



December 2018  
Volume 56, Issue 12

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*The Voice Coil*  
**Award-Winning Newsletter  
of the Mahoning Valley  
Amateur Radio  
Association**  
*Established 1919*

# The Voice Coil

## Prez Sez

Once again I hope this holiday season finds everybody well. The Christmas party is on the 13th of December, at the Bedford Trails Restaurant, Bedford Rd., Lowellville, OH. Festivities start 6:30 pm. There will be a gift exchange. Hope to see you there.

Last meeting was our election of officers--up for grabs were vice president, treasurer, and two trustees. Our new officers include Wes, W8IZC for vice president, Nancy KD8QNY for treasurer, Jerry KC8EFO and Dean W8YSU for trustees. Thanks to all that were nominated and ran.

As you know amateur radio is changing rapidly, with new modes, and changes in some existing modes, it's hard to keep up. If you're feeling left behind and need help, the ARRL website has the info you need. Also, try finding a special interest group online that discusses the topic in which you have an interest.

Amateurs can also seek help from local hams. Most will take the time give you some assistance. Remember, we all started somewhere. This club has some very wise and experienced members willing to help with amateur radio topics.

Did you know that there is DMR repeater in Youngstown, it's been up and running for a few months now. For those that have the radios, and need help with getting them programmed, will be an informal meeting next in December. Details



can be found on page 3 of this issue.

You will be reading this after Thanksgiving. Hope you had a great time with your family friends. For those of you that did the Black Friday thing, hope your bargain hunting was not in vain.

73, Jim WB8UJS  
Merry Christmas and Happy  
Holidays

### Next Meeting:

Thur. Dec. 13, 7 PM  
Christmas Dinner at  
Bedford Trails Golf  
Course, 713 Bedford  
Rd, Lowellville, OH,  
6:30 pm.

If you plan to attend  
please email  
[mvara.w8qly@gmail.com](mailto:mvara.w8qly@gmail.com) or  
phone/text to 330-774-  
1287 no later than Dec. 6.

## 2018 Officers

President: Jim Stiffler, WB8UJS

Vice President: Andy Brincko,  
WA8ZLK

Secretary: Becky Albrecht,  
KD8SCF

Treasurer: Nancy Brett, KD8QNY

Trustees: Dean DeMain, W8YSU

Doug Sage, KB8TPG

Gene A. Boccia, WQ8H

Jerry Goddard, KC8EFO

Newsletter Editor: Mark  
Haverstock, K8MSH

Awards Manager: Dave Fairbanks,  
N8NB, 330.759.6993, 4770 Logan  
Ave. Youngstown, OH 44505

The Mahoning Valley Amateur Radio Association, Inc. meets the second Thursday of every month. Location and time are subject to change. Dues are \$20.00 per year, \$10.00 each for additional family member. Contact Nancy, [kd8qny@zoominternet.net](mailto:kd8qny@zoominternet.net) for membership details.

The club call is **W8QLY**; equipment operated under this call includes a two meter voice repeater at 146.745 (-600, 110.9 PL). Club email: [mvara.w8qly@gmail.com](mailto:mvara.w8qly@gmail.com)

For License Classes and VE testing, Contact Wes Boyd, W8IZC, [W8IZC@yahoo.com](mailto:W8IZC@yahoo.com)

MONDAY NIGHT NET operates every Monday at 9:00. PM on 146.745 MHz.

SKYWARN NET - First Wednesday of the month at 8:30 PM on 146.745 MHz as weather warrants.

ARES NET- First and third Mondays of each month at 8:30 PM on 146.745 MHz; prior to the Monday Night Net.

## Santa Net

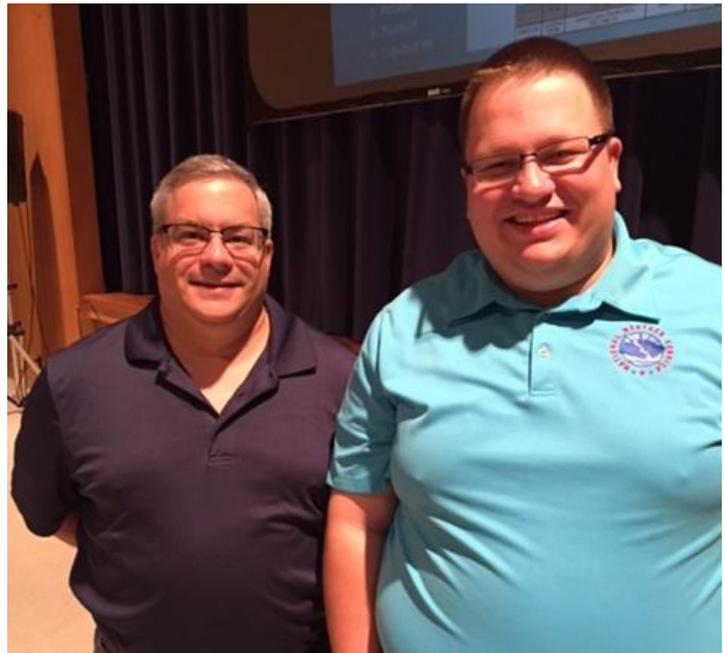
The Mahoning Valley Amateur Radio Assn. in conjunction with Akron Children's Hospital, Boardman Campus will be hosting the annual Santa Claus Net on Wednesday December 19, 2018 at 7:00 PM on the 146.745 repeater.



