



W-C ARES

Waupaca-County Amateur Radio Emergency Service MEETING MINUTES

WHEN DISASTER CALLS - AMATEUR RADIO ANSWERS



Meeting Attendees:

Dave Chroninger (WB9GBG); Al Mallek (K9WVM); Chuck Fritz (AC9F); Carol Young; Carl Young (KD9RMZ); Leighton Trice (W9KL); Cody Lind (KD9QXL); Dan Bekeris (AC9JA); Rick Hutchinson (KD9QQR); Dean Sommerfeld (KD9VLH); and Bob Martin (KA9EOK).

Meeting began at 6 pm

- I. Chuck mentioned that Dave needs to know NCS (Net Control Station) operators for updating the 2023 NCS List.

****NOTE:

If you are using an old script, throw it out and use the new script that Dave emails to net control station operators.

- II. Becky and Jesse have temporarily backed off from Net Control and are now on the auxiliary list.
- III. Mary Trice (Leighton's wife) will be our new treasurer to submit any bills to for payment. Bills need to be approved by Chuck Fritz for approval to be paid.
- IV. Our Christmas Exchange will be at our next meeting, December 8th (Second Thursday of December). Everyone agreed to bring something they have extra of or don't use anymore related to ham radio from their shack. Please make sure you have it wrapped. The gifts will be numbered, and an exchange will take place.
- V. The 'Thirsty Perch' located on Water Street in Iola has been booked for the 2nd Thursday of January 2023 (January 12th) for our 5:30 meal. Everyone pays their own way (Dutch)! Hope to see you there!
- VI. Report on EOC Antenna:
 - i. Leighton reported that Scott and Leighton need to get pipes up yet.
 - ii. Leighton is getting 16 gauge wire from Carl Young on Tuesday, Nov. 15 for using on the antenna.
- VII. Need an SWR Meter/Analyzer for HF, UHF, VHF? Chuck is selling a really nice one in a case. Contact Chuck Fritz if interested!

- VIII. Event Checks Received: (Thanks to everyone who participated in the events)
 - i. The Triathlon Check from the Waupaca Triathlon has been received for \$457.00.
 - ii. The Bump-n-Jump Check from the Iola Bike Race has been received for \$200.00.

- IX. 2023 Thoughts?
 - i. Winlink Presentation and Discussion (Possibly in April by Terry Schilling & Carl Young).
 - ii. Logging Software Presentation (N3JFP, N1MM, HAMRS, ADIF Master, etc.)
(Presented by Carl & Carol Young & Terry Schilling).
 - iii. Discussed trying Field Day 2023 in Weyauwega City Park or Waupaca Fairgrounds located in Weyauwega on the last weekend of June. WE NEED OPERATORS TO PARTICIPATE!
 - iv. Hospital Access Status
 - v. Do you have your ICS 100 and 700 certification to be an ARES member? If so, submit copies to Dave WB9GBG.

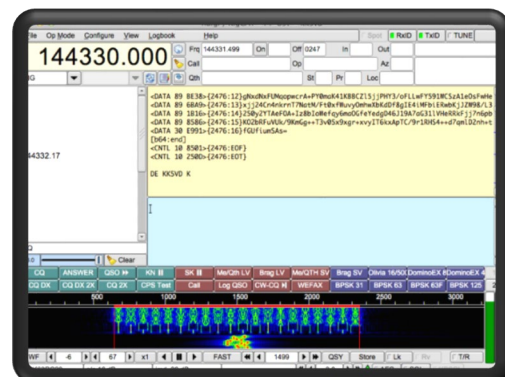
- X. Simplex Test Discussion:
 - i. 10 meters HF Rigs (so all technicians can participate).
 - ii. Possibly try the simplex test on a Sunday evening in December after net check-in on the repeater.

- XI. Ham & Eggs Breakfast
 - i. When: Last Saturday of the month: November 26th and December 17th
 - ii. Where: Crystal Café in downtown Iola
 - iii. Time: 9 AM

- XII. Sunday Night Net:
 - i. REMEMBER: If you are Net Control, send Dave WB9GBG the NET REPORTS!
 - ii. Procedure for Net:
 - i. Copy Sunday Night Traffic
 - ii. Send the Traffic
 - iii. Discussed Back Up person each week to person in charge of traffic. Questions? Ask Chuck.
 - iv. Last Sunday Night, Chuck recommended to everyone to download the ERG App. Have you downloaded the app yet?
 - v. Leighton mentioned a WISER App to find the guidebook under the tools tab.

