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ARRL Rocky Mountain Division update – August 2009
Division website: www.RockyMountainDivision.org
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===== July ARRL Board of Directors Meeting =====

The second and final ARRL Board of Directors meeting of 2009 took place over the weekend of July 17. A summary of topics discussed and decisions made is available at http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2009/07/24/10980/?nc=1. Minutes and committee reports are available for your review at http://www.arrl.org/announce/board.html.

===== Rocky Mountain Division HF Net =====

Our next monthly Rocky Mountain Division HF net will occur this week to disseminate information and give us a chance to meet you and your ideas in QSO. Please note the new frequency! Here are the details:

DATE: Wednesday, August 12
TIME: 7:30 PM MDT (see note below)
FREQ: 7240 kHz +/-

We hope you'll join us!

===== Rocky Mountain Division member survey…stay tuned =====

This fall/winter we intend to offer an online member survey to gather your thoughts on a variety of general and specific topics related to the Rocky Mountain Division and ARRL in general. We look forward to utilizing yet another avenue to solicit your feedback to help us represent you better.

The last member survey was offered in 2007 and was responded to by approximately 12% of the Division membership. If you'd like to review the results of the 2007 survey, please read the PDF document at http://www.rockymountaindivision.org/survey/survey_results.pdf

As for this year's survey, we'll keep you in the loop as to when it's been released and available for your input.

===== Club meeting program ideas (continued) =====

If your club is looking for additional program ideas to offer during meetings or other events, here are a few resources:

--- ARRL offers a collection of videos and presentations covering a variety of topics that your members may find enjoyable and educational. Visit http://www.arrl.org/FandES/ead/materials/videos.html

--- The Northern California DX Foundation, which has been a strong financial supporter of DXpeditions across the world offers nearly 150 presentations, mostly in DVD/VHS format, from past DXpeditions for loan to clubs willing to show them at their club meetings. Content from NCDXF's video library will give your members a glimpse of the logistics, adventure and fun of putting remote parts of the world on the airwaves.

===== Tech Tip of the Month: Go to MIT…for free! =====

The purpose of this Tech Tip section is to offer a platform for our ARRL members (that's you!) to offer concise technical advice and suggestions for all. Our aim is not to teach someone how to design a radio, but to offer brief hints and kinks for hams to learn from. If you have a Tech Tip you'd like to offer – any topic pertaining to ham radio is welcome – please send it in a few paragraphs to Vice-Director Dwayne Allen WY7FD (wy7fd@arrl.org) for consideration!

And now for this month's tech tip by Brian N5ZGT…

There is so much science, engineering and math-related information to learn in ham radio – theory about antennas, analog/digital/RF electronics and design, radio wave propagation, how solar cells and various battery chemistries work, and so much more. We have access to a number of sources to learn about these topics, such as the ARRL Handbook, the Antenna Book, and many non-ARRL sources of information.

Another great source of information that I've come across recently is course material from Massachussetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and, get this, it's absolutely free. MIT Open Courseware, as they call it, is a collection of presentations, lecture notes, and other information taken directly from 1,900 undergraduate and graduate courses offered at MIT ranging from electrical and computer engineering to business.

Visit http://ocw.mit.edu/OcwWeb/web/home/home/index.htm and learn more about what you're fascinated in or curious about!

===== Upcoming hamfests, tailgates & conventions =====

August 14-15	Duke City Hamfest (Albuquerque, NM)
August 16	Denver Radio Club Hamfest (Golden, CO)
August 28-30	Mountain ARC CampFest 2009 (Lake George, CO)
September 5	Alamogordo Hamfest (Alamogordo, NM)
September 27	Boulder ARC BARCFest (Longmont, CO)
October 3	Pecos Valley ARC Swapfest (Roswell, NM)
October 31	Socorro Amateur Radio Association Hamfest (Socorro, NM)
May 28-30	2010 Rocky Mountain Division Convention (Casper, WY)

Links to websites belonging to the above events are found on the Rocky Mountain Division site: www.RockyMountainDivision.org

If you're organizing a Hamfest, convention or tailgate, please consider having your event ARRL-sanctioned. Sanctioning details can be found at http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/hamfests/

===== Upcoming on-air activities =====

In addition to chewing the rag with fellow hams, here are some additional on-air activities which await you on the airwaves.

Upcoming special event stations: http://www.arrl.org/contests/spev.html
Upcoming contests: http://www.arrl.org/contests/calendar.html
Operating awards: http://www.arrl.org/awards/

===== Final note... =====

Please touch base with your Section Manager if he can be of assistance to you:

Jeff Ryan K0RM (Colorado): http://www.arrl.org/sections/?sect=CO
Don Wood W5FHA (New Mexico): http://www.arrl.org/sections/?sect=NM
Mel Parkes NM7P (Utah): http://www.arrl.org/sections/?sect=UT
Garth Crowe N7XKT (Wyoming): http://www.arrl.org/sections/?sect=WY

Vice Director Dwayne Allen and I continue to welcome your concerns, questions or ideas regarding ARRL policies. See you on the airwaves!

73,
Brian Mileshosky N5ZGT, Rocky Mountain Division Director
Dwayne Allen WY7FD, Rocky Mountain Division Vice-Director
Division website: www.RockyMountainDivision.org