

# Ham Radio Today Newsline

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*Episode 24, Monday February 8, 2016*

QST, QST, QST, Calling all amateur radio operators. Good Morning. The time is 7:30 a.m., 12:30 zulu and welcome to the morning edition of the Ham Radio Today newsline, reporting news and events of interest to ham radio operators throughout North Central West Virginia and Southwestern Pennsylvania. Bandwidth for Ham Radio Today is provided by the Monongalia Wireless Association through the W8MWA repeater, transmitting on 145.43 MHz with a PL tone of 103.5. This is episode 24 for February 8th, 2016 with Michael DeHaan, KD8ZMV reporting.

## General News

Here is today's news in ham radio.

### Item 1

A package of two satellites carrying Amateur Radio payloads has been deployed into orbit from the International Space Station (ISS) as part of a collaborative Texas A&M and University of Texas at Austin research effort. Built by Texas A&M students, AggieSat4 (AGS4) will release UT's Bevo-2 CubeSat in about a month, once it is far enough away from the ISS. Both schools received support from NASA's Johnson Spaceflight Center (JSC) for the design, construction, testing, and launch phases. The goal of the overarching LONESTAR program is for the two satellites to individually rendezvous with each other and perform docking and undocking maneuvers.

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### Item 2

"The overall objective is to find ways for small spacecraft to join together autonomously in space," Helen Reed, KD7GPX, professor of aerospace engineering and director of the AggieSat Lab at Texas A&M told NASA. "We need simple systems that will allow rendezvous and docking with little to no help from a human, which will become especially important as we venture farther out into space. Applications could include in-space assembly or reconfiguration of larger structures or systems as well as servicing and repair."

The satellites were independently developed by student teams at the two universities. Both teams were responsible for development plans for their satellite and had to meet established mission objectives.

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## Weather

Now for today's weather.

### Regular Weather

The local meteorological forecast for today calls for low pressure to spread rain and snow over the region today, and snow on Tuesday and Wednesday.

For Today, A chance and snow this morning. Then rain in the afternoon. Little snow accumulation. Highs in the lower 40s. South winds around 5 mph. Chance of precipitation near 100%

For Tonight, periods of snow. Snow accumulation 2 to 4 inches. Lows in the upper 20s. Southwest winds around 5 mph. Chance of snow near 100%.

For further information, listen to NOAA weather radio at 162.475 MHz .

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### Solar Weather

Now for Solar Weather

Solar activity is expected to be at low levels with a slight chance for M-class flares over the next three days. Solar wind enhancements are anticipated today from the influence of a negative polarity coronal hole high speed stream. An additional enhancement is likely tomorrow as a glancing blow from a February 5th Coronal Mass Ejection is anticipated to become geoeffective. Effects from the CME are expected to subside through Wednesday.

The greatest expected Planetary K-index for today is 4 with an average of 3.38.

The solar radiation storm forecast for an S1 or greater storm is 1%

No radio blackouts were observed over the past 24 hours. The chance for an R1 to R2 radio blackout for today is 15 % with the chance of an R3 or greater blackout is 1%

For more information visit the NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center at [www.swpc.noaa.gov](http://www.swpc.noaa.gov). For a synopsis of the current band conditions, visit the band conditions chart at the Monongalia Wireless Association's website at [www.W8MWA.org](http://www.W8MWA.org).

## Events of Interest

### Today

Events of interest for today Monday, February 8th, 2016 include the following:

### **Item 1**

The North Central West Virginia Young Ladies net will hold a face-to-face meeting on Monday at the IHOP located in the Glenmark Center. This meeting will include a presentation on how to program a Baofeng radio manually without using CHIRP. A handout for the presentation is available on the groups website at NCWVYL.net. They will also discuss some of the groups business regarding upcoming projects.

### **Item 2**

The North central West Virginia 2 meter single sideband net will be held at 8:30 p.m. 0130 zulu. This net will meet on the second Monay of each month at 8:30 p.m. 0130 zulu. For more information, contact Josh Smith, KD8HRX, at juicewvu@gmail.com.

