



The Sky Wave

A monthly publication of the Sumner County Amateur Radio Association
Sumner County, Tennessee

January 2019
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SCARA Officers

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VE Testing

Bill Esquilla W3UO

Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM. Testing sessions are held at 6:00 PM on meeting nights. All exams (Technician, General, Extra) will be offered at each testing session. **Sumner County Emergency Services Center, 255 Airport Road, Gallatin, TN 37066**

Internet Home Pages

SCARA: <http://www.scara.net/>
SCARA Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/166987860508865/>
Shout South: <http://shoutsouth.com/>
Sumner County ARES: <http://www.sumnerares.org/>
ARRL: <http://www.arrl.org/>
ARRL Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/ARRL.org/>

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope that everyone had a great Christmas and a wonderful New Year. I know that we have all made new year resolutions to break. I feel honored that the members of the club have chosen me to lead the group this year. But everyone knows that I can not do this on my own. It will take each and every one of you to keep this wonderful group going. We have a great group of people and I look forward to all the wonderful things that are in store for this year. Well to start the year off, just a reminder that we have dues and they are due January 1, 2019. Please make an effort to get them paid. Also, don't forget about the tape measure antenna's we will be building this meeting. Looking forward to seeing everyone at the meeting on the 10th.

73's

Bill W3UO



JANUARY 2019 MEETING IS "BUILD YOUR RDF ANTENNA"

Amazingly, 2019 is here. My, how fun flies when you're doing time.

One of the activities that the club has been contemplating for years is Fox Hunting. What is Fox Hunting you say? It is essentially, Amateur Radio Direction Finding. A transmitter, which transmits a specific signal at a regular interval, is hidden somewhere in town, and licensed operators try to find it, using their Amateur Radio knowledge and equipment.

This spring, we will be hosting our first SCARA Fox Hunt. In order to prepare, we need to provide an opportunity to learn about Fox Hunting and to build a basic antenna to allow you to participate. At our January meeting, we'll be building Tape Measure Yagi Antennas that we can use for the SCARA Fox Hunt. An Instruction Sheet and Shopping list are enclosed with this email, giving you plenty of time to do some shopping for the meeting. We'll have cutting and soldering equipment available at the meeting to help with assembly.

Continued

IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR SCARA MEMBERSHIP AND PAY YOUR DUES FOR 2019.

The membership application is
the last page of this newsletter or
download a form from our web page.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE:

JANUARY 10, 2019

Members will have the opportunity
to make a 2-meter YAGI yagi beam
antenna.

If you have an article, classified ad, photos, or any other information you would like to have included in the *The Sky Wave*, then email it to the editor, Ken Helms, AB9ZD, at AB9ZD@ARRL.NET. Please put "For SCARA Newsletter" in the subject line and submit it before the first of the month.

Your next question is probably, "Why is this useful?"

First, when building your shack, you may need to locate a nuisance interference with your equipment or find out if your equipment is the interference your neighbor is complaining about. If you can "sniff out" a signal's source, you can do something about it.

Next, Fox Hunting will provide an opportunity to better understand signal propagation and limitations. What better way to understand how others can or cannot hear your call by experiencing the RX end of transmission from various elevations and terrain.

Further, these events also provide you opportunities to do a homebrew project or two or three.

Finally, it's fun!

If you would like to learn more about Fox Hunting, there are many sites on the web, which you can research extensively. One of the better sites is <http://homingin.com>.

So, get your kit of materials put together and bring them to the January 2019 Meeting. We'll be learning about Fox Hunting and building the Tape Measure Yagi so that you'll be equipped for the Fox Hunt this coming spring. Don't worry about tools—the club will have tools necessary at the meeting. You just need to bring the items from the Shopping List in the enclosed how-to. If you decide to build your antenna early, that's OK too; just bring it to the meeting to show it off. =)

(Note: Bill says he will have appropriate connectors to match your HT to the RG58, so just bring the RG58 if you don't already have the right connector.)

Jim W3UG

Member should have gotten this information in an email from Jim. If you missed it, you will need to bring:

Shopping List

- 1 - Inexpensive, 10- or 12-ft Metal Tape Measure
- 1 - 5-in Piece of Solid Wire (any gauge, 14 or smaller works best)
- 3 - RG58 Feed Line, Feet (with connector at one end to fit your Handheld Radio)
- 6 - Stainless Steel Hose Clamps, 1 ½-in diameter
- 2 - Sched 40 PVC Pipe, ½-in, Feet (cut 1 piece 7 inches; cut 1 piece 11 ½ inches)
- 1 - Sched 40 PVC T, ½-in
- 2 - Sched 40 PVC X, ½-in

Come to the January meeting and build one of these.



