is an opportunity to test two-way communication between amateur and military communicators and features traditional military-to-amateur cross-band SSB and CW communication and offers an opportunity for radio amateurs to utilize modern military communications modes such as MIL-STD serial PSK and automatic link establishment (ALE). These tests give Amateur Radio operators and shortwave listeners (SWLs) a chance and a challenge to demonstrate individual technical skills, and to receive recognition from military radio stations. QSL cards will be provided to stations that contact military stations during this event. The [complete announcement](#) of stations, times, and frequencies— subject to change — is available on the US Army MARS website.

Participating military stations will transmit on selected military frequencies and listen for Amateur Radio stations on selected amateur frequencies, which the military station operator will announce. Contacts should be limited to a minute or two, so all participants get a chance. Some stations will operate on Military Auxiliary Radio System (MARS) frequencies; others will use CW.

Amateur Stations with automatic link establishment ([ALE](#)) capability can contact military stations on specific half-duplex cross-band channels established for this purpose. Military stations will scan and receive certain Amateur HFLINK ALE frequencies, and transmit on the corresponding military ALE frequency. Military stations will also transmit ALE station identification (soundings) on each military frequency at 30 to 90-minute intervals.

The traditional Secretary of Defense message will be transmitted via Military Standard radio teletype modes, described in MIL-STD 188-110A/B. Reception of serial PSK will provide a technical challenge to amateur stations to receive the broadcasts using a high symbol rate serial PSK waveform not utilized in Amateur Radio, but found in all modern military equipment. See the complete schedule for details. Additional transmissions will use wide-shift FSK (RTTY), as this mode represents a baseline in interoperability common in all radio services. Most RTTY programs can be set to decode this mode. To accommodate amateurs some stations will transmit the Secretary of Defense message using common ham radio modes such as RTTY, PACTOR, AMTOR, PSK31, MFSK and MT63.

Transcripts of the received text should be submitted “as received,” without attempting to correct possible transmission errors. Provide time, frequency and call sign of the military station copied, including the submitter’s name, call sign, and address (with ZIP code). This information should appear on the paper containing the test message.

Stations copying the Secretary of Defense message from Army and Navy stations should send their entries to Armed Forces Day Celebration, Commander Netcom, ATTN: NETC-ITSMD, Bldg 90549 Jim Ave, Fort Huachuca, AZ 85613-7070.

Stations copying Secretary of Defense message from Air Force stations, should send entries to Armed Forces Day Celebration, 38CYRS/Chief AF MARS, 203W Losey St, Room 1200, Scott AFB, IL 62225.

Drivin The Dixie --- Save The Date Saturday, June 17, 2017

Trish, N9WDG

Tri-Town is looking forward to participating in the 2017 event scheduled for Saturday, June 17, 2017- come rain or shine.

This will be the 16th year for this annual event and the 12th year for participation by Tri-Town. The 2017 is expected to operate much like recent years, with a fleet of 125-150 really cool classic cars stopping for various lengths of time in locations that change each year by the 12 participating communities along Dixie Highway between Blue Island and Momence. Tri-Town tries to put a radio equipped member in as many communities as possible during a plus or minus two hour window.

Martin, WD9JGG and Trish, N9WDG have been attending the 2017 planning meetings as liaisons between Tri-Town and the other event organizers.

Participating in prior events has proved to be a fun and rewarding experience for Tri-Town operators.

SAVE THE DATE- JUNE 17th- IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING PLEASE CONTACT TRISH AT 708-828-8592 or at the_jaggards@sbcglobal.net- DON'T MISS OUT ON ALL THE FUN!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

75 Meter SSB Net for Tri-Town

What are you doing Saturday mornings? Why not get on the air and check into Tri-Town's newest net. Jim, KB9VR, has started a new 75 Meter SSB net on 3860 at 9 AM local time. Why not check in and hear what's happening?

Field Day Saturday and Sunday June 24 - 25, 2017.

Field Day is the biggest operating event of the year. It is fun, challenging, and rewarding all in one. The club has the equipment and the talent for it to be successful. What the club needs is a chairman to organize and run the event. Who is going to step up and chair this event?

This year Field Day falls on June 24th and 25th. Our operation will be as usual at the Club Station We will again run 4F and see how well we can do this year. As always we need operators to make digital, SSB, FM and CW contacts. Hopefully someone will give the satellites a try. We can only hope for a good turnout and good band conditions.

