

CIRCA LATE 1970s

DIAL RADIO CLUB - W8BLV

MIDDLETOWN, OHIO

Dial Repeaters - WR8ABS - Input 146.01 - Output 146.61
147.315 - 147.915

CLUB INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS AND PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS

We are happy to enclose herewith information regarding standard operating procedures of the club repeater stations and application to join the Dial Radio Club. We hope this will be the beginning of a long mutually beneficial association.

HISTORY

The Dial Radio Club is one of the oldest Amateur Radio Clubs in southwestern Ohio still in existence under the same name. There were at least two older clubs but they are no longer in existence. Original call letters were W8ROT in 1930. Old timers will remember the many changes Amateur Radio has gone through since then. In the 1930's "Remember the transmitter hunts on 10 meters with mobile rigs?" That was back when the "Citizens Band" was part of the 10 meter band. "Imagine working DX on a ten meter mobile rig running 30 watts to an 815 tube, heising modulated?"

During the 1940's club activity dwindled due to WW II.

In the 1950's, Single Side Band and the unusual sunspot cycle was the subject of meetings.

The 1960's brought "Solid State". "Transistors will never replace the tube" was often heard. HI' HI',

In the 1970's, "What is a repeater?" was asked of Dave McConnell (W8UJO) when he proposed a repeater on the 2 meter band using FM with an auto patch. What is an auto patch? He said that we could call our home from our automobile! Now this was hard to believe but Radio Dave made believers of us. Many improvements and changes were made on the repeater including novelty ID tapes such as the Cool Ghoul and others.

In January 1975, a new repeater was installed. The club purchased an E. F. Johnson especially customized for us by Tom Tally W8HQQ. Dave McConnell and Steve Poffenbarger (WB8CNI) designed and installed a very unique control logic system that can do everything but cook your dinner. The repeater system also includes a KLM 140 watt solid state amplifier. Also an emergency power changeover system to batteries that will keep our repeater on the air during power failures. The Middletown repeater covers southwestern Ohio better than any other repeater.

The Dial Radio Club may be old fashioned in some ways because we believe a radio club should be educational, instructive and productive of advancement, for it is quite possible that some of the members will never regret their association with the whole Amateur Radio Hobby that has something for everyone. We feel that we have more to offer because we have monthly meetings with interesting programs and monthly newsletter that some of the specialty clubs do not have.

Membership is based on \$15.00 per year, budgeted as follows:
\$3.00 for Holiday party, Field Day, Picnic, Newsletter and balance for repeater maintenance.

Following are the "Specs" for the Club's two repeaters

Input Freq.	146.01 Mhz	147.315 Mhz
Output Freq.	146.61 Mhz	147.915 Mhz
Manufacturer	E. F. Johnson Co. (TX & RX)	VHF Engineering TX Spectrum Com- munications (RX)
Control, ID, AP, Logic	- Yes	No Auto Patch
Antenna	Phelps-Dodge (5.8DB Gain)	Ringo Ranger (4DB)
Height above ground	320 feet	110 feet
E.R.P.	25 watts	25 watts
Duplexer	Homebrew (Six cavity type) from QST article	Same
Control	Touch Tone and wire line	Same
TX drop out	5 Sec.	3 Sec.
Delay key up	500 Milliseconds	Same
Deviation	4.5 Khz	3.5 Khz
Time out timer	3 to 4 minutes	None
Access	See note below	open 24 hours

The 146.01-61 repeater is the only repeater with a "knock". This is a signal after each transmission that allows "breakers" in with emergency or auto patch traffic. Users of the repeater must wait for the "knock" which indicates the timer being reset.

All auto-patch codes, etc., must begin within a second of the first digit and each additional digit of the code should be sent with no more than 2 seconds lapsing in between them. When clearing the patch, give the code, wait for the CW time, then clear by signing out with WR8ABS and give the date. When on the patch, if you talk for more than 3 minutes the patch will time out. If you listen to the party on the phone for more than thirty seconds, the autopatch will time out. But in this condition there will be a warning tone to tell you that the patch is timing out. To reset the timer just simply key your mike.

At midnight the 146.01-61 repeater goes into the access condition. After midnight a special code available only to members is required to put the repeater into normal operating condition that will last until 30 seconds after you clear off. After this the access code is required to bring it back on.

When resetting the three minute time out timer after midnight, This code will also put the repeater back into access. The access code must be given again.

Between 6 and 7 am, repeater is turned on by control operator.

The Butler County Disaster Services Agency (Civil Defense) and the Dial Radio Club have a very good working relationship therefore we permit use of the club repeaters during the Middletown Hospital assimilated disaster emergency exercise and real disasters.

Also the Warren County Disaster Services Agency (Civil Defense), the Dial Radio Club and the Warren County Disaster Services Amateur Radio Net (Which operates repeater on 146.865 - 146.265) have a very good working relationship as the Dial Radio Club has several members in Warren County. And the Warren repeater is open to all licensed amateurs.