



THE MONITORTM



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The official publication of the East Coast Amateur Radio Service, Inc.

From ECARS President

Ernie Parsons W1RXH

Ernie Parsons, BIO

I was born on June 7th 1931 in the small town of Ashland, Massachusetts, 30 miles west of Boston where I spent the first 14 years of my life. I am the oldest of three children, having two younger sisters. I attended the Ashland Elementary School and graduated in 1944. That was the year that I got my first exposure to radio. I built a galena crystal radio on a piece of broomstick, which I tucked in my shirt pocket. I was seen by many town folks walking down the sidewalk with earphones on my head trailing about one hundred feet of wire behind me. I was able to receive two stations, WKOX in Framingham, 10 miles away and the always-powerful WBZ in Boston about 30 miles away. I have never been able to shake the radio bug since that experience. I attended Thompson's Academy (Trade School) to complete my high school education, graduating in 1948. That same year I got my ham radio license. During the four years at Thompson's Academy I played varsity Basketball, Baseball and Football. I was the Capitan of the 1947 Basketball team and the 1948 Baseball team. Our 1946 Football team was the class D state champions, we were undefeated. While at Thompson's Academy I had a good friend who was also interested in radio. He lived in one dormitory and I lived in another, and the two of us rigged up radios so we could talk to each other at night after lights out. We hid them under our pillows so no one could find them. It was great fun.

After I graduated from the academy I joined the

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OPERATING

by Steve Katz WB2WIK/6 (reprinted from eHam.com)

Is it just me, or are a lot of operators doing stuff wrong?

I don't think it's me. Newbies are always welcome, and the more the merrier, as far as I'm concerned, so I'm not griping about newcomers. I'm griping about their operating procedures - and some of these ops aren't very "new," at all.

Here's an example: I call CQ, and somebody answers not with a routine reply but his life story. "WB2WIK you're 59 here in Detroit. I was listening to you before, but couldn't get back to you. Handle is Joe. Back to you!"

That's not a proper reply to a CQ.

Or, I answer someone else's CQ and they reply, "Yeah, the 2 station I hear ya. Back to you." That's not any kind of reply.

C'mon guys, it's not hard to do it right. If you're answering someone's CQ, use their callsign, your callsign, maybe your location, and end it. Example: "WB2WIK this is W1XYZ in Boston calling, over." Perfect.

I might not get that due to static, interference, the phone ringing or lots of reasons. If I don't, I'll ask

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ECARS Service - 7255 KHz - for Public Health, Safety, and Welfare



April 28, 2007

Well it looks like ECARS is doing well in spite of the terrible band conditions. Just when you think Forty Meters has used it's last trick to inhibit Net Operations something else will pop up to keep it interesting. On a daily basis it is becoming quite a challenge to carry out the objectives of ECARS. I want to take the time to thank all of our Net Control Stations for persevering and getting the job done.

From what I understand membership is up and new individuals are joining. Some of this is due to the high volume of upgrades in license class since the code requirement was eliminated.

At this time I would like to make a statement attesting to the conduct of the "NEWBIES" as they are frequently referred to. With out exception all of the stations signing into ECARS with a /AG are exhibiting very good amateur radio conduct. I attribute this to the fact that many of them viewed the code requirement as an insurmountable obstacle and now that they are able to operate on the HF bands it is a valued privilege, and they are projecting a very nice image of themselves. All that I have heard are certainly an asset to Amateur Radio.

Also we need to say a thank you to our officials of ECARS who have taken the imitative to make the Net a growing organization and thru their common sense and leadership it will continue to prosper and grow. These individuals have been chosen by the membership to guide ECARS and to protect the values and ideals originally instituted when ECARS was conceived. Thanks to all of you.

Each of us involved with ECARS contributes to ECARS in the best way they know how. Several years ago I was asked to fill a vacated electoral position and I refused. Then I was asked to assume the position as Net Manager. I accepted the Net Manager position because I knew I could do my best for the organization in this capacity, I will continue on as Net Manager as long as I am appointed to that position. Let me say in closing I have a lot of admiration and confidence in our present administration and I feel they all have Amateur Radio and ECARS at the forefront of their endeavors.

