

from the President...

Well it is already May - it seems like this year has been flying by! I'm certainly looking forward to summer and warmer weather.

As I write this, the Dayton Hamvention is a little over two weeks away. I have never attended, but that is one of those events that is on my "someday" list. Sadly I won't make it this year, but I hope to go either in 2024 or 2025. I have read rumors that Kenwood is going to announce some new products at this year's Hamvention. I certainly hope this is true! I would like to see replacements for the discontinued D74 handheld and D710 mobile - both of which are selling for insane prices on the used market. If they came out with a dual-band mobile that did APRS and D-Star, that would be a game changer.

Speaking of D-Star, one of my goals for this month is to get my Pi-Star hotspot up and running and get back on D-Star. If you have any interest in D-Star, Ronald KX4DQ from

> WCARES is looking for stations interested in a D-Star repeater in the area. He is asking interested stations to email him - you can find his email on QRZ (thanks to Eric, N4GLA for spreading the word on this).

Our club meeting will be Tuesday, May 9th at LaFuente. Buford Eastep W4HVW will give a presentation on operating DX. If you are new to ham radio, this would be especially beneficial as he will go over what DX is, why you would want to operate DX, and the tools you will need for success. Also we plan on having our club breakfast at Farmer's Family Restaurant on Saturday, May 20th.

If you missed the April 1 deadline for getting your club dues paid - it is not too late! The club by-laws allow for a 60-day grace period where you can still pay. You can pay online, send a check to the club PO Box (I usually check it once a week), or at any club event. Club dues are our main source of income, and cover expenses such as repeater maintenance, club events like Field Day, etc.

The ARRL has launched a survey for its members as they consider a dues increase. The survey will include some short questions about raising dues and modifying the way some membership benefits are bundled. The survey will also include an opportunity for members to share their feedback. I would encourage any ARRL members in our club to complete the survey in May. The survey is open now at <u>www.</u> <u>arrl.org/take-dues-survey</u>.

73 Joe N4JW

Club Meeting next Tuesday May 9 People start arriving around 5:30PM to visit and finish their meal before the meeting which begins at 7PM. This month's presentation will be about DX'ing from Buford W4HVW.



May 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	MTEARS 1 NET 8:00 PM	NEWBIE NET 8:00 PM	3	Club 4 NET 8:00 PM	5	6
7 ARES NET 8:30 PM	MTEARS NET 8:00 PM	9 CLUB MEETING	10	11 Club NET 8:00 PM	12	13
ARES 14 NET 8:30 PM	15 MTEARS NET 8:00 PM	NEWBIE NET 8:00 PM	17	Club NET 8:00 PM	19	20
ARES 21 NET 8:30 PM	22 MTEARS NET 8:00 PM	23 NEWBIE NET 8:00 PM	24	Club NET 8:00 PM	26	CLUB BREAKFAST 8:00 AM
ARES NET 8:30 PM	29 MTEARS NET 8:00 PM	30 NEWBIE NET 8:00 PM	31			

April Meeting Minutes

April's Meeting 2023-04-11

LaFuente Mexican Restaurant 17:30 Meet & Eat 19:00 Meeting starts

Meeting called to order at 19:00 by Joe our Pres, N4JW. In Attendance: 22 in person & 4 Zoom.

Motion to Accept last months minutes as published in newsletter:

Motion to accept: Rick K4PKA 2nd: Buford W4HVW Passes

Financial Report By Joe N4JW

Balance February 27, 2023: Income: +\$ OutGo: -\$2

023: \$3,224.26 +\$119.85 Dues -\$209.00 PO Box -\$300.00 Insurance -\$79.00 Storage

Balance March 27, 2023: \$2,756.11 Motion to Accept: Rick K4PKA 2nd: Everett WA2BHS Passes





New Motions: None

Announcements/News:

- > Field Day Bridal & Saddle Pavilion @ Maury County Park for more info contact Rick K4PKA or Justin K4LEN
- > Club dues were due April 1st. Online @ w4ggm.org or Maury Amateur Radio Club PO Box 1871 Columbia, TN 38402 or in person.

