



BANDBITS



*The official publication of the Peoria Area Amateur Radio Club
An ARRL Affiliated Club*

Volume 34, Number 01

January 2019

President's Message

As the planets and their moons have recently aligned in some odd fashion, I write to all of you as your newest president. It is not something I've done with a ham club before, but I have some thoughts about what we can do with 2019. It's barely alive yet, but this is the time when we have to think and act (in that order).

You have already heard that this is PAARC's 100th year, and that is a great opportunity to attract more people into the hobby with Superfest. There are history-minded individuals who will want more information about the 60-year period that we share with Expo Gardens. For ***some*** added interest, all we have to do is be civil, inviting, and creative. That's the external imperative.

Internally (and beginning on January 3 2019), all of us have to think about projects we have done, places we have seen, and persons who have participated with us. Not to put too fine a point on it, we must be the good people we're seeking. If we know of something which has not yet been completed properly, then we may be one of those that need to close it off in good order and hand the reins back to the board of directors.

Many people have the idea that "someone else will take care of" meetings, arrangements, phone calls, texts, and the good will that our repeat Superfest vendors crave. Instead, maybe we can spread the joy around, keep everybody in the loop, and (long before September rolls around) get things done in a timely way. It's important for each of us to feel like a fully active member of a club with a good reputation; good, because we're the ones who build that reputation and make sure it's maintained for everyone in the group.

We comprise a teaching organization, as well as an emergency-assistance group (not to supplant ARES, of course). The more we all know about the business of the club, its history, and the hard-working members who made/make it possible, the better we can perform the actions that other people, other clubs, and ultimately the public we serve will come to expect from us. Let's create more "gee whiz" things ... together.

Jon, NM0O

PAARC EVENTS

The Peoria Area Amateur Radio Club meets at the American Red Cross Chapter House, 311 West John Gwynn Jr. Avenue between Hightower and Kumpf Blvd. in Peoria, Illinois.

Upcoming Events:

Board Meeting

Thursday January 3, 7:00pm

General Meeting

Thursday January 10, 7:00pm

Program: Fritz Bock, WD9FMB - "The Future of ARES"

Superfest Meeting

Thursday January 24, 7:00pm

Peoria County ARES

January 2: Net @ 8:00 PM CST on the 075 repeater

January 9: Net @ 8:00 PM CST on the 075 repeater

January 16 ARES Meeting at the Peoria American Red Cross @ 7:00 PM CST

Meeting Agenda includes:

Suggest what you want to do in 2019, Update storm spotter process, Interested in building your own sound card for digital modes to save \$?, ARES Show & Tell, Who has 60 meter HF experience to share? 2 meter beam antenna design and more.

Rich Holtman, KD9ANU, Assistant Emergency Coordinator for Peoria County ARES

email: kd9anu@arrrl.org

Winlink: kd9anu@winlink.org

Cell: 309-256-4272

ARES website: <http://www.peoriacountyares.org/>

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Club Directors

President **Jon Dainty, NM0O**
 Vice President **Corey Ressler, KC9RAV**
 Secretary
 Treasurer **Deb Suhs, KA4DEB**
 Directors **Tom Hunt, W8NWG (1 year)**
Dave Lucas, AB9DL (2 years)
 Trustee **Bob Bush, W9WTF**
 Repeater Chair **Steve Grob, KD9AER**
 Superfest Chair **Deb Suhs, KA4DEB**

The Peoria Area Amateur Radio Club

The club was originally chartered as the Peoria Radio Club on May 2, 1919. Please address all correspondences to:

The Peoria Area Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 3508

Peoria, IL 61612-3508

E-mail w9uvi@arri.net

Web Page – <http://www.w9uvi.org/>

Membership Information

Membership in the Peoria Area Amateur Radio Club is available to any licensed amateur and is administered as follows:

Voting Membership: \$25 per calendar year. Ages 18 and under, or 65 and older are \$20 per calendar year.

Family Membership: Voting membership for first member and \$15 for each additional member in same household.

Non-voting Membership: \$10 per calendar year for amateurs who are interested only in occasional participation.

Honorary Life Memberships: are free and are awarded by a vote of the general membership after recommendations from the Board of Directors.

Dues are payable by February 1ST of each year.

BANDBITS Policy

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Opinions expressed in articles and letters are those of the author and may or may not reflect those of BANDBITS or the Peoria Area Amateur Radio Club. BANDBITS reserves the right to edit any copy, and to print or refuse to print any contribution.

Articles are welcome and can be sent to:

BANDBITS Editor –

P.O. Box 3508 Peoria, IL 61612-3508 or via E-mail at

w9uvi@arri.net

Articles for BANDBITS must be received by the Monday following the club meeting for inclusion in the next issue.

