

CQ CHATTER

MARCH 2016

VOLUME B16 • ISSUE 1

WOOD COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

PRESIDENT

WB8NQW

BOB WILLMAN

CO-VICE PRESIDENTS

K8BBK

STEVE McEWEN

W8PSK

LOREN PHILLIPS

SECRETARY

N1RB

BOB BOUGHTON

TREASURER

KD8NJW

JIM BARNHOUSE

Minutes WCARC Meeting February 8, 2016

Bob-WB8NQW, presiding

Present: WB8NQW-Bob, AA8HS-Bruce, KE8CVA-Terry, KD8NJW-Jim, W8AN-Steve, Mike Soboleski, WD8LEI-Eric, WB8VUL-Hoot, N1RB-Bob, KD8UHO-Zach

Meeting Called to Order at 7:30 with Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes of the December meeting approved unanimously

Treasurer's Report motion to approve made and seconded (VUL/RB)-passed unanimously

Old Business:

• Bob reported on the Kick-off banquet in January and listed the slate of new officers that were elected: All current officers will continue to serve and K8BBK-Steve/W8PSK-

Phil will serve as co-Vice Presidents.

- Bob mentioned the need to convene the FabLab Committee, and he will do so soon. Apart from the planned General license class, there has been discussion of holding a basic electronics class. The Committee will discuss curriculum and structure.
- Bob reported that, thanks to the efforts of WD8LEI, the Fusion repeater can now be power cycled remotely using the 78/18 machine. This procedure has been found necessary when the Fusion machine hangs up (at least 5 times since purchased).
- Bob inquired about the spare 440 MHz receiver that is needed as a back up for the 444.475/449.475 MHz machine. The existing equipment is not a suitable replacement and must be swapped for a receiver of proper bandwidth.
- Bob (RB) reported that he had located the "missing" 440 MHz duplexers in the Club inventory.

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NET CHECK INS

Feb 9 Traffic: 0

**K8OVO (NCS)
WD8LEI
KD8RNO
AA8HS
WD8JWJ
KE8CVA
WB8NQW
KD8VWU
KD8WZK
KD8NJW
N1RB
KE8CUZ
N8YAE
KC8NKC (14)**

Feb 16 Traffic: 1

**WB8NQW (NCS)
N1RB
K8BBK
WD8ICP
WD8JWJ
KD8NJW
N8VNT
WD8LEI
KE8CVA
KD8RNO
KE8CUZ
KC8EKT
N8YAE
KD8VWU
K8JU (15)**

BRAIN TEASERS

1. When is an amateur station permitted to transmit without a control operator?
 - a.) when using automatic control, such as in the case of a repeater
 - b.) when the licensee is away and another licensed amateur is using the station
 - c.) when the transmitting station is an auxiliary station
 - d.) never
2. What is a common repeater frequency offset in the 70 cm band?
 - a.) plus or minus 5 MHz
 - b.) plus or minus 600 kHz
 - c.) minus 600 kHz
 - d.) plus 600 kHz
3. What is a beam antenna?
 - a.) an antenna built from aluminum I-beams
 - b.) an omnidirectional antenna invented by Clarence Beam
 - c.) an antenna that concentrates signals in one direction
 - d.) an antenna that reverses the phase of received signals

March Contests

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

Mar 5-6	<i>0000 to 2359 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
ARRL Int'l DX `test		SSB
Mar 12-13	<i>1400 to 2000 Z</i>	80 m to 10 m
Oklahoma QSO Party		all modes
Mar 12-13	<i>1900 to 1900 Z</i>	80 m to 10 m
Idaho QSO Party		all modes
Mar 13-14	<i>0000 to 2359 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
Wisconsin QSO Party		all modes
Mar 19-20	<i>1200 to 1200 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
Russian DX `test		CW-SSB
Mar 19-20	<i>1400 to 0200 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
Louisiana QSO Party		all modes
Mar 19-20	<i>1400 to 2359 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
Virginia QSO Party		all modes
Mar 26-27	<i>0000 to 2359 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
CQ WW WPX `test		SSB

March Hamfests

Mar 20 Toledo Mobile Radio Assn. Annual Hamfest. Owens Community College, Perrysburg, OH.

web: <http://tmrahamradio.org>

minutes---from p.1

New Business:

- Eric (LEI) reported that he had been given a tour of the Wood County EOC and that there is a desire to have an amateur station set up there. Eric would like to have 80 to 90 ft of quality coax to run from the first floor to the roof of the County Office Building in order to feed at least 3 antennas. Bob (NQW) reported that we may possibly have enough from the stock that was obtained from WBGU-TV.
- Bob inquired if there were any volunteers for the Field Day organizing committee--- there were no takers.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:00 pm

Eric-WD8LEI, who is Wood County EC, gave a very interesting slide presentation of his visits to Franklin County, Lucas County, Wood County and State of Ohio EOCs. ■

RADIO VOICE OF A CENTURY

from ARNewsline

Fred Crockford, who lives in the Borough of Brentwood, recently told his local newspaper in the UK, "I have been retired longer than some people have been at work."

In fact, Fred, G6YUY, has also likely been on the air longer than many people have been on the planet.

The retired trolley bus driver first went on the amateur bands in the 1920s, when radio operations were governed, he said, by the post office. Now he's not just a licensed ham but a centenarian ham, having just celebrated his 100th birthday.

He said radio has made every one of his many days an adventure. And he told the newspaper the fun is in the surprise discovery of who is available to talk from anywhere in the world. He said: "We talk to whoever happens to be out there on that particular spot and at that particular moment." A 70-foot-long-horizontal aerial carries his voice everywhere - even to Australia.

