

# CQ Chatter

Volume B8• Issue #4

Wood County Amateur Radio Club

MAY 2007

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

<http://wcarc.bgsu.edu>

President/Vice President  
Secretary  
Treasurer

K8NEA/K8OVO  
KG8FH  
WD8JWJ

Duane Ashbaucher /Don Buehrer  
Jeff Halsey  
Bill Wilkins

## Minutes

### Wood County Amateur Radio Club

Monday, April 9, 2007

Sheriff's Training Room

Wood County Justice Center

Bowling Green, OH

Attending: Duane-K8NEA, Pat-WA8SXP, Don-K8OVO, Bob-N1RB, Bob-KC8RWI, Chuck-WD8ICP, Hoot-WB8VUL, John-N8MSU, Jeff-KG8FH, Steve- K8BBK, Mark-KF8KL, Bill-WD8JWJ, Bob-WB8NQW, Tom-W8THY (Guest Presenter)

Co-President Duane, K8NEA, called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm and asked that everyone recite their name and call. Motion was made and carried to approve the February minutes to be entered into record.

Steve McEwen, K8BBK, was asked to give a brief report on the progress of talks regarding a joint Field Day exercise with the Findlay and Henry County Amateur Radio clubs. Steve reported that after his talks with representatives of the Findlay club several questions have been raised. These include:

1. Will the Wood County ARC commit to this activity?

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

### *Next Meeting*

**SATURDAY, MAY 5th**

**TIME: 9:00 am**

**PLACE: Couzin's  
Restaurant,  
Grand Rapids**

2. How would each club operate? Steve indicated that a consensus was reached that each club could operate with their individual call signs.

In addition to the questions raised, K8BBK pointed out that the Findlay club has volunteered to take total responsibility for the Saturday evening meal during Field Day activities. The suggestion was made that there might need to be a "coordinator" regarding meal responsibilities for each club.

Motion was made (K8BBK) and seconded (WB8NQW) that the WCARC will participate in the joint field day activities. The motion was carried unanimously.

Bill Wilkins, WD8JWJ, presented the treasurer's report for April. WD8JWJ noted expenditures of \$35 for repeater

## May Contests

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

May 5-6 0001 to 2359 Z 10 m  
Ten-ten Spring 'test CW-digital

May 5-6 1600 to 0400 Z 160 m to 10 m  
Indiana QSO Party all modes

May 5-6 2000 to 1959 Z 80 m to 10 m  
ARI (Italy) DX 'test all modes

May 5-6 2000 to 2400 Z 80 m to 10 m  
New England QSO party all modes

May 5-6 1300 to 0700 Z 160 m to 2 m  
Seventh Area QSO party all modes

May 12-13 1600 to 0400 Z 160 m to 70 cm  
Mid Atlantic QSO party all modes

May 12-13 1200 to 1200 Z 160 m to 10 m  
CQ-M DX 'test all modes

May 19-20 2100 to 0200 Z 80 m  
Baltic DX 'test all modes

May 19-20 1200 to 1200 Z 80 to 10 m  
EU PSK DX 'test PSK

May 19-20 0000 to 2400 Z 80 m to 10 m  
US Counties QSO party SB

May 26-27 0000 to 2400 Z 160 m to 10 m  
CQ WW WPX 'test all modes

\* 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

**2 m/440 Net Control Roster**  
Net meets every Tuesday at 2130

May	1	N8QMV
May	8	WB8NQW
May	15	N1RB
May	22	K8OVO
May	29	WD8ICP
Jun	5	N8QMV
Jun	12	WB8NQW

**DON'T FORGET!!**  
**10 METER INFORMAL NET**  
**SUNDAYS, at 8:30 pm**  
**on 28.335 MHz**

*minutes---continued*

phone charges, and credits of \$23.75 for book sales. The current total funds of the WCARC are \$1,866.44. Motion was made (WB8NQW) and seconded (K8BBK) that the treasurer's report for April be approved and entered into the record. The motion carried unanimously.

Co-President Don Buehrer, K8OVO, noted that the next A.R.E.S. meeting will be April 21, 2007.

The following announcements from the floor were presented:

1. The next Saturday breakfast meeting will be at Cousin's restaurant in Grand Rapids on May 5.

2. Bob, N1RB, noted that the club will sponsor VE testing for all 3 license classes on Tuesday, June 5, 2007 at 6 pm in the sheriffs training room at the Wood County Justice Center.

3. Duane, K8NEA, noted that the

## Brain Teasers

1. Without a grant of FCC certification, how many external RF amplifiers of a given design capable of operation below 144 MHz may you build or modify in one calendar year?

