



Pray for our  
Troops



God Bless America!

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A

# /HAMnews

August  
2017

## Contents

### Special Hamfest Issue

Quicky Notes . . . . .	1
Meeting Notice . . . . .	1
Board of Directors' Meeting . . . . .	1
Bylaws Revision Committee . . . . .	1
Thanks From Darryl/KD4CSW . . . . .	2
Program Schedule for 2017 . . . . .	2
<i>July Club Meeting</i> – James/WA9MED Described Methods of Weatherproofing Cables and Connectors . . . . .	2
Invitation to Central Kentucky Amateur Radio Clubs . . . . .	2
Dale's Tales for July . . . . .	3
Announcing the New 2017 Central Kentucky ARRL Hamfest . . . . .	4
Schedule for Volunteer Examinations in 2017 . . . . .	5
New Mode? . . . . .	6
Good Introductory SDR Book . . . . .	6
<i>Total Solar Eclipse</i> – Many Special Events Will Be on the Air . . . . .	6
<i>It's The Rule</i> – Amateur Radio Parity Act Introduced in U.S. Senate . . . . .	7
Where's the Rare DX? . . . . .	8
Upcoming Contests . . . . .	8
Meeting Schedules for Area Clubs, Exam Sessions, etc. . . . .	9
Minutes of the Board of Directors' Meeting, June 19, 2017 . . . . .	10
Treasurer's Financial Summary . . . . .	10
Minutes of the General Meeting of the Bluegrass Amateur Radio Society, Inc., July 3, 2017 . . . . .	11
Minutes of the Board of Directors' Meeting, July 17, 2017 . . . . .	11
<i>Looking Back, from "Chronicles,"</i> 1977, Hamfest 1977 . . . . .	12
Calendar of Ham Radio Activities for August 2017 . . . . .	Inside Cover

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Input: 439.250 // Output: 923.250

WA4HBM  
147.765/.165

"Ham News" was first published by **Bobby Foster, WA4ZSQ**, in  
August, 1972; the parent newsletter, "QUA," was first published in  
March, 1947

## QUICKY NOTES

### Accessing the Club's

**web** page: <<http://www.BluegrassARS.org>>.

**Telephone Number** for the Shack (basement of the Red Cross Building): (859) 231-0974.

### Subscribe to ListServ:

Send an eMail to: [bars-request@lsv.uky.edu](mailto:bars-request@lsv.uky.edu); in Subject line type Subscribe plus <your call sign>

**Post notes** to the Club List Serv: <[bars@lsv.uky.edu](mailto:bars@lsv.uky.edu)>.

### -- THE PROGRAM FOR THE AUGUST MEETING . . .

. . . will be presented by **David Richardson/W9KHZ** chair of the Hamfest committee. David's topic will be about the Club's hamfest to be held Saturday, August 12. See below and on Page 4.

### -- ECLIPSE EXPERIMENT --

Here's a link to some eclipse-related info for ham radio, connects nicely to the Eclipse QSO party that's planned. Great narrative, fabulous graphics, there's some nice-looking and easily understood charts/graphs too. Link: <<http://hamsci.org/projects/2017-total-solar-eclipse/2017-eclipse-experiment-description>>. I envy the guys with the SDR's, they should go wild with this opportunity. Vy 73, de Harry, N4HT . .

### -- TED MULLINS/KB4ELR HOME, RECOVERING --

**Ted Mullins/WB4ELR** was recently released from Cardinal Valley Hospital and is recovering at home. He is still weak from surgery, but a get-well card might help cheer him up: 1916 Brynell Drive, Lexington, KY 40505.



*"Both politicians and diapers need to be changed often, and for the same reason!"*

~ **Ronald Reagan**

QUA/HAMnews

August 2017

## Meeting Notice

**Bill DeVore/N4DIT,**

*Chair, Newsletter Committee  
Bluegrass ARS, Lexington, Kentucky*

The regular meeting of the Bluegrass Amateur Radio Society, Inc., will be held Monday, August 7, 2016, at 7:30 PM, in Meeting Room B, second floor of the Red Cross Building, 1450 Newtown Pike, Lexington.

The program will be presented by **David Richardson/W9KHZ**. David will be describing our plans for the hamfest: location, vendors who are coming, work crews, tables sold and tables available, and details about flea market spaces and sales, forums, exam session, food concession, etc. There will be tickets and tables available for purchase at pre-hamfest prices.

Full details about the hamfest are given on Page 4 of this newsletter. If you need more information not given here you may contact David at [daveinlex3@gmail.com](mailto:daveinlex3@gmail.com) or Smokey Wallace/KE6IVK at [ke6ivk@arll.net](mailto:ke6ivk@arll.net).

Do you have a topic you would like a program on or a program you would like to present? Do you have a homebrewed project you have built? Bring it and show it off! Question? Ask it! Maybe your question isn't one about a Club activity or function, maybe you are having a problem getting some newly acquired equipment set up and operating correctly, or you have an antenna with radiation problems. Regardless of your question, problem, or suggestion, bring it to the Club meeting.

If you have a program you would like to hear or a topic you would like to present, contact **James Schlessner/WA9MED** at (757) 478-2186 or [wa9med@jschlessner.com](mailto:wa9med@jschlessner.com) (see the program schedule on page 2). We welcome your suggestions of how we can make a difference in the Club in 2017. ♦

1450 Newtown Pike, Lexington.

Board meetings offer you the members, or anyone having an interest in amateur radio or public service, a forum to present your ideas, requests, congratulations or complaints to the officers and committee chairs of the Club. We always are in need of persons to share their expertise in a special area or to share an experience or activity by presenting a program at the Club's regular monthly meeting, or to make suggestions for program topics. Anyone wishing to present a program or who has suggestions for programs, should talk to **James Schlessner/WA9MED**, during a Club meeting, or contact him at (757) 478-2186, or e-mail to <[wa9med@jschlessner.com](mailto:wa9med@jschlessner.com)>.

Note that we still need volunteers to chair the Contest Committee and the Public Relations and Membership Committee. Contact **Smokey Wallace/KE6IVK** at <[ke6ivk@arll.net](mailto:ke6ivk@arll.net)> or (859) 402-8208.

To attend the board meeting, enter the Red Cross building through the basement entrance on the left end of the building as you stand facing the front of the building. Follow the stairway down into the basement and into the Education Center adjacent to the Club shack. ♦

## By-Laws Revision Committee

**Andrew Cook/KF4OWP**

*Chair, Ad Hoc By-Laws Revision Committee  
Bluegrass ARS,  
Lexington, Kentucky*

During the Bluegrass Amateur Radio Society meeting on July 10, 2017, the Bylaws revision committee was reauthorized. As part of the motion it was requested that more members be included. As the committee chair I am inviting all active members to be a part of the committee.

Due to the nature of this committee, no in-person meetings will need to be attended as the solicitation for, and review of changes will occur on-line. The primary medium for conducting committee business will occur on an app called *Slack*. Slack is a tool used by many businesses and organizations for internal communications, it is accessible by web browser or a

## Board of Directors' Meeting

**Bill DeVore/N4DIT,** Chair,

*Newsletter Committee  
Bluegrass ARS, Lexington, Kentucky*

The Board of Directors of the Bluegrass Amateur Radio Society, Inc., will meet Monday, August 21, 2017, at 7:30 PM in the Education Center, basement of the Red Cross Building,

downloadable application. If you want to observe I recommend using the browser, if you want to be heavily involved, I recommend the app. The only action required to gain access is to send me a message at [kt4owp@gmail.com](mailto:kt4owp@gmail.com), I will then send you an invite via email. If you want to be kept aware of full versions proposed for a vote, but do not want to be involved with the group on Slack please send me an email and I will send you updates when full revisions take place. ♦

## Thanks From Darryl/ KD4CSW

**Darryl Bennett/KD4CSW**,  
Event Communications Coordinator and  
Member, Bluegrass ARS,  
Lexington, Kentucky

The 2017 Bluegrass 10K Marathon is now history. The sunshine was a little damp, but it seems to me that everyone did well and enjoyed the morning. Nineteen people participated with communications this year. I hope to see you all again next year.