For those who are new to the event, MVARA members take 2-meter radios into Akron Children's Hospital and let the kids talk to Santa over the air. We need operators for this event but you must register with the Hospital & complete an online training program. Please contact me and I will put you in touch with the Hospital contact person. We would love to have you, your children, grandchildren, neighbors or anybody that wants to talk to Santa also check-in.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS,**

DEAN DeMAIN, W8YSU, [W8YSU@ARRL.NET](mailto:W8YSU@ARRL.NET), 330-788-4271



November Skywarn Training—Dean DeMain, W8YSU and Zach, Cleveland NWS

*License Refresher Answers:*

E3A01 (D), E3A02 (B), G3B01 (D), G3B02 (A)

## Christmas Party

MVARA's Christmas Party will be held in the banquet room at the Bedford Trails Golf Course, Dec. 13 at 6:30 pm. If you want to participate in the gift exchange, bring one of the following:

- 1) A working ham item for the white elephant exchange—something you'd probably take to a hamfest.
- 2) Any gift valued at \$10 or less to exchange.

We need to let the restaurant know how many are coming – if you plan to attend please email [mvara.w8qly@gmail.com](mailto:mvara.w8qly@gmail.com) or phone/text to 330-774-1287 by **Dec. 6.**

## Current Activities

**November 30:** Christmas Parade, 5:30 pm.  
Details on pg. 4

**December 13:** Christmas party.

**December 18:** Meeting and instruction on programming radios for the new digital repeater, 6:30 pm., Youngstown Radio, 123 N Meridian Rd, Youngstown, Ohio. Email Andy, [yradio@hotmail.com](mailto:yradio@hotmail.com) by **Dec. 15** if you plan to attend—include your contact information.

### Contact Us:

**Email:** [mvara.W8QLY@gmail.com](mailto:mvara.W8QLY@gmail.com)

**Snail-mail:** MVARA, P.O. Box 1414, Poland, OH 44514

## Hamfest Calendar



**01/27/2019 Tusco ARC Hamfest. Location:** Wallick Auctions, 965 North Wooster Avenue Strasburg, OH 44680. **Website:** <http://www.tuscoarc.org> **Talk-In:** 146.730- (no PL tone)  
**Public Contact:** Janice Green , KB8YDK, 32210 Norris Road Tippecanoe, OH 44699  
Phone: 740-922-4454 **Email:** [k8wfn@tusco.net](mailto:k8wfn@tusco.net)

**02/17/2019 Mansfield Mid Winter Hamfest. Location:** Richland County Fairgrounds, 750 North Home Road, Mansfield, OH 44901. **Website:** <http://W8WE.ORG> **Sponsor:** Intercity Amateur Radio Club **Talk-In:** 146.94 (PL 71.9) **Public Contact:** Danny Bailey , W8DLB, 70 Euclid Street Shiloh, OH 44878 Phone: 419-896-2165. **Email:** [W8DLB113@gmail.com](mailto:W8DLB113@gmail.com)

**06/01/2019 - BreezeShooters Amateur Radio Club - Location:** Big Butler Fairgrounds - 1127 New Castle Road - Prospect, PA 16052 - **Website:** <http://www.breezeshooters.org> - **Contact:** Cathy Heiles, KB3OYS - 134 Easley Road Pittsburgh, PA 15237 - Phone: 412-600-3846 - **Email:** [kb3oys@breezeshooters.org](mailto:kb3oys@breezeshooters.org)

Know of any regional events that should be included in the Voice Coil? Send the information to: [MVARAVoiceCoil@gmail.com](mailto:MVARAVoiceCoil@gmail.com)

# 2018 Youngstown Christmas Parade

*Primary Frequency – 146.745 Repeater      Back up - 146.550 simplex*

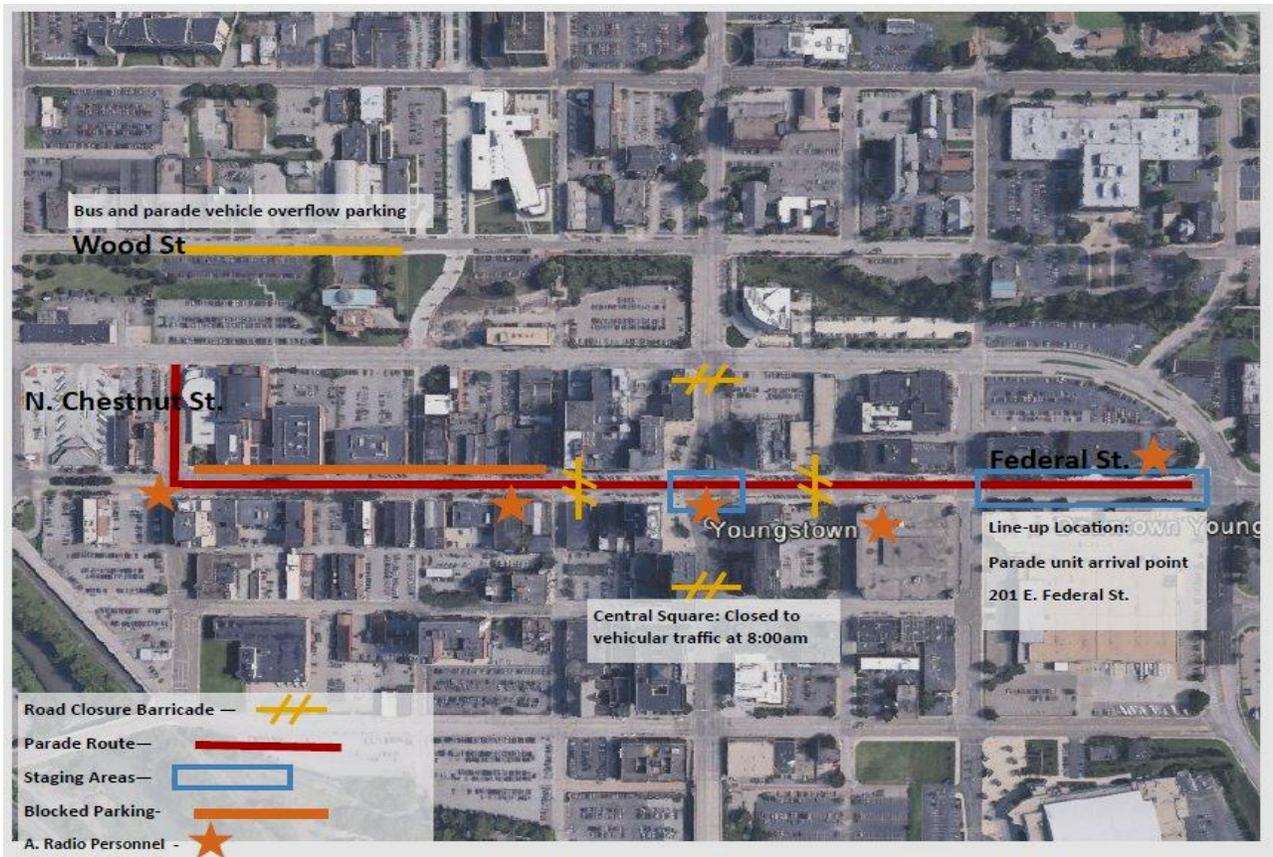
Once again Mahoning County ARES has been asked to provide communication for the Youngstown Christmas Parade and is looking to MVARA for assistance.