Presentation by Bob K4HRK Collapsible Tri-Band Antenna and Spud Gun

Motion to adjourn: Rick K4PKA 2nd: Eric N4GLA

Meeting adjourned at 19:34. 73, KK4FHS

VE Report April 2023

The MARC VE team conducted a test session April 29th with 5 people taking their ham test. The VEs present were, K4BX, W4EWJ, N4MCC, KK4PTE, KK4WAQ, N4JW, K4KQZ, and WB0CJB. Also present was KQ4FWR and KJ4JEK.



A special thanks to Andreas KJ4JEK and CPWS for allowing the MARC to conduct test

in the training room. The facilities were excellent and several people commented on how nice the room was.

The test results were:

New Technician:

Michael Taylor (awaiting call sign)

New Generals:

Charles Dickens (awaiting call sign)

George Haun (awaiting call sign)

William Stevens KI4HWA

New Extra:

Jonathan Halterman KJ4CRW

Congratulations to you all!

The next MARC test session will be July 15th at 9:00 AM. The location will be in the CPWS training room, CPWS, 201 Pickens Lane, in Columbia. If you would like to reserve a seat for this test session please contact me by email at <u>wb0cjb@hotmail.</u> <u>com</u> or by cell at 765-635-8915.

Please note that the current General class question pool expires June 30th. A new one will be available July 1st.

73, Paul WB0CJB

Next VE Test session July 15

The Chickasaw Trace Classic Once Again A Success



Sunday, April 30th Members of our club here in Maury County participated in the Columbia Cycling Club Chickasaw Trace Mountain Bike Classic to provide communication should one of them become injured or need other

assistance.

We had one injury at the Derryberry cabin. EMS was there to assist immediately. The injury did not require more than a brief evaluation, a bandaid, and the young rider was on his way.

We did have some mechanical issues that required for the riders to opt out of the race. A flat tire, a broken spoke, and a dead battery. Yes, there is now an eMtn bike class. Curious to know how much those are. I Did ask about



one bike there the price over \$13,000 dollars. It even had blue tooth. So, our hobby is not the only one that is constantly developing new technology.

Lunch is always provided for us. We had so much food that we could not even eat it all. Everyone was stuffed.

This race was a time to practice patience and tolerance. The time between races seemed long and made tolerating the wind difficult. We all survived to do this another year. Hopefully under better weather conditions.

Participants were:

Rick MullinWX4UKEBob HerklotzK4HRKBarb OlewnickK4HRK's SisterJustin KillenK4LENLouie KillenJustin's sonTyler KillenJustin's daughterNita ReedKM4PKKIBill ReedW4WRR





TNX to ALL and 73 Bill W4WRR







Seen at the last meeting













KOSTG





Thank you Everett for the photos

WINTER IN TEXAS, RECAP from Buford W4HVW

We arrived in Harlingen Jan 2. It took a couple of weeks to get settled in before I powered up the rig. When I turned on the radio the waterfall was flat. I went outside and noticed the Beam was not at the height it was supposed to be. I have the beam on a Hazer so I can let the beam down for repair. Problem, the antenna would not come down. I called a professional tower climber since I quit climbing towers when I turned 80.

The beam had worked itself down the shaft about 3 ft. It was jammed against the tower. The coax was broken loose from the beam. The climber and I spent the better part of the day getting the antenna down, the coax replaced, and the Hazer cranked back up.

have a Alpha Delta 80-40M hung off the tower. I attached a 30M dipole to the center insulator. Making it a 3 band inverted V. I originally spaced it from the 80-40 with nylon string. This arrangement was less than optimum. The SWR was erratic. I wanted to use nylon spacers but found a sheet of Bakelite or similar plastic too expensive. I remembered that when I received my license in 1954 I could not afford coax for my antenna. I cut up a orange crate into 3 inch by $\frac{1}{2}$ inch strips, boiled them in paraffin and made a ladder line antenna feed. I looked around the shop and found some 5/16 plywood. I took it to the bandsaw and in no time I had around 100 spacers. After drilling and boiling they were ready for assembly. It took two hours or so to string the spacers on the wire. The results were worth the wait. After 3 trims the SWR of the 30M section was under 1.5-1

Back in the shack time to work some DX. In no time I was working 3C3CA Equatorial Guinea on 30M FT8 with a -10 signal report, a new country for me. Over the course of a month and a half I worked 6 new countries. In addition to 3C3CA, I worked 3B7M Agalega & St. Brandon Islands, TN8K Republic of the Congo, 9N7AA Nepal, FT8WW Crozet Island, and XV1X Vietnam. I actually worked Eddy on 10M as XT1T and 3W1T. I regret I was unable to work Ethiopia. Too, Bouvet Island was such a zoo I don't know how anyone worked it.

