



# THE FRANKFORD RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER

*PROFICIENCY THROUGH COMPETITION*

## CALENDAR

### August 2004:

- 7-8 No. Amer. QSO Party, CW
- 10 REXY Meeting B**
- 14 FRC Summer Mtg, W1GD**
- 14-15 WAE DX Contest, CW
- 14-15 MD-DC QSO Party
- 19 T.I.T.S. Meeting, Noon**
- 21-22 No. Amer. QSO Party, SSB
- 21-22 New Jersey QSO Party
- 24 REXY Meeting B**

### September 2004:

- 4-5 All Asian DX Test, SSB
- 11 No. Amer Sprint, CW
- 11-12 WAE DX Contest, SSB
- 14 FRC Main Meeting, Phila**
- 14 REXY Meeting B**
- 16 T.I.T.S. Meeting, Noon**
- 18 No. Amer Sprint, SSB
- 18-19 Scandinavian Contest, CW
- 21 REXY Meeting B**
- 25-16 CQWW DX, RTTY
- 25-26 Scandinavian Contest, SSB

## CHANGES

None this month

**Deadline for September issue:**

Sunday, August 29, 2004

**No DX Column this month**

## President's Column

Now at the end of July and the summer is half over. It is not too early to remind all of you that CQWW sideband contest is just three months away. As quickly as time passes, it is not too early to begin thinking of the repairs and improvements needed for our stations to be contest ready. Now is the time to plan our work and work our plans to get our stations in tip-top shape. Remember, the contest dates are Oct.30th – 31<sup>st</sup>. Be sure to mark these dates on your calendar and make no other plans for this weekend. We can win this contest if each member in the club gives it their best effort and maximum possible time.

We have **W1GD'S** summer picnic on Saturday, August 14th. Since this is our first summer meeting, I hope to see all the members show up to enjoy the get-together.

Also, as I said on the reflector, Tony, LZ1JZ, says he will print all of the **FRC'S** DXpedition QSL cards at no charge. Just contact Tony at [LZ1JZ@mail.com](mailto:LZ1JZ@mail.com) <mailto:LZ1JZ@mail.com> or [LZ1JZ@mail.ru](mailto:LZ1JZ@mail.ru) <mailto:LZ1JZ@mail.ru> to let him know all the information and the number of cards you will need.

I hope everyone's summer is going well and that your vacations have been enjoyable. Sure look forward to seeing everyone at the meeting on August 14<sup>th</sup>.

*73, Joe K3NM*

## FRC IARU Contest Claimed Scores

<u>Call</u>	<u>QSOs</u>	<u>Mult</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Class</u>
N3AD	1,459		1,617,560	M/S
NO2R	1,503	248	1,297,288	M/S
K3MD	846	62	278,520	M/S
AA3B	1,521	228	1,169,184	SOHP
K3WW	1,040	120	462,840	SOHP
N3RS	389	119	141,491	SOHP
N3RD	179	120	55,560	SOHP
K3ND	110	47	18,142	SOLP
W2YC	412	153	211,752	SOMIXHP
KQ3F	876	97	328,054	M/S

**MEETINGS**

**T.I.T.S. meeting**—The Trexlertown International Transmitting Society meets on Thursday, August 19 at 12:00 noon. Location is the Hometown Diner on Route 222 in Trexlertown..

**Rexy Meeting B**—The Rexy's FRC Meeting B meets about 8 PM on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month..

