



The Wave Bender

November 2015



WRARC PREZ SEZ

2015 Officers:

President: Roy Haren, KD8IJF kd8ijf@wrarc.net
VP: Joe Wojtowicz W0JO w0jo@wrarc.net
Secretary: Kevin Stein, KD8NXR kd8nrx@wrarc.net
Treasurer: Maureen Stein, KD8NXS kd8nxs@wrarc.net
Past President: Allan Avnet AB8AA ab8aa@wrarc.net

Trustees:

Chris Monske, WF8U wf8u@wrarc.net
 Harry Harker, KD8PQK kd8pqk@wrarc.net
 Russ Williams NR8W nr8w@wrarc.net

Appointed Positions:

Social: Maureen Stein, KD8NXS kd8nxs@wrarc.net
Publicity: Joe Wojtowicz, W0JO w0jo@wrarc.net
Nets: Steve Fabry, KC8SOY kc8soy@wrarc.net
Nominating Charman: Al Avnet ab8aa@wrarc.net
Newsletter/Web: Jane Avnet K8JAA k8jaa@wrarc.net
Facebook/Badges/logo Design:
 John Fabry, KC8SPF kc8spf@wrarc.net
Historian: Terri Mitzel, KD8YYE kd8yye@wrarc.net

Officer's Meeting:

November 10, 7:00 P.M. At Eat 'n Park, 8051 Market St.,
 Boardman - All members welcome

Regular Meeting: November 17, 7:00 P.M.

Davidson's
 636 Canfield Rd.,
 Cornersburgh

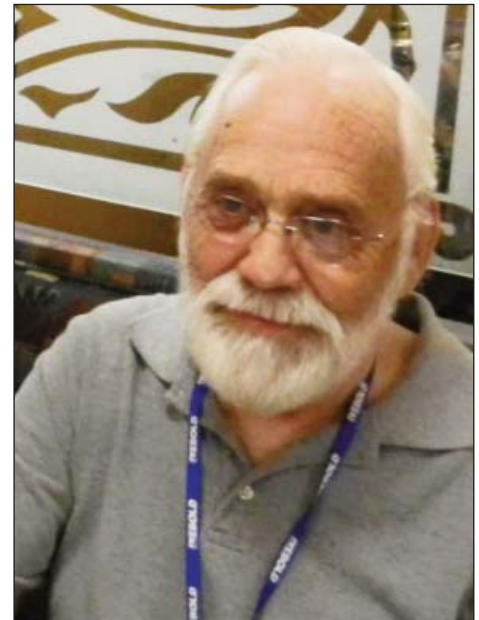
Speaker: Dave Brett, KD8NZF

Join us for Dinner before the meeting 6:10P.M.

<http://www.wrarc.net/>

Hi Everyone,

As we enter the month of November with daylight-saving time ending and the Holiday season rapidly approaching, I want to reflect on our events of the past couple of months. We had a busy September and October with several events each month. In September we had the road cleanup and McDonald's Sock Run which both went really well. In October we did the Walk to End Alzheimer's and the Step Out: Walk to Stop Diabetes. The club participation was great; our volunteers did an excellent job. Thanks to all who volunteered and we will be doing these events next year.



At our next meeting on November 17, we will be electing Officers for the Board: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and one Trustee. Be sure to come to the meeting and vote for your favorite.

As this is one of my last articles for The Wave Bender, I want to thank all of the members for their support over the last almost two years. We have the best club in the area and great members. We can keep that going by electing our new Board and supporting them.

Thanks to all and 73
 Roy Haren, KD8IJF
 President, WRARC



FROM OUR VP



As I write this article, we just completed our last community fund-raising event of the year, Step Out – Walk to End Diabetes. On behalf of the club officers and trustees, I'd like to thank all of those members who have worked as net operators on our Friday night nets, attended our monthly meetings, worked or attended our national Field Day and helped us with our various community fund-raising events, more recently the Panerathon 2015, McD's Sock Run, the Alzheimer and Diabetes walks.

We definitely are a very "active" amateur radio club and would encourage those of you who may have not worked a Friday night net, been to one of our monthly meetings, worked or attended our national Field Day, or helped at one of our community fund-raising events to become "active" with us by seriously consider participating in one or more of these if not now, then definitely next year.

Our election of officers and trustees will be held at our November monthly meeting scheduled now for Tuesday, November 17th at Davidson's Restaurant, 3636 Canfield Road, Canfield, OH 44406 starting at 6:00 P.M. EST. If you would like to nominate someone or volunteer yourself for an officer's or trustee's position, please contact our past-president, Allan Avnet, AB8AA, at (330) 549-3051, or by email at ab8aa@arrl.net.

Our scheduled speaker for our November meeting is our own Dave Brett, KD8NZF who is going to talk about the Discone antenna at the Titan Missile Museum in Tucson, a solar collector system in Nevada, and a free software package that can be used to simulate electronic circuits on computers. For those of you who don't know, Dave retired not too long ago from ITT Tech as an instructor in their electronics programs, so he is very knowledgeable in electronic subjects.

Also, mark your calendars for December 15. We have tentatively scheduled Tim Duffy, K3LR, who is Chief Operating Officer and General Manager of DX Engineering and also recently won the American Radio Relay League's "Amateur Radio Operator of The Year" award. We are very fortunate to have Tim, who lives in our area, to be able to share his knowledge and experiences in amateur radio with us and look forward to having him at our December meeting.

