

Loose Gravel

Newsletter of ROADs
Volume 2, Number 12

AB7X + KD7VLP
Editors

Hello all! We are approaching Winter in little more than a week from now, and I trust that all your outdoor equipment has been properly conditioned for it? Most of my concerns about antennas have been taken care of and we are ready for It!

This edition will be brief, as we have had no other offers for input other than our own humble tidbits and items gleaned from other sources.

The R&O from the FCC is final this Friday, 15 December 2006, and can be viewed at:

<http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/01jan20061800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2006/pdf/E6-19189.pdf>

The 'Erratum', an error correction, is found here:

http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC268642A1.pdf

This is basically a re-structuring of some of the band limits and privileges in the HF spectrum, along with some relaxed regulation of the 2-meter band. If you have any questions, please feel free to voice them tomorrow evening at our meeting at the Polk County Courthouse in Dallas at 1900 hours.

.....QRK for December....

QRK de KD7VLP

Well...where did November go? Seems to have passed by quite quickly. Probably all the rain helped to pass the time...we were having fun weren't we? Anyway, I decided that maybe I had used the museum for an excuse once too many times so I exerted a bit more effort and here's some "stuff" that may be of interest.

Of course, everyone has heard of the Nobel prizes...right? But probably you are not aware of a parallel series of awards that are announced at about the same time for achievements that "first make people laugh, and then make them think". These are the Ig Nobel Prizes, which are a parody of the Nobel Prizes. They are organized by the scientific humor journal *Annals of Improbable Research (AIR)*, they are presented by a group that includes genuine Nobel Laureates at a ceremony at Harvard University. I have included some of the most recent awards:

2006 IG NOBEL PRIZES:

* **Acoustics:** D. Lynn Halpern of Harvard Vanguard Medical Associates, and Brandeis University, and Northwestern University, Randolph Blake of Vanderbilt University and Northwestern University and James Hillenbrand of Western Michigan University and Northwestern University for conducting experiments to learn why people dislike the sound of fingernails scraping on a blackboard.

* **Biology:** Bart Knols of Wageningen Agricultural University, in Wageningen, the Netherlands et al...For showing that the female malaria mosquito *Anopheles gambiae* is attracted equally to the smell of limburger cheese and to the smell of human feet.

* **Literature:** Daniel Oppenheimer of Princeton University for his report "Consequences of Erudite Vernacular Utilized Irrespective of Necessity: Problems with Using Long Words Needlessly."

* **Mathematics:** Nic Svenson and Piers Barnes of the Australian Commonwealth Scientific and Research Organization, for calculating the

number of photographs you must take to (almost) ensure that nobody in a group photo will have their eyes closed.

* **Nutrition:** Wasmia Al-Houty of Kuwait University and Faten Al-Mussalam of the Kuwait Environment Public Authority, for showing that dung beetles are finicky eaters.

* **Peace:** Howard Stapleton of Merthyr Tydfil, Wales, for inventing an electromechanical teenager repellent -- a device that makes annoying high-pitched noise designed to be audible to teenagers but not to adults; and for later using that same technology to make telephone ringtones that are audible to teenagers but probably not to their teachers.

* **Physics:** Basile Audoly and Sebastien Neukirc of the Université Pierre et Marie Curie, in Paris, for their insights into why, when you bend dry spaghetti, it often breaks into more than two pieces.

Significant awards from previous years include:

1993

Consumer Engineering - Presented to Ron Popeil, incessant inventor and perpetual pitchman of late night television, for redefining the industrial revolution with such devices as the Veg-O-Matic, the Pocket Fisherman, Mr. Microphone, and the Inside-the-Shell Egg Scrambler.

1994

Entomology - Presented to Robert A. Lopez of Westport, NY, valiant veterinarian and friend of all creatures great and small, for his series of experiments in obtaining ear mites from cats, inserting them into his own ear, and carefully observing and analyzing the results

1996

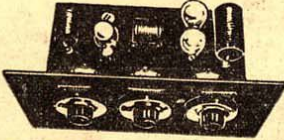
Chemistry - Presented to George Goble of Purdue University, for his blistering world record time for igniting a barbecue grill: three seconds, using charcoal and liquid oxygen.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ig_Nobel_Prize

Of course we must have something about radio...

