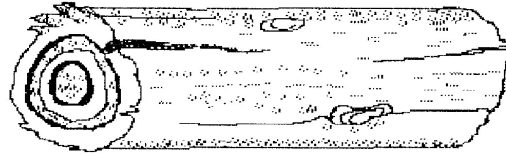




FOUNDED 1947

LOG



Web:

<http://www.westparkradiops.org>

Email: w8vm-@-arrl.net

CLUB'S W8VM SKCC #12111

April – May
VOL. LIX

2024
No.3

WEST PARK RADIOPS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



WEST PARK NEWS *

*Subject to change

Monday night nets are on the NODXA's repeater at 8 p.m. Listen or check in. Join the fun. We thank the Northern Ohio DX Association for our use of their repeater, W8DXA, 147.36+ (107.2). Our meeting schedule is changing. Pay attention to our opportunities to announce meeting changes.



UPCOMING CONTESTS AND ACTIVITIES...

(sourced from WA7BNM and ARRL information)

- | | | |
|--------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Apr 6 | State QSO Parties | |
| Apr 13 | SKCC Weekend Sprintathon | |
| Apr 22 | K1USN Slow Speed Test | LOOK FOR 6M OPENINGS |
| Apr 27 | 10-10 Int. Spring Contest, Digital | |
| May 4 | State QSO Parties | SOLAR ECLIPSE APRIL 8 |
| May 11 | SKCC Weekend Sprintathon | |
| May 17 | K1USN Slow Speed Test | Thursday Evenings FT4 Contest |
| May 25 | CQ WW WPX Contest, CW | |



WEST PARK RADIOPS MEETINGS & PROGRAMS FOR 2024*

- | | | |
|-------|--|--|
| Apr 9 | Library Meeting*
North Olmsted
2:30 pm | * Subject to Change,
Including order of events,
locations and times. |
| May | To Be Announced* | |

FCC STARTED USING TWO FACTOR AUTHENTICATION ...

(per ARRL)

FCC to Require Two Factor Authentication for CORES Users starting this month.

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has announced an upcoming change to the Commission Registration System (CORES) that licensees use to pay any application or regulatory fees, manage or reset a password on an existing FRN, or request a new FRN. Beginning March 29, 2024, multifactor authentication will be implemented. Users will be prompted to request a six-digit secondary verification code, which will be sent to the email address(es) associated with each username. The user will then need to enter the code into CORES before they can continue.

In a public notice, the FCC said this change will make the system more secure. "This additional layer of security will further safeguard against unauthorized access, thereby enhancing the overall integrity of information contained within the CORES system and improving the security of user data," it read.

The FCC recommends that users confirm they have access to their username account email and to add a secondary email address, if need be.

[Editor's thoughts: What could go wrong? We will soon find out! - de AF8C]

Resources are available for those who need assistance with the system. For inquiries or assistance regarding the implementation of multifactor authentication on CORES, submit a help request at <https://www.fcc.gov/wtbhelp>, or call the FCC at 877-480-3201 (Monday through Friday, 8 AM to 6 PM ET).

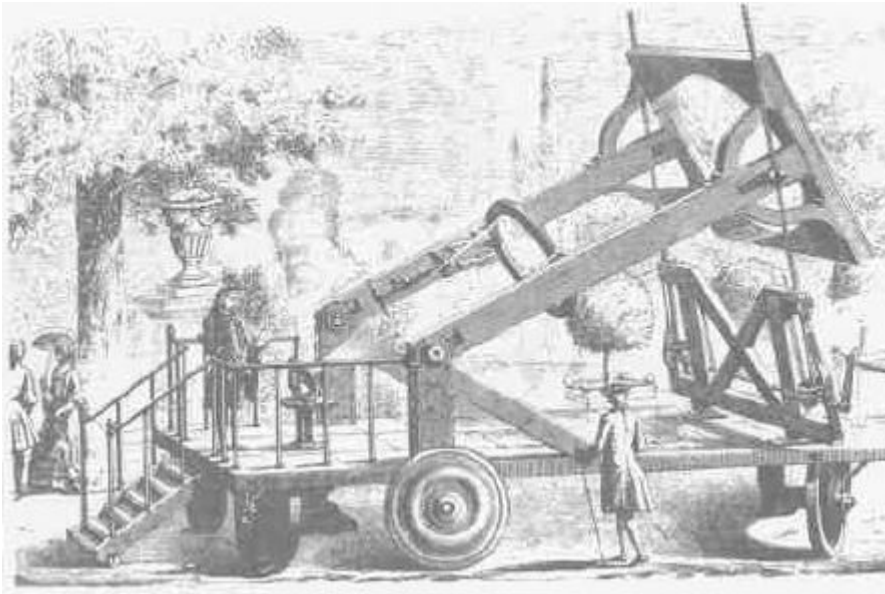
MICROWAVES DISCOVERED IN 1789...

