



THE FRANKFORD RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER

PROFICIENCY THROUGH COMPETITION

CALENDAR

March 2004:

- 6-7 ARRL DX Contest, SSB**
- 9 FRC Main Meeting, Phila**
- 9 Remy Meeting B**
- 18 T.I.T.S. Meeting, Noon**
- 20-21 Russian DX Contest
- 23 Remy Meeting B**
- 27-28 CQ WPX Contest, SSB

April 2004:

- 7-8 Japan Intl. DX Test, CW
- 13 FRC Main Meeting, Phila**
- 13 Remy Meeting B**
- 15 T.I.T.S. Meeting, Noon**
- 17-18 YU DX Contest
- 24-25 Helvetia Contest
- 24-25 Florida QSO Party
- 27 Remy Meeting B**

CHANGES

New Members

N2KEN

Kenneth P. Shaw
4118 Avenue P
Brooklyn, NY 11234
Email: kshaw4118@aol.com
Home: 718-377-3142
Work: 212-338-7260

W2SN

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Brooklyn, NY 11228
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Deadline for the April issue:

Sunday, March 28, 2004

President's Message

As you read the March column I will be in V4 with Alex for the ARRL SSB. Our goal is to put every one in the log on all bands.

At the last club meeting, we had 28 members present. We voted two new members in to the club, so membership and attendance are looking up. Now, if the interest and momentum continue with a good turn out for the ARRL SSB, the FRC will have a very strong opportunity to beat the YCCC. **Last year we GAVE THEM THE CLUB GAVEL.** With 228 logs submitted compared to our 150 logs, YCCC beat us by only 6,000,000 points...and that's not much!. Looking at the scores from this past ARRL CW test, I was pleased to see the return of many members' call signs that had not participated in CQWW CW. I'm asking for your continued efforts in the SSB portion which I know will make all the difference in securing our WIN for the club championship. If everyone gives just a little extra time in the phone portion, we can together make history repeat itself.

Election time is here again. Nominations from the floor will be accepted at the March meeting. Once nominations are closed, we will have elections for the new 2004 club officers. So, if you have intentions of running for any office, please let Alan, N3AD, know before or at the club meeting on Tuesday, March 9th. If this newsletter is received before the phone contest, please do your best to be on and give some EXTRA TIME to show your support for the club.

73, Joe K3NM/V47NM

ARRL DX TEST SSB FRC DXPEDITIONS

V47KP by W2OX and K3NM

VQ5V by WE3C, N3FTI and KQ3V

(First use of the VQ5 prefix from Turks and Caicos)

WP2Z by N2TK

Editor's Note: No DX Column this month

MEETINGS



Main Meeting

The main monthly meeting of the **Frankford Radio Club** will be held on Tuesday, March 9 at 8 PM. Location is Rosenburger Hall, Room 102 at the University of the Sciences in Philadelphia.

T.I.T.S. meeting

The Trexlertown International Transmitting Society meets on Thursday, March 18 at 12:00 noon. Location is the Hometown Diner on Route 222.

Rexy Meeting B

The Rexy's **FRC** Meeting B meets after the main **FRC** meeting on the second Tuesday of each month, and at about 8 PM on the fourth Tuesday of each month.

OTHER ITEMS

FRCer Needs Some Assistance

Silvio, **WA3YOB** was recently “downsized” and is requesting any possible assistance in locating another position. He’s been a telecommunication analyst/administrator/technician with 25 years of experience in telecommunications industry, including all aspects of voice communications. For any leads, please call **WA3YOB** (Silvio) at 215 343-7486 or Email to wa3yob@comcast.net. Resume available.

DXCC Honor Roll deadline approaches

The deadline to appear in the next DXCC Honor Roll listing is March 31. Submissions must be postmarked by that date for submissions to be included. The DXCC Honor Roll list will appear in August 2004 QST. At present there are 335 entities on the DXCC List, and you must be within the numerical top 10 DXCC entities to qualify. The minimum requirement for Honor Roll now is 326 current entities.

Report all ARRL DX scores PROMPTLY to **K3WW** (k3ww@fast.net)!!!

ARRL VHF, RTTY CONTEST ENTRIES UP IN A DOWN YEAR

ARRL Contest Branch Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, reports that while 2003 saw a net decrease of 2.8 percent in log submissions for all ARRL-sponsored operating events, the downward trend is typical in the aftermath of a solar cycle peak. The 18,434 logs turned in during 2003 represent 539 fewer logs than in 2002, in which there was an all-time record of ARRL contest log submissions. Henderson says HF contest log submissions always follow the solar cycle and then start to drop off, but he also points to the proverbial silver lining in the statistics.

