

CQ Chatter

Volume B1•Issue #7

Wood County Amateur Radio Club
P. O. Box 534, Bowling Green, OH 43402

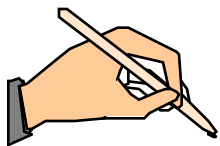
DECEMBER 1998

President-KB8QEW, Shawn Hudson Vice President-WB8NQW, Bob Willman
Secretary-AA8XS, John Lager Treasurer-N1RB, Bob Boughton
<http://bravais.bgsu.edu/~boughton/wcarc.html>

A Note from the Editor

This is the last issue of CQ Chatter for the year. At this time, it's always good to review the highlights of the past year. The WCARC had successful Simulated Emergency participation in May with the County EMA, and in October with the ARRL SET. Hamarama was a modest success, as was the Field Day Effort and the foxhunt/picnic.

The Club has had a lot to be happy about, but also a few setbacks to take in stride. This past year saw the passing of Dick Sprout. K8HWU, one of the founding members of the Club.



Our condolences to his family. In another area of concern, the WCARC membership rolls have remained more or less static for the past 5 years. We certainly welcome the new members who have perhaps gotten new tickets, moved into the area, or just decided to join the Club. However, the influx somehow seems to always be balanced by an equal number of members who move away, or lose interest. This writer urges our incoming officers to make attracting new membership a high priority for the coming year. Part of the equation is of course putting on educational demonstrations and programs for scout groups, etc.

With some effort, 1999 can become a banner year for the WCARC. Happy New Year!

73 de Bob

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

**Next Club Meeting:
Monday, December 14th
Social Hour @ 1900
Fairgrounds Clubhouse**

**Fun Night
Monday, December 28th
@ 1900 - Clubhouse**

ARRL Modifies Its Restructuring Proposal

In response to a rather unexpectedly fast move on the part of the FCC to release a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) on the subject of license restructuring on August 10th, the ARRL Board met in late October, and refined its restructuring proposal in light of the numerous comments it has received from the membership.



The first change that is proposed is to lose the Class designations by letter (e.g., A, B, C and D). In their place, the traditional names of Extra, Advanced, General and Technician, respectively, would still be used. In a more radi-

Continued on page 2

cal departure, the Board decided to extend HF CW privileges to the Technician class *without* any Code test! The logic behind this idea is that the typical Technician VHF/UHF practitioner may become interested in the CW mode through the allure of working the mode on the HF bands. The proposed frequency privileges will be those enjoyed by the present holders of the General Class license: 3.525 to 3.700 MHz; 7.025 to 7.125 MHz; 10.100 to 10.150 MHz; 14.025 to 14.150 MHz; 18.068 to 18.110 Mhz; 21.025 to 21.150 MHz; 24.890 to 24.0930 MHz; and 28.000 to 28.300 MHz. The theory here is that the best way to learn the Code is by operating on the bands and learning from others.

Drugs Found in Stereo Bought at Hamfest

A Fairfield County, Ohio, sheriff's detective and his son discovered about \$400,000 worth of cocaine in some stereo equipment that they bought at the Springfield hamfest in late September. The pair were concerned about a non-functioning dual tape cassette recorder that had been purchased at the hamfest. When they opened the cover, they found that the circuit board had been removed and had been replaced with three brick like objects wrapped in duct tape. It seems that the original owner must have really wanted that HW-101 but forgot what he was swapping!

The Volunteer Examiner Program

Do you want to become a Volunteer Examiner? The VE program has been in existence for almost a decade now and has proven to be a workable solution to the FCC's need to cut back on administrative costs. Many hams want to join the program, but don't know the details of what and how to proceed.