**SAVE THE DATE SAVE THE DATE SAVE THE DATE
DRIVIN THE DIXIE SATURDAY JUNE 17th, 2017
WATCH FOR MORE INFORMATION**

**Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/tritownrac>
Check out the Club Website: WWW.W9VT.ORG**

Field Day 2017 – Radio Operators, Get Ready...Get Set...

Field Day – the largest on the air operating event of the year – is the last weekend of June (24 & 25) It's never too early to start planning. Tens of thousands of operators all over the country will be embracing CW, Phone, Digital, PSK31, RTTY, JT65, Satellite and other modes, making the bands come alive with excitement. Let's throw our signal out there as well!

The GOTA station can only be operated by hams newly licensed since last year's Field Day, generally inactive hams, and non-licensed individuals who want a taste of the hobby. Generally inactive hams are those who have not really been on the air for a couple of years. If you've been fairly inactive for a while, come on out and make a few contacts for the club!

There are bonus points activities as well.....

Emergency Power Bonus... Got generator? We don't need to use it, just test it to see if it will power a radio.

Media Publicity Bonus... We don't need to actually get the publicity, just make an attempt to get it.

Public Information Table... Yep, we set up a table with information on the hobby, the ARRL, our club, etc.

Satellite QSO... Just one satellite QSO gets us 100 points!

Alternate Power Bonus... Bruce, WD9GHK has afforded us the 100 points by bringing his hand-crank generator to the bunker. 5 QSO's get's us the points.

Visit by an Govt. Official... We need to invite an official elected big shot, and receive a visit.

Visit by an Em. Agency... Red Cross, Salvation Army, local Law Enforcement... Or the Mayor??

Youth Participation... This is pretty cool too. Any ham or non-ham, 18 years old or younger, who makes at least one contact, gets us 20 points. 5 youth doing this gets us the maximum of 100 points. Do you know of anyone who might want to make a contact for the club? This is a great way to introduce someone to the hobby, or, give our younger licensed members a shot at the excitement.

Finally, the biggest points activity is QSO's.

So come on out and make some Q's! Let me know if you're planning on operating. We'll have a total of 6 stations set up and able to be on the air at the same time. There's plenty of operating opportunities. Also, we'll need a Refreshments Chairman, a Station Operations Manager, and a Computer Troubleshooter/Coordinator. An event like this requires bodies, so please step up and help in any way you can. Send me an email, catch me on the repeater, or call me on the landline, I'd love to hear from you. It's time to.....**GO !!**

The BOD are looking for Members to Step Up! We will need: Field Day Captain's and Chairman Saturday & Sunday June 25 & 26 Field Day is the biggest operating event of the year. It is fun, challenging, and rewarding all in one. The club has the equipment and the talent for it to be successful. What the club needs is a chairman to organize and run the event. Who is going to step up and chair this event?

**CQ FD, CQ FD, CQ FD, W9VT, Whiskey Nine, Very Tired, W9VT, CQ FD!!
73, and Good Luck in the Contest. QRZ? FD W9VT**

**The W1AW Operating Schedule may be found on the web at:
<http://www.arrl.org/w1aw-operating-schedule>**

Field Day - 2017

Field Day this year is on June 24th and 25th. Plans are to be at the bunker and operate our normal 4F plus a GOTA station. There is a real need for operators this year. Last year was sad to say the least. We need operators for CW, PSK31, Satellite and SSB. Someone needs to copy the Field Day Message from the ARRL for bonus points. If someone would come a give a short class on something, we would get bonus points. Bruce's hand crank generator and five contacts gets us bonus points. It can really be a fun event if our efforts are combined. The rigs are in fine shape. Some antenna work needs to be done and hopefully that can be taken care of before Field Day. Refreshments will be provided and something will be arranged for dinner Saturday night. Please let a Club officer know if you are going to be able to help. Some members are going to be asked if they can help in specific areas. Hope to see ya on Field Day!

Taiwan to Drop Amateur Radio Morse Code Requirement

According to an article in *Taipei Times*, the National Communications Commission (NCC) in Taiwan (the Republic of China) has proposed to abolish the Amateur Radio Morse code requirement and to permit operation on 432-440 MHz on a secondary basis, among other changes to the Amateur Radio rules there.

The NCC has said that a Morse requirement "should not hinder the development of Amateur Radio." Although the NCC has approved the amendments, it must put them on public notice for 2 months and then make any changes it considers necessary, before they take effect.

