

CQ Chatter

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P. O. Box 534, Bowling Green, OH 43402

Wood County Amateur Radio Club

JULY 2005
<http://wcarc.bgsu.edu>

President/Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer

W8PSK/K8BBK
N8MSU
WD8JWJ

Loren Phillips /Steve McEwen
John Gruber
Bill Wilkins

Minutes

Wood County Amateur Radio Club

June 13, 2005 Meeting

Wood County Sheriff's Training Room

Attending: Chuck Dicken, WD8ICP; Bob Willman, WB8NQW; J. W. Frey, KD8BOH; Fred Leetch, N8CWJ; Loren Philips, W8PSK; Duane Ashbaucher, K8NEA; Bill Wilkins, WD8JWJ; Mike McAlear, Waiting for Call Sign; Mark Wasylyshyn, KD8BOI; Linda Boughton, N1LB; Donald Buehrer, K8OVO; Steve McEwen, K8BBK; Bob Boughton, N1RB; Esther Creps, N8OMV; Ruth Hasselman, KC8EKT; John S. Gruber, N8MSU

The minutes were read and approved. The Treasurer's report was made. The club has \$2760.88 in its account.

Loren mentioned that there has been a change in the status of BPL (Broadband over Power Lines). A new version has been introduced by Motorola that uses power lines to enter the house but uses more traditional RF means to get to the pole. The City is now considering this. Officially, BPL is still in test status.

Congratulations to our new hams, J.W., Mark, and Mike. Planning is underway for

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

**Next Meeting
Monday, July 11th
Location: talk to the fox!!
Foxhunt starts at 5:00 PM
listen 147.18
Picnic afterwards**

July Hamfests

July 16 NOARS 8 am to ?
Noarsfest at Lorain County Fairgrounds, Wellington, OH. Contact Tom, W8KYZ, tporter@eriecoast.com.
URL: www.geocities.com/k8rg

July 17 Van Wert ARC 8 am to ?
Van Wert County Fairgrounds, Van Wert, OH. Contact Stephen, WA8WKF, (419) 238-5560, skouts@bright.net.
URL: www.w8fy.org

Foxhunt Planned

The July meeting of WCARC will start out as a fox hunt. For those of you who are uninitiated, "fox" hunting is ham speak for direction finding of an unknown rf source. The skills you learn are quite useful in locating sources of noise

July Contests

The full contest lineup for the month of July includes the following:

Jun 25-26	1800 to 2100 Z	hf to visible
ARRL Field Day		all modes
Jun 25-26	1800 to 1800 Z	160 m to 10 m
King of Spain 'test		SSB
Jun 25-26	1400 to 1400 Z	160 m to 10 m
Marconi Memorial 'test		CW
Jul 1	0000 to 2359 Z	160 m to 2 m
Canada Day		all modes
Jul 9-10	1200 to 1200 Z	160 m to 10 m
IARU HF World Championship		all modes
Jul 16-17	1800 to 0600 Z	160 m to 10 m
North American QSO Party		RTTY
Jul 16-17	1800 to 2100 Z	6m and 2 m
CQ WW VHF 'test		all modes
Jul 23-24	0000 to 2359 Z	80 m to 2 m
Great Lakes SS		all modes
Jul 30-31	1200 to 1200 Z	80 m to 10 m
RSGB Islands on the Air		all modes

foxhunt--continued

and interference. Our foxhunt will be held on the regular meeting day, July 11th, starting at 5:00 PM. Monitor the 147.18 repeater for clues from the fox. When you hear him, try to pick up the signal on the repeater input (147.78) and use direction finding techniques to home in on him.