The Parade this year will be on Friday, November 30th, and will start at 6:30pm. The parade features floats and marchers from local schools, civic organizations, and politicians. It takes approximately one hour and finishes with the lighting of the City Christmas Tree in the square.

Before the parade we help with finding marchers and getting them lined up. During the parade we are there primarily in case a problem develops, but also to help with questions from spectators.

The Parade will kick off at 6:30pm. Please plan to meet behind the Mercy Building on Commerce before 5:30pm. Parking will be in the garage under the Mercy building as in past years. Please do not park in the outside lot as those are reserved spots. There will be a sign-in tent on Federal in front of the Mercy building. We would like to have everyone signed up by 5:30 so we can get assignments out and do radio checks

Alan, KE8ADY, will be at the sign in tent and will be doing assignments. Please contact Alan on the 146.745 repeater when you are close to town so he knows who to expect. Alan will be monitoring 146.745 if you need to reach him. The City has a new event coordinator this year, so there may be some changes from past years. Alan is our contact to the city, please keep him advised of any issues that come up.





Mercy Building – entry from Commerce

## Surfin': Short Bits

By Stan Horzepa, WA1LOU, ARRL Contributing Editor

### Musical Hams

Independence Day weekend, the rack that housed the majority of our CD collection bit the dust. So I moved all the CDs into five cardboard boxes for the time being and moved the rack into the garage to await trash collection day.

While I was boxing the CDs (in alphabetical order according to the name of the artist), I realized that I had tunes by two hams (or one ham and one former ham): Joe Walsh, WB6ACU, and Patty Loveless, formerly KD4WUJ. Makes me wonder how many other hams performed on the 500 CDs in the collection or the 11,213 tunes on my iPod?

No, I have no tunes by Arthur Godfrey. Although, not exactly known for his singing, I do have 710 episodes of the late Jean Shepherd's, K2ORS (SK) radio shows on my iPod.

Anyway, I had not played my Ms Loveless CDs in awhile, so I loaded her music on my iPod and enjoyed being reacquainted with her repertoire (I can't get enough of her *I Try to Think about Elvis*).

### Helicopter Guys and Coconut Corn Meal Pancakes

Steve Robeson, K4YZ, e-mailed me regarding the July 2 installment of Surfin', specifically asking about the Polly Pancake Parlor customers who arrived and departed by helicopter.

Steve wrote: "You kinda left the story hanging about the helicopter and the restaurant. Who were they? They made an off-field landing just for breakfast?"

We asked our waitress about the helicopter guys and she said they were regular customers and not celebrities. And, yes, they flew in just to have breakfast.

# Big changes ahead for ARRL board

By Dan Romanchik, KB6N

Well, the results are finally in. No, I'm not talking about the national mid-term election results—some of those votes are still being counted. I'm talking about this year's ARRL board elections. ARRL members have spoken, and four new faces to the board in what was perhaps the most contentious election in a long time.



Three of the five incumbents, plus an incumbent vice director running for the Northwest Division director position, were defeated by candidates calling for more transparency and for changes in the way that the ARRL operates. Here are the results:

## Central Division Director

Kermit Carlson, W9XA 1,898, Valerie Hotzfeld, NV9L 1,755

## Hudson Division Director

Ria Jairam, N2RJ 1,292, Mike Lisenco, N2YBB 1,239

## New England Division Director

Fred Hopengarten, K1VR 1,432, Tom Frenaye, K1KI 1,383

## Northwestern Division Director

Mike Ritz, W7VO 1,589, Bonnie Altus, AB7ZQ 1,308, Horace Hamby, N7DRW 495

## Roanoke Division Director

George Hippisley, W2RU 1,891, Dr. James Boehner, N2ZZ 1,365

In the only two contested vice director elections, Mark Tharp, KB7HDX defeated Daniel Stevens, KL7WM and Delvin Bunton, NS7U in the Northwest Division and in the Roanoke Division, William Morine, N2COP defeated John Humphry, W4IM. All newly elected officials will take office at noon on January 1, 2019.

