

# The Feedline



Fall, 2009

The Feedline

## Special points of interest:

- CCARC members have been discussing a quorum change.
- This was prompted by declining member turnout at meetings.
- Changing the quorum means changing the club Constitution.

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## CCARC members propose constitution change

In an effort to enhance the ability to conduct business, some active members of the Cass County Amateur Radio Club are proposing changing the quorum to a lower number.

Section III of the Bylaws in the CCARC's Articles of Association states that a quorum shall consist of ten of the voting membership to transact business. But in recent months, the number of members attending the club's monthly meetings has fallen just short of that.

Those attending the October club meeting felt it may be time for a change. The proposal was made that the quorum be set at seven members. Attending members agreed, but for the change to be official, the Bylaws

must be amended. The current constitution



allows this to be done by notifying all active members, then have a vote at the next club meeting.

Before this action is taken, President Phil Snider said he would like to pursue ways to increase meeting attendance without lowering the quorum needed to conduct business.

The current Articles of Association and Bylaws of the club were adopted on August 21, 1993.

## Increasing attendance at meetings

What does it take to get more CCARC members to attend the monthly club meetings? Preferably, the answer will not involve draining the club treasury!

A recent informal survey done by the editor of World Radio, Nancy Kott, found that hams are drawn to events where food plays a major part!

What suggestions do you have? As a member, what would you like to see?

In the past, club meetings have included demonstrations of new equipment and operating modes. Members have also volunteered to speak on ham-related topics they felt would be of interest to other members.

## The logical case of the 30 minute time zone

While the U.S. has four basic time zones to deal with, Canadians have more. Since Canada is broader than the U.S., they not only have the four time zones that the U.S. has (Eastern, Central, Mountain, Pacific), they have two more. One is Atlantic, which is an hour ahead of Eastern, and includes the Provinces of New Brunswick, Labrador, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island.

Then there is Newfoundland. Newfoundland sits in an area that is between Atlantic time and the next zone East. Newfoundland joined Canada as a Province in 1949 and in so doing was

able to keep a couple of unique characteristics

- one was the unique call letter prefix

VO, and the other was that Newfoundland could keep its time - 30 minutes ahead of Atlantic time. Residents chose to do this years ago because geographically, there were exactly between two time zones.

So when it's 9:00 here, it's 10:30 there!



**The bill calls for a study of amateur radio restrictions and to recommend relief.**

## HR 2160 gaining congressional support

A bill moving through the U.S. House of Representatives now has over 30 sponsors, including one Indiana Congressman, Andre Carson.

The "Amateur Radio Communications Enhancement Act of 2009" recognizes the benefit of Amateur Radio during disaster relief and emergency communications and calls for a study of the use of Amateur Radio and to identify

"unnecessary or unreasonable impediments" to operators, and to recommend "relief" for such restrictions.

The bill notes the volunteer contributions that Amateurs make during emergencies and would expand the use of Amateur Radio by Homeland Security during planning and response.

The bill must be voted on by the full House, then go the U. S. Senate.

## NSC says it won't support two-way radio ban

The National Safety Council (NSC) has stated that it will not support laws banning two-way radios now being promoted in several states. NSC President and CEO Janet Froetscher stated the NSC's position in response to an inquiry from the ARRL.

Froetscher said that the Council has no evidence that the use of two-way radios including the amateur service pose any significant risks and without such evidence the NSC is not supporting any

legislative bans or prohibitions to such use.

Froetscher went on to add that this position in no way diminishes the need to have one's full attention on driving with "hands on the wheel and eyes on the road." Any activity impairs this ability increases risk to one's safety.



## FCC: Employee using Amateur Radio not OK

The FCC's new amateur rules enforcer has reiterated to U.S. Amateurs



that operating on behalf of a business, even during a simulated emergency, is not in compliance with the rules.

