



# OLD BARNEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB N2OB



Webpage: <http://www.OBARC.org>

E-Mail: [N2OB@arrl.net](mailto:N2OB@arrl.net)

ARRL AFFILIATED



FEBRUARY 2018

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**NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 7:30pm**  
**Ocean Acres Community Center      489 Nautilus Drive      Manahawkin, NJ**

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### President's Corner

Steve Molo, KI4KWR

February...wow I made it thru the first month of being President. So far as you will see in this month's Newsletter...people are getting on the air and making contacts. Hoping to see more activity on the air and as I write this Bouvet DXpedition is starting setup for their activation of the most remote island. In January the ARRL situation went wide-spread and looks to have put the pressure on the right people. Some major changes are coming and will keep my ears open at Orlando on the ARRL.

Speaking about Orlando HAMCATION is one week away and will as before bring back goodies to share with all and share what is NEW to the market and what to expect for Xenia HAMVENTION. So last call...if you want anything from Orlando please let me know Tuesday evening at the Meeting and I will add it to my list to bring back.

Finally, is there something new to the hobby you want to learn about? Why not give us a Presentation on it at an upcoming Meeting. This coming Meeting we will have a short presentation on Solar WX....come and interact and learn about what truly affects the HF bands and sometime VHF too.

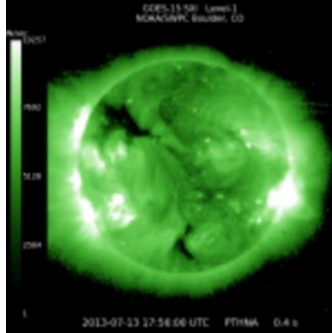
73,  
Steve KI4KWR  
OBARC President



February Presentation

## HF Propagation

### *An Introduction for the Newcomer*



## EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

ICOM IC-765 Good condition HF 160-10. Refurbished and aligned recently. Includes an SM-8 Desk Microphone (built in power supply). Manual on CD. Original box. \$695.00

ICOM IC-7000 Just back from Icom. They replaced the driver board and checked the radio out. All good. Been in my truck so a little scuffed up, but not bad 160-2 plus 440mhz. Includes hand microphone, new power cord, manual, remote head extension cable and mobile mount for head. \$575.00

OM-2000HF Legal Limit Amplifier. Manual tune. GU84b Ceramic Tetrode final. 160-10 meters. Will send manual (PDF) if you would like to see the details. Includes factory tune up chart. Very clean. Used little. Was on FT5ZM DXpedition, and then used minimally here at my house. 220/230 v only. Includes original box and wooden crate. Originally sold for \$6995.00 Sell for \$4995.00 FIRM. No shipping. Pick up only.

Contact N200 if Interested....

### Antenna Making Calculator

Here is a cool antenna calculator that gives you the length for a dipole versus an inverted v.

Of course, what's nice about an inverted v is that trimming the ends are much easier than with a dipole since they are relatively closer to the ground. So always make it longer first and always trim exact same amount from each end as you tune it.

<http://w3pie.org/antenna.htm>

*OBARC Members,*

If you know of any member who is not subscribed to the OBARC discussion list, please pass this link along to them. This will get them subscribed. Just fill in the appropriate info.

Note: to post to the list, the email must originate from the same email account that you subscribe.

<http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/obarc>

**Discount Prices - Great Service - 24 x 7 x 365**



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**www.CheapHam.com**



VE Session Report for January 2, 2018

There were three candidates and four tests were passed.

Rich Stout KD2NYO passed his General Exam and joined Old Barney.

Ken Freuwald passed his Technician and General Exams and is now KD2OYW.

Melanie Thorn passes here Technician Exam and is now KD2OYX.

Melanie is the daughter of OBARC Member Cheryl KA2YAF and the sister of OBARC Member Ryan KC2YAC

VE's

Urb LeJeune W1UL coordinator

Norm Stackhouse W2NRS

Joe LaGanga N1EZO

# The Dawn of Pragmatism

By Urb LeJeune W1UL

While growing up there are many events that spontaneously impact and change our lives. Frequently, we are not aware of the life-changing impact of these events until they are engrained into our very essence. The dictionary definition of pragmatism is, “practical as opposed to idealistic.” To me, pragmatism is, seeing things as they are, not as you would like them to be.

