



The W. A. COM Ham

Volume 1 Issue 3 APRIL 2008

From "Bud" Plants, N3TIR, President....

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Hello Club Members—

I wanted to bring the club up to date on our emergency plan for ARES & RACES. In the next few weeks we should have all the data collected about our club's capabilities as far as putting a communications net up at a short notice.

We plan to have a call list in place that can bring the net up with only a few calls. We also will be testing the net within the next 45 days. I appreciate all your help collecting the data and putting the net together. In the coming weeks you will be getting more info about how this is all tied together.

Field Day is approaching very quickly and it will be here before we know it. We have some members in place for certain events for Field Day 2008. If you can be of help please contact me and we will get you on the list.

bud@bnelectronics.com

I would also like to get some feedback on whether we should start a Saturday breakfast get-together. Would any members attend? It would be great to meet informally and try to solve all the problems with Ham Radio. Also it would be fun.

Also if anyone has a wish list for DAYTON HAMFEST please let me know, as Norma and I are going to attend.

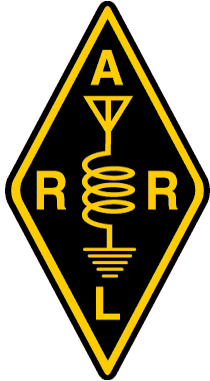
73's

Bud Plants

N3TIR

**DUES ARE DUE!
PLEASE SEND IN
YOUR 2008
DUES— OR
BETTER YET,
BRING THEM TO
THE APRIL
MEETING ON
THURSDAY,
APRIL 3RD AT
7:30 P.M. AT THE
WASHINGTON
COUNTY
BUILDING.**

The Wings Over The Rockies Air and Space Museum



The Wings Over The Rockies Air and Space Museum (<http://wings.rmhcn.org>) is Denver's first Aerospace Museum, and designated by the Colorado State Legislature as the Official Air and Space Museum of the State of Colorado. Located in a 1930's-era Air Force hangar on the former Lowry Air Force Base, the museum serves the Denver area as its third largest event venue. The Museum is Denver's newest historical and educational facility, dedicated to education, science, mathematics, technology, and the rich history of flight in the Rocky Mountain region. With 30 aircraft and special exhibits including Amateur Radio, and an objective of teaching the younger generation about the science of aviation and space travel, there is something of interest in the Museum for everyone.



Exterior of a Space Station Crew Module

Amateur Radio has a prominent place in the museum with working stations located in the Avionics Room and shortly in the full-sized manned Space Station module exhibit. The Avionics and Radio Exhibit is a wonderful collection of beautifully restored examples of period radio, telephone, and avionics technology from spark-gap to satellites with the most recent addition of a working Amateur Radio station (2-meter and HF)

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Bill's Contest Corner

I really don't have much for the newsletter this month, the BIG DXpeditions have come to an end and hopefully everyone that wanted to make a DX contact was able to do so. Cocos, Ducie, Clipperton, Rwanda and Mauritania were a blast to work and now just a fond memory. Mauritania was even active in the CQ WPX contest this past weekend. I was pleased to add 5T5DC to my WPX log.



CQ WPX was this past weekend. Atmospheric conditions were poor at best, so scores will probably be lower this year. 10 and 15 meters remained DEAD for the contest, so the 20, 40 and 80 meter bands were the scoremakers. I hope you got a chance to operate for even a little while in the contest.

Speaking of conditions, COME ON OLE SOL!' WE NEED some solar activity to spark up these HF bands.

73 all, and "gud DX"

de Bill, KB3LIX

Check out the www.ng3k.com/misc/adxo.html for a running list of all announced DXpeditions. (Lots of other GOOD information on NG3K too, snoop around a bit.) Be sure to listen for Lesotho 7P8FC, they will be active until April 3rd.

