



## Tri County Radio Association

**W2LI** Since 1934



Tri County Radio operates repeaters on 147.255 (PL 141.3) and 449.975 (PL 141.3) using the W2LI memorial call sign / P.O. Box 412 Scotch Plains, NJ 07076 / Web Site: <http://www.w2li.org>

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### TCRA NEWS STAFF:

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### TCRA NEWS JANUARY 2008

TCRA News is published ten times a year, with no issues in August and December.

### PROGRAMS/EVENTS FOR JANUARY\*

**\*Subject to change.**

**January 7<sup>th</sup>:** "TCRA 2008" Members are asked to bring suggestions of club activities, etc. they would like TCRA to participate in. (8PM AT THE UNION ELKS)

**January 12<sup>th</sup>:** "VE TEST SESSION" 8AM at the Union County College Cranford Campus.

**January 21<sup>st</sup>:** "SHOW & TELL" Bring in your new amateur Christmas and Hanukkah toys and tell us about them. (8PM AT THE UNION ELKS)

**January 28<sup>th</sup>:** "ON THE AIR MEETING" (9:30PM W2LI 2M 147.255 PL 141.3).

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### 2008 DUES

Just a reminder: TCRA 2008 dues are due for 2008 membership. Dues are \$20.00. If you can't make it out to a meeting, you may send it to the club: **PO Box 412 Scotch Plains, NJ 07076**. Please note that although the dues are the same as last year the clubs expenses continue to rise. If you are able please add a donation to your dues payment. In advance thank you for your donation.

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## Any Ideas???

Do you have an article you'd like to submit for publication in the TCRA News? The TCRA News editors are always seeking articles for future issues. If you have any ideas, please contact Bob, KB2BBD at [kb2bbd@arrl.net](mailto:kb2bbd@arrl.net).

## **SOLAR CYCLE 24 BEGINS**

Space Weather News for Jan. 4, 2008

<http://spaceweather.com>

Solar physicists have been waiting for the appearance of a reversed-polarity sunspot to signal the start of the next solar cycle. The wait is over. A magnetically reversed, high-latitude sunspot emerged today. This marks the beginning of Solar Cycle 24 and the first step toward a new solar maximum. Intense solar activity won't begin right away. Solar cycles usually take a few years to build from solar minimum (where we are now) to Solar Max (expected in 2011 or 2012). It's a slow journey, but we're on our way!

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### **Hudson Division Beacon - e-mail edition - # 81**

New Amateur Extra Class Question Pool Released (Dec 26, 2007) -- The National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC) has released the new pool of questions for the Amateur Extra class license - see <http://www.ncvec.org/page.php?id=338> This pool will become effective for examinations given on or after July 1, 2008, and should be in service until June 30, 2012. The pool, which consists of 741 questions and 12 graphics, can be downloaded from the NCVEC Web site in Word, PDF or RTF formats. If you have any questions concerning the new Amateur Extra question pool, please contact the NCVEC's Question Pool Committee via e-mail at [qpc@ncvec.org](mailto:qpc@ncvec.org)

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The ARRL Letter, Vol 26, No 50 (Friday, December 21, 2007)

### **DXCC DESK ANNOUNCES NEW ENTITY**

The ARRL DXCC Desk is pleased to announce the addition of St Barthelemy (FJ) to the DXCC List, making the island entity number 338 with an effective date of December 14, 2007. Cards with contacts dated December 14, 2007 or after will be accepted

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for DXCC credit. New card submissions for St Barthelemy will not be accepted until January 1, 2008 in order to allow time for administrative adjustments.

On February 21, 2007 the French Ministry issued a decree making St Barthelemy an Overseas Collective, where its status is now equal to that of Guadeloupe, Martinique and other French territories currently on the DXCC List. On November 8, 2007 the President of Association Des Radio Amateurs De St Barthelemy, Philippe Delcroix, FJ5DX, contacted the DXCC Desk, requesting that St Barthelemy be considered a new DXCC entity.

The "event date" that caused St Barthelemy to be added to the DXCC list was December 14, 2007, the date the US State Department added St Barthelemy to the "List of Dependencies and Areas of Special Sovereignty" with its Administrative Center in Gustavia, qualifying it under DXCC rules in Section II - 1 Political Entities (c): "The Entity contains a permanent population, is administered by a local government, and is located at least 800 km from its parent. To satisfy the 'permanent population' and 'administered by a local government' criteria of this sub-section, an Entity must be listed on either (a) the U.S.

Department of State's list of 'Dependencies and Areas of Special Sovereignty' as having a local 'Administrative Center,' or (b) the United Nations list of 'Non-Self-Governing Territories.'"

French St Martin (FS), while also added to the List of Dependencies and Areas of Special Sovereignty, will remain on the DXCC List, but it is now considered a Point 1 Political Entity under the same classification as that of St Barthelemy.


Please direct any questions you may have about St Barthelemy, St Martin or the DXCC program to the ARRL DXCC Desk <[dxcc@arrl.org](mailto:dxcc@arrl.org)>.



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# TRI-COUNTY RADIO ASSOCIATION EVENTS

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1  HAPPY NEW YEAR	2	3	4	5
6	7 8:00 PM TCRA MEETING AT THE UNION ELKS "TCRA 2008"	8 8:30 PM SATERN NET 449.975 MHz	9	10	11	12 8:00 AM VE TEST UNION COUNTY COLLEGE CRANFORD
13	14	15 8:30 PM SATERN NET 449.975 MHz	16	17	18	19
20	21 8:00 PM TCRA MEETING AT THE UNION ELKS "SHOW AND TELL"	22 8:30 PM SATERN NET 449.975 MHz	23	24	25	26
27	28 9:00 PM TCRA ON THE AIR MEETING - NJ5R 147.255 MHz	29 8:30 PM SATERN NET 449.975 MHz	30	31		