



# 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

15 May 2016

Net Control	Date
1. K8TPH/K8TPH.....	May 17, 2016
2. WV8CC/WV8CC.....	May 24, 2016
3. K8TPH/K8TPH.....	May 31, 2016
4. WD8NSC/WD8NSC.....	June 7, 2016
5. K8ITPH/K8TPH.....	June 14, 2016

### Minutes SJARA April 21, 2016

The April meeting of the SJARA was called to order at 19:30L by the president, KA5NYN.

Minutes from the March meeting of the SJARA were read by the secretary, K8TPH.

A motion was made by KD8IZC to accept the minutes as read and seconded by WD8NSC and passed by unanimous vote.

The Treasurer's report was presented by the treasurer KD8IZC. A \$25 check was sent to the Secretary of State of WV paying the corporate certificate. The account contains a balance of \$1040.41. A motion was made by K8TPH to accept the treasurer's report and seconded by N8YPE. The report was accepted by a unanimous vote.

OLD BUSINESS: KD8IZC reminded the membership of the memorial services for Gorden Cameron, WV3G will be on May 7, 2016 at the K of C Clarksburg.

Contact has been made with the YMCA to confirm that we had the area at the YMCA for Field Day. Their will be no problem unless something would come up and the YMCA will contact us if there is any change.

COMMITTEES: Committee report on the Fire Hydrant location activities was given by K8RAS.

NEW BUSINESS. N8FWD, N8YPE, and WV8SM will make arrangements to hold a testing session at Field Day. It will be coordinated by N8FWD.

K85NYN presented a report from the last meeting of the LEPC that CERT is having difficulty and will be having a new certification meeting in the near future.

KA5NYN made a report pertaining to Search and Rescue being held at Camp Dawson and wanted to know if SJARA would be interested in participating in the exercise in 2017.

KATNYN will make inquiries and report back to SJARA at a later date.

Members present were: K8RAS, K8EAS, WD8NSC, N8FWD, WV8SM, N8YPE, K8TPH, KD8IZC, and KA5NYN

Meeting adjourned at 20:20L

### Cellphone Jammers

An Alabama company has agreed to pay \$20,500 in civil penalties to settle charges that it illegally operated cellular phone jamming devices on its premises, in violation of FCC rules.

According to an Order issued in March 2016 by the U.S. Federal Communications Commission (FCC), the company, The Supply Room, Inc. of Oxford, AL, installed four cellphone jammers in the company's warehouse to prevent employees from using their cellphones at work.

An anonymous compliant about the jammers was filed with the FCC, which resulted in an inspection of the warehouse in April 2012 by an agent of the FCC's Enforcement Bureau. During the inspection, the agent used direction finding techniques to detect wideband

emissions in the cellular bands and confirm the presence of the jammers. Upon request, the warehouse general manager surrendered the jammers to the agent.

The FCC initially issued a Notice of Apparent Liability in 2013, proposing a monetary forfeiture of \$144,000 for the company's violation of FCC rules against the use of cellphone jammers. However, because of the company's admission of wrongdoing and its cooperation with the FCC, the parties agreed to the reduced fine.

The use of cellphone jamming devices is illegal under Commission rules, and violations carry monetary penalties of up to \$112,500 per any single incident, as well as potential criminal sanctions, including imprisonment. In addition to banning the use of jamming devices by individuals, FCC rules also prohibit the importation, advertising or selling

## ICS

### NIMS

Most of the Amateur Radio Operators and our communications capabilities should be administered by the Amateur Radio community in cooperation with but without interference under Emergency conditions. It has worked this way in the past and should continue which has worked very well, but the world has changed and it appears that if the Amateur Radio community, when assisting, will fall under command and control of a government agency other than the FCC. Under NIMS we have become a very small part of a very large bureaucracy. It then has become necessary that any Ham that wishes to help during an emergency must be identified in a manner accepted by FEMA under the ICS. All Hams should carry an [ARES](#) identification card. [<click here>](#)

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The Incident Command System (ICS) resulted from the need for a new approach to the problem of managing wildfires in the early 1970s. The events of September 11, 2001, led to issuing of Homeland Security Presidential Directive (HSPD) 5 requiring agencies to adopt ICS as their incident management system. However, in events of national significance since then, internal communications have not performed well, causing numerous response problems. In addition, public information systems have failed to meet the community's expectations and keep the public informed about the size, scope, and impact of the emergency.

Three models of possible solutions for addressing the problem were assessed. Model 1 consists of expanding the Communications Unit within the Logistics Section.

Model 2 expands and clearly defines the duties, roles and responsibilities of the Public Information Officer. Model 3 merges all communications functions into one section directly under the Incident Commander. Metrics were designed around the management characteristics of the ICS and were assessed utilizing a defined scale.

The research found that the creation of the Communication Section would provide the most benefits towards improving communications. However, that model may be difficult to implement due to resistance to strategic change.

