

Section Manager

East Bay Section Newsletter April, 2022

ARRL East Bay Family,

April is “Happy” month.

Happy April Fool’s Day (OK, a couple of days late).

Happy Birthday, ARRL:

The ARRL was founded on April 6, 1914 by Hiram Percy Maxim and Clarence D. Tuska. So, this is its 108th birthday!

Happy Birthday IARU:

The International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) was formed on April 18, 1925 in Paris, making this its 97th birthday. Hiram Percy Maxim was elected the first president. See the World Amateur Radio Day items below.

And April 16-24 is National Park Week. So see that item below and plan your POTA.

Finally, the age of humans in space began on April 12, 1961, as Yuri Gagarin, a Soviet pilot and cosmonaut, was launched into outer space.

=====
Section & Division News:

* Pacificon Registration & Website Soon to Launch

If the wind is blowing in the right direction and we don’t get any coronal mass ejections, the Pacificon 2022 website will launch in about two weeks. You’ll then be able to register for attendance and reserve your hotel room. Start checking the website around the third weekend in April. (<https://www.pacificon.org/>)

When you reserve your guest room, be sure you’re using the Pacificon reservation code, which is added by default when you reserve by the link on the Pacificon website. Last year, some people didn’t use that code, then were upset when they learned at checkout that they were being billed for parking and didn’t have some other amenities the Committee has negotiated.

Also, in order to obtain the benefits they’re able to provide, such as low registration prices and free parking for everyone, the Pacificon Committee must make a very large financial commitment to the hotel, years in advance. That includes a certain number of guest room nights rented and a certain amount of convention food sold. So help them by using the Pacificon guest room code, attending the Banquet and eating at the cash sales carts (instead of the restaurant; it doesn’t count).

* Pacific Division in the News

The ABC TV station in Sacramento did a story about a group of hams who set up a radio network and a repeater for Pollock Pines, Paradise, and surrounding communities’ citizens to use during times of emergencies. Alan Thompson, W6WN, was interviewed. If the name sounds familiar, he has given a couple of very popular (read: crowded) presentations at Pacificon about the communications issues during the wildfires over the last few years and ham radio’s response. The video is at (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oY4IUGoLx5o>) [YouTube; 0:02:43]. A shortened written report is at (<https://www.abc10.com/article/news/local/wildfire/emergency-communications-amateur-radio-groups/103->

[9e6544c4-0731-4cad-a75f-e58c80ed42e5](https://www.arrl.org/news/9e6544c4-0731-4cad-a75f-e58c80ed42e5)). [Thankx to the Benicia club for the information.)

* Volunteer Monitor Program

A Technician Class operator in San Jose was issued a notice for FT8 operation on 7.074 MHz, a frequency where Technicians are have only CW privileges.

* Division Hamfest Reminders

-- The 2022 International DX Convention, normally held each April in Visalia, has been cancelled this year.

-- The Valley of the Moon ARC Hamfest will be in Sonoma on April 23. See (<https://vomarc.org/events/hamfest.html>).

-- The Reno Hamswap will be in Reno on May 21. See (<http://renohamswap.com/>).

-- The N7RCA N. Nevada Annual Hamfest will be in Minden, NV on June 4. See (<https://n7rca.com/>).

-- And who can forget Pacificon?? October 14-16 in San Ramon. (<https://www.pacificon.org/>)

* Special Events In or Near our Division

-- The USS Midway Museum Ship Doolittle Raid special event will be held in San Diego on Saturday, April 9. For frequencies and other details, see (<https://www.qrz.com/db/ni6iw>).

-- The Baker to Vegas Challenge Cup Race, a 120-mile law enforcement relay race from Baker, CA to Las Vegas will be April 9-10. Details are at (<https://bakervegas.net>).

-- In association with the above relay race, the Wavetalkers will host a Baker-to-Vegas Winlink special event on April 6-10. All Winlink users are invited to check in. You may use any supported Winlink RMS Gateway or Mode, including Telnet. But if you have VARA HF capability, they encourage you to check-in directly using the W6AH Gateway operating from the race course in the Mojave Desert on 80m, 40m, 20m, and 17m. Get details and full instructions at (<https://wavetalkers.com/b2v.php>).

