

CQ CHATTER

VOLUME 13 • Issue #8 WOOD COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB SEPTEMBER 2012

P.O. BOX 534, Bowling Green, OH

<http://wcarc.bgsu.edu>

President	NM8W	Craig Magrum
Vice President	WB8NQW	Bob Willman
Secretary	N1RB	Bob Boughton
Treasurer	WD8JWJ	Bill Wilkins

Letter from the President

September 2012

I don't know about you, but for me it seems this summer has flown by. As summer is drawing to an end, we have a number of activities to look forward to, including a Club Breakfast on Saturday, September 1st at Big Boy's on the corner of Poe and Main; a fall foxhunt (date to be determined), and the Findlay Ham-fest on Sunday, September 9th. For more information, see:

<http://www.findlayradioclub.org/>

It was good to hear 11 checkins on the Tuesday night net (01:30 UTC). I feel like it's been quite some time since I've seen or heard anyone. I was glad to connect again, and hope you enjoyed the net as well.

As we're more than halfway through the year, I'd like to remind you that come January we will be holding club elections again. Please

**WCARC Weekly Net:
Tuesdays at 2130 EDST
(0130 Z year-round)**

147.18 MHz 67 Hz PL

Breakfast Meeting

Saturday, September 1st

TIME: 9:00 AM

PLACE: Frisch's Big Boy

N. Main St. & E. Poe Rd.

Bowling Green, OH

think about any nominations you'd like to make for President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary, plus two Board Members.

That's all for now. I hope to see you at the breakfast!

73! Craig, NM8W



September Contests

The contest lineup for the month of September is given below. Please note that the WARC bands (60, 30, 17 and 12 m) are never open to contesting.

Sep 1-2	<i>0000 to 2400 Z</i>	80 m to 10 m
All Asian DX 'test		SSB
Sep 1-2	<i>1200 to 0400 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
Colorado QSO Party		all modes
Sep 2-3	<i>1800 to 0300 Z</i>	160 m to 20 m
Tennessee QSO Party		all modes
Sep 8-9	<i>0000 to 2400 Z</i>	80 m to 10 m
Worked All Europe		SSB
Sep 8-9	<i>1400 to 0200 Z</i>	80 m to 10 m
Arkansas QSO Party		all modes
Sep 8	<i>1600 to 2400 Z</i>	80 m to 10 m
Ohio State Parks on the Air		all modes
Sep 8-10	<i>1800 to 0259 Z</i>	6 m on up
ARRL VHF 'test		all modes
Sep 15-16	<i>1400 to 0300 Z</i>	80 m to 10 m
South Carolina QSO Party		all modes
Sep 15-16	<i>1200 to 1200 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
CIS DX PSK 'test		PSK31
Sep 26	<i>0000 to 2400 Z</i>	80 m to 10 m
CQ WW RTTY 'test		RTTY
Sep 29-30	<i>1400 to 0200;1400 to 2000 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
Texas QSO Party		all modes

Minutes

WCARC Meeting

August 13, 2012

Present: Bob-WB8NQQW, Al-WB8ABY, Bill-WD8JWJ, Hoot-WB8VUL, Loren-W8PSK, Bob-N1RB, Linda-N1LB, Chuck-WD8ICP.

Meeting called to order with Pledge of Allegiance at 7:30 pm, WB8NQQW presiding.

Minutes

of June meeting-motion to approve by Al, second by Hoot; approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Bill reported that the telephone billing mix up has been resolved and he expects to make payments soon. Motion to approve by Phil, seconded by Hoot; approved.

Old Business:

- All agreed that Field Day went well with good weather, good turnout and good food.

- Suggestions for a project day to be held on a Saturday in September. Several project ideas were discussed, but final choice will be made at September breakfast meeting (Sept. 1).

- A Foxhunt is tentatively planned preceding the October meeting (Oct. 8th). The hunt would start at 5 or

5:30 pm and end at the normal meeting time.

New Business:

- Craig, NM8W, has offered to lead a tour of WPOS some time. Consensus is that some winter date is preferable.

- Bob opened the floor for any comments but there were none.

Adjournment at 8:00 pm. ■

Vanity Call Sign Fee to Increase

from ARRL Letter

On August 3, the FCC announced via a Final Rule in the Federal Register that the cost of an Amateur Radio vanity call sign will increase 80 cents, from \$14.20 to \$15. The new fees take effect 30 days after publication, making September 4, 2012, the first day the new fee is in effect. Earlier this year, the FCC released a Notice of Proposed Rule making and Order (NPRM), seeking to raise the fee for Amateur Radio vanity call signs.

