

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL

The Q-Match

The Newsletter of the Warren Amateur Radio Association

P.O. Box 809, Warren, Ohio 44482

Webpage -- www.onecom.net/wara Editor - pkozup@juno.com

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A word from the prez

WARA End Of Year Review

As I look out of the window of the shack at the blue December sky, and forward to the upcoming holidays, I've been thinking back on the year we have just had as the Warren Amateur Radio Association. While during this year we lost some fine members as Silent Keys, we also grew with the addition of many new members. Some of these new members will be depending on us to lead them down the amateur radio path with our skills and knowledge. Just like each of us has someone in our memory who helped us to be the amateur operators we are today. So now more than ever it is important for each of us to think about how we will participate in the WARA in the up and coming new year.

While the events we as a Club participated in this past year were very successful, and a lot of fun too, we as a group will be facing more and more challenges to insure that the amateur radio hobby, and our club, continue to grown in the upcoming years. We can only be successful with this goal in mind by continuing to be an "active" club. An "active" club in our own organization, as well as the community we serve. So with that in mind please give some serious thought in the next weeks on how you can personally help in this effort. There may be some club committee you may

be asked to serve on. Please look at this request of your time, and energy, as a great opportunity to share your skills and expertise with all of us, and accept the challenge. You may know of some events of community service you think the club should be involved in. Make these opportunities known at our next meeting or through our Q-Match. You may have special knowledge or a skill about a specific area of amateur radio. Volunteer to present this information to all of us at one of the winter meetings. I know I have a lot to learn yet. Or if you know of an interesting guest speaker, bring it up and we can see if we can have them speak at a meeting.

Winter around these parts can be cold and dreary. But it's a great time to spend inside the shack practicing the amateur radio hobby. It's also a great time as a club to increase our knowledge and have some very interesting and fun meetings. So let's plan on it.

I also wish to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your confidence in me and your help in allowing me to be your President. It is the "first time" I have been President of any group and I could not have done anything without all of your guidance and help. Together I a word from the prez (cont. . .) hope we will have a great year 2002. Thanks Much!

In summary, this year will be thought of as being climaxed with the sad events of September 11th. In my mind, I too will always remember that day in reverence but also as one where the Amateurs around the world, as well as those in the Warren Amateur Radio Association went into action and showed the community what amateur radio is all about. We can all be proud of the WARA and ourselves.

I wish each and every one of you and your families the best in the upcoming holiday season with a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all!

73, Your Prez, Bob Maurer -- KC8PVB

A sad note

It is with sadness that we note the passing of one of our club's oldest and long-serving members, Roland Claire Sutton, W8CMS became a silent key on Sunday November 25 at St. Joseph Hospital. Claire was a charter member of the WARA and a life member of the ARRL as well. He was the first licensed ham in Newton Falls, where he lived all his life. Claire obtained his first ham license in 1930. He was very active on six meters, his favorite band. Claire's wife Helen preceded him in death in 1985. He leaves behind his son Larry who lives in Indiana, and his daughter Diane Conrad of Warren. Claire had 11 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren. The club will sorely miss Claire who up till a few years ago was a very active ham, a regular attender at club meetings, and a ham who rarely missed the chance to attend the Dayton Hamvention. Our sincere condolences to his family.

Wara classes

The WARA has again begun amateur classes. Classes are being taught by Frank Fitzhugh, KD8KJ, and Dennis Carraher, N8IVE, with help from Ray Solinger, N8HRZ. They are being held on Thursday evenings at the Joint Vocational School (TCTC). Dennis has told me that at present there are ten people in the class, and that they are all coming along well. The first group will finish in about 4 – 5 weeks and will then be ready for the Technician Class exam. In about five weeks classes will begin for those wishing to upgrade to General Class. Both General theory and Morse Code to the 5 w.p.m. standard will be taught. Any Technician Class licensees who would like to upgrade to General Class and are interested in taking these classes are welcome to enroll. For more information contact Dennis, N8IVE, by phone at 330 924-4342 or on email at n8ive@arrl.net, or Frank at 330 652-0452, or Ray at 330 652-0528.

Ve corner

The club's VE team captain, Bill Showers, WB8S, advises that eight people were tested on the November 25th VE session held in Newton Falls. During the session WARA member Bob Moran, KC8FWQ, passed his 5 wpm CW test. Bob needs only to pass the theory section to achieve his General Class ticket. In addition, three others passed their Technician class exams. Two of these were visitors from North Carolina. Congratulations to all of those who passed their tests. Bill would like to thank the following club members who served as VEs on the night – Andy, N8YR, Delbert, WD8KXD, Chuck, KA8FUP, and Bill, WB8S. In addition, a
Ve corner (cont. . .)

special thanks to Bill, N8VOR, who, while not a VE, did help on the night.

