

CQ CHATTER

MAY 2017

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WOOD COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

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N1RB

Bob Boughton

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KD8VWU

Doug Perez

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WB8NQW

Bob Willman

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KD8NJW

Jim Barnhouse

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KE8CVA

Terry Halliwill

<http://wcarc.bgsu.edu>

Minutes

WCARC Meeting

April 10, 2017

Bob-N1RB, presiding

Present: N1RB-Bob, KE8CVA-Terry, NM8W-Craig, WD8JWJ-Bill, WB8NQW-Bob, KC8IFW-Will, K8BBK-Steve, W8PSK-Loren, WB8VUL-Hoot, K8OVO-Don, WD8LEI-Eric, KC8NKC-Orville

Meeting called to order: at 7:30 with Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: Bob (NQW) moved to approve the minutes from the February meeting as printed in CQ Chatter. Motion seconded by Bill (JWJ).

Treasurer: Bill (JWJ) moved and Bob (NQW) seconded a motion to approve the treasurer's report as given by Bob (RB).

Old Business:

- TMRA was well attended by members of WCARC.

- The Tech class and exam session conducted by Bob N1RB netted 6 new technician and 1 general licenses. There appears to be some interest in another class.
- Eric (LEI) has installed the amateur card access control system at the FabLab. Bob (NQW) is designing a

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License Class Completed

by N1RB

The spring license class was completed, with VE testing on Saturday, April 8th. There were six new Technician Class licensees and one upgrade to General Class. They are:

Josh Reynolds-KE8GTI

Chris Nunamaker-KE8GTK

Sean Thomas-KE8GUK

Mark Bowlus-KE8GTL

William Stautzenbach-KE8GMU/AG

Daniel Struffolino-KE8GTM

Congratulations to the new licensees! As per the Club bylaws, each person will receive free a one year membership in WCARC. Thanks also to the VE team who assisted yours truly with the testing:

Net Check Ins

Apr 11 **Traffic: 0**

NM8W **(NCS)**
WB8NQW
W8PSK
KD8RNO
KE8CVA
N1RB
K8BBK
WD8ICP
KD8VWU
WD8LEI/P
K8JU
N8YAE **(12)**

Apr 18 **Traffic: 0**

W8PSK **(NCS)**
K8JU
KD8VWU
WB8NQW
KD8NJW
KG8FH
K8BBK
WD8LEI
KA8VNG
KE8CVA
K8OVO
KC8EKT **(13)**

Apr 25 **Traffic: 0**

K8OVO **(NCS)**
WD8LEI
KC8EKT
W8PSK

Brain Teasers

1. What value capacitor would be required to tune a 20-microhenry inductor to resonate in the 80 meter band?
 - a.) 150 pF
 - b.) 100 pF
 - c.) 200 pF
 - d.) 100 μ F
2. What are the major spectral impurity components of direct digital synthesizers?
 - a.) broadband noise
 - b.) digital conversion noise
 - c.) spurs at discrete frequencies
 - d.) Nyquist limit noise
3. What determines the velocity factor for a coaxial transmission line?
 - a.) termination impedance
 - b.) line length
 - c.) dielectrics in the line
 - d.) center conductor resistivity

