

The Smokehouse

Where Country Hams Hang Out

May 2019



President, Larry Brumett, KN4IV

Vice President, Clayton Francis, KC4RGE

Sec/Treas, Herb Hess, KJ4CMG

Minutes, April 16th 2019

The meeting came to order at 7pm in the basement of the City Hall Building located in Glasgow, KY.

KC4QNZ made a motion, seconded by N4XJX, to dispense with the reading of the minutes. Motion passed.

KD4SS gave the financial report. He reported \$xxxx.xx in the checking and the savings remained unchanged. KC4RGE made a motion, seconded by W4RRK to accept the report. Motion passed.

Committee Reports:

Hamfest Committee: Date has been set for next year and the convention center has been reserved.

Repeater Committee: Nothing to report on repairs to the Hwy 63 site. Repeater has been working really well the past couple of weeks. Still need to finish up the work on the roof tower. KD4SS and KN4IV to go out to the Hwy 63 site to inspect the site.

Field Day/Special Event Committee: Field Day will be the 4th weekend in June.

Webpage Committee: No report

Old Business: Need to vote KN4FDW and KA4UZO for membership. The votes were unanimous and they were elected the newest members.

New Business: KD4SS showed off a QSL card that he received from the

Alabama QSO party that was made during the NPOTA event we held at Mammoth Cave in 2016.

N4IYX brought up about the discussion we had some months ago about putting the Yaesu System Fusion repeater at the Bonnieville Repeater Site. KD4SS would like to hook all of the components together in the club room and test it out before deploying it at the Bonnieville Repeater Site.

Elizabethtown Hamfest was well attended this year. Everyone seemed to have a good time.

Dayton Hamfest is coming up on May 17th-19th, 2019.

No further business to come before the meeting. KC4RGE made a motion, seconded by KC4QNZ, to

adjourn. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 7:17pm. There were 18 members present for the meeting.



Hams Help Trace “Mystery” Signal Disrupting Keyless Entry Devices in Ohio

A recent article in *The New York Times* reported that many garage door openers and keyless vehicle entry fobs in an Ohio town near Cleveland mysteriously stopped working. While the article invoked *The X-Files* and hinted initially that a NASA research center somehow could be involved, the cause was not so much mystifying as arcane.

“Garage door repair people, local ham radio enthusiasts, and other volunteer investigators descended on the neighborhood with various meters,” the May 4 article by Heather Murphy recounted. “Everyone agreed that something powerful was interfering

with the radio frequency that many fobs rely on, but no one could identify the source.”

More than a dozen residents reported intermittent issues getting their key fobs and garage door openers to operate, and most lived within a few blocks of each other. At one point, the local power utility started shutting off power to areas where the strongest RF signal was detected, but the signal persisted. Dan

Dalessandro, WB8ZQH, a TV repairer, was among several hams who investigated. He initially picked up “little blips” on a signal detector, but finally, on one block and at a particular house, the signal was quite loud.

“The source of the problem was a homebrew, batteryoperated device designed by a local resident to alert him if someone was upstairs when he was working in his basement,” the *Times* reported. “It did so by turning off a light.” The individual, who, the article said, has special needs, was not identified for privacy concerns. The inventor, who had no malicious intent, had no inkling that his device was wreaking havoc on the

neighborhood until a North Olmstead City Council member and a volunteer knocked on his door. The device operated on 315 MHz, the frequency many keyless-entry devices use under FCC Part 15 rules. The device’s battery was removed, the signal stopped, and all who were involved breathed sighs of relief.



ARRL Field Day Gear Now Available

ARRL Field Day — the most popular on-the-air operating event in Amateur Radio — is June 22-23, and official gear and supplies are now available from ARRL. **Pocket TShirts, hats, pins, patches, stickers,** and coffee **mugs** are a great way to acknowledge — and commemorate — your participation in this annual event.

Encourage club members, family, friends, and prospective hams to take part using ARRL Field Day with recruitment **posters** and attractive “Get on the

Air” (GOTA) pins for those newcomers.

ARRL’s new **Radio Communications** vinyl banner is the perfect sentiment for showing-off Amateur Radio at ARRL Field Day, any public exhibit or recruitment display. Good for indoor and outdoor use and reusable for years to come.

Clubs are encouraged to order early. Place a group order and pay just \$12.50 shipping for all orders over \$50 (while supplies last). Get your 2019 ARRL Field Day supplies from the ARRL **online store** or by calling (888) 277-5289 in the US, Monday through Friday, from 8 AM to 5 PM Eastern Time. Outside the US, call (860) 5940355.

