

XWARN trailer at the Xenia Township Fire Department Open House. The trailer has several radios and workstations that support Xenia Police and Fire. XWARN recently replaced the steps as well as purchased a club-owned receiver that will stay with the trailer so that anyone with an appropriate tow vehicle can tow it. Just make sure to bring a big truck. The trailer is supposedly around 10,000lbs and nose heavy.

# Wavelengths

# Xenia Weather Amateur Radio Net XWARN (W8XRN)

Nov 2019

147.1650+ (123.0) (Analog Only) 443.1000+ (123.0) (Analog + System Fusion)

**Meetings:** 2nd Monday, 7:30PM, Greene Memorial Hospital (1141 N Monroe Dr, Xenia, OH) Herman Menapace Auditorium

### **President's Message**

We are in the month of giving thanks. We are also in the month of early, dark nights and coldness. Holiday stress can get to the best of us, as well. I would like to thank you all for a great year of being XWARN's President. I have thoroughly enjoyed every minute of it and am looking forward to the next great year.

Which brings me to letting you know that at this month's meeting, we will hold elections for our officers. I hope everyone can make it out. See you on Monday, November 11th.

73 de KE8FMJ

Elizabeth

#### **Dayton Veterans Administration Radio Club**

THE DAYTON VA RADIO CLUB NEEDS NEW MEMBERS!

We at the Dayton VA radio club W8DVA are looking for new members. Due to unforeseen health problems, some of our members are stepping back (hopefully only temporarily), just when we are entering a new phase at the Club.

We have just installed a new SteppIR DB-18 antenna to go with our Icom 7300 radios a new Ameritron ALS 1300 amplifier and a MFJ 998 Legal Limit "Intellituner" automatic antenna tuner. We now have top notch equipment for all to use and enjoy.

The Dayton VA radio club is located in room 119 of the Volunteer Services Building 305 which is located adjacent to the VA hospital.

We do require you to hold a general class license and be of legal age to enter and operate alone. The VA requires you to be TB free and will administer a free TB test. They also administer a background check and take pictures for a photo ID badge plus you will be briefed on the rules and regulations of being a VA volunteer. Most are simple common sense things.

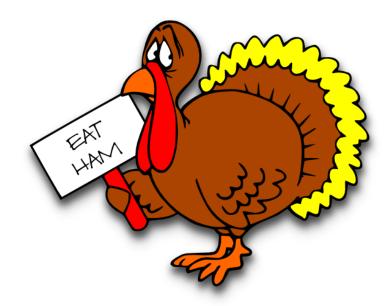
If you want to become a club member at the Dayton VA radio club please email us at w8dvadayton@gmail.com and let your intentions be known or get in touch with

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#### **Club Contacts**

- Liz Klinc, KE8FMJ

  President@xwarn.net
- Vice President, Bob Baker, N8ADO
   Vicepresident@xwarn.net
- Secretary, Jason Bowman secretary@xwarn.net
- Treasurer, Steve Mackey, N8ILR
   <u>Treasurer@xwarn.net</u>
- Repeater Guru, Jim Simpson, WB8QZZ Technical@xwarn.net
- Web Master Josh Long, W8KDL webpresence@xwarn.net
- Membership, Phil Verret, KA8ZKR <u>membership@xwarn.net</u>
- XWARN Trailer / Public Service, Mike Crawford, KC8GLE <u>trailer@xwarn.net</u> or <u>publicservice@xwarn.net</u>
- Newsletter, Jason Bowman, WG8B newsletter@xwarn.net



#### **Public Service Events**

Saturday, November 16, Mid-East Cross Country Championships; Indian Riffle Park, Kettering Girls Race 11:00; Boys Race 11:30. This event features invited elite high school runners from several states around Ohio. Fast paced. We usually join together for breakfast before this relatively short event. If you are able to help with this, please contact n8ado@arrl.net.

Bob Baker, N8ADO

#### **Dayton Veterans Administration Radio Club**

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DR. JOHN MATHIS, WA5FAC, john.mathis1@va.gov

LARRY BAKER, KB8EMD, kb8emd@arrl.org

STEVE MARTIN, KD8QZT, steverino74@gmail.com

CHESTER HOWES, K8NYC, howescf@gmail.com

We look forward to working with you in service to our brother and sister veterans.

