

FEEDBACK



APRIL 2000

VOLUME 45 NUMBER 4



APRIL MEETING

The meeting for the month of April will be held at the Senior Center on April 7th at 8:00 PM. The doors will open at 7:00 PM for anyone wishing to operate the club station, located on the 3rd floor of the Senior Center.

It's hard to believe, but winter is winding down and everyone is starting to think of new antenna ideas, going to Dayton and just enjoying Spring in general.

My advice is if you are planning on any type of antenna or rig update, is to do it as soon as possible. With the influx of new licensees, the market will be saturated with everyone trying to buy new rigs and antennas. Although the supply seems to be good at this time, expect some shortages after April 15th. Dayton will be the best source and variety of new equipment. Be sure to check on prices through the local dealers first so when you do buy at Dayton you are getting the best deal at the best price. If you are thinking about purchasing used equipment, a word to the wise, be sure to check out the equipment thoroughly before you lay down your hard earned cash. Even though the guy behind the table looks innocent enough, you might be the one stuck with a worthless piece of gear!

MARC MEETING PROGRAM NOTICE

This is usually where I save enough space to let everyone know about the upcoming program. Our VP Don, W8DEF is still trying to have a guest speaker at our meeting. I am sorry to announce that there has been no commitment at this time.

He was trying to get an "expert" on the fine art of DFing and fox hunting. He may very well obtain that person, however, it is too late to be published in this month's newsletter.

Whatever the program will be this month, I am sure you will not want to miss it (or the business meeting!). So be sure to mark your calendar's and see you at the meeting on April 7th!

- SHORT SKIP -

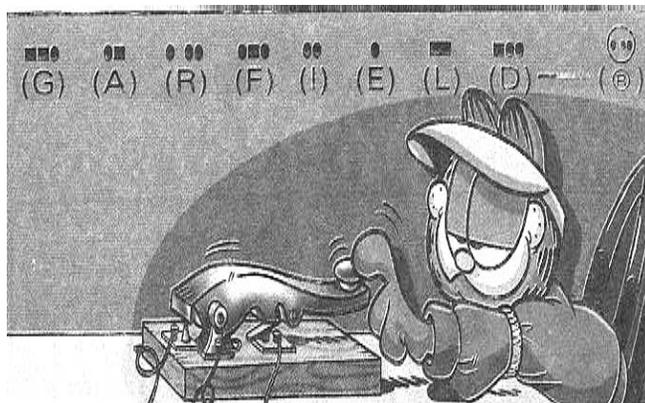
ATTENTION Old Timers ! Be sure to make plans now to work 5U4GT or 5Y3GT from the full wave operation at Octal Base, 1 APRIL. (HI)

On the serious side, look for YAESU to have their all new feature packed FT-600 on display at Dayton next month. The FT-600 will be a low end, most bang for the bucks HF rig featuring 160 thru 10, general coverage, 100 watts, and a direct frequency entry keypad. Lotsa bang for the buck. (my kinda rig)

73 DE WB80WM

Check our Garfield's code ability. Can you figure out the setting, and what he is doing? And the code?

Answers will be give at the meeting.....



March 3,2000 MARC MINUTES

The March meeting was held at the Massillon Senior Center. There were 35 members and guest present. The meeting was called to order by Perry W8AU at 8:00 P.M. and the Pledge of Allegiance was given.

The meeting began by letting our guest speaker talk first. Joe Phillips K8QOE the Ohio representative of the ARRL. Basically he talked about the reconstructing of the testing,also of the enforcement of the rules by Riley Hollingsworth of the FCC.

We then had a brief intermission and everyone enjoyed refreshments.

The meeting was then called to order again. The minutes for the last meeting were accepted by Jim WA8GXM and seconded by Rich KA8ZQH.

The financial report was given by Anne N8GAF. She said some have not paid their dues and urged them to do so to be able to receive the Feedback next month. Motion to accept her report was given by Dennis N8UDL and seconded by Sandra N8TZB.

Perry W8AU then called for a round of introductions.

Don W8DEF gave the correspondence report. Talked of the free FEMA courses still available. Told about local hamfests and had information on the bus trip to the Dayton Hamfest from the Tusco Club. There are bus trip forms available if anyone is interested. He also had a brief review of the ARRL letter.