The next VE Test Session will be held at the Newton Falls Community Hall on Sunday January 27. Contact Bill at 330 872-1929 for more information on the VE Testing Sessions. We wish a great day to the following members who have birthdays in December.

Dec. 3 – Bob Schweinfurth, KB8RHH

Dec. 3 – Bob Maurer, KC8PVB

Dec. 9 – Roger Gill, KC8OWE

Dec. 9 – Ted White, KB8YWX

Dec. 10 – Chuck Simpkins, KA8FUP

Dec. 10 – Charles Greeson, KG8ZK

Dec. 16 – Renee McCaman, KB8SVF

Dec. 16 – Ray Solinger, N8HRZ

Dec. 17 – Frank Fitzhugh, KD8KJ

Dec. 20 – Fred Swartz, WD8OPI

Dec. 25 – Deb Murphy, KC8NLX

Dec. 29 – Oran Telford, KC8AWS

ARL FORTY-SIX to each of these members on their special day!!

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Two meter net schedule

The net controls for the W8VTD Wednesday night two meter net are as follows.

December 5 – Pete, K8OUA

December 12 – Bob, KC8PVB

December 19 – Frank, KC8PUZ

December 26 – Jerry, N8JYN

January 2 – Andy, N8YR

January 9 – Pete, K8OUA

January 16 – Bob, KC8PVB

January 23 – Frank, KC8PUZ

January 30 – Jerry, N8JYN

Sometimes the NCS fails to show up. They are supposed to find a sub if they can't make it, but sometimes that's not possible. So, if you don't hear a net

control call the net, YOU have every right to do so yourself. Just get on and call the net up. You might even enjoy it.

Members around the traps

I had occasion to go up to Autumn Hills Nursing home in Niles the other day to visit my old friend Lee Right, WD8JRC. Lee's a bit slower than he used to be, but he'd love to see some of his old ham friends. He is bedridden and his XYL Cathy comes to spend the day with him all day every day. Next time you're at the Eastwood Mall just head up 422 towards Girard, when you get to the top of the hill hang a left at the light and behind the little plaza you'll find Autumn Hills. Lee is in Room 127.

John Robeck, K8ORF, is back at home again after a short stay in St. Joseph's Hospital. John says he's feeling OK, and is glad to be back home.

Renee McCaman, KB8SVF, is back home after undergoing some surgery up in Cleveland. She sounds as feisty as ever. Renee has told me that she's doing well after her surgery.

Congratulations to Associate Member, Don Hall, who recently earned his Eagle Scout Award. Don carried out a beautification project at the Brookfield Branch of the Warren Public Library. We understand that he was helped in this project by his friend and fellow WARA member Frank Bosak, KC8PUZ. Now, Don, it's time for you to get that ham ticket so that the rest of us can get to chat with you on the air.



Annual meeting

While we still have a month and a half to think about it, it is time to begin thinking about officers for the upcoming year. The annual meeting is scheduled for the second meeting of January. This is January 16, 2002. This is one of our club's most important meetings through the year because it is the meeting at which the year's club officers are chosen. The date should be marked on your calendar now. While you're at it, why don't you consider either running for office yourself, or nominating someone for office that you think would make a good club officer. Usually a Nominating Committee is formed to select people for offices. At this time the Nominating Committee members are not known. For more info on the upcoming election, contact President Bob at maurer@sprynet.com, or 440 548-4312.

Two big anniversaries

December, 2001, marks two important anniversaries in the history of our great hobby. The first of these is the 100th anniversary of the first transatlantic radio transmission. This occurred on December 12, 1901, when Guglielmo Marconi, the Italian inventor and experimenter, sometimes known as "the father of radio," heard the three clicks of the Morse letter "S" that had been sent from Poldhu on the southwestern corner of England. This proved to the world that transatlantic transmission of radio signals was possible. This was, in essence, the first DX received in the Western Hemisphere. I had the good fortune a few years ago to travel to Newfoundland and visit the site where Marconi received that signal. It sits very

high on a cliff overlooking the Atlantic Ocean, housed in a stone building. One of the Newfoundland radio clubs had set up a ham station in the building, and I was able to operate from there. It was neat to be able to operate from the same room in which Marconi had received the first transatlantic radio transmission.