May Contests

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

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| May 6-7 | <i>0001 to 2359 Z</i> | 10 m |
| 10-10 Spring 'test | | CW |
| May 6-7 | <i>1200 to 1159 Z</i> | 160 m to 10 m |
| ARI (Italy) Int'l DX 'test | | all modes |
| May 6-7 | <i>1300 to 0700 Z</i> | 160 m to 10 m |
| 7th Call Area QSO Party | | all modes |
| May 6-7 | <i>1500 to 0300 Z</i> | 160 m to 10 m |
| Indiana QSO Party | | all modes |
| May 6-7 | <i>1700 to 2359 Z</i> | 160 m to 10 m |
| Delaware QSO Party | | all modes |
| May 6-7 | <i>2000 to 2359 Z</i> | 160 m to 10 m |
| New England QSO Party | | all modes |
| May 13-14 | <i>1400 to 0200 Z</i> | 80 m to 10 m |
| Arkansas QSO Party | | all modes |
| May 13-14 | <i>1500 to 1500 Z</i> | 80 m to 10 m |
| Portuguese Navy 'test | | CW Phone |
| May 20 | <i>0800 to 2359 Z</i> | 80 m to 10 m |
| Portuguese Navy 'test | | digital |
| May 20-21 | <i>1200 to 1200 Z</i> | 160 m to 10 m |
| King of Spain 'test | | CW |
| May 20-21 | <i>1200 to 1200 Z</i> | 80 m to 10 m |
| EU PSK DX 'test | | digital |
| May 27-28 | <i>0000 to 2359 Z</i> | 160 m to 10 m |
| CQ WW WPX 'test | | CW |

minutes---from p. 1

relay circuit that will disable the PTT function at each transceiver until an authorized operator enables it. A motion was passed to proceed with the purchase of the necessary parts. Building the transceiver relay control boxes will be a club build project.

- The technical committee will meet at the FabLab to discuss plans for installation of an HF antenna. An antenna work party will be convened to do the actual installation.
- Part of our agreement with the FabLab, for club member access to the ham station, is that we teach a basic electronics course for FabLab members. Bob (RB) and Bob (NQW) are designing such a course using an ARRL publication for the text book.
- Field Day committees are: Equipment - Bob (RB), Antennas - Phil (PSK) will make his loop available, Food - Craig NM8W and Bob (NQW). The usual Saturday night potluck is planned. If there is enough interest, an on-site breakfast may be available. A request has been made to the Wood County Commissioners asking if they would proclaim June 24-25 "Amateur Radio Weekend" in Wood County.

New Business:

- A foxhunt is scheduled for September 2nd following the breakfast. Eric, (LEI), will be the fox.
- Dayton Hamvention and the new location at Green County Fairgrounds were discussed. Information and maps are available on the Hamvention website. Camping spaces are already full.

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Canada Best Place for Hams to Experience Solar Eclipse

from ARRL Letter

Alex Schwarz, VE7DXW, who developed the online [Scanning RF Seismograph](#) to determine which bands are open, is among the many looking forward to the solar eclipse on August 21, 2017. Although the path of totality will move over Oregon then southeastward toward South Carolina, he believes radio amateurs north of the border can take advantage of this "very exciting celestial event," as those in the US will be doing, and may have an edge of sorts. Members of the Ham Radio Science Citizen Investigation ([HamSCI](#)) in the US will sponsor a Solar Eclipse QSO Party ([SEQP](#)) to conduct their own research.

"This will be spectacular when viewed with our eyes," Schwarz said. "The effects of the solar radiation on the propagation of radio waves will be equally or more exciting." Schwarz said it may appear that Canada won't be a part of the solar eclipse, but British Columbia (BC) will have up to 95% coverage, he pointed out.

"As the solar eclipse is moving over the planet, it is leaving a canyon of de-ionized gas on the ionosphere in altitudes of about 100 to 300 kilometers," Schwarz said. "This puts Canada -- and especially Ontario -- in a very good position to get really long signal paths to the horizon toward the south. Southern Ontario will be in the best location to make contacts into the southern and

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WCARC Weekly Net

Tuesdays at 2100 all year

147.18 MHz 67 Hz PL

Net Control Roster

May 2 **WB8NQW**

May 9 **N1RB**

May 16 **KD8VWU**

May 23 **KD8NJW**

May 30 **NM8W**

Jun 6 **K8OVO**

Jun 13 **WB8NQW**

NEXT MEETING

Breakfast Meeting

Monday, May 6th

TIME: 9:00 am

PLACE:

Frisch's North

N. Main St. &

E. Poe Rd.

Bowling Green, OH

Ham Nation 300

Special Event

An on-air Special Event celebrating the 300th broadcast of Ham Nation hits the ham bands May 24-31, 2017. Ham Nation hosts and after-show net control operators are presenting the event. They also encourage you to enter the Ham Nation Challenge.

