

CQ Chatter

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Wood County Amateur Radio Club

DECEMBER 2002

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

<http://wcarc.bgsu.edu>

President
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer

WB8NQW
K8NEA/KB8QEW
AA8XS
N1RB

Bob Willman
Duane Ashbaucher/Shawn Hudson
John Lager
Bob Boughton

Minutes WCARC November meeting – 11/11/02

Meeting Held in the Bowling Green High School Band Room and called to Order at 19:38 hours by President Bob, WB8NQW. No corrections to the published minutes were noted.

Treasurer - N1RB presented the Treasurer's Report and noted that we are now fully insured. KC8EKT motioned to accept the report and K8BBK seconded. The report was approved as read.

Technical - It was reported that the repeater has an audio problem. It tends to drop out occasionally. KB8QEW reported that this is a result of the PL not transmitting through the repeater. The PL circuit is not maintaining frequency stability. No other problems were reported.

Nominating Comm. - No report; N8QMV was not present.

Kickoff Meeting - Because the club had previously favored Maggie's, several dates were looked at. January 14 is the closest date to our "regular" monthly meeting date. AA8XS motioned to reserve Maggie's for 1/14, 6PM and WD8JWJ seconded. The motion was voted on and approved.

RACES - N1LB reported on a recent meeting with Eric Larson.

Hamarama - WD8ICP reported on the results of his inquiry into Fair building availability. The Grandstand was available for \$100 for the Weekend of July 12/13. The Junior Fair Building was

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

**Next Meeting
Monday, Dec. 9th
Location: Fairgrounds
Social Hour: 7:00 pm
Meeting: 7:30 pm**

Kick-off Banquet to be Held at Maggie's

The traditional January kick-off banquet will be held at Maggie's restaurant in Perrysburg on Tuesday, January 14th. The activities start with a social hour at 6:00 pm and dinner will be served at 6:30. The cost is \$13.00 per person for a meat entree, side dish, beverage and service included. In order to determine how much food will be required, we ask that you inform Bob Willman, WB8NQW, by December 15th with a tentative answer on whether you will be attending or not. This is not a binding reservation, but will allow for a rough head count to be taken.. Telephone is (419) 353-6221 and e-mail is: blcksmth@wcnnet.org. ■

available for \$350 on July 5/6. No barns were available. KB8QEW has the vendor list.

Newsletter - N1RB reported that he is trying to get the few who still receive CQ Chatter via US Mail to go the e-mail route.

New Business/Correspondence - We have Ft.

'Twas the Night Before Christmas and...

The kids were asleep with sugar plums dancing in their heads. The presents had been assembled as needed and all placed under the tree. The glass of milk was drunk and the cookie eaten. I retired to the shack to work an opening on 20 meters to the South Pacific. I tuned up from 14.150 and around 14.195 heard a tremendous pile up. It was a C21 from Nauru. I jumped into the fray and called him 5 MHz up as instructed. Astonishingly, he came back to me on the first call! In no time I had a new one in the log!

ANNUAL SKYWARN RECOGNITION DAY IS DECEMBER 7

The fourth annual SKYWARN Recognition Day (SRD) <<http://hamradio.noaa.gov/>> is December 7 (UTC). That's when Amateur Radio operators set up stations at National Weather Service (NWS) offices and contact other operators around the world. The event is sponsored by the ARRL and the National Weather Service.

"The purpose of the event is to recognize the vital public service contribution that Amateur Radio operators make during National Weather Service severe weather warning operations," said David Floyd, N5DBZ, warning coordination meteorologist, at the NWS Goodland, Kansas, office. "It also strengthens the bond between Amateur Radio operators and the local National Weather Service office."

For several decades now, hams have assisted the NWS by providing real-time reports of severe weather and storm evolution. The information radio operators locate near a storm can provide plays a key role in aiding forecasters. SKYWARN operators in several states activated to spot and track an outbreak of severe thunderstorms and tornadoes November 10.

