



# March 2018

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

146.160/.760

147 765/ 165

## QUICKY NOTES

Accessing the Club's web page: <a href="http://www.BluegrassARS.org">http://www.BluegrassARS.org</a>.

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

**Subscribe to ListServ:** Send an eMail to: barsrequest@lsv.uky.edu; in Subject line type Subscribe plus <your call sign>

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

## -- THE PROGRAM FOR THE MARCH MEETING . . .

. . .will be a training session for spotting, identifying, and reporting severe weather. . .(see "Meeting Notice" below).

## -- IT IS TIME TO PAY DUES FOR 2018 --

It is time to pay your dues for 2018. Memberships in the Bluegrass ARS are for one calendar year, January 1 through December 31. Dues are \$20.00 for regular membership or \$15.00 for associate membership (for those persons who reside farther than 50 miles from Lexington), or \$12.00 per year for Full Student memberships (for those students 21 years of age and under, and no other Club member in their family). Additional memberships of \$1.00 each may be had for family members who reside at the same address as the primary membership holder. Make your check payable to Bluegrass ARS,



"I know in my heart that man is good, that what is right will always eventually triumph, and there is purpose and worth to each and every life."

~ Ronald Reagan

and mail it to PO Box 4411, Lexington KY 40544-4411, or bring your check to the January meeting and give it to John Barnes/KS4GL, Treasurer. OR -- you can pay your dues by using your Pay Pal account. Fernie Williams/KE4MAI has set up the link for paying your dues on the Club's web page. Just go to <a href="http://www.BluegrassARS.org">http://www.BluegrassARS.org</a>. . on the home page click on "Membership" and proceed by responding to the option that pertains to your membership type. For example click on 1 year regular membership and a dropdown listing will appear giving you options for paying for one year or multiple years, etc. The same occurs when you click on Associate Member (for persons living more that 50 miles from Lexington), and Full Student Member (this may still read "Student Membership"). Once you click on the type membership you want to renew, click on "Buy Now" and the Pay Pal page will automatically display. Follow the instructions presented to finish paying. There is no added charge for paying through Pay Pal.

## -- 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

QUA/HAMnews

March 2018

# **Meeting Notice**

## Bill DeVore/N4DIT,

Chair, Newsletter Committee Bluegrass ARS, Lexington, Kentucky

The general meeting of the Bluegrass Amateur Radio Society, Inc., will be held Monday, March 5, 2018, at 7:00 PM in Meeting Room B, second floor of the Red Cross Building, 1450 Newtown Pike, Lexington.

The program, sponsored by National Weather Service, Louisville, Bluegrass Chapter American Red Cross, LFUCG EOC, and Bluegrass ARS, will be presented by **Joe Sullivan/KC7ITG**, Warning Coordination Meteorologist, NWS Louisville Kentucky.

This will be an advanced training session for spotting, identifying, and reporting severe weather . . . training specifically developed both for those who have attended training sessions previously, and by those persons with little meteorological experience. This training session will be open for any Amateur Radio operator with an interest in learning about providing public service communications during times of severe weather. The general public is also welcome to attend because much of the details will be useful for everyone

to prepare for and understand what to do during times of severe weather.

The weather service has asked that prior to the course, attendees visit <a href="http://www.weather.gov/lmk/spottertraining">http://www.weather.gov/lmk/spottertraining</a> and review Modules 1 and 2 of their on-line Skywarn training. Much of the content in those modules is basic information which will be recognized by those persons who have taken Skywarn classes before, but for first-timers there is important material that will not be covered in the in-person class.

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). Time will be 7:00 PM (we are expecting an attendance of 70-80 persons so it is recommended you carpool and arrive early).

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 Schlesser/WA9MED** at (757) 478-2186, or e-mail to <wa9med@jschlesser.com>. (see the schedule on page 2). •

# 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, March 19, 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 Schlesser/WA9MED, during a Club meeting, or contact him at (757) 478-2186, or e-mail to <wa9med@jschlesser.com>.

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

February Club Meeting

# James Schlesser/WA9MED Talked About the Basics of Software Defined Radio (SDR)

**James Schlesser, WA9MED** discussed the topic of the basics of software defined radio (SDR) which emphasized the very low hardware and software costs, and the high capabilities of this technology. He displayed actual examples of present on-line, on-air Internet connections showing QSOs live. He also showed various pieces of equipment he has purchased (dongles, cables, etc.) and their uses, and gave their cost and Internet addresses where they may be reviewed and purchased. •

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. •

# Software Defined Radio News and Projects

**Bill Cotter/N4LG** <n4lg@QX.NET> Wednesday, February 14, 2018

Here is an interesting site that has a news-like blog on the latest developments in the (fast changing) SDR world. Recurring theme: small, powerful, and cheap.

<a href="https://www.rtl-sdr.com/">

# New Sponsor, New Date of Kentucky QSO Party Announced

Steve Morgan/W4NHO ARRL KY Section Manager Owensboro, KY 42301 Cell: 270-926-4451

The Paducah Amateur Radio is taking over the reins of the Kentucky QSO Party from the Western Kentucky DX Association, with our thanks for their long stand as holder of the key for this annual event. The Paducah group are requesting input in regards to moving the event from November to the first weekend of June. Their new website providing information is <www.kyqsoparty.org>. Please help them out by providing information pro or

# **Program Schedule for 2018**

James Schlesser/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 Schlesser/WA9MED** at (757) 478-2186, or e-mail to <wa9med@jschlesser.com>.

Month	Topic Presenter(s) Comments
√ January	"Winter Field Day, January 27-28, 2018" David Richardson, W9KHZ.
February	"Software Defined Radio (SDR)" James Schlesser/WA9MED What Programs Would You Like to Hear?
March	Severe Weather Identification and Reporting tentatively by Joe Sullivan/KC7ITG of the NWS, Louisville
April	Open
May	Open
June	"Field Day" (Presenter 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

# Winter Field Day 2018

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.

Pictures taken during Winter Field Day 2018: inside the communications trailer David assembled; and the location at the primitive camping area of Kentucky Horse Park, Fayette County, Kentucky. David commented that he weather outside was rainy and windy, but inside was toasty providing excellent operating conditions.

sponsoring organization for the Kentucky QSO Party. I called **Ed Gann** and he told me to go ahead and make the official announcement this evening. We would like to applaud and thank the Western KY DX Association for serving as the sponsor for many years. And we would especially like to thank **Larry Smith**, **K4CMS** and **Ed** 

**Gann**, **N4HID**, for leading that effort. Our club is very excited about keeping the tradition of the KYQP going and we look forward to working with other clubs around the state to encourage participation every year.