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**Technician Licensing Class will be held on Saturday, April 19th, Sunday, April 20th, and Saturday, April 26th, in the EOC Center Classroom, Washington County Building, 100 West Beau Street, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day.**

**Sunday, April 27th we will have the exam session at 1 p.m. Sign up sheet and info is also on the web site.**

**Please contact Bob Ketzell, KB3IN, at 724-228-0425 or by email: kb3in@yahoo.com**

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Don't forget, if you have a question you'd like to have the Tech answer, just email Joe, WA3WMB, at j_furjanic@verizon.net

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**FYI, on April 12-13, there is a special event station, W0S, to commemorate the sinking of the HMS Titanic 96 years ago. Details at :**

<http://www.wzeros.com/166A5524-3DBC-40B6-9506-7C7CC6D79DC9.html>

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A request for photos of your station, no matter how large or small, has come from Bob, KB3IN. He'd like to have photos to show our prospective licensees during the Technician classes, just to let them see what different ham stations look like.

Photos can be emailed to me at n3zel@fyi.net and I'll assemble them on a disk for Bob to show during the class. Thank you.



Field Day Locator: This year the ARRL has provided a site for us to register our Field Day location. This allows the public to find us if they want to participate in Field Day. We get to do what we do best, talk to people about Amateur Radio. Let them have some fun and hopefully get them hooked on one of the greatest hobbies around. Visit our club web site at www.wacomarc.org to see our link, or visit the ARRL web site www.arrl.org for more information on Field Day operations.

No Electronics Magazines? Think Again.

Many old-time ham radio operators grew up with magazines such as Popular Electronics, Electronics Illustrated, and Radio-Electronics. Sadly, these magazines are gone now, but there are still electronics magazines out there that can help you keep up with what's going on in electronics. These magazines are written for practicing electronics engineers, so many of the articles will not be relevant to amateur radio or written in such a way to be nearly incomprehensible to electronics hobbyists, but you can't beat the price. They're free!

Let me give you an example of the good stuff you can find in these trade magazines. In the December 2007 issue of High Frequency Electronics (www.highfrequencyelectronics.com), there is an article titled, "Quartz Crystal Basics." Written by an engineer for a manufacturer of crystals, crystal oscillators, and crystal filters, this article describes how crystals are made and gives some tips on designing your own crystal oscillators.

Also in this issue is the article, "Power Combiners, Impedance Transformers, and Directional Couplers." This is the first of a series of articles to discuss these circuits. Amateurs frequently use transmission line impedance transformers (think baluns) to match an antenna system to the 50-ohm output of a transceiver.

The new products section includes items on RF parts and test equipment, as well as book reviews. You probably will not be purchasing the new Boonton 9103 7.5 GHz Portable Spectrum Analyzer (\$11,000 and up), but you might be interested in the book RF Circuit Design (\$41 at Amazon).

As you can see, there's plenty of useful and interesting information in these trade magazines. In addition to High Frequency Electronics, you may also want to check out:

- RF Design (www.rfdesign.com)
- Microwaves and RF (www.mwrf.com)
- EE Times (www.eetimes.com)
- EDN (www.edn.com)
- Test&Measurement World (www.tmworld.com),

73's Bud N3TIR

Minutes of the General Membership Meeting March 6, 2008

Meeting called to order by Bud Plants

Minutes of February meeting distributed

Motion to accept N3ZNI Sec KC3HW

Treasurers Report: Part of Feb minutes

Repeater: OK

ARES/RACES: Nothing

Net Status: OK, except could use more participation

Candy Sales: Going well, started in June 2007 \$ 1801 deposited so far.

Classes: Still on schedule

Audit Committee: Checking account balanced and OK. Waiting on some additional statements and receipts that are outstanding.

Flag Pole: On hold due to weather

Trailer needs work, will wait until weather gets better

Dave N3IDH has a bunch of computer stuff that is taking up too much room. He will keep until end of March, if no one wants anything, it will go in dumpster.

Motion to approve plan W3CYO Sec KC3HW

Norma N3YJJ, there are several old wooden tables in their barn, they want to trash tables and will replace with several fiberglass tables they have.

Motion to approve N3IDH Sec N3ZNI

Solar panels need a regulator, will be given to Sam for evaluation.

