



RADIO SIGNALS WC4DC

***Dedicated to the Art and
Science of Amateur Radio***

Monitoring: 146.57, 145.01 (24/7)

Repeaters: 147.375 + PL 146.2 and 442.225 + PL 123.0

**Fusion Repeater (can be Connected to Wires X) 145.290
Dickson, TN**

Volume 2, Issue 26, February 2021

**Dickson County ARC Monthly Meetings: 2nd Monday of every month, 7:00 p.m.
Dickson County EOC building, 284 Cowan Rd., Dickson, TN 37055**

<http://www.wc4dc.org>

**ALL hams are welcome to check-in on the Tuesday night net at 7:00 pm on the
White Bluff repeater - 147.375 + PL Tone 146.2**

Be sure to “Like” us on Facebook – Dickson County ARC

Upcoming Events:

March 6, 2021 Cave City Hamfest/Convention

Location: Cave City Convention Center

502 Mammoth Cave Street, Cave City, KY 42127

March 13 2021 Tullahoma Tailgate/Hamfest.

The location has been moved up the road to Waggoner Park on Hwy 55
to comply with COVID restrictions for an outdoor event.

Articles and suggestions for articles, future events, etc. are always welcome and encouraged; please email them to Sena Frank, N11Y at lucats20@yahoo.com by the last Wednesday of the month.

February 2021 meeting will be in person, location below

January 11th the club had an "On the Air" meeting and shared our 2021 club goals. The upcoming February Tech Class, VE session at Colton's 1/21, AND a new temporary club meeting location until further notice at New Spring Creek Church of Christ in Bon Aqua were all discussed. February 8, 2021 programming includes a Zoom session with John Kruk, N9UPC. If you have questions about Wires X, System Fusion, or Yaesu products in general don't miss it.

Zoom link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6152931237?pwd=cy9WcE90Y3ZOZkJOYXBnVE0rNERPQT09>
and the password is the club callsign.

QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo Returning in March

The QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo will return March 13 – 14 for a full 48 hours, QSO Today host Eric Guth, 4Z1UG/WA6IGR, announced this week. ARRL is a QSO Today Expo Partner. Guth said the inaugural QSO Today Expo last August attracted more than 16,000 attendees, and he anticipates that the March 2021 event will be even more successful.

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The upcoming QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo will feature new speakers and presenters, panel discussions, and kit-building workshops among other activities. Guth pointed out that attendees can log in from anywhere. While he anticipates a good turnout by those who typically attend such ham radio events, the virtual Expo also offers an opportunity for those concerned about pandemic travel restrictions as well as for those who don't typically attend in-person events.

"At our last Expo, we found that 60% of attendees don't go to in-person national conferences, and 40% don't attend state or local events," Guth said, noting that distance and the high cost of travel and lodging were the most oft-cited reasons.

Registration is required, and to help cover the costs of staging this event, there will be a charge to attend. Advance tickets are \$10 (\$12.50 at /the "door") and include entry for the live, 2-day show as well to the 30-day on-demand period. At the Expo, visitors can:

- Learn from a line-up of such well-known ham radio personalities as Bob Allphin, K4UEE, on "My Favorite DXpeditions to DXCC Top 10 Most Wanted;" Michael Foerster, W0IH, on "Using the Arduino in Your Shack," and Ron Jones, K7RJ, on "3D Printer Basics."
- Take part in live virtual kit-building workshops. (Kits will be available for purchase and delivered to attendees in time for the Expo.)
- Walk through the virtual exhibit hall to visit an array of amateur radio vendors and see live demonstrations of the latest equipment. This show will leverage newer video technology to provide a better experience for attendees to engage with exhibitors.
-

Those planning to attend the Expo may take advantage of new speaker calendar technology to create their own calendar of presentations in their time zones, which can be saved to a Google or Outlook calendar. Registrants may return over the 30 days following the live event to catch speakers and presentations missed during the live period, as well as to explore and re-engage exhibitor offerings.

"The QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo has all of the familiar hallmarks of an in-person hamfest, including opportunities to connect and learn," ARRL Product Development Manager Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R, said. "Expect to bump into friends and well-known experts and personalities from throughout our worldwide ham radio community!" He explained that attendees visiting an exhibit or virtual lounge will be able to interact with other attendees in those settings.

FlexRadio is the Expo's Platinum Sponsor. Gold sponsors as of this time include Elecraft, RFinder, and CSI.