When I was not working new countries I was filling slots on my LOTW matrix. At one point I must have been DX. One evening I had my beam point toward the Far East. I called a station on 10M FT8 that I wanted to add to my matrix. All of a sudden I had two JA's calling me at once. Before I could finish with them I had others calling. Over the course of an hour I had worked numerous JA's, HI's, YB's and BY's all calling me. I could not work all who called. By the time I got to some of them they had moved on. The same thing happened a another night. I later checked my log. Over the stay in Texas I had made a total of 184 contacts, filled in 36 slots in my LOTW matrix and a new total of 280 countries worked.

By the first of March most of the DX expeditions had gone home. And it was time for us to start packing to return to Tennessee.

73 Buford W4HVW



A Tri-Band 6, 2 Meter and 70CM Collapsible Antenna with a 10 meter Option from Bob K4HRK



This is an easy to build tri-band fan antenna with 6 meter horizontal elements and 2m/ 70cm vertical elements with excellent performance. It's fabricated with 14 gauge THNN wire and electrical PVC

tubing to support the wire. Also, a 10 meter option can be easily added.

The antenna breaks down into 2 foot plus sections for easy transport to the field or can be permanently mounted, either suspended from a tree or mounted to a mast. A 1:1 balun and PL-259 connector are built into a 1/4 wave standoff to separate the coax from the lower vertical element.

This antenna can also be configured for other bands without the 2m/70cm elements like a 6 and 10 meter horizontal fan dipole with radials 90 degrees apart.

The electrical PVC is a good supporting structure for the radiating elements and doesn't affect performance. Other electrical PVC benefits include a good strength to weight ratio, junction boxes, ultra violet protection, good blending with the environment and it's easily replaceable if the antenna is damaged. The PVC will insulate the elements from wet tree branches too.

This antenna does require an A/B switch, patch box or duplexer - if you're using two radios for the different bands.



continued...

The build procedure

Begin by purchasing the supplies in the accompanying parts list.

Drill a 1 3/8 inch hole centered in the bottom of the Carlton hex box and a 7/8 inch hole centered in the box cover and de-burr the holes. Hole saws are best for this job. Clamp the work securely to prevent the pieces from spinning and causing injury.

Knock out two of the box "knockouts" where the horizontal wires will exit the box, or just drill a clearance hole though the knockouts for the wires to pass though.

Solder the horizontal and vertical elements and the feed coax to their respective solder lugs on the terminal strip as shown in photo 2. A larger solder gun will work best here. Keep in mind; this is a



horizontal/vertical fan dipole, so position the wires and coax accordingly.

Note: the terminal strip is mounted on the adaptor before mounting the assembly in the box.

Knock out the box hole 90 degrees from the horizontal elements where the coax will pass though.

Mount the 1/2" male terminal adaptor into the top of the box cover and thread the 1/2" female terminal adaptor onto the threads exiting the bottom of the cover. Tighten securely.

Cut $\frac{1}{2}$ " off the nut end of the 1" male terminal adaptor. There should be about $\frac{1}{2}$ " of material remaining from the shoulder to the end of the nut. Position the terminal strip flat against the nut end of the adaptor as shown in photo 2, spot the hole and drill a 3/32" pilot hole for the #6 screw.

Slide the bottom 2m/70cm wire though the adaptor, then mount the terminal strip with the attached elements to the adaptor. Mount the adaptor into the hole at the bottom of the box, sliding and pulling the wires and coax though their respective ports in the box and cover when lowering into position. Screw the 1" female terminal adaptor onto the threads exiting the box and tighten securely.

Note: to glue or not to glue: If you're using this antenna for portable or field deployment, you'll want easy assembly and takedown, so use PVC adhesive to glue only the PVC pieces where stated in the steps below. If this is a base station antenna, glue all the PVC pieces during assembly. This will bond the joints resulting in no wobble and more security.

Apply PVC cement to two of the 3/4" to 1/2" tubing reducers supplied with the box and push them tightly into the box holes that the 6m radials exit.

Secure the cover to the box with the supplied rubber seal and screws.