Larry Baker KB8EMD

#### Election 2019



With the new fiscal year starting on Dec 1, 2019, it's that time of year again to elect officers. The incumbent Secretary, Jason Bowman, is stepping down. But everyone else has agreed to carry on in their current position and is running unopposed.

Two members have accepted the nomination for Secretary, Danielle Edgington and Richard Weis. They have provided short statements for your review ahead of the election. Just a reminder that XWARN eliminated

absentee ballots a couple of years ago. So you have to be present to vote.



#### **Danielle Edgington**

Hello, my name is Danielle Edgington and my call is KE8JNU. I received my Technician license in April 2018, and later that year in June I passed my General. On July 18, I took my Extra Class license test at the DARA clubhouse in Huber Heights. I was nervous, but all the practice paid off, and I passed!

July 29th, just 11 days after receiving my Extra, I hosted the first Young Operators Digital Voice Net. It happens every Sunday night at 7:00 US eastern time on DSTAR reflector XRF757A, DMR Brandmeister Talkgroup

31012, and YSF Reflector #37099. This net is geared towards topics of interest for school -aged young people, either licensed or third party with a licensed operator present. But although this is focused on younger operators, all are welcome to participate. Come give us a call!

Some of my hobbies are reading, writing, playing piano, alto saxophone, and guitar, contesting, and showing cows. We raise Dexter cattle for beef (the list is always open!), chickens for eggs, and goats as, well.... lawn ornaments.

I would like to be XWARN's secretary because it would be a great learning experience and I could contribute to my club. I am a proficient at typing and listening skills, however, I would love to use this opportunity to practice my skill set and be able to apply the experience I would learn to my future school projects. During my time as XWARN's secretary, I would get to know the club's members better and learn new things. I would look forward to each and every month contributing articles of my own to the newsletter. I would also like to get to learn about more members of XWARN and help others get to know each other. One thing I would like to add is a Member Corner to the newsletter where each month I could recruit a few members to create a paragraph autobiography of themselves outside of amateur radio. While I feel my youth does create some unique challenges to the club and the role as secretary, I believe having a youthful view on the board and in the newsletter will enhance the future of the club and I can help

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#### **XWARN Mission**

The mission of the Xenia Weather Amateur Radio Net (XWARN) amateur radio club is to conduct weather spotting nets during severe weather and other communication services for the City Of Xenia and all other Greene County communities.

In this capacity, we are set up to provide communication services as required to the Greene County Ohio Public Service Agencies and other local government entities. The communications services provided to the supported agencies may be for emergency purposes or to simply enhance their communications abilities. On an as needed basis XWARN provides similar services to various government entities of our surrounding counties.

Additionally, XWARN provides communications support to various community organizations in support of marathons, 5K runs, 10K runs, bicycle events, etc. to provide health and safety assistance to the participants and sponsors of said events.

In support of these goals, XWARN operates and maintains amateur radio repeaters and other equipment in Greene County. Minutes: October 14, 2019



Meeting was opened by Liz at 1932

#### **Cracker Barrel**

Jason had a lithium iron phosphate battery on display as part of the project with the Beavercreek robotics club that XWARN supports.

JT's wife passed away. Betty Harris SK.

Mike Crawford's brother is recovering from a recent medical procedure and doing well.

September Minutes: Janise

Brooks, Richard Weis motion. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report. We have money. If you would like to exam the Treasurer's Report, please contact the Treasurer or Secretary. Richard Weis, Jim Beller motions. Motion passes unanimously.

*Public Service.* Xenia Fire Dept open house. Had trailer and Big Ass Truck. Cut a car apart, Care Flight was out. Obstacle course for kids. Put out fires.

Saturday has full roster for Dayton x-country meet. Can still join in. Come on out but can't get you lunch.

Nov 16 Mideast challenge. X-country meet with athletes from across the region. Takes about an hour. Go for breakfast first. Need lots of people to double and triple up.

Resolution Run on New Year's Eve.

Participated in SET. Coincident with open house at Make It Dayton Festival "Nerd Fair". Had DARA truck and XWARN trailer. Ran resource net out of XWARN trailer. Bob thought it went pretty well. One of lessons is to track resources. Had 20 -some check-ins. Complete power failure was the scenario. Note that XWARN repeaters are on commercial site with back-up power and priority refueling.