### **Item 3**

The ARES traffic and training net will be held at 9:00 p.m. (0200 Zulu) on the W8MWA repeater, transmitting on 145.43 MHz with a standard offset and a PL tone of 103.5 This net is conducted every Monday at 9:00 p.m. (0200 Zulu). For more information visit the club's website at [www.w8mwa.org](http://www.w8mwa.org)

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## **This Week's Events**

Events happening later this week include the following:

### **Tuesday (Februeary 9tj)**

Taco Tuesday - a weekly lunch gathering held in Morgantown where local ham radio enthusiasts gather to discuss common intrests in amatuer radio. Taco Tuesday is held every Tuesday at noon (1700 zulu) at the Wings Ole Restaurant next to the Westover bridge in Morgantown, WV

The North Central West Virginia Young Ladies net well be held a 9:00 p.m. (0200 Zulu) on the W8MWA repeater, transmitting on 145.43 MHz with a standard offset and a PL tone of 103.5 This net is conducted every Tuesday at 9:00 p.m. (0200 Zulu). For more information, visit the net's website at [www.NCWVYL.net](http://www.NCWVYL.net), or, contact Libby DeHaan, Kilo Delta 8, Zulu, Mike Wiskey at [KD8ZMW@gmail.com](mailto:KD8ZMW@gmail.com)

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The Mountaineer Amateur Radio Association will hold their regular monthly meeting at the First Street United Methodist Church in Fairmont on February 9th. The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. with a social followed by their regular meeting at 7:00 p.m.

The Washington, PA net will be held at 8:30 p.m. (0130 Zulu ) on the K3PSP repeater, transmitting on 146.685 MHz with a standard offset and a PL tone of 103.5. This net is conducted every Tuesday at 8:30 p.m. (0130 Zulu). For more information visit the club's website at <http://www.wacomarc.org>.

The Stonewall Jackson net will be held at 9:00 p.m. (0200 Zulu) on the N8FMD repeater, transmitting on 146.685 MHz with a standard offset and a PL tone of 103.5. This net is conducted every Tuesday at 8:30 p.m. (0130 Zulu).

### **Wednesday (February 10th)**

The Mon County Amateur Radio Club will hold its weekly trivia net at 8:00 p.m. (0100 Zulu) on the KD8BMI repeater, transmitting on 147.075 MHz with a standard offset and a PL tone of 103.5. This net is conducted every Wednesday at 8:00 p.m. (0100 Zulu). For more information visit the club's website at [www.qsl.net/k8mcr](http://www.qsl.net/k8mcr)

The Phillippi net will be held at 9:00 p.m. (0200 Zulu) on the K8VE repeater, transmitting on 145.150 MHz with a standard offset and a PL tone of 103.5.

### **Thursday (February 11th)**

Taco Thursday - - a weekly lunch gathering held in Morgantown where local ham radio enthusiasts gather to discuss common interests in amateur radio. This gathering is usually well attended and the discussion is often lively. Taco Thursday is held every Thursday at noon (1700 zulu) at the Los Mariachi's Restaurant in the Evansdale area of Morgantown, WV. We recommend arriving a few minutes early for this event as many local ham radio operators attend and seating is often limited.

The Uniontown Amateur Radio Club will hold its net at 9:00 p.m. (0200 Zulu) on the W3PIE repeater, transmitting on 147.045 MHz with a standard offset and a PL tone of 131.8. For more information visit the club's website at [www.W3PIE.org](http://www.W3PIE.org)

The Clarksburg net will be held at 9:00 p.m. (0200 Zulu) on the WV8HC repeater, transmitting on 147.165 MHz with a standard offset and a PL tone of 91.5.

### **Friday (February 12th)**

The Elkins net will be held at 9:00 p.m. (0200 Zulu) on the K8VE repeater, transmitting on 146.745 MHz with a standard offset and a PL tone of 103.5.

### **Saturday (February 13th)**

The Parsons net will be held at 9:00 p.m. (0200 Zulu ) on the KC8SIG repeater, transmitting on 145.370 MHz with a standard offset and a PL tone of 103.5.

