



WATTS

09 - 2004
Year 74+9m

Monthly newsletter of the Pretoria Amateur Radio Club
Maandelikse nuusbrieff van die Pretoria Amateur Radio Klub.

✉ PARC, PO Box 73696 Lynnwood Ridge 0040, RSA

web <http://www.qsl.net/zs6pta>

ZR6FD bilingual | tweetalige logo!

drukwerk papier / paper
printing ZR6FD
ZS6BAQ

✳️ Bulletins : 145,725MHz 08:45 Sundays / Sondag
Relays : 1840, 3700, 7066, 10135, 14,200 MHz
depending on season
Swapshop: After bulletin 2m and 40m (also on-line)

Management team / Bestuurspan Aug 2004- Aug 2005:

Back: Willie ZR6WGR, Almero ZR6RY, Sander ZR6SW, Richard ZR6CK, Johan ZR6JHB. Front L: Hans ZS6KR; Front R: Tjerk ZS6P
The man in the middle: Graham ZS6GJH Guest of Honour at our AGM



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in hierdie uitgawe

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- Voorsittersverslag
- Ledenuus
- Dagboek
- Brokkies
- Algemeen / Tegnies

Next Meeting

Date: 09-09-2004
Time: 19:30 for 20:00
PARC Clubhouse,
South Campus,
University of Pretoria.
SE cnr University and
Lynnwood roads.

PARC AGM and Guest-of-Honour speech.

Our AGM again went off smoothly and was quickly dealt with as no motions were submitted.

Graham Hartlett was our guest speaker and informed us of the latest developments wrt Amateur Radio in South Africa and the plans of the Department of Communications (DoC) to promote the hobby under all population groups. Within the Department 16 members will be also be trained for the RAE. Several community radio (science) centres are to be established countrywide and Amateur Radio will have 40 m² free of charge in JHB to promote itself as a way to a technical career. The target is to train 500 new amateurs. Millions of rands are apparently involved in this project. The new Regulations are waiting for Minister-approval and the SARL is supported by ICASA as being the only body representative of the majority of amateurs. The adage Unity is Strength is now more

important than ever and SARL membership the only way to exert a say and influence – and to protect our privileges against the latest danger such as frequency-grabbing and PLC which are purely driven by money. In fact, if PLC is bulldozed in, there will be enough QRM to also make the DoC effort a waste of money.

Graham indicated that the SARL is now financially sound and that everything is properly under control. Yet amateurs are still slow to join and this is worrisome for them, as amateurs do not seem to realize that is the only available insurance policy to the hobby's preservation.



The PARC Chairman's report (published separately here) reflected a steady status over the past year but also lamented over the problems of sluggish dynamics. Highlights were the efforts and achievements of some individual members. Seven members were elected to steer the Club through its 75th year of existence and portfolios as set out on page 1 of this issue were allotted during a subsequent committee meeting.

Well deserved Awards were handed out as follows:

ZS6BLY Trophy – Best technical lecture / talk – ZS6OB

Sonny Don Trophy – For assisting others – ZS6WB

Ham Spirit Trophy – As per description – ZR6ANF

Roy Alexander Trophy – Top Rally Support – ZR6CK

Hansie Meyer trophy – For participation – ZR6WGR

Piet Roos trophy – Best WATTS contribution – ZS6KR

ZSL Trophy – Most progressed ZS Listener – Helene, daughter of Roy ZS6XN.

Merits: Certificates for outstanding service - ZS6BRC, ZS6KO, ZS6XN, ZR6PJH, ZR6CK, ZR6HVG, ZR6WGR and ZR6MVK

Honorary membership: ZS6ANU, ZS2CWP



PARK AJV en Gasspreker Rede.

