

CQ Chatter

Volume B7 • Issue #4

Wood County Amateur Radio Club

MAY 2006

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

<http://wcarc.bgsu.edu>

President/Vice President

W8PSK/K8BBK

Loren Phillips / Steve McEwen

Secretary

WD8ICP

Chuck Dicken

Treasurer

WD8JWJ

Bill Wilkins

Minutes

Wood County Amateur Radio Club

April 10, 2006

The meeting was held in the Wood County Sheriff's meeting room on Monday evening with 14 members and 1 guest present.

Reports: Minutes from the February meeting were passed among the membership to be read and the Treasurer's report indicated the club has approximately \$2,608.86 in the bank. Both entries were moved and approved.

Old Business: Acknowledgement of receipt of a new (to us) cabinet for use to put the repeater in, thanks to Bob & Eric Willman and the city of Bowling Green. The link system to be used with the WCARES group on 220 mhz has yet to arrive. The scout program at the Woodland Mall took a side step, however there is still interest from some of the scouts and if enough interest is developed, a new tech class will be considered.

New Business: Great Lakes Convention / hamfest to be held in Bowling Green next year has not been received with great accolades. In a show of hands it was decided not to host the convention or have a hamfest next year. Phil (W8PSK) showed us his new 'noise sniffer' that he

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

**Next Meeting-
SATURDAY, MAY 6th
Breakfast Meeting
At: Couzin's Restaurant
Grand Rapids, OH
Time: 9:00 am
FOXHUNT AFTERWARDS!**

has put together. This device allows listening to power line noise and to accurately help locate the noisy connection so it can be repaired by the city electric shop.

A fox hunt is being planned for Saturday May 6 to be held after the breakfast get-together.

Bill WD8JWJ suggested a letter explaining how the repeaters (147 & 445) have been changed and upgraded, that should be sent to the Wood County EMA director, the Sheriff, and the WCARES director Bob Schuman.

Phil W8PSK presented a detailed listing of expenditures he has incurred to help rebuild the repeater. The club agreed to reimbursement of \$570.51 and has been paid by check # 2193 drawn on the WCARC account. Thank you, Phil, for your generosity and helping out, not only with funds but more importantly your time. And

minutes--continued

don't let me forget Steve because he has been there right along with him. You guys are good.

The program tonight was Antennas 301 shown on the big screen. For the next hour an in depth discussion of all types of common antennas was presented. Most interesting.

Bob N1RB moved to adjourn.

Chuck Dicken, WD8ICP, Secretary

May Hamfests

May 19-21 Dayton Hamvention 8 am
The granddaddy of them all, sponsored by DARA. Hara Arena complex. Contact Jim, WX8F, (937) 276-6930.
e-mail: info@hamvention.org
URL: www.hamvention.org

June 4 Chelsea ARC 8 am
Chelsea Fairgrounds, intersection of US 12 and Old Manchester Rd. Contact Frank, KD8ABW, (734) 945-1915.
e-mail: swapchair@wd8iel.org
URL: www.wd8iel.org

May Contests

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

May 6-7 2000 to 2359 Z 80 m to 10 m
New England QSO Party all modes

May 6-7 0000 to 2359 Z 80 m to 10 m
County Hunters CW

May 6-7 1600 to 0400 Z 160 m to 10 m
Indiana QSO Party all modes

WCARC
Net Control Roster
Net meets every Tuesday at 2130

May 2	K8OVO
May 9	WD8ICP
May 16	N8QMV
May 23	WB8NQW
May 30	N1RB
Jun. 6	K8OVO
Jun. 13	WD8ICP

