

CQ CHATTER

JANUARY 2016

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WOOD COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

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

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

Minutes *WCARC Meeting* December 14, 2015

Bob-WB8NQW, presiding

Present: Bob-N1RB, Bruce-AA8HS, Hoot-WB8VUL, Terry Halliwill, Bill-WD8JWJ, Eric-WD8LEI, Jim-KD8NJW, Chuck-WD8ICP, Steve-K8BBK, Bob-WB8NQW

Meeting Called to Order with Pledge of Allegiance at 7:35 pm.

Minutes of October meeting approved.

Treasurer's Report-Report approved (RB/VUL).

Old Business:

- Bob reported that the MOU (memorandum of understanding) between WCARC and the BiG FabLab is a work still in progress. He hopes to get it completed soon after legal consultation. He will

continued---on p.4

New ARES VHF/UHF Contest Planned

The Section Emergency Test (SET) in Ohio, which was a grid-down power outage, involved a lot of simplex work. In order to capitalize on that activity, Ohio ARES has launched the first annual "ARES VHF Simplex Contest". It's simple, direct, and follows a civilized time-frame.

Even something as simple as a temporary loss of power could necessitate using 2-meter/70-centimeter simplex as the main mode of local communication. We hope to both stimulate interest in the simplex modes along with data, and to create a fun atmosphere in which antenna performance and coverage can be determined - very helpful for a real communications emergency!

The contest is open to all, and we hope to stir up a lot of simplex activity on January 9, 2016. More information on pages 8 and 9. ■

NET CHECK INS

Dec 8 Traffic: 0

WB8NQW (NCS)
KD8WZK
W8PSK
KD8NJW
WD8JWJ
AA8HS
K8OVO
N1RB
KD8VWU
K8BBK
K8LL
WD8LEI (12)

Dec 15 Traffic: 0

KD8NJW (NCS)
K8BBK
WB8NQW
WD8JWJ
N1RB
KD8VWU
N8YAE (7)

Dec 22 Traffic: 0

KD8VWU (NCS)
WD8LEI
K8JU
NM8W
KD8RNO
KE8CUX
KD8NJW
N8VNT
WD8JWJ
WB8NQW
KC8EKT
N1RB
WD8ICP
K8OVO
KE8CUZ
KE8CVA (16)

BRAIN TEASERS

1. When choosing a transmitting frequency, what should you do to comply with good amateur practice?
 - a.) make sure the frequency and mode are within your license privileges
 - b.) follow generally accepted band plans agreed to by the Amateur community
 - c.) monitor the frequency before transmitting
 - d.) all of the above
2. Which of the following statements is true of the SSB voice mode?
 - a.) only 1 sideband and the carrier are transmitted; other sideband is suppressed
 - b.) only 1 sideband is transmitted; the carrier and the other sideband are suppressed
 - c.) SSB is the only voice mode authorized on the 20m, 15m and 10m amateur bands
 - d.) SSB is the only voice mode authorized on the 160m, 75m, and 40m amateur bands
3. Approximately how long does it take the increased ultra-violet and X-ray radiation from solar flares to affect radio propagation on Earth?
 - a.) 28 days
 - b.) 1 to 2 hours
 - c.) 8 minutes
 - d.) 20 to 40 hrs

January Contests

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

Jan 2-3	<i>1800 to 2359 Z</i>	80 m to 10 m
ARRL RTTY Roundup		RTTY
Jan 3	<i>1800 to 2359 Z</i>	80 m to 2 m
Kid's Day `test		Phone
Jan 9-10	<i>1800 to 0559 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
North American QSO Party		CW
Jan 16-17	<i>1200 to 1159 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
Hungarian DX `test		all modes
Jan 16-17	<i>1800 to 0559 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
North American QSO Party		SSB
Jan 23-24	<i>0000 to 2359 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
Montana QSO Party		all modes
Jan 30-31	<i>0600 to 1800 Z</i>	80 m to 10 m
REF (France) `test		CW
Jan 30-31	<i>1300 to 1300 Z</i>	80 m to 10 m
UBA (Belgium) `test		SSB
Jan 30-Feb 1	<i>1900 to 0359 Z</i>	6 m and up
ARRL VHF `test		all modes

*Merry
Christmas*



*and a
Happy New Year*

minutes-from p. 1

convene the FabLab Committee in the near future to consider the next steps.

