

CQ Chatter

SEPTEMBER 2019

VOLUME B19 • ISSUE 7

WOOD COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

President	WB8NQW	Bob Willman
Vice President	KD8VWU	Doug Perez
Secretary	N1RB	Bob Boughton
Treasurer	KD8NJW	Jim Barnhouse

Minutes

WCARC Meeting

August 12, 2019

Bob-W8NQW, presiding

The Business Meeting was preceded by a very informative presentation by Jim-W8ERW, on the AREDN mesh system.

Present: Bob-N1RB, Doug-KD8VWU, Bill-WD8JWJ, Tom-WB8ZHU, Rex-KC8PFP, Phil-W8PSK, Jeff-K8JTK, Terry-KE8CVA, Chuck-WD8ICP, Bob-WB8NQW, Lynn-KD8RNO, Hoot-WB8VUL, Stan-K8LL, Scott-KE8IJR, Linda-N1LB, Lisa-KB8VTL, Eric-Wd8LEI, Jim-W8ERW

Meeting called to order: at 8:05 pm with Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes of June business meeting as published in July CQ Chatter were approved (RNO/VWU).

Treasurer's Report no report.

Old Business:

- Bob inquired about any other comments assessments of the Club's Field Day effort. Everybody seemed satisfied with the way it was conducted.
- Eric (LEI) reported that the 80m/40m HF antenna on the roof of the Sheriff's Office is operational now. The VHF/UHF J-pole still needs work
- Bob described the progress on the Ohio Court Houses OTA antenna effort. The NVIS antenna has been constructed and he will try it out at his home QTH in the next few days. Reminder: The event will take place on Saturday, August 24, from 9am to 4pm. The Club plans to set up near the front door canopy.
- Stan (LL) mentioned that the Ohio QSO Party will be taking place starting at noon that day, so there should be plenty of traffic on the bands.

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Net Check Ins

Aug 6

Traffic: 0
(NCS)

N1RB

KE8CVA

KG8FH

WD8LEI

KD8NJW

WB8NQW

KC8EKT

KD8RNO

KE8JPZ-Dave

KD8AVT-Dave (10)

Aug 13

Traffic: 0
(NCS)

WB8NQW

KE8CVA

KC8EKT

KG8FH

WD8LEI

W8PSK

KD8RNO

KD8VWU

WD8JWJ (9)

Aug 20

Traffic: 0
(NCS)

KD8NJW

KE8CVA/M

KG8FH

WB8NQW

KG8FL

N3MJR

W8PSK

WD8LEI/P

KD8RNO

N1RB

WD8ICP (11)

BRAIN TEASERS

1. Which of the following is an advantage of a switch mode power supply as compared to a linear power supply?
 - a.) faster switching time makes higher voltage output possible
 - b.) fewer circuit components are required
 - c.) high frequency operation allows the use of smaller components
 - d.) all of the above
2. Which of the following is a function of a digital signal processor?
 - a.) to provide adequate grounding
 - b.) to remove noise from received signals
 - c.) to increase antenna gain
 - d.) to increase antenna bandwidth
3. When is it acceptable to recharge a carbon-zinc primary cell?
 - a.) as long as the voltage has not been allowed to drop below 1.0 volt
 - b.) when the cell is kept warm during the recharging period
 - c.) when a constant current charger is used
 - d.) never

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>1800 to 0300 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
Tennessee QSO Party		all modes
Sep 7-8	<i>0000 to 2359 Z</i>	80 m to 10 m
All Asian DX 'test		SSB
Sep 7-8	<i>1300 to 0100 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
Nebraska QSO Party		all modes
Sep 7	<i>1400 to 2200 Z</i>	80 m to 10 m
Ohio State Parks OTA		SSB
Sep 14-15	<i>0000 to 2359 Z</i>	80 m to 10 m
WAE DX 'test		SSB
Sep 14-15	<i>1400 to 2000 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
Texas QSO Party		all modes
Sep 14-15	<i>1500 to 0300 Z</i>	80 m to 10 m
Alabama QSO Party		all modes
Sep 21-22	<i>1400 to 0200 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
Iowa QSO Party		all modes
Sep 21-22	<i>1600 to 0359 Z</i>	80 m to 10 m
New Jersey QSO Party		all modes
Sep 21-22	<i>1600 to 2200 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
New Hampshire QSO Party		all modes
Sep 28-29	<i>0000 to 2359 Z</i>	80 m to 10 m
CQ WW DX 'test		RTTY
Sep 28-29	<i>1200 to 1200 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
Maine QSO Party		all modes

