

CQ Chatter

Volume B1•Issue #8

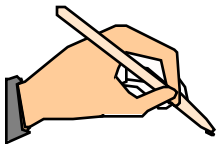
Wood County Amateur Radio Club
P. O. Box 534, Bowling Green, OH 43402

JANUARY 1999

President-KB8QEW, Shawn Hudson Vice President-WB8NQW, Bob Willman
Secretary-AA8XS, John Lager Treasurer-N1RB, Bob Boughton
<http://bravais.bgsu.edu/~boughton/wcarc.html>

A Note from the Editor

What did Santa Claus bring you? Besides sugar plums, most hams have dreams about that new credit card sized HT, or a super duper HF rig with antenna tuner, digital signal processor and spectrum display built in; or maybe that new 12 element 2m yagi is the need. Ham radio operators have a well deserved reputation as gadgeteers. They are always interested in some new piece of equipment, especially if it utilizes the latest in technological advances. It goes with-



out saying that a peek into most ham shacks would reveal the greater portion of the equipment to be commercially built. Many old timers bemoan the lack of the "home brew" spirit in the ranks today. True, it is next to impossible to match the performance of surface mount technology on the home workbench, but there are ample opportunities for QRP kit building (e.g. Ten-Tec), where the goal is not necessarily to incorporate the most bells and whistles, home constructed power supplies, and, especially, home brew antennas. Don't forget about the many worthy projects appearing in magazines like QST. Building one's own equipment is as much of the ham spirit as rag chewing. Make a New Years' resolution to ask for a soldering iron when next Christmas rolls around!

73 de Bob

**WCARC Weekly Net:
Tuesdays at 2130
147.18 & 444.475 MHz**

**Club Banquet/Meeting:
Monday, January 18th
Social Hour @ 1800
The Forks, in Pemberville
Make reservations by
Friday, January 15th to
Shawn, KB8QEW, 352-6226
Adults: \$10.89, incl. tax/ tip
Children 4-11: half price**

Skywarn Training Session

The annual Skywarn Training/Update session will be held this year on Monday, March 15th. The location is the usual place, namely the Commissioners' Board room on the 5th floor of the Court-house Annex. The training session will be led by a representative from the NWS. The meeting is slated to last from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. The session will involve a review of Skywarn procedures and a discussion of the various kinds of severe weather that can be anticipated in the NW Ohio area. This is an important event for all participants in the Skywarn effort. You should plan to attend if you wish to remain active in RACES/ARES/Skywarn.



Annual WCARC Banquet

The annual WCARC banquet meeting will be held on Monday, January 18th, at the Forks restaurant in downtown Pemberville. The cost is \$10.89 for adults-reduced prices for children. Please make reservations by Friday, January 15th, to Shawn Hudson, KB8QEW. The short agenda will include election of new officers and trustees for 1999. Be sure to attend-it's always a lot of fun.

FCC Begins Stronger Enforcement Policy

(excerpted from the ARRL Letter)

In a move that is bound to be welcome to most amateurs, the Federal Communications Commission has publicized and begun to act on a stronger enforcement of the amateur radio regulations. The FCC's Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, who has been placed in charge of the revamped enforcement system, has made it clear in no uncertain terms that the actions of a few "bad apples" who have been maliciously interfering with other amateurs especially on 20m and 75m will no longer be tolerated. This group also includes certain folks who think it's a kick to tie up repeaters and to interfere with their legitimate operation.

Hollingsworth has composed a list of the ten worst offenders and has sent them warning notices (what used to be called a "pink slip") demanding that they reply with the promise of compliance with the regulations, or else face the penalty round. Those hams who have had the misfortune to tune across some of the shenanigans on 14.313, for example, will roundly applaud this action.

Strong enforcement consists of two parts: dedicated observation to identify wrongdoers, and the real possibility of serious penalties being imposed by the FCC. For the past two decades, this ob-

WCARC

Net Control Roster

Net meets every Tuesday at 2130

Dec 29	N1RB
Jan 5	N8QMV
Jan 12	WD8ICP
Jan 19	KB8QEW
Jan 26	N1RB
Feb 2	N8QMV
Feb 9	WD8ICP
Feb 16	KB8QEW

January Contests

The contest line-up for the month of January includes the following:

