



The  
**Wave Bender**



December 2017

AWARD WINNING NEWSLETTER

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WRARC PREZ SEZ

Greetings everyone reading our December 2017 Wave Bender. I would like to start out by saying what a pleasure it has been to serve as your President for the past two years, and how much I have enjoyed working with such a fine group of people.

I also want to say that there was no way I could have done it without the dedication, help, and support from all the Officers and Board members of WRARC. That always, and usually without being asked, went the extra mile get things done, which made my job easier. I wish to extend a very heart felt THANK YOU to all these fine people for their selfless dedication to making the Western Reserve Amateur Radio Club one of the best clubs any Ham Operator could belong to.

Then I would be remiss in also not thanking all the members that volunteer and show up event after event and help make all of our Public Service run smoothly and look so effortless when we all now they are not that way. It takes dedication to our service and to the public to give so freely of personal time that could be spent doing a myriad of other things with family friends, or simply relaxing.

Now to our to our new incoming officers, I will not list the names here as I know the names will probably be in here several places, but I know all the outgoing Officers will give you any support needed to help make the transition as smooth as possible and to give you whatever support you need. I know you all will continue the legacy of service and excellence that was started with our founding members and has continued to your term in office.

Finally, but most important, I would like to thank everyone that I have had the pleasure to come in contact with in my term as President of th Western Reserve Amateur Radio Club, member or not, for the help, support, and willingness to help or just give some friendly advice or conversation. I have made many new friendships and acquaintances and look forward to continue those in the coming years.

It has been an honor and a Pleasure, and again Thank you to you all for your help, support and friendship.

73 Bob, N8RCM  
President/WRARC



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*Merry*   
*Christmas* 

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**2017 Officers:**

**President:** Bob Mitzel, N8RCM      n8rcm@wrarc.net  
**VP:** Joe Wojtowicz W0JO      w0jo@wrarc.net  
**Secretary:** Jo Wilms, KD8SNW      kd8snw@wrarc.net  
**Treasurer:** Rose Marko, KD8TII      kd8tii@wrarc.net  
**Past President:** Roy Haren, KD8IJF      kd8ijf@wrarc.net

**Trustees:**

Russ Williams NR8W      nr8w@wrarc.net  
 Darrin Cannon, N8DMC      n8dmc@wrarc.net  
 Roy Haren, KD8IJF      kd8ijf@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  
**Classes/Testing:** Bob Mitzel, N8RCM      n8rcm@wrarc.net  
**Newsletter/Web:** Jane Avnet K8JAA      k8jaa@wrarc.net  
**Historian:** Rose Marko, KD8TII      kd8tii@wrarc.net  
**Badges:** Al Avnet, AB8AA      ab8aa@wrarc.net  
**Facebook:** Terri Mitzel, N1TAM      n1tam@wrarc.net  
 Harry Harker, KD8PQK      kd8pqk@wrarc.net

**Officer's Meeting:**

December 12, 2017, 7:00 P.M. At Eat 'n Park,  
 Austintown, Eat 'n Park,  
 5451 Mahoning Ave  
 All members welcome

**Members Meeting:**

December 19, At Davidsons  
 3636 Canfield Rd., Cornersburgh

**Speaker:** Paul Wetzel, WKBN-TV's  
 Chief Meteorologist



OUR NEW BOARD

**OTHER IMPORTANT WEB SITES**

**THE ARRL EXAM SEARCH PAGE**

<[HTTP://WWW.ARRL.ORG/FIND-AN-AMATEUR-RADIO-LICENSE-EXAM-SESSION](http://www.arrrl.org/find-an-amateur-radio-license-exam-session)>

**OHIO SINGLE SIDEBAND NET**

<[HTTP://WWW.OSSBN.ORG/INDEX.HTML](http://www.ossbn.org/index.html)>

**ANTENNA HEIGHT ABOVE AVERAGE TERRAIN (HAAT) CALCULATOR**

[HTTPS://WWW.FCC.GOV/MEDIA/RADIO/HAAT-CALCULATOR](https://www.fcc.gov/media/radio/haat-calculator)

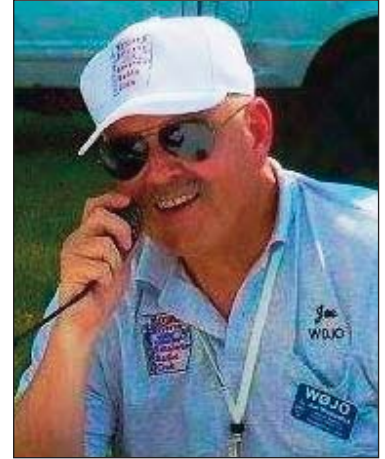


<http://www.wrarc.net/>

## FROM OUR VP

This month's Wave Bender article as Vice President of Western Reserve Amateur Radio Club, since my second 2-year term expires at the end of December. I would like to thank all of our members who have attended our monthly Board and general meetings, events, Friday night nets, helped with our community/public service charitable fund-raisers, and supported my efforts over the last 4-years.

When I became Vice-President, I was told that I had two basic responsibilities. The first was scheduling guest speakers for our monthly meetings. The second was publicity. I was also advised I had a "shoe string" budget (in other words Zero dollars) to do these things. But due to the nature of Amateur Radio, there were no funds for these purposes. In order to keep things hopefully interesting, I tried scheduling a variety of speakers that included both Amateur Radio topics as well as other topics of interest.



