

QENC



2nd Edition

Gympie Communications and Electronics Group Inc.

November 2008

Next Meeting for the Group is 4th December 2008

Meeting place: The rear of Leading Edge
(parking is provided) in Reef Street Gympie.
Time: 19:00 hrs first Thursday of each
month.

Gympie Group Web Page

www.gcegin.org.au

Club Contact Address

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Office Bearers:

President Bob Dixon VK4MR

president@gcegin.org.au

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THE RADIO AMATEUR'S CODE

The Radio Amateur is

Considerate... He never knowingly operates in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

Loyal... He offers loyalty encouragement and support to other amateurs, local clubs, the IARU Radio Society in his country, through which Amateur Radio in his country is represented nationally and internationally.

Progressive... He keeps his station up to date. It is well built and efficient, his **operating practice** is beyond reproach.

Friendly... He operates slowly and patiently when requested; offers friendly advice and counsel to the beginner; kind assistance, cooperation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the marks of the amateur spirit.

Balanced... Radio is a hobby, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.

Patriotic... His station and skills are always ready for service to the country and community.

— — adapted from the original Amateur's Code, written by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA, in 1928.

<http://www.iaru.org/Eth-operating-EN-iaru-SITE-1july2008.pdf>

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- 2 Presidents Luncheon
- 3 President's Report
- 4 SSTV Presentation , New Potential Foundation Call
- 5 DX News
- 6 Christmas Get Together, Recipe – More **P7 & 8**

Presidents Luncheon

Publicity Officer's Report (Geoff VK4ZPP)

The sky around the Gympie area was grey and threatening to release rain when the Committee of GCEG gathered at the president's QTH. The day after the Gold Coast Hamfest, amateurs from around the south east corner of Queensland travelled to Brisbane for the President's Lunch, held at the Geebung-Zillmere RSL. This is the primary annual event for the Queensland Advisory Committee, QAC, and the WIA to report and liaise directly with the affiliated clubs in VK4.

This year, Michael Owen, VK3KI, WIA President gave a presentation which expanded on his comments published in "Amateur Radio", November 2008. Also covered was a private briefing on the implications of the negotiations between the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) and WIA in devolving the management of the licensing management to the WIA.

It appears consistent with trends in other countries that stable AR societies maintain a relatively low overall membership level in comparison to the total licensed amateurs. The concerns are that the low membership base imposes greater demands on the staff, budgeting and maintenance of services to members and in areas which support the whole amateur community, it effectively means that the minority are subsidising the majority.

From the tenor of questions from the delegates there is a concern that clubs are also experiencing problems in recruiting and from their membership, encouraging membership of the Institute. It seems recognised that the economic climate and the confusion that surrounds the personal finances are going to affect the ability to recruit and maintain membership of clubs and the Institute in the future.

The WIA is looking to clubs for constructive ideas as to what ways it can support the clubs in building the AR image in their local areas.

GCEG President, Bob, VK4MR raised the question of how do we amateurs recruit the non-involved 70% into the WIA. VK3KI acknowledges that there are many issues such as the legacy of memories that many people have to the previous WIA operations before the Federal restructure.

This is probably the most important area for amateurs to consider. How do we support the hobby and the infrastructure that is necessary as a regulated, licenced and global hobby? How do we as individuals and members of GCEG and the peak body to whom the Government directs itself for advice on the hobby, the WIA, ensures that as many people are actively involved in the processes that ensure our hobby continues to grow?

A lot of what is done at the Institute level is almost invisible to the general AR enthusiast. However, as it is fresh in the minds of GCEG members, there is a lot of spade work in forming a club, and then we need to consider the importance of the national and international importance of the WIA in sustaining our bands and operating rights. This has to be counter balanced by the services that make our own lives easier, such as having a hobby magazine, maintaining QSL services, etc.

