



# SkyWave

The Radio Amateurs  
of  
Cheyenne, Wyoming and Shy-WY ARC  
Newsletter

Mike Whitmore, W7MEW Editor

January 2011  
Volume 2, Issue 1



<b>New Year</b>	
<p>Well, another year is coming to an end, which usually means a new year is nearly here. Some new activities are planned for this year, around the bands, area and in this publication.</p> <p>The original group that was discussing sponsoring the Wyoming Section Convention is working on that again, (see Convention later in this newsletter).</p> <p>Bill Rideout, K7YM, and Don Miller, K7TFW, have started a 10 meter CW net, (see New CW Net).</p>	<p>Mike Whitmore, W7MEW, is planning a series of articles on operating procedures and ethics.</p> <p>It is hoped that with the Laramie group we can actually have a Field Day this year. Plans are tentative, stay tuned.</p> <p>I urge anyone to please become a contributor to this newsletter, it is for all practical purposes YOUR newsletter.</p>

<b>News</b>	
<b>Shy-WY Christmas Dinner</b>	
<p>The annual Christmas dinner was held December 14 at Applebee's. There were 14 in attendance; Jon Jacquot, WA7BIL, Brian McNutt, N7BAM, Pam Stinson, KD7LLI, Rodney Waln, KCOZHF, Bob Lewis, WB7T, and wife Barbara, Cara Nelson, KD7YBL, Mike Whitmore, W7MEW, and wife Kay, Tom Coles, KC7RZK, Fred Culek, KD7LLF, and Pamela Culek, KE7UUD, Aarne Haas, WY7ATH, and wife Nina.</p> <p>We all had a great visit and it is great to get together socially at least once a year.</p>	
<b>Tuesday Night Net Moves</b>	
<p>Fred, KD7LLF, who has been net control for the Tuesday night club net will be conducting training for several weeks. It was discussed at the October meeting that the Tuesday night net should be moved to Thursday night at 1900 and to the 146.820 repeater. The repeater move allows the Laramie group to participate. Net control will be rotating.</p>	

## New CW Net

Don Miller, K7TFW, Bill Rideout, K7YM, and Mike Whitmore, W7MEW, on Monday night, December 20, conducted a test on starting a 10 meter CW net. This new net is planned to have a short training session followed by a rag chew. Don says, "Don't worry about procedure- we'll learn that as we go. Both Bill and I have QSK (full break in)so if you want in or want us to slow down or repeat something just send a "dit" or two. We will send GA(go ahead)and wait for your instructions. Don't be afraid to jump in."

This net will be held on Mondays at 2000 local on 28.200 Mhz. This portion of the band is available to those with tech licenses so warm up you HF rig get out you key and jump into the pool. Here is a perfect opportunity for techs to get on the air on HF, and who knows, as the sun spot cycle improves you have a good chance to work some DX on CW. Reception seems to be sporadic as Mike is able to receive transmissions but others have reported hearing nothing in two sessions.

For additional help with CW, there is the CW class on Tuesday nights, except 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, at Station 1, Fire District 2, on North College Drive, 1830 until about 2030. This is for anyone wishing to learn from the beginning or simply increase proficiency. As it now stands there is only one attendee. We had the presence of Don the last two weeks which was great and very fun. He is unfortunately going back to his regular schedule in Janurary and won't be available. Contact Fred, KD7LLF, Cara, KD7YBL,



or Mike, W7MEW, for additional information.

## Forecasters keep eye on looming 'Solar Max'

The long low in the solar cycle may be finally coming to an end. This should be good news for us in the amateur community, however, with solar flares and coronal mass ejections others may not be so thrilled. See the whole article [HERE](#). This is an interesting perspective.

## Operating Procedures and Ethics for Amateur Radio

This is the first in a series of installments intended to advise new operators, and remind those of us more experienced, of some principles of operation of our equipment on the air. I am not pointing at anyone in particular and only intend to remind or inform of common procedures.

The information here is from "[ETHICS AND OPERATING PROCEDURES FOR THE RADIO AMATEUR.](#)" this has been edited somewhat to condense the text. Brackets [] indicate comments or additions by this editor.

