

OSCAR Newsletter November 2012

OSCAR Meeting

The next OSCAR meeting is the 10th November @ 9:00 AM, the second Saturday of the month. Meetings are held in the meeting room at the Owatonna HyVee, 18th Street @ Oak Avenue.

SKYWARN Meeting

The next SKYWARN meeting is 20 - November @ 7:00 PM, the third Tuesday of the month. Meetings are held at the Owatonna Fire Station.

Viking Amateur Radio Society – Extra Class Study Group

Location: Waseca County EOC, 122 3rd Avenue N.W. Waseca, MN 56093

Start/End Dates: 01/07/2013 - 04/15/2013

Times: 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. **# of Sessions:** 15

Pre register required: No **Morse code offered:** No

Fee: \$29.95 for Manual

Contact: Merlin Williams KD0V **Phone:** (507) 835-2344

Email: merlin@mewai.com

Volunteer Exam Session - Glenville

Location: Glenville Fire Department, 221 W Main St, Glenville MN 56036-9506

Date: Nov 21 2012

Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins welcome)

Contact: Rodger J. Baseman (507) 383-8061

Email: nx0p@hotmail.com

Minnesota ARES Section Activation Status Board

No Section-level activations at this time.

Official ARES Section activations are state-level activations authorized by the Section Emergency Coordinator, as requested by the Minnesota State Duty Officer, Minnesota Volunteer Agencies Active in Disaster (MNVOAD) or by local agencies.

HAM Radio News:

Rescue Radio:

HAMS SHOULD NOT SELF DEPLOY FOR HURRICANE SANDY RELIEF (ARRL)

The ARRL is warning hams who want to assist those regions affected by Hurricane Sandy to not self-deploy to those areas. According to the League there are many ARRL Sections involved and each has different requirements as to how they locate, credential and deploy volunteers. If a need for manpower is identified that cannot be met locally or in a given ARRL Section, its leadership

may contact other ARRL Sections for assistance. If the need is still not met, Section leadership may then contact ARRL Headquarters for the needed assistance. But the bottom line is that you not go to any devastated area unless you are specifically asked to do so.

Licensing Issues:

Examination Credit (ARRL)

To be issued a new or upgraded amateur operator license, a person must pass an examination or otherwise receive credit for the examination element(s) required to qualify for the relevant license class.

Applications for new or upgraded licenses must be filed through a volunteer-examiner coordinator (VEC), which obtains the applicant information from VEs, who in turn administer examination sessions and issue a certificate of successful completion of an examination (CSCE) to an examinee who scores a passing grade on an examination element. A person also receives credit for an examination element if he or she presents either a CSCE for that element that was issued within the previous 365 days or an unexpired (or expired but within the grace period for renewal) amateur operator license for a license of a class that required passage of that element.

Read more here... <http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-seeks-to-change-amateur-radio-licensing-rules-allow-additional-emission-types>

New Radio Products:

NEW HT WITH GSM PHONE NOT LEGAL IN USA (Southgate)

A mainland China company called Puxing has announced what might be the ultimate in hand held two-way gear, but the chances are that you will never see one in the United States. At least not legally and the reason for this is simple.

The PX-D03 combines a GSM cellular telephone with a dual-band two-way radio and as a bonus can also be used as an MP3 player for your favorite tunes. And under the current FCC rules, combining a two-way radio with a cellphone makes the unit illegal to import, buy, sell or use in the U-S-A or its possessions.

According to the specifications posted on-line by one China-based mail order retailer, the PX-D03 covers 136 to 174 and 400 to 470 MHz as a full dual band two-way transceiver with a total of 128 memory channels. It can be computer programmed and features what Puxing calls a human-based operational interface.

On the cellphone side, the GSM-based unit carries dual S-I-M cards, has text messaging, and a built-in front-facing camera. And if that were not all, the unit also contains an FM radio that receives the 87.5 to 108 MHz broadcast band, the afore mentioned MP3 player plus other entertainment including several games.

As being advertised, the PX-D03 comes with a 3.7v Lithium- Ion battery, a charging stand and power supply for the country the purchaser lives in; two antennas, a soft case and a remote plug in earpiece. According to one of the websites advertising the unit, the total cost is \$151 shipped world-wide.

Ham Radio in Space:

SPOT THE ISS SERVICE FROM NASA (NASA)

A new service from NASA called Spot the Station will send you a text message when the International Space Station is within visual range of your house.

The service will only notify users if the station is easily visible above trees, buildings, and other objects. Spot the Station will calculate the station's proximity to more than 4,600 positions on Earth, updating its information several times each week.

The International Space Station is usually at peak visibility at dawn and dusk. When skies are clear, it typically appears as fast-moving point of light.

You can sign up for the service on line by visiting www.spotthestation.nasa.gov