Keep Up the Tradition

(Continued from page 1) Ernie Parsons Bio

United States Air Force, just at the outbreak of the Korean War. I spent the first two years in Basic Radio School in Bellville, Illinois. Next I went to Advanced Radio School and the same location and graduated in the top ten percent of my class. I spent the next thirteen months in Korea, operating and maintaining both radio and radar equipment.

My primary responsibility was to maintain a high-powered HF station, and during my free time I built a multi band wire antenna that allowed me to listen to the HF ham bands. I had a one KW AM HF transmitter in my van but it was off limits to ham radio operation.

I returned to the states in 1952 and spent the remaining two years of my service life in and out of specialty electronics schools (a great free education). I was honorably discharged in 1954 holding the rank of S/Sgt. I was quickly hired by the Edgerton Germeshausen and Grier Inc. (EG&G in Brookline Massachusetts. They were involved in the Nuclear Weapons Test program. They were basically a research and development corporation for the Atomic Energy Commission. I was involved in the designing of equipment used in the detection of nuclear explosions. I participated in several test events held at the test sites in Mercury, Nevada and the Marshall Islands in the Pacific. While on the Aniwtock Island, I applied for and received the first licensed amateur station granted to an American trust territory. The Station was KX6CD. During my time there I assembled a ham station and was able to phone patch the fellows who were out there with me back home to their families. I was presented with an award from the Atomic Energy Commission for setting up and operating the KX6CD station. In 1954, I was presented an award by the General Electric Company for providing emergency communications during hurricanes Carol, Edna, and Hazel which, were considered the nation's most widespread and destructive disasters during that year/ During these disasters, the local amateur radio operators performed outstanding public service by providing emergency communications throughout the affected area.

In 1955 I received a public service award from the ARRL for emergency communications provided during the August 1955 northeast flood as recounted on page 11 of the December 1955 QST. In 1955 I received an award from the then Governor John Volpe of Massachusetts for providing emergency communications during the most destructive tornado in Massachusetts' history when over 1000 people lost their lives in the

(Continued from page 2)

Worcester area, and several other towns suffered destruction as well. Emergency communications went on for several weeks.

As a member of the Central Area Repeater Association, I received an award from the governor of Maine for emergency communications provided during the 1998 northeast ice storm

In 1960 I went to work for the Valpey Corporation in Holliston, Massachusetts. They manufactured quartz crystals and frequency control devices. I was involved in the design of the first communication package that was aboard the first hard lunar landing experiment on the moon. Four years later I moved to Maine and went to work for the Bath Iron Works where I was involved in sonar exploration on Navy destroyers and cruisers. In 1982 I was hired by the U.S. Navy Engineering office in Bath Maine and spent the remaining twelve years of my working career designing and installing communications systems for the FFG 7 Oliver Hazard Perry class destroyers, CG 47 Ticonderoga class cruisers, and DDG 51 Arleigh Burk class destroyers along with other overhaul platforms. I retired from government service in 1994.

I am an ordained pastor in the Family Christian Fellowship Church in Topsham, Maine. I am currently the administrator of an area food bank, and provide free services to the elderly and needy folks.

Over the years I have been active on all HF bands and 2 meters both fixed and mobile. Until ten years ago I never owned any commercial equipment I have always enjoyed designing and fabricating my own equipment, including antennas. Ham radio has always been an intricate part of my life.

I am proud to be serving ECARS and the armature community. ECARS has a grand collection of dedicated hams.

Last but by far not least, I am married to Carla and we have six wonderful children, four girls and two boys.

To all the ECARS members, "Thanks for being there, each and every one of you".

Swap and Shop

Join us on 7.255 every Wednesday
from 11:00 AM to 12:00 noon for the
Swap and Shop, hosted by Kelly

ECARS

Secretary / Treasurer's Report




Charlie Stampf, N2CJ

Cash Flow - YTD	
1/1/2007 through 6/13/2007	
Category Description	
INFLOWS	
DONATION	101.00
Dues - New	720.00
Dues - Renewal	1,670.00
Dues PayPal	130.85
ECARS Jacket	69.97
ECARS Pin	4.10
PATCHES	10.00
TOTAL INFLOWS	2,705.92
OUTFLOWS	
Adjustment	0.00
Annual Meeting	312.70
Bank Fee	10.00
Corporation Fees	65.00
JACKETS	72.37
Office Supplies	406.53
Post Office Box Rental	40.00
Postage and Delivery	79.01
Reimbursement - Misc	4.80
Software	159.43
Web Page	27.99
TOTAL OUTFLOWS	1,177.83
OVERALL TOTAL	1,528.09