### II. GENERAL OPERATING

#### II.1 Ham Language

- A **ham** is a radio amateur
- Hams address one another exclusively with their first name (or nickname), never with *mister*, *miss* nor *misses* or a family name. [ Most hams I know are by first name and "call." Rarely do I use a last name, if I even know it!]
- The ham etiquette says we greet one another in our writings using '73' (not *best* 73 nor *many* 73 [or simply 73's]), and not *sincerely* or other similar formal expressions. [ today's definition for 73 is generally accepted as "*best regards*", or an older meaning "compliments," and at times a "friendly word between operators." As these meanings are plural to use 73's is redundant, *compliments compliments...(n)*]
- During your on air contacts, use **Q code correctly**. Avoid overkill by using the Q code all the time in phone. Some Q codes have become generally become standard expressions even in phone, e.g.:

QRM	interference
QRN	interference from atmospheric (static crashes)
Going QRT	leaving the air
QRZ	who called me?
QSB	fading
QSL	a card confirming a contact or I confirm...
QSY	change frequency
QTH	the place where your station is located or my location is...

- Use the one and only **international spelling alphabet** correctly, [especially during international contacts]. Avoid *fantasies* which may sound funny or amusing in your own language, but which won't make your correspondent understand what you are saying... Do not use different spelling words in one and the same sentence. Example: '**CQ from ON9UN, oscar november nine uniform november, ocean nancy nine united nations...**'
- The most widely used language in amateur radio is English. It goes without saying though that two hams, both speaking a language different from English can of course converse in that English.
- Making contacts in Morse code (CW) is always possible without speaking a single word in the language of your QSO partner.

More next month.

## Where is Channel 1?

By Stan Horzempa, WA1LOU  
Contributing Editor - ARRL Letter

*This week, Surfin' uncovers what really happened to broadcast television Channel 1.*

When [debunking radio urban legends was the topic of discussion here](#) two weeks ago, various readers wrote back about the deflation of the legend "Why isn't there a television Channel 1?"

Legend has it that there was no Channel 1 because the frequencies that Channel 1 occupied were reserved for military use. [SNOPEs](#) debunked the legend. In a nutshell, television and radio shared some frequencies in the late 1940s. To avoid interference problems, the FCC ruled that the two services could not share.

To achieve an interference free utopia, the TV industry had to sacrifice one of the 13 TV channel assignments. They gave up Channel 1 because it had the least commercial value -- the FCC had set aside Channel 1 for community use with 1kW maximum power. The FCC deleted Channel 1 in 1948, but never renumbered the remaining channels. Thus, Channel 2 became the first channel on the TV dial.

Wikipedia has a good handle on the [issue](#). Meanwhile, the Discovery Channel Web site offers a [similar, but less technical explanation](#).

Former ARRL and IARU President Larry Price, W4RA, wrote about the old TV set his family inherited: "It was an RCA set and it had Channel 1. Of course there was no TV station to receive there. It worked reasonably well on the other channels and we eventually junked it. To the best of my memory, I recall Channel 1 was '6 meters,' which is still used sometimes by the military. I live close to Fort Stewart, Georgia. During the intensive training of helicopter crews for the war in Vietnam, I often listened to their exercises on 51.xxx MHz FM. So I guess I would agree that SNOPEs is good, but not perfect."

For [Tri-State](#) TV history buffs, Pete Kemp, KZ1Z, passed along this bit of information: "In New York City, W2XBS received the Channel 1 assignment. W2XBS later became WNBT. Their initial license authorized transmission beginning June 24, 1941. In the spring of 1946, WNBT moved to Channel 4, became WRCA in 1954 and finally WNBC in 1960. Interesting to note, the WNBT call letters were also used on a TV station in New Britain, Connecticut, an NBC affiliate -- now WVIT -- Channel 30."

For a more detailed history of W2XBS, see [Wikipedia's take on the matter](#).

Bob Mudra, AK9RM, added this on TV channel allocations: "There's a couple of other interesting anomalies in the TV allocation scheme. All the TV channels are on 6 megahertz increments -- except Channels 4 and 5 where there is a 10 megahertz jump. That one was to protect the aircraft marker beacon frequency at 75 MHz. The marker beacons are now pretty much defunct and replaced with inertial navigation intersections, but they sure were still there when the TV channels were assigned.

