



Sinewaves



STONEWALL JACKSON AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

Meetings: 3rd 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 followed by the net on C4FM digital

17 April 2016

Net Control	Date
1. K8TPH/K8TPH.....	April 12, 2016
2. WV8TIM/WV8TIM.....	April 19, 2016
3. WV8CC/WV8CC.....	April 26, 2016
4. K8TPH/K8TPH.....	May 3, 2016
5. K8WWW/K8TPH.....	May 10, 2016

SJARA Monthly Minutes March 17, 2016

The meeting was called to order by KA5NYN at 19:40.

MINUTES: N8YPE moved and W9AFC seconded to dispense with the reading of the February 18 minutes. They were approved as circulated.

TREASURERS REPORT: KD8IZC stated the balance on hand is \$1084.21. There was a credit of \$30 for dues paid. The report was approved as submitted.

ANNOUNCEMENT: Darlene Cameron, the wife of Gordon Cameron- WV3G, is having a memorial service on May 7, 2016, in his honor, at the Knights of Columbus in Clarksburg from noon to 4 PM and would appreciate knowing if anyone of Gordon's old Ham friends would be available to attend. She needs to have a number due to the limited space at the K of C. KD8IZC will call her.

OLD BUSINESS:

Fire Hydrant Project: N8YPE reported that K8RAS mentioned beginning the project this coming

Sunday. Because of the weather forecast and the fact that the 20th is Palm Sunday and the following Sunday is Easter, the members present voted to delay.

Inventory of items stored at the church: N8YPE and KA5NYN were able to unlock the cabinet but couldn't open the doors because of heavy items blocking them. N8YPE will let K8RAS know.

NEW BUSINESS:

Field Day: June 24 will be set up. The event will begin Saturday, June 25 at 1400 and continue through till 1400 Sunday, June 26. Ownership of the Y at Lowndes Hill has changed to the city of Clarksburg. KA5NYN will contact one or both of them to get clearance for the club to hold the Field Day there. The group also wondered if there might be a licensing exam scheduled that could be held in conjunction with the activity. KD8IZC will contact McCarty's to reserve a portable toilet for the weekend.

N8YPE brought up an interesting article in QST Magazine from 2013 about affiliated membership. He suggested that we might think about

changing the meeting format to include educational topics. He also mentioned that perhaps we could send letters with a calendar of events to people who have recently gotten their license. More discussion and action is needed when we have more members present.

Meeting adjourned at 20:27.

Returning from Florida

Another one of my experiences during my 6 week trip south. Have met and had eyeball QSOs with dozens of new ham friends. Will be heading home on March 25, 2016.

Will be working as many as I can operating on 40 meters as K8TPH/M



March 19, 2016 Saturday was a day in Stuart, Martin County Florida that the local hams have been looking forward to. Today was the annual Martin County Ham Fest sponsored by MCARA (Martin County Amateur Radio Association) Since I am an outsider, of course, I have to compare their Ham Fest to others I have attended in the past. Well, the members of MCARA in my opinion did a very good Ham Fest. It was held at the Martin County Fairgrounds. All the commercial companies had their tables in side which took up about 1/2 of the inside area at the fairground. There were probably 25 or 30 tables set up for tail gating and I think most of the vendors did very well. The Ham Fest began at 8AM and was winding down around noon when mother nature decided to let everyone know who had control over the weather. We had a fairly heavy rain that lasted until after 1PM and did dampen the tear down and packing to leave, but it was nice and warm, in the high 70s. Being an outsider I was made to feel right at home and was made very welcome from all of the locals. Of course, as usual I didn't win a thing but there were several very nice pieces of equipment raffled off to help support the club in the next year.

I did check in on the WVFN mid day net from just a little Northeast of Chattanooga, TN on March 28th.

Armed Forces Day 2016

This year's Armed Forces Day Crossband Communication Test on Saturday, May 14, will include a significant new wrinkle: Select military stations will be using 60 meter interoperability channels to communicate *directly* with Amateur Radio stations on the band. Back this year, select military stations will

use crossband Automatic Link Establishment (2G ALE) communication as well as MIL-STD Serial PSK to send the Secretary of Defense Armed Forces Day message. Armed Forces Day 2016 is Saturday, May 21, but the radio event is held earlier to avoid conflicting with Dayton [Hamvention](#), May 20-22.

The annual Armed Forces Day Communication Test is an opportunity to exercise two-way communication capability between Amateur Radio and military stations using a variety of modes, including SSB and CW as well as digital modes. The annual event gives participants — including shortwave listeners (SWLs) — an opportunity to demonstrate their technical skills, and to receive recognition from the appropriate military radio station.

QSL cards will be provided to all stations that make contact with the military stations. The Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard cosponsor the joint military/Amateur Radio, with military stations transmitting on military frequencies and listening on Amateur Radio bands.

Amateur Radio stations and Short Wave Listeners interested in trying the MIL-STD Serial PSK mode can [download](#) the software program, *MS-DMT*.

Full details about this year's Armed Forces Day radio activities — including stations, frequencies, times, and modes of operation — will be [posted](#) by April 12 as well as on the US Army MARS [Facebook page](#).

Big Guns 75/80 Meters

In comments filed on March 23 on its Petition for Rule Making (RM 11759) seeking changes to 80 and

75 meters, the ARRL has told the FCC that its primary objective is to "rebalance" the bands by correcting a 10-year-old FCC error.