The second anniversary that is marked this month is that of the first transatlantic amateur transmission. That occurred on December 7, 1921, when amateur Paul Godley, 2XE, who had been sent to the U.K. by the ARRL to conduct tests to see if ham transmissions could be heard across the Atlantic, actually heard the callsign of the station 1AAW. Godley was set up in the small Scottish village of Ardrossan, and over the next few days he heard over 30 stations from the U.S.A. This test demonstrated two facts about radio. The first was that the bands below 200 meters, previously thought to be useless, were actually better for long distance radio transmission than the lower frequency (higher wavelength) bands. The second was to show that the continuous wave (CW) signal was far superior to the old spark transmission. It seems that the ARRL sponsored transatlantic tests marked the end of the spark era.

To celebrate the ARRL is sponsoring a Special Events station from December 3 – 7. Listen for W1AW/80 on HF, VHF, and UHF (including satellites) and earn a nice QSL.

If you would like to read more about these tests you will find an interesting article on page 45 of the December issue of *QST* magazine.

Field day results

The 2001 Field Day results are now out, and The WARA effort has proven to be a very successful one. Our club effort last June resulted in 1350 contacts and 5450 total points. This placed our club in fourth position (out of 12 stations) in the 8A category. This handily beat our near and friendly neighbor to the south, The Mahoning Valley ARA (W8QLY), also an 8A station. W8QLY finished with 3846 points. Well done to each of the 34 club members who participated by operating a W8VTD station on that weekend.

Morse net

Once again I'll make the call for anyone interested in participating in a slow speed CW net on the HF bands to let me know. If you're interested just contact me by phone on 330 847-0975 or email at pkozup@juno.com and let me know. So far I've had only two contacts to let me know that anyone is interested.

Straight key night

Looking for something to do over the New Year's eve period?? Don't really care much for partying, and don't want to be out on the road New Year's Eve? Well, why don't you try something different, something enjoyable, and for you Old Timer's, something that'll take you back to the early days of your ham career. Try Straight Key Night -- NOT a contest, but a time for all hams to take out that old straight key, dust it off, and get on the air with it to do some ragchewing and to make and meet friends. If you don't have a straight key, you can use a keyer or a bug, but the intent is to just get on and have a ball with a straight key. There are prizes for those with great fists and those who

have the most interesting QSOs. Last year, in fact, one of our members, Jim Gabriel, WA8DXB, was recognized by those he worked as having one of the best fists. For more info on SKN check December QST, pg 114. Get out and enjoy yourself, the old-fashioned way.

Calendar for december

Here's what's happening in the WARA and in amateur radio this month.

For Special Event Stations (Sp Ev Stn) see December QST pg 97. For contests see December QST pg 98.

12/1 – B'fast Wayside Inn 9 AM

12/3 – Brunch Frmgtn Sr Ctr 11 AM

12/3-7 – W1AW/80 Sp Ev Stn 1st ham
transatlantic reception – QST pg 45

12/4 – WARA mtg TCTC 7.30 PM

12/5 – 2 Mtr net 146.97 MHz 9 PM

12/7-8 – Massillon ARC Sp Ev Stn –
175th birthday of city. QSO W8NP

12/7-9 – Sp Ev Stn K7A for USS
Arizona Memorial 60th anniv

12/7-9 – ARRL 160 mtr contest

12/9-14 Sp Ev Stn W8M 100th anniv
Marconi's trans-Atlantic test

12/10 – Brunch Frmgtn Sr Ctr 11 AM

12/12 – 2 Mtr net 146.97 MHz 9 PM

12/12 – Sp Ev Stn N9ZRT 100th anniv
Marconi's trans-Atlantic test

12/15 – B'fast Wayside Inn 9 AM

12/15-16 – ARRL 10 Mtr Contest

12/17 – Brunch Frmgtn Sr Ctr 11 AM

12/18 – WARA mtg TCTC 7.30 PM

12/19 – 2 Mtr net 146.97 MHz 9 PM

12/20 – Lunch Covered Bridge Rest
Newton Falls 12 N

12/22 – Brunch Frmgtn Sr Ctr 11 AM

12/24 – 2 Mtr net 146.97 MHz 9 PM

12/25 – Merry Christmas!!

12/26 – 2 Mtr net 146.97 MHz 9 PM

12/29-30 – Radio Amateurs of Canada
Winter Contest

12/31-1/1 – Straight Key Night