The only real surprise here is that Valerie, NV9L, failed to win in the Central Division. She has certainly made many contributions to amateur radio, both in the DX/contest community and on *Ham Nation*. Apparently, though, she made some statements that she was forced to retract, and that probably hurt her campaign.

Overall, though, I'm very pleased with the results. Although some of the margins of victory were small—K1VR won by only 49 votes and N2RJ won by 53 votes—I think it's pretty clear that the members want change. Now, it's up to the board, including its newest members to effect that change. As always, I'm ready to help in any way that I can.

# Ham Humor from Hamhijinks

## RADIO THEORY CAUSES COMMOTION

By [WBORUR](#), on the scene

**GOLDEN SPIKE, MONTANA** – Buttery biscuits were thrown and voices were raised in anger at last month’s meeting of the Gold Diggers Amateur Radio Club. According to witnesses, the proceedings turned tense after the Treasurer’s report as Club president Lou Rodden’s brother-in-law presented the monthly program.

Visiting from Square Butte Township, Nebraska, Mike Yuness told the group he has developed a technique which will “revolutionize radio broadcasting.”

The amateur geologist and ham radio operator says he’s come up with a way to ionize the Earth’s molten core of magma and use it to send radio signals to the far corners of the globe.

As members lunched on braised beef tips and unlimited onion rings, Yuness raised the question: “Why go around the earth...when you can go through it?”

He describes his technique as a “cross between spark gap and digital,” but declined to elaborate due to what he described as “very costly and ongoing patent infringement issues which must be resolved at great expense.”

Yuness stated emphatically that ham operators thousands of miles away will be able to communicate “...using nothing more than common grounding rods.”

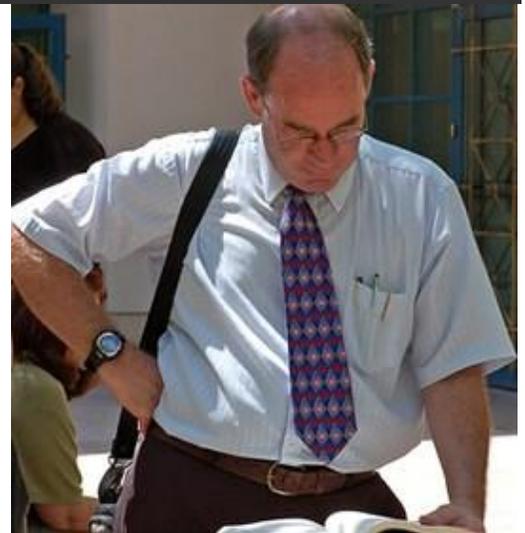
As the hams looked on, club member Junior Brown bolted from his chair yelling, “You’re a liar!” and shaking a fist while throwing a basket of cloverleaf rolls at the presenter with the other hand.

Brown – who makes a comfortable living selling HF antennas made from recycled lawn chairs – says Yuness is only trying to collect money for his GoFundMe account and has no credible facts to back up his ionized magma core theory.

Dodging the rolls, Yuness yelled, “I’ve had a number of heated exchanges about this topic in online forums, BUT I KNOW I’M CORRECT!”

Brown claims Yuness and Rodden want the GoFundMe money to pay for their next trip to the Dayton Hamvention in the spring.

—### HamHijinks.com



# Mahoning County ARES 2018

As we approach the end of 2018, the MC ARES Team would like to thank all that helped with ARES activities this year. It was a year of change for ARES both on a national level and locally and we can't do any of it without you.

Looking forward to 2019, one of our goals is for MC ARES to have a bigger footprint in Ohio.

There are many ways that can happen, for instance our participation in doing Damage Assessment for Mahoning County after the storms this year.



If you didn't hear about it, Mahoning County EMA asked us to provide volunteers to canvas the hardest hit areas in Youngstown, Boardman, and Poland to collect damage information. We had a terrific turnout and spent three days speaking with residents. It was a real eye opener seeing and hearing of their experiences. With the weather events we've seen the past several years, this will likely not be the last time we are called on to help, so we are planning more DA training in the coming year.

Likewise, the ARES participation in Hubbard's Active Shooter exercise went well and kept us in the loop with staff in the hospitals and local first responders. Again we had a great turnout – 25 Amateurs staffing the EOC and four hospitals.

But we don't want to depend on just these large events. Just as important is to maintain a constant presence in the many Ohio Nets, conduct a regular schedule of training for volunteers, and (you knew it was coming) make sure we are registered in the ARES Connect system.

There are three major Ohio nets each week. W8SGT (The Sarge) is a SSB net that runs on Tuesday evening at 7:15pm on 3910 Khz +/- the qrm. Currently I know of one ARES volunteer that checks into that net with any regularity.

Also on Tuesday evening is the OHDEN net at 7:45pm. OHDEN is the Ohio Digital Emergency Network. As the name states it is a digital net, runs on 3585.5Khz, Olivia 8-500, centered at 1500 in the waterfall.

Unlike the Sarge that usually runs from the station at the Ohio EMA building in Columbus, the OHDEN operations rotate depending on who is running the net. One result of the rotation is a lot of variation in the signal quality. Of course that is one of the advantages of the digital modes and you can usually decode signals you can barely hear. There are two of us checking in with OHDEN each week.

The last net is a Winlink net that occurs on Wednesday evening. Because of the nature of Winlink there is not a specified time for the net, nor a specified frequency. Winlink is the system for sending emails via Amateur Radio. As such, you can use any frequency that has a gateway station to receive your signal.