Prompting the League's assurances were comments filed on the ARRL's Petition by a number of Amateur Extra class licensees, who felt that refarming 3600 to 3650 kHz for data modes could prove to be a disincentive to General licensees to upgrade. Others commenters saw it as an unfair spectrum grab. The ARRL noted that prior to 2006, the band was evenly divided between RTTY/data and phone/image subbands, with the RTTY/data subband extending from 3500 to 3750 kHz, and the phone/image subband extending from 3750 to 4000 kHz. The 2006 FCC Report and Order "substantially altered" what the League called "this even division of emission types."

Official Observer

OO

The Official Observer (OO) program has been sponsored by the ARRL for more than 85 years to help Amateur Radio operators assist each other to operate their stations in compliance with (FCC) regulations. Official Observer appointees have assisted thousands of Amateur Radio operators to maintain their transmitting equipment and comply with operating procedures and regulations. The object of the OO program is to notify amateurs of operating and technical irregularities before they come to the attention of the FCC and to recognize good operating practices.

The OO program serves as the first line of "eyes and ears" for the FCC. It is the backbone of the Amateur Auxiliary. OOs are certified in the Auxiliary by passing a mandatory written examination.

The OO performs his/her function by observing rather than transmitting. They keep watch for such things as frequency instability, harmonics, hum, key clicks, broad signals, distorted audio, over deviation, out-of-band operation and other potential problems. The OO completes his/her task once the notification card is sent.

In substantive rule violations cases, OOs refer problems to ARRL HQ. After review by HQ staff, the OO may be requested to provide additional information that may be forwarded to the FCC for possible enforcement action.

Youth Nets

The new 'Youth Nets' page on the ARRL website is designed to serve as a clearing house for information about Amateur Radio nets aimed at youth participation

During those dry spells between bigger operating events such as School Club Roundup, Kids Day, and Field Day, regular participation in a net helps to develop operating skills and confidence, and it builds connections within the community of young hams.

A few nets are already listed, but ARRL invites any nets aimed at young radio amateurs to post and share their information on the [ARRL](#) and "[Youth Nets](#)" web page.

D-Star Satellite

The first-ever satellite to carry a D-STAR (Digital Smart Technologies for Amateur Radio) Amateur Radio payload into space is expected to launch on April 22 from Guiana. The OUFTI-1 (Orbital Utility For Telecommunication Innovations) CubeSat is one of three CubeSats developed by student teams under the European Space Agency (ESA)

Education Office "Fly Your Satellite!" program, which is aimed at training the next generation of aerospace professionals. The satellites arrived in South America on March 25, followed by the student teams a few days later.

The OUFTI-1 laboratory "twin."

On March 30 the students pulled the "Remove Before Flight" pins and successfully verified that their CubeSats were ready for launch before replacing the access ports on the P-POD, which will secure the CubeSats prior to and during launch and then will release them into orbit. The next time the students will have contact with their respective CubeSats will be through their spacecraft's communication link, after the CubeSats have been deployed into orbit. Once thermal-optical tape has been applied to the P-POD to shield the CubeSats from extreme thermal radiation during the launch phase, the P-POD will be integrated with the Soyuz launch vehicle.

Constructed by students at the University of Liege in Belgium (ULg), OUFTI-1 will be the first satellite to carry an Amateur Radio D-STAR transponder. Developed by the Japan Amateur Radio League, D-STAR enables the simultaneous transmission of voice and digital data as well as call sign-based roaming via the Internet.

Artist's depiction of the AAUSAT4 from Aalborg University. [Aalborg University graphic]

"The OUFTI-1 D-STAR repeater will be available either as a direct communication repeater between two users, and as an extension of the ULg D-STAR repeater," explains the article "D-STAR digital amateur communications in space with OUFTI-1 CubeSat" by Jonathan Pisane, ON7JPD; Amandine Denis, ON4EYA, and Jacques Verly, ON9CWD, all of ULg. The

CubeSat's frequencies are 145.950 MHz (FSK AX.25), and D-STAR down, with an uplink at 435.045 MHz. OUFTI-1 will carry a CW beacon transmitting on 145.980 MHz.

The other two CubeSats are from Italy and Denmark. The CubeSat `est@r-II` from the Polytechnic University of Turin, Italy, will demonstrate an attitude control system using measurements of Earth's magnetic field. It will transmit CW and 1.2 k AFSK on 437.485 MHz. AAUSAT4 from the University of Aalborg, Denmark, will operate an automated ocean vessel identification system. It will transmit on 437.425 MHz.

HAM FEST

April 16, 2016 I got up at 5:30AM so I could make it to the home of KI8EJ to pick him up and go to Quite Dell to meet WV8CC so we could travel together to the Flatwoods Ham Fest. It was a small Ham Fest and was more of a gab fest than a Ham Fest although there were several items for sale and several found something they wanted or needed. It was a very good gathering.

Why I am mentioning this. Why do they start all of these small Ham Fest at 8AM? Everybody arrives before 8AM and at most of these small Ham Fest they are over, usually around noon or 1PM, Everyone that attend normally make some remark about how early they have to rise to get to the Ham Fest. It seems to me that it would work out much better if the Ham Fests would start at noon thus being over by 4 or 5 in the afternoon. One ham from Beckley said he had to get up at 4:30AM. I feel that if the Ham Fest start at noon the attendance would be much larger because those

that have to travel for 1 to 3 hours
could get up at a reasonable time
and still be able to attend the Ham

Fest. This is just my thoughts on
Ham Fests. Of course, multi day
Ham Fest fall under other schedules.