Slide the four ferrite cores onto the coax. Butt them against the box port opening and capture them in that location with a plastic wire tie at the other end. This completes the box build.

Building the balun, 2m/70cm standoff and connector assembly





Note: refer to photos #4 and #5 for the standoff build. (#4, #5 photo here?)

Apply PVC cement to the joints and slide the straight ³/₄" PVC tubing over the coax and push it into the box. Apply cement to the end of this tubing and push on the ³/₄" coupling, then glue and push on the 90 degree radius tubing into the coupling, taking care to align the vertical portion of the bend facing the ground when the antenna is mounted.

Apply cement and push a $\frac{3}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ " adaptor into the 90 degree bend hole.

Trim the coax exiting the adaptor about an inch from the adaptor. Strip the coax and separate the shield and center conductor, then solder the leads to the SO-239 bulkhead connector.

Then push the coax and connector into the adaptor and align the holes with the adaptor "ears". Spot and drill pilot holes for the #4 sheet metal screws, then secure the connector.

Seal the connector where it mates the adaptor with RTV or weatherproof caulking.

Remove any kinks or bends in the wire elements and push two of the 6m and the 2m/70cm PVC support tubes into their respective element sockets. Then slide on the $\frac{1}{2}$ couplings and the other 6m PVC tubes.

Note: if this is a base station build and you don't need a "breakdown" antenna, you can just use one appropriate length tube on each side. This completes the initial build.

The tuning procedure

Remove the vertical and end horizontal tubes and use a VNA or antenna analyzer to trim your elements for 1:1 SWR on the part of the bands where you want the best resonance. I settled for the middle of each band. If you're a CW and digital fan, consider the lower end of the bands. Trim about ½" each time and ¼" when you get closer. It's better to trim just a little each time then to add wire if you've missed your mark.

As you tune, the other tuned band elements may detune slightly, so check for this. This did not happen for me. Also, the tuned elements are shorter than typical dipole lengths. I contribute that to the PVC and the insulation on the wires.

The vertical elements can be cut for other bands too - like 220mhz, marine or the aviation band.

When the elements are tuned, trim the PVC tubing to match the element lengths and glue on the caps. Don't glue the caps if you're extending the PVC tubes for other bands. Also, don't trim the lower vertical 1" tubing if this antenna will be mounted on a mast. You'll want vertical clearance between the mast and mounting hardware and the element.

continued...

Other band builds

If you build this antenna with 6 meter horizontal elements, these elements can be easily extended for 10m. Just add a "Molex" type quick disconnect at the end of the 6m elements, with a mating disconnect on the 10m "extension" wire. Add a set of PVC couplings and tubes to accommodate the additional length and you've changed bands. Be sure to tune the elements with the connectors in place. The 10 meter elements will droop, approaching a inverted "V", but performance won't be affected. Consider using PVC cement when assembling these elements for a secure connection.

If you don't need the 2m/70cm bands, consider using separate 6 and 10 meter horizontal elements mounted on the box, 90 degrees apart. You won't need the coax offset and top vertical tube, so use the bottom vertical tube for the coax feed and capture the ferrite there. Follow the procedure listed above for mounting the SO-239 connector at the bottom of the tube, but use both a 1" and $\frac{3}{4}$ " reducer in tandem to accept the connector.

Mounting the antenna

This antenna can be mounted on a mast (photo 1) or suspended. If mast mounted, use the mounting kit in the parts list. Be sure to use enough separation between the metal hardware and the lower vertical element (if used).

If the antenna is suspended (photo 1) and the vertical elements are used. mount the tubing clamp (in the parts list) on the standoff about 1 inch from the box, thread and tie the lifting line though the hole in the clamp and raise the antenna with the coax attached to the desired height. The clamp will probably need to slide laterally on the standoff, depending on the weight of the coax. Adjust the clamp to balance the antenna so the vertical elements are vertical then capture the clamp with tape or wire ties on the tubing. A heavy duty wire tie can substitute for the clamp too. With the antenna suspended, the coax can be used to orientate the antenna.



If the antenna is suspended without the vertical elements, standoff and tubing clamp, the mounting "ears" on the box can be used to fabricate a cross support point – no balancing necessary.

