



# THE MONITOR<sup>TM</sup>



ECARS Web Page: <http://www.ecars7255.com>

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

## From the President's Desk

by John WA1STU # 1489

The elections are over and I am sure the controversy is over as well. We now have an elected board of directors and an elected slate of officers; its time to all work together and make ECARS the best service net on the bands. I have started getting volunteers for the various jobs that need to be done to keep ECARS running and I would encourage anyone who wants to help contact me. We need folks to head committees and help with the production of the Monitor. I am sure our net manager, Joe WY3T would like to hear from anyone who would like to be an NCS, so drop any of us a line and volunteer.

I ran the roll call for the first time ever on the 15<sup>th</sup> of January and had a ball, even with the poor band conditions and some interference. We had 93 stations check in during the roll call hour and I am sure I missed some because of band conditions and the interference. It was good to hear so many stations check in.

We are working on setting up the next members meeting so I would like to hear from you to get your input on where we should have the meeting. Please drop me an email or catch me on the net to give me you input.

I would like to encourage everyone to check the web-site <[www.ecars7255.com](http://www.ecars7255.com)> as often as you can. Check all of the content and make suggestions about how to improve our web site. Also please check your membership information and make sure it is correct. We had about 60 monitors returned by the USPS because of incorrect address. Keeping up the member database is a big job and everyone needs to help.

I know we have some real technical folks and I would like to see some good antenna articles, rig improvement articles, and general technical tips in the monitor.

I hope to hear each and every one of you on the "NET" 73, John "Z"

## ECARS Board of Directors Adopts Electronic Newsletter

Last year the membership approved the use of electronic voting, or "e-voting", for ECARS elections. Our web master Paul (WA2GRB) and a few Internet/web savvy members are working together to implement this needed feature.

Along with e voting, a new members only section will be added to the ECARS website at [www.ecars7255.com](http://www.ecars7255.com). The members' only section will be the new home for ECARS Monitor (quarterly newsletter). We hope to have a member's only portion of the web page and e-voting capabilities available in the coming months.

The increasing cost of producing and mailing hard copies of The Monitor to ECARS members have made it necessary for the Board of Directors to approve an alternative distribution scheme for The Monitor. Beginning in the summer of 2005 the Monitor will be published "only" to the ECARS web site except for members who opt-in for delivery of a hard copy version of the newsletter. The majority of ECARS members are now using the Internet. In order to continue receiving a hard copy of the "Monitor", ECARS

*(Continued on page 2)*

### In This Issue

From the President's Desk.....	1
ECARS BOD Adopts Electronic Newsletter.....	1
ECARS Paper Monitor Form.....	2
New Election Process Put to Test.....	3
Secretary / Treasurer's Report.....	4
ECARS Election Results.....	4
ECARS Net Manager's Report.....	5
Meet ECARS VP.....	5
Meet ECARS Members.....	6
Playing the Ribbon Cable Blues.....	6
Before You Crank it Up.....	7
DXers Head to Court.....	7
ECARS Membership Application.....	8
ARRL Tells FCC to Reconsider.....	8

### Swap and Shop

Join us on 7.255 every Wednesday from 11:00 to 12:00 noon for the Swap and Shop, hosted by Roger, N2LAQ

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

*(Continued from page 1)*

members will be asked to submit an opt-in form to indicate that they wish to receive a mailed hard copy of The Monitor.

The ECARS administration has very closely watched the results of mailing the "Monitor" over the past few years. The growth of the membership as well as the use of professional printing services and paying first class postage has pushed the cost of the hard copy version of The Monitor up to about \$2,000 per issue. Nevertheless, the mailing results continue to be poor. It was surprising for ECARS to learn that first class mailing of The Monitor is not always received in a timely basis. Some deliveries were taking weeks not days.

In addition we are finding that members are not keeping up with their home address changes. Thirty-nine of the December 2004 mailings were returned because of incorrect address information. Others have told us that they did not receive their copies of the "Monitor"(s).

The delays in the timely delivery of ECARS mailings have a negative impact on the organization. At the very least it causes extraordinarily, unnecessary work for our volunteers, and frustration for those members who want to participate in the process but can't because of deadlines that have passed. The solution that made the most sense to the ECARS Board of Directors in addressing both the cost and the deliverability issues is to provide The Monitor via the members only web page.

