



# BANDBITS



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

**Volume 33, Number 02**

**February 2018**

## President's Message

And we are off, 2018 is off to a great start and February is here. We should all remember that on the 14th there is a special day for all the special people in your life, so don't forget that day.

Area of Focus - Speaking of love, time to show your equipment some love. Show those antenna wires, coax ends, and coax runs some love.

Dave Lucas  
AB9DL

## PAARC EVENTS

### PAARC MEETS AT RED CROSS

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. The club meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month.

#### Events:

##### Board Meeting

**Thursday Feb. 1, 7:00pm**

##### General Meeting

**Thursday Feb. 11, 7:00pm:**

Program: Benny Benedict, Salvation Army Disaster Relief

## Superfest

Your assistance is needed to help plan our annual event. Please plan on attending the next Superfest Meeting on Thursday Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00pm. I would also like those who assisted with last year's Superfest to attend so we can discuss what went well and what improvements are needed.

Deb Suhs  
KA4DEB

## Peoria County ARES

Feb. 7, Net @ 8PM CST on the 075 repeater  
Feb. 14, Net @ 8PM CST on the 075 repeater  
Feb. 21, ARES Meeting at the Peoria American Red Cross @7pm CST

This meeting will continue with part 3 of the Winlink World of communications (Rich).

Hand-outs for the 2018 SET, along with pre-determined locations for members.

Presentation on portable station set-ups (Matthew).

Matthew Behnke - KD9ERS

Peoria County Emergency Coordinator (ARES)

MARS - AAR5SE

Winlink - [kd9ers@winlink.org](mailto:kd9ers@winlink.org)

- [aar5se@winlink.org](mailto:aar5se@winlink.org)

PAARC - Visit [www.w9uvi.org](http://www.w9uvi.org)

[309-229-0820](tel:309-229-0820) - Cell

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## Woodford ARES

The next quarterly meeting of Woodford County ARES is scheduled for March 22 at 7:00pm in the WC EMA EOC on the south edge of Roanoke. The presentation topic is yet to be defined.

73,

Curt/K9UQF

WC ARES EC

**Club Directors**

President	<b>Dave Lucas, AB9DL</b>
Vice President	<b>Mark Suhs, W9WGN</b>
Secretary	<b>Rich Holtman, KD9ANU</b>
Treasurer	<b>Neil Hubert, KC8FY</b>
Directors	<b>Tom Hunt, W8NWG (2 years)</b> <b>Gary Kantner, W9GMK (1 year)</b>
Trustee	<b>Bob Bush, W9WTF</b>
Repeater Chair	<b>Steve Grob, KD9AER</b>
Superfest Chair	<b>Deb Suhs, KA4DEB</b>

**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](mailto: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 1<sup>ST</sup> of each year.**

**BANDBITS Policy**

BANDBITS is the official publication of the Peoria Area Amateur Radio Club and is distributed to all members in good standing, and to other interested parties. Permission is granted to reprint from BANDBITS provided that credit is given to the original author, if listed, and that BANDBITS is identified as the source of the material.

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](mailto: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 on the Rock-106 tower in East Peoria. 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 on the Rock-106 tower.

**Club Net Report – By Various Club Members**

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

Jan. 7	Jan. 14	Jan. 21	Jan. 28	Total
26	27	30	23	106

**01/07/18**

AB9B K9TNT N9SJZ N9WFT W8NWG KD0UNM KD9IVV KB9ATO W9TGO KD9AER KC9RAV KD9ANU K9HJZ W9GLO KD9IVC KD9BRV K9FIT KD9JMX KD9JFU N9CJI KC9WRK KD9ERS W9GMK KC9YTT KA9YSE KB9TNZ K9CEW

Submitted by KD9DBQ 73

**01/14/18**

AB9B W9TAZ AD9I W9WGN K9STS W8NWG NM0O KD9IVV K9FIT KD9AER KD9IVC K9TYR KC9RAV K9TNT KC9ROL AC9PR N9WFT KC9MOV KD9JFU/AE KD0UNM KC9WRK KA9YSE KD9ANU KC9YTT KD9BRV W9TGO KC9RAV

Submitted by KD9DBQ 73

**01/21/18**

K8ROY W9WTF KD9BRV KC9TCM W9WGN KD9HZZ KD9JXO KB9SF K9STS KD9IVV W9TGO K9TNT N9CJI AC9PR KD9AER W8NWG KB9ATO KD0UNM K9TYR KD9ANU KD9AZR W9GLO KA4DEB KD9IVC N9LFE N9WFT NM0O KD9ERS K9DUF KC9YTT

Submitted by KD9DBQ 73

**01/28/18**

K9TNT, KC9ROL, W9CAZ, KD9BRV, W9TGO, KD9IVC, N9WFT, KC9TCM, NM0O, KB9SF, N9CJI, W9WGN, KD9AER, K9QJ, K8ROY, KD9ANU, KD9HZZ, W9GLO, KC9RAV, KD9DBQ, W9WTF, KC9YTT, K9DUF

Submitted by W8NWG 73!