Performance

Using my VNA, these are my standing wave ratios

10m – 1:1 center of band and 1.6:1 at the edges

6m - 1:1 center of the band and 2:1 at the edges

2m - 1.3:1 flat across the band

70cm - 1:1 flat across the band

Propagation is excellent on 10m, 2m, 70cm, hitting all the local repeaters with full quieting on 2m/70cm and QSL's and beacon contacts all over the globe on 10m. I'm sure propagation is comparable on 6 meters too, but the band was closed whenever I tested. I did hit beacons 67 and 53 miles away, so I know the 6m elements radiate.

You should find this antenna is easy to build, portable, versatile and a good performer with many band options. With both mast and tree mounting capability, it will serve you well in both a base and field environment.

Parts list

Note: all PVC parts are standard electrical (gray) tubing, fittings, wire and screws are available at most hardware stores. Also, wire and tubing lengths are longer than needed to allow for tuning.

Carlon 3/4" PVC junction box, type X, with cover and reducers, model #E970CDE-CTN, Home Depot $\frac{1}{2}$ " male terminal adaptor $\frac{1}{2}$ " female terminal adaptor 1" male terminal adaptor 1' female terminal adaptor 2 lug terminal strip 1 pc #6 stainless steel sheet metal screw, 3/8" long 14 gauge THNN wire: 2m elements – 2 pcs, 21" long, 6m elements – 2 pcs, 26" long 4 pcs $\frac{1}{2}$ " tubing, 26" long 1 pc 1/2" tubing, 22" long 2 pcs $\frac{1}{2}$ " standard coupling 1 pc ³/₄" electrical PVC tubing, 16 ¹/₂" long 1 pc 1" electrical PVC tubing, 32" long 3 pcs standard end cap 1 pc 1" standard end cap 1 pc ³/₄" electrical PVC 90 degree elbow, standard radius with belled end 1 pc 3/4" standard coupling SO-239 chassis coax connector 4 pcs Ferrite sleeves, #FB43-5621, Digi-Key #1934-2643625102-ND 4 pcs #4 stainless steel sheet metal screws, 3/8" long RG8X coax, 32" long ³/₄" Tubing snap strap

Miscellaneous: wire ties, caulk, PVC cement, 3/4 in. PVC Support Strap – Carlon E978ECR or similar, Slinkdsco Double Antenna Mast Clamp (2 Sets, Amazon - If you mast mount this antenna).

If you build the 10m extension elements -

14 gauge THNN wire: 2 pcs 46" long 2 pcs ½" tubing, 46" long 2 pcs ½" standard coupling

If you have any questions about this project you can contact Bob K4HRK at robherk@gmail.com



Have you ever thought about what would happen to your collection of Ham radio equipment after you become a silent Key? Just like your bank accounts and real estate, you need to make advance provisions for your radio equipment and towers.

You don't want the burden your family with the cost of dismantling your station and deciding what to do with it. This can add stress to an already stressful time in their lives. So what do we need to do to prevent the shock of dealing with the shelves of equipment that you have accumulated in the basement.

- 1. Make a list of all the equipment that you are currently using, and back up equipment, including power supplies and accessories. The newer equipment has higher value and easier to sell. Keep all the operators manuals together for these items.
- 2. Make an inventory of the older equipment recording the make and model of any receivers, transmitters, transceivers, and accessories such as straight keys, bugs, or limited edition keys.
- 3. Make a list of any special bequests to fellow hams or your local radio club.
- 4. Leave instructions on how you want your radio estate handled. There are quite a few options here. Make the decision based on which would be easier for your surviving spouse to use. Let them know that your fellow hams are always willing to lend a helping hand.

- If you have a large ham radio 5. collection and want it all sold at once do some research on companies that will buy the equipment lock stock and barrel. There are some good ones out there that offer fair value to the estate. Be careful as there are some that will take advantage of you. Make sure that you leave a list of them and there contact information for the estate. I will be glad to share information on two of these companies that have been used by my friends with good results and one that I have first hand experience with.
- 6. Contact me if you have any questions at <u>wa2bhs38401@gmail.</u> <u>com</u>.

Just remember a little planning now, can prevent problems in the future.



