



# 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*

13 July 2015

<u>Net Control</u>	<u>Date</u>
1. K8WWW.....	June 30, 2015
2. K8TPH.....	July 7, 2015
3. K8WWW.....	July 14, 2015
4. K8TPH.....	July 21, 2015
5. K8WWW.....	July 29, 2015

### SJARA Monthly Meeting June 18, 2015

The monthly meeting of the Stonewall Jackson Amateur Radio Association was called to order by the president (KA5NYN) at 7:40PM with the following in attendance:

K8RAS, K8EAS, KA5NYN, KD8IZD, KD8BFL, WV8CC, K8TPH, WV8MD

The minutes of the May meeting were read by the Secretary (K8TPH) and were accepted as read. No changes or additions noted.

The Treasurer's report was presented by the president KA5NYN with a balance of \$1321.35. Treasurer's report accepted as read. No old Business.

New Business: It was decided that Vick WV8CC would contact Mike Audio's on the purchase of the pulled pork for Field Day evening meal. A time and cost will be established for pickup on Saturday evening at approximately 6PM. Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 and the Field Day equipment and computers were to be examined but

could not find the key for the cabinet. K8TPH called N8YPE to obtain the key but it became late so a time and date will be set to check out the computers later in the week. When N8YPE arrived he informed K8TPH that he needed the clubs copy of the Harrison County EOP with changes recommended by the SJARA Secretary to the Harrison County EOP. N8YPE had attended the meeting of the LEPC and plans are being made to completely rewrite the Harrison County EOP during 2015.

### Charles Hardy WV8CH SK

ARRL West Virginia Section Manager Charles Hardy, WV8CH (ex-KD8MOA), of Fayetteville, died June 14, apparently as the result of an accidental electrocution while he was working on an antenna at his home. He was 50 and had been a radio amateur since 2008.

Hardy became West Virginia SM in October 2013, and he was the only candidate to continue in that position for another 2-year term.

He was very active in the National Traffic System (NTS) 8th Region Net and had served as West Virginia Section Traffic Manager since 2012,



a post he continued to hold when he became SM. He also was an ARRL Official Observer and had served since 2009 as a District Emergency Coordinator for District 7.

Hardy was the President of the Plateau Amateur Radio Association (PARA) and of the Summit Repeater Association. Survivors include his wife, Jane, WV8JH.

### Over The Horizon Radar

All 10 meter operators must have noticed the whistle type two-tone

noise signals created by radar operating over horizon on the amateur radio 10 meter band whenever the band is open. This noise of radar over the horizon is now for more than FOUR years The intensity of the noise is very high from 28490 kHz up to band edge. This noise always disturbs DXing on this band.

The location of the radar is either in Singapore or Iran??

As I am a fan of 10 meters, many friends from ON, OZ, LA & G/M ask about this noise.

If this OTH is heard in the Eastern USA it would be an indication that 10 meters may be open into the south pacific or middle east.

## **DX**

### **All Bands**

Did you know that the The Northern California DX Foundation (NCDXF) operates a worldwide network of high-frequency radio beacons on 14.100, 18.110, 21.150, 24.930, and 28.200 megahertz.

These beacons help both amateur and commercial high-frequency radio users assess the current condition of the ionosphere. The entire system is designed, built and operated by volunteers.

Each beacon transmits every three minutes, day and night. The table at <http://www.ncdxf.org/beacon/beaconschedule.html> gives the minute and second of the start of the first transmission within the hour for each beacon on each frequency.

A transmission consists of the call sign of the beacon sent at 22 words per minute followed by four one-second dashes. The call sign and the first dash are sent at 100 watts. The remaining dashes are sent at 10 watts, 1 watt and 100 milliwatts.

New Zealand has a station in this network, supported by NZART, located in the Wairarapa with the call sign ZL6B.

## **Field Day 2015**

I was and still am very disappointed in the participation and help with SJARA Filed Day activities this year. It seems that the idea of Field Day is really great but always better from afar. That was where most of SJARA members observed Field Day.

To start the weather was terrible and there has been an excessive amount of rain. The people that did show up and help did a great job but as we all know there is that 10 percent that do little to nothing but show up and give directions and criticize everything the real workers do.

Well, enough for my negativity but the week end was frustrating and the memory will fade.

The following are the results from Field Day 2015 for the Stonewall Jackson Amateur Radio Association.

