CQ CHATTER

VOLUME B9 • Issue #3 WOOD COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB APRIL 2008
P.O. BOX 534, Bowling Green, OH http://wcarc.bgsu.edu

Storm Season is Upon Us

The first day of spring reminds us that warmer weather is coming. Along with the sunshine comes the storms. Thunder and lightning are of course common at this time of year, but special attention must be paid to the possibility of heavy and damaging winds or tornados. For a number of decades in the 1950's, 60's and 70's, this area was known as "tornado alley". The major concentration of tornados then seemed to move further west for a few decades. Now, there are signs that the "alley" is moving back east to Ohio and Indiana.

It is important that all amateur operators be prepared with portable capability, especially on 2 meters. In case of inclement or threatening weather monitor the ARES (146.790/443.5125) and WCARC (148.18/444.4750) repeaters, as well as the Skywarn machine for NW Ohio. If you had a chance to attend one of the Skywarn training sessions this spring, then you should be able to spot trouble when you see it. If you weren't able to make a session, try to attend the WCARES meetings on the second Saturday of each month. ■

WCARC Weekly Net:
Tuesdays at 2130
147.18 & 444.475 MHz

Next Meeting

MONDAY, APRIL 14th
TIME: 7:30 pm
PLACE: Sheriff's Training Room
Gypsy Lane & Dunbridge
Bowling Green

W1AW
A Ham's Information Source

The Hiram Percy Maxim memorial station, W1AW, is located in Newington, CT. Maxim is often regarded as the "father" of organized amateur radio, because he was instrumental in producing order out of the chaos that early radio communications had become.

W1AW is owned and operated by the ARRL. As the "headquarters" station, it provides a number of services to all amateurs on a daily basis. Many CW operators got their introduction to the station from its

Net Check Ins

March 11 *N8QMV (NC)*

WD8ICP
WB8NQW
KC8ZJW
W8PSK
K8BBK
WB8VUL
WD8JWJ
K8OVO
KA8GZX (10)

March 18 *WB8NQW (NC)*

W8PSK
K8BBK
WD8JWJ
WB8VUL
K8NEA
K8RZP (7)

March 25 *N1RB (NC)*

K8BBK
W8PSK
WD8ICP
KG8FH
WB8NQW
WB8VUL
WD8JWJ
KD8HGS
K8JU
K8OVO
K8NEA
KD8TOM

WCARC

2 m/ 70 cm Net Control Roster

Net meets every Tuesday at 2130

Mar	**25**	**N1RB**
Apr	**1**	**K8OVO**
Apr	**8**	**WD8ICP**
Apr	**15**	**N8QMV**
Apr	**22**	**WB8NQW**
Apr	**29**	**N1RB**
May	**6**	**K8OVO**
May	**13**	**WD8ICP**

DON'T FORGET!

10 meter informal net meets each Sunday at 2030 on 28.335 MHz

Brain Teasers

1. In a single sideband signal, what determines the PEP to average power ratio?
a.) the frequency of the modulating signal
b.) the speech characteristics
c.) the degree of carrier suppression
d.) the amplifier power

2. If an RMS reading voltmeter reads 65 volts on a sinusoidal waveform, what is the peak-to-peak voltage?
a.) 46 V b.) 92 V c.) 130 V d.) 184 V

3. What happens to the bandwidth of an antenna as it is shortened through the use of loading coils?
a.) it increases c.) no change occurs
b.) it decreases d.) it becomes flat

April Hamfests

April 20 Annual Hamfest, Electronics and Computer Show

Cuyahoga Falls ARC

Emidio & Sons Party Center

48 E. Bath Rd.

Cuyahoga Falls, OH

Contact: Ted, W8TTS

(303)688-2013

hamfest2008@cfarc.org

www.cfarc.org/hamfest2008.htm

April 20 Hamfest

Grant, Miami, Blackford County and Kokomo ARCs

Miami County Fairgrounds

Mexico Rd. and Co. Rd. 200N, Peru, IN

Contact: C. J., N9LYY

n9lyy@arrl.net

www.ncihamfest.com

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR WCARC DUES YET?

