

CQ Chatter

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Wood County Amateur Radio Club

JUNE 1999

P. O. Box 534, Bowling Green, OH 43402

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Secretary-AA8XS, John Lagger

Vice President-WB8NQW, Bob Willman

Treasurer-N1RB, Bob Boughton

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

A Note from the Editor

It was a perfect weekend for the Dayton Hamvention. Clear skies and moderate temperatures provided a good environment for the largest amateur convention in the World. The XYL, N1LB, and I only got to visit Dayton on the last day, but still had a great time looking over the new equipment lines at the dealers' booths and examining the old equipment lines in the flea market. Word is that the attendance was down again this year which is simply a reflection of the lack of increase in hams ever since the bulge that took place with the last revision in the Technician requirements around a decade ago.

On the technical front, there are some nice packages available which range from truly all-band mobile transceivers that cover HF and VHF/UHF in one neat package by ICOM and Yaesu, to the "computer" transceiver offered by Kachina. The ultra miniaturized HT offerings were also impressive. There seems to be an increase in interest in utilizing the amateur microwave frequencies for digital modes. The permitted baud rate of course increases as we go higher, and there are several groups working on the efficient transmission of data and images using existing packet techniques at these high rates. As a grateful recipient of freebies in past years, I was a bit disappointed to see fewer free sample pins, pens, logbooks and other goodies provided at the major manufacturers' displays this year. I guess their lack of promotional materials reflects the doldrums that the radio market has found itself in. These were the same conditions that prompted the manufacturers to push for the CB craze years ago. I wonder what kind of crazy stunt they'll try this time?

73 de Bob

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

**Club Meeting:
Monday, June 14th
Social Hour @ 1900
Fairgrounds Club Room**

License Restructuring on Hold

An important piece of news came out of Dayton at the FCC forum. The eagerly anticipated but disappointing announcement on the license restructuring scheme was made by Bill Cross, W3TN, of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau. He is quoted as saying, "I can confirm without reservation that the rumors that have been flying fast and furious as to what the Commission has decided or will decide are just rumors". Cross said that the FCC received 2250 comments on WT Docket 98-143, and more are still trickling in. He has several copier paper boxes full of the comments in his office. Much of the delay has arisen because each comment must be carefully logged and categorized.

Within a week's time of learning of the status of the restructuring docket at the FCC, the ARRL shot off a letter to the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau Director urging the FCC to act "without delay" and to accept the League's restructuring plan. As you may recall, the ARRL plan proposes a reduction to 4 license classes with the elimination of the

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Equipment Donated

A longtime and founding member of the WCARC, Dick Sprout, K8HWU, passed away last year. His radio equipment was donated to the WCARC for disposition. A silent auction will be held after the June Club meeting on June 14th, and the equipment will be given to the highest bidder for each item. A list of the equipment is given below:

1. Heathkit HW-12 80m SSB XCVR/supply
2. Heathkit HW-32 20m SSB XCVR/supply
3. Heathkit HW-101 80m-10m XCVR/supply
4. Heathkit SB-100 80m-10m XCVR/supply
5. Heathkit HA-14 SSB Linear Amplifier/1000 W
6. Heathkit AM-2 SWR Bridge
7. Heathkit HW-2036 2m XCVR/supply/mic
8. Heathkit HN-31 Cantenna Dummy Load

Hamarama News

The WCARC Ham-a-rama will be held on Sunday, July 11th this year. Tickets are available – contact N1RB at (419) 354-1811. Cost is \$4.00 by July 10th and \$5.00 the day of. The prize line-up is as follows:

- 1st prize:** \$300 cash
- 2nd prize:** \$100 cash
- 3rd prize:** \$50 cash
- 4th prize:** \$50 cash

Prizes winners will be drawn around noon at the Hamarama.

Mobile Equipment Stolen!

Be on the lookout for a 2 meter mobile transceiver: Yaesu model CPU-2500. The owner is Jim Keen, WB8NYM, and he can be contacted with any information leading to the recovery of his equipment at 372-9377 or 353-7233.