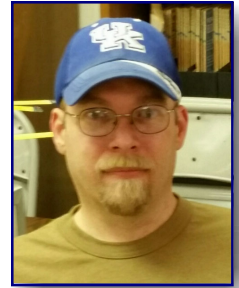
My personal thanks to all:

**KE4MAI**      **Fernie Williams**  
**WX4GPS**      **Ron Malinowski**  
**N4HT**        **Harry Dence**

## July Club Meeting

### James/WA9MED Described Methods to Weatherproof Cables and Connectors

Many thanks to **James** for presenting the July program. He gave us useful suggestions for weatherproofing cables, connectors, antennas, etc., that he had utilized when he served aboard U.S. Navy vessels during his 20+ years of service. The methods and materials he described were applied to withstand very harsh saltwater, freezing, and sun exposure, so they are very applicable to our antenna and tower installations in central Kentucky. ♦



**James/WA9MED**

**N4CBR**  
**KK4AJB**  
**WD4CRG**  
**KY4JHJ**  
**KY4WHJ**  
**N4OJT**

**W8FJK**  
**KJ4YSY**

**KD4CSW**  
**K4RFS**  
**KY4RWL**  
**N4DIT**  
**KE6IVK**  
**KM4ZFQ**

**Rob Dence**  
**Joe Takacs**  
**Roger Postley**  
**Jane Johnson**  
**Bill Johnson**  
**Fred & Annette Lassiter**  
**Greg Cross**  
**Roger & Loretta Colvin**  
**Darryl Bennett**  
**Joe Tock**  
**Rob Langdorf**  
**Bill DeVore**  
**Joe Wallace**  
**Blaine Earley**

73, KD4CSW ♦

## Invitation to Central Kentucky Amateur Radio Clubs

**Bruce A. Campbell, KM4EHU**,  
Secretary, Bluegrass ARS,  
Lexington, Kentucky

The Bluegrass Amateur Radio Society will be hosting the Central Kentucky ARRL Hamfest this year on Saturday, August 12th, in Lexington, and not in Lawrenceburg as it has been in previous years. Location this year will be new, the Jackpot Bingo Hall, in the rear of Eastland Shopping Center on Winchester Road in Lexington, Kentucky

## Program Schedule for 2017

**James Schlessler/WA9MED**, Chair, Program Committee  
Bluegrass ARS, Lexington, Kentucky

The following programs are scheduled for 2017. Your input and suggestions for programs for 2017 are needed. Call **James Schlessler/WA9MED** at (757) 402-8208, or e-mail to [<wa9med@jschlessler.com>](mailto:wa9med@jschlessler.com).

Month	Topic	Presenter(s)	Comments
✓ January	Open		
✓ February	"BOB"	<b>David Richardson/W9KHZ</b>	Personal Emergency Preparedness
✓ March		Severe Weather Identification and Reporting tentatively by <b>Joe Sullivan/KC7ITG</b>	of the NWS, Louisville
✓ April		<b>Stephen Bishop</b> and <b>Tim Brandewie</b>	Lexington/Fayette Emergency Management
✓ May			Chemical Weapons Removal – Bluegrass Ordinance Depot, Madison County, Kentucky.
✓ June	"Field Day"	<b>Smokey Wallace/KE6IVK</b>	Site location, preparation, operating stations, etc.
✓ July		"Weatherproofing Cables, Coax, and Assemblies" <b>James Schlessler/WA9MED</b>	
August	Hamfest	<b>David Richardson/W9KHZ</b> and <b>Fest Committee</b>	Location, preparation, tickets, tables, work crews, etc.
September	Annual Family Picnic	<b>Fun, Food, Conversation</b>	Picnic Shelter #2, Shillito Park, Lexington
October	Open		
November	Open		
December	Annual Auction	<b>J.B. Young</b>	will serve as auctioneer to see if he can get you some cash – Bring your items

(38.045842000, -84.459043000), just inside the intersection of New Circle Road. The bingo hall is on the lower level on the west side of the shopping center facing Industry Road right near the water tower.

The shopping center does not allow tailgating outside in the parking lot. Therefore all trading and swapping and selling must be conducted inside the bingo hall. We would like to suggest to our neighboring clubs that your club consider renting table space at the hamfest in your club's name for your members to setup any equipment and gear and items they may have for sale or trade.

The hamfest announcement is posted on the ARRL website. **David Richardson, W9KHZ**, is our hamfest committee chairman. He can be contacted by e-mail at [davinlex3@gmail.com](mailto:davinlex3@gmail.com), or by phone at 859-983-1380. He has set up an e-mail address for the hamfest which is [centralkyhamfest@gmail.com](mailto:centralkyhamfest@gmail.com). The telephone number in our K4KJQ ham radio station at the Red Cross Building in Lexington at 1450 Newtown Pike, is 859-231-0974 (someone will be available to answer this phone on Saturdays. Please contact David, W9KHZ, for detailed information concerning the arrangements inside the bingo hall.

We hope to see you there as a club, and look forward to seeing you there individually. ♦

## Dale's Tales for July

**Dale R Williams, WA8EFK**

Director, ARRL Great Lakes Division  
[wa8efk@arrl.org](mailto:wa8efk@arrl.org)

Greetings everyone, welcome to "Dale's Tales" for July 2017.

I have always felt that radio clubs are the life blood of Amateur Radio. They are the go-to resource for getting started in the hobby. They are the go-to resource for help with antennas. They are the go-to resource for help with rig problems. They are the go-to resource for learning how to be a good operator and for absolutely everything one needs to be a ham. Triggered by Tom Delaney's reference to clubs that follows in his commentary, I did some research to see how the Great Lakes Division was doing in its efforts to generate more interest in ARRL Affiliation for our local radio clubs. I find that in the past 12 months, we have had eight radio clubs join the ranks of ARRL Affiliation. Congratulations to all.

Have you been wanting to get on the air but don't have a rig? How about operating in a HF DX or VHF/UHF contest? The shack is open most Saturday mornings, 9:00 AM until Noon, so come on out! Arrangements can be made for other times. Telephone the shack at 231-0974.

For the clubs themselves, affiliation with ARRL offers some nice benefits:

Referrals of new area hams as potential club members,

Mailing Lists for special mailings and advertising hamfests,

Club Commission program for recruiting new ARRL members,

Club Liability insurance,

Ham Equipment insurance, assistance with filing for club Licenses,

Club E-mail forwarding service, as well as a number of other free services to clubs.

And, importantly, the cost to a club for ARRL Affiliation is only the time you take to complete the on-line application.

ARRL is also a frequent contributor of prizes for our Affiliated Club's hamfests. If your club is not already affiliated, please consider it.

By the way, if *YOU* personally are not affiliated, not an ARRL member, please consider joining. Your benefits are great as well:

Our journal **QST**,

Members-only Web Services (this includes **Digital QST**),

Access to the **QST** Archives,

Free e-newsletters,

Product Review Archives,

E-Mail forwarding Service, and

The ARRL Member Directory.

Plus members have access to the Technical Information Service, Member Discounts, Ham Radio Insurance Plans, ARRL Visa Signature Card, Outgoing QSL Service, Operating Awards, to name a few.

Plus your continued support advocates for Amateur Radio locally, nationally and worldwide. Thanks.

### Tom's Comments:

**Tom Delaney W8WTD**

Vice Director

June's big event is always Field Day. Hope you had fun! The essence of Field Day is working together. Yes, there are lots of other great things that happen on Field Day, but the teamwork and cooperation

are the best. You didn't get your start in ham radio without someone telling you about it, or showing you how it works. Now that may not have happened at Field Day, but it often is a good starting point. Some people get their licenses by going it alone, working the books exclusively. Many, though, find that classes, or at the very least, an understanding ham who is willing to explain the harder parts, make passing that test an easier task.

Some people who get their license on their own don't know what to do next, and don't know who to turn to. Those who worked with a club may find someone who will show them how to get a station set up.

And operating? A few people at Field Day like to be by themselves. But often, logging for someone, or having someone log for you while you make contacts, is an enjoyable experience. In between contacts you talk about band conditions, antennas, stations you've worked... and you learn something, both about ham radio and also about that other individual.

Young people are particularly enthusiastic about Field Day. The thrill of making more contacts in an hour than they've (probably) made in a month really gets to them. And they learn about propagation, antennas, and all sorts of other stuff.

So Field Day is a good measure of what it means to be a ham. Not everyone wants to go outside in less than ideal conditions and struggle over putting an antenna up where it doesn't want to go. But whatever you did on Field Day, or in Field Days past, you probably learned something else about ham radio, and maybe even passed along some of the things you learned.

Field Day comes along once a year. But the teamwork can persist into the next club meeting, the next class, or the next opportunity to help a new ham. Take what you've learned, and pass it on.

73, Tom W8WTD

Vice Director, Great Lakes Division

### Great Lakes HAMCON

Announcing **Carole Perry WB2MGP** will be hosting her well-received Youth Forum at HamCon. In addition we have scheduled forums for DX, Fox hunting – complete with a fox hunt, QRP Operating, Radio Propagation, Kit Building Techniques for Success, a One-Day Tech Class with FCC License Testing and the ARRL Members' Forum. The Ohio Section will also host a special ceremony for new inductees into the Royal Order of the  
(Continued on Page 5)



## ANNOUNCING THE NEW 2017 CENTRAL KENTUCKY ARRL HAMFEST

<http://www.BluegrassARS.org/>

The 2017 Central Kentucky ARRL Hamfest will be held Saturday, August 12. If you have questions or would like to participate in our planning, you may contact Hamfest Chair **David Richardson/W9KHZ** at daveinlex3@gmail.com or (859) 983-1380; or Club President **Smokey Wallace/KE6IVK**, at ke6ivk@arrl.net or (859) 402-8208.

**Location** this year will be at a new location, the Jackpot Bingo Hall, in the rear of Eastland Shopping Center, on Winchester Road in Lexington, Kentucky (1230 Eastland Drive, Lexington, Kentucky 40505, 38.045842000, -84.459043000).

**Admission** is \$5.00 per person in advance, or \$6.00 at the gate on the day of the Hamfest. Admission includes one Grand Prize stub and the purchaser is eligible for the hourly door prize drawings. Children 12 years-of-age or younger are admitted free. Extra chances for the Grand Prizes may be purchased for \$1.00 each, or a set of six tickets for \$5.00. Area clubs are encouraged to contact us to reserve a table for your club members to use to display and sell their personal or club equipment items.