minutes— from p. 1

- The summer fox hunt is scheduled for Saturday, September 7. It will begin shortly after the Club breakfast is concluded.
- Bob requested that somebody volunteer to be the fox for this event as nobody has stepped forward yet. The hunt will follow the standard stationary fox format on 2 meters.
- Eric reported that the radio purchase process to equip the County EOC is in process and should be completed by Fall.

New Business:

- Bob made specific mention of the letter he published in the previous CQ Chatter requesting members to volunteer to serve as Club Officers. It seems the same old faces are constantly on the slate—it would be healthier for more members to get involved in planning the future of the Club. Bob passed around a sign-up sheet soliciting volunteers.
- It is close to the time to start planning for the January Kick-off banquet/brunch. The old venue, Holiday Inn French Quarter is no longer available, so a new place must be found. Some suggestions are: Country Farmhouse restaurant in Wayne (has private room); catering to the Center Township Fire Hall (courtesy of K8JU); and Pork Belly BBQ in Bowling Green. Bob asked everyone to be on the lookout for other venues that might suit our needs.

- Phil (PSK) reported that the antenna towers on Offenauer are in need of paint, and he volunteered to do the job.
- A brief discussion of when the Club antennas on the Administration Building could be taken down. Chuck (ICP) is in touch with a person who is willing to climb the tower and will report back when it is feasible.
- Doug (VWU) reported that he has officially been inducted as an auxiliary member of the Walbridge Police Department, and he will commence work soon.

Adjournment: at 8:20 pm (JWJ/CVA) ■

Two Meter Proposal Dropped

From ARRL Letter

The 144 – 146 MHz Amateur Radio segment has been removed from a French proposal to study spectrum additional for Aeronautical Mobile Service (AMS) applications. France had included the band, which comprises the entire 2 meter band in ITU Region 1, for consideration as a European Conference of Telecommunications and Postal Administrations (CEPT) position for World Radio-communication Conference 2019 (WRC-19).

Heading into a just-ended CEPT Conference Preparatory Group (CPG) meeting in Turkey this past week, France was holding firm on the proposal to have AMS share 144 – 146 MHz with Amateur Ra-

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WCARC Weekly Net

Tuesdays at 2100 all year

147.18 MHz 67 Hz PL

Net Control Roster

Sep 3 WB8NQW

Sep 10 N1RB

Sep 17 KD8VWU

Sep 24 KD8NJW

Oct 1 K8OVO

Oct 8 WB8NQW

NEXT MEETING

Breakfast Meeting

Saturday

September 7

TIME: 9:00 AM

Foxhunt Afterwards

PLACE: Frisch's Big Boy

N. Main St. &

E. Poe Rd.

Bowling Green, OH

10 meter Net

informal group

meets

Sunday

@ 20:30

on 28.335 MHz

Fusion Net

Thursday

@ 19:30

on 442.125 MHz

67 Hz PL on FM

discussion of all

things digital

Net Check Ins

Aug 27

Traffic: 0

K8OVO (NCS)

KC8EKT

WD8LEI

KG8FH

WD8JWJ

WB8NQW

KD8RNO

KD8VWU

N1RB

N8VNT

KD8NJW

WD8ICP (12)

Sep 3

Traffic: 0

WB8NQW (NCS)

KG8FH

KE8CVA

WD8JWJ

KD8RNO

WD8LEI

KD8NJW

W8PSK

N1RB

KC8EKT

WD8ICP

KE8KTO

KA8VNG (13)

Is There a Fox in Your Future?

