



ARRL Standard



Pray for our
Troops



God Bless America!

QUA / HAMnews

May 2018

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Club Station K4KJQ

MARS Station AAV4CAB



Glenn E. Welman/KF4NB
Memorial BBS
145.010 and 145.090

Web Page: <http://www.bluegrassars.org>
E-mail: k4kjq@bluegrassars.org

K4KJQ
146.160/.760

ATV Repeater: KY4ATV
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; in Subject line type Subscribe plus <your call sign>

Post notes to the Club List Serv: <bars@lsv.uky.edu>.

-- THE PROGRAM FOR THE MAY MEETING . . .

. . .has not been announced . . .(see "Meeting Notice" below).

-- NEEDED, CHAIR/EDITOR OF THE NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE --

I decided some time ago that effective on my 80th birthday I would retire as chair of the Newsletter Committee, and thus as editor/publisher of the Club's newsletter. I volunteered to take on the responsibilities in 1983 when the person who was editor/chair at that time was elected president of the Club. I had planned

to give the responsibility back to him (**Sam Humphries/WA4KKV**) when he had fulfilled his duties as president for a two-year term in office. Well, I'm still doing it and it has been 35 years. My, my time really does fly when you're doing something you enjoy. So, it is time to pass the responsibilities

on to someone new, and younger -- Ha! No hurry since I plan to finish this calendar year, but we need someone to at least consider taking this position on. . **Bill/N4DIT**

-- XENIA (DAYTON) HAMVENTION --

Again this year, Hamvention will be held May 18, 19 and 20, 2018 at the Greene County Fairgrounds and Expo Center. For more information and pre-Hamvention tickets, see www.hamvention.org. Also: The Official Greene County Fairgrounds web site is <greenecountyfairgrounds.com>. The physical address for GPS use is: 120 Fairgrounds Road, Xenia, OH 45385. For Lat/Long Navigation Use: 39.7021, 83.9420.



"Government's view of the economy could be summed up in a few short phrases: If it moves, tax it. If it keeps moving, regulate it. And if it stops moving, subsidize it."

~Ronald Reagan

QUA/HAMnews

May 2018

Meeting Notice

Bill De Vore/N4DIT,

Chair, Newsletter Committee

Bluegrass ARS, Lexington, Kentucky

The general meeting of the Bluegrass Amateur Radio Society, Inc., will be held Monday, May 7, 2018, at 7:30 PM in Meeting Room B, second floor of the Red Cross Building, 1450 Newtown Pike, Lexington.

The program has not been determined as this newsletter is being prepared, but I'm sure Program Committee chair **James Schlessner/WA9MED** will have some thing to tell us about, and I'm very sure there will be some good/interesting conversation. . .we are Hams after all!

Location of the program will be Meeting Room "B," second floor of the American Red Cross Building, 1450 Newtown Pike, Lexington, Kentucky (take exit 115 off I-64/I-75 and travel toward downtown Lexington. The building is less than one mile from the exit, on the left).

We welcome your suggestions of how we can make a difference in the Club in 2018, and Amateur Radio in central Kentucky, and thank you for your participation and support.

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 e-mail to <wa9med@jshlessner.com>. (see the schedule on page 2). ♦

Board of Directors' Meeting

Bill De Vore/N4DIT, Chair,

Newsletter Committee

Bluegrass ARS, Lexington, Kentucky

The Board of Directors of the Bluegrass Amateur Radio Society, Inc., will meet Monday, May 21, 2018, at 7:30 PM in the Education Center, basement of the Red Cross Building, 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@jshlessner.com>.

Note that we still need volunteers to chair the Public Relations and Membership Committee. Contact **Andrew Cook/KF4OWP** at <kf4owp@gmail.com> or (859) 396-9930.

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. ♦

Report #2 of Bylaws Committee Meeting on March 19, 2018

Recorded and submitted by
Bruce A. Campbell, KM4EHU
Secretary

In attendance:

John Barnes, KS4GL
Bruce Campbell, KM4EHU
David Richardson, W9KHZ
Brad James, WA4HBM
Blaine Early, KM4ZFQ
Bill Cotter, N4LG.

Proceedings of Committee Meeting on March 6, 2018.

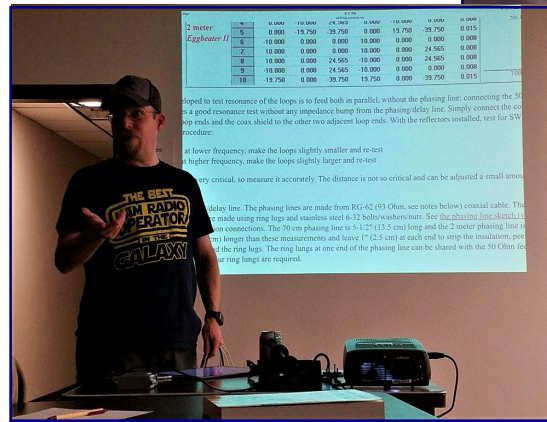
1. Emphasize simplification of Bylaws, which can only be modified by directors' recommendation and approved and adopted by general membership vote; and adoption of Standard Operating Procedures to supplement the Bylaws that can be modified as needed by committee and Directors without need for general membership vote of approval.
2. Consideration of limitations of club activities imposed by Section 501(c)(3) incorporation.
3. Consideration of the strength of word-

(Continued on Page 3)

April Club Meeting

A Very Interesting Program Was Presented by James Schlessler/WA9MED

The program was presented by Program Committee chair **James Schlessler/WA9MED**. James gave information on types of omnidirectional antennas similar to homebrewed "eggbeaters." The eggbeater is said to be a high-performance, circularly polarized omnidirectional antenna that is easy to build, easy to tune, inexpensive, and will work all the mode J Low Earth Orbit (LEO) satellites. (Jerry/K5OE describes his experience with building eggbeaters at [http://](http://wb5rmg.somenet.net/k5oe/Eggbeater_2.html)



wb5rmg.somenet.net/k5oe/Eggbeater_2.html).

James said "I have built several of the traditional 'eggbeaters' from plans floating around on the Internet. He displayed charts of characteristics derived from experimenting on various frequencies. He also displayed some antenna installations he has worked with on U.S. Naval ships. ♦

Program Schedule for 2018

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

The following programs are scheduled for 2018. Your input and suggestions for programs for 2018 are needed. Call **James Schlessler/WA9MED** at (757) 478-2186, or e-mail to <wa9med@jschlessler.com>.

Month	Topic	Presenter(s)	Comments
✓ January	"Winter Field Day, January 27-28, 2018"	David Richardson, W9KHZ.	
✓ February	"Software Defined Radio (SDR)"	James Schlessler/WA9MED	What Programs Would You Like to Hear?
✓ March	"Severe Weather Identification and Reporting"	Joe Sullivan/KC7ITG	of the NWS, Louisville
✓ April	"Design and Construction/Use of an Eggbeater Omnidirectional Antenna"	James Schlessler/WA9MED	
May	Open		
June	"Field Day"	(Presennter Pending)	Site location, preparation, operating stations, etc.
July	Open		
August	Hamfest	Dave Richardson/W9KHZ and Fest Committee	Location, preparation, tickets, tables, work crews, etc.
September	Annual Family Picnic	Fun, Food, Conversation	Picnic Shelter #2, Shillito Park, Lexington
October	Open		
November	Report of Nominating Committee	Roger/KJ4YSY and Loretta Colvin	Ballot of Officers for 2019
December	Annual Auction	J.B. Young	will serve as auctioneer to see if he can get you some cash – Bring your items

Bylaws Committee Report #2

(Continued from Page 2)

ing that binds the club to adhere to ARRL affiliated club requirements.

