

CQ Chatter

Volume B1•Issue #5

Wood County Amateur Radio Club
P. O. Box 534, Bowling Green, OH 43402

OCTOBER 1998

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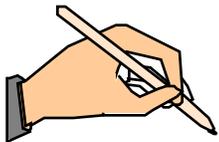
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Treasurer-N1RB, Bob Boughton

<http://bravais.bgsu.edu/~boughton/wcarc.html>

A Note from the Editor

Another summer has come and gone. The Club events were all quite successful. We started with Field Day at the end of June. About a dozen hams came out to give club and personal equipment a workout. Special thanks to Jeff Halsey for lending his expertise to the launching of the antennas. It's always an amazing sight to see the slingshot in action.

Next came Hamarama on the second weekend in July. Our great appreciation to all those who helped with set-up, operation of the event, and tear-down. Hamarama day was perfect weatherwise, and there were an almost record number of outside trunk sales this year. The Club realized a modest profit from the event, and plans are already afoot for next year.



The last hurrah for the summer was the foxhunt-picnic which was held on the September meeting day. The fox this year was unusually young but sly. Yours truly was only able to participate for the first 45 minutes or so, but a reliable source tells me that a good time was had by all, especially when she finally got to the fox's lair with the food!

Now that summer is gone we will be engaged in more serious pursuits - school, work, fighting the elements. It's time to give that last once over of the antenna system to make sure it will withstand the winds and ice of winter.

73 de Bob

**WCARC Weekly Net:
Tuesdays at 2130
147.18 & 444.475 MHz**

**Next Club Meeting:
Monday, October 12th
Social Hour @ 1900
Fairgrounds Clubhouse**

**Fun Night
Monday, October 26th
@ 1900 - Clubhouse**

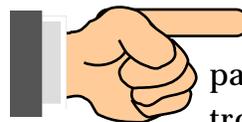
Simulated Emergency Test

The ARRL Simulated Emergency Test (SET) will be held on Saturday, October 3 this year.

There has been a call for the local ARES groups to utilize HF more than in the past. The

WCARC will have operators stationed at the Clubhouse to pass traffic to the State ARES control station in Columbus on 75 meters. At around 10:00 am EDST, the WCARC

ARES Net will be brought up on 147.18+ to take check-ins. There is no plan for a simulated (or real) emergency that would involve mobile travel or a scenario to be acted out. All you have to do is give the Net Control operator a call. So here is a chance to stand by at home and be a part of the Net. Let's see if we can get a lot of participation this year!



The New Restructuring Proposal

You may have heard by now that a lot of controversy has been stirred up by a new initiative from the ARRL to restructure the amateur licensing scheme. The ARRL believes that the time is ripe since the FCC is implementing a complete review of the entire licensing structure which it administers. To make a long story short, the ARRL Executive Committee believes that restructuring is coming, like it or not, and that it's better for amateurs to have a proposal on the table than for the FCC to tell us what they think should happen. An important part of their considerations was that no currently licensed ham would lose privileges.

The plan involves 4 classes of license: A, B, C and D. The Class D is the entry level license, and it carries the current privileges of the Technician license and all amateurs currently licensed as Technicians will become Class D. The exam would be at the same level of difficulty as the present Technician test (3A), and would contain questions relevant to VHF/UHF operation. There is **no** Morse Code component for Class D.

The next level is Class C, which carries the same privileges as the present General Class with expanded phone bands on 75 m and 15 m by 50 KHz and on 40 m by 25 KHz (3800 to 4000 KHz; 21,250 to 21,450 KHz; and 7200 to 7300 KHz). All current holders of Novice, Technician Plus and General would receive Class C status. The exam for Class C would cover material relevant to HF operation similar to the current element 3B, and there would be a 5 wpm code test.

The Class B privileges include the present Advanced Class with expanded phone bands on 75 m and 15 m by 50 KHz and on 40 m by 25 KHz (3725 to 4000 KHz; 21,175 to 21,450 KHz; and 7125 to 7300 KHz). The test for Class B is similar to the current Advanced exam (4A) plus a 12 wpm code test. All present holders of Advanced Class would become Class B licensees.

