Parkersburg Amateur Radio Klub

Di-Dah-Dit



editor's corner

"We're all in this together" is the adage that the vision and reasoning for Parkersburg Amateur Radio Klub. Every member is appreciated.

Collectively we enjoy our hobby (and I'd say, "more") when fellowship, service, special events and preparedness exercises are done with other HAM operators—and even other radio clubs.

Furthermore, when members are;

- volunteers as Klub officers,
- Facebook and website administrators,
- antenna-party helpers and site maintenance helpers,
- Field Day station ops, set-up and take-down crews,
- cooks and hosts and organizers of events and outings,
- Volunteer Examiners,
- tech support and rig programmers
- POTA activator and hunters

it holds us together.



Plans for Klub outing and activities during 2027 are forthcoming.

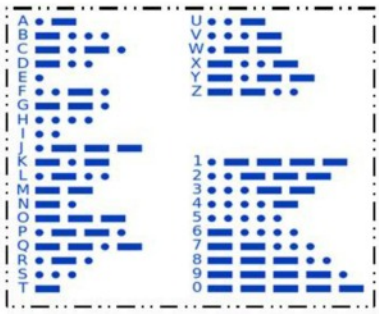
The November Klub meeting will nail down the details of the annual Klub Christmas party—set for December 7th, at 5:30pm, at Emmanuel Baptist Church, 1710 23rd St., Parkersburg. The PHS Choir will provide seasonal music and dinner will be catered by Mary B's Restaurant. **Two BAOFENG K5PLUS 10W Tri-Band Ham Radios are door prizes** (see photo) *no purchase necessary.*

Another adage says, *Luck is what happens when preparation meets opportunity.* Prepare to be radio-active in 2027 and take opportunities to get together with each other. We're lucky to have a club like the PARK Klub.

73, Larry, KF8NW

"Winter of 2027, when I decided to . . .

Know Code"



The International Morse Code

Special points of interest:

- Antique key display
- Videos
- DIY/CW (you try it)
- One way & the Navy way
- dots & dashes vs rhythm
- Latest technology
- Computer assisted CW
- Best POTA ever!
- W8PAR System on-air code practice
- Prospect of classroom instruction

on-site at WFDA 2027*

Winter Field Day* '27 offers to help you be confident about the



basic-basics of CW (continues wave).

The Klub's Winter Field Day (WFDA) event, January 23, 2027*, will offer on-going, all-day demonstrations, discussion groups and hands-on experience.

The U.S. Federal Communications Commission (FCC) completely eliminated the Morse code testing requirement for all amateur radio license classes on February 23, 2007. This edict followed the FCC's 1991 **decision** that dropped the Morse code requirement for the entry-level Technician class license—aka "**No-Code Tech.**"

Tech-Plus was the moniker given to HAMS who'd passed their code test at 5-WPM to achieve Novice class license (Novice class didn't exist after 1991) and these operators were grandfathered into the Technician class.

When the FCC completely dropped Morse code testing for all license classes inquiries to the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) doubled, and licensing applications **soared.**

(true statement)

"Most No-Code HAMS desire to be a Know-Code HAM.

73

Larry,

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WHAT HAMS SAY ABOUT CW

"I've never tried it."

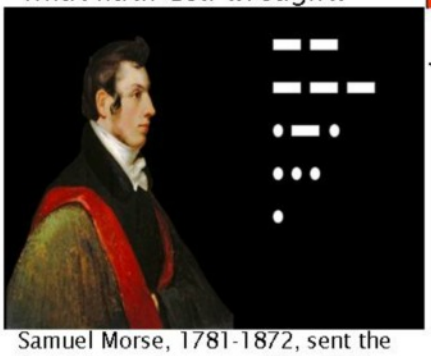
"I learned Morse Code in the Scouts."

"Too much to learn and not enough time."

"I'm not sure how to set CW up on my rig."

"I hear CW on repeaters, but don't know what it says—but I'd like to know."

*"What hath God wrought?" ***


Samuel Morse, 1781-1872, sent the first telegraph message** in 1844.

*** WFDA GPS 911 address: 211 Sugar Grove Road, St. Marys, WV**

Learn code techniques in one session

You will learn CW shorthand, and Q-Codes, typical QSO content and essential parts of "making your first contact:" on-the-air—without ever learning a single code character **or** the use of a telegraph key—unless you want to.

There are no designated-time intervals for the sessions. Drop in and/or drop out and enjoy WFDA and the food and fellowship.

What else do HAMS Do?



This edition of Di-Dah-Dit features PARK member, Jim Foster, WV8JWF



JF Hunting Knife

While Jim is not the most active Klub member on the repeater, he does enjoy all aspects of the hobby. He's a regular at BYOB (by your own breakfast) gatherings each Saturday morning at *Tudor's Biscuit World* in south Parkersburg, on Rt. 14, across from Walmart.

Jim's work involves heavy equipment and requires traveling a lot. When he's home and in his shop (not shack) the sounds of drills, grinders, polishers and sanders QRM any activity on his radios.