The nine 1x1 callsigns and operators active during the event include W0H - Dale, K0HYD. W1H - Al, K1LTJ. W2H - Eric. N2KOJ. W4H - Kevin, KC7FPF. W5H - Don - AE5DW. W6H - Mike, WT6H. W7H - Steve, W7UDI. W9H - Val, NV9L and K0H - Amanda, K1DDN.

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Fusion (C4FM) Net

meets Thursday

@1930

on 442.125+

DON'T FORGET!

10 meter Net

meets

Sunday@ 2030

Net Check Ins

Apr 25 *continued*

WB8NQW
KD8NJW
KD8VWU
N1RB
KE8CVA
KG8FH
KE8CUZ
K8JU **(13)**

May 2 *Traffic: 0*

WB8NQW **(NCS)**
KD8NJW
KD8VWU
KD8RNO
WD8JWJ
W8PSK
KE8CVA
N8PYA
KG8FH
N8VNT
WD8LEI
KC8EKT
KA8VNG
N1RB
K8BBK **(15)**

New Bands! 630 Meters and 2,200 Meters

from ARRL Letter

The Amateur Service will officially get two new bands in the near future. The FCC has adopted rules that will allow Amateur Radio access to the 630 and 2,200-meter bands, with minor conditions. A Report and Order ([R&O](#)) was released on March 29. The effective date of the new rules is hard to predict at this point; more below. (This corrects and updates information that appeared in The ARRL Letter edition that circulated to members.) The R&O, which also addresses several non-Amateur Radio issues, allocates the 472-479 kHz band (630 meters) to the Amateur Service on a secondary basis and amends Part 97 to provide for Amateur Service use of that band as well as of the previously allocated 135.7-137.8 kHz band (2,200 meters). The R&O also amends Part 80 rules to authorize radio buoy operations in the 1900-2000 kHz band under a ship station license.

"It's a big win for the Amateur community and the ARRL," ARRL CEO Tom Gallagher, NY2RF, said. "We are excited by the FCC's action to authorize Amateur Radio access for the first time on the MF and LF spectrum."

The FCC said the Amateur Radio service rules it has adopted for 630 meters and 2,200 meters allow "for co-existence with Power Line Carrier (PLC) systems that use these bands." Utilities have opposed Amateur Radio use of the MF and LF spectrum, fearing interference to unlicensed Part 15 PLC systems used to manage the power grid.

Amateurs operating on 472-479 kHz would be permitted a maximum equivalent isotropically radiated power (EIRP) of 5 W, except in parts of Alaska within 800 kilometers (approximately 496 miles) of Russia, where the maximum would be 1 W EIRP. Amateurs operating in the 135.7-137.8 kHz band could run up to 1 W EIRP. The FCC is requiring a 1-kilometer separation distance between radio amateurs using the

May Hamfests

May 19-21 Dayton Hamvention--granddaddy of 'em all. Greene County Fairgrounds, Xenia, OH. web: <http://www.hamvention.org>

June 3 Fulton County ARC. Annual Hamfest. Tedrow Family Woodlot Park, Wauseon, OH. web: <http://k8bxq.org/hamfest>

bands---from p. 6

two new bands and electric power transmission lines with PLC systems on those bands. Amateur Radio operators will have to notify UTC of station location prior to commencing operations.

The FCC also placed a 60-meter (approximately 197 feet) above-ground-level (AGL) height limit on transmitting antennas used on 630 meters and 2,200 meters. The bands would be available to General class and higher licensees, and permissible modes would include CW, RTTY, data, phone, and image. Automatically controlled stations would be permitted to operate in the bands. More details soon, on the ARRL website.

