

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

OCTOBER MEETING



The Wayne Amateur Radio Club meets monthly on the third Thursday of the month. For October, that would be October 18, 2018. We meet at the communication center on the corner of Oldman & Burbank roads in Wooster. Look for the 200' tower next to the building.

In addition to the regular reports, we will be discussing our participation in lighting the Wooster Christmas tree and possible changes in the Mohican 100 Mile run. We will be monitoring 147.21 (PL 88.5). See you there.

• DX GROUP •



The group meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month and for October, that would be the 23rd. We are meeting at Dave Balinte's shack (N8IW) at 7:30 pm.

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.

ARRL president suggests that we “re-brand” amateur radio

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

This Week in Amateur Radio recently reported (<https://www.stitcher.com/podcast/this-week-in-amateur-radio/e/51325707>) on a speech given by ARRL president, Rick Roderick, K5UR, at the 60th annual West Virginia State ARRL convention held August 25th at WVU Jackson’s Mill Conference Center. Here are some things that he had to say:

“Are we even relevant anymore as ham radio operators? Well, let’s see: We’re world communicators. We provide public service. We help in emergencies and disasters. We help save lives. We talk to the jungles of Africa...to the beaches of the South Pacific. We bounce signals off the moon. We talk to astronauts. We promote technology. We do positive things. So absolutely—we are relevant.

“We’ve got to accept change and we’ve got to adapt if we’re going to bridge that gap to that next generation. So the question that I have here that I have challenged my colleagues at ARRL with is this: is it time to rebrand ham radio? Maybe we need to rebrand the American Radio Relay League. That’s a pretty profound statement.”

Of course, I agree with K5UR on this and said so myself (<https://www.kb6nu.com/are-we-amateurs-or-what/>) several years ago. Unfortunately, according to the report, he retreated to the same old ideas that the ARRL has been spouting for years:

“Well I think we ought to get out there and stir things up. That’s what I think we ought to do. I think you ought to go back and rejuvenate your club. Over the next year, get somebody into ham radio. The second thing I want you to do...I want you to help a ham that needs your help. And the third thing I want you to do is—if you’re not a member of the American Radio Relay League, you need to join today...because you know that whether you like us or not, we’re all you’ve got; ain’t nobody else in Washington DC helping us. I want you to ask yourself this question: don’t you think it’s time to give something back? Now I believe as a group, if we all did that we’ll make a difference in this hobby as we go forward. Be a champion of ham radio. Let’s work together and get it done. Thank you very much.”

I’d like to challenge K5UR and the ARRL to really stir things up. There are lots of us out here giving back by teaching classes, conducting exam sessions, and helping hams get on the air. That’s not the problem.

What we need from the ARRL is real leadership, not just talk. Exhorting the troops is only going to go so far. For most hams, amateur radio is only a hobby, and they do what they can. It’s really up to the ARRL to provide the leadership that ties it all together and provide the framework that will allow us all to be successful.

Saying, “Whether you like us or not, we’re all you’ve got; ain’t nobody else in Washington DC helping us” doesn’t really cut it. You have to show people that you’re really making a difference, not just say you are.

When he’s not giving the ARRL the benefit of his opinions, Dan blogs about amateur radio, writes exam study guides (www.kb6nu.com/study-guides), and operates CW on the HF bands. Look for him on 30m, 40m, and 80m. You can email him your thoughts about the ARRL at cwgeek@kb6nu.com.

WAYNE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Minutes of Sept 20, 2018 Meeting

Pres Tom Zilco (N8JBG) opened the meeting at 19: 30 hours with 12 members present.

Secretary's report – John Lilburn (KF4UTY) The minutes of the July Meeting (there was no August meeting) were reviewed. The minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report – Russ McQuate (K8RMC) The club's treasurer provided a report detailing the current finances of the WARC indicating the Clubs current status was \$2,624.69. The report was approved

Repeater Trustee's Report – Gary Foster (W8GMF) Nothing new to report

Emergency Coordinator- Mike Bruggar (N8CEY) ARRES & Red Cross are recruiting Ham radio operators for local and distant emergency responses. This involves passing the FEMA Courses covering government procedures applicable to emergencies. These are available on line. If interested, contact Mike Bruggar

Skywarn – Stan Kenney (N8RNK) It has been 2 years since any major testing of the local system. There have been several tests of the local 2m/6m systems but nothing area wide.

DX Group – The Sept meeting will be held at the home of Russ McQuate on Tuesday Sept 25th

Old Business – Installation of the Xmas tree lights at the Cemetery is planned for mid October. All interested in assisting should contact Tom Zilko (n8jbg@bright.net)

New Business – The Mohegan Race Committee is looking into the possibility of using an automated system to record racers passing through each of the “check points” along the race course next spring. This would relieve this part of our radio operator's duties of manually relaying this data via radio, thereby focusing other activities. This new system would involve electronic “readers” picking up signals from the racer's ID tags.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 20:35

Submitted by John Lilburn, WARC Secretary E-mail – 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.

MONDAY LUNCHEON

Every Monday at 11:30 am, area amateurs meet at the north end Wendy's (by Lowe's and Walmart) for lunch. All amateurs and friends are welcome.

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 and I'll do my best to get it in writing.