By hand and by the "sweat of his brow" he fashions a block of steel, tanned cowhide, rivets, select woods and thread into—razor-sharp knives and all-leather sheaths. Hunting knives and culinary specialty blades are sought after by people who appreciate fine craftsmanship.



(Editor's note; The process used to produce a finished knife is complex. Rather than including a description of these processes *Di-Da-Dit* included these select photos to give a limited overview of the steps involved)







Minutes July 2026

The Parkersburg Radio Club meeting was called to order at 6:30 on July 13, 2026 at the western Sizzlin steakhouse on Route 68 S. Parkersburg.

In introductions were made by 23 members and guests.

Minutes of the June meeting were read by Mary Wharton and approved.

Treasurers report was given by Jane

Opening balance of $4511.70 $16 in dues and $20 in raffle proceeds were added some

outstanding expenses from Connor for an ending balance of $3965. This reflects end of

JUNE'S balance.

50/50 drawing was won by Travis and donated back to KLUB

Old business

Jerry gave a report of the field days scores. We did a very good year this year 2600 points. Approximately the detailed scores may be found in the July newsletter on the website he thanked everybody for volunteering.

Connor gave his report on the 97 machine unfortunately this machine got hit by a power surge during a thunderstorm. The power surge took out the air conditioner, the router and a modem. These items will need to be replaced after much discussion permission was given for Connor to replace the equipment needed. This was voted on unanimously by the club. Also Larry made sure to note of the appreciation we all had for everyone's hard work. Connor has been doing great work to keep this system running. Mike even made an appearance to clean it up and to remove some tree branches off the building.

The next thing to be discussed was the new roster that Earl passed out to all who wanted to copy it also listed the delinquent dues members. It was recommended that this email be sent out to members who still owe dues. Jerry will take care of sending the email after I find a list of needed recipients from Earl

The last thing on the agenda was awarding the NUtzie award to Scott for his Yeoman's effort of late on behalf of the club. The squirrel was past ceremoniously from Earl and Jane the latest recipients to Scott. I'm sure his photo will appear in an upcoming newsletter. After that there was a motion to adjourn that was approved at 7:30 PM. Minutes were taken by Mary Wharton and translated by Jerry Wharton. Hi hi.

Minutes August 2026

Parkersburg Amateur Radio club meeting for August 10, 2026. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 by President Larry Dale at the western citizen steakhouse on Route 68 introductions were made by 23 members and guest

Minutes of the July meeting were read by Mary Wharton and approved as read.

Next on the agenda as a treasurers report given by Jane getting balance 3965.98 to which was added $48 in dues and $39 in raffle proceeds

Treasurers report was approved.

50/50 RAFFLE won by Jim (WV8JHF) $17.00

Next item on the agenda Full membership vote was taking for Jordan Stewart (KE8KKC) to make him a full member from associate member that was also approved by the club.

OLD BUSINESS:

Connor reported that the air conditioner had been purchased and installed at the 97 site

Also a new business we reminded everybody that the Volcano days would be held September

26 at Mount Wood Park. We have at least three stations to use information about the volcano

Day special event station can be found on the QST.

NEW BUSINESS:

NUTZEE AWARD was presented to Bill Roberts (KE8GGV)

It was mentioned that the Beipre-HAM- Fest and car drive-in show would be held on 19 September this year.

Earl mentioned that he had some old repair equipment that needed to be moved from his basement. I think Connor's going to pick up a few of the pieces the rest of them are going to be recycled because of their age.

Election of officers for the coming year need to be recommended and nominating committee headed by Jerry (KA8NJW) Will report back at the next meeting. Motion to adjourn was made at 7:10 PM having no further business it was approved minutes taken by Mary Wharton transcribed by Jerry Wharton

Minutes September 2026

Larry Dale called the PARK monthly meeting to order at 6:30 September 14 at the Western

citizen steakhouse on Route 68.

Introductions were made by 23 members and guests.

Minutes of the August meeting were read by Mary Wharton and approved as read.

Treasurers report was given by Jane opening balance of $3841 expenses $299 for the air conditioner at the 97 website,$1 59 for the porta potty at field day, $63 Optimum bill, Misc to Conner $44.78 for an ending balance of $3291. Treasurers report from Aug.was accepted as read.

Old business announcement was made that The Buffalo ham fest and car show would be from 8 AM to 2 PM on September 19 at the Lambert Tatman funeral home in Beipre.

Jerry reminded everybody that Volcano days was coming up on September 26 at Mount Wood Park. We will be transmitting on 20 and 40 mtr. From 10 A.M. till Four 4 PM..Mike, Scott, Connor and Jerry have volunteered. Anybody is welcome to come.

New Business:

Jerry made a report from the nominating committee and recommended the following slate of officers Travis President, Connor, Vice president, Larry Dale passed president ,Jane HulceTreasury, Mary Wharton Secretary, Jerry Wharton newsletter editor. Nominations were open for the floor none were offered. Motion was made by Libby and seconded by Bill to accept the Slate of officers as given motion was passed.

Larry offered an idea that we should be having CW and basic electronics classes maybe starting the first of the year.

No action was taken at this time.

