Dial Radio Club

Middletown, Ohio
Packet Node: W8BLV-3 (MWO) 144.91 APRS Node: W8WMO (MWO) 144.39

Repeaters: 52.21/53.21, 146.01/146.61, 147.915/147.315, 223.36/224.96, 449.825/444.825
Web page: ***http://www.qsl.net/w8blv/*** e-mail: ***dial@qth.net***

President:
Ron Spaulding, N8NQF
Vice-president:
Art Frasik, N8PI
Secretary:
Ernie Howard., W8EH
Treasurer:
Carl Morgan, K8CM

Activities Manager:
Lorie Urschel, W8LKU
Newsletter Printing
Ron Spaulding, N8NQF
Newsletter Distribution:
Ruth Howard, N8OZN

January 2003

Happy 2003 !!!

Best wishes from your officers for a happy, healthy, and prosperous new year.

Minutes of the December 16, 2003 Dial Radio Club Meeting

Members Attending:
W8EH, N8OZN, N8HRA, N8EH, N8DHW, W8GNV, N8TFH, WB8MYT, W8MVN, Bonnie, WA8PRA, KC8CYP, N8NQF, KD8W, N8CLT, W8RRT, KI8I, N8PI, KC8QQF, KC8SKV, Phyllis, KD8OH, Tillie, KC8QQH, Brenda, KC8IZF, Kathy, KB8WKL, N8GGE, N8HP, K8CM, KC8TXA, WA8DTU, W8LKU, W8ULC. (35)

Call to Order:
The meeting was called to order by Dave, KD8W after a bit of confusion and quick thinking. We started the evening off with a call from Old Country Buffet at 4:15pm to inform us that they were closing at 7 pm and we would not be able to have our meeting.

We quickly mobilized and moved to Golden Corral. They were very helpful in making room for our meeting.

Dave will contact Old Country Buffet management about the problem.

A show of hands indicates that we will be at Golden Corral for the next few months to try it out.

Secretary's Report:
Motion to approve the minutes as published by Ernie, N8EH, and seconded by Charles, N8CLT. Motion approved without dissent.

Treasurer's Report:
Treasurer's report by Carl, K8CM. We are doing good and membership renewals are being received.

In view of the open environment of our meeting, a detailed report was not presented. A copy of the report was filed with the Secretary and is available to any member for inspection.

Station Report:
Repeater report by Ernie, W8EH. The main 146.61 system has been removed from the site for some major work and is expected to be reinstalled sometime after Christmas. In the interim, we are operating on the backup system.

Old Business:
Sweepstakes contest. We had a fun time at Ed and Sandi's operating sweepstakes and will be trying to plan another club

Next Meeting: Monday, January 20, *Golden Corral Buffet & Grill*; dinner at 6 meeting at 7

contest effort this spring. Details later.

New Business:

Our winter round of classes will begin January 15. Instructors are asked to meet at Dave's house the evening of January 8 for planning.

Carl has information on the FAR scholarships for college students.

Barney, N8HP, reported for the nominating committee. The proposed slate for 2003 is: president - Ron, N8NQF; vice president - Art, N8PI; secretary - Ernie, W8EH; treasurer - Carl, K8CM; and activities manager - Lorie, W8LKU.

Nominations were open from the floor. Being none, a motion to close nominations and declare the slate elected by Frank, WA8PRA and seconded by Barney, N8EH, was approved by the membership.

Adjourn:

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Ron, N8NQF, seconded by Barney, N8HP, and approved, without dissent, by the membership.

Ernest W. Howard, Jr., W8EH
Secretary

Officers Elected to Serve You for 2003

President	Ron Spaulding, N8NQF
Vice President	Art Frasik, N8PI
Secretary	Ernest W. Howard, Jr., W8EH
Treasurer	Carl Morgan, K8CM
Activities Mgr.	Lorie Urschel, W8LKU

From The President's Pen

I look forward to 2003 as the president of the *Dial Radio Club*. If you have any suggestions for speakers at our monthly meetings, please feel free to call Lori, W8LKU, and pass on that suggestion as she is our activities manager.

I would also like to thank Lori and Kathy Urschel for assembling and mailing our monthly newsletter, which they have been doing since 1999. If anyone is interested in handling this very important function, please give me a call.

We also look forward to meeting at the *Golden Corral*, at least for the time being, with the expectation their meeting area will work well for us.

Have a great Ham Radio Year.....

Ron Spaulding, N8NQF

From Dave, KD8W

As outgoing President, I want to thank everyone in the club for their help in all of the Field Day events, special events and other activities. I would like us all to take a moment and remember those that have passed, the good times we had with them and I hope that we all continue to prosper in the coming year.

Have a great holiday season and may all of you have a great 2003 and beyond !!

Dave Williamson, KD8W

We're Moving !!

Our anticipated move from the *Old Country Buffet* was expedited last meeting when we discovered, about 4pm, that the *OLC* planned to close at 7pm for their Christmas party. Fortunately, the management at *Golden Corral* "took us in" and we had both a good meal and meeting.

Subsequently, the membership voted to, officially, move our monthly meetings to the *Golden Corral Buffet & Grill*, 3350 Village Drive, Franklin, OH (Towne Mall area).

Dinner period will begin at 6 pm followed by our regular meeting at 7.

You may review the restaurant's offerings by checking their home page at ***http://www.goldencorralrest.com/***.

Members and guests desiring to attend the meeting, but who may not wish to come for dinner, are welcome. You should plan to arrive a few minutes before 7 and simply tell the cashier that you are attending the *Dial Radio Club* meeting and not dining; no charge will apply.

There is an expectation, by the restaurant management, that an appropriate gratuity will be offered to the service staff. Participation by all will be appreciated.

Upgrades & New Licenses

Congratulations to Jodie Frasik, KC8QQF, and Charles Trees, N8CLT. Jodie and Charlie upgraded to General Class during the past month.

Their timing is great since we'll be starting our annual Extra Class training session on Wednesday, January 15.

Attention: Juno Users

If you are subscribed to the Dial email reflector list this is important. Your email from the *DIAL* list may be blocked by JUNO so you will be missing important messages. We have been so advised, by Al Waller, owner of our email list server at QTH.NET & QSL.NET, and he has asked us to pass this along to you.

If you are still experiencing an interruption in service, please contact JUNO and tell them you are upset about missing your email. Until they remove the blocking on the QTH.NET servers you will continue to miss the *DIAL* news. *[W8EH]*

17th Annual Southwest Ohio Digital Symposium

The Seventeenth Annual **Southwest Ohio Digital Symposium** will be held on Saturday, January 11, 2003; 9:00 a.m. - 400 p.m. in Thesken Hall, Middletown Campus, Miami University, Middletown (OH) . Admission and parking is free.

Sponsored by The Center for Chemistry Education, Miami University-Middletown, DIAL Radio Club, and The Ohio Packet Council.

If you have an interest in CW, RTTY, APRS, Packet Radio,

AMTOR, etc., please plan to join us.

Program chairman for the Year-2003 event is Hank Greeb, N8XX . *[N8XX]*

Winter 2002-2003 Ham Radio Class

The **Amateur Extra Class** section of the ***DIAL RADIO CLUB's*** Winter, 2002-2003, Amateur Radio class will begin on January 15, in Middletown, 6-9 pm. Meeting in Johnston Hall, on the Middletown Campus of Miami University, classes will be offered to prepare a candidate for examination in Amateur Extra Class operator license.

Instruction will conclude April 23.

Instruction in the International Morse code, working toward proficiency at 5 wpm and beginning January 15, will continue through April 23.

Amateur radio operator license examinations will be available, in Middletown, at the conclusion of instruction, April 30, 2003.

Although there is no charge for the instructional portion of these classes, students should be prepared to purchase a license training manual and supplies (approximately $20-25) for use in class.

Class enrollment will be limited to forty students. For registration and/or additional information, please call Miami's Continuing Education

Great Lakes Division Convention

Hams in the Great Lakes Division (Michigan, Ohio, Kentucky) will hold a Division Convention next September, 6-7, 2003 in conjunction with the Findlay Ohio Hamfest, one of Ohio's largest ham radio events. Among the major speakers will be American Radio Relay League national president Jim Haynie, W5JBP, of Dallas.

Gary L. Johnston, KI4LA, Division Director until January, will chair the Convention scheduled for Saturday, September 6th at the Findlay Inn. Hams will stay over Sunday, September 7th for the 61st Findlay Hamfest - the second biggest ham radio event in Ohio (after the Dayton Hamvention, of course).

Mr. Johnston, of Edgewood, KY, was appointed chairman by Director elect Jim Weaver, K8JE, Mason, OH.

Chairman Johnston has already been planning the event with local Findlay officials and Section Managers of all three Great Lakes Division States, Debbie Kirkbride, KA8YKK (Michigan), Joe Phillips, K8QOE (Ohio), and John Meyers, NB4K (Kentucky). "Beside President Jim Haynie, a remarkably gifted speaker; we are organizing forums and ham radio recognition awards plus a main evening banquet to make this convention memorable," Gary said at the announcement, "the hotel facility is first rate and those attending will find it a marvelous weekend ending with the Findlay Hamfest." The location is ideal. With a Division spanning Interstate 75 from Michigan's Upper Peninsula to Kentucky's border with Tennessee, Findlay is nearly the exact center off the Interstate. Combining it with a popular hamfest will make that weekend a major event on the ham radio calendar for 2003.

Ticket prices, hotel reservations, forum events and other information will be announced soon and will appear on Web Pages of the Division and the Web Pages of all three Sections when released. *[K8QOE]*

Butler County Emergency Communication Team

The Butler County Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Team is in need of additional amateur radio operators to assist during emergencies and disaster situations. ***This is your individual invitation to join us!***

Are we an active Team, you tell me? The following is the activities the group has done since September 2002:

- 5 Live Drills
- 1 Mutual Aid Event for Warren County
- EMA Training
- Red Cross Training
- Level I Amateur Radio Emergency Communications (EC-001) – 10 Certifications
- Level II Amateur Radio Emergency Communications (EC-002) – 9 Certifications
- Level III Amateur Radio Emergency Communications (EC-003) – 7 Certifications
- Total Man Hours: 1335+

In the excitement of being a newly appointed Emergency Coordinator (EC) for Butler County, there was some confusion about what was being asked of "volunteer operators". You already have one of the requirements, an amateur radio license. The only other thing you need now is you PHOTO IDENTIFICATION!

With the increased awareness of Home Land Security, entering any disaster site, public building during an emergency, or assisting on the scene even with communications will require each and every person to have the proper Identification to access these areas.

The TRAINING the team has been involved with is offered to those that wish to take it, IT IS NOT A REQUIREMENT to participate.

It is also not required to belong to any one of the local radio clubs, ARRL, etc. All that IS required is your willingness to participate as an Emergency Communicator.

We would like to have you attend the first meeting in February on the 12th 6:30 P.M. at the D. Russel Lee Vocational School Room 229 to have your photo taken on our colored backdrop so identification cards can be made for you.

For other schedule training that is available, meetings, etc. check our website at: ***http://www.qsl.net/n8tvu***

Bob Spratt N8TVU
Butler County Emergency Coordinator

WRC-03 Conference Preparatory Meeting Expands 40-Meter Options

Paul Simon sang of 50 ways to leave your lover, but participants at the just-ended Conference Preparatory Meeting (CPM) for World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 heard just five ways to fix 40 meters, plus a sixth that would just leave

things as they are.

"The five options for change all represent improvements in the amateur band, although two fall short of fulfilling the 300-kHz worldwide requirement," said ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ. He attended the Geneva gathering in his role as International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) secretary. "All six options maintain the existing 300-kHz exclusive amateur allocation in Region 2."