4. Need for definition of "member".
5. Removal of current Standing (or permanent) committees from Article IV, Organization.

Preparation for next meeting at 6:00 pm on April 2nd.

1. First review of proposed changes to Preamble and Articles I, II, III, IV, and consideration of further alterations and modifications.
2. Consider the inclusion of Mission, Vision, and Values statements in the revised Bylaws.
3. Consider necessary and desirable club functions that would require formal committee administration.
4. Review Article IV, Officers, Responsibilities and Duties (plus qualifications), for proposed updates and changes.
5. Review other amateur radio club constitutions and bylaws for models and examples.
6. Develop an organization chart illustrating the composition of the club officers and committees.
7. Review ARRL web site: Home>Get Involved>Clubs>Tips & Resources For Clubs (learn more)>ARRL Affiliated Clubs>Sample Constitution, for form and content suggestions of constitutions and bylaws, plus also the Rules and Regulations for ARRL Affiliated Clubs.

(NOTE: The beginning draft of the bylaws revisions may be requested from Bruce by sending him a note at <bruce_campbell1@mymail.eku.edu>). ♦

Bylaws Committee Report #3 and Bylaws Revisions from April 2, 2018

Recorded and submitted by
Bruce A. Campbell, KM4EHU
Secretary

Attached is the next revision iteration of the Bylaws.

Changes that were discussed during the April 2nd Bylaws committee meeting have been incorporated into this ongoing update.

It's easier to see how these ideas read when are written into the Bylaws format. (NOTE: A copy may be requested from Bruce at <bruce_campbell1@mymail.eku.edu>.)

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.

Please consider the changes so far.

The next section for review is be Article V. Officers Qualifications, Responsibilities, and Duties.

I will not be able to attend this Monday's meeting, on April 16th, of the Bylaws Committee (or the Director's Meeting) since I will be out of state for about six (6) or seven (7) days.

I expect to be back in Kentucky by Monday morning April 23rd.

If we can postpone the Bylaws Committee meeting until April 23rd, then that will still allow two (2) weeks before the next scheduled Bylaws Committee meeting on May 7th.

Editors Note: It is unknown if the date has been or was changed. It also is unknown if the April Board meeting was changed. I attended the Board meeting, and there was not a quorum present. Those directors who attended were myself, Treasurer **John Barnes/KS4GL**, Director **Tim Kunkel/KF4MPM**, and MARS representatives **Barry Jackson/WB4N**, and **Harvey Frye/AA4HF**. ♦

Opinion

The Reality of Amateur Radio in 2018

by **Chris G7DDN**,
CT1EIZ <hamradio@megahertz.shop>

What is the greatest hobby on earth? Now there's a question!

For many of you reading this article, the answer will be clear – Amateur Radio. It's a hobby that delights, excites and, at times, frustrates in probably equal measures!

But it is also a hobby that has historically pushed the boundaries of technology – and often asked questions no-one had even thought of asking.

The Pioneers

I love the fact that the history of our hobby is littered with the regulatory authorities of their day allowing us access to bands considered "useless" and then watching as we showed over time what

immense value they could have – yes, even the most supposed "line-of-sight" bands.

It is somewhat ironic today that the most in-demand spectrum across the world commercially is VHF/UHF and Microwave, the most "line-of-sight" bands discovered in the 20th Century.

Here in the UK, large swathes of this spectrum are constantly being re-jigged and subsequently "sold off" to the highest bidders (something that has always struck me personally as slightly obscene, but that's another story...)

Back to Reality

The reality though for perhaps the majority of Hams on a day-to-day basis in 2018 is not so rosy.

I switched on 160m the other day and was faced with S9 noise across the band. It was S5 only a couple of years ago. I'm lucky apparently – many people are getting S9+20dB or more of noise, on several bands...

As Hams, we face challenges every day from local sources of interference; powerline adapters, noncompliant devices imported from abroad, hissy routers, noisy house appliances, power supplies, and all other manner of electronic hash. It doesn't seem to be getting any better...

Then we have the Home Owner Associations coupled with the newer restrictive covenants that stop us putting up antennas, whether it be an 80-metre longwire or a 60-foot high tower. We have neighbours complaining about eyesores and about interference from "that Radio Ham" up the road.

We might think an antenna mast is a thing of beauty, but we have to concede that most of our neighbours will disagree – sometimes, most embarrassingly, led by our own XYLs!

A Means of Escape

For many, portable operation offers some escape from this, but not everyone has the motivation to climb a mountain with QRP gear and play SOTA, very laudable though that is.

If the only Ham Radio we can play with is limited to reasonable weather and a trip out, most of us are not going to be playing a lot of radio that many days of the year, are we?

At least mobile operation helps out here and has saved the day for many of us on occasions.

Perceptions

Then we struggle with the fact that we are perceived, rightly or wrongly, as being old-fashioned, fuddy-duddy, and out-of-touch.

When you consider what Hams have contributed to the history of Communications, this is the height of irony.

The very people who, in effect, discovered and perfected modern-day communications, that everyone from schoolkids to governments rely on, are now reviled as being as old-fashioned as 78 rpm shellac discs!

Shall we just give up then?

So what is the point of continuing in the hobby? Many have decided they won't!

The numbers leaving the hobby, anecdotally at least, seem to be increasing. I often see ads on-line where complete stations are for sale, and where the owner says something like "giving up after 35 years – too much noise – too much hassle..."

Now you may be fortunate enough to live somewhere really electrically quiet – or you might be able to afford a huge farm or ranch in the countryside where there is little or no electrical noise – but the vast majority of us are not going to be able to do that.

Another way out?

Is there a sense of "If we can't beat them, join them"?

Is one solution to take Ham Radio and move it into that realm that we perhaps secretly despise and yet simultaneously almost adore? The on-line arena?

I find it slightly odd that, as hams, we are more than happy to embrace the Internet and computers when it suits us – for example, CW-ers make extensive use of the Reverse Beacon Network, Datamodes enthusiasts embrace programs like PSK Reporter – DX-ers rely on their preferred cluster, and so on.

We all probably have our favourite logging software, our favourite contesting programmes and websites we frequent, even if it is just to have a moan!

It's too scary!

But are we just a little too apprehensive to "go the whole hog" and accept the Internet for what it already actually is? A man-made alternative method of propagation? Is this one reason why the whole "Network Radios" phenomenon is so difficult to comprehend?

One well known UK ham (and regular author for one of our Amateur magazines here) wrote to me with commendable honesty recently. He explained that he was struggling in his thinking about the Internet being a form of propagation, despite the fact that intellectually he can see that it clearly is!

He was, in effect, trying to come to

"The reason women don't play football is because 11 of them would never wear the same outfit in public."

~ Phyllis Diller

terms (just as I did initially) with even understanding that there could exist another form of propagation for our signals, man-made at that.

He did go on later to acknowledge that the real issue for him, was not that this form of propagation existed, but that it was "always there." (To be fair, that does make it different!)

Does it have to be hard work? But this got me thinking too!

