

# CQ Chatter

Volume B7 • Issue #12

Wood County Amateur Radio Club

JANUARY 2007

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

<http://wcarc.bgsu.edu>

President/Vice President

K8NEA/K8OVO

Duane Ashbaucher / Don Buehrer

Secretary

KG8FH

Jeff Halsey

Treasurer

WD8JWJ

Bill Wilkins

## Minutes of the Wood County Amateur Radio Club December 11, 2006

The monthly scheduled meeting was called to order at approximately 7:30 pm by co-president Steve McEwen. Co-president Steve remarked there were several new faces in the crowd and that we should introduce ourselves with name and call---16 persons shared callsigns.

The Treasurer's report indicated the club is still solvent with \$1,409.87 being reported.

The Secretary's report was not read aloud as it is printed in the CQ Chatter for all to read.

As it is required in the bylaws, our December meeting is when the election of officers for the next term is held. Several recommendations were made by the selection committee: for Co-Presidents, Duane Ashbaucher, K8NEA and Don Buehrer, K8OVO, for Treasurer, Bill Wilkins, WD8JWJ, and for Secretary, Jeff Halsey, KG8FH. All of the nominated persons were elected unanimously. The outgoing co-presidents Loren and Steve gave a quick synopsis of the Club's past year's ac-

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

**Next Meeting- Banquet  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 9th  
TIME: 6:00 pm  
PLACE: Ben's Table  
1021 S. Main St.  
Bowling Green**

## *January Banquet Meeting Set*

The January WCARC Banquet meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 9, at 6:00 pm, at Ben's Table. The restaurant is located in Bowling Green, at 1021 South Main St. On the menu, we have Margaret's Chicken, mashed potatoes rolls and vegetables. The entree is a chicken dish that originated at Kaufman's restaurant in downtown Bowling Green. We will have the entire restaurant to ourselves until 9:00 pm. All members and friends of the WCARC are invited to attend with guests. The cost per person is \$12.00 for adults and \$6.00 for children. Reservations must be made with Bob Willman, WB8NQW, (419) 353-6221, or John Gruber, N8MSU, (419) 352-5379, by Wednesday, January 3rd. ■

## January Contests

The full contest lineup\* for the month of January includes the following:

Dec 30	0000 to 2359 Z	160 m to 2 m
RAC (Canada) Winter 'test		all modes
Jan 1	0000 to 2359 Z	160 m to 2 m
ARRL Straight Key Night		CW
Jan 7	0900 to 1059 Z	10 m
DARC 10 m 'test		all modes
Jan 6-7	2000 to 0700 Z	160 m
EUCW 160 m 'test		CW
Jan 13-14	1800 to 0600 Z	160 m to 10 m
North American QSO Party		CW
Jan 20-22	1900 to 0400 Z	6 m on up
ARRL VHF Sweepstakes		all modes
Jan 20-21	1800 to 0600 Z	160 m to 10 m
North American QSO Party		SSB
Jan 20-21	1200 to 1200 Z	160 m to 10 m
Hungary DX 'test		CW
Jan 27-28	0000 to 2359 Z	160 m
CQ WW 160 m 'test		CW
Jan 27-28	0600 to 1800 Z	80 m to 10 m
REF (France) DX 'test		CW
Jan 27-28	1300 to 1300 Z	80 m to 10 m
UBA (Belgium) DX 'test		SSB

\* Please note: for the range of bands given in each entry, no contesting is permitted on the so-called WARC bands: 60 m, 30 m, 17 m or 12 m

### WCARC

**2 m/440 Net Control Roster**  
Net meets every Tuesday at 2130

Jan 2	K8OVO
Jan 9	WD8ICP
Jan 16	N8QMV
Jan 23	WB8NQW
Jan 30	N1RB
Feb. 6	K8OVO
Feb. 13	WD8ICP

**DON'T FORGET!!**  
**10 METER INFORMAL NET**  
**SUNDAYS, at 8:30 pm**  
**on 28.335 MHz**

*minutes---continued from page 1*

complishments (which was quite extensive) and wished the new officers their best.