The objective of the CPM was to complete work on a 700-plus page extensive technical CPM Report, which outlines methods to address the more than three dozen items that are on the WRC-03 agenda. As for amateur issues, Sumner says 7-MHz realignment or harmonization "is one of the most difficult issues facing WRC-03." As he explains the situation, three major interests--amateurs, shortwave broadcasters, and users, mainly military, of the fixed and mobile services--have a stake in the outcome.

The IARU is on record as supporting a 300-kHz worldwide amateur allocation in the vicinity of 7 MHz. Sumner said achieving this would require the fixed and mobile services to make room for broadcasters and for the broadcasters to change their operating frequencies. The five methods for change the CPM Report describes include a variety of transition schedules to ease the impact on these other services.

* Method A would shift Region 1 and 3 broadcasters up by 200 kHz to 7300-7550 kHz in two stages and would provide the same band for broadcasting in Region 2.

* Method B is similar but would have amateurs in Regions 1 and 3 sharing the upper 100 kHz of their newly expanded band with fixed and mobile.

* Method C would provide just 200 kHz for amateurs in Regions 1 and 3. Amateurs in Region 2 would continue to contend with broadcasting interference from Regions 1 and 3 in the 7200-7300 kHz segment.

* Method D, proposed by Canada at the CPM, would provide 300 kHz worldwide for amateurs by shifting broadcasters in Regions 1 and 3 up by 200 kHz but would not expand the Region 2 broadcasting allocation. This plan would minimize the impact on fixed and mobile services in Region 2.

* Method E, proposed by the Republic of Korea at the CPM, would provide amateurs in Regions 1 and 3 with an additional 100 kHz shared with fixed and mobile (7100-7200 kHz). As with Method C, however, Region 2 amateurs would continue to face broadcasting interference from Regions 1 and 3 in the 7200-7300 kHz segment.

* Method F, proposed by Australia at the CPM, would simply maintain the status quo. This plan reflects concerns about the impact of realignment on military and national security communications capabilities.

"There is no guarantee that proposals will be limited to the six methods described in the CPM Report," Sumner said.

Amateur Radio was well represented at the CPM. Chairing the CPM was Eberhard George, DL7IH, of Germany. A three-member IARU team was headed by President Larry Price, W4RA, and included Sumner and Wojciech Nietyksza, SP5FM. ARRL Technical Relations Manager Paul Rinaldo, W4RI, served as a member of the US delegation. He also was named to chair the ad hoc group that dealt with the substance of the 7-MHz text. Several other amateurs were on their national delegations, some of them specifically to represent Amateur Radio and others in professional capacities. IARU Vice President David Wardlaw, VK3ADW, was on the Australian delegation.

Sponsored by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), the CPM drew more than 1000 participants to Geneva during the last two weeks of November. Over the next three months, regional telecommunications organizations and groups (CEPT, CITEL, and Asia-Pacific Telecommunity, the African Telecommunications Union, and Iran and the Arab States) as well as individual administrations will be developing their proposals for WRC-03, which takes place in Geneva next summer. *[ARRL Letter]*

First Amateur Transatlantic HF Digital Voice QSO Reported

Radio communication pioneers Ten-Tec and Thales have announced that they've used an Amateur Radio linkup to span the Atlantic on HF digital voice for the first time. Ten-Tec's Doug Smith, KF6DX, and Thales' Didier Chulot, F5MJN, successfully transmitted and received HF digital speech signals November 22 between Paris, France, and Ten-Tec's Sevierville, Tennessee, headquarters.

"We view this as a significant accomplishment," said Smith. "Amateur Radio has long been at the forefront of technological development. It's nice to be able to show that our legacy is alive and well." Tests are being conducted under the auspices of ARRL's Digital Voice Working Group, which Smith chairs. A written report on the tests is due in January.

Calling it "a major breakthrough," a Ten-Tec news release said the two amateur stations "demonstrated the advantages of digital audio during the conversation, including noise-free, FM-like reception and the potential for simultaneous voice and data." The feat was accomplished on 15 meters using Ten-Tec transceivers and Thales Communications Skywave 2000 digital audio software. Operating as F8KGG, Chulot spoke with Smith for several minutes over the HF digital link, operating within a 3-kHz bandwidth.

Smith said he and F5MJN used unmodified Ten-Tec transceivers in upper-sideband mode, although AM or FM mode also would work. No additional hardware was required beyond the cables connecting the transceiver and the microphone to the PC sound card. Smith said audio quality was roughly the same as a conventional telephone circuit. An Amateur Radio version of the Thales system is expected to appear on the market early next year. "At this stage, the system is experimental-only for ham radio, but it looks like it's going to take off," Smith predicted.

In terms of Amateur Radio, Alinco was the first manufacturer to come out with a digital voice option for some of its transceivers. ICOM debuted its D-Star digital "concept radio" system last May at the Dayton Hamvention--where Smith chaired the Digital Voice Forum--and demonstrated it at the ARRL-TAPR Digital Communications Conference in September. The unit, which operates on 1.2 GHz, was scheduled to hit the ham radio market this fall.

Technical details of the Thales system will appear in an article "International Digital Audio Broadcasting Standards:

Voice Coding and Amateur Radio Applications" in the January/February issue of QEX, which he edits. The article is available on the ARRL Web site; *<http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/pdf/x0301049.pdf>*. He also has authored two articles on digital voice in QST: "Digital Voice: The Next New Mode?" *<http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/pdf/0201028.pdf>* in the January 2002 issue, and "Digital Voice: An Update and Forecast" *<http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/pdf/0202038.pdf>* in the February 2002 issue.

Additional images and background are available on the TAPR Web site *<http://www.tapr.org>*. Look for the Digital Voice Forum page and the presentation by Cédric Demeure.--Ten-Tec news release; Doug Smith, KF6DX.

[ARRL Letter]

New Technician Class Question Pool Released

The Question Pool Committee (QPC) of the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators has released a revised and expanded Amateur Technician class (Element 2) question pool into the public domain. The new question pool becomes effective July 1, 2003, and must be used to generate all Technician written examinations administered on or after that date.

"The newly revised pool released this week by the QPC includes significant efforts to present the pool in a more friendly and understandable fashion for beginners while maintaining appropriate emphasis on safety, rules and operating procedures," said ARRL VEC Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ. "The Technician syllabus was completely revised during 2002 to allow for the revamping of the new question pool."

The new Element 2 question pool contains 511 questions--up from 385 in the April 2000 release that occurred around the time of Amateur Radio restructuring.

The new question pool, available on the Amateur Exam Question Pools Web page *<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/pools.html>*, includes all questions and answers as well as graphics related to the questions for Element 2.

The FCC rules (§97.523) require each question pool to contain at least 10 times the number of questions required to appear on any examination drawn from that pool. QPC Chairman Scotty Neustadter, W4WW, says the QPC has attempted to apply that same "10 times" principle to each subelement.

Neustadter said "insignificant changes" to the Element 2 syllabus were made as they became obvious, although they were not specifically highlighted in this week's release.

VECs have a certain amount of flexibility with the format of their examinations. Outside of the fact that questions, answers, distracters and related graphics must appear as they do in the question pool itself, "the manner of presentation is not interpreted to be of impact to Amateur Radio as long as clarity of presentation is preserved," Neustadter said.

On behalf of the QPC, he also thanked all amateurs who assisted in the effort to revise Element 2. In addition to Neustadter and Jahnke, members of the Question Pool Committee are Fred Maia, W5YI, and John Johnston, W3BE.

The Question Pool Committee now will turn its attention to developing an outline for the General class (Element 3) question pool, which will be revised during the fall of 2003. The QPC has put out a call for input by January 31, 2003, to the Element 3 syllabus and question pool. Commenters may address specific Element 2 questions as well as inputs to the Element 3 syllabus and question pool to the Question Pool Committee via e-mail *<qpc@arrl.org>*. *[ARRL Letter]*

Foundation For Amateur Radio, Inc. Scholarships

THE FOUNDATION FOR AMATEUR RADIO, INC., a non-profit organization with headquarters in Washington, D.C., plans to administer fifty-eight (58) scholarships for the academic year 2003 - 2004 to assist licensed Radio Amateurs. The Foundation, composed of over seventy-five local area Amateur Radio Clubs, fully funds seven of these scholarships with the income from grants and its annual Hamfest. The remaining fifty-one (51) are administered by the Foundation without cost to the various donors.

Licensed Radio Amateurs may compete for these awards if they plan to pursue a full-time course of studies beyond high school and are enrolled in or have been accepted for enrollment at an accredited university, college or technical school. The awards range from $500 to $2500 with preference given in some cases to residents of specified geographical areas or the pursuit of certain study programs. Clubs, especially those in Delaware, Florida, Maryland, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, Virginia and Wisconsin, are encouraged to announce these opportunities at their meetings, in their club newsletters, during training classes, on their nets and on their world wide web home pages.

Additional information and an application form may be requested by letter or QSL card, postmarked prior to April 30, 2003 from:

FAR Scholarships
Post Office Box 831
Riverdale, MD 20738

The Foundation for Amateur Radio, incorporated in the District of Columbia, is an exempt organization under Section 501 (C)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954. It is devoted exclusively to promoting the interests of Amateur Radio and those scientific, literary and educational pursuits that advance the purposes of the Amateur Radio Service. *[FAR]*

Hams Aid Maritime Rescue

Amateur Radio operators on a 40-meter net that's aimed at helping stations obtain the Worked All States award are getting at least partial credit for helping to save a ham-sailor and two companions whose boat was caught up in rough weather off the West Coast December 14. Steve Letendre, KE6FQ, said that during a late 40-meter session of the 3905 Century Club Net *<http://www.3905ccn.com>* on 7.233.5 MHz, an emergency break came on frequency.

"The man's boat was in high seas and taking water

approximately 350 miles south of San Diego near Cedros Island," Letendre said. "High winds and waves mostly kept him from spending too much time giving us info." Letendre says he later learned from the Coast Guard that the boat was being exposed to 12-15 foot waves and 60 MPH winds.

Net Control Station John Milner, W6BUM, requested a hold on the net while Letendre and Joe Seibert, AL1F, in Alaska attempted to communicate with the vessel's skipper--whom Letendre identified as Walter Jorgenson, W6ULT. "I was on the phone with San Diego Coast Guard, while Joe copied info as the questions came from them," Letendre said. "We were unable to get too much other info due to the boat getting slapped around pretty good. I'm sure the skipper had his hands full holding the wheel and a mic at the same time."

Somewhere in the excitement, Letendre said, the skipper fired a flare and a Mexican Naval vessel appeared and launched a raft. The passengers were taken aboard the naval vessel and the boat towed to safety. Letendre is modest about his net's role in the effort. "By the time we had good relays set up, he was rescued," he said.

The incident did provide an opportunity for Letendre to acquaint the US Coast Guard in his area with the net's existence. "The Coast Guard officer also thanked us and requested info on our group, so I gave him the home page," he explained.

[ARRL Letter]

ARRL VEC Examination Fee to Rise

Starting January 1, 2003, the fee charged all applicants at ARRL VEC-coordinated Amateur Radio test sessions will increase from $10 to $12 for the year 2003. This fee is charged to anyone applying for a new amateur license or upgrading their operating privileges.

"While the number of examinees has remained relatively unchanged in the past 24 months, our cost of doing business--and the expenses incurred by ARRL VEs--continues to rise," said ARRL VEC Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ. "An adjustment was needed in the 2003 test fee if we intended to maintain the same level of service that our VEs and VE teams have come to expect."

