

CQ Chatter

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Wood County Amateur Radio Club

OCTOBER 2006

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

<http://wcarc.bgsu.edu>

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WD8ICP

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Wood County Amateur Radio Club

Breakfast Meeting
September 2, 2006
at Couzin's Restaurant

The informal every-other-month breakfast meeting was held in Grand Rapids, at Couzin's restaurant. Phil, W8PSK made several announcements regarding future meetings this year with special emphasis on developing a slate of officers for the election in December.

After a pleasant breakfast and much conversation, Bob, N1RB, and Linda, N1LB, described a "portable" 2 meter three element beam constructed of flexible steel rulers. They had constructed a demonstration model with PVC plumbing line and a sacrificial tape measure. Some suggestions were made concerning possible improvements. This is a project that should take no more than an hour or so at home. Coupled with the attenuators that were constructed at an earlier meeting, a person should be well set up for hunting the fox this next meeting. ■

Foxhunt Slated

The October meeting will be the last chance this year to hold our traditional foxhunt activity. If you have a 2 meter HT or mobile rig, the only other ingredi-

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

**Next Meeting-
MONDAY, OCTOBER 9th
Foxhunt starts at: 6:00 pm
Monitor: 146.55 MHz
meeting afterwards at:
Wood County Sheriff's
Training Room**

ents necessary are a good directional antenna, and if available, an attenuator. Direction finding skills are important in many situations where harmful interference is involved. To find the fox, you need to home in on his signal and follow in the direction of increasing signal strength. Once you have arrived at a spot that is close to the fox's hideout, you will need the attenuator to cut down on his signal strength because a strong signal will overwhelm the input amplifier and make the directional antenna ineffective.

After everyone has located the fox, the regular October business meeting will be held at the Sheriff's Training Room. To participate, listen on 146.55 MHz simplex at 6:00 pm on Monday, October 9th for instructions. If you want to have a great time and hone your technical, communications and direction finding skills, be sure to participate! ■

October Contests

The full contest lineup* for the month of October includes the following:

Sep 30-Oct 1 1600 to 0200 80 m on up
Arkansas QSO Party all modes

Oct 1 0700 to 1900 Z^ 15 m-10 m
RSGB (Great Britain) 21-28 'test SSB

Oct 7-8 0800 to 0800 Z 160 m to 10 m
Oceania DX 'test SSB

Oct 7-8 1600 to 2200 Z 160 m to 2 m
California QSO Party all modes

Oct 14-15 1600 to 2200 Z 160 m to 10 m
Pennsylvania QSO Party all modes

Oct 14-15 0800 to 0800 Z 160 m to 10 m
Oceania DX 'test CW

Oct 16 0700 to 1900 Z^ 15 m-10 m
RSGB (Great Britain) 21-28 'test CW

Oct 21-22 1600 to 2359 Z 160 m to 6 m
USI W/VE Islands QSO Party all modes

Oct 21-22 1500 to 1459 Z 80 m to 10 m
Worked All Germany all modes

Oct 22-23 1700 to 0100 Z 160 m to 2 m
Illinois QSO Party all modes

Oct 28-29 0000 to 2359 Z 160 m to 10 m
CQ WWDX 'test SSB

* Please note: for the range of bands given in each entry, no contesting is permitted on the so-called WARC bands: 60 m, 30 m, 17 m or 12 m

WCARC Net Control Roster Net meets every Tuesday at 2130

Sep 26	WD8ICP
Oct 3	N8QMV
Oct 10	WB8NQW
Oct 17	N1RB
Oct 24	K8OVO
Oct 31	WD8ICP
Nov 7	N8QMV

October Hamfests

Oct 29 Massillon ARC 8 am
Massillon Boys and Girls Club Complex,
Massillon, OH. Contact Terry, N8ATZ,
(330) 837-3091.
e-mail: hamfest@marcradio.org
URL: www.marcradio.org

Oct 29 USECA 8 am to 1 pm
American-Polish Century Club, Sterling
Heights, MI. Contact Dave, W8RIT, (810)
765-3745.
e-mail: hamfest@k8uo.com
URL: www.useca.net

ARRL Pledges to Pursue BPL Interference Complaints from ARRL Letter

The League has vowed to maintain pressure on the FCC to act on complaints of broadband over power line (BPL) interference to Amateur Radio. The FCC's unanimous adoption August 3 of a Memorandum Opinion and Order (MO&O) in response to 15 petitions for reconsideration of the Commission's BPL rules triggered the ARRL response. The MO&O

Brain Teasers

1. What devices would you install inhome-entertainment systems to reduce or eliminate audio frequency interference?
 - a.) bypass inductors
 - b.) bypass capacitors
 - c.) metal-oxide varistors
 - d.) bypass resistors
2. What is one good way to avoid stray rf energy in your amateur station?
 - a.) keep the station's ground wire as short as possible
 - b.) use a beryllium ground rod for best conductivity
 - c.) drive the ground rod at least 14 feet into the ground
 - d.) make a couple of loops in the ground wire where it connects to your station.
3. Which statement about a three-element Yagi antenna is true?
 - a.) the reflector is normally the shortest parasitic element
 - b.) the director is normally the shortest parasitic element
 - c.) the driven element is the longest parasitic element
 - d.) low feed-point impedance increases bandwidth.

BPL----continued

went into effect September 22. "We will aggressively pursue enforcement in BPL interference cases," promised ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ. "Those deploying BPL systems that cause harmful interference to Amateur Radio will regret it." An ARRL delegation met with FCC Enforcement Bureau and Office of Engineering and Technology (OET) staffers August 16 to discuss the Commission's response to BPL interference complaints. The MO&O denied most requests that the FCC reconsider portions of its October

2004 Order adopting rules to govern BPL systems. Several petitions, including one from ARRL, called on the Commission to strengthen rules aimed at protecting licensed radio systems from BPL interference. Instead, in a new rule revealed when the FCC made the MO&O public, the FCC drew a line in the sand regarding how much interference protection mobile operators deserve from BPL systems.

It provides that BPL operators do not have to reduce emission levels below established FCC permissible limits by any more than 20 dB below 30 MHz and 10 dB above 30 MHz to resolve harmful interference complaints. The FCC called these levels "modestly above the noise level." ARRL Laboratory Manager Ed Hare, W1RFI, points out these levels would be some 25 dB higher than the median values for man-made noise in residential areas and up to 40 dB higher than the minimum values hams use for reliable communication. The new rule does not apply to fixed stations.■

WCARC Net Check-ins

30-Aug N8QMV (NC), KC8ZJW, KD8OHQ, WB8NQW, WD8JWJ, KG8FH, KC8EKT, W8PSK, K8BBK (40m), K8OVO, K8JTK, N8UPB (12)

05-Sep WB8NQW (NC), K8BBK, W8PSK, W8QZK, KC8ZJW, WD8ICP, KG8FH, K8NEA, K8JTK, WD8JWJ, WB8VUL, KD8CHQ, N8QMV, N1RB (14)

12-Sep N1RB (NC), W8QZK/M, WD8JWJ, KC8ZJW, K8OVO, W8PSK, WB8NQW, WB8VUL, WD8ICP, K8JTK, KG8FH, N8QMV (14---1 message handled)

*Photos from the September Breakfast Meeting at Couzin's
courtesy WB8NQW*



President Phil, W8PSK, discussing upcoming events

A view of the attendees



Bob, N1RB, demonstrating the "flexible foxhunter".

Brain Teasers answers: 1-b, 2-a, 3-b

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