There will be no setup Friday evening. Setup will start very early Saturday morning. Make arrangements with Dave/W9KHZ (859-983-1380) to set a time of arrival and if you need assistance setting up. Cost for tables inside the building is admission for each person over 12 years-of-age, plus \$10.00 per table. If you need electricity, you must bring an extension cord.

As per shopping center security and Lexington Metro Police, there will be no outside flea market or tailgating allowed. Arrangements are being made for a special area inside to be reserved for "tailgaters."

**The Prizes.** You need not be present to win one of the major prizes. We will purchase items from our vendors who setup inside on hamfest day, and they always have exceptional items to choose from. Door prizes will be announced hourly over a PA system. You must be present to claim a door prize.

**Forums/Meetings/Special Events.** Fo-

runs will be presented and meetings will be held throughout the day. The following forums and meetings are tentatively scheduled, more may be arranged so inquire at the Club/ARRL table.

ARRL Great Lakes Division Meeting and Discussion -- **Tom Delaney/W8WTD**, Vice Director  
Kentucky ARRL Forum -- **Steve Mor-**

**gan/W4NHO**

Kentucky ARES -- **Bill Hicks/KG4ZXX** (not confirmed as of this writing)

Fayette County ARES -- **Smokey Wallace/KE6IVK**

KY-QRP Group Meeting -- **Chris Gay/KU4A**

(Others to be announced) →

Map image would not convert to .pdf. Contact me at billdit@twc.com if you would like a copy of the hamfest flyer

### Special Meeting

Early Saturday Morning, August 12

We will be needing help to prepare the Hamfest site early Saturday morning. We will be helping the vendors unload and setup, arrange chairs, tables in the meeting rooms, and other little tasks that need doing in preparation for the hamfest to open at 8:00 AM. We will meet at the site at about 6:00 AM. Come out to the site Saturday morning and join in. We get a whole lot done in a very short time, and the vendors are very appreciative of our help. . . and we have fun doing it!

**Other Activities:**

Bluegrass Amateur Radio Society  
"Ernie Farmer Memorial Award" presentation

FCC License Examinations (ARRL VEC), **Fernie Williams/KE4MAI** (see "License Exams" below)

**QSL Card Checking: Jim Vaughan/K4TXJ** will check your QSL cards during the morning, so bring your logs to Jim's table early.

Meetings may be scheduled for groups such as contest groups, nets, QRP groups, or others (final forums/meetings, times and locations will be announced during

the hamfest)

-- Food by the Bingo Hall Kitchen --

**License Exams.** Amateur radio examinations (ARRL VEC) are scheduled to be conducted Saturday morning. Registration starts at 10:30 AM, testing at 11:00 AM. Preregistration would be appreciated, but not required. To advance register for the exam or for information contact **Fernie Williams/KE4MAI** by e-mail (ferniew@ke4mai.com) or by telephone (859) 652-3303. You will need: a check or money order for \$15.00 marked payable to ARRL VEC; a COPY of your signed Amateur Radio license (if you are currently licensed);

**Andy Rooney** wrote that . . .

" . . . "If dogs could talk it would take a lot of the fun out of owning one."

the original and copy of any Certificate of Successful Completion of Examination for any element you have passed during the past 12 months; photo ID, and social security card.

If you are disabled, it is mandatory that you send a description of your disability and the test elements that you wish to take so that Fernie can prepare to accommodate you. Applicants should check in at the exam area (location will be announced Saturday) at about 10:30 AM on Hamfest day. All written exam elements will be given.

**Parking is Free!** A large parking area is outside the Bingo Hall, just look for the giant water tower. Remember, the police will not allow any tailgating in the parking area. . . this is beyond our control.

**Motels/Restaurants/Attractions.** Motels and restaurants are located along U.S. 60 (Winchester Road), and near all Lexington exits off Interstates 64 and 75. Most motels are minutes from the Hamfest site.

**The Kentucky Horse Park** is located at Exit 120 off I-75 (follow signs posted on I-64 and I-75), and has modern, reasonably priced camping facilities. You may want to come into the area early on Saturday and tour the Horse Park. Hope to see you Saturday, August 12!

## Schedule for Volunteer Examinations in 2017

**Harry Sparks/KN4S,**  
Bluegrass Volunteer Examiners,  
kn4s@kn4s.com

The exam schedule for 2017 follows nearly the same format as past years. The scheduling is for Lexington/Fayette County and the sessions in Danville, Georgetown, Winchester, and Richmond hamfest. The Bluegrass Amateur Radio Society-sponsored ARRL exams will continue to be held on the second Saturday of the second month of each quarter (except the August Session will be the date of the Central Kentucky ARRL Hamfest in Lexington), and the WCARS sessions remain as they were last year, Tuesday evenings quarterly.

### Test Session Locations

Lexington*	Winchester**	Danville	Georgetown
Red Cross Building 1450 Newtown Pike Lexington KY 40509	Clark County EOC 200 Maryland Ave Winchester KY 40391	Danville Red Cross 3rd St Methodist Church S. 3rd Street Danville KY 40442	Georgetown Police Dept 550 Bourbon Street Georgetown KY 40324

\* August, Bluegrass ARS Hamfest, Eastland Shopping Center, Lexington, Kentucky

\*\* September, CKARS Hamfest, Madison County Fairgrounds, Richmond, Kentucky

### Contact Information

**ARRL VEC:** Lexington and BARS ARRL Hamfest test sessions – Liaison **Fernie Williams/KE4MAI**, ke4mai@arrrl.net, 859-652-3393 (www.bluegrassars.org)

Danville – Liaison **John Wulf/K4FT**, k4ft@bellsouth.net, 563-505-0339, Wilderness Road Amateur Radio Club

Georgetown – Liaison **Ron Malinowski/WX4GPS**, wx4gps@arrrl.net, 502-542-8252

**WCARS VEC:** Lexington – Liaison **Margueritte Williams/KE4MAJ**, ke4maj@arrrl.net, 859-489-6274 (www.bluegrassars.org)

**W5YI VEC:** Winchester – Liaison **Darrell Epperson/AC4YD**, eppersond@aol.com, 859-771-1834

**TEST SESSION FEE:** ARRL – \$15; WCARS – \$10; W5YI – \$14

Date and Time	VEC	Location
Saturday <b>August 12</b> 2017	11:00 AM	ARRL BARS Hamfest
Saturday, <b>September 9</b> , 2017	10:00 AM	ARRL Georgetown
Saturday, <b>September 16</b> , 2017	12:30 PM	W5YI **Richmond
Tuesday, <b>September 19</b> , 2017	07:00 PM	WCARS Lexington
Saturday, <b>October 14</b> , 2017	10:00 AM	W5YI Winchester
Saturday, <b>October 28</b> , 2017	10:00 AM	ARRL Danville
Thursday, <b>November 2</b> , 2017	06:30 PM	ARRL Georgetown
Saturday, <b>November 11</b> , 2017	10:00 AM	ARRL Lexington
Saturday, <b>December 9</b> , 2017	10:00 AM	ARRL Georgetown
Tuesday, <b>December 12</b> , 2017	07:00 PM	WCARS Lexington

### Dale's Tales

(Continued from Page 3)

Wouff Hong, and the Toledo Mobile Radio Association will hold a presentation on their recent activations of Museum Ships.

As we get closer to the fall, your Section Manager's bulletins will carry more complete information, as well as what appears in "Dale's Tales."

HamCon Tickets are now on sale along with camping reservations. Check the web pages at <<http://glhamcon.org/>>.

### Hamfesting

Here is the current Great Lakes Division ARRL Sanctioned Hamfest Schedule for sites within driving distance of central Kentucky. These swaps have received their sanctioning approval from ARRL HQ at the time of this publication.

We have approximately 65 ARRL hamfests each year in the Division. I do encourage each Hamfest Chair to register early for ARRL Sanctioning. Be sure to

invite your ARRL Officials as soon as your date is set.

Aug 5 – Columbus Hamfest – Columbus, OH

Aug 12 – Central Kentucky ARRL Hamfest – Lexington, KY

Be sure to check your Section's news pages for the latest local happenings, club and net information. ♦

## New Mode?

**Rich Marshall/WR4U**

*rkm@marshall.net*

<<https://www.facebook.com/groups/swl.ham/permalink/10155669771588816/>>

**Tomas David Hood** shared a link.

July 2 at 1:52pm · Omaha, NE

From JT himself, posted today on Yahoo's WSJT group:

"FT8: Potential new mode for fast QSOs"

Dear WSJT-X Beta-Test Colleagues,

Steve (K9AN) and I have developed a potential new mode for WSJT-X. We're calling the mode "FT8" (Franke-Taylor design, 8-FSK modulation).

FT8 is designed for situations like multi-hop Es where signals may be weak and fading, openings may be short, and you want fast completion of reliable, confirmable QSOs.

