

SINE WAVES

Stonewall Jackson Amateur Radio Association
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January 12, 2004

CHRISTMAS DINNER

With no meeting in the month of December, the club members and guest enjoyed an evening together for the Annual Christmas Diner, held this year at Raymond's Restaurant in Clarksburg. The attendance was twenty this year.

NEXT CLUB MEETING

The next regular club will be on January 15th, at 7:30 PM. The meeting will be at the regular meeting place, St. Marks Lutheran Church on Rt. 19 South of Clarksburg.

All club meetings are held on the third Thursday of the month.

NET CONTROLS

Net controls for the Tuesday night clubs net are as follows;

Jan 6 th	K8WWW	Bill Williams
Jan 13 th	WD8NSC	Dave Morris
Jan 20 th	KB8WRZ	Tom Bell

The club net is held every Tuesday night at 9PM on the 147.210 repeater. This repeater requires a PL tone of 103.5. Club members and all Amateur Operators are encouraged to check in.

CLUB DUES

It is that time of the year to remind all club members that the dues for the coming year are due to be paid in the month of **December**. The dues are \$12 for an individual or \$18 for a family membership.

AUSTRIAN AUTHORITIES PULL PLUG ON BPL PILOT PROJECT

The Austrian Amateur Transmitter Federation (ÖVSV--Österreichischer Versuchssenderverband) <<http://www.oevsv.at/index.shtml>> reports that a Broadband over Power Line (BPL) field test in the city of Linz has been cut short as a result of excessive radio interference. ÖVSV, Austria's International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) <<http://www.iaru.org>> member-society, said in December that the Government Ministry for Commerce, Innovation and Technology closed down Linz Power Company's BPL pilot project because it was generating interference on the HF bands.

Shortwave broadcaster Radio Austria's futureZone service <<http://futurezone.orf.at>> says the case that brought the issue to a head was a Red Cross report that emergency services radio traffic during a disaster response drill last May was the victim of massive BPL interference.

"The Commerce Ministry Order not only means the end of the Linz BPL pilot project," the Radio Austria report said, "but the end of the deployment of this technology in Austria, especially given the interference to radio communication in places of business." According to the broadcaster, measurements were said to have indicated that radiation from the BPL system exceeded permissible field strength levels by a factor of 10,000.

ÖVSV says radio amateurs in Austria have opposed deployment of all BPL experiments as neither legal nor compatible with "vital, worldwide shortwave radiocommunication." Among other problems with BPL, ÖVSV has cited its potential to disrupt emergency communications and safety-of-life services as well as military operations on HF and navigation and aeronautical communication.

Last fall, ÖVSV representatives and Linz amateurs got together with power company representatives in an effort to resolve BPL's incompatibility with HF radio operation. The meetings followed news reports of interference to emergency service communications and QRM complaints from several area hams. "Because of the racket, expensive installations, such as a 20-meter monobander on a high-rise building, become totally worthless," ÖVSV said.

The utility agreed to look into the possibility of a 100-meter protective zone around each amateur's location, notch filters for amateur frequencies, network system filters and the use of 5 GHz wireless local area networks.

From the ARRL Newsletter

TENTATIVE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 15, 2004 Club Meeting

January ?, 2004 Amateur Radio Classes, if there is enough interest.

February 19 th	Club Meeting
March 18 th	Club Meeting
April 15 th	Club Meeting
May 20 th	Club Meeting – Planning for Field Day
June 17 th	Club Meeting – Finalizing plans for Field Day
June 26 th	Field Day