

# CQ CHATTER

JANUARY 2017

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## 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 December 12, 2016

#### Bob-WB8NQW, presiding

**Present:** N1RB-Bob, KD8NJW-Jim, KE8CVA-Terry, WD8JWJ-Bill, W8AN-Steve, AA8HS-Bruce, WD8LEI-Eric, K8JU-Jim, WB8NQW-Bob, WB8VUL-Hoot

**Meeting called to order:** at 7:30 with Pledge of Allegiance.

**Minutes** of November meeting approved unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report** approved unanimously.

#### Old Business:

- Bob (RB) reported that the Nominating Committee proposes the following slate: President-N1RB, Vice President-KD8VWU, Treasurer-KD8NJW, Secretary-WB8NQW, and Board Member-KE8CVA.

- Bob (RB) reported on progress at the FabLab. A work group erected a VHF/UHF antenna/mast in mid-November. Phil (PSK) has loaned his dual band transceiver to the effort, and it is in place at the FabLab. Security considerations are being pursued with the help of Eric (LEI), who reported that the cost would be up to \$150 to provide access cards, etc., for licensed hams. Bob (RB) moved and CVA/NJW seconded that the Club authorize expenditure up to \$150 on the project. Motion carried unanimously.
- Eric mentioned that an episode of American Woodshop was taped with WBGU-TV at the FabLab, and should appear in the Spring.

#### New Business:

- Bob (NQW) raised the issue of having a postponement/cancellation policy for Club meetings, since none exists at present.

*continued---on p.8*

## NET CHECK INS

Dec 6 Traffic: 0

WB8NQW (NCS)  
K8BBK  
VE3LT  
K8OVO  
KD8VWU  
KD8NJW  
KC8EKT  
KD8RNO  
KE8CVA  
WD8JWJ  
N8VNT  
K8JU  
WD8LEI  
N8YAE (14)

Dec 13 Traffic: 0

K8OVO (NCS)  
KE8CUZ  
KD8NJW  
N8VNT  
N8YAE  
KC8EKT  
KD8VWU  
WB8NQW  
N1RB  
WD8JWJ  
KE8CVA  
K8JU  
KD8RNO  
KA8VNG  
WD8LEI  
W8KJR (16)

## BRAIN TEASERS

1. What is a geomagnetic disturbance?
  - a.) a sudden drop in the solar flux index
  - b.) a shifting of the Earth's magnetic poles
  - c.) ripples in the ionosphere
  - d.) a dramatic change in the Earth's magnetic field over a short period of time
2. How should the microphone gain control be adjusted on a single sideband phone transmitter?
  - a.) for full deflection of the ALC meter on modulation peaks
  - b.) for slight movement of the ALC meter on modulation peaks
  - c.) for 100% frequency deviation on modulation peaks
  - d.) for a dip in the plate current
3. What is the circuit called that causes a transmitter to automatically transmit when an operator speaks into the microphone?
  - a.) VXO
  - b.) VOX
  - c.) VCO
  - d.) VFO

## 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.

<b>Jan 7-8</b>	<i>1800 to 2359 Z</i>	80 m to 10 m
<b>ARRL RTTY Roundup</b>		<b>RTTY</b>
<b>Jan 7</b>	<i>1800 to 2359 Z</i>	80 m to 10 m
<b>Kids Day `test</b>		<b>SSB</b>
<b>Jan 14-15</b>	<i>1800 to 0559 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
<b>North American QSO Party</b>		<b>CW</b>
<b>Jan 21-22</b>	<i>1200 to 1159 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
<b>Hungarian DX `test</b>		<b>CW SSB</b>
<b>Jan 21-22</b>	<i>1800 to 0559 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
<b>North American QSO Party</b>		<b>SSB</b>
<b>Jan 21-23</b>	<i>1900 to 0359 Z</i>	6 m and up
<b>ARRL VHF `test</b>		<b>all modes</b>
<b>Jan 28</b>	<i>0000 to 2359 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
<b>Montana QSO Party</b>		<b>all modes</b>
<b>Jan 28-29</b>	<i>0600 to 1800 Z</i>	80 m to 10 m
<b>REF (France) DX `test</b>		<b>CW</b>
<b>Jan 28-29</b>	<i>1900 to 1900 Z</i>	80 m to 10 m
<b>UBA (Belgium) DX `test</b>		<b>SSB</b>

## January Hamfests

**January 29. Hazel Park ARC.** UFCW Local 876, Madison Hts., MI.  
web: <http://hparc.org>

# SECOND ANNUAL OHIO ARES VHF SIMPLEX CONTEST

*Scott Yonally, N8SY--Ohio SM*

The Second Annual Ohio ARES VHF Simplex Contest will be held on January 14, 2017. After a lot of requests, we are opening this up to 6 meters as a part of your score as well! There is a lot of potential for wide-area coverage on that band, and we need to cultivate some interest- so, for the sixers out there, burn eggs on your beam!!

