

CQ CHATTER

JANUARY 2025

VOLUME B24 • ISSUE 11

WOOD COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

President	KG8FH	<u>Jeff Halsey</u>
Vice President	KD8VWU	Doug Perez
Secretary	N1RB	<u>Bob Boughton</u>
Treasurer	KD8NJW	<u>Jim Barnhouse</u>
Board Members	WB8NQW/WE8TOM	Bob Willman/Tom Leingang

Minutes

WCARC Meeting

December 9, 2024

Jeff-KG8FH presiding

Present: Bob-N1RB, Jeff-KG8FH, Tom-WE8TOM, Jim-KD8NJW, Rex-KC8PFP, Norm-KE8WTG, Terry-KE8CVA, Doug-KD8VWU, Linda-N1LB, Roger-KE8QGV, Bob-WB8NQW, Eric-WD8LEI

Call to order: by KG8FH at 7:30 with Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: Motion to approve minutes of the the October meeting as published in the November issue of CQ Chatter (QGV/NQW) was approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Motion to approve (NQW/VWU) was passed unanimously.

Old Business:

- Jeff reminded everybody that the 2025 dues are payable at any time.
- In an attempt to fix the "fluttering" audio problem noticed with distant Personal Nodes, KG8FH and N1RB replaced the existing HRI-200 Wires-X interface box with a new one that had been donated by W8PSK. Users are asked to give it a workout and to report any issues to N1RB.
- Jeff reported that room reservations for the 2025 slate of business meetings

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Net Check Ins-I

Dec 3

**Traffic: 0
(NCS)**

**KD8NJW
KF8BGD
KD8RNO
KE8CVA
WD8LEI
WB8NQW
W8PSK
KG8FH
KE8WTG
WE8TOM
N1RB
WD8LIC
KC8EKT
WD8ICP
KE8NEC
KD8VWU**

(16)

Dec 10

**Traffic: 0
(NCS)**

**WB8NQW
KG8FH
KD8NJW
N1RB
WE8TOM
KE8WTG
KE8CVA
KF8BTH
KD8RNO**

(9)

Brain Teasers

1. Which of the following one-way transmissions are permitted?
 - a.) unidentified test transmissions of less than 10 sec in duration
 - b.) transmissions to assist in the learning of the International Morse Code
 - c.) regular transmissions offering equipment for sale, if intended for amateur radio use
 - d.) all these choices are correct
2. When operating a station in South America by remote control over the internet from the US, what regulations apply?
 - a.) those of both the remote station's country and the FCC
 - b.) those of the remote station's country and the FCC's third party regulations
 - c.) only those of the remote station's country
 - d.) only those of the FCC
3. What is the recommended way to break into a phone contact ?
 - a.) say "QRZ" several times, followed by your call sign
 - b.) say your call sign once
 - c.) say "breaker, breaker"
 - d.) say "CQ" followed by the call sign of either station

January Contests

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

Jan 4	0700 to 2100 Z	80 m to 20 m
Marconi Club ARI QSO Party		CW
Jan 4	1800 to 2359 Z	80 m to 2 m
ARRL Kids' Day		SSB/FM
Jan 11	0000 to 2359 Z	80 m to 10 m
YB (Indonesia) DX 'test		SSB
Jan 11-12	1800 to 0559 Z	160 m to 10 m
North American QSO Party -CW		CW
Jan 18-19	11200 to 1159	160 m to 10 m
Hungarian DX 'test		CW/SSB
Jan 18-19	1800 to 0559 Z	160 m to 10 m
North American QSO Party-SSB		SSB
Jan 18-20	1900 to 0359 Z	6 m and up
ARRL VHF 'test		all modes
Jan 25-26	0600 to 1800 Z	80 m to 10 m
REF (France) 'test-CW		CW
Jan 25-26	1300 to 1300 Z	80 m to 10 m
UBA (Belgium) DX 'test-SSB		SSB
Jan 25-26	1600 to 2159 Z	no WARC
Winter Field Day		all modes
Jan 25-26	2200 to 1000	160 m to 10 m
Australia Day 'test		all modes

Net Check Ins-II

Dec 17 **Traffic: 0**
(NCS)

N1RB
KE8WTG
KD8VWU
KD8RNO
WE8TOM
WB8NQW
KG8FH
KE8CVA/P
KE8QGV

(9)

Dec 24 **Traffic: 0**
(NCS)

KD8VWU
WB8NQW
KE8CVA
KE8WTG
KG8FH
N1RB
KC8EKT
WD8ICP

(8)

Dec 31 **Traffic: 0**
(NCS)

KG8FH
N5XDM
KD8RNO
KE8WTG
N1RB
KD8VWU
KD8NJW
WB8NQW
KE8CVA
KC8EKT

(10)

What Happened to the CQ USA County Award?

Paige, W0FLZ, Radio Club of Tacoma

You might be wondering what will happen to the awards sponsored by CQ magazine now that it has gone "SK." Let me fill you in on the status of one of those awards: the USA-Counties Award (also known as the USA-CA). This prestigious award is issued for making confirmed contacts with all 3,077 counties across the United States, with various achievement levels culminating in "The Whole Ball of Wax" for completing all counties. This is actually quite a challenge!