JANUARY CONTESTS

[Click here to download the ARRL contest calendar for January.](#)

Here are just a few that you might be interested in:

ARRL Kids Day

ARRL RTTY Roundup

North American QSO Party, CW

North American QSO Party, SSB

ARRL January VHF Contest

The **2019 Dalton Amateur Radio Club's hamfest** is scheduled for Saturday, **February 23**, 2019 at 7 AM – 3 PM EST. North Georgia Ag Fair, 500 Legion Dr, Dalton, Georgia 30721

<https://www.facebook.com/DaltonAmateurRadioClub/>

To search the ARRL special events stations database, go to:

<http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>

AUSTRALIAN SCOUT JAMBOREE TO FIELD

SPECIAL EVENT STATION VI25AJ

Australian Scouts will be on the air from special event station VI25AJ January 4 – 14 from the 25th Australian Scout Jamboree (AJ2019), being held in Tailem Bend, South Australia. It's anticipated that some 2,000 Scouts will have the opportunity to experience Amateur Radio during the 10-day event. VI25AJ will be active on HF using SSB and digital modes, as well as on satellites, IRLP, and Echolink.

<https://www.qrz.com/db/vi25aj>

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

MARK YOUR CALENDAR			
01/01/2019	7:30 PM	SCARES Net	<i>If you would like to have an event listed in the club calendar then send me an email at ab9zd@arrl.net. The calendar is not limited to just club events but it should be something of interest to the members.</i>
01/08/2019	7:30 PM	SCARES Net	
01/10/2019	7:00 PM	Monthly SCARA Meeting	
01/15/2019	7:30 PM	SCARES Net	
01/22/2019	7:30 PM	SCARES Net	
01/29/2019	7:30 PM	SCARES Net	
02/05/2019	7:30 PM	SCARES Net	
02/12/2019	7:00 PM	SCARES Net	
02/14/2019	7:30 PM	Monthly SCARA Meeting	

PHOTOS FROM THE SCARA POTLUCK CHRISTMAS DINNER





A special thanks to Jane, KN4ANM and everyone who prepared food for our meetings this past year.

These photos and more can be downloaded from the [SCARA Facebook page](#) and the [SCARA web page photos section](#).

Photos by Ken, AB9ZD

YOU CAN'T TELL THE PLAYERS WITHOUT A SCORE CARD

Some of our members have new call signs:

Steve Sonnenblick is now **K4SJS**

Jack Babbitt is now **K0BW**

Bill Esquilla is now **W3UO**

Mike Quinn is now **K4TCE**

Jim Kasper is now **W3UG**

Richard Prior is now **WA4YQC**

Also, SCARES now has the call sign **N4SCA**.

If you have changed yours recently, then let us know and we'll pass the information along to everyone in the group.



If you have something you would like to have listed in the classified section then please send an email to the newsletter editor at:
AB9ZD@ARRL.NET

USING FT8? THEN IT'S TIME TO UPGRADE TO VERSION 2.0.0 OF WSJT-X

The **FT8** and **MSK144** protocols have been enhanced in a way that is not backward compatible with older program versions. The new protocols became the world-wide standards starting on December 10, 2018, and *all users should upgrade to WSJT-X 2.0 by January 1, 2019*. After that date, only the new FT8 and MSK144 should be used on the air.

Upgrading from a previous WSJT-X version will be seamless. There is no need to uninstall a previous version or move any files. Download the current version at:

<https://physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/k1jt/wsjt.html>

Release Notes for Version 2.0.0 are at:

http://physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/k1jt/Release_Notes.txt

CLUB PATCHES ARE STILL AVAILABLE



Price \$5 each. Available as a sew-on patch or a patch with velcro. See Jim K4EZE at the next meeting.

The Allstar link to our 145.39 repeater will be off as Richard N4BKY makes some changes. So, 145.39 Bethpage is not linked in as of January 1.



APRIL 13, 2019
PEDAL FOR PAWS

SCARA W4LKZ Repeaters

Freq/Offset	Input Tone	Location	Notes
146.880 (-)	114.8 PL	Music Mountain (5 miles North of Gallatin, TN)	Linked to Shout South
444.350 (+)	107.2 PL	Music Mountain (5 miles North of Gallatin, TN)	Linked to Shout South
444.000 (+)	107.2 PL	Center Point Road (Hendersonville, TN)	Linked to Shout South
145.390 (-)	114.8 PL	Mutton Hollow (Bethpage, TN)	Linked to Shout South
443.300 (+)	107.2 PL	Portland (Portland, TN)	Linked to Shout South
443.400 (+)	107.2 PL	White House (White House, TN)	Linked to Shout South
146.805 (+)	114.8 PL	Mockingbird Hill (Gallatin, TN.)	Both analog and digital (stand alone DMR)
443.750 (+)	107.2 PL	Mutton Hollow (Bethpage, TN)	P25 Repeater System
442.5125 (+)	107.2 PL	Anderson Ln (Hendersonville, TN)	<i>Not on the Air</i>