Solar update was the average solar was up 50 - 57 points.

Skywarn training will be Wednesday March 22 nd. at 7:00 P.M. at Stark Tech .

Bill KC8FLT reported Skywarn system will be issuing new numbers this year.

The test for the Skywarn system will be held Wednesday March 8th at 9:50 A.M. Be sure to check-in on the 147.12 at this time.

OLD Business

Gary WC8W will be starting classes Tuesday March 7 th. for Tech. General and Extra Class and C.W. will be taught by Perry W8AU.

Jim WA8GXM needed Skywarn spotters at Massillon community and Doctors Hospitals. Ed WA8DRT will be at Doctors Hospital with Gary WC8W as his alternate.

Don W8DEF and Linda K8MOO will be at Massillon Community Hospital with Sandra N8TZB. as their alternate.

Terry N8ATZ reported Red Center was interested in learning more about MARC and what is done during severe weather. Jim WA8GXM and Terry N8ATZ will meet with them and will report back with their findings.

Byron KF8UN gave his opinion on someone using the Shack and not putting things where he can find them.

Appointed a committee to look into upgrading the computer in the Shack. Gary WC8W , Rich KA8ZQH , Dan N8DZM , and Terry N8ATZ will get a price list for what is needed.

Jack N8LCS had Super Walk sign-up sheet. He needs help Sunday April 9th. He's hoping to have a good turn out to help with this big fund raiser for M.S. at Quail Hollow State Park.

Gary gave test results held Sat. Feb. 26th. Congratulations to Bruce (no-call yet) for taking all elements in one sitting going from nothing to Extra Class. Tim WB8HHP is now an Extra Class and more to advance on April 15th. Congratulations Tim & Bruce.

There was a 50-50 drawing with Linda K8MOO winning \$13.00.

The meeting ended at 10:00 P.M.

**Minutes by
Linda K8MOO Secretary MARC**

MARC Code Class

Conducted by Kommandant K. Klikk. See the regular student's learning..... or else!



PREZ PROSE

Is spring here already? Did you miss the 80/160 meter low-noise DX season? Well, it's not too late.....get busy before the grass starts growing like crazy and you have to spend your time outdoors instead of inside.

Hope you got to see and hear our featured speaker at last month's meeting....Joe Phillips, K8QOE, ARRL Section Manager for Ohio. Joe kept us captivated for an hour with valuable information about the current state of affairs with rules changes, plus the state of ham radio and radio clubs.....Did you know that, with some exceptions, small-town radio clubs are some of the best attended.... that with increased city size comes splintering into small specialized interest groups and no large central amateur radio presence. Examples were Cleveland and Cincinnati. Dayton is an exception, but the continued military presence, plus the Hamvention keep their common interest going. We at MARC are happy to be a "general interest" club, encompassing and balancing all interests for the common good.

Recent happenings in the area have caused some of the newer hams, who hold daily discussions on one of the Canton repeaters, to condemn today's Amateur Radio as not "being what it used to be," in terms of friendliness, cooperation, and support. In fairness to the newcomers, it could be said that their perception of events has not had the benefit of witnessing a wide range of amateur activities, and therefore can judge only on limited observation.

It could be said, also, that some newcomers from the 11 meter area,

be it legitimate CB or illegal, have brought some of their own prior experiences with them, and are expecting, and then perceiving, the same treatment. Ask any "seasoned" (over-ripe?) ham what their overall experiences have been in the area of discontent, and they will tell you it is almost always with the FCC, or restrictive covenants against towers in the neighborhoods where they live. It is extremely rare to find discontent with fellow (local) hams, and it would make little sense.

Friendly, active support of all newcomers has been the hallmark of Amateur Radio since its inception, and it has remained constant. Some long-time amateurs with narrow technical or operating interests may not be your every-year volunteer club instructor or even belong to any radio organization, but they do not go out of their way to discourage others, and will usually help someone if asked.