**Minutes of PAARC Board Meeting – January 4, 2018**

The meeting was called to order by PAARC Club President Dave AB9DL at 7:06 pm. Others present were Mark W9WGN, Neil KC8FYI, Tom W8NWG, Gary W9GMK, Deb KA4DEB, and Rich KD9ANU.

As there was not a quorum present at the December meeting, there were no previous board meeting minutes to read or approve.

Neil KC8FYI Club Treasurer present the Financial Report. Deb Suhs made a motion to approve the Financial Report as presented. The motion was approved.

**SuperFest:** Deb KA4DEB has agreed to be the SuperFest Chairperson for the next 2 years, through the 2019 100 year anniversary of the club (and 60 years at Expo Gardens).

**Repeaters:** We are looking for persons interested in being Repeater Chairman for 2018. There is nothing new to report on the possible repeater location at Hopedale. Waiting on warmer weather to install a ground-block on the Glasford system.

**Programs:** Mark W9WGN reported that the 2018 program plan is coming together. Fritz will present next week on the recent High-Altitude Balloon Launch with Dunlap Schools. Weather Spotter Training is coming in March (that will be a Friday meeting, rather than typical Thursday).

**Winter Field Day:** Plan to gauge interest in Winter Field Day at next week's club meeting.

**Summer Field Day:** Bass Pro Shop in East Peoria has agreed to host us again. The tent has been rented. The dates are Saturday, June 23 and Sunday, June 24. Need someone to volunteer to be the Summer Field Day Co-ordinator.

**Bandbits:** Deb KA4DEB has agreed to be the 2018 Bandbits Editor unless someone else steps forward. Discussion was held regarding stopping the practice of mailing out a few copies on Bandbits – it was agreed that March Bandbits would be the last month for such, and none will be mailed in April. Notice will be given in the next couple of Bandbits regarding this change.

**Classes:** Deb KA4DEB reported that the new class to upgrade to a General Ticket will begin next week on Tuesday and will be held at the American Red Cross Building. Mark Kupferschmid AC9PR is helping Deb teach this class.

Dave AB9DL made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved and the meeting adjourned at 8:08 pm.

Submitted by  
Rich Holtman  
KD9ANU  
Secretary

**Minutes of the PAARC General Meeting – January 11, 2018**

The meeting was called to order by Mark W9WGN at 7:01 pm. After introductions, we enjoyed a program by Fritz WD9FMB regarding the recent High-Altitude Balloon Launch held with the Dunlap High School Flight Club. This launch was quite successful and has tentatively set several records. At this time, there are possibilities for 2 more launches in 2018.

A motion was made to accept the previous meeting minutes as published in Bandbits by Tom W8NWG and seconded by Bob W9WTF. The motion was approved.

A motion was made by Fritz WD9FMB to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented by Neil KC8FYI. Jon NM00 seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Deb KA4DEB reported that the training to upgrade to General Class license begins next Tuesday.

A SuperFest Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 25 at the Red Cross, 7 pm.

Winter Field Day: Current thinking is to hold at the Red Cross Building on Saturday, January 27, ending in the evening when numbers dwindle down. Who is interested in participating?

Bandbits: We are looking for a new Editor, please submit your name to Dave AB9DL if interested. We plan to discontinue mailing any copies after the March edition has been mailed.

The next FCC testing session is set for Saturday, February 17, at the Morton Public Library, 12 noon.

The March Club Meeting will be the annual Storm Spotter Training. That month the meeting will be moved from Thursday to Friday, and be held at the Red Cross on March 9, 7:00 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 pm.

Submitted by Rich KD9ANU Secretary

**PAARC GOTA CONTEST 2017 FINALS**

- 1<sup>st</sup> place Dwight (K9QJ) tyt DMR
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place Bob (AB9B) \$50.00 GigaParts gift card
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place Mark (W9WGN) \$50.00 GigaParts gift card

Submitted by:  
Matthew Behnke, KD9ERS  
Peoria County Emergency Coordinator  
PAARC - Visit [www.w9uvi.org](http://www.w9uvi.org)  
309-229-0820 – Cell email - [kd9ers@outlook.com](mailto:kd9ers@outlook.com)



### **2018 Get on the Air Contest! STARTS February 1, 2018!**

The month of February is the beginning of the 2018 Get on the Air Contest!

For the month of February, here's the contest rules:

Make as many contacts as possible (No Duplicates!!) with any operator that has a call sign starting with W!

These contacts can be on HF/VHF/UHF, you can use VHF/UHF repeaters!

All contacts must be Phone only (No Digital modes or CW).

Logs must be turned in by March 3, 2018.

Each Month will be a new contest and total points will be tallied up at the end of the year for prizes!

Current guaranteed prize list:

Yesu FTM-3200DR Mobile

.....More prizes to come as I get confirmation letters sent out and returned.

If you have any questions, please feel free to get a hold of me,

Thanks.... and Get on the air!

