

CLUB OFFICERS:

President Mike Brannock, KG4IES
V. President Mark Currens, KI4OJG
Secretary Paul Harrington III, KB4ENQ
Treasurer Steve McFadden, KA4TJD
Trustee for KY4WC Jerry Mueller, KC4WZO

COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN:

Program Steve McFadden, KA4TJD
Emergency Jerry Mueller, KC4WZO
Field Day Paul Harrington III, KB4ENQ
Web Site Jerry Mueller, KC4WZO
Net Control Paul Harrington III, KB4ENQ
Repeater Steve McFadden, KA4TJD
Newsletter Paul Harrington III, KB4ENQ
Fund Raising Todd Rose, KE4YAH
Adopt-a-Highway Paul Harrington III, KB4ENQ

The Woodford County Amateur Radio Club meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m., in the Versailles Fire Station #2 on Big Sink Pike. Anyone interested in Amateur Radio is cordially invited.

The Woodford County Amateur Radio Club Home Page is located on the internet at <http://www.ky4wc.org>. The Club receives e-mail at ky4wc@ky4wc.org. E-mail may be sent to the membership by sending a message to maillist@ky4wc.org.

The Club holds an ARES practice net Thursday evenings at 8:00 p.m. Nets are held on the 145.330 repeater.

Program for February WCARC meeting.

Many of you may not know about this but there is a consortium of groups working together to put up a satellite called KySat. The consortium includes the 5 state universities. There is excitement among the students and professors at the University of Kentucky Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering who are part of the project. KySat will be utilizing amateur radio frequencies. We have been privileged to be able to schedule several members of the team to come and give us an overview of the plan and progress to date and share their excitement. Come one and all, bring a friend.

Congratulations: to Drew Chandler for passing the Technician license test. He has received the call KI4TFI and is already active on local nets.

IT'S OFFICIAL! MORSE CODE REQUIREMENT ENDS FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23

Circle Friday, February 23, on your calendar. That's when the current 5 WPM Morse code requirement will officially disappear from the Amateur Radio Service Part 97 rules. Effective that date, applicants for a General or Amateur Extra class Amateur Radio license no longer will have to demonstrate proficiency in Morse code. They'll just have to pass the applicable written examination. Federal Register publication January 24 of the FCC's Report and Order (R&O) in the "Morse code proceeding," WT Docket 05-235, started a 30-day countdown for the new rules to become effective.

"The overall effect of this action is to further the public interest by encouraging individuals who are interested in communications technology or who are able to contribute to the advancement of the radio art, to become Amateur Radio operators; and eliminating a requirement that is now unnecessary and may discourage Amateur Service licensees from advancing their skills in the communications and technical phases of Amateur Radio," the FCC remarked in the Federal Register version of the "Morse code" R&O. The League had asked the FCC to retain the 5 WPM for Amateur Extra class applicants, but the Commission held to its decision to eliminate the requirement across the board. The rules that appeared in the Federal Register constitute their official version <<http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/01jan20071800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/v2007/pdf/E7-729.pdf>>.

The new rules also mean that starting February 23 all Technician licensees, whether or not they've passed a Morse code examination, will have CW privileges on 80, 40 and 15 meters and CW, RTTY, data and SSB privileges on 10 meters. Once the new rules go into effect Technicians may begin using their new privileges without any further action. – From the ARRL Newsletter, see continuation of article in body of newsletter.

Minutes January 3rd, 2007

The January meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m.

Committee Reports:

Program:...Steve McFadden, KA4TJD has agreed to become Program Committee chairman. Steve has plans for a program for the February meeting.

Newsletter: The membership is encouraged to submit articles, or ideas for new items to appear in the newsletter. The Web Site needs copies of back Newsletters for archive.

Repeater: SERA dues have been mailed along with information sheets on each of the repeaters.

