



Chipola Amateur Radio Club

CARC

Newsletter

April 23, 2005

REPEATERS
2M, 146.670 -
70CM, 444.950+, 123CG
6 M, 53.010 -

CLUB EVENTS

Jun 18th, Tailgate
Jun 25th, Field Day
Jul 23rd, Club Meeting
Sep 10th, Foxhunt
Sep 17th, Test Session
Oct 15th, Jamboree On the Air
Oct 22nd, Club Meeting
Oct 29th, Sunland Fall Festival
Dec 10th, Club Meeting

OTHER EVENTS

Apr 30th, AL State Convention
Jul 22nd, Milton Hamfest
Aug 20th, Huntsville Hamfest
Nov 12th, Montgomery Hamfest

CLUB OFFICERS

President

Gary Brown, WW4JDO

Vice President

Bill Everitt, KG4ZJT

Secretary/Treasurer

Todd Wiggins, W4MMA

CLUB OFFICIALS

Repeater Coordinator

Jeff Hagan, WO4J

2M Repeater Trustee

Jeff Hagan, WO4J

70CM Repeater Trustee

Danny Tipton, KN4UC

6M Repeater Trustee

Lonnie Whitehead, N4PTW

Echolink Trustee

Kenny Shiver, KG4ZJY

Webmaster

Todd Wiggins, W4MMA

Yahoo Moderator

Wayne Espey, KB4AAC

Newsletter Editor

Gary Brown, WW4JDO

NET CONTROL OPERATORS

April, WW4JDO

May, KG4ZJT

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

What a pleasure it is to be a part of this club. The professionalism shown during the recent test session and the teamwork in getting the 6 meter repeater on the air were inspiring to say the least. My hat's off to all involved in both events. My congratulations to those who got new tickets and upgrades at the test session. Welcome to the world of ham radio. I have picked up a HF rig myself and will be pursuing the elusive code certificate at our next test session in September. Till then I'll be listening but not talking on the HF bands. We still have several events coming up which should prove to be fun and exciting. Please get involved and help make each event a resounding success. See ya on the net. 73

Gary, WW4JDO

TEST SESSION RESULTS

VEC's: KD4AST, W4MMA, KB4AAC, K4KHV, N4PTW

New Tickets: Charles Espy to Technician

Upgrades: KG4ZJT to General

6 METER REPEATER

Yes the 6 meter repeater is on the air operating on 53.010 MHz with a negative shift. A CG tone of 123.0 is provided on the output for when conditions get noisy. Special thanks to James for climbing the tower, Jimmy for donating the hardline, Lonnie for donating the antenna and tower space, and Danny for installing the repeater.

BPL TEST IN GRACEVILLE

Graceville is one of only two sites selected to test Broadband Over Power Lines (BPL) service. Graceville was selected for its Gulf Coast weather, high temperatures, humidity, and frequent lightning storms. Reliability and performance over long distances in low-population areas through distribution lines will be recorded. In addition, tests related to radio frequency interference will be conducted. The test is scheduled to run from May through October. This is our chance to see for ourselves if the stuff we've been hearing about BPL interfering with radio is true or not.

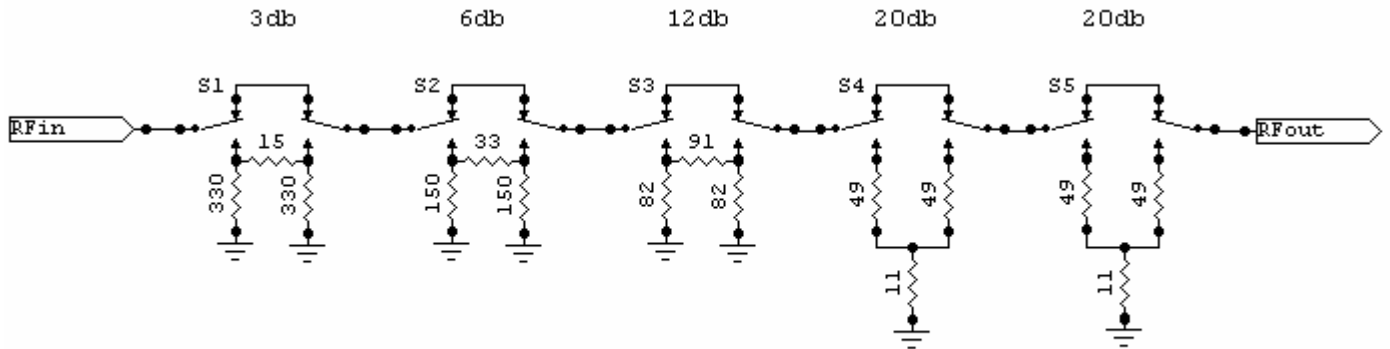
ECHOLINK

The 70cm repeater is now Echolinked. This means the repeater can be accessed via an internet connected computer from anywhere in the world. What this means for us local folks is that we will be hearing folks calling in on our repeater from all over the world. We can talk back to them over the radio as we would a normal local contact. Neat stuff huh! A special thanks to Kenny and Danny for supplying the interface box and personal time to get things hooked up, setup, and going. ☺

PROJECT PAGE

RF ATTENUATOR PAD

This handy little circuit can be built with just a handful of components in a small metal box. When properly constructed, the desired in/out impedance of 50 ohms is achieved. Switches can be thrown singularly to achieve the labeled attenuation or in combinations to achieve the desired attenuation. Courtesy of ARRL Handbook.



All resistors are 1/4 watt composition 5% tolerance

6 METER ANTENNA

Jimmy recalled an antenna made by CushCraft back in the 70s called a TrikStik. With all the new interest in 6 meter activity, he thought the design would be good for a homebuilt six meter antenna. The antenna can be made from materials readily available at the local hardware store and assembled in just a couple hours. It consists of a short piece of insulative material (PVC pipe) with two radials (copper pipe) stuck in each end cut to a quarter wavelength (54" @ 52MhZ). The PVC pipe is connected to a piece of water pipe using a clamp and then the pipe attached to your tower or mast likewise. The center conductor of your coax should be connected to one radial and the shield to the other. The antenna can be oriented horizontally or vertically depending upon the desired usage. As you can see in the scanned image below, the TrikStik was originally a multi-band adjustable antenna. With a little ingenuity, much can be done with this design. Have fun building your own.

