

CQ Chatter

AUGUST 2014

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WOOD COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

PRESIDENT	WB8NQW	BOB WILLMAN
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SECRETARY	N1RB	BOB BOUGHTON
TREASURER	KD8NJW	JIM BARNHOUSE

[HTTP://WCARC.BGSU.EDU](http://wcarc.bgsu.edu)

WCARC Field Day Activities

In what has become a fairly strong tradition by now, WCARC assembled various pieces of equipment at the Wood County Historical Museum for Field Day operations on June 28th. The weatherman cooperated the entire time with a nice sunny (but humid) day. There were about fifteen participants throughout the day.

Activities started with the erection of the traditional all-band loop antenna at around noon. The three anchor points used were the oil derrick and two trees that gave the antenna a footprint that covered most of the small field that lies East of the museum. The pulley that had been left on the derrick last year so that no one would have to climb up it again was missing--so guess what? After the delay due having to re-install the pulley, the rest of the operation went smoothly. The operating table was located in the usual

place by the forge building. In keeping with the Club's spirit of experimentation, an aluminum extension ladder was raised to serve as a 40 meter vertical antenna, and loaded directly with some coax. This antenna was used to make quite a few contacts and was especially effective on 15 meters.

Shortly after 2:00 pm, operation began in earnest. This year we were able to operate on emergency power from the generator provided by Jim-K8JU. The Club had three stations in operation, two HF transceivers and a QRP rig operated by Bill-WD8JWJ. All in all, the WCARC operators racked up about 50 contacts.

The highlight of the day was of course the potluck dinner with main course of shredded chicken and biscuits provided by Don-K8OVO and (especially) his XYL.

Many thanks to all who contributed to the set-up, operations, food and general interest that has become a WCARC tradition on Field Day. ■

Net Check Ins

Jul 1 Traffic: 0

KD8NJW (NCS)
KD8YYA
WD8JWJ
N1RB
W8PSK
WB8NQW
KD8RNO
W8MSW
N8VNT
KD8VWU
KD8WZK (11)

Jul 8 Traffic: 0

N1RB (NCS)
K8OVO
KD8WZK/P
W8PSK
KD8NJW
WB8NQW
KD8VWU
WD8ICP
K8BBK
WD8JWJ (11)

Jul 15 Traffic: 0

K8OVO (NCS)
KD8WZK
KD8VWU
N8VNT
WB8NQW
WD8JWJ
KC8EKT (7)

BRAIN TEASERS

1. What is resonance in an electric circuit?
 - a.) the highest frequency that will pass current
 - b.) the lowest frequency that will pass current
 - c.) the frequency at which capacitive reactance equals inductive reactance
 - d.) the frequency at which power factor is at a minimum
2. What happens to the conductivity of a photoconductive material when light shines on it?
 - a.) it increases
 - b.) it decreases
 - c.) it stays the same
 - d.) it becomes temperature dependent
3. Why is an RF attenuator desirable in a receiver used for direction finding?
 - a.) it narrows the bandwidth of the signal
 - b.) it eliminates the effects of isotropic radiation
 - c.) it reduces loss of received signals caused by antenna pattern nulls
 - d.) it prevents receiver overload from extremely strong signals

August Contests

The contest lineup for the month of August is given below. Please note that the WARC bands (60, 30, 17 and 12 m) are never open to contesting.

Aug 2-3	<i>1800 to 0600 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
North American QSO Party		CW
Aug 9-10	<i>0000 to 2359 Z</i>	80 m to 10 m
WAE `test		CW
Aug 9-10	<i>1600 to 0400;1600 to 0000 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
Maryland-DC QSO Party		all modes
Aug 16-17	<i>0800 to 0800 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
Russian District `test		all modes
Aug 16-17	<i>1800 to 0600 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
North American QSO Party		SSB
Aug 17	<i>1800 to 2359 Z</i>	80 m to 10 m
ARRL Rookie Roundup		Digital
Aug 23-24	<i>0400 to 0400 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
Hawaii QSO Party		all modes
Aug 23-24	<i>1400 to 0200; 1400 to 2000 Z</i>	80 m to 10 m
Kansas QSO Party		all modes
Aug 23-24	<i>1600 to 0400 Z</i>	80 m to 10 m
Ohio QSO Party		all modes
Aug 30-31	<i>1200 to 1159 Z</i>	80 m to 10 m
YO (Romania) DX `test		all modes
Aug 30-31	<i>1200 to 0400 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
Colorado QSO Party		all modes

Two Meter Signal Copied in the UK

from ARRL Letter

A [group](#) of Amateur Radio operators from Atlantic Canada is operating from Pouch Cove, Newfoundland, until July 12 in a bid to complete a 2 meter transatlantic contact and claim the Brendan trophy. The "Brendan Quest" team is on the air as VC1T from grid GN37os on 144.155 MHz. The group activated on July 4, and a couple of days later, on July 6 at 1341 UTC, G4SWX was able to completely decode an FSK441 transmission from VC1T.

"They attempted to complete the QSO for 4 hours, but were not successful," the team reported. "However, this reception should qualify for the Brendan Plate." The team said a station in Ireland was able to copy parts of three transmissions. Because of the initial success, the group now will use FSK441 exclusively in its Brendan bid.