(on a July 1984 QSL card from G4LQF)

Forgotten Pioneers of Wireless No. 3

In 1789, the premature and hitherto little-known discovery of Wireless Waves by the eccentric French savant M. Clandestine Lemaître (grandfather of Alphonse Lemaître) might have revolutionized the world as we know it; but the fact that he concentrated his work on what we now call microwaves, led him to a completely different set of conclusions as to the use of Wireless. Had he realized the potential of nice, sensible, long waves (like 20 meters for example) things would have been much different, and collectors of Vintage QSL cards might today be bidding one another in auctions for cards detailing QSOs between long-forgotten countries like Imperial Mexico or the Kingdom of Naples. In the event, however, the possibilities were missed, and the rare engraving reproduced here using microwave energy generated and beamed at colossal expense from primitive hydro-electric generators located on the river Seine. The barrage on the river needed to give the necessary water-pressure head caused the Seine to dry up downstream for several weeks; besides the countless fishermen and bargemasters thereby ruined, the tens of thousands of peasant farmers whose lands were inundated and crops ruined is cited by some authorities, by virtue of having produced a large number of disaffected peasantry in close proximity to the capital city, to be the event which definitely precipitated the French Revolution, rather than any of the normally-stated causes. This viewpoint is somewhat

confirmed by the fact that instead of suffering the fate of so many scientists as the hands of revolutionary fanatics, Lemaitre was actually rewarded by the Republic, and appointed Minister of Science.



🔴 DO YOU KNOW ALL THE U.S. TERRITORIES?...

U.S. Territories are governmental possessions of the United States and include more island names than I realized. Perhaps the DXpeditioners and IOTA aficionados need to create some DX activity from these lesser known territories.

<https://geology.com/state-map/us-territories.shtml>

Maybe there needs to be a Worked All Territories award (WAT).

🔴 TECHNICIAN CLASS USE OF FT8...

The Tech and Novice portions of 15 and 40 Meters are allotted for CW only. Be advised that the FCC has been issuing warning letters to Tech class licensees for operating digital modes on 15 and 40 Meters, since they are not privileged for digital modes in those bands. – de KV4ZY Doug in wsjtgroups.groups.io .

🔴 EXTRA CLASS LICENSE EXAM QUESTION NUMBER 12345...

The U.S. amateur power limit on the 30m band INCLUDING FT8 is

- 300 WATTS
- 1500 WATTS
- 200 WATTS
- 50 WATTS

COMPUTER SAFETY...

BEFORE YOU INSTALL THAT APP

On a Windows PC right after you download an application install file (usually an EXE file) (and get by or simple approve the file that possibly raises warnings about some kind of security issue such as an invalid or missing certificate) you still have one more avenue to learn about how safe the EXE file is before you commit the install. Go to VIRUSCHECK.COM and follow the instructions to upload the EXE file for further virus security checking. Actually, you can upload just about any file. So that means you can upload a photographic image file or a PDF file to have it checked out before you use it. Yes, photos you download can have malware in them. Also files with macros in them, such as spreadsheets.

EMAIL ADDRESS CHECKS...

HAS YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS BEEN COMPROMISED?...

There have been likely hundreds of announcements of hackers breaking into websites and stealing tens of thousands of email addresses. Hackers make money doing this kind of business. You can have your email address(es) checked for being in any kind of reported database by opening a browser and going here:

<https://haveibeenpwned.com>

PASSWORD CRACKING...

DATACENTERS CAN BREAK YOUR SHORT PASSWORD IN NO TIME...