Dayton River Corridor Classic half marathon and 5k last weekend. Had a few holes but wasn't a big deal. Went smoothly. No injuries except minor first aid. Bob walked Taile-End Charlie on 5K. Bob even got a medal.

Air Force Marathon. Course was brand new. Ran the opposite direction based on heat injuries on last year's course. Something new with the nets. Bob running it next year. Most comments were "worked out pretty well". Amateur radio and aviation radio antennas too close at one location causing temporary loss of comms on the amateur radio nets.

#### **Committee Reports**

*Membership*. Yearly 49, Life: 8, Total Paid: 57. Members present: 23. Guests present: 1.

Secretary's Report

Trailer. New step works fine. Other upgrades. Overhead lights not very bright. Flat LEDs installed. Much brighter. LED strip lighting replaced halogens. Overall much brighter. Never had a receiver for a hitch. Personal receivers used. Bought receiver for club. Opens up to other people towing. One of the police and fire radios is dying. Apparent at Hamvention. Takes forever to boot up. Beginning a main board failure. Put the issue to Xenia Fire and PD. At Xenia open house, Chief said heard need a radio. Chief comes back an hour later with a replacement radio. Trying to get a second radio for multiple operating stations. Send trailer for maintenance since nothing come up. Brakes.

Repeater. This afternoon, one of the primary repeaters is up and running. Close to being able to put it online. Jim rolled secondary repeater out to the tower when repeater power went out. Copy of Master III software a few weeks ago. Need to interface the controller board. Carpenter road tower being sold? If sold, we may not be able to afford the rent.

Website. Out of date. Needs some new material posted.

Facebook. Nothing to report

*Newsletter.* Bob and Gene mentioned in article ARRL website regarding SET. 13 Colonies article being worked on by Danielle.

Mesh. Nothing to report

#### **Old Business**

Xmas party. Monday, Dec 9. 6-8:30. Off to side not party room. TJ Chumps in Fairborn. Commerce Park. Off Dayton Yellow Springs.

Abi Khan Horse Challenge made a donation.



Danielle Edgington, KE8JNU, presents her 4H project that went all the way to the Ohio State Fair

T-shirts. Grey shirt, red and

blue logo name and call.

Sport shirt with pocket. Kids sizes available. Get pic from



New Business

Liz.

Street signs. Sponsored street banner in Xenia. City is replacing. Decided to sponsor new banner.

Somebody wants to put DMR repeater in Xenia? Infor-

mation scarce.

What can we do to mentor next generation? Sponsoring Greene County 4H radio club. Paperwork submitted to Greene County 4H organization. Sizable donation to build 50ft tower at Extension Office site at Fairgrounds. Space in storage area. Room for several workstations to connect to tower. Use big room as meeting room? Several kids have already expressed interest. Need mentors. DARA is going to donate radios. Jim S already applied for building permit for tower.

Nominations. Jim Simpson motions to nominate all existing. Janese seconds. Richard Weis volunteers for Secretary. Jim Simpson and Jim Beller motion. Danielle Edgington volunteers for Secretary. Jason Bowman nominates. Richard Weis seconds. All in favor. Nominations are set for voting. Janese suggests bios.

#### Presentation

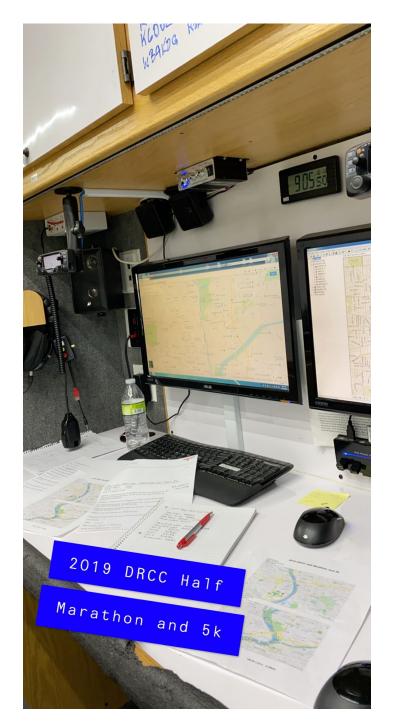
Danielle Edgington, KE8JNU, presented her Amateur Radio project done for 4H.