Applicants failing an exam element at ARRL sessions where examiners permit retesting on the same exam element also must submit a retest fee of $12. Additionally, the maximum reimbursement ARRL VEC allows ARRL volunteer examiner (VE) teams to retain to directly offset their "prudently incurred" out-of-pocket expenses will go up from $4 to $6 in 2003 (this fee has remained at $4 per person served since 1991).

Jahnke said that adjusting the reimbursement level for ARRL VEs also was past due. For more information, contact ARRL VEC, ***vec@arrl.org***. *[ARRL Letter]*

Are you Getting Your Newsletter?

Are you getting your *DIAL Newsletter* each month? You should be, either by e-mail attachment or a printed copy by regular mail. If you have asked Lorie to send your copy by e-mail, you will not receive a printed copy, *except* when there's something else to come to you (renewal form, for example).

The mailed version goes out on Friday, 10 days before the next regular meeting. The e-mail version may be a day or two ahead or behind the printed copy. A copy, for your review and/or download, of the electronic version will be posted on the *Dial* website; ***http://www.qsl.net/w8blv/newsletters/.***

If, for some reason, you don't receive your *Newsletter*, or know of someone who isn't receiving theirs, please give me a call. Just to be sure your membership is "paid in full", check the *Newsletter*'s address label to verify your current year of membership. *[K8CM]*

Membership Cards & Autodial Codes

Your Y-2003 membership cards will be mailed, under separate cover, between January 1 and February 1.

Auto patch codes, for the autodial and auto patch, will be changing effective February 1. If in doubt about time, try both.

As in the past, autopatch codes will be shown on the back of your membership card. If you have autodial service, your autodial number will appear on the lower right side of your new membership card. *[K8CM]*

Hamvention 2003 to Celebrate "Year of the Young"

Dayton Hamvention--the world's largest Amateur Radio gathering and trade show--celebrates its 51st year and its 52nd show, Friday, May 16, through Sunday, May 18, 2003. The focus in 2003 will be on the younger hams and attracting 12-to-18 year olds to Amateur Radio.

Held at the Dayton, Ohio, HARA Arena complex, Hamvention includes forums; 500 inside exhibit spaces; and a 2500-plus space outdoor vendor area (a-k-a "the fle market").

Dayton Hamvention has become an Amateur Radio tradition for the 25,000 or so amateurs and visitors who attend each spring. More information is available on the Hamvention Web site <***http://www.hamvention.org***>. *[ARRL Letter]*

Next Meeting

Our meeting time is 7pm (6pm if you are coming for dinner) and will be at the *Golden Corral Buffet & Grill* at 3350 Village Drive, Franklin, OH (Towne Mall area). ***Hope to see you on Monday the 20th!***

Join the ARRL and demonstrate your support for the growth of amateur Radio.

January 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
The 17th Annual Southwest Ohio Digital Symposium will be held in Thesken Hall, Miami University-Middletown, on Saturday, January 11, 2003, 0900-1600 EST. Parking and admission is free. Plan to attend and learn more about amateur radio's digital communications techniques.			1 **New Year's Day** **ARRL** Straight Key Night	2 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	3	4 **ARRL** Kid's Day **ARRL** RTTY Round-up
5 **ARRL** RTTY Round-up	6	7	8	9 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	10	11 **SWOH Digital Symposium** **BCVHFA** License Exams - 9am **OH-KY-IN** Fox Hunt - 10am
12	13	14	15 Amateur License Class Begins @ 6pm Johnston Hall Miami-Middletown	16 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	17	18 **ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes**
19 **ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes** Sunday Creek Amateur Radio Federation Nelsonville	20 **Dial Meeting** 7pn Old Country Buffet Dinner at 6pm	21	22 Amateur License Class 6pm Johnston Hall Miami-Middletown	23 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	24	25
26 **Tusco ARC** New Philadelphia	27	28	29 Amateur License Class 6pm Johnston Hall Miami-Middletown	30 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	31	

February 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
						1 **10-10 International** Winter Phone Party
2 **10-10 International** Winter Phone Party	3	4	5 Amateur License Class 6pm Johnston Hall Miami-Middletown	6 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	7	8 **BCVHFA** License Exams - 8:30am **OH-KY-IN** Fox Hunt - 10am
9	10	11	12 Amateur License Class 6pm Johnston Hall Miami-Middletown **Butler County** **Emergency** **Communication Team** Meeting - 6:30 pm Room 229 D. Russel Lee JVS	13 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	14	15 **ARRL** International DX Contest (CW)
16 **ARRL** International DX Contest (CW)	17 **Dial Meeting** 7pn Old Country Buffet Dinner at 6pm	18	19 Amateur License Class 6pm Johnston Hall Miami-Middletown	20 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	21	22
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President:
Ron Spaulding, N8NQF
Vice-president:
Art Frasik, N8PI
Secretary:
Ernie Howard., W8EH
Treasurer:
Carl Morgan, K8CM

Activities Manager:
Lorie Urschel, W8LKU
Newsletter Printing
Ron Spaulding, N8NQF
Newsletter Distribution:
Ruth Howard, N8OZN
Elaine Howard

February 2003

Minutes of the January 20, 2003 Dial Radio Club Meeting

Members Attending:
N8OZN, N8ODK, N8LWM, N8HRA, N8EH, N8NQF, W8EH, Elaine, KC8TXA, N8DHW, K8CM, W8WLM, Kathy, W8LKU, WA8DTU, N8PI, KC8QQF, Phyllis, KC8SKV, N8OMW, W8ULC, N8GGE, N8HP, WD8DFK, N8BH, K9EBR, KB8WKL, KC8SUD, W3GP, N8TQG, W8MVN, Bonnie, W8GNV, KC8CYP, WB8MYT, N8TFH, WD8NKJ, KF8PD, AB8LA, Tommy & Jessica, KD8W, WA8PRA. (45)

Call to Order:
Meeting called to order by Ron, N8NQF. Everyone present introduced themselves.

Secretary's Report:
Motion to approve the minutes as published by Ernie, N8EH, and seconded by George, W3GP. Motion approved without dissent.

We received a thank you note from Hospice of the Bluegrass for a memorial donation for Wanda's mother.

Treasurer's Report
We had to transfer from the contingency fund to balance out 2002. We had 138 members at the end of the year and. 83 renewals prior to the meeting.

Carl, K8CM, moved that we accept the membership application from Charles Beel, KB8QQF. Seconded by Ernie, N8EH; motion approved.

Repeater/Station Report:
The 146.61 system has been repaired, upgraded and reinstalled. Two new, Hamtronics, UHF link receivers were installed. Bypass capacitors were installed on all leads into and out of the receiver voter and other audio circuits. Audio levels were balanced and equalized. The PL encode/decode box was repaired. The computer interface for programming was fixed. An Astron power supply was modified and installed to keep the backup batteries charged. The transmitter was checked for spurious signals and none were found.

Classes & Exams:
Dave, KD8W, reported on the classes and schedule. Exams are March 5 and April 30.

Dave also said the digital symposium was a success and had one of the biggest crowds.

Old Business:
Ron, N8NQF, reported on the situation with *Old Country Buffet*. We received an apology from them for the mix up.

New Business:
Carl, K8CM, brought up three proposed changes to the club By-laws that effect dues. Motion to approve these changes as "proposed amendments" by Carl, K8CM, seconded by Dave, KD8W; motion approved. Official vote on these will take place at the regular meeting on February 17. The complete text will be published in the newsletter. *[please see page 2 - Ed.]*

Ron, N8NQF, reported that he met with the Butler County Emergency Communications Team. They requested that we sign an official 'Memorandum of Understanding' to share our repeater systems with them during emergencies. Motion by Carl, K8CM, second by Art, N8PL; motion approved. Ron and Ernie will sign the agreement.

Lorie, W8LKU, brought up that the Butler County Emergency Communications Team has a meeting on Wednesday. Any of the area hams can join. On February 12 there were be the opportunity to sign up and get an ID card

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made. Meetings are on Wednesday nights at 6:30pm at D. Russell Lee adult education center, room 229. Nets are every Tuesday at 7:30 pm on the 147.33+ repeater, PL 118.8. Everyone welcome to check in.

Art, N8PI, relayed a request about setting up an Echolink station on one of the club repeaters. Echolink was demonstrated at the digital symposium. Ernie, W8EH; Dave, KD8W; Art, N8PI and Bruce, KC8URF are going to look into it.

Art, N8PI, also relayed a suggestion that we get everyone to donate money to the club for equipment. Carl, K8CM, says the membership application has a line for this and gave us stats on what was donated over the last several years.

Sandi, AB8LA, asked about getting started on field day preparations. Everyone liked the idea of returning to Smith Park. Motion to apply for permission to use Smith Park this year by Sandi, AB8LA, second by Art, N8PI; motion approved. Ernie, W8EH, will apply for permit.

Bob, N8OMW, said that on February 15, a test session will be held in Cincinnati for the Emergency Communication Course, levels 1, 2 and 3. Hamilton county APRSC is the sponsor. For info on this and the Butler Co Emergency Communications Team, check out ***http://www.qsl.net/n8tvu*** . There is a schedule of events there.

Adjourn:

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by George, W3GP, seconded by Sandi, AB8LP,and approved, without dissent, by the membership.

Ernest W. Howard, Jr., W8EH
Secretary

Proposed Amendments to By-Laws

ARTICLE I - DUES AND FEES

(Current section)
Section 3.

Annual dues, combining membership and full repeater privileges, shall be $26. *(Last revised October 10, 1997 increasing the dues from $20 to $26)*

(Proposed section)

Annual dues, combining membership and full repeater privileges, shall be $26. Persons initiating membership after July 1 of the current calendar year, may have their membership reduced to $13. This special rate shall not apply to renewals or to former members' memberships lapsed less than two years.

(Current section)
Section 5.

Persons paying the next years dues prior to December 1, shall be given autodial slots at no charge for the following year, subject to availability. Persons paying dues after December 1, will be charged $4 for each autodial slot. *(No revisions have been made to this section)*

(Proposed section)

Persons joining, or renewing their membership, at the "repeater" level, shall be assigned an autodial slot at no additional charge for the ensuing year, subject to availability. Normally, these assignments will be one per household, except when fewer households exist than the number of autodial slots (240). Telephone numbers requiring a leading "0" or "1" will not be assigned in autodial slots.

(Current section)
Section 6.

Students of Dial Radio Classes that receive their first license while attending these classes, upon approval of application, shall receive a complimentary basic membership for the remainder of the calendar year.

(Proposed section)

Students of Dial Radio Classes that receive their first license while attending these classes, upon approval of application, shall receive a complimentary repeater membership for the remainder of the calendar year.

These proposed amendments will be brought to vote at the next regular meeting on Monday, February 17, at 7 pm..

Ham License Exams

An examination session in Technician, General and Extra Class Amateur Radio Operator's License will be conducted on:

Wednesday evening, March 5, 2003
at 6:30 p.m. in room 110 Johnston Hall,
Miami University-Middletown, Middletown, OH

Doors will open for registration at 6 p.m. Please plan to arrive early as all registration activities must be completed by 7 p.m.

Applicants must furnish the original and one photocopy of their current license (if any); original and one photocopy of any certificates of successful completion of examination (CSCE) they may hold, positive (photo) identification, social security (TIN) or Licensee ID number, and the test fee of $12.

NCVEC Form 605, Application for License, will be available at the test site. Advance registrations are recommended but not required ... walk-ins are accepted on a "space available" basis. Map to exam site and/or NCVEC 605 form available from K8CM for SASE.

