



WEST VIRGINIA SPLATTER MAY, 2024

JACKSON COUNTY HAMFEST

Join the Jackson County Amateur Radio Club for their 44th annual Hamfest and Flea Market at the Ripley Middle School on Sunday, May 5th. Doors open at 8 AM. Vendors may start setting up at 7 AM. Admission is \$5, extra tickets are \$1 each or 8 for \$5. Grand Prize is a Yaesu FT-2980 two meter radio. Contact Roy Moore, KB8ZSG at KB8ZSG@gmail.com.

LOCAL NETS

Sundays at 8:00 PM
KARES net on 145.350 PL 91.5

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KARC net on 145.350 PL 91.5

Sunday at 7:00 PM
Northern Panhandle Amateur Radio Club
Sunday night digital net 441.825

Tuesday at 8:30 PM
WV8AR - 147.270 PL Tone 123.0

Thursday 8:00 PM
WVAR 441.825 WV-Link Room 46488, or
WB8CQV 147.21 in South Charleston
Hot spots use US-WV-LINK (19941)

Saturday 10:00 AM
Ohio Valley ARES Net 441.825

ARTICLES FOR FUTURE EDITIONS

If you know of an event or news related to amateur radio, or wish to submit a guest editorial to SPLATTER, please contact Jim Hudson at nettlescreek@frontier.com

MEETINGS

KARC Meets May 3rd
The Trinity Lutheran Church
1600 Kanawha Blvd. E
Charleston WV 25311
Greetings @ 6:00 PM - Meeting @ 6:30 PM

WV DXA Breakfast Every Tuesday
Join WV DXA and friends for breakfast at Bob Evans on Jefferson Road in South Charleston. We begin gathering at 8:15 AM and order breakfast at 9:00 AM.

WVAR Meets May 13th
CAMC Teays Valley
1400 Hospital Drive
Hurricane, WV 25526
Education Room at 7 PM

KARES Meets May 16th
Kanawha County 911 Center
200 Peyton Way (Off Corridor G)
Charleston, WV
Meeting @ 6:00 PM

LOCAL CLUB WEB SITES

The KARC web page has moved to www.qsl.net/w8gk.

The WVAR web page is located at www.wv8ar.com/

The West Virginia DX Association maintains its web page at <https://wvdxa.com>

WV Section Roanoke Division of ARRL has a web page at <https://wvarrl.com>

Prioritizing For DX Improvement
GUEST EDITORIAL
by Charlie Young, N8RR

I am often asked “For a station running barefoot to a wire antenna, what gives the biggest improvement for DX success, buying an amplifier or a rotary gain antenna, such as a yagi?” This assumes one does not have the funds to do both.

My response is to go for the antenna, if your QTH can accommodate it. The simple reason is the antenna will improve your receive **and** your transmit capability, while the amplifier only helps on transmit. You have to hear them to work them.

Now, if your QTH means a rotary gain antenna is out of the question, then one does the best one can do in the circumstances. In this case, an amplifier will certainly increase the odds of a successful QSO, if you can hear the DX.

Recently, 90% of my DXing has been barefoot, despite having a house full of amplifiers. It is good pileup practice. On CB0Z (Robinson Crusoe Island), all of my QSO's were made barefoot, except for the 6M Earth-Moon-Earth contact. These contacts were made through big pileups, with little waiting to get through, some on the first or second call. This was true even on SSB. An amplifier would not have added much.

A lot can be accomplished with a wire antenna, even without power, but the amp compensates for some antenna inefficiency on the transmit side. Experience is a major factor. Still, if you have a choice and can do it at your QTH, improve the antenna first.

Of course, the deluxe option is to have both an amplifier **and** a gain antenna.

The least productive use of new money?, buying a new radio. A new radio does not improve your signal strength to the DX, or manufacture signals when receiving with an inefficient antenna. Feels good to do it though!!

73 Charlie, N8RR

NETLOGGER

Netlogger is a free software program to add net controllers and others to keep accurate logs of who checked into nets.

Netlogger doesn't replace logging software for DX or awards, although contacts on nets that use it can be uploaded to LoTW and other programs.

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Netlogger (cont.)

Adam Dye, N4NT, from the Bristol, Tennessee area, has a series of Youtube videos on how to install and use Netlogger. To watch his videos go to: BPcc 000048 L266 VR575 16x9 3m 240111G (youtube.com).

In case I got his Youtube address wrong, I'm sure you can find them by searching for his name or call sign.