Important characteristics of FT8:

- T/R sequence length: 15 s
- Message length: 75 bits + 12-bit CRC
- FEC code: LDPC(174,87)
- Modulation: 8-FSK, keying rate = tone spacing = 5.86 Hz
- Waveform: Continuous phase, constant envelope
- Occupied bandwidth: 47 Hz
- Synchronization: three 7x7 Costas arrays (start, middle, end of Tx)
- Transmission duration: 79\*2048/12000 = 13.48 s
- Decoding threshold: -20 dB (perhaps -24 dB with AP decoding, TBD)
- Operational behavior: similar to HF usage of JT9, JT65
- Multi-decoder: finds and decodes all FT8 signals in passband
- Auto-sequencing after manual start of QSO

\*Comparison with slow modes JT9, JT65, QRA64: FT8 is a few dB less sensitive, but allows completion of QSOs four times faster. Bandwidth is greater than JT9, but about 1/4 of JT65A, and

*"Listening with the eyes, ears, and heart will help us understand feeling, meaning, and content."*

~ **Stephen R. Covey**

less than 1/2 QRA64.

\*Comparison with fast modes JT9E-H: FT8 is significantly more sensitive, has much smaller bandwidth, uses the vertical waterfall, and offers multi-decoding over the full displayed passband.

\*Still to come, not yet implemented:

\* We plan to implement signal subtraction, two-pass decoding, and use of "a priori" (already known) information as it accumulates during a QSO.

Three extra bits are available in the message payload, with uses yet to be defined. We have in mind special message formats that might be used in contests, and the like. Your considered suggestions for use of these bits are very welcome!

K1JT, K9AN, and G4WJS have conducted on-the-air tests of FT8 with excellent results. We're now at a stage where tests under a wider range of conditions are desirable. If you can build WSJT-X from source code revision r7750 or later, and would like to help, please do so and report your results to us! Pre-built installation packages will be made available after further testing is completed.

Suggestions for FT8 setup and examples of use can be found in a screen shot posted here:

<<http://physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/k1jt/ft8.png>>

<[We look forward to receiving your feedback.](http://physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/k1jt/ft8.png/&h=atnad39sr0ulqkxk23paxlnljedwpl17n-mmtpu8q8mrsw6m4nxvj72n5pdm7mllbefbpa4gialztkeb7_8etujnfuvy8tnb5uvcfploewggngynwieittrs-mw_176jqogmmrcivy3e8ubwbn&enc=azoadwo1zla8ekkp13faaounql62n91cawkfuzikmpdk67yykw-mw5fzwzioox5yh-rwypnyu3ah9kdfpz10_ixubo9rzkiibivrzgfjgkevi2xzeik4f5oimsfs-z7gdlxdzwn2i8b8v3mv7pdh_8emlxifejzmapewgovdrzdgs=1_green]></a></p>
</div>
<div data-bbox=)

-- 73, Joe, K1JT

Joe Taylor followed up with this note about frequencies for testing:

Hi all,

It will help to have some initial frequency coordination among those testing

the new FT8 mode in WSJT-X v1.7.1. To help get things started, we suggest using the following frequencies:

Band	MHz			
160	1.841	80	3.589	40 7.079
30	10.141	20	14.079	17 18.105
15	21.079	12	24.920	10 28.079
6	50.313	4	70.094	

Most of these suggestions follow a simple guideline: add 3 kHz to the commonly used JT65 dial frequency.

For 6 meters we suggest using 50.313, which should be consistent with band plans in all IARU Regions. (Six-meter activity that's now on 50.276, worldwide, might be moved to 50.310.)

We are very much open to suggestions for changes in the above table.

-- 73, Joe, K1JT ♦

## Good Introductory SDR Book

**Bill Cotter/N4LG,**

*Member, Bluegrass ARS,*

*Lexington, Kentucky*

Here is a book called, "Software Defined Radio for Amateur Radio Operators and Shortwave Listeners," by **Andrew Barron/ZL3DW**, who was the author of an earlier book about SDR. This book is 293 pages and quite broad in its coverage.

Here is a link to Andrew's page on this book: <<http://www.qsl.net/zl3dw/SDRbook.html>>.

The link to the paperback book on Amazon is here, and it is only \$17.94, with free shipping if you have Amazon prime: <<https://www.amazon.com/Software-Defined-Radio-Operators-Listeners/dp/1534992421/>>. ♦

## Total Solar Eclipse

## Many Special Events Will Be on the Air

In mid-afternoon on August 21, 2017, middle America will witness the first total eclipse on U.S. soil since 1991, the first on the mainland U.S. since 1979, and the first to sweep across the entire country since 1918. It will be an event you do not want to miss!

Many organizers across the nation are planning exercises with emergency coordinators, radio clubs, and the general public, to assist with local communications and observers during the eclipse. Listed here are some of the special events scheduled.



## Solar Eclipse QSO Party

The Solar Eclipse QSO Party (SEQP), sponsored by HamSCI, will take place August 21, during the hours 1400 to 2200 UTC.

As the August 2017 **QST** article "The Solar Eclipse QSO Party – Are You Ready?" explains, "The objective...is to flood the airwaves with contacts, all measured by the automated receiver networks of the Reverse Beacon Network, PSKReporter, and WSPRNet. When those observations are combined with the logs from individual stations, the result will be one of the largest ionospheric experiments ever performed."

## Other Total Eclipse Special Events

The South Dakota's Black Hills Amateur Radio Club in South Dakota plans to operate special event KØE on the day of the eclipse, August 21, 1500-1930 UTC, from Harrison, Nebraska. Operation will be on 20 meters (14.260-14.280 MHz) and on VHF and UHF. Contact **Bob Ewing.WØRE**, for more information.

The Near Zero Sunlite, Great American Eclipse NØS special event will take place August 20-22, 1400-2200 UTC, in Crystal City, Missouri, sponsored by the Jefferson County Amateur Radio Club. Operation will be on or about 3.850, 7.250, and 14.300 MHz. QSL with SASE to **Jim Berger/WAØFQK**, 131 Ozark Drive,

*"Old age is when the liver spots show through your gloves."*

~ **Phyllis Diller**

Crystal City, MO 63019.

K7E will be on the air for the Great American Total Solar Eclipse 2017 special event, August 21-22, 1500-0300 UTC, from Laramie, Wyoming, near the path of totality, on or about 7.183 and 14.256 MHz. QSL **Perry Lehman, N7FST**, 19828 N. 78th Ln., Glendale, AZ 85308.

The North East Wyoming Amateur Radio Association (NEWARA) will field special event W7S from historic downtown Gillette, Wyoming, August 19-21, 1200-0600 UTC, on or about 3.945, 7.265, and 14.265 MHz, as well as on 147.360 MHz. QSL to **Garth Crowe, WY7GC**, PO Box 2208, Gillette, WY 82717.

The Lincoln County Amateur Radio Club (LCARC) will operate special event N7E, August 20-22, 1600-1900 UTC, from Newport, Oregon, on or about 3.820, 7.200, 14.245, and 28.350 MHz. Contact **Michael Eastman/N7ONP**.

**Total Solar Eclipse special event N9E will be on the air August 21, at 1400-2000 UTC, from Hopkinsville, Kentucky, on 7.180-7.190 MHz. Contact Peter Herman/KD9VV.**

The Lewis and Clark Radio Club (LCRC) will operate special event K9HAM from Godfrey, Illinois, on August 21, 0900-1700 UTC, on or about 7.225 and 14.280 MHz. Contact the LCRC for more information.

In North Carolina, the Greater Gaston Amateur Radio Society (GGARS), will be on the air as N4S from Lexington, South Carolina, on August 21, 0000-1900 UTC, on or about 7.180 and 3.895 MHz. QSL to **Robert Wells, W7CSA**, 409 Elizabeth St., Gastonia, NC 28054.

The Southern Illinois University Amateur Radio Club (SIUARC) will sponsor W9S, August 18-22, 0000-2359 UTC, from Fulton, Illinois, CW on 160 meters and all modes on 80 through 10, with a focus on the lower bands. Satellites and 6 meters are also possible. QSL to **Martin A. Schuette, N9EAT**, P.O. Box 29, Fulton, IL 61252.

Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club (OVHARC) will sponsor W4E from Lexington, South Carolina, on August 21, 1500-2015 UTC, on or about 3.810, 7.230, 14.263 MHz and 146.52 MHz FM simplex. QSL to **Terry Erlacher, KC4DV**, 10855 Felicia Ct., Manassas, VA 20110.

This may not be a comprehensive listing. Search the ARRL Special Events Calendar for total eclipse special event operations.



**It's the Rule**

## Amateur Radio Parity Act Introduced in U.S. Senate

The Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2017 was introduced in the U.S. Senate on July 12, marking another step forward for this landmark legislation. Senators **Roger Wicker (R-MS)** and **Richard Blumenthal (D-CT)** are the Senate sponsors. The measure will, for the first time, guarantee all radio amateurs living in deed-restricted communities governed by a homeowners' association (HOA) or subject to any private land-use regulations, the right to erect and maintain effective outdoor antennas at their homes. The Senate bill, S. 1534, is identical to H.R. 555, which passed the House of Representatives in January.

"Amateur Radio continues to be a

critical part of our emergency communications operations," Wicker said. "Mississippians learned firsthand after Hurricane Katrina how Amateur Radio operators can provide a resilient, distributed network to first responders and disaster relief organizations when other communications tools fail."