"The other is that, although specified in the table of channel frequencies, Channel 37 (608-614 MHz) is not assigned to an actual broadcast station, but reserved for radio astronomy (at least by FCC and IC). Of course, Channels 70 to 83 were farmed out to the cellular industry and more recently, Channels 52 to 69 were reallocated to miscellaneous mobile services. Also, Channels 14 to 20 are allocated to public safety radio on a select geographical basis."

## Tech Tips

The ARRL Lab staff is there to answer any and all of your technical questions. E-mail or call them Monday through Friday 8 AM to 5 PM Eastern time.



- [Ed Hare, W1RFI-](#)

### Laboratory Manager

BPL expert

RF Safety expert

Represents Amateur Radio on Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) committees

*Areas of expertise:* Servicing equipment, QRP, mobile [Contact](#)



## Some operating activities

### January

#### 1 [Straight Key Night](#)

Straight Key Night is held every January 1 from 0000 UTC through 2359 UTC.

All authorized Amateur frequencies, but activity has traditionally been centered on the HF bands. Get out there and pound some brass!

#### 8-9 [RTTY Roundup](#)

**ARRL RTTY Roundup** – January 8-9, 2011. Begins 1800 UTC Saturday, ends 2400 UTC Sunday.

## 22-24 [January VHF Sweepstakes](#)

Begins 1900 UTC Saturday, ends 0359 UTC Monday (January 22-24, 2011)

## Special Events

### Kid's Day

**Jan 2, 1800Z-2359Z, K1D/KC9REL**, Darien, WI. Lakes Area Amateur Radio Club. 14.285 28.275 146.865. QSL. Michel Bartolone, 733 Foxtrail Cir, Burlington, WI 53105. [KC9REL@arrl.net](mailto:KC9REL@arrl.net)

### GORC Morse Telegraph Event

**Jan 6-Jan 7, 1000Z-2359Z, W3M**, Reading, PA. The Great Outdoors Radio Club. 14.070 14.035 7.035 3.535. Certificate & QSL. GORC Morse Telegraph Event, W3M, 775 Moonflower Ave, Reading, PA 19606. Celebrating the first successful demonstration of the telegraph in the US at the Speedwell Iron Works on January 6, 1838. [www.wa3wsj.org/Morse\\_Telegraph\\_Event.html](http://www.wa3wsj.org/Morse_Telegraph_Event.html)

### USS Nautilus first ship underway on nuclear power 1954; Bathyscaph Trieste descends 37,799 feet into Marianas Trench 1960; Navy SEAL Teams established 1962

**Jan 8, 1700Z-2359Z, N16IW**, San Diego, CA. USS Midway (CV41) Museum Radio Operations Room. SSB 14.320 7.250 D-STAR 012C 2m/7cm SOCAL rpters. QSL. USS Midway Museum Radio Room, 910 N Harbor Dr, San Diego, CA 92101. [kk6fz@arrl.net](mailto:kk6fz@arrl.net)

### "Lake Mille Lacs Ice Fishing Shack" Special Event

**Jan 14-Jan 16, 2100Z-2100Z, W0JH**, Stillwater, MN. Stillwater Amateur Radio Association. 21.358 14.258 7.258 3.858. Certificate. Dave Glas, 1455 Oakgreen Ave N, Stillwater, MN 55082. Operating from Northern MN. QSL certificates will ONLY be sent via e-mail! Complete "eQSL Request Form" at: [www.radioham.org](http://www.radioham.org) (you do NOT have to send a printed QSL card!). Required QSO info includes: call sign, date, time, freq., RST report, etc. A file, with 8.5"x11" color QSL certificate suitable for printing, will be sent to you via e-mail. [www.radioham.org](http://www.radioham.org)



## SHY-WY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

**There was no meeting in December**

The next Meeting is January 11, 2011  
7:00 pm Willow Room Laramie County Library

## Local news:

**CW class:** Tuesdays, except the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, 6:30 pm at Fire District 2 Station 1 on N. College.

