

# CQ CHATTER

MARCH 2022

VOLUME B22 • ISSUE 1

## WOOD COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

President	KG8FH/W8PSK	Jeff Halsey/Loren Phillips
Vice President	WE8TOM	Tom Leingang
Secretary	N1RB	Bob Boughton
Treasurer	KD8NJW	Jim Barnhouse
Board Member	WB8NQW	Bob Willman

### Minutes *WCARC Meeting* February 14, 2022

**Jeff-KG8FH** presiding

**Present:** Bob-N1RB, Terry-KE8CVA, Roger-KE8QGV, Bob-WB8NQW, Rex-KC8PFP, Jim-KD8NJW, Tom-WE8TOM, Jeff-KG8FH, Eric-WD8LEI

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

**Minutes:** of the December meeting as published in the January issue of CQ Chatter were approved unanimously (NJW/NQW).

Bob (RB) also reported on the status of the Club's incorporation with the State of Ohio. Financial reports for the past 3 years had been requested by the Ohio AG's office, and with the aid of KD8NJW, they were submitted.

**Treasurer's Report:** Jim (NJW) reported a healthy balance in the bank account. He is still accepting dues payments for 2022.

#### **Old Business:**

- Eric (LEI) reported that he will soon be inspecting the antenna set-up on the roof of the Sheriff's Dept. and will make a report on the status after the glue-down of the feed lines had been corrected. He also mentioned that since the TMRA March hamfest has once again been cancelled, the Lucas

*continued on p. 6*

## Net Check Ins-I

**Feb 8**

**Traffic: 0  
(NCS)**

**WB8NQW**

**WD8LEI**

**KD8NJW**

**KE8CVA**

**KG8FH**

**KG8FL**

**KD8RNO**

**KE8QGV**

**N1RB**

**KA8VNG**

**WE8TOM**

**N8VNT (12)**

**Feb 15**

**Traffic: 0  
(NCS)**

**N1RB**

**KD8RNO**

**KC8EKT**

**KE8CVA**

**KG8FH**

**WD8ICP**

**KD8NJW**

**WB8NQW**

**WE8TOM**

**KA8VNG**

**WD8LEI**

**KE8QGV (12)**

## Brain Teasers

1. What are the frequency limits of the UHF spectrum?
  - a.) 30 to 300 kHz
  - b.) 30 to 300 MHz
  - c.) 300 to 3000 kHz
  - d.) 300 to 3000 MHz
2. What is probably happening when an ohmmeter, connected across an unpowered circuit, initially indicates a low resistance and then shows increasing resistance with time?
  - a.) the ohmmeter is defective
  - b.) the circuit contains a large capacitor
  - c.) the circuit contains a large inductor
  - d.) the circuit is a relaxation oscillator
3. What mode is responsible for allowing over-the-horizon VHF and UHF communications to ranges of approximately 300 miles on a regular basis?
  - a.) tropospheric ducting
  - b.) D-layer refraction
  - c.) F2-layer refraction
  - d.) Faraday rotation

# 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.

<b>Mar 5-6</b>	<i>0000 to 2359 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
<b>ARRL Int'l DX 'test-SSB</b>		<b>SSB</b>
<b>Mar 5-13</b>	<i>0001 to 2359 Z</i>	Novice Bands
<b>Novice Rig Roundup</b>		<b>CW</b>
<b>Mar 12-13</b>	<i>1500 to 2100 Z</i>	80 m to 10 m
<b>Oklahoma QSO Party</b>		<b>all modes</b>
<b>Mar 12</b>	<i>0000 to 2359 Z</i>	80 m to 10 m
<b>YB (Indonesia) DX RTTY 'test</b>		<b>RTTY</b>
<b>Mar 12-13</b>	<i>1900 to 1900 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
<b>Idaho QSO Party</b>		<b>all modes</b>
<b>Mar 12-13</b>	<i>1200 to 1200 Z</i>	10 m
<b>South America 10m 'test</b>		<b>CW/SSB</b>
<b>Mar 13-14</b>	<i>1800 to 0100 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
<b>Wisconsin QSO Party</b>		<b>all modes</b>
<b>Mar 19-20</b>	<i>1200 to 1200 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
<b>Russian DX 'test</b>		<b>CW/SSB</b>
<b>Mar 19-20</b>	<i>1400 to 2359 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
<b>Virginia QSO Party</b>		<b>all modes</b>
<b>Mar 26-27</b>	<i>0000 to 2359 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
<b>CQ WW WPX 'test-SSB</b>		<b>SSB</b>