Notes:

ARRL CONTEST DATES FOR 2019

January 1: Straight Key Night

January 5: Kid's Day

January 5-6: RTTY Roundup

January 1/-21 VHF Contest

February 11-15: School Club Roundup

February 16-17: DX Contest – CW

March 2-3: DX Contest – SSB

April 14: Rookie Roundup (SSB)

June 8-10: VHF Contest

June 15: Kid's Day

June 22-23: Field Day

July 13-14: IARU HF World Championship

August 3-4: 222 MHz and Up Distance Contest

August 17-18: 10 GHz & Up – Round 1

August 18: Rookie Roundup (RTTY)

September 14-16: VHF Contest

September 21-22: 10 GHz & Up - Round 2

September 21-22: EME - 2.3 GHz & Up – Weekend 1

October 21-25: School Club Roundup

October 19-20: EME - 50 to 1296 MHz - Weekend 2

November 2-4: Sweepstakes – CW

November 16-18: Sweepstakes – Phone

November 16-17: EME - 50 to 1296 MHz – Weekend 3

December 6-8: 160 Meter

December 14-15: 10 Meter

December 15: Rookie Roundup – CW

CANADIAN NATIONAL PARKS ON THE AIR 2019

Canadian National Parks on the Air has officially begun and is off to a great start! Pete Kobak, K0BAK, became the first radio amateur to successfully activate a CNPOTA site with confirmed dual-activation of "ON21/Fort Henry National Historic Site of Canada" and "ON29/Kingston Fortifications National Historic Site of Canada" on January 1st at 00:10:34z. Pete went on to confirm activations with 4 additional sites!

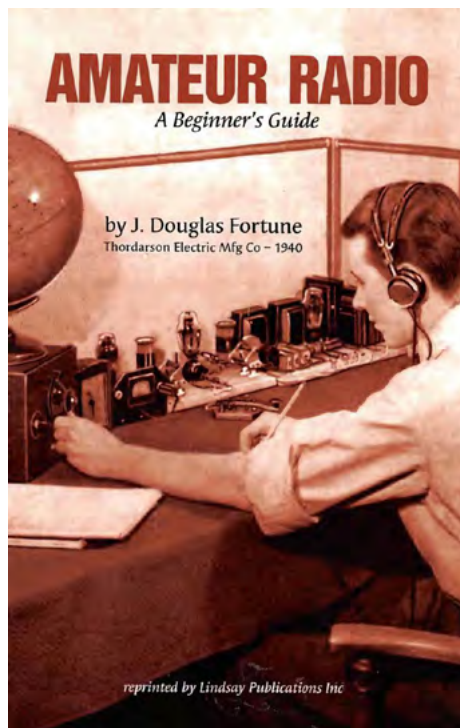
Encouraged by the "Parks On The Air" events of the past few years, the small but dedicated group of hams in the Halifax, Nova Scotia area have initiated the "Canadian National Parks On The Air" contest. Supported by the Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) and Parks Canada, they invite hams to operate at the Canadian National Parks and Historic Sites and Parks.

The CNPOTA event is open to all licensed Amateur Radio operators worldwide.

For more info: <https://cnpota.ca/>



If you have never been to the **Internet Archive**, you owe it to yourself to check it out. It's a non-profit library of millions of free books, movies, software, music, websites, and more. If you search on "Amateur Radio", you will find over 5,000 items listed including books, magazines, audio and video recordings. It includes nearly every issue of "73 Magazine" (its title changed over the years) from 1960 to 2003. The issues were scanned and can be read online or downloaded in several formats including PDF which nearly every modern



FREE STUFF!



device can display. You will probably want to skip the other file format as they used an optical character reader (OCR) to convert the articles to a text format and the result can be difficult to follow. Fair warning, if you are thinking about downloading all of the 73 Magazines, that's probably around 16 gigabytes of data.

There is some recent material and a lot of historical stuff. I found a friend's call sign in the 1952 listing of call signs. And it's all free for the downloading.

<https://archive.org/>



Sumner County Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

Chartered in 1972

Gallatin, TN 37066

Membership Application Form

Date: _____ Call Sign: _____ Class: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/ZIP: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Telephone Numbers: Home: _____

Work: _____

Cell: _____

Member of ARRL? Yes ☐ No ☐

Member of ARES? Yes ☐ No ☐ Group's Name: _____

Other Training (SKYWARN, EMA courses, etc) _____

Dues in the amount of \$30.00 are to be submitted with this application. Make checks payable to "SCARA".

If you cannot make it to a meeting, please mail this application and your check to:

Chuck Thacker
340 Newton Ln
Gallatin, TN 37066

Please note: Membership card, a copy of the By-Laws and our NET Operating Protocols are available upon request to the Secretary/Treasurer.