A good synopsis of what Amateur Radio operators are is contained in each ARRL Radio Amateurs Handbook, just before page 1. It is "The Amateur's Code," and is summarized in six brief, short paragraphs. It contains not only the "spirit" of ham radio, but is there to let all first-time hams know what to expect from their fellow hams and what their fellow hams can expect of them upon entering this select group. Since the entrance into ham radio in these times has not always begun with the Radio Amateur's Handbook, not everyone has had this thoughtful indoctrination as one of their first lessons. With due acknowledgment to the ARRL, we bring you this time-honored document, authored by Paul M. Segal many years ago. (paraphrased)

ONE. The Amateur is Considerate. Never knowingly using the air in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

TWO. The Amateur is Loyal. Offering loyalty, encouragement and support to fellow radio amateurs, the local club and to the ARRL, through which amateur radio is represented.

THREE. The Amateur is Progressive. Keeping their station abreast of science. It is well-built and efficient. Operating practices are above reproach.

FOUR. The Amateur is Friendly. Slow and patient sending (cw) when requested, friendly advice and counsel to the beginner, kindly assistance, cooperation and consideration for the interests of others; these are the marks of the amateur spirit.

FIVE. The Amateur is Balanced. Radio is his/her hobby. It is never allowed to interfere with any of the duties they owe to their home, their job, their school, or their community.

SIX. The Amateur is Patriotic. His/her knowledge and station are always ready for the service of their country and their community.

(cont next page)

This is the standard of conduct in Amateur Radio. It hasn't changed. After all, right is still right and wrong is still wrong...they haven't changed, either. It's time that us newcomers, and old-timers alike, get acquainted or reacquainted with these standards and "expect" them, "see" them in action, "appreciate" them, and "express" them in all our amateur activities. They are still there, alive and well! Don't forget....We are all in this together....We really are FAMILY, you know.....let's enjoy every minute of it....our whole colorful "patch-work quilt" of abilities, personalities and functions.....all for the common good.

73, W8AU

.... MARC WEBSITE UPDATE

A number of changes have been made on the website since our last update. Lets go over a few of them. After some discussion with the club officers, it was decided to include our club newsletter "FEEDBACK" on the website. At first there was some concern that if the newsletter was readily available by website that people might decide there was no need to renew their membership. After all, if you only want to get the monthly newsletter why be a member ? I sincerely hope that none of you feel that way. Membership in the MARC is much more than just receiving a newsletter, its Field Day, Hamfest, Public Service and much more. Actually, posting the club newsletter on our website wasn't really even meant for club members, it was intended to educate visitors to our site about our club and Amateur Radio. What better way to do this than to read about us !. Gary does a tremendous job every month with the newsletter and we should give everyone a chance to see it !. Next came the problem of posting the newsletter to the site. Which method would work best ?. Like the website itself, our newsletter is a blend of club & national news, pictures, cartoons, and lots of other information. We wanted to pick a method that would allow us to reproduce all aspects of the newsletter so that someone would be able to view it just as you and I do each month. The best format was by using ADOBE. This freely available program lets you view and printout text exactly as you see it. Most new computer systems already include Adobe Reader with them, but if you have an older system we have included a link on the bottom of the page to download the program free of charge. Try it out and let us know what you think...

What else is new ? Try clicking the Service Awards button. This newly created page will show you a complete listing of the past & present recipients of our yearly service awards, including a picture of the most recent recipients. We currently offer awards in eight different categories, learn a little about both the award and the current recipient on this page.

.... STATE WIDE TORNADO DRILL RESULTS

In conjunction with Tornado Awareness Week mem-

bers of the Stark County ARES & the spotters program participated in the State Wide Tornado Drill held on Wednesday, March 8. At approximately 9:50 AM the net was convened by net manager Barney Oneacre - KB8SKL from the W8AL station site at the Stark County Emergency Preparedness Center. The purpose of the drill was to accept checkins from participating stations confirming their location and if warning sirens were heard. This practice exercise helps provide a current volunteer base in the event severe weather should strike our area. We are excited to report that Stark County recorded 42 checkins - an all time high for us. The report for our district ended out as follows; Stark County logged 42 checkins, Wayne with 15, Ashland with 9, and Summit with 8 checkins. Holmes County had no reported checkins. This totaled 74 checkins, one of the best showings ever !. Dave Beltz, WD8AYE County EC and myself would like to thank those who took the time to participate in this important Spring event.