We look forward to seeing all of you at our November meeting.
73, Joe, W0JO
VP/WRARC

ELECTIONS THIS MONTH

Hi everyone it is that time of year "ELECTIONS" of officers. Please show up and vote for who you want to run the club for the next two years. Remember this is your club. You and only you can make it the best in the valley. The members that have stepped up to take a position are:

- President, Bob Mitzel, N8RCM
- Vice President, Joe Wojtowicz, W0JO
- Secretary,
 Jo Wilms, KD8SNW
- Treasurer,
 Dave Wilms, KD8SDZ
 Rose Marko, KD8TII
- Trustee one to elect
 Darrin Cannon, N8DMC
 Mike Cibella, KC8UNR



If anyone wants to add their name to the list please contact me before the meeting date of November 17.
73, Allan, AB8AA, 330-549-3051 or ab8aa@arrl.net

WHAT'S COMMING UP?

- Nov. 4 General Class starts
- Nov. 10 Board meeting at Eat 'N Park, Boardman, 6:00 P.M
- Nov. 11 Technician Class starts
- Nov. 17 Meeting at Davidson's 7:00 P.M.
Elections
- Dec. 8 Board meeting at Eat 'N Park, Boardman, 6:00 P.M
- Dec. 9 General Class
- Dec. 15 Meeting at Davidson's 7:00 P.M
Speaker Tim Duffy, K3LR,
"ARRL Amateur Radio Operator of The Year"
- Dec. 16 Testing at ITT



DUES ARE DUE, PAYABLE BY JANUARY 31, 2016

2016
Saturday, January 9 After the Holidays Annual Dinner/Meeting

**After the Holidays Annual Meeting &
Installation of Officers
January 9, 2016
3:00 P.M.
Davidson's in Cornersburgh
Order from the Menu
Guests Welcome
Contact Maureen to let her know how many in your party
Deadline is December 26, 2015**

CONTACT WRARC ELMERS WITH YOUR QUESTIONS - QUESTIONS@WRARC.NET

Avnet, Allan AB8AA

Antennas, radio setup, mobile,
grounding, classes, anything
anything

ab8aa@arrl.net

Beatty, Dave KC8WY
Fabry, Steve KC8SOY
Haren, Roy KD8IJF
Williams, Russ NR8W
Wojtowicz, Joe W0JO

Yaesu FT8900, FT8800, Mobile
???
Electrician, tele-data, Amateur Extra
ICOM radios, D-Star

kc8wy@zoominternet.net
kc8soy@yahoo.com
harens@juno.com
rwiliams@neo.rr.com
w0jo@arrl.net



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He who is afraid of asking, is afraid of learning

Articles from members for the Wave Bender are encouraged. They must be received by the editor one week before the end of the month. Please send your articles to: k8jaa@arrl.net, and put WRARC on the subject line of your email. You may also send your articles to the editor: Jane Avnet, 2050 E. South Range Rd., New Springfield, OH 44443

**Join us for the WRARC Friday night Net 9:00 P.M.
145.270, PL -110.9
Upcoming Net Control Operators**

Nov. 6	Harry, KD8PQK
Nov. 13	Jane, K8JAA
Nov. 20	Terri, KD8YYE
Nov. 27	Bob, N8RCM
Dec. 4	Dennis, KA8DJM
Dec. 11	Joe, W0JO
Dec. 18	Rose, KD8TII
Dec. 25	This could be you

Contact Steve, KC8SOY to take a turn at Net Control
330-774-6346

WRARC Simplex Frequency 146.565



Mahoning County ARES® Nets

1st Monday 8.30 PM ET W8QLY Repeater - 146.745 (PL 110.9)
&
3rd Monday 8.30 PM ET W8QLY Repeater - 146.745 (PL 110.9)
We thank MVARA for the use of their repeater

W8SGT is facilitating The Ohio HF net every Tuesday - 7:00 PM
The net is run from the State of Ohio EOC on the
Ohio ARES Admin frequency 3875 kHz LSB
moves to 7240 Khz after 20-min.
All are welcome to check in.



The Ohio ARES/OES Digital Emergency Net held every Tuesday at 8:00PM.
held on 3585 kHz USB.

Please note all digital communications are Upper Side Band.
<http://www.http://ohden.org/> for net details. Net Manager Gary NJ8BB

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

NBEMS/FLDIGI is being used training on message handling
capabilities of FLDIGI/FLMSG. Start with BPSK-125 other modes may be used for testing

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

Thanks & 73

All of our members (and others) look forward (hopefully) to getting this newsletter every month, so keep sending those articles, jokes, and suggestions!

Thanks goes out to this month's contributors; AB8AA, KD8NXS, KC8WY, KD8YYE, KC8SOY, KD8HCQ, KD8DJM, W6UMH, KD8IJE, W0JO, N8SY, W5YI, the ARRL and the World-Wide Web.

THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN . . .

Here we are entering into November. Fall time is well under way. Many of our usual activities-- the picnic, the Road Clean up, the Panerathon, the Walk for Alzheimers, the walk for Diabetes, and the Haunted Hay Rides-- are behind us for this year. We are in the last quarter of the Club's fiscal year. Before you know it, 2016 will be here.