- Bob (RB) reported that we already have have two pieces of loaned amateur equipment for the FabLab site that are ready to be operated: a Kenwood TS-530S hf transceiver (Jerry Wicks) and a Yaesu FT-7800R dual band vhf/uhf transceiver w/magmount antenna (Phil-W8PSK). The concern is that if made operable at the FabLab, an unlicensed person could operate them.
- Eric (LEI) reported that he is currently working on permission technology to lock out unlicensed persons from operational functions, and expects it to be ready soon.
- Bob (NQW) reported that the Yaesu Fusion repeater has been on the air for nearly a month now and has been working fine except for a couple of times when it hung up in a constant transmitting mode. These events occasioned a physical visit by Technical Committee members to cycle it on and off.
- A solution is being worked on by Eric (LEI) to use a DTMF-controlled output on the 147.18 machine's CAT-250 controller to switch a relay that would control AC power to the Fusion machine. This, and a remote way to shut

down the main repeater are in the works.

New Business:

- Bob (RB) reported that all five members of the Technician class that was held at the FabLab have passed the exam. More information will be forthcoming when they receive their calls.
- Bob also reported that several members of the class expressed an interest in having General Class instruction. He solicited interest from members present in holding these classes and got several positive signs. The General classes would be held in the Feb / Mar time frame - - - announcements will be made beforehand.
- Eric (LEI) reviewed his efforts at getting organized in his new role of Wood County EC. He visited the Lucas County 911 Center, and is still working on possible meeting times for ARES. He emphasized his intention to more closely integrate ARES with other area ARES groups as well as with the Clubs in Wood County, and passed out calling cards with his contact information to those interested in ARES. He also announced the first Simplex VHF/UHF Contest to be held on Jan. 9th, and encouraged all to participate (see pages 8 and 9).

continued---on p.6

WCARC Weekly Net

Tuesdays at

2100 EDST/EST

147.18 MHz 67 Hz PL

Net Control Roster

Jan	12	WB8NQW
Jan	19	KD8NJW
Jan	26	KD8VWU
Feb	2	N1RB
Feb	9	K80VO
Feb	16	WB8NQW

NEXT MEETING

Kick-off Banquet

Sunday, January 10

TIME: Noon

PLACE: Holiday Inn-

French Quarter

J. Patrick's

10630 Fremont Pike

(US 20)

Perrysburg, OH

DON'T FORGET!

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

***It's time to renew-
dues for 2016 payable to:***

WCARC, P.O. Box 534

Bowling Green, OH 43402

see wcarc.bgsu.edu for membership rates

Technician Class Produces 5 New Licensees

The Technician license class was held for 8 weeks beginning in mid-October. License exams were administered on December 10th, and all five members of the class were successful in passing the test. The Volunteer Examiners who administered the test were: Linda-N1LB, Phil-W8PSK, Jim-KD8CIJ and Bob-N1RB.

Our congratulations to the new Technician licensees: Jim Elliott-KE8CUZ, Terry Halliwill-KE8CVA, Greg Huber-KE8CUX, Tom Tingley-KE8CUY, and Jerry Wicks-KE8CUW. In accordance with WCARC bylaws, they are entitled to a full year's free membership in WCARC-welcome! ■

minutes-from p. 4

- Bob (N1RB) reported that there is need for an Officer's slate for the election to be held at the banquet. With apologies for being late on this, he stated that he will be contacting various prospects soon.

- Bob reminded all of the banquet date (Jan. 10th at noon) at the French Quarter.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:15 pm.

The meeting was followed by an interesting presentation by Bruce-AA8HS, on the subject of microwave operation, equipment and amateur involvement. Thanks to Bruce for an excellent program. ■

KICK-OFF BANQUET PLANS

Due to the unavailability of Nazareth Hall this year, the Club voted to hold the kick-off banquet at the French Quarter in Perrysburg this year.

The Club has reservations at J. Patrick's for 12 noon on Sunday, January 10 for the Sunday Brunch. Base prices are as follows:

(a 20% gratuity will be added)
Buffet - \$15
Seniors - \$14
Children 4-12 - \$9
Under 3 - Free
---Separate checks. ■

January Hamfests

Jan 24 Hazel Park ARC. 50th Annual Hamfest. UFCW Local 876, Hazel Park, MI.

web: <http://khparc.org>

TRANSMITTING SPIRIT ON CHRISTMAS EVE

from ARNewsline

Two unique transmitters -- the first, a vintage one, the second, an experimental one -- are delivering a Christmas Eve message this year, so listen up:

The Alexanderson Transmitter in Sweden is more than 90 years old. But the tradition it inspired is perhaps 10 years old. Developed by Swedish engineer and radio pioneer Ernst Alexanderson, a General Electric employee in Schenectady, New York, the vintage transmitter will be tuned up and transmitting on Christmas Eve, sending its holiday message in CW on the VLF frequency of 17.2 kHz from Grimeton Radio/SAQ in Sweden.

The Alexanderson transmitter's tuneup will begin at 0730 UTC. The event will also be webcast live on the webpage www.alexander.n.se - where information about listener reports can also be found.

Once used regularly in transatlantic communications, the Alexanderson transmitter is now a treasured museum piece. And it is put into action only on special occasions - such as this one.

