



# Sinewaves



## STONEWALL JACKSON AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

Meetings: 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month, 1930 hrs at Saint Marks Lutheran Church RT19/98 Clarksburg  
SJARA Tuesday Night Net

*This net meets each Tuesday evening at 2100 hours utilizing the N8FMD Repeater on  
147.210 Mhz with PL Tone of 103.5*

*April 19, 2011*

<u>Net Control</u>	<u>Date</u>
1. K8WWW.....	March 22, 2011
2. WD8NSC.....	March 29, 2011
3. K8TPH.....	April 5, 2011
4. KD8FDD.....	April 12, 2011
5. K8TPH.....	April 19, 2011

### Minutes SJARA Meeting March 17, 2011

The Thursday night meeting of the Stonewall Jackson Amateur Radio Association was called to order by President, KD8FDD, at 21:30 Hours.

Reading of the minutes of the previous meeting were not read since they had been distributed in the February Sinewaves which can be found on the "Archives" page of the club Web Site, <http://www.sjara.org>.

**Treasurer Report:** of a balance of 1595.17, a few dollars more than at this time last year.

We have plenty of money to support Field Day for 2011.

Motion to accept Treasurer's report as read by KA5NYN, Seconded KD8FOH.

**Old Business:** Dick K8TPH reported he has put together enough study material and instruction information to present

a class for Technician Class Amateur Radio License Class. Discussed to hold the class in two days vice one day due to the difficulty to give enough material in just one teaching session. Possibility to hold class at the CAP Wing at Bridgeport. Will be checked out by KA5NYN.

**New Business:** KD8FDD reports that N8FMD owner of the repeaters 146.685 and 147.210 gave permission to hold SKYWARN Nets on either repeater during a weather alert. Repeater 146.685 (PL tone 103.5) agreed to be the preferred repeater due to the coverage through the HAMTALK system.

Members present were KD8FDD, KA5NYN, KD8FOH, WD8NSC, K8TPH with one new member, KD8PPR, Bill Morgan. We want to welcome Bill to Amateur Radio and a New Member of SJARA.

Motion by, KD8FOH, to adjourn Seconded by KA5NYN,

Meeting adjourned at 20:30.  
Australian amateur radio call signs

### History Hams Down Under

Ever wondered how the Australian amateur radio prefix **VK** came about? According to "History of Australian Radio Callsigns" by K3HZ, Dave, it came from a block of prefixes beginning with the letter V, assigned to British Commonwealth countries in 1912 to commemorate the death of Queen Victoria. The block VH - VK was allocated to Australia but these were not assigned to Australian amateurs until 1928. 1910, after representations by the WIA, the then Postmaster General's Department began issuing experimental licenses. These used a three letter call beginning with X and did not differentiate between states until 1912 when these three

letter calls were broken up into blocks according to state. In early 1914 the experimental calls were changed again when a number representing the states was incorporated into a 1 x 2 format. The Letter X was followed by a number, for example 4 to represent Qld followed by a two letter suffix. All licences were cancelled during WW1 and none were issued until 1922 when an A was added to the X prefix to designate "Experimental Australia" resulting in a 2 x two callsign format. The next change in Prefix came in 1927 when an international radio conference decided that Australia should use the prefix OA to signify "Oceania Australia". The OA prefix was short lived however as yet another international radio conference in 1928 resulted in Australia amateurs finally using the VK prefix. So if today's callsign format seems confusing spare a thought for our early amateur brethren and the many changes that they endured in only 18 short but tumultuous years. Col VK4CC

## Sea Rescue

March 23, 2011

At 10:04 AM PDT on March 21, Rex Weinheimer, KC5AGO, of Stonewall, Texas -- a member of the Maritime Mobile Service Net (MMSN) -- heard and responded to a "weak and broken MAYDAY call." The call was from the sailing vessel *Gloria Jean*, a 30 foot sailboat that was in the Pacific Ocean about 120 miles west of Ensenada, Mexico. Weinheimer heard the distress call on 14.300 MHz, a frequency monitored by the MMSN. MMSN Net Controller Lee Langford,

KG4DZN, told the ARRL that through the combined efforts of several net stations, the net was able to ascertain the situation and the position of the stricken vessel. MMSN operators contacted both the US and Mexican Coast Guards and both services deployed assets to the scene. The US Coast Guard dispatched an MH-60 Jayhawk helicopter from San Diego and a C-130 Hercules plane from Sacramento. According to the USCG, the *Gloria Jean* had no propulsion, food, water or safety equipment.



