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HamSČi



Colonel Douglas Wheelock KF5BOC

Douglas H. Wheelock was selected by NASA in 1998. The retired Colonel has accumulated more than 178 days in space. Wheelock flew on STS-120 in 2007, and in 2010, he served as a Flight Engineer for Expedition 24 and commander for Expedition 25. During this mission, Wheelock conducted three unplanned spacewalks to replace a faulty ammonia pump module. The New York native holds a Bachelor of Science in Applied Science and Engineering from the United States Military Academy in West Point, New York and a Master of Science in Aerospace Engineering from Georgia Tech in Atlanta, Georgia. He has earned a very lengthy list of awards including a Bronze Star and the NASA Superior Accomplishment Award.



Amateur Radio

Amateur radio is a hobby for radio enthusiasts, including communicators, builders, and experiments. Also known as “hams”, amateur radio operators can be identified by their government-issued calls signs, such as KF5BOC, K3YTL, and W3USR. Today, amateur radio not only allows people to connect around the world, but it also assists governmental agencies on the federal, state, and local level with emergency communications during times when commercial infrastructure is not available. It is not uncommon for amateur operators to be seen and heard when natural disasters such as hurricanes, tornados, or blizzards strike. Amateur radio operators also play a key role in scientific and technological advances, including understanding the space environment.

Murgas Amateur Club History K3YTL

The Murgas Amateur Radio Club (MARC) was organized in 1975 in the spirit of Father Josef Murgas who pioneered the very first overland wireless voice transmission in 1905. This historic transmission took place between Wilkes-Barre and Scranton. The club has fostered an environment of learning for potential new amateur operators while at the same time promoting other more experienced operators to improve and hone their skills. Today the MARC is a healthy and vibrant organization that sponsors many events for improving skills and promoting enjoyment in the hobby of amateur radio. In addition to providing monthly testing sessions for those wanting to gain a license with the FCC, MARC also sponsors other events throughout the year including winter and summer field days, fox hunts, Hamfests, and the active support of many regional endurance race events.

Father Josef Murgas (1864 - 1929)

Fr. Joseph Murgas emigrated the Austrian Empire (now known as Slovakia) to Wilkes-Barre, Pa in 1896. Fr. Murgas was well published in the field of electronics at the turn of the 20th century and received the first two of his 17 total patents in 1904. While his work continued well into 1917 and WWI, he is most noted for his first successful overland wireless transmission in 1905 over a distance of 20 miles. This occurred between the cities of Wilkes-Barre and Scranton. This break-through experiment is a key step to the development of the cell phone services we all rely on today!

W3USR The University of Scranton Amateur Radio Club

The W3USR University of Scranton Amateur Radio Club is the official amateur radio club of The University of Scranton. Founded in 2019, its mission is to facilitate the exchange of information and good engineering practices, to provide amateur communications for the student body and faculty when practical, to operate a licensed club station on campus, to promote research and curricular use of the station, and to conduct club programs and activities as to advance the general interest and welfare of amateur radio and the general community. W3USR is sponsored by the Department of Physics and Engineering and the Student Government. The W3USR officers for the 2021-2022 academic year are President Veronica Romanek KD2UHN ('23), Vice President Shaaf Sarwar KC3PVF ('23), Secretary Tommy Baran KD2SNG ('22), and Treasurer Simal Sami ('24). Dr. Nathaniel Frissell W2NAF is the faculty advisor.

Ham Radio Science Citizen Investigation (HamSCI)

The Ham Radio Science Citizen Investigation (HamSCI) is an international citizen-science project that brings together professional scientists and amateur radio operators for mutual benefit. HamSCI has three primary objectives. First, to advance scientific research and understanding through amateur radio activities. Second, to encourage the development of new technologies to support this research. Finally, to provide educational opportunities for the amateur community and the general public. HamSCI was founded in 2015, and is now an officially recognized NASA Citizen Science project. To learn more or join HamSCI, visit <https://hamsci.org/>.

The University of Scranton

The University of Scranton is a Catholic and Jesuit university animated by the spiritual vision and the tradition of excellence characteristic of the Society of Jesus and those who share its way of proceeding. The University is a community dedicated to the freedom of inquiry and personal development fundamental to the growth in wisdom and integrity of all who share its life.

The University of Scranton offers 69 majors in areas such as education, communication, business, health science, liberal arts and the sciences. Within the Department of Physics and Engineering, undergraduate degrees are offered in Physics, Electrical Engineering, Computer Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Biophysics, and Engineering Management. The University of Scranton is the lead institution for the HamSCI project and has been awarded over \$2.5 million in National Science Foundation and NASA Funding since 2019 for HamSCI and Space Science related projects.

Thank you!

The Murgas Amateur Radio Club wishes to kindly thank the administration, faculty, and students at both the University of Scranton and Misericordia University for their generous support in hosting our club and NASA astronaut Col. Douglas Wheelock. Specifically, a special acknowledgement to Dr. Nathaniel Frissell and Dr. Heidi Manning, who without their super efforts, this event would not have been possible.

Col. Wheelock NEPA Appearances

- 2:00pm at The University of Scranton, Moskovitz Theater
- 7:00pm at Misericordia University, Henry Science Center