



The Resonator

Official Newsletter of The Fair Lawn (NJ) Amateur Radio Club

Volume 9, Number 1

www.FairLawnARC.org

January 2024

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From The President

First, let me wish everyone a Happy New Year, and my hopes for a banner year ahead. We started 2024 with a bang. Our January Business Meeting was long, but we accomplished a great deal. For starters, SEVEN new committees were formed, and Chairmen assigned.

- Administration — Chairman Jim W2KNG to deal with quasi-legal and organizational issues like rewriting our By Laws and possible incorporation. As President, I will serve as assistant to Jim.
- Youth Outreach — Chairman Robert KD2SOG to make presentations about amateur radio to various youth groups as well as recruitment of new members. Contacts have already begun with local schools and Scouts, with more to follow.
- Adult Outreach — Chairman Van W2DLT to make presentations about amateur radio to adult groups, as well as recruitment of new members.
- Station Management — Station Manager Noel W2MSA to suggest improvements, additions, or other changes that could be made to our existing five operating positions, as well as possibly adding new ones. The Station Manager will work closely with the Technical Committee.
- Technical Committee — A new, re-formed Committee was established with Chairman Dave W02X and four additional expert members, all holding Extra Class licenses and having a solid professional engineering background, plus having many years experience in amateur radio.
- EMCOMM Committee — Chairman Jim N2JLF. This new committee now includes our RACES/ARES Committee, with David, KD2MOB remaining in charge of RACES/ARES. This will be a cooperative effort involving training and shared exercises.
- Special Events Committee — To conceive, plan, and organize a number of Special Event Stations by the club. James KB2FMH has agreed to be Chairman of

**Remember:
Ham Radio Is a Contact Sport!**

Continued on next page.

From The President, continued.

this committee. James is the perfect person to make our Special Event Stations successful due to his long experience organizing many Special Event Stations in New York and New Jersey.

- The Auction Committee appointed Brian KD2KLN as new Chairman and Bill WA2WL to serve in an advisory capacity.

But we need Chairpersons to head two existing committees where vacancies exist. These are:

- Hamfest Committee — To organize our annual Spring Hamfest, usually held in May. Questions? Contact Gene W02W for further information and assistance.
- Presentations Committee — To find speakers on various subjects of interest to amateur radio operators. Questions? Contact Ed WX2R for further information and assistance.

These are both important positions, and we need both of them filled ASAP. If you are interested in taking charge of these vital jobs, please inform me or any other member of the Board. Time is of the essence, especially for the Hamfest Committee!

Thanks to efforts by Gene W02W the club will be able to hold its 'first Friday of the month' Business Meetings from now on at the Senior Center. This is very good news, because we will have plenty of parking and lots of room to accommodate everyone wishing to attend. The one exception will be the July meeting, which would conflict with the July 4th weekend. We will reschedule the July meeting accordingly.

The club may be able to save more than \$1,000 per year on our insurance coverage, thanks to the efforts of Brian N2BTD's XYL, who works for an insurance agency. One or two minor points have to be resolved, but we anticipate a favorable outcome.

The club thanks Fred Wawra W2ABE for the excellent job he has done as our new Quartermaster in cleaning up our rooms at the Community Center, organizing cables, and labeling parts in our parts cabinet. Fred's efforts also

include the creation of a digital record of all our equipment. Fred's next project will be a cleanup of material stored in the basement area, where our Field Day equipment is located.

The club acknowledged the contributions of Paul Cornett W2IP for his many years of faithful service, following his resignation as W2NPT license trustee and his position on the Technical Committee. Paul is preparing for his move to North Carolina, and decided to step back from his active roles in the club. He has also graciously offered his help on any technical issues if requested. We certainly wish him well.

Jim W2JC is our new W2NPT license trustee. Thanks, Jim!

Thanks to Lee KD2DRS for spearheading the club's presence at the Youth Super Science Event coming up in March. Watch your groups.io email inbox for further details of this important event.

Don't forget Winter Field Day at Memorial Park on January 28th and 29th !

We are off to a tremendous start in 2024. My thanks to everyone for their willingness to get involved in the club's new, and existing committees.

There's plenty of room for you, too, so contact me, any officer or Board member, and let's talk.

73,

Fred, KR2H





AMATEUR RADIO TESTING BY THE FAIR LAWN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

On January 20, 2024 the Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club will continue amateur radio test sessions on a modified basis.

These sessions will be held at the Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club.

The location is at 10-10 20th Street, Fair Lawn, NJ

The session starts at 9:15 AM.

A document will be provided to you prior to the date to indicate the time assigned to you.

You must have it with you to take the test.

Prior to Testing:

Send an email to WA2WL@arrl.net requesting to book your spot.

PRE-REGISTRATION is required - NO walk-ins accepted.

Upon Arrival:

You must have a government issued ID such as a valid driver's license or passport, a filled out Form 605, and 3 filled out copies of the FCC CSCE form.

Please Bring With You:

You MUST bring and WEAR personal PPE items including a face mask.
2 pens and 2 pencils. None will be provided to you, due to possible virus transmission.

Your FRN number, and (if licensed) a copy of your ham license or a valid CSCE (Certificate of Successful Completion Exam).

Additionally, the \$15.00 exam fee. This is payable in cash (exact amount is a must).

For information and scheduling, please contact:

Bill Leger WA2WL

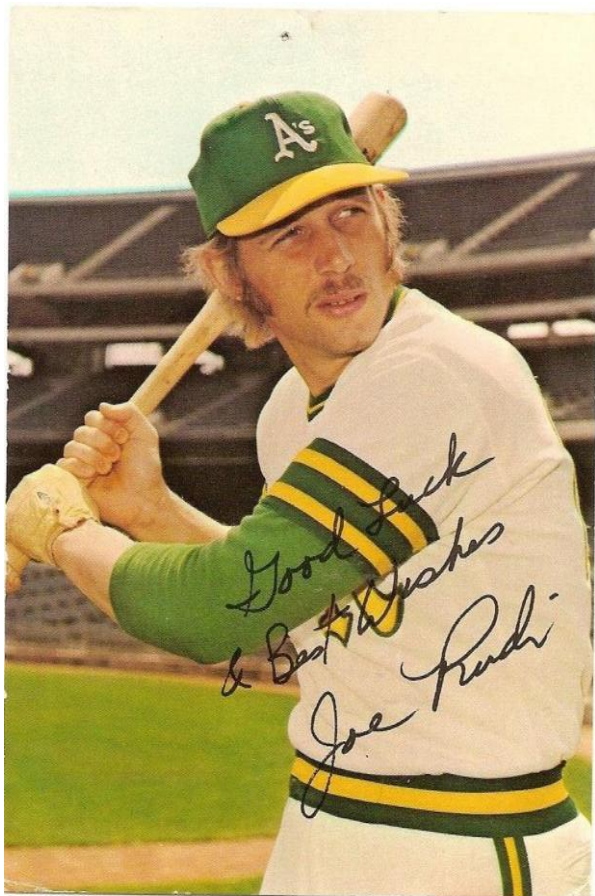
wa2wl@protonmail.com

Visit our website at www.FairLawnARC.org and <http://bit.ly/FLARC-Testing>

Notable Hams

by Jim Jalil W2KNG

This column features notable hams both past and present. Notable hams come from all backgrounds and all walks of life. This month's notable ham comes from the world of professional sports. A dominant ballplayer during the 1970s and into the 1980s, this lifelong ham was on three consecutive World Series Championship teams and was one of the premier major league baseball players of his day. We are of course referring to **Joe Rudi NK7U**.



Joe Rudi NK7U

A career 0.264 batter, with 179 home runs and 810 RBI, Joe Rudi was the recipient of three Gold Glove awards. He played for the Oakland Athletics from 1967 to 1976, and then spent the next few years with the California Angels, followed by a brief stint with the Boston Red Sox. He retired from baseball at the end of the 1982 season.

Known for his slick fielding and rifle arm, Joe Rudi finished second in the Most Valuable Player award in 1972. In 1975 he was selected to the American League All-Star team. Part of the mid-1970s Oakland Athletics dynasty, during which the team won three consecutive World Series Championships, Joe Rudi

was always a fan favorite. He was also part of a generation of ballplayers who changed major league baseball forever in a very significant way. He was among the first players who tested free agency after the notorious "reserve clause" (binding a player to the team for life) was declared illegal.

There are few baseball fans with an interest in the history of baseball who are not aware of Joe Rudi's play, accomplishments and championships. What fewer may know about Joe Rudi is that he is lifelong and avid ham radio operator.

Joe Rudi's interest in radio was, like many other hams, first peaked by building a crystal radio set as a boy in rural Oregon. Seeing his interest in radio, his grandfather put up a wire in a tree and, again like many hams, Joe became an avid SWL. He was amazed to hear AM broadcast signals at night coming from such far away places as Los Angeles and even Salt Lake City!

