



# Di-Dah-Dit

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

## Do you have an interest in serving as a Volunteer Examiner?

### Do you have an interest in serving as a Volunteer Examiner?

A goal during 2024, among the membership of P.A.R.K., is to reestablish instructional classes for obtaining a New Ham Radio License and/or Upgrade Classes for the general public.

The classes will be conducted by volunteer instructors and testing shall be under the auspices of The ARRL-VEC and by a team of P.A.R.K. Volunteer Examiners—made up of ARRL-VEC certified VEs (other VEC certifications can apply).

Persons who currently hold valid FCC license permits for General, Advanced and/or Amateur-Extra Class can become certified as a Volunteer Examiner.

[arrl.org/volunteer-examiners](http://arrl.org/volunteer-examiners)

Are you currently a credentialed ARRL-VEC Volunteer Examiner? Are you are affiliated with another VEC i(for example W5YI)?

If you'd like to help others get their Ham Radio Ticket--and forever wear the moniker of being someone's "Elmer." contact: Larry, KF8NW on either of the Klub's repeaters,

### Friday: Teenage Hams on TO-DAY Show

(I know this is late but you can access thee video on the ARRL website, I think.)

January 5, 2024, a story about the Harbor Creek High School students making amateur radio contact with astronauts on the International Space Station is expected to air on NBC's TODAY, according to a promotion for the segment that aired on Thursday's broadcast.

Journalist Harry Smith and a crew from the top-rated national morning show traveled to Harborcreek, Pennsylvania for the December 11, 2023 Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) contact. As ARRL News reported at the time, the program at the school is a success story of the ARRL Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology.

ARRL has worked with NBC producers to provide additional footage to support the story.



A still frame from the Thursday, January 4, 2024 broadcast of TODAY on NBC, promoting a story about teenage ham radio operators contacting astronauts on the International Space Station through ARISS. According to the broadcast, the segment is planned to run on Friday, January 5, 2023. Check your local listings. [Image: NBC Universal]

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The December 2023 episode of the On the Air podcast ties into a feature in the November/December issue called "Bits and Baud," which discussed important elements of digital communication, namely the quantity of information a transmission delivers -- known as bit rate -- and the rate of speed at which the information is delivered, which is known as baud rate. In this podcast episode, we're joined by the article's author, former QST Editor Steve Ford, WB8IMY, who explains

more about the differences between bit rate and baud rate, as well as why hams are concerned with these measurements in the first place.



## ARRL In Brief...

A YouTube telethon fundraiser held on December 22, 2023, and hosted by several popular ham radio YouTubers from the Ham Radio Tube channel helped raise money for the ARRL Teachers Institute (TI) on Wireless Technology. ARRL Education and Learning Manager Steve Goodgame, K5ATA, was featured on the telethon. "We streamed for over 5 hours on Mike's, K8MRD, YouTube channel," said Goodgame. "The total amount raised was over \$18,000. The YouTube community has rallied behind the TI and expressed interest in doing similar events on a recurring basis." The TI is entirely donor-funded and has seen many recent successes. In 2023, 65 educators attended, and 95% of them are now licensed hams; 20 of them received their licenses during the TI and 12 more upgraded their license class. Graduates of the program leave with equipment and instructional material to take into the classroom, allowing them to incorporate amateur radio into science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education. A replay of the event can be watched at ARRL Teachers Institute Fundraiser With Steve K5ATA (youtube.com). To directly support the TI, visit [www.arrl.org/GiveToSTEM](http://www.arrl.org/GiveToSTEM).

A special 6-month event designed to celebrate the 90th anniversary of the first official transmission of Radio Luxembourg Broadcasting has concluded. The event gave amateur radio operators and shortwave listeners around the world the opportunity to work or hear special event call sign LX90RTL. Overall, 27,922 contacts were made with LX90RTL, 13.4% of participating stations were from the US, 11.3%

were from Germany, and 214 were from DXCC entities, and they included all 40 CQ zones and all 50 US states. More details are available at <https://www.qrz.com/db/LX90RTL> and RadioLuxembourg.

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### Status of CQ Magazine

ARRL has heard from many members concerned about their print subscriptions to CQ magazine. CQ magazine is not an ARRL publication, however ARRL members enjoy the ability to pursue earning the CQ Worked All Zones (WAZ) and Worked All Prefixes (WPX) awards through Logbook of The World (LoTW).



CQ Editor Rich Moseson, W2VU, acknowledged the delays in delivering CQ magazine. He indicated that the November and December issues are delayed but plans are to get them out to the readership as soon as circumstances permit.

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The 10-year amateur radio special event and countdown to the 100th anniversary of the discovery of Pluto will continue on February 11 - 19, 2024 (UTC), and celebrate Clyde Tombaugh's discovery from the Lowell Observatory in Flagstaff, Arizona.



Members of the Northern Arizona DX Association will operate from Lowell Observatory and their home stations using the special event call sign W7P. The annual QSL cards, the event certificate, and more information about the

event can be found at W7P 2030 (nadxa.com).