XIII. Dan's (AC9JA) Presentation Tonight:

Fldigi.....Fast light digital



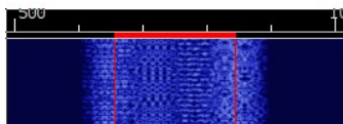
Fldigi is a free and open-source program which **allows an ordinary computer's sound card to be used as a simple two-way data modem.**

Fldigi works with Olivia digital communications keyboard-to-keyboard mode. Olivia is a family of MFSK modes with a high redundancy Forward Error Correction system similar to MT63. Olivia works in noisy environments. For more information on Olivia check out: <https://www.amateurradio.com/demonstration-using-fldigi-to-communicate-with-olivia-digital-mode-on-shortwave/>

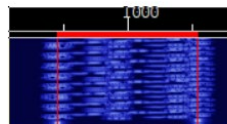
For group practice we'd like to try OpMode: Contestia 4/250 centered 1000 on the waterfall Frequency 7.090kHz USB-D. The goal is to send the current ICS-213 formatted message to everyone in our group. Date, day, time, and freq. TBD. -Dan

Contestia is a digital mode directly derived from Olivia that is not quite as robust – but more of a compromise between speed and performance.

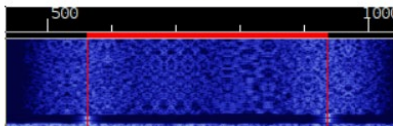
Contestia Modes



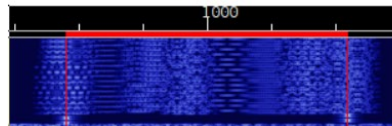
Contestia 4/250
[Sound](#)



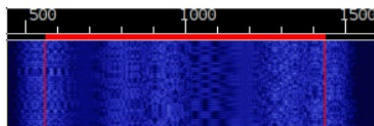
Contestia 8/250
[Sound](#)



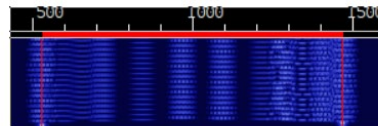
Contestia 4/500
[Sound](#)



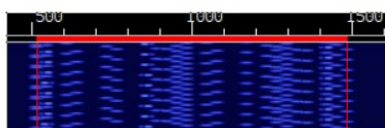
Contestia 8/500
[Sound](#)



Contestia 8/1000
[Sound](#)



Contestia 16/1000
[Sound](#)



Contestia 32/1000
[Sound](#)

Contestia General Description

Contestia is a family of MFSK modes with a high redundancy Forward Error Correction system similar to Olivia. The mode works well on poor HF paths and has good sensitivity.

Mode 4/250 is faster. Number of Tones=4 Bandwidth (BW) in Hertz= 250

Contestia Operating Parameters (found online)

Mode	Symbol Rate	Typing Speed ¹	Lowest S/N	Duty Cycle ²	Modulation	Bandwidth ³	ITU Designation ⁴
4-250	62.5 baud	~40 wpm	-10 dB	100%	4-FSK	250 Hz	250HF1B
8-250	31.25 baud	~30 wpm	-13 dB	100%	8-FSK	250 Hz	250HF1B
4-500	125 baud	~ 78 wpm	-8 dB	100%	4-FSK	500 Hz	500HF1B
8-500	62.5 baud	~ 60 wpm	-10 dB	100%	8-FSK	500 Hz	500HF1B
16-500	31.25 baud	~ 30 wpm	-12 dB	100%	16-FSK	500 Hz	500HF1B
8-1000	125 baud	~ 117 wpm	-5 dB	100%	8-FSK	1000 Hz	1K00F1B
16-1000	62.5 baud	~ 78 wpm	-9 dB	100%	16-FSK	1000 Hz	1K00F1B
32-1000	31.25 baud	~ 48 wpm	-12 dB	100%	32-FSK	1000 Hz	1K00F1B

Winlink – is a directed message to one or more specified individuals.

Fldigi Suite Modes:

Website to visit: <https://www.jeffreykopcak.com/2015/04/16/getting-started-with-fldigi-including-flmsg-and-flwrap/8/>

- 1) **Fldigi** (Digital modem program)– is a broadcast to everyone (multicast). It is similar to texting over RF keyboard to keyboard. It can be used with a template to make it faster. (Page 7 of website above)
- 2) **Flmsg** (Formatted message manager)—(Page 8 of website above)
- 3) **Flwrap** (File encapsulation for error free transfers over amateur radio) – (See page 9 of website above)
- 4) **Flamp** (Amateur Multicast Protocol file transfer program)—(Introduction page of Website above)

YouTube Videos to Check Out:

- **WaveTalkers – Winlink basics with wavetalkers**
https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLcBrg-5drc84N1GU9zhWwCF9HisFc8L_a
- **WaveTalkers website for the initiated (teach yourself Winlink!) –**
<https://wavetalkers.com/resources/digital/winlink.php>
- **NBEMS – Narrow Band Emergency Message Service**
YouTube CallSign K4REF

Fldigi playlist

https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PL0-gH_7Nm60Z6p2neDg9pZxIbGPPkDNmh

When Operating Fldigi, Dan mentioned

- ❑ **Disable attenuation, noise blanking, and filtering.**
- ❑ **Disable squelch control so you don't miss portions of a transmission.**

Fldigi Installation:

Download and installation

Download Fldigi, Fmsg, Flwrap, and Flamp here (free, all platforms): <http://www.w1hkj.com/>

Thank You to Dan (AC9JA) for an interesting presentation on Fldigi.

Meeting adjourned around 8 pm.