AMATEUR BARGAINS

50 WATT TRANSMITTER KIT



This modern, flexible, inexpensive crystal-controlled Transmitter Kit uses a 59 "Triet" Oscillator, driving a pair of 807's to 50 watts output. No neutralization is required. Coils are available for operation on all bands from 160 to 10 meters.

The MB50 Kit uses the highest quality parts representing such names as National, Hammarlund, Sansamo, Yaxley and others equally well-known. The complete kit includes all component parts, a drilled, cradle-finished chassis and panel, metal-etched dials and one set of coils. Complete with instructions.

\$19.90

M. & H. HEAVY DUTY POWER SUPPLY KIT

This Power-supply Kit, consistent with our policy to use only the best of parts is made of Thordarson Transformers and Chokes, and oil-filled 1000-volt filter condensers. Voltages are available up to 600 volts at 200 milli-amp. Filament voltages of 7.5, 6.3, and 2.5 are supplied. The use of an 83 or 833 rectifier is optional. The pack may be considered a companion unit to the MB50 transmitter. Complete with instructions for assembly.

\$10.75

X-MITTING FILTER CONDENSERS

These units are made by one of the foremost condenser manufacturers for the M. & H. Sporting Goods Co. They are oil impregnated and wax filled. Have flanged metal cans with stand-off insulators.

Cap.	Volts	Net Price
1	1000	\$1.08
2	1000	1.47
4	1000	1.96
1	1500	1.42
2	1500	1.96
4	1500	3.19
1	2000	1.71
2	2000	2.40
4	2000	2.45
1	3000	4.85
2	3000	

OIL FILLED 2 MF. 1000 V **98¢**

HI-VOLTAGE BY-PASS COND. CORNELL-DUBILIER



Type	Mfd.	AC Volts	Net
45-A	.00005	10,000	\$2.21
51-A	.0001	10,000	2.21
325-A	.00025	10,000	2.21
35-C	.0005	5,000	2.21
21-C	.001	5,000	2.50
215-C	.0015	5,000	2.79
22-C	.002	5,000	3.09
25-C	.005	5,000	4.12
11-C	.01	5,000	5.59
12-D	.02	2,500	5.15
1-E	.1	1,500	6.47

THORDARSON

T6878 Power Transformer Ham Special

This high-power transformer is the buy of the year. Has the following windings: 1200 volts c.t. at 200 ma., 2.5 volts c.t. at 10 amps., 7.5 volts c.t. at 3 amps., 5 volts at 3 amps. for rectifier. Primary is designed for 115 volts, 60 cycles a.c. Dimensions, 5 x 4 x 4 1/2"; mounting centers, 3 x 3". Leads are taken from bottom of unit. Shipping weight 12 lbs. Net \$2.45



Companion to the above unit, rated 12 henries, 250 MA., 110 ohms. Net Price \$1.95

KENYON PLATE TRANSFORMER

Delivers 1000 V. at 200 mill through rectifiers. A real job for the medium power rig. Unceased, with leads. Your Cost \$3.95

KENYON 866 FIL. TRANSFORMER

2.5 V. at 10 amps., 3000 V. ins. Unceased, with leads. Special Price \$9.99

BLILEY MOUNTED CRYSTALS

Cut from the very finest raw Brazilian quartz. Bliley crystals are accepted as standard by amateurs throughout the entire world. Precision ground in the world's finest crystal laboratory. Frequency calibrations given are arrived at by comparison with a standard which is accurate to two parts in ten million, resulting in a precise, accurately calibrated crystal.



Type LD2

A new crystal with many features. Frequency drift is less than 4 cycles per megacycle per degree C.; eliminates need for oven equipment; has greater activity. Mounted in new improved type sealed holder. Calibration is accurate to within .03%.

Band	Frequency	Net Each
Band MC-7.0, 3.5, 1.7	Exact Frequency	\$4.80
Band MC-7.0, 3.5, 1.7	Exact Frequency	\$9.50

Type BC3

Type BC3. Accurately calibrated X-cut crystal mounted in a molded bakelite holder, having exposed heat-radiating electrode. Plugs into 5 prong tube socket. Calibration is within .03%. Specify frequency with order.