That could be HF or VHF depending on where you live and how propagation is running. Currently 40M has been working well and you may be surprised to find stations outside of Ohio are frequently easier to use. As such, you can use any frequency that has a gateway station to receive your signal. That could be HF or VHF depending on where you live and how propagation is running. Currently 40M has been

working well and you may be surprised to find stations outside of Ohio are frequently easier to use. Personally, I find 2 land and 5 land are my best bets. One of the upsides of Winlink is that it is a free software solution. You can download the software and have it running in a matter of a few hours. The longest part is getting registered with the Winlink system and that also goes quickly. You may be thinking, why would we want an email system on Amateur Radio, but if you check the summaries following any of the disasters Amateurs help in, you will frequently find setting up Winlink is one of their first priorities. For some reason that eludes me, it is not looked on favorably in our area, but I think this is a huge mistake. Easy to set up, works well, costs nothing – yeah, I don't want any part of that! There is only one volunteer we know of checking in on Winlink weekly.

So, what would it do to our reputation if on each of these nets we had five or more checking in each week from Mahoning County? More importantly, what would it mean in terms of our capability to help during an emergency?

Best Wishes for the Holidays

Dave, KD8NZF, EC

Frank, WB8YHD, AEC

Dottie, KC8SYF, AEC

Ray, K8NVY, AEC

## Ham Radio Movies: Binge Watching

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Got some spare time over the holidays? Here's a partial list of movies that feature ham radio. Get out that popcorn and enjoy!

*Men of Boys Town* (1941 film), is the sequel to *Boys Town* (1938 film). In this movie *Whitey Marsh* (Mickey Rooney) has frequent conversations with his friend *Pee Wee* (Bobs Watson) over the amateur radio waves. Whitey transmits from the home of his adoptive parents, while Pee Wee is at the amateur radio club in Boys Town.

*The Glass Bottom Boat* (1966) - starring Doris Day, who has a "20-foot antenna," shows her corkboard full of DX QSL cards above her Collins and Marine Band gear. Day uses the marine band equipment to talk to "Pop" (played by real-life ham Arthur Godfrey, K4LIB).

*The Anderson Tapes* (1971 film) Sean Connery stars as a thief who decided to rob an entire apartment building, while unknown to him, the government is watching and listening to every move via telephoto lenses and shotgun mikes. His character disables all telephone lines, but a young boy, in a wheelchair, is able to call on his ham radio and summon aid. The government destroys all tapes because they had no legal business there in the first place.

*Look Who's Talking Now* (1993) When Kirstie Alley, John Travolta, and the kids find each other at the ranger's cabin, the ranger puts on the Ham radio so the kids can hear Santa.

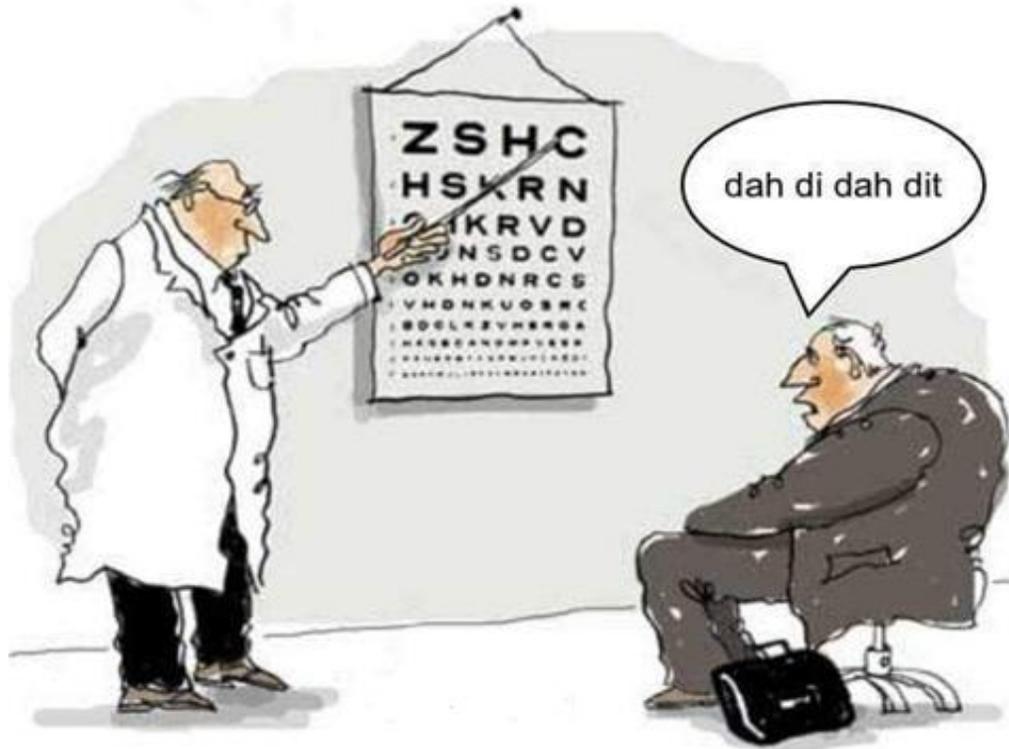
*Phenomenon* (1996 film) starring John Travolta playing *George Malley*, has the hero's friend *Nate Pope* (Forest Whitaker) relaxing from his concerns by talking to friends on his ham radio.

*Contact* (1997 film) starring Jodie Foster playing *Dr. Arroway*, opens with the heroine operating a ham radio transceiver as a child, using the callsign W9GFO. She later becomes a researcher working in SETI.

*Frequency* (2000 film) *John Sullivan* (played by Jim Caviezel), and his father *Frank Sullivan* (Dennis Quaid) use ham radio to communicate; due to unusual aurora borealis activity John is able to communicate via ham radio with his father 30 years in the past.