## Net Check Ins-II

**Feb 22**

**Traffic: 0  
(NCS)**

**KG8FH  
KE8CVA  
WD8ICP  
WD8LEI  
WB8NQW  
KD8NJW  
WE8TOM  
KA8VNG  
KD8RNO (9)**

**Mar 1**

**Traffic: 0  
(NCS)**

**KD8NJW  
WB8NQW  
KA8VNG  
WE8TOM  
N1RB  
KG8FH  
KE8CVA  
WD8ICP (8)**

# New Rules Going into Effect this Year for Field Day

*from ARRL Letter*

After taking a few detours over the past couple of years due to the COVID-19 pandemic, [ARRL Field Day](#) rules are being updated on a permanent basis starting this summer. ARRL conducted a Field Day community survey with invitations propagated far and wide, and direct emails sent to more than 15,000 individuals and ARRL-affiliated clubs. After sorting through, reviewing, and discussing the survey results, the ARRL Programs and Services Committee recommended a number of rule changes for ARRL Field Day, which will take place this year over the June 25 – 26 weekend.

Starting this year, the maximum PEP output for a transmitter used by anyone submitting a Field Day log will be 100 W. The power multiplier of 2 will remain in place, and the high-power category will be removed from the rules. Until this year, the maximum low-power limit had been 150 W for most ARRL-sponsored operating events. The power multiplier will remain at 5 for QRP participants running a maximum of 5 W or less. As previously announced, 100 W is now the low-power category limit for all ARRL and IARU HF Contests, effective January 1, 2022.

A couple of changes instituted initially as accommodations for the COVID-19 pandemic will remain. Class D (Home) stations will continue to be able to earn points for contacts with other Class D stations. The club aggregate scoring change initiated in 2020 as a temporary measure will become part of the permanent rules. In the aggregate scoring plan,

*continued on p. 6*

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

## **WCARC Weekly Net**

Tuesdays at 2100 all year

147.18 MHz 67 Hz PL

### **Net Control Roster**

<i>Mar</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>KD8NJW</i>
<i>Mar</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>WB8NQW</i>
<i>Mar</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>N1RB</i>
<i>Mar</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>KG8FH</i>
<i>Mar</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>KD8NJW</i>
<i>Apr</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>WB8NQW</i>

## **NEXT MEETING**

### ***Breakfast Meeting***

Saturday

March 5

**TIME: 9:00 AM**

**PLACE:**

Frisch's Big Boy

N. Main St. &

E. Poe Rd.

Bowling Green, OH

## ***10 meter Net***

***informal group***

***meets***

***Sunday***

***@ 20:30 local***

***on 28.335 MHz***

## ***Fusion Net***

***Thursday***

***@ 19:30 local***

***on 442.125 MHz***

***Wires-X Operators***

***welcome***

***Informal net***

**minutes—from p. 1**

County ARES group has elected to hold a trunk sale on May 1st, at the Toledo Speedway (see flyer at end of newsletter). Eric also mentioned that the old ARES ID cards are no longer valid and he is arranging to have new ones issued.

- Jeff reported that there were nine people in attendance at the Kick-off Banquet at the Country Farmhouse restaurant in Wayne, and a good time was had by all. The only change is the Officer Slate is that Tom (TOM) is the new Vice President, replacing Terry (CVA).

**New Business:**

- Jeff remarked that it is time to begin thinking about Field Day planning. The event will be held on June 25-26 this year. Bob (NQW) stated that the Wood County Museum already has WCARC scheduled for that weekend, so the remaining chores are for antennas, equipment and food planning. No apparent volunteers to head up the committees appeared at this time. Field Day will be operating under revised rules from now on (see *New Rules Going into Effect...*, on page 4) and many of the pandemic changes will remain in force. Some discussion followed and there was a general consensus of approval.

**Meeting Adjourned** at 7:55 pm. It was followed by an excellent presentation by WB8NQW on using the oscilloscope. ■

**Field day—from p. 4**

the scores of individual stations are combined under the score of a single club.

