



SPARKS

Newsletter Publication of
Pueblo West Amateur Radio Club

April 2020

April **SPARKS** brings you a little bit of Marconi, a little bit of Morse, a little bit of April Fools, and a little bit of pink flamingoes.



... Once upon a time, pink flamingoes were abundant at this Pueblo QTH ...

"Like a Good Neighbor"

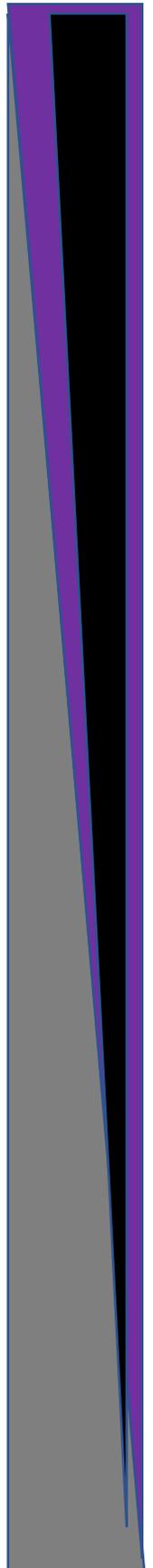


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Special Event has been Cancelled

President's Corner



Sitting here drinking my coffee, spending time thinking of Marconi and others like him gives me an appreciation for the great things we have.

I honestly didn't know much about Marconi, but after doing some research, I am impressed with what a 20 year-old could accomplish. When he made his spark gap transmitter the air waves were empty.

Now just a little over a hundred years later we hams are competing with all sorts of different technologies while we practice the art that Marconi gave us.

How far technology has come in such a relatively short time. Let's each give tribute to Marconi by using wireless transmissions and enjoy the great things we have.

73

Scott NØELF

Board of Directors

- President ... Scott Fanning NØELF
- Vice President ... Dan Wantuck WØ0JW
- Secretary ... Rita McConnell NEØDB
- Treasurer ... Randy Linnen KEØGMS

- Ex-officio ... Roger Ashcraft KE5CCJ
- Director ... Dan Broadbooks NGØT
- Director ... Dan Bassak N3CMG
- Director ... Jim McConnell NEØDA

Members In The News

RAGCHEW
Cancelled Until
Further Notice

March Ragchew

Richard - KD8WJ
Don - AD0DC
David - KB0ZAO
Gene - K9HBR
Del - KD0RRH
Roger - KE5CCJ

Scott- N0ELF
Rick - KE0MSM
Stan - N0OYO
Ken - K01TOP
JJ - WR5E
Paul - KN4DX

Bob - WD0FBW
Gerry - WB3EYY (Guest)
Paul - KN4DX
Dan - W00JW
Jon - WA9SBX (Guest)
Denice - (Guest)

March 14 & March 21
Net Attendees
(view net minutes)

VE Session Report

**No VE Sessions
will be held until further notice.**

The following was found in PWARC's archives ...
first known VE Session held by PWARC
July, 2012

New Members

Geri Combs - KE0KSW - Technician
Steve Combs - KD0SBN - Extra

April Birthdays

Larry - K0LAB - 4/4
Geri - KE0KSW - 4/8

ARRL

As of March 31, PWARC membership tally 49 members in good standing (dues paid). Of those, 29 members belong to ARRL = 59%. A 7% decrease from February's 66%.

Please consider becoming a member of ARRL, and remember your FCC licensed family member living in the same household can become a member of ARRL for \$10 additional.

Scholarship - No Report

Page 6A The Pueblo West View, Pueblo West, Colo., Thurs



Special to The View

The Pueblo West Amateur Radio Club is sponsoring a volunteer examine session Sunday.

Ham Radio Club sponsors VE session

The Pueblo West View

Pueblo West Amateur Radio Club will sponsor a volunteer examine session from noon to 2 p.m. on Sunday at Pueblo West Library, 298 S. Joe Martinez Blvd. No pre-registration for the exam session is necessary. Walk-ins will be accepted until 1 p.m.

The club invites the public to attend its meeting which follows at 2 p.m. to learn about Ham Radio's capabilities and how to obtain their own FCC radio license.

What Time Is It? It's Net Time - Repeater 447.450

Tuesday Night Net

Date	NC	Min	Stations	Date	NC	Min	Stations
3/03	KBOFD	20	10	3/24	W0OJW	33	17
3/10	W0OJW	20	10	3/31	KBOFD	21	12
3/17	Repeater Glitch						

Morning Connection Net

A new net was started on March 23. Called the "*Morning Connection*", it starts at 10:00 am (not date specific) for anyone wishing to check-in and say hello. Radio trivia questions remain popular with an added trivia of gardening or any other trivia for those wishing to drop in.

Springtime in the Rockies

So, what did the "*The Old Farmers Almanac*" say?

"Blah .. Blah .. Blah"

The High Plains long-range weather forecast for April: catch a pink flamingo, periods of precipitation with rain, snow, mix, sunny, cloudy, cool, mild, warm, windy, sustained winds of up to 100 mph, above/below average temperatures, water the yard to assure an abundance of tumbleweeds, expect to awaken to an F5 when your antenna crashing into your roof ... and your garage door has 12' of tumbleweeds, and if you believe this, it's April Fool's Day.