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**2004 FRC Fund Drive**

The 2004 FRC Annual Fund Drive is now officially underway. If you haven't yet made a contribution, there's still time. Please make your check payable to: "**Frankford Radio Club**"

If you didn't receive or misplaced your envelope, you can send your contribution to:

Robert L. Shoet, KQ2M  
51 Scudder Road  
Newtown, CT 06470

**\*\* PLEASE BE SURE TO WRITE YOUR CALL ON YOUR CHECK. \*\***



The following are members who've contributed to date:

**AA3B K2RW K3II K3ZV N2CQ N3KR NW3Y W2UDT W3GK AD3Z K2SB  
K3JGJ KB3M N2LT N3NR NY3C W2YC W3KV K2DM K2SWZ K3MD/N3PUR KB3TS  
N2MR N3RD NZ3O W2YR W3MA K2FL K2TW K3ND KD2I N2MT N3RG W1GD  
W3AP W3MF K2GN K2UT K3NL KD3TB N2NC N3RS W2CG W3BEN W3MM/W3RAT  
K2NG K2WK K3NZ KF3B N2SS N3ZA W2GD W3BG W3OV K2OW K3ATO K3OO/K3OOO  
KQ2M N2TK N9GG W2LE W3BGN W3SOH K2PS K3BU K3PH KQ3F N2VW NC1A  
W2RE W3EA W4AA K2QM K3CP K3WW KU3X N3BNA NO2R W2SN W3FV W8FJ  
K2QMF K3CT K3YD N1RK N3KN (WAS WT3P) NQ3N W2TV W3FVT WA2VYA  
WB3CIW WQ3E K3TEJ W3CC KD2HE K3CY K2SG WF3H WT3W WE3C  
N3BB/5 (Texas!)**

**New since last newsletter: W2UP N3ED N2AU KD2RE (Georgia!) WA3LRO (California)  
N3AD and "The unknown ham"** (if your call isn't here and you contributed, notify Bob, KQ2M)

— . . . —

**For Sale:** Complete 70 foot Rohn 25G Tower, six straight sections, cone top section, torque brackets, rotor shelf, 2 sets of clean Rohn 3/16" EHS guy wire, Rohn turnbuckles and guy anchor equalizer plates. A \$1000+ value attractively prices at \$425 for immediate sale. Installation can be arranged.

Hygain 204BA 4 element 20 meter yagi: \$240                      Hygain 203BA 3 element 20 meter yagi: \$125

Hygain 203BA 3 element 20 meter yagi: \$105                      Hygain 153BA 3 element 15 meter yagi: \$105

Hygain 103BA 3 element 10 meter yagi: \$90                      TS930S with 400 cycle IR CW filters: \$550

Contact: John Crovelli, **W2GD**                      Phone: 908-996-3043                      Email: w2gd@hotmail.com

**FRC Summer Meeting  
Saturday, August 14, 2004  
Rain Date: August 15, 2004**

**Directions to WIGD's House**

**Gerry Kersus  
2814 Constitution Way  
Wall, NJ 07719  
732-681-9124**

**From Garden State Parkway (Either North-bound or South-bound):**

Take GSP to **Exit 98**. Follow signs for Route 138 East (Wall Township, Spring Lake, Belmar).

Get on Route 138 East. Stay in right-hand lane.

Almost immediately after getting on Rt. 138 E, you will come to a traffic light. Just past the traffic light, take jug-handle and follow signs for Glendola. You are now on Allenwood Road.

Cross over Rt. 138 and continue on Allenwood Rd. After about 0.5 miles, the road makes a sharp right. Continue past a white church and the school building.

Just past the Central School building, turn right onto Liberty Lane.

Take Liberty Lane to the end and turn right onto Governor's Crossing. Go about 0.2 miles and turn left onto Constitution Way. The house is on the left. It's a white house with red shutters and a tower in the back.

**From Route 18 South-bound**

Take Route 18 South to **exit 7B**. This is for Brighton Ave West to Glendola.

Go west on Brighton Ave to a stop sign. Turn left onto Gully Rd.

Go approximately 0.2 mile and turn right onto Allenwood Rd.

Continue on Allenwood Rd. past the stop sign/red blinker.

Go approximately 0.3 mile past the stop sign and turn left onto Liberty Lane.

Take Liberty Lane to the end and turn right onto Governor's Crossing. Go about 0.2 miles and turn left onto Constitution Way. The house is on the left. It's a white house with red shutters and a tower in the back.

**From Route 195 East-bound**

Follow Route 195 until it becomes Route 138.