**Skywarn®:** Skywarn Recognition Day (SRD) was December 3-4. It has been reported that approximately 30+ contacts were made with other National Weather Service (NWS) stations. The editor of this newsletter made 6 contacts on BPSK-31 with NWS stations from my home station. I encourage everyone to get involved with this annual Special Event sponsored by the NWS. As long as there is a control operator at the weather service office anyone can get on the air at Special Event Station WX7CYS.



### **ARES®/RACES: To all RACES operators,**

I hope you all have had a good Christmas. As we begin a new year comes a good time to update the information you provided for RACES database. For most of you this is the information you provided on your RACES application form. You have nothing to do if you believe your information remains unchanged. Respond to this email only if you think something has changed.

I don't maintain information on your employment, skills, or equipment so I don't need to know if that information has changed. I do want to know about any other changes. You should consider:

Has your call sign or license class changed?

Have you changed your contact information?

Have you taken additional formal training?

Have you either joined or quit any affiliated organization, such as ARES or MARS?

Are your physical abilities different than on record?

Anything else?

Please let me know of any changes by January 1, 2011. Have a safe new year.

Bill Thompson, KI0IN

Wyoming State RACES Officer  
307-359-2660  
198 Arrow St.  
Douglas, WY 82633  
(Station at Bill)





## Upcoming events:

**Shy-WY ARC Meeting** - The next gathering will be the regular meeting. Willlow Room at Laramie County Library, January 11, 2011, at 7:00 pm.

**Winter Hamfest 2011** - Northern Colorado Amateur Radio Club (NCARC) January 15, 2011. 8:30 am to 1:00 pm.

**Note: This is at a new location!!!** Larimer County Fairgrounds, 5280 Arena Circle, Loveland, CO ( Bud-wiser Event Center)

## Longmont Amateur Radio Club - LARCFest

Saturday, April 2, 2011, 8:00 am - 2:00 pm; Boulder County Fairgrounds



## Local Nets on 2 Meters

The daily weather net is at 0645 (local) on the 146.775 repeater.

The Shy-WY ARC Sunday morning net follows the weather net at 0700.

The Shy-WY ARC Thursday evening net meets at 1900 on 146.820 repeater.

Carey Jr. High Club Net: This net meets on Monday night at 6:30 pm on 146.530 simplex.

## Local repeaters:

Frequency	Tone	Offset	Notes
146.775	114.8	-	This repeater is linked to 147.165
147.165	114.8	+	Located near Albin, linked to Neb.
146.820	114.8	-	

147.105	114.8	+
145.235	131.8	
448.150	100.0	

If anyone has additional repeater information please send to the editor

Note: Most newer radios have the offset automatically programmed.



### **HF nets:**

Cowboy Net: M-F @ 1845 on 3.9235

Pony Express Net: Sunday @ 0800 on 3.9235

WY ARES® Net: Sunday @ 0830 on 3.9235

Jackalope Net: M-Sat @ 1215 on 7.260

QCWA Chapter 140 Net: Sat. @ 0800 on 3.9235

Mtn States Slow CW Net: @ 1945; Summer 7.115 Winter 3.715 ???

Wyoming Swap Shop: Sunday @ 0730 on 3.9235

*Monthly Rocky Mountain Division HF net:*

*DATE: Wednesday, January 12 (?)*

*TIME: 7:30 PM Mountain*

*FREQ: 3939 kHz +/- due to any QRM*



## Additional information

Local and area links:

[Shy-WY Amateur Radio Club](#)

[Casper Amateur Radio Club](#)

[University Amateur Radio Club N7UW](#)

[Northeast Wyoming Amateur Radio Association](#)

[Northern Colorado Amateur Radio Club](#)

[Aurora Repeater Association](#)

[Colorado QRP Club](#)

[EDGE OF SPACE SCIENCES](#)

[Everything for the Morse enthusiast](#)

[ARRL home page](#)

[Sweetwater Amateur Radio Club](#)

[Carbon County Amateur Radio Club](#)

[Jackson Hole Area Amateur Radio Club](#)

Thanks for reading.

God Bless America.

73

Mike Whitmore, W7MEW

Editor

[email](#)

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