

## Net Controller Profile: Jim, WB8GUC

Most of you don't know of the secret society known as the Fusion Gathering. It is made up of a dozen or so pioneers of C4FM that hang out on the Boswell repeater. Currently we meet at 7:00 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays and 7:00 am on Wednesdays. We're hoping to expand and looking for more Net Control Operators. I'd like to introduce one of our best pioneers, Jim, WB8GUC.



Hello everyone, this is WB8GUC, I go by Jim. I first discovered Amateur Radio while reading my father's collection of Popular Electronics' magazine. There was a column, I believe, called Carl and Jerry about a couple of teenagers who were hams. They had adventures and it ticked my interest. I think that I was 10 or 12. However there were no hams in my neighborhood. I finally took and passed the novice test, and received the callsign of WN8GUC, it was 1970. I was 19. In May of 1971 I received the call of WB8GUC after passing the General test.

My interest has been mostly CW, but not exclusively. I waited until 1985 to take the Extra test. with CW of 20 wpm. I enjoy working DX, but I'm not rabid about it. I do not have to work them all. Likewise, certificate chasing on DXCC, WAS and WAZ (Worked 100 countries, Worked All States & Worked All Zones 40 or so respectfully).

I have enjoyed the hobby; I really like listening and using other modes which increase my enjoyment. I really enjoy decoding SSTV (slow scan tv) or FT8 and WSPR. There are so many new modes yet to be included in my list. I never thought that I would run a net, and if you have heard my attempts, you may agree. But as in everything, it is a learning experience and can be done by anyone. (Ed's note: he is one of our best NCO's and I knew he would be).

I have enjoyed kit building as well. First was a Knightkit StarRoamer shortwave receiver. My novice rig was a Heathkit HW-16 novice transceiver. The last one was an Elecraft K-2. My current radio equipment include: for VHF/UHF I run a Yaesu FTM-300 and for HF I use a FT101mp at 100 watts to a 3 element Yagi at a 40 feet and several HT's are lying around.

(Ed's note; Jim is very shy and humble, but we are working on that. Ray, W0IVB).