.... SKYWARN PIONEER SHERMAN CARR, W9NGT, SK

The man credited with being the father of Skywarn, Sherman Carr, W9NGT, of Hartford, Wisconsin — died March 15. He was 83. Carr was an ARRL member for nearly 40 years. Begun more than 40 years ago, Skywarn is a cooperative effort through which real - time weather information is relayed via Amateur Radio to NWS offices during severe weather conditions. Carr was Wisconsin Section Emergency Coordinator in the late 1960's when he established the first Amateur Radio weather - spotting network, the Weather Amateur Radio Network - WARN - with assistance from Dave Theophilus, W9KWQ, a NWS meteorologist in Milwaukee. In those largely pre-repeater days, the network operated on 75 meters. Carr's idea worked so well that other states adopted its basis structure, which eventually was implemented as Skywarn. Last June, the National Weather Service honored Carr for his role in helping to create the Skywarn program by presenting him with its Central Region Special Service Award. Wisconsin's current SEC Stan Kaplan - WB9RQR, called "as much a pioneer as the first astronaut." Tnx to The ARRL Letter, Volume 19 for the above story.

.... COMPUTER FEST TIME

It's time for another Peter Trapp Computer Show. Sunday, April 16 at the Tadmor Shrine Temple in Akron. This is off I - 77 to exit 120. This is Arlington road south. Go right on Jarvis then right on Krebs. Admission is \$ 6.00, times are 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. You can find full details on their website at www.petertrapp.com.

Out of stuff for this month. Till next time 73's

Terry - N8ATZ

ARRL NEWS

QST de W1AW
ARRL Bulletin 15 ARLB015
>From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT March 15, 2000
To all radio amateurs

ARRL invites input on new Education Program

ARRL invites input on new Certification and Continuing Education Program

ARRL members are invited to offer their suggestions on the shape and scope of the new ARRL Certification and Continuing Education Program. A Web-based forum now is "live" to collect member input on how the program should be designed and what it should include. ARRL Educational and Technical Advisor L.B. Cebik, W4RNL, is serving as interim forum moderator-facilitator.

The forum site is <http://www.arrl.org/members-only/forums/index.php3>. It's being moderated to ensure that all member input is acknowledged and integrated as fully as possible into the developing program. Members are being asked to suggest specific programs and areas of study or skills development they would like to see as part of the Certification Program.

The ARRL Board of Directors approved the development and implementation of the self-education program for radio amateurs at its January meeting. The program is aimed at inspiring amateurs to continue acquiring technical knowledge and operating expertise beyond that required to become licensed.

The League will roll out the initial phase of the Certification and Continuing Education Program later this year.

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ZCZC AG16
QST de W1AW
ARRL Bulletin 16 ARLB016
>From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT March 16, 2000
To all radio amateurs

ARRL016 League Files Partial Reconsideration Petition on Restructuring

The ARRL has formally asked the FCC to reconsider and modify two aspects of its December 30, 1999, Report and Order that restructured the Amateur Radio rules. The League wants the FCC to continue to maintain records that indicate whether a Technician licensee has Morse code element credit. It also seeks permanent Morse element

credit for any Amateur Radio applicant who has ever passed an FCC-recognized Morse exam of at least 5 WPM.

The League filed a Petition for Partial Reconsideration in the WT Docket 98-143 proceeding on March 13.

The League suggested that it would be less of an administrative burden for the FCC to maintain the Technician database as it has been doing. The database now identifies Technician and Tech Plus licensees by encoding the records with a "T" or a "P" respectively. The ARRL also said the inability to identify those Technicians that have HF privileges and those who do not could hamper voluntary enforcement efforts. It further suggested it would be wrong to put the burden of proof of having passed the Morse examination on licensees.

The League cited the demands of fairness in asking the FCC to afford Morse element credit to all applicants who have ever passed an FCC-recognized 5 WPM code exam. The rules already grant Element 1 credit to those holding an expired or unexpired FCC-issued Novice license or an expired or unexpired Technician Class operator license document granted before February 14, 1991. It also grants Element 1 credit to applicants possessing an FCC-issued commercial radiotelegraph operator license or permit that's valid or expired less than 5 years.

The League has asked the FCC to "conform the rules" to give similar credit to those who once held General, Advanced or Amateur Extra class licenses.

