



The  
**Wave Bender**  
February 2012



### PRESIDENT'S QST

Here we are another month has gone by. Did you do any DX or work any of the Special Event Stations? With the bands opening up for communications over long distance, now is the time to make lots of contacts. There will be around three years of good contacts and then things will start to get bad. With the weather the way it is you can still get some antennas up without too much trouble.

We will start planning Field Day at the next meeting. I hope everyone will come out, have FUN, and work to help the club. Last year we were 26th out of 27 in the OH Section. Let's try to get better this year. It will take all of us to do that. Those of you that do not have a chance to work HF can have a chance at FD.

We will be doing the Home Show in Austintown on March 16, 17, and 18. We will need to have members sign up to be in the booth to show off Ham Radio. One of the ways to help the club grow is to put us out there and show what we *Continued page 2*

### CONGRATULATIONS



I am pleased to announce that Matt Welch, W8DEC, of Painesville, Ohio is now appointed the Section Emergency Coordinator (SEC) for the ARRL Ohio Section. This position will continue to report directly to me.

Matt replaces Jack Sovik, KB8WPZ, who was taken the role of Public Information Coordinator (PIC) on the Ohio Section Cabinet on January 1, 2012. Matt's SEC appointment takes effect immediately.

All current ARES appointments and policies will remain in effect. Once Matt gets settled in, he will be reviewing all appointments and polices and making adjustments as he sees fit.


Matt is a General Class operator, who was first licensed in 2004 with the call sign KB1LCS. Matt was appointed to District Emergency Coordinator of then newly formed District 10 in 2008.

Matt is an US Navy veteran, who served as a corpsman at the naval submarine base hospital in Groton, CT and aboard the USS Cape St George CG-71 in Norfolk, VA. Matt then transferred to the Connecticut Army National Guard as a medic. When Matt moved back home to Ohio, he then transferred from the Guard to the Army Reserve component IRR and has been there ever since 2007.

In Scouting, Matt joined Troop 68 in Painesville, Ohio, in 1990. He is a Brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow, and also served as Assistant Scoutmaster and Cubmaster. *Continued page 3*

### FEBRUARY SPEAKER'S TOPIC

Harry, KD8PQK, and Sam, W8SDD will be giving a presentation on Amateur Astronomy, showing what amateur astronomy is and how it's done. They'll try to review what it is, the basic equipment, what type of things are done and present some amateur astrophotography done by members of the Mahoning Valley Astronomical Society and wrap up with a quick review of the MVAS, what we do and invite to anybody who'd like to visit or participate.



**Officer's Meeting:** Feb. 19, 7:00P.M.  
At the Avnet's, 2050 E. South Range Rd. New Springfield (330-549-3051)

**Regular Meeting:** Feb. 21, 7:00 P.M.  
Davidson's, in Cornersburgh- 6:00 P.M.meet for a dinner. Dutch of course.

**Program:** W8SDD & KD8PQK talking about the Mahoning Valley Astronomy Society

**2012 Officers**

**President:** Al Avnet, AB8AA ab8aa@arrl.net  
**VP:** Robert Webster, KD8OXJ rwebster@mail.com

**Secretary:** Jane Avnet, K8JAA k8jaa@arrl.net  
**Treasurer:** Maureen Stein, KD8NXS mfstein@zoominternet.net

**Trustees:** Ted Filmer, KD8IJE efilmer@aol.com  
Steve Fabry, KC8SOY kc8soy@yahoo.com  
Roy Haren, KD8IJF harens@juno.com

**Social:** Maureen Stein, KD8NXS mfstein@zoominternet.net

**Publicity:** Robert Webster, KD8OXJ rwebster@mail.com

**PRESIDENT - CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1**

do. Talk to your friends, neighbors, family about Amateur Radio and how much FUN it is and how we help in an emergency.

The Elmer's are here to help you, contact us at questions@wrarc.net. Anyone that needs help with a problem, a radio, antennas, grounding, or just setting up a station, please contact the Elmer's listed in the newsletter or stop into the Elmer's net right after the Friday night club net on 145.270—110.9PL. Also check out the 10-meter net at 8:15 P.M. on Friday, on 28.410 +/- MHz.

