

# CQ CHATTER

NOVEMBER 2023

VOLUME B23 • ISSUE 9

## WOOD COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

President	KG8FH	<u>Jeff Halsey</u>
Vice President	WE8TOM	<u>Tom Leingang</u>
Secretary	N1RB	<u>Bob Boughton</u>
Treasurer	KD8NJW	<u>Jim Barnhouse</u>
Board Members	WB8NQW/KE8QGV	Bob Willman/Roger Weith

### Minutes

#### *WCARC Meeting* October 9, 2023

**Jeff-KG8FH** presiding

**Present:** Bob-N1RB, Roger, KE8QGV, Terry-KE8CVA, Norm-KE8WTG, Tom-WE8TOM, Jim-KD8NJW, Russ-KE8PJM, Eric-WD8LEI, Bob-WB8NQW, Phil-W8PSK, Bob-WD8LIC, Chuck-WD8ICP, Jeff-KG8FH, Gary Border

**Meeting called to order:** by KG8FH at 7:30 with Pledge of Allegiance

**Minutes:** of the August meeting as published in the September issue of CQ

Chatter were approved unanimously (CVA/QGV).

**Treasurer's Report:** Motion to approve (NQW/PJM) was passed unanimously. Jim reminded all that 2024 dues are now payable.

#### **Old Business:**

- Eric (LEI) gave an update of recent ARES activities. One main emphasis has been on continuing to improve and augment the Wood County AREDN mesh network. The camera at the County Home Rd. Tower is operating in good shape. However, the PBX (phone exchange) stopped working and so far no simple fix has been found to get it

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## Net Check Ins-I

**Oct 3**                      **Traffic: 0**  
**KG8FH**                      **(NCS)**  
**KE8QGV**  
**KE8CVA**  
**WB8NQW**  
**W8PSK**  
**KE8PJM**  
**KD8RNO**  
**KE8WTG**  
**N1RB**  
**KD8VWU**  
**WD8LEI**  
**KC8EKT**                      **(12)**

**Oct 10**                      **Traffic: 0**  
**KD8NJW**                      **(NCS)**  
**KE8CVA**  
**KG8FH**  
**WD8LEI**  
**WB8NQW**  
**KE8PJM**  
**W8PSK**  
**KD8RNO**  
**N1RB**  
**WE8TOM**  
**KD8VWU**  
**WD8ICP**  
**WD8PIC**                      **(13)**

## Brain Teasers

1. How does RF radiation differ from ionizing radiation (radioactivity)?
  - a.) RF radiation does not have sufficient energy to cause genetic damage
  - b.) RF radiation can only be detected with an RF dosimeter
  - c.) RF radiation is limited in range to a few feet
  - d.) RF radiation is perfectly safe
2. What kind of hazard might exist in a power supply when it is turned off and disconnected?
  - a.) static electricity could damage the grounding system
  - b.) circulating currents inside the transformer might cause damage
  - c.) the fuse might blow if you remove the cover
  - d.) you might receive an electric shock from the charge stored in large capacitors
3. Which of the following applies when two stations transmitting on the same frequency interfere with each other?
  - a.) common courtesy should prevail, but no one has absolute right to an amateur frequency
  - b.) whoever has the strongest signal has priority on the frequency
  - c.) whoever has been on the frequency the longest has priority on the frequency
  - d.) the station that has the weakest signal has priority on the frequency

# November Contests

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

Nov 4-6	2100 to 0300 Z	160 m to 10 m
<b>ARRL Sweepstakes-CW</b>		<b>CW</b>
Nov 11-12	0000 to 2359 Z	80 m to 10 m
<b>WAE(urope) DX 'test-RTTY</b>		<b>RTTY</b>
Nov 11-12	0001 to 2359 Z	10 m
<b>10-10 Int'l Fall 'test-Digital</b>		<b>Digital</b>
Nov 11-12	1200 to 1200 Z	160 m to 10 m
<b>OK/OM (Czechia/Slovakia) DX 'test-CW</b>		<b>CW</b>
Nov 18-19	1200 to 1200 Z	80 m to 10 m
<b>LZ (Bulgaria) DX 'test</b>		<b>CW/SSB</b>
Nov 18-20	2100 to 0300 Z	160 m to 10 m
<b>ARRL Sweepstakes-SSB</b>		<b>SSB</b>
Nov 25-26	0000 to 2359 Z	160 m to 10 m
<b>CQ WW DX 'test-CW</b>		<b>CW</b>

## Canadian Time Standard Ceases Broadcasting

*from ARNewline*

CBC radio has stopped broadcasting the official time signal of the National Research Council. The broadcasts began in 1939, providing a national time synchronization signal for anyone relying

on the accuracy of their clocks. CBC Radio halted the broadcasts on October 9th, noting that any of its transmissions over HD Radio or the web causes a delay of several seconds, invalidating the accuracy of what was being sent.

Shortwave radio comes to the rescue, however: The NRC's official time station,

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## Net Check Ins-II

**Oct 17**      **Traffic: 0**  
WB8NQW      (NCS)  
KD8NJW  
KD8RNO  
N1RB  
KD8VWU  
KE8CVA  
KG8FH  
KE8WTG  
WE8TOM  
W8PSK  
KE8PJM  
N8DKW  
KC8EKT      (13)

**Oct 24**      **Traffic: 0**  
N1RB      (NCS)  
KE8CVA  
WD8LEI  
KE8QGV  
WB8NQW  
W8PSK  
KE8PJM  
NM8W  
KD8RNO  
KE8WTG  
KE8VWU  
KG8FH  
WE8TOM  
N8DKW      (14)

# U. Scranton Professor Led NASA Effort to Study Oct 14 Annular Eclipse

*from ARNewsline*

Worldwide, amateur (“ham”) radio operators have enthusiastically cooperated in collecting data on the recent annular eclipse for use in space physics research. They will gather more data for NASA next April 8, when a total solar eclipse occurs.

