

SOCORRO AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

SARA NEWS

WWW.SOCORROARA.ORG

JULY 2019



MEETINGS

The minutes for meetings are at
<https://www.socorroara.org/minutes/>

The July 2019 meeting will be at the County Emergency Management Conference Room at 198 Neel Avenue on July 10 at 7:30 pm.

SARA REPEATER

SARA supports a VHF repeater located on Socorro Peak immediately west of Socorro. The repeater is “open”. The autopatch is currently inoperative.

146.68 (-)
100 or 123 Hz required
123 Hz on output

SARA also supports a UHF D-STAR module ‘B’ operating at 444.500 MHz + 5.000
Registration instructions are at
www.socorroara.org/sara/repeaters/D_STAR_Gateway.pdf

CLUB OFFICERS

President: Jim Lommen KC7QY
Vice President: Brad Smith KD5JNI
Secretary: Ray Calkins, N0RBT
Treasurer: Henry Newton, KC5WYA
Past President: Prescott Grey W1PCG
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Newsletter Editor: Anneliese Bowman AD6UY
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COMING EVENTS

08/31/2019 | 35th Annual Hamfest
Location: Alamogordo, NM
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: Alamogordo Amateur Radio Club
Website: <https://www.qsl.net/k5lrw/regform.htm>

09/20/2019 | New Mexico State Convention, Duke City Hamfest

Location: Albuquerque, NM
Type: ARRL Convention
Sponsor: New Mexico Hamvention, Inc.
Website: <https://www.dukecityhamfest.org/>

NO STRONG OPPOSITION TO 144 – 146 MHz REALLOCATION PROPOSAL AT CEPT MEETING

ARRL.ORG

A World Radiocommunication Conference 2023 (WRC-23) agenda item proposing to study a range of frequencies, including potentially reassigning 144 – 146 MHz as a primary Aeronautical Mobile Service allocation, drew little opposition at a meeting of the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT) Project Team A. The team is responsible for some aspects of CEPT WRC positions, and the meeting was held June 17 – 21 in Prague, Czech Republic. Introduced by France, the proposal targeting 144 – 146 MHz would be part of a broader consideration of spectrum allocated to the Aeronautical Mobile Service. Another issue addressed during the meeting concerned the sharing of the Amateur Radio 1240 – 1300 MHz band with Europe’s Galileo GPS system.

“We hear only one admin[istration] (Germany) opposed the 144 MHz proposal — no one else,” the UK Microwave Group tweeted following the meeting. Otherwise, it has been carried forward to the higher-level CEPT Conference Preparatory Group (CPG) meeting in August.

The International Amateur Radio Union (IARU), which was represented at the Prague meeting, expressed “grave concern” to any proposal that would include 144 – 146 MHz in the proposed Aeronautical Mobile Services agenda item. That comprises the entire available 2-meter band in ITU Region 1. IARU has pledged to make every effort to fully protect Amateur Radio interests and seek the support of regulators for their view. IARU Region 1 President Don Beattie, G3BJ, said prior to the meeting that the IARU would “energetically” promote its opposition in Regional Telecommunications Organizations (RTOs) and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) “to obtain assurances that the spectrum will remain a primary allocation for the amateur services.”

The 144 – 146 MHz band is allocated globally to the Amateur and Amateur Satellite services on a primary basis, and is the only globally harmonized Amateur Radio VHF band. A widely used segment of the

Amateur Radio spectrum, 2 meters supports a broad base of terrestrial users, repeater systems, and satellite stations, including the International Space Station.

According to the meeting minutes, the proposal provides no justification for targeting 144 – 146 MHz, and the IARU believes that sharing with airborne systems likely would be difficult and lead to constraints on the development of the Amateur and Amateur Satellite services there. IARU suggested that alternative proposals might be developed that could provide further spectrum for the aeronautical applications without impacting this Amateur Service spectrum.

IARU is expected to brief member-societies, requesting that they discuss the French proposal with their governments in advance of the August CEPT-CPG meeting. France could seek to introduce the same proposal to study 144 – 146 MHz for aeronautical use into other RTOs.

Meanwhile, further discussion on the 23-centimeter band study proposal is anticipated prior to the Conference Preparatory Group meeting in August. The proposal was raised in the wake of reports of interference to the Galileo navigation system, but IARU has said it’s aware of only “a handful of cases” of reported interference to the Galileo E6 signal on 1278.750 MHz. Work on this issue will continue in other specialized CEPT forums in the interim.
<http://www.arrl.org/news/no-strong-opposition-to-144-146-mhz-reallocation-proposal-at-cept-meeting>

W4DXCC DX AND CONTEST CONVENTION

The SouthEastern DX and Contesting Organization holds an event every year in Pigeon Forge Tennessee at the MainStay Hotel and Conference Center. This year the conference is September 20 and 21. If you are up for a road trip you may want to go and enjoy.