"Amateur Radio operators provide an invaluable service to their communities by assisting local emergency communication efforts when disasters occur and main lines are down," Blumenthal said. "This bipartisan measure ensures that operators have access to the tools they need to support our first responders when lives are at stake."

FCC Chairman **Ajit Pai** applauded the

bill in late January, saying that it would "help Amateur Radio operators, and take several steps to promote public safety."

ARRL President **Rick Roderick, K5UR**, expressed the League's appreciation to the Senate sponsors. "ARRL is grateful for the support of Senators Wicker and Blumenthal for sponsoring this important piece of legislation, and for advocating this bill for the past three years," he said. "Their continuing support is critical to the success of our efforts." President Roderick also thanked Senator **John Thune (R-SD)**, who chairs the Senate Commerce Committee, for "championing the Parity Act in the Senate since the beginning of our effort."

*"The ARRL Letter,"*

July 20, 2017

**Rick Lindquist, WW1ME**, Editor



## Where's the Rare DX?

"OPDX Bulletin 1323"

July 24, 2017

<<http://www.papays.com/opdx1323.html>>

**AFGHANISTAN (T6)** – Salvatore/I21BWB is now signing T6/I21CCK from Herat, Afghanistan, until Dec mainly on 20m using CW and SSB. QSL via I21BWB, direct or by the Buro.

**ALGERIA (7Y9)** – (LH Op) Members of the Radio Club of Djelfa (7X2VFK), in cooperation with Algerian Radio Amateur Union (ARU) will sign 7Y9C from the Phare de Colombi Lighthouse Oct 25-29 on various HF bands. QSL via 7X2DD.

**CRETE (SV9)** – Ron/WB2GAI will sign SV9/WB2GAI/P from Crete (EU-015) until Sep 29. USA stations QSL to his CBA. LogBook of the World is not used.

**CUBA (T45)** – A group will sign T45FM from Faro Puta Maya Lighthouse (ILLW CU-005) during the Intl Lighthouse Lightship Weekend (ILLW) Aug 19-20 on all bands using CW, Digi, and SSB. QSL to RW6HS direct only.

**DEM REP OF THE CONGO (9Q)** – Fernando/EA4BB will sign 9Q6BB for 3 years on HF (80-10m), mainly SSB. QSL via W3HNK.

**DJIBOUTI (J28)** – Jean-Philippe/F1TMY will sign J28PJ for at least 3 years on 160-6m. QSL via F1TMY.

**EGYPT (SU)** – Chris/DM4DX now signing SU/DM4DX from Egyptian Radio Amateurs' Society Club station (SUØERA) until Nov on 20-10m using SSB. QSL only via LoTW. No Buro or direct QSLs.

**FRENCH POLYNESIA (FO)** – Jean-Pierre/F6CTF will sign FO/F6CTF from Taravao, Tahiti, and FO/F6CTF/MM til Sep on 40/20/17/15m. QSL via his home CBA direct or eQSL.

**GEORGIA (4L)** – Ops Armen/4L6DL, Sergo/4L6QC, Antoine/F5RAB, Luc/F5RAV and Alexander/UR5EAW will sign 4LØGF from Zeda Tkhillnari until Aug 13 on CW, SSB and RTTY on various HF bands. QSL via F5RAV, direct, eQSL or LoTW. The log will be on ClubLog.

**GREECE (SV8)** – Berkin/TA3J will sign SV8/TA3J from Mytilene-Lesvos (EU-049) Aug 14-17 on 160-6m using SSB and FM. QSL via TA3J.

**HIIUMAA ISLAND (ESTONIA) (ESØ) (EU-034)** – Operators Pasi/OH2MZB and Simo/OH2HAN will sign ESØHAM Aug 17-21 on 80-10m using mainly RTTY, but some SSB too. They will also participate in the SARTG RTTY

## Upcoming Contests

Sean Kutzko/KX9X,

QST, <<http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar>>, scroll down, click on "Contest Corral"

- Aug 3 NRAU 10-Meter Activity Contest, CW/Digi/Phn, [www.nrau.net](http://www.nrau.net)
- Aug 5 European HF Championship, 160-10m, CW/Phn, [www.lea.hamradio.si/~scc](http://www.lea.hamradio.si/~scc)
- Aug 5 WAB 144 MHz Low Power Phone, 2m, [www.wab.internip.net](http://www.wab.internip.net)
- Aug 5-6 10-10 International Summer Contest, 10m, CW/Phn, [www.ten-ten.org](http://www.ten-ten.org)
- Aug 5-6 North American QSO Party, 160-10m, CW, [www.ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf](http://www.ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf)
- Aug 5-6 ARRL 222 MHz and Up Distance Contest, CW/Digi/Phn, [www.arrl.org/222-mhz-and-up-distance-contest](http://www.arrl.org/222-mhz-and-up-distance-contest)
- Aug 6 SARL HF Phone Contest, 80-20m, [www.sarl.org.za](http://www.sarl.org.za)
- Aug 8 ARS Spartan Sprint, 80-10m, CW, [www.arsqrq.blogspot.com](http://www.arsqrq.blogspot.com)
- Aug 9 NAQCC CW Sprint, 80-20m, CW, [www.naqcc.info](http://www.naqcc.info)
- Aug 11-13 MMMonVHF/DUBUS 144 MHz Meteorscatter Sprint, CW/Digi/Phn, [www.mmmonvhf.de/ctestinfo.php](http://www.mmmonvhf.de/ctestinfo.php)
- Aug 12-13 WAE DX Contest, 80-10m, CW, [www.darc.de](http://www.darc.de)
- Aug 12-13 SKCC Weekend Sprintathon, 160-6m, CW, [www.skccgroup.com](http://www.skccgroup.com)
- Aug 12-13 Maryland-DC QSO Party, 160m-70cm, CW/Digi/Phn, [www.mdcqsoparty.w3vpr.org](http://www.mdcqsoparty.w3vpr.org)
- Aug 19 Feld Hell Sprint, 160-6m, Digi, [www.sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub](http://www.sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub)
- Aug 19-20 SARTG WW RTTY Contest, 80-10m, Digi, [www.sartg.com](http://www.sartg.com)
- Aug 19-20 ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest, CW/Digi/Phn, [www.arrl.org/10-ghz-up](http://www.arrl.org/10-ghz-up)
- Aug 19-20 Russian District Award Contest, 160-10m, CW/Phn, [www.rdaward.org/rdac1.htm](http://www.rdaward.org/rdac1.htm)
- Aug 19-20 Keyman's Club of Japan Contest, 160-6m, CW, [www.kcj-cw.com](http://www.kcj-cw.com)
- Aug 19-20 North American QSO Party, 160-10m, Phn, [www.ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf](http://www.ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf)
- Aug 19-20 CVA DX Contest, 80-10m, CW, [www.craec.org](http://www.craec.org)
- Aug 20 SARL HF Digital Contest, 80-20m, Digi, [www.sarl.org.za](http://www.sarl.org.za)
- Aug 20 ARRL Rookie Roundup, RTTY, 80-6m, Digi, [www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup](http://www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup)
- Aug 21 Run for the Bacon QRP Contest, 160-10m, CW, [www.qrpcontest.com/pigrun](http://www.qrpcontest.com/pigrun)
- Aug 21 Solar Eclipse QSO Party, 160-6m, CW/Digi/Phn, [www.hamsci.org/seqp](http://www.hamsci.org/seqp)
- Aug 23 SKCC Sprint CW, 160-10m, [www.skccgroup.com](http://www.skccgroup.com)
- Aug 26-27 ALARA Contest, 80-10m plus 2m, CW/Phn, [www.alara.org.au/contests](http://www.alara.org.au/contests)
- Aug 26-27 W/VE Islands QSO Party, 160-6m, CW/Digi/Phn, [www.usislands.org/qso-party-rules](http://www.usislands.org/qso-party-rules)
- Aug 26-27 SCC RTTY Championship, 80-10m, Digi, [www.lea.hamradio.si/scc](http://www.lea.hamradio.si/scc)
- Aug 26-27 YO DX HF Contest, 80-10m, CW/Phn, [www.yodx.ro/en/english](http://www.yodx.ro/en/english)
- Aug 26-27 Kansas QSO Party, 80-6m, CW/Digi/Phn, [www.ksqsoparty.org](http://www.ksqsoparty.org)
- Aug 26-27 Ohio QSO Party, 80-10m, CW/Phn, [www.ohqp.org](http://www.ohqp.org)
- Aug 26-27 CVA DX Contest, 80-10m, Phn, [www.craec.org](http://www.craec.org)
- Aug 26-28 Hawaii QSO Party, 160-10m, CW/Digi/Phn, [www.hiqsoparty.org](http://www.hiqsoparty.org)
- Aug 27 SARL HF CW Contest, 80-20m, [www.sarl.org.za](http://www.sarl.org.za)

Contest. QSL via the Buro to OH2HAN or direct via info on QRZ.com.

**HONG KONG (VR2Ø) (Special Event)** – The Hong Kong Radio Sports Assoc (HRSA) members will sign VR2Ø until Jun 30, 2018, to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China. <[https://www.itu.int/dms\\_pub/itu-t/opb/sp/T-SP-OB.1116-2017-OAS-PDF-E.pdf](https://www.itu.int/dms_pub/itu-t/opb/sp/T-SP-OB.1116-2017-OAS-PDF-E.pdf)>.