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ARRL Bulletin 17 ARLB017
>From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT March 24, 2000
To all radio amateurs

ARRL017 FCC Puts CORES and FRN on Hold

The FCC has delayed the implementation of the FCC's agency-wide Commission Registration System (CORES) and the issuance of an FCC Registration Number (FRN) to each licensee. The new system, which would supplant Universal Licensing System (ULS) registration for Wireless Telecommunications Bureau-administered licensees, was to have gone into effect next Monday, March 27.

The FCC said it plans to soon issue a new Public Notice "clarifying certain issues about the new program and providing a new effective date for implementation."

CORES registration is expected to replace ULS registration within a year. Information provided to the ARRL by FCC officials indicates that a new CORES registration form will take the place of the ULS Registration Form 606 when the new system goes on-line. Once in place, CORES will assign a new 10-digit FCC Registration Number, or FRN, which will replace the Licensee ID Numbers now issued by ULS for WTB licensees.

The ULS covers Wireless Telecommunications Bureau licensees and applicants. It became effective for the Amateur Service last August.

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IN MEMORIAM

PAUL MAKSIM N8PMQ

Club member Paul Maksim N8PMQ, age 77 passed away on Thursday March 23, 2000. He was currently residing at the Canterbury Villa. Paul was born in Canton and he was a retired employee of the E. W. Bliss Co. He was a veteran of WWII, serving with the U.S. Navy. Paul was a member of the Canton and Massillon Amateur Radio Clubs.

Paul was preceded in death by two brothers and three sisters. He is survived by a sister, Mary Temsey of Canton, also many nieces and nephews.

Paul was buried at the Calvary Cemetery on March 27, 2000 Arrangements were handled by the Welch-Sekeres-Lewis Funeral Home. Contributions may be made in his name to the VFW.

We have just learned of the death of two former MARC members. They are; Anton Simon KA4UOH (formerly W8DJE). Anton passed away late last year. Mr. Simon worked for the Griscom - Russell Corp. He was 93 years old.

We also learned of the death of Mr. Ernie Petcher K8HTM. He was a member of MARC from 1958 until 1966. He was last known to live in Montana. Amateur Radio Call - Book does not list him Perhaps he let his license expire.



APRIL 23, 2000

DX NEWS

ZCZC AE13
QST de W1AW
DX Bulletin 13 ARLD013
From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT March 30, 2000
To all radio amateurs

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by Tedd, KB8NW, the OPDX Bulletin, The 599Rpt, DXNL, 425 DX News and Contest Corral from QST. Thanks to all.

SRI LANKA, 4S. John, NZ9Z, expects to be QRV as 4S7NZG from April 1 to 23 on 80 to 10 meters using CW and SSB. QSL via W9DXA.

EAST TIMOR, 4W. Bernie, W3UR, is QRV as 4W/W3UR. QSL via OH2BN. Other stations include Antonio, 4W6GH, QSL via CT1EGH, and 4W6EB, QSL via CT1EEB.

TOGO, 5V. Michael, DF8AN, will be QRV as 5V7MN from April 6 to 12. QSL to home call.

GHANA, 9G. Zdeno, OK2ZW, is active as 9G5ZW, but will go QRT in early April. QSL via OM3LZ.

PRATAS ISLAND, BV9P. Randy, W9ZR, will be joining the team of 13 DXers from Taiwan, Japan and the USA to return to Tung-Sha Dao for BQ9P operation, from April 5 to 12. He hopes to concentrate on the low bands, propagation permitting. QSL via KU9C.

PHILIPPINES, DU. Roland, DU1KGJ/DU4, is planning activity from Calagua, IOTA OC-202, during the first week of April. QSL to home call.

NEW CALEDONIA, FK. Dany, FK8VHY, and FK8HA, may be active as FK8KAB/p from D'Entrecasteaux Reefs, IOTA OC-058, for 48 hours beginning April 2. Activity will be on 40 to 10 meters, including the newer bands using CW and SSB. QSL via FK8KAB.

AUSTRAL ISLANDS, FO0. Denise, F6HWU, is now active as FO0HWU from Tubuai Island, IOTA OC-152. She will be here until April 12. She is mostly active on CW and RTTY. QSL to home call.

SCOTLAND, GM. Look for GM3POI, GM4DZX, GM0HTH and GM0HTT to be active as GB5RO from Copinsay Island on April 1 and 2. If bad weather makes the sea trip impossible on April 1, they will automatically reschedule for the following weekend. QSL via GM4DZX.