Just past the first traffic light on Route 138 East, take jug-handle and follow signs for Glendola. You are now on Allenwood Road.

Cross over Rt. 138 and continue on Allenwood Rd. After about 0.5 miles, the road makes a sharp right. Continue past a white church and the school building.

Just past the Central School building, turn right onto Liberty Lane.

Take Liberty Lane to the end and turn right onto Governor's Crossing. Go about 0.2 miles and turn left onto Constitution Way. The house is on the left. It's a white house with red shutters and a tower in the back.

**They'll be monitoring the N2MO repeater on 145.110 (PL 127.3). Come enjoy the food, fellowship and pool. You can even make some QSOs in WAE CW!**

## North American QSO Party by John K3MD

The NAQP, or North American QSO Party, is kind of a "wimped-out" version of the Sprint. The contests are also sponsored by the NCJ. They are run in late summer and sandwiched in-between the DX contests. They run 12 hours on a Saturday, 10 hours maximum for single operators.

These contests are partially designed to help introduce novice contesters to contesting. I used them for my sons and daughters along with the PAQP. There is team contesting, but the teams are much smaller and the inter-team competition is somewhat less. CW is more popular than SSB. Top single op QSO totals have gone from 600 to 1100 in the past few years. There is a 100 watt or less restriction in this contest. Most likely the SS should follow suit in this regard, it is rare you need 1500 w out to work N.J. on 40.

Similar to the Sprint, the name is part of the exchange, and to a lesser extent than the Sprint, there is "name-changing." This last CW and SSB Party there was a hoot movement in W7 land to honor a departed member of the contesting fraternity.

Overall, the NAQP is in a distant 10<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> place in terms of popularity compared to the DX contests, the ARRL 160, CQ 160, WPX, WAE, FD, SS, PAQP, CQP, Sprint, June, September and Jan. VHF QSO parties. However, it is a fun thing to do for a few hours on a weekend, and it is not going to tire you out in any way whatsoever. Top stations remain N2NL, N2IC, W6EEN, K5RC, and the like. Writelog, NA, TR, and N3FJP offer programs for this contest. CT did not used to, but that may have changed. I have not used CT in 1.5 years.

This contest may eventually become more popular than the ARRL Sweepstakes, due to its short exchange, no QSO numbering having to be sent, the ability to work a patient once per band, and shorter contest period. It is less taxing. There are a very large number of teams. Submitting a team is very simple. When you do submit a team, use the same spelling each time when you make a team revision (!). Otherwise you will receive a correcting e-mail from the coordinator.

## Work Wanted

Experienced climber available to perform antenna and tower maintenance.

Remove/Install antenna, repair feedlines, rotator replacement, guy wire renewal, expert tower painting, and new tower installations or replacement. Reasonable hourly rates.

Contact: John Crovelli, W2GD

w2gd@hotmail.com 908-996-3043 (Home Office)

<http://www.qsl.net/lz1jz>



## CONTESTING — TIPS, TECHNIQUES, RESOURCES

*From the June 30, 2004 ARRL Contest Rate Sheet*

George K5KG contributes a neat trick for making an 80-meter inverted-Vee do double-duty for phone and CW without a tuner. "Cut the inverted-Vee for phone. Install an SO-239 connector about one foot from the distant end of each leg. It doesn't matter whether which wire goes to the SO-239 center pin. When operating phone, connect shorted PL-259's to each SO-239. For CW, replace the shorted PL-259 with one attached to a length of coax, shorted at its distant end. This adds length to the inverted-Vee, making it resonant in the CW band. For example, make the inverted-Vee 119' long for resonance at approximately 3900 kHz, or 59.5' on each leg. Install SO-239's as described above. When operating CW (3600 kHz), replace the shorted PL-259s with six-foot sections of shorted coax at each SO-239 connector."