Ons AJV het weereens glad verloop en was gou afgehandel aangesien geen mosies ingedien was nie.. Graham Hartlett was ons gasspreker en het ons ingelig oor die nuutste verwickelinge mbt Amateur Radio in Suid Afrika en planne wat die Departement van Kommunikasie (DoK) het om die stokperdjie te bevorder onder alle bevolkingsgroepe. Binne in die Departement sal 16 lede ook opgelei word vir die RAE. Nege Wetenskapssentrums gaan landswyd gestig word en Amateur Radio kry 40m² gratis om himself te bevorder as 'n pad na 'n tegniese loopbaan. Die teiken is om 500 nuwe amateurs op te lei. Miljoene rande is skynbaar by hierdie projek betrokke. Die nuwe Regulasies wag vir Minister-goedkeuring en die SARL word ondersteun deur OKOSA as synde verteenwoordigend van die oorgrote meerderheid amateurs. Die leuse van Eendrag Maak Mag is nou meer belangrik as ooit en SARL lidmaatskap die enigste manier om inspraak en invloed te kan uitoefen - en om ons voorregte te kan beskerm teen die nuutste gevaar soos frekwensie-stelery en kraglyn-kommunikasie wat suiwer deur geld gedryf word. In feite, as KLIK deurgedruk word, dan sal daar genoeg QRM oorals wees om die huidige poging van die DoK ook 'n vermorsing van geld te maak.

Graham het aangedui dat die SARL nou finansiële weer bo is en dat alles ordentlik onder beheer is. Amateurs is egter nog steeds traag om aan te sluit en dit is vir hulle kommerwekkend, want die amateurs beseft skynbaar nie dat dit hulle enigste assuransiëpolis is vir die stokperdjie se behoud.

Over the past FY the Pretoria Amateur Radio Club has retained a fairly constant support from a paid-up membership of 124 of which 16 were spouses, dependants and honorary members. It is somewhat disappointing to note that a total of 21 persons did not renew membership during 2003-2004. We did however gain some 17 new members. We say thank you to those new members who have voluntarily come forward to support our Club and Amateur Radio. It is my wish that we can again grow to a peak of 225 that was reached in middle 90's. Apart from those who have relocated, it is actually worrisome that so many may have lost interest in supporting a Club and I wonder in what vacuum they are floating.

Oor die afgelope FJ het die Pretoria Amateur Radio Klub 'n taamlik bestendige ondersteuning geniet van 124 lede waarvan 16 gades, afhanklikes en erelede was. Ons sê dankie aan die nuwe lede wat uit vrye keuse ons Klub en Amateur Radio het kom ondersteun. Dit is my wens dat ons weer kan groei na 'n hoogtepunt soos in die middel 90's waar soveel as 225 lede ingeteken was. Buiten die wat verhuis het, is dit eintlik kommerwekkend dat so baie belangstelling verloor het om 'n Klub te ondersteun en ek wonder in watter vakuum hulle nou is. Ook kommerwekkend is dat maar min lede pro-aktief in Klubaangeleenthede is. Ek verwys spesiaal na mense met ondervinding en kundighede om die Klub effektief te help bestuur en onderhou. Dis maklik om te kreun en steun van die kantlyn af en die Komitee af te kraak. Ons is egter baie dankbaar aan diegene wat oor die afgelope jaar vorentoe gekom het en bydraes gelewer het in terme van fisiese werk en waarskynlik ook persoonlike onkoste.

Also worrisome is that very few members are pro-active in Club affairs. I am especially referring to our people with experience and skills to effectively help manage and maintain the club. It is easy to moan and groan from the sidelines and run down the Committee. We are however very thankful to those few that have come forward over the past year and made a contribution in terms of physical work and probably personal expense.

Similarly I would like to comment on the lack of interest in contesting during the past year. Contesting for your Club is a strong binding factor and about the only Amateur activity that creates unity of purpose, pride in your Club and pride in your own skills, equipment and achievements. Sports clubs thrive on exactly that. Look at our Club's motorsport interest group – there was no lack of volunteers in that department. Make time for some of the local contests – understand the rules and make the effort.

Die gemiddelde bywoning van maandelikse vergaderings het nie veel verander nie en belangstelling het dus gemiddeld gebly. Die Komitee het hulle bes probeer om interessante aanbiedings te reël. Ons dank die mense wat gewillig was om aanbiedings doen, en hulle voorbereidings, tyd, en selfs uitgawes het ongelukkig nie altyd heeltemal die nodige respek gekry nie.

The average attendance of monthly meetings has not changed much and interest was thus average. The Committee tries its best to arrange interesting presentations. We thank these people who were prepared to make presentations, and their preparations, time and even expenses were unfortunately not always given the necessary respect.