May 6-7 2000 to 1959 Z 160 m to 10 m
ARI (Italy) DX 'test all modes

May 6-7 1300 to 0700 Z 80 m to 10 m
7th Area QSo Party all modes

May 13-14 1600 to 2359 Z 160 m up
Mid-Atlantic QSO Party all modes

May 20-21 2100 to 0200 Z 80 m
Baltic DX 'test all modes

May 20-21 1800 to 1800 Z 160 m to 10 m
King of Spain 'test CW

May 20-21 0000 to 2400 Z 80 m to 10 m
US Counties QSO Party SB

May 27-28 0000 to 2359 Z 160 m to 10 m
CQ WW WPX CW

Using PL (CTCSS)
on the
WCARC Repeater System
The WCARC 2 meter repeater receiver listens for carrier on 147.780 MHz **PLUS** the PL tone of 67 Hz. If those two condi-

Brain Teasers

1. What pattern is desirable for a direction-finding antenna?
 - a.) non-cardiod
 - b.) good front-to-back ratio
 - c.) shallow nulls
 - d.) good top-to-bottom ratio
2. What is fox hunting?
 - a.) locating a hidden transmitter
 - b.) locating a hidden receiver
 - c.) using radio collars to track animals
 - d.) testing emergency skills
3. What is the major cause of static?
 - a.) sunspots
 - b.) thunderstorms
 - c.) airplanes
 - d.) meteor showers

WCARC Net Check-ins

11-Apr N8QMV (NC), K8BBK, W8PSK, WB8NQW, N8MSU, KD8BIN (6)

25-Apr N1RB (NC), K8BBK, KD8BIN, W8PSK, WD8ICP, K8OVO, K8NEA, K8JTK, WD8JWJ, WB8NQW, KD8CHQ, WB8VUL, K8JU, N8QMV, N8MSU, K8IXL (16)

Repeaters are up and Running

At publication time, the WCARC repeaters were both up and running with enhanced output and emergency back-up. The 440 machine has been especially improved with the purchase of a GE Master to boost output power. There are a number of pictures included on the back pages--go to the Club website for a more complete set, thanks to Jeff, K8JTK. The technical committee has done a superb job in effecting repairs and improvements. ■

PL--continued

tions are met and the signal strength is strong enough, the CAT-1000 controller will send both voice and a keying signal to the transmitter.

If you transmit a carrier on 147.780 without the PL present, the CAT-1000 will not respond. However, the PL can be substituted for if you transmit the numbers **1 - 2 - 3** from the DTMF (dual tone multi frequency) keypad. This 'opens' the repeater for approximately 3 minutes.

The WCARC 2 meter transmitter *will* always transmit a PL tone of 67 Hz by design. This allows you to monitor **ONLY** the WCARC repeater without hearing anybody else as long as your radio is using the **PL DECODE** feature, tuned to 147.180 plus 67 Hz PL.

The WCARC 440 repeater receiver requires a carrier of 449.475 MHz **PLUS the PL** tone of 67 Hz also. The transmitter does not transmit a PL. Generally speaking, there is no interference problem on the UHF side requiring the tone.

When the **NET CONTROL** station opens the net, the DTMF sequence **1-0-0-2** opens the machine (removes the requirement of PL) and the repeater will respond to **ANY** transmitter on 147.780 MHz. This condition is set until the control station sends a DTMF sequence of **1-0-0-0**, which resets the CAT-1000 to listen once again for the PL tone.

Should you wish to receive other stations or repeaters on 147.180 MHz, **simply turn off** the PL decode at your receiver. This will allow you to hear the Angola, Indiana or Utica, Michigan machines, or anyone else that may be transmitting on that frequency. Remember, PL (CTCSS) is just another type of limiting like a squelch control. *contributed by WD8ICP* ■

Receive Site --- Offenhauer Hall (BGSU) Penthouse



Receive Site Cabinet



Repeater Controller



Receive Antenna (top)



Buttoned Up and Ready for Business

Transmit Site --- Administration Bldg. (BGSU) Penthouse



Technical Committee at work:
K8BBK, WD8ICP, K8JU, W8PSK



2 m and 70 cm Transmitters



Transmitter Rack with Emer-
gency Back-up Batteries

WOOD COUNTY ARC
P.O. BOX 534
BOWLING GREEN, OH
43402