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2024 ARRL National Convention to be at Hamvention

ARRL and Hamvention® have announced that Hamvention will host the 2024 ARRL National Convention, May 17, 18, and 19 at the Greene County Fairgrounds in Xenia, Ohio. Hamvention is the world's largest annual gathering of radio amateurs and has been sponsored by the Dayton Amateur Radio Association (DARA) since 1952.

"We are pleased to unveil our 2024 logo and theme," announced 2024 Hamvention General Chair Jim Storms, AB8YK, and the Hamvention team. "The theme is 'Expanding our Community'. This is in support of the growth of amateur radio worldwide."

Hamvention Awards Chair Michael Kalter, W8CI, also shared a reminder that the nomination period is open to submit nominations for 2024 Hamvention Awards, including the Amateur of the Year, Technical Achievement, Special Achievement, and Club of the Year awards. More information about the awards can found on the Hamvention website, and nominations will close on February 15, 2024.



ARRL is building a program for its National Convention that will include presentations and forums, more than a dozen exhibits, and activities for young hams. Once finalized, the National Convention program will be published at

www.arrl.org/expo.

Hamvention urged "everyone to purchase their tickets and make their room reservations early to avoid the rush." Visit the Hamvention website for more information and to order tickets at www.hamvention.org.

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MINUTES

PARK Minutes Nov. 13, 2023

The meeting was called to order by Larry Dale at 6:25 PM. This was the regular November meeting of Parkersburg Amateur Radio Klub at Western Sizzlin on route 68.

The first order of business was the reading of minutes of October's meeting read by Mary Wharton, Secretary. Minutes were approved as read. Moved by ? \_\_\_\_\_ Second Ray Johnson

Treasures report from Jane. Our beginning balance 4209 +\$31 deposit from 50-50 raffle money brought the total of 4240. Treasurers report was accepted as read. Motion to approved Mike/Seconded Rick, then passed.

Introductions were made by 42 members and guests. I think that must be close to a record.

Old business:

Copies of the constitution and bylaws were passed out for those who wanted to peruse the documents. Vote was taken to accept the changes that were explained last month. Motion to accept Earl Seconded by Jerry and Passed.

Jacob Filizof was approved for full membership, motion was passed. MSP Ray/Jerry

The application for membership for Chas Carr KE8ZBZ application was approved for associate membership MSP Russ/Paul. Also, an application was received from Floyd Cline, WD8NUD. His application for associate membership was Accepted

New business:

December meeting will be held December 11 at the usual place. We discussed table, decorations, and door prizes. There was discussion about who would be helping. Several people volunteered to get door prizes and help with table decorations. Norma/Mary/Susan volunteered.

The 50-50 drawing was won by Larry Dale for a total of \$47. Larry said he would plow back A bunch of the money for door prizes. Thanks Larry.

Jane reminded everyone that dues were due after January 1st. They are \$16 for an individual and \$24 for a family membership.

Having no further business to discuss a motion was moved to adjourned MSP Bob KB8EFB /Mike at 7:05 PM

Minutes taken by Mary W and expanded on by Jerry. KA8NJW

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PARK Minutes 12/11/23 December meeting of park Radio Klub was called to order at 6:45 by President Larry Dale at the Western Sizzlin steakhouse on route 68 South, Parkersburg West Virginia.

The first item on the agenda was being serenaded by the Cham-

ber Choir of Parkersburg High School. They sang four beautiful songs for us for our entertainment. I think we can thank Jane Hulce for arranging that entertainment. Thanks, Jane.

The sign in sheet for door prizes was passed around there were 35 members and guests in attendance for our annual Christmas meeting/dinner.

Mary W read the minutes from the November meeting and they were accepted is read.

Jane Hulce gave the treasurers report. Beginning Balance \$4728 and Ending Balance of \$3748.52. The difference was pre-approved repeater expenses.

The 50-50 raffle of \$46 was won by Paul who graciously donated the money back to the club. Thanks, Paul.

Old business:

The first order of business was approving the two associate members from last month, Chas and Floyd. Both were approved to be regular members of the club.

Club is taking orders for T-shirts. The order blanks were mailed out to everybody by email or you could order one at the meeting. Lynn Palmer is heading up this project. Thanks Lynn.

New business:

Larry had a paper passed around to see if anybody was interested in becoming a VE or who was a VE in the past and would be interested in mentoring or testing new hams. I don't know the results of that paper.

Larry also mentioned a group of hams that we're doing Parks on the Air. Mike Scott, Jim

and James were the local hams that were activating parks on the air. This just seems to be a fun activity. If you're interested, give one of them a call.

Larry also mentioned that winter field day is approaching if you're interested it might be a fun activity to do. Check the ARRL web site for details.

The last order of business was, distributing door prizes. There were probably 40 door prizes to go around. Thanks to people donated white elephant things and beautiful Christmas decorations from Norma. Everybody there got a nice price, some lucky people got two.

We cannot forget to thank Norma and her helpers for preparing the tables with beautiful decorations and goodies.

In Bob's absence, John Bennett made the motion that we should adjourn about 745. It was approved. Minutes were taken by Mary W embellished by Jerry W.

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Here are some photos from the Christmas dinner-party.