PARA is working on a new website for the KYQP which we will launch in the coming weeks. Our initial plans are to keep the date [NOTE: See the post by Steve Morgan/W4NHO that precedes this announcement -- N4DIT] and the rules the same for this coming year, but we would certainly welcome any thoughts or suggestions as to how we can improve participation. Paul Smith, ND4X, and muself will head up the committee in PARA to oversee the KYQP. We will have several other volunteers on the committee as well. We have a very active club and the members are looking forward to taking on this new event.

Please help us spread the word among the KCG members and other clubs throughout the state. We hope to have a lot of KY stations on the air the second weekend in November.

Feel free to contact me or **Paul Smith**, **ND4X**, with any questions.

Dave Perry, N4QS

Kentucky Section News

# Thousands Getting Their Grids On!

**Steve Morgan/W4NHO**Kentucky Section Manager
(ARRL)
Owensboro, Kentucky 42301
January 2018

And they're off! New Year's Day January 1 (UTC) marked the opening day for the ARRL International Grid Chase 2018 (IGC http://www.arrl.org/ international-grid-chase-2018). Among those hitting their grids running was newly minted General-class operator Katie Thompsen, KI7HCX, of Mt. Vernon, Washington, who used the occasion to embark on the Chase and to get on HF for the first time using her own call sign. The 11-year-old comes from a ham radio family. Her dad, Todd, is W7TAO, while her older brothers are Mason, K7MWT, 15 - who upgraded to Amateur Extra at the examination session where his sister upgraded to General - and Tanner. K7TMT, 13.

"She called CQ Grid Square Chase on 20 meters and very quickly made 44 con-(Continued on Page 5)

con in moving the event. **Dave Perry N4QS** is the contact person, n4qs@vci.net. Your help in the matter is appreciated.

Thanks

Monday, February 12, 2018, N4QS, Dave Perry <n4qs@vci.net> wrote:

I am pleased to report that the Paducah Amateur Radio Association (PARA) officially voted tonight to become the new



# The Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) 2017 Annual Report



Based on reports submitted by ARRL Section Emergency Coordinators, with 62 out of 71 sections reporting in, here's what we know about the state of ARES in 2017.

Continuing a trend observed last year, the percentage of sections reporting ARES activity has increased. The challenge offered last year was to reach 88% reporting, we missed by just a bit, hitting the 87% mark in 2017. We received reports from several sections that did not report in the previous year – NM, OR, PR, RI, SD, VA, and WY. Unfortunately, there are still 9 sections with no reported ARES activity. Considering the importance given to the role radio amateurs play during emergencies, disasters, and routine community events, it is hard to imagine that there is no public service communications activity in these sections. However, if no reports are received, that is what we have to go by.

# There are a few interesting items we noticed with the numbers in 2017.

There was a noticeable increase in reported activity during the months of August through November. During this period there was Amateur Radio response activity for hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria; wildfires in the western states, and the total solar eclipse that occurred on August 21.

In 2017, 26 states showed gains in ARES membership, with an average gain of 112 members; 13 states showed losses in ARES membership, with an average loss of 101 members; 8 states reported for the first time in 2017. The average for gains and losses was 32 members.

The method for calculating Volunteer Value Provided is: multiply the total Person Hours by the latest rate for value of volunteer time. The latest value of volunteer time, as determined by the nonprofit leadership and research group Independent Sector, is \$24.14 per volunteer hour. This figure is a national average.

In 2017, there were changes in the ARES report forms. These changes made it easier to process information at ARRL HQ and standardize the format for all forms. ARES Monthly Reports have also been posted to the ARRL website, providing regular information on Amateur Radio public service communications activity.

Sections not reporting in a calendar year are considered to have no ARES program or an inactive ARES program. The following sections are non-reporting for 2017: Alaska, Montana, Northern New York, Orange, San Diego, South Carolina, Utah, Vermont, and Western Massachusetts.

# So what should we expect in 2018?

This year will be the last year for reporting using the ARES forms. Work has already begun on the build out of *ARES Connect*, *a* volunteer management, communications, and reporting system that will allow information to be logged by ARES members and managed through field organization. It does not change how ARES operates when serving a partner entity; it is simply a system that will make managing volunteers and events easier. Beta testing will begin in March 2018. Look for more information about implementation in mid 2018.



Hurricane Maria response – Valerie, NV9L, and Mike, KI1U, at the San Juan JFO.

# **ARES Summary for 2017**

Total ARES Membership – 31,332 Active in – 47 states and territories Total ARES Events – 51673 Total Volunteer Hours – 718,930 Total Volunteer Value Provided – \$17,354,958

\*This is a summary copy of the complete report compiled by Kenny Garret. A copy of the complete report may be requested from Kenny at sec@kyham.net.

## Grid Squares Chase 2018

(Continued from Page 4)

tacts," her dad told ARRL. "She was very excited to work her first pileup.

The objective of the yearlong event is

to work stations in as many different Maidenhead grid squares as possible, and then upload your logs to LoTW <a href="http://www.arrl.org/logbook-of-the-world">http://www.arrl.org/logbook-of-the-world</a>>.

Each new grid square contact confirmed through LoTW will count toward

# Andy Rooney wrote that . . .

..."I didn't get old on purpose, it just happened. If you're lucky, it could happen to you."

# 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	Clark County EOC	Amer Legion Post 46	Georgetown Police Dept	
1450 Newtown Pike	200 Maryland Ave	45 Spears Lane	550 Bourbon Street	
Lexington KY 40509	Winchester KY 40391	Danville KY 40422	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@arrl.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**, wx4qps@arrl.net, 502-542-8252

WCARS VEC: Lexington - Liaison Margueritte Williams/KE4MAJ,

ke4maj@arrl.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>March 10</b> , 2018 10:	00 AM	ARRL	Georgetown
Tuesday, March 20, 2018 07:	00 PM	WCARS	Lexington
Saturday, <b>April 14</b> , 2018 10:	00 AM	W5YI	Winchester
Saturday, April 28, 2018 10:	00 AM	ARRL	Danville
Saturday, <b>May 12</b> , 2018 10:	00 AM	ARRL	Lexington
Saturday, <b>June 9,</b> 2018 10:	00 AM	ARRL	Georgetown
Tuesday, <b>June 19,</b> 2018 07:	00 PM	WCARS	Lexington
Saturday, <b>July 14,</b> 2018 10:	00 AM	W5YI	Winchester
	00 AM	ARRL	Danville
Saturday <b>August 11</b> , 2018 11:	00 AM	ARRL	BARS Hamfest
Saturday. September 8, 2018 10:	00 AM	ARRL	Georgetown
Saturday, September 15, 2018 1	2:30 PM	W5YI	**Richmond Hamfest
Tuesday, September 18, 2018 07		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	0:00 AM	ARRL	Georgetown
Tuesday, December 11, 2018 7	:00 PM	WCARS	Lexington
*Additional exam locations, dates,	times are 1	isted at wel	osite kn4s@kn4s.com

your monthly total <a href="http://www.arrl.org/aigc2018">http://www.arrl.org/aigc2018</a>. Stations do not have to exchange grid squares for a valid contact, although it's anticipated that many operators will do so. Some rare grid squares will be in demand. How about yours? Get on the air, and get behind your grid! If you can, get out there, and activate the scarce ones

Members of the Marconi Cape Cod Radio Club KM1CC <a href="https://www.facebook.com/pg/KM1CC/about/">https://www.facebook.com/pg/KM1CC/about/</a> at the Cape Cod National Seashore will activate rare grid square FN51 January 18-19 for the International Grid Chase.