Matthew Behnke - KD9ERS

Peoria County Emergency Coordinator (ARES)

MARS - AAR5SE

Winlink - [kd9ers@winlink.org](mailto:kd9ers@winlink.org)

- [aar5se@winlink.org](mailto:aar5se@winlink.org)

PAARC - Visit [www.w9uvi.org](http://www.w9uvi.org)

[309-229-0820](tel:309-229-0820) - Cell

### **Mailing of Bandbits**

Beginning with the April edition Bandbits will no longer be sent via the US Postal Service. It will be available on the club's website [www.w9uvi.org](http://www.w9uvi.org) and notification will be sent through the club's reflector (email list server) when the monthly edition has been posted on the website.

If you do not receive the club reflector emails go to the [social media page](#) on the website and follow the instructions on how to register.

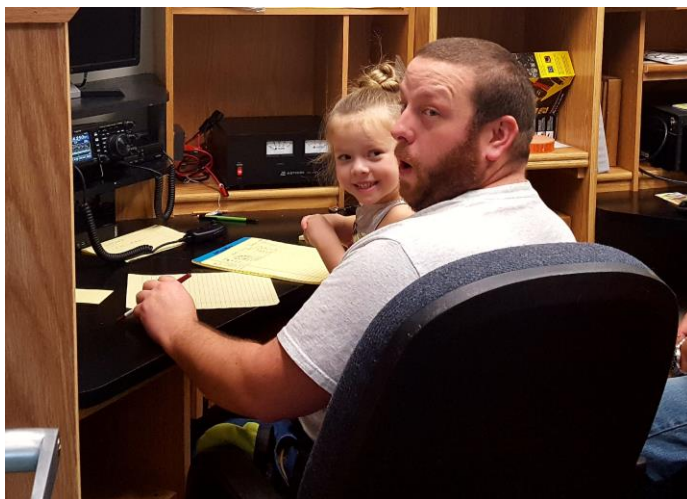
### **Winter Field Day**



Tom Hunt W8NWG, Patrick Banister W9GLO, Jon Dainty NM0O and W9WGN Mark Suhs



Arthur Ching KD9BRV



Seth Isaacs K0TOT with operator in training Toni Isaacs.

## **“Project Goodwill Kosovo” Celebrating Independence and New DXCC Status**

From <http://www.arrl.org/news/project-goodwill-kosovo-celebrating-independence-and-new-dxcc-status>

A new on-the-air team is taking the reins at Z60A, as “Project Goodwill Kosovo” moves into its second week, with only 2 weeks to go until the actual 10th anniversary of Kosovo’s independence. Hams from 10 countries will take part in the Project’s current phase. Z60A has been on the air since January 21, steadily winnowing down demand for Kosovo as a DXCC entity; the republic jumped to the top of Club Log’s **DXCC Most Wanted List** after attaining DXCC status, putting it ahead of North Korea and Bouvet Island.

*The Z60A operators are operating split, UP/DN from their transmit frequency. Pay attention to operators’ instructions.*

A recent reception celebrated Kosovo’s new DXCC status, with remarks by IARU member society **SHRAK** President Vjollca Belegu Caka, Z61VB; the Chair of Kosovo’s telecommunications regulator (ARKEP) Kreshnik Gashi, ARRL Honorary Vice President Jim Fenstermaker, K9JF; IARU Region 1 Secretary Hans Blondeel Timmerman, PB2T, and Project Goodwill Kosovo Coordinator Martti Laine, OH2BH.

During the celebration, some 40,000 contacts have been logged so far at Z60A, with operators focusing on Asia and North America. A LoTW upload and early QSL card are under consideration.

Fenstermaker said this week that noise continues to be an issue. He’s flying back to the US later this week, so he can add Z60A to his own DXCC tally.

## **Annual Weather Spotting Class**

Will be held on Friday March 9<sup>th</sup> at the Red Cross beginning at 6:30pm.

## **School Club Roundup**

Winter/Spring Term: February 12-16, 2018

Fall Term: October 15-19, 2018

Objective: To exchange QSO information with club stations that are part of an elementary, middle, high school or college. Non-school clubs and individuals are encouraged to participate.

Sponsored by the ARRL, its Hudson Division Education Task Force and the Long Island Mobile Amateur Radio Club (LIMARC) to foster contacts with and among school radio clubs.

Award certificates will be issued for the following US and DX categories:

Schools: Elementary, Middle/Intermediate/Junior High School, High School and College/University  
Non-school Clubs  
Individuals

For more information see:

<http://www.arrl.org/school-club-roundup>

## **The Bouvet Island DXpedition**

As of January 31, 2018 at 0830 UTC the team had dropped anchor off the east side of the island and were waiting for the arrival of a weather window to select and secure their site.

You can get updated information by going here:

<https://www.bouvetdx.org/news-and-updates/>

Good luck in getting through the pile-ups!

## **ARRL Field Day Save the Date**

**June 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>**

**Location: Bass Pro Shops  
East Peoria**

**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 17, Apr 21, 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](mailto: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](mailto: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.**

**Buy/Sell/Trade**

Non-Commercial Ads from Club members pertaining to Amateur Radio will be printed free of charge. Each ad will run for one issue and can be continued by contacting the Editor.

Material may be sent to:

Bandbits Editor

P.O. Box 3508

Peoria, IL 61612-3508

Or via Email: [w9uvi@arrl.net](mailto:w9uvi@arrl.net)

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