The amended rules also will extend the term of Amateur Radio licenses from 5 to 10 years, although licensees must pass a test to qualify for the extension. NCC data show that 42,900 Amateur Radio licenses were issued in Taiwan between 2012 and 2016.

W5KUB Again to Offer Next Best Thing to Being at Hamvention

Tom Medlin, W5KUB, of [Amateur Radio Roundtable](#) webcast fame, will offer more than 48 hours of [live webcasting](#) for [Hamvention](#)®, starting on May 17 and continuing through May 22 (to include the road trips out and back). This will mark his 15th year of live streaming the show, and this year's webcast will be called "Hamvention 2017 Marathon by Medlin." Astronaut Douglas Wheelock, KF5BOC, will join Medlin as co-host.

"This live event is structured to make you feel that you are there." Webcast viewers will be able to communicate with other viewers logged into the chat room and can even chat directly with the webcast team at Hamvention. Medlin also promises nonstop prize giveaways. "You will see many familiar people and celebrities drop by and get on camera and say hello to you," Medlin said.

Over the course of his Hamvention webcasts, he interviews visitors and offers a view of the show from his particular perch, which will be in booth 5006 at the Greene County Fairgrounds and Expo Center in Xenia, Ohio.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/tritownrac>

Check out the Club Website: WWW.W9VT.ORG

India Orders Halt to Online Transceiver Sales

The *Mumbai Mirror* in India [reports](#) that a complaint by radio amateurs has prompted the Telecommunications Ministry to order online purveyors, including eBay and Amazon, to stop selling wireless transmitting equipment. According to the newspaper, a group of hams wrote the Wireless Advisor in the Telecommunications Ministry last fall to warn that online sales of wireless equipment could pose a national security threat.

Their warning followed reports of “highly suspicious” 2-meter transmissions along the Bengal-Bangladesh border. Their letter drew the attention of the Intelligence Bureau, the prime minister’s office, and the military.

The Telecommunications Ministry now has ordered e-commerce websites to stop selling transmitting gear online, effective immediately. The law in India requires that those selling such equipment have a dealer’s possession license and users have a license to transmit.

Ankur Puranik, VU2AXN, spokesperson of the Mumbai Amateur Radio Society, told the newspaper, “...our concern is that the powerful equipment can fall into wrong hands and be misused. More importantly, these two-way radios can tune into any frequency including confidential frequencies used by law enforcement agencies. They can be misused to listen to confidential wireless conversations.”

“Frequency” TV Show QRT

Hollywood Reporter [reports](#) that The CW television network has pulled the plug on the Amateur Radio-themed show “**Frequency**,” which stars Peyton List as young police detective and radio amateur Raimy Sullivan.

“Frequency was a combination of two of the season’s most popular trends: time travel and movie reboots,” *Hollywood Reporter* said, noting that the show had been averaging 1.5 million viewers.

As in the 2000 movie *Frequency* that inspired the TV show, Amateur Radio provides a means for the protagonist to reconnect over time with her late estranged father Frank Sullivan.

“Frequency” had joined ABC’s “Last Man Standing,” starring real-life radio amateur Tim Allen as Mike Baxter, KA0XTT, in providing Amateur Radio some small-screen exposure, albeit fictional. NBC had initially expressed interest in launching a “Frequency” TV reprise but ultimately passed on the idea.

Ham-Astronauts to Perform 200th Spacewalk at ISS

Astronauts ISS Expedition 51 Commander **Peggy Whitson, ex-KC5ZTD**, and Flight Engineer **Jack Fischer, KG5FYH**, will carry out a landmark 200th spacewalk at the International Space Station on Friday, May 12. [NASA TV](#) will cover the event live.

Whitson and Fischer will venture outside the *Quest* airlock to replace a large avionics box that provides electrical power and data connections to science experiments, and to swap out a container of critical spare parts stowed outside the station. During the planned 6.5-hour spacewalk, Whitson and Fischer also will install a connector to route data to the [Alpha Magnetic Spectrometer](#) and help the crew determine the most efficient way to conduct future maintenance on a cosmic ray detector. In addition to other tasks, they will install a new high-definition camera and a pair of antennas.

Whitson already holds the US record for most spacewalks by a female astronaut. This will be her ninth EVA, while Fischer will be making his first. A space veteran who conducted numerous Amateur Radio on the International Space Station ([ARISS](#)) school and group contacts, Whitson let her Amateur Radio license lapse several years ago.

