

The Dipole

Radiating the News of the Marple Newtown Amateur Radio Club

April 2008

Next Club Meeting: Thurs. April 3rd, 7 p.m. at The Gauntlett Center

INSIDE THIS MONTH'S DIPOLE

Law and Order...Not TV, The Program.....	Cover
Club Information.....	2
Awards Announced by the ARRL.....	5
Nominations Sought.....	7
Typos Fixed by FCC.....	8
Skywarn Rep Needed: Inquire Within.....	9
DX Data.....	9
DTV Antenna Selection Guide.....	10
Spring School Announced.....	10
DX Data: Part II.....	11
Aging.....	15
Men at Work.....	16
The Scoop.....	16
Fuelish Tips.....	17
Segments of Our Personalities.....	18
Kulpsville SWL Gathering a Success.....	18

LAW AND ORDER... NOT TV, THE PROGRAM

American continues to live up to its reputation of being a litigant society. Unfortunately, this image continues to migrate into the Amateur Radio community. As its Thursday, April 3 program the Marple Newtown Amateur Radio Club (MNARClub) is presenting as its 7 p.m. program, "The Law and Amateur Radio."

Held at the Robert Gauntlett Community Center, Media Line Road, near West Chester Pike, Newtown Square, the presenter will be MNARClub member Robert B. Famiglio, Esquire. Mr. Famiglio is a member of Famiglio and Associates, Media and Marple Township. Ham Radio operators know him better by his Amateur Radio call, K3RF.

Robert Famiglio was first licensed by the Federal Communications Commission in 1967 as WN3ADN/WA3ADN and has continued as an active radio amateur since that time. In 1975, he was granted his present FCC call sign of K3RF. Robert Famiglio is also a graduate Electrical Engineer, an experienced broadcast station engineer and owner, and is also licensed to practice law in several states as well as before the US Patent and Trademark Office.

His Amateur Radio biography cites his involvement in the Delaware County ARES Team 1 member and a Delaware County ARES/RACES Net Manager and moderates this on-the-air activity on the fourth and fifth Wednesdays of each month.

To aid in his emergency field activities, Famiglio holds certification in Level 1(Basic), 2(Intermediate), and 3(Advanced) Emergency Communications Courses sponsored by the American Radio Relay League, which represents the United States Amateur Radio community.

As Mr. Famiglio will demonstrate through his upcoming presentation, he is also an ARRL Volunteer Counsel for area and national legal matters. In addition to his vocational and community activities, Robert Famiglio is also an FAA licensed pilot.

MARPLE NEWTOWN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
c/o The Gauntlett Center
20 South Media Line Road at West Chester Pike
Newtown Square, Delaware County, PA 19073

For information about our club,
phone President Walt Faust at (610) 622-2200.

OFFICERS

President..... Walt Faust N3FXR
Acting Program Chair Walt Faust N3FXR
Vice President Jim Goldman W3JG
Secretary Open
Treasurer Bill Bowers N3ZAV

COMMITTEES, MANAGERS,
AND COORDINATORS

Public Relations Jim Biddle W3DCL
License Exam School Manager..... Bill White K3TBZ
Webmaster Tom Tenaglia K3TAT
K3MN Repeater Trustee Dan Amoroso W3DI
K3MN Club Station Managers ... John Nielsands W3YDC
Neil Griffith W2GTV
IRLP Trustee Tom Tenaglia K3TAT

The Dipole

Contributing Editor Jim Biddle W3DCL
Desktop Publishing Tom Tenaglia K3TAT
Reproduction..... Bill Bowers N3ZAV
Distribution The Peel'em and Seal'em Group

Meetings, Nets, and Packet BBS
Monthly Club Meetings: First non-holiday Thursday,
7:00 p.m. at the Gauntlett Center in Newtown Square,
Delaware County. Talk-in: 147.195 repeater
Daily Weather and Information Net: Every morning at 8:30
a.m. on 147.195 repeater
Club Web Page (including online version of The Dipole):
<http://mnarc.org>
Delaware County ARES Net: Every Wednesday at 19:30 local

Club Information

This feature, **Leadership for the Amateur Radio Club** is the product of Norm Fusaro, W3IZ. It has been shared by the **ARRL Club Newsletter**. The concepts, observations, and guidelines included in this treatise are valuable not only for the life and well being of an Amateur Radio Club, but for the guidance of all groups of "people organizations."

These key tools can provide transferable successes. One must realize that the skills and successes in one group can be modified to create other group successes.

Leadership for the Amateur Radio Club
By Norm Fusaro, W3IZ

Congratulations! You have just been appointed to a leadership position of your Amateur Radio club. You may be on the board of directors or an officer of the club or you may be chairperson of an event like a Hamfest or Field Day. Other positions of leadership may include heading up a team of Volunteer Examiners or organizing a new licensing class. Whatever the responsibility, the fact remains that the members of your organization are now looking to YOU to lead them to accomplish a set of goals.

Leadership is not a popularity contest. During the course of your tenure some people are not going to be happy with some of the decisions that are made. That is unfortunate but a leader has to do what is best for the organization. Trying to please everyone is a losing proposition and will only alienate those that truly have something to offer.

This does not mean that as the leader you get to ride roughshod over everyone. There are always diplomatic ways to affect change. As a leader you are the champion of change. Doing things the same old way is not leading, it is simply repeating the mistakes of others. Not that the way things were previously done were necessarily wrong, but a leader is one who will look at ways to do things better. Finding ways to tweak it, move it up a notch, fine-tune it, or whichever cliché you choose, is what a leader will do.

As a leader you are not going to have all of the solutions so keep an open mind and consider fresh ideas from your members. Rather than doing things "the way that we've always done" look for better ways to do them. It is neither "your way" nor "my way" but the best way.

Stimulate your members to find new approaches to the challenges at hand. An effective leader is one whose people believe that they did things on their own. Be innovative, not imposing. Be influential, not demanding. Inspire your team to take ownership of the project and do the best that they can do.

Leaders Must Have Integrity

Managers are people who do things right, while leaders are people who do the right thing. --Warren Bennis, Ph.D. "On Becoming a Leader"

In order to be a good leader one has to develop trust from the membership. Trust is inspired by actions. Being open and fair with people is the best way to gain their trust. Nobody will trust someone who lies or doesn't give honest feedback. People will become skeptical of secret or closed meetings. Avoid these behaviors at all cost. They will be the downfall of even the most well-intentioned person.

You and your team have made a commitment to the club to accomplish a task. It makes no difference if the position is voluntary or compensated; a promise has been made to do the job. As a leader you will delegate jobs and responsibilities. Be specific about what is expected. You will also have to provide feedback. Be honest in your feedback and don't blame others for things that did not work out.

A good leader will always see the glass half full. Avoid being cynical or negative as this will just undermine your objectives.

Inclusion

Without involvement, there is no commitment. Mark it down, asterisk it, circle it, underline it. No involvement, no commitment.—Stephen Covey--

Your radio club is comprised of people. People are individuals and each person has something unique to offer to the group. As the leader of the organization you will be tasked with identifying the talents of the individuals and delegating tasks that will achieve the mission of the club.

