

Wavelengths

April 2020

Xenia Weather Amateur Radio Net

147.1650+ (123.0) (Analog Only)

443.1000+ (123.0) (Analog + System Fusion)

Meetings: Temporarily on the 147.165 repeater at 7:30 pm second Monday of each month due to COVID-19 pandemic.



President's Message

Hello XWARN!

Summer is descending upon us quickly. Doesn't even seem normal without all our usual activity. Hope you are all hanging in there and are safe and healthy. Since the no more than 10 people rule is still in effect, we will once again hold out monthly meeting as an informal net. Hopefully we can get back together soon. Be thinking about how we can still make field day happen. Contact Bob, N8ADO, for more information or ideas. ARRL did add some amended rules this year that you may be interested in using.

Take care and 73,

Elizabeth KE8FMJ

Calendar of Events

All events are currently cancelled or postponed. For a list of postponed and cancelled events, please refer to March's newsletter, which specifies which events are cancelled and which are postponed.

Club Contacts

- President, Elizabeth Klinc, KE8FMJ
President@xwarn.net
- Vice President, Bob Baker, N8ADO
Vicepresident@xwarn.net
- Secretary, Danielle Edgington, KE8JNU
secretary@xwarn.net
- Treasurer, Steve Mackey, N8ILR
Treasurer@xwarn.net
- Repeater Guru, Jim Simpson, KF8J
Technical@xwarn.net
- Web Master, Josh Long, W8KDL
webpresence@xwarn.net
- Membership, Phil Verret, KA8ZKR
membership@xwarn.net
- XWARN Trailer / Public Service,
Mike Crawford, KC8GLE
trailer@xwarn.net or
publicservice@xwarn.net
- Newsletter, Position Open. Email goes
to Secretary
newsletter@xwarn.net

May "Meeting" Minutes

This month's "meeting" was on the 147.165 repeater as a check in net with Janese KD8DGB as net control. With this coronavirus epidemic, we have tried new things and this is one of them. We are getting used to it, although I'm sure we are all looking forward to seeing each other again. The membership report was announced as normal and everyone was given a chance to talk.

Mode of the Month

If you like talking on single sideband, you'll love DSTAR! This mode is quite popular but I thought I'd write a section on it anyway. Nearly every Icom handheld radio today is equipped with DSTAR, since many use it. DSTAR is called a digital voice mode because it is, in many ways, similar to digital modes on HF. How it works is you talk into your radio, and it is translated into a digital code. Anyone and everyone who is listening doesn't hear the code, however. By the time it reaches their ears, it has been decoded and translated to voice again. It is nearly identical to C4FM(Yaesu Fusion) and DMR, but many prefer it because it is easier to program DSTAR repeaters and ZUMspots into your radio. Many nets take place on DSTAR, the most popular being the Connie Ballantyne International DSTAR net. The way you connect to the world on DSTAR is through reflectors. The most popular reflectors and nets can be found on page 4.

Field Day 2020

ARRL Field Day is the usual fourth full weekend in June which places it on June 27–28.

I have reserved our usual location (Beavercreek Fire Station 61, 2195 Dayton Xenia Rd), but we have been asked to significantly scale back the activity. Since then, Governor DeWine has modified his order regarding the assembly of groups, but the fire department has not yet established a new rule.

What I can state is that we plan to have a Field Day operation, but it is too soon to predict what level of activity will take place. Typically, we put three stations on the air, but most of the people who show up come for the picnic. Last year, we had 73 people sign the log and, as it stands at present, we will not be allowed to host that many. As of right now, a picnic is out of the question, but I am scheduled to speak with the fire department staff next week and we will see what can be arranged. If a picnic as part of Field Day is not possible, perhaps we can have a club picnic later in the summer.

It may be necessary to have a schedule of who can operate when in order to assure the proper social distance. Be thinking about what might be appropriate for you.

If you have thoughts or suggestions regarding Field Day, send a message to n8ado@arrl.net. Please, no comments about the political situation behind all of this.

I will update the status via email when I know more. Also check the XWARN Facebook page.

Bob Baker N8ADO

Field Day Chair

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.

Club Contacts

- President, Elizabeth Klinc, KE8FMJ
President@xwarn.net
- Vice President, Bob Baker, N8ADO
Vicepresident@xwarn.net
- Secretary, Danielle Edgington, KE8JNU
secretary@xwarn.net
- Treasurer, Steve Mackey, N8ILR
Treasurer@xwarn.net
- Repeater Guru, Jim Simpson, KF8J
Technical@xwarn.net
- Web Master, Josh Long, W8KDL
webpresence@xwarn.net
- Membership, Phil Verret, KA8ZKR
membership@xwarn.net
- XWARN Trailer / Public Service,
Mike Crawford, KC8GLE
trailer@xwarn.net or
publicservice@xwarn.net
- Newsletter, Position Open. Email goes
to Secretary
newsletter@xwarn.net

DSTAR Nets and Reflectors to Try

This section goes with Mode of the Month on page 2. Some reflectors that are very popular are REF030C, XRF757A, and others, but the most popular is REF001C. On REF001C, or One Charlie, as it is commonly called, you can find someone at nearly any hour of the day. Simply say, “This is [XX1XX] listening for any calls,” and you’re almost guaranteed to get a response! The Connie Ballantyne International DSTAR Net takes place on REF001C. XRF757A is another popular reflector, part of a network called the Quadnet. A good website for information about the Quadnet is openquad.net. On the Quadnet, you can connect from C4FM, DMR, DSTAR, EchoLink, and others. One net among many that takes place on XRF757A is the Young Operators Digital Voice Net. Check openquad.net for information on this net and the many ways to connect. The Connie Ballantyne International DSTAR net takes place on REF001C at 8:00 p.m. Eastern time every Sunday night. There are so many reflectors, the list almost never ends! If you have a raspberry pi that functions as a ZUMspot, on the online dashboard you can see the full list of reflectors.

Air Force Marathon 2020

Plans are currently moving forward toward having the Air Force Marathon on Saturday, September 19. Within the next two weeks, the director plans to make an announcement regarding whether or not these plans will continue. Our group of skilled and dedicated ham radio volunteers are considered critical to the safe conduct of the race. It takes over 60 operators to make this happen and all volunteers are welcome regardless of experience or equipment.

Registration is now open! All volunteers need to register, even if you normally have base access.

Go to www.usafmarathon.com

GET INVOLVED >> Volunteer

Click the button REGISTER NOW

TO VOLUNTEER

+Race Day >> +Saturday, September 19th

check Amateur Radio Operator

scroll down and enter a whole lot of information. You may get a message that additional information is needed. Keep at it until you get "Thank You". You will also get a confirming text message and an email.

If you have questions or special requests or if you want to be on my volunteer email list,

send an email to AFM.HAMS@gmail.com. I am interested in who has 222 Mhz handheld capability.

Bob Baker N8ADO

Ham Volunteer Lead

2020 Air Force Marathon

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.

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.