Complete details of the ARRL International Grid Chase 2018 appeared in the December 2017 issue of **QST**. For more information, contact contests@arrl.org the ARRL Contest Branch. •

# Amateur Radio Emergency Service Transitioning to New On-line Reporting System

Pete Kragh/K2UPD, Member, Bluegrass ARS, Lexington, Kentucky February 20, 2018

The Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) will phase out the traditional ARES report forms later this year in favor of an on-line system called ARES Connect, a volunteer management, communications, and reporting system. The new system will allow information to be logged by ARES members and managed through the Field Organization. The advent of ARES Connect was among other highlights in "The Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) 2017 Annual Report," released this week.

"ARES Connect is a volunteer management system that covers event sign up, reporting, and roster management," ARRL Emergency Preparedness Manager Mike Corey, KI1U, said. "It does not change how ARES operates when serving a partner entity; it is simply a system that will make managing volunteers and events

easier." Beta testing of ARES Connect will begin in March. ARES made changes to its report forms last year to make it easier to process information at ARRL Head-quarters and to standardize the format for all forms. ARES Monthly Reports have been posted to the ARRL website, providing regular information on Amateur Radio public service communication activity, the report noted.

According to the 2017 report, ARES membership stands at 31,332, up by nearly 13% from 2016. The number of emergency operations events reported was up by 665 from the previous year, with 1,913 reported in 2017. The top three states in terms of ARES membership in 2017 were California (2,265), Texas (1,930), and Ohio (1,858).

Reported ARES events amounted to 51,673 in 2017 — a 4% increase — accounting for 718,930 volunteer hours at a calculated value of more than \$17.3 million.

"There was a noticeable increase in reported activity during August through November," the ARES 2017 Annual Report said. "During this period there was Amateur Radio response activity for hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria; wildfires in the western states, and the total solar eclipse that occurred on August 21."

According to the report, 26 states gained ARES members, while 13 lost members. •

'Timeline Was Tight' for New Expo Center Ahead of Hamvention

# **Hamvention Update**

Everything Ham Radio, <a href="http://www.everythinghamradio.com/">http://www.everythinghamradio.com/</a> 2018/02/eth096-school-club-rounduphamvention-update/> February 26, 2018

http://www.daytondailynews.com/news/local/company-bid-build-expo-center-ahead-hamvention-higher-than-estimate/yhDNIjvt2icsfaZpU4BVeN/

# An Update from Hamvention Leadership

Despite all of the best efforts and intentions by Greene County, the Greene County Agricultural Society and Hamvention, we have learned the anticipated new building will not be constructed in time for Hamvention 2018. The prefab sections bid on and architecturally required are currently backlogged. We expect construction to be de-

"Everything has its beauty, but not everyone sees it."

~ Confucius

layed until after our show and the Greene County Fair. We expect completion of construction yet this year and ready for our use in 2019. We regret this; however it is beyond our control.

## On the positive side:

We will have increased Inside Exhibits space with the addition of the vacated Furniture Building.

The Flea Market will not be losing any space and actually may be gaining new space.

After consultation with professionals, we are in the process of solving the mud issue in the Flea Market area. We anticipate work to start as soon as weather allows.

We are rearranging the soccer field parking to eliminate use of the low areas where we had problems last year. We will also have a revised exit plan.

Additional offsite parking will be available, along with easily used maps to help you navigate. Transportation from parking areas to the show will still be at no cost.

Traffic issues were solved by mid-morning on Friday last year and we do not anticipate new issues this year.

Talk-In has all new equipment and will be using a taller tower this year allowing us to reach out farther to help you navigate to the show. Be sure to use this service. Do not forget the bulletin frequencies for more help.

There are many new ideas we are working on to make your stay with us more enjoyable. Keep watching our website "hamvention.org" for updates.

Ron Cramer, KD8ENJ, Hamvention General Chair

**Jack Gerbs, WB8SCT,** Hamvention Assistant General Chair

Michael Kalter, W8CI, Hamvention CFO, Spokesperson ◆

# **Newton's Attic**

**Pete Kragh/K2UPD,** Member, Bluegrass ARS, Lexington, Kentucky

I see where Woodford County ARC is doing things with Newton's Attic. Has BARS done anything with this group?

Seems like it could be an excellent PR and recruiting ground for us.

<a href="http://newtonsattic.org/">http://newtonsattic.org/</a>

## **Newton's Attic Mission Statement**

Our mission is to stimulate interest in science and engineering through exciting, hands-on projects, classes, and summer camps.

#### Core Values

Intensive learning occurs when individuals are driven internally by an inherent interest to acquire knowledge.

Newton's Attic will promote scientific thought based on sound principles and data-driven analysis. Nontraditional teaching methods can produce exceptional educational results.

## Strategic Goals

Challenge young people with unique educational experiences that allow them to apply technical knowledge in situations that are meaningful and relevant to them. Create rich learning environments full of resources that promote critical thinking.

Expose all people to the concept that scientific principles can be explored and utilized in exciting ways.

Enhance the competitive context of the engineering industry by providing exceptional learning experiences for young people who will become our future work force.

Guide students to pursue technical careers, especially related to engineering and science.

# **Guiding Principles**

We believe the human mind is capable of incredible feats.

We believe that students properly inspired will pursue a study of math and physics with self-motivated rigor.

We believe learning can be fun and should be exciting.

We believe that the pursuit of scientific understanding is essential to the development of a technologically-advanced society from which we, our children and the world will benefit...we have created Newton's Attic, an organization dedicated to inspiring students to embrace science, math and engineering.