The individual members of your club also have needs. We will assume that the basic needs of life are being met--food, shelter, clothing--so we will look at people's other needs. All people have a need to belong, to be recognized, to learn, to accomplish something and to express an idea or vision.

By focusing on your people, the goals of the organization will be met. However, if you simply focus on the goals and not the members then you will not have the support of the people needed to accomplish the mission, in which case you will have failed all around.

The members of your club want to be a part of the activities. Deep down even the most introverted person in the club wants to be involved but they are just waiting to be invited to participate.

When looking for people to do jobs for an event, passing around a clipboard with a sign up sheet will net very little. Walk up to people and ask them if they would care to assist by doing a specific job.

"Bob, would you like to help us by putting address labels on the envelopes for the Hamfest fliers?" Or "Mary, could you be the contact person to register new hams for the upcoming licensing class?"

These are specific jobs asked of specific people. By asking people to participate you are satisfying their needs to belong, to accomplish something and to perhaps learn something. Even the simple task of mailing labels may teach someone about the process of mail merging and computer generated labels from a database. You will never know unless you ask.

Furthermore, when recognizing these individuals for their part in the project start with the smallest job first. By putting them in the front of the parade you are making them important and not trivializing their contributions.

Have A Mission Statement

The goals of the club should be communicated to every member. Committees of a club should also have a mission statement. This statement should clearly define the objective and the mission of the group. Your mission statement may only be one sentence, "The mission of this club is to have fun." The Frankford Radio Club in Philadelphia has a very simple statement, "Proficiency through competition." For a contest club that pretty much says it all.

Whatever the mission of the group is, write it down and communicate it to everyone. Keep it handy and visit it often. Don't lose sight of what it is that all of you are there for. Effective leaders will continually find new ways to communicate this vision.

Commit To Excellence

The quality of a person's life is in direct proportion to their commitment to excellence, regardless of their chosen field of endeavor.

-- Vincent T. Lombardi

Always do things to the best of your ability and accept nothing less than the best that anyone can do. The key to this is to empower your people. Don't micromanage your team. Set goals and guidelines and your people will find ingenious ways to accomplish them. Good enough is never good enough.

Accept Responsibility

No man will make a great leader who wants to do it all himself, or to get all the credit for doing it.

-- Andrew Carnegie

Own the project. It is not what "they" want or what "the board" or somebody else wants. It is what needs to be done and we are going to do it. Own it and do it. Nobody wants to listen to a wishy-washy person. A leader is going to take command of a situation and gather input from the team and then make a decision on how to accomplish the goals. If things fail, a leader takes responsibility and doesn't blame others. Leaders don't take credit for successes, leaders acknowledge the entire team.

Create Excitement

You will do foolish things, but do them with enthusiasm.

-- Colette

Lead by example. Your excitement about the project should be contagious. "This is going to be the best event ever." Say it and mean it. Avoid sarcasm or negative comments. You were not drafted or bamboozled into doing this job. You volunteered to do this job because you wanted it to be successful.

Remember the first part of this exercise where we said that you are not going to be able to please everyone? This may be true, but if you have a naysayer that is trying to undermine the operation so that should it fail they can say "I told you so." perhaps you may need to talk to that individual and find out specifically what it is that he or she sees wrong with the project. You will have to try to create the excitement on a personal level. Surely you won't expect this person to jump up with bells and balloons but you may just be able to neutralize their negative outlook.

Always Remain Positive

Celebrate the victories, no matter how small, and never dwell on the negative. If something didn't work this time, look at it as an opportunity to improve upon it next time. We learn from our mistakes as well as our successes. A good leader has the humility to admit that something didn't work but also takes a lesson from it.

Be proactive and anticipate changes. Always have a "Plan B" in case something should happen that wasn't part of the initial plan.

Build Relationships

Whoever is careless with the truth in small matters cannot be trusted with the important matters.

-- Albert Einstein

Everything we do in life is interdependent upon the relationships that we develop with other people. We said earlier that clubs are comprised of people. As a leader you will have to build relationships with everyone in your club. Everyone has something to offer. Avoid playing favorites or developing a clique. *Leaders do not seek hero worship.*

As a new leader you may be called upon to mend broken relationships. This may require some tact and in most cases may not happen overnight. Time really does heal all wounds. The first step in these types of situations is to extend a hand in friendship and acknowledge that, though not intentional, things did not turn out exactly for the best. Make a concerted effort to go forward and apologize for anything that may have happened in the past. *Take this lesson from the ancient Chinese who used gold to fill the cracks in a broken vase making it more valuable than the original*

It is the uniqueness of every individual that makes your club work. If everybody were exactly the same the group would be dysfunctional. Celebrate diversity and utilize the many points of view that everyone has to offer. People are not objects that can be shelved and returned to at a later date. We must continually work at the relationships in our lives and in our club. This means that we must be mindful of other commitments to family

and work and other organizations that we are involved in and respect other's prior commitments.

Balance is the key. Have Fun

Lead and inspire people. Don't try to manage and manipulate people. Inventories can be managed but people must be lead.

-- Ross Perot

As a leader you are going to take risks and challenge the status quo. You are going to upset some people sometime. As long as you continue to build strong relationships with your club members you will not alienate anyone. The idea of a club is to have fun. Even the most serious of people enjoy a break and some fun. Maintain a sense of humor and learn to laugh at your own mistakes. Leaders are not gods. They are human beings just like everyone else in the club. So, don't take yourself too seriously.

The reward for any good leader is being asked to tackle the next challenge.

Summary

- Respect people - Earn trust
- Set goals
- Communicate effectively
- Strive for excellence--Accept responsibility
- Celebrate victories--learn from mistakes
- Create excitement--stay positive
- Be proactive
- Build and maintain relationships

Important Words

- The six most important words: "I admit I made a mistake."
- The five most important words: "You did a good job."
- The four most important words: "What is your opinion?"
- The three most important words: "If you please."
- The two most important words: "Thank you,"
- The one most important word: "We"
- The least most important word: "I"

Author unknown

Award Announced by the ARRL

The ARRL has recently announced their issuing the Colvin Award. Because of its narrow focus in the expanse of the many Amateur Radio areas of activities, not all Ham Radio operators may be aware of this award. The focus of this award is that of DXing.

The Colvin Award was established in 1994 with the proceeds of a life insurance policy purchased by renowned DXer Lloyd Colvin, W6KG (SK), The ARRL was the beneficiary of this insurance policy. The award differs from the majority of the League's rewards. Instead of being rewarded for an activity or program, the recipient or recipients of the Colvin Award are grants that support Amateur Radio projects that promote international goodwill in the field of DX.

The awards guidelines favor multi-national teams with strong ethics and good QSLing policies including the use of Logbook of the World. As some additional background information, activities spanning the period of the 1960s into the early 1990s, Lloyd Colvin and his wife Iris, W6QL, activated more than 100 DXCC entities. With their deaths, Lloyd Colvin in 1993, and Iris Colvin in 1998 and their insurance proceeds, their support of DX in continuing. Continuing in a creative, yet rewarding fashion.



