

address of the thousands of stations we see on our maps. I frequently take advantage of APRS's one line messages. I can send one or more one line messages to any station that I am receiving.

The software; WinAPRS, was given to me at the OARC meeting. It is shareware and can be downloaded from the Internet. If you choose to register the software; it is \$60 for PC and \$65 for MAC version. Installation is not hard for a computer savvy person. Read the docs and ask a fellow ham if you have problems. (AB2EK helped me.) A simple internet search will net many APRS helpful sites. DOS version of APRS is available.

Hardware: I used my old 586/133 computer running Windows 95. It was still attached to my old MFJ TNC. Any packet TNC will do. My TNC plugs into my 2m FM radio; 144.390 MHz. simplex.

You can even do it without a TNC, through the sound card on your PC and a slight change in software. (AB2KI, in Oneonta, is using just the sound card, no TNC.)

My computer is connected to the Internet; so I tell the software that it is OK to talk to the Internet. With out a "filter" I get 1000 new stations per minute from all over the world.

My MFJ TNC is dual port. I set "RADIO 1" for VHF, 2m and "RADIO 2" for HF, 10.15151MHz, LSB. I had to make up a second cable to attach my HF rig to the second port of the MFJ TNC. Two meter packets run at 1200 bd; HF packets run at a slower 300 bd. Good conditions are critical for HF packet.

Good luck.

de John in Downsville
AB2IC

From Rudy Ault N2JZK--

"Alice's Adventure in SSTV Land" (SSTV = Slow Scan Television)

"I took the plunge! It was there for the taking, so I took it! And it was FREE, too. With the incentive of a few of my friends (Skip-KE2XF, Rick-KB2TRZ, and Kirk-N2LGE) and the much needed and appreciated help of Ernie-WM2U, I have put a Slow Scan Television system together. Friends and neighbors...I has seen the promised land, and I likes what I see's!

73 magazine has been putting out reports on the newer types of amateur software available for downloading from the TARA (Troy Amateur Radio Association) web site links. They caught my attention with the liberal use of the word "free ware". Being a cheapskate, I went over there and in no time had a pocket full of software. The provided me with the SSTV, MMTTY, and Stream software which I wanted to experiment with. Yes, I did say Experiment. The idea was to see how many modes, how fast, and how cheap it could be done. The results even shocked me!

First the radio. Last Fathers day, my lovely wife whom I don't deserve, showered me with a Kenwood 440TS. That was the basis of my set up. The old girl has a AFSK port in the back (er...the radio...not the wife).The connections were made from junk box parts, and of the worst ones I could find. A pair of old stereo speaker leads, to which I soldered the stereo type plugs for the sound card. The whole thing took me less than half an hour.

There was a glitch. The RCV cable needed a couple of resistors in line. The Readme.doc in the program specified values which I did not have. That left me with the choice of improvising...or buying. I improvised. I used a 12k ohm and a 700 ohm resistor. It worked.

The computer is a junk mans nightmare. It has been recycled more than repaired. Its a Packard Bell 100 CD, with a 100 mb hard drive, Windows 95, and a Galaxy 16 bit sound card. The cpu is a Pentium 60. Its old, slow, and needs a dusting, but it works! I plugged the radio cables into it, booted up, and tuned to 14.230 MHz. USB. The results were fantastic. Pictures down loading from all over the place. I've been at this two weeks, and already need to buy more floppies to store them on. They come in from Europe, the Caribbean, South America, and even Utah!

All told, this project set me back about eight dollars, and most of that was in telephone fees for e-mail and down loads. The first time I thought about SSTV was eight or more years ago. That would have been several hundreds of dollars to set up.

My first SSTV picture was sent to Skip on 80m, with Kirk.The pictures came down clear, and clean. Photo quality!

I've also been playing with the Stream, and MMTTY stuff, but that for another month. Grab a copy of this, and give it a try! Its FUN...its NEW...its DIFFERENT. Just one word of warning. Some of the other countries in this world allow the sending of "less than scantily clad women". Don't let the kiddies play with this alone."

de Rudy Ault N2JZK

Troop 74 SM Grayling Martin gave some good advice regarding the PA site and many thanks to Mr. Bob Ryder of Hancock Telephone for allowing access to his tower site on Coon Hill.

Up/down links to the relay sites were done through Ham simplex and FRS by our participating unlicensed scout.

Repeaters accessed with signal reports from replying stations were: 147.315+ Walton, 146.730- Binghamton, 146.955- Walton, 147.285 + Towanda PA, and a "long haul" simplex shot on 146.520 with Bainbridge (KA2HNG).

Our many thanks and '73's to the following stations who listened for us, passed simulated traffic and provided signal reports: AB2IC, N2ZMN, K2EZK, KA2HNG, KF2WJ and KB3FHQ.

Please credit James Munholland with about 5 hours service time. Copeland has the exact time.

Proud to be 99'ers,
KB2EZR and WAZAIX

Ed. Note: KB2EZR is Kevin Kiel, a hamScouter from Sidney. His son Troy just graduated from Webelos to Troop 99.