Internet news says that just in the U.S. alone there are over 2500 datacenters. Each of those consumes gobs of electricity and cooling water while running thousands of processor "cores" to conduct valid commercial business applications and to perform bitcoin cracking and Artificial Intelligence (AI) development. Imagine a Big Datacenter cluster having 10,000 Nvidia H100 cores attempting to crack your password(s). According to the following URL you need your passwords that could expose your personal private sensitive information to be at least 12 characters long with use of all the possible characters usable in passwords:

Upper case

Lower case

Numbers 0-9

Special characters such as \$#{ } []

For just one such processor, in case you want to buy an NVIDIA H100, will cost you \$43,989 each!

A proper 10 character password in today's (2023) world would be cracked at a hot-shot datacenter in 1 hour. A well formed 12 character password would take 8 months. That's per

https://www.hivesystems.io/blog/are-your-passwords-in-the-green?utm_source=tabletext

But exactly who is going to want to spend that kind of money to crack your own personal password? However, remember technology moves on. I know, it's a pain to go to all your web locations like banks, credit cards, Amazon, etc. and change your passwords. Remember: don't use the same password on more than one site.

HASH CLASH...

No, hash clash is not where you discuss with your significant other about what's for dinner. In the WSJT-X operating world, if you are running as a HOUND in a FOX/HOUND QSO competition for acquiring a rare DX, there is a one in 1000 chance of having two call signs be mixed up together.

K8CX HAM GALLERY...

Tom, K8CX, operates a personal museum of QSL cards that is accessible on the Internet.

<http://www.hamgallery.com/>

There you can find and experience

- Rare DX sound clips
- Dayton Photo Galleries
- Code Copying Test
- QSL cards since 1920-ish

WHY LEAP YEARS HAPPEN...

<https://www.cbs17.com/weather/why-do-we-have-leap-years-leap-day-explained/>

Astronomical objects have their own orbits and ways of moving and rotating. Combining the length of time for the earth to revolve exactly 360 degrees around the sun (around 365.2422 days approximately) and the time it takes the earth to rotate exactly 360 degrees (23 hours, 56 minutes, 4.09 seconds, approximately) the slight differences add up to needing about an extra day once a year to prevent a major calendar shift of 18 hours per century.

FIXING A LOOSE USB-A PLUG PROBLEM...

The attached drawing shows a method used at this QTH and others. It has worked twice for me. The problem came up with my USB cable laptop connection, and has helped FT8 and CW. This cure is better but not perfect thought. Be careful. Hard to undo?

The bent metal top side slides over the plastic piece in the mating socket. Too much bend will cause it to jam into the socket's plastic instead of going over it.

WARNING: I recently bought some low cost flash drives. The shell ring is made from plastic (!) and it cannot be safely deformed.

USB "A" CONNECTOR "TIGHTENING"

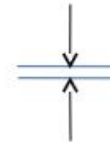


BEFORE

FINGERNAIL



AFTER



1 mm
CAREFUL!



NOT TO SCALE

DE AF8C
3/17/2024

🚫 USB-A PLUG INSERT COLORS TELL SPEED TALE...

(from StorageReview.com)

The attached drawing depicts a common (but not universal color code) for the technology level of device USB-A connectors such as on cables and flashdrives.

USB Color Convention

USB 1.0	White	
USB 2.0	Black	
USB 3.0	Blue	
USB 3.1	Teal	
	Yellow	
Sleep or standby Charging capable	Red	
	Orange	



THE DX SCENE...

(Courtesy of the NG3K website)