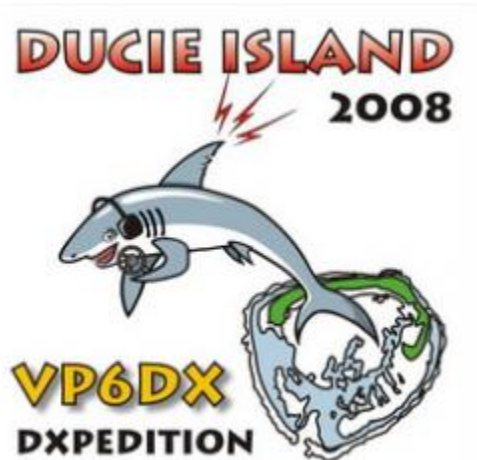
Lloyd and Iris Colvin, W6KG and W6QL, in a photo taken around 1993. Photo courtesy of ARRL.

The recently granted ARRL Colvin Awards were extended to three 2008 DXpeditions: The recipients were the recently completed VP6DX Ducie Island DXpedition and the upcoming operations from the TX5C DXpedition to Clipperton Island and the 9XOR DXpedition to Rwanda. It should be noted that these three DXCC entities appear high up on the "most-wanted lists."

The follow data has been supplied by the ARRL and this information aids in giving support explanations for each of the award recipients.

While each of these DX opportunities will be “past tense” when this issue of the *eDipole* is released, the text may be of some value for a fill-in for the proper handling of submission details.

VP6DX, Ducie Island



The VP6DX DXpedition was on the air from February 11-27. Carsten Esch, DL6LAU, and Eric Scace, K3NA, led the 13-member team to the small island 540 kilometers east of Pitcairn Island in the South Pacific. This DXpedition made 183,686 contacts, the largest number of contacts made by any radio DXpedition. The previous record was held since February 2001 by the Five Star DX Association's DXpedition to the Comoros Island, D68C. Ducie Island was ranked as #25 on the DXCC list of most-wanted entities.

The VP6DX DXpedition broke many other records, including:

- The largest number of RTTY contacts, previously held by the Swains Island [N8S](#) DXpedition in April 2007.
- The largest number of SSB (voice) contacts, previously held by the Comoros Island D68C DXpedition.
- The largest number of contacts on 40 meters, previously held by the Libya [5A7A](#) DXpedition in November 2006.

- The largest number of contacts on 30 meters, previously held by the St Brandon Island [3B7C](#) DXpedition in September 2007.
- The largest number of contacts on 17 meters, previously held by the Swains Island N8S DXpedition.
- The largest number of contacts with North America, previously held by the Comoros Island D68C DXpedition.
- The largest number of contacts with South America, previously held by the Peter I Island [3Y0X](#) DXpedition in February 2006.
- The largest number of contacts with Africa, previously held by the Rodrigues Island [3B9C](#) DXpedition in March-April 2004.

TX5C, Clipperton Island



An overseas possession of France, Clipperton Island is a coral atoll in the North Pacific. About nine square kilometers, it lies southwest of Mexico and west of Costa Rica and has no permanent inhabitants. Bob Grimmick, N6OX, will lead an international team of 21 amateurs to the atoll for a DXpedition set to begin March 7 for 10 days. Clipperton currently ranks as #21 on the DXCC list of most-wanted entities. Logs will be uploaded to [Logbook of the World](#) once TX5C's official log has been certified.

TX5C plans to [operate](#) on 6-160 meters: "We will nearly always be working split and will regularly announce our listening frequencies. Our goal is to make over 100,000 QSOs and will pay special attention to working some of the more difficult areas like Europe and the Middle East."

An important goal of the TX5C DXpedition is furthering the knowledge of Clipperton and its ecosystem. As part of the application for the landing permit, the TX5C team agreed that certain [scientific studies](#) would be performed during their stay on the atoll, such as setting up a weather station, recording tide times and observation of native bird species. These studies will be conducted under the auspices of Christian Jost, director of the Geographical Research Center of Paul Verlaine University in Metz.

9X0R, Rwanda



Antonio Gonzalez, EA5RM, will lead a 13-member team to this small landlocked country in the Great Lakes region of east-central Africa. The 9X0R team plans to be on the air from March 16-27. They will [operate](#) on 10-160 meters on CW, SSB and digital modes. Rwanda has not been on the air since late 1997 and currently ranks as #45 on the DXCC list of most-wanted entities.

Gonzalez said the Rwanda Utilities Regulatory Agency ([RURA](#)) is trying to establish rules regarding Amateur Radio in Rwanda: "Right now there is not an easy way to get an Amateur Radio license here, but in a few months things should be different and ham radio activities will start to be more usual from this country."

According to Gonzalez, a group of Rwandan amateurs, with the help of RURA, are trying to establish the Rwanda Amateur Radio Union ([RARU](#)) as the national Amateur Radio society in that country. He said that the RARU will be applying for membership in the International Amateur Radio Union ([IARU](#)) soon.

As an attempt to expand the areas cited in this and other issues of the *eDipole*, this HF topic can be of benefit to HF DX hunters. Good DXing certifications if any readers have participated in these events.

Nominations Sought

In a March announcement from the ARRL the *eDipole* has learned that nominations are being sought for the 2008 Young Ham of the Year Award. This award is sponsored by the *Amateur Radio Newslines*. The award recipient is a licensed Amateur Radio operator who is 18 years old or younger who has used Amateur Radio to significantly contribute to the benefit of the Amateur Radio Service, to the state of the communications art and to his community or the nation.

Additional requirements stated by *Amateur Radio Newslines* state these young Ham Radio operators must reside "in the United States (including Alaska and Hawaii), Canada or Puerto Rico is eligible to be nominated for this award. Nominations and supporting materials must be submitted before May 30, 2008 on an official application."

The ARRL announcement added the following information:

According to *Amateur Radio Newslines*'s Pill Pasternak, WA6ITF, "This award is not a contest for a prize. Any prizes given are secondary in nature. A person selected 'Young Ham of the Year' is judged on his or her contributions to society through Amateur Radio. For example, a youngster whose only claim to fame is that of being licensed as an Extra at age four would not necessarily be judged as having made a significant contribution to the Amateur Radio Service. On the other hand, a 14 year old Novice or Technician running a Net during a major disaster or crisis would definitely be given consideration."

The 2007 YHOTY was Grant H. Morine, W4GHM, then a 17 year old from Wilmington, North Carolina. Morine was selected based on his commitment to Amateur Radio, along with his work in public service and his promotion of the Amateur Radio Service to others through the Boy Scouts of America.

The 2008 Amateur Radio Newslines YHOTY Award will be presented on Saturday, August 16, 2008 at the [Huntsville Hamfest](#) in Huntsville, Alabama. As the

2007 Young Ham of the Year, Morine received a trip to the Huntsville Hamfest, ham radio equipment, various books and magazines and an all-expense-paid week at Spacecamp in Huntsville. Amateur Radio Newline awarded Morine with a commemorative plaque at the ceremony.