<http://www.arrl.org/news/qso-today-virtual-ham-expo-returning-in-march>

73,
W4WTN, 3980 Group

Upcoming NCJ CW and RTTY North American Sprints to Start 1 Hour Earlier

The February 6 NCJ-sponsored North American Sprint (CW) and the March 13 RTTY Sprint will begin 1 hour earlier, at 2300 UTC instead of 0000 UTC. Both contests will end at 0259 UTC. An earlier start time

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will give participants in the north and east a larger window for 20-meter activity. The new start time in February and March are provisional and will be evaluated after the contests. The September North American Sprint start times will not change.

The log submission deadline is 7 days from the end of the contest. Submit logs via the uploader app. Preliminary line scores will be available approximately 2 weeks after the contest, and the full online results will be published about a month later. A condensed version of the full results will then be published in the print edition of NCJ.

The North American Sprint web page includes rules, results, team registration, and other information. "CW Sprinting," a how-to article by Jim George, N3BB, can be found under "Tips" at the lower right-hand side of the North American Sprint web page. — Thanks to CW Sprint Manager Ward Silver, N0AX

<http://www.arrl.org/news/upcoming-ncj-cw-and-rtty-north-american-sprints-to-start-1-hour-earlier>

73,
W4WTN, 3980 Group

SIGHTS AND SOUNDS



The 2021 Propagation Summit sessions are already available on YouTube.

Dave, KE0OG, recently assembled a QCX-Mini transceiver from QRP labs. He's created a video on how he adjusted toroids in the output circuit to achieve a full 5 watts output. Perhaps he'll be using it in one of the many QCX Monthly QSO parties.

Dave, WO2X, put together a YouTube presentation on using Node-RED for ham radio. It "covers getting started with Node-RED and shows how to load new nodes, flows and customization of the dashboard."

WB7IR was active during Winter Field Day last weekend. K7IR, WA7IR, K7XH, and K7EDX found a low-noise location on a hill in eastern Washington and made nearly 600 contacts during the event. [John, WA7IR, photo]

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WORD TO THE WISE

Efflorescence

According to Wikipedia, Efflorescence is the "migration of a salt to the surface of a porous material, where it forms a coating." "Primary efflorescence" in concrete is a normal for concrete subject to moist conditions. When concrete absorbs external salt-laden liquids (such as where salt is used for ice melting), it can start to degrade, with the liquid re-appearing on the surface as "secondary efflorescence." For poured concrete structures (such as tower bases), extensive "secondary efflorescence" may indicate "internal structural weakness" brought on by the "migration or degradation of component materials."

CALL FOR PROPOSALS:

New Proposal Window is February 15th, 2021 to March 31st, 2021

The Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) Program is seeking formal and informal education institutions and organizations, individually or working together, to host an Amateur Radio contact with a crew member on board the ISS.

ARISS anticipates that the contact would be held between January 1, 2022 and June 30, 2022. Crew scheduling and ISS orbits will determine the exact contact dates. To maximize these radio contact opportunities, ARISS is looking for organizations that will draw large numbers of participants and integrate the contact into a well-developed education plan.

The deadline to submit a proposal is March 31 st, 2021. Proposal information and more details such as expectations, proposal guidelines and the proposal form can be found at www.ariss.org. An ARISS Introductory Webinar session will be held on February 25 th, 2021 at 8 PM ET. The Eventbrite link to sign up is: <https://ariss-proposal-webinar-spring-2021.eventbrite.com>

The Opportunity

Crew members aboard the International Space Station will participate in scheduled Amateur Radio contacts. These radio contacts are approximately 10 minutes in length and allow students to interact with the astronauts through a question-and-answer session.

An ARISS contact is a voice-only communication opportunity via Amateur Radio between astronauts and cosmonauts aboard the space station and classrooms and communities. ARISS contacts afford education audiences the opportunity to learn firsthand from astronauts what it is like to live and work in space and to learn about space research conducted on the ISS. Students also will have an opportunity to learn about satellite communication, wireless technology, and radio science. Because of the nature of human spaceflight and the complexity of scheduling activities aboard the ISS, organizations must demonstrate flexibility to accommodate changes in dates and times of the radio contact.

Amateur Radio organizations around the world with the support of NASA and space agencies in Russia, Canada, Japan and Europe present educational organizations with this opportunity. The ham radio

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organizations' volunteer efforts provide the equipment and operational support to enable communication between crew on the ISS and students around the world using Amateur Radio.