As with many of life’s seminal events, they make take years before being fully recognized and entrenched into our very being. My transition to pragmatic thinking happened on a baseball field in junior high school of all places. First a little background.

## My Best Buddy

Otto Schneider was my best friend growing up. We were born less than a month apart and lived in the same apartment house in East Orange, NJ. We lived on the same floor and we were soon playing in the same play pen. Otto’s parents emigrated from Germany in 1930 and spoke almost no English when Otto was born in 1932. Carl, Otto’s father, was a German trained tool and die maker and was always employed during the great depression that was ravishing the country at the time. My father drove a pie delivery truck and was also employed during the depression.

Otto and I were inseparable and most people thought we were twins, however, Otto was called the, “good looking” one. I was Otto’s pathway to English, since only German was spoken at his home. He father spoke a few heavily accented English phrases while his mother’s English was indecipherable to me. When Otto and I were about five years old our families independently moved to Hillside NJ, a small town between Newark and Elizabeth NJ.

At the time Hillside could be charitably describer as, “upper lower class”. My buddy and I were only separated by a mile and a half bur were in different school districts. I went to a Catholic school in the next town and Otto went to public school. I left the Catholic school when my parents had a confrontation with Mother Superior because they wouldn’t buy me a new suit for my First Communion. As a reward for this heroic battle I had to repeat second grade.

This was in the days long before television and we were relatively poor but so was everyone else in our area so we didn’t know we were poor. It was not until high school that I became aware that everyone was not in the same financial situation as the LeJeune’s, but that’s another story for another day.

## Let the Games Begin

Otto and I were into sports in a major way. Hillside prided itself on its athletic teams. Every Hillside High School team almost always had one or two all-state athletes. Since Otto and I attended different schools we never played on the same time but we did frequently play against each other when our grammar schools competed. I had a substantial gift in that when it came to a new sport I could become almost instantly mediocre. Otto, on the other hand, was truly gifted in the sports arena. In the Hillside school system grammar school was first grade to 7<sup>th</sup> grade. All of the town’s four grammar schools fed into a junior high school for 8<sup>th</sup>

and 9<sup>th</sup> grade. Since Otto never had to repeat a year he entered the Abraham P Morris Junior High School a year before I did. One of the major advantages, at least for the “jocks”, was eligibility to try out for the freshman teams when you were in eighth grade and Otto made both the freshman football and baseball during his eighth grade year. The following year we both made the football team, I was one of three eighth graders making freshman football team. On the day of baseball team’s tryouts it seemed like three-quarter of the male population of the school was there to demonstrate their baseball prowess. Otto and I both thought we were outfielders. The coach said, “Pitchers over there, catchers over there, infielders over there and outfielder over there”. About three-quarters of all the candidates headed for the outfielder staging area, include me and Otto.

### My First Exposure to Pragmatism

I looked at where the catchers were going and there were only three of them while it looked like there were over a hundred want-to-be outfielders. I turned to Otto and said, “I’ve just become a catcher”. The coach asked me, “Where is your catcher’s mitt”? To which I replied, “I brought the wrong glove” He laughed and said you can borrow one when it’s your turn. I watched the two true freshmen try out and saw that they had a distinctive style of throwing the ball, it required wrist action not body action. When it was my turn I threw the ball with a snap of the wrist just as the previous candidates had. I got off two great pickoff throws to second base. I was a pretty poor hitter but I managed to hit the ball a couple of times. I was selected as the backup catcher. The first stringer was a much better hitter than I was but I had a better arm. I would frequently be put into a game in the last couple of innings for defensive reason.

What happened to Otto? He didn’t make the team. One of the coaches hit a couple of fly balls to him and he didn’t have to move to catch them. During the batting portion of the tryout he only got to hit two times because of the large number on candidates. I was introduced to pragmatism.