"Log submissions were up for six of the events and held steady for several others," he observed. "The largest changes really came from two events: RTTY--experiencing a burst of popularity with the ease of interfacing radios and computers--was up by just over 30 percent, and VHF rose overall by 5 percent." Henderson said preliminary numbers for 2004 show another 20 percent hike in ARRL RTTY Roundup submissions.

Henderson said he was encouraged to see some rebound in VHF log submissions--from 2179 in 2002 to 2289 in 2003--although that jump resulted largely from better numbers for the ARRL June VHF QSO Party. Participation was down for the January VHF Sweepstakes as well as for the September VHF QSO Party.

The total number of "rovers" active in VHF events, at 272, was the third highest ever, Henderson noted, and within eight logs of the all-time record of 1993. Rover numbers were up by more than 12 percent in 2003 over the previous year, while the percentage of rovers among contest entrants rose slightly.

Participation in the ARRL International EME (moonbounce) Competition increased by more than 24 percent in 2003. Sagging propagation got the lion's share of the blame for the drop-off in log submissions for HF events, especially the 10-meter and DX contests.

"The decline of Cycle 23 affected submissions for the ARRL 10-Meter Contest in 2003, which was coming off a record number of submissions for any single weekend ARRL event in 2002," he said, "while major solar disturbances impacted the ARRL November Sweepstakes."

ARRL 10-Meter Contest submissions were off by 25.5 percent. Sweepstakes logs for both modes were off in 2003 by 6.4 percent. Field Day entries were up by less than one percent over 2002 numbers. Even so, Henderson noted, "If you look back historically, the 18,000+ logs we received in 2003 is very high."

The 2003 ARRL Contest Calendar <<<http://www.arrl.org/contests/calendar.html?year=2003>>> includes links to results of each operating event as well as the contest soapbox.

NPR FEATURE SPOTLIGHTS ADDITION OF @ SYMBOL TO MORSE CODE

Some hams may have thought they'd left their transceivers turned on Tuesday, February 17. That's when the popular National Public Radio <<<http://www.npr.org/>>> afternoon news magazine All Things Considered ran a piece about the pending addition of the @ symbol to the official international Morse code lexicon. That's because NPR introduced and closed the nearly four-minute segment with actual CW, catching the ear of many hams.

ARRL Chief Technology Officer Paul Rinaldo, W4RI, conceived of the new character (though others had suggested the idea for a character years earlier), necessary for transmitting e-mail addresses in CW, among other possible purposes. Assuming approval by International Telecommunication Union <<<http://www.itu.int/home/index.html>>> member-states, the new character--the first added to the code in many, many years--will be "AC" run together (.-.-.). The new character, Rinaldo says, is both unique in the Morse world as well as a mnemonic (think of an 'a' wrapped in a 'C').

ATC co-host Robert Siegel interviewed ARRL Senior News Editor Rick Lindquist, N1RL, for some background on the change, giving Lindquist an opportunity to mention his passion for mobile CW operation. The short feature, "Morse Code Enters Cyber Age," is available on the National Public Radio Web site, <<<http://www.npr.org/rundowns/segment.php?wfId=1680529>>>.

CQ 160 Meter CW Test Scores

Call	QSO	W/VE	DX	Score	Class
AA1K	1395	55	59	628,736	SOH
AA3B	455	54	36	127,080	M
C6AYB	931	53	37	438,750	SO K3BU
K2GN	194	37	14	25,755	M
K2OWE				26,837	M
K2SB	103	34	9	11,653	M
K3CP				23,275	M
K3ND	127	36	29	37,245	M
K3NM	276	50	37	93,612	M
K3NZ	118	28	16	15,532	M
K3WW	856	56	42	272,146	M
N2ED	535	51	32	135,788	SOH
N2NC	233	42	19	40,138	SOL
N2NT	1065	55	50	426,615	SOH
N3KN	105	28	6	8,908	SOH
N3NR	261	45	13	41,064	SOH
N3RJ	250	53		33,390	SOH
N3RS	708	53	50	265,122	M
N3ZA	108	35	10	13,095	M
NA2U	80	21	1	3,784	M
NO2R	986	55	51	398,560	SOH
W2GD	1248	56	64	555,720	M
<i>Ops. K2SG, K2TW, N2HM, N200, N4HY, W1GD, W2CG, W2GD, W2NO</i>					
W3FVT				15,480	M
W3RJ				2,607	SOH
W8FJ	548	54	43	191,284	M
WA2VYA				116,240	SOH

FRC GROUP ARRL CONTRIBUTIONS DRIVE FOR THE ANTI-BPL CAMPAIGN

The membership at the regular February meeting agreed that **FRC** should support ARRL in the vital matter of BPL (Broadband over Power Lines). However, the contributions should be from the individual members as is the usual **FRC** policy.