Fred told the newspaper he still sets aside about two hours every evening to reach out, via radio, to the world. And whether he lands in the United States, New Zealand or Australia, the thrill of DXing is no less a thrill to him at 100 than it was when he was a young man.

It seems that, at 100 years of age, his most treasured birthday gift of all has been the gift of time. ■

BIGGER REACH ON NVIS ANTENNA DAY

from ARNewsline

In Ohio, there's something decidedly different about this year's Antenna Day being held there - and organizers are hoping for far-reaching results.

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WCARC Weekly Net

Tuesdays at

2100 EDST/EST

147.18 MHz 67 Hz PL

Net Control Roster

Feb 9	K80VO
Feb 16	WB8NQW
Feb 23	KD8NJW
Mar 1	KD8VWU
Mar 8	N1RB
Mar 15	K80VO

NEXT MEETING

Breakfast Meeting

Saturday, March 5

TIME: 9:00 am

PLACE:

**Frisch's Big Boy North
E. Poe Rd.
&
N. Main St.
Bowling Green, OH**

DON'T FORGET!

**10 meter informal net meets
Sunday @ 2030 EST/EDST
on 28.335 MHz**

It's time to renew-

dues for 2016

payable to:

WCARC

P.O. Box 534

NET CHECK INS

Feb 23 Traffic: 0

KD8NJW (NCS)
WD8LEI
AA8HS
N1RB
K8JU
WD8JWJ
WB8NQW
KE8CVA
KD8VWU
KE8CUZ
K8BBK
WD8ICP
N8YAE (13)

Mar 1 Traffic: 0

KD8VWU (NCS)
K8BBK
N1RB
K8JU
KD8RNO
WD8JWJ
KE8CVA
WB8NQW
KE8CUZ
KD8NJZ
K8OVO
N8YAE
WD8ICP
N8VNT (14)

Parity Act Gets Favorable Report

from ARRL Letter

On a voice vote, the US House Subcommittee on Communications and Technology has sent the Amateur Radio Parity Act, [H.R. 1301](#), to the full House Energy and Commerce Committee with a favorable report for further consideration. The measure was among three bills the Subcommittee considered during a February 11 "markup" session. The Subcommittee is chaired by Rep Greg Walden, W7EQI (R-OR).

"I'm optimistic that we can put the finishing touches on these bills in the weeks ahead and once again produce important, bipartisan legislation that protects consumers, small businesses, and access to the latest communications services," Walden said after the hearing.

During the markup session, Walden and the bill's sponsor, Rep Adam Kinzinger (R-IL) made impassioned statements in favor of the legislation. Kinzinger said that while he can appreciate some of the concerns expressed by those who do not agree with his bill, he believes that the time has come to adopt a "reasonable accommodation standard" with respect to the erection of outdoor antennas in neighborhoods governed by private land-use restrictions.

Walden agreed. "You don't necessarily need to have a giant tower blocking everybody's view," he pointed out to the Subcommittee. He suggested that more modest antenna systems often are sufficient. He and Kinzinger noted that there is common ground between proponents and opponents of the measure and that "it's important to get this done." Rep Anna Eshoo (D-CA) also spoke to recognize the work all parties have been doing to ensure the bill's passage in the House.

At a Subcommittee hearing on H.R. 1301 last month, Walden called it "a commonsense bill" and urged his colleagues' support. Kinzinger also spoke in

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parity---from p.6

favor of H.R. 1301 at the January 12 hearing, saying that his bill's "reasonable accommodation standard" would not mandate placement, size, or aesthetics regarding an outdoor antenna, leaving ham radio operators and homeowners associations to decide those issues.

H.R. 1301 would direct the FCC to extend its rules relating to reasonable accommodation of Amateur Service communications to private land-use restrictions, such as deed covenants, conditions, and restrictions. The bill has attracted 120 cosponsors from both sides of the aisle. An identical US Senate measure, S. 1685, has attracted three cosponsors. It cleared the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation last November.

[More information](#) about the legislation is on the ARRL Amateur Radio Parity Act web page. ■

NVIS---from p.4

The Near Vertical Incidence Skywave Antenna Day in Ohio isn't necessarily just an Ohio event anymore. ARRL's Ohio Section Emergency Coordinator Stan Broadway, N8BHL, wants the April 23 ARES event opened up to include stations in neighboring states. He's also hoping to set up anchor stations around Ohio so consistent signal reports can be offered to others participating in the public safety prep exercise.

Broadway explained that Antenna Day is more of a research exercise than a contest. Last year's event attracted a number of operators and

EOCs, working to establish which NVIS antennas were the best to use for emergency communications. This year's event begins at 1500 UTC on April 23, allowing teams to contact one another and compare the performance of their antennas. At the conclusion of the event, participants will file reports with call sign, location, operators, number of contacts, and all antenna design and deployment details.

Broadway said, "We would really like to make this a regional event in 2016, with stations in their state EOCs and around the Ohio border to test their own capabilities."

NVIS antennas are growing in popularity for emergency regional communication because of their close-up radiation patterns on HF. ■

Program for April Meeting Set

The April business meeting will feature a presentation by Bill Linebaugh, who was employed as an engineer at Heathkit Company, back in the heyday of kit building.

Bill will share a number of his experiences while working at Heathkit. Members are encouraged to bring in any or all of the Heathkit equipment that they may have constructed.

The April meeting will be held at the Sheriff's Training Room on Monday, April 11th at 7:30 pm. ■

Brain Teaser answers: (T) 1-d, 2-a, 3-c

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