The interest in radio never left Joe. When he was playing for the Oakland A's in the 1970s he lived next to a Franciscan Monastery. It turns out that two priests, a brother and the maintenance man were all hams... and baseball fans.

They were thrilled to have Joe come over to visit and he was thrilled to see ham radio in action. From that time on he was hooked on ham radio. In fact, it was the maintenance man at the Monastery who gave Joe his Novice exam in 1976. His first call was WN6PVA. Soon after, Joe upgraded and obtained his General license and became WA2PVA.

Here is his QSL card from those days after he had taken free agency and was playing with the California Angels:



Joe Rudi QSL Card 1970s

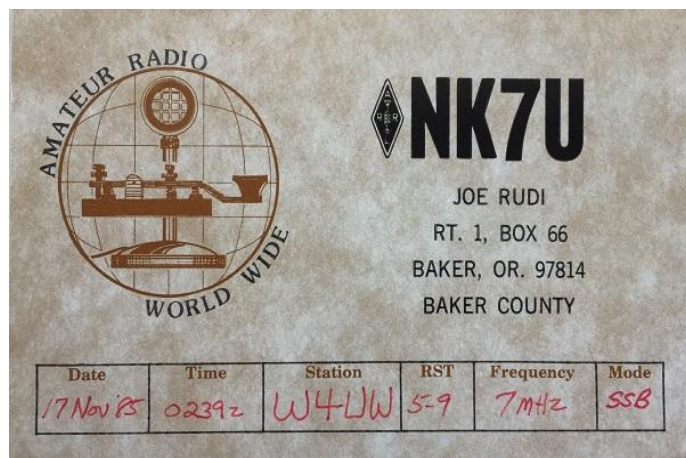
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Notable Hams, continued

Soon after he got involved in ham radio Joe began taking an Atlas 210X with him during road trips with the team. He would open a hotel window, take a fishing pole and drop a long wire antenna out the window.

Later he got a dipole which he strung in his hotel room, but he preferred the long wire out the window with a tuner. Joe always remarked that ham radio kept him out of bars at night when traveling with the team.

A few years after obtaining his General license Joe upgraded to an Amateur Extra license and obtained his famous call sign, NK7U.



In the later years of his career Joe bought a ranch in Oregon. This is where he retired after his baseball career ended in 1982. The difficult part, however, was that while he was still playing professional baseball there was a provision in his contract with the California Angels which provided that he was not permitted to climb towers. So, until his baseball career was over, he had to content himself with no tower based antennas.

Once he retired, he promptly began putting up towers and by the time he sold that ranch he had an antenna farm that included ten towers.

His next move was to another large piece of property in Oregon. This has become the home of the NK7U "super station." On this site there are three 150 foot towers. Joe says he prefers fixed arrays pointing to Asia and Europe because the winters are so cold that maintenance of rotating systems is impossible. But he has a very complete and enviable "super" station there.

Joe has always been an avid DX'er, but over the years he has become an avid contester as well. Joe is the Station Trustee of K7JR, the Snake River Contest Club, and his super station is the home base for the club when contesting.



NK7U Operating K7JR

More recently Joe has moved to Florida where he still operates, as well as getting back to the Snake River Contest Club and super-station NK7U for important contests.

Joe credits ham radio as key in his transition from professional baseball to retirement. In interview after interview, Joe has spoken passionately about his love of ham radio, his love of contesting and the thrill of hearing radio signals from far away through his headphones.

The magic of that crystal radio set of so many years ago in rural windswept Oregon has never left Joe.



NK7U and XYL today

Joe Rudi NK7U, a great ballplayer and a passionate and avid ham.

Name Badges Update

As approved at our business meeting, *The Sign Man of Baton Rouge* is now the approved vendor of FLARC name badges.

The order form will appear on the Sign Man's site and orders can be taken.

<https://thesignman.com/>



2024 Dues Are Due

Dues for 2024 will be accepted by the club starting on December 1st with the 2023 Annual Meeting. There are no changes to dues for the upcoming year.

Please make checks payable to:
"Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club"
and send them to:

Fair Lawn ARC
– Attn: Treasurer
10-10 20th Street
Fair Lawn, NJ 07410

Please include a member application form with your check regardless of your member status.
It can be found near the back of this newsletter.



The Resonator Is Now Archived!

Ever wanted to search for something in *The Resonator*? Maybe a member profile. Perhaps a past Street Fair. Even who participated at Field Day in 2017.

Now you can. *The Resonator* has now been accepted as part of the Digital Library of Amateur Radio and Communications. DLARC is a project of the Internet Archive (the not-for-profit online library best known for *The Wayback Machine*.) DLARC is growing to be a massive online library of the past and present of ham radio and related communications. It is funded by a grant from Amateur Radio Digital Communications.

When you need to find something, go to:
<https://archive.org/details/flarc-resonator>

You can use the search "text contents" field to do a full-text search on all issues or click "Date Published" to see them sorted by publication date.

You know our little newsletter is cool.
Now a lot more hams around the world will as well.

Get Direct With FLARC!

Here is a direct link to specific club info: just a click away!

<http://apparel.FairLawnARC.org>
<http://auction.FairLawnARC.org>
<http://blog.FairLawnARC.org>
<http://calendar.FairLawnARC.org>
<http://events.FairLawnARC.org>
<http://exams.FairLawnARC.org>
<http://facebook.FairLawnARC.org>
<http://news.FairLawnARC.org>
<http://swap.FairLawnARC.org>
<http://tech.FairLawnARC.org>
<http://youtube.FairLawnARC.org>

<https://groups.io/g/FairLawnARC>



Online License Testing!

Are you looking to get your license or upgrade without leaving your home? All you need is a laptop computer with a video camera.

There are number of sites listed on hamstudy.org/sessions. These folks will walk you through taking an exam online.

I have worked with both WB5QNG and AA7HW. If you have any questions, please contact me at mStevenk2sab@gmail.com

73,

Steven Boston K2SAB

The Fair Lawn Amateur Radio

Why is FLARC New Jersey's Most Exciting Radio Club?



Annual and Special Events



- Field Day
- Winter Field Day
- World Amateur Radio Day
- Portable Day
- Earth and Environmental Days
- Field Trips
- Club Exchanges
- Special Events
- Public Service Activities
- Public Events
- Ham fests and Auctions
- Foxhunts
- Contests
- Youth Activities and more

There Is Something Every Night At FLARC!

Monday: Near and Far Net

Tuesday: DMR Net and Open House at the clubhouse

Wednesday: ARES/RACES Net

Thursday: Tech Net

Friday: Open House at the clubhouse or *Kawfee Tawk* Speaker Series (Monthly via Zoom)

Weekends: Open House at the clubhouse, POTA and other station activations, Contests, Foxhunts



Special Interest Groups

- Portable Ops (POTA, SOTA, etc.)
- DX: Chase the rare ones
- Digital Voice: DMR and other modes
- FT8: Plus, other WSJT modes
- Satellite: Also, for weather interests
- Monitoring: SWL and other listening
- Contesting
- EMCOMM
- Radio Direction Finding
- Raspberry pi, Arduino



Plus:

- A five-position operating station clubhouse
- An active repeater—W2NPT linked with NJ2BS.
- New antennas on the roof
- Monthly VE testing
- An award-winning newsletter
- Monthly speaker programs
- Educational programs and activities
- Active in-person and social networking
- An extensive video education archive

That is Why FLARC Is the Most Exciting Club Around!

Come join us in-person or via Zoom for more activities, speakers, and projects!

www.fairlawnarc.org



The Club Fair Lawn ARC is the fastest growing ham club around, with five operating positions in a permanent clubhouse. Visitors and guests are always welcome. The club is open every Friday night, except when there is a Business Meeting scheduled, from NLT 6:30 PM. Business meetings are the first Friday of the month at 7:30PM at FairLawn Senior Center, .

2024 Officers, Committees and Assignments

President	Fred Belghaus	KR2H
Vice President	Robert Marchini	KD2SOG
Treasurer	Dave Gotlib	KD2MOB
Secretary	Jim Jalil	W2KNG
Trustee	Brian Cirulnick	KD2KLN
Trustee	Judith Shaw	KC2LTM
Trustee	Lowell "Van" VantSlot	W2DLT
Field Day	Noel Pagan Steve Wraga	W2MSA WA2BYX
Member Services Health & Welfare	Judith Shaw	KC2LTM
Publicity	Nomar Vizcarrondo Jim Cooper	NP4H W2JC
Program	[open]	
Video/YouTube	Thom Guida	W2NZ
Social Media	Brian Duddy	N2BTD
	Thom Guida	W2NZ
	Dave Marotti	NK2Q
Photographer	Giovanni Lucero	K2GIO
Community Relations	Gene Ottenheimer Dave Gotlib	WO2W KD2MOB
Hamfest	[open]	
Auction	Brian Cirulnick	KD2KLN
Youth Outreach	Lee Smith	KD2DRS
	Robert Marchini	KD2SOG
Adult Outreach	Lowell Vant Slot	W2DLT
	Jim Cooper	W2JC
	Skip Barker	KD2BRV
VE Testing Coord.	Bill Leger	WA2WL
Net Scheduler	Brian Cirulnick	KD2KLN
Contests	Lowell Vant Slot	W2DLT
FLARC Historian	Fred Belghaus	KR2H [W2AAB]
Webmaster	Jim Cooper	W2JC
	Dave DeCoons	WO2X
	Jim Cooper	W2JC
	Steve Holly	WI2W
	Lowell Vant Slot Bill Leger	W2DLT WA2WL
ARES Director	Jim Breheny	N2JLF
RACES Director	Dave Gotlib	KD2MOB
Newsletter Editor	Jim Jalil	W2KNG
Newsletter Publisher	Jim Cooper	W2JC
Stationmaster • W2NPT	Noel Pagan	W2MSA
Quartermaster	Fred Wawra	W2ABE
W2NPT Trustee	Jim Cooper	W2JC
NK2H Trustee	Ed Efchak	WX2R

President serves as ex officio to all committees

Want a Call Sign License Plate?