VC1T had been concentrating its efforts on JT65B, but it has CW and SSB capability, which the team will try if it is able to achieve an FSK441 two-way. Part of the *WSJT* software package developed by Joe Taylor, K1JT, FSK441 was primarily designed to detect very brief "pings" from meteor trails. VC1T is running 750 W into a rope-supported 43 element, 100 foot long Yagi directed at Europe.



43 element rope-supported Yagi at VC1T

It has a gain of more than 23 dBd. When driven with 750 W, the effective radiated power (ERP) in the center of the major lobe should be about 150 kW, the group estimated.

Members of the expedition include Fred Archibald, VE1FA; Roger Sturtevant, VE1SKY; Helen Archibald, VA1YL; Rich Pieniaszek, VA1CHP, and Al Penney, VO1NO. The Brendan Trophy is a series of awards offered by the Irish Radio Transmitters Society (IRTS) to the first Amateur Radio operators to complete a 2 meter transatlantic contact. According to the IRTS, the Brendan Trophy is awarded for the first "traditional mode" two-way contact — i.e., SSB or CW capable of being copied without machine assistance. The Brendan Shield is awarded for the first "nontraditional mode" two-way contact, i.e., digital modes and high-speed CW. The Brendan Plate is given for the first verified reception of a transatlantic signal in any mode.

continued---on p.6

WCARC Weekly Net

Tuesdays at

2100 EDST/EST

147.18 MHz 67 Hz PL

Net Control Roster

Jul	29	WB8NQW
Aug	5	KD8NJW
Aug	12	N1RB
Aug	19	W8PSK
Aug	26	K8OVO
Sep	2	WB8NQW
Sep	9	KD8NJW

NEXT MEETING

BUSINESS MEETING

Monday, August 11th

TIME: 7:30pm/7:00 EB

PLACE:

Sheriff's Training Room

E. Gypsy Lane Rd. &

S. Dunbridge Rd.

Bowling Green, OH

DON'T FORGET!

10 meter informal net meets Sunday
@ 2030 EST/EDST on 28.335 MHz

August Hamfests

Aug 24 Cuyahoga Falls ARC. Annual hamfest. Robert Pinn Armory, Stow, OH. Contact Frank, W8EZT, (330) 928-4048.

e-mail: tailfest2014@cfarc.org

web: <http://cfarc.org/tailgate2014.html>

Sep 7 Findlay RC. Annual hamfest. Hancock County Fairgrounds, Findlay, OH. Contact Bill, N8ET, (419) 423-3402.

e-mail: n8et@woh.rr.com

web: <http://www.w8ft.org>

Net Check Ins continued

Jul 22 Traffic: 0

K8OVO (NCS)
NM8W/M
KD8WZK
KD8NJW
W8PSK
KD8VWU
WB8NQW
N1RB
N8VTE
K8BBK-REM (10)

Jul 29 Traffic: 0

WB8NQW (NCS)
N1RB
K8OVO
KD8RNO
WD8JWJ
KD8VWU (6)

Brain Teaser answers: (E) 1-c, 2-a, 3-d

**WCARC Meeting
Program
Jeff Halsey-KG8FH
Audio Amplifiers that
glow in the dark
or
Rolling Your Own
Computer**

FACEBOOK SAYS OK TO HAM CALLS AS ALTERNATE NAME

from ARNewsline

Officially licensed amateur radio operators may now use their call sign as their alternate name, or nickname, on their individual Facebook profiles. This thanks to Richard Bobbitt, NW7OR, who recently organized a petition drive on the social media site in the hope of achieving this goal. It turned out that Jeff Ferland, KB1PNB, who works at the Facebook Headquarters in Menlo Park, California found the petition on an amateur radio Facebook Group to which he belongs. After doing a bit of research Ferland wrote the necessary code, then got it reviewed and approved.

To add your call Bobbitt says to go to go to "Settings", then click on "Edit Your Name." In the middle of the page you will see the words "Alternate Name." That's where you can add your call sign. Bobbitt says that the petition was originally the idea of Richard Allcorn, KW7PTL, without whom this may not have happened so easily and quickly. Over 1000 hams on Facebook signed the petition within the first week or so after it was posted on the various Facebook ham radio pages. ■

two meter---from p. 4

The goals of the Brendan Quest team are to complete at least one contact on 2 meters using "terrestrial propagation modes" or on both CW and SSB and "non-traditional" modes, such as JT65B. The group plans to operate continuously for the entire period, transmitting on even minutes, and receiving on odd minutes. The Pouch Cove site is 3040 km from the Irish coast and just 23 km from the Cabot Tower site in St Johns, Newfoundland, where Marconi copied the first transatlantic signal in 1901. ■

Field Day Fun

photos courtesy of K3RC



*Phil-**W8PSK**, Tom-**KC8IGZ**, Steve-**W8MSW** and Steve-**K8BBK** preparing to erect the "extension ladder vertical"*

*The ladder is erected and being guyed by Bob-**WB8NQW**. The antenna was tuned for 40m (first harmonic) and 15m (third harmonic) and loaded well on both bands.*



Close up of the sophisticated feeding arrangement. Club operators made over 20 Field Day contacts with this antenna and reached as far away as Oregon and California

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