Advance registration consists of a completed NCVEC 605, copies of your current license and valid CSCEs, and a check ($12) made payable to the *Dial Radio Club*. Please enclose a note stating the class of license you will be attempting. Advance registrations should be mailed to: David Williamson, and must arrive no later than Monday, March 3. ***Please include your telephone number on your check.***

Special examination accommodations must be requested at least two weeks prior to the test date.

Additional information may be obtained from David Williamson, KD8W

Talk-in on 146.610 -600

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High Speed Multimedia Hamming Could be the Next New Thing

High-speed multimedia hamming via the "Hinternet" could be the next bigthing for Amateur Radio. That's the hope of the ARRL High Speed Multimedia(HSMM) Working Group, which is adapting the highly popular IEEE 802.11bPart 15 wireless Internet protocol to Part 97 amateur operating.

"We expect it to be nothing less than revolutionary!" says John Champa, K8OCL, who chairs the ARRL HSMM Working Group--a subset of the League's Technology Task Force. The Working Group's new "High-Speed Digital Networks and Multimedia" page <***http://www.arrl.org/hsmm/***> recently premiered on the ARRL Web site.

Champa's team is calling the specific techniques, software and hardware involved "the ARRL 802.11b protocol" to distinguish it from the unlicensed, commercial protocol. Systems employ direct-sequence spread spectrum techniques and operate in the 2.4 GHz range. The term "Hinternet" (ham + Internet), Champa says, is a user-friendly way to refer to the development of high-speed Radio Local Area Networks (RLANs) capable of simultaneously carrying audio, video and data signals.

"The development of the ARRL 802.11b protocol will significantly enhance Amateur Radio, especially with respect to emergency communication and support of public service activities," Champa predicted. He and his HSMM Working Group colleagues also expect that it will attract many technically oriented users of the Internet and wireless LANs to get their amateur tickets.

In addition to emergency communication, Hinternet applications could include two-way streaming video, full-duplex streaming audio, Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) applications such as eQSO, EchoLink, iLink and IRLP, and digital voice. As on the wired Internet, communication can be point-to-point, point-to-multipoint and multicast at high bandwidth.

"An emergency volunteer equipped with a laptop or a wireless PDA (personal digital assistant) with a microphone and a small video camera now has the tools to be a mobile set of eyes and ears in the midst of a communications emergency," says Working Group member Kris Mraz, N5KM.

In Michigan, the Livingston County HSMM Experimenters Team already has three HSMM access points--called "APs" in the commercial world--and about a dozen stations on the air centered on 2437 MHz. Another group of Amateur Radio 802.11b enthusiasts has recently organized in the San Antonio,Texas, area.

Although other amateur allocations also would be appropriate for Hinternet operation, the use of 2.4 GHz was an easy choice, since Part 15 WiFi (wireless fidelity) devices already operate in that part of the spectrum, and inexpensive commercial equipment is widely available. Acting on an ARRL petition, the FCC has proposed elevating amateurs to primary at 2400 to 2402 MHz.

The ARRL publications catalog now includes the book 802.11 Wireless Networks: The Definitive Guide <***http://www.arrl.org/catalog/?category=&words=802.11***> by Matthew S. Gast. The book covers the topics of creating and administering wireless networks.

Champa says that taken in a nationwide context, the meaning of the term *Hinternet* goes deeper than just an amalgamation of words. "In nautical terms the word hinterland is 'the land beyond the coast,'" he said. "And so it is with us. 'The Hinternet' is the radio net beyond the Internet." *[ARRL Letter]*

FCC Launches "Consumer-Friendly" Electronic Comment Filing System

The FCC has launched "ECFS Express," an updated electronic system that the Commission says will make it easier for at least some members of the public to file comments on FCC proceedings. ECFS Express is a simplified version of the popular Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS), but it is not available for all FCC proceedings.

ECFS Express is accessible from the FCC home page <***http://www.fcc.gov***>. Users just click on the "File Comments" logo--which is on the left-hand side of the page about one-third of the way down under the words "Filing Public Comments." To comment, users click on a topic, fill in their personal information, write their comments and hit "SEND."

"ECFS Express will highlight the proceedings most likely to generate consumer interest," the FCC said this week in a Public Notice. "The topics will change periodically as new issues emerge."

The downside is that if the particular issue you want to comment upon is not listed among the ECFS Express topics, you'll have to use the "expert version" of ECFS to comment, the FCC said. At the moment, the EFCS Express list includes no Amateur Radio-related petitions. The FCC says the original Electronic Comment Filing System--which includes all docketed FCC proceedings--will remain accessible on its Web site <***http://www.fcc.gov/e-file/ecfs.html***>. *[ARRL Letter]*

FCC Seeks Comments on WRC-03 Draft Proposals

The FCC is seeking comments on draft recommendations that the World Radiocommunication Conference Advisory Committee (WRC-03 Advisory Committee) adopted January 8. The FCC established the WRC-03 Advisory Committee in January 2001 to assist the agency in developing WRC-03 proposals.

"Based upon our initial review of the recommendations forwarded to the Commission," the FCC said this week in a Public Notice, "the International Bureau, in coordination with other Commission Bureaus and Offices, tentatively concludes that we can generally support the proposals recommended by the WRC-03 Advisory Committee."

The FCC said the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) has submitted letters to the FCC containing draft proposals developed by Executive Branch agencies, and the FCC requests comment on those draft proposals as well. The FCC will consider the draft proposals and comments during upcoming consultations with the US Department of State and NTIA in the development of US proposals to WRC-03. Once agreed to by these agencies,

proposals will be used by US delegations at bilateral, regional and international meetings.

"The draft proposals attached to this Public Notice may evolve as we approach WRC-03 and during the course of interagency discussions," the FCC said. "Therefore, they do not constitute the final national position on these issues."

The Public Notice includes proposals concerning WRC-03 agenda items 1.35, 7.1, 7.2, 2.16, 1.8.2, 1.13, 1.20, 1.22 and 1.36. Agenda item 1.20 concerns the so-called "Little LEOs." Item 1.36 involves examining the adequacy of the frequency allocations for HF broadcasting in the vicinity of 4-10 MHz. Complete texts of draft proposals are available via the FCC's WRC-03 Web site <***http://www.fcc.gov/wrc-03***>.

Interested parties may file comments via e-mail to ***wrc03@fcc.gov***. Commenters also may submit an original and one copy of comments to the Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20554. Provide a courtesy copy to FCC WRC-03 Director Alex Roytblat, Room 6-A738. Comments should refer to specific proposals by document number. The deadline for comments on draft proposals and NTIA letters is January 31, 2003. WRC-03 takes place in Geneva, Switzerland, from June 9 until July 4, 2003. *[ARRL Letter]*

17th Annual Southwest Ohio Digital Symposium

The Seventeenth Annual **Southwest Ohio Digital Symposium** was held on Saturday, January 11, 2003 on the Middletown Campus of Miami University, Middletown (OH) .

Under the able direction of Program chairman Hank Greeb, N8XX, topics presented included the software defined radio, a working software radio, RTTY, IRLP and EchoLink (both are voice over IP concepts) , AMSAT, APRS,and a discussion of the rejuvenation of OhioNet.

Attendance, this year, exceeded 74 with one attending participant from Bayfield, Colorado.

Sponsored by The Center for Chemistry Education, Miami University-Middletown, DIAL Radio Club, and The Ohio Packet Council.

Tentative date for the **18th Annual Southwest Ohio Digital Symposium** is Saturday, January 10, 2004. Hope you can make it. *[K8CM]*

Butler County ARES

The membership in September (due to the training they wanted and needed) voted to meet twice a month instead of the one meeting a month until the end of March. Our regular meeting is the second Wednesday of the month-and the extra meeting is the 4th Wednesday of the month, which will end in March unless they vote to have it continued.

The Feb 12th date is correct and on that day-we would like anyone that normally would volunteer during a communications emergency to attend the meeting. We will be taking photos for ARES ID cards that night.

The only things that are required of them is to have a valid amateur license, be willing to assist with communications during an emergency, and be at the meeting to obtain the proper ID to allow them access to where they would be needed. We will have them fill out a information and contact form so we can get a hold of them, know what their equipment list consist of, etc.

The other thing that we want to emphasize, Butler County VHF Association (W8CCI) does not provide us a place to meet.

ARES members have their own scheduled times to utilize Room 229 for our meetings and training sessions that had to be scheduled a year in advance.

W8CC I has signed a MOU (similar to the one *DIAL* and several others have been presented) for the use of their Club Radio Station at D. Russel Lee JVS, and the use of their repeaters.

You do not have to belong to any "club or organization" to be part of the Emergency Communications team.

We also have a MOU with the FARA System of repeaters, and are starting to contact the individual owners of the remaining county repeaters.

It is not an effort to snarf up every repeater in the county, but I would rather have a written agreement between the *ARES* Team and the Repeater owners/trustee's BEFORE the need arises. Rather than to be "caught in the corner" with 4-5 repeaters (if the cause of the emergency didn't knock out half of them) my thinking is to have the flexibility to utilize the systems in place, with some redundancy built in.

I have worked Public Safety Frequency Emergency Communications for several years, utilizing amateur radio has some new challenges, so any suggestions or help you can toss our way-we are open to your opinions and ideas. *[N8TVU]*

ARRL Now Provides FCC License Renewal, Address Changes, Modifications to Nonmembers

The ARRL has announced that it's now providing FCC Amateur Radio license renewals, address changes and other license modification services to nonmembers.

For a $12 fee, the League will renew a nonmember's Amateur Radio ticket (the license must be *within 90 days* of expiration), file an application to change address or name or request issuance of a new sequential call sign.

The ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator is processing these applications. "The $12 is in line with our calendar year 2003 exam application fee," said ARRL VEC Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ. For several years, the ARRL has been handling renewals, address and name changes and modifications free of charge for members and has directed nonmembers to the FCC's free Internet or hard-copy application options or to other providers of such services.

Jahnke suggests that nonmembers who now choose to employ the League's application handling service also consider adding $27 (based on the current under-65 full term member rate of $39) for a full ARRL membership that includes free application handling and other services--not to mention *QST*.

Members or nonmembers taking advantage of this service should submit NCVEC Form 605 to ARRL VEC, 225 Main St, Newington CT 06111 USA for processing. Nonmembers should make the $12 fee payable to "*ARRL*." For more information, contact ARRL VEC, ***vec@arrl.org***. *[ARRL Web]*

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5th Flying Pig -- the first real news

The Flying Pigs are coming. This year's run is May 4.

There a few changes of note. Figured I'd send them out, even before asking for help, in the hope that they are positive enough to convince you to help us out again!

The start line will be at Paul Brown Stadium this year. That should help relieve some of the downtown congestion (human and mechanical.) MORE IMPORTANTLY: All participants (and volunteers working in or near the start and/or finish areas) can and should park at the PBS garage and/or adjacent surface lots. I think that volunteer parking was pretty atrocious before. This should make things better. There will be SOME shuttling (golf cars) of volunteers between start and finish -- I should be in a position to take care of some of this directly.

Security credentials (when applicable) should come out with the general mailing this year. That means that the mailing will probably (once again) come out within 5-7 days of the event. This should reduce a lot of race day confusion. ALSO -- the passes will be larger, and have "frequently asked questions" and answers on the back, so that you can answer common questions that the participants and general public will ask anyone who "looks official".

First Aid locations (outside of the start/finish area) should be documented in the mailing this year.

A more detailed finish line area map should be included in the mailing this year.

The former 5-mile event is now a 10K event, and should be better marked and supported.

All in all, after some of the confusion that occurred last year, the Flying Pigs staff/volunteers overall are attempting to get earlier starts working on some of the logistical snafus that seem to plague large events like this. With the course changes, the 5mile->10K conversion, and the return of the 2 and 4-person relays, they are expecting 9K-10K overall participants this year. Truly, this is THE BIG EVENT in Cincinnati.