Amateur Radio (Ham operators) license plates may be purchased for a \$15 fee, for passenger vehicles, but not for commercial vehicles or motorcycles. (Applicants must be licensed by the Federal Communications Commission.)

Call MVC at 609.292.6500 or (toll free in NJ) 888.486.3339 to request an application.

The club has applications from time to time. If you would like an application, visit the "contact us" page, and we'll get one out to you.. or find the form and detailed instructions at:

<https://www.state.nj.us/mvc/pdf/vehicles/SP-23.pdf>



Letters:

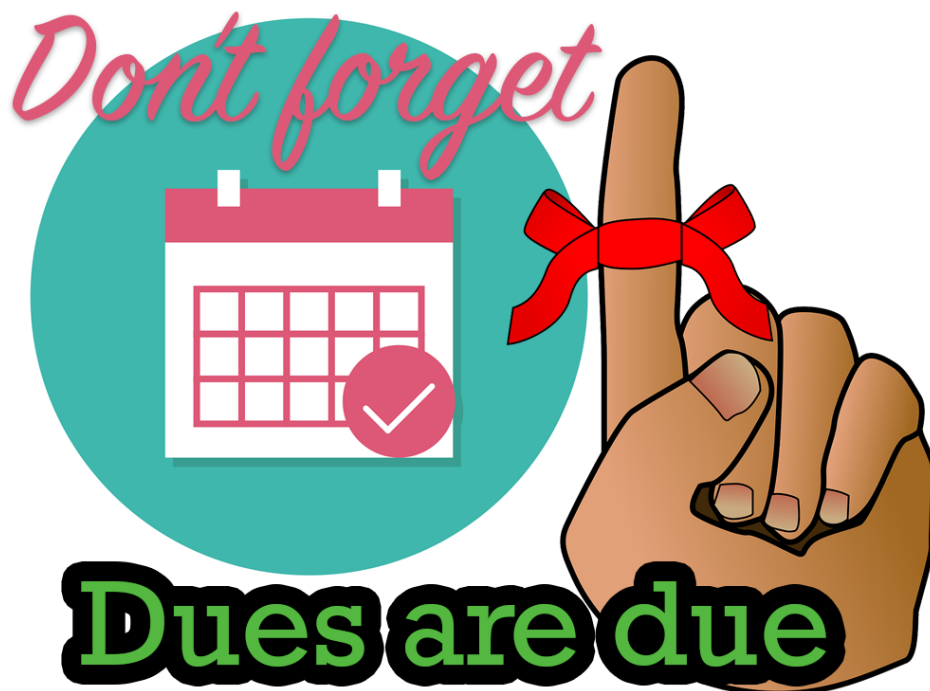
A New Addition to The Resonator

The editor has received a lot of nice notes, letters and comments about this newsletter and the club in general. We have not published them in the past but going forward we will at least try.

Here are the grounds rules:

- Please keep all comments as brief and succinct as possible.
- No personal attacks.
- No political rants.
- No comments promoting violence, racism, religious intolerance, vulgarity, obscenity, or other such discourteous behavior.
- The Editor reserves the right to exclude any comments that violate our guidelines and may subject the writer to further disciplinary action by the club.





Hidetsugu Yagi's 130th Birthday Google Doodle

Follow FLARC ON THE WEB

Facebook: <http://facebook.FairLawnARC.org>

Twitter: @FairLawnARC

Blog: <http://blog.FairLawnARC.org>

Youtube: <http://youtube.FairLawnARC.org>

Website: <http://FairLawnARC.org>

SIG Group Participation as of December 27, 2023

Here is an update on the roster of Special Interest Groups...many groups have increased in size during the last month. About 45% of all members have joined at least one group.

EMCOMM	11
Contesting	14
Digital Voice	32
Monitoring	27
DX	19
FT8	24
Satellite	20
Portable Ops	49
Radio Astronomy	2
Raspberry pi	8
Direction Finding	6
FLARC General	189

Sign up for a group... or ...
why not start one?

Contact webmaster@FairLawnARC.org
if you would like to start a new
Special Interest Group.

The Clubhouse Is Open Three Fridays In January!!

Date	Clubhouse Status
January 5	CLOSED – Business Meeting at Fair Lawn Senior Center
January 12	OPEN
January 19	OPEN
January 26	OPEN



**Pop-Up Tuesdays are now in-person at the club
as well as in the Zoom-room.**

The club will follow all borough COVID-19 requirements for these events.



Editor's Corner

Diversity. Inclusion. Belonging.

These are 21st century buzz words. They can have many different meanings to many different people. However for we ham radio operators these words are neither new nor remarkable. For they have been the guiding principle of the ham radio community since the first spark floated into the ionosphere.

This month's **Notable Hams** is about a retired major league baseball player. Previous subjects of Notable Hams have been a legendary actor (Marlon Brando) and the founder of SONY (Akio Morita). A future subject may be Joe Taylor, an astrophysicist and Nobel Prize Laureate.

A baseball player, an actor, a business tycoon and a astrophysicist... what can they possibly have in common? The answer is simple. Ham radio.

You could sit all three down over coffee and in less than a minute they would be fast friends talking about what all hams talk about when they get together – ham radio. Not a beat would be skipped among men of very separate worlds and backgrounds.

That is the beauty, and strength, of ham radio. It does not matter who you are, what your ethnicity may be, your religion, politics, occupation, age. All of that is irrelevant. If you are a ham you are a friend of mine.

The only thing we ask of a potential recruit into this very special community of ham radio is an

interest in radio communication, and the time, dedication and effort to pass an FCC exam. That's it. We ask nothing else, nothing more. Once you have a ham radio license and call sign, you are one of us. You could be an ex-ballplayer, a world famous actor, a billionaire business man, an astrophysicist, or a high school sophomore. It doesn't matter. On the air, or over a cup of coffee, we are all the same. Each of us is just another ham.

There are many wonderful aspects to ham radio, and community is one of them. That is what FLARC is all about too, a community of hams.

One of our mottoes is:

"The Friendliest Club Around."

As we outreach to new hams and local hams not yet part of our community that friendliness, that openness, should always be our guiding principle and our calling card. From the Amateur Extra, with a background in electrical engineering, to the brand new Tech still learning what a dipole is, each is welcomed with open arms. We should take pride in our acceptance of anyone with a ham radio license. We should take pride in our diversity, inclusion and belonging. Because that is what ham radio is all about.

That is what FLARC is all about.

– Jim Jalil W2KNG

**A QSL card is the final courtesy
of an amateur radio contact.**

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/QSL_card

Vast Archive of FLARC Activities and Info

Members are reminded that we have a large archive of YouTube videos of our previous many years of Kawfee Tawk™ presentations, which cover many aspects of ham radio. Our mostly unsung hero club videographer, Thom W2NZ, has spent thousands of hours of his own time creating really professional quality videos of these 167 presentations. Visit our club YouTube page and you will see all of them listed on the main page, at <http://youtube.FairLawnARC.org>

Another large and rather unused archive is that of our seven years of the club newsletter, The Resonator. They provide a nice historical record of the many activities of FLARC over the years, as well as lots of useful info about ham radio and electronics. The entire archive is at <http://newsletters.FairLawnARC.org>

And don't forget the FILES area of our groups.io website, where useful and important info is saved: <https://fairlawnarc.groups.io/g/main/files>

Renew Your ARRL Dues... Send Free Money to FLARC!

The ARRL has a great program to support affiliated clubs in that it sends part of your dues back to the club if you renew through the club.

So... when you get your ARRL renewal, send both your check and your renewal application to our trusty Treasurer, who will take care of getting your renewal to Newington and a fat check for \$5.00 back to FLARC.

Nothing can be simpler...
you just have to remember!!