Now it is time to think about that new year just around the corner and that brings us to the two big things we have on the agenda each year at this time. First is the After the Holidays party in January and secondly, it is time to start thinking about membership renewals (dues) for 2016.

This year, by the consensus of the board, there are some big changes for the After the Holidays party. The biggest change is the location for the party. Due to the problems we had last year at our previous venue, the decision was made to go elsewhere. By a unanimous vote, the board decided to take our business to Davidson's. This helps support them as they have always treated us very well for our regular meeting nights. A decision was also reached (mostly by me with no objections heard) to use a Saturday instead of a Sunday this time. We can alternate Saturday to Sunday year to year to give as fair a chance as possible for everyone to attend when their work schedules will allow them to. We have members who always work on Sundays and some who always work Saturdays. We do not want to be in a position where anyone ends up excluded (unintentionally) every time.



This year's party will be on Saturday, January 9, 2016, at 3:00 P.M. at Davidson's. We will all order from the menu and pay our own individual checks that day. It is not a set buffet menu nor is there a need to pay ahead like we have done in the past. That makes it a little easier for everyone and there won't be the problem of running out of food before everyone arrives. However, I still have to give them a number of attendees two weeks ahead of time (Dec.26) so they can schedule the proper amount of wait staff and kitchen help. Therefore, I will be passing around a sign up sheet at the November and December meetings. The space for the number in your party will be of particular importance. As always, you can also call me at 330-757-4963 to sign up, right up to Dec. 26. If you get the voice mail, leave a message with your name, the number in your party, and a phone number where I can reach you if needed.

The second item of business is that it is also time to think about our membership renewals for 2016 that are all supposed to be in by the end of January. Yearly dues are \$20.00 for the first member of the household who is below age 65 and \$5.00 apiece for each subsequent family member in that household, residing under the same roof. Senior yearly dues (age 65 and over) for the first member of the household are \$16.00 with \$5.00 apiece for each subsequent family member from that household residing under the same roof. People generally start paying renewals in November, with the bulk of them coming in December and early January. They can be given to me either in cash or by check made out to Western Reserve Amateur Radio Club. They can also be mailed to me at 3088 Southwind Tr., Poland, Ohio 44514 up to the time of the installation of new officers at the After the Holidays party in January. Any left to be paid after that time can be given to the new treasurer. It should be a seamless transition from me to the next person.

73 to all and enjoy the remainder of the fall before the winter weather settles in.

Maureen KD8NXS

HAUNTED HAYRIDE

Hey Everyone

I would like to thank everyone that came out to the Haunted Hayride this year. I think everyone had a great time doing their part in helping with keeping the children safe in the park. The Haunted Hayride is a very good Public Service event for us Hams. The more practice you have on your radio, the better you will get when it really counts.



Thanks to everyone that participated in the Haunted Hayride 2015 . KC8SOY, N8DMC, KD8NZP, KD8VRA, KD8ZRU, KD8HCQ, KD8NXP, KB8YHC, KD8PUO. These Hams represented all three clubs in the Mahoning Valley and some unaffiliated Hams as well..

73, Steve, KC8SOY

2015 WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S - MAHONING VALLEY, OH

Date: October 10, 2015
 Location: WATT Center at Youngstown State University
 651 Elm Street
 Youngstown , OH



- TAC 1 KD8DJM, DENNIS
- 2 KD8IJF, ROY
- 3 KD8YYE, TERRI
- 4 N8RCM, BOB
- 5 KB3WPD, STAN
- 6 WOJO, JOE
- 7 KC8SOY, STEVE
- 9 NR8W, RUSS

NET CONTROL N8DMC, DARRIN

Thanks everyone that came to the Alzheimers walk, another great job. Thanks to N8DMC, Darrin, for being our net control at this event. Great job Darrin. Thanks to Liz and Dave for the use of their repeater for the event. The Watts center was really active with about five hundred people that came out to the walk. The best thing we had for this net was good communication with the ambulance medics from Lane, who were on site. Net control, Darrin, was only ten yards from the ambulance, We gave them a copy of the route and all of our TAC stations. Thanks everyone for you participation.

73, Steve, KC8SOY

WRARC MEMBERS PROVIDE VOLUNTARY COMMUNICATION SERVICES FOR WALK TO END ALZHEIMERS

Many thanks to all of our members who helped at the recent Walk to End Alzheimers which was held on Saturday, October 10 on the Youngstown State University campus.

Sponsoring the gathering was the Alzheimer Association of Greater East Ohio Area Chapter which provides education, guidance, referrals and support for the region's estimated 60,000 people with the disease, as well as about 250,000 care givers.

At least 700 people took the 2-mile walk around the YSU campus individually or on teams to remember and honor loved ones with the progressive disease as well as those who have died from complications related to it. This year's event had 70 teams and raised over \$41,000. Also making remarks before the walk was YSU President, Jim Tressel. The event organizers have requested that we return next year to help again.