Frequency Within	Band MC	Net Each
10 KC	7.0	\$3.95
10 KC	3.5	3.95
5 RC	7.0	4.90
5 RC	3.5	4.90
1 RC	7.0	5.90
1 RC	3.5	5.90
EXACT	7.0	7.50
EXACT	3.5	7.50

M. & H. GUARANTEE

Every order will be filled as specified. "The Buyer MUST be pleased," is the M. & H. Slogan. For 40 years M. & H. has given assurance that everything purchased is of highest quality and is sold at the lowest possible FAIR PRICE. All Standards listed in this catalog conform to the manner intended for such apparatus.

AMATEUR BARGAINS
M&H RADIO CATALOG: 1937

M&H Sporting Goods Co.
Radio Division

And now for something completely different to finish off this month and to give you something to ponder as you fall to sleep tonight...

"Imagine a dinner table set for a thousand guests, at which each man is sitting between his own father and his own son. (We might just as well imagine a ladies banquet...) [A]t one end of the table there might be a French Nobel laureate in white tie and tails and with the Legion of Honor on his breast, and at the other a Cro-Magnon man dressed in animal skins and with a necklace of cave-bear teeth. Yet every one would be able to converse with his neighbors to his left and right, who would either be his father or his son. So the distance from them to then is not really very great."

---Bjorn Kurten

How to Freeze a Mammoth

That's it for this month...remember...only you can stop me from being here in January...send in something you would like to see in this space. Save us from having to go through this again...

Thank you Dave! Your posts are genuinely and always appreciated!

This just in from The Great White North....

Radio Amateurs of Canada HQ <rachq@rac.ca> wrote:

From: "Radio Amateurs of Canada HQ" <rachq@rac.ca>

Date: Tue, 05 Dec 2006 10:29:35 -0500

Subject: [RAC-Bulletin] 06-017E Special Prefixes Authorized

To: "David Goodwin" <ve7dwg@yahoo.com>

At the request of Radio Amateurs of Canada, Industry Canada has authorized all Canadian radio amateurs to use special event prefixes for the months of December 2006 and January 2007, to mark the

100th anniversary of the first AM voice broadcast by Reginald Fessenden on Decemebr 24, 1906.

Reginald Fessenden, who was born in East Bolton, Quebec, on October 6, 1866, and lived until July 22, 1932, was the holder of more

than 500 patents on a wide variety of subjects, and the inventor of radio as we know it today. He is particularly known for: the first voice transmission by radio in 1900, the first transatlantic two-way radio communications in January 1906, and the first radio broadcasts of entertainment and music in December 1906.

On Christmas Eve, 1906, from a transmitting station in Brant Rock, Massachussetts, he sent a short program which included the song O Holy Night played on the violin and a reading from the Bible. A second

short program was broadcast on December 31, 1906.

Canadian radio amateurs are authorized to use the following special event prefixes during the period 1 December 2006 to 31 January 2007

inclusive:

CF for VA stations

CG for VE stations

CH for VO stations

CI0 for VY0 stations

CI1forVY1 stations

CI2 for VY2 stations.

Sent by the RAC Bulletins from RACHQ mailing list robot.

Send comments to: rachq@rac.ca

For more information about the email robot, please visit:

<http://rac.eton.ca/racbullemail.htm>

God Bless ,David. 😊

7044 140th Street

Surrey B.C. **V3W 5J4**

604 507 3434. <http://www.eQSL.cc>

We tend to think of ourselves, sometimes, as the only place in the Earth with any credibility, and it is a welcome breath of fresh air, for me at least, to hear news from our neighbors ANYWHERE that gives insight of happenings which cross the boundaries set by territorial and 'patriotic' limitations. I suppose it is a matter of perception that creates inhospitable relations between neighbors, so input thru other peoples' eyes is a good thing to have these days. Remember....our best Thinking got us where we are today!

I will finish this with a note about the recent tragedy that happened recently to the Kim family in Southern Oregon. Whatever mistakes were made by James Kim have been noted by many 'experts' both on the air and by the media, but one thing is for certain....NO ONE can say what went thru their minds that morning when James went off in hopes of finding help to rescue his family. He paid with his life that his wife and children might live another day. My hat is off to you, James Kim! As far as I'm concerned, you did the right thing.

Best regards....

Harry Martin~AB7X
President of ROADS
Coyote of Shadowland