Club Sunday Night Net

The club holds a weekly net on Sunday Evening at 8:30 PM Local Time on the 147.075 repeater. All Amateurs with 2-meter privileges are invited to check in.

Repeaters

The PAARC operates three 2-meter repeaters, which are open for all amateurs with 2-meter privileges. The 146.250 (input)/146.850 (output) repeater is located in Glasford. The repeater uses a 156.7 Hz output tone for CTCSS squelch control.

The 147.675 (input)/147.075 (output) repeater is located in Groveland. This repeater is used for the Sunday night net. This repeater uses a 156.7 Hz input tone for CTCSS squelch control.

The W9PIA D-Star 144.505 (input)/145.105 (output) repeater is located in Groveland.

Club Net Report

The Sunday Night W9UVI Net check-in results for the month are shown in the table below.

Dec 2	Dec 9	Dec 16
21	25	27
Dec 23	Dec 30	Total
13	19	105

12/02/18

W9WTF K8ROY KB9ATO NM0O W8NWG KB9SF KD9IVV KD9IBC W9TGO W9JDP KD9ERS KD9ANU W9GLO KD9JXR KD9BRV K9STS KC9YTT K9TYR W9WGN N9GZ KD0UNM Submitted by KD9DBQ 73

12/09/18

W9WTF KD9BRV KD9ERS NM0O KD0UNM KB9SF KB9ATO KD9AER KD9IVV K9TYR N9SJZ KD9JXR KB9TNZ K9JLX W8NWG W9TGO K9DRF W9WGN K9STS N9GZ KD9ANU N9WFT W9GLO KC0ROM KD9HZZ Submitted by KD9DBQ 73

12/16/18

W9WTF N9SJZ W9GMK KB9TNZ NM0O W9TGO W8NWG KD9AER K9DRF KD9ERS KD9JXR W9GLO KD9LQL K9JLX K8ROY KB9ATO KD9ANU KB9SF KD9BRV KC9RAV K9CEW W9WGN N9GZ N9WFT K9MJA KC9YTT K9HJZ Submitted by KD9DBQ 73

12/23/18

K8ROY W9WTF W9JDP NM0O KD9ANU W9GLO KB9ATO KB9TNZ KB9SF KC0ROM KD0UNM KD9IBC N9GZ Submitted by KD9DBQ 73

12/30/18

W9GLO N9LFE W9WGN N9SJZ KB9SF KB9ATO KB9TNZ NM0O KD9AER N9WFT KD9JXR W9GMK W9TGO KD9ANU K9JLX W9JDP K9HJZ K9TNT KD9IVV Submitted by KD9DBQ 73
 Happy New Year! Happy 100th PAARC!

PAARC Board Meeting Minutes – December 6, 2018

The meeting was called to order by PAARC Vice President Mark W9WGN at 7:02 pm. Other club members present were Steve KD9AER, Deb KA4DEB, Tom W8NWG, Jon NM0O, Corey KC9RAV, Neil KC8FYI, and Rich KD9ANU. Also present was a guest, Gary Davis, who is a potential club member, yet to obtain his amateur radio license.

Deb KA4DEB read the minutes from the last board meeting. Neil KC8FYI made a motion to approve those board meeting minutes, which was seconded by Tom W8NWG. The motion was approved.

Neil KC8FYI presented the Financial Report. Tom W8NWG made a motion to approve the report. Steve KD9AER seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Repeater Updates: Steve KD9AER reported there was a tower climb at Groveland early during the week of Thanksgiving to investigate issues with high SWR. The VHF antenna at the 180 ft location was high, as the mast coupling was loose in a way that made the antenna longer, which was resolved. The VHF antenna at 160 ft also had a problem near the top end – the climber took a recording of the antenna sweep back for further analysis – 98% sure this is due to the jumper from the Heliac to the antenna. A new jumper is being made and is to be installed next week.

Currently the 075 repeater is running on the backup DR-1X repeater, as the original DR-1X repeater has been acting a little flaky. Have learned that Yaesu now offers a new model DR-2X, for \$1100, but with trade-in of our old DR-1X we can get one for \$500, including the shipping cost. Steve to investigate the cost to ship our old repeater to Yaesu in California, to help us decide if we should upgrade.

2019 Programs: Corey is starting to work on programs for 2019, nothing to report just yet.

Possible Red Cross Sale: Nothing else has been heard regarding the possible sale. Fritz WD9FMB reported via text message that the Red Cross owns the tower at the Chapter House building that our antennas are located on.

Club Equipment Checkout Process: Rob KD9DBQ is interested in purchasing the Yaesu FT450 radio, which is now around 15 years old. Rob also reported that something “popped” in the loaner power supply.