Additional benefits are timely access to The Monitor, full color versions that members can save to their hard drives or print out for a hard copy if they choose. Even if a

member doesn't own a computer the chances are very good that their local library has free Internet access where they can get access to the ECARS web site.

The words for 2005 are adapt and adopt. Some ECARS members may recall that we tested electronic publishing of The Monitor in 2003 with distribution to over five hundred members. In 2003 more than half the members, eighty percent to be exact were receiving The Monitor via e-mail. We won't be using e-mail now because of the worldwide SPAM problem. Those new anti-SPAM programs would see the bulk e-mails from us and bounce the messages. The other concern with e-mail is that like hard mail addresses, many members were not keeping us up-to-date with their new e-mail address changes. Once again, the ECARS web site is the solution. The sooner we move in that direction the better for our organization.

Having said the above, the Board of Directors has passed a resolution that directs the administration to implement a members only web located at [www.ecars7255.com](http://www.ecars7255.com) and for the remainder of 2005. The Monitor will be provided in a hard copy version for those members who opt in to receive hard copies. So, if you wish to continue receiving The Monitor in hard copy format for the remainder of this year please fill-out the form below and mail it to the ECARS Secretary as soon as you can. If you do not send in the "opt-in" form below, prior to the next addition of The Monitor, future hard copy versions of The Monitor will not be sent to you.

Best Regards,  
ECARS Board of Directors



**ECARS Paper Monitor Form**

ECARS members must fill out and mail this form to the club secretary to receive a paper version of the Monitor, our club newsletter.

Member's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign: \_\_\_\_\_ ECARS # \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number, daytime: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail this form to:

**ECARS  
 PO Box 5923  
 Hudson, FL 34674-5923**

## New ECARS Election Process Put to Test

The new ECARS election process has been successfully put to the test twice since the adoption of the new by-laws last year, first in the election of directors, and then during the recent election of officers. Most ECARS members are probably unaware of what was involved in the new election process, and the role of the Ballot Counting Committee (BCC). The 2004-2005 BCC members are Frank Lempicki AA4ZS, David Whitney AI4FC, and Brad Farrell K4RT.

### Ensuring Reliable, Accurate ECARS Elections

ECARS members may be aware of the problems that arose during the 2003 election of officers, which reportedly included last minute candidate shuffling. Article V of the new ECARS Bylaws states that ECARS shall have a "reliable, democratic election process" that must be "conducted in a fair, impartial, and open manner." Article V also requires that those members given the responsibility for conducting the election "shall take all steps necessary to ensure that all election activities are properly and truthfully executed, and that the results are accurately determined."

Several safeguards written into Bylaw 3.6(b) are designed to allow the BCC to operate independently of the ECARS administration. Although the Bylaws empower the ECARS president to appoint the members of the BCC, the president does not have the authority to dissolve the committee. The board of directors may dissolve the BCC only "if the Board concludes that irregularities have occurred." The BCC Rules of Procedure were drafted by the BCC, but submitted to the board of directors for review and approval. Appointments to the BCC expire with the term of the ECARS president who made the appointments.

### Counting Ballots

The ECARS Nominations Committee received many nominations for directors and officers last year and selected what it believed were the best of the many good candidates. The slate of candidates was forwarded to the board of directors (or its predecessor, the executive committee), which approved the ballots for each election. When the executed ballots were returned to ECARS, they were collected by the BCC for counting. Because some members reported delayed delivery of their copies of *The Monitor*, the board of directors authorized voting by e-mail for members who inquired, using an identity verification method for those voters.

Ballots received by mail were retrieved unopened from a post office box and delivered to the ballot counting committee for opening and counting. The committee member who served as the envelopes custodian submitted a signed statement to the committee for each election, identifying the chain of possession of the envelopes and verifying that the envelopes were not opened prior to delivery to the committee.

The BCC determined that the counting of ballots should be held in a publicly accessible place in case any

ECARS members desired to observe the counting. The committee selected the Mount Vernon Government Center near Alexandria, Virginia, which allows public use of its several meeting rooms. The committee selected the MVGC based on the availability of modern public meeting rooms, handicap access, restrooms, and ample parking.