It's a special occasion too for Brian Justin, WA1ZMS, who is pressing his 600-meter Experimental Station WG2XFQ into service as well on Christmas Eve. The 486 kHz transmission from Forest, Virginia, set to begin at 0001 UTC, honors the 109th anniversary of Reginald Fessenden's first

audio transmission. The commemorative transmission will continue for 24 hours and, according to Justin, will be repeated on New Year's Eve and New Year's Day.

Such operations are a specialty for Justin, whose transmissions coincide with - and honor - important dates in the history of wireless communications.

Send listener reports to Justin at his QRZ.com address. ■

Kids Day

The next **Kids Day** will be Sunday, January 3, 2016, from 1800 to 2400 UTC. The twice-yearly event, sponsored by the ARRL and The Bor-ing (Oregon) Amateur Radio Club, is an excellent opportunity to showcase Amateur Radio and Amateur Radio satellites to youngsters and even to hand over the keys so they can get some hands-on hamming experience. For veteran radio amateurs, it's a chance to share their stations and affection for Amateur Radio with the next generation.

To solicit contacts call "CQ Kids Day." The suggested exchange is name, age, location, and favorite color. There is *no* limit on operating time, and stations may work each other more than once if the operator has changed.

All participants are eligible to receive a colorful **certificate**. You can send a 9 x 12 SASE to Kids Day Certificate Request, ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111. ■

Announcing!

The Ohio ARES VHF Contest

January 9, 2016



Purpose

ARES is tasked with being able to provide communications “When all else fails.” Local communication is critical and typically takes place on the VHF or UHF amateur band. In order to improve our ability to perform on these bands, Ohio Section ARES is sponsoring the ARES VHF Contest (Yeah, we know, but calling it the Ohio VHF / UHF Contest got a little long-winded). Participants in the contest are encouraged to make as many contacts as possible within the timeframe of the contest, with as many different geographical locations as the bands permit. The contest is open to all amateur operators, ARES members are strongly encouraged to participate. How else are you going to win the ‘bragging rights’ session of your next ARES meeting?

When did you say it was?

The contest is January 9, 2016. The start time is (for those of us who sleep in) 10 AM through 6 PM Eastern. Yeah, a civilized timeframe that doesn’t rob sleep, and allows time with the family. Why, you can even watch a few cartoons in the morning!

Where you gonna be?

You may operate this contest from anywhere. There are certain benefits for venturing out from your warm, comfortable home station. EOC stations can gain extra points. Portable stations can gain even MORE extra points – that is, if your frozen fingers will still be able to operate a keyboard. Portable stations MUST use portable antennas, nothing permanently attached...kind of like Field Day on ice. We are not going with any mobile operation this time. The image of a bunch of vehicles running around with portable towers, 150 pounds of antenna hardware and an occasional grounding anchor is best left to the ARRL contesters.

Da Bands – a la’ Mode

Because local emergency communication takes place primarily on the two meter and 70 centimeter bands, the contest is limited to those two bands. Within each band, we will have these modes: FM Simplex, “Everything else” Simplex; DIGITAL simplex contacts will make up a third mode on each band. Contacts with a station count once per mode- if you can talk the other guy into abandoning “his frequency” and meeting you on SSB or CW, more power to ya! NO REPEATER CONTACTS WILL COUNT. If you get bored, you certainly are welcome to chat amongst yourselves on repeaters, or simplex, or cell phones, or smoke signals.

Da Contacts

The goal is to contact as many different stations in as many different counties as possible. You can make as many overall contacts as you like, they will then be multiplied by the number of counties you’ve reached. Extra points will be available for contacting an EC, AEC, DEC or ADEC or SEC. Pretty simple- any more complex and we’ll confuse the scorekeepers.

Da Score

Each FM Simplex contact counts as 1 point.

Each non- FM simplex contact counts as 1 point.

Each digital simplex contact counts as 1 point. (Detect a pattern here?)

Contact with EC, AEC, DEC, ADEC, or SEC adds 5 points.

Contact with an EOC or with a portable station adds 5 points.

Operation from an EOC add 50 points to your total contact score.

Operation from a portable location add 100 points to your total contact score.

Total contact score (all bands/modes added together) will be multiplied by the total number of counties you contacted.

Da Logs

Please use any of the appropriate computer logging programs, paper dupe sheets, a well worn slide rule or rusty abacus. Just keep all that to yourself, we can't find anyone with the time to go through all the detail contacts. Submit an email to "contest@delares.org" with the following:

Your name:

Group name:

Location: (City, county)

FM Simplex Contacts:

"Everything else" Simplex Contacts:

Digital Simplex Contacts:

EOC bonus:

Portable bonus:

Total Contact Score (Add above together, but you figured that out already):

Multiply by total number of counties contacted (include your own!):

Bask in the glory of a well thought out, well executed effort!

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