-- The World Radio Network/World Friendship Net will host a World Amateur Radio Day Echolink special event from Las Vegas on April 18. For details, see (<https://wrn-wfn.com/events>).

-- The USS Midway Museum Ship Battle of Coral Sea special event will be held in San Diego on Saturday, May 14. For frequencies and other details, see (<https://www.qrz.com/db/ni6iw>).

=====
ARRL News:

* ARRL Website Upgraded

In case you haven't noticed yet, the ARRL.org website has been upgraded. The website was shut down during the weekend and partial week of March 25-31 while the changes were installed. A couple of the changes made are 1.) Your Member Profile Page will be easier to update and navigate; and 2.) A consolidated checkout lets you renew, donate, and shop all in one transaction. Give it a look at (<http://www.arrl.org>)

However, there's a lot of work left to be done. For example, some members are still having issues logging in. Also, the Section email feature that's used for me to send these messages to you is having problems. The application is sending the emails out, but very slowly. So this note may have taken awhile to get to you.

There's a lot of people working very hard to deal with the issues that have come up. Please remember that there is a great deal more than just the website; it's the entire back office system that's used at headquarters. Several systems are interlinked and dependent on each other. We appreciate your patience and understanding during this project. But if you come across a trouble spot that you consider urgent, let me know and I'll pass it on up to HQ. If you find something, but it's not urgent, please give them some time to sort things out before reporting it. It may already be on their to-do list.

* Teachers Institute

The ARRL Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology will hold four sessions this year in June and July in Newington, CT and Dayton, OH. It's an expenses-paid professional development program intended to provide teachers with tools and strategies to introduce basic electronics, the science of radio, space technology and satellite communications, weather science, and micro-controllers to their students. The deadline to apply is May 1. If you are or know of a motivated teacher that's interested in this training, go to (<http://www.arrl.org/teachers-institute-on-wireless-technology>) for complete information and an application.

* Annual Armed Forces Day Cross-Band Exercise

Military and amateur stations have taken part in this exercise for more than 50 years. This year, it will be held on May 14, 7:00 AM to 3:00 PM Pacific Time. During the exercise, radio amateurs listen for stations on military operating frequencies and transmit on frequencies in adjacent amateur bands. For details, see this link: (<http://arrl.org/news/annual-armed-forces-day-cross-band-exercise-set-for-may-14>).

* Club Commission for New ARRL Members

A reminder, in case you've forgotten, that if someone joins the ARRL and your ARRL-affiliated club handles the application, it can get a \$15.00 commission for that new member. But you must handle it properly. For example, your club must receive the payment directly from the member, then fill out the "Club Commission Reconciliation Form", deducting the \$15.00 commission from the amount, then forward it to the ARRL. For more information and the necessary forms, go to (<http://www.arrl.org/affiliated-club-benefits>) and click the plus (+) symbol beside "Club Commission Program" to expand the topic.

=====
Government News:

* FCC License Application Fee Taking Effect

The new Amateur Radio license application fees will take effect on April 19, 2022. The \$35 fee will apply to new, renewal, and vanity call sign applications. The fee will be per application and is non-refundable. Administrative updates, such as a change of name, mailing or email address, will be exempt from fees.

Since the original announcement, the FCC has clarified that the fee will also not apply to most license modifications, including those to upgrade an operator class and changes to club station trustees. The FCC staff explained that the new fees will apply only to applications for a new license, renewal, rule waiver, or a new vanity call sign.

Volunteer Examiner (VE) teams will not have to collect the \$35 fee at exam sessions. Applicants will pay the usual \$15 exam session fee to the ARRL VE team and pay the \$35 application fee directly to the FCC through the CORES FRN Registration system. See this ARRL article for details: (<https://www.arrl.org/fcc-application-fee>). The official FCC Public Notice is available at this link: (<https://www.fcc.gov/document/effective-date-wireless-application-fee-rates>) [PDF, Docx or text; 2 pages].