Dr. Nathaniel Frissell, a space physicist at the University of Scranton, founded and heads the Ham Radio Science Investigation ([HamSCI](#)) group, a citizen science collective that links the global amateur radio community with professional researchers.

Frissell has already demonstrated the scientific value of such an effort. He led a [nationwide ham radio experiment](#) to gather data during the August 21, 2017, total solar eclipse.

HamSCI had ham radio operators around the world participating in the October eclipse. This community transmits, receives, and records signals across the high-frequency spectrum that propagate through the ionosphere. This information creates a dataset that scientists can use to advance the understanding of radio propagation and space weather phenomena.

Frissell says the HamSCI community has contributed valuable information on the effects of [solar flares, geomagnetic storms](#), and [other space weather phenomena](#) that affect ham radio wave propagation.

## **WCARC Weekly Net**

Tuesdays at 2100 all year

147.18 MHz 67 Hz PL

### **Net Control Roster**

<b>Oct</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>KG8FH</b>
<b>Nov</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>KD8NJW</b>
<b>Nov</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>WB8NQW</b>
<b>Nov</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>N1RB</b>
<b>Nov</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>KG8FH</b>
<b>Dec</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>KD8NJW</b>

## **NEXT MEETING**

### ***Breakfast Meeting***

**Saturday**

**November 4**

**TIME: 9:00 AM**

**PLACE:**

**Frisch's Big Boy**

**E. Poe Rd. &**

**N. Main St.**

**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***

**minutes from p. 1**

back up. Eric is continuing to explore the matter. Tom (TOM) volunteered to help in trying to fix the system. Eric also reported that the District One SkyWarn is officially disbanded and storm reporters are advised to report directly to NWS in Cleveland via e-mail or text.

- Eric reported on the intersectional meeting of NWS officers, WX media presenters, and county EMA Directors that occurred on the BGSU campus last month. He felt that it was a valuable experience for all, especially with the prospect of facilitating communications among all the interested parties. The meeting was inspired by the June 15th tornadoes that tracked over Monroe, Ottawa, Erie Counties and points east, and the complaints that there was insufficient warning issued. The reason appears to have been the fact that the storms first appeared near the boundary lines between several NWS regions, plus the fact that they quickly moved out over Lake Erie after first being spotted.
- Jeff reported on the Safety Fair that was held at the BG LDS Church on September 23. Several WCARC members were present to demonstrate various aspects of how amateur radio can respond in an emergency. A connection to the AREDN mesh

network via the Wood County Hospital node was demonstrated. Tom (TOM) exhibited his POTA portable set up, and other aspects of the hobby including CW and repeater operation were demonstrated.

**New Business:**

- Jeff brought up the need to decide on the Officer Slate for 2024, and called on volunteers to seriously consider serving the Club as an officer. The slate will need to be finalized by the December meeting.
- Jeff introduced a revised business meeting schedule for 2024 to accommodate our expected Solar eclipse participation in April. The meeting for that month will be a breakfast meeting rather than a business meeting, while the March meeting is changed from breakfast to business to compensate. The Sheriff's Training Room is reserved for the following dates in 2024: Feb. 12, Mar. 11, June 10, Aug. 12, Oct. 14, and Dec. 9. Additionally, the Sheriff's Training Room is *unavailable* for the December 2023 meeting—an alternate location is being sought, and it will be announced by late November.
- Bob (NQW) inquired about details for the kick-off banquet in January 2024.

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**minutes from p. 6**

The standard arrangement of holding it on the first Monday (Jan. 8) was agreed to. Bob will make reservations at the Country Farmhouse restaurant in Wayne, OH, for this date.

- Eric (LEI) mentioned that he is planning to set up a temporary independent repeater for use during the eclipse event in April, 2024, so that the ARES group can use it for internal communications. More details later.

**Adjournment:** at 8:30 PM (CVA/PJM).

Two short programs were presented, one by Tom-WE8TOM, on a collapsible tri-band cubical quad antenna that is suitable for portable set up and operation. The second program was offered by Bob-WD8LIC, who gave us an update on some additional modifications that he made to his OCF all-band vertical so that it can now also operate on 80 meters. Bob circulated a revised diagram of his design. ■

**eclipse from p. 6**

“Ionospheric variability such as that studied here also has a direct impact on critical technologies such as satellite navigation (e.g., GPS),” Frissell says, “and high-frequency signals are used to communicate over large distances by the U.S. Department of Defense, commercial ships, commercial aircraft, and [emergency services](#) when infrastructure

such as cell phone networks and satellite communications are unavailable.”

Software that enables low power transmission of digital data, such as "skimmers" that capture large amounts of transmitted radio data for analysis, and other networking apps allow for instant communication between participants.

The HamSCI project is among many citizen science [projects](#) supported by NASA. Frissell says, “this crowd-sourced international effort demonstrates how committed citizen-scientists are to building the data that can help better understand the science.” For more information or to take part in this experiment, go to [www.hamsci.org/eclipse](http://www.hamsci.org/eclipse). ■

**canadian from p. 3**

CHU, operated by the council's Institute for National Measurement Standards,



**One of 3 antennas at CHU**

broadcasts on 3.33, 7.85 and 14.67 MHz, will deliver the time as always, in English and French. **T h r e e** atomic clocks are located at the transmitter site in Ottawa, Canada. The station began broadcasting the time on an experimental basis in 1929 using the callsign VE9OB. It became known as CHU in 1938. ■

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