1. Rallies / Motor Sport: Tot dusver (Sept 2003-Aug 2004) is daar op 3 nasionale en 8 streekstydrenne kommunikasie verskaf deur ons lede en ook die van die Magalies Radio Amateur Klub en Sandton Amateur Radio Klub. Die primêre taak by tydrenne is om 'n goeie kommunikasiestelsel daar te stel sodat Tydren Beheer die verlangde tye van die deelnemers, en kontak met mobiele- en veldstasies kan handhaaf. Waar moontlik word daar gebruik gemaak van die plaaslike herhaler en alternatiewelik, word die klub se mobiele 2m herhaler en/of HF gebruik waar 'n plaaslike herhaler nie beskikbaar is nie. Die Pretoria Amateur Radio Klub is altyd bo aan die lys as hierdie dienste benodig word.

However, it is not only on rallies that our members are doing an excellent job. We also acted as back-up for the KMA at Kyalami on 3 regional and 4 national events during the year. Our members involved in motor sport are too numerous to mention but we extend our profuse thanks for their dedication to practical amateur radio and keeping our Club's reputation high.

2. Vlooiemarkte – Die afgelope jaar was daar 3 Mega-Vlooiemarkte en Pretoria het sekerlik die vlooiemark-sentrum van ons land geword. Misskien is die meeste vlooië in Pretoria en omgewing. Amateurs kom van heinde-en-ver kuier. Baie dankie aan die organiseerders Alméro ZR6RY, Willie ZR6WGR, Richard ZR6CK, Molly ZR6MOL en Magda ZS6MVW vir die drink- en eetgoed.

3. Awards and certificates were from outside the Club were again plentiful and well deserved:

ZS6PTA : PARC came 2nd in the SARL 2003 HF Field Day.

PARC came 1st on aggregate of the CW and SSB legs in the SARL HF contest, netting us the Club Participation Trophy for the 7th time in succession. Which club can beat that?

ZS6WB : PEARS VHF/UHF January contest – 1st in digital modes
(Also longest distances on 6m, 2m and 70cm)

ZS6KR : 2nd place cert. in each of SARL HF CW and SSB contests
Best aggregate in SARL HF contest.

4. Ons nuusbrief WATTS word tans deur my versorg en die elektroniese verspreiding is 'n groot sukses. Ons druk nou slegs 50 op papier en word gratis deur Paul ZS6BAQ behartig. Richard ZR6CK sorg nou vir die verspreiding. Buiten dit stuur ons ook elektronies aan 42 klubs en die Staatsbiblioteek.

Ook 'n groot dankie aan lede wat papier geskenk het – wie kan nog help. Dankie aan Peter ZR6FD wat ons logo na tweetalig verander het. Graag wil ek weer vra dat ek veral Afrikaanse bydraes kan kry, hoe klein ook al, vir publikasie.

Our newsletter WATTS is currently handled by myself and the electronic distribution is a great success. Only 50 paper copies need be made and Paul ZS6BAQ is doing our printing free of charge. Besides that, we also send to some 40 clubs and the State Library. Also a big thank you to members who have donated paper – keep it up! Thanks to Peter ZR6FD our logo is now altered to be bilingual.

5. Our website is now maintained by Sander ZR6SW and constantly attracts visitors. The on-line swap-shop is popular and the valve and crystals stock lists have assisted various local and overseas hams. Our website makes a good impression and serves as an excellent public relations tool for the Club and Amateur Radio.

6. Image building and exposure is always a difficult one, especially without spending on splashes. The next Management Team will have to make a special effort to bring our 75th Jubilee to the masses in January next year by publications of our history and current activities in the media.

7. RAE klasse by ons klubhuis het hierdie jaar nie plaasgevind nie. Ons fasiliteite word egter wel gebruik vir eksamens waar Richard en Alméro dien as toesighouers. Werwing in Amateur Radio het oorals ernstige aandag nodig en dit is ook ons plig om nuwe mense aan te moedig om kandidate te word.

8. I would again like to thank some perpetual stalwarts who for many years have performed specialized functions. Firstly Richard ZR6CK for the creation and maintenance of our database software, printing WATTS labels, distributing the hardcopies and managing the clubhouse. Then Molly ZR6MOL and recently also Vlasta, SW of Ivan for providing and helping with refreshments and cleaning up afterwards. Secondly Richard and Bill for organizing DF hunting activities in summer.