* CEPT Suspends Russia and Belarus

The European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT), has suspended the Russian Federation (RA) and Belarus (EW) from CEPT membership. The suspension, which took effect March 18, is indefinite. The main effect to U.S. hams is that we will no longer have CEPT license privileges in those nations, just in case your travel plans take you there, or their plans bring them here. The CEPT notice is available at (<https://cept.org/cept/news/suspension-of-the-russian-federation-and-belarus-from-cept-membership/>). More information about CEPT is at (<http://www.arrl.org/cept>).

=====
Other News:

* World Amateur Radio Day

World Amateur Radio Day is celebrated every year on April 18. On that date in 1925 the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) was formed in Paris by the original 25 countries. Hiram Percy Maxim was its first president. Today, the IARU has some 160 member-societies spread throughout the globe, representing over 3 million hams. Only two years

after its founding at the International Radiotelegraph Conference, the IARU was pivotal to ensuring the ham allocations still recognized today on 160, 80, 40, 20, and 10 meters.

As explained on the ARRL website, “World Amateur Radio Day is not a contest but rather an opportunity to talk about the value of amateur radio to the public and our fellow amateur colleagues.” So, get on the air this 18th, host a special net or public event, or talk to your friends or the public about how great and valuable the science of ham radio is. More information is available at:

ARRL: (<https://www.arrl.org/world-amateur-radio-day>)

IARU: (<https://www.iaru.org/on-the-air/world-amateur-radio-day/>)

IARU Region 2: The Americas: (<https://www.iaru-r2.org/en/on-the-air/world-amateur-radio-day/>)

* Satellite Mega-Constellations Increasing Risk of Tragedies

A study published in Nature argues that “The rapid development of mega-constellations risks multiple tragedies of the commons, including tragedies to ground-based astronomy, Earth orbit, and Earth’s upper atmosphere.” There’s already more than 12,000 trackable debris pieces in low-Earth orbit, typically 10 centimeters in diameter or larger, it says, and a great many smaller ones. And the number of active and defunct satellites in low-Earth orbit has increased by over 50%. All this could be managed with a focused debris removal program, but the rapid growth of the satellite population isn’t helping. The Nature article is at (<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-021-89909-7>). An ARRL discussion of it is at (<http://arrl.org/news/study-rapid-development-of-satellite-mega-constellations-risks-tragedies-of-the-commons>).

* National Park Week

National Park Week is a presidentially proclaimed 9-day event to celebrate America's treasures, explore amazing places, and discover stories of history and culture. This year, it’s held on April 16-24. Entrance fees are waived on April 16 to kick off National Park Week. This is a perfect time to get out and activate a park for Parks on the Air.

The National Park Service manages more than 400 individual units, from national parks to battlefields, monuments, trails, recreation areas, lakeshores and more. 28 of those units are in California, along with another 5 sites that are affiliated with or managed by the National Park Service. Four of these units are right here in the East Bay Section. They are:

-- Eugene O’Neill National Historical Site in Danville (<https://www.nps.gov/euon/index.htm>)

-- John Muir National Historical Site in Martinez (<https://www.nps.gov/jomu/>)

-- Port Chicago Naval Magazine National Memorial in Concord (<https://www.nps.gov/poch/>)

-- Rosie the Riveter WWII Front National Historical Park in Richmond (<https://www.nps.gov/rori/>)

Note that the Eugene O’Neill and Port Chicago sites have restricted access and require a reservation at least two weeks in advance. Visitors must take an NPS shuttle to the sites. See the above web links for details. And go to one or both of these sites for more information on National Park Week:

(<https://www.nps.gov/subjects/npscelebrates/national-park-week.htm>)

(<https://www.nationalparks.org/our-work/campaigns-initiatives/national-park-week>)

=====

Significant Events in Telecomm History – April

** Note: Send me the date and location your club was founded, so I can add it to this list. **

- 4/2/1872 Samuel Finley Breese Morse, co-inventor of the original Morse Code, died in New York City, New York at age 80.
- 4/3/1912 Congress ratified the treaty from the 1906 International Radiotelegraph Convention in Berlin; leading to the Radio Act of 1912.
- 4/3/1973 Dr. Martin Cooper of Motorola made the first handheld cellular phone call in public by calling his chief competitor, Dr. Joel S. Engel at AT&T.
- 4/7/1928 The Detroit Police Department commenced regular one-way radio communication with its patrol cars.
- 4/8/1856 The Western Union Telegraph Company was formed by the merger of the New York and Mississippi Valley Printing Telegraph Company and the Erie and Michigan Telegraph Company.
- 4/15/1912 The RMS Titanic sank. SOS signals via radio saved many lives, raising public awareness of the value of radio.
- 4/6/1914 The ARRL was founded by Hiram Percy Maxim and Clarence D. Tuska.