SOLOMON ISLANDS, H4. Peter, G8BCG, is QRV until April 9, mainly on 10 and 6 meters as H44PT. His beacon will be on 50105 kHz. He may be QRV from Temotu Province as H40PT soon after. QSL to home call.

TURKEY, TA. Hans, TA4/DL7CM, is active using CW and RTTY until April 4. QSL to home call.

PITCAIRN ISLAND, VP6. Jukka is QRV as VP6BR. He now puts the emphasis of his activity on 160 to 30 meters. QSL via OH2BR.

MARION ISLAND, ZS8. Deryck, ZS6DE, is QRV as ZS8D, and will be here for just a few more weeks and will operate as his schedule permits. QSL via ZS6EZ.

THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO. The EA RTTY Contest, SP DX Contest and the 500th Anniversary of Brazil Discovery contest are all scheduled for this weekend. Please see April QST, page 100 for details.

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PROPAGATION NEWS

ZCZC AP13
QST de W1AW
Propagation Forecast Bulletin 13 ARLP013
From Tad Cook, K7VVV
Seattle, WA March 31, 2000
To all radio amateurs

Last week's conditions for the CQ Worldwide WPX Phone contest turned out to be quite good. The predicted geomagnetic upset did not arrive. This is the second time recently that bad conditions were forecast for a contest weekend, and then the energy from the coronal hole or flare that was expected to disrupt propagation did not affect the earth.

Geomagnetic indices did rise last Friday, the day before the contest, but even then the planetary K index rose only briefly to 4. On Saturday and Sunday the planetary K index was mostly 1 or 2, and during one period was even 0. What is really interesting is that the College K index, measured in Alaska where the geomagnetic activity is higher due to proximity to the polar region, was actually 0 over six 3 hour periods on Saturday and Sunday.

Solar flux and sunspot numbers were higher this week than last, with average sunspot numbers up 54 points and average solar flux rising several points. Solar flux actually peaked for the short term during the previous week on

March 22, when the noon reading at Penticton was 233.8 and the reading two hours later was 235.6. The low for week was Tuesday, when solar flux was 200.9. It may go lower this weekend, if solar flux this Sunday goes below 200.

The predicted solar flux for the next five days, Friday through Tuesday, is 205, 200, 195, 205 and 210. Flux values may again dip below 200 around April 10-16, then peak near 250 around April 22 or 23. Possible days of geomagnetic upset, based on the solar rotation are April 18 and 19 and April 28.

MSNBC ran another story this week on the so-called solar heartbeat. You can see the article at <http://www.msnbc.com/news/389042.asp>, which explains a theory concerning how layers of gas rotating at different speeds may affect the formation of sunspots and solar flares. MSNBC also ran a story about a new solar satellite that was launched last Saturday. Called IMAGE, or Imager for Magnetosphere-to-Aural Global Exploration, it will be used to study the relationship between solar wind and the earth's magnetosphere. It will deploy four wire antennas that are each 820 feet long, making it the longest artificial object in space. Read about it at <http://www.msnbc.com/news/386647.asp?0a=235A162>. NASA also ran a story on the IMAGE at http://science.msfc.nasa.gov/headlines/y2000/ast27mar_1m.htm.

Sunspot numbers for March 23 through 29 were 236, 230, 243, 255, 227, 232 and 238 with a mean of 237.3. 10.7 cm flux was 224.1, 218.9, 205.1, 211.3, 204.9, 200.9 and 208.8, with a mean of 210.6, and estimated planetary A indices were 11, 10, 8, 5, 5, 5 and 9, with a mean of 7.6.

The author joined in on the 10 and 12 meter mobile fun this week, and here are some path projections based just on those bands.

The first group of path projections is from Southern California.

To Cleveland, Ohio, 12 meters 1330-0430z, 10 meters 1430-0230z (both bands stronger later in the day), to Atlanta, Georgia, 12 meters 1330-0430z, 10 meters 1430-0300z, to the Caribbean, 12 meters 1400-0300z, 10 meters 1430-0130z, to Japan, 10 meters 2030-0630z, 12 meters 2100-0630z.

The second group is from Dallas, Texas.