### **Sunday (February 14th)**

The Terra Alta net will be held at 9:00 p.m. (0200 Zulu) on the KC8KCI repeater, transmitting on 147.000 MHz with a standard offset and a PL tone of 103.5.

Ham Radio Today will return after this brief pause for station identification.

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This is KD8ZMV transmitting for Ham Radio Today

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## **Next Weeks Events**

Events happening next week include the following:

### **Tuesday (February 16th)**

The Monongalia Wireless Association will hold its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, February 16th at the River Valley Red Cross Chapter on Pineview Drive. There will be a VE Testing session beginning at 6:00 p.m. The meeting will hold a social period at 6:30 p.m. followed by the regular meeting beginning at 7:00 p.m.

## **This Month's Events**

Other events happening this month include the following:

### **Other Events (Special Events, Parades, Marathon's, Hamfests, etc.)**

#### ***Item 1 (February 18th - 21st)***

The Mon County Amateur Radio Club will hold its "Work All BMI Contest" from February 18th through February 21st on 2 meter repeaters. The contest will start at 1800 zulu on February 18th and will end at 1800 zulu on February 21st. This is a simple fun contest designed to be an introduction to contesting and to help sharpen your information gathering skills in the case of emergency operations. To get a set of rules and enter, or if you simply wish further information contact Bill Harris November 6 X-ray Alpha Kilo at [n6xak@atlanticbb.net](mailto:n6xak@atlanticbb.net)

## **Events Farther Out**

Looking to events next month and beyond.

### **Item 1 (March 7th)**

The W8MWA Simplex Net will be held on Monday March 7th, with a goal of seeing who can talk to whom should the local repeaters stop functioning. This net is held on the 1st Monday of every month on 146.550 MHz simplex. For more information contact Dr. Carl Werntz WA3ZZU, at [cwerntz@hsc.wvu.edu](mailto:cwerntz@hsc.wvu.edu)

### **Item 2 (March 19th)**

The Kanawah Amateur Radio Club will hold its 32nd Annual Charleston Area Hamfest on March 19th 2016 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in their new venue at the Activity Center of the Emmanuel Baptist Church. More details will follow as the event draws near.

### **Item 3 (April 23rd)**

The Mon County Amateur Radio Club will hold its Hamfest on April 23rd in the social hall of the St. Mary's Church in Star City, West Virginia from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Admission is \$5.00. A VE Testing Session will be held beginning at 11:00 a.m. More details will follow as the event draws near.

## **Major Events**

### **West Virginia Ham Radio Convention (August 19, 2016)**

The West Virginia State Amateur Radio Council has announced even more activities for the 58th West Virginia State Amateur Radio Convention to be held in the WVU Jackson's Mill Conference Center in Weston, WV, beginning on Friday August 19th 2016. This year's convention will feature VE Testing by the Mountain State VE team from Elkins, WV. Also on tap is a social gathering on Friday August 19th at 6:30 p.m. in the Jackson Lodge Mountaineer room where guests can meet and greet each other, as well as the West Virginia State Amateur Radio Convention committee members and the convention's guest speakers. Speaking of which, stay tuned for the announcement of this year's keynote speaker soon. On Saturday, August 20th the midnight convocation of the Royal Order of the Wouff Hong will induct new members. More activities and forums will be announced as the event draws closer.

### **Dayton**

There are 101 days until Hamvention on May 20th 2016, in Dayton OH.

This has been the Ham Radio Today newsline morning edition. Ham Radio Today broadcasts the newsline each morning at 7:30 a.m. Monday through Friday with an evening edition containing breaking news from the day at 5:00 p.m., transmitting on the W8MWA repeater, at 145.43 MHz with a PL tone of 103.5. Anyone wishing to submit a story or have their event announced may send the relevant information via email to HamRadioToday1@gmail.com. All stories and announcements must be compliant with Part 97 of the Federal Communications Commission regulations and must be related to amateur radio. So until this evening, wishing everyone listening 73's and hoping you have a great day, this is KD8ZMV clear and returning the repeater to general use.