CQ CHATTER

APRIL 2025 VOLUME B25 •ISSUE 2

WOOD COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

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

License Exams Resumed by WCARC

For those persons who may be interested in gaining or upgrading an amateur license, you will be happy to know that a new WCARC Volunteer Examiner (VE) team has been organized to administer license exams every other month through the ARRL VEC.

Roger Weith (KE8QGV) is the lead examiner who has organized a team of at least 3 other VEs. The exam sessions will be held starting at 5 pm on the second Tuesday of even-numbered months (the same months that Club Business meetings are held at 7 pm). The location is the Sheriff's Training Room at 1960 E. Gypsy Lane Rd.

Registration can be accomplished by signing in at:

https://hamstudy.org/sessions/k8tih/

If you need further information, please contact Roger at: **rweith@wcnet.org** .

You will need to have a valid e-mail address and to acquire a Federal Registration Number (FRN) beforehand at:

https://apps.fcc.gov/cores/userLogin.do

A testing fee of $15 is payable at the session (if you feel ready to take a more advanced class exam after passing your initial one, there is no extra charge), and if you are successful in passing the test, the FCC requires a $35 licensing fee payable on their website. The first exam session is slated for Monday, April14. ■

Net Check Ins-I

Mar 4 Traffic: 0

KD8VWU (NCS)
KE8CVA
WB8NQW
KD8NJW
KE8QGV
KE8WTG
N1RB
KD8RNO
WE8TOM (9)

Mar 11 Traffic: 0

KG8FH (NCS)
WB8NQW
KD8NJW
KE8QGV
N1RB
N8VNT
WE8TOM
KD8RNO
KE8CVA
KC8EKT
WD8ICP
KF8DJQ
KB8QEW
KD8VWU
WD8LEI (15)

Mar 18 Traffic: 0

KD8NJW (NCS)
KD8RNO
KE8CVA
KG8FH

Brain Teasers

1. How is the cathode lead of a semiconductor diode often marked on the package?

a.) with the word “cathode”
b.) with a stripe
c.) with the letter C
d.) with the letter K ?

2. How might fog and light rain affect radio range on the 10 meter and 6 meter bands?

a.) fog and rain absorb these wavelength bands
b.) fog and light rain will have little effect on these bands
c.) fog and rain will deflect these signals
d.) fog and rain will increase radio range

3. Which of the following controls could be used if the voice pitch of a single-sideband signal seems too high or low?

a.) the AGC or limiter
b.) the bandwidth selection
c.) the tone squelch
d.) the receiver RIT or clarifier

April Contests

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

Apr 5-6	*1200 to 2359 Z*	160 m to 10 m
GA State Parks OTA		**all modes**
Apr 5-6	*1400 to 0200 Z*	160 m to 10 m
Louisiana QSO Party		**all modes**
Apr 5-6	*1400 to 0200 Z*	160 m to 10 m
Mississippi QSO Party		**all modes**
Apr 5-6	*1400 to 0200 Z*	160 m to 10 m
Missouri QSO Party		**all modes**
Apr 5-6	*1400 to 2200 Z*	80 m to 10 m
FL State Parks OTA		**all modes**
Apr 5-6	*1500 to 1500 Z*	160 m to 10 m
Polish (SP) DX 'test		**CW/SSB**
Apr 12-13	*0700 to 1300 Z*	160 m to 10 m
JIDX (Japan) CW 'test		**CW**
Apr 12-13	*1200 to 1159 Z*	160 m to 10 m
Czech/Slovak OK/OM DX 'test-SSB		**SSB**
Apr 12-13	*1300 to 1259 Z*	160 m to 10 m
TX State Parks OTA		**all modes**
Apr 12-13	*1400 to 0200 Z*	160 m to10 m
New Mexico QSO Party		**all modes**
Apr 12-13	*1800 to 1800 Z*	160 m to 10 m
North Dakota QSO Party		**all modes**