With regard to publicity, I thought the best thing to do with a "shoe string budget" was to contact local community event organizers whose events were the largest in the area, and would be fitting for our type of voluntary communications services, while giving WRARC exposure on their websites, local media, and at the events themselves (i.e., "shoe string budget.") WRARC now has three of the largest annual Public Service fund-raising events: the Youngstown Marathon; the Panerathon; Youngstown Peace Race. I was proud of that, I think more people know about WRARC than they did a few years ago.

I also extend my congratulations and best wishes to our newly elected Board, (at the time of this writing): Brian, AB8BL, our new President; Maureen, KD8NXS, our new Vice-President; Rose, KD8TII, for her second term as Treasurer; Stan, WB3WPD, our new Secretary; Steve, KC8SOY, or new three-year Trustee. I'm sure they will all do a great job in keeping WRARC moving forward in the future.

Our last monthly WRARC meeting this year will be December 19th at Davidson's Restaurant, 3636 Canfield Rd., Canfield. We have dinner at 6:00 P.M. Our scheduled speaker, as of this writing, is Paul Wetzel, chief Meteorologist at WFMJ-TV. We invite all of or members, associate members to the meeting as well as any licensed Amateur Radio Operators, who would like to know more about WRARC, or any individuals interested in the hobby/service of Amateur Radio, and to celebrate the upcoming Holidays.

Finally, I would like to thank Al and Jane Avnet, AB8AA and K8JAA, two of the founders of WRARC for everything they have done. Not only was Al my "Elmer" on Ham Radio subject matter from the beginning, but he also helped me with some other matters. I'll always be grateful to him and Jane. In my opinion, they exemplified the qualities of true leadership to a cause. The one thing that stood out for me was their unwavering "commitment" to Amateur Radio, and the Western Reserve Amateur Radio Club. I know they are moving on, and I wish them both all the best in their move to their new town. I will definitely miss them not being here anymore. As they say, nothing stays the same, I can attest to that in my 68 years.

With that, I am now officially signing off (hopefully I'll still be around.) I wish everyone a Merry Christmas, and a Happy, Healthy, Prosperous New Year,

73, Joe W0JO  
VP/WRARC

**THE WRARC NET NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT....**

9:00 P.M. Friday evenings: 145.270 Mhz (minus offset), PL 110.9  
You can advertise your Swap 'n Shop. You can ask our Elmers anything -  
No Question too big or too small!  
The only dumb question is one you don't ask Hope to hear you on the net.



WHAT'S COMING UP?

- Dec. 02 YL breakfast 8A.M,
- Dec. 12 Ham community breakfast 8A.M. all Hams welcome  
Board meeting - open to all interested members  
Hanukkah 1st night
- Dec.19 Member's Meeting  
**Speaker:** Paul Wetzi  
WKBN-TV's Chief Meteorologist
- Dec. 21 Winter Solstice
- Dec. 25 Christmas
- Dec. 26 Ham community breakfast 8A.M. all Hams welcome



2018 HAPPY NEW YEAR

- Jan. 06 YL Breakfast 9:00 A.M.
- Jan. 09 Ham community breakfast 8A.M. all Hams welcome
- Jan. 14 After the Holidays Annual Dinner/Meeting & Installation of Officers
- Jan. 23 Ham community breakfast 8A.M. all Hams welcome

**DUES ARE DUE, PAYABLE ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 31, 2018**

**After the Holidays Annual Meeting  
&  
Installation of Officers  
Sunday, January 14, 2018, 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, 2017**

CONTACT WRARC ELMERS WITH YOUR QUESTIONS - [QUESTIONS@WRARC.NET](mailto: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 on the 20th each 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: Jane Avnet, 2050 E. South Range Rd., New Springfield, OH 44443



Join us for the WRARC Friday night Net 9:00 P.M.  
 KD8DWV - 145.270, PL -110.9  
 Upcoming Net Control Operators

12/01	Maureen, KD8NXS
12/08	Roy, KD8IJF
12/15	Rose, KD8TII
12/22	This could be you
12/29	This could be you

HAPPY NEW YEAR - 2018

01/19	Joe, W0JO
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If your name has never been on this list  
 Contact Steve, KC8SOY to take a turn at Net Control  
 330-774-6346



WRARC Simplex Frequency 146.565

### Mahoning County ARES® Nets

1st Monday 8.40 PM ET W8QLY Repeater - 146.745 (PL 110.9)

&

3rd Monday 8.40 PM ET W8QLY Repeater - 146.745 (PL 110.9)

ARES thanks 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

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; N8SY, W5YI, the ARRL and the World-Wide Web.

COMMENTS FROM ROSE



Can you believe it? We're in the last month of the year, December 2017. Boy, how time flies when you're having fun! And WRARC had a lot of fun this past year with all the events we did to keep us busy. Now it's time to say good-bye to the past and hello to the future.

We are starting the 2018/2019 season with new Board Members, I want to thank them for volunteering their time to make sure this club stays alive. The new board is: Brian Lewis, President; Maureen Stein, Vice President; Stan Adamski, Secretary; Rosemary Marko, KD8TII Treasurer; and Steve Fabry, KC8SOY, Trustee. I know we all will do a wonderful job bringing in new ideas, events, and maybe some new projects to keep the club members busy.