We thank you for your consideration. The begging and pleading for help will begin in about one week.

-73- de N8TFD/Steve

Amateur Radio Boosts Marconi Centennial Commemoration Into Orbit

The magic touch of a princess helped to put Amateur Radio center stage January 18 on Cape Cod, Massachusetts, during events marking the 100th anniversary of the first transatlantic wireless message transmitted by Guglielmo Marconi. For the occasion, Marconi's youngest daughter--Princess Elettra Marconi--launched greetings into space via an Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) hookup to ISS crew commander Ken Bowersox, KD5JBP.

"One hundred years ago today, my father, Guglielmo Marconi, sent the first wireless message across the Atlantic Ocean from Cape Cod," Princess Elettra said from a packed auditorium at the Cape Cod National Seashore Salt Pond Visitor Center in Eastham. "In this same spirit of his achievement and also from Cape Cod I send this wireless greeting to you in space. Cordial greetings, good wishes and God bless you".

Replied Bowersox from NA1SS, "It's wonderful to hear your voice across the radio waves. It's amazing how far our societies and radio communication have come in the past 100 years."

On January 18, 1903, Marconi sent wireless greetings on behalf of President Theodore Roosevelt to Great Britain's King Edward VII. Events throughout the week leading up to the ARISS contact included two Amateur Radio special event stations. KM1CC operated from a National Seashore sitenot far from Marconi's original Cape Cod radio station, transmitting a commemorative message from President George W. Bush and retransmitting Marconi's original 1903 text. Another special event station, WA1WCC, was on the air from the former WCC shore station in Chatham, where Marconi had relocated operations after the ocean threatened to claim the antenna support towers of his original station. Princess Elettra also visited the WA1WCC special event site.

Following Princess Elettra's introductory remarks, eight students from three Cape Cod high schools took turns firing a total of 18 questions at Bowersox as hundreds of visitors and some two dozen news media representatives looked on. Serving as mentor for the noontime Cape Cod contact was ARISS International Chair Frank Bauer, KA3HDO. The students' curiosity ranged from research goals to whether Bowersox had any desire to undertake a trip deeper into space--perhaps to Mars.

Bowersox said his wife has forbidden him to go to Mars--a comment that drew a chuckle from the audience--but said he'd volunteer for a deep-space mission if he could bring his family along.

"I think someday we're going to leave Earth," Bowersox predicted in response to one of the students' questions. "We're going to move on out of our solar system out to the stars, and we're just taking the baby steps now. Your generation will take us a lot farther, I hope."

Handling earth-station duties for the ARISS contact was Nancy Rocheleau, WH6PN, in Honolulu. A WorldCom teleconferencing arrangement made two-way audio available on Cape Cod. Students selected were from Provincetown High School, Cape Cod Technical and Vocational School and Nauset Regional High School.

"The ARISS contact at the Marconi centennial event was a tremendous success," said Bauer. "I must say that this contact was one of the more impressive and awe-inspiring ARISS contacts we have accomplished." ARISS <***http://ariss.gsfc.nasa.gov***> is an international effort with support from ARRL, NASA and AMSAT. *[ARRL Letter]*

ARRL VEC Examination Fee Increased

Beginning January 1, 2003, the fee charged all applicants at ARRL VEC-coordinated Amateur Radio test sessions increased from $10 to $12 for the year 2003. This fee is charged to anyone

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applying for a new amateur license or upgrading their operating privileges.

"While the number of examinees has remained relatively unchanged in the past 24 months, our cost of doing business--and the expenses incurred by ARRL VEs--continues to rise," said ARRL VEC Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ. "An adjustment was needed in the 2003 test fee if we intended to maintain the same level of service that our VEs and VE teams have come to expect."

Applicants failing an exam element at ARRL sessions, where examiners permit retesting on the same exam element, also must submit a retest fee of $12. Additionally, the maximum reimbursement ARRL VEC allows ARRL volunteer examiner (VE) teams to retain to directly offset their "prudently incurred" out-of-pocket expenses will go up from $4 to $6 in 2003 (this fee has remained at $4 per person served since 1991).

Jahnke said that adjusting the reimbursement level for ARRL VEs was past due. For more information, contact ARRL VEC, ***vec@arrl.org***. *[ARRL Letter]*

2002 a Growth Year for ARRL Contests

The year 2002 was a banner year for ARRL's Contesting Branch. Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, reports a record number of total entries for ARRL-sponsored operating events.

"The total of 18,817 beats 2001's 18,505, a nearly 1.7 percent increase!" Henderson said. Despite the downward slope of Cycle 23, the 2002 ARRL 10-Meter Contest saw a more than 18 percent jump in log submissions over the previous year, he added, even as logs continued to arrive.

"Activity is up across the board for almost all contests, and I think we would have seen more than 19,000 logs returned," Henderson said, "but the World Radiosport Team Championships (WRTC 2002) in Finland last July affected numbers for the IARU HF World Championships, as several hundred of the world's top contest operators were there." Henderson notes that since WRTC 2002 used slightly different rules, the logs from those operators could not be entered in the IARU event, which ARRL administers.

The 2002 ARRL 10-Meter Contest, proved to be record-setter in several ways. According to Henderson, not only was the December 14-15, 2002, operating event the most active 10-meter contest on record, it had the single highest number of participants returning logs of any single contest in League history. As of today, the Contest Branch had logged 3051 entries and was still counting (the entry deadline was January 15). "That's the very first time a single-weekend ARRL contest has topped the 3000 mark in entries," Henderson said.

Other ARRL operating events that also saw increased numbers of logs over 2001 were Straight Key Night, up 22 percent; the ARRL 160-Meter Contest--a CW event--up 19 percent; the ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest, up 11 percent; and ARRL Field Day, up by one-half of one percent. For the first time ever, the 160-meter event topped 900 entries. ARRL November Sweepstakes entries jumped between two and three percent for the CW and SSB weekends in 2002, Henderson said, but were not at record levels. The number of entries received for the ARRL international DX Contest remained approximately level for each mode last year.

ARRL international DX Contest remained approximately level for each mode last year. So was participation in the ARRL's four major VHF-UHF-SHF events in 2002, Henderson said.

Henderson said that 2002 was quite a year for the Contest Branch in other ways as it undertook an ambitious schedule set to incorporate more electronic technology into the process. The move to accept Cabrillo-format electronic logs has proved a major boon to the department, with 70 percent of all VHF logs and 90 percent of all HF logs arriving in electronic form. With the elimination of most manual log entry, the Contest Branch has been able to move up the posting of contest results by about a month, Henderson said. "We still have some paper logs to process," he said. "Electronic logs still need some processing, and we still prepare results for the author of the QST article, so things don't happen instantaneously."

With 2002 providing an "initial run" electronic log-processing experience, 2003 will serve as the year to fine tune the process, Henderson predicted. The biggest problem the Branch encounters continues to be operator errors.

Henderson advised contesters to make sure well before the event that not only their radio gear but their logging software has been set up properly to include such parameters as entry category and power level, among others. Having the latest software version that can output logs in the required Cabrillo format will keep entries from getting kicked out of the system, he said.

Rules for all ARRL-sponsored operating events are available on the ARRL Web site. *[ARRL Web]*

ARRL Announces *Amateur Radio Today* CD-ROM Presentation

The ARRL is offering a new video presentation, *Amateur Radio Today* , that tells Amateur Radio's public service story to nonhams. The video presentation, directed by Dave Bell, W6AQ, and narrated by former CBS news anchorman Walter Cronkite, KB2GSD, runs approximately six minutes.

"We wanted to have something for people to take to nonhams and civic clubs," said ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP. Haynie also anticipates that the CD-ROM production will come in handy during his visits to Capitol Hill. The presentation focuses on Amateur Radio's role in emergency communications.

"Dozens of radio amateurs helped the police and fire departments and other emergency services maintain communications in New York, Pennsylvania and Washington, DC," narrator Cronkite intones in reference to ham radio's response on September 11, 2001. "Their country asked, and they responded without reservation." *Amateur Radio Today* also highlights ham radio's part in helping various agencies respond to wildfires in the Western US during 2002 and mentions ham radio in space.

Haynie said he and Bell discussed the project, and Bell agreed to take it on. Alan Kaul, W6RCL, authored the script, and Keith Glispie, WA6TFD, edited the production at Suite Sixteen, a production facility in Burbank, California, that he co-owns. Haynie said Bell, Kaul and Glispie donated a lot of their own time and effort in making the the video presentation

a reality.

"Someone once said, and it's probably true, that Amateur Radio is the only fail-safe communications system in the world," Cronkite says in his final remarks, noting that he has ham gear aboard his sailboat. "It really is the best back-up communications system in the world," he concludes, adding, "and that's the way it is." That phrase was the one Cronkite always used to close out his nightly newscasts during his tenure with CBS.

Individuals may order a copy of the CD-ROM from the ARRL on-line catalog. Plans are under way to also make *Amateur Radio Today* available in VHS videotape format.

Haynie says *Amateur Radio Today* will be the first in a planned series of at least three presentations. The second will point up the "fun" aspects of Amateur Radio. The third--but not necessarily the last--will offer a tour of ARRL Headquarters and its activities on behalf of ham radio.

Bell, a Hollywood TV producer, is a past chairman of the ARRL Public Relations Committee. *[ARRL Web]*

Amateur Radio Club Offers "Ham Radio" Classes

The OH-KY-IN Amateur Radio Society will offer ham radio license classes in the Cincinnati, Ohio area, scheduled to begin on Thursday evening, February 20, 2003, at 7pm.

Classes are now being formed for all levels of amateur radio licenses, Technician through Extra, as well as Morse code at 5 words per minute. Classes will be held every Thursday evening for ten weeks at the Salem Presbyterian Church located at the corner of Mozart and Higbee in Western Hills (behind the White Castle Restaurant at Harrison and Boudinot).

At the conclusion of the ten week course, participants will be given an FCC license examination on Saturday, May 3, 2003, at the same location.

Classes are open to persons of any age, and no prior experience is necessary. To register, or for additional information, contact Carol Hugentober WA8YL at 513-661-5323 or Bruce Vanselow N8BV

visit the OH-KY-IN Amateur Radio Society on ***http://www.ohkyin.org***.

ARRL Concludes 5-MHz Experiments, Awaits FCC Decision on New Band

Without fanfare, the ARRL allowed its WA2XSY 5-MHz experimental license to lapse January 1 rather than request renewal for another year. Last May, the FCC proposed going along with the ARRL's 2001 request for a new domestic (US-only), secondary HF allocation at 5.25 to 5.4 MHz. Discussions with various governmental agencies--including the Interdepartment Radio Advisory Committee (IRAC) and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)--continue on how to accommodate amateur operation in the band, which is primary for several governmental agencies including the military. The NTIA regulates radio spectrum allocated to the federal government.

"At this point, we have every reason to believe the FCC will act on its proposal early this year," said ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ. "As to what the outcome will be as far as 5 MHz is concerned, we cannot predict."

In a December 24 letter, Sumner thanked the 15 Amateur Radio clubs and individual amateurs who took part in the 5-MHz experimental operation that began in January 1999 and largely concluded in 2002. "You assisted in providing an important part of the groundwork for our petition for a domestic allocation to the Amateur Radio Service in this frequency range by demonstrating the desirability and feasibility of a shared allocation," he wrote. "We hope it will not be long before amateurs throughout the country are able to enjoy the fruits of your efforts."

Sumner said the ARRL chose not to request another renewal of the WA2XSY license because it already had obtained sufficient information to justify its petition for the band.