- a. none
- b. one
- c. five
- d. ten

2. What is the maximum symbol rate permitted for packet emissions on the 2-meter band?

- a. 300 bauds
- b. 1200 bauds
- c. 19.6 Kbauds
- d. 56 Kbauds

3. At what point in an HF transceiver block diagram would an electronic TR switch normally appear?

- a. between the transmitter and low-pass filter
- b. between the low-pass filter and antenna
- c. at the antenna feed point
- d. at the power supply feed point

## WCARC Net Check-ins

10-Apr N1RB (NC), WB8NQW, WD8ICP, K8OVO, N8RIM, N8QMV, WB8VUL (8)

17-Apr K8OVO (NC), KC8ZJW, W8PSK, WD8ICP, WB8NQW, WA9SXP, WB8VUL, N8QMV, K8NEA (9)

24-Apr N8QMV (NC), W8QZK/M, K8BBK, WD8JWJ, KG8FH, WB8NQW, K8NEA, WB8VUL, WA8SXT, K8JU/M, K3RC/M, K8OVO, VA3DVR/M, W8PSK (14)

## minutes---continued

license classes for Tuesday, April 17, and Tuesday, April 24 will be held at the home of Bob Willman, WB8NQW. K8NEA also mentioned that he has had no luck in searching for a specific code proficiency program. Yet another announcement in the form of query has K8NEA requesting an updated e-mail address for Bob Dickey, WD8LEH.

4. Steve, K8BBK, presented a question to Bob, N1RB, regarding the status of the Radio Merit Badge classes conducted by N1RB. N1RB reported that all scouts vying for the badge had passed the test.

A motion was made (WB8NQW) to adjourn and the motion carried. The meeting was officially adjourned at 7:57 pm. Following the meeting, WTVG (Channel 13) engineer Tom Young, W8THY, presented an interesting technical program regarding the coming HDTV standard.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jeff Halsey, KG8FH, Secretary - WCARC

## May Hamfests

May 18-20 Dayton ARA 8 am  
Dayton Hamvention---the granddaddy of them all! Hara Arena, Dayton, OH.  
Contact Jim, WX8F, (937) 276-6931.

e-mail: [tickets@hamvention.org](mailto:tickets@hamvention.org)  
URL: [www.hamvention.org](http://www.hamvention.org)

Jun 3 Chelsea ARC 8 am  
Chelsea Swap, Chelsea Fairgrounds, Chelsea, MI. Contact Frank, KD8ABW, (734) 945-1915.

e-mail: [frankpohs@hotmail.com](mailto:frankpohs@hotmail.com)  
URL: [www.wd8iel.net](http://www.wd8iel.net)

## Motorola Suspends

### Powerline LV BPL Development

from ARRL Bulletin

Less than two years after announcing its Powerline LV Access BPL product, Motorola has decided to suspend product development and to devote its resources to more promising markets, industry sources say. Motorola reportedly has decided to focus on a product called Powerline MU, which is for use within multiple-unit dwellings. The decision to stop work on its Access BPL product reflects declining interest in residential broadband service delivery among utilities coupled with more immediate demand for in-building BPL systems. Motorola has indicated that it's not scrapping Powerline LV altogether, however.

Powerline LV united Motorola's Canopy wireless broadband Internet platform with enhanced ham band-notching HomePlug technology, drastically reducing BPL interference potential by restricting the application of high-frequency RF to the low-voltage side of the power transformers serving customers' homes, not the medium-voltage wires that line many residential streets. As a result, Powerline LV avoided the system architecture that poses the greatest risk of BPL interference to radio communication -- radiation from the medium-voltage power lines.

ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ expressed appreciation for Motorola's approach to the thorny issue of radio interference from BPL systems. In an effort to minimize interference, particularly to the Amateur Radio bands, Motorola designed its Powerline LV system in close cooperation with the League's technical staff, Sumner noted. A test stand Access BPL system was in operation briefly at ARRL

Headquarters. Measurements and subjective listening tests on the ham bands showed that Powerline LV was Amateur Radio-friendly.

"As one would expect from a company with such a distinguished record in the field of radio communication, Motorola acknowledged at the outset the seriousness of the interference problem," he said. "Motorola's system architecture influenced other vendors, raised industry awareness of the interference issue, and demonstrated the value of working with the ARRL to find positive solutions." ■

---

## Elmer's Corner

If you recently upgraded your ticket so that you now have HF phone privileges, there are a few differences in operational procedures and habits that you might want to become familiar with in contrast with those used on the channelized VHF/UHF bands.

First, it is always a good idea to listen on a particular frequency for a few minutes to make sure it isn't occupied. Even then, it's possible that only one end of a QSO is happening at the time, and you may interfere with the other end if you should transmit there. So, it is always a good practice to inquire, "Is the frequency in use?", before calling CQ.

If nobody comes back to the query, then go ahead and call CQ. Make sure you do at least a 3 by 3 (CQs and call) and also spell your call out using standard phonetics. There is usually a lot of static and other odd interference on HF, so just speaking the letters won't cut it.

Finally, don't be surprised if a once clear frequency becomes occupied by others after a few minutes--the skip can change in no time! ■

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