(Photograph of GCEG and MERG representatives supplied by Greg VK4FGDW)



Presidents Report

The Gympie Regional Council meeting of the Local Disaster Management committee, which also encompasses the Community Support Plan attached to that plan held its meeting on the 10th of November in Gympie. I attended this meeting at the request of Cr Julie Walker and EMQ. The meeting was attended by all of the primary community support organisations, welfare groups and other volunteer agencies along with a representative from EMQ Jenny Millers.

This was the first time I had sat on this committee and whilst I was initially a little unsure just what might be required of either me or more importantly to our group I did feel we could in time make a sound contribution. Having that in my mind I also knew that as has been the case with other radio groups in a disaster Amateur Radio has always played a part so I felt we had the potential credentials to offer our advice and assistance.

Jenny Millers was very familiar with WIA and in particular the Sunshine Coast Radio Club and its involvement in WICEN and the links to SES. I assured the committee that we as a group would be working towards forming a group that would as quickly as possible be moving towards putting our group in a firm position to assist when required. I did stress that we were a very newly formed group and as such, until we were better organised and had found a suitable home, we were not in a strong position to commit to more than limited assistance.

Following the meeting I did have a brief chat with Julie Walker where I raised the matter of our submission to council for assistance in finding a suitable home for our group. I am pleased to say Julie was very supportive and suggested that I address members of the council and explain clearly who we are and what is needed for us to progress. I did feel strongly that Julie appreciated that we were a valuable asset to have and would offer sound support and benefit to the council and the community as a whole.

As a consequence of Julie's advice I have made an approach to council to attend their next Finance meeting due to be held at the end of this month where I hope I can better explain our needs and what benefits we can offer council in return for their consideration.

Overall I believe having a chair on such a committee will ultimately raise our profile in the community and give members of our group, other than those who in their day to day jobs are already involved with emergency or community services, to be involved in putting their radio skills to use on behalf of the wider community.

SSTV



GCEG thank Eric VK4AES for his most informative and interesting presentation of Easypal. Having two computers at opposite ends of the meeting room, meant that we were able to see how the various pictures and text were transmitted from one to the other. The error correction facility of the programme was easily demonstrated, and at least two of our foundation calls are now anxious to upgrade their calls in order to use this wonderful programme via RF.

(Photograph supplied by Greg VK4FGDW)

For all your electronic needs

Contact Paul Medway VK4YPM or one of his helpful staff.

The members of GCEG are very grateful to Paul for giving us a meeting place whilst we pursue our search for a home. We are pleased to have Paul as valuable member of our group.



Contact Number: 07 5483 6677

Congratulations

A new potential Foundation Licensee is born!!



Welcome to Corbin Richmond Ryan

Date of Birth 6th November 2008 at 10pm.

Jason VK4MIH sent an update today informing us that mother, son and little Mackenzie are doing well. Corbin weighed in at 9lb 5 oz and is 54 cm long. Welcome into the world little one. All our good wishes to the Ryan family!

(Photograph supplied by Greg VK4FGDW)

Jason aka "The Phantom" sends this message "First of all thank you for all for your best wishes. Things have been very busy with work so have not had much play time for the radio side of things". He also goes on to say "So I say 73's to all and catch you on the air, now don't laugh I do get there some of the time".

Cheer's from
Jason, Nicki, Mackenzie, and Corbin

DX NEWS

Turkey:

TC85TC will be on the air until 2nd December to celebrate the 85th Anniversary of the Republic of Turkey. Activity will be mainly on 17, 20 and 40m bands. QSL manager is TA1HZ.

Information provided by RSBG
<http://www.rsgb.org/news/>

Larc, Livonia Amateur Radio Club (callsign is K8UNS)

The last weekend in June each year sees clubs across America participate in an Annual Field Day sponsored by ARRL. Points are earned for each contact, however, the prime function of this field day, is to demonstrate to the general public "Emergency Communications" using generators only for power. Larc are fortunate, as their communication room is located at the Lavonia Michigan Fire Department, and they have full use of the training tower for their antennas. The supplied picture shows the tower they are able to use, and for the field day they were able to hang dipoles from the top of the tower, some 5 stories high, down to tents where the station was located. KD8DXK, Tas supplied the information & picture.