Until surprise opposition surfaced last fall from the NTIA, the FCC had the League's request for a new 60-meter band on the proverbial fast track. In a letter filed with the FCC last August--after the comment deadline had passed--the NTIA recommended that the Commission not go forward with the 5-MHz proposal. The NTIA said several government agencies with allocations in the proposed spectrum had expressed reservations about allowing amateurs to use the band, even on a non-interference basis.

The ARRL has been working with the federal agencies involved to resolve the impasse the NTIA letter raised. The NTIA said critical federal agencies, including the Department of Justice, the US Coast Guard and the Department of Defense, were making extensive use of 5 MHz frequencies. The FCC's May 2002 Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) fails to adequately protect these "critical government operations" from harmful interference, the NTIA asserted.

The ARRL has called the 5 MHz allocation "an urgent priority of the Amateur Service." In its July 2001 petition, the League told the FCC that a new band at 5 MHz would aid emergency communication activities by filling a "propagation gap" between 80 and 40 meters.

Experimental operations on 5 MHz continue on a very limited basis in the United Kingdom and in Canada. In Newfoundland, the Marconi Radio Club's VO1MRC has been operating under experimental authority from Industry Canada and an endorsement from Radio Amateurs of Canada to conduct experiments on 5 MHz. On December 21, VO1MRC completed a cross-band (5 MHz/7 MHz) CW contact with VK7RO in Tasmania. *[ARRL Letter]*

FCC Says Power Line Communications Technology Shows Promise

According to an Associated Press report, the FCC's Office of Engineering and Technology has found that power line communications (PLC), which can enable high-speed Internet access over electric power lines, shows promise. The OET has said that PLC is "beginning to look like a viable alternative to cable and DSL connections to the Internet," AP reported. At present, no regulations prevent the use of electric power lines to provide Internet connections. The FCC wants to ensure that the

technology does not cause interference problems with other services, however. Some PLC devices use digital signals that occupy spectrum into the upper HF range. These signals can be radiated efficiently by some electrical wiring, so there can be a significant potential impact on Amateur Radio. ARRL Lab Supervisor Ed Hare, W1RFI, chairs an IEEE C63 "RFI" ad hoc working group on the topic. "The problem with PLC is that if a company wants to supply Internet service via PLC, it's going to happen at HF, and it will radiate," Hare said. Last fall, the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) Administrative Council noted the growing use of PLC for high-speed data and expressed concerns that PLC radiation could interfere with Amateur Radio reception. As a result of strong opposition from the Japan Amateur Radio League (JARL), Japan's government said last summer that it was too soon to allow PLC devices in that country between 2 MHz and 30 MHz, due to its interference potential to other HF users. AP says two utilities, PPL of Allentown, Pennsylvania, and Ameren of St Louis, Missouri, are working with consumers to test Internet access over power lines. PLC devices use overhead power lines and/or residential electrical wiring to communicate digital signals--for networking within a home or to provide Internet services to entire neighborhoods. *[ARRL Letter]*

Radio Amateurs and America's Secret Submarine

By Brian F. Wruble, W3BW

Groton Connecticut, 1966: The keel was laid for a radically new US Navy nuclear submarine. She was to be small, dive deeper than any other, and roll along on the very bottom of the ocean using large tandem sand tires. Propelled by the world's smallest naval nuclear reactor, she would have extraordinary mission duration. She was to be built and to be operated in great secrecy. This was "Submarine NR-1," also known as "Admiral Rickover's Deep Thing." When she began her sea trials in 1969, NR-1 was manned by a crew of 12 hand-selected officers and men of the US Navy, joined by three highly trained civilian engineers. Not unlike the Astronaut Corps, these explorers of "inner space" included two Amateur Radio operators. I was one of the lucky civilians (then W4BIE). My shipmate and good friend to this day was ET1 Robert T. Lunt, WA8LBY (now N3IFF and a retired LCDR).

In the following 33 years, NR-1 has carried out operations that were at times so secret even many of the Navy's senior officers were only dimly aware of her existence and capabilities. Following declassification of some aspects of the small sub a few years ago (for example, a depth capability of 3000 feet), an exciting new book has been published: *Dark Waters* (An Insider's Account of the NR-1, the Cold War's Undercover Nuclear Sub). The book is co-authored by Lee H. Vyborny, another of the original Navy crew, and Don Davis. It is published by Penguin Putnam, Inc.

Dark Waters does a fine job of capturing the excitement and intrigue, the challenges and dangers of those Cold War times aboard NR-1. However, it doesn't go into some of the fun Bob Lunt and I had trying to mix our hobby in with our responsibilities. Despite having the most advanced nuclear technology, NR-1 was equipped with a relatively low-tech (by today's standards) 100 W MF/HF SSB transceiver. Bob and I always drew the short straw when it came to making emergency repairs on the balky and bulky transceiver in a heaving sea.

While operation on the ham bands would have been strictly forbidden at sea, Bob and I made repeated attempts to establish outside contact while dockside. NR-1's whip antenna just wasn't making the grade. At one point, we strung a not-so-stealthy long-wire between NR-1's sail and her rudder. This required both ingenuity and subterfuge. "The Old Man," our 33 year-old captain, would surely have disapproved of our activities. The wire had to go up when he left the boat (subs are "boats," not ships) late at night and be taken down by dawn. Plagued by the QRN of shipyard arc-welders, we had minimal success on the ham bands. However, our design for the antenna eventually replaced the whip and remains a part of the sub's equipment suite.

The tradition of hams on NR-1 continued over the decades, culminating with the assignment of CDR Charles A. Richard, W4HFZ as skipper from 1996-1999. "Chas," who is well-known in the AMSAT and APRS community, is currently the commanding officer of USS Parche (SSN 683). In 1999, he took me aboard NR-1 for a "ship down memory lane"--three days under the sea in the North Atlantic, nearly 30 years after my last voyage. As I traveled to meet the boat, ham radio was used for talk-in purposes. After all those years, I couldn't remember how to find the New London Submarine Base!

***Dark Waters** is peopled with legendary characters like Admiral Hyman G. Rickover and Robert Ballard, the undersea explorer who found the gravesites of Titanic, Bismarck and PT-109. Now, should you read it, you'll know there is also some ham radio tradition riding along with her. [ARRL Web]*

Membership Cards & New Autodial Codes

By now, you should have received your 2003 *Dial Radio Club* membership cards. They were first distributed at the January 20 meeting and, any not distributed, mailed the following day.

Auto patch codes, for the autodial and auto patch, changed effective February 1. If in doubt, try both. As in the past, autopatch codes are shown on the back of your membership card. If you have autodial service, your autodial number will appear on the lower right side of your new membership card.

If you have not received your new membership card, give Carl (422-9384) a call as soon as possible. *[K8CM]*

Next Meeting

Our meeting time is 7pm (6pm if you are coming for dinner) and will be at the Golden Corral Buffet & Grill at 3350 Village Drive, Franklin, OH (Towne Mall area). ***Hope to see you on Monday the 17th!***

Join the ARRL and demonstrate your support for the growth of amateur Radio.

February 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
February 12 and February 26 **Butler County Emergency Communication Team** Meeting 6:30 pm Room 229 D. Russel Lee JVS http://www.qsl.net/n8tvu						1 **10-10 International** Winter Phone Party
2 **10-10 International** Winter Phone Party **NorthernOhio ARS** Lorain **electro7@apk.net**	3	4	5 Amateur License Class 6pm Johnston Hall Miami-Middletown	6 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	7	8 **BCVHFA** License Exams - 8:30am **OH-KY-IN** Fox Hunt - 10am
9 **IARC-MASER** Mansfield www.maser.org	10	11	12 Amateur License Class 6pm Johnston Hall Miami-Middletown	13 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	14	15 **ARRL** International DX Contest (CW)
16 **ARRL** International DX Contest (CW)	17 **Dial Meeting** 7pn Golden Corral & Buffet Dinner at 6pm	18	19 Amateur License Class 6pm Johnston Hall Miami-Middletown	20 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	21	22
23 **CuyahogaFalls ARC** Cuyahoga Falls **www.cfarc.org**	24	25	26 Amateur License Class 6pm Johnston Hall Miami-Middletown	27 Net Tonight 9pm W8BLV/R	28	

March 2002

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
March 12 and March 26 **Butler County Emergency Communication Team** Meeting 6:30 pm Room 229 D. Russel Lee JVS http://www.qsl.net/n8tvu						1 **ARRL** International DX Contest (Phone)
2 **ARRL** International DX Contest (Phone)	3	4	5 **Ham Exams** 109 Johnston Hall Registration Opens @ 6 pm	6 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	7	8 **BCVHFA** License Exams - 8:30am **OH-KY-IN** Fox Hunt - 10am
9	10	11	12 Amateur Licensee Class Cancelled University Closed	13 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	14	15
16 **Hamfest/Computer Fair** Toledo Mobile Radio Association Toledo	17 **Dial Meeting** 7pn Old Country Buffet Dinner at 6pm	18	19 Amateur License Class 6pm Johnston Hall Miami-Middletown	20 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	21	22
23	24	25	26 Amateur License Class 6pm Johnston Hall Miami-Middletown	27 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	28	29
30	31					

Dial Radio Club

Middletown, Ohio
Packet Node: W8BLV-3 (MWO) 144.91 APRS Node: W8WMO (MWO) 144.39

Repeaters: 52.21/53.21, 146.01/146.61, 147.915/147.315, 223.36/224.96, 449.825/444.825
Web page: ***http://www.qsl.net/w8blv/*** e-mail: ***dial@qth.net***

President:
Ron Spaulding, N8NQF
Vice-president:
Art Frasik, N8PI
Secretary:
Ernie Howard., W8EH
Treasurer:
Carl Morgan, K8CM

Activities Manager:
Lorie Urschel, W8LKU
Newsletter Printing
Ron Spaulding, N8NQF
Newsletter Distribution:
Ruth Howard, N8OZN
Elaine Howard

March 2003

Minutes of the February 17, 2003 Dial Radio Club Meeting

Members Attending:
W8EH, Elaine, N8OZN, N8HRA, WBWLM, K8CM, N8EH, N8NQF, KB8WKL, N8HP, N8GGE, WA8PRA, W8MVN, Bonnie, WB8MYT, N8TFH, W3GP, N8TQG, W8LKU, Kathy, WA8DTU, KE8OH, Tillie, Ben, K4BQE, Phyllis, N8PI, KC8QQF, KC8SKW, KF8PD, AB8LA, Jessica, Tommy, KC8SKW, KC8TXA, KC8URF, N8DHW. (38)

Call to Order:
Meeting called to order by Ron, N8NQF. Everyone present introduced themselves.

Secretary's Report:
Motion to approve minutes of the January meeting as published by Ernie, N8EH, second George, W3GP, approved.

Treasurer's Report:
Carl, K8CM, gave a detailed treasurers report for January. We have 115 members from 74 families. Carl received a letter from our liability insurance company about terrorism coverage.

Repeater/Station Report:
Station committee report by Ernie, W8EH. The telephone circuit had a problem. The wire we installed from the terminal block out to our new building went bad. We need to put in an outdoor rated cable. The repeater patch codes were changed.

Butler County ARES:
Lorie, W8LK,U gave a short report about the Butler County ARES activities. Nets are every Tuesday at 7 pm on the 147.33 (plus) repeater. A drill is Saturday. Training in emergency communications level 1 will be going on in March. Test for all levels of certification will be at Warren County EOC on March 24.

Classes & Exams:
Classes – Amateur Extra instruction is continuing. The next exams are March 5 and April 30 at MUM.