Newton's Attic was founded in 1998 by **Bill Cloyd**, a professional mechanical engineer and former high school physics and math teacher. Frustrated by the confines of the regular classroom, Cloyd was inspired to create a highly engaging approach to educating students about the excitement, fun and career opportunities available to them through physics and engineering. Using the concept of play as the ultimate learning tool, Cloyd devel-

oped Newton's Attic.

The library of available programs allows students to engage in hands-on design, fabrication and field-testing of their own mechanical devices in highly energized environments.

Newton's Attic is dedicated to providing STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) educational resources to parents, students and teachers at all grade levels. We have provided unique programs for numerous middle and high schools and groups in Fayette and surrounding counties, as well as the University of Kentucky, Berea College, Eastern Kentucky University, and Western Kentucky University.

Newton's Attic is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.  $\bullet$ 

"Empathic listening gives others psychological air."

~ Stephen R. Covey

# Arecibo Observatory Has New Operator

QRZ News By **Scott Jaschik** February 23, 2018

The National Science Foundation announced that the University of Central Florida will manage the Arecibo Observatory, a major radio telescope in Puerto Rico.

Arecibo has long been one of the most significant and largest telescope facilities available to researchers, but the NSF has been looking to scale back its support for the facility. The university said it planned major improvements for the facility. UCF will lead a new consortium -- including Universidad Metropolitana in San Juan and Yang Enterprises, a Florida company -- that will manage the observatory.

For over 50 years, the observatory's 1,000-foot (305-meter) radio telescope was the world's largest single-aperture telescope, from its completion in 1963 until July 2016 when the Five hundred meter Aperture Spherical Telescope (FAST) in China was completed. It is used in three major areas of research: radio astronomy, atmospheric science, and radar astronomy. Scientists who want to use the observatory submit proposals that are evaluated by an independent scientific board. •



# It's the Rule

# ARRL Suggests FCC May Need to Intervene to Ensure Effective Antenna Rights

<a href="http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-suggests-fcc-may-need-to-intervene-to-ensure-effective-antenna-rights"></a> February 1. 2018

Commenting in response to an FCC Public Notice (DA 17-1180) released last month, ARRL addressed the extent of Amateur Radio's response to recent hurricane disasters and efforts needed to expand the use of Amateur Radio services when it comes to planning, testing, and providing emergency communication. The comments point out that Amateur Radio not only has been "far more than a hobby;" it is a ubiquitous, infrastructure-independent communication resource that's always ready to deploy effectively whenever and wherever needed. The League cited the remarks of former FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate, KK4INZ, that Amateur Radio "oftentimes is our last line of defense." ARRL raised three areas where action by the FCC could ensure and enhance the ability of radio amateurs to provide emergency communication, including the current Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2017 (S. 1534), now in the U.S. Senate.

"Homeowners Associations can preclude amateur antennas in common areas. HOAs can enact reasonable written rules governing height, location, size and aesthetic impact of, and installation requirements for, outdoor antennas and support structures for amateur communications, but the effective outdoor antenna requirement is paramount," ARRL noted in its comments. "The bill is currently before the Senate Commerce Committee. If, however, Congress is unable, as has been rumored, to pass any telecommunications leg-

islation this term, it will be incumbent on the Commission to take the action on its own initiative that would be called for by this legislation. Future Amateur Radio emergency communications is dependent on it."

ARRL asserted that it "is critical to have stations located at one's residence in order to regularly participate in disaster preparedness training exercises and drills."

Another "noteworthy and urgent need" that might call for some regulatory involvement by the FCC, "relates to an outdated regulation that limits data rates in HF Amateur communications, precluding certain digital emissions that have recently proven extremely important in Amateur Radio hurricane relief efforts." ARRL noted that the FCC has yet to act on the League's Petition for Rule Making (RM-11708), filed in November of 2013, proposing to amend the Amateur Service rules to eliminate the symbol rate limit relative to data emissions in allocations below 29.7 MHz.

That Petition also called for establishing a 2.8-kHz maximum occupied bandwidth for data emissions in those bands. ARRL has argued that this deregulatory action is necessary to allow the use of PACTOR 4, an effective and efficient digital communication mode that has proven valuable in disaster-relief efforts. In July of 2016, the Commission released a Notice of Proposed Rule Making in WT Docket 16-239, proposing only to remove limitations on the symbol rate applicable to data emissions.

"Equipment dispatched with the 'Force of 50' [volunteers] to Puerto Rico included data transmission equipment capable of PACTOR 4 operation, but it could not be legally used in the Hurricane Maria disaster relief effort," ARRL noted. The League prevailed upon the FCC to grant a temporary waiver to permit use of PACTOR 4 by radio amateurs involved in the emergency response. "However, it should not have been necessary to wait more than four years for the underlying rulemaking proceeding to have been resolved, and it should not have been necessary to ask for a temporary waiver of a hopelessly outdated rule that limits data speeds for no useful reason," ARRL added in its comments.

The League also called on the FCC to "take the action requested in ARRL's January 2017 Petition for Rule Making (RM-11785), proposing to allocate the band 5351.5 to 5366.5 kHz to the Amateur Radio Service on a secondary basis, in accordance with the Final Acts of World Radiocommunication Conference 2015.

"A contiguous band in the vicinity of 5 MHz will assist in conducting emergency and disaster relief communications in the United States; with the Caribbean basin; with Alaska; and with other parts of North, Central, and South America," ARRL said it has asked the FCC to permit 100 W, as it does on the five existing 60-meter channels, and to retain the four channels that are not part of the requested contiguous frequency band. •

# Where's the Rare DX?

"OPDX Bulletin 1353" February 26, 2018 <a href="http://www.papays.com/opdx1353.html">http://www.papays.com/opdx1353.html</a>

# **BAKER ISLAND DXPEDITION (KH1)** – Jun 2018, the call sign will be KH1/KH7Z. Info on <Baker2018.net>.

**CAMBODIA (XU)** – Listen for XU7AEY during the CQWW WPX SSB Test (Mar 24-25). QSL via BG9XD.

CANADA (VYØ) (Zone 2) – Alexey/VE1RUS and Pierre/VE3KTB from the Eureka Weather station and Eureka ARC (Nunavut Territory, NA-008), as VYØERC til Apr 1 on 40/20m using SSB, Digi, and very slow CW. QSL via MØOXO, OQRS or direct. CATO REEF (OC-265) – Andy/VK5MAV will sign VK5MAV/9 from this rare IOTA Apr 9-18 on HF. QSL via ClubLog's OQRS or via RN3RQ. <a href="http://vk5mav.wixsite.com/dxpedition">http://vk5mav.wixsite.com/dxpedition</a>.