To obtain a nomination form, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to 2006 Young Ham of the Year Award, c/o Newline, 28197 Robin Ave, Santa Clarita, CA 91350, or [download](#) the form from the Internet. Nominations may be [electronically submitted](#) via <http://www.yhoty.org/nomination-form.htm>, but supporting materials must be submitted separately. Presentation of the 2008 YHOTY Award will take place in August at the Huntsville Hamfest in Alabama. For more information, please see the [YHOTY](#) Web site.

Typos Fixed by FCC

In a QST issued through the American Radio Relay League's W1AW, the ARRL Bulletin 6 issued from ARRL Headquarters in Newington Connecticut, the March 13, 2008 informational release told of the Federal Communication Commissions "fixing" of typographical errors in the FCC Part 97

The FCC released a Memorandum Opinion and Order (MOO) on Wednesday, March 12, for the Commission's Rules, including rules affecting Part 97, the Amateur Radio Service.

According to the FCC, these changes are "non-substantive editorial revisions" and do not introduce new rules or change old rules applicable to Amateur Radio operators. The MOO is available at, http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-08-530A1.pdf.

In this MOO, the FCC is updating the Allocation Table and service rules for the Amateur Radio Service with regard to the band 75.5-81 GHz. In 2003, the Commission released a Report and Order (R&O), commonly called the 70/80/90 GHz

R&O, that adopted a transition plan for the amateur use of the segment 75.5-76 GHz. The Commission concluded that moving Amateur Radio operations out of the 75.5-76 GHz band would not pose a major inconvenience to the Amateur Radio Service, but would "substantially benefit future fixed services, because it would eliminate the possibility of harmful interference from amateurs."

Accordingly, the primary allocations to the Amateur and Amateur Satellite Services in the 75.5-76 GHz band were downgraded from primary to secondary status, with secondary use ceasing on January 1, 2006. After that date, the band 75.5-76 GHz was no longer available for use by the Amateur Service or the Amateur Satellite Service.

This transition plan was codified in footnote US387 and in Section 97.303(r)(3) of the Commission's Amateur Service rules. Because the transition period has concluded, the Commission "removed expired footnote US387 from the list of U.S. footnotes and we are amending Part 97 of the Commission's Rules to reflect this allocation change by: (1) revising the entry "75.5-81.0" GHz in Section 97.301(a) to read "76-81" GHz; (2) Section 97.303; and (3) renumbering paragraph (r)(1) as paragraph (r)."

In October 2006, the FCC released the Amateur Phone Band Expansion R&O, that expanded the phone bands. With the release of the MOO, the FCC is making two changes.

The first change to the October 2006 R&O is simply a correction of a typographical error in the Rules for the General phone allocation on 15 meters. In the Amateur Phone Band Expansion R&O, the Commission revised 21.30-21.45 MHz to read 21.275-21.45 MHz, but the current codification of the rule does not reflect this change. All the Commission did was to bring the Rules into alignment with the R&O.

The second change fixed an omission in the Novice/Technician allocation on 40 meters. The FCC found that when the

Amateur Phone Band Expansion R&O was released, "the Commission expanded the frequency segment authorized for amateur voice communications within the 40 meter band by correspondingly reducing a band segment used for narrowband emission types by 25 kHz, from 7.100-7.150 MHz to 7.100-7.125 MHz."

The revised frequency table in Section 97.301(e) of the FCC's Rules that lists authorized frequency bands for Novice and Technician Class inadvertently omitted 7.100-7.125 MHz from Regions 1 and 3. "Because the Amateur Phone Band Expansion R&O addressed the division of amateur frequencies among permissible emission types and not between geographic ITU Regions, we must further amend Section 97.301(e), as set forth in Appendix C, to implement the Commission's decision. Specifically, we are revising the 40 meter band by reinserting the segment '7.100-7.125' MHz in the Region 1 and Region 3 columns."

The FCC also took the opportunity to remove a double negative from Section 97.303(b). Before the release of the MOO, this Section read: "No amateur station transmitting in the 1900-2000 kHz segment, the 70 cm band, the 33 cm band, the 23 cm band, the 13 cm band, the 9 cm band, the 5 cm band, the 3 cm band, the 24.05-24.25 GHz segment, the 76-77.5 GHz segment, the 78-81 GHz segment, the 136-141 GHz segment, and the 241-248 GHz segment SHALL NOT cause harmful interference to, nor is protected from interference due to the operation of, the Federal radiolocation service."

The FCC chose to take out the word "NOT" to bring the rule's words in line with the spirit of the rule.

SKYWARN Rep Needed: Inquire Within

A part of the ongoing success that is foundation of the regional SKYWARN program is communications. A portion of this communications is currently in the development process. A

reference to the training, refresher training is a part of the input communications aspect of the Weather Service outreach.

To be totally successful, the SKYWARN program has a more fundamental need that has to be filled. Skywarn Coordinator Hal Frantz is looking for someone from MNARC as well as within other clubs within Delaware County to function as a liaison between the MNARC and the countywide organization.

It is more efficient for an organization like SKYWARN to have pre-designed, simple lines of communications. Speed and efficiency are two characteristics in the successful of this life-and property-saving organization.

SKYWARN aided by a liaison person will have more efficient communications between not only the MNARC members, the information gathering Weather and Information Net will also be in a better position to originate and receive weather data.

Anyone wishing to volunteer for this "high paying" position is asked to contact Walter Faust, N3FXR, at **610-622-2200**.

DX Data

This collection of DX information was made possible with data provided to the ARRL by NC1L, RA3MR, QRZ DX, the OPDX Bulletin, DXNL, 425 DX News, The Daily DX, Contest Corral from QST and the ARRL Contest Calendar and WA7BNM web sites. This month, there are two collections of DX data that has been made available to the Marple Newtown Amateur Radio Club's *eDipole*.

KUWAIT, 9K. Look for 9K2HN, 9K2RR and SP4R to be QRV as 9K2HN in the Russian DX contest as a Multi/Single entry. QSL to home call.

MOZAMBIQUE, C9. Rodrigo, CT1BXT is QRV as C91R from Maputo until August 1. Activity is on 80 to 10 meters, with an emphasis on the lower bands. QSL to home call.

JUAN FERNANDEZ ISLANDS, CE0. Ulli, DL2AH will be QRV as CE0Z/DL2AH

from Robinson Crusoe Island, IOTA SA-005, from March 18 to April 7 while on holiday. Activity will be on 40 to 10 meters using mostly SSB and RTTY. QSL via bureau.

CAPE VERDE ISLANDS, D4. Look for I4UFH, IZ4DPV and CT1DVV to be QRV as D4C from March 20 to April 2. This includes an entry in the upcoming CQ WPX SSB contest. QSL via IZ4DPV.

GUAM, KH2. Rick, AI5P will be QRV as AI5P/KH2 from March 15 to April 16. QSL to FRANZ JOSEF ISLAND, R1FJ. Gene, R1FJT has been active on 20 and 30 meters using PSK and RTTY at various times. QSL via UA4RC.

WESTERN SAHARA, S0. Mahafud, S01MZ has been active on 40 meters around 2300z. QSL via EA1BT.

NORFOLK ISLAND, VK9N. Masa, VK1ANU plans to be QRV as VK9ANU from March 19 to April 2. Activity will be on 80 to 10 meters. He plans to be an entry in the upcoming CQ WPX SSB contest. QSL via JO2SLZ.

