

# WATTS HAPPENIN'

## Newsletter Of The Wayne Amateur Radio Club



Monthly Meeting • Third Thursday  
Wayne Co Communication Center • Corner of Burbank & Oldman Rds • Wooster, Ohio

W8WOO Repeaters  
147.21 Mhz (PL 88.5) • 443.175 Mhz (No PL)



*SERVING WAYNE COUNTY OHIO SINCE 1972*

## AUGUST MEETING

We meet on the third Thursday of each month and for Augusty that would be the 17th. We start the meeting at 7:30 pm and meet at the Communication Center at the corner of Burbank & Oldman in Wooster, Ohio.

In addition to the usual monthly reports on Skywarn, the repeater, etc., we will discuss our participation in any upcoming events.

We will be monitoring 147.21, PL 88.5 should you need directions or have other concerns.

See you there.

## • DX GROUP •



The group meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month. Our next meeting is scheduled for August 22, 2017, and will be at "Goose" Steingass' shack (W8AV). This is our annual picnic outing and we will start at 6:30 pm. Bring some good food and your tableware.

If you like to talk radio, work DX, or just need a night out .... this is your place. Among other things, we will be discussing recent contesting activity, upcoming contests, recent DX contacts and activities. In other words, "good ol' Ham Radio".

The WARC DX Group also promotes and participates in a weekly DX Net every Thursday beginning when you hear someone talking. The net will be on 147.345 (PL 110.9). Listen in, participate and work some DX. You'll find everyone very friendly and helpful.

# HAM RESEARCHER TO INVESTIGATE EFFECTS OF SOLAR ECLIPSE

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

August 21 is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for many in the U.S. to see a total eclipse. It's also an opportunity for a team of Virginia Tech researchers to study the effects of the eclipse on changes in the upper atmosphere that have an impact on HF propagation and the global positioning system (GPS). Backed by research funding from NASA and the National Science Foundation, the team is headed by Dr. Greg Earle, W4GDE.

The Virginia Tech team plans to gather data from a variety of sources, including radar systems, transceivers, satellites, ham radio, and GPS receivers, in order to analyze the effects of the solar eclipse on the conductive region of the atmosphere.

"Whether military radar, or consumer GPS signals, the eclipse is going to have effects on the medium that we would like to understand better, so that we can either mitigate them or use them to our advantage," said Earle.

Here are a couple of links to news stories on the research team and the experiments:

\* Virginia Tech team prepares for special project during total solar eclipse (<http://wset.com/news/local/virginia-tech-team-prepares-for-special-project-during-total-solar-eclipse>)

\* Virginia Tech expert to study August solar eclipse effects on radar, ham radio, GPS (<http://wtkr.com/2017/07/17/virginia-tech-expert-to-study-august-solar-eclipse-effects-on-radar-ham-radio-gps/>)

Let's party!

In conjunction with the eclipse, the HamSCI and the ARRL are sponsoring the Solar Eclipse QSO Party (<http://www.hamsci.org/seqp>). (SEQP). According to an article in the August 2017 issue of QST, the goal of the SEQP is to "flood the airwaves with contacts, all measured by the automated receiver networks of the Reverse Beacon Network, PSKReporter, and WSPRNet." Once all the logs are in, researchers will analyze the data to see what effect the eclipse had on radio propagation.

A YouTube video of a presentation at Dayton on the SEQP can be found at <https://youtu.be/3EviY2Cuxpo?list=PLihPo8xWmo8-xDYAtpP9BWX9QnhUoT7k4>

The SEQP will run from 1400Z - 2200Z on Monday, August 21. This is well before the eclipse is due to begin on the West Coast. The reason it starts before the eclipse is to establish a baseline for radio propagation conditions.

SEQP organizers urge you to make as many contacts as you can on as many bands as you can operate. Like nearly every contest, contacts are not allowed on 60m, 30m, 17m, and 12m. CW, RTTY, and PSK31 are the preferred modes because automated receivers can record those contacts, but phone and other digital modes count, too.

An interesting twist to this contest is that, like Field Day, you can earn a number of bonus points, including:

- \* Operating outdoors (100 points)
- \* Operating in a public place (100 points)
- \* Operating a wide-band automated receiver at your station (100 points)

Hams have had a long history of supporting scientific research. They provided communications for some of the early polar explorations and listened for Sputnik as it flew overhead. The Solar Eclipse QSO Party continues this tradition, and it's going to be a lot of fun as well. Visit the HamSCI website (<http://www.hamsci.org/seqp>) for more information.

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Dan Romanchik, KB6NU, blogs about amateur radio at [KB6NU.Com](http://KB6NU.Com), and is the author of the "No Nonsense" amateur radio license study guides and the CW Geek's Guide to Having Fun With Morse Code." You can reach him by emailing [cwgeek@kb6nu.com](mailto:cwgeek@kb6nu.com).

# HAMFESTS

## Join us Sunday, August 27 at the Tailgate Hamfest!

Please join us for the 9<sup>th</sup> annual Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club late summer Tailgate Hamfest on Sunday, August 27. In contrast to our Saturday Spring Hamfest, this is an all out door event and is held rain or shine at the Robert Pinn Armory on Allen Road in Stow, Ohio. Doors open at 7 am for vendors and 8 am for shoppers. Your only cost is parking, and that's just \$5 per vehicle (not per person) whether buying or selling. Bring some friends and split the cost, each person in the vehicle will get a ticket that enters them into drawings throughout the morning for one of at least 6 prizes.

For sellers, your \$5 gets you two adjacent spaces in the vending area, one for your vehicle and one to sell out of. Bring your own tables and chairs and maybe a sunshade, remember, the Armory parking lot is asphalt and it gets warm on a sunny day. Also keep in mind that this is a Government facility, so the display or sales of weapons or objectionable material is prohibited. If you need more than one sales space, let the folks know at the entrance and you can buy more spaces at \$5 for two.

