



THE IARU REGION 3 NEWSLETTER

The latest news and updates from IARU Region 3



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Editor's Note

By Oscar Reyes - VK3TX

Wishing all readers, a 2023 full of well-being and new projects; thanks to all those who have contributed to this edition of the Region 3 Newsletter.

Request

The IARU R3 would like to receive digital photos of amateur-related activities to be used in its media-related publications. Please contact the "Editor" if you can assist.

Next Newsletter

Societies are invited to submit news items that may be of interest to readers. The deadline for the next edition is 31st March 2023.

Stay Safe!

IARU R3 ATTENDS APG 23-5

By IARU Region 3

The 5th meeting of the Asia Pacific Telecommunity Preparatory Group for the World Radio Conference 2023 (APG 23-5) was held in Busan Korea from 20 to 25 February 2023

IARU's Region 3 aim of attending APG 23-5 was to try to influence the view of the APT on the agenda items that affect Radio Amateurs as described in our Information Paper IARU Views on WRC-23 Agenda Items 1.2, 1.12, 1.14, 1.18 and 9.1(Topics a) and b)).

Each APT Preparatory Group (APG) meeting follows a process similar to that used at the World Radio Conferences:

·The APG opening Plenary:

- At the 1st meeting of each WRC cycle allocates agenda items to Working Parties and;
- Allocates the various Input Papers (from Members of APT) and Information Papers (from other Regional Telecommunications Organisations and international organisations like the IARU) to the Working Parties

·Working Parties at the 1st meeting of each WRC cycle allocate agenda items and papers to appropriate Drafting Groups

·Drafting Groups considers the Input and Information Documents and try to arrive at an agreed Preliminary View on the Agenda Item by consensus.

·Working Parties consider the outputs of their Drafting Groups and, in some cases, alter the Preliminary Views arrived at by the Drafting Groups.

·The Final Plenary consider the outputs from the Working Parties and, in some cases, alter the Preliminary Views arrived at by the Working Groups.

·The Preliminary Views are then passed on to the next meeting of the APG or, if it is the final meeting, they become APT View to be used as the APT position at the World Radio Conference and may be further developed to APT Common Proposal (ACP) as the APT input to the World Radio Conference.

Overall, we achieved a satisfactory outcome from our attendance at APG 23-5 with the preliminary positions for 5 out of the 6 Agenda Items being in accordance with the IARU Region 3 position.

The only exception was AI 1.14 where the APT preliminary position will protect our primary allocation 248 – 250 Hz but, may not protect our secondary amateur allocation 241 – 248 GHz.

Note: Secondary allocations are usually not the subject for sharing or protection study.

Further enquiries in relation to obtaining the full attendance report can be requested to Director Don Wallace - ZL2TLL by emailing at don@iaru-r3.org.



MCMC makes changes to amateur radio operator certification structure

By Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission

The Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC) will introduce changes to the amateur radio operation structure effective Jan 1, 2023 to ensure the certification in Malaysia is in line with the practice in other countries.

MCMC said the changes include examination format, examination syllabus, qualification requirements to sit for the examinations and the introduction of Class C.

“It also involves the Morse Code examination to upgrade to Class A which is replaced by a computerised multiple-choice exam and the use of frequency and beam power limits for each class.

“The changes to the certification structure for amateur radio operators is in line with the amendment to the Communications and Multimedia (Technical Standards) Regulations 2000 that is for provisions relating to amateur radio,” it said in a statement on Friday (Dec 30).

MCMC said the changes were also aimed at encouraging students’ interest in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) through amateur radio which would lead to the rise of amateur radio operators who can help during disasters. The public is advised to refer to the Guidelines for Amateur Radio Global Practices, Service in Malaysia (3rd Edition) for more information regarding the new structure.

MCMC also announced that it had published a Handbook on Amateur Radio (1st Edition) as an additional reference to those interested to sit for the amateur radio examinations. A question bank was also created by MCMC for all three amateur radio classes to provide exposure to the public on examples of examination questions as well as to assist candidates to prepare in advance.

All three documents can be found on the MCMC official website at <https://mcmc.gov.my/en/amateur-radio-operatorcertification>.

Further enquiries in relation to the application to sit for the amateur radio exam can be emailed to sems.admin@mcmc.gov.my.



TU-R Working Party 5A is making progress on the 23cm amateur band and RNSS (radio navigation satellite service) coexistence.

By Barry, G4SJH

Over the period 14th to 25th November 2022, the preparatory work for WRC-23 agenda item 9.1b continued in ITU-R Working Party 5A (WP5A). Two deliverables are under discussion:

1) Draft ITU-R Report M.