Loren remarked about the 10 meter net held on Sunday evenings at 8:30 pm on 28.335 MHz. No interference, no PL, and no time outs to worry about. Join in and exercise your HF privileges. He also mentioned the old 2 meter receiver is in need of repair, and Jim, K8JU, will attempt to fix it over the winter. However, if he is unsuccessful, Jim is suggesting the radio be sent back to the manufacturer for repairs and updates. Also, Jim will be providing the codes necessary to access the repeater as soon as possible.

The January kickoff dinner was reported on by John Gruber. The suggestions included the following restaurants: The Forks (Pemberville), Charlie's (Swanton), SamB's (Bowling Green) and Maggie's (Perrysburg). The group decided that Maggie's would be the best

## Brain Teasers

1. Why are direction finding "fox hunts" important to the Amateur Service
  - a) fox hunts compel amateurs to upgrade their licenses
  - b) fox hunts provide an opportunity to practice direction finding skills
  - c) someone always receives an FCC Notice of Apparent Liability when a fox hunt is concluded
  - d) fox hunts allow amateurs to work together with Environmental Protection Agencies
  
2. What is a geomagnetic disturbance?
  - a) a sudden drop in the solar-flux index
  - b) a shifting of the Earth's magnetic pole
  - c) ripples in the ionosphere
  - d) a dramatic change in the Earth's magnetic field over a short period of time
  
3. During periods of low solar activity, which frequencies are the least reliable for long distance communications?
  - a) frequencies below 3.5 MHz
  - b) frequencies near 3.5 MHz
  - c) frequencies on or above 10 MHz
  - d) frequencies above 20 MHz

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## January Hamfests

**Jan 20 ARAY/GCARES Ham Radio Swap and Shop** 8 am  
 Burton, MI. See advertisement on last page.

e-mail: [kf8ui@arrl.net](mailto:kf8ui@arrl.net)

URL: [www.gcares.net](http://www.gcares.net)

**Jan 21 Hazel Park ARC** 8 am  
 Hazel Park High School, Hazel Park, MI.  
 Contact Sean, K8KHZ, (248) 63-3062.

e-mail: [k8khz@yahoo.com](mailto:k8khz@yahoo.com)

URL: [www.qsl.net/k8lod/](http://www.qsl.net/k8lod/)

## FCC Removes Code Test

from ARRL Bulletin--Dec. 16

In a historic move, the FCC has acted to drop the Morse code requirement for all Amateur Radio license classes. The Commission today adopted a Report and Order (R&O) in WT Docket 05-235. In a break from typical practice, the FCC only issued a public notice at or about the close of business and not the actual Report and Order, so some details -- including the effective date of the R&O -- remain uncertain. The public notice is located at,

[http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs\\_public/attachmatch/DOC-269012A1.pdf](http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-269012A1.pdf).

Also today, the FCC also adopted an Order on Reconsideration, in WT Docket 04-140 -- the "omnibus" proceeding -- agreeing to modify the Amateur Radio rules in response to an ARRL request to accommodate automatically controlled narrowband digital stations on 80 meters in the wake of rule changes that became effective today at 12:01 AM Eastern Time. The Commission said it will carve out the 3585 to 3600 kHz frequency segment for such operations. Prior to the long-awaited action on the Morse code issue, Amateur Radio applicants for General and higher class licenses had to pass a 5 WPM Morse code test to operate on HF. The Commission said today's R&O eliminates that requirement for General and Amateur Extra

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## WCARC Net Check-ins

**28-Nov** K8OVO (NC), K8BBK, KG8FH, W8PSK, N8QMV, WD8JWJ, WB8NQ, WB8VUL, K8JTK, K8CHQ (10)

**19-Dec** WB8NQW (NC), K8BBK, KG8FH, WD8JWJ, KD8CHQ, WB8VUL, N8QMV, K8NEA (8)

**minutes---continued from page 2**

choice and the proposed date is Tuesday, January 9, 2007. Dinner is at 6:30 with guests arriving at or by 6 pm.