**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.

# EQUATORIAL GUINEA (3C1L/3CØL) -

Video Available: Yuris,/YL2GM posted a video on YouTube.com of Equatorial Guinea (3C1L) and Annobon (3CØL) DXpedition (Oct 9-Nov 12, 2017) at <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aLN2O8zsXUg">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aLN2O8zsXUg</a>.

FAVIGNANA ISLAND (IF9) (EU-054, IIA TP-011, MIA MI-025, WLOTA LH-1545) – Pippo/IT9PPG and Pino/IT9WDC will sign IF9A Mar 20-25. (in the CQWW WPX SSB Test) on all bands/modes. QSL via IT9PPG, direct or by the Buro.

FRENCH GUIANA (FY/TO2) – Hartwig/DL7BC will sign FY/DL7BC/p Mar 12-26. He will sign TO2BC for the BARTG HF RTTY (Mar 17-18) and CQWW WPX SSB (Mar 24-25) Tests, on 40-10m. QSL via his home CBA, direct, by the Buro, Club's OQRS or LoTW. <a href="https://www.qslnet.de/dl7bc">http://www.qslnet.de/dl7bc</a>.

**IRELAND** (EI5Ø) (Special Event) – EI5ØAOM Jan-Mar. QSL via EI2KA, direct with 2 USDs and SAE or via the Buro. Log will be uploaded to LoTW. <a href="http://www.qrz.com/db/EI5ØAOM">http://www.qrz.com/db/EI5ØAOM</a>

**KOSOVO (Z6)** – Gab/HB9TSW will sign Z68BG Mar 29-Apr 19 on 80-10m using CW. QSL via HB9TSW direct (see QRZ.com), LoTW or eQSL.

**LIPE ISLAND (HS8) (AS-126)** – A group will sign HS8JCV/P Mar 29-Apr 2 on various HF bands. QSL via HS8JCV.

MADEIRA ISLANDS (CT9) – Hardy/DL3KWF and Rosel/DL3KWR will sign CT9/DL3KWF and CT9/DL3KWR til Apr 5 on 30/17/12m and CW. QSL via their home CBAs, direct, by the Buro (also via E-mail request), eQSL or LoTW. <a href="http://www.dl3kwf.com/CT39/CT39-Results-e.htm">http://www.dl3kwf.com/CT39/CT39-Results-e.htm</a>.

# **Upcoming Contests**

Sean Kutzko/KX9X,

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

- Mar 3 Novice Rig Roundup, 80/40/15/10/2m, CW www.novicerigroundup.com
  Mar 3 Wake-Up! QRP Sprint, 40/20m, CW, www.qrp.ru/contest/wakeup
- Mar 3-4 ARRL International DX Contest, 169-10m, SSB, www.arrl.org/arrl-dx
- Mar 3-4 Open Ukraine RTTY Championship, 160-10m, Digi, www.krs.ho.ua/openrtty
- Mar 4 UBA Spring Contest, 80m, CW, www.uba.be/hf/contest-rules
- Mar 4 SARL Hamnet 40-Meter Simulated Emergency Test, www.sarl.org.za
- Mar 4 NSARA Contest, 80m, CW/Digi/Phn, nsara.ve1cfy.net
- Mar 5 RSGB 80-Meter Club Championship, Data, www.rsgbcc.org/hf
- Mar 6 ARS Spartan Sprint, 80-10m, CW, www.arsqrp.blogspot.com Mar 6 AGCW YL-CW Party, 80m, CW, www.agcw.org/index.php/en
- Mar 7 NRAU 10-Meter Activity Contest, CW/Digi/Phn, www.nrau.net
- Mar 7 UKEICC 80-Meter Contest, Phn, www.ukeicc.com
- Mar 7-11 AWA John Rollins Memorial DX Contest, 40/20m, CW, www.antiquewireless.org
- Mar 10 AGCW QRP Contest, 80-10m, CW, www.agcw.org/index.php/en
- Mar 10 QRP ARCI Spring Thaw SSB Sprint, 160-10m, www.qrparci.org
- Mar 10-11 RSGB Commonwealth Contest, 80-10m, CW, www.rsgbcc.org/hf
- Mar 10-11 SARL VHF/UHF Analogue/Digital Contest, 50-1296 MHz, Digi, www.sarl.org.za
- Mar 10-11 F9AA Cup, 80-10m/2m, SSB, www.site.urc.asso.fr
- Mar 10-11 South America 10-Meter Contest, CW/Phn, www.sa10m.com.ar
- Mar 10-11 SKCC Weekend Sprintathon, 160-6m, CW, www.skccgroup.com
- Mar 10-11 Stew Perry Topband Challenge, 160m, CW, www.kkn.net/stew
- Mar 10-11 Oklahoma QSO Party. 80-6m, CW/Digi/Phn, www.k5cm.com/okqp.htm
- Mar 10-11 EA PSK63 Contest, 80-10m, Digi, www.concursos.ure.es/en
- Mar 10-11 Tesla Memorial HF CW Contest, 80m, CW, www.radiosport.org.rs
- Mar 10-11 QCWA QSO Party, 160-6m, CW/Digi/Phn, www.qcwa.org
- Mar 10-11 Idaho QSO Party, 160-10m, CW/Digi/Phn, www.idahoarrl.info
- Mar 11 North American Sprint, RTTY, 80-20m, www.ncjweb.com
- Mar 11 WAB 3.5 MHz Phone, www.wab.intermip.net
- Mar 11-12 Wisconsin QSO Party, All Bands, CW/Digi/Phn, www.warac.org
- Mar 12 4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint, 160-10m, CW/Phn, www.4sqrp.com
- Mar 13-18 CLARA Chatter Party, 80-10m +2m, CW/Phn, www.clarayl.ca
- Mar 14 RSGB 80-Meter Club Championship, CW, www.rsgbcc.org/hf
- Mar 17 Feld Hell Sprint, 160-10m, Digi, www.sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub
- Mar 17-19 BARTG HF RTTY Contest, 80-10m, Digi, www.bartg.org.uk
- Mar 17-18 Russian DX Contest, 160-10m, CW/Phn, www.rdxc.org
- Mar 17-18 Louisiana QSO Party, 160-2m, CW/Digi/Phn, www.laqp.louisianacontestclub.org
- Mar 17-18 Virginia QSO Party, All Bands, CW/Digi/Phn, www.qsl.net/sterling
- Mar 18 UBA Spring Contest, SSB, 80m, www.uba.be/hf/contest-rules
- Mar 19 Run for the Bacon QRP Contest, 160-10m, CW, www.grpcontest.com/pigrun
- Mar 19 Bucharest Contest, 80/40m, CW/Digi/Phn, www.yo3test201x.blogspot.ro
- Mar 22 NAQCC CW Sprint, 80-20m, CW, www.naqcc.info
- Mar 22 RSGB 80-Meter Club Championship, SSB, www.rsgbcc.org/hf
- Mar 24 FOC QSO Party CW, 160m-UHF, www,g4foc.org/qsoparty
- Mar 24-25 CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB, 160-10m, www.cqwpx.com
- Mar 25 UBA Spring Contest, 6m, CW/Phn, www.uba.be/hf/contest-rules
- Mar 28 SKCC Sprint, 160-10m, CW, www.skccgroup.com
- Mar 28 UKEICC 80-Meter Contest, CW, www.ukeicc.com
- Mar 31-Apr 1 Russian WW MultiMode Contest, 160-10m, CW/Digi/Phn, www.rdrclub.ru
- Mar 31-Apr 1 UK/EI DX Contest, 80-10m, CW, www.ukeicc.com +