- 4/6/1917 Congress declared war on Germany, bringing the U.S. into World War I. All civilian radio equipment, both transmitters and receivers, was prohibited.
- 4/8/1911 Professor Heike Kamerlingh Onnes and his collaborators discovered superconductivity in Leiden, The Netherlands, observing that the resistance of mercury approached "practically zero" as its temperature was lowered to 3 kelvins.
- 4/12/1961 The age of humans in space began as Yuri Alekseyevich Gagarin, a Soviet pilot and cosmonaut, was launched into outer space, orbiting the Earth for 108 minutes before his safe return.
- 4/17/1790 Benjamin Franklin died in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania at age 84. He was the first to discover the principle of conservation of charge, among innumerable other accomplishments.
- 4/18/1925 The International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) was formed in Paris.
- 4/18/1955 Albert Einstein died in Princeton, New Jersey at age 76.
- 4/18/xxxx World Amateur Radio Day
- 4/25/1874 Guglielmo Marconi was born in Bologna, Kingdom of Italy.
- 4/27/1791 Samuel Finley Breese Morse, co-inventor of the original Morse Code, was born in Charlestown, Massachusetts.
- 4/30/1916 Claude Shannon, "the father of information theory", was born in Petoskey, Michigan.

=====

New Hams:

Please congratulate the following new hams in the East Bay Section. If you hear them on the air, be sure to say hello and welcome them to our craft.

KN6SXH	Curtis Smith	Brentwood
KN6STD	Richard Miralles	Fairfield
KN6SXW	Sean Funcheon	Hayward
KN6SZP	Kevin Childs	Hayward (General)
KN6SZW	William Mchugh	Castro Valley (General)
KN6SXI	Rajiv Govindjee	Lafayette
KN6SSA	Martin Gelacio	Newark
KN6STA	David Corridon	Oakley
KN6STH	Tom Bright	Oakley
KN6SZL	Kevin Coleman	Orinda
KN6SWY	Arthur Beckman	Pleasanton
KN6SSU	Naveen Reddy Alka	Dublin
KN6STJ	Jessica Bart-williams	Rodeo
KN6STM	Paul Supplee	Saint Helena
KN6SWS	Ryan Heywood	Saint Helena
KN6SSC	Bo Meng	San Ramon
KN6SXF	Donovan Nixon	San Ramon
KN6SQR	Charles Lindsay	Suisun City
KN6SXG	Daniel Mcchesney-young	Berkeley
KN6SWP	Michelle Vuong	Berkeley
KN6SXM	Ethan Wu	Berkeley (General)
KN6SWU	Lixiang Yin	Berkeley
KN6SUY	Miles Nash	Berkeley
KN6SUS	Ryan Martin	Sonoma
KN6SXQ	Brett Hamner	Sonoma
KN6SYG	Jon Robinson	Vacaville

=====

New Upgrades:

Please congratulate the following upgraded hams in the East Bay Section.

KN6SEY	Jianxin Jiang	Newark (Extra)
--------	---------------	----------------

KN6SOW	Chanwoo Lee	Dublin (Extra)
KD2DOL	Neal Deckant	Walnut Creek (General)
KJ6YYR	Graeme Stewart	Oakland (General)

=====

Until next time, remember that the East Bay Section team is here to serve you, the hams of the East Bay. If you have a question or a problem concerning ham radio, don't hesitate to contact us.

Mike Patterson, N6JGA
ARRL East Bay Section Manager
N6JGA@ARRL.org
<https://www.arrleb.org>

=====