Net Report:

1/4/2007	1/11/2007	1/18/2007	1/25/2007	2/1/2007
KA4TJD	KA4TJD	KB4ENQ	KB4ENQ	KB4ENQ
KI4LSG	KI4RHH	KG4TND	KG4VAR	KI4TFI
KE4LZP	AG4CM	KI4LSG	KI4RHH	KI4OJG
WA4PCS	KG4TND	KI4RHH	KF4LRK	KE4AIE
KE4AIE	KE4OJG	KE4STM	KD4GNX	KF4LRK
KG4TND	KD4GNX	AC4YD	KE400I	KI4LSG
KE400I	KI4LSG	K4HOD	KC4WZO	KE4GNX
KI4OJG	WA4PCS	KF4LRK	KE4GNX	KI4QQF
	KE4AIE	KD4GNX	KE4LZP	K4STM
	K4JKY	KE400I	K4HOD	KI4RHH
		KE4GNX	KI4QQF	AC4YD
		KI4QQF	KE4AIE	KE400I
		KI4OJG	AC4YD	KG4TND
		WB4NAD	KI4LSG	KE4MAE
		KE4AIE	KG4TND	KI4SSX
		KE4LZP	KF4DSS	

A request was made that instructions and necessary documents for calling the net be brought to the meeting and distributed to anyone interested in taking a turn at calling the net.

Emergency: Weather spotter's class will be held in the community room located in the basement of the Courthouse, Wednesday, March 14th, at 6:30.

CERT classes will start April 12th, 6:00 to 9:00.

Volunteers are reminded to take the FEMA training NIMS-100, 200, and 700.

Attendance:

Mark Currens	KI4OJG	Steve McFadden	KA4TJD
Todd Rose	KE4YAH	Jerry Mueller	KC4WZO
Jerry Hatchett	N8NZF	Tristan Wilson	KI4QQF

New Business: Additional discussion revolved around the parade event in December. The Club was complemented on the organization this year.

Drew Chandler brought a Yaesu VX-7R for the members to see. The state government uses this model.

Upcoming Exams:

All exams listed are within 100 miles of Woodford County.

10-Feb-2007
Sponsor: BLUEGRASS AR
SOCIETY
Time: 10:00AM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: FERNIE D WILLIAMS
(859)245-2140

Email: KE4MAI@ARRL.NET
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: RED CROSS BUILDING-
CLASSROOM B
1450 NEWTOWN PIKE
AT GRIFFIN GATE BLVD

HTTP://WWW.BLUEGRASSARS.O
RG
LEXINGTON, KY 40511

12-Feb-2007
Sponsor: NKARC

Time: 6:00 PM (No walk-ins)
Contact: LYLE H HAMILTON
(513)315-4032
Email: AB8SH@ARRL.NET
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: TURKEYFOOT MIDDLE
SCHOOL
3230 TURKEYFOOT RD
REGISTRATION REQUIRED
AT LEAST 3 DAYS AHEAD!
COVINGTON (EDGEWOOD), KY
41017

21-Feb-2007
Sponsor: QUEEN CITY
EMERGENCY NET
Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: STEVEN A LEWIS
(513)985-9844
Email: N8TFD@ONE.NET
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: AMERICAN RED CROSS
10870 KENWOOD RD
CINCINNATI, OH 45242

24-Feb-2007
Sponsor: LVARC
Time: 10:00AM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: LARRY L LINKMEYER
(812)926-2058
Email:
LARRY@GRAYAVIATION.COM
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: DEARBORN COUNTY
EMA /WATER RESCUE BLDG
401 W HIGH ST
LAWRENCEBURG, IN 47025

24-Feb-2007
Sponsor: OH- KY- IN ARS
Time: 12 NOON (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: BRIAN C DEYOUNG
(859)635-3095
Email: K4BRI@ARRL.NET
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: SALEM PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
3132 MOZART AVE
CORNER MOZART & HIGBEE
CHEVIOT/WESTERN HILLS AREA
CINCINNATI, OH 45202

25-Feb-2007
Sponsor: K4TG
Time: 1:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: JERRY L SHOUSE
(502)839-4041
Email: K4TG@ARRL.NET
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: ANDERSON COUNTY
AMBULANCE SERVICE
US 127 SOUTH
NEXT DOOR TO
CHRYSLER/FORD
LAWRENCEBURG, KY 40342

03-Mar-2007
Sponsor: CINCINNATI REPEATER
ASSOC INC
Time: 8:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: DALE W PRITCHETT
(513)769-0789

Email: KC8HJL@ARRL.NET
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: HARTWELL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
210 PARKWAY AVE
CINCINNATI, OH 45216