Continued on page 3

WCARC
Net Control Roster
 Net meets every Tuesday at 2130

Nov 24	KB8QEW
Dec 1	N1RB
Dec 8	N8QMV
Dec 15	WD8ICP
Dec 22	KB8QEW
Dec 29	N1RB
Jan 5	N8QMV
Jan 12	WD8ICP

December Contests

The contest line-up for the remainder of November and December includes the following:

- Nov 28/29** 0000Z to 2359Z CQ WW DX Contest CW
- Dec 12/13** 0000Z to 2359Z ARRL 10 meter Contest
- Dec 19/20** 1400Z to 1400Z Croatian CW Contest
- Dec 27** 0000Z to 2359Z RAC Canada Winter Contest

Renewal Time

It's membership renewal time! If you haven't remitted your 1999 club dues yet, now is the time. For only \$10 individual, \$15 family, or \$5 student/senior, you can continue to enjoy the benefits of membership in the Wood County ARC. Help support the Club's activities in repeaters, digital modes, and emergency service. Many other activities such as Field Day and the fox hunt are fun for all. A membership form is enclosed for your convenience. Please be sure to indicate on the form what mode you wish to have CQ Chatter delivered in: via paper or e-mail as a .pdf file.

The system works like this: the responsibility for administering the examinations and reporting the results is shared by a group of Volunteer Examiner Coordination (VEC) organizations. For example, the American Radio Relay League is a VEC. There are several others; another prominent one is the W5YI VEC. The VECs get together on setting question pools for the various examinations and then are responsible for maintaining test copies, answer sheets and making sure that their associated VEs administer the exams and report the results in a fair and timely manner.

As the name implies, the VE is a volunteer, and may not accept payment for services. However, each VEC is permitted to accept remuneration for operating expenses (pencils, stamps, etc.) up to a limit that is set by the FCC each year.

If you hold a General Class license, you can become a VE and assist in administering Novice and Technician Class exams. If you hold an Advanced Class license, you can in addition assist in General Class Exams. Extra Class VEs can administer all test elements. Each examination session is held by a team of at least three VEs under the sanction of their VEC. The session must also be publicized ahead of time.

The VE session team is responsible for administering the tests, for grading them and providing the results to the examinees at the session itself, and for submitting the session report and results to the coordinating VEC within 10 days.

Given all the talk about restructuring the amateur licensing structure, the detailed regulations stated above are bound to change. However, if you would like to help budding new hams get their ticket, and hold a General Class license or higher, you might consider becoming a VE.

Equipment for Sale

The following equipment has become available from the estate of a silent key. If you are interested, please call Bob, N1RB, at 354-1811.

- Yaesu FT-990 HF rig with built in AT and pwr supply/SP-6 speaker and phone patch - \$1200
- Heath SB-220 linear amplifier - \$450
- Azden PCS-4000 2m mobile - \$150
- 60 ft self supporting fold over tower with winch
- Cushcraft multi element tribander plus WARC bands - \$250
- 4 - stacked 2m yagis - \$250

The above three items must be seen to be appreciated.

- many other accessory items to be sold at best reasonable offer.

Also, from another owner:

- 30 ft TV tower - free if removed

Vanity Fee Reduced

As of September 14th, the fee for "vanity" call sign applications was reduced from \$30 to \$13. This caused an upsurge in applications in a single day that was equal to the total amount in the previous two months! There must have been a lot of anticipation of this move by a lot of people.

Area Hamfests

- No hamfests to report in December

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





WOOD COUNTY
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

P.O. Box 534
Bowling Green, OH
43402



Regular-\$10===Family-\$15===Senior/Student-\$5
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL FORM

DATE _____ ARRL MEMBER? Y _____ N _____ DATE OF EXP. _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____ PHONE _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

CALL _____ CLASS _____ E-MAIL: _____

Please Circle All That Apply:

Active Bands: 160 80 75 40 30 20 17 15 12 10 6 2 220 440 higher

Modes: CW SSB PACKET RTTY FM DX MOBILE QRP SSTV ATV EME SAT

Interests: Traffic DX Contests Foxhunts Satellites Nets Antennas

Computers Emergency ARES/RACES Skywarn Classic Radios

Do You Own a Computer? Y _____ N _____ If yes, what operating system (check)?

DOS/Windows _____ MAC/OS _____ IBM/OS2 _____ Other _____

Do you plan to upgrade your license? Y _____ N _____ If yes, what class? _____

What kinds of meeting programs would you like to see? _____

What type of equipment would you like to see the Club purchase? _____

Other activities you would like to see the Club offer _____

General Comments _____

Signature _____ Date _____