*An elderly sailor and his dog were rescued off the coast of Ensenada, Mexico after a ham in Texas heard his distress call on 14.300 MHz. In this USCG photo, he is pictured safely aboard Coast Guard helicopter with USCG Petty Officer 2nd Class James Johnson. [USCG Petty Officer 2nd Class Henry G. Dunphy, Photo]*

## WWV, WWVH, WWVB NIST

The National Institute of Standards and Technology's (NIST) Time and Frequency Division is conducting a [survey](#) to learn more about its users, seeking to determine how the agency can make its services more useful in the future. NIST services include [WWV](#), [WWVH](#) and [WWVB](#), which provide reference time and frequency signals via radio. The NIST also provides the Internet Time Service -- which provides

accurate time synchronization to computer systems -- and several other services to offer accurate time information via telephone or web pages. Radio amateurs are encouraged to complete the survey. "If you use any of these services, we want to hear from you," said WWVH Electronic Technician Dean Takamatsu. "The survey should take just a few minutes to complete and your input will be greatly appreciated." WWV and WWVB in Fort Collins, Colorado, along with WWVH on Kauai, Hawaii, broadcast continuous time and frequency information to millions of listeners worldwide. Information broadcast includes time announcements, standard time intervals, standard frequencies, UT1 time corrections, a BCD time code, geophysical alerts, marine storm warnings and Global Positioning System status reports.



**If anyone wants Field Day gear make sure to let me know by the April meeting. K8TPH**

## Old is When:

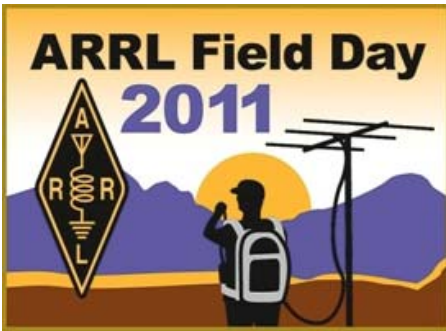
Kidnappers are not really interested in you.



New \$12.95



\$9.95



Pin \$5.00

All the above are Plus Shipping. Shipping is less if we order as a club. If ordered at one time by club S&H approx. \$2.00 on each item.

If you want Field Day Gear please call me (K8TPH) 304 629 4302 or order at April meeting. Money up front before order is made. If we order as a Club the total shipping will only be \$12.50 for the complete order.

## Bell Labs Tiny Cellular Antenna



The lightRadio (TM) cube developed by Bell Labs. A team of researchers at Alcatel-Lucent's Bell Labs has designed and built a cell-site in a two-inch cube, a development that could revolutionize the way cellphone calls and data are routed. According to a Bell Labs news release and news reports, the lightRadio™ cube consists of three stacked circuit boards - one each for the antenna, the radio and the network connection - and it would not have to sit on top of a tall tower. It is estimated that wide-scale deployment of these devices could increase network capacity by up to 30 percent and reduce or eliminate the need for controversial cell towers. Connection to ham radio? The possibility for adaptation to the amateur repeater network and the potential for changes in some restrictive antenna ordinances, many of which were enacted in response to the building of cell site towers. World Radio Magazine Online.