The vanity call sign regulatory fee is payable not only when applying for a new vanity call sign, but also upon renewing a vanity call sign for a new 10 year term. The first vanity call sign licenses issued under the current Amateur Radio vanity

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September Hamfests

Sep 9 Findlay RC. Annual Hamfest, Hancock County Fairgrounds, Findlay, OH. Contact Bill, N8ET (419) 423-3402.

e-mail: hamfest@kangaus.com

web: <http://w8ft.org>

Sep 16 Adrian ARC. Annual Hamfest, Lenawee County Fairgrounds, Adrian, MI. Contact Mark, NU8Z (517) 423-5906.

e-mail: cqnu8z@comcast.net

web: <http://www.w8tqe.com/hamfest.htm>

Sep 23 Hamfest Assn. of Cleveland. Cleveland Hamfest and Computer Show, Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds, Berea, OH. Contact Glenn, AF8C (800) CLE-FEST.

e-mail: info-list@hac.org

web: <http://www.hac.org>

vanity from p. 4

call sign program that began in 1996 came up for renewal six years ago.

The FCC is authorized by the Communications Act of 1934, as amended to collect vanity call sign fees to recover the costs associated with that program. According to the FCC, the fees that are collected from vanity call signs are used to offset the cost of monitoring and researching new call sign requests to prevent the issuance of duplicate call signs. When asked why the fee is payable upon renewal, the FCC stated in 2011 that "[m]ore than likely, fees that are collected only on new issues and at the time of changes in call signs will not generate sufficient

revenues to offset the cost of managing and monitoring this work at the Commission, the FCC stated in 2011. Therefore, we conclude that the basis upon which the Commission collects fees on Amateur Radio Vanity call signs will not change."

The vanity call sign fee has fluctuated over the 16 years of the current program -- from a low of \$11.70 in 2007 to a high of \$70 (as first proposed in the FCC's 1994 Report and Order). ■

NEW RADIO BURST HEARD ON THE HF BANDS *from AR Newsline*

The IARU Monitoring System Region 1 newsletter reports on a new
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burst from p. 5

burst radio system that is affecting the amateur radio operations in the 80, 40, 20 and 15 meter bands.

Writing in the newsletter Wolfgang Hadel, DK2OM, says that he discovered a new burst system operating on 3.5, 7, 14 and 21 MHz, daily.

Hadel, who is the IARU Region 1 Monitoring System Coordinator says that the system is active every full hour at plus 1, plus 2 and plus 3 minutes with 10.4 sec. bursts of 20 kHz width. Also, the signals appear to come from France.

DK2OM adds that audio frequency analysis seems to pin this as being similar to CODAR signals. Their real purpose is unknown but DK2OM says that perhaps this is a new kind of over the horizon radar or Ionosonde. As we go to air, Germany's Department of Post and Telecommunications has filed a complaint with its French counterpart. (IARU-R1) ■

MORSE CODE ON MARS

from AR Newsline

When the Mars rover Curiosity moves around the red planet it leaves a series on dots and dashes on the surface. These dots and dashes are a part of Curiosity's wheels and are made by square and rectangular imprints on the rover's treads.

According to Jet Propulsion Laboratory's Mars Rover Mechanical Engineering Team, these holes or imprints actually have a purpose as odometer markers. JPL Engineers are looking at the tread marks to verify that Curiosity has traversed the distance it expects.

So what pattern did JPL choose to put on Curiosity's wheels? The holes are in a pattern of short squares and longer rectangles as in the ancient and honorable Morse code. And what does it spell out in CW? Simply the three letters JPL.

The full story of this Morse code on Mars is on-line at tinyurl.com/cw-on-mars. And less we forget, you can follow Curiosity on Facebook at:

www.facebook.com/MarsCuriosity. ■

ARRL VHF Contest on Tap Sept. 8-10

Object is for amateurs in the US and Canada (and their possessions) to work as many amateur stations in as many different 2 degrees x 1 degree Maidenhead grid squares as possible using authorized frequencies above 50 MHz. Stations outside the US & Canada (and their possessions) may only work stations in the US (and its possessions) and Canada. Stations in KH0-9, KL7 & KP1-KP5, CY9 and CY0 count as W/VE stations and can be worked by DX stations for contest credit. ■

Adrian Hamfest 2012

September 16, 2012

Location

Lenawee County Fairgrounds
602 N. Dean Street,
Adrian, MI 49221

Talk-in

W8TQE 145.370 - 85.4 pl

Hamfest Hours

Sunday, 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM or ? Set-up starts at 6:30 AM Sunday morning

Prices

\$10.00 per (1) Table

\$3.00 per (1) Trunk Space

\$5.00 per Ticket (Advance tickets receive 2 stubs)

Hamfest Chair

Mark Hinkleman, NU8Z
cgnu8z@comcast.net
Phone: 517-423-5906

VE Licensing Exams

Walk-in VE Licensing Exams, starting 9:00 A.M.

Registration at 8:45 A.M.

Bring Photo ID, \$15.00, and Photo copy of existing license if upgrading.

Kevin Brooks, N8JMN

kbrooks@selectivedata.com

Phone 517-467-7695

There will be no half tables or half spaces offered. You must purchase a whole 8ft. space. Each vendor MUST purchase one ticket per person regardless of how many tables or trunk spaces purchased. Limited wall space and electricity is available for inside space. A food vendor will be provided during the ham fest on Sunday!

Brain Teaser answers: 1-d, 2-b, 3-a

DON'T FORGET!
10 meter informal net meets
Sunday
at 2030 EST on 28.335 MHz

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