Steve McEwen mentioned he was in contact with the amateur clubs in Henry County and in Findlay, and was discussing a joint Field Day operation possibly in Van Buren at the State Park located there. He will continue to work with the 2 aforementioned clubs and the WCARC to make FD 2007 another fun event.

Loren provided for all in attendance a color print of the new ARRL / FCC amateur band plans effective this December 15, 2006.

A discussion of life memberships for the Club was introduced and the consensus of the radio club is that the by-laws be amended to provide for such actions. Bob Willman said he would work on writing such an amendment.

Chuck Dicken, WD8ICP, remarked that the antenna at the Wood County fairgrounds has not been used for the past several years and could be sold and the proceeds put into the Treasury. Bob Willman, WB8NQW, asked that we not move too quickly as the County has a new EMA Director, and it is possible the Club may regain access to the Administration Building, and be able to use the facilities we once had access to.

Other items: For Sale: Steve, K8BBK, has a 2 meter Isopole antenna for sale and the monies collected will be donated to the radio club. Bill Wilkins, WD8JWJ, moved to adjourn the meeting and Bob Boughton, N1RB, seconded.

The evening's program included a video of a DX pedition to the worst place on earth---the South Shetland Islands. Most in attendance agreed it is not some-

thing we would like to do.

Those members and guests in attendance included:

Loren Philips	W8PSK
Steve McEwen	K8BBK
Bill Wilkins	WD8JWJ
Chuck Dicken	WD8ICP
Duane Ashbaucher	K8NEA
Robert Bowers	KC8RWI
Bob Willman	WB8NQW
Jerry Baker	KD8AYL
Pat Buchanan (formerly)	WA8SXP
Hoot Gibson	WD8VUL
Wil Roudebush	KC8IFW
John Pastor	K8RZP
Don Buehrer	K8OVO
Bob Boughton	N1RB
Jeff Halsey	KG8FH
John Gruber	N8MSU

Respectfully submitted,  
Chuck Dicken, WD8ICP  
Secretary, Wood County ARC

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## **FCC REVOKES AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE OF CONVICTED FELON**

*from ARRL Letter*

The FCC has ordered that David Edward Cox, W5OER, of Pride, Louisiana, be stripped of his Technician class Amateur Radio license. In October 2005, the FCC sent Cox an Order to Show Cause to initiate a hearing proceeding to determine if Cox, who's serving time on several felony convictions, possessed the requisite character to remain an FCC licensee or should

**Felon--continued from page 4**

face license revocation. The FCC says Cox failed to respond to the show-cause order. A Commission administrative law judge subsequently concluded that Cox had waived his right to a hearing, terminated the proceeding and released an

The revocation order is effective 40 days after that date, unless Cox appeals. A few years ago, the FCC began applying its so-called "1990 Character Order," initially intended to apply to Broadcast Service licensees, to Amateur Radio licensees and applicants. "The Commission's character policies provide that any felony conviction is a matter predictive of licensee behavior and is directly relevant to the functioning of the Commission's regulatory mission," the FCC revocation order said. "The serious convictions described above mandate the conclusion that Mr. Cox does not possess the requisite qualifications to be or remain a Commission licensee."

An Amateur Radio licensee since 1995, Cox has a clean record in terms of obeying FCC rules and regulations, the Commission said. The revocation order recounts that a Louisiana court in January 2004 convicted Cox on two counts of simple burglary, a felony, and sentenced him to five years in prison. The judge suspended the sentence, however, and placed Cox on supervised probation instead. He was arrested on federal firearms charges in September 2004 and has been incarcerated ever since, the FCC Order said. Following a plea agreement, a US District Court judge sentenced Cox to concurrent terms of 41 months for felony firearms-related violations. The court also ordered him to pay \$3000 in restitution to a firearms dealer and shooting range. ■

**FCC removes--continued from page 3**

applicants. "This change eliminates an unnecessary regulatory burden that may discourage current Amateur Radio operators from advancing their skills and participating more fully in the benefits of Amateur Radio," the FCC said. The ARRL had asked the FCC to retain the 5 WPM for Amateur Extra class applicants only. The FCC proposed earlier to drop the requirement across the board, however, and it held to that decision in today's R&O.