Call, Start Date End Date, DXCC Entity

TY5C,2024 Mar01,2024 Mar31,Benin
 CE0Y,2024 Mar02,2024 Mar31,Easter Is
 T32EU,2024 Mar12,2024 Mar27,East Kiribati
 HI8,2024 Mar15,2024 Apr12,Dominican Republic
 HC8MD,2024 Mar20,2024 Mar29,Galapagos
 7P8EI,2024 Mar20,2024 Mar29,Lesotho
 ZD7GG,2024 Mar23,2024 Mar30,St Helena
 J8NKI,2024 Mar23,2024 Apr01,St Vincent
 V4,2024 Mar23,2024 Apr06,St Kitts & Nevis
 TO1Q,2024 Mar25,2024 Apr08,Guadeloupe
 ZC4MK,2024 Mar26,2024 Apr01,Cyprus SBA
 VQ5P,2024 Mar26,2024 Apr02,Turks & Caicos
 TX5XG,2024 Mar27,2024 Apr03,Austral Is
 TO5LA,2024 Mar28,2024 Apr02,Mayotte
 YJ0VK,2024 Mar29,2024 Apr11,Vanuatu
 VP6G,2024 Apr04,2024 Apr14,Pitcairn
 TO4VV,2024 Apr05,2024 Apr07,Mayotte
 HB0,2024 Apr06,2024 Apr13,Liechtenstein
 A8OK,2024 Apr06,2024 Apr16,Liberia
 8Q7HZ,2024 Apr06,2024 Apr16,Maldives
 E51TLM,2024 Apr07,2024 Apr13,South Cook Is
 TO4VV,2024 Apr10,2024 Apr12,Bahamas
 VY0,2024 Apr11,2024 Apr16,Canada
 TO4VV,2024 Apr12,2024 Apr14,Mayotte
 ZS6,2024 Apr12,2024 Apr21,South Africa
 TX7W,2024 Apr16,2024 Apr30,Austral Is
 JW8EKA,2024 Apr18,2024 Apr21,Svalbard
 A52,2024 Apr18,2024 May08,Bhutan
 KH0,2024 Apr25,2024 Apr30,Mariana Is
 OJ0T,2024 Apr27,2024 May04,Market Reef
 A25SHD,2024 Apr30,2024 May13,Botswana
 CP7DX,2024 May11,2024 May19,Bolivia
 8Q7KR,2024 May19,2024 May31,Maldives
 FT4GL,2024 May24,2024 Jun19,Glorioso Is
 8Q7JF,2024 Jun16,2024 Jun29,Maldives
 FP,2024 Jul02,2024 Jul15,St Pierre & Miquelon
 TO7PX,2024 Jul04,2024 Jul18,Reunion
 N5J,2024 Aug01,2024 Aug13,Palmyra Jarvis Is
 TO8FP,2024 Aug10,2024 Aug22,St Pierre & Miquelon
 4W,2024 Aug17,2024 Aug30,Timor Leste
 ZD9GJ,2024 Aug23,2024 Sep30,Tristan da Cunha
 CY9,2024 Aug26,2024 Sep05,St Paul Is
 Z22AO,2024 Sep03,2024 Sep13,Zimbabwe
 VP6WR,2024 Sep05,2024 Sep15,Pitcairn
 9J2AO,2024 Sep14,2024 Sep23,Zambia
 FO,2024 Sep17,2024 Sep21,French Polynesia
 A25AO,2024 Sep24,2024 Oct04,Botswana
 V5,2024 Oct05,2024 Oct14,Namibia
 JW5X,2024 Oct09,2024 Oct14,Svalbard
 YJ0VV,2024 Oct16,2024 Oct30,Vanuatu
 3Y0K,2025 Jan05,2025 Jan26,Bouvet Is

2023 ELECTED CLUB OFFICERS

President
 Glenn Williams **AF8C**
 (440) 934-5566
Vice President
 Karl Beckman **WA8NVW**
 (440) 234-4839
Secretary
 Open
Treasurer
 Ann Wadsworth **KA8ZEP**
Fifth Board Member
 Stephen Kinford **N8WB**
 (216) 702-8384

COMMITTEES

FIELD EVENTS COMMITTEE - OPEN

Safety Officer
OPEN

License Trustee
N8WB

ARRL VE'S
AF8C, N8WB, W8MET, KC8FOS

ARTICLES SUBMITTED
--

NET MANAGER
Needed

CONTESTS, SATELLITES
N8WS and N8WB

PROPERTY CUSTODIAN
N8WS

8TH AREA BUREAU LETTER MGR.
AF8C (8V)

PROGRAMS
AF8C and VOLUNTEERS

EDITOR, WEBMASTER
AF8C

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A NON-PROFIT SCIENTIFIC AND EDUCATIONAL CORPORATION**

**WEST PARK RADIOPS ARC meets
Once a month
Time and Location To Be Announced**

Dues are \$15/yr. We welcome anyone interested in amateur radio to our activities. We operate Monday night nets on 147.36+ MHz (PL 107.2 Hz) at 8:00 p.m. Eastern.

<http://www.westparkradiops.org>
<mailto:w8vm<at>arrl.net>

W8VM