Hamfest Prizes: Board of Directors recommends a budget of \$ 1200 for hamfest prizes.

Motion to accept BOD recommendation N3IDH Sec Kevin KB3JHO

Field Day June 28 & 29 Alan will check the gun club calendar to determine availability. KB3LIX Equip coordinator N3ZEL Food KB3JHO Network

GOTA KC3HW P-R N3TIR

PGH 250 Brief discussion

N3IDH has box of Fox stuff, will be avail after meeting

Motion to adjourn N3IDH Sec KB3EUQ

Attendance: KB3LIX, KB3JHO, AA3JK, N3TIR, KB3OMH, KB3MDP, KB3MDO, Liz Glowark, WA3VKC, Rusty Shronovich, N3ZEL, N3IDH, N3WMV, N3AXR, KB3EUQ, Denny Schwing, N3ZNI, KC3HW, N3WYS (19)

Bill, KB3LIX

W1AW SPRING/SUMMER OPERATING SCHEDULE

SB QST @ ARL \$ARLB005
ARLB005 W1AW 2008 Spring/Summer Operating Schedule

ZCZC AG05
QST de W1AW
ARRL Bulletin 5 ARLB005
>From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT March 10, 2008
To all radio amateurs

SB QST ARL ARLB005
ARLB005 W1AW 2008 Spring/Summer Operating Schedule

Morning Schedule:

Time	Mode	Days
1300 UTC (9 AM ET)	CWs	Wed, Fri
1300 UTC (9 AM ET)	CWf	Tue, Thu

Daily Visitor Operating Hours:

1400 UTC to 1600 UTC - (10 AM to 12 PM ET)
1700 UTC to 1945 UTC - (1 PM to 3:45 PM ET)

(Station closed 1600 to 1700 UTC (12 PM to 1 PM ET))

Afternoon/Evening Schedule:

2000 UTC (4 PM ET)	CWf	Mon, Wed, Fri
2000 " "	CWs	Tue, Thu
2100 " (5 PM ET)	CWb	Daily
2200 " (6 PM ET)	RTTY	Daily
2300 " (7 PM ET)	CWs	Mon, Wed, Fri
2300 " "	CWf	Tue, Thu
0000 " (8 PM ET)	CWb	Daily
0100 " (9 PM ET)	RTTY	Daily
0145 " (9:45 PM ET)	VOICE	Daily
0200 " (10 PM ET)	CWf	Mon, Wed, Fri
0200 " "	CWs	Tue, Thu
0300 " (11 PM ET)	CWb	Daily

Frequencies (MHz)

 CW: 1.8175 3.5815 7.0475 14.0475 18.0975 21.0675 28.0675 147.555
 RTTY: - 3.5975 7.095 14.095 18.1025 21.095 28.095 147.555
 VOICE: 1.855 3.990 7.290 14.290 18.160 21.390 28.590 147.555

W1AW SPRING/SUMMER OPERATING SCHEDULE Continued

Notes:

CWs = Morse Code practice (slow) = 5, 7.5, 10, 13 and 15 WPM

CWf = Morse Code practice (fast) = 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 13 and 10 WPM

CWb = Morse Code Bulletins = 18 WPM

CW frequencies include code practices, Qualifying Runs and CW bulletins.

RTTY = Teleprinter Bulletins = BAUDOT (45.45 baud) and AMTOR-FEC (100 Baud). ASCII (110 Baud) is sent only as time allows.

Code practice texts are from QST, and the source of each practice is given at the beginning of each practice and at the beginning of alternate speeds.

On Tuesdays and Fridays at 2230 UTC (6:30 PM ET), Keplerian Elements for active amateur satellites are sent on the regular teleprinter frequencies.

A DX bulletin replaces or is added to the regular bulletins between 0000 UTC (8 PM ET) Thursdays and 0000 UTC (8 PM ET) Fridays.

In a communications emergency, monitor W1AW for special bulletins as follows: Voice on the hour, Teleprinter at 15 minutes past the hour, and CW on the half hour.