Carl reported a tentative schedule for classes next fall. Tech classes start August 27 and run until October 8. General classes start October 22 and run until Dec 10. Extra starts January 14, 2004 and runs until April 14. Exams are August 20, October 15, December 17, February 25, and April 21. Instructors are needed.

Old Business:
The three bylaw changes published in the February newsletter were voted on.

Motion to approve the following revised Section 3 by Ernie, N8HP, seconded by George, W3GP, approved:

- Annual dues, combining membership and full repeater privileges, shall be $26. Persons initiating membership after July 1 of the current calendar year, may have their membership reduced to $13. This special rate shall not apply to renewals or to former members' memberships lapsed less than two years.

Motion to approve the following revised Section 5 by George, W3GP, seconded by Sandi, AB8LA, approved:

- Persons joining, or renewing their membership, at the "repeater" level, shall be assigned an autodial slot at no additional charge for the ensuing year, subject to availability. Normally, these assignments will be one per household, except when fewer households exist than the number of autodial slots (240). Telephone numbers requiring a leading "0" or "1" will not be assigned in autodial slots.

Next Meeting: Monday, March 17, *Golden Corral Buffet & Grill*; dinner at 6 meeting at 7

Motion to approve the following revised Section 6 by George, W3GP, seconded by Sandi, AB8LA, approved:

- Students of Dial Radio Classes that receive their first license while attending these classes, upon approval of application, shall receive a complimentary repeater membership for the remainder of the calendar year.

Ernie, W8EH, Bruce, KC8URF, and others reported on the Echolink tests. Echolink was tested on the 147.315 repeater one weekend. Bruce may set up a simplex system from his home. It is an interesting system that allows hams to connect to other hams, simplex stations or repeaters all over the world via the internet.

Ron, N8NQF appointed the field day committee. All those who took responsibility for stations, food, publicity, fuel, etc. were asked to repeat those jobs. If you want to help out, there is plenty to do. The committee will meet and plan the operations.

New Business:
There was no new business.

Adjourn:
There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Ernie, N8EH, seconded by Sandi, AB8LP,and approved, without dissent, by the membership.

Ernest W. Howard, Jr., W8EH
Secretary

From The President's Pen

In spite of the rather poor weather conditions, we had a nice turn out at our February meeting. I'm hoping by the March meeting our Miami-valley weather will be more pleasant. As you will see, as you read further on in this newsletter, the Dial Club has quite a bit going on. Plans are under way for a contest weekend, field day, classes for next year, and not to forget our much-anticipated annual trek to Hamvention. It is also good to see a large number of Dial members participating in the Butler County ARES programs. I encourage each and everyone one of you to consider becoming an active member of this group. I look forward to seeing each of you at the March meeting, come join us, the food has been good and the fellowship is priceless.

Ron Spaulding, N8NQF

Ham License Exams

An examination session in Technician, General and Extra Class Amateur Radio Operator's License will be conducted on:

Wednesday evening, April 30, 2003
at 6:30 p.m. in room 110 Johnston Hall,
Miami University-Middletown, Middletown, OH

Doors will open for registration at 6 p.m. Please plan to arrive early as all registration activities must be completed by 7 p.m.

Applicants must furnish the original and one photocopy of their current license (if any), original and one photocopy of any certificates of successful completion of examination (CSCE) they may hold, positive (photo) identification, social security (TIN) or Licensee ID number, and the test fee of $12.

NCVEC Form 605, Application for License, will be available at the test site. Advance registrations are recommended but not required ... walk-ins are accepted on a "space available" basis. Map to exam site and/or NCVEC 605 form available from K8CM for SASE.

Advance registration consists of a completed NCVEC 605, copies of your current license and valid CSCEs, and a check ($12) made payable to the *Dial Radio Club*. Please enclose a note stating the class of license you will be attempting. Advance registrations should be mailed to: David Williamson, and must arrive no later than Monday, April 28. ***Please include your telephone number on your check.***

Special examination accommodations must be requested at least two weeks prior to the test date.

Additional information may be obtained from David Williamson, KD8W
Talk-in on 146.610 -600

Next Club Operating Event

One evening at MU-M, all of us discussed getting together and operating the CQ WPX contest as a club. Art, N8PI, volunteered to host the operation from his home.

For those not familiar with the WPX, it is sponsored by CQ Magazine. The operation takes place on the HF bands using phone starting Friday March 28 at 7 pm. It continues for 48 hours until Sunday March 30 at 7 pm.

Bands involved are 75, 40, 20, 15 and 10 meters, voice. The object is to contact as many stations as possible and as many unique call sign prefixes as possible. Both DX and US stations can be worked for credit. This is usually a fast and fun contest.

We will probably run in the 'multi-two' class. That is multiple operators and two transmitters. That class also allows up to 1500 watts output. (There is no low power class for multi.) We still have to decide the entry class.

Rules and info can be found here:

http://home.woh.rr.com/wpx/

Art will be looking for help adding and rearranging his antennas in the next few weeks (if the weather breaks). If anybody is available to help Art with antennas, please let him know as soon as possible.

We also wanted to see how many members will be showing up to operate or watch, or help set up. If you might be there that weekend, please respond to ***W8EH*** and I'll keep a list.

Mark your calendar!!!! Those who operated the ARRL sweepstakes really did have a ball. Don't miss the fun.

[Ernie W8EH]

Field Day Gets a New Entry Class for 2003

Field Day will gain another entry class for the 2003 running of this highly popular operating event June 28-29. "Class F" stations will operate at emergency operations centers--or EOCs.

The change renews the emphasis of Field Day's 1933 origins as an emergency preparedness exercise as opposed to a routine contest--what former ARRL Communications Manager F. E. Handy, W1BDI, called "a test of the emergency availability of portable stations and equipment." In Handy's view, Field Day would focus attention "on the subject of 'preparedness' for communications emergencies."

ARRL Contest Branch Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, says the League last year received a record 2110 Field Day entries from groups and individuals. That represented a total of almost 35,000 participants who joined in what Henderson called "a great tradition."

Given the increased emphasis on emergency communications since September 11, 2001, Henderson says, the ARRL Board's Membership Services Committee asked that the Contest Branch come up with a way to accommodate stations wanting to operate from the local EOC. The new Class F station, operating from an EOC, is the result.

"This is a major change," Henderson said. "Class F has been established to encourage groups to test and further their working relationships with established emergency operations centers." The updated rules and a list of frequently asked questions in the new 2003 Field Day Packet located at:
<http://www.arrl.org/contests/forms> spells out the details.

A Class F entry station must set up at an "established EOC" activated by a club or non-club group. An EOC is defined as a facility established by a federal, state, county, city or other civil governmental agency or administrative entity or by a chapter of a national or international served agency. The latter could include the American Red Cross or The Salvation Army, with which the Field Day group "has an established operating arrangement." Class F EOC operation must take place in cooperation with the EOC staff. Class F stations are eligible for the same bonus points as Class A stations.

There's also been what Henderson called "some tweaking" in the rules for Field Day 2003. Among the highlights, the rules reduce from 400 to 100 the number of QSOs that the "Get On The Air" (GOTA) station needs to make to claim a 100-point bonus. "GOTA stations still may work up to a maximum of 400 QSOs to go towards the main station's score," Henderson said. In addition, the 2003 rules enhance the bonus for having an invited official visit the Field Day site. There are now two separate bonus categories--100 points for the elected official and another 100 points for a visit by a representative of a served agency.

Henderson reminds Field Day participants that stations do not get additional bonus points for contacting stations through additional satellites. As of the 2002 event, Field Day opened up to stations throughout the Americas, not just in the US and Canada.

Henderson encourages participants to post their Field Day experiences and photographs to the Field Day Online soapbox *<http://www.arrl.org/contests/soapbox/>*. *[ARRL Letter]*

Butler County ARES

First we want to thank all of the Butler County Amateur radio operators that have shown their interest and support for Emergency Communications for signing up at the February 12th meeting.

We feel at least now, if an emergency situation arises in Butler County we will have enough amateur operators "on line" as readily accessible viable resources for emergency communications.

We still need your help in determining what your individual niches are and where you can best be utilized. Reports from operators "in the field" and "on the scene" are extremely important to the served agencies so they can stay on top of the situation. We do have plans to implement voice and data networks throughout the county.

Communications are needed from:

- Shelters at various locations
- Hospital Emergency Rooms
- Red Cross
- Emergency Management Agency's Emergency Operation Center
- Emergency Management Agency's Response Trailer
- Fire Departments
- Police Departments
- Damage Assessment, and
- Reporting the conditions and situation from the "scene" of the emergency.

Other "points" of communications needs from the field are developing almost weekly as served agencies further develop their Emergency Communications Plan now that they have a viable and reliable resource - Amateur Radio.

For the amateurs that may not want to, or can not leave their homes, they too can be a valuable asset to us. We also need Off Site Control Station Operators for nets such as:

- **Resources Net** - which acts as the "talk-in" for amateurs responding to the emergency, can give directions and routing for those that have been assigned and need the most direct route that is not effected by the incident. This net is also used by operators in the field to request needed supplies and to coordinate the delivery of those supplies. Everything from fuel to food and batteries to portable bathrooms, the Resource Net will work closely with the Operations and Staging Officers and the Resource Unit Leader as well.
- **National Traffic System - Formal Message Net** - as of now we only have one operator that is passing NTS traffic into and out of the county on a regular basis, which is great for day to day operations.

For Emergency Operations we need a minimum of 12 operators that can rotate shifts, can operate on different frequencies and on different nets.

Ideally we would like to have NTS operators "working" no more than 6 hour shifts, and may need 2 nets or more on the air at the same time, with one taking nothing but inbound traffic and another station passing nothing but outbound traffic.

These stations will need to also have VHF-UHF capability for getting information to and from the field units and other Control Stations in the system.

Having a packet or APRS station would greatly enhance the traffic flow within the county between field units and the NTS

traffic flow within the county between field units and the NTS stations, leaving the repeaters and simplex channels open for time valued voice traffic. These operators will be our main link to other operators outside the county and to the EMA-EOC in Columbus, Ohio.

We also need additional assistance at the County Control Station:

- Net Control Operators
- Net/CCS Managers
- Staging Officers
- Briefing/Debriefing Officers

I think you get the picture, we are only 6 months old, and we have a multitude of positions to fill.

Our goal is simple, make Butler County Emergency Communications Ready, Keep It Ready, and have ample operators on hand to handle the situation.

As a new Emergency Coordinator, I asked the District Emergency Coordinator, "is there anything else we can do?"

His E-mail reply: "I think you are the standard for others to strive for."

Your participation and members has placed the Butler County ARES team at that level of recognition within the district, for that we thank you! Let's continue the trend to be the best.

For those that signed up for the ARECC Level I classes, they will be held March 15 - Part 1, March 22 - Part 2 from 0900-1700 both days at D. Russell Lee Vocational School Room 229.

There is already a scheduled test session at the Warren County EOC 500 Justice Dr Lebanon Ohio March 24th at 7 P.M.

Robert Spratt, N8TVU
Butler County EC

UTC Emergency Communications National Training Grant to Cover All Levels

A generous grant from ARRL corporate partner United Technologies Corporation (UTC) <*http://www.utc.com*> will expand reimbursed Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Course (ARECC) training to all three training levels and put the UTC grant program on a national level. The three-year, $150,000 grant will reimburse the cost of tuition to students anywhere in the US who successfully complete ARRL's Level I, II and III Amateur Radio emergency communication courses. An earlier UTC grant covered Level I and II ARECC training for more than 280 Connecticut amateurs.