HF Rig For Sale

ICOM 725 all mode rig for sale
 very good condition
 contact: Earl (800) 716-4599
 pager: (419) 444-8686

WCARC

Net Control Roster

Net meets every Tuesday at 2130

Jun	1	WD8ICP
Jun	8	KB8QEW
Jun	15	N1RB
Jun	22	N8QMV
Jun	29	WD8ICP
Jul	6	KB8QEW
Jul	13	N1RB
Jul	20	N8QMV

9. Heathkit HW-30 "Twoer" 2m phone
10. Heathkit SB-610 Monitor Scope
11. Hammarlund HQ-110 Comm. XCVR

These items are offered "as is". Any items not bid on will be sold at the WCARC Hamarama on July 11th. ■

June Contests

The full contest line-up for the month of June includes the following:

- June 12 0000 to 2400 UTC 80-10 m
Portugal Day Contest - SSB only
- June 12-13 1200 to 1200 UTC 160-10 m
TOEC Field Contest - SSB only
- June 12-13 1500 to 1500 UTC 80-10 m
WW South America 'test - CW only
- June 12-14 1800 to 0300 UTC 50 Mhz on up
ARRL VHF QSO Party - phone
- June 13 1800 to 2400 UTC 160m-10m
West Virginia QSO Party - all modes
- June 19-20 0000 to 2359 UTC 160m-10m
All Asia CW 'test
- June 26-27 1800 to 2100 UTC all bands
ARRL Field Day - all modes

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Volunteers Wanted!

The 1999 American Lung Association is sponsoring a Big Ride across America this summer. It is a 3,500 mile bicycle ride from Seattle to Washington, DC that takes place from June 14th through July 25th. The Ride will travel across Ohio from July 21st through July 25th. They enter from the west on Route 6, and parallel the highway through Napoleon and Bowling Green, then on to Fremont and Sandusky. We have been notified that the group will be using our repeater during their trek through Wood County. They would very much appreciate it if we could have some volunteer monitors listening to the machine to help out with any emergencies or queries. Most likely this will occur on the first 2 days they are in Ohio (July 21/22). They would also like to have 8 volunteer operators to ride with them all the way across the country. For more info, check with Dick, KE7A, at www.bigrade.com. ■

Pagers Available

A quantity of voice pagers is available to members of RACES/ARES at a small fraction of the original cost. The estimated total cost of the pager with crystals is \$35.00. This is a one-time charge and there is no monthly service fee. If you would like to be alerted to local emergency situations quickly, a pager fills the need ideally, and is a really good deal cost-wise. One of the objectives stated by the WCARC President, Larry Reitz, is to have all Wood County RACES/ARES participants equipped with pagers so that quick call ups can be made in time of emergency. For further information, please contact Larry, WA8CWD, at (419) 837-2202. ■

Hamfest Calendar

June 6 Medina Two Meter Group 8am - 2pm
Medina County Fairgrounds in Medina, OH.
Contact Mike, N8TZY, (330) 273-1519.

June 6 Chelsea (MI) ARC 7am - 1pm
Chelsea Fairgrounds, Chelsea, MI. Old US 12 at M-52. Contact Don, WW8M, (734) 475-2359.

June Contests - continued from page 2 -

July 1 0000 to 2359 UTC all bands

RAC Canada Day - all modes

July 4-5 0000 to 2359 UTC 160m to 10m

Venezuela SSB 'test - SSB only

July 4-5 2300 to 0300 UTC 160m to 6m

Fourth of July QRP Sprint - all modes

July 10-11 1200 to 1200 UTC 160m to 10m

IARU HF Championship - all modes

July 10-11 1800 to 2100 UTC 6m on up

CQ VHF 'test - all modes

Hamfest Calendar - continued -

June 6 Wabash County ARC 6 am - ?

Wabash County 4-H Fairgrounds in Wabash, IN. Contact Ralph, KB9PLV, (765) 833-7372.

June 13 Goodyear ARC 8am - 4pm

Wingfoot Lake Park, near Suffield, OH (10 miles east of Akron). Contact Dave, (330) 928-7625.

June 19 Milford ARC (Cincinnati) ?

Live Oaks Vocational School in Milford, OH. I-275 to Rte 28, right on Buckwheat Rd. Contact Chris, KB8SNH, (513) 753-5066.

June 20 Cuyahoga ARS 8am - 1pm

Nordonia HS, Macedonia, OH. SR 8 to SR 82 E, then south on S. Bedford Rd. Contact Rich, N8FIL, (800) 404-2282.

June 20 Monroe County RCA 7:30am - 1pm

Monroe County (MI) Fairgrounds. M-50 at Raisinville Rd. (2 mi. west of Monroe, MI). Contact Fred, KA8EBI, (734) 242-9487.

Restructuring - continued from page 2 -

Novice and Technician-Plus classes. In the letter, the League declares that the most important item in its proposal is the "refarming" of the HF Novice sub-bands over to phone use. The League proposal also includes a reduced CW proficiency requirement for HF work, and a "grandfathered" improvement in the privileges currently held by Novice and Technician-Plus licensees. The best speculation now is that the soonest we can expect an announcement from the FCC is mid- to late July. ■

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