Latest QSL cards at W4HVW





ASTAB on Grid NJ07bd cfm GSGs with W4HVW Tex QSO & Hope to see you again deer DNA Date UTC Mode RST Band SetName 14 Nov 22 00:20 FT8 -15 30m



DAY	MONTH	YEAR	UTC	RST / dB	BAND	MODE
08	OZ	2023	00:53	-17	10	F78
-	-					-

Don't miss Buford's DX'ing Presentation

Buford will be talking about DX'ing at the May meeting. He is quite a DX'er having Worked all States, DXCC (280 countries), Worked all Zones, and some other awards. Perhaps he will bring some of his QSL cards from around the world.



THE Tennessee CW Net by Scott Yates, N4BBB

If you tune across 3562 kHz at 7:00 PM, you'll hear

TN TN TN DE **N**4BBB QNI K

I am one of 3 net controls currently, and when things come up, we substitute for each other.

While the net usually runs around 18 wpm, we are happy to accommodate any speed. My personal reason for initially monitoring, and then eventually checking in, was to to improve my copy speed...

As many do, I started out with a pad of paper, and wrote down every character. SA time progressed, I found my self copying mostly, then completely in my head. The acquired ability, which takes practice, to "head copy", is a great addition to your ham radio bag of tricks.

The net procedures, when I started in Summer of 2021, were foreign to me, so I copied the net with a pocket voice recorder which allowed me to understand the procedures...

One of our regulars, W4TZB, a retired EE Professor at UT Knoxville, created a "one-Stop" guide to CW and the CW net, which is here...

RECOMMENDED MINIMUM READ: THE SECTION IN BLUE BELOW "Hams who listen to the TN CW Net"

What Is CW? De W4TZB

<u>CW</u> ("Continuous Wave") is the oldest form of *wireless* communication (the <u>telegraph in 1844</u> used Morse Code but was wired) and is a special form of "digital" communication because the signal is in a sense "binary", that is it has two states, ON or OFF. It is also related to what is now called Pulse Width Modulation because the ON and OFF states are not always the same length (e.g. 1 unit for "dit" and 3 units for "dah" and 1 unit between dits and dahs and 3 units between letters and 5 units between words, etc.)

Learning Morse Code gives a feeling of personal achievement, and is <u>still enjoyed by many in</u> <u>amateur radio</u>. It began with <u>spark-gap transmitters</u> which were outlawed Internationally in 1934. A simple early spark-gap transmitter is demonstrated <u>HERE</u>.

A Little History:

From <u>Wikipedia</u>: "A breakthrough came in the summer of 1895, when Marconi found that much greater range could be achieved after he <u>raised the height of his antenna</u> and, borrowing from a technique used in wired telegraphy, <u>grounded his transmitter and receiver</u>. With these improvements, the system was capable of transmitting signals up to 2 miles (3.2 km) and over hills. On 13 May 1897, Marconi sent the first ever wireless communication over open sea – a message was transmitted over the Bristol Channel from Flat Holm Island to Lavernock Point near Cardiff, a distance of 6 kilometers (3.7 mi). The message read, "Are you ready".

What is said to be a photograph of Marconi's 1895-1897 spark-gap transmitter is shown HERE.

[It is still true after 138 years that raising the height of the antenna and having a good ground help the signal]

Hams who listen to the TN CW Net might be categorized into three groups:

a. <u>Those who know Morse Code</u> well enough to be comfortable having a QSO on CW: Recommend Section 1 below.

b. <u>Those who know some Morse Code</u> but not well enough to have a comfortable QSO on CW: Recommend Sections 1 and 2 below.

c. <u>Those who do not know any Morse Code</u> (not counting SOS): Recommend Sections 2 and 3 below.

Even if you know Morse Code very well, it may be hard to follow what is happening during a CW net just by listening. Nets use a special set of QN signals and abbreviations, and CW nets procedures differ from those of most SSB nets. E.g. CW stations check-in (QNI) and then wait for the NCS to excuse them (QNX) and then they check-out (QNO).

Information about the TN CW Net is available at: https://tinyurl.com/cwnettn

SECTION 1. Information About the TN CW Net: http://tinyurl.com/cwnettn#cwnet

Even if you know Morse Code, it may be difficult to follow what is going on because CW nets use special net QN* signals and frequently use abbreviations; and the exchange between stations is not like a normal CW QSO. *Section 1 gives an example script* of a CW net session and lists some of the QN* signals and abbreviations most commonly used.

