

CQ Chatter

Volume B6 • Issue #3

Wood County Amateur Radio Club

APRIL 2005

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

<http://wcarc.bgsu.edu>

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Treasurer

K8BBK/W8PSK

N8MSU

WD8JWJ

Steve McEwen/Loren Phillips

John Gruber

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Minutes WCARC

March Meeting 3/14/05

Wood County Sheriff's Training Room

Attending: Bob Boughton, N1RB, Linda Boughton, N1LB, John S. Gruber, N8MSU, Rolland Creps, Chuck Dicken, WD8ICP, Jeffrey Kopcak, K8JTK, Bill Wilkins, WD8JWJ, Bob Willman, WB8NQW,, Robert Bowers, KC8RWI, Esther Creps, N8OMV, Fred Leetch, N8CWJ, Ruth Hasselman, KC8EKT, J.W. Frey

The president pro-tem, Bob Willman, began the meeting with the program, introducing Jeff Kopcak and Chuck Dicken and their presentation of Echolink. Echolink is a method of linking amateur radio repeaters and radio links around the world with each other, using the Internet.

Chuck and Jeff started the program and its screens displayed hams from all over the world. Chuck clicked around to show repeater K8BBK-R. A connection was made, involving N3OYQ in Cleveland. The link to connect the Ham RF audio of the repeater to the Internet in Cleveland was a DSL connection. A Cleveland ham, N8VUA spoke with us over the connection.

A HT with DTMF output is used to connect to Echolink nodes over the Internet using unique node numbers. The repeater doesn't have to be co-located with the Echolink node being used to make the connection. Calls ending in -R are repeaters and those

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

NOTE DAY CHANGE!

**Next Meeting
Tuesday, April 12th
Location: Sheriff's Training Room - Dunbridge and E. Gypsy Lane Rd.
Social Hour: 7:00 pm
Program: the K2 Elecraft home brew transceiver-with Jan, K1ND**

Brain Teasers

1. The Sunspot Cycle repeats approximately every _____ years
(a) 3 (b) 5 (c) 11 (d) 25
2. A half-wave dipole antenna is best matched to _____ coax feed line.
(a) RG-8 (b) RG-58 (c) RG-59 (d) RG-6
3. What is the smallest resistance you can make with a 100 Ω , 200 Ω and a 300 Ω resistor
(a) 100 Ω (b) 55 Ω (c) 600 Ω (d) 155 Ω

**Answers to last Month's Brain Teasers:
1 (a); 2 (c); 3 (d)**

April Contests

The full contest lineup for the month of April includes the following:

Apr 2-3 SP (Poland) DX 'test	1500 to 1500 Z	160 to 10 m all modes
Apr 2-3 Missouri QSO Party	1800 to 2359 Z	160 to 10 m all modes
Apr 3-4 Montana QSO Party	2300 to 2300 Z	160 m up all modes
Apr 9-10 Japan Int'l DX 'test	0700 to 1300 Z	80 to 10 m CW
Apr 9-10 Georgia QSO Party	1800 to 2359 Z	80 to 10 m all modes
Apr 16 Holy land DX 'test	0000 to 2359 Z	160 to 10 m all modes
Apr 16-17 YU (Yugoslavia) DX 'test	1200 to 1200 Z	160 to 10 m all modes
Apr 16-17 Michigan QSO Party	1600 to 0400 Z	80 to 10 m all modes
Apr 16-17 Ontario QSO Party	1800 to 1800 Z	160 m up all modes
Apr 23-24 Florida QSO Party	1600 to 2159 Z	40 to 10 m all modes
Apr 23-24 Nebraska QSO Party	1700 to 1700 Z	160 to 2 m all modes
Apr 23-25 DX Colombia 'test	0000 to 0000 Z	160 to 10 m all modes
Apr 23-24 Helvetia (Switzerland) 'test	1300 to 1300 Z	160 to 10 m all modes

April Hamfests

- Apr 3 **Lake Co. ARA** 8 AM to 2 PM
Madison HS, Madison, OH. Contact Rocky (440) 209-8953; rocky@lcara.org
- Apr 17 **Cuyahoga Falls ARC** 8 AM to 2 PM
Emidio & Sons Party Center, 48 E. Bath Rd.,
Cuyahoga Falls, OH. Contact Ted, W8TTS, (330) 688-2013; 8tts@w8tts.com

WCARC

Net Control Roster

Net meets every Tuesday at 2130

Apr 5	N1RB
Apr 12	K8OVO
Apr 19	WD8ICP
Apr 26	N8QMV
May 3	WB8NQW
May 10	N1RB
May 17	K8OVO

Something to Ponder

by Marc Flanagan, KC8SIE, from LEARA Newsletter

Almost everyone who has an amateur license has worked a repeater. I'm sure it's how many Technicians get their "on the air" start, and it's what we rely on when we are using our low power HT's. A repeater can be invaluable when we are driving and during special events.

