



Di-Dah-Dit

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

The Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB) To Host The Transatlantic Centenary Tests

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The Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB) will host The Transatlantic Centenary Tests during December 2022. The international event celebrates the centenary of the transatlantic success of the RSGB in December 1922.

On December 24, 1922, the very first verified amateur radio signal from Europe was received in North America. The signal originated from the RSGB station (G)5WS at Wandsworth in South London, as part of the Third Transatlantic Tests.



Unlike the tests of the 1920s, which consisted of one-way communication, the December 2022 tests will encourage worldwide two-way communication with the United Kingdom and

Crown Dependencies. There will be a series of awards available for making contacts with those who are activating special call signs.

For this centenary celebration, the RSGB has renewed five call signs, which they held in the 1920s:

G5WS, from the 1922 tests -- "the first to get across"

G5AT, from the 1923 tests

G6XX, from the 1923 tests

G6ZZ, used for the first amateur tests on a moving railway train in 1924

G3DR, Scottish Highlands Call -- GM3DR

These historic call signs will be activated by RSGB members and clubs, using G5WS, G5AT, G6XX, G6ZZ, G3DR (England), GM5WS (Scotland), GW5WS (Wales), GU5WS (Guernsey), GD5WS (Isle of Man), GJ5WS (Jersey), and GI5WS (Northern Ireland).

Full details of how to participate are available on the RSGB website at <https://rsgb.org/transatlantic-tests>.

Support ARRL When You Shop Amazon's Holiday Deals, October 11 - 12

Amazon's Prime Early Access Sale is set for October 11 and 12, 2022, and offers tons of deals ahead of Black Friday. The second Amazon Prime Day event will feature exclusive discounts across all categories for Amazon Prime members. As

you browse great deals, you can support ARRL when you shop at AmazonSmile and choose American Radio Relay League Inc. (ARRL) as your charity of choice.

When you join AmazonSmile and shop at smile.amazon.com (all year long), you are generating donations to ARRL. With every qualifying purchase you make through AmazonSmile, Amazon will donate to ARRL at no cost to you. This helps ARRL extend its reach in public service, advocacy, education, technology, and membership.

Get a head start on your holiday shopping this season and support the Amateur Radio Service and ARRL with your eligible purchases. For more information on Amazon's Prime Early Access Sale and AmazonSmile visit AmazonSmile and log in to your Amazon account.

NOTE! I know this is late but Smile works all the time. I donate to Wounded Worrier Project using it. JW



Three Hams Make the Most of an Emergency Scenario

Three members of the Central Ohio Severe Weather Network (CO-SWN) found themselves in an unanticipated situation last week as they arrived for their weekly weather net at their operations center in Columbus, Ohio.



Amateur radio operators Bradley Howard, KE8SVT; Brian Burley, KE8ANW, and

John Ross, KD8IDJ, discovered they didn't have access to the CO-SWN operations center. All three are experienced operators who regularly carry handheld radios, or have radios mounted in their vehicles. In turn, they decided to treat this as an "emergency scenario" to simulate establishing an emergency communications network in the event of an actual emergency.

They went to their cars and accessed what equipment they had and what equipment they would need to set up an Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in the parking lot. They found three folding chairs and an empty 5-gallon bucket for a makeshift table. A mobile radio was pulled from its under-dash mount in Burley's car (connected to a trunk-mounted antenna) and set it on the table.

"We all were pretty amazed by how fast it came together -- about 5 minutes," said Ross. "Howard had copies of the scripts and procedures and we were able to get the net up

and running on time." Disassembly only took 5 minutes.

Burley said he, too, was surprised by the setup speed and was glad he could help.

"I believe this underscores the importance of training and working in different scenarios, so we can always be ready for the unexpected," said Howard. "Our commitment to Central Ohio is to be ready when severe weather hits, and we will work to always uphold that responsibility."

All three now suggest different training opportunities to ensure CO-SWN is fully prepared.

Editor's note John Ross, KD8IDJ, is the ARRL News Editor and a member of the COSWN Board of Trustees. COSWN is an ARRL Affiliated Club.

Amateur Radio Helps Disabled Sailboat to Port

On September 7, 2022, Jeanne (Jan) Socrates, VE0JS/MM / KC2IOV, and her sailboat, the SV Nereida, set sail from Cape Flattery, the northwesternmost point of the contiguous US. She was on her way to visit friends in San Francisco, California, but 2 days of 35 knot winds and storms left her sailboat disabled and her onboard radio equipment marginally operational. Amateur operators in New Mexico, California, and Canada, and members of Group 7.155 heard her requests for assistance.



