

What's NEW

Tell them you saw it in Monitoring Times

Larry Van Horn, New Products Editor

New Edition of Low-Band DXing

Ask me what my favorite amateur radio book is of all time and you may be surprised at my answer. I enjoy them all, but ON4UN's *Low-Band DXing* is the one that will get the juices flowing, the toolkit out, and the gear tuned up to 40, 80 or 160 meters. So it made me happy to see a new 5th edition of this venerable publication, but sad to discover it will be the last by author John Devoldere, ON4UN.

It's been 25 years since Devoldere published the original *Low Band DXing*, sharing his knowledge of techniques for success on 160, 80 and 40 meters. Over the years, the book has evolved to keep pace with our growing knowledge of propagation, equipment, operating techniques, and receiving and transmitting equipment for the low bands. This edition is no different, with significant new additions and updates throughout the book.

The fifth edition of this book by ON4UN – *Low Band DXing: Antennas, Equipment and Techniques for DXcitement on 160, 80 and 40 Meters* – features new and updated material with a CD-ROM included. Every fan of 40 meters through the Top Band needs this book in the shack, and it is definitely loaded with everything you need to succeed on operating in the amateur radio low bands.

The new edition boasts almost 700 pages and includes a thoroughly revised discussion of receiving antennas. In addition, low-signal transformers for Beverages and other receive-only antennas are analyzed in great detail, along with effective common mode filters. You'll also find an examination of phased arrays with new concepts, such as the hybrid-fed 4-square array and opposite-voltage feed system, and dozens of new propagation maps based on the popular DX Atlas program available on the Internet.

Devoldere has also added an in-depth analysis of the influence of sunspot cycles on 160 meter ducting, as well as a new discussion of cutting edge technology, including Software Defined Radio and the revolutionary LP-500 Digital Station Monitor.

The chapters listed in the Table of Contents include:

- Propagation
- DXing on the Low Bands
- Receiving and Transmitting Equipment
- Antenna Design Software
- Antennas: General, Terms, Definitions
- The Feed Line and the Antenna
- Receiving Antennas
- The Dipole Antenna
- Vertical Antennas
- Large Loop Antennas
- Phased Arrays

- Other Arrays
- Yagis and Quads
- Low Band DXing from a Small Garden
- From Low Band DXing to Contesting

As I mentioned before, a CD-ROM is also included with the new fifth edition! This CD-ROM includes the entire book in a fully searchable PDF format, as well as Devoldere's software (Windows XP only), antenna modeling files, photographs and more.

Devoldere is a recognized expert on low band DXing, and his operating achievements speak for themselves. On 80 meters, he has the highest number of DXCC countries confirmed worldwide (he is holder of the DXCC 80 meter award #1 with 357 countries confirmed on that band). When this book was published, Devoldere had the highest country total outside North America with 312 countries confirmed on 160 meters.

ON4UN's *Low-Band DXing* is available from several MT advertisers, many local amateur radio stores, or the ARRL Store (www.arrl.org/shop; 860-594-0355 or toll-free in the US 888-277-5289) – ARRL Order No 8560, ISBN 978-0-87259-856-0. The book retails for \$44.95 plus shipping.

ARRL License Manuals Revised

Speaking of operating on the HF amateur radio bands, if you want additional privileges to operate in the aforementioned 40, 80 and 160-meter bands, then you will need to get a ham license or upgrade to at least General Class.

That is now easier than ever with a new recent enhancement to all of the popular ARRL License Guide publications. With the release of the ARRL Extra Class License Manual - Revised Ninth Edition, the entire series of manuals from Technician to Extra includes their practice exam software on CD-ROM.

Each of these guides has all you need to pass your written amateur radio exam. Each guide has detailed explanations for all questions, including FCC rules. The CD-ROM runs under Microsoft Windows™. You can use it with your book to review the study material being presented. You can take randomly-generated practice exams using questions from the actual examination question pool. You won't have any surprises on exam day!

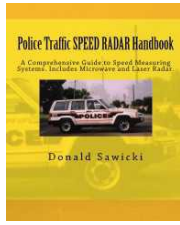
Here is a list of the latest books, order numbers and prices (order from the sources mentioned earlier).

Ham Radio License Manual Revised 2nd Edition (Technician) - ARRL No. 0977 - \$29.95
General Class License Manual Revised 6th Edition - ARRL No. 8690 - \$29.95
The ARRL Extra Class License Manual Revised 9th Edition - ARRL No. 8874 - \$29.95

Police Traffic SPEED RADAR Handbook

While many police departments effectively use radar to control traffic, there are still numerous instances of improper use. To operate traffic radar does not require genius, but it does require proper training as well as a basic understanding of this precision instrument.

Unfortunately, many people have the misperception that police radar is infallible. It is not.

This book is intended to familiarize the reader with the use and misuse of police radar by examining basic scientific and engineering principles in detail. There are numerous instances of unintentional (and a few intentional) abuses. Ob-
serving speed limits does not guarantee immunity from an undeserved ticket.

In this new book by Donald Sawicki, you will find information on microwave and laser radar operation – how radar works, proper use, limitations, potential operator errors, and common misreadings and mistakes. General situations are analyzed for potential, probable, and sometimes inevitable speed errors. In many instances, errors are predictable by knowing just the general setup. Basic radar theory, physics, and mathematics are used to prove all findings. All technical information and conclusions are quantifiably described using illustrations, graphs, tables, or mathematical formulas – based on or derived from fundamental scientific and engineering principles, published factory specifications, empirical data, or United States government documents.

According to the publisher, if you have been a victim of microwave or laser police radar (or speed timing systems, automatic or manual, or pacing or visual speed estimate), as well as professionals involved with traffic law enforcement (i.e., judges, defense attorneys, para legals, police, prosecutors), accident reconstruction specialists, science and engineering professionals, educators and students, you will appreciate the detailed technical information on police radar systems.

This 232 page book sells for \$29.99 plus shipping and handling and is available online at wwwcreatespace.com/3541308. It is also available at the usual online book services (ISBN 1456524283).

Books and equipment for announcement or review should be sent to What's New, c/o Monitoring Times, 7540 Highway 64 West, Brasstown, NC 28902. Press releases may be faxed to 828-837-2216 or emailed to Larry Van Horn, larryvanhorn@monitoringtimes.com.

When ordering or inquiring about the products mentioned in this column, be sure to tell them that you saw it in the pages of Monitoring Times magazine.