Net Check Ins-II

Mar 18-cont
WB8NQW
KD8VWU
N1RB
KE8QGV
KE8WTG
KF8DJQ
KC8EKT (11)

Mar 25 Traffic: 0
WB8NQW (NCS)
KE8CVA
KC8EKT
KG8FH
KE8QGV
KD8NJW
KD8RNO
KE8WTG
KD8VWU
N8VNT
WE8TOM (11)

Apr 1 Traffic: 0
N1RB (NCS)
KE8CVA
KVG8FH
KD8NJW
WB8NQW
KE8WTG
KD8RNO
KD8VWU
WE8TOM
KF8BTH (10)

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

End-Fed-Half-Wave Tips and Tricks

from moonrakeronline.com

This brief article includes a discussion of **End-Fed-Half-Wave Antennas**. This type of antenna has been a popular topic, and for good reason. It is a versatile and useful antenna, especially as we head into the summer months. We will explore the concept of End-Fed-Half-Wave Antennas, and provide some tips and tricks to make them more interesting and accessible for various scenarios.

Understanding the End-Fed-Half-Wave antenna

The End-Fed-Half-Wave Antenna is a length of wire that is exactly half the wavelength of the lowest band it is intended to operate on. For example, on the 40-meter band, the wire would be approximately 66 to 67 feet in length. This wire is connected to a 49:1 transformer, which in turn is connected to your transceiver using a short length of coaxial cable. The great advantage of this antenna is that it eliminates the need for a long length of coaxial cable, making it more convenient and efficient.

Tips and tricks
converting to 80 meters

If you want to use the End-Fed-Half-Wave Antenna on the 80-meter band without increasing its length, you can use a loading coil. The loading coil is connected in series with the antenna and is placed at the end of the antenna, followed by about 1.5 to 2m of wire. By adjusting the number of turns on the loading coil, it can act as both a loading coil and a trap, isolating the 80-meter resonator section. This allows

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WCARC Weekly Net

Tuesdays at *2100* all year

147.18 MHz 67 Hz PL

Net Control Roster

Apr	*1*	*N1RB*
Apr	*8*	*KD8VWU*
Apr	*15*	*KG8FH*
Apr	*22*	*KD8NJW*
Apr	*29*	*WB8NQW*
May	*6*	*N1RB*

NEXT MEETING

Business Meeting

Monday, April 14

TIME: 7:00EB / 7:30 PM

PLACE:

Sheriff's Training Room
E. Gypsy Lane Rd. &
S. Dunbridge Rd.
Bowling Green, 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

end fed p. 4
you to resonate the antenna specifically on the 80-meter band without affecting the other bands.

shortening the antenna length

If the standard length of the End-Fed-Half-Wave Antenna is too long for your needs, there are ways to shorten it for specific bands. For example, if you primarily operate on the 20-meter band, you can simply cut the antenna to a shorter length, such as 33 or 34 feet. Alternatively, you can use a loading coil at the center of the antenna to achieve a shorter length. By experimenting with the number of turns on the loading coil, you can find the optimal length for your desired band.

adding a tuned trap

If you want to use the End-Fed-Half-Wave Antenna on a band that is not a harmonic of the base band, such as 18 meters, you can use a tuned trap. The trap isolates the 18-meter half wave while allowing other frequencies to pass through. By adding a short length of wire, you can resonate the antenna on the desired band. This method allows you to utilize the End-Fed-Half-Wave Antenna on bands that would not typically be possible using harmonic relationships.

fitting the antenna in a small yard

For those with limited space in their yards, the End-Fed-Half-Wave Antenna offers some interesting possibilities. One option is to use the inverted L configuration, where one antenna is fed at ground level, and the other is fed in the air. This configuration allows for a total antenna length of 40 feet. Additionally, by experimenting with different bending angles, you can further modify the radiation pattern and make the antenna more omni-directional.

radiation pattern etc.