See you on the nets and at the next meeting on February twenty-first.

73, AB8AA

**Amateur Radio is a Hobby, Emergency Communications is a Commitment!**

**FROM GLD DIRECTOR**



Four ARRL awards are open for nominations. These are:

- The Herb S. Breier Instructor of the Year Award is open to a volunteer or professional ARRL Amateur Radio instructor who is creative in teaching and who demonstrates the highest value in pursuit of our great radio service. Nomination deadline is March 15 for 2012.

- The Hiram Percy Maxim Award is open to an ARRL member under age 21 for contributions to and accomplishments in Amateur Radio. Nomination deadline is March 31 for 2012.

- The ARRL Microwave Development Award is available to one or more licensed Amateur Radio operators who contribute to the development of microwave communications. Deadline is March 31 for 2012.

- The ARRL Technical Service Award. Open to one or more Amateur Radio licensees who provide technical assistance or training to others. Deadline is March 31, 2012.

- The ARRL Technical Innovation Award. Granted to one or more licensed radio amateurs who develop or apply new technical approaches in Amateur Radio. Deadline is March 31, 2012.

Additional information on these awards and on submitting nominations for them is available at [www.arrl.org/arrl-award-nominations](http://www.arrl.org/arrl-award-nominations).

ARRL Great Lakes Division  
 Director: James E Weaver, K8JE  
 k8je@arrl.org  
 Weaver's Words 23 Jan 2012



**EQUIPMENT FOR SALE**

Contact Allan Avnet, AB8AA 330-549-3051 or [ab8aa@arrl.net](mailto:ab8aa@arrl.net)

- 1 GW Instek Function Generator, Model GFG-8219A \$75
  - 2 ea BK precision Digital Multimeter, Model 2831A \$20
  - 1 GW Instek Laboratory DC Power Supply Model GPC-3020 \$75 Dual 0-30 Volt @ 2 Amps
  - 1 BK Oscilloscope, Model 2120 20 Mhz \$75
  - 1 Micronta Power Supply 13.8 volt – 2.5 A \$10
- All of these have power cords, but no probes. Accepting reasonable offers.

The following equipment is from a SK. All is about 4-5 years old:

- 1 YAESU FT950 \$900.00
- 1 ICOM IC7000 \$850.00
- 1 MFJ 989C Tuner \$200.00
- 1 RS PRO 76 Scanner \$ 25.00
- 1 Comet 2Mtr/440 Vertical \$100.00
- 1 Uniden BC 350A Scanner \$35.00
- 1 RS PRO 2021 Scanner \$20.00

**LIVE WEBCAST TOUR OF W1AW FEB.12**

On Sunday, February 12 at 5 P.M.. Eastern time, ARRL and Al Petrunti of The New Day Group will webcast a LIVE tour of W1AW – the ARRL flagship station. Amateurs around the country (and the world) will be able to watch it at <http://www.awe-cast.tv/channels/arrl/>

“Hams around the world know of W1AW and thousands have made contacts with this impressive station, but most never get to see it,” said Allen Pitts, W1AGP, who is producing the event. “Thanks to Al Petrunti’s group, we hope that folks enjoy seeing what’s at the other end of the signals.”

You will be there as Petrunti, KA1TCH, local weatherman Geoff Fox, K1GF, and others are given a tour by Station Manager Joe Carcia, NJ1Q. As in all live broadcasts, you never know just what might happen. We invite you to join us. Petrunti, KA1TCH, also created the video about HR-607 for ARRL.

You can learn more about W1AW at [www.arrl.org/w1aw](http://www.arrl.org/w1aw) and about the New Day Group at [www.NewDayHD.com](http://www.NewDayHD.com)

Allen Pitts, W1AGP  
 Media & PR Manager  
 ARRL - the national association for Amateur Radio  
 225 Main St. Newington, CT 06111  
 (860) 594-0328  
[www.ARRL.org](http://www.ARRL.org)

A WORD FROM MAUREEN

CONGRATULATIONS - CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



Here we are -- the first month of the new year is already gone! I just wanted to say how nice the post holiday party was and how much everyone enjoyed it. We will be doing it annually for as long as the club would like to do it.

