



SARA Newsletter

May 2007

Shreveport Amateur Radio Association

Meeting:

First Thursday of each month at 6:30 P.M. in the Bossier Main Library History Center

Local Amateur Information Available at:

www.K5SAR.com
or
www.qsl.net/nwlarl/

SARA Repeaters:

145.050 - K5SAR
DX Packet Cluster
145.110 - N5FJ
146.700 - K5KDQ
146.820 - K5SL
440.900 - N5FJ

SARA
PO Box 37632
Shreveport, LA
71133-7632

2007 Club Officers

President – [Steve Smith, KG5VK](#)
Vice President – [Rick Westerfield, KH2DF](#)
Treasurer – [John Stewart, AA5KV](#)
Secretary – [Glenn Pettiet, N5SH](#)



W
5
B
/
5
2



Special Event



High Altitude Fun

High-altitude balloon to carry Amateur Radio payloads: ARBONET-2, a high-altitude balloon carrying an Amateur Radio payload, is set to launch Saturday, May 5, at 9 AM CDT (1400 UTC), from Red River County Airport in Clarksville, Texas. An unfavorable weather forecast led sponsors to reschedule the launch date from April 28. Using the call sign K5FRC, the "Amateur Radio Balloons over North East Texas" flight will carry a crossband repeater (445.800 MHz up/147.560 MHz down), APRS (144.390 MHz) and a homing and data beacon (145.560 MHz). A 10-meter CW beacon on 28.061 MHz will identify as K5RWK. The ARBONET-2 flight is being dedicated to long-time Amateur Radio high-altitude balloon enthusiast Kim R. Miles,

N9IS, who died March 27. He was a prominent member of the Central Indiana Windtrax organization with more than 30 high-altitude balloon flight operations to his credit. A launch net (K5FRC) will commence at 8:30 AM CDT (1130 UTC) and continue until recovery on 7.260 MHz (plus or minus QRM). The flight is expected to last about two hours. The ARBONET team requests reception reports to the ARBONET Web site <http://www.arbonet.net/>. A commemorative QSL card will be available for those submitting reports.

Packet Satellites Go Dark

Satgate System to QRT: AMSAT-NA reports that after many years of forwarding packet messages via UO-22, GO-32 and AO-51 the Satgate System will go silent. The total of 35 worldwide stations in the system a few years ago has dwindled due to a lack of traffic, maintenance problems, change of location and operator attrition. The system originated with David Medley, KI6QE, and the driving force over the past several years has been Andrew Sellers, G8TZJ, who's credited with developing software to permit Satgate stations to be fully automated. -- AMSAT News Service

CubeSats Launch Successfully!

Four CubeSats containing payloads operating on Amateur Radio frequencies were among several spacecraft launched successfully April 17 at 0645 UTC from Baikonur Cosmodrome, Kazakhstan. A Dnepr rocket deployed seven CubeSats plus seven other satellites from Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Ukraine into Earth orbit, and signals from at least two of the four CubeSats have been copied on Earth. Among the spacecraft was Colombia's first satellite. The CubeSats are: CalPoly's PolySats CP3 and CP4, 436.845 MHz and 437.325 MHz respectively, 1200 bps FM AFSK, AX.25, 1 W, operating under an FCC Part-5 Experimental license; University of Louisiana CAPE-1 435.245 MHz, 9600 bps FM FSK AX.25 and CW telemetry during opposing 30-second intervals, 1 W, call sign K5USL (e-mail telemetry reports <jd.harrist@gmail.com>); Universidad Sergio Arboleda, Colombia, Libertad-1, 437.405 MHz, 1200 bps FM AFSK AX.25, 400 mW, call sign 5K3L. CP4 will transmit a "sensor snapshot" every 2 minutes on 437.325 MHz at 1200bps FSK, AX.25. FSK will require using SSB mode for reception. A 6-second CW preamble precedes this transmission. Keplerian elements for the new ham radio birds and additional information will be posted on Cal Poly's CubeSat Web page <http://www.cubesat.org/>. CalPoly offers a CubeSat "Satellite Contact Form" to report telemetry data received from any satellite <http://cubesat.atl.calpoly.edu/pages/missions/dnepr-launch-2/data-packet-form.php>. -- AMSAT

Hawaii Moonbounce a Hit

Bruce Clark, K0YW, operating as KH7X from the station of Alex Benton, KH6YY, made the first successful 2.3 GHz EME (Earth-Moon-Earth) contact from Hawaii April 23 (UTC). "This is the first time EME from Hawaii has been worked on this band," reports Ron Hashiro, AH6RH, who assisted in the effort. Clark made contact with well-known VHF/UHF and moonbounce enthusiast Al Ward, W5LUA, in Texas. Hashiro says the Hawaii operation was set up in a tent pitched next to the 12-foot TV receive-only (TVRO) dish used for the antenna, in order to minimize feed line losses. "The CW signal was just above the noise level and sounded 'watery,' as if the speaker were being held underwater," Hashiro reported.

"The warbling tone was much worse than Arctic flutter." He said Doppler shift was on the order of 3 kHz. CW was sent at about 10 WPM. K0YW made additional contacts with several other stations on 2.3 GHz as well as on 1.2 GHz EME, Hashiro said. News of Clark's temporary Hawaii moonbounce setup made the April 21 edition of the Honolulu Advertiser <http://the.honoluluadvertiser.com/article/2007/Apr/21/ln/FP704210343.html>.

In addition to Benton and Hashiro, others assisting in the moonbounce experiment included KH6ND, KH7U, WH6GS and AH6NF.

May Meeting

May 5, 2007 at the Bossier Main Library History Center, 6:30 P.M.

Update on W5B/52 and Field Day 2007

New Digital Modes with HF

Dinner After the Meeting at Chef Lee's