Education

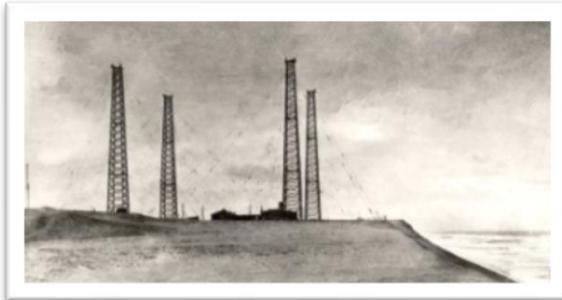
Digital Ham Television

Jim Andrews, KH6HTV – ATV and DVB-T 'Guru' has written put together a book on Digital ATV from his various writings and notes. You can download a complimentary soft copy for your reading pleasure courtesy of Jim. For even more info and detailed specifications, go to Jim's web page at www.kh6htv.com . Everything you've ever wanted to know about Digital ATV or DVB-T AN-45 DTV Book



Guglielmo Marconi

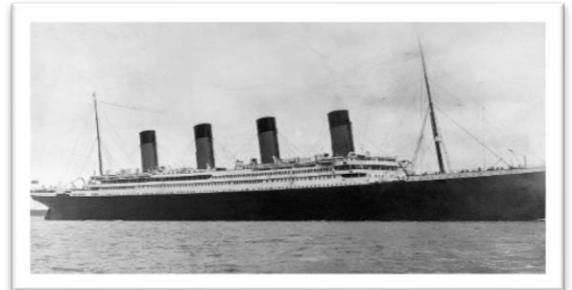
b: April 25, 1874 ... d: July 20, 1937



The Marconi Wireless Station Site in South Wellfleet, Massachusetts is the site of the first transatlantic wireless communication between the United States and Europe, on January 18, 1903. At this location, inventor Guglielmo Marconi erected a large antenna array on four 210-foot wooden towers, and established a transmitting station powered by kerosene engines that produced the 25,000 volts of electricity needed to send signals.

One of the stations most notable roles occurred with the sinking of the *RMS Titanic* in April 1912. Operations at the station were able to alert the *RMS Carpathia* so that the rescue of some of the Titanic's passengers could be effected.

The station was shut down in 1917 in part over concerns about its use in World War I, but also because its towers were threatened with erosion.



In 1920, usable materials and equipment were removed from the site, and it was abandoned. Erosion has taken its toll over the years since then, and there is no trace of the site remains as of September 2014; the sea has claimed it all.

Marconi had moved the station to Chatham by 1912 and the Titanic and Carpathia communications were done from there. There is debate of whether the Wellfleet station was ever put into commercial operation.

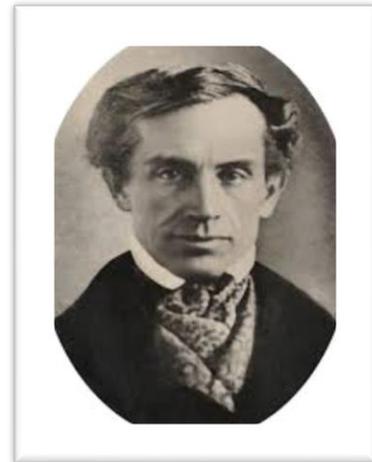


Samuel Morse

b: April 27, 1791 ... d: April 2, 1872

Inventor of Morse Code

Developer of the electric telegraph



A Clever Little Ditty

Joyce Hahn sang Morse Code on this 1960 Hamvention Souvenir record.

Composer Maurice Durieux, VE2QS, enjoyed interspersing CW messages played on orchestra instruments throughout the song.

See if you can recognize the trumpets play an appropriate "73 SK" as the song ends!

JOYCE HAHN w/ VE2QS orchestra



(Can you can find the Morse Code mistake on the YouTube video?)