Jeanne (Jan) Socrates, VE0JS/MM/ KC2IOV, and her sailboat, the Nereida.

Gil Gray, N2GG, was able to contact Socrates on 40 meters. "Her power was extremely low, and she was unable to communicate on 14.300 MHz to notify the monitoring group on that frequency," said Gray. "She needed help with wind and sea conditions, and tidal data for San Francisco Bay," he added.

Low-power output on the HF radio made it very difficult to get Q5 copy, which would typically be Q2 or Q3. With the help of several software-defined radio (SDR) operators in Utah, California, and Maui, Hawaii, they were able to glean enough copy to understand her situation and answer questions for her navigation.

Gray; Jonathan Ayers, AI6NA, and Edwin E. Jenkins, K6EXY, are all experienced sailors. They were able to make periodic contact with Socrates and give her updated wind reports. Their last contact was on Monday, September 12, at 11:00 AM (MSDT). By this time, Socrates was sailing with only the forward sail on her 38-foot sloop. Fortunately, a "following wind" kept her moving without a mainsail. As she approached the Golden Gate

Bridge, Socrates was able to use the tidal information passed on by amateur radio operators to make it safely to Berkeley Marina in San Francisco Bay.

"I wouldn't call it a rescue," said Socrates, "just good amateur radio assistance -- and I'm grateful for their help."

Socrates is 81 years old and the oldest person to have ever sailed around the world unassisted. Once her sailboat is repaired, she will sail again, not for records, but for the enjoyment of sailing the high seas.

Her situation is one of three events in early September in which amateur radio was able to provide emergency assistance.

More information about Socrates is available on her Facebook page.

Below is a photo of Klub Member, Dan Betts WV8X He purchased for the Klub some repeater backup batteries. They should run the repeater for a WHILE! Thanks Dsn.



**Blast from the past!
Minutes from Sept. 2002
Meeting**

The Parkersburg Amateur Radio Klub held their September 9th meeting after the PICNIC held at the Veteran's Park on Route 31 near the Airport. With President Blaine Auville presiding.

There was introduction of 33 members and guests.

The Secretary's minutes were read and approved.

The Treasurer's report was given as being \$3,127.52. The following slate of incoming officers are:
President - Blaine Auville
Vice President - Paul Anderson
Tech-Vice President - Jim Palmer
Secretary - Denise Mills
Treasurer - Ray Johnson

Bob Lyons motioned that these officers be voted in by acclamation. It was seconded by Mike Davis. The motion was carried by those present.

Bob Lyons said he needs people to conduct the NET on Tuesday nights.

The President reminded everybody that the CHRISTMAS PARTY will be held December 14th at 6PM. Everyone is to bring a covered dish WITH FOOD IN IT.

The KLUB will furnish the Ham and Turkey and drinks.-- The Dinner will be held at The Washington Bottom Community Building below DuPont.

The Picnic Food was very delicious! If you don't believe me ask Ellen Anderson and THE YELLOW JACKETS. Respectfully submitted, Georgia Milboan, Sec.

Not much has changed in 20 Yrs.
JW

Minutes August 2022

Meeting was called to order by Mike at 6:35.

Introductions were made by 25 members and guests.

July minutes were read by Mary Wharton and were approved as read.

The treasures report was given by Jane, starting balance of around \$7000 with some \$32 additional dues collected. The ending balance of a little less than \$5000 was noted. Because of the purchase of the two repeater systems. (we got two because they were on special for clubs at half price!)

Old business:

Charles Duncan's widow had asked for someone to look at Charlie's equipment and evaluate its usefulness to other hams. Jerry, Earl and Ken Harris went over and picked up the equipment and took it to Jerry's house where it was checked out. The items there were mentioned to the club in case anybody was interested. The equipment will be taken to the ham fest in Belpre in September and Kenny's ham fest in October what is not sold will be given away. A few small items were sold at the Klub meeting.

Earl showed off one of the new repeaters we had ordered from Yaesu. He explained how the digital and the analog portions of the repeater will work. The next one should be arriving shortly. At that time the committee will endeavor to install them and 97 & 39 sites.

