
DeFOREST

AMATEUR RADIO CLUB - K8GE

PO Box 73 - West Union, OH 45693-0073

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MARCH 2003

EDITOR: WB8IOW - Jerry S. Paquette

<http://www.qsl.net/k8ge>

The President's Shack

Well the weather class went off with a good turn out. As always Mary Jo did a fine job. I think all of us learned something and will be able to help the National Weather Service in spotting bad weather.

For the next meeting, I have lined up a room at the Domino's Pizza Parlor. The club will buy the pizza and everyone will buy their own drinks. This will be **April 8, 2003 at 6:30 PM**. Mark your calendars for this date.

We have several projects coming up in the near future and will need operators for those.

See you at the Pizza Parlor.

73 Ed KE8FK

**NEXT MEETING
TUESDAY – 6:30 PM
APRIL 8, 2003**

**Domino's Pizza
(in the meeting room)**

WEST UNION, OHIO

Birthdays & Special Events

April

4 KB8NBI Jack King
5 KC8LIC Ronald Buhr
6 KB8RYG Lawrence Lewis
8 **Meeting-6:30 DOMINO'S**
14 KC8LIE Sharon Buhr
18 KD4PYZ T J Whitehead
25 KA8VEE Robert Ralston
27 KB8VPR Joe Rogers
29 KQ4TN Paul Whitehead

May

13 **Meeting-7:00 ABCAP**
17 W8RCB Richard Burnes
19 KC8LVE Patricia Ellis
25 KC8JZG Linda Larter
26 KK8J George Larter

Special thanks

to Martha King for her donation of a sheet of stamps to assist with costs of mailing the newsletter. The DeForest ARC is fortunate to have a supportive and enthusiastic membership.

Thanks, Martha!

AMATEUR RADIO SATELLITES

BOB HALLEY K8YMI

Many Hams provided communications in the search for debris of the Shuttle Columbia after its disintegration during earth re-entry on February 1st. Repeaters near the cities where debris was found were used to coordinate the activities of the

searchers. There was a very active joint effort by RACES, SKYWARN and government agencies (FBI, NASA etc) with the identification, GPS location cataloging and recovery of space shuttle components.

Private family funeral services have been held for each of the Astronauts on board Columbia. Remains of each of the Astronauts have been positively identified in the wreckage found. Most of the family statements that I have seen said that the Space Program must continue.

The Columbia Accident Board under Ret. Admiral Harold Gehman will host a hearing for the public on March 6, to be held in the Clear Lake City, Texas area. (NASA Space Center area). Some of the experts on the Investigation Committee will be present to answer questions. Other experts will be present to answer questions for the committee. Many plausible explanations have come forward but speculation has been the source of some of these thoughts. It's possible that we will only learn of the sequence of problems but that will help in future design of equipment. I read recently that over 22,000 pieces have been

recovered.... By weight, it represents about 13 % of Columbia.

With the Shuttle program on hold now, some tough decisions have to be made about supplying (and building) the International Space Station. The current crew, Expedition 6, has been in space over 100 days and was to return to earth in April. It certainly appears now that they will not return until June on board a scheduled Soyuz supply ship. There is a possibility that agreement will be reached to limit the ISS crew to two for a while to simplify the quantity of supplies needed. The current crew already has practiced putting on and taking off their space suits without any help. The two Americans there now went through this exercise but it took them nearly three hours. The Russian Cosmonaut took videos of the practice so that others can learn.

The Southeastern VHF Society has invited Hams to join them for the Seventh Annual Society Conference in Huntsville, Alabama on April 25 and 26 this year. It is held at a Marriott Hotel near the Space Center.

I've had a chance to study the printed Proceedings of the AMSAT-NA Annual Symposium held last fall in Ft. Worth. There were many fine papers presented and clear logic and thinking was evident. It appears that Echo (the Microsat) may be launched before year-end. Eagle is a much more complex satellite and it will be two or three years before it is launched. Launches continue to increase in cost and there are fewer opportunities.

Franco Borsa, HB9OAB has been collecting audio samples from Amateur Satellite downlink signals in RealAudio. You can download them from

<http://www.qsl.net/hb9oab/sat>
I haven't tried it so don't know what you'll get.

Pioneer 10 has gone quiet after 31 years. The last signal was heard in late January. At the time, Pioneer 10 was approximately 7.6 Billion miles away. It had left our solar system in 1983. The most recent signal took 11 hours and 20 minutes to arrive.

Martha Saragovitz, AMSAT's only paid employee was feted at a party February 1st in the Washington area to commemorate her 25th anniversary with AMSAT. Many of the long-time do-ers in the program came for the celebration. Congratulations to Martha.