CW contacts 509 x 2 = 1018

PH contacts 394 x 1 = 394

Dig contacts 59 x 2 = 118

Total contact points 1530

Power multiple x 2

Totals 3060

Bonus points 600

**Claimed Total 3660**

Amateur Radio Operators that either operated or came by to observe activities. I hope I got everyone. If I missed anyone please let me know

N8VCF

NW8U

KV8S

N8FMD

WV8CC

WV8MD

K8TPH

KA5NYN

W3RSW

WD8NSC

KB8QIM

WA8LDK

K8RAS

K8EAS

KD8OFL

KD8IZD

KC8RIQ

KD8FDD

N8YPA

KF4DSX

## **West Virginia SCM**

Phillip Groves, N8SFO, has been appointed as ARRL West Virginia Section Manager. Groves, of Beckley, succeeds the late Charles Hardy, WV8CH, of Fayetteville, who died on June 14, apparently as the result of accidental electrocution while working on an antenna at his home.

"This position will present me with new opportunities to further promote Amateur Radio participation and membership for radio clubs," Groves told ARRL Headquarters.

Field Services and Radiosport Manager Dave Patton, NN1N, made the appointment, effective on June 30, after consulting with Roanoke Division Director Jim Boehner, N2ZZ, and Roanoke Division Vice Director Bill Morine, N2COP.

Groves, 56, has been a radio amateur since 1991 and is active within the ARRL National Traffic System (NTS) as net control station for the West Virginia Mid-Day Net and the NTS Eighth Region Net, and, as needed assists with the Eastern Area Net. He is a member of the Plateau Amateur Radio Association and the 8 Rivers Amateur Radio Club.

He was employed as an underground coal miner from 1977 until 1985, when he began work as a project manager-commercial contractor. He is now retired. When not hamming, he enjoys hunting and fishing, gardening, and road trips with his wife.

Groves will serve the remainder of the current term, which extends until September 30, 2017.

## Radio Propagation

Do you undersand it?

### K Index

The K index is a three hourly measurement of the variation of the Earth's magnetic field compared to what are "quiet day" conditions. The measurement is made using a magnetometer. This indicates the variation of the magnetic flux in nanoTeslas. This reading is then converted to the K index. The relationship is quasi-logarithmic, i.e. an almost directly proportional on a logarithmic scale..

The K index is measured at many different places around the world. The magnetic field varies around the globe and accordingly a different value for K is created at each measurement station. Owing to the fact that the magnetic field varies in different ways around the globe dependent upon the way in which the magnetosphere is affected, it is not possible to have a simple relationship between one station and a global K index. Instead the individual K indices are averaged around the globe to give what is termed the Kp or planetary K index.

### Kp Index

The planetary or Kp index has values that range between 0 and 9. The values of the index give a good indication of geomagnetic activity: values between 0 and 1 indicate quiet magnetic conditions and would give rise to virtually no degradation in HF band radio communications

conditions. Values between 2 and 4 provide an indication of unsettled magnetic conditions that indicate the possibility of some degradation on the HF bands for radio communications. A value of 5 signifies a minor storm and 6 a larger one. Values through to 9 indicate steadily worsening conditions with 9 representing a major storm that is likely to result in a blackout in HF ionospheric propagation for several hours.

### A Index

The A index is a linear measure of the Earth's field. As a result of this, its values extend over a much wider range. It is derived from the K index by scaling it to give a linear value which is termed the "a" index. This is then averaged over the period of a day to give the A index. Like the K index, values are averaged around the globe to give the planetary Ap index.

Values for the A index range up to 100 during a storm and may rise as far as 400 in a severe geomagnetic storm.

A	K	
0	0	Quiet
4	1	Quiet
7	2	Unsettled
15	3	Unsettled
27	4	Active
48	5	Minor storm
80	6	Major storm
132	7	Severe storm
208	8	Very major storm
400	9	Very major storm

A chart can be found on SJARA Web Site [www.sjara.org](http://www.sjara.org)

## 160 Meter Band

Amateur Radio will be upgraded on August 6 from secondary to primary in the 1900-2000 kHz segment of 160 meters in the US. That's the effective date of the WRC-07 implementation Report and Order and WRC-12 Order portions of a lengthy FCC document released on April 27. Both portions appeared on July 7 in the Federal Register; the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) of the same proceeding was published in the Federal Register on July 2. The FCC also made a secondary allocation of 135.7-137.8 kHz to the Amateur Service, but this band will not be available until service rules have been adopted.

## KD8DEM SK

Delmus B. Flint

July 8, 2015