The night of the count, the large sealed envelopes containing the envelopes collected from the ECARS post office box were opened and then the individual envelopes were opened and the ballots removed and placed in piles. All valid ballots were counted at least twice by the committee members present. Ballots that were not clearly marked or not marked at all were deemed invalid. A handful of ballots were deemed invalid during the election of directors. Not one ballot was deemed invalid during the election of officers. Pursuant to the committee rules, if a match was not obtained between two ballot counts, the ballots were counted twice again until a match was obtained. All committee members present had to concur on whether a match was obtained before the counts could be finalized and certified. Once the final vote totals were known, the committee recorded the results in a series of documents designed to (a) ensure that accurate vote counts are recorded, and (b) to reveal intentional manipulation of ballot counts.

The following morning, the signed and dated election documents were promptly sent to the board of directors for review and publication. All ballots and the envelopes in which they were received, and copies of the BCC's election forms were sealed and shipped to the ECARS Secretary in Florida. An ECARS membership renewal form and check included with a ballot were sent in a separate envelope to the secretary for processing.

### Review

The new ECARS election process is accurate, open and reliable. The checks and balances built into the process, combined with the autonomy of the BCC should ensure that the organization will continue to have an accurate, reliable method for conducting elections.

Late mailings of *The Monitor* by the printing company delayed the arrival of some of the newsletters. That issue will be resolved, and ECARS expects to move to on-line voting via the Internet in the coming months to help reduce costs.

**The Only Official ECARS Website**




**[www.ecars7255.com](http://www.ecars7255.com)**



The year 2004 will go down in ECARS books as a year of growth and re-birth. The budget and financial books of ECARS reflect the happenings of a hectic year. The reports are for the calendar year from January 1, 2004 thru December 31, 2004. The total cash on hand at the beginning of the 2005-year is low. However, incoming dues will increase our cash to a normal level and provide the day-to-day operating resources.

The banking summary shows expenses in several categories. The difference in jacket expense and income reflects the cost to ECARS for creating the digital logo that is embroidered on each jacket. That expense is reduced with each jacket purchase.

The ECARS Board of Directors voted to submit an application to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) for registration of the ECARS logo as a trademark. Although the ECARS logo has been used as a common law trademark for nearly 40 years, recent unauthorized use of the mark prompted the board's action. The fees paid to the USPTO for the application are indicated in the legal-professional fees category, as is the attorney fee paid to a Delaware law firm retained on the basis that it would provide advice on the amendment of the ECARS Bylaws.

The publication of our newsletter, The Monitor, was the big expenditure item of the year. The nature of business conducted, i.e., the referendum on the new bylaws and two elections, required The Monitor to be published in hard copy and mailed to each member. The costs associated with the year's issues are detailed in the postage, publishing and printing categories.

**Net Worth Report**

Account	Balance
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Cash and Bank Accounts	
Checking.....	811.61
TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts.....	811.61
Investments	
CD.....	5,674.10
TOTAL Investments.....	5,674.10
TOTAL ASSETS.....	6,485.71
<b>LIABILITIES</b> .....	0.00

**Banking Summary**

Category Description	Income
Decal.....	4.00
Donation.....	23.40
Dues, New.....	2,124.02
Dues, New Associate.....	6.00
Dues, Renewal.....	2,146.50
Dues, PayPal.....	525.18
ECARS Jacket.....	1,070.70
ECARS Pin.....	82.00
Miscellaneous Income.....	15.50
Monitor Refund.....	123.23
Patches.....	32.60
Total Income.....	6,153.13
<b>Expenses</b>	
Uncategorized.....	30.00
Annual Meeting.....	106.00
Bank Fee.....	40.10
Corporation Fees.....	224.00
Donation BPL Defense Fund.....	250.00
Jackets.....	1,153.89
Legal-Professional Fees.....	1,670.00
Miscellaneous Expense.....	145.78
Office Equipment.....	530.52
Office Supplies.....	470.56
Post Office Box Rental.....	39.00
Postage.....	1,092.30
Postage and Delivery.....	1,885.04
Printing.....	1,420.84
Printing and Reproduction.....	2,140.44
Reimbursement - Miscellaneous.....	384.24
Software.....	179.80
Supplies, Business.....	76.69
Web Page.....	99.00
Total Expenses.....	11,938.20
Overall Total.....	5,785.07

**ECARS Election Results**

From the ECARS Ballot Counting Committee  
2004 ECARS Election of Officers

An asterisk (\*) denotes the candidates declared elected by the ECARS Ballot Counting Committee.