With that said, I would like to thank our present Board Members: Bob Mitzel-President; Joe Wojtowicz-Vice President; Jo Wilms-Secretary; Russ Williams-Trustee; for the excellent work we did this past year and are now ready to hand over the reins to the new class of Board Members. I think we did a great job leading the club, overseeing the events, and bringing in some interesting speakers along with doing Board meetings and general meetings and look forward to being a part of the new team.

Our YL breakfast club started the fall season last month, November 4th, at IHop Restaurant. It was an experience but we had a good time. This month, it was held at Bob Evans Restaurant in Boardman. Jane Avnet wasn't there for December's breakfast and won't be there for January's breakfast. She and Al are celebrating the Holidays with their family. I wish them and their family Happy Holidays. I hope to see some new faces this month. You don't have to have a Ham radio license to come and enjoy yourself. Just bring your sense of humor and you will have a lot of fun.

I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving and I wish you all Happy Holidays. For those of you who won't be at our General meeting this month, see you next year.

73 Rose, KD8TII

PS: I threw in a few jokes to make you laugh.

- 1) BARTENDER: Your glass is empty. Want another one?  
CUSTOMER: Why would I want two empty glasses?
- 2) FRED: How do I get to the hospital from here?  
NED: Just close your eyes and walk into the street. They'll come and get you.
- 3) DAN: "Doctor! You've got to help me. I'm shrinking!  
DOC: "I'll try to squeeze you in. but you'll have to be a little patient."



Have a great Holiday Season!!

**"Dues are due" anytime between now and January 31, 2018.**



The dues are \$20.00 for the initial person joining in the household if that person is under 65, and \$5.00 for each subsequent member who is in the same household. Senoor dues, 65 and older, are \$16, and \$5 for each additional member at the same address. Send Ceck or moneyorder made out to WRARC to:

Rosemary Marco, KD8TII  
416 S. Edgehill Ave.  
Austintown, OH  
44515

ANNUAL MEETING AND THE AFTER THE HOLIDAYS PARTY

Once again, the year has flown by and we are entering the month of December. The new year will be here before we know it and that brings us to our first WRARC activity of the year, the annual meeting and the After the Holidays Annual Meeting & party. As in the past, our party is booked in our usual meeting room at Davidson's Restaurant on Sunday, Jan.14, 2018, at 3:00 P.M. It will be a social time as well as a time for the installation of WRARC officers for the new term.



We will be following the same format as we have the last couple of years. Each individual or family will order from the menu the day of the party and each will take care of their own bills at that time. Since it is not a buffet party, there is no need to pay in advance. However, I still need to give the restaurant a head count about a week before the party (on or about Jan. 7) so they can prepare with staff scheduling and other things. The sign-up sheet will circulate again at this month's general meeting. If anyone cannot be at the meeting, but still would like to attend the party, you can contact me at 330-398-1303 or at kd8nxs@wrarc.net to be added to the list. I will need to have your name, call sign, phone number, and the number in your party. You can leave me a voice mail with the information if you don't reach me directly.

Remember, everyone is welcome. Attendees do not have to be WRARC members. This party is for family, friends, and any other guests. We always have a good time! Hope to see you all there. Happy Holidays to all of you.



73, Maureen, KD8NXS  
Social/WRARC



We all wish Dave, KC8WY, a speedy recovery!

# Get on the Air



## BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

	<b>Egan</b>	<b>Janet</b>
<b>KB3WPD</b>	<b>Adamski</b>	<b>Stan</b>
<b>KB8QDZ</b>	<b>Jickess</b>	<b>Jim</b>



Keep in mind, when you attempt to repair something, you run the risk of actually learning something.



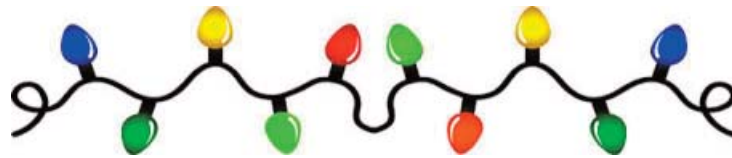
THANK YOU



I hope everyone had a great October. The Boardman Hay Ride was great! We ran five nights out of six, it rained on the last night. We had about 200 wagons on the five nights. Kitty and I wish to thank everyone that came out and helped. This year was boring, Steve Fabry, KC8SOY, and Darrin Cannon, N8DMC, had no work they just stayed in the woods with nothing to do. Happy! Happy!

We wish to thank these volunteers: Steve Fabry, KC8SOY; Darrin Cannon N8DMC; Roy Haren. KD8IJF; Maureen Stein, KD8NXS; Jan Hamaker, KC8PUO; Rich Hamaker, KB8YHC, Brandon Benson, KD8NXP; Les Breen W8LTB; Debbie Breen, KE8EYE; Ed Benson, KD8NXQ; Joe Hanisko, KD8ZRU; also, William and Keith Clinker. Thank you all for keeping the kids safe!

73 to all, William Egan, KD8HCQ, and Kitty.