Have we got so used to Ham Radio being so much like "hard work" that if technology creates a means of propagation that makes our lives easier, we almost have to pooh-pooh it?

Is there a bit of an attitude issue? You know the kind of thing... "I had to work hard to work VP8G, so why should you be able to do it more easily?"

A new playground

In 2018, the technology available to Hams has provided us with a new playground (Internet propagation) – it's similar to, and yet very different from, the old playground (ionospheric and tropospheric propagation – which by the way, is still there for us too – it hasn't gone away, we can and should still use it!)

Who says we can't play in both playgrounds at once? Surely it is a case of both methods of propagation being usable, if that is what makes you happy?

There is something in human nature that doesn't like others having it easier than we had it, but I would love to see Amateurs being open to be more accepting of new technologies in the hobby and realising that 21st Century Amateurs' interests are, by virtue of the times we are living in, just different from those of 20th Century Amateurs.

There's nothing wrong with that – it just is what it is!

The License Issue

For some of us, it's difficult to get our heads around the new technologies, simply because of all the hard work we had to put in to gain our licenses. This now could be perceived as partially redundant, once we get our heads around the "Internet as a means of propagation" argument. After all the Internet is open to everyone...

We all have a tendency towards defensiveness – this is partly because we have something other people don't have – a

Ham license.

But again, putting this in perspective, and oversimplifying a little, possession of this means that we just have specialist knowledge about (mostly) building and testing transceivers (and maybe some knowledge of CW)

Are these the highest priority for a lot of hams these days?

I like what the RSGB President, **Nick Henwood G3RWF**, observed at his Society's National Convention last October, that 20th Century Hams were more likely to be interested in mechanical and electrical solutions to problem solving, whereas 21st Century Hams are far more likely to look for solutions to issues in software.

That is an interesting way of viewing the change in the hobby over the last 30 years or so...

Where does all this lead?

Who knows? Isn't that the most exciting thing?

SDR technology is transforming HF, computer technology is transforming the likes of CW, Datamodes and DX-ing, (just look at the rise of FT8!) and modern communications technology and its concomitant infrastructure is providing us with the ultimate change – an alternative means of propagation.

So have fun with RF – in all it's forms!

So yes, go ahead and play with those Network Radios that use the Internet – make Ham-friends around the world.

Communicate with each other, use software, use Boat Anchors, use QRP CW, use valve radios, use big antennas, use minimal antennas, use Internet-connected nodes, take part in contests, work through satellites, use D-STAR – do as much as you wish!

Have fun with RF in all its many forms – the Ham bands, yes, but also the cellular bands, the wi-fi bands and the bluetooth bands – especially if it gives you pleasure!

After all, isn't a hobby ultimately supposed to make us happy?

Perhaps the saddest "Reality of Amateur Radio in 2018" is that, to listen to some folk in the hobby, you could be forgiven for thinking that it's main purpose was actually to make Hams as miserable as possible!

Let's use all the wonderful technologies available to us in 2018 and beyond – after all, next year there will probably be yet more new toys in the playground!

I, for one, can't wait!

© March 2018 –
Chris Rolinson G7DDN

From ARRL

2017: More Than 30,000 New Licensees and 7,000 Amateur Radio Exams

Woodford County Amateur Radio Club
April Newsletter,
Paul Harrington, III/KB4ENQ

For the fourth year in a row, more than 30,000 new licensees joined the Amateur Radio ranks, and ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (VEC) conducted more than 7,000 Amateur Radio exam sessions, serving some 35,350 candidates for a new or upgraded license. At the end of December 2017, the U.S. Amateur Radio population stood at 748,136.

At nearly 378,000, Technician licensees represented the largest segment, with Gen-

Andy Rooney wrote that . . .

. . . "Death is a distant rumor to the young."

Schedule for Volunteer Examinations in 2018

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

The exam schedule for 2018 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	Amer Legion Post 46 45 Spears Lane Danville KY 40422	Georgetown Police Dept 550 Bourbon Street Georgetown KY 40324

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

** September, Richmond 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**, johnk4ft@gmail.com, 563-505-0339, Wilderness Road ARC, http://www.wrarc.com
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, May 12 , 2018	10:00 AM ARRL	Lexington
Saturday, June 9 , 2018	10:00 AM ARRL	Georgetown
Tuesday, June 19 , 2018	07:00 PM WCARS	Lexington
Saturday, July 14 , 2018	10:00 AM W5YI	Winchester
Saturday, July 28 , 2018	10:00 AM ARRL	Danville
Saturday August 11 , 2018	11:00 AM ARRL	BARS Hamfest
Saturday September 8 , 2018	10:00 AM ARRL	Georgetown
Saturday, September 15 , 2018	12:30 PM W5YI	**Richmond Hamfest
Tuesday, September 18 , 2018	07:00 PM WCARS	Lexington
Saturday, October 13 , 2018	10:00 AM W5YI	Winchester
Saturday, October 27 , 2018	10:00 AM ARRL	Danville
Saturday, November 10 , 2018	10:00 AM ARRL	Lexington
Saturday December 8 , 2018	10:00 AM ARRL	Georgetown
Tuesday, December 11 , 2018	07:00 PM WCARS	Lexington

*Additional exam locations, dates, times are listed at website kn4s@kn4s.com

eral (174,206), Amateur Extra (145,034), Advanced (41,938), and Novice (9,056) trailing. Licensee numbers showed continued growth across all classes except Advanced and Novice, which the FCC no longer issues; those numbers continue to drop.

"I'm hopeful that the number of new licensees will be more than 30,000 at the end of this year," ARRL VEC Manager **Maria Somma, AB1FM**, said. "I would love to see this trend continue!"

Despite the optimistic influx of 32,196 newcomers last year, the net growth of 5,349 about 0.72% over December 2016 reflects some 27,000 expired or cancelled licenses in the FCC database over the past year. In making the case for changes to the entry-level license, the ARRL Board's EntryLevel License Committee referred to "the large number of Baby Boomers (roughly born 1945-1965) [who] will soon be aging off the licensee rolls." The committee predicted the likelihood of "a significant decline in the number of hams, New Licenses 2008-2017 unless we take steps to reverse it." ♦

LED Bulb RF Pollution – Elektor Magazine Investigates

Southgate Amateur Radio News
<<http://www.southgatearc.org/news/2018/april/led-bulb-rf-pollution-elektor-magazine-investigates.htm#.Wue4PJch21s>>

DARC, the German national amateur radio society, are requesting amateurs to send LED bulbs which pollute the RF spectrum to the magazine "Elektor" for investigation

A Google English translation reads: Elektor-Verlag GmbH calls all readers and especially all radio amateurs to send non-compliant LED bulbs including power supplies. Elektor wants to investigate this EMC-technical and then forward it to the

competent market surveillance of the BNetzA.

The reason for the action: As a result of a press release of the DARC in September 2017 on the significantly increasing interference of radio communications, other radio services and the DAB reception by non-EMC compliant LED bulbs Elektor had investigated such lamps (as well as LED strips). The result showed a progressive electromagnetic pollution.

The Federal Network Agency as competent authority for market surveillance in accordance with the EMVG has welcomed the call for the submission of suspicious copies. In addition, the Federal Agency would like to be informed if disturbing lamps attract attention. She then wants to investigate this situation and take

"Chose a job you love, and you will never have to work a day in your life."