73, Joe, WOJO

Amateur Radio Operator "Amateur means we're simply professional volunteers" ARRL reflector



BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

KD8SNW	Jo Wilms	11/20	KD8IJE	Ted Filmer	11/25
KD8NZF	David Brett	11/22	KD8TII	Rose Marko	11/27
KD8YML	Michael Stein	11/23			

WRARC MEMBERS WORK STEP-OUT – WALK TO END DIABETES

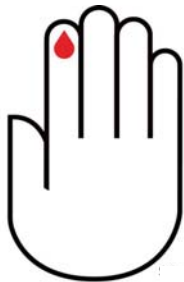
Our last community fund-raising event of the year was held Saturday, October 17th at the Canfield Fairgrounds. Your club officers and trustees would like to thank all of our members who have volunteered their time and talent.



This year's event had 46 teams, 277 walkers and raised over \$22,000. The event is sponsored each year by the American Diabetes Association which was founded in 1940 and leads the fight against the deadly consequences and those affected by diabetes by funding research to prevent, cure and manage diabetes. They deliver services to hundreds of communities and provide objective and credit information while giving voice to those who are denied their rights because of diabetes. The event organizers have requested that we return next year to help again.



73, Joe, W0JO



Saturday, October 17, The Walk to Stop Diabetes went off without any accidents or problems, other than there was no map of the event for us to use. Steve, KC8SOY, had to draw one so we would know where every one of our stations was located on the course. Tactical call signs were used for this event. The course stayed inside the Fairgrounds this year so there was no need for communicators outside. That was a good thing! The morning was cold, with a prediction of snow sometime that weekend. (I know a 4-letter word, sorry!) About 20 walkers did the course twice.

Bob, N8RCM, was Net Control, Jane, K8JAA, was the scribe. Darrin, N8DMC, was stationed close to the start/finish line. He informed the net when the walk started. Maureen, KD8NXS, was at the club table, said she talked to folks about WRARC. She said there was some interest.

Those out on the course were: Russ, NR8W; Dave, KC8WY; Roy, KD8IJF; Steve, KC8SOY; Stan, KB3WPD; Darrin, N8DMC; Dennis, KA8DJM; Rose, KD8TII; Al, AB8AA; Joe W0JO; Harry, KD8PQK. Thanks to the fifteen brave Hams who came out, braving the freezing drizzle, to help. After the walk ten of us went out for lunch to talk about the event.



73, K8JAA

THANK YOU

Hi Everyone

I would like to thank everyone that came out to the McDs Sock Run Sunday, September 27. This was another good event for WRARC. I hope that everyone that participated in this event had a good time as a Ham Radio Operator, and as a Club Member of the best Club in the valley.

As we serve our community in the ways we can, WRARC this year has really got into the spot light of our Valley and as a great club for all Ham Operators. We must all thank our Officers, and others that have participated in getting us to where we are here in 2015.



Thanks to all of our members for your participation in the activities of the past year to keep this Club the best in the Valley. If you have missed some of the activities early this year, we hope you participated in the two more events we had in October. So get away from that TV set, sign up for an event, and be an active Ham Radio Operator.

Thanks From Steve, KC8SOY

SWAP 'N SHOP



Heathkit SA2060 Tuner,	\$300 good condition
Icom IC-718, HF All Mode,	\$500
Brand new, never used, in original box.	
Icom 271H, 2 Mtr All Mode,	\$250
used in original box	
Kenwood TS-711A, 2 Mtr All Mode,	\$450
In original box with mike and manual	
Kenwood TS-811A, 440 Mhz All Mode,	\$530
Kenwood TS-450SAT, HF All Mode,	\$500
Kenwood TS-830S, HF All Mode,	\$450
Refurbished about a year ago and never used since.	
Has original manual and MC-50 desk mike	
Kenwood SP430 Spkr,	\$ 60
MFJ-4225, Switching PS,	\$ 90
Mosley CL-36-M 10, 15, 20 MTR BEAM antenna,	\$400
Mosley CL-33-M 10, 15, 20 MTR BEAM antenna,	\$300
Nye Viking, MBI-001 Tuner,	\$100
Palstar, PM2000A Watt Meter 300/2KW,	\$100
Vibroplex Bug,	\$ 50
Misc tower parts, lots	

contact me if interested. Will accept reasonable offers.
 Al, AB8AA call or text 330-207-3296

FOR SALE: CANNOT sell separately, but must sell all equipment and accessories. All items like new. Used very little and in excellent condition. Can be used mobile and in your ham shack.

	Original Retail Price
Yaesu FT-9000 R/E Dual Band VHF-UHF Transceiver	\$309.95
Samlex SEC-1223BBM-230 Power Supply w/battery back-up	149.94
RT Systems Programming Software & Cable	54.15
Tac-Comm TRC-1 Carrier with Cover	77.90
TOTAL ORIGINAL RETAIL PRICE:	\$591.94
ASKING	\$445.00

Contact Joe, WOJO
 Phone: (330) 544-5865
 Email: WOJO@arrl.net



ARLB030 ARRL Asks FCC to Clarify that Hams May Modify Non-Amateur Gear for Amateur Use

ZCZC AG30

QST de W1AW

ARRL Bulletin 30 ARLB030

From ARRL Headquarters

Newington CT October 14, 2015

To all radio amateurs



The ARRL has asked the FCC to make clear that Amateur Radio licensees may modify non-amateur equipment for use on Amateur Radio frequencies. Some hams have expressed concerns that recently proposed rules would inhibit post-sale modification of Wi-Fi equipment, now sometimes altered for use on Amateur Radio frequencies. The ARRL made its point in comments filed on October 8 on a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) in ET Docket 15-170 and RM-11673. The proceeding mostly addresses proposed amendments to FCC rules regarding authorization of RF equipment. The NPRM can be found on the web in PDF format at, https://apps.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-15-92A1.pdf.