The complete 2019 **ARRL Field Day** packet is online. ARRL encourages participants to register their Field Day operations using the **FD Site Locator**.



ARRL’s Free Exam Review for Ham Radio Updated

ARRL Exam Review for Ham Radio™ has been

updated in advance of the release of the ninth edition of *The ARRL General Class License Manual for Ham Radio*. ARRL Exam Review is a free online resource for use with current editions of **ARRL License Manuals**. The service can be accessed via a web browser, and uses the official examination question pools to construct chapter-by-chapter reviews. Upon completing study, Exam Review helps the license candidate take practice exams with the same number and variety of questions that he or she will encounter on exam day. Practice tests can be taken over and over, scored in complete privacy, or even printed with an answer key. Exam Review includes quick feedback about the questions missed.

The update to Exam Review and the new edition *General Class License Manual* coincides with a new General Class question pool released earlier this year by the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC). The new 2019 – 2023 General Class question pool becomes effective

July 1, 2019 for examinations in the Amateur Radio Service.

The 2015 – 2019 General Class pool remains in effect for exams given until June 30, 2019. ARRL Exam Review provides access to both the current and new General Class questions.

A federally licensed service, Amateur Radio (or “ham radio”) provides the broadest and most powerful wireless communication capability available to private citizens anywhere in the world. ARRL, the national membership association for Amateur Radio licensees in the US, offers books, online content, and other resources for Amateur Radio licensing, operating, and lifelong learning.

For more information about getting started in Amateur Radio, visit **What is Ham Radio** or call 800326-3942 (800-32 NEW HAM). ARRL can help you find local **radio clubs, classes, and testing sites**.



IARU Argues for Protection from Wireless Power

Transfer Spurious Emissions

The International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) was represented April 8 – 10, when **CEPT Committee SE24 – Short Range Devices** met in Ankara, Turkey, to undertake further work concerning wireless power transfer/transmission (WPT). SE24 is considering WPT for electric vehicles (WPTEV) and also for generic applications.

IARU already provided extensive input on the potential impact on radio communications resulting from spurious emissions from WPT devices, as detailed in **CEPT ECC Report 289**, published in January. According to that report, given the planned density of WPT systems for electric vehicles operating in the 79 – 90 kHz range, it is calculated that there will be a widespread and serious impact for the Amateur Service in the vicinity of WPT systems, should spurious emissions, measured at 10 meters, be at the current limits of **ERC Recommendation 74-01**.

At the Ankara meeting, IARU and other interested parties provided further input. SE24 will meet again in early July to focus on WPT issues.

Also at Ankara, IARU attended the Short-Range Devices Maintenance Group meeting (SRD/MG), where it was noted that further work was needed in SE24 before spurious emission limits for WPT devices could be addressed in a regulatory sense. IARU was represented in Ankara by IARU Region 1 President Don Beattie, G3BJ, who is spearheading the IARU's work in this area.

The issue of WPT-EV is World Radiocommunication Conference 2019 (WRC-19) Agenda Item 9.1.6, for which studies are still under way. Broadcasters, land mobile services, and others have also expressed concern about spurious WPT-EV emissions. Further work remains regarding generic WPT systems for such applications as cell phone charging, power tools, and household appliances.

So Now What? Podcast

“Finding the Right Club for You” is the focus of the new (May 2) episode of the “**So Now What?**” podcast for Amateur Radio newcomers.

If you're a newly licensed Amateur Radio operator, chances are you have lots of questions. This biweekly podcast has answers! “So Now What?” offers insights from those who've been just where you are now. New episodes will be posted every other Thursday, alternating new-episode weeks with the “**ARRL The Doctor is In**” podcast.

“So Now What?” is sponsored by **LDG**

Electronics, a family owned and operated business with laboratories in southern Maryland that offers a wide array of antenna tuners and other Amateur Radio products.

ARRL Communications Content Producer Michelle Patnode, W3MVP, and ARRL Station Manager Joe Carcia, NJ1Q, co-host the podcast. Presented as a lively conversation, with Patnode representing newer hams and Carcia the veteran operators, the podcast will explore questions that newer hams may have and the issues that keep participants from staying active in the hobby. Some episodes will feature guests to answer questions on specific topic areas.

Listeners can find “So Now What?” on **Apple iTunes**, **Blubrry**, **Stitcher** (free registration required, or browse the site as a guest) and through the free Stitcher app for iOS, Kindle, or Android devices. Episodes will be archived on the ARRL website.