## Moments in MVARA History

In 2019, watch for monthly articles on MVARA history from the Centennial Committee. Our first of four special events stations will be on the air President's Day weekend in February 2019.



And some extra cheese . . .

## Contest and Special Event Operating Information

Dave Fairbanks N8NB

Data below as well as more information courtesy of the following website:

<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html>.

### December 2018

+ Wake-Up! QRP Sprint	0600Z-0629Z, Dec 1 and 0630Z-0659Z, Dec 1 and 0700Z-0729Z, Dec 1 and 0730Z-0800Z, Dec 1
+ YARC QSO Party	1400Z, Dec 1 to 0259Z, Dec 2
+ TOPS Activity Contest	1600Z, Dec 1 to 1559Z, Dec 2
+ FT8 Roundup	1800Z, Dec 1 to 2359Z, Dec 2
+ EPC Ukraine DX Contest	2000Z, Dec 1 to 1959Z, Dec 2
+ Ten-Meter RTTY Contest	0000Z-2400Z, Dec 2
+ ARS Spartan Sprint	0200Z-0400Z, Dec 4
+ QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Dec 5
+ Phone Fray	0230Z-0300Z, Dec 5
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Dec 5 and 1900Z-2000Z, Dec 5 and 0300Z-0400Z, Dec 6
+ QRP ARCI Topband Sprint	0000Z-0300Z, Dec 6
+ NRAU 10m Activity Contest	1800Z-1900Z, Dec 6 (CW) and 1900Z-2000Z, Dec 6 (SSB) and 2000Z-2100Z, Dec 6 (FM) and 2100Z-2200Z, Dec 6 (Dig)
+ SKCC Sprint Europe	2000Z-2200Z, Dec 6
+ NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Dec 7
+ QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Dec 7
+ NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Dec 7
+ PODXS 070 Club Triple Play Low Band Sprint	0000Z, Dec 8 to 2359Z, Dec 10
+ ARRL 10-Meter Contest	0000Z, Dec 8 to 2400Z, Dec 9
+ SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	1200Z, Dec 8 to 2400Z, Dec 9
+ International Naval Contest	1600Z, Dec 8 to 1559Z, Dec 9
+ QRP ARCI Holiday Spirits Homebrew Sprint	2000Z-2300Z, Dec 9
+ CQC Great Colorado Snowshoe Run	2100Z-2259Z, Dec 9
+ 4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint	0100Z-0300Z, Dec 10
+ NAQCC CW Sprint	0130Z-0330Z, Dec 12
+ QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Dec 12
+ Phone Fray	0230Z-0300Z, Dec 12
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Dec 12 and 1900Z-2000Z, Dec 12 and 0300Z-0400Z, Dec 13
+ NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Dec 14
+ QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Dec 14
+ NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Dec 14
+ UN DIGI Contest	1400Z-1559Z, Dec 14 and 1600Z-1759Z, Dec 14
+ Russian 160-Meter Contest	2000Z-2400Z, Dec 14
+ Feld Hell Sprint	0000Z-2359Z, Dec 15
+ OK DX RTTY Contest	0000Z-2400Z, Dec 15

+ Padang DX Contest	1200Z, Dec 15 to 1159Z, Dec 16
+ Croatian CW Contest	1400Z, Dec 15 to 1400Z, Dec 16
+ ARRL Rookie Roundup, CW	1800Z-2359Z, Dec 16
+ Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0200Z-0400Z, Dec 17
+ NAQCC CW Sprint	0130Z-0330Z, Dec 19
+ QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Dec 19
+ Phone Fray	0230Z-0300Z, Dec 19
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Dec 19 and 1900Z-2000Z, Dec 19 and 0300Z-0400Z, Dec 20
+ NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Dec 21
+ QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Dec 21
+ NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Dec 21
+ AGB-Party Contest	1600Z-1700Z, Dec 21
+ RAEM Contest	0000Z-1159Z, Dec 23
+ SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Dec 26
+ Phone Fray	0230Z-0300Z, Dec 26
+ DARC Christmas Contest	0830Z-1059Z, Dec 26
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Dec 26 and 1900Z-2000Z, Dec 26 and 0300Z-0400Z, Dec 27
+ NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Dec 28
+ NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Dec 28
+ RAC Winter Contest	0000Z-2359Z, Dec 29
+ Original QRP Contest	1500Z, Dec 29 to 1500Z, Dec 30
+ Stew Perry Topband Challenge	1500Z, Dec 29 to 1500Z, Dec 30
+ Bogor Old and New Contest	0900Z-2359Z, Dec 31

## **DX Operating Information**

**Dave Fairbanks N8NB**

**A DXpedition is underway to the #2 most wanted DX entity, Bouvet Island. Members of the Rebel DX Group are reportedly in transit and should be there in early December. The following is thanks to KB8NW**

3Y0I BOUVET DXPEDITION NEWS. The only thing to report this week is that the members of the 3Y0I team continued to assembled in Cape Town, South Africa, for their anticipated Bouvet Island DXpedition. Specific dates still have not been provided yet, but all operators are now in Cape Town.