Jack, **N2VW**, volunteered to collect the checks, individually made out to the ARRL for BPL, then forward them, in bulk, to the ARRL in the name of **FRC**. The ARRL will give **FRC** credit for these contributions as well as for those **FRCer** contributions already received at ARRL.

Contributions checks should be made out to the ARRL and annotated for BPL. PLEASE put your callsign on the check. Snail mail address is: N2VW, PO Box 65, Fort Dix, NJ 08640 (Again - Please put your call on the check.)

If you've already mailed a contribution directly to the ARRL, please email Jack with date call and amount sent. His email address is n2vw@arrl.net.

As of 18 February the following members have contributed: **W2BEN, K2SB, K3PH, N3KN, N2VW, KG2MY**.

Thanks to all for helping to preserve our use of our Ham Bands.

A Look at the CQ WPX Contests

Second in a series on "minor" contests by John Thompson, K3MD

The WPX contests are held at the end of March (SSB) and on Memorial Day weekend (CW). This contest has traditionally been a sideband contest, although the CW version has gained popularity recently. There are some unusual classes, the most interesting being the wire/ single yagi category, assisted, which allows more modest stations to compete on the famous "level playing field". So far, though, this class has not been duplicated in other DX contests.

Due to the lesser degree of participation than the big ones, it is much easier to get a certificate in this contest, particularly in the low power category. Be advised, though, as in many specialty contests, there are stations with more prowess that lurk and specialize in this, their favorite contest. Close study of past results can help you plan a winning strategy.

Operating time is 36 out of 48 hours for single operators. Low band contacts count twice what upper band contacts count. This is an obvious disadvantage in the CW weekend, as there is a great deal of noise on 40 and 80 during that time of year. This contest is much more popular in Europe, and you will find that their numbers are consistently larger than those being sent by U.S. stations.

Winning is possible, depending on your class selection, with as little as a 20 hour effort in the CW section. Overall, the WPX contest lacked any good participation at all prior to the advent of computer logging, a little like the Pa QSO Party.

The scoring system is such that a score of 1M points is very easy to achieve, as there is a mult for each new prefix. If you do happen to be a prefix collector, there are a large number of special event prefixes for this contest. Very often your CT country look-up file may not be able to identify one of these new prefixes, and you may have to get out the printed prefix sheet to try to figure things out. However, it doesn't matter what the country really is, just the prefix.

Overall, this contest is just plain fun. It allows you to avoid cleaning the boat on Memorial Day weekend and also to wind down from the pace of the ARRL DX contest SSB.

Receive antenna presentation by Steve, W3EEE

Steve, **W3EEE**, did a presentation at the RSGB HF Convention recently, the subject being "Evaluating Receive Antennas with a Soundcard". It describes a novel but accurate (substantially 'armchair') method of measuring the directional patterns of low-band receive antennas. A webby-version of the presentation is at:

<http://www.w3eee.com/>

In addition, it begins with a 'drive-by' of how the 'Ewe-alike' class of antennas work, their derivation and development, and ends with why they rarely live up to their billing, and what to do about it.

Contesting Tips and Resources

Reprinted with permission from the February 11, 2004 ARRL Contest Rate Sheet

If you bought a new PC lately, you'll waste your time looking for its RS-232 ports since most have been replaced with USB. This is bad news for hams, since our standard interface is the venerable RS-232.

What to do? David N9KT reports that the microHAM USB interface will put those serial interfaces right back in your system, supporting multiple devices over a single USB port.

(<<http://www.microham.com/USB%20interfaces.html>>)

If you want to recreate the actual RS-232 port, the Belkin F5U103 USB/Serial adaptor will provide a serial port with proper address and IRQ. Bob N4BP reports good results using them for rig control and RTTY applications. Bob also points us to <<http://www.aa5au.com/rtty.html>>, which is a very good RTTY resource, in general.