What exactly is pragmatism? I like to think of as seeing things as they are, not as you would like them to be. A classic story: a glass has a liquid filled to the midpoint, the optimist observes the glass is half full, the pessimist reasons the glass is half empty, and the pragmatists simply sates the container is too big.

### Epilog

Pragmatism reappeared again less than a year later, but that’s another story.

Otto also shared an interest in ham radio and we frequently practice Morse code together. My Elmer would not let me take the 13 WPM code test until I could copy W1AW at 18 WPM. Otto ran to NYC to take the Class “B” exam as soon as he could copy 13 WPM. I copied the five minute code test solid and Otto never did pass the code test. There’s a message here somewhere.

**When not writing newsletter articles, Urb is busy with his website [ham-cram.com](http://ham-cram.com).**

**The site has three distinguishing characteristics:**

- 1. We don’t study incorrect answers.**
- 2. We only study the questions most likely to be on the VE test.**
- 3. It’s totally free.**

## Ocean County ARES® News – February, 2018

A note from Keith - KC2OON, Ocean County Skywarn Coordinator:

I wanted to thank all the Skywarn members who checked into the nets during the big snow event at the beginning of the month. We had about 12 reports on each net which is a great amount for Skywarn check-ins. I want to continue to keep Skywarn in our county active and hope to have another Skywarn class locally here to get more members on board. I'll be sure to post that information when it becomes available. If you are Skywarn certified but don't receive the Skywarn emails, email me at [kc2oon@yahoo.com](mailto:kc2oon@yahoo.com) and I'll add you to the list for the bulletins that get sent out. Also, be sure to like and follow the Ocean County Skywarn Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Ocean-County-Skywarn-617818108267259/>

Keith, KC2OON.

It is my intent to once again include the Manahawkin repeater into the Ocean County ARES training net schedule. On the third Wednesday of each month, the net will be held on N200/R, 146.835 MHz, PL of 127.3, -600 KHz. As usual, if there is an ARES meeting the net will not be held. Since there is no meeting in February, expect a net on 146.835 on February and March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018.

The ARRL has released some information in regard to the reorganization of ARES. The info is ARES Connect. What is ARES Connect?

ARES Connect is a volunteer management system that will allow each ARES group to manage their roster, create and staff events, and track nets and training. Each ARES group and ARRL Section will have a unique page on the platform with appropriate admin control given to the ARES Emergency Coordinator.

ARES members will be able to create a user profile that connects them to their local ARES group. Through their profile they can register for ARES (pending EC approval), sign up for events, log volunteer hours, and log training.

Reporting will be different through ARES Connect. As users log activity, data is created that allows ECs, DECs and SECs to run custom reports. The current ARES report forms will continue to be used through 2018 as the system is being built, but our current plan is to shift all reporting over to ARES Connect in January 2019.

Beta testing of the platform will begin in early 2018. Look for more information to be released about ARES Connect around midyear, once testing and initial build is complete.

Ocean County ARES applied for a unique group ID on January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018 and is waiting for a response from the ARRL. Since this is a new program, the response will most likely be slow.

73 de WX2NJ

Bob Murdock

Ocean County Amateur Radio Emergency Service® EC

# OBARC 2018 Contest Status

INTERNATIONAL GRID CHASE		WAS	WAZ	WAC	DXCC
NA2R	477	KI4KWR - 50	KZ2I - 22	KI4KWR -4	KZ2I - 59
KI4KWR	468	NA2R - 50	KI4KWR - 20		KI4KWR - 53
K2RET	251	KZ2I - 41			
W2TT	225	N2XW - 17			
K2RH	191				
KZ2I	127				
N2HYG	66				
W2TET	29				
N2OO	17				



## Old Barney Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 117

Manahawkin, NJ 08050

Club President:	Club Vice President:	Club Secretary:	Club Treasurer:
Steve Molo KI4KWR	Ira Hosid N2WAA	Bob Wick N2HM	Mike Libonati WA2ACV

Normal membership meeting is held on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:30PM at:

Ocean Acres Community Center

489 Nautilus Drive

Manahawkin, NJ 08050

Refreshments served / Visitors welcome and Handicap accessible.

Dues (Good for Year)

\$20 Full Membership / \$15 - 65 years old and older