Operators that have been mentioned so far are Dom/3Z9DX (Team Leader), Jose/CT1DSV, Tack/JE1CKA, Mietek/SP3CMX, Marcin/SP5ES, Stanislaw/SP8S and Branko/YU4DX. As mentioned last week, several pictures can be viewed on their Web page at: <https://bouvetoya.org/3yoi-team-in-cape-town>

It would seem that their departure from Cape Town to Bouvet is approaching very soon. As reported from their Web page, the trip will take 12 days one way. They plan to stay on the island for at least 2 weeks, if the weather cooperators. The 3Y0I DXpedition's band plan frequencies (160-6m) and modes (CW/SSB/FT8) can be found at:

<https://www.rebeldxgroup.com>

<https://bouvetoya.org/3yoi-bandplan>

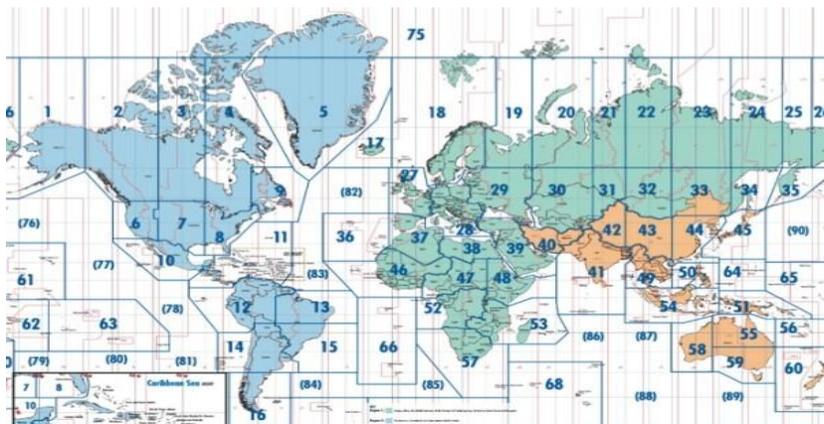
QSL via ClubLog's OQRS (preferred), LoTW or via 3Z9DX.

.For more details and updates, we suggest to watch the following Web pages:

- <https://bouvetoya.org>
- <https://www.rebeldxgroup.com>
- <https://www.facebook.com/bouvetoya.org>
- <https://www.facebook.com/rebeldxgroup>
- <https://twitter.com/Bouvetoyaorg>

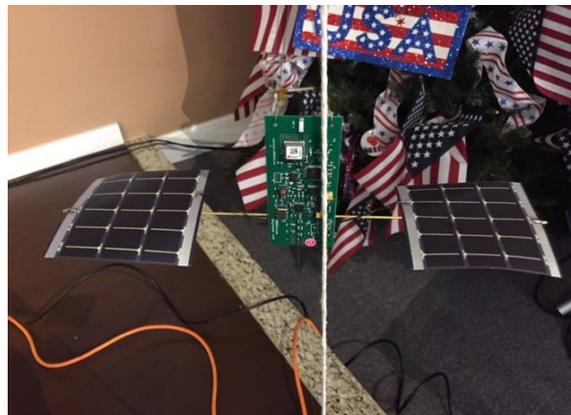
Credit for the below information and further information on these operations and others can be found at the following website: <http://www.ng3k.com>

December						
2018 Dec02	2018 Dec11	<b>Burkina Faso</b>	<b>XT2BR</b> <b>NEW</b>	LotW	<a href="#">DXNews</a> 20181119	By F8FUA fm Ouagadougou; CW SSB RTTY FT8; Hexbeam, dipole; QSL also OK via F8FUA
2018 Dec04	2018 Dec18	<b>French Polynesia</b>	<b>TX0A</b>	Club Log	<a href="#">DXNews</a> 20181014	By VE3LYC KO8SCA as TX0A fm Maria Est Atoll (IOTA OC-113) (activated last 28 years ago) and TX0M fm Morane Atoll (IOTA OC-297P) (new reference)
2018 Dec05	2018 Dec11	<b>East Kiribati</b>	<a href="#">T32NH</a>	LotW	<a href="#">DXNews</a> 20181015	By JA0JHQ fm Christmas I (IOTA OC-024); 160-6m; CW FT8; QSL also OK via JA0JHQ direct: Nobuaki Hosokawa, 1458-25 Okagami, Asao-ku, Kawasaki, Kanagawa, 215-0027, Japan
2018 Dec07	2018 Dec09	<b>Senegal</b>	<b>6V1A</b>	LotW	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20180917	By 6W7JX 6W1PZ 6W1KI 6W1QL 6W1PA 6W1FJ 6W1SQ 6W1SV 6W1GF 6W1RD fm Goree I (IOTA AF-045); SSB CW; 150w; dipoles, G5RV; Direct QSL via PayPal to 6v1a.aras@gmail.com
2018 Dec25	2018 Dec31	<b>Mariana Is</b>	<b>KH0TG</b> <b>NEW</b>	JL1UTS	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20181116	By JL1UTS; 160-20m
2018 Dec25	2019 Jan08	<b>Vanuatu</b>	<b>YJ0AFU</b>	LotW	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20180604	By VK4AFU fm IOTA OC-035; 160-6m; mainly FT8, some CW SSB; 100w; G5RV, inverted L



# Flying High

Bruce Gibson, K3BEG, was our speaker for the November meeting. If you missed this one you missed a good one. During the evening Bruce spoke about Amateur Radio Balloon Launches and tracking with APRS. We discovered inexpensive balloons can literally travel around the world and be tracked via APRS as they travel. We also found out there are some countries that prohibit the transmitters on the balloons from operating while over their countries, that these balloons fly at heights as great as 20 Miles above the ground, and that the electronics packages on board can operate for months, recharging their batteries with small solar panels.



Next time your XYL or family complains you have too many radios, send them to George Ulm's page on QRZ: <https://www.qrz.com/lookup/w9evt>



# Amateur License Refresher Dave, KD8NZF



It's probably been awhile since you took your Amateur License exam. Here are a few sample questions from the current question pools just to keep those synapses firing.

## Extra Pool

E3A01

What is the approximate maximum separation measured along the surface of the Earth between two stations communicating by Moon bounce?