Candidate	Office	Votes Received
WA1STU*	President	84
KB2IXT	President	78
N1SAX	Vice President	51
W3EOP*	Vice President	106
N2CJ*	Secretary / Treasurer	158

Congratulations to the newly elected ECARS officers.

## ECARS Net Manager's Report

by Joseph S. Reppert WY3T, ECARS Net Manager

It's hard to believe another year has passed since being asked to assume ECARS Net Manager duties. Much has happened through all of the recent innovations that were instituted to keep ECARS on track and forging ahead into the twenty-first century. The net has been run with expertise and professional conduct. The individual personalities of the various net control stations are what make ECARS great. You can get an update on the Spring planting dates from KA1SE Luke anytime...need to get those peas in on time. Or you can find out what's going on in Saylorsburg, PA from Bob W3EOP.

I would like to thank those who have assisted me as area coordinators: W3EOP Bob, K2OX John, KC2KTJ Jim, W4RKR Bob, K3DPT Tim, and KA3UNB Al.

Also thanks to all of the regularly scheduled net control stations and those who run the net on weekends. I have had comments on the website as to the good wholesome amateur radio content from many individuals.

Most of all I want to thank the membership for supporting our organization...keep up the tradition

I look forward to managing the net this year and working with all of you.

## Meet ECARS VP

Bob Schneebeli, W3EOP, Saylorsburg, PA

I would like to take this opportunity to say "Thank you" to ECARS members who voted for me to be your vice president for 2005. I have never held a position as an officer of a club before so this is entirely new to me. ECARS is a strong organization and I am glad to be a part of that strength. I have great respect for the members who had handled the turmoil that we have gone through in the past year and were able to get things put back in the order as they were meant to be. I will serve the membership to the best of my ability.

I started out in ham radio in 1969 and with the help from my elmer I was able to get my general license a short time later. My call sign was WA3NVZ and when my elmer passed away a few years ago I wanted to take his call sign. I finally saw it on vanity call list and changed my call to W3EOP a year ago. It was the only way I could show him how much I respect and appreciate what he had done for me. He was a very smart person and a good teacher (he had to be to get through my thick skin).

Since I was 16 I have worked as an auto mechanic and for the last 14 years I have owned a small repair shop at my home in Saylorsburg, Pa. I turned 70 years old last March

so in April I finally decided to retire (the wife still works) and now I have more time to do the things I wasn't able to do when I was working. My wife also has a long "Honey Do" list for me everyday. While I was working in my shop I would listen to 7255 daily and was interested in the organization. I finally got up the nerve to check in one day about three years ago. This is a big thing for me because I was always a CW operator and I never imagined that I would like SSB. I talked to WY3T, Joe, and he was the person who got me interested in running the ECARS service. I started out doing it for just 15 minutes and slowly worked up to one hour. That's when Joe asked me to do it on a regular basis. So I ran the net for one hour a week. When I told Joe I was thinking about retiring he talked me into doing it a few more days a week. Now I am the person you will hear from 12 noon to 1:00 PM Monday through Friday. I also try to help with relays and taking other time slots whenever someone is not available.

Again, let me thank all the past elected members for their time and hard work bringing ECARS back to be the strong organization it was and will continue to be.

## Greetings From ECARS Net Manager

Joe Reppert, WY3T, Lenhartsville, PA

This will be my second year as the net manager for ECARS. Over the years I have been involved in numerous amateur radio related activities, from laid-back round table conversations to contesting and chasing DX. I was the trustee for four repeaters in my immediate area. I also served five terms as president of a local club. I have since resigned from local activities, and am devoting my time to keeping ECARS net operations running efficiently.

My priorities are to keep the net control station schedule filled and the net running efficiently from 7:30 AM until 3:00 PM eastern time. I also try to enlist individuals who have the good of the service at heart and are efficient at running the service as net control stations.