DAH-DI-DAH-DIT DAH-DAH-DI-DAH
CQ Serenade - 1960 Dayton Hamvention

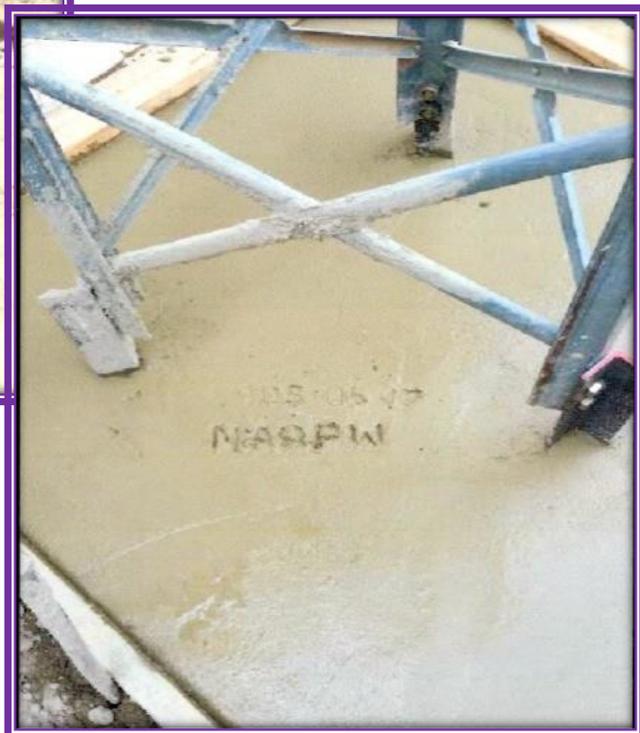
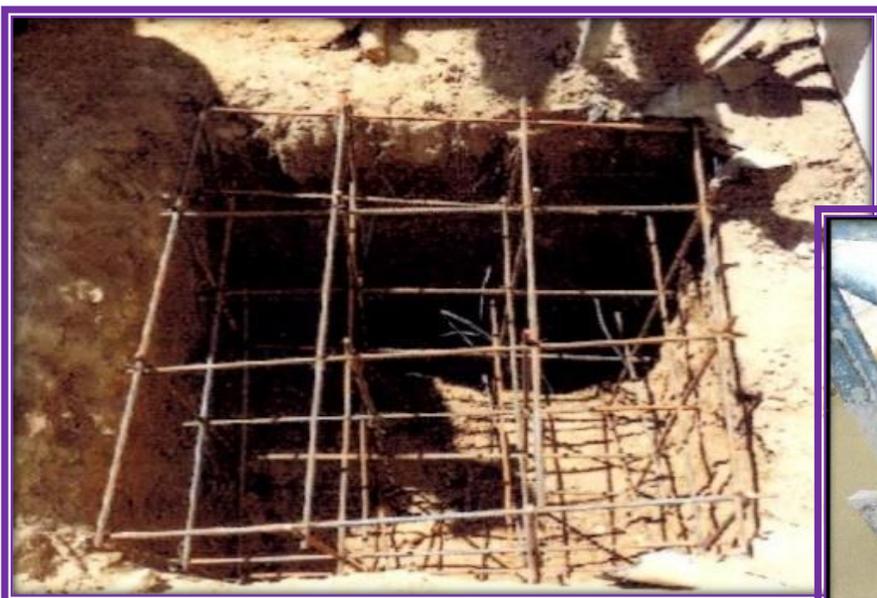
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lOqe0oouN2s>

So, if you have to repeat a CW transmission,

Take a Trip down Memory Lane April 2017

With shovels and picks in hand, "The Big Dig" commenced on **April 21, 2017** at QTH (Stan N00Y0). Original dimensions of 3'x3'x3' was estimated, but then it was discovered the dig was not quite deep enough. So another dig of 6" down occurred May 6. It was so much fun that it was decided to bring on the concrete and set the base. No footprints or handprints or face plants in the wet mud ... just NA0PW and date engraved in the slab.

Statistics: 1.3 yards of concrete ... 150' of rebar ...
and approximately 100 manhours with +/- 15 members to complete.



Club Events & Club Calendar

Due to the uncertainty in coming months, club events and club calendar are not posted.

April Contests & Special Events

Note: Cancellations are changing rapidly ... for the latest on Contest & Special Events, please refer to arrl.org/contest-update.

April 8-15	K9L	Remembering the Lincoln Assassination	0000-0000
April 11	NN4SA	Apollo 13 Anniversary	0000-2359
April 14-15	AL4US	Sinking of the Titanic	1540-0100
April 15-30	W4M	Virginia Moonshine Heritage Month Commemorating the heritage of the moonshiners ... 100th anniversary of the passage of Prohibition	0500-0000
April 19	Contest	ARRL Rookie Roundup	1800-2359
April 18	K7T	Safe Return of Apollo 13 - 50th Anniversary	1600-2100
April 18	W4HZL	Walter Reed Special Event	1400-1900
April 18-19	W7W	World Amateur Radio Day	1200-1200
April 18-19	W2W	World Amateur Radio Day	1600-0400
April 22	W2NPT	Earth Day	1500-2100
April 24-26	W2P	West Point Military Academy 58th Annual Scout Camporee	1800-2359
April 25	W4S	International Marconi Day	Cancelled
April 25	K5T	San Jacinto Day Special Event	1500-2300
QSO Parties			
April 4	Louisiana - Mississippi - Missouri - Nebraska		
April 11	New Mexico - North Dakota - Georgia		
April 18	Michigan - Ontario, Canada		

How is A Rookie Defined?

In the Rookie Roundup, a Rookie is defined as having been first licensed in the current calendar year or the previous two calendar years, regardless of license class.

If you were licensed before the referenced period, you can also be a Rookie if you haven't made any contacts on the contest mode (SSB, CW, or RTTY) before the Rookie Roundup contest (if you qualify as such, send the current year in your exchange). Either of these reasons qualify you as a Rookie for just one year.

About - Rookie Roundup is a contest aimed at Amateurs licensed for three years or less. This six-hour event is held three times per year (April, August and December). Rookies can contact anybody, while "Old Timers" make contact with only Rookies. Mentoring is a big part of this event!

Round-Up - April 19, 2020

[Attribute: ARRL



