

Ham Radio Today Newsline

Episode 29, Monday, February 15, 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 28, for Monday, February 15, 2016 with Michael DeHaan, KD8ZMV reporting.

General News

Here is today's news in ham radio.

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Item 1

The Monongalia Wireless Association will host a special presentation for Ham operators on Tuesday, February 16th entitled. ***What is All This Stuff About Battery Fires: What Hams Should Know About Batteries***, by Dr. Roy Nutter, N8BHI. This presentation will investigate the advantages and disadvantages of various types of batteries that can be used in ham equipment. It will present the advantages and disadvantages of each and answer questions about safety and fires including: What about fires?, and What is with this Lithium battery fire problem?

Item 2

Dr. Nutter is a full Professor of Computer Science and Electrical Engineering at West Virginia University, and currently leads a research group in digital forensics and cyber defense as a principal in the West Virginia Cyber Crime Consortium. In addition to his many rolls in instruction and research, he has served WVU as a Electrical and Computer Engineering Department Chair, Chair and member of the WVU Faculty Senate, member of the WVU Board of Governors, Chair of the West Virginia Advisory Council of Faculty, and many other committees and task forces. He is also a member, and past Secretary, for the Board of Directors of the National Cyber Forensics Training Alliance.. Professor Nutter has expertise in a variety of areas including electronics, embedded computers in underground mining, electric vehicles, and digital forensics. In addition, Professor Nutter holds ten patents in multiple areas of engineering.

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Item 3

This presentation will be held during the Monongalia Wireless Association's upcoming monthly meeting tomorrow beginning at 7:00 p.m. at the offices of the River Valley Red Cross Chapter located on Pineview Drive. For more, information, visit the Monongalia Wireless Association's website at www.W8MWA.org

Weather

Now for today's weather.

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NOAA Alerts

NOAA Alerts

Regular Weather

The local meteorological forecast for today calls for temperatures to continue to moderate. Mixed precipitation will become a threat throughout the Ham Radio Today listening area Monday afternoon and night.

For Today, snow likely in the morning, then snow and rain, with freezing rain likely in the afternoon. Snow accumulation around an inch. Highs in the mid-30's. South winds at 5 - 10 mph. Chance of precipitation 80%

For Tonight, snow in the evening with rain. Little or no accumulation. Near steady temperatures in the mid-30s. South winds at 5 - 10 mph. Chance of precipitation 90%.

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

Solar Weather

Now for Solar Weather

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Solar activity is expected to be at low levels with a chance for M-class through Wednesday due primarily to the flare potential of Region 2497. Solar wind parameters are expected to become enhanced early today as an anticipated CME reaches Earth. Enhancements are expected to subside by tomorrow. Wednesday is expected to see an additional enhancement from the onset of a negative polarity Coronal Hole High Speed Stream.

The geomagnetic field is expected to be at quiet to unsettled levels until the onset of the anticipated February 11th CME early today. After the arrival, minor storm conditions are likely. Tomorrow is likely to see mostly unsettled to active conditions as the CME effects subside. Wednesday is expected to have minor storm conditions as the negative polarity Coronal Hole High Speed Stream discussed above becomes geoeffective.

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The greatest expected Planetary K-index for today is 5 with an average of 3.75.

The solar radiation storm forecast for an S1 or greater storm is 15%

Radio blackouts reaching R1 levels were observed over the past 24 hours. The largest was yesterday at 2:26 p.m., 1926 zulu. The chance for an R1 to R2 radio blackout for today is 35% with the chance of an R3 or greater blackout is 5%.

For more information visit the NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center at 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.

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Events of Interest

Today

Events of interest for today Monday, February 15, 2016 include the following:

Item 1

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

This Week's Events

Events happening later this week include the following:

Tuesday (February 16th)

Taco Tuesday - a weekly lunch gathering held in Morgantown where local ham radio enthusiasts gather to discuss common interests in amateur 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 Monongalia Wireless Association will hold its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, February 16th at the River Valley Red Cross Chapter on Pineview Drive. Before the meeting, they will hold their regular monthly VE Testing session beginning at 6:00 p.m. A meet and greet social period will start at 6:30 p.m. followed by the regular meeting beginning at 7:00 p.m. This meeting will also feature the presentation: ***What is All This Stuff About Battery Fires: What Hams Should Know About Batteries*** that was discussed above.

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The North Central West Virginia Young Ladies net will 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 NCWVYL.net, or, contact Libby DeHaan, Kilo Delta 8, Zulu, Mike Wiskey at KD8ZMW@gmail.com

The Washington, PA net will be held at 8:30 p.m. (0130 Zulu) on the K3PSP repeater, transmitting on 146.790 MHz with a standard offset and a PL tone of 131.8. This net is conducted every Tuesday at 8:30 p.m. (0130 Zulu). For more information visit the club's website at www.wacomarc.org.

The Stonewall Jackson net will be held at 9:00 p.m. (0200 Zulu) on the N8FMD repeater, transmitting on 147.210 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).

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Wednesday (February 17th)

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

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.

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Thursday (February 18th)

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.

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The Mon County Amateur Radio Club will begin its "Work All BMI Contest beginning Thursday, February 18th at 6:00 p.m., 1800 zulu and will continue through Sunday 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

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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

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.

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Friday (February 19th)

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 20th)

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 21st)

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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Events Farther Out

Looking to events next month and beyond.

Item 1 (March 7th)

The North Central West Virginia Young Ladies net will hold their next face-to-face meeting at 6:00 p.m. 1800 zulu, on Monday, March 7th at the IHOP restaurant located in the Glenmark Center. This meeting will include a presentation on constructing Go-bags for emergency operations.

Item 2 (Also March 7th)

Also on March 7th, the W8MWA Simplex Net will be held, 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

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Item 3 (March 14th)

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

Item 4 (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 closer.

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Item 5 (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, and a VE Testing Session will be held beginning at 11:00 a.m. More details will follow as the event draws closer.

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Major Events

Major upcoming recurring events of interest to amateur operators in our area include:

Item 1: West Virginia Ham Radio Convention (August 19, 2016)

The West Virginia State Amateur Radio Council will hold the 58th annual West Virginia State Amateur Radio Convention 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. This year's convention will also feature a fox hunt on the convention grounds. 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.

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Dayton

There are 94 days until Hamvention on May 20th 2016, in Dayton OH.

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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 our next broadcast, wishing everyone listening 73 and hoping you have a incredible day, this is KD8ZMV clear and returning the repeater to general use.