The following explanation of how to use "staggered stubs" for effective harmonic filtering was posted by Ken K2KW. "A single shorted 1/4-wave stub (RG213 type coax) will give you approx. 30 dB attenuation on the 2nd harmonic. (RG-8X may only reach 25 dB.) Cut one stub for the phone portion and a second stub for the CW portion of the 2nd harmonic band. Install the stubs separated by 1/4-wavelength at the center of the 2nd harmonic band. For example, to reduce 20-meter harmonics from a 40-meter transmitter, cut one stub for 14.050, a second for 14.225 and space them 1/4-wavelength apart at 14.150 MHz. The spacing distance is not critical, but don't forget to account for the velocity factor of the coax. Peter VE3PN cautions that this procedure assumes a low SWR on the line. If the impedance at the point of stub insertion is very far from 50 ohms, attenuation will suffer. Either improve the system match or use a network analyzer to adjust stub length at the actual line impedance.

For those of you that want to know more about stubs, check out George W2VJN's excellent book, "Managing Interstation Interference" at <http://www.qth.com/inrad/>.

*From the July 14, 2004 ARRL Contest Rate Sheet*

Have you checked out the July issue of National Geographic? It contains a great article on the sun, including a lot of discussion about flares, CMEs, magnetic fields and other wonderful things that hams pay a lot of attention to. The photography is also tip-top and you'll enjoy just looking at the graphics.

NZART, the New Zealand organization for Amateur Radio has adapted the standard Region 3 band plan for 160 meters. The ZL band plan is now narrow-band modes from 1.800 to 1.840 MHz, and other modes from 1.840 to 1.950 MHz. (Thanks, Greg ZL3IX)

The Worked All Europe contest is featuring a "Super Bowl" this year. By entering the contest and making a checked score of 10,000 points or more, you become eligible for one of 50 prizes, ranging from T-shirts to a Jupiter Ten-Tec transceiver. See <http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/xedcws.htm> for complete details and rules. You might want to set aside the WAEDC weekends this year! (Thanks, Ben DL6RAI)

75-ohm hardline is a common surplus item from CATV companies. If the 1.5:1 VSWR in a 50-ohm ham world gives you heartburn, you can make a simple single-band match by using two 1/12-wavelength pieces of cable. At the 50-ohm point, connect a 1/12-wavelength piece of the 75-ohm cable, followed by a 1/12-wavelength piece of the 50-ohm cable, which is then connected to the 75-ohm cable. This will only work on a single band, but if you are feeding a monoband antenna, the method will work well. (Thanks, Jukka OH6LI)

The Single-Op, Two-Radio Web site maintained by Jeff K8ND is undergoing a major facelift this summer. Check out the progress at [http://home.columbus.rr.com/jmaass/Radio/K8ND\\_SO2R.htm](http://home.columbus.rr.com/jmaass/Radio/K8ND_SO2R.htm). What started out as a simple reference page has outgrown its current format. Jeff encourages you to send him photos of your SO2R setup at the address on the Web site.

## Contesting as the Solar Indices Plummet

by Fred Laun, K3ZO

*Reprinted with permission from PVRC (September 2003 Newsletter)*

Conditions on the HF bands sure have been terrible lately. Is this a sign of things to come? Well... Yes and no...

If you work six meters as I do, this has actually been a pretty good summer, probably the best six-meter summer season since 1995. And in some parts of the country and the world (not very much around here, unfortunately) 2-meter and 222MHz fans have had their share of ionospheric openings also. So before we completely throw our hands up and decide to bypass the rig in favor of the Internet (or whatever...) it would be well for all of us to keep the following points in mind:

- (1) Low sunspot numbers have less influence on summertime conditions than they do on conditions in the fall, winter and spring.
- (2) While ever-lower sunspot numbers will mean declining conditions on 10, 15 and eventually 20 meters, conditions will improve on the 40, 80 and 160 meter bands up to a certain point in the downturn.
- (3) Conditions on longer DX paths on the 40 meter and 80 meter bands are NOT as good at the very bottom of the cycle as they are somewhere along the slope.

