

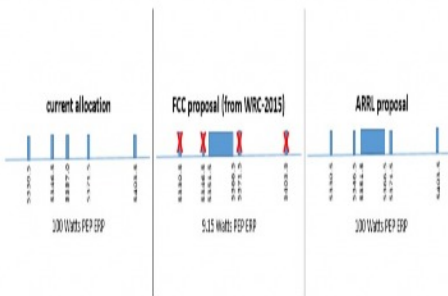


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Official Newsletter of the Parkersburg Radio Klub
1722 20th. St. Parkersburg, WV 26101

ARRL Urges Comments to FCC on 60-Meters Proposal: How to File Your Comments

ARRL is asking that all radio amateurs urge the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to continue the existing use of the 60-meter band. A public comment period is open until October 30, 2023. ARRL encourages expressions of support to the FCC for the current 100 W ERP power limit (instead of reducing the power limit to 15 W EIRP) and continuing secondary access to the current channels.



To submit a filing of your comments for the FCC's consideration in the rulemaking process, go to the FCC web page for the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking's (NPRM) Docket Number 23-120 at <https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/search/docket-detail/23-120>. If you wish to directly enter your comments, select the button labeled SUBMIT AN EXPRESS FILING or if you are uploading a document that contains your comments, select SUBMIT A STANDARD FILING. When sub-

mitting your comments, be sure the correct proceeding's docket number, 23-120, is included on the form. Your name and comments will be entered into the official public record of the proceedings and will be viewable by anyone who visits the docket web page.

While radio amateurs are encouraged to include any comments they would like in their submissions, they're especially encouraged to draw upon their personal experiences using the 60-meter band for public service purposes and for its location between the amateur 80- and 40-meter bands, which is critical to ensuring signal propagation to certain geographic areas during variations in time and the solar cycle. For example, ensuring radio amateurs have a continuum of communication capabilities across the 7 MHz, 5 MHz, and 3.5 MHz bands is valuable for emergency communications, especially between the US and Caribbean nations during hurricane season.

Some of the main points to comment on for this NPRM are:

- Urging the FCC to keep the four existing channels allocated to amateur radio on a secondary basis.
- Urging the FCC to keep the 100 W power limit for the four existing

channels and the new 15 kHz sub-band.

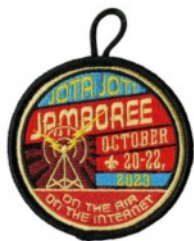
ARRL Public Relations and Outreach Manager Sierra Harrop, W5DX, underscored the importance of commenting, urging members to speak up. "ARRL members make up the strongest voice in matters of amateur radio spectrum defense," said Harrop. "Your membership and participation in the rulemaking process both ensure ARRL continues to make the difference when our band privileges are threatened. Please join us in effort to protect our 60-meter band privileges."

ARRL has assembled a web page with instructions on how to submit your comments, as well as background information on the issue: www.arrl.org/60-meter-band.

Jamboree-on-the-Air is on October 20 - 22, 2023

Jamboree-on-the-Air (JOTA), the largest Scouting event in the world, takes place on the third weekend of October (10/20 - 10/22). This annual global operating event allows Scouts to use amateur radio to connect with hams around the world. The event is supported by many local amateur radio clubs and individual operators. JOTA starts Friday and ends Sunday, but there are

no official hours of operation, so you have the whole weekend to make JOTA contacts.



Here are the event rules:

All radio operators must operate their stations strictly in accordance with FCC regulations.

Stations should try to contact each other by calling "CQ Jamboree" or "CQ JOTA," or by answering other stations sending this call.

Any authorized amateur radio frequency may be used. It's suggested that the Scout frequencies be used, at least for a starting point. Remember that your radio has a dial and to move away from active nets and contesters.

Any amateur mode of operation can be used, such as CW, SSB, PSK, SSTV, FM, and satellite. The more modes in operation, the more exciting the event will be for the Scouts. JOTA is not a contest. The idea is to contact other Scout stations and allow as many Scouts as possible to talk to other Scouts and learn about who they are and what they are doing. You might think about counting the Scouts on both sides of the QSO rather than the number of QSOs!

Scout Camps on the Air is still being developed, but ensure you log your contacts for inclusion in this special program once submissions are tracked.

More information about JOTA may be found on the Scouting website, at <https://www.scouting.org/international/jota-joti/jota/>

2023 ARRL Online Auction Is Ready to Go!!!

Get ready to bid and to show support for ARRL education programming during the 18th Annual ARRL Online Auction. The auction previous is open now, and bidding begins on Friday, October 13 at 10 AM EDT, and continues through Thursday, October 19 at 10 PM EDT.

RT Systems, Inc. is sponsoring this year's auction, which will feature QST Product Review equipment, vintage books, and the ever-popular



ARRL Lab Mystery boxes.

Visit the auction website, register to bid, and check out details on the available items so you'll be ready to bid on your favorites. Keep an eye on the ARRL Facebook page and Instagram account through-out the event for featured products and auction highlights.