Effective Date

The fact that the new rules contain a new information-collection requirement -- notification of operation to the UTC -- makes it difficult to guess at an effective date. The FCC R&O says the Office of Management and Budget (under the Paperwork Reduction Act) must first approve the information-collection requirements (in §97.303[g][2]). Then, the revised Part 97 rules sections will become effective after the FCC publishes a notice in The Federal Register "announcing such approval and the

minutes---from p. 4

- Eric (LEI) gave a short update on ARES activities. Equipment in the ARES trailer will be available for Field Day. The VHF antenna on the ARES repeater has problems. WCARC bought the original antenna that was installed there when ARES thought that it was defective. It turned out that the antenna was not the problem so the one we have is OK. ARES may want to buy it back.

Adjournment: A motion was made and seconded to adjourn.

Don-K8OVO presented an interesting program on formal traffic handling using the National Traffic System.

Respectfully submitted:
Bob WB8NQW

eclipse---from p.4

western US and Central America. In southern BC, we can aim our antennas right down the length of the propagation anomaly and reach the Caribbean and southeastern US." Schwarz said timing is important, because the gas will ionize again after the solar shadow has passed. The entire passage across North America will be approximately 90 minutes. ■

ham nation---from p. 5

"Wild Card" stations using their personal callsigns include show hosts: K9EID - Bob Heil. WB6NOA - Gordon West. K7AGE, Randy Hall and W5JDX, George Thomas.

Digital Modes participants include: D-STAR - KB9VZU, Dave and **K8JTK, Jeffrey**. DMR - WA8LIV, Andrew; KC8VJK, Craig and KD8SNF, Tate. Echolink - N3NTV, David; VO1UKZ, Daryll; W8WFO, Steve and N9OFU, Paul. Fusion - WB6NOA, Gordo.

Ham Nation is an audio and video podcast that is broadcast live on the internet channel TWiT.tv. Hams can view the program at 9:00 p.m. eastern time every Wednesday evening.

Hams will be able to earn a Ham Nation 300 certificate by working six of the nine Special Event callsigns. They may also qualify by working five of the nine 1x1 calls and one show host.

Hams can earn a Clean Sweep certificate by working all nine 1x1 callsigns. Commemorative QSL cards are also available. Hams must send their QSL Card and an SASE to each station.

A new digital certificate is available for hams with a Technician license. They earn it by working two digital stations in any of the four digital modes.

Contact the stations on any band. You may look up the details and rules for the on-air event at the QRZ page of the nine 1x1 callsigns above. Check the QRZ.com pages often as we update them often.

Software collates logs from all nine special event stations. Users download

certificates and print them at home or at a self service photo shop.

The on-air event begins at 0300Z on May 25th and ends at 0500Z on June 1.

The Ham Nation Challenge ends August 31, 2017. Hams may earn one of three certificates. Scoring 300 to 499 points will earn you a bronze challenge certificate. If you score 500 to 599 points you will receive a silver certificate. A score of 600 or more of the possible 750 points in the challenge will get you a Gold certificate. Hams receiving the top three scores appear on Ham Nation in September.

Hams earn challenge points by completing simple tasks like ... submitting a chat room question; submitting a video or shack photo for broadcast or scoring a "selfie" with a host or net control operator.

By completing the more challenging tasks hams earn more points. More difficult tasks include ... becoming a Volunteer Examiner; upgrading their amateur license or earning a WAS or DXCC. We will post a complete list of the challenge tasks and points awarded on each of the 1x1 callsign QRZ pages.

If you have questions about this event you may send an email to HamNation300@gmail.com.

If you are talking about this event on social media we encourage you to use the hashtag "#HamNation300".

For information about this news release
s e e :
<https://www.hamnationdstar.net/2017/04/05/ham-nation-300-special-event/> ■

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