~ Confucius

the products out of the market, if they are still offered.

Please send suspicious copies

Elektor-Verlag GmbH

Kackertstr. 10

52072 Aachen

Please enclose a note with the words "EMC LED lamp" so that everything runs correctly in the inbox. You can also announce your submission via e-mail to redaktion@elektor.de with the subject "EMC-LED-Lamp". Elektor Verlag GmbH

then checks the lamp, publishes an update if necessary and informs the Federal Network Agency.

Here's the link to the Elektor article from 23.04.2018

<<https://www.elektormagazine.de/news/bundesnetzagentur-zu-schicken-sie-uns-verdachtige-led-lampen>>

Source: DARC <http://darc.de/> ♦

Skydiving Ham Leaps to New DX Record

Caryn Eve Murray/KD2GUT,
Amateur Radio Newline

In California, DXing just reached a new record height.

Shopping for Some QSOs?

John Brier,

Amateur Radio Newline Report
2113, Saturday, April 28, 2018

If you're shopping for a bargain in QSOs, try WalMart – not the stores but the parking lots Neil Rapp WB9VPG assures us this is a real – and real unusual – event.

NEIL: Some satellite operators, who often go to lines between grid squares so that contacts will count for both grids, noticed that many of these gridlines across the country run through WalMart parking lots. Suddenly, the idea sparked to host an operating event among some members of the satellite community on Twitter, so they ran with it. They've decided that the weekend of April 28 and 29 will be a special "WalMart Parking Lots on the Air" weekend.

Adam Witney, K0FFY tells us how the parking lots became popular.

ADAM: The other thing about WalMart parking lots is they make actually a pretty decent portable operating location. I think the other thing that's kinda nice about the location... you park in the parking lot even long term... I know the stores are known to be friendly with that. I think WalMart shoppers are kind of a diverse group, and there's kinda been some jokes on, you know, people aren't going to look twice if you're in a WalMart parking

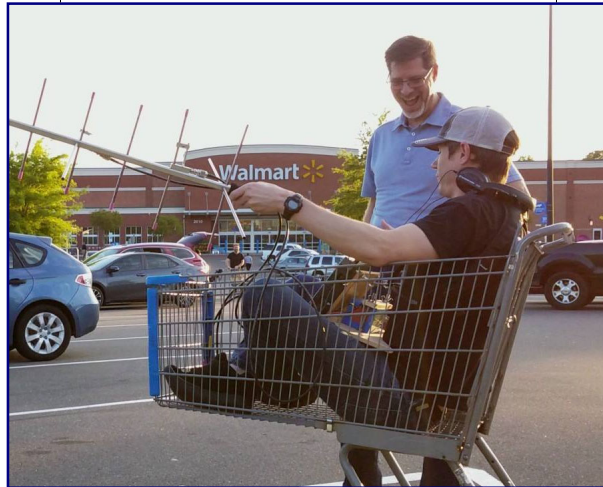
lot if you're in any sort of strange, unconventional dress or if you have

accessories like you're strapping radios on yourself or waving a purple antenna at they sky... for some reason at WalMart you're just not going to be seen as inconspicuous.

NEIL: There's a scoring system, with certificates as well as special WMPLOTA QSL cards. But don't forget to mark your QSL card with a highlighter before it checks out. Chasers will be referred to as shoppers, and bonus point categories may include the "People of WalMart" award, for tweeting a picture of your operation; the "Ol Roy" award for tweeting pictures of your dog at your operation; and the Sam Walton Award for the most activity. Shoppers can work up to the level of "greeter" or "district manager" and for making a late night QSO, you can shelve away the "overnight stocker" bonus.

The final set of rules and scoring information is on their web site, <www.wmplota.org>. So put on your PJs, and bag some contacts. If you're hearing this report after the fact, have no fear! The next WMPLOTA weekend is scheduled for July 2... the birthday of WalMart and World UFO Day. Remember that when you're working satellites, running too much power can actually be bad for the satellite itself. So when you're operating WMPLOTA, be sure to ROLL BACK the power. ALWAYS!

Reporting from the parking lot at WalMart store number 1991, this is Neil Rapp, WB9VPG. ♦



Submitted by **Martin Weaver/KM4HPK**
via Bluegrass ARS Facebook Group.

This is a fellow ham who saw me (Neil Rapp/WB9VPG) preparing for a contest called "WalMart Parking Lots On The Air" last night. He's laughing after I explained the contest to him.

In 2016 there was a "National Parks On The Air" contest to coincide with the celebration of the centennial of our National Parks System that ran the entire year. This WalMart contest was inspired by that and you can get award points for doing things like taking selfies with WalMart staff, operating from a shopping cart, or building an antenna from WalMart supplies.

The main goal is for "associates" to go to as many WalMart parking lots as possible and activate them for "shoppers" to contact. Just like with NPOTA where there were chasers and activators of various parks. It's taking place this weekend (May 28, 29) and is satellite only.

CARYN: So what exactly does a QSO sound like when it's eight to 12 thousand feet in the air? That was the pileup on 20 meters greeting ham-skydiver **Mark Meltzer AF6IM**, on his Yaesu FT-817 on March 31. One of a team of Parachute Mobile hams, Mark had just stepped out of a plane over Byron, California, picking his way through the local pileup when this happened:

CARYN: That was **Lloyd Rasmussen W3IUU** in Kensington, Maryland, just outside Washington, D.C. Yes, Maryland! When you're on the air and *IN* the air in California that counts as DX and a record for this team.

Lloyd, a blind amateur radio operator in Maryland accustomed to pileups in contests and DXing, said he'd heard about the California jump in an on-line group of other blind amateurs – and decided to go for it.

LLOYD: "So I quickly cranked my FT-950

"The psychological equivalent of air is to feel understood."

~ **Stephen R. Covey**
(1894-1984)

up to that frequency, turned my beam to the west and listened and right away the frequency was pretty quiet except there was a pileup of California stations trying to work him."

CARYN: Then, as Mark tells it, success!

MARK: SKYDIVE 2 "I heard Lloyd. Lloyd heard me...we exchanged call signs so we got a real contact."

But Mark couldn't get too excited at the moment.

MARK: "You really have to watch what you're doing because if you pay too much attention to ham radio and not enough to aerial navigation, you could end up over a body of water or over a freeway or someplace that isn't pleasant to land."

But later?

MARK: Very very pleased and surprised to make the contact with Lloyd, I was just thrilled."

As for Lloyd....

LLOYD: "Yeah it's pretty amazing. I've worked a lot of DX and I do a lot of contesting. I was running 100 Watts on a Yaesu FT-950. It was quite an interesting and fun QSO."

DX, says Mark, is what you make it.

MARK: "It's not like working Antarctica or Christmas Island, but for us it was a huge thrill because we made it all the way across the country on three Watts."

Not a bad way to mark your 50th year as a skydiver and your 10th year as a ham, says Mark. You might just say this record's got him walking...on air.

For news about the team and their next jump visit [parachutemobile dot wordpress dot com](http://parachutemobile.wordpress.com). ♦



It's the Rule

Radio Amateurs in Canada to Get New 100 Watt 5 MHz

*"Special Bulletin 6," ARLX006
April 17, 2018*

Radio Amateurs in Canada are poised to join those in several other nations around the world who have access to a new 60-meter band, 5351.5 - 5366.5 kHz, as agreed upon at World Radiocommunication Conference 2015 (WRC-15), but with a maximum power of 100 Watts effective radiated power (ERP). The updated Canadian Table of Frequency Allocations includes the new allocation, although radio amateurs have not yet been authorized to use it. This updated table can be found on the web at, <<http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/smt-gst.nsf/eng/sf10759.html>>.