Account Balances Report	
As of 6/13/2007	
(Includes unrealized gains)	
Account	Balance
ASSETS	
Cash and Bank Accounts	
Checking	3,182.31
TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts	3,182.31
Investments	
CD	6,145.16
TOTAL Investments	6,145.16
TOTAL ASSETS	9,327.47
LIABILITIES	0.00
OVERALL TOTAL	9,327.47

Troubleshooting Techniques by Dave Bushong, KZ1O

On March 27th, I took my turn as ECARS Net Control at 11:00 AM. During my announcements, a station interrupted with the word "info". This particular station was someone who was very familiar with the way directed nets operate, so I was keenly interested in what his reason was for transmitting at this time. I told him to proceed, and he stated that my signal was very distorted, to the point of being almost unreadable. I confirmed this on my second HF radio. Thinking that I must have somehow loosened a ground connection, I asked if anyone could take over net control for me. In less than a minute, the net was back in operation. ECARS is fault-tolerant, yes indeed! This is just another case of hams helping each other out on 7255.

Now, to the problem at hand.

It is tempting to take everything apart and put it back together, hoping to fix the problem. And in some cases, for example, Field Day, or in a real emergency, that may be the best way to get back on the air fast. But in this case, I wanted to find and fix the problem, so that it wouldn't show up again. Or at least if it did, I would know how to fix it again.

So I checked, without disturbing, each connection that mattered: microphone, related cabling, ground straps, ground post, antenna cable, connector, antenna switch, measured SWR, and so on. Everything was just the way it was supposed to be. Then I started wiggling and twisting each of those things while transmitting and listening on the second radio. The problem was getting gradually worse, and none of the "fiddling" made any dramatic difference.

I measured the voltage present on the DC power connector, and it was 7.8 VDC. Eureka! All of a sudden, the problem was obvious. My station is powered by an MFJ-4245MV switching power supply with a front panel variable control. I opened the cabinet door, expecting to see the knob all the way down to the lowest position, but no! The thing was switched off. I was running, through the PowerGate PG-40S, off of a battery that was now nearly fully discharged. This battery is present in case of temporary power interruptions, but can only run the station for a short time. I had been monitoring ECARS for over an hour, and transmitted a few times, and it just had nothing left to give.

I switched the power supply on, and could immediately see that the battery was getting recharged, and when I transmitted, from 5 watts to full power at 100 watts, the signal sounded crystal clear on the second receiver. And just to confirm, I went to one of the Internet remote receivers and transmitted on that frequency and listened to myself transmit. Other than the delay (that is distracting!), it sounded sweet again.

So following my strategy of "find, fix, and prevent", I found the problem, and fixed it. It was a sure kill, and not just a lucky guess. In order to prevent this from happening in the future, I think I will design and build an under-voltage alarm that will either flash an LED or beep when the voltage drops below a certain value, perhaps 10 volts. Maybe that will be the stuff for another article here in the Monitor.

Wire Antenna Feed-Point Adjuster By Ernie Parsons,

In 1974 my wife and I looked for a house to buy that would satisfy our wants. We wanted a place in the country out of the crowded city environment. I wanted a place that had good elevation as I was big into 20, 15, 10, and 2 meters, I didn't spend much time on the low frequency bands. However, we could not find anything that would satisfy all of our requirements. During our travels we found a piece of land in Bowdon, Maine that was about 500 feet above sea level, had a pond in the front yard, and it was out in the country. So we decided to buy the land and build a new place. Our house sits on a small hill that is clear of trees. The property met the 10, 15, 20, and 2-meter requirements and the added feature of the pond in the front yard provided a water table that was quite close to the surface of the ground and turned out to be great for the 40, 80, and 160-meter bands. When we built the house I erected a Roan 25 tower and attached to the rear of the house. This is where all of my beams are mounted. In the year 2000 I became interested in 40 meters and ECARS, and eventually in 80 and 160 meters. The top of my tower was a great place to mount the center insulator and feed line for the low frequency antennas, but attaching the ends of the wire antennas was a problem as the trees that were closest to the tower were some 200 feet from the tower on each side. The antennas that I wanted to use required various angles at the feed point, such as the tri-band sloper 160, 80, and 40 meters. One leg of the sloper is 60 feet long and the opposite leg is 67 feet long. Each

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for a repeat. "The W1, what's your full call? Go ahead." If you get a request like this, be prepared to answer the question, specifically. Like, "This is Whiskey One Xray Yankee Zulu, over." That would do it. Answering any other way is likely just wasting time.

