

CQ Chatter

NET CONTROL ROSTER

March 4 AA8XS
 March 11 KB8QEW
 March 18 WD8ICP
 March 25 WD8ICP
 April 1 N1RB
 April 8 N8QMV

Would you like be a net control operator?
 Contact Shawn Hudson at kb8qew@wcnet.org



Hamarama Update

After a thorough investigation of the options open to the Club, the Executive Committee has voted to hold Hamarama this year on Saturday, July 12th. The venue will be the Woodland Towne Centre (Woodland Mall) to old timers, which is an indoor air-conditioned space with food of all kinds readily available. There will be ample space for the

trunk sales in the mall's rear parking lot. These changes were necessitated by the unavailability of the usual space in the Fairgrounds Junior Fair Building. Speaking for the Committee, I am looking forward to this new experiment in the history of Hamarama, with a high expectation of success this year.

Bob, N1RB



WCARC OFFICERS

President	Bob Boughton	N1RB
Vice-President	Shawn Hudson	KB8QEW
Treasurer	Bill Wilkins	WD8JWJ
Secretary	Chuck Dicken	WD8ICP

SKYWARN TRAINING

Be sure to mark your calendar

Wednesday
 April 9, 2003
 6:30 P.M.

Wood County Courthouse



Pioneer 10 spacecraft sends last signal

The ARRL Letter

Vol. 22, No. 9

09 February 28, 2003

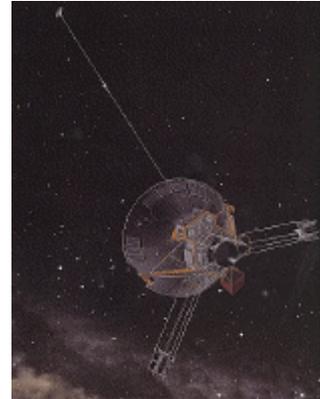
Talk about weak-signal DX!

NASA says that after more than 30 years, it appears the venerable Pioneer 10 spacecraft has sent its last signal to Earth. Pioneer's last, very weak signal was received on January 22. NASA engineers report Pioneer 10's radioisotope power source has decayed, and it may not have enough power to send additional transmissions to Earth. NASA's

Deep Space Network (DSN) did not detect a signal during the last contact attempt February 7. The previous three contacts, including the January 22 signal, were very faint with no telemetry received. The last time a Pioneer 10 contact returned telemetry data was last April 27. NASA plans no additional contact attempts for Pioneer 10, which is *7.6 billion miles* from Earth. At that distance, it takes more than 11 hours 20 minutes for the radio signal to reach Earth. More

information is available on the Pioneer 10 Web page

<http://nssdc.gsfc.nasa.gov/nmc/>



WCARC Meeting Minutes

February 11, 2003

Minutes of the Wood County Amateur Radio Club

President Bob Boughton N1RB called the meeting to order at 19 hours and 31 minutes with 13 members present. A self introduction of those members / guests was followed by the reading of the previous months minutes. Esther N8QMV moved to be approved and 2nd by John AA8XS. Due to Bill's WD8JWJ absence, there was no treasurers report.

A report from Technical committee told us the 2 meter transmitter is still intermittent when encoding the 203.5 hz tone. It was explained that the encoder being used is the 2nd one and both encoders seem to be with the same symptoms. No one offered any ideas to change the problem, but it was noted that during the weekly nets, the tones are turned off and the problem is less noticeable.

Pres. B. then offered two (2) free ad-

mission vouchers for the TMRA hamfest March 16, 2003. There was a question raised if TMRA was offering a table for the WCARC?

Discussion of our own hamfest consumed most of the remainder of the meeting.

First order was to determine the date and it was agreed upon not to use the weekend of July 5/6 but move it to the weekend of July 12/13. Of the venues that were examined to hold the fest included the DC ranch in Perrysburg and the Woodland Mall Bowling Green and the BGSU football stadium. Immediately, the stadium was eliminated as BGSU does not allow such activities. President B. asked a most pointed question to the assembled membership, "do we continue with Ham-A-Rama"? Not only is it our only money maker for the organization, but more importantly, we are a social event for many hams in NW Ohio and the fest provides for advertising that as an organization, we exist. With a show of hands it was determined the hamfest should continue, and several people expressed their

mostly positive views of the event. Once a time and place have been determined the flyers and tickets will be printed.

RACES representatives were unable to get together (N1RB, K3RC, Eric) but will soon.

Steve K8BBK talked briefly about QCWA and the monthly breakfast meetings held in Toledo. Usually the 1st Saturday of the month at Big Boy Restaurant near 3 Meadows. He also talked about using the computer software program "Echo-Link". An inexpensive way to talk to other hams worldwide using your computer. Deb KC8RVB introduced him to this and she is an avid user of the service. President B. said something about a program for the next meeting.

President B. called for adjournment Bob WB8NQW so moved. Esther N8QMV 2nd.