We will have the same social functions this year as in the past. That will include the Jan. post holiday party, the social aspect of Field Day (picnic style dinner), and our July picnic (most likely in place of a regular meeting night). If there are any other things the club would like to do socially, just let me know and we will see what we can arrange.

Also, just a reminder that the Michael Austin fund is still open. Please spread the word to other hams you know from other clubs. Make sure to tell them to go to any Farmer's bank branch to deposit and to say to the teller that the donation is for the Western Reserve Amateur Radio Club Michael Austin savings fund so that it will end up in the right place.

Lastly, the Benson family is still getting back on their feet from their December house fire. They are moving temporarily into a rental home right now. They could still use some help if anyone is able to do that. I know that cleaning supplies and pet care supplies are still needed. There may still be other things as well. I see them regularly at the Ice Zone and can get anyone who would like to help in touch with them or take any donated items to them. Have a great rest of the winter and 73 to all.

**Maureen KD8NXS**

ASK THE ELMERS



**Question:** I have been looking into some Ham Radio contesting recently and saw something called IOTA. What is that? Thanks.

**Answer:** Islands On The Air (IOTA) was created in 1964 by a Shortwave DX listener in Wales named Geoff Watts. Watts' original goal was for Shortwave listeners to look for, record, and receive QSL confirmation from islands around the world. In 1985 the Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB) took

*Continued page 5*

Matt has involved Amateur Radio in many of his Scouting activities, encouraging young people to become involved in the hobby.

Matt is the Vice President of the Geauga County Amateur Radio Association, and is also a member of many clubs and organizations, including the Salvation Team Emergency Radio Network (SATERN), Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association (LEARA), Portage County Amateur Radio Service (PCARS), and was past radio officer of the Lake County Amateur Radio Association, along with past Net Control Station for Eastern CT Traffic Net and the Tri-County Traffic Training Net.

Matt is married to Lynnette KB1LGB, and has five children. The oldest, Hector, is also licensed as KI4LKX.

Please join me in welcoming Matt to his new duties and responsibilities to the Ohio Section Cabinet!

73, Frank Piper KI8GW  
ARRL Ohio Section Manager  
ki8gw@arrl.org



Mark Stein (KD8NXS's youngest) stood tall after his first place finish beating out his pal and last year's first place winner.

Each year, the spelling bee at Poland Middle School offers a clean slate where champion spellers from various classrooms try their luck at some of the toughest words in the dictionary.

Tough words like prognosis, sustenance, laryngitis, ridiculous and contrivance narrowed down the field by six students after only one round.

A second round of words like idiomatic, beligerent, statuesque and kaleidoscope continued to cut down the group until one contestant misspelled "reprehensible" to finish third.

In an even match, the two remaining contestants ran into trouble with many of the same words until Stein correctly conquered Gage's misspelling of "camouflage" and correctly handled "falsify."

Good Job! from the Wave Bender staff.

*taken in part from the Vindicator article*

CONTACT WRARC ELMERS WITH YOUR QUESTIONS - [QUESTIONS@WRARC.NET](mailto:QUESTIONS@WRARC.NET)

Avnet, Allan AB8AA	Antennas, radio setup, mobile, grounding, classes, anything	ab8aa@arrl.net
Beatty, Dave KC8WY	anything	kc8wy@zoominternet.net
Fabry, Steve KC8SOY	Yaesu FT8900, FT8800, Mobile	kc8soy@yahoo.com
Haren, Roy KD8IJF	???	harens@juno.com
Webster, Robert KD8OXJ	erecting antennas	rwebster@mail.com
Williams, Russ KD8LDY	Electrician, tele-data, Amateur Extra	russellwhoknew69@aol.com

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## SKYWARN TRAINING FROM PITTSBURGH

January 24, 2012 - ARRL & CQ Sign Agreement to Provide ARRL's Logbook of The World Support for CQ's Awards

(Hicksville, NY and Newington, CT - Jan. 24, 2012) – CQ Communications, Inc. (CQ) and ARRL – the national association for Amateur Radio, have signed an agreement to begin providing support for CQ-sponsored operating awards by the ARRL's Logbook of the World (LoTW) electronic confirmation system.. The agreement was announced jointly today by ARRL Chief Operating Officer Harold Kramer, WJ1B, and CQ Communications President Richard Ross, K2MGA.

