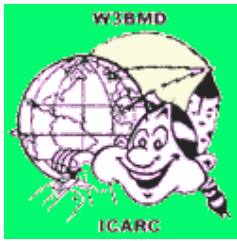


March 29, 2016



ICARC NEWSLETTER

Officers for 2016:

President - Doug Fitzsimmons K3LAB
Vice President - Ernest Clark KC3FVX
Treasurer - Terry Carnahan KB3JOD
Secretary - VACANT

Additional Board Members for 2016:

(Officers are automatically board members)

1. Dave Dzelsky N3DZ
2. Craig Bigler AB3XA
3. Jerry Kiehl WB3DUD
4. Phil Kopczyk K3PJ
5. Elmer Sorisio KB3WG
6. Larry Freeman N3LT

Remember to get your dues paid (There are no dues this coming year for those of you who attended the class in October 2015 and received a new license as a result)! There is a new dues structure: \$35 for an Individual membership, \$50 for a Family (two voting members in the same household), and \$20 for a Student/Associate membership. Please visit the W3BMD website and download the application under the Club Info. Tab. If you don't regularly attend the meetings just mail the completed application along with payment (no cash, make checks payable to ICARC) to the address given on the application form.

LOCAL HAPPENINGS:

The March 1, 2016 meeting of ICARC went smoothly with discussion of various items of interest to the club. The meeting was by led by ICARC President, Doug Fitzsimmons. Doug introduced Mike Sapp, WA3TTS and Bill Koch, W2RMA, who presented a program on their 10 GHz activities. It included some basics on microwave propagation, video's of some of their activity, and a demonstration of their low power 10GHz equipment. Mike also spoke a little about his VLF work as well. Seems that it was a very interesting program.

On February 27, our own Mr. Ian Bigler (KC3DTE) participated in the annual Piano Monster Concert held on the campus of IUP in Cogswell Hall. It was an outstanding success and fun for all. For those of you who don't know Ian, he has been taking piano lessons from another of our own, Mr. Dave Dzelsky (N3DZ), for the past three years and has obviously progressed very well under Dave's tutelage. Several of us attended the concert and we all came away soundly impressed. Many of us have come to know Ian fairly well and are very proud of him and his accomplishments. He is definitely a special young man who has taken the guidance and professionalism of Dave seriously and is running with it. In the photos that follow one can get a sense of the event and how important it has become as part of the Indiana "scene".





The photo top left shows Ian at one of the Steinway pianos upon which he played. The photo Top Right shows Ian with Dave Dzelsky his Teacher and Mentor. The photo above left shows Ian and two of his friends along with the director of the event Dr. Henry Wong Doe of IUP. The photo above right shows Ian with his Father, Craig (AB3XA), Friend, Ms. Marcia Malcolm (KD4ITP) and Teacher, Mr. Dave Dzelsky (N3DZ). Well, where is Ian's very proud Mom? Ms Sandy Bigler is behind the camera and we are thankful for these nice photo's that she provided. Although, it may be understood without saying, we will say it anyhow: We are very proud of you Ian! To you Mr. Dzelsky, we give thanks for your leadership, inspiration and knowledge that you imparted to Young Mr. Bigler to enable him to perform on such a high standard. Also, paramount, we must acknowledge Ian's Parents, Sandy and Craig Bigler for instilling the discipline and dedication to such difficult tasks, as part of Ian's inner character which has assured his success. Well done folks!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Tuesday, April 5, 2016 ICARC meets in the back room of Indiana Eat n' Park restaurant. The board meeting starts at 7:00 pm and the general meeting begins at 7:30 pm. We look forward to seeing you all there.

There is a scheduled test session for April 2, 2016. For more information contact Mr. Bill McMillen, N3QM (724) 397-2702
Email: wkmcmillen@gmail.com

Possible upgrade class sometimes this year, so stay tuned....

Other Stuff:

A repeat from the February, 2016 issue of QST p.13 Harold Kramer, WJ1B, reports that the ARRL Foundation provides over 80 scholarships annually to eligible radio amateurs. They range in value from \$500 to \$5000. More information may be found at www.arrl.org/summary-of-scholarship-requirements.

