

# CQ CHATTER

SEPTEMBER 2016

VOLUME B16 • ISSUE 7

## WOOD COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

PRESIDENT

WB8NQW

BOB WILLMAN

CO-VICE PRESIDENTS

K8BBK

STEVE MCEWEN

W8PSK

LOREN PHILLIPS

SECRETARY

N1RB

BOB BOUGHTON

TREASURER

KD8NJW

JIM BARNHOUSE

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

### Minutes WCARC Meeting August 8, 2016

**Bob-WB8NQW, presiding**

**Present:** Bob-K3RC, Bob-N1RB, Terry-KE8CVA, Bill-WD8JWJ, Hoot-WB8VUL, Stan-K8LL, Jim-KD8NJW, Bob-WB8NQW

**Meeting Called to Order** with Pledge of Allegiance at 7:30 pm.

**Minutes** of June meeting were approved unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report** approved unanimously.

#### Old Business:

- Bob offered congratulations to Terry, KE8CVA, for his recent upgrade to General Class.
- Field Day: Bob relayed suggestions that since several operators stayed overnight, it would be nice to have a breakfast served on

*continued---on p.4*

### Dayton Hamvention Change of Venue

*from ARRL Letter*

Dayton [Hamvention](#)® is moving on after 52 years at Hara Arena, and 2017 preparations at the show's new venue in Xenia, Ohio, now are in full swing, two Hamvention officials [explained](#) this week on the [Amateur Radio Roundtable](#) webcast hosted by Tom Medlin, W5KUB. Hamvention announced on August 1 that it would relocate to the [Greene County Fairgrounds](#), after Hara Arena made it known that it would close at month's end.

Hamvention 2017 General Chair Ron Cramer, KD8ENJ, and official spokesperson Mike Kalter, W8CI, fielded questions from Medlin and callers during the hour-long August 9th show. Cramer said some members of the Amateur Radio community entertain preconceived notions about the new venue that are "far off base," and he and Kalter wanted to set the record straight.

*continued---on p.4*

## NET CHECK INS

**Aug 2**      **Traffic: 0**

**N1RB**            **(NCS)**

**KE8EUD**

**N8VNT**

**KD8NJW**

**KG8FH**

**WD8LEI**

**KD8RNO**

**KD8VWU**

**KE8CVA**

**NM8W**

**WD8ICP**

**K8JU/P**            **(12)**

**Aug 9**      **Traffic: 1**

**WB8NQW**        **(NCS)**

**KD8NJW**

**KD8RNO**

**N8VNT**

**WD8JWJ**

**KE8CVA**

**KC8EKT**

**KG8FH**

**KE8CUZ**

**WD8LEI**

**KD8VWU**

**KC8TRL**

**KC8NKC**

**N8YAE**

**K8OVO**

**N8FM**            **(16)**

**Aug 16**      **Traffic: 0**

**KD8VWU**        **(NCS)**

**NM8W**

**KD8NJW**

**KD8RNO**

**W8PSK**

## BRAIN TEASERS

1. What is the approximate length, in inches, of a 6 meter half-wave dipole antenna?
  - a.) 6
  - b.) 50
  - c.) 112
  - d.) 236
2. What best describes a relay?
  - a.) a switch controlled by an electromagnet
  - b.) a current controlled amplifier
  - c.) an optical sensor
  - d.) a pass transistor
3. What is the national calling frequency for FM simplex operations in the 70 cm band?
  - a.) 146.520 MHz
  - b.) 145.000 MHz
  - c.) 432.100 MHz
  - d.) 446.000 MHz

# September Contests

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

<b>Sep 3-4</b>	<i>0000 to 2359 Z</i>	80 m to 10 m
<b>All Asian DX `test</b>		<b>SSB</b>
<b>Sep 3-4</b>	<i>1300 to 0400 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
<b>Colorado QSO Party</b>		<b>all modes</b>
<b>Sep 4-5</b>	<i>1800 to 0300 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
<b>Tennessee QSO Party</b>		<b>all modes</b>
<b>Sep 10-11</b>	<i>0000 to 2359 Z</i>	80 m to 10 m
<b>WAE(urope) DX `test</b>		<b>SSB</b>
<b>Sep 10</b>	<i>1600 to 2359 Z</i>	80 m to 10 m
<b>OH State Parks on the air</b>		<b>SSB</b>
<b>Sep 17-18</b>	<i>1200 to 1200 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
<b>All Africa Int'l DX `test</b>		<b>all modes</b>
<b>Sep 17-18</b>	<i>1600 to 2000 Z</i>	80 m to 10 m
<b>New Jersey QSO Party</b>		<b>all modes</b>
<b>Sep 17-18</b>	<i>1600 to 2200 Z</i>	160 m to 6 m
<b>New Hampshire QSO Party</b>		<b>all modes</b>
<b>Sep 17-18</b>	<i>1600 to 2359 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
<b>Washington QSO Party</b>		<b>all modes</b>
<b>Sep 24-25</b>	<i>0000 to 2359 Z</i>	80 m to 6 m
<b>CQ WW DX `test</b>		<b>RTTY</b>
<b>Sep 24-25</b>	<i>1200 to 1200 Z</i>	160 m to 6 m
<b>Maine QSO Party</b>		<b>all modes</b>
<b>Sep 24-25</b>	<i>1400 to 2000 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
<b>Texas QSO Party</b>		<b>all modes</b>