MALAWI (7Q) – Listen for 7Q7EI Mar 21-Apr 3 on 160-10m using CW, SSB, and RTTY. They will enter the CQWW WPX SSB Test (Mar 24-25). QSL via MØOXO, direct, or via OQRS (direct or Buro). Log will be uploaded to LoTW after 3 months. <a href="http://www.7q7ei.com">http://www.7q7ei.com</a>.

**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.

POLAND(3Z) - Kris/SP6DVP will sign the special call sign 3Z6V during the CQWW WPX SSB Test Mar 24-25. QSL via SP6DVP, by the Buro, direct or LoTW. REVILLA GIGEDO (4B4) - Mark/XE1B will sign 4B4B from Socorro Is (NA-030, WW Loc. DK48mr), Mar 1-15

on 160-6m (no 30m) using SSB. QSL via XE1B direct or Club-Log's OQRS. QRZ.com for info.

**SPRATLY ISLANDS (9MØ)** – A team will sign 9MØW from Layang Layang Island (Swallow Reef) (AS-051) Mar 6-13 on 160-6m using CW, SSB, and FT8/PSK63. QSL via YT1AD, direct or by the Buro. <a href="http://www.yt1ad.info/9m0w">http://www.yt1ad.info/9m0w</a>.

**SRI LANKA (4S)** – Takayuki/JI1SHQ is signing 4S7TNG for several years on 30 and 20m using CW. QSL via JI1SHQ by

the Buro.

TEMOTU PROVINCE AND SOLOMON ISLANDS (H40/H44) – Chungki/VA7YM is signing H4ØYM til Mar 12, then H44YM til Mar 16 on 160-10m, including 60m, using SSB, RTTY, PSK31, JT65, FT8 and CW (very slow). QRZ.com page under H4ØYM.

**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.

VIETNAM (3W) – Charles/WØDLE will sign 3W9DLE Feb-Apr on 20m using CW, SSB, and FT8 (also in the Russian DX CW Test Mar 17-18). QSL via WØDLE.

ZIMBABWE (Z2) – Ops will sign Z2LA til Mar 11 on various HF bands (160-10m) using CW, SSB, and Digi. QSL via ClubLog's OQRS, MØOXO or his OQRS. <a href="http://www.la9vpa.com/z2la">http://www.la9vpa.com/z2la</a>. ◆

# 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 <a href="http://www.lexkvwcars.org">http://www.lexkvwcars.org</a> 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. Anyone interested in amateur radio is cordially invited. Also, visit their web site at <a href="http://www.ky4wc.org">http://www.ky4wc.org</a>. 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 Blugrass 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, byronllx@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 tor 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, January 22, 2018

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

The directors' meeting was called to order by President Andrew Cook, KF4OWP, at 7:32pm. In attendance were: First Vice President – William Fuqua, WA4ALV; Second Vice President – James Schlesser, WA9MED; Treasurer – John Barnes, KS4GL; Secretary – Bruce Campbell, KM4EHU; Directors-at-Large – Tim Kunkel, KF4MPM and David Richardson, W9KHZ. In addition, Historian and Newsletter Chairman Bill DeVore, N4DIT, MARS Representatives Barry Jackson, WB4N, and Harvey Frye, AA4HF, were present.

Treasurer John Barnes, KS4GL, presented an application for new membership from James Gragg, KM4PJU. David Richardson, W9KHZ, moved and Tim Kunkel, KF4MPM, seconded that the application be accepted and presented at the next General Membership meeting On February 5th, 2018.

Treasurer John Barnes, KS4GL, submitted the summary treasurer's report of amounts available in deposits as of December 31, 2017. James Schlesser, WA9MED, moved, and Bill DeVore, N4DIT, seconded that the treasurer's report be accepted, which was approved unanimously.

**Treasurer John Barnes, KS4GL**, reported the club received \$77.00 from the members' auction at the December meeting.

**Secretary Bruce Campbell, KM4EHU**, reported that club annual report, including the current officers' roster, was filed with the ARRL on January 3, 2018.

## **Committee Reports**

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

**Education: Bill Fuqua, WA4LAV.** There was no participation in the education programs as expected during the holidays.

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

**Hamfest: David Richardson, W9KHZ.** A second commercial vendor has reserved tables for this summer's hamfest. Invitations have been sent to

# **Treasurer's Report**

Respectfully submitted, John Barnes/KS4GL, Treasurer

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

	Checking	Pay Pal	Savings	
	Account	Account	Account	Total
Income:				
ARRL Dues	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
BARS Dues	121.00	0.00	0.00	121.00
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	1.59	0.00	0.02	1.61
Miscellaneous	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	122.59	0.00	0.02	122.61
Expenses:				
ARRLDues	0.00			0.00
Coax/Repeaters	0.00			0.00
Donations	292.00			292.00
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	0.00			0.00
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	292.00			292.00

## Account Balances

# December 31, 2017 January 31, 2018

Total Balance	\$14971.72	\$14802.33
Savings Balance	\$ 200.48	\$ 200.50
Pay Pal Balance	\$ 2719.94	\$ 2714.94
Checking*	\$12056.30	\$11886.89

# \*Fund Specific Balances

(Checking)

Total	\$12056.30	\$11886.89
Education	\$ 1909.29	\$ 1909.29
Coax/Repeater	\$ 1164.64	\$ 1164.64
General	\$ 8982.37	\$ 8812,96

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

commercial vendors. Ideas for increased raffles and door prizes will be considered. The hamfest may be a venue for the sale of the club's surplus equipment.

**Newsletter: Bill DeVore, N4DIT.** Any member interested in taking over the newsletter in 2019 should contact Bill DeVore, N4DIT.

**Program: James Schlesser, WA9MED.** The program for the February meeting will be "Software Defined Radio (SDR)." The March program is expected to be the National Weather Service Severe Weather Spotting and Reporting.