EDITORIAL

I don't often use this "bully pulpit" (HAH!) and for good reason. This isn't my newsletter, it's yours. But one issue has been bothering me, and a recent column by K1AR in CQ and N3BB's ARRL DX CW log comments have emboldened me a bit.

I joined this club 30 years (!) ago because contesting was fun. It was work, but only in the sense of getting together as a team (I was sometimes part of K3WW's (K3HTZ) crew back then). But has contesting, for some, become more drudgery than fun? Do phrases such as "one more hour in the chair" create negative reactions in those who work 50+ hours per week and have young families on top of that? Are we turning off those we most need to motivate?

When hams join **FRC**, they do it (or should do it) primarily to make points in the four major DX contests. But I sure hope that's not all. Because if it is, there's no need to meet more than once per year. There's no need for this newsletter. Just put out a note on the reflector saying "contest coming, get on the air", and that's pretty much it.

I have no doubt there are members who could contribute more, and they should. Maybe it's the 80/20 rule, I don't know. Yes, contesting can be work. But whatever happened to fun? I was particularly struck by some recent reflector comments along the lines of "OK, so you didn't make a million points. So what? Put the score up on the reflector anyway." To me, THAT'S the spirit we're looking for. You may not be a big gun, but your score is still very important.

For those who aren't contributing, ask yourself why not. If you're bored, find some aspect of the contest that interests you and bang away at it. I remember some members, in the past, being criticized for operating single-band. Hey, whatever! I'll take a single band score versus NO score any day. If you don't have the station, there are stations (and really good ones) that need operators. This is a hobby. It's supposed to be enjoyable. So make it that way.

Let me use myself as an example. OK, I made some points recently. But when you get a chance, take a look at the 3830 reflector archives and look at the single op/assisted high power scores. When you get to my call, see anything funny? For the number of QSOs I made, my multiplier total is pretty low. Why? I like to run! I only use one radio. I have no grand strategic plan other than to run wherever I can. And it's not just Europe. Sometimes I get "saucy" and point the beam over the North Pole for a Saturday evening run. Sometimes it works, sometimes not. My attempt at the South Pacific crashed in flames. Oh well. And sometimes I like to blow through the packet multipliers. It depends on my mood. But there is one thing I know about my score....it could have been better with more mults, but it was also greater than zero.

We joined this club for a reason. Think about that reason and go after it. Contesting really should be fun. Maybe it's time for some of us to become reacquainted with what is hopefully a very simple concept. **73, Joe KQ3F**

League Files "A Plan for the Next Decade" with FCC

The ARRL has filed a Petition for Rule Making asking the FCC to amend its Part 97 rules to complete the Amateur Service restructuring the Commission left unfinished in 1999. The League wants the FCC to create a new entry-level license, reduce the number of actual license classes to three and drop the Morse code testing requirement for all classes except for Amateur Extra (see "ARRL to Propose New Entry-Level License, Code-Free HF Access" <<<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2004/01/19/1/>>>). The ARRL says its petition follows in the footsteps of changes in Article 25 of the international Radio Regulations adopted at World Radiocommunication Conference 2003. Among those changes, WRC-03 left it up to individual countries to determine whether or not to mandate Morse testing for HF access. While several countries--including Germany, the UK and Australia--already have dropped their Morse requirements, the ARRL emphasized in its petition that Morse code is not the central issue.

"Changes in Morse telegraphy are one aspect of the proposal, and it would be insufficient for the Commission to address those issues in a vacuum," the League said, calling its licensing proposal "a plan for the next decade." The ARRL said that plan's overall intention is "to encourage newcomers to the Amateur Service and to encourage those who enter its ranks to proceed further on a course of technical self-training and exposure to all aspects of the avocation."

Last fall a total of 14 Morse-related petitions were filed with the FCC. Several called on the Commission to drop the Morse requirement altogether, while others proposed to keep and even expand the requirement or put forth various license restructuring schemes of their own. The petitions, RM-10781-10787 and RM-10805-10811, attracted thousands of comments from the amateur community.

Beyond the Morse question, the ARRL says, the time is right--now that WRC-03 has finished its work--to follow through on the restructuring process the FCC began with its 1999 restructuring Report and Order (WT 98-143) <<<http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/wt98-143ro.pdf>>>. Among other things, that landmark Order, which became effective April 15, 2000, reduced the number of Morse code test elements from three to a single 5 WPM requirement for all license classes offering HF privileges.

