

CQ CHATTER

AUGUST 2022

VOLUME B22 • ISSUE 6

WOOD COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

President	KG8FH/W8PSK	Jeff Halsey/Loren Phillips
Vice President	WE8TOM	Tom Leingang
Secretary	N1RB	Bob Boughton
Treasurer	KD8NJW	Jim Barnhouse
Board Member	WB8NQW	Bob Willman

Equipment Committee to Study Options

Over the years the WCARC has accumulated a large inventory of amateur, test and otherwise general electronics. Over the last few decades, this stuff has been stored at the QTHs of several members. The recent acquisition of some renovated storage space through the offices of Eric-WD8LEI and ARES, has prompted a desire for the custodians to clean out their basements, etc. and move some of the property to the new storage space. Obviously, there is so much accumulated equipment that it will not all fit in the limited area, and so some other alternatives need to be considered.

At the June business meeting, the issue of doing something about the sizable amount of equipment that the Club has in its possession was addressed by setting up a volunteer committee to make recommendations. The members appointed are: Bob-WB8NQW, Jeff-KG8FH and Roger-KE8QGV. I can report that the group had their initial meeting in WB8NQW's basement, and were able to examine the materials that Bob has been storing. Others who have been storing equipment for the Club include Phil-W8PSK, Bill-WD8JWJ and Bob-N1RB.

It was determined that it would be a good idea to illustrate to the Club members exactly what is involved. To this end, WB8NQW is compiling a photo "album" of the various pieces.

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Net Check Ins-I

Jul 5

**Traffic: 0
(NCS)**

**N1RB
KE8CVA
KC8EKT
KG8FH
W8PSK
KD8NJW
WB8NQW
KD8RNO
N8VNT
WE8TOM
KE8PJM (11)**

Jul 12

**Traffic: 0
(NCS)**

**KG8FH
KE8CVA
K8BBK
KC8EKT
KG8FL
WB8NQW
W8PSK
NM8W
WE8TOM
N1RB
KE8PJM
KA8VNG
WD8LEI (13)**

Brain Teasers

1. Which of the following might damage a multimeter?
 - a.) measuring a voltage too small for the chosen scale
 - b.) leaving the meter in the milliamps position overnight
 - c.) attempting to measure voltage when using the resistance setting
 - d.) not allowing it to warm up properly
2. What type of electrical component stores energy in a magnetic field?
 - a.) resistor
 - b.) capacitor
 - c.) inductor
 - d.) diode
3. What weather condition would decrease range at microwave frequencies?
 - a.) high winds
 - b.) low barometric pressure
 - c.) precipitation
 - d.) colder temperatures

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 6-7	<i>0001 to 2359 Z</i>	10 m
10-10 Int'l Summer 'test SSB		SSB
Aug 6-7	<i>1800 to 0559 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
North American QSO Party CW		CW
Aug 13-14	<i>0000 to 2359 Z</i>	80 m to 10 m
WAE(urope) DX 'test CW		CW
Aug 13	<i>1400 to 2200 Z</i>	80 m to 10 m
Kentucky State Parks on the Air		all modes
Aug 13-14	<i>1400 to 0400 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
Maryland-DC QSO Party		all modes
Aug 20-21	<i>1800 to 0559 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
North American QSO Party SSB		SSB
Aug 27-29	<i>0400 to 0400 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
Hawaii QSO Party		all modes
Aug 27-28	<i>1200 to 0300 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
W/VE Islands QSO Party		all modes
Aug 27-28	<i>1400 to 2000 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
Kansas QSO Party		all modes
Aug 27-28	<i>1600 to 0400 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
Ohio QSO Party		all modes

Net Check Ins-II

Jul 19

Traffic: 0
(NCS)

KD8NJW
KE8CVA
KG8FH
KC8EKT
WD8ICP
WD8LEI
WB8NQW
KE8PJM
W8PSK
KD8RNO
N8VNT
KA8VNG
N1RB
WE8TOM (14)

Jul 26

Traffic: 0
(NCS)

WB8NQW
WD8LEI
N1RB
KE8PJM
KD8RNO
KE8CVA
KG8FH
KA8VNG
WE8TOM

(9)