Finally, we come to Class A, which conveys

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WCARC
Net Control Roster
Net meets every Tuesday at 2130

Oct 6	N1RB
Oct 13	N8QMV
Oct 20	WD8ICP
Oct 27	KB8QEW
Nov 3	N1RB
Nov 10	N8QMV
Nov 17	WD8ICP
Nov 24	KB8QEW

October Contests

The contest line-up for the remainder of October and early November includes the following:

- Oct 3/4: 0700Z to 1900Z** RSGB 21/28 MHz SSB
- Oct 3/4: 1000Z to 1000Z** VK/ZL/Oceania SSB
- Oct 3/4: 1600Z to 2200** California QSO party
- Oct 7/9: 1400Z to 0200Z** YLRL Anniversary SSB
- Oct 10/11: 1000Z to 1000Z** VK/ZL/Oceania CW
- Oct 10/11: 1500Z to 1500Z** Worked all Germany
- Oct 10/11: 1600Z to 2200Z** Pennsylvania QSO party
- Oct 10/11: 0000Z to 2359Z** Rhode Island QSO party
- Oct 17/18: 1400Z to 2200Z** Texas QSO party
- Oct 24/25: 0000Z to 2359Z** CQ WW DX SSB
- Nov 7/9: 1800Z to 0300Z** ARRL Sweepstakes CW
- Nov 13/15: 2300Z to 2300Z** Japan International DX

all the privileges of the Extra Class plus expanded phone on 75 m and 15 m by 50 KHz, and on 40 m by 25 KHz (3700 to 400 KHz; 21,150 to 21,450 KHz; and 7125 to 7300 KHz). The Class A test involves a written exam similar to the present test (4B), but with no code test. The test would include more questions pertaining to modern modes of communication and digital electronics.

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All amateurs currently holding Extra Class licenses would become Class A operators.

You will notice that the main thrusts of this proposal are the following major ideas:

- the Novice Class is abolished
- the Novice CW bands are converted to phone bands for Classes C, B and A
- all licensees currently holding HF privileges by virtue of passing a code test will become Class C or higher
- the entry level license becomes no-code and conveys VHF/UHF privileges
- the highest speed code test is 12 wpm, which is the hurdle to upgrade from Class C to Class B.

Needless to say, the proposal has prompted a great deal of discussion and controversy. If you want to put your two cents' worth in, simply write your comments to the ARRL. Remember, it is only a *proposal* at the current stage, and it is subject to modification if there is a strong sentiment expressed.

Equipment for Sale

The following equipment has become available from the estate of a silent key. If you are interested, please call Bob at 354-1811.

Yaesu FT-990 HF rig with built in AT and pwr supply/SP-6 speaker and phone patch - \$1200

Heath SB-220 linear amplifier - \$450

Azden PCS-4000 2m mobile - \$150
60 ft self supporting foldover tower with winch

- Cushcraft multi element tribander plus WARC bands - \$250
- 4 - stacked 2m yagis - \$250

The above three items must be seen to be appreciated.

- many other accessory items to be sold at best reasonable offer.

Also, from another owner:

- 30 ft TV tower - free if removed

Hamarama Prize Winners

Since this is the first newsletter to be published since the Hamarama, here is the list of prize winners in the main raffle.

- 1st prize- Tom Fowler, N8GXJ (Wood Co.)
- 2nd prize - Mike Snyder, KC8CJC (Toledo)
- 3rd prize - Bob Bell, K8VOR (Urbana)

Ohio Hamfests

- **October 11**–*Northwest Ohio ARC*, Lima, at the Allen County Fairgrounds
- **October 18**– *North Central Ohio Hamfest*, Ashland, at the Ashland County Fairgrounds
- **October 25**–*Marion ARC*, Marion, at the Marion County Fairgrounds Coliseum

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