

Wavelengths

April 2020

Xenia Weather Amateur Radio Net

147.1650+ (123.0) (Analog Only)

443.1000+ (123.0) (Analog + System Fusion)

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



President's Message

Calendar of Events

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

Club Contacts

- President, Elizabeth Klinc, KE8FMJ
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- Newsletter, Position Open. Email goes
to Secretary
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April "Meeting" Minutes

This month's "meeting" was on the 147.165 repeater as a check in net with Janese KD8DGB as net control. It was something none of us have ever done before, but it ran smoothly and was enjoyed by all. Everyone was invited to share what they have been doing. Steve gave us the treasurer's report, and Phil informed us that XWARN has 58 paid members, 7 life members, and 4 new members, bringing us to a total of 65 members. Elizabeth thanked everyone for coming, and Bob notified everyone of the NVIS test taking place in a few weeks. After the net, members were invited to an after-net on DMR Talkgroup TG41. A well-being net will take place on Monday, April 27 at 7:30 pm on the same repeater since many members expressed interest in doing more net meetings.

Mode of the Month

This month's mode is a mode many are not familiar with called THOR. THOR is actually a family of modes. The different types are THOR are THOR4, THOR5, THOR8, THOR11, THOR16, and THOR22. The general rule with THOR is the higher the number, the slower the typing speed. What this means is that THOR4 is the slowest, and THOR22 is the fastest. At the source credited below, you can find the exact typing speed for each version of THOR. THOR4 is best for those who like to type while it is transmitting because it transmits very slow, giving you plenty of time to type your message. The only problem with this is it takes about a half hour to transmit a space between lines if you pressed the enter key, so use the enter key sparingly ;)

Source: <http://www.w1hkj.com/FlidigiHelp-3.21/Modes/THORdesc.htm>

Things to Try While Staying at Home

Since most people are at home, amateur radio is a great way to pass the time! We have been doing some experimenting with building a 160 meter antenna and trying new modes, so I thought I would publish a list of things to try on amateur radio while we are at home.

- * Make your own antenna! We are attempting at it with just a wire and a playset to stretch it to!
- * Try out new modes! There may not be very many modes default on your radio, but with a computer and software, you have endless digital modes at your fingertips! There are programs for essentially every digital mode (including CW decoding), but if you are looking for a program with nearly every mode, try Fldigi. It has almost every digital mode and it can also decode CW. Some of the modes it has are Contestia, Olivia, THOR, this month's featured mode, and DominoEX, which is closely related to THOR. If you are looking for a program to decode PSK31, I recommend WinWarbler. This program is great at decoding PSK signals both BPSK and QPSK.
- * Check out some contests! Online, you can find lists and contest calendars galore! The contest calendar we use is called WA7BNM Contest Calendar. It lists many of the contests going on so I can see if I want to check them out. Also, the PODXS 070 webpage lists PSK contests that we have oodles of fun with!
- * Check out DX Summit if you are looking for DX! The link for this site is dxsummit.fi and it is a spotting website. Other hams spot DX callsigns, and you can spot others too! On DX Summit, you can find DX callsigns you may have never seen before! You can filter by band, mode (although this feature is not always accurate), and more.

XWARN Mission

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

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

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

In support of these goals, XWARN operates and maintains amateur radio repeaters and other equipment in Greene County.

Club Call: W8XRN

XWARN

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«FNAME» «LNAME» - «CALL»
«ADDRESS»
«CITY» , «STATE» «ZIP»

Wavelengths

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