<http://www.worldradiomagazine.com>

## Skywarn Net

KD8FDD activated the Skywarn Net on 146.685 18:00 Wednesday March 23, 2011. Jason tracked storm cells moving through

Doddridge, Harrison, and Taylor Counties. KD8FDD passed to K8TPH reports of heavy rain and wind gusts to 60mph at 18:20 from Doddridge County High School. While returning east he reported pea size to ¼ inch hail near Salem at 18:27. The information was passed to Charleston Weather Center by K8TPH via 1 800 401 9535. The 146.685 repeat experienced difficulties and dropped off the air at approximately 18:30. Radio contact was lost at this point. The storm cell moved out of the area into Marion and Monogahlia Counties north of the route of KD8FDD as he returned to his home in Taylor County. If anyone would like to be notified when a Skywarn Net is activated please pass your home/cell phone # to KD8FDD. Nets will be activated when Storm Warnings are issued for the local area.

[Pittsburgh Weather Radar](#)

[Charleston Weather Radar](#)

KD8FDD called a Skywarn net on repeater 146.685 Mhz at 17:00 local time on March 11, 2011. K8TPH checked in with difficulty copying KD8FDD. KD8FDD QSY'd to repeater 145.700 Mhz since he was traveling in Preston County moving east on US 7 then north on SR 26 toward Bruceton Mills on I-68 following a local storm cell. KD8FDD tracked his location via GPS reporting his location via the repeater while K8TPH tracked him on the internet passing Pittsburgh Radar storm cell information and locations to him. KD8FDD lost the repeater at 17:47 and K8TPH secured. No adverse conditions

were reported to NWS in Charleston.

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**WD8IGU -- Dave Blackwell  
SK March 28, 2011**

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### **AMSAT Dayton Hamvention 2011**

The 2011 **Dayton Hamvention** will be held this year May 20-22. This year's featured **AMSAT** attractions include:

- Operational ARISSat-1 Prototype
- Astronaut Doug Wheelock, KF5BOC, will be attending as a special guest of the ARRL and AMSAT. Doug will visit the AMSAT booth on both Friday and Saturday.
- AMSAT theme for 2011 is "Providing Education Through Amateur Satellites"

AMSAT's Hamvention posted at ... <http://www.amsat.org/amsat-new/hamvention/2011/Dayton.php> for the latest events:

- AMSAT/theme for 2011 is "Providing Education Through Amateur-Satellites"
- ARISSat-1
- AMSAT/Thursday Night Get-together
- AMSAT/Forum
- AMSAT/TAPR Banquet

This is the 60th year of the Dayton Hamvention, sponsored by DARA (Dayton Amateur Radio Association). As has been the case for the many years the Hamvention will be at the Hara Arena Complex on the north side of Dayton. Further information on Hamvention 2011, including advance ticket sales and motel

accommodations, can be found at <http://www.hamvention.org>. AMSAT will occupy the same booths (444-449) in Ball Arena, right across from the ARRL area and just inside the door from the Satellite Demonstration area. Plan to visit all of the AMSAT activities!

**ARISSat-1** is currently aboard the International Space Station awaiting a hand-launch in the summer. According to the ARISSat-1 website, once the satellite is activated, on 145.950 MHz -----The AMSAT News Service is reporting that the planned operation of the ARISSat-1 satellite from inside the International Space Station on April 12-13 was unsuccessful. The satellite was supposed to be turned on as part of the commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the first manned space flight by Cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin on April 12, 1961. According to ANS, no stations on the ground reported hearing transmissions from the satellite -- which is awaiting a hand-launch during a spacewalk this summer -- nor of any retransmissions of the satellite's downlink which had been planned on the space station's 70-centimeter ham station used for Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) contacts. There's no word as yet as to what may have gone wrong.



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**If anyone goes I would really like a badge.**

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For a very good video from NASA click on [SUNSPOTS](#)

It takes a lot of research, looking and searching for articles and I would like to know if it is worth it or not. If you want me to continue the Sinewaves as is let me know or if you would like me to just stick to things that affect Ham Radio or the SJARA let me know. I get very little feedback as to what you what in your Sinewaves. Dick K8TPH [k8dfsjara@aol.com](mailto:k8dfsjara@aol.com) [cn8ff@aol.com](mailto:cn8ff@aol.com)

### **SJARA Tuesday Night Net**

147.210 MHz PL tone 103.5  
March, 2011

Sessions .....	5
Total Check-ins.....	32
Total time.....	1hr 15mins
Traffic.....	0