New business:

Jerry reminded members that we will be doing a special event station at the Volcano Days on September 24 and could use help working on 20mtr and 40mtr. We will be sharing spaces with Kenny's bingo parlor, we'll see how that works out. B-7).

We're also reminded of the hamfest coming up in October at the 4H County Fairgrounds.

Bob KB8DFB reminded everybody that we needed to have election of officers. So a quick motion was made by someone to keep the slate of officers we already had. Nobody objected so on they'll be the nominating committees of the whole recommendations at the Septembers meeting, The will also be calls for nominations from the floor at that time.

Motion to adjourn was made by Bob at 7:03PM

The minutes were taken by Mary W and the comments were made by Jerry W.

Park minutes September 12. 2022

The meeting was called order by Mike at 6:30 PM at Western Sizzlin steakhouse.

Introductions were given by 22 members and guests.

50-50 raffle was won by Dan Betts WV8X of \$23

Minutes were read from the August meeting by Mary Wharton The minutes were approved as read. The treasures report was given by Mary and in Lou of Jane's absence.

Old business:

Blane, W8IOE gave the nominating committee report for the election of officers. He recommended we keep the same group we have. Mike is President, Jerry, Earl and Connard as vice presidents. Mary as secretary and Jane as treasurer.

Then nominations from the floor were open - no response was forthcoming so, Officers were elected by unanimous acclamation of the Klub.

Repeater work: The 97 repeater has been installed and is working. Conard gave a report about additions to the main board to get a courtesy beep and a and a spoken ID. That is still in progress, he also talked about the coordination of the 39 machine due to its location having interference problems. We may be looking for a new spot. It will have to be re-coordinated if we move it. So a committee was formed with Conard, Earl, Kenny Harris and Jim. They are to look into location and re-coordination of the 39 machine.

New business:

Reminder of that mini hamfest coming up this weekend near Belpre Leavitt funeral home. They'll be food, music, antique cars and swap tables, available from 10 to 3 on Saturday the 17th.

The club was also reminded about the special event station at the Volcano Days on September 24, Conard is going to bring a radio and Jerry is going to bring a radio we will always need operators and loggers. The operating hours are from 10 AM to 6 PM on Saturday. We will be located by Kenny Harris's bingo tent, hopefully we won't get too many B 7's and I 14's on the radio.

Herbie Whitlatch brought in a show and tell - a 1200 W amplifier kit that he had built. It's basically like assembling an erector set, He said it took about two hours to put all the circuit boards together. It runs on 120 V and puts out 1200 W It looks like a really a nice outfit.

Motion to adjourn by Bob KB8EFB seconded by Blane at 6:50.

Minutes taken by Mary WHARTON extra comments by Jerry W.

October 10, 2022 Park minutes

Meeting was called to order by Mike at 6:30k at the Western Sizzlin steakhouse on route 68.

Introductions were had by 29 members and guests.

Minutes were read from the September meeting and approved, The 50-50 raffle was won by Tom and Karen Watkins of \$31.

Treasures report was given by Jane \$4820.52 was the balance and there were some dues outstanding.

Old business:

Jerry reported on the hamfest in Belpre and said that he had gotten rid of most of Mr. Dunkin's excess equipment and given the money to his wife.

Jerry also thanked and commended all those who helped with making the Volcano Day's special event station a success. There were 187 contacts on ssb and 10 FT8 cpmtacts. 50 contacts have been confirmed on logbook of the world and I have 10 certificates that need mailed out by the end of the week.

New business:

Larry Dale suggested that we might want to use W8PAR and advertise it more as the Klub call. maybe call the repeaters the WB8PAR system and keep the 39 and 97 repeaters active. There was discussion about moving the 39 machine, that's still in the works.

Jerry showed around a picture (on his phone) of the back-up batteries that Dan Betts WV8X aquired for the Klub. They are big 6 volt batteries that will run the repeater of a week if needed. Thanks Dan! It was suggested that a thank you note is in orde,. Jerry will take care of it.

Two new members were inducted into the Klub - Michael Cross KE8UOF and Barney Mallory WY8L, both were approved. Barney may he may be doing our Christmas music, He is quite the piano player! If we're lucky.

The Christmas dinner will be held at 6:30 December 12 at the usual place. The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 - motion was made by Bob and seconded by Earl.

Minutes were taken by Mary and comments were made by Jerry KA8NJW

Again thanks everyone who helped make Volcano Day's Special Event station a success.

Here are a few pictures.