Scott Mentzer, N0QE--the meteorologist-in-charge of the NWS office in Goodland, Kansas, and the creator and annual organizer of SRD--says more than 90 stations are registered to participate, up from 80 last year. Most participating NWS stations will operate on 80, 40, 20, 15, 10,

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Net Control Roster

Net meets every Tuesday at 2130

Dec 3	KB8QEW
Dec 10	WD8ICP
Dec 17	N1RB
Dec 24	N8QMV
Dec 31	AA8XS
Jan 7	KB8QEW
Jan 14	WD8ICP

Brain Teasers

- A ham on 40 meters gives you a report of "5 by 9". What does this mean?
 - top readability and strong signal
 - average readability and strong signal
 - average signal and top readability
 - strong signal and below average readability
- The prosign QRZ? means:
 - I will answer anyone who replies to my call.
 - Is the frequency in use?
 - Who is calling me?
 - Can you wait a minute?
- You want to talk to a friend in Cincinnati in the afternoon. The best band to use is:
 - 10 m
 - 20 m
 - 40 m
 - 75 m

minutes-continued from p.1

Wayne flyer and tickets for the club's taking.

The Northern Indiana NWS office will be holding an Advanced Spotter Training next March 15 in Elkhart. There will be several top tornado researchers giving lectures.

AA8XS motioned to adjourn, and KB8QEW seconded.

The meeting was adjourned at 2020. ■

Answers to last month's Brain Teasers:

1 (b), 2 (d), 3(a)

skywarn-continued from p.2

and 2 meters using SSB and FM. Mentzer says a number of NWS offices will be equipped to support Internet Radio Linking Project (IRLP) stations.

All contacts will be made utilizing the General or Novice portion of the bands. Stations will exchange signal report, location and a one-word description of the current weather at their respective locations ("sunny," "partly cloudy," "windy," etc). This is not a contest, so no scoring will be computed.

SKYWARN Recognition Day will take place December 7 from 0000 UTC to 2400 UTC. Since SRD is being held on Pearl Harbor Day, each NWS office will transmit a special message from approximately 1800 to 1900 UTC--approximately the time of the Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, attack on December 7, 1941--to honor the World War II veterans. The deadline to register an NWS site is December 1. Contact Mentzer to register scott.mentzer@noaa.gov ■

Christmas-continued from p.2

I moved up to around 14.210 and bumped into another rather large pile up. The station was a P29 from Papua-New Guinea. This was a rare one in anyone's book! The west coast people were hearing him also and the "California Kilowatts" were filling up every available clear channel. On a hunch I moved up 7 MHz and gave him a call. Right away, he came back to me! Another new one! It was as if nobody else was in the pile.

About this time as I was tuning up around 14.250, I heard a very weak station signing aeronautical mobile. Nobody seemed to be listening because there was no response to his CQ. I zero-beated his signal and gave a call. He came right back with a 5 by 5 report and said his name was Chris. His QTH was presently over North America someplace but he wasn't entirely clear. It seemed as though he didn't really want me to know his location! We exchanged the usual banter--- the equipment description, the weather report and the type of hamming we liked to do. Chris reported that he was only able to get on the air once a year as an aero mobile and he wasn't sure his rig was putting out a good signal because I was the first person he had contacted this evening. He asked me if I was having a good Christmas and I answered that so far I had worked two new countries and that was the best

December Contests

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

Dec 6-8	2200 to 1600 Z	160 m
ARRL 160 m 'test		CW
Dec 7-8	0000 to 2400 Z	80m to 6m
PSK31 Death Match		PSK31
Dec 14-15	0000 to 2400 Z	10m
ARRL 10 m 'test		CW and SB
Dec 26	0830 to 100 Z	all bands
DARC (Germany) Christmas 'test		all modes
Dec 28	0000 to 2400 Z	160m to 2m
RAC Canada Winter 'test		CW and SB
Jan 1	0000 to 2400 Z	80/40/20m
ARRL Straight Key Night		CW
Jan 11-12	1800 to 0600 Z	160m to 10m
North American QSO Party		CW

present I could imagine. Chris said that he was busy and had to run, so he gave me his 73. Before signing, he told me to look up around 14.300 and that I might be surprised. After wishing him well and signing, I moved up to 300. I tuned carefully with my ears listening for any signal that might be there.

Suddenly, a voice broke through the static, "wake up, wake up", it said. As I opened my eyes, the XYL was standing by the rig urging me to get a move on because it was morning and the kids wanted to see what Santa had brought. I got up and trundled downstairs to get the merriment started. I thought about the P29 and the C21 and the aero mobile station. This was the best Christmas present a ham could have--- or was it? ■

December Hamfests

Dec 1 L'Anse Creuse ARC 8 am to 2 pm
L'Anse Creuse High School, Reimold Rd., Harrison Twp., MI. Contact Gregg, KC8PXJ, (586) 463-0729, kc8pxj@arrl.net

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