Would you like a QSL card like the one pictured above? Here is how you can get one:

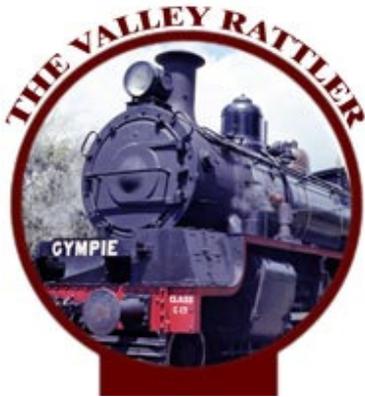
TM8TEG - QSL via F5MDF and the operating schedule for us will be every weekday morning Mon-Fri from 07.00 - 09.00 utc on 40M SSB. Dates are commencing Monday the 17th November - 28th November missing out the 20th.

This is to commemorate the Bicentenary of the Region Tarn-et-Garonne which is French Dept. 82 for those that collect them, especially as activity is very low in the Region due to the lack of Amateurs.

Sorry I can't confirm a frequency, but that is always like trying to win the lottery!!! Courtesy of Tony F5VBY and F5MDF Details available on

www.qrz.com

Christmas Getogether



Please remember all those interested in riding the Valley Rattler departing 9:30 am Saturday 13th December, need to have their monies to Merg or GCEG by the 6th of December. Be at the station by 9:15 sharp! The train will arrive back at Gympie at 12:30pm, and a **BYO** bbq will follow at the Duck Ponds just south of Gympie. Fares are on a group discount one payment only basis and are \$19.00 per person each child fare under the age of 14 with an adult is free.

www.thevalleyrattler.com/

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Many thanks go to Tony F5VBY for his recipe.

CRAYFISH AND PASTA

Serves: 6

4 tablespoons butter

4 tablespoons flour

1ltr crawfish milk (soak the tails in milk for 1 hour and strain)

1 kg crawfish tails

1/2 teaspoon minced garlic

125g chopped green onions

Cayenne pepper

Salt

180g Dijon mustard

450g fresh pasta

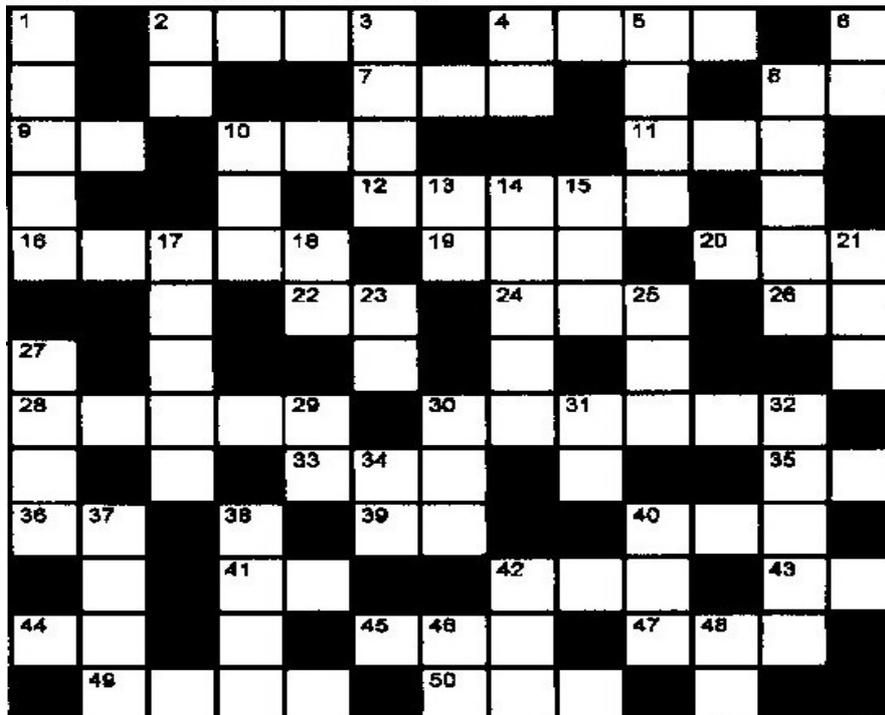
Melt butter and add flour. Cook for 5 minutes over medium heat. Add garlic and cook for 1 minute. Add crawfish milk slowly to make a cream sauce. Cook until thickens. Add the mustard, cayenne, and simmer for 5 minutes. Add crawfish tails and green onions and simmer for 3 more minutes. Add salt to taste and serve over fresh pasta.