*Print and use the
form on page 24
of this issue of*

The Resonator



Club Apparel — Get Them While They're **RED!**

Club apparel is always in vogue. Red is always "in" and your club friends all have them... you *want* a shirt or jacket for the next FLARC event! Great for Field Day!

Don't forget.... they're easy to order.

Go to www.hamthreads.com

or visit <http://apparel.FairLawnARC.org>

Check out the item selection that is posted on the FLARC website (with pictures and prices). Order the shirts or other items you want with either the regular FLARC logo or the still-cool 60th anniversary logo. Note: **RED** is the primary and preferred club standard shirt color.

And why not WEAR your nice red shirt when you come to the club, especially for meetings and events.



It's easy to spot FLARC members
with their red club shirts !

Ham Radio Is Contagious And It Won't Make You Sick!!

2024 FLARC Nets On The W2NPT Repeater:

Near and Far Net Mondays at 8PM

W2NPT and NJ2BS Repeaters

Special Note: As non-profit, the IRS now requires that we disclose annually the use of paid lobbyists to our members and indicate approximately what percentage of their dues goes toward that. 0% of your dues payment will be used by the club to directly pay a lobbyist firm to lobby on behalf of all our members regarding pending legislation that impacts our hobby.



NEWHAMS.INFO

Training, information, and encouragement for new amateur radio operators.

<https://newhams.info/>

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BEQUEATHS AND DONATIONS

Planned gifts usually imply the family donation of amateur equipment to the club when someone has become a Silent Key. But it can be more. Club members might consider making a gift through a will or trust; gifts that help provide lifetime income to the club. Consult with your lawyer, estate planner or tax advisor if you feel such a gift is worthv.

About The Club

The Resonator is published monthly and is the official (and only) newsletter of The Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club. FLARC was established in 1956 and has met continuously since inception. **The club is sponsored by the Borough of Fair Lawn.** The club meets every Friday, except when a Business Meeting is scheduled, at 6PM at the club station in The Fair Lawn Community Center, 10-10 20th Street, Fair Lawn, NJ. Business meetings are the first Friday of the month at 7:30 PM at the Fair Lawn Senior Center, and on Zoom.

Visitors **ARE ALWAYS** welcome at our meetings.

FLARC operates the W2NPT repeater (145.470- PL 167.9) located high atop the Community Center. The analog repeater is open to all amateurs for use without restrictions.

The club has nearly two hundred registered members. Dues are currently \$25 per year; \$20 for new members.

For more information, please see our website, at <http://membership.FairLawnARC.org>

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Thanks!
for your
Support!!

This is YOUR club.... Be a part of it !!



**FAIR LAWN'S
COMMUNICATIONS CENTER!
With Our Antennas On The Roof!**



Blood Donors Needed In This Time Of Emergency

The Red Cross and related organizations are in great need for blood donations since most corporate blood drives have been cancelled. This has become acute recently.

Communitybloodservices.com

has a network of offices open during the week and would really welcome folks making appointments to donate blood.



Dear fellow Amateur Radio Operators,

The American Red Cross (ARC) in New Jersey is working on a project where Amateur Radio Operators (HAMs) would support Red Cross internal emergency communications during a disaster. Red Cross sites can be shelters, warehouses, points of distribution, family reunification centers, community reception centers, and other sites where the Red Cross is supporting disaster response and recovery missions.

We are seeking HAMs to support these sites as a backup for conventional communications that may fail during a disaster. This work is in direct support of safety of life and protection of property (47 CFR § 97.403).

Currently, we are only looking for names of operators who would be interested in helping and their location within the state. The how will come after we know the who.

We are looking for HAMs to work as partners, either as an individual or with an organized group (club, ARES, RACES). We are not looking to take anyone away from their other committed roles that they would perform for their communities.

We have split the state into three territories, North-Central-South, each containing seven counties, with communications being provided within the territories and the state.

The Red Cross will provide free disaster training to better understand what we are doing, as well as drills and exercises. Your commitment will be to attend training, drills, and exercises when you are able to and based on your ability to participate at the time that a disaster strikes.

If you are interested in helping or learning more about this opportunity to use your amateur radio license in support of emergency communications in New Jersey, please fill out the form, at the link below.

73, ARC Assist Committee

Ed K2BED • Mike KC2UOA • Peter S, not yet licensed • Bill NB1LL

Form is at <https://forms.office.com/r/tqmb8cBV3F>

FLARC December 16, 2023 VE Testing Results

With VE testing back on schedule, Gene W02W reports the following results:

Name	Call	License Earned
Gerard Potschantek	KE2CJU	Tech
Anthony DeSando	KE2CJA	Tech
Samuel Drukman	KE2CIY	Tech
Arthur Julius	N2AFA	General

Testing for next month will be at the Fair Lawn Recreation Center.

See page 3 of this Resonator copy, and also the FLARC website for the latest details.

Ten Special Interest Groups [SIGs] Already Formed: Any Others?

A new SIG—Radio Direction Finding—has started under the tutelage of Bob KD2BKD. Club interest continues to grow in the SIGs.

Another recently formed SIG is for those interested in Raspberry Pi and Arduino projects, but now includes DoItYourself (DIY)/Makers kit building, 3D printing and similar topics – also managed by KD2BKD.

A list of all of the current SIGs is shown on page 6.

Other possible groups, from the member survey, include:

- *Radio Propagation*
- *Antennas and how they work*
- *Ham radio software*
- *Technical assistance to club members*

Anyone interested in leading any of these groups...?

Please contact webmaster@FairLawnARC.org



The Westchester Emergency Communications Assn.
Box 831 Sleepy Hollow, NY 10591

www.weca.org

2024

Amateur Extra Ham Radio Class!

WECA will be conducting a **free** Amateur Extra FCC license exam preparatory class that will run for ten weeks **starting on Tuesday, January 9th** and on **Tuesday nights thereafter from 7-9:15 PM in-person** at the Westchester Fire Training Center, 4 Dana Road in Valhalla, NY 10595** and via **Zoom**. VE test sessions are available in the area and at the FTC (\$15 testing fee).

Please join us for this **free** interactive course taught by a team of knowledgeable Amateur Radio Operators from WECA. Instructors will be Amateur Extras or others who have special knowledge of specific subject areas. The class will review the test pool questions and answers and provide explanations of the accompanying concepts. There are >700 questions in the pool: 50 test questions; 37 correct (74%) to pass. **All are welcome to attend** who wish to gain additional knowledge of amateur radio subjects even if you do not expect to take the test or do not hold an amateur license.

Texts:

1. ARRL Extra Class License Manual 12th Edition w/link to Practice Exam Software
2. ARRL Extra Q&A 5th Edition

Both are available from ARRL at:

<https://home.arrl.org/action/Store/Product-Details/productId/120286>

<https://home.arrl.org/action/Store/Product-Details/productId/120287>

or from Gene W2KJI at KJI Electronics, Cedar Grove, NJ on 973-571-1930;

Gene is a reputable local ham radio dealer, or from

Amazon- Be very sure to order the correct editions.

1. Please purchase the license manual and begin reading as soon as possible.
2. The Q&A has answers and brief explanations for all pool questions- a worthwhile investment.

Conduct of Training:

Subjects include: FCC regulations, operating procedures and practices, radio propagation, electrical principles, practical circuit components and design, modulation, emissions, antenna design, transmission lines and safety. Hands-on practical on-air HF exercises are included.

Each class will have an instructor/facilitator who will be knowledgeable about the subject area and will involve others who can make contributions. If you have an area of strong interest and expertise that you can share with the group, please let me know.

If you would like to upgrade to Amateur Extra, please contact me by email at Education@WECA.org so I can register you and provide additional information.

Larrie Sutliff W2UL

WECA Education Director

** If you haven't been to the FTC before, you need to know that we enter through the rear door (the front door is typically locked/no parking). From Route 9A, with the Hawthorne Home Depot at your back, proceed East on Dana Road about 2/10 of a mile, past 4 Dana Road, and turn right on Walker Road. Park in the long lot on the right and go down the outdoor stairway, pass the trailer and enter through the glass doors. Classroom #3 is down the hall to the right. Handicapped access is available at the training level- just park in front and use the security phone or call me on 732-693-4504.

FTC Closing Weather Number: 914-231-1615



The Westchester Emergency Communications Assn.
Box 831 Sleepy Hollow, NY 10591
www.weca.org
2024

Amateur General Ham Radio Class!

WECA will be conducting its annual **free** preparatory class for the Amateur General FCC exam this spring **in-person** at the Valhalla Fire Training Center 4 Dana Road in Valhalla, NY 10595 **and via Zoom**. The class will run for nine weeks **starting Tuesday evening March 12th from 7-9:15 PM**. Subsequent classes will be on Tuesday evenings per the schedule below. Ref. www.weca.org. Holders of the General license are permitted many additional frequency privileges including access to all HF bands.