LAOS, XW. Bruce, XW1B has been active using RTTY on 20 meters around 1100 to 1300z. QSL via E21EIC.

OPERATION APPROVED FOR DXCC CREDIT. The following operation has been approved for DXCC credit: Kermadec Island, ZL1GO/8, 2007 operation.

DTV Antenna Selection Guide

One of the wonders of the Internet has come to the rescue of individuals planning to install antennas for reception of the new Digital TV signals that will be serving the metropolitan Philadelphia area. The National Association of Broadcasters has provided a good support tool that is found in the support site provided by the Consumer Electronics Association's www.AntennaWeb.org Web site.

A visit to this site will provide an online antenna mapping program that has been designed to help consumers and electronics retailers determine the proper outdoor antenna to use in the quest of receiving the on-air, free local broadcast channels.

Persons using this site will be asked to enter their address and the program will then "zoom" in to a location very close to the entered address. The program also computes which digital and analog stations the viewer at the selected location should receive by using different types of off-the-air antennas.

NAB President and CEO David Rehr shared a concept that may not have been grasped by all area viewers. He stated, "Cable or satellite subscriptions are not required for consumers to enjoy the benefits of digital television."

Rehr added, "With the proper antenna, consumers can receive free, over-the-air digital broadcasts with higher picture and sound quality and access to multiple channels of free programming. Broadcast viewers can also access interactive video and data services that are not possible with traditional analog technology, including enhanced closed-captioning."

From detail shared about this consumer/seller/installer program, the database takes into account possible interfering or attenuating obstructions such as hills, trees and buildings that exist between the transmitter and the receiving antenna. These natural or man-made obstructions can possibly interfere with a broadcast signal and affect picture quality.

In the information supplied by Charles Higgins, W3CAU, the CEA/NAB partnership includes infrastructure and site capacity upgrades, site design improvements, and database upgrades that will further improve the user experience.

In an industry comment CEA President and CEO Gary Shapiro said, "Since its inception, www.AntennaWeb.org has been CEA's most popular consumer Web resource."

Spring School Announced

Spring is a special time of the year. One the special features of this time of the year is the transition from the traditions of winter to the increasing warmth and weather changes of spring.

For years, the primary focus of SKYWARN was the weather patterns of summer. This has changed over the years to also include other seasons as well.

Still, the potentially severe weather of summer continues to be a strong emphasis for SKYWARN activities. Amateur Radio operators have for years been trusted partners in the gathering of weather observations. These “live and in living color” reports augment the increasingly popular new tools that have helped push weather into a moneymaker for the electronic media.

To become a trained observer is not difficult. Often, the biggest hurdle is finding a nearby course of instruction.

A recent SKYWARN announcement has helped eliminate that hurdle. This announcement told of a basic / refresher Skywarn Spotter training class that has been scheduled in Delaware County, Pennsylvania on Tuesday evening, April 15th beginning at 7 PM. The National Weather Service (NWS) at the Delaware County Emergency Services Training Center in Darby Township will conduct this training session. Directions to this popular training facility are found at the end of this *eDipole* feature.

This training session is about 2 hours long, is free and open to the public. However, pre-registration is required by contacting George Morgan at gmorgan@dca.net or 610-237-8630.

The Delaware County Skywarn Program is made up of volunteers who report their observations of severe weather to the National Weather Service. These reports greatly enhance the Watch and Warning capabilities of the NWS by providing ground truth reports, and as a result, these observations help reduce the loss of life and property whenever severe weather strikes.

DIRECTIONS TO THE EMERGENCY SERVICES TRAINING CENTER OF DELAWARE COUNTY

FROM PHILADELPHIA AND NORTH:

Follow I-95 south over the Girard Point Bridge to exit 14, (Old Exit 12) Bartram Avenue/Essington Avenue. Go straight to the fifth traffic light and turn right onto 84th Street. Go to the third traffic light and turn left onto Calcon Hook Road. Travel

approximately 1 mile to the Training Center, located on the right just past the stop sign at Tribbett Avenue.

FROM DELAWARE AND SOUTH:

Follow I-95 north to exit 10, Route 291 East, Bartram Avenue, Cargo City. Go straight to the first traffic light and turn left onto Bartram Avenue. Go to the third traffic light and turn left onto 84th Street. Go to the third traffic light and turn left onto Calcon Hook Road. Travel approximately 1 mile to the Training Center, located on the right just past the stop sign at Tribbett Avenue.

FROM I-476 (BLUE ROUTE)

Follow I-476 south to I-95 north and use above directions.

FROM WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA ON THE TURNPIKE:

Exit the Turnpike at Interchange #24, King of Prussia, and go east on I-76 4.6 miles to exit 28A. Follow I-476 south 15.5 Miles. Then proceed north onto I-95 and use above directions from Delaware and south.

FROM SCHUYLKILL EXPRESSWAY

Go east on Schuylkill Expressway (I-76) to the exit for 26th Street-Platt Bridge. Go across the Platt Bridge to the traffic light at Island Avenue. This is just prior to the airport with the Hilton Hotel, Days Inn and Guest Quarters located at the intersection. Turn right onto Island Avenue. Go to the first traffic light and turn left onto Bartram Avenue. Go to the first traffic light and turn right onto 84th Street. Go to the third traffic light and turn left onto Calcon Hook Road. Travel approximately 1 mile to the Training Center, located on the right just past the stop sign at Tribbett Avenue.

COUNTY OF DELAWARE
EMERGENCY SERVICES TRAINING CENTER
Calcon Hook Road & Tribbett Avenue
Darby Township, PA
610-237-8630

Thanks to the Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society, Northern Ohio DX Association, Ohio/Penn PacketCluster Network, AB5K & the AR TelNet Clusters Network, K1XN & GoList, NC1L, NJ1Q, K2XT, W2VU, NG3K, W3HC, W3UR & The Daily DX, N4AA & QRZ DX, WW5L, WB6RSE, N7NG, K8YSE, W4ETN, DX-IS News Site, Pete's-DX-Newsdesk, DK8JB, DL7MAE & The DX News Letter, DS4NMJ, F5NQL & UFT, G3SWH, G4EDG, I1HYW, I1JQJ/IK1ADH & 425 DX News, IK5ROS, JE2EHP, JT1CD & MARS, LZ1JZ, RSGB IOTA Web Site, SP8AJK, TA3YJ, VA3RJ & ICPO and ZS6DXB for the following DX information.

7P, LESOTHO

The next big operation will take place this week by Belgium operators and members of the Radio Club Secunda from South Africa. They will be active as 7P8FC from Katse Dam in Lesotho from March 27th to April 3rd. See OPDX.845 for complete details. Activity will be on 160-10 meters, SSB, RTTY and PSK. The QSL Manager is ON4CJK. The direct address is: Jose Duyck, Molenakker 56, 8740 Egem, Belgium. Further information is available on their Web site at: <http://www.7p8fc.be/index.htm> The TEAM will also be active during the CQ WPX SSB Contest.