Classes: Deb KA4DEB reported she is up to 3 interested parties for the Technical Class. The class will not start until there are 5 signed up. Tom W8NWG agreed to post the Spring General Class on the club's

Facebook page.

SuperFest: Deb KA4DEB reported she is starting to hear from vendors for the 2019 SuperFest, including some new vendors. The reservation has been made with Expo Gardens.

Club Calendar and Website: Deb KA4DEB to work on updates to the website. The website changes for Digital Membership Cards are ready to test.

ARC Antenna Replacement: Given the possible sale of the Red Cross Chapter House, we are holding off on changing any of the antennas on the Red Cross Chapter House tower.

Next Club Activity: Up next is the Christmas Dinner, which will be held at the Alexander Street Steakhouse on Thursday, Dec 13th at 6:30 pm.

Tom W8NWG made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Neil KC8FYI seconded the motion. The motion was approved, and the meeting adjourned at 8:06 pm.

Submitted by Rich KD9ANU Secretary

Minutes of the PAARC General Meeting – December 13, 2018

There was no business meeting held during the Christmas Dinner at Alexander Street Steakhouse.

Submitted by Rich KD9ANU Secretary

Classes

It appears we have enough interest to begin the next technician class.

At this time, we haven't had any interest in the next planned general class, so we will be starting the technician class on Jan. 22nd. We will start a waiting list for the general class and will plan on starting it soon after we have at least 5 people interested.

The classes are free, for the technician class the required book is the ARRL Ham Radio License Manual 4th Edition, for the general class the required book is the ARRL General Class License Manual 8th Edition, they are both available from the ARRL store.

The only other cost will be the \$15 fee to take the test.

If you know anyone who is interested in either classes, please pass this information on to them and have them contact Deb Suhs at ka4deb@arrl.net to register.

Bandbits Access

As published last month, beginning with the March 2019 edition of Bandbits, access to Bandbits will be restricted. If you have not paid your membership dues, you will not be able to view Bandbits.

In February everyone who has paid their 2019 membership dues or those who hold a life membership will receive an electronic membership card and instructions on how to access Bandbits. If for some reason you do not receive your electronic membership card by Feb 20th please send an email to the club w9uvi@arrrl.net.

Saturday, January 5, is Kids Day

The first Saturday in January is **Kids Day** — the time to get youngsters on the air to share in the joy and fun that Amateur Radio has to offer.

Kids Day gets under way on Saturday, January 5, at 1800 UTC and concludes at 2359 UTC. Sponsored by the Boring (Oregon) Amateur Radio Club, this event has a simple exchange, suitable for younger operators: first name, age, location, and favorite color. After that, the contact can be as long or as short as each participant prefers.

Look for activity on these frequencies: 10 meters: 28.350 – 28.400 MHz; 12 meters: 24.960 – 24.980 MHz; 15 meters: 21.360 – 21.400 MHz; 17 meters: 18.140 – 18.145 MHz; 20 meters: 14.270 – 14.300 MHz; 40 meters: 7.270 – 7.290 MHz, and 80 meters: 3.740 – 3.940 MHz. Repeater contacts are okay with permission of the repeater owner.

As with any on-the-air activity that includes unlicensed individuals, control operators must observe **third-party traffic restrictions** when making DX contacts. Additional **details** are on the ARRL website.

<http://www.arrrl.org/news/saturday-january-5-is-kids-day>

Australian Scout Jamboree to Field Special Event Station VI25AJ

Australian Scouts will be on the air from special event station VI25AJ January 4 – 14 from the 25th Australian Scout Jamboree (AJ2019), being held in Tailem Bend, South Australia. It's anticipated that some 2,000 Scouts will have the opportunity to experience Amateur Radio during the 10-day event. VI25AJ will be active on HF using SSB and digital modes, as well as on satellites, IRLP, and Echolink. **More information** is available on the VI25AJ QRZ.com profile page.

2019 Membership Dues

2019 dues are now due and need to be paid by the end of February. If you have not paid your dues by then you will be removed from the reflector and will no longer have access to Bandbits.

Dues have not changed, they are:

Voting membership:

\$20.00 – Senior (65+) or Student (under 18)

\$25.00 – Regular

\$15.00 – Family

– for each additional family member after the first regular membership

– must reside in the same household

Non-voting membership:

\$10.00

Dues can be paid in person at a meeting, by mailing a check to the club at PO Box 3508 Peoria, IL 61612, or by PayPal via the link under the Membership tab on the club's website www.w9uvi.org. Select the membership level you want, and it will take you to PayPal. You do not have to have a PayPal account to pay your dues.