[AMATEUR_CHARACTERISTICS] – this reports on the specific 23cm band amateur and amateur satellite service technical parameters and operational characteristics used in the studies now published in ITU-R Report M.2513-0.

2) Draft ITU.R Recommendation M.

[AS_GUIDANCE] – this will recommend guidance that national administrations can take to facilitate the protection of the radio navigation satellite service from harmful interference from amateur radio stations. Since the previous WP5A meeting the IARU global WRC23 9.1b team led by G4SJH has been consulting with the amateur community resulting in a contribution to the draft guidance recommendation. As usual, the IARU participated in the meeting to support the contribution and take part in the ongoing discussion and negotiations. Contributions were also provided by a number of national administrations and a summary report of the meeting can be downloaded.

In general the development of the recommendation is moving in a suitable direction and many of the IARU proposals remain in the draft document that will go forward to the next meeting for further work.

Meanwhile in CEPT the work in project team SE40 continues with their development of an ECC Report on the same coexistence problem and also met during November (3-4th). The work on this topic will continue throughout next year both in ITU-R and in the regional telecommunications organisations and the IARU is committed to ensure the studies are properly interpreted and that due account is taken of the realities of amateur operations in this band.



HF Amateur Radio Seminars Hosted by RAST and NBTC

By Champ C. Muangamphun, E21E1C

The National Broadcasting and Telecommunications Commission (NBTC), Thailand's regulator, together with the Radio Amateur Society of Thailand under the Royal Patronage of His Majesty the King (RAST) co-hosted the HF-101 seminar to further enhance the understanding of amateur radio on the HF bands on Saturday 17th December 2022 at the NBTC Meeting Room, in downtown Bangkok.

The project titled "Understanding the HF Frequency Usage for the Development of Amateur Radio Operators" was aimed at HAM operators who have recently passed the Intermediate or Advanced Amateur Radio License examinations. Lecturers are all members of RAST. A total of 120 HAM operators as well as 30 staff from the NBTC Office joined the event.

All the topics provide an extremely important groundwork for ham operators looking to start their journey on the HF bands aside from the theoretical aspect already covered in their examination course. In addition, the NBTC Officers had the opportunity to learn more about what amateur radio is and the value that it can bring in terms of education and emergency communications.

Outside the conference room, various stands were put up to show case the APRS system, portable antennas, morse keys, oscillators, DXCC Awards including DXCC Challenge and DXCC Honor Roll, plaques from major contests such as CQ WPX and CQ WW, QSL cards from 350+ DXCC entities, and DXpedition photo books compiled by Franz Langner DJ9ZB. All these were viewed with great interest by the participants.

We would like to thank NBTC and RAST for hosting such good activity for the amateur radio community.



BW/E25KAE, The First Thai HAM Operator in Taiwan

By Champ C. Muangamphun, E21E1C

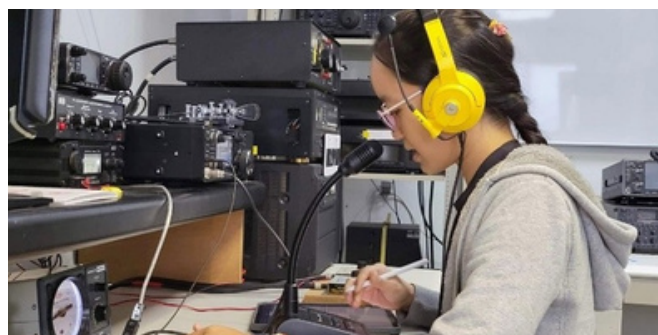
From 30th November - 10th December 2022, Bun E25KAE, Chairman of the 19th IARU Region 3 Conference, travelled to Taiwan for a family holiday. The afternoon and evening of 6th December were solely dedicated to amateur radio. With the help of David Kao BV2FP, the Secretary General of CTARL, Bun E25KAE became the first Thai amateur radio operator to gain a temporary license to operate in Taiwan under the callsign BW/E25KAE.