If you call CQ and someone answers you, follow the protocol that's developed over the past century because it works: "WB2WIK this is W1XYZ. Thanks for the call. You're about 57 here in Boston, and my name is Frank. How copy there? WB2WIK this is W1XYZ."

Reasons to follow protocol abound, but here are some good ones:

á You don't know how well the other station hears you, since he hasn't given a report, yet. As such, if you keep talking there's a chance he isn't hearing any of it, and you're wasting time and bandwidth. Find out what's happening first, before starting a real rag-chew.

á You don't know if the other station understands much English (yet), so if you go on rambling a lot of what you're rambling about might be over his head. Get more info first.

á Keeping exchanges short nearly assures an actual contact will complete. Making transmissions long can result in the band dying while you're transmitting, and when you finally stop, you'll hear nothing but static. You can get a feel for the propagation over the path after a few transmissions, but can't guess at this by hearing a five-second call. Also, at first you don't know how much time the other station has. He may have 60 seconds for a quick report exchange, or might be interested in a long rag-chew. No way to know that in the first transmission. I can't tell you how many times I've answered someone's CQ and they neglected to mention their name in the first transmission. Why is that? This didn't used to happen years ago - it's happening now.

Once the contact's really been established and each station knows the other's callsign, name and location, then it's time to explore other options. Find some common ground to talk about, and go at it.

When I first contact someone, I nearly always comment on their location, since chances are, I've been there or very close to it. "Oh, you're in Boise? Wow, last time I was there to visit HP, there was a foot of partly cloudy on my rental car and I had to dig out to leave the parking lot! How's it like up there today?" Something like that. It's a conversation starter.

A lot of phone operators like to hear comments about their modulation. Usually, I'll comment only if I think someone sounds particularly good or particularly bad. Many don't take the "bad" comments very well. Makes me think more about giving such a re-

port, but what's the purpose of telling someone they sound good, if they don't?

I think it pays to mention your transmitter power level right away. Here's why: If your station has parity with the station you're in contact with, there's a pretty good chance you'll hear each other about the same. If you're running a kilowatt and the other guy's running QRP, there's a really good chance he'll hear you long after you lose him. I'll mention, "Running a kilowatt to a 3 element beam at 55 feet here," and wait to see what the other station says. If he's running 100W ("barefoot"), my very next transmission will also be at that level, to keep it even. If he's running high power and I don't hear him very well, I'll stick with high power, since with lower power the QSO would likely end. But this is the reason to at least mention what's going on.

CW is another subject, but surely worthy of mention! I hear bad operating on my favorite mode (CW), too. Much more than ever before.

The age-old protocol of exchanging significant data in an abbreviated fashion and logical sequence seems to be disappearing, except with the experienced ops. In the "old days," the newbies closely followed what the old timers did, and caught on quickly to the protocol. For some reason, that doesn't seem to be happening today, and I don't know why not.

I hear people call CQ and then sign "KN." That's ridiculous, and inappropriate. I hear people call CQ FISTS who are really terrible CW operators, making me wonder what the FISTS membership really contributes. Numbers chasing?

I answer a CQ, and the other station might send "NAME HERE IS JOHN JOHN BT MY QTH IS KANSAS CITY KANSAS CITY BT YOUR SIGNAL IS 599 599 BT SO BACK TO YOU..."

Well, that's rather awful. Understandable for someone's first contact, but definitely not for their 100th or 1000th.

A way better format is: "TNX OM UR RST 599 599 HR QTH KANSAS CITY MO KANSAS CITY MO OP JOHN JOHN. HW?"

See the difference? My way gives the report FIRST, which is protocol, and for a reason. My way says "QTH," followed by the info - instead of wasting time with "MY QTH IS," (since "QTH" alone already means "my location is"). My way gives not only Kansas City, but which state, since there are two of them, side by side. Instead of saying "name here is" I just use "OP." As in "the operator here is." That's all that's needed. My way says, "HW?" which means "how copy?" instead of wasting time with "SO BACK TO YOU..." which is just silly.