ECARS has been in operation for thirty-six years and some things have become traditional over that period of time. During my first year as net manager there have been many innovative changes instituted, without losing the traditional concepts of amateur radio and ECARS. As your net manager, I consider it my duty to provide guidance in keeping operations running without controversy.

I feel privileged to have individuals who act as NCS on a daily basis and who devote much of their time to the net. The individuality of these operators is what makes ECARS the premier forty-meter net that it is.

It is a pleasure to serve as ECARS Net Manager and help to make the wheels turn.

## Meet ECARS Members

### John Eckert, K2OX, Bridgeport, NY

John was first licensed as a novice WN8HNR in 1970. He became interested in electronics while a cub scout when he built a crystal broadcast receiver. The tuning inductor was hand wound on a toilet paper tube. His first ham station consisted of a homebrew sweep tube transmitter and a Hamerlund HQ-110 receiver. John had a great time as member of the Detroit Area Radio Ham Club, which gave him the opportunity to visit several club members' shacks. After completing his studies in electrical engineering he made the trip to the FCC Office and passed his Advanced Class License. In 1980 John relocated to the Syracuse area. He upgraded in 2002 to Extra Class and became K2OX. John is married to Terry and they have a 12-year-old son, Jeff. Oh yah, two cats, Espi and Umbri. Professionally, John provides consulting services for the design and measurement of RF and microwave technologies. He loves home brewing antennas, amplifiers, and beer ([www.exothink.com](http://www.exothink.com)). His interests also include programming microcontrollers, PC's, and lately DSP chips.

### Tim Bowen, K3DPT, Annapolis, MD

Tim was licensed in 1958 as KN3DPT at the tender age of twelve. He advanced to general class in 1959, advanced class in the 70s, and then to extra class in 1992. Tim retired after 23 years in law enforcement and has been married to Sally for 30 years. He is a licensed instrument pilot and a certified scuba diver. Sally and Tim race sailboats on the Chesapeake Bay and have won multiple championships in different classes.

Tim helped form ECARS in 1968/1969 and has enjoyed the net from the beginning. He's an avid DXer having 333 countries confirmed (as of 9-15-03). His current station consists of an FT1000D, Collins 30-S1 linear, TS 690SAT, Heath SB200, Icom 706MK11G, and various accessories. Tim's antenna farm is made up of a Tri-ex 70 FT motorized crank-up tower with a three-element six-meter, three-element 17-meter, and Cushcraft X9 tribander. The forty-meter antenna is a dipole with a reflector under (NVIZ) at around 30 feet.

Tim listens to the net almost every day and has watched it grow into one of the best regional nets in the country. Thanks to all the many officers and operators who give so much of their time to keep the net going.

## Playing the Ribbon Cable Blues

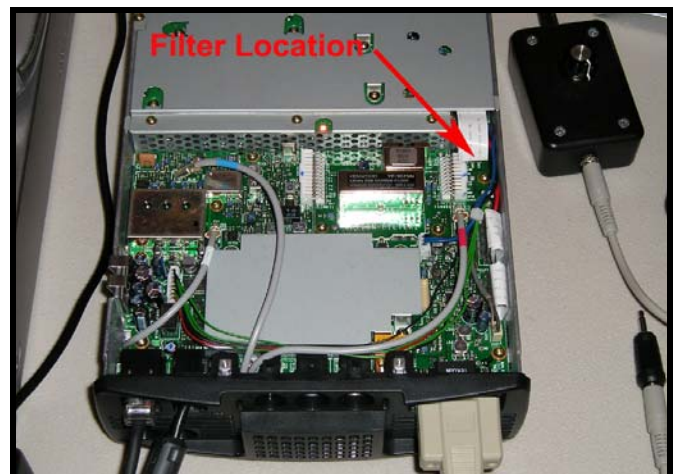
by David Jordan, WA3GIN

Wintertime is as good a time as any to tinker with our radios. This winter I began building a replacement Internet Remote station. I decided to upgrade from the Kenwood TS-2000 to the TS480. The 480 has several added features (IF shift, selectable analog filters, DNL, two types of beat cancel and noise reduction, etc.) Basically, it is a better re-

ceiver.