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

Helping Secure Amateur Radio's Digital Future

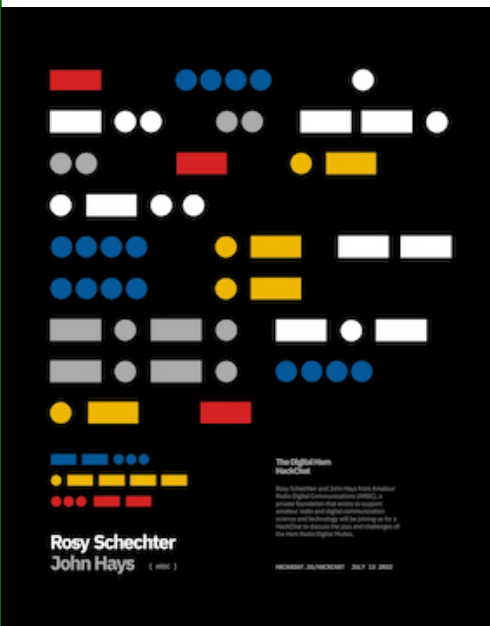
[Tom Nardi Hackaday](#)

The average person's perception of a ham radio operator, assuming they even know what that means, is more than likely some graybeard huddled over the knobs of a war-surplus transmitter in the wee small hours of the morning. It's a mental image that, admittedly, isn't entirely off the mark in some cases. But it's also a gross over-simplification, and a generalization that isn't doing the hobby any favors when it comes to bringing in new blood.

In reality, a modern ham's toolkit includes a wide array of technologies that are about as far away from your grandfather's kit-built rig as could be — and there's exciting new protocols and tools on the horizon. To ensure a bright future for amateur radio, these technologies need to be nurtured and the word needs to be spread about what they can do. Along the way, we'll also need to push back against stereotypes that



AMATEUR RADIO DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS



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WCARC Weekly Net

Tuesdays at 2100 all year

147.18 MHz 67 Hz PL

Net Control Roster

<i>Aug</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>N1RB</i>
<i>Aug</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>KG8FH</i>
<i>Aug</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>KD8NJW</i>
<i>Aug</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>WB8NQW</i>
<i>Aug</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>N1RB</i>
<i>Sep</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>KG8FH</i>

NEXT MEETING

Business Meeting

Monday

August 8

TIME: 7:30PM/7:00EB

PLACE:

Sheriff's Training Room

S. Dunbridge Rd &

E. Gypsy Lane Rd.

Bowling Green, OH

10 meter Nets

Informal SSB group meets

Sunday @ 20:30 local on

28.335 MHz

Informal CW group meets

Tuesday @ 20:00 local on

28.050 MHz

Fusion Net

Thursday

@ 19:30 local

on 442.125 MHz

Wires-X Operators

welcome

Informal net

equipment from p. 1

This equipment ranges from older transmitting/receiving equipment that was once used by Club members to more modern transceivers, amplifiers and test equipment that has been donated or bequeathed to WCARC. Also included are various antennas and related accessories that once were used by the Club when radio room space was available.

The immediate plan is for the photos to be shown at the August business meeting for members in attendance to have a look. Some of the pieces may be of interest to the equipment collectors in the Club or others who simply enjoy refurbishing rigs that “glow in the dark”.

Anything that is not claimed by Club Members will be disposed of by the Committee. It is up to this group to decide whether to employ e-Bay, take the pieces to hamfests, or to dispose of them by other means. If you think you are interested in some of this equipment, be sure to attend the August Club meeting. ■

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can hinder younger operators from signing on.

On the forefront of these efforts is [Amateur Radio Digital Communications \(ARDC\)](#), a private foundation dedicated to supporting amateur radio and digital communication by providing grants to scholarships, educational programs, and promising

open source technical projects. [For this week's Hack Chat](#), ARDC Executive Director Rosy Schechter (KJ7RYV) and Staff Lead John Hays (K7VE) dropped by to talk about the future of radio and digital communications.

Rosy kicked things off with a brief overview of ARDC's fascinating history. The story starts in 1981, when Hank Magnuski had the incredible foresight to realize that amateur radio packet networks could benefit from having a dedicated block of IP addresses. In those early days, running out of addresses was all but unimaginable, so he had no trouble securing 16.7 million IPs for use by licensed amateur radio operators. This block of addresses, known as AMPRNet and then later 44Net, was administered by volunteers until ARDC was formed in 2011 and took over ownership. In 2019, the decision was made to sell off about four million of the remaining IP addresses — the proceeds of which went into an endowment that now funds the foundation's grant programs.

So where does the money go? [The ARDC maintains a list of recipients](#), which provides for some interesting reading. The foundation has [helped fund development of GNU Radio](#), supported the development of an [open hardware CubeSat frame](#) by the Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation (AMSAT), and cut a check to the San Francisco Wireless Emergency Mesh to [improve](#)

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August Hamfests

August 13 Northeastern Indiana ARA Hamfest. Auburn Cord Duesenberg Museum, Auburn, IN.

web: www.w9ou.org

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[communications in wildfire-prone areas](#). They even provided \$1.6 million towards the [restoration of the MIT Radio Society's radome and 18-foot dish](#).