I hear newbie CW ops send "R R R R." I guess that

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My New Gear**by Harold D. Kimbel, KD8QH**

I recently purchased a new piece of amateur equipment. It is something that I'm not sure can be classified as amateur gear, but it has increased my enjoyment of ECARS immensely.

I have been envious of amateurs who have setups that allow them to monitor the net at locations in their homes other than their "ham shack". My "ham shack" is located in my basement area and our family room is on the first floor, while my study is located on the second floor. In order to monitor ECARS I had to be in the room where my equipment is located, so I have been considering ways to enable me to monitor ECARS while in other rooms of the house. I was thinking of running an audio line to a remote speaker in my family room where I spend a good amount of time. Then one day as I was strolling through Wal-Mart with my wife (helping her take another inventory) and there it was, the perfect answer to my needs. Wow, and only \$16.97. I could hardly believe it. Why didn't I think of it before? There they were, a whole shelf full of "Nursery Monitors"! Yes, a nursery monitor. One of those devices that picks up sounds in a nursery and transmits them to a remote receiver so mom and dad can keep an "ear" on the baby. I decided that would work nicely so I purchased one and it really has been enjoyable to have. I can now monitor ECARS from anywhere in the house. The one I purchased has a small transmitter unit that operates on AC and the receiver operates on an AC adapter or a nine-volt (transistor) battery for portability. The unit operates in the 49Mhz band and has an advertised range of "up to" 400 feet. I have not tried it to see what the maximum range is at my QTH but I certainly can use it anywhere in my house. There are many other units on the market that operate on higher frequencies that cost a little more but are more compact and probably less susceptible to local interference. Mine works fine for me and was the least expensive. The sensitivity of the transmitter microphone is very high so I use acoustic coupling by placing my headphones around the transmitter unit. This reduces extraneous "next room" noises etc from being transmitted. It has a belt clip so I carry the monitor unit with me anywhere in the house. The audio quality is acceptable, and I have really been enjoying it. It allows me to hear how the band is doing and I know if it is worthwhile for me to try to check in.

As I write this I am on the second floor at my PC, listening to Ernie W1RXH run the ECARS net. This is really nice!

Perhaps others have no need or desire for this type of convenience, but if one should, this is a very inexpensive way to accomplish it. Of course when you go looking for one you will find they are available for up to over one hundred dollars for some of the more sophisticated units. If you have the desire to "see" your radio while away from the shack, for \$150-\$250 you can purchase a portable video nursery monitor that is portable.

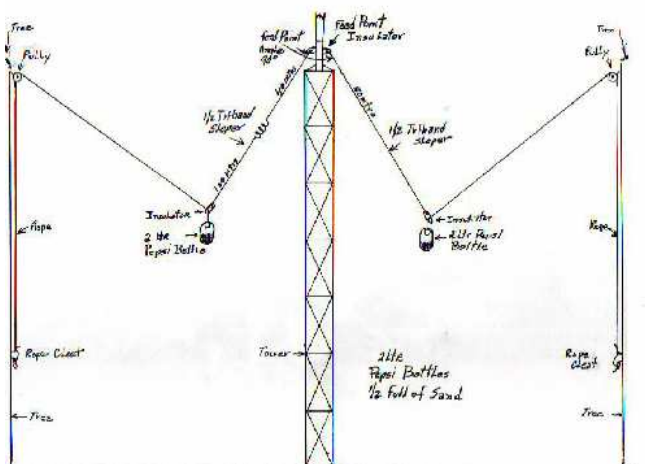
I hope this idea will be useful for some of you. Who knows, now that the news is out, maybe Kenwood will be making one soon. HI!