The existence of many excellent sites on the Web makes path predictions as we go down the slope much easier to make than it would have been some years ago. While there are computer programs out there which theoretically do this work for you, as a long-time practical observer of propagation conditions, I am leery of anyone's claims that they have been able to factor all eventualities into an algorithm which can take into account all parameters which bear on propagation conditions at a particular point in time. I much prefer to look at what my actual logs looked like when the numbers were similar and draw inferences from that.

One of the great features of Amateur Radio is that a person with little scientific training such as myself has a chance, by careful observation over many years, to become a practical expert in predicting what might happen at any point in a contest. One example: If the K index was K=1 at the beginning of a contest, but suddenly I find strong backscatter with auroral flutter when I point my 40 meter beam toward Europe in the evening, I know without having to look at WWV that the K index has risen to K=4 or higher. This will bring about an immediate change in my contest strategy from that point forward.

My mention of the K index reminds me that I should pause here for a brief explanation of how we can use the indices that are out there which relate to propagation. The Solar Flux (SFI) tracks well with the Smoothed Sunspot Numbers (SSN) but is a more accurate indicator of ionospheric conditions than the SSN itself. The A index is an indicator of ionospheric absorption in the very recent past, but while it may be useful in historical analysis, I find it of very little practical value to me in plotting strategy since what it measures has already happened by the time we find out what the numbers are. Far more useful is the K index, which is updated every three hours. One look at the current K index immediately means a lot of things to the experienced observer.

While fairly good predictions about the future progress of the current sunspot cycle can be made based on the shape of this cycle compared with past cycles, and how far along in the cycle we are likely to be at any particular point, the K index is a much more random indicator, depending on instantaneous solar conditions which, insofar as we know now, are seldom cyclical.

We do know, however, that solar disturbances leading to high values of ionospheric absorption are more prevalent on the downslope of a cycle than they are on the upslope, and particularly at a point two or three years after a cycle peak, which is exactly where we happen to be right now. Therefore, regarding conditions in recent months, we can make these important points:

## CONTESTING — TIPS, TECHNIQUES, RESOURCES

- (1) For a given SFI value, HF conditions in recent months have been WORSE than one would normally expect.
- (2) The almost endless K=4 and K=5 values we have endured during this period are unprecedented in the history of modern solar observation, leading some expert long-time observers of past cycles to predict that the next solar sunspot peak will be abnormally high.
- (3) These consistently high ionospheric absorption values PROBABLY explain the relatively good recent six-meter conditions, since regular observations of six-meter conditions around the peak of the current solar cycle showed that K indices of K=3 or K=4 were more likely to cause increases in the instantaneous Maximum Usable Frequency (MUF) than were Kindices of K=1 or K=2.

To analyze the implications of paragraph (3) a bit further, it is important to note that the current cycle had a double peak. The first peak in April 2000 saw slightly higher SSNs, but six meter DX conditions were far better during the second, slightly lower, peak. When looking at the SFI numbers we see that the maximum values of this parameter occurred in September of 2001, just about the time the second peak began, and just about the time the 6 meter band began to open to Europe from the East Coast on almost a daily basis, a series of openings that continued until February 2002. I would like to say that six meters was better during the second peak than the first because A index and K index values were higher then, but I haven't had time to analyze the available data.

Now let's take a look at what you are actually likely to be able to work in DX contests as we go through the next few years. I wish to acknowledge at this point that I am indebted to Jan Alvestad and his excellent Web site at <http://www.dxlc.com/solar/index.html> for much of the data used in making the following analysis.

Over the past three months the SFI has averaged about 140, so by the time the CQWW contests arrive we are likely to be experiencing average SFIs of about 130. So what did I work the last time we had SFIs of about 130 during the CQWW? That would have been in October of 1998.

Well I tried to start the contest beaming Asia on 15 meters but after I started off with a few JAs the band closed to Asia barely 10 minutes into the contest and I was forced to turn the beam around and work South Americans on 15 until 0024Z when there was no percentage in staying on 15 any longer so I went to 20 and worked South Americans and Africans there. By 0215Z I was already on 75 meters, having skipped over 40 on purpose, since it has been my observation over the years that in the CQWW Phone, most Europeans open the contest on 40 by working each other, and don't begin to work split in great numbers until six or seven hours into the contest.