Please join us for this free interactive course taught by a team of knowledgeable Amateur Radio Operators from WECA. Instructors will be Amateur Extra and General Class license holders or others who have special knowledge of specific subject areas. The class will review the test pool questions and answers and provide explanations of the accompanying concepts. All are welcome to attend who wish to gain additional knowledge of amateur radio even if you do not expect to take the test or have a license.

Texts:

1. **The ARRL General Class License Manual 10th Edition** (includes access to on-line practice)
2. **The ARRL General Q&A Manual 7th Edition** (Includes explanations for all questions.)

Both are available from ARRL at:

<https://home.arrl.org/action/Store/ProductDetails/productId/2009476073> or from:

Gene W2KJI at KJI Electronics, Cedar Grove, NJ: 973-571-1930;

Gene is a reputable local ham radio dealer or from:

Amazon- Be very sure to order the correct editions.

1. **Please purchase the License Manual and begin reading as soon as possible.**
2. **The Q&A manual is also very helpful, but not required.**

Syllabus & Schedule:

3/12	Tuesday	Ch 1	The General Class License & Ham Radio
		Ch 2	Procedures and Practices
3/19	Tuesday	Ch 3	Rules and Regulations
3/26	Tuesday	Ch 4	Components and Circuits
4/2	Tuesday	Ch 5	Radio Signals and Equipment
4/9	Tuesday	Ch 1-5	Exercise: HF Station Install, Practice Net, Review
4/16	Tuesday	Ch 6	Digital Modes
4/23	Tuesday	Ch 7	Antennas
4/30	Tuesday	Ch 8	Propagation
5/7	Tuesday	Ch 9	Electrical and RF Safety, Review
5/9	Thursday		VE Test Session

FTC Closing Weather Number: 914-231-1615 (Zoom conducted even if FTC closes)

Each class will have an instructor/facilitator who will be knowledgeable about the subject area and will involve others who can make contributions. If you would like to upgrade to Amateur General, please contact me by email at Education@WECA.org so I can register you and provide additional information.

Larrie Sutliff/ W2UL WECA Education Director

Around the Shack

– Hal Kennedy N4GG

Coaxial-Line Baluns, Ununs and Transformers (Look Ma, No Ferrites!)

In the *Around the Shack* column of December, 2019, I wrote about keeping a station notebook. Last month I wrote about the human interface and “ease of use.” My station notebook is a 3-ring binder. The contents are on paper. It's valuable to flip through the notebook pages in a way I can't do looking at a directory of files.

I was paging through my station notebook recently when I came across a magazine article I'd clipped and saved 43 years ago! It's a two-part article published in *Ham Radio* magazine in February and March, 1980. It's an important article – I have referred back to it many times.

Perhaps a word about *Ham Radio* magazine is in order. If you have not encountered it, it was a technically-oriented magazine begun and edited by Jim Fisk W1HR (sk) from 1968 to 1990. Sadly, Jim died at age 46 in April 1980, shortly after the article I'm describing this month was published.

Others continued the magazine after Jim's untimely death. *Ham Radio* ceased publication and was bought by CQ magazine in 1990. [Note: I received word this month (December 2023) that CQ is no longer being published – at least for the foreseeable future]. Figure 1 shows the front page of *Ham Radio* magazine from February 1980.

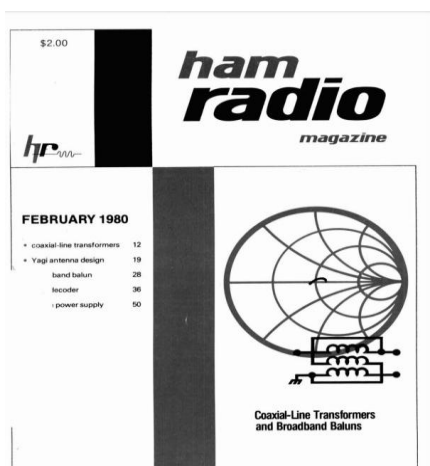


Figure 1. The front page of *Ham Radio* magazine, February, 1980. *Ham Radio* was a great resource and is sorely missed.

A nearly complete archive of *Ham Radio* issues is available here:

https://www.worldradiohistory.com/Ham_Radio.htm

The eulogies for Jim Fisk are in the June, 1980 issue of *Ham Radio*:

<https://www.worldradiohistory.com/Archive-DX/Ham%20Radio/80s/Ham-Radio-198006.pdf>

Ham Radio was an important publication. How important? It has its own Wikipedia entry.

Technically-minded hams are, today, writing articles about technical gems that appeared in its pages over 40 years ago. *Ham Radio* was and is a treasure-trove of technical information.

I encourage you to randomly select one or two issues from the archive and enjoy flipping the pages. For me, the ads from the 1960s through the late 1980s elicit fond memories. If you weren't around then, the ads will still be interesting; we have come a long way. The articles were superb. The writing was crisp. The contents remain applicable.

This month's *Around the Shack* summarizes the article “A new Class of Coaxial-line transformers” by George Badger, W6TC (sk). It was published in two parts in *Ham Radio* magazine, February and March of 1980.

Part 1 can be found here:

<https://www.worldradiohistory.com/Archive-DX/Ham%20Radio/80s/Ham-Radio-198002.pdf>

Part 2 can be found here:

<https://www.worldradiohistory.com/Archive-DX/Ham%20Radio/80s/Ham-Radio-198003.pdf>

The author, George Badger, was a prolific contributor to amateur radio as well as commercial communications companies. Like L.B. Cebik, who I wrote about a few months back, George received an obituary in QST. These are rare – reserved for those who have made significant contributions to the hobby.

Let's get to the article. Part one describes the pros and cons of ferrite-based RF devices. These include baluns, ununs and matching transformers.

Continued on next page.

Around the Shack, Continued

Matching transformers receive extensive treatment including theory, practical design considerations and measured data.

Antenna matching has been an important subject since the dawn of radio. Its importance has grown over time, driven by the advent of solid-state finals and EFHW (end-fed half-wave) antennas.

Part two gives instructions for making HF and VHF baluns, ununs and transformers - using only coax.

The devices are easy to make and perform better than ferrite-based devices. Extensive test data is included. You can head straight to part two if you want to skip the theory and begin making devices.

Figure 2 shows a typical high-power high-performance balun made using only coax and a piece of hookup wire.

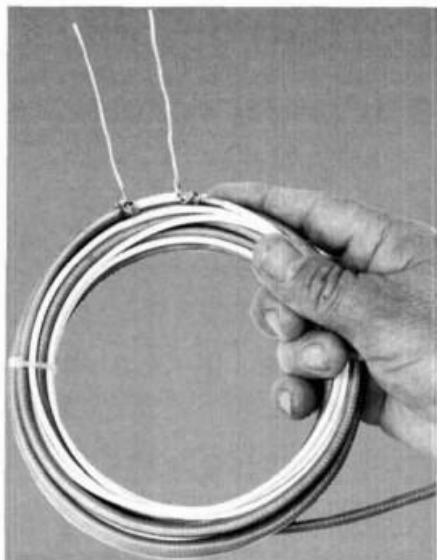


Figure 2. Photo of a high power, efficient coreless balun.

What follows is a summary of the article's key points.

Ferrite cores have their pros and cons. Here are some:

Ferrite Core Baluns, Ununs and Transformers – Pros [good stuff!]

- They can be wide-band. One device can cover 1.8 to 30 MHz.

- They can be wound to provide large impedance transformations that are hard to get any other way. EFHW antennas are now available using 49:1 and even 81:1 ferrite-based transformers.
- They are compact for low power applications.
- Performance is good, including low loss, up until certain boundary conditions are exceeded.

Ferrite Core Baluns, Ununs and Transformers – Cons [bad stuff...]

- Ferrites saturate. When they do, they become highly non-linear. Radio and amplifier designers go to great lengths to achieve linearity – only to have that nice clean signal distorted by a balun operating near saturation.
- Ferrite-based devices are sensitive to winding details. They are prone to arcing and breakdown.
- Ferrites are easily destroyed. They are susceptible to excess power, SWR, duty cycle, arcing and voltage breakdown. The damage is permanent. Care to climb the tower to replace one?
- Ferrites can be expensive, particularly those for use at high power.
- Availability can be an issue if home-brewing. You probably don't have the core(s) you need in your junk box.
- Ferrites are heavy. Ferrite baluns add unwelcome weight at the feedpoint of dipoles.
- Ferrites sometimes need to be “characterized” and that's always a problem. UFOs (unidentified ferrite objects) are commonplace (see below).
- Baluns sold to the amateur community rarely, if ever, come with proper specifications.

A word about UFOs.

When I changed QTH last year I reduced my cache of junk-box parts. Out went several pounds of UFOs. Ferrites come in a variety of shapes, sizes and mixes and they are never marked. It's possible, in theory, to wind a few turns of wire around a ferrite core and with test equipment, math and catalogs identify what you have. In my experience this seldom works.

Continued on next page.