Motion to adjourn at 850. Jim and Janese motion.

asm C Bon

Jason Bowman, WG8B

Secretary





Xenia Township Fire Department Open House



#### **Election 2019**

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diversify the newsletter and the board, while at the same time completing the primary job of being the recorder, historian and voice of XWARN.

I am having a lot of fun with amateur radio so far, and I hope you are too!

73's de KE8JNU

#### **Richard Weis**

Editor's Note: Sorry, I couldn't find a picture of Richard. I have lots of pictures taken by Richard but none of the man himself.

I've been a member of XWARN for 3 years. I've been a Ham

since 2009. I'm an EXTRA. I was the president of the Madera County Amature Radio Club for 3 years, the Secretary, and the Vice Chair. Not sure what else to write for this, I'm sure my opponent is smarter then me LOL. So whom ever is chosen will do a great job for the club.

Richard Weis AG6IZ



#### This and That

Greene County ARES made it into the <u>ARRL news</u> (http://bit.ly/2NJ2bXJ) last month because a public official, Greene County Sheriff Gene Fischer, KX8GCS, not only observed the Simulated Emergency Test (SET) at the beginning of September but also participated in it as an amateur radio operator. Our very own Bob Baker also had an honorable mention. After Hamvention moved to the Greene County Fairgrounds, Sheriff Fischer was urged by several hams to get his license.

In other (strange) news, I'm not sure who is off-kilter more, the hams who claim that not being able to cost-effectively decode PACTOR is a <u>national security threat</u> (http://bit.ly/2NFBz9X) or the FCC who has sat on a proposal to update a key technical limitation on HF for years that no one else in the world is affected by.

Without knowing the motivation, SCS, the company that created PACTOR, has released <u>software</u> (http://bit.ly/2rfy8iV) that will allow anyone running Linux to decode PACTOR 1-3 with an update to also decode PACTOR 4 coming sometime next year. National security threat resolved? Let's hope so. The alternative, at least for PACTOR 4, is buying a \$1500 modem.

While the FCC routinely issues waivers allowing PACTOR 4 for those US stations supporting hurricane and other natural disaster relief efforts, ARRL recently *resent* a <u>proposal</u> (http://bit.ly/36wmkZy) to the FCC — the original one was sent back in the early 2010s — to eliminate the very outdated symbol rate limit and replace it with a bandwidth limit instead.

I'm no radio expert, but I'm pretty sure a little birdie told me that interference, which is the whole purpose of the FCC regulations to begin with, is governed by the bandwidth a signal occupies not symbol rate. That they routinely issue waivers is indicative that the lack of action isn't so much technical in nature as political and bureaucratic in nature. I should know. I work for the federal government. We have this habit of taking 3 years to do something that should only take 3 weeks.

## Ohio Sheriff Observes and Participates in ARES Simulated Emergency Test

10/09/2019

In Greene County, Ohio, one public official not only observed the ARES Simulated Emergency Test (SET) this month but participated in it with Greene County ARES (GCARES). Greene County Sheriff Gene Fischer, KX8GCS ("Greene County Sheriff"), checked in when the Resource Net Control, Bob Baker, N8ADO, of Beavercreek, called for volunteers. Although the suggested scenario called for only using simplex, GCARES used the Xenia Amateur Radio Weather Net (XWARN) repeater to reach out for as many volunteers as possible. Net volunteers then switched to a simplex tactical net to communicate with the GCARES Command Center.

#### Club Call: W8XRN

XWARN P.O. Box 562 Xenia, Ohio 45385

Email: info@xwarn.net Website: XWARN.NET

«FNAME» «LNAME» - «CALL»

«ADDRESS»

«CITY», «STATE» «ZIP»

### Wavelengths

Wavelengths is published monthly by the Xenia Weather Amateur Radio Net. Our meetings are currently held on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7:30 pm at the Greene Memorial Hospital Auditorium. You can find additional information about our organization at www.xwarn.net . We welcome new and experienced Amateur operators and those interest in becoming an Amateur operator to attend our meetings.