But the components of a repeater don't work at the speed of light. It takes a second, or so, from the time you key up until the time it reacts. Occasionally, whatever you say during this time is not transmitted.

Also, some people may be scanning their favorite channels...further losing the first few moments of a transmission.

So give the repeater a second...from the time you key until the time you begin to talk. That way everything you say will be transmitted. And if you are reporting an emergency or on an emergency or Skywarn net, the first thing you say may be *very* important.

And don't forget to leave a little time between transmissions for other stations to enter the conversation!

ending in -L are radio links. One to three nodes can be connected together at one time in a "conference call". All users of the system must be hams, when they register with the program they are looked up by the system in the FCC database to authenticate them.

A QSO was also made with Leonard, WB3AYW in Blairsville, GA. Blairsville is near the North Carolina border. This was a computer-computer link. The membership seemed quite impressed with Leonard's description of his antenna farm.

An article from Jan. '05 QST was circulated describing Echolink. It included the URL <http://www.echolink.org>.

Regular business was commenced. Minutes from January and February were approved unanimously, as was the Treasurer's report. Notable in the latter report was an increase in dues of \$150.

Chuck reported on Field Day. His suggestion was well received of a cook-out and picnic as part of the activities. A couple of generators have been offered to operate our radios. Antennas may be the critical limitation to the number of rigs we can operate. The physical setup at the Historical Society's location should be quite good.

On March 24 a class is scheduled at 7PM. We are looking for students. N1RB is coordinating. He proposed that \$100 in funds be approved to reimburse students who successfully get their licenses after taking the class for the text, "Now You're Talking" from the ARRL. Approved unanimously by voice vote.

The membership thanked Jeff, K8JTK for the new web site, and N1RB for the newsletter. A round of applause accom-

panied our expression of gratitude.

Bill suggested that members submit pictures of their shack for inclusion in the newsletter.

Bob, WB8NQW, suggested that we might want to get scouts involved in Field Day. Ruth knows of at least one youth who may be interested. Please refer all possibly interested to Bob, N1RB. Bob Johnson volunteered to contact scout leaders about this class at our last meeting.

Chuck announced that Skywarn training is scheduled for 6:30PM-9:30PM on 4/21/05 in the Commissioners' Meeting Room at Once Court House Square.

The membership discussed holding another meeting as a breakfast meeting when we have one scheduled without a technical program.

The Wood County EC is asking for volunteers to help with an upcoming event. Chuck has written and is awaiting a response.

Bill, WD8JWJ moved that we adjourn, seconded by Bob, N1RB. The meeting was adjourned. ■

Skywarn Training

Skywarn Training will be conducted by representatives from the NWS-Cleveland on April 21, 2005 from 6:30 to 9:30 PM in the Commissioner's Meeting Room at 1 Court House Square (Courthouse Annex). If you plan to attend, please inform Wood County EC, Dave Robichaux, K5EYP,

e-mail: drobichaux@RLCOS.COM. ■

***Proud of your shack ?
Send a picture to CQ
Chatter (jpeg preferred)***

April's Speaker

from QRZ.com

K1ND



While on amateur radio I use my given name, Jan; having immigrated to the USA from the Province of Friesland, Nederland in 1948. I was first licensed in 1954 as WN8SWN & W8SWN, then in 1962 changed to 9M2JJ in Ipoh, Malaysia while teaching vocational electronics as a Peace Corps Volunteer. I graduated from Michigan State University with a Ph.D. degree in 1976 and we moved East to teach at the University of Southern Maine. While living in New England I passed the Extra Class exam and choose K1ND in 1977 to replace my secondary call of WA1VZV. Since 1982 we have lived in Ypsilanti, MI and I taught at Eastern Michigan University; retired in August and granted Professor Emeritus status by the EMU Board of Regents in September, 2002. My spouse of many years is Milly, KC8MMH and we have five harmonics, one is Ben, W8SWN. Another son lives in Finland and that gave me the opportunity to operate the Elecraft K2 in September, 2003 with the call sign of OH/K1ND/p I'm a regular visitor to many Ham-fests and enjoy the social-side of ham radio on the air.

Yes, that's the Elecraft K2 number 136 that I built in 1999; the other is the Kachina 505DSP with the front panel on the monitor. Both are fine pieces of equipment.

Regards, Jan K1ND

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