NOVEMBER YL BREAKFAST



We met at IHOP for an enjoyable breakfast. We had hoped we'd see more YLs that morning, but we had a good time chatting with friends we haven't had breakfast with since Spring. You don't have to be a member of WRARC to join us. Two of us were driven there by our OM, they sat at a different table. Too much chatter I guess. Those YLs we did make it were, Maureen, KD8NXS, Nancy, KD8QNY. Shirley, KD8SSB, Rose, KD8TII, Jane, K8JAA, Donna Haren, and Janet Egan.

K8JAA





SWAP'N SHOP



**Antennas, Tower, and Radios plus other stuff for sale**

Kenwood TH-22AT 2 Mtr HH	\$ 15
Nye Viking, MBI-001 Tuner,	\$ 50
AEA model QT-1, Antenna tuner	\$ 15
Pyramid Power Supply model PS-25	\$ 30
Swan SWR-1A SWR/ Pwr Meter	\$ 5
Andrew F4PNMV2-HC N Male connector	\$ 5 ea

**Code Keys, MFJ and Misc. Equipment for sale**

Bencher ST-1CW Paddle	\$ 50
Coax Switches (3)	\$ 5 ea
Code Keys Straight (3)	\$ 5 ea
Code Key J-37 key on a J-44 Base	\$ 10
Iicom IC-AG1 430Mhz Preamp	\$ 10

KENT Single Paddle	\$ 15
MFJ MFJ-204B Antenna Bridge	\$ 20
MFJ MFJ-906 6 Mtr Antenna Tuner	\$ 40
MFJ MFJ-9040 40 Mtr CW transceiver	\$ 30
MFJ MFJ-945 Antenna Tuner	\$ 20
MFJ MFJ-492 Memory Keyer	\$ 20
MFJ MFJ-464 CW Reader/ Keyer	\$ 40
MFJ MFJ-484 Grandmaster Memory Keyer	\$ 20
MFJ MFJ- 812 VHF SWR/ Power Meter	\$ 5

**Heathkit and Ten-Tec Equipment for sale**

Heathkit HM-9 QRP Wattmeter	\$ 15
Heathkit HFT-9A Antenna Tuner	\$ 20
Heathkit HG-10 VFO	\$ 15
Heathkit AM-2 SWR/ Power Meter	\$ 10
Heathkit HM-11 SWR/ Power Meter	\$ 10
Heathkit SB-600 Speaker	\$ 10
Heathkit IM-10 VTVM	\$ 10
Heathkit DX-60 10 thru 80 Meters HF	\$ 40
Heathkit 75 Meter Single Bander	\$ 40
Heathkit GR-88 152-174Mhz Receiver	\$ 10
Heathkit VTVM Model IM-11 (A)	\$ 10
Ten-Tec Kit Shortwave Receiver Model 1253	\$ 40
Ten-Tec Kit 6 Mtr Transverter	\$ 20
Ten-Tec Power Supply 252G	\$ 25



**Will accept all reasonable offers.  
 Misc tower parts, lots contact me if interested.  
 Al, AB8AA, 330-207-3296 or ab8aa@arrl.net**

## ARISS MOVES ONE STEP CLOSER TO FLYING NEW AMATEUR RADIO EQUIPMENT TO THE ISS

Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) International Chair Frank Bauer, KA3HDO, announced this week that the program has submitted its Interoperable Radio System (IORS) flight-safety data package to NASA for review. ARISS has been developing the IORS to replace most of the Amateur Radio hardware now on the space station. It is called "interoperable" because it's designed to operate anywhere on the ISS. A NASA flight-safety review in about a month is the next step. Bauer said he was highlighting the accomplishment, because all work on the safety data submission was developed exclusively by ARISS volunteers, rather than NASA or other contractors, as had been done in the past. It also meant a substantial saving to ARISS, which has become more reliant on donations in recent years.



"This is a very major IORS milestone," Bauer said. "We cannot get [the new equipment] to orbit without successfully completing the safety review process and getting our hardware certified for flight."

Bauer said having the work done by volunteers will shorten the timeline involved in getting the new Amateur Radio hardware to the ISS. A key development: The ARISS multi-voltage power supply.

He explained that the material turned in for NASA Human Spaceflight Safety Certification covers the first three phases of a four-phase process. The initial steps in the process are aimed at ensuring that NASA understands the design, demonstrating that ARISS understands the potential hazards that the new hardware systems could introduce, and how it has mitigated or prevented them. The final phase will be complete when ARISS has finished all testing and NASA deems the hardware flight worthy. ARISS is hoping that will happen next spring.

"We will remove the 3 W Ericsson handheld radio system, initially certified for flight in 1999, and the packet module -- both of which have recently had issues," Bauer said, and install a brand-new, specially modified 25 W JVC Kenwood TM-D710GA radio to enable a multitude of new or improved capabilities on the ISS, including voice repeater and better APRS operations."

A key development, Bauer explained, is the multi-voltage power supply (MVPS), which interfaces with multiple electrical outlet connector types on the station and provides a range of power-output capabilities for current and future ARISS operations and Amateur Radio experiments.

ARISS invites contributions to help cover the expenses of its work. All donations go directly to ARISS. Read more - [www.ariss.com](http://www.ariss.com)

### CONGRATULATIONS!

THE RADIOGRAM WON FIRST PLACE IN THE GREAT LAKES DIVISION NEWSLETTER COMPETITION.