Brain Teaser answers: 1-b, 2-d, 3-b

April Contests

The contest lineup for the month of April is given below. Please note that the WARC bands (30, 17 and 12 m) are never open to contesting.

Apr 4-6	*0000 to 0000 Z*	160 m to 10 m
Montana QSO Party		**all modes**
Apr 5-6	*1800 to 2400 Z*	160 m to 10 m
Missouri QSO Party		**all modes**
Apr 5-6	*1500 to 1500 Z*	160 m to 10 m
SP (Poland) DX 'test		**all modes**
Apr 12-13	*0700 to 1300 Z*	80 m to 10 m
Japan International DX 'test		**CW**
Apr 12-14	*1800 to 2359 Z*	160 m to 10 m
Georgia QSO Party		**all modes**
Apr 19	*0000 to 2359 Z*	160 m to 10 m
Holyland DX 'test		**all modes**
Apr 19-20	*1600 to 0400 Z*	80 m to 10m
Michigan QSO Party		**all modes**
Apr 19-20	*1800 to 1800 Z*	160 m to 10 m
Ontario QSO Party		**all modes**
Apr 19-20	*2100 to 1700 Z*	160 m to 10 m
Serbia (YU) DX 'test		**CW**
Apr 26-27	*1600 to 2159 Z*	40 m to 10 m
Florida QSO Party		**all modes**
Apr 26-27	*1700 to 1700 Z*	160 m to 10 m
Nebraska QSO Party		**all modes**
Apr 26-27	*1300 to 1300 Z*	160 m to 10 m
Helvetia DX 'test		**all modes**

W1AW---continued

code practice transmissions. Every weekday, W1AW transmits a one-hour code practice session four times a day. The sessions are split into two kinds: slow and fast practice. The fast code speeds vary from 10 to 35 words per minute (10, 13, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35), while the slow code speeds vary from 5 to 15 words per minute (5, 7.5, 10, 13, 15).

Once every month, W1AW sends a code proficiency test session where a 5 minute text copy is sent at 10 to 40 wpm in 5 wpm increments. If you can copy one minute of text without error at a given speed, you qualify for a proficiency certificate on which higher speed endorsements can be attached.

The station also sends bulletins addressed to all amateurs (QST means "calling all amateurs"). Bulletins include general, DX, propagation and satellite Keplerian data information that is reported at least once per week and sent out once a day.

The modes used by W1AW include CW, RTTY, SSB, AMTOR and ASCII. W1AW transmits on or near the following frequencies: CW- 1.8175, 3.5815, 7.0475, 14.0475, 18.0975, 21.0675, 28.0675 and 147.555 MHz; RTTY---3.5975, 7.095, 14.095, 18.1025, 21.095, 28.095 and 147.555 MHz; SSB---1.855, 3.99, 7.29, 14.29, 18.16, 21.39, 28.59 and 147.555 MHz.

Consult the ARRL web site for the complete schedule at: http://arrl.org ■

New Mode Discovered

Professor Winston P. Throckmorton, renowned for his discovery of N-wave radiation, has recently reported his discovery of a previously unknown mode of radio propagation. He calls the new form of modulation L-mode, as he has found that he must use his larynx to produce it.

Throckmorton demonstrated his discovery to a group of reporters in his laboratory last month. He had set up an impressive piece of apparatus, with what looked like glass bottles that had a reddish glow to them. They were mounted in a very heavy metallic chassis structure that had several circular indicators with moving needles pointing to a semicircular scale. The ol' Professor threw a large copper double pole-double throw knife switch as he picked up his L-mode transducer apparatus.

The transducer is shaped exactly like the frustum of a large cone with a hollow interior. Throckmorton had a heavy handle attached so that he could raise the transducer to his lips. He had attached the end of the transducer to the glowing apparatus with two copper wires.

Almost as if on cue, he yelled into the transducer, "CQ CQ CQ, from K6LID". All the reporters in the room were impressed by the large amplification that he achieved using this extraordinary new mode. ■

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