- A. 500 miles, if the Moon is at perigee
- B. 2000 miles, if the Moon is at apogee
- C. 5000 miles, if the Moon is at perigee
- D. 12,000 miles, if the Moon is visible by both stations

E3A02

What characterizes libration fading of an EME signal?

- A. A slow change in the pitch of the CW signal
- B. A fluttery irregular fading
- C. A gradual loss of signal as the Sun rises
- D. The returning echo is several Hertz lower in frequency than the transmitted signal

## General Pool

G3B01

How might a sky-wave signal sound if it arrives at your receiver by both short path and long path propagation?

- A. Periodic fading approximately every 10 seconds
- B. Signal strength increased by 3 dB
- C. The signal might be cancelled causing severe attenuation
- D. A well-defined echo might be heard

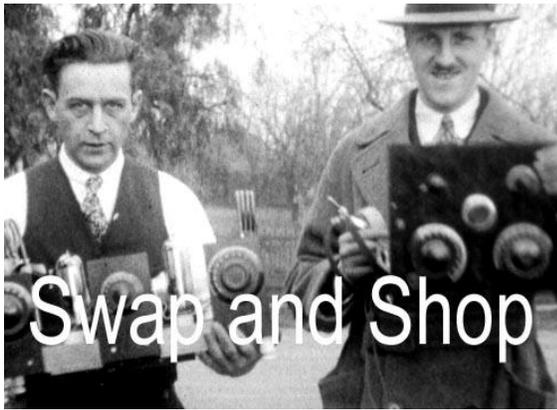
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G3B02

Which of the following is a good indicator of the possibility of sky-wave propagation on the 6-meter band?

- A. Short skip sky-wave propagation on the 10-meter band
- B. Long skip sky-wave propagation on the 10-meter band
- C. Severe attenuation of signals on the 10-meter band
- D. Long delayed echoes on the 10-meter band

(Answers page 2)



### ***Hy Gain AV-640***



40-6m “radial-less” vertical, mounts 8-10 feet above ground. Tuned, works great. Some minor bending on top elements due to wind. \$95, local pickup only. Buyer must assist with disassembly & provide transportation.

## **Station Loaner Program**

If you’re a new ham/newly upgraded and want to get on the HF bands, MVARA has a loaner program for club members. The club has two complete stations with radio, power supply, microphone, CW key, and antenna tuner. All you need to do is supply your own coax, antenna, and keep the equipment in good condition while you have it.

### ***(2) Larsen 2meter mag mount***



Both tested & tuned. Your choice, \$10 EACH or both for \$18. PL-259 on ends  
 Contact Mark, K8MSH, [mh@zoominternet.net](mailto:mh@zoominternet.net) for this and the AV-640

Loan period is up to 6 months. However, you will be responsible for returning the station temporarily for use during Field Day weekend in June.

With the new ARRL proposal, it looks like even Tech class amateurs may soon have more phone privileges on some of the HF bands. Contact MVARA at our email address: [mvara.W8QLY@gmail.com](mailto:mvara.W8QLY@gmail.com)

### ***Swap and Shop Policies***

MVARA assumes no responsibility for transactions made or inaccuracies in ads. You are responsible for checking your ad and notifying us of any corrections. Swap and Shop listings are open to licensed Mahoning Valley Hams, based on space available. Please submit your list to [mvara.w8qly@gmail.com](mailto:mvara.w8qly@gmail.com) AND [mvaravoiccoil@gmail.com](mailto:mvaravoiccoil@gmail.com) for placement in both *Voice Coil* and website. Ads will run for two consecutive issues unless notified otherwise.



**Renewals due now! Memberships expire January 31, 2019**



**Mahoning Valley Amateur Radio Association  
2019 Membership**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_ Call: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Cell # \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
(The MVARA Voice Coil, the club newsletter, will be emailed to this address)

ARRL member?       **Yes**       **No**

Do you want the following to be included in the membership list available to all members?

Name and Call	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Address	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Phone	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Email Address	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

**Membership**

-Single Membership \$20.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal	<input type="checkbox"/> New Member	\$ _____
-Additional Family Members \$10.00 each	<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal	<input type="checkbox"/> New Member	\$ _____

**W8QLY Repeater Support**

\$12.00	Basic Support Donation	\$ _____
\$50.00	Gold Level Support Donation	\$ _____
\$ _____	Other Support Donation	\$ _____

**Total Enclosed**      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

***Make checks payable to: Mahoning Valley Amateur Radio Association.  
Please bring this form and your payment to the next meeting or mail to:  
MVARA, P.O. Box 14141, 125 West McKinley Way, Youngstown, Ohio 44514***

## ***THE LAST WORD***

*If you want to experience joy in your life, you have to be able to step outside yourself and become part of a cause that is much larger than you; one that brings a greater good to a greater community.*

Srikumar Rao

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The ***VOICE COIL*** is the monthly publication of the Mahoning Valley Amateur Radio Association, Inc. (MVARA) and is intended to present news, issues and opinions of interest to MVARA members and the Amateur Radio Community. We encourage contributions of articles, letters to the editor, etc. and welcome newsletter exchanges with other clubs from around the country and around the world. Permission is granted to reprint material contained herein as long as proper credit is given to this newsletter and the author. Ideas for and contributions to the VOICE COIL should be submitted to:

[MVARAVoiceCoil@gmail.com](mailto:MVARAVoiceCoil@gmail.com)

Submissions must be received **no later than the 24th** of the month prior to the month of issue, unless otherwise specified. **Submissions should be in MS Word format or ASCII text—no PDF, please!** Material received after the deadline will be used in the next month's VOICE COIL if it is still current and /or newsworthy.

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