Canada's radio amateurs will also retain the four Amateur Radio channels that do not fall within the new allocation. These have been authorized under a footnote to the Table since 2014, permitting phone, data, and CW at a maximum occupied bandwidth of 2.8 kHz. The 60-meter allocation and spot frequencies are on a secondary, noninterference basis.

In January 2017, ARRL asked the FCC to allocate a new, secondary contiguous band at 5 MHz to the Amateur Service, while also retaining four of the current five

60-meter channels and current operating rules, including the 100 Watt PEP ERP limit. The federal government is the primary user of the 5 MHz spectrum in the US. The FCC has yet to act on ARRL's petition.

Canada's regulatory agency, the Department of Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED) last August proposed to adopt WRC-15 decisions that included the 15 kHz Amateur Radio allocation. The proposed revisions to the Table would retain the original five 5 MHz spot frequencies with a maximum of 100 Watts ERP, but restrict the new 15 kHz allocation to just 15 Watts EIRP, as agreed to at WRC-15, accommodating the concerns of a few countries over possible interference to their domestic communications.

"Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) noted in its response to the proposed changes that there had been no reports of interference from Amateur Radio operations on the existing five 60-meter spot frequencies following their use in Canada since 2014, and in the USA for even longer," RAC President **Glenn**

MacDonnell, VE3XRA, said.

"Further, the rationale for allocating the spot frequencies had been based on the value of 60 meters for emergency communication, and the low power limit adopted at WRC-15 would seriously limit this use."

MacDonnell said comments from the Radio Advisory Board of Canada (of which RAC is a member organization), the Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club, the Marconi Radio Club of Newfoundland, and several individual radio amateurs also recommended 100 Watts.

"The new allocation will be more effective and manageable for domestic SSB communications, and consistent with the existing use of the band on the five spot frequencies now enjoyed by Canadian amateurs," MacDonnell said.

Canada's regulatory agency (ISED) typically authorizes the use of new allocations via a revised document RBR-4 – Standards for the Operation of Radio Stations in the Amateur Radio Service. "Radio Amateurs of Canada will be urging ISED to authorize the new 15 kHz segment as soon as possible," MacDonnell said.

Where's the Rare DX?

"OPDX Bulletin 1362"

April 30, 2018

<<http://www.papays.com/opdx1362.html>>

ANNUAL ARMED FORCES DAY

(Crossband Communication Test/Set for Saturday, May 12). Details at <<http://www.arrl.org/news/view/annual-armed-forces-day-crossband-communication-test-set-for-saturday-may-12>>.

BAKER ISLAND DXPEDITION

(KH1) - Jun 2018, the call sign will be KH1/KH7Z. Info on <Baker2018.net>.

CENTRAL KIRIBATI ISLANDS

(T31) - Members of the "Rebel DX Group" will sign T31T from Kanton Island (OC-043) in May.

CROATIA (9A) - By the time you read this Jan/PA4JJ will be signing 9A/PA4JJ til Jun 8 on 40-10m using mostly FT8. QSL via his home CBA, LoTW or ClubLog.

CURACAO (PJ2) - Mason/KM4SII will sign PJ2/KM4SII as part of the Youth DX Adventure (YDXA) July 19-24 on all bands and modes. Mason is hoping to work some digital as that is where Curacao is most needed, according to ClubLog. <http://km4sii.youngghams.org>

DJIBOUTI (J28) - F1TMY is signing J28PJ til 2020 on 160-6m. QSL via F1TMY.

EGYPT (SU) - Jovica/E78A til the end of 2018 signing SU9JT. QSL via E73Y by the Buro or direct, and Clublog's OQRS.

JAPAN (8N3EXPO) - Special event station 8N3EXPO will continue thru Nov 30 to promote the 2025 Intl Expo. QSL ONE WAY ONLY. By Osaka prefecture branch of JARL. <<http://www.expo2025-osaka-japan.jp/en>>

KINGDOM OF ESWATINI (New Country Name) (3D6/3DAØ)

- King Mswati III of Swaziland announced on April 18 that he was renaming the country the "Kingdom of eSwatini." The new name does not change the DXCC status of this entity. <<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-43821512>>, <<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/world/video-swaziland-renamed-eswatini-by-african-last-absolute-monarch>>

MACQUARIE ISLAND (VKØ/M)

(AN-006) - Reports of Norbert/VK5MQ now active as VKØAI from Macquarie Island (AN-005). He is expected to be there for one year. QSNs show that he was on 30/20m running FT8 between 0440-0630z. QSL via VK5MQ.

MALAWI (7Q) - Arnold/WB6OJB will sign 7Q7JK July 20-25 on 40-10m, SSB

Upcoming Contests

Sean Kutzko/KX9X,

QST, <<http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar>>.

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| May 1 | AGCW QRP/QRP Party, 80-10m, CW, www.agcw.org/index.php/en |
| May 3 | NRAU 10-Meter Activity Contest, CW/Digi/Phn, www.nrau.net/activity-contests |
| May 3-4 | MIE 33 Contest, All Bands, CW/Phn, www.ztv.ne.jp/isoda/33/index-e.html |
| May 5 | Microwave Spring Sprint, 902m and Up, CW/Digi/Phn, www.sites.google.com/site/springvhfupsprints |
| May 5 | FISTS Spring Slow Speed Sprint, 80-10m, CW, www.fistsna.org |
| May 5-6 | Araucaria World Wide VHF Contest, 6/2m, CW/Phn, www.avhfc.com |
| May 5-6 | 10-10 International Spring Contest, 10m, CW, www.ten-ten.org |
| May 5-6 | SBMS 2.3 GHz and Up Contest, CW/Digi/Phn, www.n6nb.com/sbmsrules.htm |
| May 5-6 | ARI International DX Contest, 80-10m, CW/Digi/Phn, www.ari.it |
| May 5-6 | 7th Call Area QSO Party, 160-2m, CW/Digi/Phn, www.ws7n.net/7QP |
| May 5-6 | Indiana QSO Party, 160-10m, CW/Phn, www.hdxcc.org/inqp |
| May 5-6 | Delaware QSO Party, 160m-VHF, CW/Phn, www.fsarc.org |
| May 5-6 | New England QSO Party, 80-10m, CW/Digi/Phn, www.neqp.org |
| May 7 | RSGB 80-Meter Club Championship, SSB, www.rsgbcc.org/hf |
| May 8 | ARS Spartan Sprint, 80-10m, CW, www.arsqrq.blogspot.com |
| May 12 | FISTS Spring Unlimited Sprint, 80-10m, CW, www.fistsna.org |
| May 12-13 | CQ-M International DX Contest, 160-10m, CW/Phn, www.qrz.ru/contest |
| May 12-13 | VOLTA WW RTTY Contest, 80-10m, Digi, www.contestvolta.com |
| May 12-13 | SKCC Weekend Sprintathon, 160-6m, CW, www.skccgroup.com |
| May 12-13 | Arkansas QSO Party, 80-10, 144MHz, CW/Digi/Phn, www.arkqp.com |
| May 12-13 | 50 MHz Spring Sprint, CW/Digi/Phn, www.sites.google.com/site/springvhfupsprints |
| May 13 | WAB 7 MHz Phone, www.wab.intermip.net |
| May 14 | 4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint, 160-10m, CW/Phn, www.4sqrq.com |
| May 16 | RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data, Digi, www.rsgbcc.org/hf |
| May 17 | NAQCC CW Sprint, 80-20m, www.naqcc.info |
| May 18-20 | Portuguese Navy Day Contest, 80-10m, CW/Digi/Phn, www.nra.pt/portuguese-navy-day-contest-2018.html |
| May 18 | Slobzhansky Sprint Test, 160/80m, CW/Phn, www.ut0lwr.wixsite.com/gotdr-en |
| May 19 | UN DX Contest, 80-10m, CW/Phn, www.undxc.kz/bez-rubriki/2015-2 |
| May 19 | Feld Hell Sprint, 160-6m, Digi, www.sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub |
| May 19-20 | NZART Sangster Shield Contest, 80m, CW, www.nzart.org.nz |
| May 19-20 | His Majesty King of Spain Contest, 160-10m, CW, www.concursos.ure.es/en |
| May 19-20 | EU PSK DX Contest, 80-10m, Digi, www.eupsk.com |
| May 19-20 | Aegean RTTY Contest, 80-10m, Digi, www.aegeandxgroup.gr |
| May 19-20 | Baltic Contest, 80m, CW/Phn, www.lrsf.lt/bcontest/english |
| May 21 | Run for the Bacon QRP Contest, 160-10m, CW, www.qrpcontest.com/pigrun |
| May 23 | SKCC Sprint, 160-10m, CW, www.skccgroup.com |
| May 24 | RSGB 80-Meter Club Championship, CW, www.rsgbcc.org/hf |
| May 26-27 | CQ WW WPX Contest, 160-10m, CW, www.cqwpw.com |
| May 28 | QRP ARCI Hootowl Sprint, 160-10m, CW, www.qrparci.org ♦ |