### MAYBE THIS IS YOU?

Could YOU be the one I'm looking for? This is the editor of YOUR Newsletter. We have plenty of room for YOUR article(s)! If something is of interest to you, odds are that we all will enjoy your thoughts and activities! Have a favorite radio? Have some reminiscing to do? maybe you have a question for one of our Elmers. OR, a Tip or Trick you learned that would help one of YOUR WRARC friends. You are warmly invited to contribute! Don't worry about writing or formality - we can help you with that. Your article could go in this spot, or one bigger, next month!!



## COMMENTS FROM OUR VICE DIRECTOR TOM DELANEY W8WTD



Even though it's the end of November, I'm Looking forward to next year already. Along with my travel this month included a lot of travel, most of it personal. The following reflection is not new, and not un-noticed by others. It's just to note the continuing trend of non-use of two-meter repeaters, pretty much across the country. I notice it when I'm home. I monitor the club repeater, and try to answer any call I hear. And I don't hear anyone, club member or traveler, calling.

It's the same when I'm on the road. State by state, city by city, a call on a local repeater produces only the ID. No QSOs. Where is everyone?

Of course, it's not the same as in the 1970s or 1980s. If I come across a road emergency, or have trouble myself, 911 is now the best and quickest solution. It was great that we hams stepped up when there were no such things as cell phones, and we were there with communications when it counted. We're better off now than we were, and we did a great service for the community. So naturally, with less need, fewer people monitor. But did we turn off our VHF radios for good? Yes, there are nets, and some of them are well-attended. But is once a week for a half hour good enough?

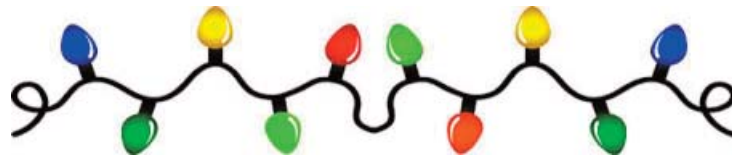
We are tying up a lot of spectrum on 144-148 MHz. Are we making good use of it? If you put a meter on our club repeater, to measure how often the repeater comes on the air (exclusive of announcements) you won't find that it gets a lot of use. There are exceptions, of course. By and large, though, we're letting a good resource go unused.

If there's a solution, it's not one that requires a big change. It's just a matter of individuals deciding that it's worth making a contact or two a day on the local repeater. When you're doing a project at your workbench, do you have a scanner or your VHF/UHF rig on? Or if

you're in your car, does the music drown out the repeater (assuming that the rig might even be on)?

I like operating HF and various other modes besides FM. But the local repeaters are the easiest and quickest ways to make contacts, and sometimes provide as much interest as any other mode. What do you say? If I key up your club's repeater while I'm driving by, will you be there?

73, Tom W8WTD  
Vice Director, Great Lakes Division



It is good to be reminded of this every now and then.

You cannot help the poor by destroying the rich.  
You cannot strengthen the weak by weakening the strong.  
You cannot bring about prosperity by discouraging thrift.  
You cannot lift the wage earner up by pulling the wage payer down.  
You cannot further the brotherhood of many by inciting class hatred.  
You cannot build character and courage by taking away men's initiative and independence.  
You cannot help men permanently by doing for them what they could and should do for themselves.

Abraham Lincoln

## NEWS FROM ARRL

US Court of Appeals Upholds Dismissal of Lawsuit in Ames v. ARRL Case A defamation lawsuit filed by former ARRL Eastern Pennsylvania Section Manager Joseph Ames, W3JY, of Malvern, Pennsylvania, against ARRL and several of its officers and Board members was dismissed with prejudice by the United States District Court in Philadelphia in December 2016.

Ames filed an appeal of that decision, and on November 11, the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit upheld the lower court's dismissal of the suit.

In its opinion, the appellate court wrote, "because the record shows that Ames acted contrary to [an] August 2015 directive on at least two occasions, the [ARRL's] statement that Ames 'repeatedly acted contrary' to the directive is true and cannot support a claim for defamation...it is apparent on the face of the complaint and related documents that the statements in the [ARRL website news] article are true, and the District Court therefore correctly held that the defendants established a complete defense to Ames's defamation claim and appropriately dismissed the complaint."

In June 2016, the Executive Committee of the ARRL Board of Directors relieved Ames of his appointments in the ARRL Field Organization, including his position as Chairman of the ARRL National Traffic System[™] (NTS[™]) Eastern Area.




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### International Grid Chase Will Allow Use of 630 and 2200 Meters

ARRL Contest Branch Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, has clarified that the new 630- and 2200-meter bands will be fair territory in the ARRL International Grid Chase. The year-long operating event begins on January 1, 2018 at 0000 UTC (New Year's Eve in US time zones). The object is to work stations in as many Maidenhead grid squares as possible, and radio amateurs around the world are encouraged to take part. Contacts made on the 60-meter band will not be eligible for award credit, however.

US radio amateurs are advised, however, that the use of 630 and 2200 meters requires advance notification to the Utilities Technology Council (UTC), formerly the Utilities Telecom Council, of their intention to operate on one or both bands. If UTC does not respond within 30 days or specifically denies access, these stations may commence operation there.

