



# 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*

*December 16, 2012*

<u>Net Control</u>	<u>Date</u>
1. K8WWW.....	November 27, 2012
2. WD8NSC.....	December 4, 2012
3. K8TPH.....	December 11, 2012
4. KD8FDD.....	December 18, 2012
5. K8TPH.....	December 25, 2012

### **SJARA Meeting Minutes November 16, 2012**

Stonewall Jackson Amateur Radio Association meeting was called to order by the President, KD8FDD at 7:40 PM at St. Marks Lutheran Church. Minutes of September meeting were read by KD8FDD and accepted as read. Treasurer's report was made by K8TPH reporting a balance of \$1402.75

Old Business: K8TPH reported that the TS 430 has been repaired at a cost of \$108.55. Ten florescent vests have been obtained for operators during ARES events and KD8FDD has made arrangements to have the Club name added to the vest, which will added to the clubs field operation kit. KA5NYN and K8TPH have obtained information of costs, and other items necessary to begin the coordination of a repeater for the PK location. The repeater would be owned by and

licensed under the club call sign to comply with county polices. K8TPH reported that the 147.210 repeater problems seem to have been corrected by N8FMD.

New business: A motion was made by N8YPE and seconded by KA5NYN to set up a separate account for funding a club owned repeater. The motion Passed.

A motion was made by K8TPH for the Club Secretary to apply to SERA for coordination. Motion Passed.

Net controls were assigned and KD8TAC made a motion to adjourn, second K8TPH. Motion Passed

### **Is the End Near?**



Do you believe the Mayan Calendar marks the end of all time, or did the man carving it in stone just get tired and went to bed before he finished it. He could have had something else to do and just never got back to the carving. Well, we will all find out. I always say it is a great day when you wake up and you look up and see the ceiling. On December 22, 2012 if you wake up and the ceiling is still there then you will know the Mayans are not the all and everything in calendars. Did the Mayan know more than the people who made you computer? Just advance the date to December 22, 2012 and the calendar is still there. Many Hams will be celebrating by being on the air at midnight on December 21, 2012 and see if there is a 0001 on the December 22, 2012.

Amateur radio stations around the crumbling globe are invited to contact N0D, who will be operating from a secret undisclosed location. QSL with SASE to the address in QRZ. If

Doomsday actually does happen, we regret that a QSL will not be possible, so hold on to your SASE until the 22nd at least. Check out the website for a preview of the N0D QSL card. You can celebrate Doomsday by contacting N0D directly on the air.

Amateurs can also become an official Doomsday station by registering on the website. You will be given a registration number and the authority to identify yourself as "Official Doomsday Station" followed by your Doomsday number.

Official N0D Doomsday apparel will be available soon; T-shirts, Caps and buttons.

[No Zero Day \(Doomsday\)](#)  
[Doomsday Clock](#)

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## **A Ham Saves the day**

The Ulster Herald reports that radio amateur Benny Young MI3JQD picked up a 'Mayday' call from a United Airlines flight from Dublin to Boston

A Irish amateur radio enthusiast has this week been praised for saving the lives of hundreds of airline passengers... from his shed in Castlederg.

The extraordinary incident occurred when Hurricane Sandy was battering America.

Benny Young was turning the dial on his radio when he picked up a 'Mayday' call from a United Airlines flight from Dublin to Boston. The flight was having problems with its landing systems yet couldn't convey this to Air Traffic Control in Boston as the storm had caused a breakdown in communications.

Benny responded to the plane's call for help and passed the pilot's message onto an emergency network of US amateur radio enthusiasts who in turn contacted Air Traffic Control.

As the drama unfolded Benny became the central point of contact between the plane and Air Traffic Control.

By relaying messages from the flight via the US amateur radio network to Air Traffic Control – and vice versa – Benny was able to guide the plane to safety and a miraculous landing at an airport in Buffalo.

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## **A Joke**

The father of five children had won a toy at a raffle. He called his kids together to ask which one should have the present. "Who is the most obedient?" he asked. "Who never talks back to mother? Who does everything she says?" Five small voices answered in unison. "Okay, dad, you get the toy."

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## **FCC Ruling 160 Mtr Band**

On Tuesday, November 20, the FCC released a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ET Docket No. 12-338) that proposes to amend Parts 1, 2, 74, 78, 87, 90 and 97 of the Commission's rules. Part 97 governs the Amateur Radio Service Allocation Changes to 160 Meter Band

The FCC is proposing to change the Amateur Radio Service allocation to the 160 meter band (1800-2000 kHz), reallocating the 1900-2000 kHz segment to the Amateur Radio Service on a primary basis. In the NPRM, the

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FCC noted that "the ARRL has identified the 160 meter band and the amateur HF bands as 'by far, the heaviest-used [Amateur Service] allocations.'" 

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## **Christmas Dinner**

The SJARA Christmas Dinner was held on December 6, 2012 at Raymon's Restaurant. Most of the members and guests arrived prior to 7PM. The dinner was attended by 25 club members and guests. The blessings were asks by KB8WRZ, Tom Bell and everyone enjoyed a very good dinner. KD8PPP, the president of the CWVWA (Central West Virginia Wireless Association) attended as a representative of his club. The CWVWA is the owner operator of the 147.165MHz repeater in the western part of the Harrison County. I feel all had a good time having some great times exchanging stories and catching up since our last organized outing at Field Day in June. Pictures can be found on the Web Site, <http://www.sjara.org> listed under Christmas Dinner 2012.

