



President's Message

Friends and fellow radio amateurs, we are facing a unique challenge in 2020. We cannot simply go out among the populace and rub shoulders; we might find the contact less friendly than we at first imagined. However, as hams, we are uniquely gifted with the capability of making continuing contacts across our own country and around the globe. This situation is truly bad because many of the world's citizens are dying from coronavirus infection; we have to be careful with our movements, and we must be less casual with any personal contacts we make. What are responsible hams to do?

From my first months in ham radio, I noticed that there were many ways an individual radio operator could go with this hobby. I found places where I could join nets and be useful, but I also looked for others who, like me, wanted to ragchew on the air. I bought a Yaesu HF radio and used it (with the commander's permission) in my barracks room at Fort Hood, TX. I talked with all kinds of people using a simple dipole antenna on top of the barracks. In my VW Super Beetle, I installed a Kenwood dual-band transceiver that kept me in touch on the road. While these radios were a substantial cash outlay, they gave me a lot of enjoyment and helped me to meet people far and wide.

You don't have to go online and spend a ton of money on brand-new gear. Do you have friends in the radio club of which you are a member? Maybe some of them know where to find reliable gently-used HF, VHF/UHF, and other gear to construct a station that lets you get "out in the world." Even if it's not a lot of money, when people get on the air, most of them want to talk, so get out there and fulfill their wishes by getting to know someone new. If you are a computer user, there are several other things available that will let you contact this and other countries' hams and have the results scrolling on your screen – even using what many consider "flea" power.

Speaking of using computers, our new way of life in the middle of 2020 seems to point us toward technology as a way of staying in personal touch. Check out the ways you can use your computer camera and microphone to stay in face-to-face touch. Our PAARC board has been using Zoom for holding meetings and even for enjoying conversations over lunch. It's worth your time to check it out; we may even have membership meetings online in this way in the near future.

Some are asking whether Superfest is on track for September. Frankly, although we are keeping our eyes and ears open, we will not know for certain what September brings until Gov. Pritzger changes the present "shelter in place" conditions. We are having planning meetings, and vendors are still being contacted, so, if things open as we hope, Superfest will take place as planned. Keep reading in this space and on our Facebook page.

Be safe, friends, and let's be the most sensible citizens around the region. People are still depending on us.

Jon A. Dainty, Sr., NM0O

President, PAARC

May Club Events:

May 7th: Board Meeting

May 14th: Club Meeting
Held on the repeater via
a round robin style.

May 20th: ARES Meeting
at ARC

May 28th: Superfest
Meeting TBD (Zoom)

June Club Events:

June 4th: Board Meeting

June 12th: Club Meeting
(TBA)

June 20th: ARRL License
Testing

June 25th: Superfest
Meeting (TBA)

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>
May 6th/ 8:00pm	NET	075 Repeater
May 13th/ 8:00 pm	NET	075 Repeater
May 20th/ 7:00 pm	Meeting	Zoom Meeting (Watch Email for invite)

Meeting Agenda: Weather Spotting, ARES Training Task Books, Winlink Peer-to-Peer VHF Net, Winlink Tip of the Month, Illinois ARES Website, Local HF Net?, more

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

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.

April 5th	April 12th	April 19th	April 26th	Total:
25	26	33	26	110

April 5th Check-In: KD9ERS KD9JXR N9FAM W9JDP W9WGN KD9MPI W8NWG N9SJZ KD9BRV K9TNT KD9LQL KD9AER KD9IVV KB9ATO WW9DLM K9FIT K9CEW KT9TB KD9IBC KD9HCY KD9ANU KD9JFF KD9NYE W9GMK K9HJZ Submitted by KD9DBQ 73

April 12th Check-In: KD9JXR AD9I W9WGN K9TNT KD9ERS N9NDF KD9IBC KD9MPI NM0O KC9YTT KD9AER W9JDP N9SJZ W8NWG KB9ATO KD9BRV KD9NYE KB9TNZ K9FIT N9GZ KD9JFF KD9IVV WW9DLM KD9ANU K9HJZ KD9NYI Submitted by KD9DBQ 73

