



### President's Message

To all of our friends reading this, whether licensed or not, welcome to the new and exciting year 2020. We're two months in, and the weather has not disappointed: It's up, it's down, and we don't have to be bored for very long until a new front is on top of us.

This brings up the necessity for preparation; we prepare for the workweek and for projects in school and in the community. Now, as responsible Amateur Radio Service operators, we face preparation for public service in our various cities and townships. It's not difficult, nor is it expensive. Most of what we need to do involves charging the batteries that our portable equipment uses and knowing how to play friendly with other operators in communications. Listen to experienced radio users: How do they make radio calls, what superfluous (unnecessary) words do they use, and are they proficient at controlling their stations? Knowing the answers to these questions, combined with practice in real-world communications, will help you to serve more ably (and have more fun, as well!).

Peoria Area Amateur Radio Club will offer various fun activities this year. We will attempt to offer them in places you can reach easily, at prices (sometimes FREE) that are friendly, and with leaders who know what they're doing. We envision having a TECHNICIAN license course this year, and we're contacting possible instructors for that purpose. It won't be free, but it will have a nice effect on those starting out in radio. Look elsewhere in this document ("Bandbits") for our local testing schedule.

The Red Cross is familiar to most of you, and they do a lot more than provide a place for us to keep our radios and have our meetings. They are a lifeline to the region and nationwide when disasters strike. From time to time, they will ask us for information concerning communications or actually to provide life-affecting communications services. For this reason, we want them to be able to reach us through a knowledgeable, experienced person – a liaison.

I plan to appoint a liaison station this month, and that appointment is nearly complete. All that remains is for us to confirm that the person named (from the Board of Directors of PAARC) is both able and willing to be that contact point for the Red Cross. Once the appointment is in place, they will be able more effectively to contact the club and get the information or the volunteers they need. Look for news on this liaison appointment at the February 2020 general meeting.

Have a great month; I hope you find lots of operating time and the equipment that will help expand your communications possibilities.

Jon A. Dainty, Sr., NM0O

President, PAARC

### February Club Events:

February 6<sup>th</sup>: Board Meeting

February 13<sup>th</sup>: Club Meeting at ARC

February 27<sup>th</sup>: Superfest Meeting

### March Club Events:

March 5<sup>th</sup>: Board Meeting

March 12<sup>th</sup>: Club Meeting at ARC

March 26<sup>th</sup>: Superfest Meeting at ARC

### Inside this issue:

- President Message
  - Peoria County ARES,
- Sunday Night Net,
  - Club Directors
    - Minutes of Board/Club Meeting,
- Repeater Updates
  - FCC Testing Information

## Peoria County ARES

<u>Date/Time (CST)</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
February 5th	NET	075 Repeater
February 12th	NET	075 Repeater
No ARES Meeting this month		

Meeting Agenda: There will be no meeting until March 18, 2020

Rich Holtman, KD9ANU, Assistant Emergency Coordinator for Peoria County ARES email: [kd9anu@arrrl.net](mailto:kd9anu@arrrl.net)  
Winlink: [kd9anu@winlink.org](mailto:kd9anu@winlink.org) Cell: 309-256-4272 ARES website: <http://www.peoriacountyares.org/>

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### 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.

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

January 5th	January 12th	January 19th	January 26th	Total:
22	25	19	18	84

January 5<sup>th</sup> Check In: KD9ERS KD9JXR N9LFE N9FAM K9TNT W9WGN KD9NYJ KD9MOA KD9IBC NM0O N9NDF KB9YYD KB9UMM KD9NYE KD9IVV W9JDP K9CEW KC9YTT N9GZ K9JLX KB9ATO K9HJZ Submitted by KD9DBQ 73

January 12<sup>th</sup> Check Ins: W8NWG KD9ERS KD9JXR W9WGN K9TNT N9SJZ KD9IVV KD9NYJ KB9SF W9JDP KD9HZS K9FIT KD9IBC KB9YYD K9JLX K9HJZ WB9UMM KD9HCY N9NDF KD9BRV K9CEW KD9LQL KC9YTT N9GZ KD9NYE Submitted by KD9DBQ 73

January 19<sup>th</sup> Check Ins: KD9JXR W8NWG W9WGN N9SJZ W9JDP W9GMK KD9ERS N9NDF KD9LQL KB9UMM KB9ATO K9CEW KD9IVV KD9NYJ KD9BRV NM0O K9TNT K9HJZ KB9TNZ Submitted by KD9DBQ 73