"The Commission should clarify...that the ability of licensed radio amateurs to modify and adapt non-amateur equipment for use in the Amateur Service is beneficial, is permitted, and is not restricted by any rule of general applicability adopted in this proceeding," the League said in its comments. The ARRL said proposed rules requiring manufacturers to include security features to prevent network devices from being modified were "problematic," to the extent that they would preclude hams from adapting network equipment for ham radio applications.

"The Amateur Radio Service has a very long tradition of modification and adaptation of commercial communications equipment," the ARRL's comments pointed out. Amateur licensees should be permitted to modify any previously authorized equipment for use under Amateur Service rules, the League asserted. The proceeding attracted many comments regarding this aspect of the proceeding, although the proposed rules differ only slightly from the current rules.

The ARRL also urged the FCC not to apply any limitations proposed for Software Defined Radios to SDRs intended for use exclusively in the Amateur Radio Service, "as has been the policy for the past 10 years."

Equipment Authorization

The League also has called on the Commission not to combine the Declaration of Conformity (DoC) and Verification equipment authorization procedures into a single, self-approval program. The League said the proposal could lead to abuse by unscrupulous importers and manufacturers of unintentional emitters. Under the proposed rules, the FCC would do away with its DoC authorization program by combining it with equipment Verification to form a so-called "Suppliers Declaration of Conformity" category of equipment authorization. Testing in an accredited laboratory would not be required, nor would database registration or third-party review. The ARRL expressed concerns that the new regime would encourage and facilitate the introduction into the US of "non-compliant unintentional emitters" and offer no oversight.

The ARRL's comments said, "the only opportunity to preclude widespread sale and deployment of non-compliant RF devices, including unintentional emitters, is via the equipment authorization process." The League said hams and AM broadcasters have been victims of interference from such unintentional emitters as RF lighting ballasts "that routinely exceed the Commission's conducted emission limits." The ARRL said the solution is "not to loosen but to tighten the procedural controls over the testing and affirmative confirmations of compliance" to ensure greater compliance in conducted limits and other technical parameters that determine how much such devices contribute to ambient noise levels.

The League said some RF devices, such as RF "grow lights," now subject to the more informal Verification process should be subject to Certification, owing to their substantial interference potential. The *Continued page 10*

MODIFY NON-AMATEUR GEAR - CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

ARRL noted that it has received and investigated "numerous reports of interference" from devices subject only to Verification. "A number of interfering devices, when tested by the ARRL Laboratory, have been found to exceed the FCC limits, sometimes by an alarming amount," the League said.

Improved Labeling for Part 15 and Part 18 Devices

The ARRL also said there is "an urgent need" for improved labeling requirements for certain Part 15 and Part 18 devices. "Necessitating change, notably, is the fact that there are many industrial Part 18 devices sold that are neither intended nor designed for use in residential environments, but because there is no external labeling...the end user consumer is left without guidance," the ARRL said, noting that, in most cases, equipment retailers are not providing any either.

In July, the ARRL complained to the FCC about the marketing practices of various "big box" retailers, where non-consumer-rated lighting ballasts have been mixed in with consumer ballasts and other consumer products on display with no explanatory signage. Ballasts intended for industrial applications have higher permitted conducted emission limits in the Amateur Radio HF spectrum. The League called on the FCC to include a definition in Part 18 for the term "consumer RF lighting device," to provide a way to differentiate consumer devices from those intended for industrial or commercial environments.

The League also said the FCC should consider reducing its Part 15 limits for lighting devices to correspond with the Part 18 lighting device limits between 3 and 30 MHz to reduce the RFI potential of LED bulbs now being widely marketed, "before they become an aggregate problem." LED lamps operate under Part 15 rules.

The ARRL said the FCC should adopt the League's new equipment-labeling proposals with respect to certain Part 15 and Part 18 equipment "in order to stop the flood of such devices intended for commercial or industrial areas only into residential areas."

NNNN

OCTOBER TEST SESSION


We had two Hams testing at our October Test Session - Andrew Melnick, KE8CJI, is now a Technician and Dwight Turner, KD8YFV, Passed his Extra. Congratulations to you both.

Those VEs who came to help with W5YI testing, Al Avnet, AB8AA, contact VE; Dave Beatty, KC8WY; Roy Haren, KD8IJF, Wes, W8IZC, Jane Avnet, K8JAA, Dave, KD8NZF and Nancy Brett, KD8QNY. Thanks for your help.

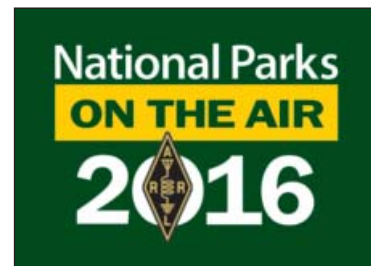
New research shows that China has a bigger middle class than America, and more people in China are living what we would call the "American Dream." That's when you know things are bad - when even the American DREAM is made in China.