The radiation pattern of the End-Fed-Half-Wave Antenna is very similar to that of a dipole. As you change bands, the antenna transforms from a half-wave dipole to a full wave or one-and-a-half waves, depending on the band. It is important to note that bending the antenna can modify the radiation pattern, making it more omni-directional. It is also recommended to use a line isolator to ensure accurate SWR readings and to reduce RF interference.

Conclusion

The End-Fed-Half-Wave Antenna is a versatile and efficient antenna that offers great performance in various scenarios. Whether you have a small yard or need a portable antenna, the End-Fed-Half-Wave Antenna can be adapted to suit your needs. By utilizing the tips and tricks discussed here, you can create your own End-Fed-Half-Wave Antenna and enjoy the benefits of this reliable antenna design. ■

April Contests-*continued*

Apr 12-13	*1800 to 2359 Z*	160 m to 10 m
Georgia QSO Party		**all modes**
Apr 12-13	*1800 to 2359 Z*	80 m to 10 m
ARRL Rookie Roundup		**SSB**
Apr 18-19	*2100 to 2059 Z*	80 m to 10 m
WW Holyland 'test		**CW/SSB**
Apr 19-20	*0600 to 0559 Z*	80 m to 10 m
WAP of China DX 'test		**SSB**
Apr 19-20	*0700 to 0659 Z*	80 m to 10 m
Serbia (YU) DX 'test		**CW/SSB**
Apr 19-20	*1100 to 2259 Z*	160 m to 10 m
Nebraska QSO Party		**all modes**
Apr 19-20	*1600 to 0400 Z*	80 m to 10 m
Michigan QSO Party		**all modes**
Apr 19-20	*1800 to 1800 Z*	160 m to 10 m
Ontario QSO Party		**all modes**
Apr 20	*1200 to 2200 Z*	80 m to 10 m
Quebec QSO Party		**all modes**
Apr 26-27	*0001 to 2359 Z*	10 m
10-10 Int'l Spring 'test		**digital**
Apr 26-27	*1200 to 1200 Z*	80 m to 10 m
UK/EI DX 'test-CW		**CW**
Apr 26-27	*1600 to 2159 Z*	40 m to 10 m
Florida QSO Party		**all modes**

March Breakfast Report

by Mike, W8CJJ

A lucky 13 attended the monthly club breakfast at the B.G. Big Boy restaurant on Saturday March 8th 2025. Those in attendance; Mike KC8MM, the writer Mike W8CJJ, Craig NM8W, Dallas K8DLF, Rick Leuck future ham, Bob N1RB, Linda N1LB, Wil KC8IFW, Greg KC8IFZ, Bob WB8NQW, Terry KE8CVA, Lynn KD8RNO and Gary KF8AQX.

I gave a short talk on the daily 75 m net, the "Breakfast Club 3973 Net". This net meets daily 5am-9am, 365 days a year and has 28 NCO's covering each hour of the net. You need not be a member to check-in, minimum license is General class. We exchange local temps and local happenings in the ham shack. Also discussed, an on-line "tool" for net controllers or anyone receiving a weak signal. For our area the Utah sdr#1 remote receiver located in the high mountains of Utah works best. Do a quick search and put in a frequency of 3973 KHz. If you are running Firefox, click on the Firefox audio button. Put your callsign in the window and you are good to go. Remember 75 is a night time band.

Trying this on-line receiver in daytime hours will get you nothing but noise. I used this receiver on my laptop today to listen to the net while feeding my dogs in the kitchen. Looking forward to the April 12th breakfast, and greeting those attending. ■

73, Mike W8CJJ

W8QEW snowy antenna farm on 3/8

<u>Second Saturday</u> of Each Month

Join Mike-W8CJJ and Mike-KC8MM *for breakfast*

Frisch's Big Boy—9 AM
N. Main St. and E. Poe Rd.
Bowling Green

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