April 19th Check-In: KD9JXR KD9IBC N9LFE AD9I W8NWG W9WGN K9TNT N9SJZ K9FIT KD9AER NM0O KD9NYI KT9TB KD9ANU KD9BRV W9JDP N9GZ KB9TNZ KD9IVV KC9YTT KD9MPI KB9ATO K9HJZ KB9SF W9TGO N9NDF W9TTX K9CEW KD9GPO W9GMK KD9ERS KD9NYE KB9MJA Submitted by KD9DBQ 73

April 26th Check-In: KD9ERS KD9JXR AD9I W9WGN KD9IBC N9SJZ KD9BRV NM0O KD9AER KD9HZS KD9IVV KD9IVV K9HJZ W9JDP W8NWG KD9MPI KT9TB KD9ANU KD9NYE K9CEW KB9SF N9GZ KD9LQL KD9MJA KB9ATO KC9YTT Submitted by KD9DBQ 73

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.

<u>Repeaters</u>	
Peoria Area Amateur Radio Club	Page 2 of 5

Minutes of PAARC Board Meeting

The April Board of Director Meeting was held via a teleconference with 7 board members attending.

The possibility of continuing board meetings via a video conferencing app such as Google Meet, Zoom, etc, due to the COVID-19 outbreak. Currently the ARC is closed to the public usage now till the end of May.

Superfest: Deb, K4DEB, is currently working with the County Clerk to obtain the proper raffling licenses needed for the 2020 Superfest. Currently there have not been any decisions have been made to postpone or cancel PAARC's 2020 Superfest. The board is observing the local governments decisions on large gatherings and taking much consideration into the safety of our members, volunteers and attendees.

Repeater Committee: Tom, W8NWG, discussed short term and long term planning for making more efficient use of our digital and analog repeaters. More information will be released from the board once decisions are finalized.

Treasurer Report: Melinda, K9GOA, reported the treasurer report it was approved with a vote from Craig, K9CEW, and seconded by Deb, K4DEB.

Bandbits: The presented version of bandbits was approved by the board for publication for the members. The Board is currently looking into more efficient ways to distribute Bandbits to PAARC members.

The April Board Member Meeting was adjourned at 19:59.

Minutes provided by Tom, W8NWG.

Minutes of PAARC Club Meeting

The April Club meeting was cancelled due to risk of COVID-19 exposure to our members.

PAARC 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 payable by February 1ST of each year.

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

Online Registration Opens for Free Virtual Contest University

04/28/2020

Contest University (CTU), a staple of Dayton Hamvention, will take place online this year through the Zoom video platform, and all sessions will be free. Visit the CTU website to register. Live CTU sessions via Zoom will get under way on Thursday, May 14, 1245 UTC, and will be recorded and archived. — Thanks to CTU Chair Tim Duffy, K3LR

<http://www.arrl.org/news/online-registration-opens-for-free-virtual-contest-university>

Fresh Crew Arrives on ISS

04/13/2020

Astronaut Chris Cassidy, KF5KDR, and two Russian cosmonauts arrived on April 9 as the Expedition 63 crew on the International Space Station, temporarily restoring the orbiting laboratory's population to six people. A Soyuz spacecraft transported Cassidy, Anatoly Ivanishin, and Ivan Vagner on a four-orbit, 6-hour flight after launching from Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan.

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, 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@arrl.net Articles for BANDBITS must be received by the 25th of the month for inclusion in the next issue.



Midwest 2-Way Communications is an Authorized Motorola Solutions Commercial Products Channel Partner and full line of ICOM Land Mobile,

The Expedition 63 crew will live aboard the station for a bit longer than 6 months, with Cassidy as commander.

The Expedition 62 crew of Jessica Meir, Drew Morgan, KI5AAA, and Oleg Skripochka, RA0LDJ, will head back to Earth on April 17.

<http://www.arrl.org/news/fresh-crew-arrives-on-iss>

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

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.

AREA FCC EXAMS

Morton:

June 20th	August 15th
-----------	-------------

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:

Please stay tuned for more dates

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.