-73- K8YMI.

DeForest ARC meeting March 11, 2003

The March 11, 2003 meeting of the DeForest Amateur Radio Club was held at the Adams County Career and Technical Center following the annual weather spotter training. Mary Jo Parker, Meteorologist from the National Weather Service in Wilmington, Ohio conducted the training.

There were 25 people who attended this year's training session. Participants updated their spotter information and materials related to specific information that should be reported was

passed out. President Ed Lock conducted a brief meeting to address club business. He stated that if there were no corrections to the minutes as published in the newsletter, the minutes would stand as published.

He announced there would be no treasurer's report this month since KC8LVE was unable to attend.

It was decided that the April meeting would be held at Domino's Pizza following dinner, which will begin at 6:30 P.M.

WB8IOW advised that the month of August be the only month left for anyone who would like to take the Net Control duties. N8YWX handed out refrigerator magnets to those members who have served or would be serving as net control for 2003. These commemorative magnets are personalized and are not only a reminder of the net control duties, but a nice collector's item.

N8YWX inquired if there was interest in inviting the Grant ARC and the Greater Mason County ARC for a Balderdash reunion at the June picnic meeting. There was no interest expressed in a Balderdash reunion, however the area clubs are invited to attend.

73, N8YWX

**THURSDAY NIGHT
NET CONTROL OPERATORS
9:00 PM - 147.00 MHz**

April - Jayne KC8LUG and Lyle KC8DDY

May - Ridney N8XGP

June - Kyle KC8OLS

July - George KK8J

August - need volunteer

September - Kim N8YWX
October - Richard KA8EKC
November - Patricia KC8LVE
December - Barbara N8HIA

Thanks to these volunteers

**Paul Harvey's
Salute to ham radio
Wednesday 3/19/03**

"America's quiet warriors are the legion of ham radio operators. 700,000 of them who are always at ready for backup duty in emergencies. Amateur, unpaid, uncelebrated, civilian, radio operators, during and after floods, fires and tornadoes.

After the 9-11 attack hams were indispensable in reuniting families. Most recently it was they who expedited the search for debris after the disaster to the space shuttle, Columbia. And right now, at this moment, they are involved in homeland security to a greater degree than you would want me to make public."

<http://www.paulharvey.com>

submitted by:

Jim Weaver, K8JE, Director,
Great Lakes Division

k8je@arrl.org

ARES CORNER

District 4 Emergency Coordinator, N8GE has established a district-wide net to form a communications link for all 10 counties in this district. The frequency is 444.575. It is held on Sunday nights at 8:30, and the net is open to county ECs, AECs, and Official Emergency Stations only. If you do not have 440

capability, you can check in via the 146.490 weather link (subject to change if there is a SkyWARN net in session).

Spring is here and that means there is an increased possibility of severe weather. The DeForest ARC has already been activated and engaged in SkyWARN operations. On March 12th, the National Weather Service contacted DARC to request assistance in collecting important spotter information that would assist in predictions related to severe weather. Special thanks to N8SND, KK8J, and WB8IOW who served as either NCS or Liaison for the first SkyWARN net of the season. Communications were established in areas that were primarily affected - Mason County in Kentucky and Scioto County in Ohio. Thanks to reporting stations who provided useful and timely information.

The NWS requests that you report any significant or severe weather. This would include tornadoes, funnel clouds, wall clouds, persistent rotation in clouds, hail that is ½ inch in diameter or larger, uprooted or downed trees, more than 1 large limb from a healthy tree that is downed, and one or more measured inches of rain in an hour.

As an ARES club, the members of the DeForest ARC have voluntarily registered their qualifications and equipment for communications duty in the public service when disaster strikes. Not only do we serve the community as severe weather spotters, we also respond at the request of our local Emergency Management Agency when needed for communication.

Now is a good time to check your grab and go kits and change your batteries. Keep everything together with your ARES ID badge so that, if called, you can respond quickly.

73

N8YWX

Adams County EC

Editors Note:

The OES stations mentioned in Kim's ARES article are KE8FK, KB8OMG, KK8J, and WB8IOW. (if any others in the county have received an official OES appointment, please contact N8YWX or WB8IOW.)

Anyone interested in becoming an Official Emergency Station need to contact N8YWX (EC) or WB8IOW (Ass't EC) for Adams County.

Anyone wishing to become an Assistant EC needs to contact N8YWX.

All other hams are invited to listen in on the net Sunday evening.

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DeForest Amateur Radio Club

NEXT MEETING - TUESDAY

APRIL 8, 2003

Following the pizza dinner at Domino's Pizza
- 6:30 PM (meeting will begin about 7:00 PM)

WEST UNION, OHIO