only. QSL via WB6OJB only, no buro or LoTW.

MALTA (9H) - Henning/OZ1BII will sign 9H3EE May 25-28t on 160-10m with emphasis on 30/17/12m using CW only. He plans to be in the CQWW WPX CW Test (May 26-27. QSL via OZ1BII or ClubLog's OQRS. <<http://www.oz1bii.dk>>

MARKET REEF (OJØ) (EU-053) - Ops will sign OJØY Jun 27-29 on various HF bands. QSL via MØSDV. NOTE: there will be s possible short activity on Jun 26 (evening) from **Aland Islands** as **OHØ/MMØNDX**. QRV on HF bands.

MOZAMBIQUE (Reminder/2 IOTA

Ops) (C96/C98) - sign C96RRC (AF-088) and C98RRC (AF-066). Their remaining schedule is: May 5-9 - From Inhaca Island (AF-066) as C98RRC operating on 40/30/20/17/15/10m using CW, SSB and Digi. QSL via R7AL or ClubLog's OQRS (preferred). <<https://dxdpedition.wixsite.com/mozambique>>

THE NETHERLANDS (Special Event) (PHØØ) - Ops Tonny/PD1TV and Henri/PA4HM will sign PHØØGEVEEN, during the annual "Wings and Wheels" event at Hoogeveen Airfield May 5-22 on various HF bands using SSB only. QSL via the Buro or

direct to address on QRZ.com. See their QRZ.com page.

SAN PIETRO ISLAND (IJ7) (EU-073) – Vin/IK7IMO will sign IJ7V during the RSGB IOTA Contest (July 28-29), SSB-Mode/DXpedition entry. QSL via IK7IMO.

SEYCHELLES (S7) – Michael/VK4EF will sign S79LD from Mahe Is and La Digue Is, Seychelles (AF-024), til May 31.

on 80/40/20/17m and possibly 10m, using SSB, JT65, FT8, and QRS CW. QSL via his home CBA, LoTW or eQSL.

SOUTH COOK ISLANDS (E5) – Jim/KM7R will sign E51KMR from his station on Rarotonga Is (OC-013) sometime in May on various HF bands. QSL via his home CBA.

SRI LANKA (4S) – Takayuki/JI1SHQ is signing 4S7TNG for several years on 30

and 20m using CW. QSL via JI1SHQ by the Buro.

TOGO (5V) – John/N9MDH will sign 5V1JE til May 30 on 80-10m (prefers 30m) using SSB and Digi. QSL via eQSL or LoTW.

VIETNAM (3W) – Megumu/JA6QGF is signing 3W9A from Ho Chi Minh City on 17 and 6m SSB. QSL via his home JA6 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, plus meetings, etc., 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. Go to <<http://www.lexkywcars.org>> for information.

Winchester (W5YI VEC) – They are located in the Clark County EOC, 200 Maryland Avenue, Winchester, Kentucky. Their 2017 schedule (10:00 AM): Saturday, January, 9, Saturday, April 9, Saturday, July 9, and Saturday, October 8. Contact Liaison **Darrell Epperson/AC4YD**, 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**, johnk4ft@gmail.com, 563-505-0339, Wilderness Road Amateur Radio Club, American Legion Post 46, 45 Spears Lane, Danville, KY 40422 – Repeater 145.310 (100 pl).

Georgetown (ARRL VEC) – Liaison **Ron Malinowski/WX4GPS**, 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.

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 (38°3'34" N 84°43'11" W). 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).

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 – 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.

Greater Mason County ARA meeting, 7:00 PM, second Tuesday each month, Maysville Community College Science Building.

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

Jessamine Amateur Wireless Society (Nicholasville) – Second Monday each month, 7:00 PM, 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/info on the 145.490 (T-123.0).

The Jessamine County ARES Net – Tuesdays at 7:30 PM, 145.490. . Byron Smith Sr./KA3WOD EC, byronlxx@aol.com.

The Madison County ARES Net, 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.

The Southeast Kentucky ARC – meet at the Laurel County EOC, 168 Substation St, London. Meetings on odd number months (Jan, Mar, etc.) are on the Second Tuesday at 6:00 PM; meetings on even number months (Feb, Apr, etc.) are the Second Saturday at 11:00 AM. Talk-in on 147.180 (PL-74.4) for directions for other information. District 11 Skywarn Net meets Sundays at 8:00 PM on 146.925 (-PL-79.7) and is linked to 147.180 (PL-74.4) and other repeaters in and close to the area. District 11 ARES Net meets Mondays at 9:00 PM on 146.925 (PL-79.7) and is linked to 147.180 (PL-74.4) and other repeaters in and close to the area.

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.

Minutes of the Bluegrass Amateur Radio Society, Inc., Board of Directors' Meeting, March 19, 2018

Recorded and submitted by
Bruce A. Campbell, KM4EHU
Secretary

The March, 2018, directors' meeting was called to order at 7:39pm by President **Andrew Cook, KF4OWP**. In attendance were: Second Vice President – **James Schlessner, WA9MED**; Treasurer – **John Barnes, KS4GL**; Secretary – **Bruce Campbell, KM4EHU**; Directors-at-Large – **Tim Kunkel, KF4MPM**, and **David Richardson, W9KHZ**, **Bill Cotter, N4LG**, plus Historian and Newsletter Chairman **Bill DeVore, N4DIT**, and MARS Representatives **Barry Jackson, WB4N**, **Harvey Frye, AA4HF**, were present.

