

STATIC



April, 2009

A New Ham's Guide How to Use Amateur (Ham Radio) Repeaters

(Tnx For Permission from N4UJW and Hamuniverse.com)

PART III

Signal Reports on a Repeater

Lots of new hams don't understand that the S meter on their radio is only reporting the relative strength of the repeater system and NOT the signal strength of the station they are talking to unless they are in the simplex mode. When the repeater is transmitting, it may have an output greatly exceeding that of the station IT is listening to. Remember the station it hears on the input frequency of it's receiver may be on a hand held radio and only a few blocks from the "machine" or it could be a mobile radio in a vehicle out on the fringes of the repeater coverage area or a base station running a high gain antenna and 100 watts from the next county or in some cases, the next state. To a third party, (another ham), listening to the machine on the repeater output, all of these stations would have the same S meter reading on his S meter! As long as the repeater can detect the signals and is working properly as it is setup, then all stations, (to the third ham), will "appear" to have the same signal strength on the S meter. **Remember, the S meter is only reporting the relative strength of the repeater when it is transmitting** and not the individual stations! So all that being said, how do you give an accurate signal report to the station you are talking to?

JUST USE PLAIN ENGLISH!

Listen to the background sounds of his AUDIO coming from your speaker in between words and sentences. **Don't even look at your S meter.** (Assuming the repeater has a good strong signal into your location).

If there is no noise other than room background, road, passenger or other sounds that could be picked up by his microphone, then he would be said to have a FULL QUIETING signal into the repeater.....receiver. NOT 50 OVER S9, S9, OR ANY COMBINATION on your S meter. The term "Quieting" refers to the carrier level of the transmitter being strong enough to "quiet" the background hiss on the frequency.

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LBARA MEETING SCHEDULE

MONTH	BOARD	REGULAR
APRIL	NOTE: BOARD	4/16
MAY	MEETINGS WILL NOW	5/21
SEPTEMBER	TAKE PLACE ONE	9/17
OCTOBER	HOUR PRIOR TO THE	10/15
NOVEMBER	REGULAR MEETING	11/19

PUNNY HUMOR

Two antennas met on a roof, fell in love and got married. The ceremony wasn't much, but the reception was excellent.

A jumper cable walks into a bar. The bartender says, "I'll serve you, but don't start anything."

A man walks into a bar with a slab of asphalt under his arm and says: "A beer please, and one for the road."

Two cannibals are eating a clown. One says to the other: "Does this taste funny to you?"

Two cows are standing next to each other in a field. Daisy says to Dolly, "I was artificially inseminated this morning." "I don't believe you," says Dolly. "It's true, no bull!" exclaims Daisy.

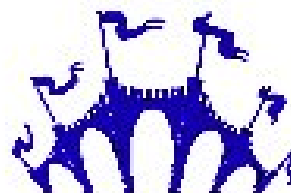
An invisible man marries an invisible woman. The kids were nothing to look at either.

A man woke up in a hospital after! a serious accident. He shouted, "Doctor, doctor, I can't feel my legs!" The doctor replied, "I know you can't - I've cut off your arms!"

Two Eskimos sitting in a kayak were chilly, so they lit a fire in the craft. Unsurprisingly it sank, proving once again that you can't have your kayak and heat it too.

Monday Night Net (7 PM)

System	Location	Freq	Offset	PL
MCARS	Bullhead City	145.27	-	131.8
	Kingman	146.76	-	131.8
	Kingman	448.25	-	131.8
	Lake Havasu	146.62	-	131.8
	Willow Beach	147.12	-	131.8
CRRRA	Lake Havasu City	146.96	-	162.2
	Lake Havasu City	224.24	-	156.7
	Lake Havasu City	146.64	-	156.7
	Lake Havasu City	449.95	-	141.3
BARN	Lake Havasu City	447.54	-	136.5
	Las Vegas, NV	449.95		136.5
	Onyx(Palm Springs)	449.34	-	136.5
	Orange County, CA	447.54	-	100



THE NEW BENCHER SKYHAWK GOES UP AT K7LY

With A Special Thanks to Lyle, K7LQ; Carl, W7CRL; Reiner, KD5MBA



Carl....Showing Off!

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES AND HAMFESTS

- 5/2 Larry Warren Memorial Hamfest (Cochise ARA), 2756 Moson Rd, Sierra Vista, AZ
- 5/30 Annual Prescott Hamfest (Yavapai ARC/Verde Valley ARA), Granite Mountain Middle School, 1800 Williamson Valley Road, Prescott, AZ.
- 8/15-16 SW Division Convention (Santa Barbara ARC), Earl Warren Showgrounds, Santa Barbara, CA

(continued from page 1)

If some background noise such as the hiss that is commonly heard in an FM receiver is heard on the transmitter signal, then it would not be considered "FULL QUIETING". There are times when either station using a repeater may be getting into the repeater receiver with very little signal and the repeated signal will have lots of noise on it. Although the repeater signal may be full quieting when the weak station stops transmitting, the weak station can not be considered to be full quieting into the repeater so you would give the other station a report on his signal and not the repeater. Don't get confused with this. If his audio is perfectly understandable with 100 % copy and there is NO "noise" in the background other than the above, then an accurate report for him would be, "You're full quieting and 100 % copy into the repeater. Anything less than the above is usually given in various ways using an exact as possible description of his signal. "Audio" reports are a matter of interpretation by individual ears. We as hams are in the "business" of communications , not HI FI broadcast FM! We can only *sound* as good as the FCC will allow our transmitters to sound! If you are having extreme difficulty copying the other station, he may also be having the same problem with you, but remember he is hearing the repeater signal, not yours direct and so are you. Try to get him to go "simplex" if he is coming closer to you in a few minutes. See hint below. If the transmissions get so ruff that neither can copy the other, then just give your call sign and clear off the repeater for others to use while he gets closer or higher or changes his transmitting setup. Not all conversations are completed to the end under adverse conditions or operating situations....be patient.

