



# 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*

*May 16, 2011*

<u>Net Control</u>	<u>Date</u>
1. KD8FDD.....	April 26, 2011
2. KD8FOH.....	May 3, 2011
3. K8TPH.....	May 10, 2011
4. K8WWW.....	May 17, 2011

### Minutes SJARA

#### Meeting April 21, 2011

The SJARA meeting was called to order at 19:30 by President KD8FDD at the St Marks Lutheran Church. Minutes were accepted as read. The Treasurer's report was read by K8TPH with a balance of \$ 1577.23. There were 7 members present N8YPE, KD8FDD, W8LRA, KD8FOH, KA5NYN, K8WWW, and KC8ZHQ

Old Business: K8TPH reported that he has the instructional information for the new test and when he has the test date a Technician Class license class will be scheduled

New Business: N8YPE made a motion to pay liability insurance second W8LRA and it was Approved. KD8FDD gave a report on storm chasing and the repeaters used.

Net Controls were assigned for next month and the meeting was adjourned by President KD8FDD.

### SkyWarn Net

April 19, 2011

Local times

**16:30** Activated SkyWarn Net  
KD8FDD/M K8TPH Net  
Control...146.685 repeater

**16:50** QSY to 145.430 repeater

**16:57** KD8FDD reports Heavy  
Rain and Lightning US 119 south  
of I68

**16:57** KD8FDD reports Small  
Hail at junction of US 119 and I68

**16:59** KD8KZU checks in to net

**16:59** KD8FDD location Exit 15  
(Cooper Rocks) I68

**17:00** K8JWD checks in to net

**17:01** QSY to 147.000 repeater  
Signals marginal

**17:03** QSY to 145.430 repeater

**17:10** KD8FDD reports pea size  
hail

**17:12** KD8FDD reports location  
15.2 mile marker on I68 traveling  
east

**17:17** N8OZY checks in net  
location Kingwood Pike at I68  
Heavy rain

**17:20** KD8FDD location  
Bruceton Mills I68 reports small  
limbs and debris on I68

**17:25** KC8RHO checks in net

**17:30** KD8FDD location south of  
I68 on SR 26

**17:44** KD8BMI checks in net

**17:45** KD8FDD checks out

**17:45** Secure SkyWarn Net

### Bell System Technical Journals online

The **Bell System Technical Journal** (BSTJ) from 1922-1983 is available online. What began in 1922 as the 'house magazine' of Bell Labs grew over the years into a leading journal in the field of electronics and telecom. The last

issue appeared in December 1983. The archive contains many wireless and data communication articles such as 'Telephony by Pulse Code Modulation' that appeared in July 1947. and 'A Multi-Channel Television Apparatus' in the January 1931 edition.

The journals can be seen in PDF format:

<http://www.alcatel-lucent.com/bstj/>

## **Another attach on 70cm April 20, 2011**

A battle over radio spectrum usage has ended with the Federal Communications Commission granting first responders continued access to the 420-450 MHz frequency band for reconnaissance robots, rejecting opposing arguments from ham radio operators.

The FCC originally granted ReconRobotics, provider of the Recon Scout robots that are also used by the military, access to the band for use by first responders **in February 2010**. American Radio Relay League (ARRL), representing amateur radio enthusiasts, however, opposed the order on the grounds that it would cause interference with other services and was not in the public's best interest. Although ham radio operators use the 420-450 MHz frequency band, it is primarily used by the federal radio location service

## **ARISSat-1**

The Russian suit battery that was intended to be used on ARISSat was used during testing both on the ground and onboard ISS when

it first arrived. When it was tested prior to the planned April 12 operation, it was discovered that the battery was low on charge.

The suit battery's are specified for only five cycles of charge. It was decided to not recharge the battery at this time in order to keep the number of cycles as low as possible and thus saving the battery for the actual mission. That deployment is currently scheduled for July 26.

<http://www.arissat1.org/v3/>

## **Snoops Legal or Illegal**

**Are cops allowed to snoop through your cellphone** during an ordinary traffic stop?

It was reported on April 13, 2011 that the Michigan State Police have several forensic cellphone analyzers deployed in the field. Forensic analyzers are routinely used in police investigations to recover data from computers and other digital devices. Lately, cellphones have become valuable sources of evidence for police, since one phone can include almost all of an individual's private communications (SMS, recently dialed numbers, email, Facebook and Twitter posts) as well as location data from the device's GPS unit. The device used by the Michigan State Police is a portable forensic system called the Celebrate UFED that can suck data from a variety of devices, including multiple Android phones and Apple IOS devices such as the phone and pad. The company did not immediately return phone calls, but according to Celebrity's products the UFED can grab email, Web bookmarks, Web history, SIM data, cookies,

notes, MMS, instant messages, Bluetooth devices, locations, journeys, GPS fixes, call logs, text messages, contacts and more. One thing to remember, your wireless devices do not transmit any of this information unless requested to send any of your information.

## **Collecting Information**

The FCC categorize collecting of information from communication devices in two categories.

The first is **Active**...The definition of an Active device is a system or single piece of equipment which emits a signal in the RF range to activate the remote device thus requesting data from the remote device. Active also includes the physical connection to the device being monitored.