Treasurer **John Barnes, KS4GL**, presented an application for new membership from **Guy Hollander, KI4TLY**, and **Bill Weaver, WE5P**. **David Richardson, W9KHZ**, moved and **Tim Kunkel, KF4MPM**, seconded that both applications be accepted and presented at the next General Membership meeting on April 2nd, 2018. The motion was approved unanimously.

Treasurer **John Barnes, KS4GL**, submitted the summary treasurer's report of amounts available in deposits as of February 28th, 2018. (See Treasurer's Summary at the right.) **James Schlessner, WA9MED**, moved, and **Tim Kunkel, KF4MPM**, seconded that the treasurer's report be accepted, which was approved unanimously.

Secretary **Bruce Campbell, KM4EHU**, reported that a copy of the current Bylaws was sent to new member **Mark Elliot, KN4HVX**.

Committee Reports

Contest: **Pete Kragh, K2UPD**. (no report).

Education: **Bill Fuqua, WA4LAV**. (no report).

Emergency Preparedness: The committee's chairman position is currently vacant, and volunteers for the committee will be considered. This committee is the club's liaison with the Red Cross.
Hamfest: **David Richardson, W9KHZ**. So far two commercial vendors have committed to attend the club's hamfest in August.

Newsletter: **Bill DeVore, N4DIT**. Nothing to report.

Program: **James Schlessner, WA9MED**. The April program will tenta-

Treasurer's Report

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

BLUEGRASS AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY, INC. INCOME, EXPENSES, AND ACCOUNT BALANCES March 31, 2018

	Checking Account	Pay Pal Account	Savings Account	Total
Income:				
ARRL Dues	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
BARS Dues	216.00	0.00	0.00	216.00
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	1.57	0.00	0.02	1.59
Miscellaneous	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	217.57	0.00	0.02	217.59

Expenses:				
ARRL Dues	0.00			0.00
Coax/Repeaters	0.00			0.00
Donations	150.17			150.17
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	50.00			50.00
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
Total	200.17			200.17

Account Balances

	February 28, 2018	March 31, 2018
Checking*	\$11859.31	\$11886.71
Pay Pal Balance	\$ 2842.21	\$ 2842.21
Savings Balance	\$ 200.53	\$ 200.55
Total Balance	\$14912.05	\$14929.47

*Fund Specific Balances (Checking)

General	\$ 8795.38	\$ 8812.78
Coax/Repeater	\$ 1164.64	\$ 1164.64
Education	\$ 1909.29	\$ 1909.29
Total	\$11869.31	\$11886.71

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

tively be an introduction to DMR – Digital Mobile Radio, or satellite communications antennas.

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

Repeater: **Andrew Cook, KF4OWP.** Nothing to report.

Shack: **David Richardson, W9KHZ**
HF Liaison: **David Richardson, W9KHZ.**

1) An additional wire antenna is being studied.

2) A bar-code reader has been provided for one of the desktop computers. It is planned to be used for equipment inventory and possibly library material inventory and check-out.

VHF Liaison: **Tim Kunkel, KF4MPM.** The weather station is being repaired.

Volunteer Examinations: (**Fernie Williams, KE4MEI**). (no report).

Historian: **Bill DeVore, N4DIT.** Nothing to report.

KYQRP (ad hoc) – (no report)

Library: **John Barnes, KS4GL. James Schlessner, WA9MED,** reported that digital copies of electronics magazines will be placed on the club's desktop computer.

MARS: **Harvey Frye, AA4HF,** and **Barry Jackson, WB4N.** A set of separate antennas are needed for complete MARS operations. This includes one HF

wire antenna and two VHF antennas.

Trustee: **Andrew Cook, KF4OWP.** Nothing to report.

Bylaws: **Andrew Cook, KF4OWP. Bruce Campbell, KM4EHU,** is recording the proceedings of the Bylaws Committee, which is meeting at 6:00pm before the general club meeting and the Directors' meeting. The current Bylaws are being reviewed article by article, and are revised likewise. The revisions as they are made are being submitted to the Directors for review for ultimate approval and to be presented to the club for general acceptance by vote.

Old Business

1. The large amount of donated gear has not been completely inventoried for ultimate disposition.
2. Surplus club equipment and gear is not yet ready silent auction during general meetings.
3. New locks have not yet been installed on the shack or shop room doors.
4. Disposition of the equipment donations from **Larry Herman** has not been completed.
5. A suggestion for a standing committee responsible for donated radio equipment and other ham gear will be considered.

New Business

Reservations at Veterans' Park have

been made for Summer Field Day on June 23rd.

Upcoming BARS Schedule:

April 2nd, 6:00pm. Bylaws Committee Meeting.

April 2nd, 7:00pm. KY-QRP Meeting.

April 2nd, 7:30pm. BARS General Meeting. Program: DMR – Digital Mobile Radio.

April 7th, Elizabethtown Hamfest.

April 15th, Rookie Roundup (SSB Phone).

April 16th, 6:00pm. Bylaws Committee Meeting.

April 16th, 7:30pm. BARS Directors' Meeting.

May 5th, JAWS Tailgate Swap-meet. (Nicholasville).

May 7th, 6:00pm. Bylaws Committee Meeting.

May 7th, 7:00pm. KY-QRP Meeting.

May 7th, 7:30pm. BARS General Meeting.

Program: (to be announced).

May 18th – 20th. Dayton Hamfest.

May 21st, 6:00pm. Bylaws Committee Meeting.

May 21st, 7:30pm. BARS Directors' Meeting.

With no other business at 8:49pm, **James Schlessner, WA9MED,** moved and **Bill DeVore, N4DIT,** seconded, that the meeting be adjourned, which was approved unanimously. ♦

Minutes of the General Meeting of the Bluegrass Amateur Radio Society, Inc., April 2, 2018

Recorded and submitted by
Bruce A. Campbell, KM4EHU
Secretary

Pending

Looking Back. . . From “QUA/HAMnews,” 1979-2017

Previous Winners of the Ernie Farmer Memorial Award

The following persons have previously been selected by their fellow Hams as possessing the characteristics listed in the Call for Nominations. You probably recognize many of the names and call signs because they are always there when needed and do not hesitate to get involved.