ARRL'S NATIONAL PARKS ON THE AIR

Hi all-

We have just announced a new operating event for 2016. ARRL's National Parks on the Air will encourage portable operations from the 408 recognized NPS Administrative Units, in parallel with the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service in 2016. News story is here:

<http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-national-parks-on-the-air-event-to-mark-national-park-service-centennial>



The web site is here: www.arrl.org/NPOTA

This will be a year-long event, with PR a major component. This should give your group plenty of opportunity for some promotion.

In 2016, the National Park Service (NPS) will celebrate its 100th anniversary, and radio amateurs will be able to help mark the occasion with the ARRL National Parks on the Air (NPOTA) event. The fun begins at 0000 UTC on January 1, 2016.

“As ARRL just celebrated our own Centennial, and Amateur Radio is often enjoyed in the great outdoors, it seemed fitting to devise a program to help NPS celebrate their own 100th birthday,” said ARRL Media and Public Relations Manager Sean Kutzko, KX9X. As he explained, NPOTA will run throughout 2016, with activity promoted and encouraged from each of the more than 430 official NPS administrative units and affiliated areas across the US. This includes all 59 National Parks as well as National Battlefields, Historic Sites, Memorials, Preserves, Reserves, Rivers, Seashores, National Scenic Trails, and other units.

The program will have two participation tracks — Chasers and Activators. Chasers will simply attempt to make contact with operators in as many of the NPS units as possible. Activators will attempt to activate as many of the units as possible. NPOTA participants may serve in both roles. Chaser and Activator totals will be tracked via an online Leader Board based on LoTW data, just as was done during the Centennial QSO Party. (Access the NPOTA Leader Board directly at <http://npota.arrl.org>.)

Modeled after the Mixed DXCC award, only one contact with any given NPS unit will be required, and no tally will be kept of NPS units based on bands or modes. NPOTA will be administered entirely through Logbook of The World (LoTW). No paper logs or QSLs will be accepted for NPOTA credit. Each NPS unit will be added to LoTW as a “location.”

Three award certificates will be available: Chaser Award and Activator Award certificates will be available to any radio amateur who has at least one confirmed contact with an NPS unit or who activates at least one unit, respectively. A station's total number of confirmed or activated units will be printed on the certificate. The National Parks Honor Roll certificate will be available for any station that confirms contact with at least 75 percent of the 59 National Parks activated in 2016.

An Activator can earn additional recognition as a “Five-Star Activator.” While the Centennial QSO Party was an internal event for radio amateurs, National Parks on the Air is designed to be a public promotion of Amateur Radio's capabilities. Various public relations bonuses and activities will be available to Activators, similar to the PR bonus points available to ARRL Field Day stations.

The success of the event and of the awards program rests on radio amateurs' willingness to operate from NPS units.

“Portable operators, this event is for you!” Kutzko said. “Start thinking about how you would incorporate Amateur Radio into your visit to an NPS unit. Whether you're camping in Yosemite, driving along the Blue Ridge Parkway, or set up in a corner of Andersonville Prison, you will definitely draw a pileup. As long as you are on the property of the NPS unit, you will qualify as being in the unit.”

Kutzko notes that depending on the size of a given operation, participants may need to secure a special-use permit. “This may take some time,” he said. “It's possible the answer will be ‘no.’ Be mindful of the size and sensitivity of the NPS unit you want to activate, and be realistic about your plans.” NPOTA Activators will need to follow all NPS rules in whatever unit they activate.

Continued page 12

ARRL'S NATIONAL PARKS ON THE AIR - CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

In general, the more portable and compact your station is, and the more creative and adaptable your plans are, the greater your chances of success. While there is no formal partnership between NPS and ARRL for this event, the League has been in discussions with the NPS over the past year, and it is aware that increased Amateur Radio activity in their parks is likely during 2016.

"It is your responsibility to be on your best behavior and not interfere with other visitors at NPS units," Kutzko advised. "Remember, every time you visit an NPS unit for this awards program, your conduct will not only impact the reputation of Amateur Radio throughout the NPS system, but will also directly impact the success of the next amateur who tries to activate that unit. Be nice, be courteous, and be flexible. Demonstrate Amateur Radio in the best light possible."

The NPOTA will use the official list of NPS Administrative Units and Affiliated Areas as defined and maintained by NPS. Complete details on the National Parks on the Air event are available on the ARRL website.

Rememmer: Ham radio is vast. If you're not having fun with amateur radio, try something new. As I always say in my presentations: "Life is short: Do more radio."

73, happy contesting, and good DX!
Sean KX9X



There was a discussion at the Ham Community Breakfast, that meets the second and fourth Tuesday every month at eight-thirty A.M-ish, regarding HRDLOG.net. KC8WY had it on his cell phone. He said he used it to see the conditions of any of the bands. If you are interested in DX, this site might be something worth looking into.

What is?

HRDLOG.net is an independent online logbook, free for all Amateur Radio Operators. First launched in December 2008 as the online logbook of Ham Radio Deluxe, it is now integrated with many other logbook programs.

What are the main features?