The annual running of the WCARC Foxhunt will take place on Saturday, September 7, a short time after the Club Breakfast meeting a Frisch's Big Boy at Poe and Main. To participate, all you need to do is monitor the K8TIH repeater (147.18+ and 444.475+ MHz) for instructions.

Bob-WB8NQW has graciously volunteered to act as the fox and after an introduction on the repeater, will direct the hounds to move to the simplex frequency of 146.16 MHz. Be sure to bring any direction-finding gear that you may have, even if it is only your body shielding the rubber duck on your HT. This event is always a lot of fun and is a good opportunity to test your skills. ■

Alexanderson Alternator SAQ Has "Incredible" Number of Reports

Sweden's Alexanderson Alternator station [SAQ](#) says it received [438 listener reports](#) — "an incredible amount" — for its June 30 Alexanderson Day transmissions. The list included five reports from the US and three from Canada. The historic electro-mechanical transmitter, which dates back to the 1920s, is fired up periodically throughout the year on 17.2 kHz.

"We are very thankful for all your enthusiastic and positive feedback, with images, recordings, videos, and even Morse ink writer strips," SAQ said. The station is a World Heritage Site in Grimeton, Sweden. SAQ's June 30 message commemorated the 100th anniversary of the first east-to-west transatlantic voice transmission from the Marconi station in Ireland to Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia. SAQ has posted an [interactive map](#) showing the locations of all received listener reports from recent transmissions, including the June 30 transmission, and video of the Alexanderson Day transmission event has been [posted to its YouTube channel](#). ■

First Running of Ohio Courthouses OTA

The first ever running of a new event, Ohio Courthouses On The Air, was held on Saturday, August 24. As you may have noticed, the WCARC was an enthusiastic participant in this event since a special NVIS antenna had been constructed to cover 80 m and 40 m to favor in-state QSOs.

Two operating positions began operating at around 9 am after the antenna was erected, one on HF and the other on UHF utilizing Yaesu Fusion Wires-X. Overall, 27 contacts were logged on HF and 7 on UHF. Only two of them were with participants in county courthouses— one in Washington County and the other in Fulton County. However, at noon the regular Ohio QSO Party started and quite a few contacts were made with participants in that activity as well as with others in various other special events. A sched was set up on 80 meters with

conference— from p. 4

dio. The CPG meeting considered CEPT ECC positions on this and other issues for WRC-19.

The International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) had called the French proposal for 144 – 146 MHz “unsound” and contended that sharing of the current amateur allocation with AMS radio systems would not be possible “without a significant likelihood of mutual interference.”

The French spectrum study proposal would have had to gain approval from at least 10 CEPT countries at the CPG meeting — with not more than 6 opposing — to appear on the agendas of WRC-19 and WRC-23, where a final decision would be made. ■

Steve-K8BBK, who was vacationing in the Adirondacks.

All in all, it can be reported that the new antenna works very well for intra-state communications. ■

September Hamfests

September 8 Findlay RC Hamfest. Hancock County Fairgrounds, Findlay, OH.
web: <https://findlayradioclub.org>

September 15 Adrian ARC Hamfest. Lenawee County Airport, Adrian, MI.
web: <https://w8tqe>

September 22 Hamfest Assn. of Cleveland. Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds, Berea, OH. web: <https://hac.org>

Activities at Courthouses On The Air Event

Photos courtesy of WB8NQW and KD8RNO



**Terry-KE8CVA and Phil-W8PSK
enjoying the sunny day**

**Bob-WB8NQW working WIRES-X,
Bill-WD8JWJ and Terry-KE8CVA**



**Center—Chuck-WD8ICP and Bob-N1RB
at HF position**





Terry-KE8CVA, Bill-WD8JWJ Bob-N1RB and Craig-NM8W at operating position



Phil-W8PSK, Bob-N1RB and Craig-NM8W at the mic



The whole group observing the action as the event begins.

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