DXCC NEWS

Bill Moore, NC1L, ARRL DXCC Manager, reports that the following operations are approved for DXCC credit:

- S05A - Western Sahara; 2007 Operation
- TX5C - Clipperton Island; 2008 Operation
- VP6DX - Ducie Island; 2008 Operation

IOTA NEWS

EU-120. Chris, M0DOL, will be active as M0DOL/p and GX4KPT from Lindisfarne Castle on Holy Island starting April 5th for six days. The CASHOTA reference number will be given when QSOs take place. QSL via M0DOL.

EU-171. Operators Ela/DL1TM and Tor/DJ4MG will once again be active as OZ/homecall from Ingstrup (JO47UH), Community of Lokken, Nordjylland Island, Denmark, between March 24th and April 10th. They plan to have two stations on the air. One on SSB operating 160/80/40/20/15 meters and the other on PSK31 on

40/20 meters. Antennas will be a spiderbeam, a 160m loop and a DK9SQ loop. They will also be on 2 meters SSB with only 100 watts and an 11 element yagi at 16m above the ground level. They also plan to participate in the Nordic Activity Contest. QSL via their home call signs, direct or by the bureau. More information can be found at: <http://dj4mg.dyndns.org>

EU-174. Operators Steve/G4EDG, Jeff/G4ELZ, Vasko/LZ1CL and Tony/LZ1JZ will be active from Samothraki Island between March 25th and April 5th. They will be using the special callsign SY8JZ, mainly on CW but with some SSB. QSL via LZ1JZ.

NA-234. (NEW ONE!) The KL7DX IOTA DXpedition to Chuginadak Island (Grid AO52) is planned to take place from July 21-27th. At the moment team members include Yuri/N3QQ, John/KE7V and Yuri/UA9OBA. The team will try to make as many as possible 2-way radio contacts with IOTA Island Chasers on all HF bands including 6 meters. As of right now they are in the final planning stages for Chuginadak Island (Islands of Four Mountains Group) NA-234 Amateur Radio DXpedition. Estimated dates are: Landing on or around July 21st, 2008, departure on or around July 27th, 2008. QSL via AC7DX (QRZ.com). Further information can be found at: <http://na-234.com/index.html>

OTHER NEWS

JT, MONGOLIA (JT DX Contest). Khos, JT1CD, informs OPDX that this year marks the 50th anniversary of Amateur Radio in Mongolia. The members of the Mongolian Amateur Radio Society (MARS) will organize a "JT HAMRADIO 50 Anniversary DX Contest" at the end of the year (between 0000z, November 15th and 0000z November 16th).

KH2, GUAM (OC-026). Yoshi, JE2EHP, will be active as K1HP/KH2 between April 18-21st. Activity will be on SSB and CW, on all HF bands plus 6m. QSL via his home callsign by the bureau.

PACIFIC TOUR CONTINUES. Operator Willy/ON5AX and his XYL Magda/ON3AX continue to be active from the Pacific locations on their three-month tour. By the time you read this, they should be active from their next stop, Lord Howe Island, as VK9ALH until March 30th. Activity will be on CW, SSB and PSK31 using an Alinco DX70 transceiver with only 100 watts into a

ground plane antenna designed and made by Tony, ON4CEQ. QSL via ON5AX or ON3AX. Next stop is Australia as VK4/ON5AX between April 2-7th.

QSL INFORMATION

QSL MANAGER TAKEOVER. Mac, W3HC, is looking for somebody to take over the QSL MANAGER'S job for 127 stations. They must be able to pick up the blank cards (over 150 boxes) and be able to fill out DX cards. Mac states, "the last two people I talked to knew nothing about DX." If interested, please contact Mac at: w3hcw@comcast.net

TA3YJ QSL SERVICE. New home page address of TA3YJ QSL Service: <http://www.aydogmus.gen.tr/ta3yj/qslservice.htm>
New E-mail address of TA3YJ is: ta3yj@aydogmus.gen.tr

QSL VIA LOTW: 5P5V, 9K2HN, A35RK, EA3KU, EA5AID, GW4BLE, H7/IV3IYH, HI3T, HT2N, IR4X, PJ4O, PZ5DD, RX3AEX, SV1DPI, VP6DX, XU7ACY and ZP6CW

QSL RECEIVED VIA MAIL: 4A3A, 4U50SPACE, 5L2MS, 5P5V, 5R8NL, 8R1K, 9N7JO, A35RK, CE1/K7CA, FJ/OH2AM, GJ4FDM, H7/AK2P, CU2A, KG4SS, KY7M (portable Nevada), OE3GCU, OH0B, OH2BH, OF8X, OJ0B, SD7W, T88PR, VP2MSC, VP2MFO, VP5/K7WA, VQ9JC, YK9SV and ZP6CW

QSL RECEIVED VIA THE BUREAU: 7W2W, 9M2CNC, GB1FVT, GM0XFK/P, GM2T, HG8DX, JY4NE, K8SCH/1, MS0CSG/P, OY/PA3BAG, PY2NA, TC4ITU, TK1KJ (F1JKJ), V51WM and ZA/DL2RMC

R1, ANTARCTICA (Russian Expedition). A large Russian Antarctic Expedition did start last March 13th, at 0800z, leaving from Cape Town, South Africa, on board the ship "Academician Fedorov" on a route to Antarctica. Planned goals are to visit the following Antarctic bases: Station Progress, Station Mirnyj, Station Molodezhnaya and Station Novolazarevskaya. There are plans for visiting 2 more Antarctic bases including possibly Maitri Base. Leading the expedition is Valey Sushkov, RW3GW, who did replace Yuri Zaruba, UA9OBA, who is actually very busy.

The team also includes Michael Botchkarev (ex-UA0XB) the head of film radio expedition. Look for the callsign R1ANT to be used. While on board

the "Academician Fedorov", they will use R1ANT/MM starting March 24th.

They will use a FT-897D with only 100W and the following antennas: 6BTV, 20m Delta loop and 20m Vertical. Activity will be on 40/30/20 meters on SSB, CW, RTTY and PSK.

For a special card, QSL via RW3GW - the general producer and the author of the project "Antarctica". Dates and more details on operations in Antarctic will be available after April 2nd. Watch the WAP Web site under "News & Information" at <http://www.waponline.it> Changes in program may be possible on the way there depending on the logistics and weather conditions.

SPDX CONTEST (75th Anniversary). Tony, SP8AJK (SP75N), wants to remind everyone that 2008 SP DX Contest (April 7-8th) is getting very close. This year it is a very special contest edition celebrating the 75th anniversary of the SP DX Contest (first organized in 1933). To celebrate the SP DX Contest, the Polish Amateur Radio Union and SP DX Club are sponsoring a special Jubilee Award: The SP DX Contest - 75th Anniversary Award. The award is free for all licensed operators and SWLs. Please look at the award rules and visit the Web page at: <http://www.spdxcontest.info>

TA0, TURKEY. Operator Urcun, TA0U, will be active during the CQ WW WPX SSB Contest (March 29-30th) as a Single-Op/Single-Band (20m) entry. QSL direct to TA0U.