January 26<sup>th</sup> Check Ins: KD9JXR K9RCS NM0O W9WGN K9TNT W9JDP W8NWG KD9IBC KD9BRV KB9ATO KD9MOA KD9NYE N9LFE KD9HZZ KT9TB KD9ERS KD9NYJ KC9YTT Submitted by KD9DBQ 73

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### Club Directors

President Jon Dainty, NM0O; Vice President Craig Worrick, K9CEW; Secretary, Patty Martinez, KD9NYG; Treasurer Melinda Hubert, K9GOA; Directors Neil Hubert, KC8FYI (1 year); Jim Polson, W9JDP (2 Year) ; Trustee Tom Hunt, W8NWG; Superfest Chair Deb Suhs, KA4DEB.

## Repeaters

### Minutes of PAARC Board Meeting

January 2nd, 2020

Location: Red Cross Building - 311 W John H Gwynn Jr. Ave., Peoria, IL

The meeting was called to order by Jon Dainty, NM0O, at 7:12 pm.

#### Discussion:

In outgoing Treasurer Deb Suhs' KA4DEB absence, Jon Dainty NM0O, President, turned over 2019 Treasurer's materials to new office holder, Melinda Hubert, K9GOA.

Motion was made by Melinda Hubert, K9GOA, to accept the minutes as published in BANDBITS. This motion was seconded by Patty Martinez, KD9NYG. A vote was taken. Motion was unanimously approved.

Jon Dainty NM0O proposed an action to create a 2020 vice president spot and move office holders by board action. Melinda Hubert, K9GOA nominated Craig Worrick, K9CEW, for Vice President. Neil Hubert, KC8FYI seconded. Motion was unanimously approved.

Jon Dainty NM0O proposed an action to regularize directors as 2020 office-holders by making Jim Polson, W9JDP, incoming Director-at-Large (2 yr) and Neil Hubert, KC8FYI, Director-At-Large (1 yr) directors.

Jon Dainty NM0O discussed the creation of committees for the upcoming calendar year. The repeater committee

The PAARC operates three 2-meter repeaters, which are open for all amateurs with 2-meter privileges. The 146.250 (input)/146.850 (output) (K9PEO) repeater is located in Glasford. The repeater uses a 103.5 Hz input tone. The 147.675 (input)/147.075 (output) (W9UVI) 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 and 448.46875 (input)/443.46875 (output) repeaters are located in Groveland.

#### 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

was created with five members: Steve Grob, KD9AER, Corey Ressler, KC9RAV, Craig Worrick, K9CEW, Tom Hunt, W8NWG, and Neil Hubert, KC8FYI.

Steve Grob informed the board that all repeaters continue to function.

Jon Dainty NM0O informed he will need to appoint a board member from the club to act as a liaison to the Red Cross Tom Hunt, W8NWG expressed his willingness.

Jon Dainty NM0O discussed thoughts for club engagement this year including club engage recruitment at VE sessions, testing at Morton library, and a Field Day under a tent at Bass Pro Shop in East Peoria.

Craig Worrick, K9CEW, informed that a survey for what members are interested in will be presented at the club meeting next week.

The board suggested we explore tech/general classes instructed by VEs, and the return of the Elmer program where a more experienced ham that mentors young hams or new operators, and social get togethers was also suggested.

Motion was made by Jon Dainty NM0O to adjourn the meeting.

This motion was seconded by Melinda Hubert, K9GOA. A vote was taken. Motion was unanimously approved.

payable by February 1ST of each year.

#### Bandbits Policy

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The meeting adjourned at 8:15pm. Minutes provided by  
Patty Martinez, Secretary

## Minutes of PAARC Club Meeting

January 9th, 2020

Location: Red Cross Building - 311 W John H Gwynn Jr.  
Ave., Peoria, IL

The meeting was called to order by Jon Dainty, NM0O, at  
7:11 pm.

### Program Notes:

QSL cards, special event certificates, and memorable  
contacts that club members have received were  
displayed, distributed and discussed.

### Business Meeting:

Motion was made by Mark Suhs, W9WGN, to accept the  
minutes as published in BANDBITS.

This motion was seconded by Mark Garrett, KA9SZX. A vote  
was taken. Motion was unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Jim Polson, W9JDP, to accept the  
treasurer's report as presented by Deb Suhs, KA4DEB.