Around the Shack, Continued

The ARRL's prolific writer Ward Silver, N0AX, and I chatted once about co-authoring a QST article: "How to Identify UFOs." The title was catchy! After some experimenting we abandoned the idea. We could not devise a way the average ham could accomplish the task.

If you use ferrites a lot you will either store them carefully with labels or throw a lot of them away over time. Surplus houses sometimes sell ferrite cores – unmarked of course. At best, those tend to be a waste of money given the UFO effect. Worse is when you convince yourself your UFO will work for your project, to find out later it doesn't.

Here is my summary of the article's two parts:

Part 1. Ham Radio, February, 1980 (7 pages)

- A discussion of the disadvantages of using ferrite as a core material and the advantages of using only coax for the task.
- A discussion of how baluns work.
- Design concepts for coreless baluns and transformers.
- A discussion (with confirming measurements) of how to add a compensating wire to existing ferrite baluns to improve performance.

Part 2. Ham Radio, March, 1980 (11 pages)

Properties of coreless balun transformers:

- They are inexpensive – it's just coax and hook-up wire.
- They are linear including at high power and high SWR.
- They use readily available materials: coax, wire and connectors if desired.
- They are lightweight and compact.
- They introduce very little SWR and negligible loss.
- They are inherently balanced.

Their power handling capability is only limited by the coax used to make them. They are virtually indestructible in amateur service. Unlike ferrite baluns, there are no closely spaced or tightly twisted wires that can arc or break down.

Part two includes detailed instructions for building the following baluns, ununs and transformers:

Input Output Impedance (Ohms)	Ratio	Type	Bandwidth (MHz)
50 12.5	4:1	Balanced/balanced	1.8-30
50 200	1:4	Balanced/balanced	3.5-30
50 200	1:4	Balanced/balanced	1.8-14
50 50	1:1	Unbalanced/balanced	3.5-30
50 50	1:1	Unbalanced/balanced	1.8-14
50 50	1:1	Unbalanced/balanced	21-100
50 12.5	4:1	Unbalanced/balanced	3.5-30
50 200	1:4	Unbalanced/balanced	3.5-30
50 12.5	4:1	Unbalanced/unbalanced	7-30
50 50	1:1	Unbalanced/unbalanced	3.5-30

Additional notes

The article does not mention avoiding the use of foam-dielectric coax. RG-8/X, RG-213 and other foam dielectric coax only began appearing around the time the article was written. Every design described in the article uses coax wound into a tight coil, some with a diameter as small as two inches. Under strain, the center conductor in foam coax will migrate toward the shield and may eventually short.

Heating accelerates this process.

The maximum power handling capability of a ferrite-free device is only limited by the coax itself. Many designs use two or more short lengths of coax in parallel - in those cases each piece of coax carries half the power. At 1,500 watts, each of two parallel pieces of "plain-old RG-58/U" will carry 750 watts. RG-58/U can do that. For higher power, Teflon-dielectric coax is a good choice. Light-weight Teflon coax can handle full amateur power with ease.

Examples include RG-141/U, RG-142B/U and Belden B3242-100.

Let's wrap this up with a discussion of specifications and safety margin.

Regarding safety margin – the margin you need with a ferrite balun you don't need with a coreless balun.

Continued on next page.

Around the Shack, Continued

Ferrite-based devices saturate at some mix of applied power, SWR and duty cycle.

Coax-only baluns are impervious to operating conditions until the coax itself fails.

Just as high power antenna tuners lack proper specifications (*Around the Shack*, November, 2023) so do commercially available ferrite baluns, ununs and transformers. The critical specification that usually goes unmentioned is SWR.

The higher the SWR, the less power a ferrite-based device can handle.

DXEngineering makes high-quality, high-power (5 KW) baluns. It is one of the few companies that addresses SWR. From DXEngineering's literature:

"The SO-239 connector limits power handling to 5 KW or less at low SWR and reduced power at elevated SWR."

A thorough treatment of balun capability (or lack thereof) over diverse operating conditions is beyond the scope of this article. My advice is the same as with antenna tuners —

- 1) read what specifications there are carefully
- 2) read the reviews
- 3) buy all the safety margin you can afford because you will likely need it, and
- 4) consider building one yourself, without using ferrite!

Done reading?

Here's your homework assignment: *Print out* the *Ham Radio* article (you know, on paper) and place it in your station notebook. Use the article to make (not buy!) your next balun, unun or matching transformer using only coax – no ferrites.

You will save money and enjoy the satisfaction that comes from a DIY project that works.

You will also avoid a trip up the tower to replace a store-bought ferrite balun the next time you send 1,500 watts up the coax on the wrong band!

73,
Hal N4GG

Some terminology definitions —

BALUN:

Contraction for "BALanced to Unbalanced" transformation where one side (input or output) is unbalanced (one side is ground) and the other side is balanced (neither wire is ground). Pronounced as Bal, Uhn.

UNUN:

Contraction for "Unbalanced to Unbalanced" transformation where input and output are both "unbalanced" (one side is ground) but input side and output side have different impedance. Pronounced as Uhn, Uhn.

Ferrite:

A ceramic compound consisting of a mixed oxide of iron and one or more other metals. Ferrite has ferri-magnetic properties and is used in high-frequency electrical components such as antennas.

SWR:

Standing Wave Ratio. Basically a measurement indicating the amount of energy sent from one end of a transmission line (coax, for example) vs. the amount of energy that is reflected back from the far end of the transmission line. Ideally, the ratio should be "1 to 1" or "matched."

Matching transformer:

An electrical device that changes an input signal to a different characteristic on the output. Often used to change voltages or impedances. Input and output are often isolated, but not always.

Theoretics Demystified

Last time we covered amplitude [AM], frequency modulation [FM] and carrier on and off which is used for [CW].

This time we will dig into several more methods of modulation, one of which is single sideband which is a form of AM. The trick is that the carrier and one of the sidebands are suppressed before transmitting, hence the name of single sideband. This method of modulation conserves spectrum and transmitting power as only one of the sidebands with its information is transmitted. At the receiving end a local carrier is reintroduced, enabling the receiver to demodulate the signal and produce the voice that was transmitted.

Next there is digital modulation, which in some cases is like frequency modulation but varies the frequency according to the pulses being transmitted. The variation is usually between two selected closely spaced frequencies. Another type of digital modulation is like morse code but is very fast in how the carrier is turned off and on so you cannot hear anything, but a computer would recognize the information.

Another form of digital communication is PSK31, which gets its name of PSK 31 since it uses Phase Shift Keying at 31 bits per second. The bits are formed by changing the phase of the sound wave being transmitted. PSK31 is a digital mode which enables hams to communicate with each other using their computers and keyboards on the HF bands. All you need is a Single Sideband transceiver, an antenna and a soundcard-equipped computer or an external sound card device.

Then there is the very popular FT8. FT8 uses a very narrow bandwidth of 50 Hz, making it very efficient in the use of the radio spectrum. It gets its name from the writer of the software Steven Franke and Joe Taylor and uses the 8-frequency shift keying format [FSK]. FT8 is very efficient in that it can use very low power and still get through to other stations. There is a 31 dB difference between the power needed to communicate with Single Side Band and FT8 at a

given signal to noise ratio. That equals 1,024 watts for SSB and 1 watt for FT8! There is error correction, parity, and synchronization involved in the scheme of things regarding FT8.

This is just a brief overview so you will need to do some research and investigating to get going with FT8. A transceiver with a sound interface and a computer are required. A rig interface with transmit/receive and frequency control is very helpful. You will need to download and install WSJT-X software, enter your callsign, grid square, sound card, radio interface and select the frequency and band and adjust AF input level for receive. It is very important to synchronize your clock and then adjust RF output and the AF going out. There is a lot to the setup and software, so you will need to teach yourself it before you can make contacts.

Fred Wawra W2ABE, 73.

HAMSPEAK

DIPOLE: An antenna that has 2 separate lengths of wire or metal elements [for higher frequency, shorter wavelengths] which feed out from a center feedline or coax.

RESONANT ANTENNA: An antenna that is of a physical dimension that closely if not exactly matches the dimension of the radio wave that is desired to be received or transmitted.

ELECTROMAGNETIC RF FIELD: The electromagnetic waves that are produced by an RF transmitter and antenna. The field is from the antenna to earth ground and any receiving antennas that pick up the signal where it goes through the radio to its earth ground.

NEAR FIELD: The region near the antenna generating the RF wave that can be influenced by its physical surroundings thus affecting the loading characteristics of the transmitter. The signal diminishes more as you get further from the antenna than with the far field region.

FAR FIELD: The area where the influence of nearby objects has much less of an effect on antenna performance. In the far field the antenna signal becomes 'normalized' and nearby objects have much less of an effect than with the near field.

Fred Wawra W2ABE, 73.