A directional antenna is key for fox hunting. A simple 2-meter Yagi or cubical quad will do the job. If all you have is an HT with a rubber duckie, use your body as a reflector to the antenna to find the direction of the fox's signal. Experienced direction finders also have an attenuator ready to cut down on a strong signal from the fox when they get close to him. This

WCARC Net Control Roster

Net meets every Tuesday at 2130

Jun	28	WD8ICP
Jul	5	N8QMV
Jul	12	WB8NQW
Jul	19	N1RB
Jul	26	K8OVO
Aug	2	WD8ICP
Aug	9	N8QMV

minutes--continued

the next step for some of our hams, a class to prepare for a General class license.

Loren mentioned several items of business: He suggested that we have a 50-50 drawing at our meetings to raise a few bucks each month. Maybe we can recapture the cost of our phone line in this way. Bob, N1RB, will send Loren the e-mail list used to send out CQ Chatter. John, N8MSU, will send a the list of current members to N1RB for comparison with the CQ Chatter mailing list.

Loren suggested that the club have a BPL committee since testing is still underway. After some discussion the committee will also look at radio noise issues and will have Loren and Linda as its members. Steve suggested that club members might drive around town with their car radios tuned to an unused AM band frequency to locate RF noise spots.

Money may be available for the club from ARRL from the national dues our ARRL members pay.

Bob Willman mentioned that a 150 foot tower is available to anyone willing and able to take it down safely and take it

minutes--continued

away.

The group discussed what to do about the antennas and so on at the Fairgrounds Administration Building. The Tractor Pull has acquired its own property so it may no longer need the space in the Ad. Building. The club likes the Sheriff's location for meetings but would like to get the radio room at the Fairgrounds put back together again. Steve will call Dale Brown who is the President of the fair board to see if that might be possible given present circumstances.

Ruth, KC8EKT is having trouble with opening the CQ Chatter arriving in her e-mail on her computer. Security settings were mentioned as a possible area for trial and error. Further discussion was deferred until later.

The July meeting will be the fox hunt. Details will be in the CQ Chatter. Loren volunteered to be the fox (the hidden transmitter). N1RB usually buys a sub to share and the fox usually finds a place with a picnic table where the club can enjoy food and conversation. A full business meeting isn't expected.

In August we will have a breakfast meeting at Couzins, followed by a tour of Loren's ham shack.

Field Day--the dates are June 25-26, 2005 at the Historical Society Museum grounds. Bring food matching your last name. The club will buy some meat. The membership adopted a motion to spend up to \$200 for food for the event. The Hasselmans will bring grills and power boxes. We will be located in the field by the oil derrick. Bring camping equipment, bug spray, chairs, and anything else that would make you more comfortable. Jeff Halsey will be using a slingshot to erect wire antennas.

Brain Teasers

1. What is the entry level amateur radio license class?

- (a) Novice
- (b) Technician
- (c) General
- (d) Communicator

2. The inductance of an air core coil primarily depends on:

- (a) the wire diameter
- (b) the current
- (c) the volume enclosed
- (d) the dielectric spacer

3. A 1 H, 2 H and 3 H inductor are connected in series. What is the equivalent inductance?

- (a) 6 H (b) 1 H (c) 3 H (d) 0.55 H

WCARC Net Check-ins

Jun 7: WB8NQW, K8BBK, K8OVO, W8PSK, KC8QYH, WB8VUL, KD8BIN, KG8FH, K8NEA, N8QMV (10)

Jun 14: N1RB, K8BBK, W8PSK, WD8ICP, K8OVO, WB8NQW, K8NEA, N8QMV, WB8VUL, KC8UMN, KC8IFW, WD8JWJ, N1LB, KC8EKT/M (14)

***Can you catch the fox?
give it a try at the fox
hunt--food afterwards***

answers to this week's brain teasers:

- 1 (b) 2 (c) 3 (a)**

Field Day Fun

The WCARC Field Day operation got off to a good start at the crack of noon on Saturday, June 25th. Operations commenced with erecting the antennas. A loop was constructed at about 30 ft high for low band operation. An inverted vee configured G5RV was also raised using a VHF antenna mast and a couple of trees. A multiband hf vertical was also erected, but the classic piéce de resistance was the loaded stepladder vertical. This antenna was loaded and was used to make at least one contact to the editor's knowledge.