Prospective bidders must register and create an account. Your ARRL user ID and password will not work on the auction site. Registration is a one-time action. If you have previously registered for the ARRL Online Auction, you can use that same username and password to sign in to this year's auction. If you have forgotten your username or pass-

word, click on the Help tab for assistance.

It's not necessary to register to browse the items for sale, and you can register at any time during the auction at the ARRL Online Auction website.

ARRL's Annual Online Auction is an important fundraiser and a critical means of support for ARRL educational programming. Auction proceeds ensure the continuation of programs that support the licensing of new hams, Amateur Radio Emergency Service training, and enhancements to technical and operating education for all ARRL members and the greater amateur radio community.

If you don't want to bid but still would like to contribute to the ARRL Education & Technology Fund, visit arrl.org/donate.

For more information about the ARRL Online Auction, contact Lisa Tardette, KB1MOI.

ARRL Audio News

Listen to ARRL Audio News, available every Friday. ARRL Audio News is a summary of the week's top news stories in the world of amateur radio and ARRL, along with interviews and other features.

The On the Air podcast is available on iTunes (iOS). The On the Air podcast and ARRL Audio News are also on blubrry -- On the Air | ARRL Audio News.



Volcano Days Success

The volcano days special event station with off without a hitch this year, on September 23rd.

A group of us met at breakfast and then headed out to Cairo, West Virginia. There we met Kenny WA8LLM and he helped us erect 20 and 40 mtr. antennas. Connor was there to set up his FT8 station and Jerry set up a voice station.

Conard worked on FT8 Jerry worked on 20 and 40 m SSB. We actually got started on time at 10 o'clock and worked until about 6 PM.

The phone station worked 86 contacts in the FT8 station worked 45 contacts, pretty good for one days work. The logs have been submitted to the logbook of the world and I have gotten six request for QSL cards.

I would like to thank everybody that helped out to make this special event station possible here are a few pictures. Thanks. Scott.



MINUTES

Meeting was called to order by Mike on August 14, 2023 at Western Sizzlin steakhouse on route 68 time was 6:30.

Introductions were made by 37 members and guests.

The 50-50 drawing was won by Tom Porter \$41! He won last month, you lucky dude.

Treasure treasurers report was given by Jane with various expenses for field day and repeaters are ending balance is now \$4516.06.

Mary read the minutes of the July meeting they were accepted as read/ New business.

Jerry gave a report on the new ARRL dues and with a few corrections we figured it out. The dues are going from \$49 a year to \$59 a year and that includes the digital copies of the of ARRL publications. If you want to print copy of QST you must pay an additional \$25. It was discussed whether that was a good thing or a bad thing and I guess we'll have to wait and see.

Jerry gave a report about the NW8PAR license running out in January. it took a little bit of doing, but with W5YI's help they were renewed. The call is now renewed for the next 10 years.

Old business.

Earl thanked Connor for the help with the 39 machine and the tower work completed at Bills (New location of the 39 machine. Connor was on top of the tower for a good while. Earl reported that we needed to spend a few more bucks to get to repeater run all the digital modes and everything else. Also thanks to Baner for all the cabinet work, it was approved that he could spend another \$300 on equipment as he needed.

Jerry reminded everybody of the special event station going to be active at Volcano Days on September 23. We're going to be working on 20 and 40 m and could use some operators. We're planning to be operating for about 10 hours and I think Connor is going to do FT8.

There was some discussion about getting The emergency weather bulletins on the repeater. The problem is we don't want them on all the time just one when us weather hits, o Earl and Connor are going to look into the mechanics of getting then part of the time and not all the time.

There is a him fest coming up one in Belpre on 16 September at Leavetts. Kenny's is in October at Butcher Bend Fairgrounds.

We had three new members voted into the club.

They were:

- Evan Fleak KE8YWT
- Corey Meadows KE8YXF
- Constantine Faller KC8JXA

Bob, KB8EFB move the meeting be adjourned at 7:05 approved. Minutes taken by Mary Wharton extra comments by Jerry Wharton

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 by Mike, at Western Sizzlen Steakhouse on September 11th.

Introductions were made by 29 members and guests.

The 50-50 raffle was one by Brenda a total of \$37.

Minutes of the August meeting or read by Mary W and approved as read.

Mary read the treasurers report, as Jane was out of town. The balance was \$4516 and a few cents and the ending balance was \$4159.09 the difference being repeater expenses that were incurred and previously approved. Jerry moved and Bob seconded the approval of the treasurers report.

Old business

Connor gave an update on the repeaters. All of the three repeaters the 97, 39 in the 440 machine are up and running. They all have a code of 91.5 so set your radios. accordingly there's still be needs to be a few tweaks made in the system that's not ongoing project between Conard and Earl.

Jerry reminded everybody about the volcano day special event station coming up on the 23rd and he needs operators to operate between 10 in the morning and 6 at night so if you could operate for a couple. of hours that would be great.

Also, under old business it was a reminder of the ham fest over at Leavitt funeral home in Belpre. That's the 16th of this month between 10 and 3 PM. There's no admittance charge and even the food is free, so come on over to Belpre.