Perhaps more important, the FCC's action in WT Docket 05-235 appears to put all Technician licensees on an equal footing: Once the R&O goes into effect, holders of Technician class licenses will have equivalent HF privileges, whether or not they've passed the 5 WPM Element 1 Morse examination. The FCC said the R&O in the Morse code docket would eliminate a disparity in the operating privileges for the Technician and Technician Plus class licensees. Technician licensees without Element 1 credit (ie, Tech Plus licensees) currently have operating privileges on all amateur frequencies above 30 MHz.

"With today's elimination of the Morse code exam requirements, the FCC concluded that the disparity between the operating privileges of Technician Class licensees and Technician Plus Class licensees should not be retained," the FCC said in its public notice. "Therefore, the FCC, in today's action, afforded Technician and Technician Plus licensees identical operating privileges."

The wholesale elimination of a Morse code requirement for all license classes ends a long-standing national and international regulatory tradition in the requirements to gain access to Amateur Radio frequencies below 30 MHz. The first no-

**FCC removes--continued from page 5**

code license in the US was the Technician ticket, instituted in 1991. The question of whether or not to drop the Morse requirement altogether has been the subject of often-heated debate over the past several years, but the handwriting has been on the wall. A number of countries, including Canada, no longer require applicants for an Amateur Radio license to pass a Morse code test to gain HF operating privileges. The list has been increasing regularly. The FCC said today's R&O in WT Docket 05-235 comports with revisions to the international Radio Regulations resulting from the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 (WRC-03). At that gathering, delegates agreed to authorize each country to determine whether or not to require that applicants demonstrate Morse code proficiency in order to qualify for an Amateur Radio license with privileges on frequencies below

30 MHz.

Typically, the effective date of an FCC Order is 30 days after it appears in the Federal Register. That would mean the Morse requirement and the revised 80-meter segment for automatically controlled digital stations would likely not go into effect until late January 2007.

The ARRL will provide any additional information on these important Part 97 rule revisions as it becomes available. ■

**AEA Isopole  
For Sale**

**2 meter vertical  
isotropic radiator  
very reliable.**

**\$50 or best offer  
proceeds go to WCARC  
Contact Steve, K8BBK  
(419) 352-3253**

**A candid shot of  
the rag chew  
fest after the  
last Club meet-  
ing**

**courtesy-K8BBK**



January 20, 2007  
Burton MI

ARRAY Swap NOW Sponsored by Genesee County ARES, Inc

# 15th ANNUAL

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## ARRAY/GCARES Ham Radio Swap & Shop

**Vendors will be:**

**Com-Dac**

**Dentronics**

**Tower Electronics**

**Webster Communications**

**Amateur Accessories**



**[www.gcares.org](http://www.gcares.org)**

VE Testing at 10am contact Don N8DI  
for more info 810-564-9638

***FREE PARKING***

***HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE***

**\*\*\* ALL SALES INSIDE**

Dealer setup on Friday from 6pm - 9pm and Saturday starting at 6am

- ◆ SATURDAY, January 20, 2006 / 8:00 a.m. - 12:00p.m.
- ◆ NEW EASIER TO FIND LOCATION
- ◆ Bentley Middle School 1180 N. Belsay Rd. Burton, MI....
- ◆ I-69 to Exit 141 Belsay Rd go North 1/4 mile the school is on the right
- ◆ Talk-in on 147.100+ (100hz PL)
- ◆ Admission \$5 / under 12 FREE
- ◆ DOOR PRIZES HOURLY
- ◆ For more info call Clay KF8UI at 810-233-7889 or E-mail at [kf8ui@arrl.net](mailto:kf8ui@arrl.net)

**Table Reservation Form**

Company or persons name:

(\$10 per 8ft table) Number of tables requested:

Address:

Number of tickets @ \$5 ea:

Phone:

Total Amount Paid:

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO G.C.A.R.E.S. RM G-25 1101 Beach Street Flint, MI 48502

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