TO4G, GLORIOSO ISLANDS (Update). The Web site for the upcoming Glorioso Island (Glorieuses - AF-011) DXpedition is now available online at: <http://glorieuses2008.free.fr>

Days are currently NOT set yet, but the operation will take place between May 6th and Digital modes. Frequencies will be published later closer to operation or can be viewed at the above Web site. The team is looking for sponsors and donations for this operation (details on Web page). Glorioso is currently ranked #4 on the "DX Magazine's Most Wanted List". The pilots stations for this DXpedition are:

- Europe - Jeff/F6AOJ

- North America (east coast) - Floyd, N5FG
- Australia/New Zealand - Lee, ZL2AL

They are awaiting the confirmation for Asian pilot station(s) (possibly Toshi/JA1ELY and Mike/UA0MF). The DXpedition is still looking for a pilot for North America (west coast).

VR2, HONG KONG. Tomas, LY1F (VK2CCC), will be active as VR2/VK2CCC between June 19-21st. Activity will be holiday style on CW on the HF bands. QSL route to be announced later.

XX9, MACAO. Tomas, LY1F (VK2CCC), will be active from here between May 27-29th. Callsign is to be announced later. Activity will be holiday style on CW on the HF bands. The QSL route will also be announced later.

ZS8, MARION ISLANDS. Rhyhardt, ZS6DXB, reports (edited): "Following the fairy tale of 3Y0E Bouvet Island, Petrus Kritzinger, ZS6GCM, sets out to yet another unique amateur radio venture that many DX'ers around the world can only dream about. Petrus will be QRV from Marion Island #6 on the 'DX Magazine 2007 Most Wanted List' as ZS8T. He is expected to be QRV by May 2008 depending on his workload. Building on the success of the 3Y0E Bouvet Island operation, Petrus wanted to take his amateur radio activity to the next level. Having more time to effectively plan the operation from Marion Island as ZS8T, work began to set a team together that could rise above the high standards that were set during the 3Y0E Bouvet Island operation.

The ZS8T team consists of the following people:

- Rhy ZS6DXB
Press Officer/Logistical Support
- Don N1DG
Finance/Logistical Support
- Tom N4XP
Finance Support
- Emil LZ3HI

QSL Manager

- Christian DL6KAC
Website construction
- Col MM0NDX
Website construction
- Stan SQ8X
Website design, graphics & multimedia, media & PR advisory

One of the first tasks was to start work on a website that could take DXpedition Web sites to a new standard. Chris/DL6KAC, Col/MM0NDX and Stan/SQ8X really stood up to the challenge and created an interactive website that will change the future of DXpedition Web sites.

The team has built in a unique news cluster into the site that you can subscribe to that will enable you to receive all the latest news from the team behind ZS8T direct. Please register to the Web site on the following link: <http://zs8t.net/newsletter/>

The second challenge was to obtain better radio gear that was used during 3Y0E. The ZS8T team is proud to announce the following principal sponsors to the ZS8T in getting the hardware needed for ZS8T. Without these sponsors ZS8T would never off made it out of the harbor...

- ICOM America donated an IC7000
- Spiderbeam donated a 5 band HD Spiderbeam yagi
- NCDXF donated funds to obtain an Ameritron AL80 Amplifier, with a SteppIR Vertical.
- Tigertronics donated a Signalink USB digital interface
- Mr. Emil LZ3HI at Gold Print Services donated all QSL cards and QSL management services
- INDEXA, GDXF, GMDX, EUDXF, Chiltern DX Club, Clipperton DX Club, David Topp W5BXX, Mile Hi DXA, Aurum Telemedia, Funkamateur, Passau DX Club, Danish DX Group, DXXE and EUDXF made financial donations to offset costs. Donations from kind

individuals during 3Y0E, we are pleased to announce some of that money helped offset the cost of radio equipment now being used on Marion Island.

It also greatly assisted with shipping costs to South Africa. In addition, Marios 5B4WN, offered his awesome online log facility that has been used with great success at VP6DX, TX5C etc. for ZS8T online log look-ups.

The team behind ZS8T would like to thank each and every organization and individual that has contributed to date in making the operation a full success.

Petrus, ZS6GCM, has also undergone extensive training and will be active on the following bands 160, 80, 40, 30, 20, 17, 12 and 10 meters.

He will be active on the following modes: SSB, CW and RTTY. A detailed timetable with frequencies and modes will be made available closer to the QRV date. Petrus will also be communicating with Rhy, ZS6DXB, on a regular basis, and you can expect regular updates with photos and even the possibility of videos from the Island as the year progresses. ZS8T will be uploaded to LOTW on completion of the operation.

Without any further ado, please join us on a life-changing journey to Marion Island, official website address: <http://zs8t.net>

Within ZS8T.net you will find an abundance of information, discussions, images/movies and enough viewing to entice you into working Petrus. The entire ZS8T Team would be delighted if you joined us in following Petrus by subscribing to the RSS-feed at: <http://zs8t.net/feed/> or our ZS8T-newsletter at: <http://zs8t.net/newsletter/> 73, Rhyhardt Louw ZS6DXB"

ADDED NOTE: There is an interesting 12-minute audio interview with Petrus, ZS6GCM, about his upcoming ZS8T operation available on the Web at: <http://zs8t.net/interview-with-petrus-kritzinger-zs6gcm-zs8t/>

Aging

People evaluate comic George Carlin in multiple ways. His genius has been somewhat absent in recent years. This eDipole feature is one that joins others in his over-the-years collection of

brilliant observations. One form of humor is the ability to look at oneself and see the humor that is important to keep each of us from self-destruction as the result of the daily pressures around us.

George Carlin's Views on Aging

Do you realize that the only time in our lives when we like to get old is when we're kids? If you're less than 10 years old, you're so excited about aging that you think in fractions.

'How old are you?' 'I'm four **and a half!**' You're never thirty-six and a half. You're four and a half, going on five! That's the key.

You get into your teens, now they can't hold you back. You jump to the next number, or even a few ahead.

'How old are you?' 'I'm gonna **be 16!**' You could be 13, but hey, you're gonna be 16! And then the greatest day of your life! You **become 21**. Even the words sound like a ceremony. **YOU BECOME 21. YESSSS!!**

But then you **turn 30**. Oooohh, what happened there? Makes you sound like bad milk! He **TURNED**; we had to throw him out. There's no fun now, you're Just a sour-dumpling. What's wrong? What's changed?

You **BECOME 21**, you **TURN 30**, then you're **PUSHING 40**. Whoa! Put on the brakes, it's all slipping away. Before you know it, you **REACH 50** and your dreams are gone.

But wait!!! You **MAKE it** to 60. You didn't think you would!

So you **BECOME 21**, **TURN 30**, **PUSH 40**, **REACH 50** and **MAKE it** to 60.

You've built up so much speed that you **HIT 70!** After that it's a day-by-day thing; you **HIT Wednesday!**

You get **into** your 80's and every day is a complete cycle; you **HIT** lunch; you **TURN 4:30**; you **REACH** bedtime. And it doesn't end there. Into the 90s, you start going backwards; 'I Was **JUST 92.**'

Then a strange thing happens. If you make it over 100, you become a little kid again. 'I'm 100 and a half!' May you all make it to a healthy 100 and a half!!