Please direct any questions to ariss.us.education@gmail.com .

About ARISS:

Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) is a cooperative venture of international amateur radio societies and the space agencies that support the International Space Station (ISS). In the United States, sponsors are the Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation (AMSAT), the American Radio Relay League (ARRL), the ISS National Lab-Space Station Explorers, and NASA's Space Communications and Navigation program. The primary goal of ARISS is to promote exploration of science, technology, engineering, the arts, and mathematics topics by organizing scheduled contacts via amateur radio between crew members aboard the ISS and students. Before and during these radio contacts, students, educators, parents, and communities learn about space, space technologies, and amateur radio. For more information, see www.ariss.org

Media Contact:

Dave Jordan, AA4KN

Like us on Facebook. Follow us on Twitter. Search on Amateur Radio on the ISS and @ARISS_status.

SK

How many times have you seen this following a name or a call sign? Many know what it means but a few may not. SK is rail road telegrapher and amateur radio abbreviation for Silent Key. In the old rail road days and to the present day it is still used as a sign of respect for a departed amateur.

It is a widely accepted fact that each and every one of us will one day be a SK.

Speaking as some one who has been involved with many SK sales, aka estate sales, there are a few things we can each do to make our survivors and executors life much easier. We know the value of our radio and computer equipment but many have no records available. Make a list of your equipment listing the value and keep it current. There are a few less than honorable hams who will offer your survivor pennies on the dollar for your valuable equipment.

If you have borrowed equipment be sure to keep a list of who owns it and let you borrow it. All equipment should be returned to the rightful owner. Have a will to indicate who should receive or how your equipment should be disposed of, either a sale, giving it individuals or giving to to a club or organization.

Last but not least keep a list of current passwords so any accounts you may have can be assessed by an administrator, executor, or suvivor. The bottom line is these simple steps can see that your wishes are followed and life will be much easier for everyone.

An old Boy Scout motto (BE PREPARED

DE NA4C



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NET REPORT

For January, 2021

In January we had a total of 82 check-ins on 2 meter.

We have some members that are not checking into the net. We need to increase this number.

When you can, please, check-in to the net and come to the club meeting. We need to keep up with communications. Thank you all for checking in. We welcome **ALL** hams to check in. The net is held at 7 pm. We are on the White Bluff repeater of 147.375 PL Tone 146.2 and **back-up simplex frequency 146.570. Don't be surprised if we simulate the repeater is down. Also, we might go to 28.400 after the net now and then. Even techs can use 28.400 on HF.**

Hints and Kinks for New Net Control Stations

from ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Course:

1. If the net is a scheduled net, start on time.
2. Use a script. This promotes efficient net operation.
3. Be friendly yet in control. Speak slowly and clearly with an even tone. Speak with confidence, even if you are inwardly nervous.
4. Write down all calls.
5. During check-ins, recognize participants by name whenever possible. This boosts morale
6. Frequently identify the name and purpose of the net.
7. Don't be afraid to ask for assistance if you need it. Have an alternate net control station (NCS).
8. When necessary use standard ITU phonetics.
9. For voice nets, use plain English. Do not use Q signals

ARES and Skywarn Net

10. If the net has been quiet for more than ten minutes, check on operator status. One of the functions and duties of an NCS is to keep a current list of stations checking in, where they are, their individual assignments, and what capabilities they have.

We could use more volunteers. We need 1 or 2 more people. You don't have to be good at it. **Just do it!** We have a net control script to use as a guide line so you don't have to make something up to say. To volunteer send me an email with your name, call sign and email address. Don Tigges kv4pu@d-mdata.com I will then add you to the calendar which can be seen on www.wc4dc.org along with the net script.

Thanks.

Don Tigges KV4PU

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Articles and suggestions for articles, future events, etc. are always welcome and encouraged; please email them to Sena Frank, NIIY at luvcats20@yahoo.com.

Remember, if you have equipment for sale or are looking for equipment, send an email to me, Sena Frank, NIIY, at luvcats20@yahoo.com with the appropriate information. Any price will be between individuals.

If you wish to be removed from this newsletter mailing, please email me, Sena Frank, NIIY, at luvcats20@yahoo.com, with your name and email address.

73 and Stay Safe

Sena Frank, NIIY
Every day is an adventure!