NSS Call Sign to be used for First Time in More than 40 Years

Operators from the US Naval Academy Radio Club (W3ADO) and the Potomac Valley Radio Club (W3GRF) will reactivate the historic NSS call sign on May 13-14 during the [Armed Forces Day Crossband Military/Amateur Radio Communications Test](#).

Operation from the former NSS Naval Radio Station site on Greenbury Point in Annapolis, Maryland, will get under way at 1300 UTC on Saturday, May 13, and continue until 0200 UTC on Sunday, May 14. NSS will transmit on CW and SSB on 4,038.5, 7,533.5, 14,487, 17,545, and 20,994 kHz and listen for callers on announced Amateur Radio frequencies. All contacting NSS will receive a QSL card.

NSS began operation in 1918 as the Annapolis High Power Radio Station using a Federal Telegraph Company 500 kW arc transmitter and four 600-foot towers, operating in the VLF spectrum. NSS HF operation began about 10 years later, although VLF operation continued into the 1990s. The HF mission was transferred in 1976 to NAM in Norfolk, Virginia. While some of the towers were removed, three lighted, self-supporting towers remain, to serve as local landmarks and as navigation aids to boaters on Chesapeake Bay.

The K7RA Solar Update

Each of the weekly solar and geomagnetic indicators that we track were lower this week. Average daily sunspot number dropped 10.6 points to 25.1, and average daily solar flux was 4.5 points lower than the previous week at 76.9.

It is comforting to see though that we have not witnessed a day with zero sunspots since April 17. Average planetary and mid-latitude A index were both 5.6, down from the previous week which had planetary A index at 26.4 and mid-latitude at 18.4.

The A index is expected to remain quiet until May 17-20.

Frank Bauer, KA3HDO, AMSAT VP for Human Spaceflight, Named 2017 Dayton Hamvention Amateur of the Year

The Dayton Hamvention has announced the winners of the 2017 Hamvention Awards. Each year, the Dayton Hamvention honors radio amateurs who have made major contributions to the art and science of amateur radio. AMSAT Vice President for Human Spaceflight Frank Bauer, KA3HDO, was named 2017 Amateur of the Year.

The award citation reads:

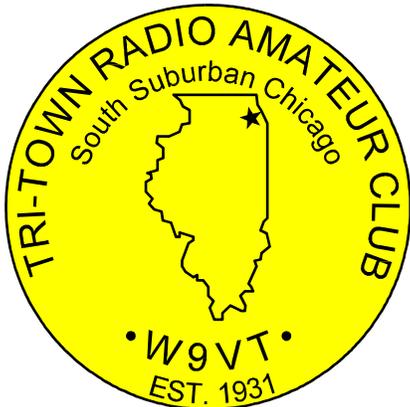
“Frank serves as the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) international chairman. In the mid-1990s, Bauer proposed a GPS reception experiment on the AMSAT Phase 3D satellite (AO-40). The experiment was to measure the signal strength of the GPS satellite constellation while Phase 3D was in high-Earth orbit (HEO). The AO-40 experiment subsequently has been cited often in aerospace literature, as it remained the most comprehensive above-the-constellation data source for nearly a decade and led to changes in the system’s specifications and applications. The results of the AO-40 experiment jump started a game-changing transformation in navigation at HEO/GEO altitudes, enabling new and exciting missions in these orbits.

Bauer holds bachelor’s and master’s degrees in aeronautics and astronautics from Purdue University. His career in aerospace spans 4 decades within NASA and in private industry.

Tri-Town Radio Amateur Club Inc.
PO Box 1296
Homewood, IL 60430-0296

May 2017

First Class Mail



Tri-Town Radio Amateur Club Membership Application

Name _____ Call _____

Address _____ License Class _____ ARRL Member Y / N

City, State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Email Address: _____

_____ Regular Membership \$ 25.00

_____ SWL Membership \$ 25.00

_____ Extra Family Membership \$ 6.00

\$ _____ Total Paid by Club Member

For Example: Regular Member, with Family (25+6) = \$ 31.00

Dues are Due!

Club dues expire the first of the year so 2017 dues are now due. Your dues pay for the continued expenses for insurance, repeater operation. Your continued support of the raffles and the refreshment jar also helps. Dues can be paid at any meeting or sent to the clubs mailing address. Please include a membership form so we can keep the Club's roster up to date.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/tritownrac>

Check out the Club Website: WWW.W9VT.ORG