Once approved to use either 630 meters, 2200 meters, or both, US radio amateurs must adhere to the FCC rules regarding the use of those bands. Highlights:

Amateurs operating on 472-479 kHz (630 meters) may run up to 5 W equivalent isotropically radiated power (EIRP), except in parts of Alaska within 800 kilometers of Russia, where the maximum would be 1 W EIRP.

Amateurs operating in the 135.7-137.8 kHz band (2200 meters) may run up to 1 W EIRP.

The FCC has placed a 60-meter (approximately 197 feet) above-ground-level (AGL) height limit on transmitting antennas used on 630 meters and 2200 meters.

The bands are available to General class and higher licensees, using CW, RTTY, data, phone, and image.

Any contact you make in 2018 -- with the exception of contacts on 60 meters -- can count toward your International Grid Chase score, and contacts do not have to include an exchange of grid squares. Participants upload their logs to Logbook of The World (LoTW), and, as long as the other operators worked use LoTW, they get credit automatically once they upload their logs. This means that contest contacts will also count, as will contacts with special event stations, or other on-air activities that use LoTW to confirm contacts.

Contact the ARRL Contest Branch for more information.





## WHEN ALL ELSE FAILS, AMATEUR (HAM) RADIO WORKS

By James Blier

Posted: Sunday, October 15, 2017 - 8:00pm

Over the last week, wildfires have been raging across most of the state of California. On Wednesday, one of my life-long best friends named Donna, who lives about an hour south of San Francisco, Calif., and some of the fires out there, had internet but no phone service in her town of Belmont, California. Donna posted two photos commenting: "This is the smoke in the Bay Area! Smells like a bonfire. The firestorm is about an hour away. We are fine here, but in the northern Bay Area there are 115,000 acres destroyed and fire is still raging. Praying for their safety "

Seeing that, I posted a reply expressing my happiness at finding out she and her family were alive and well. But I also wanted to offer any help I could provide, be it from my tiny town of Waldoboro, Maine, over 3,000 miles away, even without my having a currently set-up FM radio rig and antenna that could reach her. Using the resources I had access to, namely the internet, to assist, I posted an online link for her to see California's online fire maps and their containments and a link for her to hear online scanner Police/Fire/EMS calls in her county.

I typed, "<http://www.fire.ca.gov/general/firemaps>", ... and "This is your county's scanner radio (Police/Fire/EMS) for online listening: <http://www.broadcastify.com/listen/ctid/223/?rl=rr> Scroll down to the grid to listen to your choice of Police/Fire/EMS radio calls online."

Donna thanked me for my post and replied to another friend's post saying: "Thank you. I know so many friends here that have family in the fire areas. Our neighbor can't communicate with his elderly parents as phone lines are down."

I replied, "Tell your neighbors to use this website to contact loved ones when the phones are down. When all else fails, HAM radio works. <http://www.arrl.org/advanced-call-sign-search>. Use the search to type in your town and state and select individual and a license class (Extra is the highest and best). From the list of Ham operators, I suggest they select one of them (an Extra License Level operator) and asking them to send a free radiogram to their loved ones. Spread this message to all your neighbors and friends in California."

I also entered Donna's town of "Belmont, CA" into ARRL's website's Amateur (HAM) Radio operator search and cut and copied the search results into a post with my Facebook reply. The search had come up with a list of about a dozen Extra Class Amateur (HAM) Radio operators in her town (one living right on her street) who could possibly help send out word of her neighbor's welfare. I told her to try to contact the Extra and ask him to send out a free radiogram to her neighbor's relatives.

I wouldn't doubt, if maybe one or both of Donna's two sons, in the future, decides to get into Amateur (HAM) radio for fun and safety because of my reply posts on Donna's Facebook post this past week.

What have I learned from this experience?

Well, one thing I've learned is that even an Amateur (HAM) Radio relative newbie operator, like myself, even without an operating Ham radio station with antenna, can still be of help in the community, and this experience has made me want to continue to learn more about and get even more involved in Amateur (HAM) Radio.

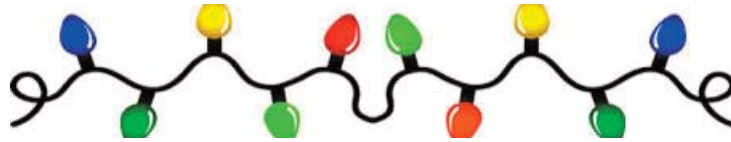
Amateur (HAM) Radio is not only a great hobby, but Amateur Radio operators across the world save lives, too. Responding to wildfires, earthquakes, tornados, floods, hurricanes, tsunamis, and other natural disasters, Amateur (HAM) Radio operators make a difference. I urge all interested and those who even think they may be interested in Amateur (HAM) Radio, to visit the ARRL's (American Radio Relay League) website and find out more about becoming an Amateur (HAM) Radio operator.

<http://www.arrl.org/> - The ARRL website about page states, "ARRL is the national association for Amateur Radio in the US. Founded in 1914 by Hiram Percy Maxim as The American Radio Relay League, ARRL is a noncommercial organization of radio amateurs. ARRL numbers within its ranks the vast majority of active radio amateurs in the nation and has a proud history of achievement as the standard-bearer in amateur affairs. ARRL's underpinnings as Amateur Radio's witness, partner and forum are defined by five pillars: Public Service, *Continued page 14*

## HAM RADIO WORKS! - CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

Advocacy, Education, Technology, and Membership." As a form of emergency communications, it is often and truly said, "When all else fails, Amateur (HAM) Radio works!"