Of all the recipients of ARDC grants, the [M17 project](#) garnered the most interest during the Chat. This community of open source developers and radio enthusiasts is developing a next-generation digital radio protocol for data and voice that's unencumbered by patents and royalties. In their own words, M17 is focused on "*radio hardware designs that can be copied and built by anyone, software that anyone has the freedom to modify and share to suit their own needs, and other open systems that respect your freedom to tinker.*" They're definitely our kind of folks — [we first covered the project in 2020](#), and are keen to see it develop further.

John says the foundation has approximately \$6 million each year they can dole out, and that while there's certainly no shortage of worthwhile projects to support as it is, they're always

looking for new applicants. The instructions and guides for grant applications are still being refined, but there's at least one hard requirement for any project that wants to be funded by the ARDC: it must be open source and available to the general amateur population.

Of course, all this new technology is moot if there's nobody to use it. It's no secret that getting young people interested in amateur radio has been a challenge, and frankly, it's little surprise. When a teenager can already contact anyone on the planet using the smartphone in their pocket, getting a ham license doesn't hold quite the same allure as it did to earlier generations.

The end result is that awareness among youth is low. During the Chat, one participant recounted how he had to put Netflix's *Stranger Things* on pause so he could explain to his teenage son how the characters in the 1980s set show were able to communicate across long distances using a homemade radio. Think about that for a minute — in a show about nightmarish creatures invading our

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world from an alternate dimension, the hardest thing for this young man to wrap his head around was the fact a group of teenagers would be able to keep in touch with each other without the Internet or phone lines to connect them.

So its no surprise that John says the ARDC is actively looking for programs which can help improve the demographics of amateur radio. The foundation is looking to not only bring younger people onboard, but also reach out to groups that have been traditionally underrepresented in the hobby. As an example, he points to a [grant awarded to the Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club \(BARC\) last year](#) to bolster their youth engagement program. Funds went towards putting together a portable rig that would allow students to



communicate with the International Space Station, and the development of hands-on workshops where teens will be able to launch, track, and recover payloads on a high altitude balloon. Let's

see them do that on their fancy new smartphone. ■

Amateur Radio Showcased at EAA AirVenture in Oshkosh

from ARRL Letter

ARRL member-volunteers will ensure amateur radio is well-represented at the annual EAA AirVenture in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, on July 25 through July 31. More than 10,000 aircraft and a half-million flight enthusiasts make Wittman Regional Airport the busiest airfield in the world during AirVenture.

ARRL has participated at AirVenture since 2018, supporting an exhibit that encourages pilots and aviation enthusiasts to discover radio communications and radio technology through ham radio. ARRL Director of Public Relations and Innovation Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R, has organized a booth (#2152 in Hangar B) and an all-volunteer team.

"There's a kinship among the aviation and amateur radio communities," Inderbitzen said. "In addition to introducing newcomers to ham radio, we expect to meet hundreds of ham-pilots at AirVenture. This is a great opportunity to show off ham radio at such a large-scale event." Frederick Hart, AA0JK, and Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R, wrote "Growing Amateur Radio, One Pilot at a Time," in the January 2019 issue of *QST*, describing some of the opportunities and experiences

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Oshkosh p. 8

pursued by pilots who become active ham radio operators.

The [EAA Warbirds of America](#) Board of Directors will be sponsoring a special event station, W9W, which will be on the air all week during daylight hours throughout AirVenture. The station will be located on the Warbirds' grounds near their headquarters, against the backdrop of the display of historic and vintage ex-military aircraft. Look for W9W on 40 - 10 meters near 7.225, 14.250, 21.235, and 28.425 MHz. The station will also operate on the 2-meter and 440 MHz bands, simplex. A special event QSL card will be issued for contacts with W9W. [Icom America](#) will support the event with HF, VHF, and UHF radio equipment. Other

sponsors include Heil Sound, Radio Wavz, DX Engineering, and US Tower. If you would like to get on the schedule to operate W9W, please contact [Ray Novak, N9JA](#).

Members of the Fox Cities Amateur Radio Club ([FCARC](#)) will be operating station W9ZL from Pioneer Airport at KidVenture -- an activity area for children and their families attending AirVenture. Club members and other volunteers will operate HF stations on 20 and 40 meters, 6-meter SSB (on, or near, 7.250, 14.270, and 50.150 MHz), plus local communications on 2 meters. A special event certificate will be available.

See the ARRL [Special Events](#) database for further details about W9W and W9ZL. ■



Operators at Oshkosh special event station W9W, one of two such stations at the site

Photo courtesy of CQ Chatter's on the spot reporter, Phil, W8PSK

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Dues Payable to:

WCARC

P. O. Box 534

Bowling Green, OH 43402

Sen/Stu	\$10
Reg	\$15
Fam	\$20

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