9. Aan die sosiale kant was Willie ZR6WGR verantwoordelik vir die PMC-byeenkoms – en nie te vergeet nie het Tjerk ZS6P en sy LV Sylvia tradisioneel seker 'n dosyn van ons lede laas November verwelkom om by hulle QTH te kom braai. Also to Bill and Mary a special thanks for their hospitality after fox-hunts.

10. Ons 2m herhaler is deurentyd deur Willie ZS6AEA onderhou en ook het Hans ZS6HVG tyd opgeoffer vir die partykeer ondankbare werk. Willie stel nog steeds 'n 70cm herhaler kosteloos aan ons beskikbaar op sy eie fasiliteit. Dan ook 'n woord van dank aan hulle wat aandag gegee het aan die 2m toring se onderhoud. Andre ZS6BRC, Hans ZR6HVG, Pine ZS6OB, Almero ZR6RY en Dawid ZS6DSG het almal bygedra of deel geneem aan die aktiwiteite.

11. Every Sunday our repeater hosts the SARL HQ bulletins which we also relay to 40m and recently to 30m on alternative weekends by Jean ZS6ARA. These HF relays are again picked up by several far away stations for re-transmission. Club bulletins are also relayed on 30, and 80m. A new development is an Echolink relay by Chris ZS6FCS into which anyone in the country can plug in via a PC. A big thank you to all these members who voluntarily provide these services.

12. Another exiting development has been the establishment of an IRLP link on our 438,825MHz repeater thanks to the efforts of Johan ZR6ANF who is solely responsible for its operation. This not being enough, he also put APRS into operation on 144,800MHz as well as commissioning an experimental 10m repeater. We appeal to all members to make use of these facilities and get used to marrying your PC and radio to open a new world.

Finally, looking ahead, I wish to repeat what I said last year in closing. In the future I can see issues such as the rapidly changing technology scene and the application of these technologies by members to be the major survival mechanism of Amateur Radio in general. In future it may be the only glue to bind people to a Club or at least form new kinds of interest groups.

The pending relaxation of requirements to obtain entry to the HF bands can be a factor to stimulate interest but I doubt that it will swell the amateur ranks with the very young. In my mind more souls can be drawn from established economically active groups who are looking for something to do in their spare time and who can imagine and appreciate the actual scope of Amateur Radio as a hobby and community service tool.

As Club Chairman, I must thank our Vice Chairman Almero ZR6RY, Secretary Johan ZR6JHB, Treasurer Richard ZR6CK, and Willie ZR6WGR for Social and Facility management. These people had to carry not only the functions mentioned but various other burdens as well. Not to forget the 8 co-opted members Egbert ZS6AZG, JB ZR6YV, Sander ZR6SW, Brian ZR6BJS, Bill ZS6KO, Johan ZR6ANF, Hans ZR6HVG, and Willie ZS6AEA who have smoothed our path over the last year.

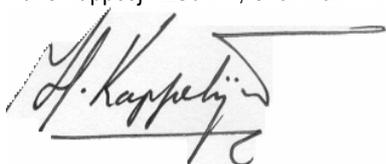
Egbert ZS6AZG is our auditor and he again deserves special thanks for making the figures fit.

He will soon have his own word in these proceedings.

Furthermore one of the last tasks of the outgoing committee was to allocate awards and certificates to deserving members. These will shortly be handed out.

Our Club has certainly maintained its reputation over the past year and I wish the incoming Committee and Chairman another successful year ahead.

Hans Kappeltijn ZS6KR , Chairman PARC 8/2003-12/2004



Birthdays Verjaarsdae

September



02 Charl ZR6GN
02 Lizette ZR6LZT, dogter van Magda ZS6MVW
05 Bernie ZS6ANU
05 Jess ZS6JES
09 Hester, lv van Willie ZS6AEA
11 Johan ZR6ANF
15 Pamela, sw of Harry ZS6HRD
21 Johan ZR6JHB
24 Estie ZR6STB
25 Claire, daughter of Robert ZS6ARC
25 Susan, lv van Freddie ZS6JC
27 Lodewyk, seun van Johan ZR6ANF en Elmarie ZR6AXF

September Anniversaries Herdenkings

02 Lily and Harry ZS6AMP
04 Martha Louisa en Attie ZS6REY
09 Adele en Hans ZR6HVG
27 Miemie en Hennie ZR6HEN
28 Retha and Roy ZS6XN

26 Pieter ZS6KSA
26 Lucilia, sw of Carlos ZS6AJW
29 Roy ZS6HH
29 Charlize, dogter van Dawid ZS6DSG

Nuwe Lede Welkom aan Corrie Snyman ZR6XXX en Kallie Swanepoel ZS6KCS

Condolences To Ken ZS6NB and family with the passing of his sw Mariet ZR6NR in late July.