Jan 2-3	2200 to 2200 UTC	160m to 40m	Japan Int'l DX CW
Jan 9-10	1800 to 0600 UTC	160m to 10m	North American QSO party CW
Jan 16-17	1800 to 0600 UTC	160m to 10m	North American QSO party SSB
Jan 16-18	1900 to 0400 UTC	6m on up	ARRL VHF Sweepstakes
Jan 17-17	0000 to 2359 UTC	160m to 10m	Hungarian DX contest CW
Jan 30-31	0600 to 1800 UTC	160m to 10m	REF (French RC) CW contest
Jan 30-31	1300 to 1300 UTC	160m to 10m	UBA (Belgian RC) CW & SSB contest

viously wasn't happening, and the crazies were in reality given a green light to do as they please. The problem was that the complaint and the enforcement functions had previously been handled by two different departments of the FCC. As of last spring, both functions are being handled by the same office, which allows

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for more efficient handling of all interference complaints. If the actions of the compliance office in the past 3 months are any indication, it is safe to say that the ham bands will be harboring a lot fewer lids.

Renewal Time

It's membership renewal time! If you haven't remitted your 1999 club dues yet, now is the time. For only \$10 individual, \$15 family, or \$5 student/senior, you can continue to enjoy the benefits of membership in the Wood County ARC. Help support the Club's activities in repeaters, digital modes, and emergency service. Many other activities such as Field Day and the fox hunt are fun for all. A membership form is enclosed for your convenience. Please be sure to indicate on the form what mode you wish to have CQ Chatter delivered in: via paper or e-mail as a .pdf file.

from the QST - In Brief page

- **Vanity update:** the FCC says it received 1412 vanity applications during October, down only slightly from September when the fee dropped to \$13. More than 80% of applications filed in recent months have been electronic. Over the more than two-year life of the current vanity call sign program, the FCC has received more than 36,250 applications for new call signs.
- **FCC sets exam fee reimbursement maximum:** The FCC has announced that the 1999 maximum Amateur Radio volunteer Examination reimbursement fee will be \$6.49, based on a 1.5% Consumer Price Index increase between September 1997 and September 1998. The 1999 ARRL/VEC test fee will be \$6.45. The 1998 ARRL/VEC test fee was \$6.35. *Note:* Elements 1(A) - 5wpm code- and 2 - Novice theory - are always free

Equipment for Sale

The following equipment has become available from the estate of a silent key. If you are interested, please call Bob, N1RB, at 354-1811.

- Yaesu FT-990 HF rig with built in AT and pwr supply/SP-6 speaker and phone patch - \$1200
- Heath SB-220 linear amplifier - \$450
- Azden PCS-4000 2m mobile - \$150
- 60 ft self supporting fold over tower with winch
- Cushcraft multi element tribander plus WARC bands - \$250
- 4 - stacked 2m yagis - \$250

The above three items must be seen to be appreciated.

- many other accessory items to be sold at best reasonable offer.

Also, from another owner:

- 30 ft TV tower - free if removed

of charge at ARRL/VEC examination sessions.

- **OD5LE elected as Lebanon's president**
Another radio amateur has become head of state. Emile Lahoud, OD5LE, was elected as Lebanon's president on Oct. 15. Lahoud, 62, will serve a 6-year term.

Area Hamfests

- January 10 8am-3pm Michiana Valley 33N at Jefferson Blvd., South Bend, IN, contact Denny, KA9WNR, (219) 291-0252.
- January 24 8am -12m Tuscarawas Co. 2800 N. Wooster Ave., Dover, OH, contact Howard, KD8KF, (330) 364-5258.

WOOD COUNTY ARC
P.O.BOX 534
BOWLING GREEN, OH 43402





WOOD COUNTY
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

P.O. Box 534
Bowling Green, OH
43402



Regular-\$10===Family-\$15===Senior/Student-\$5
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL FORM

DATE _____ ARRL MEMBER? Y _____ N _____ DATE OF EXP. _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____ PHONE _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

CALL _____ CLASS _____ E-MAIL: _____

Please Circle All That Apply:

Active Bands: 160 80 75 40 30 20 17 15 12 10 6 2 220 440 higher

Modes: CW SSB PACKET RTTY FM DX MOBILE QRP SSTV ATV EME SAT

Interests: Traffic DX Contests Foxhunts Satellites Nets Antennas

Computers Emergency ARES/RACES Skywarn Classic Radios

Do You Own a Computer? Y _____ N _____ If yes, what operating system (check)?

DOS/Windows _____ MAC/OS _____ IBM/OS2 _____ Other _____

Do you plan to upgrade your license? Y _____ N _____ If yes, what class? _____

What kinds of meeting programs would you like to see? _____

What type of equipment would you like to see the Club purchase? _____

Other activities you would like to see the Club offer _____

General Comments _____

Signature _____ Date _____