Wire Antenna Feed-Point Adjuster
By Ernie Parsons,

In 1974 my wife and I looked for a house to buy that would satisfy our wants. We wanted a place in the country out of the crowded city environment. I wanted a place that had good elevation as I was big into 20, 15, 10, and 2 meters, I didn't spend much time on the low frequency bands. However, we could not find anything that would satisfy all of our requirements. During our travels we found a piece of land in Bowdon, Maine that was about 500 feet above sea level, had a pond in the front yard, and it was out in the country. So we decided to buy the land and build a new place. Our house sits on a small hill that is clear of trees. The property met the 10, 15, 20, and 2-meter requirements and the added feature of the pond in the front yard provided a water table that was quite close to the surface of the ground and turned out to be great for the 40, 80, and 160-meter bands. When we built the house I erected a Roan 25 tower and attached to the rear of the house. This is where all of my beams are mounted. In the year 2000 I became interested in 40 meters and ECARS, and eventually in 80 and 160 meters. The top of my tower was a great place to mount the center insulator and feed line for the low frequency antennas, but attaching the ends of the wire antennas was a problem as the trees that were closest to the tower were some 200 feet from the tower on each side. The antennas that I wanted to use required various angles at the feed point, such as the tri-band sloper 160, 80, and 40 meters. One leg of the sloper is 60 feet long and the opposite leg is 67 feet long. Each end has to be no more than 10 feet off the ground. With the center feed point located at the 45-foot level on the tower, it forms about a 90-degree angle at the feed point with each end where the rope

is attached 10 feet above the ground. I couldn't just let all that rope from the distant trees hang down as it would be like a jump rope in the heavy winds that we get here along the coast in Maine. I couldn't just pound a post in the ground at the ends of the antenna as it was in the middle of my lawn and would impact the driveway leading to the garage. When I pulled the ends up to clear the driveway the ends were too high making the feed point angle too large; approaching 180 degrees. I decided to attach a weight made from a two liter Pepsi bottle half filled with sand to the insulator at each end of the antenna where the tension rope is attached. Now as I pull the rope tight, the weight keeps the antenna wire strait and I can pull the weight up until the end of the antenna is the required 10 feet off the ground. When doing this on both ends of the antenna, I was able to achieve the 90-degree angle at the feed point and keep the antenna above the lawn and out of the way of the driveway. If I want to increase the feed point angle, all I have to do is pull the rope tight, pulling the Pepsi bottles up higher. This arrangement allows me to get nearly any angle I want.

The drawing below shows the antenna, Pepsi bottle weights, and the pulleys at each end used to feed the ropes through when pulling the antenna up and down. I have used this arrangement with an inverted V as well as with a strait dipole. The rope that I use is Kevlar rope, it is very strong and lasts indefinitely, I have also used the Kevlar rope to guy my tower as it is non conductive, the rope has been up there since I built the house and shows no signs of weakening.



Schumacher Speed Charge by Mike Stone N1VE

The coach batteries in our motor home became severely discharged and the inverter would not bring them back to life, so I connected them to a battery charger, assuming the inverter was faulty. After a few days we noticed that the batteries were losing voltage and the battery charger had quit working. So I went to Wal-Mart and purchased a Schumacher Ship'n Shore Speed Charge for about \$43.00.

When I lifted the package containing the battery charger off the shelf, I was surprised at its light weight. The microprocessor-controlled unit is small, considering that it has a 15-ampere maximum charging rate. The case is a tough plastic and provides storage for the 120-volt power cord, 12-volt cables and clamps, and a retractable carrying handle. The actual charger is about half the size of the case and measures about 9 x 4 x 3 inches.

The front panel has an LED display indicating battery voltage, charging voltage, or percent of charge and several colored LEDs showing the various modes and settings. There are also several switches on the front panel. The test mode provides battery voltage and a push of a button initiates the charging with three selectable amperage settings. A switch selects battery type: regular, deep cycle, or AGM and gel cell. There are two LEDs indicating whether the unit is charging or if the battery is fully charged. What surprised me most was when I pressed the charge

(Continued on page 8)

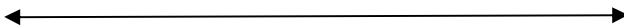
(Continued from page 5)

means "roger, roger, roger, roger." How many times does one need to send that? One would suffice. Or none at all would also suffice. I have to assume you're copying me, or we wouldn't be having this contact.

I also work CW operators who can't hold up their end of a conversation - even worse than on phone. I suspect this is because they're very dull people, or really can't copy me, or really can't copy code, or something. I like to rag chew on CW, and try to be interesting. When you tell me where you are located, I'll usually comment on something about it. "INDPLS, EH? CONGRATS ON SUPERBOWL VICTORY." Or maybe, "BALTO, EH? LUV THE SOFT SHELL CRAB BT IN SEASON?" "FREEPORT ME? BN TO L L BEAN STORE AT MIDNITE THR BT STL OPEN THAT LATE?" Whatever. I'll hold up my end of the conversation. Try to hold up yours; otherwise, what's the point of meeting people on the air? Real newbies can be forgiven almost anything; but I hear a lot of people who've been on the air for months or years, still operating poorly. No excuse for that - it means they're simply not listening and learning from others on the air who are operating just fine.