Laura Smith of the FCC sent an informal email to Jeffery Casselberry, W0WLS, requesting information about his participation in a state-sanctioned communications drill backed by the Missouri Hospital Ass'n. The drill involved W0WLS operating an amateur station, which he built, at a hospital during working hours while he was

being paid. Smith requested information from Casselberry, which he supplied. She responded to him repeating the language of Sec. 97.113(a)(3), which says in part communications is not allowed in which the station licensee or control operator has pecuniary interest.

Smith said that as an employee of the hospital, W0WLS, may not operate an amateur station on the employer's behalf, even if on break or off work.

"The operation must be done strictly by volunteers," she said.

*(into from World Radio)*

## Radio expert explains changing CPS to Hertz

Hams used to refer to their frequency settings as "CPS." According to famous radio expert Ray Dio III, this term, named for Charles P. Steinmetz, fell into disuse and was later changed to "Hertz." This, explains Ray Dio, was a reflection of the nation's hams increased interest in mobile operation from rental cars.

When asked whether the biggest prob-

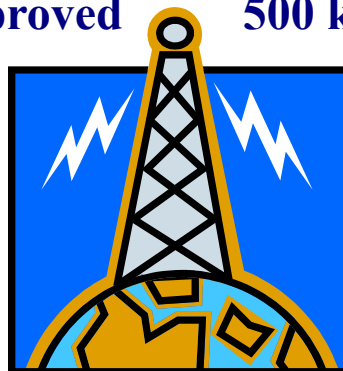
lem in Amateur Radio today was ignorance or apathy, Ray Dio replied that he didn't know the answer and he couldn't care less.

*(Mr. Ray Dio III is a close associate of John Johnston, W3BE of the FCC. His remarks were taken from w3beinformed.org)*

**The change from CPS to Hertz was due to hams' increased operation from rental cars**

## Canadian hams approved 500 kHz operations

On October 30, Canada issued two licenses in the Developmental Service in the 504 to 509 kHz range. VE1ZZ has been assigned VX9PSO and is reported to be on 504.6 kHz. VO1NA has been assigned VX9MRC and is said to be operating on 507.77 and 508.5 kHz. VX9PSO has been heard transmitting CW on 504.6kHz from Nova Scotia.



Two more stations, VE3OHH and VE7BDQ, are expected to become active soon.

Stations have been given special authority to conduct experimental broadcasts in preparation for WRC-12 conference coming in 2012.

*(from the 500kc.com website)*



**Newsletter of the Cass  
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**WE'RE ON  
THE WEB!**

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**Cass County Amateur Radio Club Officers**

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**Web Site Specialist:** Brandon DeLorenzo, KC9LVB

**Honorary Club Radio Engineer:** Mr. RF Burns

**Club Musician:** A. Juan Anato

**Dots and Dashes**

**Repeaters**

The primary repeater operates on 147.180 MHz and is located at the Chase Park water tower with an open receiver. An additional receive site is located at the Cass County EMA building. These are accessed with a 77 HZ sub-audible tone. The VHF transmitter also transmits a 77 Hz tone. Setting your receiver to *decode* will reduce unwanted signals. A second VHF repeater also is located at the Emergency Management building and operates

on 145.230 MHz. A UHF repeater transmits on 443.650 MHz from the EMA building. All transmit offsets are standard.

Repeaters may be out of service from time to time for repairs or upgrades. The club station is W9VMW.

**CCARC Meetings**

Meetings are held the third Saturday of each month at 9:00 AM at the Cass County Emergency Management Agency building, 2 miles North of Logansport on SR 17. Dues are \$15.00 per

year. Immediate family members may join for an additional \$5.00.

**Amateur License Tests**

Test sessions for all classes of amateur radio licenses are offered the third Saturday of each month at approximately 10:00 AM, immediately following the club meeting. Testing is held at the Cass County EMA building, 2 miles North of Logansport on SR17. Pre-registration is preferred but not necessary. The CCARC is affiliated with The W5YI Group.



**The Cass County Amateur Radio Club is an Indiana Not For Profit Corporation in continuous existence since 1953.**