Earl had some old club equipment ,that he needed to get rid of. Connor will take a few usable pieces. The rest was relegated to scrap, and that was approved by everybody.

Mike won the 50-50 raffle of $25 and he donated money back to the club. Thanks, Mike.

Motion to adjourn was made by Jerry and second by Bill meeting adjourned at 7:10 minutes were taken by Mary Wharton scribed by Jerry Wharton

Minutes October 2026

The October 12, 2026 meeting was called order by Travis, KF8CWM at 6:30 PM meeting at the western Sizzlin steakhouse on route 68 S.

Introductions were made by 21 members and guests.

Minutes of the September meeting were read by Mary Wharton and approved as read.

Treasurers report was read by Larry Dale in the absence of Jane. The beginning balance $3291.32, additions were $50 from the raffle and expenses were -$50 for Optimum bill. Ending balance 3291.32? Report was accepted as read for now..

50-50 drawing was won By Dan of $18.50 we rounded it up to 19.

Old business
Jerry gave a report about Volcano Days special event station. He thanked everybody for coming out to help. The radios and antennas worked great. All the equipment was fine. The bands were just deader than a doorknob. We made four total contacts but we had a lot of fun.

Larry discussed his idea of teaching Morse code and some basic electronics. The initial meeting for information and interest is going to be held at Winter Field Day. At that time we'll get an idea of how many people are interested in learning electronics or some CW. If there's enough interest, then we shall work out the details of how the code will be taught and where.

New business

Christmas dinner
Norma gave her committee report and she did a heck of a job. She contacted four caterers got all the prices, all the options, all the fees and whatever, all four of them in great detail.
There was quite a dissuasion about various prices for meals, catering fees and what was included. After many questions a vote was called to see what the club selected. The winner was Mary Bee's. The committee is going to continue to work with Mary Bee's to find out a limited menu, so we don't have 17 choices and the final cost. The dinner will be held on December 7 at

Emmanuel Baptist Church on 23rd St. dinner at 5:30 and we're going to plan to have the singers from PHS at 6:15 or 6:30.
Larry said he could provide a couple door prizes.
Also, the club will be responsible for bringing desserts and tableware.
Sign ups and payments will be taken at November's meeting.

Next, On the agenda was the problems with the 97 repeater. Apparently the company that owns the building has decided they are going to shut off the electricity. So right now the 97 is non-usable.

We are trying to negotiate a deal with the owner that we take care of lawn services and maintenance for $100 a month, but we have to see about getting the electricity turned back on and how much the charges would be the year. We have to work the details within the next few months. As of now we need to find out how much the charges would be for the electricity, the cable bill, and how much it would cost to heat and cool the building. We may not be able to afford to keep the machine there. There was much discussion about raising dues to cover the cost of the machine, but until we get a budget, which we currently do not have, those discussions are on hold for the time being, until we get more information. A committee was formed to look into that.

Right now, the dudes are $24 for family and $16 for individual. These would need to be more than doubled to cover the cost of the repeater. The amount of dues that will be required was tabled until we get more information about expenses. Also keep your eye out for the location that we might be able to move the repeater

Motion to adjourn was made by Jane and Scott and approved at 8 o'clock

Minutes taken by Mary Wharton, transcribed by Jerry..

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eeBay Restricts Listings of Radio Equipment, but Exempts Ham-Band-Only Gear

Online marketplace eBay has imposed new restrictions on listings of radio transmitting equipment in response to new FCC rules that took effect this week, *but responded to ARRL that its new policy will not apply to gear that operates exclusively on amateur radio frequencies*. The FCC's rules are intended to use its equipment authorization program to protect against "national security threats to the communications supply chain" and cover a wide variety of products.

In its Third Report and Order issued on July 23, 2026, the Commission makes clear that online marketplaces share in the legal responsibility to assure that unauthorized RF devices are not offered for sale on their platforms. The rules took effect on October 13. Moving forward, **equipment subject to FCC authorization** must have its FCC ID number submitted to the marketplace and posted with its listing. There are exemptions for posts already online, "small sellers," and used equipment, but initial messages to sellers from eBay suggested that an FCC ID would be required in order to post a listing for any equipment that transmits RF energy.

In response to a request from ARRL for a clarification relating to amateur radio equipment that does not require FCC authorization, an eBay spokesperson provided the following statement:

eBay allows the sale of devices capable of operating only on frequencies that the FCC has allocated for use by Amateur Radio Service licensees. As these devices do not require FCC equipment authorization, FCC IDs will not be required for these listings as an amateur licensee may use his or her license to operate such radios.
However, two-way VHF/UHF radio equipment capable of operating outside of the amateur frequency bands cannot be imported, advertised, sold, or operated within the United States, including on eBay, without an FCC equipment certification.
If eBay inadvertently takes action against listings for devices that don't require FCC IDs and are otherwise authorized, the affected seller should inform eBay and we will assess whether to remove restrictions from the listing.

It should be emphasized that the FCC did not change its underlying equipment authorization rules. Amateur radio equipment, except for commercial HF amplifiers, continues to not require FCC authorization.