Another change, involving Rule 7.3.2 Media Publicity, has been modified. Rules to date have offered 100 bonus points for attempting to obtain publicity and demonstrating same. With the ease of posting via Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and various other media websites, Field Day participants will now be required to obtain publicity, not just try to do so. Any combination of bona fide media hits would qualify for the bonus points. For example, posting the details of your upcoming or ongoing Field Day activity, or your Field Day results, on a club or news media site, on Facebook, or via Twitter and Instagram would meet the bonus criteria. Photos and videos are encouraged as part of media posts. ■

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## **TMRA ‘Fest Cancelled**

Once again this year, the TMRA hamfest, which was scheduled to be held in mid-March, has been cancelled. The reason, as before, is due to Covid-19 concerns. As a temporary substitute, the Lucas County ARES group is sponsoring a trunk sale on Sunday, May 1, at the Toledo Speedway (see flyer at end of newsletter). Make sure to mark down the date and plan to attend this first chance to meet and eyeball QSO with some of the local hams. Who knows, you might be able to pick up a bargain piece of heavy metal? ■

# March Hamfests

Mar 13 - Northern Ohio ARS Hamfest. Lorain County Community College, Elyria, OH. web: <http://www.noars.net>

## Solar Eclipse to Impact Wood County

On Monday, April 24, 2024, the Sun will be in total eclipse over a large part of North America, including Ohio. The path of totality is indicated on the map below. As you can see, the impact on Wood County is great and a large number of observers are expected to descend on the area. Eric, WD8LEI, will give a presentation on



Ohio Path of Total Solar Eclipse in 2024

the preparations that ARES is making at the April WCARC business meeting. Don't miss it! ■

## FOR SALE

- Mirage B 310 G VHF amplifier (like new) .....\$300.00
- Mirage B 2516 G VHF amplifier . \$300.00
- Mirage B 108 VHF amplifier .....\$75.00
- Whistler TRX 2 scanner .....\$400.00

Or Best Offer—Don-KA8VNG

Phone # 419-686-5310

## SEARCHING

I am looking to acquire a working computer but most importantly, one with a working DB-9 serial port. I want to reignite my station digital packet radio. The computer does not need a lot of anything, so no need to log on a web site or a lot of storage. I only need a working serial port. I have a VGA monitor and connectors but will need a keyboard. Please keep in mind I am cheap—low cost please!

Contact: Chuck-WD8ICP at: [dicken@bgsu.edu](mailto:dicken@bgsu.edu)

## **APRS Developer Bob Bruninga, WB4APR, SK**

*from ARRL Letter*

The creator of the Automatic Packet Reporting System ([APRS](#)), Bob Bruninga, WB4APR, of Glen Burnie, Maryland, died on February 7. An ARRL Life Member, Bruninga was 73. According to his daughter, Bruninga succumbed to cancer and the effects of COVID-19. Bruninga had announced his cancer diagnosis in 2020. Over the years, he readily shared his broad knowledge of and experience with APRS, among other topics in the amateur radio and electronics fields.

While best known for APRS, Bruninga was also a retired US Naval Academy (USNA) senior research engineer who had an abiding interest in alternative power sources, such as solar power. In 2018, he authored *Energy Choices for the Radio Amateur*, published by ARRL, which explores developing changes in the area of power and energy, and examines the choices radio amateurs and others can make regarding home solar power, heat pumps, and hybrid and electric vehicles. Bruninga drove an all-electric car and had experimented with a variety of electric-powered vehicles over the years.

APRS originated in 1982, when Bruninga wrote his first data map program that plotted the positions of US Navy ships

***IT'S TIME TO RENEW  
YOUR MEMBERSHIP***

**Dues Payable to:**

**WCARC**

**P. O. Box 534**

**Bowling Green, OH  
43402**

**Sen/Stu: \$10**

**Reg: \$15**

**Fam: \$20**

for the Apple II platform. A couple of years later, he developed what he called the Connectionless Emergency Traffic System (CETS) on the VIC-20 and C64 platforms for digital packet communications to support an endurance race. The program was ported to the IBM PC platform in 1988, and was renamed APRS in 1992. The recognized North American APRS frequency is 144.39 MHz, and APRS is globally linked via the internet. Bruninga founded the Appalachian Trail Golden Packet (ATPG) event, which fields APRS nodes from Stone Mountain in Georgia to Mount Katahdin in Maine each July. ■



# **Trunk Sale & Swap Meet**

Sponsored by:

Lucas County Amateur  
Radio Emergency  
Services

**50/50 Raffle**

**\$5 Admission**

must be present to win

**9AM-12PM**

Vendor Setup: 8AM

More Info & Vendor Registration Info:

<http://tinyurl.com/lcaresswap>

567-318-2291 or [lucascountyares@gmail.com](mailto:lucascountyares@gmail.com)

**Talk In 146.610/- (pl 103.5)**

**Sunday, May 1, 2022**

Toledo Speedway  
5639 Benore Road  
Toledo, Ohio 46312

All Proceeds benefit the operations of the Lucas County ARES

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