10-Mar-2007
Sponsor: BUTLER COUNTY VHF
ASSOCIATION
Time: 8:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: THEODORE WILSON
(513)868-7012
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: BUTLER TECH
VOCATIONAL SCHOOL
3603 HAMILTON MIDDLETOWN
RD
BUTLER COUNTY
TALK-IN 146.97 PL 118.8
HAMILTON, OH 45011

10-Mar-2007
Sponsor: BLUEGRASS
VOLUNTEER EXAMINERS
Time: 10:00AM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: HARRY R SPARKS
(859)272-8762
Email: KN4S@ARRL.NET
VEC: W5YI VEC
Location: RED CROSS BUILDING
1450 NEWTOWN PIKE
CLASS ROOM B
LEXINGTON, KY 40511

Exams Continued:

12-Mar-2007

Sponsor: NKARC

Time: 6:00 PM (No walk-ins)

Contact: LYLE H HAMILTON

(513)315-4032

Email: AB8SH@ARRL.NET

VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: TURKEYFOOT MIDDLE

SCHOOL

3230 TURKEYFOOT RD

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

AT LEAST 3 DAYS AHEAD!

COVINGTON (EDGEWOOD), KY

41017

22-Mar-2007

Sponsor: QUEEN CITY

EMERGENCY NET

Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

Contact: STEVEN A LEWIS

(513)985-9844

Email: N8TFD@ONE.NET

VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: AMERICAN RED CROSS

10870 KENWOOD RD

CINCINNATI, OH 45242

31-Mar-2007

Sponsor: HARDIN COUNTY

TESTERS

Time: 10:00AM (Walk-ins allowed)

Contact: ARCHIE A MACK

(270)351-6159

Email: AMACK1@BBTEL.COM

VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: HAMFEST

PRITCHARD COMMUNITY

CENTER

404 S MULBERRY ST

ELIZABETHTOWN, KY 42701

Swap Shop:

There is a limited quantity of WCARC baseball caps available to Club members for \$8.00 each.

From the ARRL Newsletter:

Continued from front page:

For example, a Technician licensee holding a valid CSCE for Element 3 credit would have to apply at a VEC test session and pay the application fee, which most VECs charge, in order to receive an instant upgrade to General.

ARRL Regulatory Information Specialist Dan Henderson, N1ND, cautions that a license upgrade is **not** automatic for those holding valid CSCEs for element credit. "You must apply for the upgrade at a VEC test session, and you may not operate as /AG or /AE until you have upgraded and have been issued a CSCE marked for upgrade," he stresses. "A valid CSCE for element credit only does not confer any operating privileges."

Henderson also advises all radio amateurs to know and fully understand their operating privileges before taking to the airwaves. Some Technician licensees reportedly started showing up on 75 meters December 15 in the mistaken belief that they had gained phone privileges there.

>ARRL ANNOUNCES HEADQUARTERS REORGANIZATION

ARRL Chief Operating Officer Harold Kramer, WJ1B, this week announced several organizational changes at ARRL Headquarters, effective January 22. Under the modified organization, most functions of the former Membership Services Department and Field and Educational Services will be combined into a single unit, tentatively called the Programs and Services Department. The League also will establish a new Education Department.

"The new Programs and Services Department will focus on providing first-class service to members and volunteers, and it ultimately will combine common functional areas like awards and certificates and mailings," Kramer explained, citing some of the advantages of the reorganization. "It will also permit better management and integration of programs and services

The FCC R&O includes an Order on Reconsideration in WT Docket 04-140 – the so-called "omnibus" proceeding. It will modify Part 97 in response to ARRL's request to accommodate automatically controlled narrowband digital stations on 80 meters in the wake of other rule changes that became effective last December 15. The Commission designated 3585 to 3600 kHz for such operations, although that segment will remain available for CW, RTTY and data. The ARRL had requested that the upper limit of the CW/RTTY/data subband be set at 3635 kHz so there would be no change in the existing 3620 to 3635 kHz subband.

The ARRL has posted all relevant information on these important Part 97 rule revisions on its "FCC's Morse Code Report and Order WT Docket 05-235" Web page <<http://www.arrl.org/fcc/morse/>>.

as well as cross-training of staff members to improve efficiency."

Dave Patton, NN1N, will manage the combined department, while Norm Fusaro, W3IZ, will become assistant manager. Fusaro will continue his responsibilities as ARRL club and mentoring coordinator.