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EmComm SIG Updates

[Emergency Communications via Ham Radio]

Amateur radio operators use their training, skills, and equipment to provide communications during emergencies. Hams serve our communities when storms or other disasters damage critical communication infrastructure, including cell towers, and wired and wireless networks. Amateur radio can function completely independently of the internet and phone systems. An amateur radio station can be set up almost anywhere in minutes. Hams can quickly raise a wire antenna in a tree or on a mast, connect it to a radio and power source, and communicate effectively with others.

A new year — and a new start.

As we start 2024, Jim N2JLF is culminating several months of planning, coordinating and contacting FLARC members and others who have indicated an interest in Emergency Communications using Ham Radio.

During the past year, Jim has shown the kind of spirit, enthusiasm and dedication which makes our FLARC Special Interest Groups (SIGs) succeed. He, along with David KD2MOB, have kept the weekly Wednesday evening 2-meter ARES net going – even when there wasn't many participants. The net participation is now much better. Jim has also planned and coordinated several training exercises, in which he has provided situations where members can not only learn needed skills but can actually use them “in real life.”

In the past, ham radio “traffic handling” has been focused on the procedures for accurately sending and receiving messages using voice or CW. In the past few years, technology has advanced and software has become available that allows fast and accurate exchange of messages using “digital” formats that are now allowed in the ham bands.

At the same time, emergency and disaster responses have changed from impromptu assistance by amateur radio groups (either on their own, or as part of local “Civil Defense” groups) to much more formal responses operated on State and National levels by groups such as the Red Cross and the Department of Homeland Security. These agencies are structured to provide complete management of emergency situations, with volunteers trained in many aspects of such emergency operations.

The two agencies mentioned above, as well as others, have specifically recognized the potential of Ham Radio operators to assist in emergencies — however, they now expect us to be trained and to be able to “fit in” to the formal methods they use. In other words, we have to know what we're doing before we are asked to do it.

This means our EmComm nets need to begin focusing on learning what we need to learn, learning it and then

practicing so that it becomes second nature to us at any time we're called out to use the skills and knowledge. In emergencies, there is no time to teach others or ourselves “how to do it.”

In the Red Cross “Sheltering Handbook” we are specifically mentioned as an asset —

Emergency Communications

Introduction

In cases where the disaster has interfered with normal telephone and Internet communications, shelters need backup systems to ensure the ability to communicate during emergencies and to maintain the flow of information to and from the shelter and relief operation headquarters. Local HAM radio operators are an excellent source of assistance for maintaining communications when normal systems are down.

Set up emergency communication and Internet access

The shelter manager should work with the Disaster Services Technology activity to set up communications and Internet access between the shelter and the relief operation headquarters.

One of the previously mentioned technology advances for accurately and quickly exchanging complex forms and reports used by agencies such as the Red Cross, FEMA and others is software called WinLink. It provides digital communications which can use 2-meter (and other VHF/UHF bands) for local area coverage and HF (80m thru 10m) for wide area use. Messages can be not only plain text, but also rather elaborate and complex formats such as the many standard requisition and report forms used by these agencies. In other words, a ham radio WinLink setup at a shelter – for example – can provide end-to-end delivery of an agency form in exactly the appearance their volunteers are trained and familiar with using.

Jim W2JC recently did a Zoom presentation on how we hams can use the WinLink software – without getting into the technical aspects of setting up the radio, etc. This session was recorded and has been professionally “produced” by our very own Thom W2NZ; it will be on our FLARC YouTube channel very soon.

N2JLF now has a list of several dozen hams who have confirmed their interest in participating in our ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Service) preparations and training; so he has already scheduled an in-person “get to know each other and what we can do” meeting for FEBRUARY 24th (a Saturday morning). Details are on our club calendar at <http://calendar.FairLawnARC.org> and will be updated as more info becomes available.

That is more than seven weeks away, so you should have plenty of time to plan for the meeting. In the meantime, come onto the FLARC Repeater on Wednesdays at 20:00 (8pm) local for our ARES voice net.



Contest Corner

– Van W2DLT



Winter Field Day

January 27th and 28th

VOTA [Volunteers on the Air] Preliminary Results

During the entire year of 2023, the ARRL had an ongoing contest running to recognize all the various levels of volunteers in the ARRL HQ and Field Organization.

The goal during the year was to work as many volunteers as possible, with VOTA stations counting for various numbers of points depending on their highest level position as a volunteer. You can see the point values in the chart provided at —

https://www.arrl.org/files/file/VOTA%20-%20Volunteers%20On%20The%20Air/VOTA_2023_Points_v5_3.pdf

[the places in the link above that ‘look’ like spaces are really the _ character].

Final scores for this year-long “contest” will not be released for a while, because there are additional points that will be “automagically” applied by the VOTA scoring server — based on such things as participation in the operation of the various W1AW/# special stations which operated at times during the year. There is also a special certificate for those who contacted ALL the states represented by the special stations.

However, we do have preliminary results now that the year 2023 is completed and most participants have uploaded their logs to LotW.

FLARC can be proud to announce that a member of our club, Bill WA2WL, is the only NJ op in the top 30 NJ scores to have also earned the WAS VOTA award.

Also in the top 30 NJ scores, FLARC has three members:

- 19th WA2WL
- 25th W2JC
- 26th KD2BRV





For FLARC membership info and renewal/application form please visit:

membership.FairLawnARC.org

FLARC Dues, new and renewal, (and even donations!) can now be made on-line ...

[Please note that this is a temporary improvement while Dave KD2JIP works on a real, full-fledged web page for filling out the membership/renewal form and submitting that and payment on-line.]

Payments can be made using either PayPal or Zelle.

Here's how –

Using PayPal —

Log into your PayPal account at

<https://www.paypal.com>

At top right, select "My PayPal"

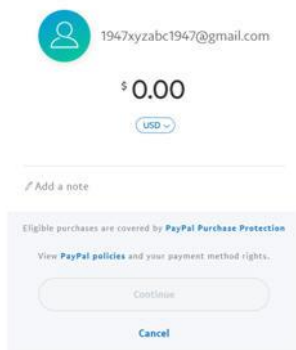
Under Quick links, select "Send Money"

In the window showing Name, email or mobile number enter this email address:

1947xyzabc1947@gmail.com

Click on [Next]

Enter \$ amount you are sending, & in "add a note" area type in your CALL SIGN and which year the dues are for, & any other explanation.



Click on [Continue]

Click on the [Change] button

Click on "Sending to a friend" link

CONTINUED IN NEXT COLUMN —>



Sending to a friend

No fee to use bank or balance to send to friends and family in the U.S.

You will see a summary of your transaction; if no changes are required, click on

[Send Payment Now]

to complete your transaction.

\$

Using Zelle —

If you are using Zelle through your bank account, just send your dues to the following number: 201-240-9317

Don't forget to add in the note/message section your callsign and that it is for your dues.

For a PDF form that can be filled in on-line, then printed and mailed with check, [CLICK HERE](#)
 Or you can print this page, fill it in and mail to the address shown at the bottom.



Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club

Fair Lawn Recreation and Community Center
 10-10 20th Street
 Fair Lawn, N.J. 07410

MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL FORM

Name _____ Call _____
 Address _____ PO Box _____ Ste./Apt # _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Roster Published Phone # _____ Unpublished Phone # _____
 Roster Published EMAIL _____ License class: _____

Check all that apply ARRL Member ? RACES Member ? ARES Member ? CERT ? VE ?

Additional Family Members (In same household) --

Name _____ Call _____

Name _____ Call _____

Introductory and Student Membership \$ 20 \$ _____
 (Students under the age of 18 eligible for student membership)
 (Introductory membership open to new members
 or not a member in last 7 yrs)

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 * Open to Fair Lawn Residents Only. No voting rights or other privileges.

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Equipment Fund Donation, above regular membership dues \$ _____

Total submitted \$ _____

_____ Date _____

I hereby acknowledge the By laws and rules and regulations of the club and will abide by them as amended

Please Note: Memberships are NOT Pro-Rated. Membership is from Jan 1st to Dec. 31st of any given year unless documented otherwise.

Please make your dues check payable to the "Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club" and remit to the following address:

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 – Attn: Treasurer
 10-10 20th Street
 Fair Lawn, NJ 07410

Complete this form for NEW or RENEWAL ARRL membership and give to FLARC Treasurer [David Gotlib KD2MOB] with your payment check.



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January 2024

FLARC Business Meeting

FAIR LAWN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

MINUTES BUSINESS MEETING

Fair Lawn Senior Center

January 5, 2024

The Club's President Fred KR2H called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

At his request the members present in person rose and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

The President then asked the Club Secretary Jim W2KNG to call the roll.

The Secretary called the following, each of whom responded as "present" :

President	Fred	KR2H
Vice President	Robert	KD2SOG
Treasurer	Dave	KD2MOB
Secretary	Jim	W2KNG
Trustee	Van	W2DLT
Trustee	Brian	KD2KLN, and
Trustee	Judith	KC2LTM

The Secretary confirmed to the President that a quorum existed in order for the meeting to proceed and business conducted.

The President then welcomed all guests and new members.