- 1979 – **Sam Humphries/WA4KKV**
- 1980 – **William Alcock/W4CDA**
(Danville)
- 1981 – **Bill Shepherd/W4AUZ**
- 1982 – **Mike Mahlbacher/WA4UQA**
- 1983 – **Ed Bono/WA4ONE**, and
Harry Bradshaw/W4TPB (SK)
- 1984 – **Bill DeVore/N4DIT**
- 1985 – **Ed White/KD4TQ** (SK)
- 1986 – **Scott Hackney/KI4LE**
- 1987 – **Nan Muth/AA4UN**, and
John Boyers/W8OM (Plain City,
Ohio)
- 1988 – No nominations received

- 1989 – **Bill Woodward/KC4CHF**
(SK), and **Jim Odom/**
WA4GHQ (now AC4FP, SK)
- 1990 – **John Thernes/WM4T**
(Covington)
- 1991 – **John Crutcher/KC4DUU**
- 1992 – **Bobby Rolph/KB4QNR**
- 1993 – **Ralph Herndon/KN4DF**
- 1994 – **Johnie Watson/KC4JNR**
(now NA4J) (SK Feb 2013)
- 1995 – **Paul Mitchell/N4DUE**
- 1996 – **Bill Fuqua/KO4WW** (now
WA4LAV) and
Jim Muth/N4CGQ
- 1997 – **Steve McCallum/K4URX**
(W2ZBY) (SK)
- 1998 – **Harry Sparks/KN4S**
- 1999 – None awarded
- 2000 – **Ron Ritchie/KF4MOM**
- 2001 – **Ron Dodson/KA4MAP**
(Webster, Kentucky)
– **James Craig McKechnie/**
KE4FFQ

- 2002 – **Lou Berry/AG4LB**, and
Pat Spencer/KD4PWL
- 2003 – **John Bell/K4RBH** (Honor-
ary Presentation, SK),
Fernie Williams/KE4MAI
and
Jerry B. Young/WA4WWH
- 2004 – **Tom Mansfield/KG4TND**
- 2005 – **Darryl Bennett/KD4CSW**
- 2006 – **Greg Cross/WA8FJK**
- 2007 – **Margueritte Williams/**
KE4MAJ
- 2008 – **Jeanie Dalton-Pugh/**
KB8QLC
- 2009 – No nominations received
- 2010 – No nominations received
- 2011 – **Brad James/WA4HBM**
- 2012 – **Pete Clough/WD4GPO**
- 2013 – **Pat Hayden/AI4W**
- 2014 – **Glenn A. Dawson/AK4HA**
- 2015 – No nominations received
- 2016 – **Joseph Wallace/KE6IVK**
- 2017 – **Christopher Gay/KU4A**

Looking Forward. . . “QUA/HAMnews,” 2018

Call for Nominations – Ernie Farmer Memorial Award

Nominations are requested for the person you feel meets or exceeds the below-listed qualities as related to amateur radio and its many diverse and varied activities. Nominations should be sent to **Fernie Williams/KE4MAI**, President, Bluegrass Amateur Radio Society, Inc., PO Box 4411, Lexington, Kentucky 40544-4411. The person selected from your nominations will be honored during a special award ceremony held during the ARRL Central Kentucky Hamfest, August 15, 2004. Many arrangements must be made, so do not put this off.

1. This award is to be presented during the annual hamfest.
2. The call for nominations must be published in the Bluegrass ARS newsletter three consecutive months prior to the deadline for nominations, which is thirty (30) days prior to the hamfest. Any nominations received after that date (July 15, 2004) will not be considered.
3. Nominations must be in writing and signed, with specific and adequate information describing why the nominee should be considered.

4. Areas of consideration:
 - a. Involvement in public relations.
 - b. Operating excellence.
 - c. Involvement in public service.
 - d. Assistance to prospective and/or licensed amateurs.
 - e. A combination of these for the general furtherance of amateur radio.
5. The President shall appoint a committee of no less than three to consider nominations and select the winner. The committee shall select the winner within two weeks after the deadline and procure an appropriate plaque in sufficient time to permit presentation at the hamfest. Also, the committee will write a letter of commendation outlining the reasons for the award. This is to be presented along with the plaque.
6. The winner will be notified prior to the hamfest to permit acceptance of the plaque and the letter.
7. The name of the winner and the contents of the commendation letter will be published in the Club newsletter following the hamfest.

QUA/HAMnews

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.

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.....Pete Kragh/K2UPD (859) 223-9389 (k2upd@aol.com)
Education.....Bill Fuqua/WA4LAV (859) 272-9523 (wfuqu00@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.....David Richardson/W9KHZ (859) 983-1380 (daveinlex3@gmail.com)
Volunteer Examinations.....Fernie Williams/KE4MAI (859) 652-3393 (ke4mai@arrl.net)

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

Historian.....Bill DeVore/N4DIT (859) 273-8345 (billdit@twc.com)
KY-QRP Group.....Roger Colvin/KJ4YSY (859) 494-6268 (KJ4YSY@GMAIL.COM)
Library.....John Barnes/KS4GL (859) 253-1178 (jrbarnes@iglou.com)
Shack/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:

Andrew Cook/KF4OWP
320 Given Avenue
Lexington, Kentucky 40502
859/396-9930
kf4owp@gmail.com

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216 Hillsboro Avenue
Lexington, Kentucky 40511-2105
859/253-1178
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3395 Greentree Drive
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859/272-9523
wfuqu00@uky.edu

Secretary:

Bruce Campbell/KM4EHU
169 Millwood Drive
Winchester, Kentucky 40391
859/744-7608
bruce_campbell@mymail.uky.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.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 May 2018



- Tue 1 **Amateur Swap Net** 145.370 (T-192.8) 8:00 PM; “**Casual Communicators Net**,” 9:00 PM Eastern, 443.325+ MHz.; **Greater Mason County Amateur Radio Association (ARA)** meeting, Maysville Community College Science Building, 7PM.
- 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); **District 11 Skywarn Net**, 8:00 PM, 146.925 (PL-79.7 Hz) linked to 147.180 (PL-74.4 Hz); *Daylight Savings Time – Set Clocks Forward one Hour!*
- Mon 7 KY-QRP meeting (Open discussion)**, 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; **District 11 ARES Net** 9:00 PM 146.925 (PL-79.7) linked to 147.180 (PL-74.4) and other repeaters in the area.
- 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 **Shack open** 9:00-Noon; **Radio Theory and Construction Workshop**, 1:00-3:00 PM, basement, Red Cross Bldg, 1450 Newtown Pike; **License Exam Session**, Lexington–ARRL, Liaison Fernie Williams/KE4MAI, ke4mai@arrl.net, 859-652-3393.
- Sun 13 **Amateur Television & Specialized Communications Net**, 9:00 PM (146.760 Repeater); **District 11 Skywarn Net**, 8:00 PM, 146.925 (PL-79.7 Hz) linked to 147.180 (PL-74.4 Hz).
- Mon 14 **Jessamine Amateur Wireless Society meeting**, 7:00 PM, St. Joseph/R.J. Corman Ambulatory Care Center, 1250 Keene Road, Nicholasville; **District 11 ARES Net** 9:00 PM 146.925 (PL-79.7) linked to 147.180 (PL-74.4).
- 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); **District 11 Skywarn Net**, 8:00 PM, 146.925 (PL-79.7 Hz) linked to 147.180 (PL-74.4 Hz).
- Mon 21 Bluegrass ARS Board of Directors’ Meeting**, 7:30 PM, Education Center in basement of Red Cross Building; **District 11 ARES Net** 9:00 PM 146.925 (PL-79.7) linked to 147.180 (PL-74.4) and other repeaters in the area.
- Mon 21 **District 11 ARES Net** 9:00 PM 146.925 (PL-79.7) linked to 147.180 (PL-74.4) and other repeaters in the area.
- 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; **License Exam Session, Danville** – ARRL, Liaison **John Wulf/K4FT**, johnk4ft@gmail.com, 563-505-0339.
- Sun 27 **Amateur Television & Specialized Communications Net**, 9:00 PM (146.760 Repeater); **District 11 Skywarn Net**, 8:00 PM, 146.925 (PL-79.7 Hz) linked to 147.180 (PL-74.4 Hz)\
- 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.**
- Thu 31 **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.