Did I say prizes? Courtesy of The ARRL, DX Engineering, and The RF Adaptor Guy we have six merchandise certificates whose total value exceeds \$200. Please support these prize donors with your business. We also have some DX Engineering catalogs with \$20 discount coupons which will be distributed throughout the morning.

Random drawings for prizes will be held every half hour, starting at 9 am, so make sure you put your ticket stub in the prize drum when you arrive. Prizes must be claimed by the next drawing. Unclaimed prizes will be re-drawn at the next half hour drawing, and any remaining prizes will be awarded by continuous drawing starting at 11:30 am.

Whether you have a truck full of gear to sell, just need a part, or just want to see what shows up, plan to attend the Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club Tailgate Hamfest, on Sunday August 27 at the Robert Pinn Armory in Stow. A flier with directions and more information is available at: <http://cfarc.org/tailgate2017.php>

Here is an updated listing of all ARRL Sanctioned Hamfests and Swaps through 2017 in our area.

8/12/17	Central Kentucky	Lexington, KY
8/12/17	Midland Hamfest	Midland, MI
8/13/17	Seaway Trunk Swap	Port Huron, MI
8/19/17	Thunder Bay ARC Swap	Alpena, MI
8/20/17	Warren Tailgate Swapmeet	Cortland, OH
8/27/17	Cuyahoga Falls Tailgate Swap	Stow, OH
9/9/17	Grand Rapids GRAHamfest	Wyoming, MI
9/9/17	Greater Louisville Hamfest	Sheperdsville, KY
9/10/17	Findlay	Findlay, OH
9/16/17	Richmond Fall Hamfest	Richmond, KY
9/17/17	Adrian	Adrian, MI
9/23/17	GM ARC Trunk Swap	Shelby Twp, MI
9/23/17	OHKYIN ARS Hamfest	Cincinnati, OH
9/24/17	Cleveland Hamfest	Berea, OH
9/30/17	Paintsville Hamfest	Paintsville, KY
10/7/17	Cave Run Hamfest	Moorehead, KY
10/7/17	Vette City	Bowling Green, KY
10/7 & 8	Great Lakes Div. Convention	Brooklyn, MI
10/7/17	Scioto Valley	Chillicothe OH
10/15/17	Conneaut Hamfest	Conneaut, OH
10/21/17	Muskegon Color Tour	Muskegon, MI
10/22/17	Kalamazoo	Kalamazoo, MI
10/28/17	Hazard	Hazard, KY
10/29/17	Massilon	Massilon, OH
10/29/17	USECA	Madison Hts, MI
11/4/17	Grant ARC Hamfest	Georgetown, OH
12/3/17	Lanse Creuse	Madison Heights, MI

For details on other upcoming events and hamfests, please visit the WARC web site at [w8woo.com](http://w8woo.com).

# Wayne Amateur Radio Club

## Minutes of, July 20, 2017 Meeting

President Tom Zilko opened the meeting at 19:30 hours with 5 members present.

### Secretary's Report – John Lilburn (KF4UTY)

The minutes of the June meeting which had been sent with the notice of meeting were presented at this meeting. A motion was made by Stan & Russ and the minutes were approved.

### Treasurer's Report – Russ McQuate (K8RMC)

The club's treasurer presented a report detailing the current finances of the WARC indicating a net balance of \$ 2881.01 still remains. A motion was made by John and Stan and the report was approved.

### Repeater Trustee's Report

Russ McQuate reported that progress has been made on the "S-com" system. Just a little more debugging work is still needed. Hope to complete this by next meeting

### Emergency Coordinator- Mike Burger (N8CEY) Absent

(John Lilburn – KF4UTY) Major news regarding the MARCS radio system at WCH. They no longer will need our services running or maintaining the system. ER staff is being trained on the units and Staley Communications will handle any problems on the system. In the meantime, Joe Velasquez of the county EMA is still interested in our support regarding county emergency operations during a disaster.

**Skywarn**: Just for clarification, any reports of storm activities should be sent via the 147.210 radio frequency to be relayed to Cleveland. If there is no response, then you can call the weather bureau on an 800 number **BUT** be sure to state your radio call sign otherwise the call will not be accepted.

### DX Group

The July meeting will be held on the 25th at 7:30 at Scotty Meyer's house

### Old Business

It now appears that we will be ordering wiring and LED lights for 5 strings (20-25 per string). The city has been advised and concurs.

All things considered, the Mohican races were a success from our standpoint. We're ready for next year.

### New Business

Andy Fleckenger (WB8VPG) has graciously offered to donate a van with radio mast installed to the club. After serious consideration, the generous offer was declined due to the ownership costs which the club members felt could not be undertaken at this time.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 20:12 hours.

Submitted by John Lilburn, KF4UTY  
WARC Secretary E-mail – [jlilburn1@gmail.com](mailto:jlilburn1@gmail.com)

# WEEKLY CLUB NET

Every Wednesday evening at 9:00 PM local time (0100Z), the Wayne Amateur Radio Club sponsors a net on 2 meters and 70 cm using both of the club W8WOO repeaters. The frequencies are 147.21 Mhz and 443.175 Mhz (no PL). For both net and emergency purposes, the repeaters are crosslinked. Tom Zilko (N8JBG) handles the check-ins and net activity. It is a general information net and everyone is welcome to participate. Give it a try.

# ANYTHING TO ADD?

If you have any announcements that you want to put in a newsletter or you feel inclined to write an article, let me know. You can email me at [K8RMC@arrl.net](mailto:K8RMC@arrl.net) and I'll do my best to get it in writing.