Section 1 also has a link to a remote SDR receiver in Dahlonega GA which you can use to listen to (and record) the TN CW Net:

http://websdr.lumpkinschools.com/?tune=3561cw

You could use the remote SDR receiver e.g. to listen to the TN CW net on a computer or cell phone while having your radio on 3980.

[More general information about remote SDR receivers is available HERE.]

SECTION 2. Learning Morse Code (CW) or Improving Your CW Skills: <u>http://tinyurl.com/</u> <u>cwnettn/#learningcw</u>

If you wish to learn Morse Code or if you already know at least some Morse Code and wish to improve your CW skills, Section 2 has suggestions and links that may be helpful.

SECTION 3. How to Listen to the CW Net If You Do NOT Know Any Morse Code: <u>http://tinyurl.com/cwnettn/#nocode</u>

If you don't know any Morse Code, then it might be said that "You really don't know dit."

A suggested way that you might learn to hear and recognize a few of the common QN* signals and abbreviations used during the CW Net is by learning them as SOUNDS and not as individual dit and dah [And *NEVER* as Dot and Dash]. CW operators learn to hear each letter as a single sound, and with practice they can hear complete words as a single sound, and eventually many learn to copy CW without writing it down which makes CW like having a conversation and even more enjoyable.

Corrections and suggestions are welcome. Please report any broken URL links.

73, Wayne W4TZB https://www.qrz.com/db/w4tzb w4tzb@arrl.net

As you can see, Wayne, W4TZB is an accomplished educator and writer.

As you progress with CW, you'll find yourself copying not just characters, but WORDS! When that first happens, you'll be surprised. And you'll find yourself recognizing the operator's FIST, or Sending Style.

I once worked a CW op in central Asia, I was running 1W on 20m CW, as was he. We completed the QSO with 4x1 reports, but we worked around the world with a 1 Watt.

Recently, I invited a MARC Member to check-in on the net, and his CW was flawless. I recommend you practice this incredible art form. You'll never regret a minute, and you'll be a more complete Amateur Operator.

Best 73, de N4BBB <u>n4bbb@outlook.com</u>

Making a Big Decision -- Together



Dear ARRL Affiliated Club,

On Monday, May 1, ARRL will launch a survey for members, encouraging their participation as we consider a dues increase.

The survey will include some short questions about raising dues and modifying the way some membership benefits are bundled. The survey will also include an opportunity for members to share their feedback.

The participation of every member is important. Please encourage all the ARRL members in your radio club to complete the survey in May.

The survey will open on May 1 at <u>www.arrl.org/take-dues-survey</u>. This is a member-only page. Members need to be logged into the ARRL website to take the survey. Members who are not logged in may select the Login button on the top of the web page, and they will be prompted to enter their ARRL website username and password. If they have not logged in since April 2022, they should use these Login Instructions.

Thank you in advance for urging all ARRL members to complete the survey.

73

Mike Walters, W8ZY ARRL Field Services Manager

PS: this message was sent to club Presidents, Secretaries, Newsletter Editors, and Contact Persons. We're grateful for all you do to help keep your club members informed and engaged.

Several items still FOR SALE from the estate of Rich WA4ABM Contact Winona Humston KD4EVI of Lawrenceburg 931 231-5436



Prices on next page....

WA4ABM estate (updated 5-1-2023)

Ameritron 704 amplifier relay box	\$30.00
Astron RS-20A power supply	\$40.00
Kenwood TS-450S HF 100W xcvr	\$400.00
Kenwood SP-23 speaker	\$50.00
MFJ 408 Deluxe Keyer II	\$80.00
President "TeddyR" CB radio	\$40.00
Pyramid PS-146 power supply	\$35.00
Quement SWB-2 SWR meter	\$10.00
Radio Shack Micronta 21-525B swr meter	\$10.00
Radio Shack 21-534 SWR meter	\$15.00
Radio Shack 22-508 13.8V 10A power supply	\$40.00
TenTec Century 21 transceiver	\$100.00
Uniden VCT-7 scanner	\$80.00
Kenwood HT charging stand ST-2	\$30.00
Kenwood HT TR-2600	\$60.00
MFJ paddle key (model unknown)	make offer

Miscellaneous: Speaker/mic for HT APC uninterruptable power unit

All items for sale as priced. The entire lot can be bought for \$1100. Terms: CASH ONLY. If you are interested in any items please contact Winona Humston at 931-231-5436.