**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. A new support for the half of the dipole antenna will be placed when weather conditions allow.
- 2. An all-antenna service day will be scheduled and coordinated sometime during the spring.
- 3. Club equipment that has been loaned out will be recalled to the shack inventory.

4. The consideration of disposing the club's surplus equipment first through a members' auction will be studied.

VHF Liaison: Tim Kunkel, KF4MPM. Nothing to report.

Volunteer Examinations: (Fernie Williams, KE4MEI). No report was available for license exams.

**Historian: Bill DeVore, N4DIT.** Additional archival records have been rescued from old storage.

**KYQRP** (ad hoc) - Chris Gay, **KU4A** said there will be no KY QRP meeting before the March general meeting.

**Library (ex officio): John Barnes, KS4GL.** No activities in the library during the holidays.

MARS: Harvey Frye, AA4HF, and Barry Jackson, WB4N. A temporary high frequency antenna was placed outside. Operators of the MARS station were able to check into the local net. The temporary antenna was removed afterwards.

Repeater/Shack Trustee: Andrew Cook, KF4OWP. Nothing to report.

Bylaws (ad hoc): Andrew Cook, KF4OWP. Nothing to report.

#### **Old Business**

 Operating system and basic office software has been installed by **Jeff Cole**, **KY4JC**, on the donated desktop computers

#### **New Business:**

- 1. The club was contacted by **Larry Herman, WA4HTM** concerning the donation of radio equipment and a tower belonging to his father. The gear will be inspected and cataloged to determine its disposition with regards to the club's needs.
- 2. A club gear and equipment auction will be considered on a Saturday in the Spring.

## **Upcoming BARS Schedule:**

February 5th, 7:00pm. KY-QRP Meeting.

February 5th, 7:30pm. BARS General Meeting.

Program: Software Define Radio (SDR).

March 3rd. Cave City Hamfest. March 5th, KY-QRP Meeting Cancelled.

March 5th, 7:00pm. BARS General Meeting.

Program: National Weather Service Severe Weather Spotting.

March 19th, 7:30pm. BARS Directors' Meeting.

With no other business at 8:15pm, **James Schlesser**, **WA9MED**, moved, and **Tim Kunkel**, **KF4MPM**, seconded, that the meeting be adjourned, which was approved unanimously. •

# Minutes of the General Meeting of the Bluegrass Amateur Radio Society, Inc., February 5, 2018\*

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

The February BARS general meeting was called to order at 7:28pm by President **Andrew Cook**, **KF4OWP**.

Self-introductions were made by twenty-three (23) member licensed amateur radio operators and one non-licensed member, which consisted a quorum, plus one licensed visitor and one nonlicensed visitor.

#### Members' News

**Bill Fuqua, WA4LAV,** and **James Schlesser, WA9MED,** celebrate their birthdays in February.

Treasurer's Report. John Barnes, KS4GL, presented one new membership application for James (Sandy) Gragg,

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

**KM4PJU**, which was accepted at the Directors' Meeting on January 22, 2018. **David Richardson, W9KHZ**. moved for acceptance and without objection the membership application was approved by general consensus.

Treasurer John Barnes, KS4GL, submitted the summary treasurer's report of amounts available in deposits as of January 31, 2018. (See John's report on the preceding page of this newsletter.) James Schlesser, WA9MED, moved and Tim Kunkle, KF4MPM, seconded to accept the treasurer's report, which was approved unanimously.

#### **Committee Announcements**

# Contest Committee -

1) Pete Kragh, K2UPC agreed to fill the open chair position of the Contest Committee. He suggested the possibility of the club participating in one contest per month from the K4KJQ station. The ARRL CW DX contest is February 17th-18th, and the ARRL Phone DX contest is March 3rd-4th.

**2) David Richardson, W9KHZ**, reported that Summer Field Day is scheduled for June 23rd-24th.

**Education – Bill Fuqua, WA4LAV:** Nothing to announce.

**Emergency Preparedness** – (open chair position needs volunteer).

**Hamfest - David Richardson, W9KHZ:** Nothing to announce.

**Newsletter – Bill DeVore, N4DIT:** A new newsletter chairman and editor will be needed beginning in January 2019.

**Program – James Schlesser, WA9MED:** National Weather Service (NWS) Severe Weather Spotting public presentation is tentatively schedule for the

March general meeting. Confirmation has not been received from the NWS at this time.

Public Relations and Membership

- (open chair position needs volunteer).

Repeater - Andrew Cook,

KF40WP: Bill Fuqua, WA4LAV, reported that Southern Communications will assist with a temporary replacement of the repeater for test comparisons to further isolate the noise problems.

# Shack - David Richardson, W9KHZ:

- 1) Two long-wire antennas have been donated by **Bill DeVore**, **N4DIT**.
- 2) An antenna maintenance day will be schedule for the spring.

Volunteer Examinations - Fernie Williams, KE6MAI: (no report).

Historian (ex officio) - Bill DeVore, N4DIT: Nothing to announce. Librarian (ex officio) - John Barnes, KS4GL: Nothing to announce. MARS - Harvey Fry, AA4HF, and Barry Jackson, WB4N: (no report). Trustee: Shack - Andrew Cook, KF4OWP, Nothing to announce.

VHF Repeater - Andrew Cook, KF4OWP: Nothing to announce.

Bylaws (ad hoc) - Andrew Cook, KF4OWP: Nothing to announce.

## **Program**

**James Schlesser, WA9MED** presented a program on the topic of the basics of software defined radio (SDR) which emphasized the very low hardware and software costs, and the extremely high capabilities of this technology.

#### **Old Business**

**David Richardson, W9KHZ**, reported the Winter Field Day results of 216 contacts, 4500 bonus points, and a total of 5312 overall points.

#### **New Business**

(None)

The next formal BARS scheduled meetings in March and April are:

Cave City Hamfest: Saturday March 3rd.

KY-QRP Meeting: Monday March 5th at 7:00pm, \*CANCELED\*.

General Meeting: Monday, March 5th at 7:00pm, in meeting room "B" of the Red Cross Building.

Program: NWS Severe Weather Spotting (tentative).

Directors' Meeting: Monday, March 19th, at 7:30pm, in the Education Center, basement of the Red Cross Bldg.

KY-QRP Meeting: \*Monday, April 2nd, at 7:00pm, in meeting room "B" of the Red Cross Building.

\*Note: NCAA Tournament.

General Meeting: \*Monday, April 2nd, at 7:30pm, in meeting room "B" of the Red Cross Building.

Program: (to be determined).

\*Note: NCAA Tournament.