The President then asked for reports from standing committees.

The first report was from Judith KC2LTM who reported from the Member Services Committee, Health and Welfare Subcommittee that she had sent out two cards in December, a get well card and a condolence card.

The next committee to report was the Marketing Committee.

Jim W2JC had no report as the Club had not "sold" anything.

The President reported that the position of Chair of the Program Committee was open so there was no report.

Thom N2NZ reported on YouTube subscriptions.

There were 1272 subscribers to the Club's YouTube channel.

He stated that he needed volunteers to answer technical questions that come up on the YouTube channel.

There was no report from the Social Media Committee.

Gene WO2W reported from the Community Relations Committee that the Senior Center has been reserved for every first Friday in 2024 for the Club's monthly business meeting, as well as the day after Thanksgiving for the Auction and a day for the Annual Holiday Party in December. He further reported that all is well with the town of Fair Lawn. The one issue to be decided down the road is the July FLARC meeting which falls on July 5 and given the July Fourth weekend the Club might want to move that meeting to the following Friday, but this does not have to be decided now.

January 2024

FLARC Business Meeting

Gene WO2W also reported that he is stepping down as Chair of the Hamfest, but is willing to help out and work with whomever steps up and takes that position. He also stated that Ed WX2R is also willing to help in the transition to a new Chair.

Bill WA2WL is also stepping down as Chair of the Auction Committee, though he is willing to help the new Chair. The President asked Brian KD2KLN to take that position and he agreed. Bill added that the hardest part of the job is getting volunteers to help out. This led to a discussion of the order of auction. In the past the order of auction has been the order in which the seller registers the articles for inclusion. The resulting discussion involved the possibility of putting the more expensive articles up first, the confusion of the software when items are sold out of order, and people leaving before the auction was over because of the delay in getting to more expensive items. It was left that the 2024 Auction Committee would take all this under advisement and consider all possibilities.

There was no report from the Education Committee.

Brian KD2KLN gave a report on the statistics of net check-ins for the month of December.

Dave KD2MOB reported on RACES/ARES. He reminded the members that RACES is a municipal sponsored program. He gave the yearly report to the Fair Lawn OEM earlier that day. So that was taken care of. He reported that there was an average of 4 check-ins in the Wednesday ARES net and asked for more participation. He also thanked Jim W2JC and Jim N2JLF for their WINLINK presentation. This led to a brief discussion of exactly what is WINLINK and how essential it can be for emergency communications, especially in the event of a local power or Internet outage.

Jim W2JC then reminded members who contribute to the Resonator to please have all articles in by the middle of the month to facilitate the publishing of the newsletter.

The President then asked Fred W2ABE, the Club's Quartermaster, to give a report. He stated that there has been substantial improvement at the Clubhouse and that now everything is neat and in order. He added that drawers have been labeled, the office is clean and clear and everything is looking good. Further, he has installed a computer catalogue of all Club equipment. This will very much aid in keeping track of all assets. He added that going forward every piece of equipment must be checked out and checked back in as that is essential to keep track of the Club's assets. The next project is to address the downstairs storage area which he reported is a mess. He will see that everything is straightened out and safely stored. It is also important that after Field Day, equipment is not just dumped but put back neatly. The President asked Fred to work with Noel W2MSA on the equipment in the basement. The President then asked Fred who has access to the computer that keeps track of the assets of the Club and that there has to be back up. Fred said he would work on that. The President thanked Fred W2ABE for his work on cleaning up the Clubhouse.

The President then reported to the members that Paul W2IP has resigned as Trustee of the Club station W2NPT due to his eventual move away from the area. The President further reported that the Board had appointed Jim W2JC to be the new Trustee of W2NPT effective December 22, 2023.

The President then stated that the existing Technical Committee was hereby disbanded and a new Technical Committee appointed. Before he introduced the new Technical Committee he commented that each new member of the Technical Committee was an Amateur Extra and had an engineering background, both academically and professionally. He then introduced each member beginning with the Chair. As each member was introduced he gave a brief summary of his background.

January 2024

FLARC Business Meeting

The new Technical Committee is as follows :

Dave WO2X Chair

Jim W2JC

Van W2DLT

Bill WA2WL

Steve WI2W

It was suggested that a Groups.io subgroup be formed for the Technical Committee.

The President then asked for a report from the Member Services Committee, Member Engagement Subcommittee. Fred W2ABE reported on calls he had made to inactive members and on some successes he had had in that endeavor. The President then asked if Fred had any data on those calls and to please share that data with the Board. At that point Dave KD2MOB, the Club's Treasurer, thanked the Club's newest Life Member, Judith KD2LTM

The President then reported that there is a vacancy for Chair of the Presentation Committee and he was working on filling that position.

The President then reported that he had formed a new Committee to be called the Administration Committee to be charged with exploring the issue of incorporation of the Club and the re-writing and updating of the Club's By-laws. He appointed Jim W2KNG, the Club's Secretary, to Chair this Committee and specifically asked that he, the President, be a member of the By-Law Subcommittee. He asked Jim W2KNG to appoint the other members of the Administration Committee. This led to a discussion of Associate Members and the need to reach out to the hams living in Fair Lawn.

The President then asked for a report from the Youth Outreach Committee. Robert KD2SOG, the Club's Vice President, reported that he had reached out to every town middle school and high school as well as regional high schools in the area and had received a few responses. But he would continue the effort. Van W2DLT commented that he, and others in the Club, are alumni of Fair Lawn High School and that a special effort should be made there, especially since it is within walking distance of the Club. The point was made that even though it is walking distance, parental permission would be needed for students to come to the Club as it would be considered a school field trip. The point was also made that ham radio fits in very well with STEM, which is a clear focus of middle schools and high schools. The point was also made not to forget local colleges as part of the Youth Outreach Committee. Robert KD2SOG also mentioned that he had contacted several Boy Scout groups and is awaiting responses. A reminder was made to also include Girl Scout groups, since they now emphasize STEM topics as well.

Robert KD2SOG also reported on the Club's renewal of its property and liability insurance. He reported that the Club could not renew with its existing insurance company since the company was dropping this line of coverage. In shopping for other insurance one quote was for \$2,000 and another quote for the same insurance was \$700. There was one additional insurance company that had better coverage, also at \$700, though we were waiting on clarification of a couple of points. Once the insurance is purchased it will start on the date the previous insurance lapsed so there will be no break in coverage.

The President then stated he had formed a new Adult Outreach Committee. This would be made up of Van W2DLT, Jim W2JC and Skip KD2BRV.

January 2024

FLARC Business Meeting, cont'd.

The President then stated he had formed a new position of Station Manager to take care of the equipment, make recommendations for changes or improvement of the Club station and generally be in charge of the Club station. The President appointed Noel W2MSA to take this position.

There followed a discussion of the Youth Super Science Event to be held March 2nd at Ridgewood High School. This is primarily for grades 6-10. The Club had a presentation at last year's event and it went very well. The Club will again be participating and Lee KD2DRS will be leading the effort. There followed a discussion of ideas on the nature of the Club's presentation, with Fox Hunting being proposed as a good theme.

It was then noted by Dave KD2MOB that 2024 is Fair Lawn's Centennial as a town and that there would be a year-long series of events. Dave reported that he is on the Centennial Committee. It was generally agreed that the Club should be an active participant in the Centennial celebrations and various ideas were proposed, including a Special Event Station or series of stations. No firm decision was arrived at, though there was a consensus that James KD2FMH should be involved as he has a great deal of experience in Special Event Stations.

There next followed a discussion, begun by Jim W2JC, that there are 12 Special Interest Groups and while some are very active, some are not very active at all with very few messages on the SIG groups.io and no reports to the Resonator. After the discussion the President stated that this would be further discussed at the next meeting.

Steve W12W then publicly thanked Paul W2IP for decades of service to the Club both as Chair of the Technical Committee and also countless hours spent behind the scenes, on the roof working on antennas, stringing cable, and even the design of the Clubhouse. This was met with a warm and heartfelt round of applause.

Noel W2MSA then reported on Winter Field Day, Jan, 27-28, and announced there would be a Zoom meeting Monday, January 8th at 7:00-8:00pm for all those interested in getting involved. He added that Pompton Lakes would be providing a spacious OEM van, but he is also trying to get a tent, as the van may tend to get crowded during the event.

Judith KC2LTM stated that there was a correction to the December minutes. She stated that the minutes as circulated stated that :

“Once all the ballots are cast Judith, Brian KD2KLN and Fred W2ABE will move to another room to count the ballots.”

In fact, she stated the minutes should read as follows :

“Once all the ballots are cast, Judith KC2LTM, Brian KD2KLN and Robert KD2SOG will move to another room to count the ballots.”

Jim W2KNG stated that the minutes will be corrected.

There being no further business and on motion duly made by Noel W2MSA and seconded by Brian KD2KLN the meeting was adjourned at 9:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

James P. Jalil W2KNG,
Secretary