**INDIAN OCEAN 6M EME DXPEDITIONS (West Is/Cocos Is)** – Listen for Lance/W7GJ signing VK9CGJ Sep 12-28, and Christmas Island as VK9XGJ Oct 2-18) on 6m EME QSOs. <<http://www.bigskyspaces.com/w7gj/Indian%20>

[Ocean%202017.htm](http://www.ocean%202017.htm)>.

**JAMAICA (6Y)** – Ops Steve/AA4V (6Y4V), Gaylord/N4SF (6Y4F), Rick/W4GE (6Y4E) and David/K8AJA (6Y4J) will operate Oct 21-31 (signing 6Y4V during the CQWW DX SSB Contest Oct 28-29). Outside of the contest, operators will be active on 160-10m using various modes. QSL 6Y4V via AA4V, direct or LoTW; 6Y4F via N4SF, direct or LoTW; 6Y4J via K8AJA, direct or LoTW; 6Y4E via W4GE, direct or LoTW.

**LESOTHO (7P)** – Operators Quintus/ZS2KU and Vaughan/ZS2VR will sign 7P8QM and 7P8VRR Aug 18-21 on 40/20/15m. QSL via their home CBAs.

**MOROCCO (CN)** – Ops Tev/TA1HZ

and Golkem/TA7AZC will operate Sep 6-13 (call sign(s) not issued yet). They will participate in the WAE DX SSB Contest (Sep 9-10). QSL via LZ3HI (QSL Mgr) or LoTW. **OGASAWARA (JD1)** – Koji/JI1LET will sign JD1BOI from Komagari, Chichijima Is (AS-031) until Aug 12 on 160-6m using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via JI1LET direct or by the Buro. See QRZ.com.

**SAMOA (5W)** – Roly/ZL1BQD will sign

5WØRR from Apia until Aug 15 on 80-10m using mostly JT65 (possibly FT8) with some CW. QSL via his home CBA.

**SOUTH COOK ISLANDS (E5)** – Alex/F4GHS will sign E51GHS from two of the South Cook Islands during August: Aug 7-16 -- Aitutaki Island (OC-083); Aug 16-25 -- Rarotonga Island (OC-013). He will operate on various HF bands. QSL via his home CBA.

**SOUTH COOK ISLANDS (E5)** –

Nobuaki/JAØJHQ will sign E51JHQ (pending) from Rarotonga Is (OC-013) Sep 1-4 during the All Asian DX SSB Contest (Sep 2-3) on 80/40/20/15/10/6m CW. QSL via his home CBA, direct, by the Buro, LoTW, or ClubLog. <<https://pandasan.jimdo.com/s79nh>>

**VIETNAM (3W)** – Megumu/JA6QGF is now signing 3W9A from Ho Chi Minh City. Activity has been on 17 and 6m SSB. QSL via his home CBA. ♦

## Meeting Schedules for Area Clubs, Exam Sessions, etc.

**Bill DeVore/N4DIT**

Volunteer examinations are held in or near Lexington on a schedule that has tests in central Kentucky every month of the year. Schedules for area sessions are as follows:

The **Bluegrass Amateur Radio Society, Inc.** (Lexington) – (**Fernie Williams/KE4MAI** (ARRL – \$15.00) and **Margie Williams/KE4MAJ** (WCARS – \$10.00)), with **Darrell/AC4YD** in Winchester and Richmond (W5YI), **John/K4FT** in Danville (ARRL), and **Ron/WX4GPS** in Georgetown (ARRL – \$15.00), have a schedule to offer an exam monthly in Lexington/central Kentucky. (See schedules on page 5 of this newsletter). ARRL-sponsored tests are held the second Saturday of the month, 10:00 AM in the Red Cross Building, Meeting Room “B”, 1450 Newtown Pike, Lexington (except the August session is the Saturday of the second weekend of the month and is held at the site of the Central Kentucky ARRL Hamfest), and WCARS-sponsored sessions are held the third Tuesday of the scheduled month, 7:00 PM in Meeting Room “A” in the Red Cross Building, 1450 Newtown Pike, Lexington. Contact **Margie/KE4MAJ** at 859-489-6274 or email to [ke4maj@arrl.net](mailto:ke4maj@arrl.net). Go to <<http://www.lexkywcars.org>> for information.

**Winchester (W5YI VEC)** – Test sessions are the second Saturday of January, April, July, and October at 10:00 AM. They are located in the Clark County EOC, 200 Maryland Avenue, Winchester, Kentucky. Their 2017 schedule: Saturday, January, 9, Saturday, April 9, Saturday, July 9, and Saturday, October 8. Contact Liaison **Darrell Epperson/AC4YD**, [eppersond@aol.com](mailto:eppersond@aol.com), 859-771-1834

**Danville (ARRL VEC)** – Test sessions are fourth Saturday in January, April, July and October at 10:00 AM. Liaison **John Wulf/K4FT**, 563-505-0339, Wilderness Road Amateur Radio Club, Red Cross Building, 454 South Third Street, Danville.

**Georgetown (ARRL VEC)** – Liaison **Ron Malinowski/WX4GPS**, [wx4gps@arrl.net](mailto:wx4gps@arrl.net), 502-542-8252, Georgetown Police Dept, 550 Bourbon St., Georgetown (for dates see schedule on page 5 of this newsletter).

**Radio Theory and Construction Workshop** – Each Saturday 1:00-3:00 PM in the Bluegrass ARS Education Center, basement of the Red Cross Building, 1450 Newtown Pike, Lexington. Contact **Bill Fuqua/WA4LAV** at (859) 272-9523 or [wa4lav@arrl.net](mailto:wa4lav@arrl.net).

**Versailles/Woodford County** – The Woodford County Amateur Radio Club meets the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM in the Versailles Fire Station No. 2 on Big Sink Pike. Anyone interested in amateur radio is cordially invited. Also, visit their web site at <<http://www.ky4wc.org>>. You may contact **Todd**

**Rose/KE4YAH** ([atrose@windstream.net](mailto:atrose@windstream.net)).

**Fayette County ARES Net**, Wednesday, 9:00 PM, 147.120 (Tone 141.3) repeater.

**Amateur Television and Specialized Communications Net** – An informal meeting is held every Sunday evening at 9:00 PM (local time) on the 146.760 (-600 offset) repeater in Lexington.

**Kentucky Six-Shooters Net** – Wednesday evenings at 8:00 PM six meters FM on 52.525 MHz (vertically polarized). **David Jordan/KI4AWZ** net control; and, Daily Six-Meter FM Ragchew net 7:00-9:00 PM on 52.525 MHz (vertically polarized). **James Peel/KG4VAR** net control.

**KY-QRP** – Contact **Chris Gay/KU4A**, [ku4a@arrl.net](mailto:ku4a@arrl.net). Meetings are the same schedule as Bluegrass ARS, first Monday each month, but at 7:00 PM, in Meeting Room “B”, second floor of the Red Cross Building, 1450 Newtown Pike, Lexington.

**Scott County Amateur Radio and Emergency Service Club (SCARES)** – Meetings are the third Saturday each month, 9:00 AM in the Solarium room at Georgetown Community Hospital, 1140 Lexington Road, Georgetown. Check in to their weekly simplex net Tuesdays at 7:00 PM on 146.685 (PL 141.3).

**Central Kentucky ARS** (Richmond-Berea) – Meet the Third Thursday each month in the Madison County EOC, Richmond, Kentucky, at 7:00 PM. Talk-in on 146.865 (-600, PL-192.8 Hz) and 145.370 (-600, PL-192.8 Hz) repeater for location, directions to meeting site, or other information.

**Pioneer ARC** (Winchester) – Fourth Tuesday each month, Golden Corral Restaurant at 7:00 PM (eat at 6:00), except March 24 will meet at City Hall (SkyWarn). Talk-in and info on the 145.430 (T-103.5) repeater.

**Jessamine Amateur Wireless Society** (Nicholasville) – Second Monday each month at 7:00 PM in the St. Joseph/R.J. Corman Ambulatory Care Center, 1250 Keene Road. (U.S. 27 Bypass south to intersection with 169; turn left at the light.) Talk-in and information on the 145.490 (T-123.0).

**The Jessamine County ARES Net**, Tuesdays at 7:30 PM, 145.490. . . Byron Smith, Sr./KA3WOD EC, [byronllx@aol.com](mailto:byronllx@aol.com).

**The Madison County ARES Net** meets Monday at 7:00 PM, 146.865 (pl 192.8). Everyone is invited to check in. . . Wilderness Trail Emergency Net, Wednesdays, 8:30 PM, 146.715 (pl 100.0). . . Glenn/KO4OL.

Please send any changes or corrections to these notices, or notices not listed here, to my attention, **Bill DeVore/N4DIT**, in care of Bluegrass Amateur Radio Society, Inc., PO Box 4411, Lexington, KY 40544-4411, or e-mail to [billdit@twc.com](mailto:billdit@twc.com).

## Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting, June 19, 2017

Recorded and submitted by:  
**Bruce A. Campbell, KM4EHU**, Secretary

The directors' meeting was called to order by President **Smokey Wallace, KE6IVK**, at 7:30pm. In attendance were: President

**Smokey Wallace, KE6IVK**; First Vice President **Bill Fuqua, WA4LAV**; Second Vice President **James Schlessner, WA9MED**; Treasurer **John Barnes, KS4GL**; Secretary **Bruce Campbell, KM4EHU**; Director-at-Large **David Richardson, W9KHZ**, Trustee **Andrew Cook, KF4OWP**. In addition, MARS representatives **Barry Jackson, WB4N**, and **Harvey Fry, AA4HF**, were present.

Treasurer **John Barnes, KS4GL**, reported that no new membership applications have been received. BARS currently has ninety (90) paid members.

Treasurer John Barnes, KS4GL, submitted his summary treasurer's report of amounts in available deposits as of May 31, 2017 (see Treasurer's Financial Summary in the table published in **QUA/HAMnews**, June 2017 issue, page 10) with the minutes of the General Meeting, June 5, 2017). **James Schlessner, WA9MED**, moved, and **Andrew Cook, KF4OWP**, seconded that the treasurer's report be accepted, which was approved unanimously.

Secretary **Bruce Campbell, KM4EHU**, reported that the application for ARRL club reaffiliation is not yet completed. A draft of a direct invitation to our neighboring clubs to the hamfest was submitted for comment and approved by general consensus. The inventory sheet for all keys to BARS rooms, cabinets, and equipments currently held by members was completed during the meeting.

### Committee Reports:

**Education:** **Bill Fuqua, WA4LAV**. Nothing to report.

**Hamfest:** **David Richardson, W9KHZ**. Vendor TAW will attend the hamfest.

**Shack:** **Smokey Wallace, KE6IVK**. BARS owned equipment inventory is in progress.

**Repeater:** **Andrew Cook, KF4OWP**, and **Bill Fuqua, WA4LAV**. An updated current findings report of the noise conditions was submitted. The noise source seems to be from out-of-ham-band, broadband emissions. The WKYT-TV coordinator was informed of the study, and the information was shared with other emitters at the tower site. Adjustments to their equipment is

## TREASURER'S FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Respectfully submitted, **John Barnes/KS4GL**, Treasurer

### BLUEGRASS AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY, INC. INCOME, EXPENSES, AND ACCOUNT BALANCES June 30, 2017

	Checking Account	Pay Pal Account	Savings Account	Total
<b>Income:</b>				
ARRL Dues	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
BARS Dues	20.00	155.20	0.00	175.20
Coax/Repeater	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Donations	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Education	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Hamfest	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Interest	1.10	0.00	0.02	1.12
Miscellaneous	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>21.10</b>	<b>155.20</b>	<b>0.02</b>	<b>176.32</b>

<b>Expenses:</b>		
ARRL Dues	0.00	0.00
Coax/Repeaters	0.00	0.00
Donations	0.00	0.00
Education	0.00	0.00
Election	0.00	0.00
Equipment	0.00	0.00
Field Day	0.00	0.00
Hamfest	0.00	0.00
Insurance	0.00	0.00
Miscellaneous	30.68	30.68
Newsletter	0.00	0.00
Picnic	0.00	0.00
P.O. Box/Postage	0.00	0.00
Subscriptions	0.00	0.00
Telephone	0.00	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>30.68</b>	<b>30.68</b>

### Account Balances

	May 31, 2017	June 30, 2017
Checking*	\$12953.79	\$12944.21
Pay Pal Balance	\$ 2506.64	\$ 2661.84
Savings Balance	\$ 200.32	\$ 200.34
<b>Total Balance</b>	<b>\$15660.75</b>	<b>\$15806.39</b>

### \*Fund Specific Balances (Checking)

General	\$ 9793.85	\$ 9784.27
Coax/Repeater	\$ 1164.64	\$ 1164.64
Education	\$ 1995.30	\$ 1995.30
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$12953.79</b>	<b>\$12944.21</b>

\*Reference made to "BARS" means Bluegrass Amateur Radio Society, Inc., wherever it occurs.



underway. The repeater performance will continue to be monitored before any upgrades and replacements are made to the BARS repeater system.

**Contest:** The committee's chairman position is currently vacant, and volunteers for the committee will be considered.

**Emergency Preparedness:** The committee's chairman position is currently vacant, and volunteers for the committee will be considered.

**Public Relations and Membership:** The committee's chairman position is currently vacant and volunteers for the committee will be considered.

**MARS:** **Barry Jackson, WB4N**, and

**Harvey Fry, AA4HF:** A high frequency antenna system is being studied for the Red Cross building location. The possibility of linking the WKYT-TV MARS VHF repeater with MARS repeater located at Fort Knox will be considered after the WKYT-TV antenna system is in operation.

#### Old Business:

1. Six (6) of the seven (7) Boy Scouts from Troop 382 successfully completed the Radio Merit Badge session held at the BARS K4KJQ station on June 10th.
2. A direct invitation to the hamfest will be e-mailed to our neighboring clubs by the secretary.

3. The continuing consideration for a possible need of a permanent bylaws committee for continuous revision of the bylaws was discussed.

At 8:43pm President **Smokey Wallace, KE6IVK**, relinquished the meeting chair, which was assumed by first vice president **Bill Fuqua, WA4LAV**. The current VHF repeater performance was further discussed.

#### New Business: None

With no other business at 8:55pm, **Andrew Cook, KF4OWP**, moved, and **James Schlessler, WA9MED**, seconded, that the meeting be adjourned, which was approved unanimously.

## Minutes of the General Meeting of the Bluegrass Amateur Radio Society, Inc., July 10, 2017\*

Recorded and submitted by:  
**Bruce A. Campbell, KM4EHU**, Secretary

?

## Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting, July 17, 2017

Recorded and submitted by:  
**Bruce A. Campbell, KM4EHU**, Secretary

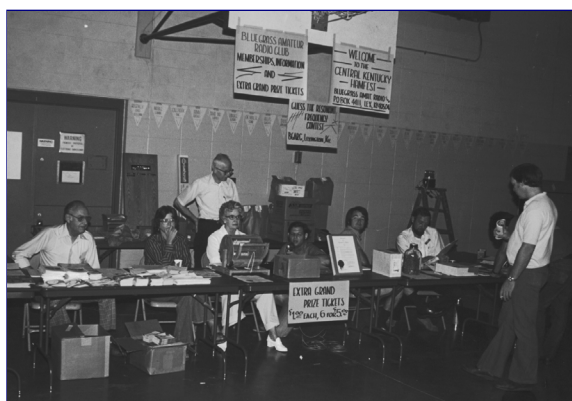
?

\*Reference made to "BARS" means Bluegrass Amateur Radio Society, Inc., wherever it occurs.

Looking Back. . . From "Chronicles,"\* 1977. . .

## Hamfest 1977

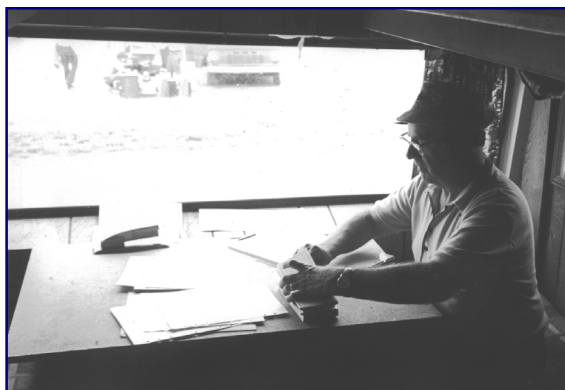
(Site was the National Guard Armory behind Bluegrass Airport)



From left: unknown; unknown; **Harry Bradshaw, W4TPB** (standing); unknown; unknown; **Tom Fitzpatrick, WB4FOT**; unknown; **Greg Cross, WA8FJK** (standing). (Can anyone supply names to these unknowns?)



**Bill Shepherd, W4AUZ** discusses the finer points of two-meter hand held radios with **Unknown**. That's Dale Shafer/KA4??? standing in the rear.



**Ed Bono, WA4ONE**, Club Treasurer, keeps track of the tickets and money.



Tailgaters pretty well filled the outside flea market area. The pavement appears to be wet, but doesn't look like it was raining when the picture was taken.



The inside commercial vender sales area was very busy most of the day, right up until 3:00 PM.



**Jim Hughes, K4ZPL**, works talk-in from some secluded spot from which (hopefully) he could hit the repeater.

\***Sandy Tyser, K9EWV**, chair of the Hamfest Committee, gave the Hamfest numbers:

Attendance:	800
Fleamarketeers/Tailgaters:	72
Indoor booths/Vendors:	23

\*"Chronicles," history of the Bluegrass Amateur Radio Society, Inc., Lexington, Kentucky

QUA/HAMnews is published monthly by the Newsletter Committee of the Bluegrass Amateur Radio Society, Inc., and is distributed by e-mail only.

Letters to the editor, technical articles, items of interest to the Ham community and guest editorials are invited and will be published at the discretion of the editor. Items for sale by members of the Society will be advertised without charge for one issue, and may be resubmitted as often as desired. These ads must be noncommercial in nature.

Commercial ads can be arranged, contact the editor.