At 1pm on Tuesday 6th December, Bun E25KAE together with David BV2FP visited BV2Y CTARL Headquarter Club Station in Wugu which is located on the top floor of Mintron Enterprise Co., Ltd. This same building is also used to hold the US FCC examination in Taipei where two Thai candidates had previously flown here to take part in the exam in 2019. Bun E25KAE was welcomed by Mickey Yang BV2LB, President of Mintron Enterprise Co., Ltd. as well as Ken Hoshino BW2/JP1RIW the BV2Y Station and QSL Manager. Bun E25KAE operated from 0600-0800z on 15m band SSB and logged over 130 QSOs from JA, EU, Asia, and one station from South America, LU9HAT

After the visit to CTARL HQ, Bun E25KAE enjoyed a delicious Hakka cuisine hosted by Bill Lo BX3AC with her father and David BV2FP. Some of the dishes include omelets with holy basil, steamed chicken with Yuzu orange sauce, stir-fried chitlins with ginger, stir fried lotus stems, fried fish with tofu, and hog maws with pickled cabbage soup.

At 8pm Bun E25KAE joined the weekly gathering of CTARL Northern Region at Huazhong Riverside Park with 14 CTARL members including BU2DM, BX2AN, BU2DC, BO2AB, BO2YA, BX2AM, BM2INK, BM2JRO, BV2NT, BX2AB, BV2BJ, BV2GC, BX3AC, and BV2FP. She received a very warm welcome from everybody particularly Mr Sam Young BV2GC, President of CTARL Northern Region. The group was working on setting up personal MMDVM hotspots that enable HAMs to connect to an array of digital radio networks (D-STAR, DMR, Yaesu Fusion etc) with their handheld device. Afterwards, Bun E25KAE took the opportunity to try out BX2AN portable station on 40m band. The crowd got very excited when the contacts with HS stations were established with "59" signal using just a simple EFHW at 8mH, and everybody took turn to work Champ E21E1C and Mew E29TGW on SSB and CW. Particular mention to Mr Lee BX2AB, a Taiwanese Marine CW operator for over 50 years, who displayed his incredible skill on the paddles.

Bun E25KAE would like to thank everybody for giving her the warmest welcome, especially to Bill BX3AC and David BV2FP for being an excellent host. And special thanks to Champ E21E1C for his behind-the-scene effort and making sure this trip was a success.



AREC Volunteers Respond to Cyclone Gabrielle

By IARU Region 3

The New Zealand Amateur Radio Emergency Communications (AREC) kick into gear to respond to Cyclone Gabrielle.

Around New Zealand AREC volunteer members and other license Radio Amateurs geared up as Cyclone Gabrielle approach the coastline.

Cyclone Gabrielle was expected to bring extreme winds and rainfall across the Auckland commencing Sunday 12 February. Winds in excess of 120 km/h to 130km/h are forecast with speeds up to or exceeding 150km/h in some areas. These wind speeds have the potential to cause damage to power and telecommunications infrastructure. Heavy prolonged rainfall we predicted to cause serious flooding across large parts of the North Island East Coast.

After meetings with Auckland Emergency Management (AEM), AREC was asked to provide radio communication support across the entire Auckland Region for field teams comprising of a mix of NZ Response Teams, NZ Defence force personnel, and other volunteers.

AREC developed a detailed communication plan and personnel rosters to assist with the operation.

AREC volunteers roles who assisted with the following activities consisted of:

- Communicators - talking on the radio
- Log keepers - recording messages, forwarding messages via email, data entry etc.
- People with SARTrack software experience
- People with computer skills including Excel, Microsoft Office, Email etc (AEM will be using these systems)

- Supporters/gophers - Handling phone calls, logistics, making coffee etc.

There are many more stories of the heroic efforts by AREC members and licensed Amateur radio operators and the details will come out in due course. My thanks go to all involved for providing this excellent service to the communities impacted by the cyclone.

DISCLAIMER NOTE: The full Press release is attributed to:

Don Robertson, AREC CEO ZL2TYR/ZK6EX
CEO@arec.nz.

IARU Region 3 has posted in this Newsletter a summarised version consisting of some textual extracts only for information purposes.



IARU Region 3 Contacts

Official R3 Contacts. Further information can be found on the Region 3 website:
<http://iaru-r3.org/contacts/>

Society Update Officials and Contact Information

As a part of the move to new International and Regional websites, all IARU Member Society information will be hosted on the International Secretariat website. A request is extended to all Region 3 Society Liaison Officers or other responsible officers to ensure that all details about their society are up to date on the listings shown at <http://www.iaru.org> under member societies. Some details have not been amended or updated for several years and have non-functional data.

Please send any updates to the IARU International Secretariat (secretary@iaru.org) with a copy to the Region 3 Secretary (secretary@iaru-r3.org)

Newsletter details

Go to the IARU Region 3 Web Site
<http://iaru-r3.org/topics/newsletter>

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Region 3 Societies can submit articles for inclusion in the next bulletin by 31st March 2023.

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IARU Region 3