With CQ magazine no longer in operation, it's clear they are no longer handling the award program. However, there is still good news for those pursuing this challenging feat! The CQ USA-CA Award Manager, Brian, NX0X, currently has around 20 of the highly-coveted original paper certificates remaining. He is willing to issue these only to hams who submit a valid application for the full "Whole Ball of Wax" achievement (all 3,077 counties). If you're close to completing this award, I *highly* recommend you finalize your application while certificates are still available. Brian has indicated that once these certificates are gone, he will officially retire the program. Completing this award involves not only contacting all counties but also getting your contacts verified by a card checker.



Soon-to-be retired original CQ Counties Award.

WCARC Weekly Net

Tuesdays at 2100 all year
147.18 MHz 67 Hz PL

Net Control Roster

Dec	31	KG8FH
Jan	7	KD8NJW
Jan	14	WB8NQW
Jan	21	N1RB
Jan	28	KD8VWU
Feb	4	KG8FH

NEXT MEETING

Kick-off Banquet

Monday, January 13

TIME: 6:00 PM

PLACE:

Country Farmhouse
Restaurant
117 E. Main St.
Wayne OH

10 meter Nets

***Informal SSB group meets
Sunday @ 20:30 local on
28.335 MHz***

***Informal CW group meets
Tuesday @ 20:00 local on
28.050 MHz***

Fusion Net

Thursday

@ 19:30 local

on 442.125 MHz

***Wires-X Operators
welcome***

Informal net

minutes from p. 1

have been made with the Sheriff's Office. The 2025 business meeting dates are: Feb. 10, Apr. 14, June 9, Aug. 11, Oct. 13, and Dec. 8.

- Terry (CVA) made a motion (CVA/VWU) to change the Breakfast Meetings at Frisch's to the second Saturday of the months alternate to the business meeting months because many have conflicting meetings on the first Saturday. The motion was unanimously approved, and will take effect in 2025.
- Eric (LEI) made a report on ARES activities. He reported that the Lucas County group has almost completed their installation of an ARES presence in most Toledo hospitals. Most recently, they connected the Perrysburg Mercy facility to the mesh. Eric attended an statewide ARES conference in Columbus that covered the Volunteer Ham. He also reported that Wood County ARES will soon receive a Motorola MTK-2000 analog UHF repeater free of charge. He is looking into how it can be incorporated into current facilities. Eric also reported no progress on implementing WinLink as yet.
- Jeff then presented the slate of Officers for 2025. It is:
President KG8FH-Jeff Halsey
Vice President KD8VWU-Doug Perez

Secretary N1RB-Bob Boughton
Treasurer KD8NJW-Jim Barnhouse
Board WB8NQW-Bob Willman
 WE8TOM-Tom Leingang

Motion to accept (RB/NQW) was made and was unanimously approved.

- Roger (QGV) discussed the need to hold VE testing in Bowling Green, and was directed to contact Jackie Emans of the Sheriff's Office to secure the Training Room for that purpose. A wide ranging discussion ensued considering different ways to attract younger people to the hobby (college and high school students in particular).

Adjournment: Motion made (RB/CVA) at 8:15 PM. ■

Saturday Get Togethers Moved to 2nd Saturday

The breakfast meetings of the Club have previously been held at Frisch's Big Boy on the first Saturday of the month, in alternate months from when the business meetings are held. A few months ago, Mike-W8CJJ and Mike-KC8MM suggested that the group meet every month instead of on alternate months. This arrangement has been followed for several cycles now. At the December business meeting, a motion was passed to hold the breakfasts on the second Saturday of each month. This change will take place as of January, 2025, so the next breakfast get together is slated for January 11. See you all there! ■

county from p. 4

However, this is not the end of the USA-CA Award! The Mobile Amateur Radio Awards Club ([MARAC](http://MARAC.org)), also known as "The County Hunters," has taken over sponsorship of the program. MARAC has made a few updates, including a refreshed certificate design and the removal of the confirmation requirement, making the process more accessible to all.



Beautiful 2024 MARAC redesign of the classic CQ USA-CA Counties Award

If you're still working on the USA-CA award but aren't close enough to apply to NX0X for the "Whole Ball of Wax," or if you're interested in the new MARAC-sponsored version, there are plenty of opportunities to continue chasing counties. For more information about MARAC or other mobile-related awards they offer, you can visit their website at MARAC.org. Click [HERE](#) to read the official announcement from MARAC.

Feel free to reach out to me at W0FLZ62@gmail.com if you have any questions. As the Pacific Area Director of MARAC, I'm here to help. Thanks for reading and 73 to all—hope to catch you on the air!

-Paige, W0FLZ

Time to Make Banquet Reservations

The 2025 Kick-off Banquet will be held on Monday, January 13, at the Country Farmhouse restaurant in Wayne, at 6:00 PM. Reservations can be made with Bob-WB8NQW (blcksmth@reagan.com). Please do so by Monday, January 6, 2025, at the latest.

Second Saturday of Each Month

Join Mike-W8CJJ and Mike-KC8MM for breakfast

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