James P. Blier, KC1AKT, lives in Waldoboro



### WORLD MAKER FAIRE VISITORS URGED TO BUILD, MAKE, CREATE, COMMUNICATE

Ham radio exhibitors at the 2017 World Maker Faire in New York City over the September 23-24 weekend urged visitors to "build, make, create, communicate." Three Amateur Radio clubs took part in the event, held at the New York Hall of Science in Corona, Queens. World Maker Faire drew upward of 90,000 visitors in 2016.

The Hall of Science Amateur Radio Club had a ham radio station demonstration that visitors could try, with supervision. [Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R, photo]

An exhibit hosted by grade 6 to 12 students from the Garden School Amateur Radio Club (K2GSG) in Jackson Heights was aimed at introducing ham radio to those who stopped by. They also demonstrated electronics experiments, kit construction, and soldering skills. Projects included a Morse code practice oscillator and an LED candle.



The Garden School ARC students are mentored by the Hall of Science ARC (WB2JSM/WB2ZZO), which co-exhibited at the World Maker Faire. Both are ARRL-affiliated clubs.

"The Garden School students, led by their club advisor, science teacher John Hale, KD2LPM, did a great job engaging the public through kit building," said ARRL Marketing Manager Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R, who was part of the ARRL contingent to the event. "They helped demonstrate the educational benefits of having students engaged in the STEM [science, technology, engineering, and math] disciplines. Garden School ARC was recognized with an Editor's Choice Blue Ribbon. Congratulations!"

Visitors to the World Maker Faire had the chance to build a small Morse code practice oscillator from a kit. [Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R, photo]

Inderbitzen said the Hall of Science ARC worked hard to get people on the air. Their "Get On the Air" (GOTA) station paired attendees with experienced station operators to make VHF and HF radio contacts. Club trustee Steve Greenbaum, WB2KDG, helped to organize the joint exhibit with Garden School.

A third group, HamHacks <<https://zeloof.xyz/>> -- made up of high school and college students who enjoy hacking for ham radio -- also put in an appearance. Their projects include what they describe as "unconventional and cheap Amateur Radio hacks in Doppler radar, satellite photography, airplane tracking, microwave electronics, software-defined radios, and more."

"HamHacks had a fantastic exhibit and team, showing off a whole lot of innovation," Inderbitzen remarked. "Their demonstrations included a WSPR (Weak Signal Propagation Reporter) software-controlled station, and an RF plasma generator. HamHacks contributed to the 'cool factor' with dynamic exhibits."

ARRL CEO Tom Gallagher, NY2RF, also was on hand at the World Maker Faire to represent ARRL and to support the participating radio clubs.

A 60-second video <<https://www.facebook.com/ARRL.org/videos/10155203732592408/>> with highlights from the ham radio exhibits is posted on ARRL's Facebook page.

The ARRL Letter for October 5, 2017



## HAM RADIO IN PUERTO RICO

Kansas City firefighter uses Ham Radio skills to help Puerto Rico  
Posted 10:34 pm, October 19, 2017, by Pat McGonigle

KANSAS CITY, Mo. -- Jeremy Dougherty admits that his wife wasn't always a huge fan of his Ham Radio hobby. "She teases me a lot," Dougherty smiles. "She says, 'This is an old man hobby. Who does ham radio?'"

Dougherty is a Kansas City firefighter who picked up Ham Radio just a couple of years ago for fun. But when hurricane winds toppled Puerto Rico's communication towers last month, Dougherty quickly answered the call from the American Red Cross for licensed Ham Radio operators on the island.

"It was really like I was landing in a war zone," Dougherty recalled. Dougherty returned to Kansas City on Tuesday after spending a month setting up makeshift communication centers on Puerto Rico. "I set up radio communications where there was no communication at all," he said.

And with scarce resources on the island, Dougherty's mastery of radio waves truly was a lifesaver. At one point, he set up a radio command post with PVC pipe and a tape measure. "We put this PVC, tape measure antenna up," Dougherty explained. "Next thing you know, we were talking to somebody 100 miles away, passing traffic back to San Juan for people who needed to contact San Juan."

Dougherty is happy to be home with his wife and two young sons. And it's safe to say he's not worried about his wife, or fellow firefighters, teasing him about Ham Radio anymore. "One day it is going to be a zombie apocalypse and you're going to need my help, and then when the Red Cross called I was like 'OK, I'll go'."

#### CW ON 6 METERS

ARRL024 W1AW to begin scheduled transmissions on 6 meters starting January 2, 2018  
To all Radio Amateurs

Beginning with the 9:00 A.M. EST fast code practice on Tuesday, January 2, 2018, W1AW will add 6 meters - specifically 50350 KHz - to its regular CW code practice, and CW, digital and phone bulletin transmission schedule.

Prior to late 1989, W1AW had a presence on 6 meters for all its CW practice, and regular bulletins. Since that time however, the station has been absent on 6 meters, with the exception of regular visitor operations and contests.

In addition to providing regularly scheduled transmissions on 6 meters, another goal is to act as a beacon on 66 meters, especially from the northwest US.

Signal reports will be welcome. A web page will allow listeners to provide signal reports will be made available after the start date. Reports may also be emailed to W1AW at, w1aw@arrl.org.