A superb potluck dinner was served, with Eric Hasselman orchestrating the grill. Much of the fun of Field Day occurs in the setting up of the equipment and the fellowship that takes place when a large number of Club members get together on a joint effort like this.

Late Saturday afternoon, a communications truck from the Ohio State Fire Marshall's Office appeared and wondered if it would be OK to participate in the activities as one of the Fire Marshalls was an amateur operator. At the same time, many members got a chance to look at the fine collection of equipment that is contained in the truck.

President Steve McEwen, K8BBK, would like to acknowledge the fine job that Chuck, WD8ICP and Jackie, KA8ZRJ, did in getting things organized and run smoothly; and also to Larry, N8VNT, Ruth, KC8EKT, and son Eric for the portable power and all the food preparation, etc. Also gotta thank "Dead Eye Jeff", KG8FH, for his sling shot expertise! And everyone else for antenna raising assistance--including the ladder "antenna", food goodies and radio operations. ■

foxhunt--continued

provides for more specific directional detection.

The fox will be located near a picnic area, and once everybody has straggled in, the Club will meet together for a meal. Food and beverages will be furnished.

So, at 5:00, give a listen on the repeater for the fox and try to be the first to find him. By the way, the fox will occasionally give some clues as to where he is located. ■

minutes--continued

Several HF radios are expected, from Sean, Esther, Steve, and the club's Kenwood TS440S-AT. The Hasselmans will bring a 6 meter rig in their truck. Saturday noon will be set-up. There will be plastic to cover rigs. Club members have some antennas to loan the club for the event.

Chuck has prepared a list of those who often check into nets so those participating can get better acquainted. Contact Chuck for a copy.

Don has set up a telegraphy station. Visitors can hear the difference between CW style code and the Morse code used by railroads in years past.

Discussion was held on what equipment might be available for a special events station. The club also talked about the possibility of putting together something for the historical society's Christmas display. An example of Christmas communications from years ago was mentioned.

We will be including the count of stations checking into the weekly WCARC net in CQ Chatter from now on. Next Full Meeting in August at Couzins restaurant in Grand Rapids, Ohio. ■



the source of all power



dead eye, KG8FH



*State Fire Marshal's Com Van
visits WCARC FD site*



loop in the ether



the hf loop is going up!



where'd that rope go?



time to catch up on what's been happenin'



informal meeting of BPL committee



and now we're operating!



plans are being made



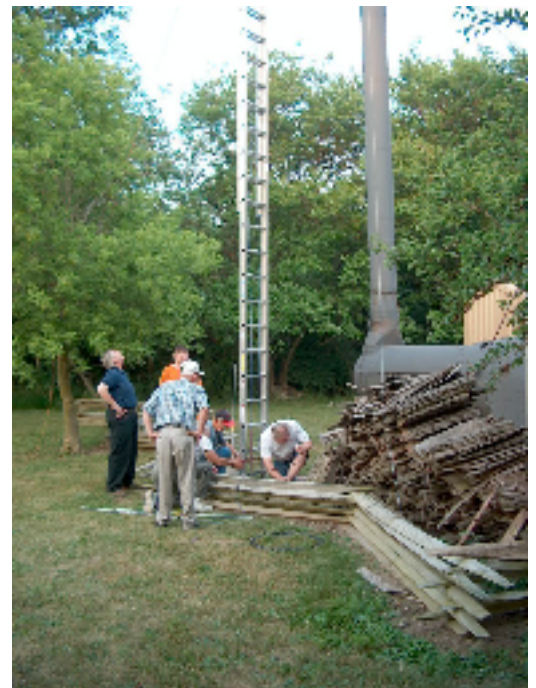
watch the thumbs!



wonder if all this will fit in my truck?



one corner of the loop



the ladder vertical with contacts to prove it !



Fire Marshal's Com Van with antennas extended

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