HINT....If the station is in and out of range of the repeater you and he were using and is coming in your direction...try him on a simplex frequency! He may be loud and clear direct on simplex and only a few miles away and getting stronger all the time but he is getting farther from the repeater! Another situation that can happen during a new contact is that you and he did not exchange locations at the first of the contact. Both you and he are using a repeater 50 miles away. Then after several minutes you discover in your conversation with the other station that he is in the same town as you and only a couple of miles away! Time for simplex! Don't hog the repeater.

Simplex operation generally means station to station or direct communication on the same frequency between two stations and **not** using a repeater. Use the least amount of output power needed to carry on the contact. Simplex should be used when the two stations are close enough to carry on a conversation without the use of a repeater and will help in congested metro areas with a limited number of repeaters.

Simplex should always be used if possible rather than a repeater.

Signal Reports on a Repeater

Lots of new hams don't understand that the S meter on their radio is only reporting the relative strength of the repeater system and NOT the signal strength of the station they are talking to unless they are in the simplex mode. When the repeater is transmitting, it may have an output greatly exceeding that of the station IT is listening to. Remember the station it hears on the input frequency of it's receiver may be on a hand held radio and only a few blocks from the "machine" or it could be a mobile radio in a vehicle out on the fringes of the repeater coverage area or a base station running a high gain antenna and 100 watts from the next county or in some cases, the next state. To a third party, (another ham), listening to the machine on the repeater output, all of these stations would have the same S meter reading on his S meter! As long as the repeater can detect the signals and is working properly as it is setup, then all stations, (to the third ham), will "appear" to have the same signal strength on the S meter. (continued on page 5)

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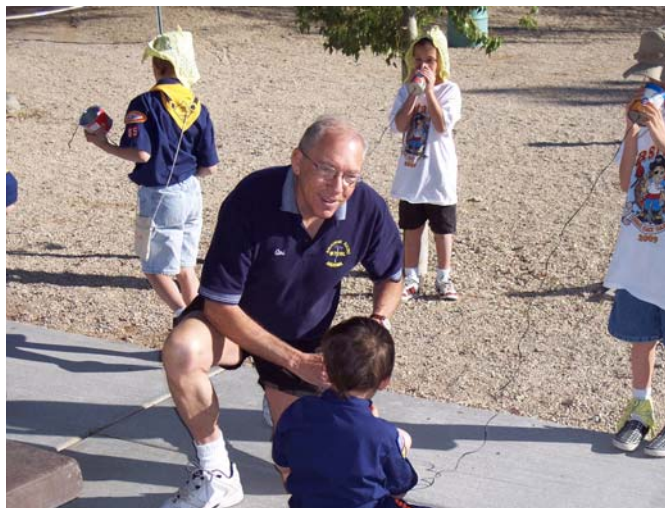
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(continued next month)

**LBARA INTRODUCES HAM RADIO
AT THE 2009 CUB SCOUT DAY CAMP**



**Gary, K9WZB, SHOWING CUBS HOW TO
MAKE A CAN & STRING TELEPHONE**



**CARL, W7CRL, HELPING WITH THE
TELEPHONES**



QRZ THE P4????



JERRY, K7LY, STRINGS THE 20M DIPOLE



**MAKING SOME
QSO'S ON 20M
(SPECIAL THANKS
TO LYLE, K7YQ,
FOR TAKING THE
PHOTOS)**



FOR SALE/TRADE

Your ad here.....with pictures if you like....contact the Static editor.

**GIANT AUCTION COMING IN NOVEMBER TO
OF 2009 TO BENEFIT THE LBARA. RIGS, ANTENNAS, MISC.
EQUIPMENT WILL BE SOLD TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER.**

MORE PUNNY HUMOR

"Doc, I can't stop singing 'The Green, Green Grass of Home.'" "That sounds like Tom Jones Syndrome." "Is it common?" Well, "It's Not Unusual."

I went to buy some camouflage trousers the other day but I couldn't find any.

A woman has twins and gives them up for adoption. One of them goes to a family in Egypt and is named "Ahmal." The other goes to a family in Spain; they name him "Juan." Years later, Juan sends a picture of himself to his birth mother. Upon receiving the picture, she tells her husband that she wishes she also had a picture of Ahmal. Her husband responds, "They're twins! If you've seen Juan, you've seen Ahmal."

Two fish swim into a concrete wall. The one turns to the other and says "Dam!".

What do you call a fish with no eyes? A fsh.

Deja Moo: The feeling that you've heard this bull before

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www.lbara.net

FROM THE EDITOR

If you have anything you would like to see included in these issues, please let me know. I'm always looking for articles, news items, construction articles, or anything that might be of interest to our readers. You can contact me at 928.855.7941 or email at grf@uneedspeed.net or francej@ajsinsurance.com.

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ATTENTION READERS

Please note that this issue represents a “work-in-progress” and there are a number of changes to be made in subsequent issues. I would greatly appreciate your comments, both good and bad, as well as any suggestions for future issues. This issue also begins our first attempt to deliver the **STATIC** to your doorstep electronically. Please keep me abreast of any email address changes you may have and I promise to have this delivered promptly and accurately. Also, I still have a number of articles awaiting publication and will do so in the future. This is your newsletter, so keep the articles, letters, and pictures coming. I can be reached at home (855.7941), at work (855.3081) or via email at grf@uneedspeed.net .

EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

EDITOR’S NOTE: List your items for sale here. Ham radio related only, please. Include a picture if you like (please use a jpg format). Email all to me at grf@uneedspeed.net along with your name and phone number.