Honing operating skills is key to making more contacts, having more fun on the air, and ultimately being the leader others will want to emulate.

Comment by Mick



I hope you agree with me that this is a valuable contribution to the ECARS Monitor and I'd even like to suggest that once it's time has passed in the Monitor we consider requesting Bill, W2BLC to make this a part of the ECARS webpage for future review.

Thanks for your time and the great job you do for ECARS and believe me your services are appreciated.

73, Mick
W3ILG

(Continued from page 7)

button and a cooling fan turned on.

This automatic charger will stop charging when the battery is fully charged. It will then go into a maintenance mode, delivering a small current when necessary. The voltage is maintained at a level determined by the battery type selected (regular, deep cycle, AGM, or gel cell).

If the charger detects a sulfated battery, it will switch to the special desulfation mode. If successful in removing the sulfation deposits on the plates, charging will resume. The desulfation process can take up to 10 hours.

This battery charger / maintainer provides many useable functions, and based on its relatively low price it appears to be a good value. Because the charger will work with many types of batteries and because it will maintain the state of charge of these batteries, it would be an excellent choice for keeping our radio shack back-up batteries fully charged.

Photo below.



ECARS Patch

This beautifully embroidered ECARS patch will look great on your hat, jacket, or sewn to your favorite article of clothing.

The cost for the patch is \$5.00.

Send your payment to: ECARS, PO Box 5923, Hudson, FL 34674.



ECARS Website

www.ecars7255.co



ECARS Service - 7255 KHz - for Public Health, Safety, and Welfare

Official ECARS Jacket

If you would like to purchase an ECARS jacket / windbreaker, they are available from one of the nation's premier public safety supply companies, Galls, Inc. To purchase an official ECARS jacket, fill out the order form below and send it along with the required payment to ECARS, PO Box 5923, Hudson, FL 34674. Pricing varies depending on jacket size and logo options selected.

Official ECARS embroidered patch is on the front and back of the jacket.

Note: The deadline for ordering jackets this year is October 31. Now is a great time to order ECARS jackets for the holidays. Effective 2007, jacket orders will be taken by ECARS twice a year, in January and July. The deadlines for submitting orders to ECARS will be January 31 and July 31.



ECARS Jacket Order Form

Name: Call:

Name and mailing address:

Men's sizes, circle one

M	L	XL	XXL	XXXL
38—40	42—44	46—48	50—52	54—56
(\$19.99)	(\$19.99)	(\$19.99)	(\$23.99)	(\$27.99)

Women's sizes, circle one

M	L	XL	XXL	XXXL
8—10	12—14	16—18	20—22	24—26
(\$19.99)	(\$19.99)	(\$19.99)	(\$23.99)	(\$27.99)

Color, circle one

Navy
 Red
 Black
 Royal

Circle all desired

Large ECARS Logo-Back (\$24.99)
 ECARS Logo Front Left (\$9.99)

Front right Name/Call (\$5.99), 15 characters., 2 lines

Name or Call only: (\$3.99)

Shipping: \$10.00
 Set up fee: \$5.00

Total order: \$ _____

Jackets will be dropped shipped by the manufacturer directly to you. Any overpayments in shipping will be applied to the set-up fee. Order issues should be addressed directly with the Galls, Inc. Make checks payable to:
 ECARS
 PO Box 5923
 Hudson, FL 34674



ECARS custom ceramic 10 ounce coffee mug

ECARS Mug

ECARS members can order custom ceramic coffee mugs for \$19.50 including the cost of priority mail. In addition to the ECARS logo you can include your call sign and ECARS number below the logo on both sides of the mug. Or below the ECARS logo on one side you can specify your call sign and on the other side below the ECARS logo you can specify your ECARS number. Choose the orientation of the mug (left or right hand) depending on which logo combination you would like facing you.