Finally, scientists have come up with a mathematical treatment for Procrastination! From the pages of the February, 2016 issue of Physics Today, page 11, Dr. Tomasz Durakiewicz of the National Science Foundation (NSF) proposes "A universal law of procrastination" based upon the following functional equation: $N(t) = M/(D-t+C) - M/(D+C)$ where $N(t)$ is the number of objectives completed by time, t . M is the total number of objectives completed by the deadline time D , D being a constant number in time units determined before any objective is completed by the participant in the activity. C is another constant with the same units of time and is used to correct for a small number of objectives and depends upon D and is given by $C = \{\sqrt{D} \times \sqrt{4+D} - D\} / 2$ where $\sqrt{\dots}$ means "the square root of whatever number is within the parentheses", \times means "multiplied by", and $/$ means "divide by" note: these are just common mathematical operations. **Example:** suppose I have 20 things I need to get done in a month (30 days), then M is 20, D is 30, C is $\{5.477 \times 5.831 - 30\} / 2 = \{31.937 - 30\} / 2 = .969$ days. The equation becomes $N(t) = 20 / (30 - t + .969) - 20 / 30.969 = 20 / (30.969 - t) - .658$ and " t " has to be in days or fractions of a day. Note that if one puts in 30 days for the time, according to this I should have 19.982 things done in 30 days. Round-off error plays a significant role when the things to do are too few. So ladies (or gentlemen) you should give your significant others a very large number of things to do if you hope to get a useful number completed!! The moral is: Wives keep your husbands busy (or the corollary: wives, don't expect your husbands to ever get all the things done!): **Reality check:** Dr. Durakiewicz developed his equation based upon NSF deadlines and proposals that are submitted to the NSF. He noticed that, for any particular project, the number submitted tends to increase rather dramatically as the deadline approaches and assures us that the equation (a modified hyperbolic) is very useful in predicting the expected time line for NSF proposals to be submitted

by academics and other research scientists. The Newsletter author has taken some (not so serious) liberty in attempting to apply the law to everyday activities around the house. I must admit that my presentation here is to be mostly taken "tounge in cheek".

From the online Navy News Service (NNS) we see that the US Navy is updating their morse code training as a communications tool.

Carla M. McCarthy, Center for Information Dominance (CID) Public Affairs, reports that the latest manual morse software used by the Department of Defense (DOD) was tested in a nine week pilot course that concluded in September, 2015. The course is self-paced and provides instruction and applications in receiving Morse communications. She quotes Tony Gonzales, a training manager for CID headquarters, "Morse code continues to be an inexpensive and efficient means of communication for many states throughout the globe."

So it seems that the Morse code is still alive and kicking in the US military.

More of the story can be found at:

Morse Code: A Staple in the Navy IW Toolkit

Story Number: NNS160129-12Release Date: 1/29/2016 3:36:00 PM

By Carla M. McCarthy, Center for Information Dominance Public Affairs

Have Gravitational Waves finally been detected?

The American Physical Society (APS) in its March newsletter announced that LIGO has detected gravitational waves and the convergence of a binary system of black holes. LIGO is the acronym for LASER Interferometer Gravitational-wave Observatory. The formal announcement was made in a paper published by the journal: *Physical Review Letters* on February 11, 2016. Scientists indicate that the detection occurred on September 24, 2015. Some of us may remember Dr. Joseph Weber of the University of Maryland who claimed that he had detected gravitational waves in the 1960's and defended his results all of his professional life. He died in 2000, having been, largely, discredited by other physicists in the 1970's because no one or group of scientists were able to independently verify his claims using an apparatus very similar to the one that Weber had developed for his work. Weber was able to get the lunar surface gravimeter on board the Apollo 17 lunar mission in 1972 in hopes of detecting gravitational waves in a less noisy environment. No such detections were ever made before the recent LIGO announcement. As a graduate student in physics, the author was able to meet and listen to Dr. Weber and found him to be very congenial and persuasive. He was well respected in his field of astrophysics/cosmology and considered to be the leader in experimental gravitational-wave research. If the result announced by the LIGO group holds and can be verified it will be considered to be another triumph for Einstein's theory of General Relativity which predicts the existence of such waves. In fact gravitational waves are thought of as the foundation of the theory and even though other predictions have been verified the lack of evidence for gravitational waves has been the single reason for any critical doubt in the theory.