Since the full implementation of the ICS across all aspects of emergency response operations in the United States, Communications has resided in the Logistics Section.

Being a subordinate unit within that section, Communications Unit Leaders (COMLs) are typically not invited to Command and General Staff meetings where Incident

Action Plans (IAPs) are developed. As such, communications personnel who are responsible for ensuring that adequate and effective communications exists, are given second-hand direction from Logistics Section Chiefs with limited technical communications knowledge.

Reluctantly, Communications Unit personnel do not get a clear picture of the communications needs of the incident. In addition, during the development of IAPs, little to no consideration is given as to how, or if, communications can adequately support the tactics being developed. As such, communications personnel are constantly required to build networks on the fly and hastily incorporate them into the response effort, without having time to adequately test equipment operation, coverage or capacity. This especially impacts the initial phases of an incident, when the Communications Unit is heavily encumbered as they work to meet the communications needs of an emerging incident with rapidly evolving requirements. This is a time when it is most vital for the Communications Unit to be engaged at the highest levels of the incident, as it is impossible to adapt to a rapidly evolving incident without a full and unblemished understanding of that incident and the actions that are being taken to mitigate its effects.

Once networks are established and communications plans are developed, ICS requires Communications Unit personnel to convey vital information regarding the use of the network through logistics personnel who may not have the training and experience necessary to competently speak on this highly technical and complicated subject. This results in considerable communications challenges which can be directly

attributed to operator error resulting from insufficient “just-in-time” training or incident personnel having little or no understanding of the incident communications plan.

In an effort to correct this issue, many entities have adopted an alternative organizational structure similar to that of the Department of Defense (DoD) Joint Staff Directorates. In this structure, Communications, as represented by the J6 Directorate, is elevated to the same organizational level as Operations, Logistics, Planning and Finance and Administration.

As such, Communications garners equal consideration as the other sections while IAPs are being developed. As a result, the feasibility of ensuring adequate communications exists to support an operation is considered as tactics are being developed, rather than after they have been approved.

Official elevation of Communications to either the Command Staff or General Staff level will institutionalize a practice that is already happening nationwide out of necessity. Over the past few years we have seen a national trend towards deployment of COMLs to any medium/large scale incident.

Although a national tracking system does not exist which can be referenced to substantiate this position, I believe that the COML is the second most deployed position under ICS; being topped only by the Incident Commander (IC) position. In the scenario where the COML is the only position below the IC deployed to an incident, communications tend to run quite smoothly as the COML has a direct relationship to the IC and the rest of

the response organization. However, as the organization grows and the COML is separated from the decision-makers, problems arise due to the decreased influence and visibility the COML has with operational elements of the response organization.

## **St Paul Island DXpedition August 19-29<sup>th</sup> 2016**

As was reported previously, we will have two separate sites...separated approximately 1.5 miles.

Site 1 will be the Atlantic Cove site with 6 operators. We will try to keep 4-5 radios running and more if 12/10m opens. Our plan is to have a RTTY station active at all times. From this site 160 will be given lots of attention with the Battle Creek Special antenna.

Site 2 - the Northeast Point separate island will be enhanced to include 4-5 operators active at all times, thus the dxpedition in total can potentially have 8-10 radios working most of the time. We are seriously considering 6m EME and Satellite, however, we need to work out the planning details. And, as always, budget matters are a significant consideration as we expand operations. We appreciate the support by many to date. The desire is to make this a very complete operation that will offer fun and meeting needs for all interests.

The CY9C Web page is: <http://www.CY9DXpedition.com>

## **Mount Athos, Greece**

For years Monk Apollo, SV2ASP/A, has been the only amateur radio

operator from the Docheiariou Monastery.

However, this past week news came out that Monk Iakovos, who lives in the Koutloumousiou Holy Monastery in Mt. Athos, has received his radio amateur training from George, SV1RP, and then his SV2RSG license from the Ministry of Telecommunication in 2015.

Reports indicate that Monk Iakovos has been on 40 meters (7141 kHz) on SSB using an IC-735 into a vertical antenna. He does operate CW!! QSL via SV1RP.

Check out his QRZ.com page at: <https://www.qrz.com/db/sv2rsg>

## **FCC Invites Comments**

The FCC has put on public notice and invited comments on a Petition for Rule Making ([RM-11767](#)), filed on behalf of an amateur amplifier distributor, which seeks to revise the Amateur Service rules regarding maximum permissible amplifier gain

Expert maintains that the 15 dB gain limitation is an unneeded holdover from the days when amplifiers were less efficient and the FCC was attempting to rein in the use of Amateur Service amplifiers by Citizens Band operators. While the FCC proposed in its 2004 Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Order in WT Docket 04-140 to delete the requirement that amplifiers be designed to use a minimum of 50 W of drive power and subsequently did so, it did not further discuss the 15 dB amplification limit in the subsequent Report and Order in the docket.