I bounced between 75, 40 and 160 until 0800Z when I went to 20 and found the band open somewhat to Asia and the Pacific. I took a nap around this time and otherwise picked up multipliers on 40 and 75, so I can't say when 20 opened up to Europe that morning. But by 1115Z 15 meters was already wide open to Europe and I had a great run on that band until 1240Z when I tried 10 meters. Ten was open to Europe and I ran there until 1450Z but there was a noticeable lack of Scandinavians and even Germans were sparse, so the rate didn't hold and by 1500 I was back on 15.

Fifteen meters played beautifully to Europe until 1800 when I thought I better go look for South American multipliers on 10. By 1900 I was running Europeans on 20. This lasted until 2000 when I went to 15 to get South American multipliers there. At 2130 I went back to 10 beaming into the Pacific. KH6s were coming in and even Guam. The band opened to Japan at exactly 2200. However it was not the sort of opening where you could run JAs -- you could only hear a few of the big guns -- and by 2300 I was on 15 beaming Asia. I had a great run of Asians until 2400 and then, as it did the day before, 15 dropped out to Asia.

So what can we say about this coming October? Here are my best predictions:

10 meters: Good to Southern Europe, fair to Central Europe, Scandinavians few and far between. Africa will be fine. South America and the Southern Caribbean will be fine, but some of the closer Caribbean islands will be available on backscatter only, as the F2 skip zone will be longer than we have recently been accustomed to. The Pacific will be OK,

## CONTESTING — TIPS, TECHNIQUES, RESOURCES

but only the Asian big guns will be workable, and Asian openings will be very short. Band won't last for long after dark.

15 meters: Asian openings short, European openings long and productive. Band will close earlier and open later than we have been accustomed to.

20 meters: A good all-around band for everywhere, but will close early to Europe (around 2000Z) and won't open to Europe again until about 1030Z.

40 meters: Big signals when it is open since the MUF will be closer to 7 MHz than it has been in recent years. Any sort of disturbance, however, will limit availability of Northern Europeans. The band will open earlier and close later than we have been accustomed to.

75 meters: Better signals than we have seen in recent years. Will open earlier and close later than it has been doing.

160 meters: Same as above.

### **The Worked All Europe (WAE) Contest** **By John, K3MD**

The WAE is run by the Deutscher ARC (Germany), and will have its 50<sup>th</sup> running in 2005. This is a 48 hour contest during the summer and early fall (second weekend of August and September). I personally have only operated this contest on CW. This contest is by far the most popular of the DX contests which are sponsored by European nations, and is the equivalent to our ARRL DX contest for Europeans.

The unique feature of this contest is the QTC. Using this feature, you can gain points by sending reports of previous QSO's with European stations to European stations. Prior to the advent of computer logging, this was mainly just a pain, and was meant to facilitate accurate message-handling and sending practices. Keeping records of this manually was a total pain in the neck.

All of the newer contest programs (CT, Writelog, TR, etc.) have capability to send these QTC's very easily on CW. They can also be sent non-manually on SSB provided you have a K1EA DVP board. The automatic sending of the QTC's makes operating the program much easier, as you can imagine.

Results are available on the website, [www.waedc.de](http://www.waedc.de). The contest runs 80 thru 10 with preferential multiplier scoring for 40 and 80 meters. Working Europe on 80 meters in the summer is a trip, but it can easily be done on 40 meters. There are a large number of certificates in ratio to contestants, so it is not that difficult to get your call in bold on this one.

There is an RTTY weekend, which I know nothing about since I last operated RTTY in 1985 with a Commodore 64 computer. The contest serves as a post-IARU warm-down and a pre-pre-dx-contest/ PAQSO season warm-up.

Overall, CW is only around 25 percent more popular than CW, which I find surprising since the contest is more labor-intensive for stations outside of Europe on SSB than CW. Conditions are better during the CW weekend.