OTHER INFORMATION

(If anyone would like to include information or write an article for the Newsletter please let Larry Freeman, N3n 1972LT, know by email at: wd4hoz@gmail.com or wlf@auxmail.iup.edu) The only caveats are: The editor reserves the right to alter the format for publication purposes. The content may also be modified contingent upon accuracy and appropriateness of the contained material. The latter would, of course, be subject to the approval of the original author.

Walter Dzelsky-W3NFI a founding member of ICARC, is currently in Scenery Hill Manor nursing home under Hospice Care. Our best wishes and prayers are with him.

Rusty O'Donnell-WB3EUQ – contact information:

Rusty is not doing well and remains at the Hollidaysburg Veterans Home, a Pennsylvania state facility just south of Altoona. Please note that he is not in the Altoona VA Hospital. He is in Eisenhower Hall and it's nursing care. The phone number for his room is (814) 695-1635. You may call at anytime. He does have a cell phone. For his cell phone (724) 388-1202.

Rusty's mailing address is :

David O'Donnell

P.O. Box 319

Hollidaysburg, PA 16648

If you go to see Rusty: When you get to Eisenhower Hall (the large building with the WWII tank in front of it, as you first come onto the grounds) You will need to sign in at the Security desk – they will direct you to his unit, North 2. The security guards have room charts and know the residents.

Meeting minutes for ICARC meeting on March 1, 2016

The meeting started at 7:30pm with a presentation from Bill W2RMA and Mike WA3TTS on 10GHz communications. The presentation was very interesting as they explained their experiences and also what equipment is necessary for communicating at 10GHz.

The business meeting began at 8:45pm:

FLdigi practice is going on after the Monday Net at 8:30pm on the 146.91 repeater. If anyone is interested in starting or just finding out more about digital communications please join us after the Monday Net.

There is also a group out of Johnstown operating a digital practice net Wednesday at 8pm on the 145.39 repeater and the 146.94 repeater which is connected to the wan system.

Repeater News:

There is a need for a control link radio to be able to shut down the 146.91 repeater remotely if need be.

This is to remain legal.

Doug K3LAB suggested the Kenwood TM-V71A radio with the PG5A data link cable which would cost around \$375.

Terry KB3JOD so moved to purchase the needed radio. Ernest KC3FUX seconded the motion. The motion was voted on and passed.

Liability Insurance:

Our liability insurance is due to be renewed at a cost of \$320. Doug suggested that we approve the \$320 but before continuing with our current carrier to check out the ARRL insurance to see if it would be a better deal.

Phil K3PJ made a motion to do so. Denny KB3HZM seconded the motion. The motion was voted on and passed.

Airport Festival:

Several members inspected the alternate setup sites that are available at the airport. It was then decided that the site that we have been using is a better fit for our needs. A discussion was held about whether or not to apply for a special event call sign. It was generally decided to stay with the club's call sign W3BMD for the airport event.

Alton N3PHL made a motion to allow Fred KM3M to send our information to the ARRL to get the airport event listed in the QST magazine. Phil K3PJ seconded the motion. The motion was voted on and passed.

At 9:15pm Denny KB3HZM made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned.

A total of \$30 was collected as donations.

The following people were in attendance:

KB3JOD	Terry
K3LAB	Doug
KC3FUX	Ernest
KB3HZM	Denny
KA3KFA	Dave
WB3DUD	Jerry
K3PJ	Phil
KM3M	Fred
KC3FVW	Lauren
N3PHL	Alton
N3QM	Bill
KC3FPY	Mike
W2RMA	Bill (guest speaker)
WA3TTS	Mike (guest speaker)