FCC licensed amateurs may operate the station from 1400 UTC to 1600 UTC (10 AM to 12 PM ET), and then from 1700 UTC to 1945 UTC (1 PM to 3:45 PM ET) Monday through Friday. Be sure to bring your current FCC amateur license or a photocopy.

The complete W1AW Operating Schedule may be found on page 97 in the March 2008 issue of QST or on the web at, <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw.html> .

NNNN

/EX

The Rockies Air and Space Museum Continued from Page 2

installed in a former FAA Air Traffic Control console.

Current efforts are underway to install working Amateur Radio satellite equipment in the mockup of a space station crew module. Thanks to welcome donations, we already have the cross-polarized antennas and directional (azimuth/elevation) rotors. Coax and control cable have recently been pulled and, with lots of help and a warm day, the antennas will go up within the next few weeks.

It is hoped that the Space Station's satellite radio system will be fully operational by mid-May. At that time the Museum will take possession of their very own moon rock to add to their permanent exhibit collection. To celebrate the event the Museum is planning a series of special events, with several astronauts, former astronauts, and other officials in attendance to kick-off the festivities. It would be great to have Amateur Radio ready to have a role in those activities.

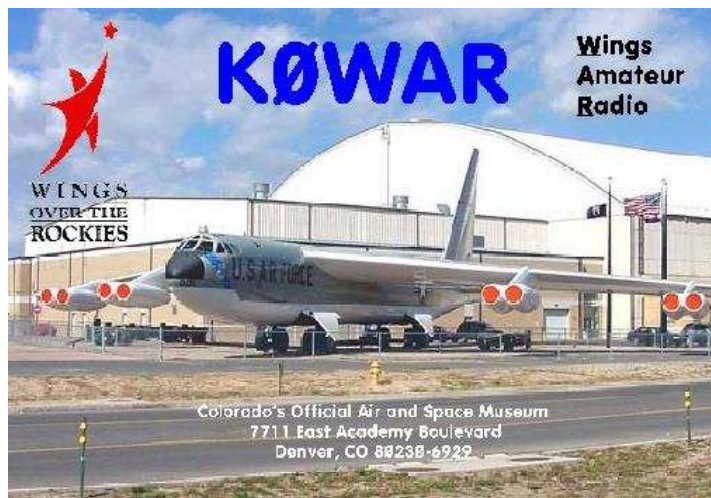
K0WAR (Wings Amateur Radio) is the call sign for Amateur Radio at the Museum. It is good at QRZ.COM where you can follow a link to a web page with pictures and descriptions of some of our work and exhibits.

de Scott, KB6CC
<kb6cc@arrl.net>

Below is the interior of the Space Station Crew Module.



Above: Vintage Radio & Avionics Room. Below is a Russian Space Suit approaching Airlock 5.



Washington Amateur Communications**Club Officers**

President: Bud Plants, N3TIR;

bud@bnelectronics.com

Vice President: Kevin Beatty, KB3JHO;

KB3JHO@arrl.net

Secretary: Bill Sheehan, KB3LIX;

sheehanbill@hotmail.com

Treasurer: Ed Oelschlager, N3ZNI;

n3zni@arrl.net

Board of Directors

Director: Bob Ketzell, KB3IN,

kb3in@yahoo.com

Director: Jim Burtoft, KC3HW;

jburtoft@verizon.net

Director: Dave Demotte, N3IDH;

n3idh@hotmail.com

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joecaldwell.jc@gmail.com

Editor: Jacque Gosselin, N3ZEL

n3zel@fyi.net

We're RadioActive!!!

We're on the Web
www.wacomarc.org

**Have you been a radio amateur for 25 years or more?
Were you originally licensed 25 years ago or more,
even if not continually?**

Well then please join us at the Quarter Century Wireless Association, Chapter 6 quarterly luncheon at Rocky II's. Located on PA Rt. # 51, just north of McKees Rocks, in Stowe Twp. at the Fleming Park bridge.

Join our members who are like you, the foundation of amateur radio. There is much we can learn from them and from each other. And it's fun too.

No reservation necessary.