Some questions, and answers:

Bonus situations: the EOC bonus is exactly what it says---operation must be from an EOC, not a nearby trailer or remote location. EOC ops, add 50 points to your total contact score.

Operation: from any portable location (trailer, tent, park bench, igloo) is 100 points added to your total contact score. Contact an ARES officer of any type, add 5 points to that contact (in other words, if your contact says he's an EC, it's worth 6 points.)

Digital: All modes are open, we've had some questions as to 'which' mode. Any of the modes commonly accepted for NBEMS work!

Frequencies: Grab any you like- if your district has a prescribed simplex frequency, try that first. Anything except a repeater. Make sure you get the county or location of

your contact- the whole point is to be able to plot your best coverage area. Look for 'real' signal reports.  
- HAVE FUN!

Here are the rules again!

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 (UHF) Contest. Participants in the contest are encouraged to make as many contacts as possible within the time-frame 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?

The contest is on January 14, 2017. The start time is 10 AM through 6 PM Eastern. You may operate this contest from anywhere. EOC stations can gain extra points. Portable stations can gain even MORE extra points. 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.

Bands: Because local emergency communication takes place primarily on the two meter and 70 centimeter

*continued---on p.5*

## **WCARC Weekly Net**

**Tuesdays at 2100 all year**

**147.18 MHz 67 Hz PL**

### **Net Control Roster**

<b>Dec 27</b>	<b>N1RB</b>
<b>Jan 3</b>	<b>KD8VWU</b>
<b>Jan 10</b>	<b>KD8NJW</b>
<b>Jan 17</b>	<b>NM8W</b>
<b>Jan 24</b>	<b>K8OVO</b>
<b>Jan 31</b>	<b>WB8NQW</b>
<b>Feb 7</b>	<b>N1RB</b>

## **NEXT MEETING**

***Kick-off Brunch***

**Sunday, Jan 8th**

**TIME: 12:00 noon**

**PLACE: Holiday Inn**

**French Quarter**

**at**

**J. Patrick's**

**10630 Fremont Pike,**

**Perrysburg, OH**

### ***simplex---from p.5***

bands, the contest is limited to those two bands plus 6 meters! 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. **NO REPEATER CONTACTS WILL COUNT.** 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, ADEC, ASEC or SEC.

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. Contact with EC, AEC, DEC, ADEC, ASEC or SEC adds 5 points. Contact with an EOC or with a portable station adds 5 points. Operation from an EOC adds 50 points to your total contact score. Operation from a portable location adds 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. Consult the following URL for more detailed information about submitting logs, scores, etc.

<http://n8sy2.blogspot.com> ■

## NET CHECK INS

Dec 20 Traffic: 0

**N1RB (NCS)**  
**KD8RNO**  
**K8OVO**  
**KD8NJW**  
**WD8LEI**  
**KE8CVA**  
**N8VNT**  
**KD8VWU**  
**WB8NQW**  
**KC8EKT**  
**WD8JWJ**  
**K8JU**  
**KE8CUZ (13)**

Dec 27 Traffic: 0

**WB8NQW (NCS)**  
**WD8LEI**  
**K8JU**  
**KD8NJW**  
**N8VNT**  
**KC8EKT**  
**KG8FH**  
**KE8CVA**  
**KD8VWU**  
**KA8VNG**  
**N8RTO (11)**

## Special Event Reenacts 1921 Amateur Transatlantic Reception

from ARRL Letter

Radio amateurs in the US and in Scotland have re-enacted the first successful transatlantic reception of a shortwave Amateur Radio signal nearly a century earlier. Special event station **N1BCG** in Greenwich, Connecticut, and GB2ZE in Ardrossan, Scotland, completed contacts on SSB and on CW during the December 11 event. ARRL, the Radio Society of Great Britain (**RSGB**), and the Radio Club of America (**RCA**) partnered to support the activity, organized by ARRL CEO Tom Gallagher, NY2RF, and Clark Burgard, N1BCG, who loaned his history-rich call sign for the occasion. On December 11, 1921, in Ardrossan, Scotland, reception of a radio signal transmitted from an RCA test station — located in a small shack on the Greenwich, Connecticut, property of Minton Cronkhite, 1BCG — helped to usher in the age of global communication. In Scotland, American Paul Godley, 2ZE, clearly heard the signal using a receiver of his own design.