Simply dropping the Element 1 (5 WPM) Morse requirement, the ARRL asserted, would fail to address the critical need for an entry-level ticket other than the Technician. Calling the Technician license "a dead end" for many people, the ARRL said its proposed entry-level license--being called "Novice" for now--would offer newcomers a much wider sampling of Amateur Radio. It would require passing a 25-question written examination--but no code test--and offer limited HF phone, image, CW and data privileges at modest power output levels.

"This structure provides a true, entry-level license with HF and other operating privileges which will both promote growth in the Amateur Service and integrate newcomers into the mainstream of Amateur Radio," the ARRL told the FCC. "It will better introduce newcomers to more seasoned licensees who will assist them."

The League proposal also would consolidate current Technician and General licensees into General class without further examination. Future General applicants would not have to pass a code test, but the written exam would remain the same. Current Advanced licensees would be merged into Amateur Extra class without further testing, and the Extra exam would remain intact. The ARRL proposal would retain the Element 1 Morse exam for Extra class applicants.

The ARRL said its overall plan dovetails with the FCC philosophy and goals stated in its 1999 Report and Order--to simplify the license structure and streamline the licensing process. The League said its plan would implement licensing requirements and privileges that are in harmony with each other and is designed to attract and retain "technically inclined persons, particularly the youth of our country" and encourage them to advance in areas "where the United States needs expertise."

"Now, the issue is not merely whether there should or should not be Morse telegraphy as an examination requirement," the ARRL said, "but rather what is the best overall approach for positioning the Amateur Service for future growth and incentive-based self-training."

A copy of the ARRL's Petition for Rule Making is available on the ARRL Web site <<<http://www.arrl.org/news/restructuring2/restrux2-petition.pdf>>>. The FCC has requested that individuals refrain from contacting or attempting to comment to the FCC on the ARRL's restructuring proposal before the FCC issues a Rule Making (RM) number for the ARRL petition and invites public comments on it. Until that happens, it is premature to comment to the FCC.

FCC CHAIRMAN ASSURES CONGRESSMAN ON BPL STUDIES

FCC Chairman Michael Powell has assured US Representative Greg Walden, WB7OCE, that the Commission will give "thorough consideration" to all Broadband over Power Line (BPL) studies before it takes final action on BPL. Powell responded February 3 to Walden's January 15 letter requesting that the FCC defer any further action in its BPL proceeding until the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) releases the results of its BPL study and the public has had a chance to comment.

On February 12 the FCC took the proceeding to the next level, unanimously approving the issuance of a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM). Among other provisions, the NPRM would require BPL providers to employ "adaptive interference-mitigation techniques."

"Please be assured that we have already begun coordination of this action with NTIA," Powell told Walden, "and that the Commission will give all studies, including the forthcoming NTIA study, thorough consideration prior to any final action or rules on the subject." The FCC has not yet released the BPL NPRM nor invited public comments. An Office of Engineering and Technology (OET) briefing at the FCC's February 12 open meeting indicated that the Commission would make no changes in Part 15 rules governing emissions from unlicensed devices. To date, the FCC has released only a public notice on its BPL proposals.

Walden, a member of the House Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet, had told the FCC chairman that, in view of the importance of avoiding interference to federal government HF communications, the FCC should give the pending NTIA study a thorough airing before proposing any rules to govern BPL systems. The Oregon Republican is one of two Amateur Radio licensees in the US House.

Commenting on last April's FCC BPL Notice of Inquiry in ET Docket 03-104, the NTIA had expressed "broad concern" about the technology's potential to cause interference to federal government users. The NTIA said the Commission "must ensure that other communications services, especially government operations, are adequately protected from unacceptable interference."

An arm of the US Department of Commerce, the NTIA subsequently undertook evaluations of BPL field test sites, in part to gauge the technology's interference potential. The NTIA was supposed to conclude its field work last month, and release its observations and conclusions during the first quarter of this year. The ARRL's own BPL study, which is assessing the potential of interference both from and to BPL systems, also is set to wrap up early this year.

Acting Assistant Secretary of Commerce Michael Gallagher and NTIA head Michael Gallagher told a December meeting of BPL proponent the Power Line Communications Association that the NTIA was "studying interference risks and potential means for making risks more tolerable." He indicated that the first phase of NTIA's pending BPL study would recommend radiated emission limits, compliance measurement procedures and other conditions in its report to the FCC.