CQ's awards will be the first non-ARRL awards supported by LoTW and will be phased in, beginning with the CQ WPX award. Additional CQ awards will follow. The ARRL's LoTW system, an interactive database recording contacts between radio amateurs was created in 2003 and has been adopted by 47,500 radio "hams" worldwide. It already has records of 400 million contacts and grows weekly. The target date for beginning LoTW support for WPX is April 1, 2012. Amateurs will be able to use LoTW logs to generate lists of confirmed contacts to be submitted for WPX credit. Standard LoTW credit fees and CQ award fees will apply.

ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, observed that this step gives radio amateurs throughout the world an inexpensive and convenient means of gaining credits toward CQ's popular operating awards. "LoTW has significantly increased interest and participation in the ARRL's DXCC, Worked All States and VUCC awards programs. We anticipate a similarly positive response to the addition of the CQ WPX award. Amateurs will be able to spend more time operating and less time chasing QSL cards."

CQ President Richard Ross, K2MGA, said he is very pleased to be able to move forward with Logbook support for CQ awards. "We have had excellent results with electronic confirmations for several years," he said, "and I am glad that we are now able to begin expanding that convenience to those participants in our award programs who use Logbook of the World. We look forward to a smooth launch for WPX, and to the expansion of LoTW support to include the rest of our award programs as well."

73 - Chuck Patellis W8PT  
Via email

**The highest point in Pennsylvania is lower than  
the lowest point in Colorado**

**SKYWARN** Schedule from the National Weather Service - PITTSBURGH

**March**

- 7 - Beaver
- 10 - Marshall (both basic and advanced)
- 15 - Coschocton
- 21 - Fayette (Advanced)
- 28 - Cal U (tentative)

**April**

- 4- Hancock
- 9 - Washington (both basic and advanced)
- 10 - Columbiana/Carroll combined (at CCCTC, Lisbon, OH 6:30PM)
- 18 - Beaver (advanced)
- 25 - Hampton Twp (Allegheny Co)
- 26 - Mercer



## SKYWARN TRAINING FROM CLEVELAND

**March**

- 21 - Mahoning County 6:30 PM Austintown Fitch Auditorium 4560 Falcon Drive, Austintown, OH 44515
- 12 - Stark County Stark State College Stark State College, Student Center, 6200 Frank Ave Nw North Canton, OH 44720
- 20 - Trumbull County 3/20/12 6:30 pm Kent State Branch, Technology Building Room 117 4314 Mahoning Ave., N. W. Warren, Ohio 44483

**UPCOMING SPEAKERS**

*February through April 2012* - I have contacted and confirmed several speakers for our upcoming 2012 meetings:

**February 21 Meeting**

Mahoning Valley Astronomical Society – Harry Harker and Sam DiRocco will present an overview of their organization and some general information about visual and radio astronomy.

**March 20 Meeting**

Dan Betts, Financial Planner, will present information on leaving a financial legacy.

**April 17 Meeting**

Matt Welch (W8DEC), new Emergency Coordinator for Ohio, will be presenting information on "Public Service 101", how to provide Amateur Radio support during public service events. Matt will also be presenting some information on his new role as Emergency Coordinator for Ohio

**A Bit Further Along**

June 19 meeting – Steve Fabry and Roy Harens will be presenting us information to helping our preparation for our Field Day activities.

July – our WRARC picnic.

Stay tuned for more and updated information!

73 - Robert

NATIONAL DO NOT CALL REGISTRY



Scammers have been making phone calls claiming to represent the National Do Not Call Registry. The calls claim to provide an opportunity to sign up for the Registry. These calls are not coming from the Registry or the Federal Trade Commission, and you should not respond to these calls. To add your number to the Registry you can call 888-382-1222 from the phone you wish to register, or go click on "Register a Phone Number" in the left column of this page: <https://www.donotcall.gov/>

Your registration will not expire. Telephone numbers placed on the National Do Not Call Registry will remain on it permanently due to the Do-Not-Call Improvement Act of 2007, which became law in February 2008. Read more about it at <http://www.ftc.gov/opa/2008/04/dncfyi.shtm>.

**WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THE NATIONAL DO NOT CALL REGISTRY**

The National Do Not Call Registry gives you a choice about whether to receive telemarketing calls at home. Most telemarketers should not call your number once it has been on the registry for 31 days. If they do, you can file a complaint at this Website. You can register your home or mobile phone for free.

**ASK THE ELMERS - CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3**

on the management of IOTA to encourage contact with island stations around the world in a two-way manner. The objective, as stated by the RSGB, is "for the island chaser, is to make radio contact with at least one counter in as many of these groups as possible and, for the DXpeditioner, to provide such island contacts".

To assist the SWLs and active amateur radio DXers "The oceans" islands have been grouped into some 1200 'IOTA groups' with, for reasons of geography, varying numbers of "counters", i.e. qualifying islands, in each" according to the RSGB. Various groups throughout the world organize DXpeditions to remote islands so amateur radio operators can be the "contact station" for that island. You can only imagine the challenges on these very small spots of land in the middle of a lot of water. If you are looking for more information on IOTA and DXpeditions go to: <http://www.rsgbiota.org/index.php>. You do not have to be an RSGB member to access this site. Who knows...you too may be an island DXpeditioner one day.

73 - Robert (KD8OXJ)

Send your 'smart' Ask the Elmer questions to [questions@wrarc.net](mailto:questions@wrarc.net)

**WRARC UPCOMING EVENTS**

**TEST SESSION EMA  
FEBRUARY 15**

**AUSTINTOWN HOME SHOW, MARCH 16TH, 17TH, AND 18TH, AT THE AUSTINTOWN PLAZA.  
WE WILL NEED TO MAN THE BOOTH ON ALL THREE DAYS. WE WILL HAVE A RADIO UP AND RUNNING.  
WE WILL BE IN THE SAME PLACE AS LAST YEAR.**

**WRARC 10-mtr Rag-Chew Net  
The net before the net  
Friday Nites 8:30P.M.  
28.410+/-**

**Join us for the WRARC  
Friday night Net  
9:00 P.M. on 145.270, PL -110.9  
This is a directed net, with all interested members taking a turn at Net Control**

**Contact Steve, KC8SOY to take your turn  
330-774-6346**

**Feb. 3 Darrin, N8DMC  
Feb. 10 Dave, KC8WY  
Feb. 17 Bill, KB8HCQ  
Feb. 24 Kevin, KD8NXR**



**"NEW" Ask The Elmer Net  
Right after the Friday Night Net  
"The net after the net"  
KC8SOY Moderator**

**COLUMBIANA COUNTY DIGITAL NET  
8:30 pm - 9:30 pm  
145.510 MHZ SIMPLEX Wednesdays**

**First Wednesday of the Month  
Mahoning County  
ARES/RACES/Skywarn Training Net  
is held on the W8QLY repeater  
146.745 (-) at 8:30P.M.**



Articles from members for the Wave Bender are encouraged. They must be received by the editor three days before the end of the month, prior to the issue month. Please send your articles to: [k8jaa@arrl.net](mailto:k8jaa@arrl.net), and put WRARC on the subject line of your email. You may also send your articles to the editor at:

Jane Avnet  
2050 E. South Range Rd.  
New Springfield, OH 44443

# February 2012

American Heart Month



1/29	1/30	1/31	1 ARES Net 8:30 P.M. 146.745  Happy Birthday KD8KED 	2   Ground Hog Day	3  WRARC Net 9:00PM 145.270 N8DMC	4
5  	6	7	9	8	9  WRARC Net 9:00PM 145.270 KC8WY	10
11	12 Eat'n Park Boardman 8:30 A.M. Ham Community Breakfast	13	14  	15	16  WRARC Net 9:00PM 145.270 KB8HCQ	17
18 WRARC Board Meeting 7:00P.M	19	20 WRARC Meeting 7:00P.M.	21   EMA Youngstown	22	23  WRARC Net 9:00PM 145.270 KD8NXR	24
25  Happy Birthday N8DMC 	26 Eat'n Park Boardman 8:30 A.M. Ham Community Breakfast	27	28	29  Leap Day	Mar 1  WRARC Net 9:00PM 145.270  Happy Birthday WN8OAB 	Mar 2