Sick Parade

Selwyn ZS6SEL had his thyroid removed.



Krukkelys

PARC Diary | Dagboek

Aug 29 SARL President's Net
29 **Second leg SARL HF (CW) Contest**
Sept 04 Boot sale at West Rand 12:00
04 TMCC Tydren
04-05 IARU Region 1 SSB Field Day
05 DARC 10m Digital Contest
09 **PARC Club meeting**
10 Closing date for October RAE
11-12 WAE DX SSB Contest
18-19 **Second leg of SARL VHF/UHF Contest**
22 Schools close
26 SARL President's Net
30 SARL subscriptions final payment date
Oct 02 Boot sale at East Rand Radio Club
02 PMC All-Tar Rally (Regional)
03 RSGB 21/28MHz Phone Contest
04 Schools open
07 **Second leg SARL 80m QSO Party**

Forgot? Please pay your membership fees
Vergeet? Betaal asb u ledegeld. R50

Nuwe lede vanaf 1 April is opbetaal vir 2005
New members from 1 April are paid up for 2005

FNB Account | Rek : 546 000 426 73
FNB Branch | Tak : Lynnwood 25 20 45

or direct to any committee member.
of direk aan enige komiteelid.

Snippets | Brokkies

- **10m repeater operational:** As reported on HQ Bulletin of 1 Aug, the first 10m repeater in Africa has been built and commissioned by Johan ZR6ANF using various equipment adapted for this purpose. Some fine tuning and debugging will still take place over the coming months. The input frequency is 29,590MHz and the output on 29,690MHz. Separation of the two is a physical 5km. A UHF link may also be monitored and talked into on 439,300MHz after the new amateur regulations have kicked in. Currently this is blocked by DCS. Two commercial vertical antennas were donated by RFI in Centurion thanks to mediation by Jean ZS6ARA. We are indebted to Johan as the effort and hardware procurement was on his own initiative and provided free of charge. Several local and overseas stations have had wind of it and inaugurated the repeater with success.

- ZS6ARA in Centurion as well as ZR6ANF in Weavind Park are experiencing interference on the 10m repeater output due to several baby alarms that are almost constantly on 29,685 MHz FM – ICASA is now also attending to the matter. Please listen out around Pretoria so we can pinpoint all of them and stop the import and use of these devices.
- ZS6KR is experiencing heavy digital QRM all over the lower part of the 15m band and strongest NNW of his QRA. This was reported to plc@sarl.org.za as it could be PLC.
- The 145,6125MHz Germiston repeater (2,5kHz deviation) repeater is now uplinked to the Sasolburg 70cm and then simultaneously out on 145,625MHz to Warden and 145,6625MHz in Kroonstad. To activate the link, use a 88,5Hz tone on 145,6125Mhz.
- A complete link diagram of the Freestate Repeater System and interlinking can be requested from zs4kb@absamail.co.za
- Interested in inter-club activity or finding like minds? Sheldon from the Highway RC in Durban invites you to www.cqdx.co.za which is a free web service for all operators world-wide to list your station and preferred modes etc.
- Solly ZS6SV het die eer gehad om 'n Boeing saluut te ontvang. Die hardware in die foto staan nou bekend as Boeing-tennas.
- Interested in Internet Gateways? Ian Abel G3ZJI has made his article on this subject available on his website: www.qsl.net/g3zji/Gateways.pdf He is also available on echolink 153126 and IRLP 5708.
- VHF/UHF/SHF equipment- and antenna constructors and serious experimenters will find a wealth of projects on www.mrs.bt.co.uk/dubus/



The 7th (consecutive) SARL HF Contest Club Participation Award was handed to the Chairman Hans ZS6KR at the PARC AGM on 12 August by the SARL President, Graham Hartlett ZS6GJH who was the Guest of Honour. The plaques range from 1996-2003. This certainly was a proud moment for our club thanks to our loyal contesters ZS6KO, ZS6KR, ZS6EGB, ZS6P, ZS6UT, ZS6CS, ZS6SDZ, ZS6WB, ZS(6)2CWP, ZS6DX, ZS6AKX, ZS6MF, ZS6ZB who over the years gave support in the SSB or CW legs or both

Another over-the-horizon radar – A new HF QRM generator.