**hamvention---from p.1**

"Change is hard for everyone, but I think this is a very good move for us," Cramer said. "You will be very impressed." Kalter echoed the sentiment. "We want to start out great and get awesome," he said. Kalter said there's been a lot of second-guessing, but that "a lot of overriding factors" and a year-long search led to the selection of Greene County Fairgrounds.

Kalter assured those planning to attend Hamvention that Fairgrounds buildings -- particularly those used for showing livestock during the county fair -- are "absolutely clean" and well maintained. He and Cramer expressed confidence that everyone will find plenty of available parking and room for all traditional Hamvention activities -- more than may be evident at first glance. Vendors who have already visited the new site to get the lay of the land went away "excited," they said.

At this point, no hard-and-fast decisions have been made as to how Hamvention will put the available buildings and space to use next spring, but Cramer and Kalter said the Fairgrounds staff has been especially helpful. "We're all working together now to make this happen," Kalter said. He and Cramer made clear that Hamvention officials remain open to questions and suggestions.

Cramer quashed one misconception about Hara Arena. "Even though

they had air conditioning," he said, "air conditioning was never used there. The doors were open, and they did not want to turn on the air conditioning unless the doors were closed. So, I don't think air conditioning was used at all -- at least in the last 10 years."

Some air conditioned space already available at the new venue may be suitable for such activities as forums, and the Fairgrounds is looking to upgrade existing ventilation systems in non-air conditioned buildings. "We're looking at the possibility of air conditioned 'chalets'" for forums, Kalter said. ■

**minutes---from p.1**

Sunday morning. After some discussion, consensus was that it is a good idea.

Bill (JWJ) mentioned that not so many showed up for the potluck thus leaving a surplus of food. He wonders if having it be a potluck is a deterrent to participation. He asked for suggestions on how to increase attendance. One possibility is to have a sign-up sheet, but that introduces its own logistical problems.

Bob mentioned that he wrote an article about Field Day for the Museum Newsletter that included a photo of Terry (CVA) at his operating position.

- Bob reported that the Silent Key plaque is now up-to-date.

**continued---on p.5**

# WCARC Weekly Net

Tuesdays at 2100 all year

147.18 MHz 67 Hz PL

## Net Control Roster

Sep 6	W8PSK
Sep 13	K8OVO
Sep 20	WB8NQW
Sep 27	N1RB
Oct 4	KD8VWU
Oct 11	KD8NJW
Oct 18	NM8W

# NEXT MEETING

*Breakfast Meeting*

Saturday, Sept. 3rd

TIME: 9:00 am

PLACE:

Frisch's Big Boy

E. Poe Rd.

& N. Main St.

Bowling Green, OH

### *minutes---from p.4*

- Bob mentioned the time for nominations is slowly approaching and asked those who might be interested in running for a officer positions to contact the Nominating Committee, Bob-N1RB and Linda-N1LB.
- Fab Lab: Now that Field Day is over, Bob mentioned several pending items regarding our association with the BiG FabLab. We were asked to develop a beginning course in electronics for patrons. Nothing much has been done yet, but it is now a priority. Also, the station set up at the Fab Lab location still requires some work on erecting antennas and transmit security. He will convene

the Technical Committee soon to discuss these issues.

### **New Business:**

- The Dayton Hamvention is forced to move because Hara Arena is closing. The new location is the Greene County Fairgrounds in Xenia, OH.
- Foxhunt is coming up on September 3rd after the breakfast meeting. Bill (JWJ) is the fox.
- Stan (LL) reminded all of the Ohio QSO Party on August 27-28. This is a good opportunity for you to be on the good end of a pile-up.

**Meeting Adjourned** at 8:10 pm. ■

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# **FEMA Teams with Clubs for Preparedness Information**

**Aug 16-continued**

**N1RB  
KE8CVA  
KG8FH  
KD8NJZ  
W8MSW  
N8YAE  
KC8KQY (12)**

**Aug 23 Traffic: 0**

**KD8NJW (NCS)  
N8VNT  
WB8NQW  
WD8LEI  
N8PYA  
KC8EKT  
KD8VWU  
N1RB  
KE8CVA  
WD8JWJ  
KC8NKC  
W8PSK (12)**

**Aug 30 Traffic: 0**

**NM8W (NCS)  
WD8LEI  
KE8CUZ  
KC8EKT  
KD8NJW  
KD8RNO  
KG8FH  
KD8VWU  
W8PSK  
N1RB  
WB8NQW  
WD8JWJ (12)**

*from ARRL Letter*

September is National Preparedness Month. As part of its focus on community education and preparation, **FEMA** offers a "Family Emergency Communications Plan" to help families work out their communication strategies in the event of an emergency. ARRL is partnering with FEMA to offer this material to interested Amateur Radio clubs that are willing to present it in their localities during National Preparedness Month. While the FEMA presentation focuses on the Family Communications Plan and doesn't specifically mention ham radio, the material offers Amateur Radio clubs a great opportunity to raise their visibility in their communities.