I decided to upgrade the 480 with a "new" 1.8 KHz SSB filter. The installation process is fairly straight forward; remove three screws, pop out the filter board, solder in the new filter, snap the board back in place, and re-install the three screws. What they didn't tell you is that when that little board pops up, there is a very good chance it will dislodge a small ribbon cable that is adjacent to the board. If that cable is just slightly dislodged you'll get no transmit display information on the remote head display (pretty scary). So, before you attempt any upgrade to your radios take some time to look over the area where you are going to be working. Make note of what cables or parts are close by and might be at risk if they are dislodged during your installation process.

The new 1.8 KHz SSB filter works very well. It's a real addition to the receiver.



Photos by WA3GIN

## Before You Crank it Up

by Dave Jordan, WA3GIN

Crank-up towers are a neat invention. They have provided great utility to many ham radio operators for many decades.

It's pretty nice when you don't have to climb your tower to perform maintenance on antennas or change out a



A rusted and frayed cable.



Compare the shiny new cable and thimble to the rusty weathered example.

coax line. But with the convenience of a crank-up tower also comes some additional maintenance that, if not performed, can place the tower and the operator in harm's way.

Never climb an extended crank-up tower. There are too many things that can go wrong that can leave you with broken feet, hands, or much worse. If the tower jams when extended, it's time to call for a bucket truck or crane and some buddies that have experience with such problems.

Yearly maintenance of the crank-up cables, winch, and guy wires is a routine that should be followed religiously. Steel guy cables, crank-up, or pull-down cables can look good on the outside and be rusting away on the inside. Many tower manufacturers recommend replacing these cables, every three years! How often do you replace your cables? Have you ever replaced those cables?

There are some cable maintenance products that help extend the useful life of these cables, in particular, the crank



Preserve and lubricate those cables. WA3GIN photos

cables (see photo).

This year, Tim, K3DPT, his wife Sally, N1FSU, Rachel, and I replaced crank cables on an old TRI-EX crank-up tower. Some of the cables looked pretty good, but those cables were far from being in "safe" condition (see photo).

The best advice is to follow your tower manufacturer's recommended maintenance procedures and enjoy the convenience of cranking down and tilting over your beam antennas.

## DXers Head to Court Over Navassa and Desecheo

A federal court battle is looming over the refusal by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) to permit amateur radio operations from Navassa (KP1) and Desecheo (KP5) Islands. According to *The Daily DX*, a group of DXers led by Brad Farrell, K4RT (ECARS member), has been working for over two years through FWS administrative channels to overturn the 10-year-old ban. The administrative appeals have apparently been exhausted and K4RT has gone to federal court, seeking judicial review of the FWS action. He says there are many inconsistencies between the FWS policies and its own actions. The Lone Star DX Association is collecting tax-deductible donations to help defray legal expenses. Donations from individuals or clubs should be marked 'Navassa-Desecheo Project' and mailed to the Lone Star DX Association, c/c Jim Bass, K5KQL, 2709 Monarch Dr., Arlington, TX 76006. More information is available online at <http://www.dxer.org>.

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

Call \_\_\_\_\_ License Class \_\_\_\_\_ Date First Licensed \_\_\_\_\_ (mo./yr.)

Renewal? Y/N \_\_\_ If 'Y'es please enter your ECARS number: \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_, State/Province \_\_\_\_\_

Zip/Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Check if OK to publish ( )

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form with \$7.50 check or money order (or use PayPal) to: **E.C.A.R.S., PO Box 5923, Hudson, FL 34674-5923.** Membership duration shall be for the period of one year and shall be renewable on the anniversary date of the member's enrollment in ECARS.

## ARRL Tells FCC to "Reconsider, Rescind and Restudy" BPL

ARRL Bulletin 5 ARLB005

From ARRL Headquarters

Newington, CT, February 9, 2005

**To all radio amateurs:**

The ARRL has petitioned the FCC to take its broadband over power line (BPL) Report and Order (R&O) back to the drawing board. In a Petition for Reconsideration filed February 7, the League called on the Commission to "reconsider, rescind, and restudy" its October 14, 2004, adoption of new Part 15 rules spelling out how BPL providers may deploy the technology on HF and low-VHF frequencies. Asserting that the R&O fails to adequately take into account the technology's potential to interfere with Amateur Radio and other licensed services, the League called the FCC's action to permit BPL "a gross policy mistake." The R&O, the ARRL said, "represents a classic case of prejudgment" by an FCC that knew better but ignored evidence already at its disposal.