Dated 1 April 2001 from Jim WAZIAX--

We are pleased to report the last field operation has been completed for RAT (repeater access test), KC2ELN John Copeland's Eagle project out of Troop 99.

April 1st was "Deposit Day" and a base was set up in the Deposit School Parking lot on the west side of the school. A relay station was set up on Whitaker Swamp Hill state land south of town. Uplink was handled by 1 watt rubber duck HT's on '.52 simplex although a mag mount 5/8 L was used for most of the links because of the HT's being quite location-sensitive. No contacts could be made with repeaters from the parking lot although 5 W Mag mount 5/8 L was able to break the 2 Binghamton machines listed below.

Repeaters accessed from the relay site with 20 W into an artificial ground plane antenna at 18 feet (pole lashed to car) were:

146.730 (-) Binghamton

146.820 (-) PL 100.0 Binghamton

146.955 (-) PL 123.0 Walton

146.685 (-) Norwich

All repeater contacts were confirmed contacts with one of our good friends who were listening for us. Many thanks to them: Al, K2EZK (Tr 99 emeritus) and Don, KC2GZU (TR 36, Walton).

Our appreciation goes out also to the administration of the Deposit school who were very cooperative in granting permission to use the parking lot. Likewise to Joe Behnke, ASM for time and gasoline.

Thanks also to two unlicensed Scouts: Ken Echard and Derrick McHenry who helped on uplink attempts with FRS and CB radios and did general "Roadie"-type work; Please see that they are awarded 4 hours service time each!

-Troop 99, WAZIAX

+++++
NO OCARG EAGLE IN JUNE, JULY, AND AUGUST?

Unless someone comes forward and volunteers to take over as Editor while I'm in Labrador, the OCARG EAGLE won't be published this summer. I normally recruit people in Scouting using sophisticated techniques (read: strongarm), but I don't want to do that with this newsletter. I'd rather that someone through their generosity and kindness would step forward. This is an excellent chance for someone to polish their editorial prowess or pick up a new skill. I found editorial skills useful while in Graduate School - I earned a few extra shekels by editing articles for the Journal of Wildlife Management.

It DOES require certain basic writing skills: an editor needs to be a gud speler, be reasonably versed in grammar, have a critical eye toward other persons' writings, and have a bent for composition. So, budding writers, please come out of the closet! We need you!

))

SPEAKING OF LABRADOR...

Preparations for my Labrador DXpedition proceed apace. There's been a number of changes in the frequencies, bands, and schedule upon which I will be operating. Check them out at : <http://sites.netscape.net/thefred3/labr1> .

Also, remember to Bookmark the following page for recipients of the OCARG EAGLE and other five-county hams: <http://sites.netscape.net/thefred3/local> .

This Net will function for the use of OCARG members, local five-county area hams, and a few selected others in order to more easily make the contact with CQ Zone 2 and ITU Zone 9. It'll also be the site to exchange message traffic.

Since I went "public" with the announcement on several DX Lists regarding the Labrador DXpedition, my Website has been steaming! To date, it's received over 650 hits. And, I've received over 30 emails from all over the world with questions, comments, and suggestions. I'm gonna be busy up there!

=====

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:

I think you really stink! You have some wacked [sic] out opinions about ham radio oprators [sic] and boy scouts! I bert [sic] you were never a boy scout! You shoud [sic] be ashamd [sic] of yourslef [sic] for thinking your [sic] a [sic] editor. i [sic] bet you make up most of those storys [sic] yourdelf [sic]. im [sic] gonna report you to the fcc! [sic].

anon [sic]

Dear Anon--

Everyone is entitled to their opinions. Since you provided nothing but vituperations, completely without supporting facts nor other substance, I presume you speak only for yourself, extemporaneously, since no one has ever criticized me nor this publication. To the contrary, I have received only praise and accolades. Therefore, it must be my supposition that I have said something to offend you and you took it personally. If so, take it to heart - I MEANT EVERY WORD OF IT!

Oh, most of the news is submitted by the EAGLE's readers and is so credited. If you had the fortitude (guts) to come out of your anonymity and identify yourself, maybe I could persuade you that I'm not really such a bad guy. Or, I could shoot you. But, that's not acting like the Eagle Scout I am, is it? Want to give it a try? Could go either way.

Last, if I thought you really knew how to read and could actually manage to make contact with the FCC, I would probably help you make the report, just so I could watch the FCC keel over in laughter and disbelief.

-Editor

!!

As always, if you no longer wish to receive this publication, please contact me at thefred@ascent.net. - K2FRD

@@

#####

--
Fred Stevens K2FRD
Please visit V02/K2FRD's Labrador DXpedition 2001 page:
<http://sites.netscape.net/thefred3/labr1>
Or, visit the Otschodela Council Amateur Radio Group's page:
<http://sites.netscape.net/thefred3/homepage>
Or, visit K2FRD's personal page:
<http://sites.netscape.net/thefred3/k2frd>

Related: :MAC HD OS 8.6:P33B00008%201:00021E5D:5E1AFA81:00000000:00000000