New business:

Two new members were admitted to the club and approved. The first was Robert (Bob) Meadows KE8ZAM, welcome Bob and the second was Herbert Hubert (Hubie) Lontz W6HML., Welcome Hubie.

The last item on the agenda was the election of officers for this year or for the upcoming year Blane W8IOE Headed headed up the nominating committee and he recommended this slate of officers: President Larry Dale KF8NW Treasury, Jane Hulce N8MOW Secretary, Mary WHARTON, Vice President Mike Richards WD8BTI as pass president Vice president, Conard Richardson WV8JCR Vice president Earl Hulce KB8HRG Vice president, Bill Roberts KB8GGV Vice president Dave, Wright N8NWV

There was a motion made that we accept the officers by unanimous consent if there were no other nominations from the floor. No nominations being heard, the officers were accepted by unanimous, acclamation.

After the election of officers Bob made the motion that we adjourn the motion was approved at 6:55. Minutes taken by Mary Wharton - comments by Jerry Wharton.

Park meeting minutes October 9, 2023

Western Sizzlin, steakhouse, Parkersburg.

Meeting was called to order by new president Larry Dale at 6:25 PM.

The first order of business that Larry wanted to get out of the way. Were the revisions of the constitution and bylaws of the Parkersburg Amateur Radio Klub.

He passed out copies of the old constitution and bylaws and then a paper containing the suggested revisions. The changes were mostly grammar and a clean up of confusing sentences.

The only major change was to bring back the associate member. They had been eliminated in a 2018 change. Under the new bylaws, when the members voted in, they will be an associate member for one month and then formally voted into the Klub the next month. If approved by a 2/3 vote of members present.

A motion was made by Mike and seconded by Scott that we have a formal vote on these changes at the next meeting. That motion was approved. The new constitution and bylaws will be posted on the website for all the view before the vote.

That business being taken care of, there were introductions made by 30 members and guess.

The 50-50 raffle was won by Baines for a total of \$31.

The minutes of the September meeting were read by Mary W were approved as read.

The treasurer's report was given by Jane. The beginning balance was \$4262 and the ending balance was \$4209. The treasurer's report was excepted as read.

Jane pointed out that an audit of the books was required by the bylaws, and so Debbie and Norma volun-

teered to do that during the next month. Thanks ladies.

Old business.

Jerry gave a report about the Volcano Days Special Event station. He thanked everybody who helped with that endeavor. We had 86 phone contacts and 46 FT8 contacts thanks to Conard's hard work a big shout out was given to Kenny for his help with the antennas and power. I received seven requests for QSL cards. Also all the contacts were logged to the logbook of the world.

Earl brought up that we were still borrowing mesh node's and antennas from Kenny and he thought that we should go ahead and buy the nodes and the antennas that we needed. It was commented that this is already been approved before, but hadn't been ordered yet, so it was re-approved for him to spend up to \$500 buying the necessary equipment that was moved by Mike and seconded by Scott approved by the club.

New business

It was reminded that Kenny's ham fest is this weekend the 14th at October at Butcher Bend campground. It was recommended to everybody go out and support this type of activity as to keep these events happening. The comment was also made at the Belpre ham fest held a few weeks ago was great.

An application was approved for associate member ,Jacob Filozof, who just passed his test and has no call yet.

With no further business, there was a motion to adjourn by Bob,

KB8EFB, motion to adjourn was approved at 7:15.

The minutes taken by Mary Wharton, extraneous comments by Jerry W. KA8NJW

ARRL Launches The NTS Letter

There's a new newsletter in the ARRL repertoire as of this week. The first issue of The NTS Letter was published on October 3, 2023. The NTS Letter is a monthly digest of all things related to the ARRL National Traffic System®. It is edited by Marcia Forde, KW1U, who is a veteran traffic handler and serves as the Section Traffic Manager for the ARRL Eastern and Western Massachusetts and Rhode Island Sections.



The NTS is network that allows for rapid movement of messages, referred to as "traffic," from origin to destination, and for training amateur operators to handle written traffic and to participate in directed nets. The network consists of the layering and sequencing of both voice and CW traffic nets, as well as a digital system that operates 24/7. This nationwide system operates 365 days a year, generally relaying routine message traffic for training purposes and for maintaining readiness if called upon in an

emergency. If called upon, these operators stand ready to assist emergency communications personnel and served-agency partners in relaying welfare and other messages. It is the modern continuation of the historic "radio relay" from ARRL's founding in 1914.

Director of the ARRL New England Division, Fred Kemmerer, AB1OC, said the NTS is a great way to get involved in emergency communications. "Newly licensed and experienced amateurs alike who participate in NTS find satisfaction and enjoyment in learning the skills of sending and receiving concise written voice and CW traffic in an organized, on-air network. It's a natural complement to the skills and training one needs to become an effective emergency communicator and Amateur Radio Emergency Service® volunteer. Plus, it's an opportunity to meet new friends, and it's fun!" said Kemmerer.

The NTS Letter is published monthly and is free of charge to ARRL members. Members can subscribe at arrl.org/opt-in-out by selecting "edit" to view all of their subscription preferences (members need to be logged in to their ARRL website account to do this).