"It is readily apparent that the Commission long ago made up its mind that it was going to permit BPL without substantial regulation, no matter what the effect of this flawed application of old technology is on licensed radio services," the League's petition declares. The ARRL accuses FCC Commissioner Michael Powell and his four colleagues of deliberately authorizing "a spectrum pollution source" that's proven to be incompatible with existing licensed uses of the HF spectrum.

"The Commission wanted nothing to contradict its enthusiasm about BPL," the League said, and its Office of Engineering and Technology (OET) saw to it that evidence of the "fundamental incompatibility" between BPL and incum-

bent HF radio services "was suppressed, ignored or discredited." The FCC has not adjudicated a single interference complaint", the ARRL added, but has swept interference complaints under the rug.

The ARRL further argued that Powell should have recused himself from voting on the R&O. The chairman, the ARRL says, violated the FCC's own ex parte rules by attending a BPL provider's demonstration on October 12, after release of the October 14 agenda. Powell "tainted this proceeding" by taking part in the demonstration, and that alone is sufficient to have the Commission vacate and reconsider its action, the ARRL alleged.

The League also said the FCC's "late and incomplete" responses to ARRL's Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests fail to show any support for FCC's conclusions regarding interference to licensed services from BPL. The highly redacted information release contained nothing that supports the FCC's conclusions about BPL's interference potential and suppressed negative recommendations from its own technical investigators, the petition says. As a result, the League said, the Commission "failed to conduct impartial, reasoned rulemaking."

The Commission used an unlawful "balancing test" that weighed BPL's purported benefits against its interference to licensed services, the League asserts, creating "a hierarchy of licensed radio services" based upon "how much interference each service deserves." The Communications Act, the League's petition points out, requires an objective determination from the outset that the likelihood of harmful interference from a proposed unlicensed service is virtually nil.

The interference mitigation rules in the R&O are both ineffective and inequitably applied, the ARRL's petition further argues. Noting the new rules do not require BPL sys-

(Continued on page 9)

(Broadband Continued from page 8)

tems to shut down in the event of interference except as "a last resort," the League said the practical effect is "that systems will never have to shut down," even if the BPL operator has not been able to remedy ongoing harmful interference to the Amateur Service. The new rules, the petition charges, accord priority to unlicensed BPL, "regardless of the preclusive effect" or the duration of interference.

In its unanimous BPL decision, the Commission, the League says, has abandoned its fundamental obligation to avoid interference in telecommunication systems, instead requiring complainants to initiate contact with BPL providers and "beg for resolution." The ARRL petition also faults the Commission's adopted measurement standards.

The League's Petition for Reconsideration in ET Dockets 03-104 and 04-37 is on the ARRL Web site, [http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/et04-37/recon\\_petition/](http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/et04-37/recon_petition/).

## 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.



## ECARS Patch

This beautifully embroidered ECARS patches 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 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



## 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

**ECARS Monitor**  
**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. Your Monitor mailing label will show your ECARS number and the year of membership expiration.

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 \$7.50 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.

#### **2004 ECARS Officers**

##### **President**

John Zorger, WA1STU  
5711 Artemus Rd.  
Gainsville, VA 20155-1542  
Email: zycom@starband.net

##### **Vice President**

Fred Thumhard, KB2IXT  
5 Old Oxe Rd..  
Delmar, NY 12054  
Email: kb2ixt@juno.com

##### **Secretary/Treasurer**

Charles Stampf, N2CJ  
11646 Wayside Willow Court  
Hudson, FL 34667  
Email: n2cj@arrl.net

##### **Net Manager**

Joseph S. Reppert WY3T,  
Email: jsbrat@early.com

#### **ECARS 2004 Board of Directors**

Joseph Blithe, WB3GVD, Email: jblithe@comcast.net  
Dave Jordan, WA3GIN, Email: wa3gin@erols.com  
Al Prindle, KA3UNB, Email: aprindle@rcn.com

---

**Webmaster:** Paul Colin, WA2GRB, Email: ceza@earthlink.net

**Public Relations Manager:** Mary Popella, N3YL  
Email: n3yln3oo@verizon.net

**Swap and Shop Manager:**  
Roger Schroder, N2LAQ

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