Our local winners are, as usual, K3WW, W2UP and AA3B.

If you happen to be contest-addicted, this is a good one:

High bands only open to Europe 4 to 8 hours in summer

You can work them on 40, but don't strain yourself

No one really cares what the results are, so just get in and have a good time

Sending those QTC's on CW is such a breeze compared to "the old days" that is nearly addicting.

### **New Vanity Call Fee**

New vanity fee goes into effect August 6: The FCC has announced that the new Amateur Radio vanity call sign regulatory fee of \$20.80 for the 10-year license term will go into effect August 6, 2004. Applicants for amateur vanity call signs will continue to pay the \$16.30 fee per vanity call sign application until the new fee goes into effect. All applications received at the FCC on or after August 6 must be accompanied by the new, higher fee.

### **ARRL Board Okays Volunteer Grassroots Lobbying Effort**

The ARRL Board of Directors has formalized a grassroots congressional lobbying program with an initial focus on BPL. Acting July 16 during its second meeting of 2004 in Windsor, Connecticut, the Board acknowledged the need to "immediately begin a BPL grassroots lobbying campaign." Hudson Division Director Frank Fallon, N2FF, who headed the Ad Hoc Committee on Grassroots Lobbying, sees the creation of a national "political machine" as a practical way to protect Amateur Radio spectrum.

"We're really, in essence, changing the culture of how we operate," Fallon said after the meeting. "We're going to use our members as constituents to talk to key legislators." While the campaign will zero in on BPL in the near term, it eventually could expand to support bills dealing with spectrum protection and with deed covenants, conditions and restrictions (CC&Rs) and their impact on amateur antennas.

"It can be more effective for two or three constituents to walk into a lawmaker's office to pitch their cause," Fallon said. Such contacts, he pointed out, also can pave the way for subsequent meetings between League officials and members of Congress or their staff members.

To establish a coordinating structure, the Board created the positions of Division Congressional Action Chair, Congressional Action Coordinator and Congressional Action Assistant. The Board authorized the League's 15 division directors to appoint qualified volunteers to these positions.

Under the plan the Board adopted, the Division Congressional Action Chair, one in each ARRL division, would be a cabinet-level volunteer with some experience in lobbying activities. There would be at least one Congressional Action Coordinator in each state, ideally selected in consultation with section managers. These volunteers also would be members of the director's cabinet. Working with the director, the Congressional Action Coordinator will designate and develop a number of Congressional Action Assistants to "accomplish the mission of getting the ARRL message to legislators," the ad hoc committee's report explained.

Fallon said the grassroots lobbying effort will fold into a comprehensive broadband over power line strategy, which the Board discussed at length but did not make public. The Board expressed the hope that the lobbying effort could be up and running by fall. In other business, the Board:

- \* approved a system to automatically recognize long-term League membership and to express appreciation of that support through a system of awards.
- \* designated the next Dayton Hamvention as ARRL National Convention 2005. Hamvention will take place May 20-22 at Hara Arena near Dayton, Ohio.
- \* directed the filing of an application with the FCC for an experimental license authorizing low-frequency operation for specified Amateur Radio stations.
- \* resolved to have President Haynie appoint a study committee to recommend effective means of promoting "constructive relations and open lines of communication" between the League and the Amateur Radio industry. The committee will solicit input from the Industry Advisory Council and report to the Board at its January 2005 meeting.

The official minutes of the July 2004 meeting of the ARRL Board of Directors are available on the ARRL Web site <<<http://www.arrl.org/announce/board-0407/>>>.



# THE FRANKFORD RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER

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



Affiliated Club

## The Frankford Radio Club

### Club Officers

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### Committee Chairman

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**Repeater** - 2 meters, 147.27/147.87 Output PL tone, 114.8

**Home Page** - [www.gofrc.org](http://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  
TBA W2JT

### Telnet DX Cluster

k2ut.gofrc.org  
k3ww.gofrc.org 7300  
w3frc.gofrc.org 7300