You can order the mugs by:

- email; rick@thesignman.com
- using the secure shopping cart; <https://cahaba.net/~thesignm/secure/> (beside "Color Items" click on "Select", then click on "Color Coffee Mug", then type the specifics in the "Enter Details Below" text block)
- by phone; 225-757-1545
- by fax; 225-208-1545

ECARS Pins

ECARS pins are available from club secretary/treasurer Charlie Stampf, N2CJ. These are beautiful one-inch diameter gold pins with the red, white, and blue ECARS insignia in a very durable glossy finish. The price for one pin is \$3.50 plus \$.60 postage. To order a pin, send your check made out to ECARS for \$4.10 per pin to ECARS, PO Box 5923, Hudson, FL 34674-5923



The East Coast Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (E.C.A.R.S.)

Membership Application / Renewal

New Application Renewal. If renewal enter your ECARS Number _____ Call Sign _____
Year First Licensed _____ Year you first joined ECARS _____, ARRL Member Yes, No
Name _____
Street _____
City / Town _____, State/Province _____
Zip/Postal Code _____ - _____
Home Phone (_____) _____ - _____ Work Phone (_____) _____ - _____
E-mail address. (do not use an alias, e.g. @arrl.net) _____
May ECARS publish your email address? Yes No

ECARS Dues: 1 year \$10.00, 2 years \$20.00, 3 years \$30.00

Voluntary donation for a better ECARS \$1, \$5, \$10, other

I, the undersigned, hereby request a new a continued membership in the East Coast Amateur Radio Service, Inc.

I agree to abide by ECARS Bylaws, a copy which is available on the ECARS website, www.ecars7255.com.

I understand that my application for ECARS membership is subject to approval by the ECARS Board of Directors, in its sole discretion.

Signature _____ Date _____

Instructions: Complete this form and mail it with a check or money order in United States funds to: **E.C.A.R.S., PO Box 5923, Hudson, FL 34674-5923.**

The ECARS Monitor is published by the East Coast Amateur Radio Service Inc., for the benefit of its members. Full permission to quote from the Monitor is granted, provided a credit line is used. Members' for sale advertisements are run free of charge. Credit card size commercial ads are accepted at a cost of \$15.00 per issue or \$45.00 per year. Send advertisement information to the editor. The Monitor and ECARS do not assume any responsibility for items offered for sale.

Items for the Monitor should be sent to the editor in Microsoft Word or text format, if possible. The deadline for submissions is the 15th of the month preceding the month of publication, subject to change by the Editor. Publication is in Feb., June, Oct., and Dec. The Editor reserves the right to reject, edit, or modify submitted material as necessary.

Membership renewals, address changes, call sign changes, and new applications should be sent to: **ECARS, PO Box 5923, Hudson, FL 34674-5923.** Membership dues are \$10.00 per year. Make checks payable to ECARS, and put your call sign and member number on the check memo. Multi-year renewals are appreciated. Renewals of three years or more will receive a laminated card at no charge. All membership subscriptions begin upon receipt of dues and terminate on December 31st.

ECARS decals are available for \$1.50 each, and pins for \$3.50 each plus \$.60 postage per pin. Send your payment to: ECARS, PO Box 5923, Hudson, FL 34674-5923.

2007 ECARS Officers

President

Ernie Parsons, W1RXH
397 Litchfield Rd.
Bowdoin, ME 04287
toyota@zwi.net

Vice President

Kelly McGuire, N3FQG
7 Houpp Ln.
Greensboro, PA 15601
n3fqq@comcast.net

Secretary/Treasurer

Charles Stampf, N2CJ
11646 Wayside Willow Court
Hudson, FL 34667
cestampf@yahoo.com

Net Manager

Joseph S. Reppert WY3T,
jsbrat@early.com

ECARS 2007 Board of Directors

Bob R Benson K2IB, robert@earthlink.net
Mick McBride, W3ILG, pdmw3ilg@comcast.net
Bob Schneebeli, W3EOP, bobshop@ptd.net
Joe Blithe, WB3GVD, jbliithe@comcast.net
Harry Caringi, KC2GHT, bcar301@northnet.org

Webmaster:

Bill Clarke W2BLC, w2blc@necoastalnet.net

Public Relations Manager: (Position is open)

Swap and Shop Manager:

Kelly McGuire, N3FQG, n3fqq@comcast.net

Monitor Editors: Mike Stone, N1VE, Peggy Burns, K1VE
32 Carriage Road, Gilford, NH 03246
n1ve@amsat.org

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