A new position of Emergency Communications Manager has been established within the new department. This individual will be responsible for relations with served agencies, memoranda of understanding, administration, ARRL internal emergency response planning, simulated emergency tests, emergency communications training, the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) database and related activities.

The new Education Department will consolidate a variety of activities under one roof. "Today, education is dispersed throughout the organization," Kramer noted. "Many departments are involved in educational endeavors, but there is a lack of coordination among the different departments."

The Education Department will oversee the ARRL Certification and Continuing Education Program and distance-

==>SUITSAT-2 GOES TO COLLEGE

Eleven electrical engineering students at The College of New Jersey had a hand in designing some of the software defined radio (SDR) hardware that will fly aboard SuitSat-2. The college seniors signed up last fall for "Software Defined Radio," taught by adjunct professors Bob McGwier, N4HY, and Frank Brickle, AB2KT -- both members of the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) SuitSat-2 team.

The second-generation SuitSat will have a software designed Amateur Radio transponder (SDX) on board. SuitSat-2 is being viewed as a test bed for the hardware AMSAT hopes to launch on its Phase 3E Eagle satellite.

McGwier and Brickle designed practical, goal-based experiments for the students' projects with an eye toward turning out something that would be a useful SuitSat-2 component. Team members Steve Bible, N7HPR, and Joe Julicher, N9WXU, provided circuit boards employing "bleeding-edge" technology -- dsPIC33F 16-bit direct memory access digital signal controllers. Brickle says the circuits will serve as SuitSat-2's heart and brain.

Early on, the students studied signal processing and communication theory as well as what Brickle calls "esoteric corners of computer science." Then, using Matlab -- a high-level technical computing language -- the students implemented modulators and demodulators for SSB, FM, BPSK and AFSK.

"Students get a little bit of verbal swimming instruction, and then we toss them straight into the ocean," is how Brickle described the process.

FOUNDATION FOR AMATEUR RADIO INVITES SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

learning support, the volunteer instructor and mentor program, youth programs, the ARRL Education and Technology Program and its teachers institutes, Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) coordination and the development of educational materials.

"We believe that these changes will make us a better prepared and more responsive organization," Kramer concluded.

By mid-semester, the students were designing their experiments and getting them up and running. Boards were powered up without diagnostic hardware or software, since that's how the circuitry will be on orbit -- "walking a tightrope without a net," as Brickle sees it.

"Given the complexity of what the SDR/SDX in SuitSat-2 will be required to provide, the applications will need to run in an unprecedented software environment: pre-emptive multitasking under freeRTOS," he explained. FreeRTOS is an open-source, round-robin operating system for embedded devices.

Instead of being scared off, the students ran with the challenge and demonstrated obvious enthusiasm, Brickle reports. "We will be doing a very good thing if we continue to involve these kids, and more like them, in our future AMSAT projects," he said. What surprised him most, he added, was that the students focused on taking new approaches to "very fundamental engineering issues that aren't flashy or trendy." McGwier, who's AMSAT-NA's vice president of engineering and a member of the AMSAT Board of Directors, remarked that both students and teachers shared in the excitement.

The SuitSat-2 team, under the leadership of Lou McFadin, W5DID, has been working on the design of a power converter for the solar panels, the internal housekeeping unit, the antenna mount, the transmitting and receiving hardware and how it will mount atop the suit's helmet. An ISS crew could launch SuitSat-2 during a spacewalk as early as next fall. SuitSat-2 could have an operational lifetime of six months or more. -- Rosalie White, K1STO/ARISS

The non-profit Foundation for Amateur Radio (FAR) now is accepting applications for 56 academic year 2007-2008 scholarships to assist radio amateurs pursuing higher education. The deadline to apply is April 30, 2007.

FAR fully funds three of scholarships and administers 42 others without cost on behalf of various club and individual donors; grant income funds the remaining 11 awards. Amateur Radio licensees pursuing a full-time course of study beyond high school and accepted by or enrolled in an accredited university, college or technical school are eligible to apply.

Scholarship grants range from \$500 to \$3000, and preference in some cases goes to applicants living in particular geographical areas or pursuing certain studies. Non-US residents are eligible to apply for some of the scholarships.

Request more information and an application form via e-mail <scholarships@farweb.org> or by sending a QSL card by April 30 to FAR Scholarships, PO Box 831, Riverdale, MD 20738.