“Is this the sort of thing that would go down well in VK?? It’s from my personal recipe book and is tasty, but simple to produce also the ingredients should be easy to get”
“(use the Bay Bugs Hi!) :- (Many Regards - Tony Dolby)”

Web Site:

<http://www.qsl.net/f5vby>

Ward "Contrib. Ed." Silver, N0AX, authors--among numerous other things--the Amateur Radio Crossword Puzzler, which appears twice a month on the ARRL Web site. He can be reached by e-mail at n0ax@arrl.net or by surface mail at Aetherworks Publishing, 22916 107th Ave NW, Vashon, WA, 98070.



Across

2. Increases "talk power"
3. Can't change frequency
7. Scares birds off antenna
8. Keeps noise silent
9. Transmit
10. Stores frequency info
11. Levels out RX audio
12. Controls TX output
16. Narrow rejection filter
19. Lower light level
20. Operate with repeater
21. Final gain stage
24. Plate current at tank resonance
25. Two components of radio wave
28. Controls words per minute
29. Jack for headset

Across Continued.

33. Level of AM central component
34. Made it yourself
35. Front end gain
39. Mixer input
40. Medical techniques that uses RF pulses
41. RX
42. Main tuning component
43. F3 emissions
44. Empty
45. Changes CW pitch
46. Adjust TX frequency
49. To continually adjust the gain
50. TX oscillator

Puzzle answers will be revealed next edition.

Down

1. Reduces signal strength
2. What the transmitter delivers
3. Squeezes voice into narrower range
4. Telephone
5. Adjust RX frequency
6. Control frequency response
7. Displays signals graphically
10. Spoken audio level control
13. Outside diameter
14. Amount of RX bandwidth
15. Interference from transmissions
16. Accessory that matches impedance
17. More than low power
21. Type of copper
23. Speaker volume

Down Continued

25. Strong signals do this to a meter needle
27. Voltage ratio in transmission lines
29. Battery power
30. A "super" receiver from Hammarlund
31. The most important piece of equipment
32. Very intermediate frequency
33. Light metal used for antennas(chemical symbol)
37. Reduces receiver bandwidth
38. Tunes a tube's control element
40. Manual transmit
42. Activate transmitter by voice
46. Prefix for Yaesu/Vertix HF rig models
48. Collector current



WELCOME

A very warm welcome is extended to the three new members of GCEG
VK4 ABX Ed
VK4BNQ Roger
And to Geoff Pickering who is seeking to obtain a foundation call.

Remember please our [weekly net](#) on 146.725 each Monday at 19:30
"F" Troop Net 3.615 +/- QRM
Wednesday evening 20:00

Look forward to seeing you all at our next meeting. 73 from GCEG

Question of the Month

Q What is the purpose of using electrolytic capacitors in an AC/DC power supply?

- A. to prevent radio frequencies from entering the power mains.
- B. To improve the high frequency response of audio amplifiers.
- C. To by-pass the direct current to earth.
- D. To smooth out the ripple frequency superimposed on the direct current.

[Answer to question last month is:](#)

- A. To operate on more than one band of frequencies