France has commissioned a trans-horizon radar that is apparently superior to, and cheaper than past terrestrial systems.

The Nostradamus radar system is a set of 288 bi-cone antenna elements distributed over the arms of a three-branch star, with a buried infrastructure to shelter the transmission and reception electronics.

Nostradamus detects any aircraft flying 700 to 2000 kilometers away. Indeed, this new radar concept is based on very-low-frequency waves (6 to 30 MHz) that bounce off the ionosphere, which allows it to detect targets beyond the horizon.

Whereas transhorizon radars usually require huge linear antenna networks to beam the signals, the special surface distribution of Nostradamus makes it possible to control the electronic beams both in azimuth (360°) and elevation.



ECHOLINK[®] VIR DIE GEWONE MENS

Deur: Chris Smit ZS6FCS

Deel 1

Die woord **Echolink[®]** is deesdae op almal se lippe. Jy hoor dikwels op een of ander herhaler 'n rekenaar stem wat 'n baie vreemde roepsien aankondig, selfs iemand met 'n swaar aksent wat vanaf 'n ander deel van die wêreld CQ roep en dit alles op 'n 2m herhaler! Twee vrae kom na vore nl.

- 1) Wat is "Echolink[®]"
- 2) Hoe gebeur al hierdie vreemde verskynsels?"

Echolink[®] is 'n rekenaarprogram wat deur Jonathan Taylor, K1RFD geskryf en ontwikkel is en onder die geregistreerde handelsnaam van **Synergenics** slegs aan gelisensieerde radioamateurs via die internet versprei word.

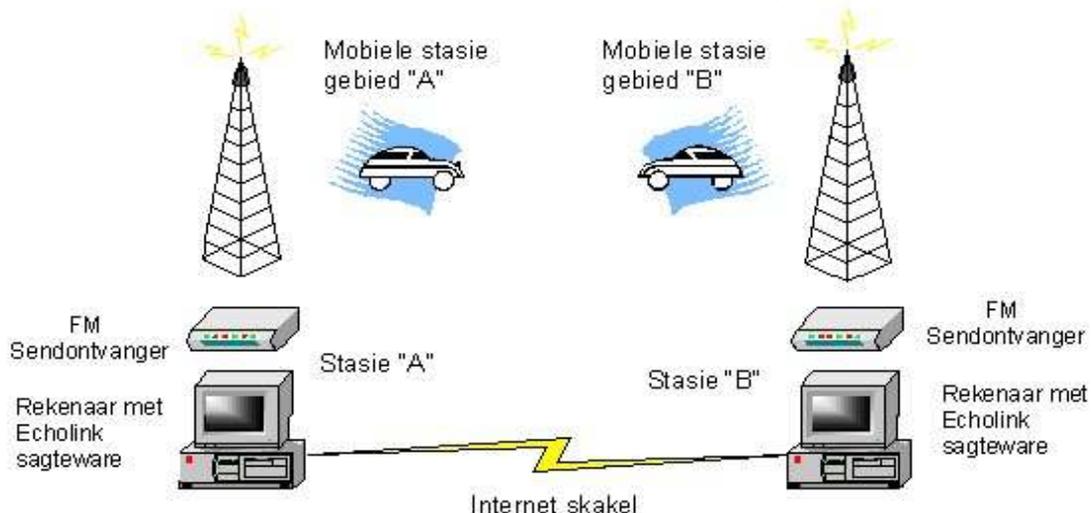
Die program kan gratis vanaf die Echolink[®] webwerf by www.echolink.org afgelaai en op u rekenaar geïnstalleer word. Daar is egter een haakplek! Die program vra by installering u roepsein. Hierdie roepsein word dan deur die verspreider nagegaan vir die geldigheid daarvan. Verskeie lande se roepsein rekords word nagegaan. As u **ledegeld** by die SARL betaal is, en u naam verskyn op die rekords word die program dadelik geaktiveer. Hierdie proses kan enige iets van 3 tot 5 dae neem en bevestiging geskied d.m.v 'n e-pos van die maatskappy. Sorg dus dat u lidmaatskapsgeld betaal is, anders mag u dalk nooit die nuwe modus geniet nie!