#### LEARN HOW TO CATCH A PHISH BEFORE IT CATCHES YOU.

Scammers are getting smarter every day. They use email, phone calls and texts to try to trick you into giving up your personal information. And as your bank, we're here to help make sure you're aware of their latest methods.

Whatever the method, phishing scams usually have two things in common: They create a sense of urgency to get you to respond. Don't be pressured into making a decision. Slow down and be suspicious. They ask for information they should already have. For example, your bank has your account number so they should never ask for it; the IRS knows your Social Security Number. Don't give out personal or financial information unless you initiated contact or can confirm the requester's identity. Remember: Huntington will never call, email or text you a request for your account number or password.

#### **Be alert. Be aware. Be suspicious.**

Report suspicious phone calls, emails and texts. If you receive a suspicious communication claiming to be from Huntington, let us know at ReportFraud@huntington.com. At Huntington, helping protect your personal and financial information is one more way we look out for you.

## GOVERNMENT TRAVEL WARNING

The Government has issued a travel warning due to the cold weather. They suggest that anyone travelling in the current icy conditions should make sure they have the following:

- Shovel
- Blankets or sleeping bag
- Extra clothing including hat and gloves
- 24 hours worth of food
- De-Icer
- Rock Salt
- Flashlight with spare batteries
- Road Flares or Reflective Triangles
- Empty gas Can
- First Aid Kit
- Booster cables



I looked like an idiot on the bus this morning!

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

TEN (10) THINGS I KNOW ABOUT YOU

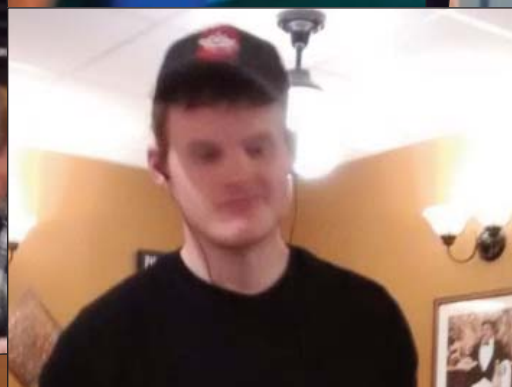
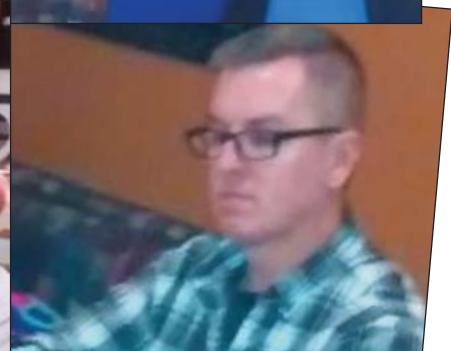
- 1) You are reading this.
- 2) You are human.
- 3) You can't say the letter 'P' without separating your lips.
- 4) You just attempted to do it.
- 6) You are laughing at yourself.
- 7) You have a smile on your face and you skipped No. 5.
- 8) You just checked to see if there is a No. 5.
- 9) You laugh at this because you are a fun loving person & everyone does it too.
- 10) You are probably going to share this to see who else falls for it.

Have a great Day. Laugh, and then Laugh and sing " It's a Beautiful Morning" even when it's not.

**YOUNG AT HEART**  
 Slightly older  
 in other places.

As we Silver Surfers know, sometimes we have trouble with our computers. I had a problem yesterday, so I called Eric, the 11 year old next door, whose bedroom looks like Mission Control and asked him to come over. Eric clicked a couple of buttons and solved the problem. As he was walking away, I called after him, 'So, what was wrong? He replied, 'It was an ID ten T error.' I didn't want to appear stupid, but nonetheless inquired, 'An, ID ten T error? What's that? In case I need to fix it again.' Eric grinned ... 'Haven't you ever heard of an ID ten T error before? 'No,' I replied. 'Write it down,' he said, 'and I think you'll figure it out.' So I wrote down: ID10T, I used to like Eric.









Thankyou KD8TII

# December 2017



PREPAREDNESS LEADS TO READINESS - MATT W8DEC

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>Giving Tuesday</b> 			<b>1</b> WRARC Net 9:00PM 145.270 Swap n' Shop Ask the Elmers	<b>2</b> YL Breakfast 9A.M. 
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> ARES Net 8:30 PM 146.745 PL 110.9	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> WRARC Net 9:00PM 145.270 Swap n' Shop Ask the Elmers	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Hanukkah 1st night 	<b>12</b> Ham Breakfast Eat'n Park Boardman 8:30 A.M. Board Meeting Eat'n Park Auatintown 7:00 P.M.	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> WRARC Net 9:00PM 145.270 Swap n' Shop Ask the Elmers	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> ARES Net 8:30 PM 146.745 PL 110.9	<b>19</b> WRARC Meeting 7:00 P.M.	<b>20</b>  WaveBender Input Due	<b>21</b> 	<b>22</b> WRARC Net 9:00PM 145.270 Swap n' Shop Ask the Elmers	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> 	<b>25</b> Merry Christmas 	<b>26</b> Eat'n Park Boardman 8:30 A.M. Ham Community Breakfast	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> WRARC Net 9:00PM 145.270 Swap n' Shop Ask the Elmers	<b>30</b>