HOW TO STAY YOUNG

1. **Throw out nonessential numbers.** This includes age, weight and height. Let the doctors worry about them. That is why you pay 'them.
2. **Keep only cheerful friends.** The grouches pull you down.
3. **Keep learning.** Learn more about the computer, crafts, gardening, whatever. Never let the brain idle. 'An idle mind is the devil's workshop.' And the **devil's** name is **Alzheimer's**.
4. **Enjoy the simple things**
5. **Laugh often**, long and loud. Laugh until you gasp for breath.
6. **The tears happen.** Endure, grieve, and move on. The only person who is with us our entire life is ourselves. Be **ALIVE** while you are alive
7. **Surround yourself with what you love**, whether it's family, pets, keepsakes, music, plants, hobbies, whatever. **Your home is your refuge.**
8. **Cherish your health:** If it is good, preserve it. If it is unstable, improve it. If it is beyond what you can improve, get help.
- 9 **Don't take guilt trips.** Take a trip to the mall, even to the next county; to a foreign country but **NOT** to where the guilt is.
- 10 **Tell the people you love that you love them, at every opportunity.**

AND ALWAYS REMEMBER:

Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, **but** by the moments that take our breath away.

Men at Work

Many years ago, when the funny papers were indeed more funny than serious, there was a comic that was called, "Say it isn't so." This picture would have felt right at home in those days.

Notice that these men have just finished placing solid steel pillars in concrete to stop vehicles from parking on the pavement outside a sports bar downtown. This picture was taken as they are cleaning up at the end of the day.



How long do you think it will be before they realize where their vehicle is parked?

The Scoop

There is a growing truth in the saying, "The big print provides and the small print takes it away." Remembering this saying may help stomach the true prices of airline prices. These facts are in addition to the growing trend of charging fees for luggage in excess of one piece.

Please read the following carefully.

Unless otherwise indicated, not all airline fares include the all of the applicable taxes, charges and government-imposed fees. The following overview has been prepared to give you an idea of what additional fees and taxes may apply.

Flyers must realize that as the exchange rates change and other economic influences occur, there may be changes in the amounts of the fees and taxes.

- **Passenger Facility Charges**
Passenger Facility Charges (PFCs) of up to \$18.00 US Dollars (USD) may apply depending upon the itinerary chosen.
- **Federal Excise Tax**
A federal excise tax of up to \$3.40 USD does apply per flight segment, if this tax is not included already in the advertised fare. A flight segment is defined as one takeoff and one landing.
- **September 11th Security Fee**
A September 11th Security Fee of \$2.50 USD applies per flight segment. A flight segment is defined as one takeoff and one landing.
- **U.S. or International Departure and Arrival Charges**
U.S. or international government imposed taxes and fee of up to \$200.00 USD may apply depending upon the itinerary chosen.
- **Shipping & Handling Fees**
Some travel companies or their agents may impose shipping and/or handling fees if you request paper tickets or for certain types of transactions.
- **Service Fee**
Some firms dealing in the booking of airline flights may charge a service fee.
- **Itinerary Changes/Cancellations/Refunds**
Itinerary changes, if permitted for the fare, may have a change fee of up to \$150.00 USD that will vary by market, carrier and specific fare rule.

Be aware that as the travel season approaches, there may be additional fees that help offset the increased costs of doing business. One of these fees is a charge that offsets the increased costs for fuel.

Fuelish Tips

Tips on Pumping Gas

These tips come from a West Coast worker in the petroleum field. In a part of the United States

where the cost of gasoline traditionally tops the lists of US fuel costs, these tips have well-earned validity. This list has the simple goal of finding ways to get more fuel for our dollars. The petroleum worker began by saying...

Here at the Kinder Morgan Pipeline where I work in San Jose, California, we deliver about 4 million gallons in a 24-hour period thru the pipeline. One day it is diesel and the next day it can be jet fuel, and gasoline, regular and premium grades. We have 34-storage tanks here with a total capacity of 16,800,000 gallons.

Only buy or fill up your car or truck in the early morning when the ground temperature is still cold. Remember that all service stations have their storage tanks buried below ground. The colder the ground the more dense the gasoline. When it gets warmer, gasoline expands. By buying in the afternoon or in the evening, your gallon is not exactly a gallon. In the petroleum business, the specific gravity and the temperature of the gasoline, diesel and jet fuel, ethanol and other petroleum products play an important role.

A one-degree rise in temperature is a big deal for this business. But the service stations do not have temperature compensation at the pumps.

When you're filling up do not squeeze the trigger of the nozzle to a fast mode. If you look you will see that the trigger has three (3) stages: low, middle, and high. In slow mode you should be pumping on low speed, thereby minimizing the vapors that are created while you are pumping. All hoses at the pump have a vapor return. If you are pumping on the fast rate, some of the liquid that goes to your tank becomes vapor. Those vapors are being sucked up and back into the underground storage tank so you're getting less worth for your money

One of the most important tips is to fill up when your gas tank is HALF FULL or HALF EMPTY. The reason for this is, the more gas you have in your tank, there is less air occupying this empty space. Gasoline evaporates faster than you can imagine.

Gasoline storage tanks have an internal floating roof. This roof serves as zero clearance between the gas and the atmosphere, so it minimizes the evaporation. Unlike service stations, here where I work, every truck that we load is temperature compensated so that every gallon is actually the exact amount.

Another reminder, if there is a gasoline truck pumping into the storage tanks when you stop to buy gas, DO NOT fill up--most likely the gasoline is being stirred up as the gas is being delivered, and you might pick up some of the dirt that normally settles on the bottom.

These tips will hopefully help readers of the *eDipole* get the most value for their money.

Segments of Our Personalities

Happiness keeps us Pleasant.
Trials keep us Strong.
Sorrows keep us Human.
Failures keep us Humble.
Success keeps us Glowing.

Kulpsville SWL Gathering a Success

While there were only two days scheduled for the annual gathering, the fast-paced meeting was Mecca to a very loyal collection of listeners to select areas of the radio spectrum. The large gathering of experienced listeners have logged many "miles" of monitoring longwave, medium wave, short-wave (broadcast, utilities, pirates), VHF/UHF, FM, scanners, television and satellites.

Attendees at the March 7 and 8 gathering proved that this meeting is both rewarding and a way to escape from the often boring routines of daily living. This year, as has also happened in recent years, this meeting sponsored by the North American Short-Wave Association (NASWA) drew attendees from throughout the world.

Joining in this annual gather were area representatives, Dan Cashin, N3LMY, and Pete Herberer, WA3QZX

Plans are already being made for next year's gathering. For many Amateur Radio operators, Short Wave Listening proved to be the foundation of their entry into Ham Radio operations.



L. to R. Qinduo Xu (Rep. from China Radio International), Peter Heberer, WA3QZX, Dan Robinson (Rep. from Voice of America)
PHOTO COURTESY OF P Herberer, WA3QZX



This is one of the many, well planned and well attended SWL events at this year's Kulpsville gathering
PHOTO COURTESY OF P Herberer, WA3QZX

*** Remember ***

MNARC Monthly Club Meeting

Thursday, April 3rd, 2008

at The Gauntlett Center

Program

"Amateur Radio and the Law"