

NARTE Members Join in or Return to Former Amateur Radio Pursuits

Many NARTE members were amateur radio Hams before their careers in telecommunications swept them into the intense focus necessary for establishing and achieving career goals, as well as raising families. A number of them are now reaching back to the less hectic times of their youth. Some NARTE members recall times when they were Ham radio operators, either as young men and women sitting in the family attic filling their log books with Morse Code contacts around the world, or with the military, logging time precedent to electromagnetic-based vocations in the private sector.

Now, the easing of rules for obtaining Ham licenses has helped attract new enthusiasts and rekindled the interest in some of the older amongst us who are augmenting or replacing old tube/transistor sets with the latest new technology. We've put headsets back on as disaster support volunteers, manning home-based or mobile stations, etc., or rejoined the discipline for the pure pleasure of revisiting youthful pursuits and be diverted from degraded TV programming and Internet SPAM. Check the Table of Contents below for several Ham-related articles in this issue. And See *Headquarters Highlights* for frequencies used to log into the newly registered (cooperative ARRL/NARTE) HF amateur radio net, called "NARTE Net."

NARTE EMC Engineer Mans Turkey Amateur Radio Station

Diethard Hansen, NCE (photo below) helped get the temporary Ham station in operation for the IEEE International EMC Symposium in Istanbul Turkey. Diethard, from Switzerland, was tasked to find solder and components needed to eliminate an EMI problem with station components. He probably didn't even notice the beautiful view of the Bosphorus Sea in the background.

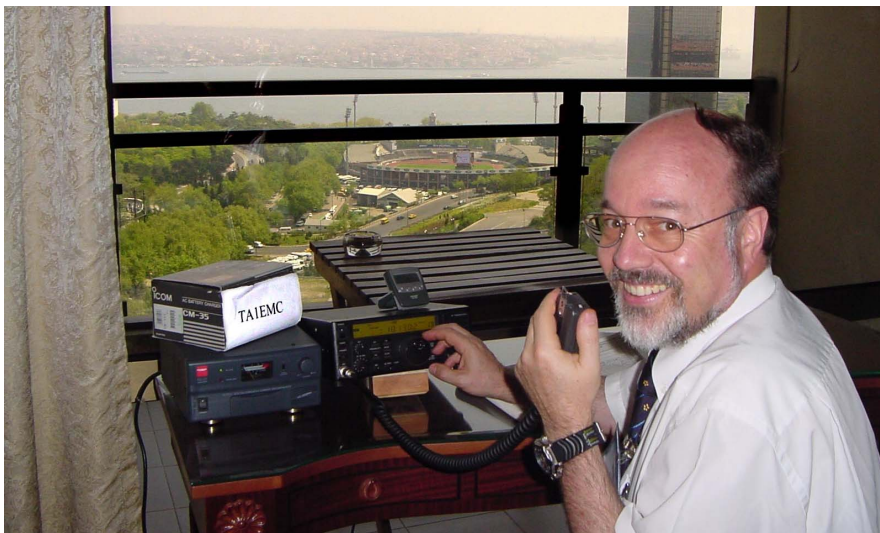


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COVER:

The NARTE EMC exam at the IEEE International EMC Symposium in Istanbul, Turkey was a clean sweep! Three candidates passed the test (cover photo, left to right, with Russ Carstensen, NARTE Executive Director). **Recht Elyahu** from Rehovut, Israel; **Fatih Ustuner** from Tubitak-Iekae, Turkey; and **Bektas Colak** from Gabze-Kocacil, Turkey sat for and passed the EMC engineer certification test. Their after-test discussion is superimposed on the Blue Mosque. The mosque (built 1603-17) is the masterwork of Ottoman architect Sedefkar Mehmet Aga. With its six minarets and a great cascade of domes, it remains a working mosque. (Ed.)

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Feedback

Letters to the Editor

Dear NARTE Staff:

Please forgive the lengthy delay in responding to your membership renewal notices. It's been a difficult decision but I'm facing the fact that after nearly 50 years in telecommunications and 20 years as a NARTE active member, I am no longer active in the profession.

I have treasured my certification and though largely invisible as a member, the affiliation has been invaluable in providing access to needed information and support over the years. Though my background and experience have been extensive, at the time I qualified my degrees were all "below zero." I earned my knowledge perched on mountaintops clutching portable antennae and peering at jury-rigged equipment to validate microwave paths or repeater sites.

The credibility of the NARTE certification assisted in enabling me to convince public safety and medical authorities there was indeed life above low band VHF and that "interoperability" did not equate to loss of autonomy.

There are the required assurances:

1. Birth date: October 11, 1935.

Thus meet "62 or older."

2. I derive less than \$5,000 annually from consulting or related services. NOTE: As a grant writer/manager my projects sometimes include a telecom element for which I provide the PER, but this is incidental to my services as the prime grant writer.

3. My NARTE Certification number is E-1-01209.

Enclosed is my check for \$175.00 as the "lifetime fee." I look forward to reaching the "Honorary Retired" designation at age 75. In fact, I also look forward to the need to provide written confirmation of my desire to stay on the mailing list after age 80.

Please extend my thanks and best wishes to the staff and officers of NARTE for the professional level of their services, and to the editor and contributors to the *NARTE News*. It is amazing how much useful and interesting information you manage to pack into each issue.

Sincerely,
William E. (Bill) Murray, NCE
Great Falls, MT