A webinar with FEMA Region 1 Preparedness Liaison Sara Varela will take place on Tuesday, August 23, at 8 PM EDT (Wednesday, August 24, at 0000 UTC), to offer background and training for any club wishing to present FEMA's Family Emergency Communications Plan material in September.

**Registration** is requested. The presentation of the FEMA material to local communities should take approximately 1 hour. It will include a *PowerPoint* presentation and links to worksheets that families can discuss and fill out together.

Clubs are free to offer additional presentations on their activities following presentation of the FEMA material. ■

## FOXHUNT PLANNED

The next foxhunt is planned after the breakfast meeting on Saturday, September 3rd. Bill, WD8JWJ, will act as the fox, and will open things up on the K8TIH repeater. He will then give instructions for the move to a simplex frequency. The fox can choose his location anywhere in Wood County. If you are interested in direction finding, this is a great opportunity to gain experience. ■

## New Fairgrounds Venue Perfect for Hamvention

from ARRL Letter

[DX Engineering](#) Chief Operating Officer Tim Duffy, K3LR, says he's enthusiastic about the new Dayton Hamvention® venue at the Greene County Fairgrounds in Xenia, Ohio -- both as a vendor and as an individual radio amateur. DX Engineering recently produced a short [video tour](#) of the new Hamvention location, which includes an interview with Hamvention spokesperson Mike Kalter, W8CI.

"I can tell you that I have been hearing from all over the world a sigh of relief after [people] see the video we did at the Fairgrounds," Duffy told ARRL. "The new venue is huge, and it is clean -- it will be perfect for Hamvention." Duffy said he likes the Greene County Fairgrounds

so much that he thinks that Hamvention will be even better at its new site than it had been for the past 10 years or so at Hara Arena in Trotwood, Ohio.

Duffy, who is also ARRL Western Pennsylvania Section Manager, encouraged the Amateur Radio community to support and encourage Hamvention's sponsor -- the Dayton Amateur Radio Association ([DARA](#)) as it makes the myriad arrangements for the big show. "This is a very tough job for an all-volunteer staff," he added.

In the approximately 8-minute video, Kalter, who is DARA's treasurer, said he was happy that Duffy, as a Hamvention vendor, could see the new venue firsthand. "We consider this a collaboration," Kalter told Duffy. "We want everybody to be happy." For his part, Duffy was enthusiastic about the size of the new site. "This place is so big!" he said. The Fairgrounds covers more than 100 acres, and Duffy said he checked out every building. He told Kalter that he was impressed to see DARA volunteers showing up at the new Hamvention site every day as they prepare for their Xenia debut in 2017.

"What I saw here today -- I think you're well on your way," Duffy told Kalter. "Things are on the right track." Kalter expressed the hope that DARA will be able to take Hamvention to "a whole new level" at its new location. ■

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

# September Hamfests

**September 11 Findlay RC. Annual Hamfest.** Hancock County Fairgrounds, Findlay, OH.

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

**September 18 Adrian ARC. Annual Hamfest.** Lenawee County Airport, Adrian, MI.

web: <http://w8tqe.com>

**DON'T FORGET!**

**10 meter informal net meets**

**Sunday@ 2030 year round**

**on 28.335 MHz**

## **IN ALASKA, PREPARING TO PLAY THE HAARP**

*from ARNewsline*

Why does the ionosphere behave as it does? At a newly reopened research facility once owned by the U.S. military, university researchers about to ask that same question. High frequency radio researchers in Alaska are about to embark on a behavioral study of the most powerful kind, but their work has nothing to do with the habits or psychology of amateur radio operators.

The scientists will be looking at the properties and behavior of the ionosphere, utilizing what is believed to be the world's most capable high-power HF transmitter. All this work is to be done at the High-Frequency Active Auroral Research Program, or HAARP, facility when it reopens in 2017.

The FCC has granted HAARP a pair of experimental service licenses to conduct the research at the facility, which is now owned by the University of Alaska at Fairbanks, which acquired it from the U.S. Air Force. HAARP's research involves beaming radio waves straight up for hundreds of miles, sometimes with such power that the effects create an artificial aurora. Much of the research has applications in satellite communications and navigation. UAF researcher, Chris Fallen, KL3WX, told the ARRL that early next year the research will begin. License WI2XFX will cover testing between 2.65 MHz and 8.1MHz, and license WI2XDV will cover the part of the spectrum between 1 and 40 MHz. ■



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