All copy must be in the hands of the editor by the end of the Board of Directors' meeting on the third Monday of each month. All articles submitted must be accompanied by the author(s) name(s) and contact information.

Articles published in QUA/HAMnews do not necessarily represent the views of the Officers, Board of Directors, editor, or Society membership, nor does publication thereof represent concurrence by the Officers, Board of Directors, editor, or Society membership of the contents of the article. No article will be published unless it is accompanied by the name(s) of the person(s) submitting the material.

R. William (Bill) DeVore/N4DIT, 112 Brigadoon Pkwy,  
Lexington, Kentucky 40517-1305 (859) 273-8345 billdit@twc.com

## Standing Committee Chairs:

Contest ..... Need Chair  
Education ..... Bill Fuqua/WA4LAV (859) 272-9523 (wlfuqu00@uky.edu)  
Emergency Preparedness (Liaison Bluegrass ARS with LFUCG DEM)  
..... David Richardson/W9KHZ (859) 983/1380 (daveinlex3@gmail.com)  
Hamfest ..... David Richardson/W9KHZ (859) 983/1380 (daveinlex3@gmail.com)  
Newsletter ..... Bill DeVore/N4DIT (859) 273-8345 (billdit@twc.com)  
Program ..... James Schlessler/WA9MED (757) 478-2186 (wa9med@jschlessler.com)  
Public Relations and Membership ..... Need Chair  
Repeater ..... Andrew Cook/KF4OWP (859-396-9930) (kf4owp@gmail.com)  
Shack ..... Joseph "Smokey" Wallace/KE6IVK (859) 402-8208 (ke6ivk@arri.net)  
Volunteer Examinations ..... Fernie Williams/KE4MAI (859-652-3393) (ke4mai@arri.net)

## Trustees, Ex Officio Committee Chairs, and Contacts for Special Activities:

Historian ..... Bill DeVore/N4DIT (859) 273-8345 (billdit@twc.com)  
KY-QRP Group ..... Chris Gay/KU4A (859) 299-9393 (KU4A@juno.com)  
Library ..... John Barnes/KS4GL (859) 253-1178 (jrbarnes@iglou.com)  
Shack Trustee ..... Andrew Cook/KF4OWP (kf4owp@gmail.com)  
VHF Repeater Trustee ..... Andrew Cook/KF4OWP (kf4owp@gmail.com)  
HF Liaison to Shack Committee ..... David Richardson/W9KHZ  
VHF Liaison to Shack Committee ..... Tim Kunkle/KF4MPM

## President:

Joseph Wallace/KE6IVK  
409C Laredo Court  
Lexington, Kentucky 40517  
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## Second Vice-President:

James Schlessler/WA9MED  
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wa9med@jschlessler.com

## Treasurer:

John Barnes/KS4GL  
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## First Vice-President:

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Lexington, Kentucky 40517  
859/272-9523  
wlfuqu00@uky.edu

## Secretary:

Bruce Campbell/KM4EHU  
169 Millwood Drive  
Winchester, Kentucky 40391  
859/744-7608  
bruce\_campbell@mymail.eku.edu

## Directors-at-Large:

Tim Kunkle/KF4MPM  
426 Blueberry Lane  
Lexington, Kentucky 40503  
859/279-6307, and  
David Richardson/W9KHZ  
1809 Wayland Drive  
Lexington, Kentucky 40505  
859/983-1380  
daveinlex3@gmail.com

Annual Dues (January 1 – December 31)

Payable using Pay Pal – Go to <[http://www.](http://www.BluegrassARS.org)

[BluegrassARS.org](http://www.BluegrassARS.org)>, click on "Membership."

click on the option for your preference as below:

Regular Membership

One year – \$20.00; two years – \$38.00; three years – \$55.00

(Additional family member(s) at the same address \$1.00 each per year)

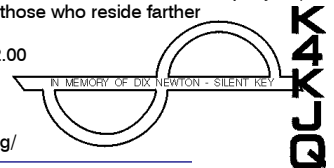
Associate Membership – \$15.00 (for those who reside farther than 50 miles from Lexington)

Full-Time Student Membership – \$12.00

(for those 21 and under, and no other Club member in the family)

Shack telephone: (859) 231-0974

web page: <http://www.BluegrassARS.org/>



## Calendar of Ham Radio Activities for August 2017



Tue 1 **Amateur Swap Net** 145.370 (T-192.8) 8:00 PM; "Casual Communicators Net," 9:00 PM Eastern, 443.325+ MHz.  
Wed 2 **Six Shooters Net**, 8:00 PM on 52.525 MHz FM (vertically polarized); **Fayette County ARES Net, 9:00 PM, 146.760 repeater.**  
Thu 3 **Meeting of Bluegrass ARS Technical Group**, 6:30 PM, Education Ctr, basement, Red Cross Building, 1450 Newtown Pike, Lexington;  
**Ragchew Net**, 7:30 PM, 145.490 Repeater, Malcolm/KY4MJW net control.  
Sat 5 **Shack open** 9:00-Noon; **Radio Theory and Construction Workshop**, 1:00-3:00 PM, basement, Red Cross Bldg, 1450 Newtown Pike.  
Sun 6 **Amateur Television & Specialized Communications Net**, 9:00 PM (146.760 Repeater).  
**Mon 7 KY-QRP meeting**, 7:00 PM, Meeting Room "B," Red Cross Bldg, 1450 Newtown Pike, Lexington.  
**Mon 7 Bluegrass ARS Club meeting**, 7:30 PM, Meeting Room "B," Red Cross Bldg, 1450 Newtown Pike.  
Tue 8 **Amateur Swap Net** 145.370 (T-192.8) 8:00 PM; "Casual Communicators Net," 9:00 PM Eastern, 443.325+ MHz.  
Wed 9 **Six Shooters Net**, 8:00 PM on 52.525 MHz FM (vertically polarized); **Fayette County ARES Net, 9:00 PM, 146.760 repeater.**  
Thu 10 **Meeting of Bluegrass ARS Technical Group**, 6:30 PM, Education Ctr, basement, Red Cross Building, 1450 Newtown Pike, Lexington;  
**Ragchew Net**, 7:30 PM, 145.490 Repeater, Malcolm/KY4MJW net control.  
**Sat 12 Central Kentucky ARRL Hamfest**, Jackpot Bingo Hall, rear of Eastland Shopping Center on Winchester Road in Lexington, Kentucky.  
**Sat 12 Volunteer License Examination Session**, during the hamfest at Jackpot Bingo Hall, 11:00 AM (check-in at about 10:30 AM).  
Sun 13 **Amateur Television & Specialized Communications Net**, 9:00 PM (146.760 Repeater).  
Mon 14 **Jessamine Amateur Wireless Society meeting**, 7:00 PM, St. Joseph/R.J. Corman Ambulatory Care Center, 1250 Keene Road, Nicholasville.  
Tue 15 **Amateur Swap Net** 145.370 (T-192.8) 8:00 PM; "Casual Communicators Net," 9:00 PM Eastern, 443.325+ MHz.  
Wed 16 **Six Shooters Net**, 8:00 PM on 52.525 MHz FM (vertically polarized); **Fayette County ARES Net, 9:00 PM, 146.760 repeater.**  
Thu 17 **Meeting of Bluegrass ARS Technical Group**, 6:30 PM, Education Ctr, basement, Red Cross Building, 1450 Newtown Pike, Lexington;  
**Ragchew Net**, 7:30 PM, 145.490 Repeater, Malcolm/KY4MJW net control.  
Sat 19 **Shack open** 9:00-Noon; **Radio Theory and Construction Workshop**, 1:00-3:00 PM, basement, Red Cross Bldg, 1450 Newtown Pike.  
Sun 20 **Amateur Television & Specialized Communications Net**, 9:00 PM (146.760 Repeater).  
**Mon 21 Bluegrass ARS Board of Directors' Meeting**, 7:30 PM, Education Center in basement of Red Cross Building.  
Tue 22 **Amateur Swap Net** 145.370 (T-192.8) 8:00 PM; "Casual Communicators Net," 9:00 PM Eastern, 443.325+ MHz.  
Wed 23 **Six Shooters Net**, 8:00 PM on 52.525 MHz FM (vertically polarized); **Fayette County ARES Net, 9:00 PM, 146.760 repeater.**  
Thu 24 **Meeting of Bluegrass ARS Technical Group**, 6:30 PM, Education Ctr, basement, Red Cross Building, 1450 Newtown Pike, Lexington;  
**Ragchew Net**, 7:30 PM, 145.490 Repeater, Malcolm/KY4MJW net control.  
Sat 26 **Shack open** 9:00-Noon; **Radio Theory and Construction Workshop**, 1:00-3:00 PM, basement, Red Cross Bldg, 1450 Newtown Pike.  
Sun 27 **Amateur Television & Specialized Communications Net**, 9:00 PM (146.760 Repeater).  
Tue 29 **Amateur Swap Net**, 145.370 (T-192.8) 8:00 PM; "Casual Communicators Net," 9:00 PM Eastern, 443.325+ MHz.  
Wed 30 **Six Shooters Net**, 8:00 PM on 52.525 MHz FM (vertically polarized); **Fayette County ARES Net, 9:00 PM, 146.760 repeater.**  
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