RTTY Roundup Jan. 5-6, 2019

Contest Details

1. Objective: Amateurs worldwide contact and exchange QSO information with other amateurs using digital modes (Baudot RTTY, PSK, FT8 {see rule 7.4}, ASCII, AMTOR, Packet—attended operation only) on 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meter bands. Any station may work any other station. Stations may be worked once per band, regardless of mode.

2. Date and Contest Period: First full weekend of January, but never on Jan. 1. Begins 1800 UTC Saturday, ends 2359 UTC Sunday (**January 5-6, 2019**).

2.1. No entrant may operate more than 24 hours out of the 30-hour contest period.

2.2. If you start at 1800 UTC Saturday and end at 2359 UTC Sunday (a 30-hour period), you **MUST** take six (6) hours of off time (and the 6 hours must be taken in no more than two (2) blocks).

2.3. All entrants are allowed only one transmitted signal at any given time; alternating CQs on two or more frequencies using the same band and mode is prohibited.

Contest information continued here:

<http://www.arrrl.org/rtty-roundup>

To see January 2019 QST -- using 'FT8 in the ARRL RTTY Roundup' -- (click here)

FCC Outlines Impact on its Operations of Potential Funding Lapse

The FCC said in a January 2 [Public Notice](#) that in the event of a continued partial lapse in federal government funding, it will suspend "most operations" at mid-day on Thursday, January 3. Some systems that have gone dark in prior government shutdowns will remain operational this time, however. That includes the FCC website, although it will not be updated except for matters related to spectrum auction activities and those necessary for the protection of life and property. until normal operations resume. The FCC *Daily Digest* will continue to appear. The Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS), the Universal Licensing System (ULS), the Electronic Document Management System (EDOCS), and the Commission Online Registration System (CORES) will remain available, but no support will be provided except that necessary for spectrum auction activity. Processing of Amateur Radio applications will come to a halt, however, said ARRL Assistant Volunteer Coordinator Manager Amanda Grimaldi, N1NHL.

Also down will be the Consumer Complaint Center and the Experimental Licensing System, among several others

Still available will be the Network Outage Reporting System (NORS), the Disaster Information Reporting System (DIRS), the Public Safety Support Center (PSSC), the Licensing Management System (LMS), the Consolidated Database System (CDBS), the Auctions Public Reporting System (PRS), the Auction Application System, and the Auction Bidding System.

"All other Commission electronic filing and database systems will be unavailable to the public until normal agency operations resume," the FCC said.

<http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-outlines-impact-on-its-operations-of-potential-funding-lapse>

January 31 is the Deadline to Submit ARRL Foundation Scholarship Applications

The ARRL Foundation Scholarship program will accept applications from eligible applicants until January 31, 2019. All applicants must be FCC-licensed radio amateurs, and many scholarships have other specific requirements, such as intended area of study, ARRL Division, Section or state, and license class. Applicants should review the scholarships and check off the ones for which they are eligible.

[More information](#) is on the ARRL Foundation Scholarship Program page.

This year, the Foundation Board of Directors is offering several new scholarships. These include The Joel R. Miller (W7PDX) and Martha C. Miller STEM Scholarship, The East Coast Amateur Radio Service (ECARS) Scholarship, The Palomar Amateur Radio Club Scholarship, and The Dick Warren, K6OBS, Memorial Scholarship.

<http://www.arrl.org/news/january-31-is-the-deadline-to-submit-arrl-foundation-scholarship-applications>

AREA FCC EXAMS

Morton:

FCC Amateur Radio Exams are held at the Morton Public Library, 315 West Pershing at 12:00 noon the third Saturday of even numbered months or as noted: Feb 16, Apr 20, June 16, Aug 18, Oct 20 and Dec 15. If no one is there at that time the examiners will leave as they are all volunteers. Walk-ins are welcome. Please bring your original Radio License (if any) and a copy, and the original and a copy of any of any Certificate of Completion (CSCE) not already acted upon by the FCC. Copies are needed to send with your license application. Fee for 2018 is \$15.00. You will also need identification such as a Driver's License, and a Social Security Number. Contact Bob Bush W9WTF at W9WTF@ARRL.net for more information.

Bloomington:

The schedule for W5YI-VEC Amateur Radio testing dates for 2018 are: 1/27 9:00-11:00am, 3/24 1:00-3:00pm, 5/26 1:00-3:00pm. Testing is held at the Bloomington Public Library Community Room located at the intersection of E. Olive St. and S. East St. Entrance is off S. East St. People should contact Keith a week prior to the test for date and location. Testing begins at 1:00pm. Bring two forms of identification. You will need a copy of your current license plus and CSCE you want to apply. Contact Keith Hanson AC9S at ac9s@hotmail.com (preferred) or (309) 378-4416 for more information.

Note on testing – A Social Security number is now required for all FCC exams.