Wanneer die program in werking tree, kontak die program outomaties al die hoofraam rekenaars wêreldwyd. Die program stel outomaties 'n lys saam van al die stasies wat op daardie tydstip aan die Echolink[®] stelsel gekoppel is. Dit kan wissel van gemiddeld 1 800 tot 2 800 stasies. Hierdie lys word outomaties elke 2 minute opgedateer. Onthou, u **moet** heeltyd op die Internet gekoppel wees, aangesien die spraak oor die Internet plaasvind deur middel van VOiP (Voice over Internet Protocol)

Daar word aan elke goedgekeurde stasie 'n unieke node nommer toegeken wat altyd dieselfde bly. Dus, as u gereeld met 'n ander stasie wil kontak maak, vra sy node nommer en skakel daardie nommer vanaf 'n DTMF sleutelbord of mikrofoon.

Voorbeeld van 'n koppeling

(Skets met erkenning aan Echolink[®])



Nou kan een van twee scenarios plaasvind.

Eerstens kan u 'n gewone mikrofoon met oorfone by die rekenaar se sokke inprop. Kies 'n stasie vir 'n QSO en deur die spasiebalk te druk begin u praat. Let wel, die spasiebalk dien dieselfde funksie as die druk-om-te praat knoppie op die mikrofoon. Wie wil nou heeldag voor 'n rekenaar sit en praat, daar is mos telefone! Kom ons maak dit dan meer interessant!

Die bostaande diagram toon die tweede scenario. Dit is waar 'n sendontvanger aan die rekenaar gekoppel word met 'n baie eenvoudige koppelvlak. Die inkomende sein word na 'n plaaslike herhaler herlei, en daarna kan almal in die ontvangsgebied van die herhaler "Echolink[®]" gebruik. Dus, met 'n kombinasie van radio, rekenaar en die internet ontstaan daar 'n heel nuwe modus (wat nog nie 'n formele naam het nie).

Die program laat toe vir oneindig verskillende verstellings en kan dan optimaal ingestel word vir die beste kombinasie en werking van al die koppelvlakke.

Deur na die herhaler te luister, sal 'n stasie wat aansluit se roepsein in 'n hard en duidelike rekenaarstem deur die plaaslike rekenaar aangekondig word. Wanneer die persoon aan die anderkant begin praat, is dit dikwels baie sag as gevolg van 'n swak mikrofoon of swak instellings vanaf sy kant. Soms is 'n gesprek gebroke. Dit is die gevolg van of 'n stadige modem of baie verkeer op die internet op daardie tydstip en weinig kan daaraan gedoen word.

Wanneer 'n persoon aan die ander kant moeite gedoen het om sy/haar stelsel behoorlik in te stel, asook goeie toerusting gebruik, is dit moeilik om te glo dat daardie persoon letterlik duisende kilometers van ons af is.

Terloops, daar is baie gewese Suid-Afrikaanse radio amateurs in die buiteland wat graag met ons wil gesels; soms om Afrikaans te hoor, of om sommer net die verlange na ons sonskyn land met ons te deel. Laat hulle inkom deur 'n gesprek. Hulle opregte waardering word getoon. Daar is ander besoekers wat ook belangstel in ons stokperdjie se doen en late en wil graag meer uitvind. Verwelkom en akkomodeer hulle.

ONTHOU! DIE 2M REËL: 2 MINUTE GESPREK, 2 SEKONDE BREEK.

Dit gee almal 'n kans om deel te neem aan die QSO.

In my stasie gebruik ek die volgende toerusting:

- Pentium 4 rekenaar 2,43GHz
- 632 MB RAM
- Ingeboude klankkaart
- Bedryfstelsel :Windows XP (Die program werk ook met Windows 98 & 2000)
- Sentech Mywireless 128kb USB modem (24/7 voordeel- altyd op internet)
- Koppelvlak (Sien diagram)
- Yaesu FT 1500 (10 watt uitset)

Kortliks, is dit hoe Echolink[®] werk, en wat dit kan doen. Indien u meer wil weet, kontak Chris ZS6FCS te Pretoria:

(H)012-3331826 (S) 082-4641007 e-pos zs6fcs@telkomsa.net,

Ek sal met graagte van hulp wees!

Volgende maand in deel 2 bespreek ek die verskillende opsies en instellings van die program.