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## **ARRL Video Contest**

If you've ever wanted a way to show the world how exciting Amateur Radio can be, here's your chance: The ARRL is sponsoring its Third Annual Video Contest! Here's a chance to put that video camera to use: Shoot a ham radio-related video and send it our way. If your video takes first, second or third place, we'll post it on the ARRL website for everyone to see. We're looking for a few good videos (but only one per ARRL member, please) on any tasteful

subject relating to Amateur Radio. Videos will be judged on overall quality and composition, and prizes will be awarded for first, second and third place.

#### Who can enter?

The video author/producer must be an ARRL member; however, the people who appear in your video can be non-members. If you were one of the winners in our 2012 contest, you are ineligible to enter again.

#### Deadline

Entries must be postmarked by March 1, 2013. Burn your video to a CD or DVD using the appropriate software and mail it to ARRL Video Contest, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111. Do not attempt to send it via e-mail, as our e-mail system cannot accommodate large files.

#### Subject

Must be directly related to Amateur Radio and be in good taste. Videos will be judged on overall quality and composition.

More [Information](#)

#### IRCs

Post Office Wants to Phase Out IRCS - Files notice in Federal Register of intent to stop selling International Reply Coupons (IRCs) as of January 27, 2013. Post offices would still be required to redeem IRCS sent from other countries.

### Morse Code From the Heavens

Morse Code from the Sky - Skywatchers may get a unique treat from the heavens during December ... a visual Morse code message flashed by LED lights aboard the FITSAT-1 satellite.

<http://www.satflare.com/track.php?q=38853#MAP>

Web page best displayed with  
Firefox/Safari/Chrome Browser.

### SJARA Tuesday Night Net November 2012

Sessions.....4  
Total check-ins.....50  
Total time.....60 mins  
Traffic.....0

### Californian balloon lands in Morocco

The **K6RPT-12** 144.390 MHz APRS balloon successfully crossed the Atlantic and landed in Morocco on Wednesday morning. After its epic journey across the Atlantic the APRS signals were picked up by Spanish stations. It was last heard at 2012-12-05 09:22:31z descending rapidly, indicating that the balloon had burst.

The last recorded position was 34°25.75' N 3°58.96' W. It is believed there are less than 150 radio amateurs in Morocco and no known APRS stations, so the balloon may never be recovered.

[Flight Information](#)

### San Quentin

Out of a general population of more than 3,800 prisoners, machine shop instructor Richard Saenz has accepted just 27 men in his vocational education program; only five on the highly technical NASA project. A veteran government contractor on such

aerospace projects as the space shuttle and the ICBM missile, Saenz is a stickler for precision. And he calls this job, training inmates to become skilled machinists, the best he has ever had. Working under the strict guidance of NASA, a handful of skilled inmate machinists are making something most people have never heard of: P-PODs, Poly Picosatellite Orbital Deployers, essentially, aluminum boxes designed to hold tiny satellites known as CubeSats, which ride "piggyback" into space as secondary payloads. The devices are part of a new generation of low-cost, miniature launch vehicles developed for research used by more than 150 universities worldwide.

### 911 Calls

The Federal Communications Commission says the nation's four largest wireless carriers have agreed to relay text messages to text-enabled 911 call centers by May 2014. The four carriers – AT&T, Verizon, Sprint and T-Mobile – cover 90 percent of the population. However, only a handful of call centers are able to receive texts today, and it's unclear how many will be able to receive them in 2014. The FCC said texting to 911 could be useful when a phone call could put the caller in danger. Texting could also aid a person with disabilities who is unable to call. However, the FCC says people should

always call 911 during an emergency if they can.

## Two Meter Activity

If you don't use it you will lose it. Well that goes for a lot of things but it can also happen if you don't use the local 2mtr Repeaters. I monitor the 147.210 repeater during most of the day and I don't hear anything except a few people just keying the repeater and nothing else. I have put out my call after hearing the Courtesy Tone but no one every comes back. If you don't want to talk or just say hello what use is it just to make sure the repeater is still there by "ca chunking". N8FMD and KB8AJH have put in a lot of time and money so you can just "ca chunk" and then move on. I assume the people that "ca-chunk" the repeater enjoy dialing their own telephone number just to hear the busy tone but they know their telephone still works so enjoy your "ca chunking". How difficult is it to just depress your mic button and put out your Call Sign?

## Barcode inventor dies

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Norman Joseph Woodland

Norman Joseph Woodland who co-created the barcode using

Morse code, has died at his New Jersey home at the age of 91.

He worked with university classmate Bernard Silver to create the now ubiquitous thick-and-thin-line system in the 1940s. The system was patented in the US in 1952, a patent that was later sold for just \$15,000

Morse code is a type of character encoding that was developed in the early 1840s for use with Samuel F.B. Morse's electric telegraph. It was a vital part of international aviation for years, and is still used today, especially among amateur radio operators. Morse code is also used to help persons with disabilities communicate, and it has inspired additional ways of abbreviating values. Norman Joseph Woodland used the Morse code to create the barcode when he "just extended the dots and dashes downward and made narrow lines and wide lines out of them."

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**Merry Christmas**

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**Next Meeting**  
**January 17, 2013**

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