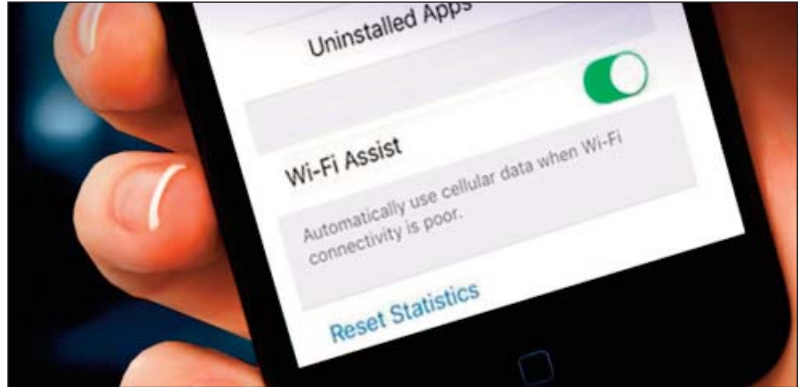
- Share own logbook over the net.
- Real time synchronization with Ham Radio Deluxe or on request logbook importation using standard ADIF file.
- Members can display their last QSO and on-air status on own website.
- Members can allow search their QSO on own website.
- Members can display their last QSO and on-air status on own page on QRZ.com.
- View in real time the current ham activity, the last QSO over the world map, animation of last 24 hours.
- Members can view, edit, delete, filter QSO by Country, Zone, Band, Mode.
- Members can view their QSO over the world map.
- Members can view their QSO statistics, numerate their QSO by Country, Mode, Band.
- Members can create a personal web page.
- Members can exchange electronic QSL.
- Members can set own privacy level (full shared logbook, partial shared, no shared).
- Members can received event based notification via e-mail or SMS.
- Members can restore their logbook, useful after a PC crash.
- Facebook integration: show logbooks, your on-air status, your QSL collection. Current DXpeditions, next contest calendar, point of interest, public chat, forum, private message exchange, webcam support, friend list, shared resources, weekly top user election, rates and so on.

IPHONE FEATURE TRIGGERS \$5 MILLION LAWSUIT

By Dan Heilman / Sci-Tech Today Like this on Facebook Tweet this Link this on LinkedIn Link this on Google Plus PUBLISHED: OCTOBER 26, 2015

A controversial feature of Apple's iPhone is at the center of a legal dispute. The tech giant is facing a \$5 million lawsuit over a recent software update that allows an iPhone to switch to using data when it detects a weak Wi-Fi signal.

The feature, Wi-Fi Assist, has been the subject of complaints from customers since it was introduced last month as part of the latest version of Apple's iOS software for iPhones and iPads. Some have said that the feature is automatically turned on in iOS 9 without a user's knowledge, resulting in data charges that could have been avoided if the user had known the phone wasn't running on Wi-Fi.



In their class-action suit, filed late last week in U.S. District Court in San Jose, Calif., William Scott Phillips and Suzanne Schmidt Phillips said that because they didn't know about the feature, Apple should be responsible for picking up their bill and the bills of others like them. The suit, which is seeking \$5 million in damages, was first reported by the Apple Insider Web site.

In their class-action suit, filed late last week in U.S. District Court in San Jose, Calif., William Scott Phillips and Suzanne Schmidt Phillips said that because they didn't know about the feature, Apple should be responsible for picking up their bill and the bills of others like them. The suit, which is seeking \$5 million in damages, was first reported by the Apple Insider Web site.

Consistent Coverage

The lawsuit accuses Apple of violating California's Unfair Competition Law, the state's false advertising law, as well as negligent misrepresentation. Apple is the first smartphone maker to be the target of such a suit, despite the fact that rival manufacturers such as Samsung, LG and HTC have similar features on their devices.

The idea behind Wi-Fi Assist is to provide iPhone users with consistent coverage when they're using the Internet on their devices. Some Apple customers are glad to have the option to stay connected when their signals drop. But other customers, especially those with low-usage data plans, have received cell phone bills that were larger than expected.

We reached out to independent technology analyst Jeff Kagan, who told us that the problems with Wi-Fi Assist probably add up to a case of unintended consequences.

"I don't think Apple did anything with ill intentions," said Kagan. "Rather, I think this is just a case of not knowing what would happen next before they introduced a feature. Either way, users get burned and that's something that will hurt Apple."

Mixed Opinions

Apple seems to have realized that users' opinions of the new feature have been sharply mixed. The company recently published an online guide to using Wi-Fi Assist, telling users that the feature may use more cellular data but in most cases having it enabled should only increase data usage by "a small percentage."

The company also pointed out that Wi-Fi Assist won't automatically switch to cellular if a user is data roaming, and that it only works when a user has apps running in the foreground. The feature doesn't activate with background downloading of content, or with some third-party apps that stream audio or video or download attachments.

Nevertheless, Apple did provide instructions for turning off Wi-Fi Assist: Go to Settings, select cellular or mobile data, scroll down to the bottom and adjust the Wi-Fi Assist toggle.

"The Nation that makes a great distinction between its scholars and its warriors will have its thinking done by cowards and its fighting done by fools." —Thucydides

WHAT YOU ARE NOT

[The following is excerpted from the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) publication IARU Emergency Telecommunications Guide. (2015) A PDF file of the document can be found here <<http://www.iaru.org/emergency-telecommunications-guide.html>>. While this guide was developed primarily to provide IARU member-societies around the globe with materials suitable for training their members to provide radio communications support in emergency/disaster events, it also contains principles and concepts that are universal to all Amateur Radio and ARES operators who are learning the culture of providing such support via Amateur Radio. I thought that the following excerpt was particularly helpful in understanding our role as ARES members. - ed.]