Our next quarterly luncheon will be in June, 2008, so you have lots of time to plan ahead to join us.

Contact Jacque, N3ZEL at n3zel@fyi.net for information.



YLS AND XYLS

There is an organization for you. It's called the
Young Ladies Radio League.

Come join other Lady Hams and enjoy the fellowship.

See all we have to offer at

www.qsl.net/yfrrl/index.html or contact Jacque,

N3ZEL at n3zel@fyi.net

HAMFESTS

April 20th 2008

54nd Annual Hamfest/Electronics & Computer Show. Location: Emidio & Sons Party Center, 48 East Bath Road. Cuyahoga Falls, OH. Talk-in: 147.270+. Contact: Ted Sarah, W8TTS w8tts@w8tts.com <http://www.cfarc.org/hamfest2006.htm>

April 27th 2008

Two Rivers Amateur Radio Club. Location: at The Spectrum-6001 Smithfield Street Boston, PA. Talk-in 146.730. Contact: William Hetrick, N3LQC n3lqc@comcast.net <http://www.qsl.net/w3oc> VE testing. Breakfast and lunch served

May 16th – 18th 2008

Dayton Hamvention! **The big daddy!** Location: Hara Arena, 1001 Shiloh Springs Road. <http://www.hamvention.org/>

May 30th to 31st 2008

Rochester Hamfest. Location: Monroe County Fairgrounds Rt. 15A Rochester NY. Talk-in: ? Contact: info@rochesterhamfest.org ARRL Atlantic Division Convention! <http://www.rochesterhamfest.org/>

June 1st 2008

52nd Annual Breeze Shooters Hamfest & Computer Show **This is the biggest area hamfest!** Location: Butler Farm Show Grounds. Route 68 East of Butler. Talk-in 147.300+, Contact: Robert W. Benna, N3LWP hamfest at n3lwp@verizon.net <http://www.breezeshooters.net> Breakfast and lunch served VE testing.

July 13th 2008

North Hills ARC hamfest. Northland Public Library, 300 Cumberland Road. McCandless Township 15237. Talk-in 147.090+. Contact: Gorman, N3RQD n3rqd@earthlink.net <http://www.nharc.org> Breakfast and lunch served

July 20th 2008

Somerset County Amateur Radio Club. Location: Somerset County Vo-Tech School Talk-in: 147.195 123.0pl. Contact: Stewart Saylor, AK3J ak3j@arrl.net <http://www.k3smt.org/>

August 24th 2008 ARRL Section Convention!

Skyview Radio Society 48th annual Swap N Shop! Location: Skyview Radio Society clubhouse grounds. 2335 Turkey Ridge Road. New Kensington, PA 15068. Talk-in: 146.640- 131.8pl. Contact: Robert Boehmer, KG3F at SkyviewHamfest2008@verizon.net Map and directions at www.skyviewradio.net Breakfast and lunch served

August 30th 2008

Uniontown ARC Gabfest. Location: Uniontown ARC club grounds, on Old Pittsburgh Road just off of Rt. 51 and Rt. 119. Talk-in 147.045+ 131.8pl. Contact: Tony Alviar, KA3VOR (724) 430-1277 (M-F 8-4); newsletter@w3pie.org www.w3pie.org Breakfast and lunch served, free admission

November 2nd 2008

WACOM ARC Hamfest. Location: Washington County Fairgrounds on Main Street Extension. Talk-in 145.490- 131.8pl. Contact Ed Oelschlager, N3ZNI (724) 986-9371 or n3zni@arrl.net Free coffee all day, breakfast and lunch available. Map and directions at www.wacomarc.org

The United States Power Squadrons Amateur Radio Club

Invites you to join us
on the air from



W-1-A-W

The Hiram Percy Maxim
Memorial Station at ARRL
Newington, Connecticut

7 and 8 June 2008

In honor of National Safe Boating Week, USPS will
operate the celebrated W1AW station.

Come join USPS and ARRL on the air.



For more details, contact
Donald Stark, N3HOW
DonStarkN3HOW@gmail.com

www.usps.org