The Second is **Passive**...The definition of a passive device is any system or single piece of equipment that does not emit or send a signal to a remote device in the RF range. A passive device will only collect data that is emitted by the remote device while it is being used or operated.

**Passive** is legal as long as information obtained is not disseminated and only used by the individual that is collecting the information.

**Active** is illegal and must have a court order to use to collect information. (Under the Patriot Act this all went out the window. Big brother is watching.)

You will have to make up your own mind.

## Elevation of water ways

Simpson Creek @ Downtown  
Bridgeport  
965'  
Simpson Creek @ City Park  
behind HS  
956'  
Elk Creek @ 2<sup>nd</sup> street Clarksburg,  
WV  
956'  
West Fork River @ Milford St.  
Clarksburg  
924'  
West Fork River @ Edgewood  
920'  
West Fork River/Simpson Creek  
@ Meadowbrook  
915'  
West Fork River @ Gypsy  
901'  
West Fork River @ Shinnston  
884'  
West Fork River @ Monongah  
869'  
West Fork River @ Watson (West  
Fork, Tygart River)  
863'  
Mon River @ Pittsburgh (Mon,  
Allegheny River)  
783'  
Ohio River @ Cincinnati, OH  
774'  
Ohio River @ Louisville, KY  
440'  
Ohio River @ Mississippi River  
297'  
Mississippi @ New Orleans  
0'  
Most of New Orleans  
-1' to -2'

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## S.191

The non-partisan Congressional Budget Office projects that conducting the studies mandated by S.191, the Amateur Radio Emergency Communications

Enhancement Act of 2011, would cost taxpayers approximately \$1 million in 2012, if passed and signed into law. The bill, which is being heavily promoted by the ARRL, would direct the Department of Homeland Security to study the uses and capabilities of the Amateur Radio Service during and after a disaster or emergency, and would require the department's Inspector General to additionally report on the cost of grant programs administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the extent to which these programs overlap with each other. The CBO analysis was requested by the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee.

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### Last Action

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. Date of scheduled consideration. March 15, 2011 SD-432

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### FCC New Image

The FCC has opened access to its new "Beta" website, the first major overhaul of the agency's website in a decade. Once you get past all the buzzwords in the announcement about it ("architected with a more intuitive user experience ... the *reimagined* FCC.gov is proof that ... dot-govs can look, feel and run like dot-coms."), you'll find some interesting features, including blogs by Commission staffers and a very cool "spectrum dashboard" that lets you search for the allocations of various services or "browse" by frequency. Unfortunately, the architects of the new site appear to believe the

radio spectrum begins at 225 MHz and we haven't been able to figure out how to search for amateur allocations, even though they're listed on the chart. Check it out yourself at <http://beta.fcc.gov/>.

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### Pirates

Thirteen alleged pirates from Somalia and one from Yemen have been indicted by a federal grand jury in Virginia on piracy, kidnapping and firearms charges. They were captured at sea by the U.S. Navy after allegedly taking over a sailing vessel off the coast of Africa and killing the four crew members on board, three of whom were hams. According to *Newsline*, the four had been delivering Bibles around the world. The suspected pirates will stand trial in Norfolk, Virginia

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### Spread Spectrum

Responding to a petition filed several years ago by the ARRL, the FCC in March issued new rules for using spread spectrum in the amateur bands. According to *Newsline*, the Report and Order eliminates the requirement for automatic power control to keep transmitted power to the minimum necessary to maintain a communications link. At the same time, however, the order reduced the maximum power output allowed for an amateur spread spectrum transmitter from 100 watts to 10 watts PEP.

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## Killed



Jim McLaughlin, WA2EWE/T6AF, was killed April 27 in an attack by an Afghan pilot at Kabul Airport.  
(Photo courtesy Steve Herman, W7VOA)

U.S. amateur James McLaughlin, WA2EWE/T6AF, was among the nine Americans killed in a shooting at Kabul airport Wednesday when an Afghan military pilot opened fire in an operations room of the Afghan Air Corps, according to Voice of America reporter and fellow amateur Steve Herman, W7VOA/T6AD. According to Herman, the attack was the worst single episode of an Afghan turning against his coalition partners.

## Club Members Stations WD8NSC



### WX station

Davis Vantage Pro 2



### Antenna

Cushcraft dual bander



### Rig

Yaesu FT8900

Please send me your  
pictures and I will place  
them in the Sinewaves

## Post Card Price

Some of our readers may recall when the cost of mailing a postcard was just one penny. Well, as of April 17, it costs one penny *more* to mail a postcard. While rates on first-class letters did not change, the postcard rate increased from 28 cents to 29. Obviously, this affects any hams mailing QSL cards directly within the U.S.

## SJARA Tuesday Night Net

147.210 MHz PL tone 103.5  
April, 2011

Sessions .....4  
Total Check-ins.....21  
Total time.....1hr  
Traffic.....0

### K8TPH

Local Weather can be found:

<http://www.sjara.org/wx.htm>

<http://www.weatherunderground.com>  
Station KWVBRIGD4

<http://www.pwsweather.com>  
Station BGPTWV