Directors' Meeting: Monday, April 16th, at 7:30pm, in the Education Center, basement of the Red Cross Bldg.

With no other business at 8:27pm, Linda Dawson, AK4GZ, moved and James Schlesser, WA9MED, seconded that the meeting be adjourned, which was approved unanimously. •

# Looking Back. . . From "QUA/HAMnews," March 2009, Page 4

# Mother Nature Tested Our Tower. . . It Failed!

Bill DeVore/N4DIT,

Bluegrass ARS, Lexington, Kentucky

We have known for some time that the Club tower at the back of the Red Cross Building was in trouble, but Mother Nature kinda took full advantage of our situation. We now must decide which will be the best way to dismantle and take down the antennas to prevent damage to both them and to the building, while being able to afford the equipment and personnel and assure their safety while taking it down. The antennas appear to not be damaged, only the top eight-foot

section of the tower is damaged. But the weight of the parts that will have to be taken down probably exceeds 300 pounds. All of this is presently being discussed and a decision will have to be made quickly before another storm comes.

Saturday morning, February 14, we had quite a few Club members and friends come out to the Red Cross to help if needed. We appreciate everyone who came out.

And then we met again Sunday, February 22 with nearly 10 people who came out to assist. However, the company we had asked to take it down for us called and cancelled due to the weather (slight wind, ice, snow, and 20-degree temperature.)

We have rescheduled for Sunday morning at 9:00 AM, March 1, and hopefully Mother Nature will cooperate. •



(Right photo) Bill DeVore/N4DIT, Bill Fuqua/WA4LAV, and Brad James/WA4HBM discuss the damage wrought by the high winds last Wednesday (February 11, 2009). B.W. Blanton/KJ4EDR took the photos while laying on the ground (he is a very dedicated photographer!)



# **QUA/HAM**news

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:**

......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 Schlesser/WA9MED (757) 478-2186 (wa9med@jschlesser.com) Public Relations and Membership . . . . Need Chair

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-QRPGroup.....RogerColvin/KJ4YSY (859) 494-6268 (KJ4YSY@GMAIL.COM Library ....., John Barnes/KS4GL (859) 253-1178 (jrbarnes@iglou.com) 

VHF Liaison to Shack Committee . . . Tim Kunkle/KF4MPM

#### President:

Andrew Cook/KF4OWF 320 Given Avenue Lexington, Kentucky 40502 859/396-9930 kf4owp@gmail.com

#### Second Vice-President:

James Schlesser/WA9MED 1492 Elizabeth Street Lexinaton, Kentucky 40503 757/478-2186 wa9med@jschlesser.com

#### Treasurer:

John Barnes/KS4GL 216 Hillsboro Avenue Lexington, Kentucky 40511-2105 859/253-1178 jrbarnes@iglou.com

#### First Vice-President:

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#### 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 Lexinaton, Kentucky 40505 859/983-1380 daveinlex3@gmail.com

Annual Dues (January 1 - December 31)

Payable using Pay Pal - Go to <a href="http://www.BluegrassARS.org">http://www.BluegrassARS.org</a>, click on "Member ship," 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 March 2018



- KY-QRP meeting (Open discussion), 7:00 PM, Meeting Room "B," Red Cross Bldg, 1450 Newtown Pike, Lexington.
- 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 Mon 5 (PL-79.7) linked to 147.180 (PL-74.4) and other repeaters in the area.
- Amateur Swap Net 145.370 (T-192.8) 8:00 PM; "Casual Communicators Net," 9:00 PM Eastern, 443.325+ MHz.; Greater Mason Tue 6 County Amateur Radio Association (ARA) meeting, Maysville Community College Science Building, 7PM.
- Six Shooters Net, 8:00 PM on 52.525 MHz FM (vertically polarized); Fayette County ARES Net, 9:00 PM, 146.760 repeater. Wed 7
- Meeting of Bluegrass ARS Technical Group, 6:30 PM, Education Ctr, basement, Red Cross Building, 1450 Newtown Pike, Lexington; Thu 8 Ragchew Net, 7:30 PM, 145.490 Repeater, Malcolm/KY4MJW net control.
- Sat 10 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, 10:00 AM Georgetown - ARRL VEC, Liaison Ron Malinowski/WX4GPS, wx4gps@arrl.net, 502-542-8252.
- Sun 11 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 12 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).
- Mon 12 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 13 Amateur Swap Net 145.370 (T-192.8) 8:00 PM; "Casual Communicators Net," 9:00 PM Eastern, 443.325+ MHz.
- Wed 14 Valentines Day
- Wed 14 Six Shooters Net, 8:00 PM on 52.525 MHz FM (vertically polarized); Fayette County ARES Net, 9:00 PM, 146.760 repeater.
- Thu 15 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.
- Shack open 9:00-Noon; Radio Theory and Construction Workshop, 1:00-3:00 PM, basement, Red Cross Bldg, 1450 Newtown Pike. Sat 17
- Sun 18 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 19 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.
- Tue 20 License Exam Session, Lexington WCARS, Liaison Margueritte Williams/KE4MAJ, ke4maj@arrl.net, 859-489-6274 (www.bluegrassars.org); Amateur Swap Net, 145.370 (T-192.8) 8:00 PM: "Casual Communicators Net," 9:00 PM Eastern, 443.325+ MHz.
- Six Shooters Net, 8:00 PM on 52.525 MHz FM (vertically polarized); Fayette County ARES Net, 9:00 PM, 146.760 repeater.
- Thu 22 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 24 Shack open 9:00-Noon; Radio Theory and Construction Workshop, 1:00-3:00 PM, basement, Red Cross Bldg, 1450 Newtown Pike.
- Amateur Television & Specialized Communications Net, 9:00 PM (146.760 Repeater); District 11 Skywarn Net, 8:00 PM, 146.925 Sun 25 (PL-79.7 Hz) linked to 147.180 (PL-74.4 Hz).
- Mon 26 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 27 Amateur Swap Net 145.370 (T-192.8) 8:00 PM; "Casual Communicators Net," 9:00 PM Eastern, 443.325+ MHz.
- Wed 28 Six Shooters Net, 8:00 PM on 52.525 MHz FM (vertically polarized); Fayette County ARES Net, 9:00 PM, 146.760 repeater.
- Meeting of Bluegrass ARS Technical Group, 6:30 PM, Education Ctr, basement, Red Cross Building, 1450 Newtown Pike, Lexington; Thu 29 Ragchew Net, 7:30 PM, 145.490 Repeater, Malcolm/KY4MJW net control.
- Shack open 9:00-Noon; Radio Theory and Construction Workshop, 1:00-3:00 PM, basement, Red Cross Bldg, 1450 Newtown Pike.