“These events are fun, because they’re timely, cause us to focus on the history and on the people who made history,” Gallagher said. “We were very pleased with the tenor of it and with the media coverage, and we were happy to make the connection with GB2ZE, although we would have preferred to have made it on 160 meters, where it would have been closer to the fre-

Brain Teaser answers: (G) 1-d, 2-b, 3-b

*continued---on p.7*

**DON'T FORGET!**  
**10 meter informal net meets**  
**Sunday@ 2030 year round**  
**on 28.335 MHz**

*transatlantic---from p.6*

quency used in 1921." The 1921 transatlantic test, on CW, was conducted on a wavelength of 230 to 235 meters (about 1.3 MHz). The transatlantic tests proved the value of the shorter wavelengths — long considered worthless to long-distance communication.

Burgard spoke on 20-meter SSB with GB2ZE, operated by Jason O'Neill, GM7VSB, in Ardrossan. A bit later, ARRL Field Services Manager Dave Patton, NN1N, chatted with GB2ZE on CW. "After working GB2ZE on 20 meters, I was reminded of how much of a challenge the RCA ops had using 200 meters," Patton said. "Hearing signals in Europe from across the Atlantic had to be a tremendous thrill for Godley and the others listening."

The first message sent by Burgard from Greenwich to Ardrossan on Sunday morning repeated the original 1921 text: "252 AM No. 1 de 1BCG w-12, New York Date 11/12-21 [GMT] To Paul Godley, Ardrossan Scotland, Hearty congratulations Burghard Inman Grinan Armstrong Amy Cronkhite." Patton repeated the message 30 minutes later on CW.

Describing the special event as "a rewarding experience," Patton said the entire team worked together to build a Field Day-style station in wintry weather. He said the complement of equipment included a few "fully-armed vintage AM stations," as well as such modern radios as a

## Try Drinking in These Frequencies

*from ARNewsline*

Weird and Wonderful! A new health food fad here on the shelves in Australia is water infused with the frequency of the moon! What a marketing spiel to attract consumers! Seems that spring water from an aquifer in remote VK4 is put through a two-stage kinetic energy process and infused at 210.42 Hertz, the frequency of The Moon! The result is that individual molecules in the water are enlivened to produce a remarkable soft and ultra-hydrating taste, feel and effect. The product claims to be an outstanding value and offers the most dynamic beverage in the universe.

However, health and dietitian experts disagree, describing the marketing hype as "fanciful in the extreme," but would attract high marks as a first-year marketing assignment. But wait - there's more!!! Love in a bottle! After sourcing this precious water from the protected aquifer in remote northern Queensland, it is put through a two-stage kinetic energy process and infused at a new frequency: 528 Hertz, the frequency of love! Truly a weird and wonderful story worth bottling. ■

FlexRadio 6500 and an Icom 7700. Among the older pieces was a 1950s-era transmitter owned by

*continued---on p.8*

*transatlantic---from p.7*

rocker Joe Walsh, WB6ACU, of The Eagles. The antennas were simple dipoles.

"In about 9 hours of operating, we logged nearly 525 QSOs, with 106 on AM on 40 and 75 meters through conditions that were only fair," Patton recounted.

About a dozen operators sat down to operate the Special Event station, set up near the site of the 1921 1BCG transmitting station. The special event drew the attention of news media, especially on the Scottish end of things, with BBC-Scotland producing reports on the Amateur Radio event.

To highlight the historical nature of the occasion, Godley's grandchildren Bruce Godley Littlefield and his sister, Janice Taylor, visited the special event, and Littlefield brought his grandfather's complete log books of the experiment, as well as numerous photos and letters from ARRL.

"We enjoyed the opportunity to reconnect the Godley history with that of ARRL and the Radio Club of America," Littlefield said afterward. ■

*minutes---from p.1*

After some discussion, a motion was made and seconded (JU/CVA) that in case of a Level 2 emergency in Wood County on the day of the meeting, it should be postponed by one week. The motion carried unanimously.

- Bob mentioned that there are seats still available for a bus day-trip to the Auburn/Duesenberg Museum in Auburn, IN, on Saturday, March 18. Anyone interested should contact him.
- Eric reported on ARES activities. He plans to hold a meeting in January. He has also applied for a grant to provide a DMR (digital) repeater for the group. He plans to utilize the available internet connectivity if successful.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 8:30 pm.

The meeting was followed by a presentation of video clips showing drone's-eye views of the nine towers at K3LR, in western Pennsylvania. It was very fascinating, and is certain to encourage more tower construction in Wood County, for instance on Bishop Rd. ■

***It's time to renew***

*dues for 2017 payable to:*

**WCARC**

***P.O. Box 534***

***Bowling Green, OH 43402***

*see WCARC website for membership rates*



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