To Seattle, Washington, 12 meters 1500-0400z, 10 meters 1630-0130z, to Europe, 12 meters 1330-2330z, 10 meters 1530-2200z, to the Caribbean, 12 meters 1200-0400z, 10 meters 1230-0230z, to Japan 12 meters 2000-0500z, 10 meters 2030-0330z.

The third group is from Atlanta, Georgia.

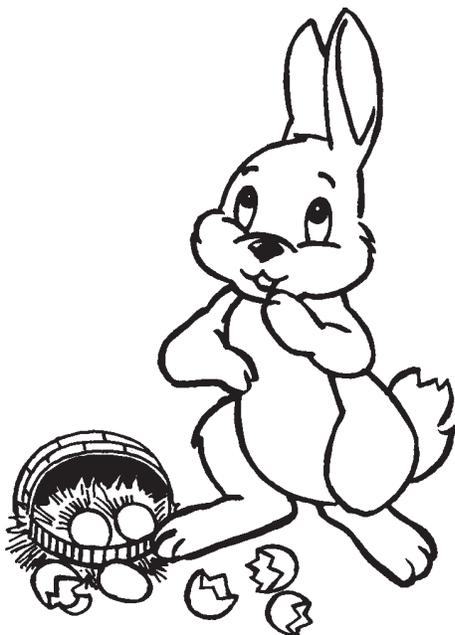
To Seattle, Washington, 12 meters 1400-0400z, 10 meters 1500-0300z, to Europe, 12 meters 1300-2300z, 10 meters 1530-2200z, to Brazil, 12 meters 1130-0400z, 10 meters 1230-0200z.

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HUMOR

Subject: computer talk explained

1. LOG ON - Making a wood stove hotter.
 2. LOG OFF - Don't add more wood to the fire.
 3. MONITOR: Keeping an eye on the wood stove
 4. MEGA HERTZ: When yer not kerful gittin the far wood
 5. DOWNLOAD - Gettin the farwood off the truck
 6. FLOPPY DISC: Whatcha git from tryin to carry too much farwood
 7. MAINFRAME: Holds up the barn roof
 8. HARD DRIVE: Gittin home in the winter
 9. WINDOWS: What to shut when it's cold
 10. SCREEN: Whut to shut when it's black-fly season
 11. BYTE: What them dang flys do
 12. CHIP: Munchies fer watchin the TV
 13. MICRO CHIP: What's in the bottom of the munchiebag
 14. MODEM: What you do in the hay fields.
 15. DOT MATRIX: Old Dan Matrix's wife
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From HELLO RADIO, Irontown, Ken Massie, WN8F. editor
(please credit)

RESTRUCTURING AND THE RIGHT ATTITUDE

I have recently noticed a flurry of comments about the upcoming license restructuring that we all are facing, some of them good, and some bad. I don't know if I agree with it 100% myself, but I think it holds a lot of promise for Amateur Radio. Amateur Radio for the most part has been declining in numbers in the past few years, and as the old saying goes "If you don't use it - you loose it ". We have already lost some frequencies, do we dare let them take more ? I would hope not, but if we keep declining then they certainly will put them to better use ! "Better" you say, yes - better for them ! We are privileged to be able to use millions of dollars worth precious frequencies almost without any cost whatsoever to us ! The only thing that it actually costs us is a small amount of time put in by volunteers during emergencies and disasters, and the number of volunteers are very small ! So a few good folks carry the entire cost for the entire Amateur community.

Lets all take some time to think about what restructuring can do for us and put aside the bad thoughts. There are plenty of good people out there that could help in time of need to this great country we live in, and we need good communicators that are willing to do so. Since they are finally easing the burden to get an Amateur License, lets all strive to encourage and help newcomers into the hobby. Don't worry that someone got their license by easier means than you did, just encourage them to learn more as they go along after they obtain that license. Amateur Radio is like a fine jewel with many facets, there is something for everyone and everyone deserves to at least give it a try if they so desire. Remember, we have privilege to the frequencies that we use, not rights. If they are abused, then they could be put on auction for the highest bidder to take. We may be amateurs, but we can at least look and act like professionals! Please pass this message along to all your Amateur friends and help spread the word, and with that, I say "Thank You"

Best 73
de: KC8AON
Rick McKee
Skywarn Liaison Officer
Lawrence County Ohio ARES / RACES