This motion was seconded by Patty Martinez, KD9NYG. A  
vote was taken. Motion was unanimously approved.

Repeater Committee- Steve Grob, KD9AER, Craig Worrick,  
K9CEW, announced they have formed a

Authorized Motorola  
Solutions  
Commercial Products  
Channel Partner and full  
line of ICOM Land Mobile,  
Amateur, Marine and  
Avionics Dealer.

Midwest 2-Way also sells  
from brands such as Tram-  
Browning Antennas, Able-2  
Lights and Sirens, Diga-Talk  
and Uniden.

Midwest 2- Way is owned  
and operated by Bill  
Schock, N9JOZ, for contact  
information visit  
[www.midwest2way.com](http://www.midwest2way.com)

Midwest 2-Way has a  
large assortment of pre-  
made coax jumpers in  
stock!

Midwest 2-Way is a proud  
supporter of Peoria-Area  
Amateur Radio Club.

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committee for the repeater's maintenance. The committee reports that they have Wires-X, Fusion, D-Star set

up and running on the repeater.

Deb Suhs, KA4DEB, announced that the Superfest planning committee meets 2 weeks from now.

Craig Worrick, K9CEW, announced that Winter Field Day at the Red Cross will be January 25<sup>th</sup> -26<sup>th</sup>.

Melinda Hubert, K9GOA, announced that membership cards are returning. Melinda also collected annual membership dues from club members.

Motion was made by Jon Dainty, NM0O, to adjourn the meeting.

This motion was seconded by Craig Worrick, K9CEW. A vote was taken. Motion was unanimously approved.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:33 pm. Minutes provided by Patty Martinez, Secretary.

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Repeater Committee to help maintain and improve PAARC's four repeaters and plans for the future.

Steve Grob, KD9AER; Craig Worrick, K9CEW; Neil Hubert, KC8FYI; Matt Behnke, KC9ERS; Corey Ressler, KC9RAV; Tom Hunt, W8NWG (Repeater Trustee)

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# Overview of the Digital and Analog W9UVI Repeater

The W9UVI 147.075 repeater is a Yaesu DR-2X Digital/Analog system located on the Midwest 2-Way Communications tower in Groveland.

## How does it work?

Yaesu's "System Fusion" is a digital C4FM repeater. It is configured as a Digital/Analog system, and operates in automatic mode. This means whatever signal it receives (digital or analog), that is what it will send out. There is no analog or digital priority.

This system will allow analog and digital (one at a time) to coexist on the same system. So, if you have both analog and Fusion digital, you can use the repeater's full capability. If you have only analog, you still have full use of the analog side.

## What about the other digital modes?

This repeater only uses "System Fusion" or C4FM digital. If you have DMR or D-Star, those digital schemes will not work on the 075 machine, but the Club does have dedicated D-Star repeaters on 2 meters at 145.1050 MHz and 70 centimeters at 443.46875 MHz. More information can be found at [w9uvi.org](http://w9uvi.org). There are DMR repeaters operated by the PALS Repeater Group on 442.200 and 442.500 MHz.

## Wires-X

Wires-X is an enhanced digital system using the internet to carry on QSOs anywhere in the world. If your radio has Wires-X capability, connecting is easy. The W9UVI repeater has full Wires-X capability. In Wires-X there are many "rooms" or groups to which you can connect to communicate worldwide. There is an abundance of information on how to set up Wires-X on the internet.

Wires-X users, it is important that **when you are finished using Wires-X please disconnect from the room.** This will help prevent

the repeater locking on to the room requiring intervention from a Repeater Committee member.

### What about that digital “hash”?

Some of you may hear a loud noise, or digital “hash” when listening in analog while another station is operating in digital. This can be annoying, but can be eliminated on some radios by making sure you set the **156.7 CTCSS** tone on your radio for **both transmit and receive**. You will see the repeater output carrier on your radio's SMeter, but the audio will be attenuated. If you are not hearing the “hash” now, then your radio already has the 156.7 tone set for both transmit and receive.

We plan other enhancements and improvements on our repeaters over the next year or so. As always, we welcome your ideas.

Tom Hunt – W8WNG

### AREA FCC EXAMS

#### Morton:

February 15 <sup>th</sup>	April 18 <sup>th</sup>	June 20 <sup>th</sup>	August 15 <sup>th</sup>
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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. 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 2019 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:

March 7 <sup>th</sup> : 1300-1500
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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. 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.