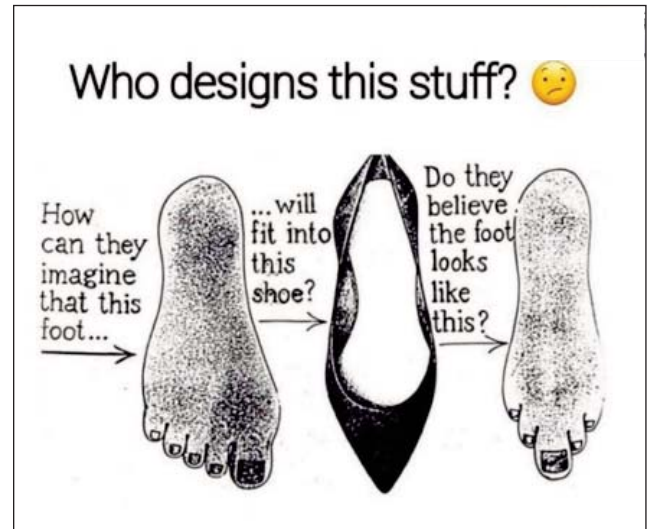
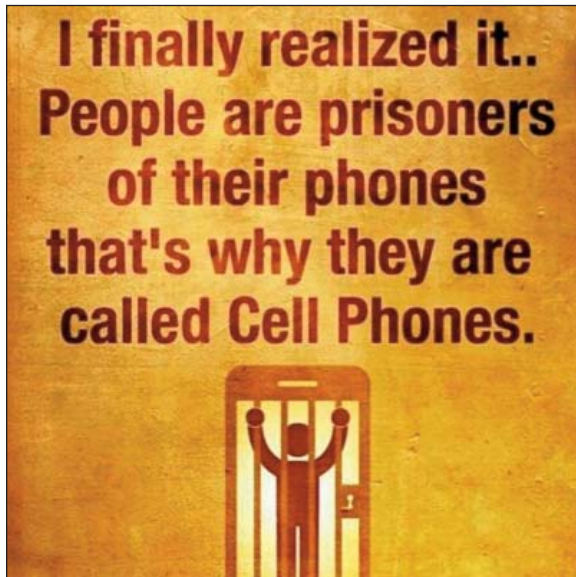
As important as what you are, is what you are not. There are limits to your responsibilities as an emergency communicator, and it is important to know where to draw the line.

*You are not a "first responder." Except in rare cases of chance, you will seldom be first on the scene.

*You do not need flashing lights and sirens, gold badges, or fancy uniforms.

*You have no authority. In most cases, you cannot make decisions for others, or make demands on the agency you serve or any other agency. The only decisions you can make are whether to participate or not, and those affecting your own health and safety.

*You are not in charge. You are there to temporarily fulfill the needs of an agency whose communication system is unable to completely do its job. They tell you what they need, and you do your best to comply.



Take time to laugh for it's the music of the soul

Nala, is an amazing little dog. God must have put Nala here for a purpose. I GUARANTEE you're going to love this little dog! <http://nethugs.com/inspirational/angels-of-the-morning/>

You MUST Listen to THIS owner of BMW car has called in to complain about his car ... Just click on the link below ... you MUST turn up the sound AND see if you are NOT laughing!!! I absolutely loved the lady on the phone!!! ... she is absolutely awesome ... <https://www.facebook.com/video.php?v=10154767807170001>
He thinks: R is for Race, N is for night, D is for day



November 2015



PREPAREDNESS LEADS TO READINESS - MATT W8DEC

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1</p> <p>Daylight Saving (End)</p> 	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>National Election Day</p> 	<p>4</p> <p>Skywarn Net 8:30 P.M. 146.745</p> <p>General Class starts</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>WRARC Net 9:00PM 145.270 Swap n' Shop Ask the Elmers</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p>	<p>9</p> <p>ARES Net 8:30 PM 146.745 PL 110.9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Ham Breakfast Eat'n Park Boardman 8:30 A.M.</p> <p>Board Meeting Eat'n Park Boardman 7:00 P.M.</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Veterans' Day</p> 	<p>12</p> <p>Tech.Class Starts</p>	<p>13</p> <p>WRARC Net 9:00PM 145.270 Swap n' Shop Ask the Elmers</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>WRARC Meeting 7:00 P.M</p>	<p>18</p> <p>General & Tech.Classes</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>WRARC Net 9:00PM 145.270 Swap n' Shop Ask the Elmers</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p>  <p>WaveBender Articles Due</p>	<p>23</p> <p>ARES Net 8:30 PM 146.745 PL 110.9</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Eat'n Park Boardman 8:30 A.M. Ham Community Breakfast</p>	<p>25</p> <p>General & Tech.Classes</p>	<p>26</p> 	<p>27</p> <p>WRARC Net 9:00PM 145.270 Swap n' Shop Ask the Elmers</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>		<p>General & Tech.Classes</p>		<p>WRARC Net 9:00PM 145.270 Swap n' Shop Ask the Elmers</p>	