<http://w4dxcc.com/main-program.html>

FIELD GUIDE TO TRANSMISSION LINES

[HTTPS://HACKADAY.COM](https://hackaday.com)

With the SunZia Project generating concerns about high voltage lines crossing the Rio Grande and possible noise at the Very Large Array it might be worthwhile to look at what, exactly, is carrying power around our state.

<https://hackaday.com/2019/06/11/a-field-guide-to-transmission-lines/>

THE BAOFENG SALES BAN COUNTDOWN BY HENRY NEWTON, KC5WYA

This condensed article below is taken from <https://survivalblog.com/>, written by James Wesley Rawles, on 20 Jun 19.

The FCC has an upcoming rule change that takes effect on 30 Sep 19 that relates to Baofeng UV-5R. On that day it will become illegal to sell or “offer for sale” (advertise) radios like the popular Baofeng UV-5R that can operate in the FRS radio band (462.5625 – 462.7250 MHz) and any other licensed band in a single device. Manufacturers will have to either quit selling them or block out the FRS bands—like they already do for the current cellular bands.

This is the relevant FCC verbiage:
§ 95.591 Sales of FRS combination radios prohibited.
Effective September 30, 2019, no person shall sell or offer for sale hand-held portable radio equipment capable of operating under this subpart (FRS) and under any other licensed or licensed-by-rule radio services in this chapter (devices may be authorized under this subpart with part 15 unlicensed equipment authorizations).

Note that this upcoming ban will not be a ban on the possession or use of FRS dual band ham radios. Nor will it be illegal to gift them to other adults. Hence, any that are legally owned on or before September 30th will effectively become “grandfathered”.

The full article is located at:
<https://survivalblog.com/baofeng-sales-ban-countdown-continues/>

KC5WYA notes:

1) The UV-5R radios are currently available on Amazon.

2) The UV-5R is supported by CHIRP programming software.

MOBILE BRACKET FOR BAOFENG UV5R BY HENRY NEWTON, KC5WYA

I recently purchased a “Universal Metal Holster Mounting Bracket for Baofeng UV5R” from an eBay seller located in Albuquerque. Since we were going to Albuquerque for a doctor’s appointment, I dropped by the seller’s house and picked up the bracket.

It is well made out of a single sheet of unfinished sheet steel that is 0.072 inch thick. The bracket fits the UV5R nicely. The seller’s description indicates it also fits the UV82 radio. It securely holds the UF5R with the 3800 mAh battery or the smaller 1800 mAh battery.

The radio is secured to the bracket via the belt clip. The slot midway down from the top is where the battery clip engages the bracket. There is a ¼-20 nut welded to the rear of the bracket to affix to a Lido mount or similar mobile mount.

The cost is \$10.99.

Figure1, Front of Bracket



Figure 2, Rear of Bracket



THE SAT-1 INITIATIVE

[HTTPS://SAT-1.COM/](https://sat-1.com/)

This looks like it might be an interesting project. A group of engineers and support people in Bulgaria are looking to develop software for receiving data from cube sats and NOAA APT transmissions.

They looking for operators in several countries who would be willing to join the prototype network and test it out as volunteers. If anyone in SARA is interested you may contact them.

This project is basically a spinoff of the SAT-1 Initiative (<https://sat-1.com>), a space technology NGO based in the European Union. The goal is to create a global network of receivers across most frequencies that can continuously receive and distribute all kinds of satellite data. This can be anything from simple telemetry to commercial satellite imagery, and can cover both open-source and proprietary projects

They're developing a software client - HomePort - which ground station operators download and run. It allows them to launch their own virtual node that broadcasts its status online. Once a few such nodes become operational, they connect and the network is

formed. A satellite operator can then request specific satellite data through this network (using the same app) and obtain it from stations that are available and capable of receiving it. Conversely, station operators can offer receiving capacity whenever they consider convenient.

The alpha of the client, Hydrogen, will establish a prototype network focused primarily on VHF and will test the pass scheduling of NOAA transmissions around 137 MHz. They're now looking for volunteers across the globe to join the HomePort network once Hydrogen rolls out, so anyone interested is free to register at <https://homeport.network/sign-up/>