At the FCC's February 12 open meeting, Powell pledged that the FCC would continue to be vigilant in the area of BPL's interference potential. Anh Wride of the OET staff, who provided the broad strokes of the pending NPRM, said the FCC recognizes the concerns of licensed radio service users regarding BPL's interference potential. Wride said "licensed operations must be protected," but added that the OET staff believes that "these interference concerns can be adequately addressed."

FCC PROPOSES RULES FOR BPL SYSTEMS

The FCC released its Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) on Broadband over Power Line (BPL) systems. The 38-page NPRM--in ET Dockets 03-104 and 04-37--proposes amendments to FCC Part 15 rules to define so-called "access BPL," make rules specific to BPL systems and provide measurement guidelines for BPL devices and systems. It would make no changes to Part 15 emission limits for unintentional radiators, however.

ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, says that while Part 15's current limits on unintentional radiators on HF may be appropriate for short-duration, narrowband emissions, they are inappropriate for the sort of long-duration, broadband emissions BPL would employ. He compared short-duration, narrowband emissions at the Part 15 radiated emission limit to a helicopter flying overhead. "The noise is deafening, but is tolerable because it doesn't happen very often nor last very long," he observed. "To a radio user, having BPL in the neighborhood would be like having the helicopter hovering constantly overhead."

ARRL Lab Manager Ed Hare, W1RFI, offered an example most hams could relate to. "The limit for an unintentional emitter on HF is 30 uV/m at 30 meters from the source," he said. "If you take a dipole cut for 3.5 MHz and put it in a 30 uV/m field, you'll have a noise reading of S9 plus 16 dB at your transceiver."

The FCC proposal takes a broader view of interference. "There is significant disagreement among the commenting parties regarding the interference potential of Access BPL," the NPRM declares. "Amateur operators and amateur organizations in general are opposed to Access BPL and advocate emission limits that are lower than the existing Part 15 limits."

Still, the NPRM concedes, Amateur Radio operations "are likely to present a difficult challenge in the deployment of Access BPL in cases where amateurs use high-gain outdoor antennas that are located near power lines." Noting that power line noise already presents a significant problem for hams, the FCC said, "we therefore would expect that, in practice, many amateurs already orient their antennas to minimize the reception of emissions from nearby electric power lines."

The NPRM goes on to point out that because BPL has the capability to stay clear of specific frequencies, BPL providers can simply "avoid the use of amateur frequencies when in close proximity to amateur outdoor antennas." The NPRM also briefly mentions the possibility of interference to BPL systems from Amateur Radio, an issue ARRL and others raised in their comments on last April's Notice of Inquiry on BPL.

The NPRM emphasizes that under the proposed rules, operators of Access BPL systems would be responsible for eliminating any harmful interference that may occur. The FCC says it believes current Part 15 emission limits for carrier current systems--in conjunction with certain additional requirements specific to Access BPL--"will be adequate to ensure that existing radio operations are protected against harmful interference."

Sumner suggested that, with licensed services and government users taking up large portions of the HF spectrum, protecting all licensed HF users could prove to be a nightmare for BPL providers. He noted, too, that while the FCC maintains that licensed services must be protected, the proposed rules place the burden of initiating corrective action on the shoulders of the licensed services. "And as a practical matter, the FCC's proposed rules offer no protection at all to mobile and portable stations," he added.

Sumner also said the ARRL would continue to combat the "misconception" that BPL systems are viable as a "last mile" broadband technology for rural dwellers. "In low-density areas, the economics just don't work," he said.

The NPRM is available on the FCC Web site in Microsoft Word format <<http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-04-29A1.doc>> or as an Adobe PDF file <<http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-04-29A1.pdf>>. Interested parties may file detailed comments on the NPRM via the main

FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) <<<http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs/>>>. The comment deadline is 45 days after the NPRM has been published in The Federal Register, and that is not expected to happen for another week or two.



THE FRANKFORD RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER

P. O. Box 431 Albury, PA 18011-0431



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The Frankford Radio Club

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Home Page - www.gofrc.org

Meetings

Meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month (Sep through May) at 8 PM at the University of the Sciences, Philadelphia. Summer meetings are held at member homes (one Saturday/ Sunday per month).

Packet Cluster Contest/DX System

144.930 W3FRC
145.010 N3ED
145.650 K2TD
145.530 K3WW
145.530 AA1K
145.570 WT3Q
145.570 K2TW
145.590 N2NT
144.950 K3GYS
145.730 N2BIM
147.495 W3MM
145.670 W3PP
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