"This grant plays perfectly into the overall plan and scope of emergency communication for local communities and our nation as a whole," said ARRL Emergency Communications Course Manager Dan Miller, K3UFG. "This will allow us to increase the number of seats offered each month for reimbursable courses." Miller praised UTC's foresight and proactive approach to community involvement.

ARRL Chief Development Officer Mary Hobart, K1MMH, said UTC clearly recognizes the importance of emergency communication. "With this new grant, UTC has taken a giant step and renewed its commitment to Amateur Radio, emergency communication and homeland security," she said.

Including the earlier UTC grant and a three-year federal Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) award of some $543,000, the ARRL now has secured $726,000 for emergency communication training. That training, Hobart predicted, "will have an impact on every state in the union."

Students successfully completing any level of the on-line Amateur Radio Emergency Communications classes under the new UTC grant will be eligible for reimbursement of their $45 registration fee. *[ARRL Letter]*

Harmonized 7 MHz Allocation Gains Support in the Americas

A dozen countries in the Americas have agreed to support a proposal for a "harmonized" 300-kHz amateur band in the vicinity of 7 MHz. The issue of a uniform worldwide 40-meter allocation is on the agenda of the World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 (WRC-03), set to be held in Geneva this June and July. The US has so far taken no position on the issue.

"It is possible that other countries will sign on when this proposal is circulated among all 34 member-states of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL)," said ARRL Technical Relations Specialist Jon Siverling, WB3ERA. "It takes at least six countries of the Organization of American States to make an Inter-American Proposal (IAP). If more countries sign on, the IAP will have greater weight at WRC-03."

Argentina, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru and Venezuela agreed to the Canadian-sponsored IAP for a 300-kHz amateur band--from 7 to 7.3 MHz--in all three ITU radio regions. That position is in line with what the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) has been calling for.

The support came during a meeting of CITEL's Permanent Consultative Committee for Radiocommunications (PCC.II-RADIO) Working Group, which is preparing Inter-American Proposals for WRC-03. PCC.II-Radio met February 3-7 in Orlando, Florida. Fourteen CITEL member states attended the Orlando session.

Siverling has been chair of so-called Chapter 5 issues for CITEL, leading up to WRC-03, which he will also attend. Chapter 5 issues include the Maritime Mobile, Amateur and Amateur-Satellite and Broadcasting services in the MF and HF bands.

Another matter on the WRC-03 agenda is possible changes to Articles 25, 19 and 1 to the international Radio Regulations. Fifteen countries--Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, the US, Uruguay and Venezuela--signed an IAP favorable to the Amateur Service. The US signed the IAP but withheld support on two of the 18 specific provisions.

Siverling explained that the IAP approved at Orlando conforms with IARU positions on the three articles. Article 25 covers technical requirements and operator qualifications, including Morse code proficiency--which could be left up to individual administrations to require following WRC-03; Article 19 covers call sign configurations, and Article 1 deals with issues

consequent to any changes to Article 25.

Twelve CITEL countries agreed in Orlando on an IAP to propose a "footnote allocation" of 135.7-137.8 kHz to amateurs in Region 2. This band is already available to amateurs in some CEPT countries.

The 136-kHz issue came up as a Canadian proposal to create a secondary allocation, but the issue is not on the WRC-03 agenda. According to Siverling, International Telecommunication Union (ITU) member-states want to eliminate or minimize footnotes in the Radio Regulations. The IAP for a "footnote allocation" at 136 kHz, however, was seen as a way to get the issue on the WRC-03 agenda "on an exception basis," he said.

Siverling explained that the CITEL IAP leading to a possible allocation in Region 2 of the 136-kHz band at WRC-03 has been handled separately from the pending US amateur LF allocation. Acting on an ARRL request, the FCC has proposed a domestic (US-only) allocation at 136 kHz on a non-interference basis. "At some point, the twain will meet," Siverling said.

[ARRL Letter]

Hollingsworth Preaches Courtesy, Common Sense

FCC Special Counsel Riley Hollingsworth told those attending his forum at the Richmond, Virginia, Frostfest February 9 that Amateur Radio enforcement still has a long way to go, but that amateurs can do a lot through peer pressure to head off problems before they become enforcement issues.

"Enforcement is no substitute for courtesy and common sense," Hollingsworth declared. "More courtesy would go a long way. Hollingsworth again suggested that amateurs "operate so that listeners will be impressed with Amateur Radio," not offended or turned off by it. He said awareness of Amateur Radio is on the rise in the wake of media attention since September 11, 2001, and, more recently, with ham radio assistance in the search for debris from the shuttle Columbia. He pointed to 20 and 75 meters as the current enforcement hot spots as well as the bands where the least courteous operating practices are found--some of which he described as "a disgrace" to the Amateur Service.

Off-the-air peer pressure, he said, is an effective tool to provide guidance to amateurs who may be unaware of how they sound to others on the air. The reactions of some hams when they confront interference--or perceived interference--can be worse than the original interference--whether or not it's deliberate. "Don't overreact," Hollingsworth advised. "The best reaction is no reaction whatsoever."

"You have to always be aware of your image and be willing to protect it," he told those gathered in the packed forum. "You can't shoot yourself in the foot." More than 1000 attended the Richmond Frostfest, sponsored by the Richmond Amateur Telecommunications Society <***http://www.rats.net/***>.

The use of new technology and on-the-air experimentation also sometimes brings controversy to the amateur bands, Hollingsworth said, and may prompt an occasion for the FCC to revisit its current Part 97 Amateur Service rules. Hollingsworth pointed to the use of so-called "enhanced SSB," where experimenters have been attempting to achieve full-carrier AM-like high-fidelity audio in that mode. Hollingsworth said the presence of the enhanced SSB experimenters has led to complaints to the FCC--as many as 20 per week--that these signals are taking up excessive bandwidth.

Hollingsworth told his Richmond audience that deliberately operating a wideband mode in a crowded spectrum is "shortsighted and rude," may be ignoring the "minimum bandwidth necessary" rule. If its use isn't accompanied by courtesy and common sense, he said, it will lead to pressure on the FCC to revise the Amateur Service rules.

The "Emission Standards" section of Part 97--specifically §97.307(a) and (b)--requires amateur transmissions to not occupy "more bandwidth than necessary for the information rate and emission type being transmitted, in accordance with good amateur practice" and to "not cause splatter" on adjacent frequencies.

Hollingsworth said the bandwidth of a given signal is not easily determined by the average amateur transceiver--even one equipped with a band scope of some sort. He pointed out that the problems with apparent splatter can be aggravated by the use of a noise blanker on the receiving end. "Just because it sounds wide doesn't mean it is wide," he said, adding that he'd prefer the amateur community come up a way to accommodate such experimentation, because "a government solution will be worse than the problem." *[ARRL Letter]*

Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act Reintroduced in the US House

The Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act has again been introduced in the US House of Representatives. The measure is an ARRL legislative initiative. Florida Rep Michael Bilirakis put the latest version of the bill, HR 713, into the legislative hopper on February 12. It has been referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce. When last introduced in 2001, the measure was known as HR 817.

The House bill already has two cosponsors, Reps John Boozman, Arkansas, and Patrick Tiberi, Ohio. Both cosponsored last year's bill.

HR 713 is aimed at ensuring the availability of spectrum to Amateur Radio operators. It would protect existing Amateur Radio spectrum against reallocations to or sharing with other services unless the FCC provides "equivalent replacement spectrum" elsewhere. Bilirakis, a Florida Republican, has twice before sponsored similar legislation at the League's recommendation. A Senate version of the bill is pending.

The measure would amend the Communications Act to require the FCC to provide "equivalent replacement spectrum" to Amateur Radio and the Amateur-Satellite Service in the event of a reallocation of primary amateur allocations, any reduction in secondary amateur allocations, or "additional allocations within such bands that would substantially reduce the utility thereof" to amateurs.

The 2001 version of the measure attracted 53 cosponsors in the House but last spring became one of many pieces of legislation caught up in the so-called "Enron logjam," during which the Internet and Telecommunications Subcommittee did not meet, although its full committee, Energy and Commerce,

held numerous hearings concerning Enron.

The ARRL is urging members of the Amateur Radio community to contact their representatives in Congress and request that they cosponsor HR 713. Experience has shown that, while most members of Congress understand and appreciate the benefits of Amateur Radio, some may be reluctant to sign onto a technical piece of legislation without some indication of support from their own constituents. A sample letter is available on the ARRL Web site.

The text of HR 713 is available via the Thomas Web site; <*http://thomas.loc.gov/*>. Enter "HR713" in the "Bill Number" window. ARRL asks that members soliciting their members of Congress to cosponsor this legislation to copy their correspondence to the League via e-mail to ***specbill03@arrl.org***.

[ARRL Letter]

FCC Proposes Fine for Ham Accused of Intentional Interference

The FCC has proposed fining a Nebraska Technician-class Amateur Radio operator, Scott E. Kamm, N0UGN, of Waterbury, $12,000 for alleged willful and repeated interference, broadcasting of music and failing to identify with his call sign. The FCC's Kansas City office released the Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture (NAL) on January 24.

Responding to complaints of continuing interference on the input of a 2-meter repeater, FCC agents monitored the frequency last December 9. They observed "very strong signals on the frequency 146.31 MHz consisting of music, sound effects and unmodulated carriers" and no station ID. The FCC said the transmissions were "interfering with existing communications in progress" between other amateur stations.

The FCC said it used direction-finding techniques to determine that the source of the signals was Kamm's residence in Waterbury. The next day, an FCC agent monitored the same sorts of transmissions, tracked the source to Kamm's residence, and inspected Kamm's amateur station.

"The agent found an amateur radio transceiver capable of operating on 146.31 MHz," the FCC said. Kamm claimed no transmissions were made from his station and that he used the unit to receive only.

Based on its evidence, however, the FCC Kansas City office determined that Kamm "willfully and repeatedly" violated FCC Part 97 rules "by causing intentional interference, broadcasting music and failing to identify with his station call sign." The FCC determined that the appropriate fine was $12,000 and ordered Kamm to pay the fine within 30 days unless Kamm seeks a reduction or appeals the proposed forfeiture.

Kamm already has come to the attention of the FCC's Enforcement Bureau. He was the target of several letters and an FCC Warning Notice from Special Counsel Riley Hollingsworth during 2002. Last fall, the FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau set aside Kamm's amateur license based upon complaints about the operation of his station and questions regarding his qualifications to be a licensee. Kamm's license expired last September, and his renewal application has reverted to a pending status while the matter was referred to the Enforcement Bureau.

[ARRL Letter]

Ohio Section News - March 2003

The March Edition of Ohio Section News is currently located on two Web Sites available to all Ohio ARRL members.

Members can access the current Section News edition on the Ohio Section page at the following address of <***www.maser.org***> and/or at the Ohio Section site maintained by the ARRL at <***www.arrl.org/sections/OH.html***>. Scott Yonally, N8SY, Mansfield, Ohio Public Information Coordinator, maintains the two Section web sites for Ohio. Assistant Section Manager John Haungs, W8STX, Cincinnati, compiles and reports the traffic net counts each month.

[K8QOE]

Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act of 2003 Introduced ; ARLB015

The Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act of 2003 has been introduced in the US House of Representatives. The measure is an ARRL legislative initiative. Florida Rep Michael Bilirakis filed the latest version of the bill, HR 713, on February 12. It has been referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

HR 713 is aimed at ensuring the availability of spectrum to Amateur Radio operators. It would protect existing Amateur Radio spectrum against reallocations to or sharing with other services unless the FCC provides "equivalent replacement spectrum" elsewhere.

The previous version of the Spectrum Protection Act attracted more than 50 cosponsors. An effort will be made to encourage additional House members to sign onto HR 713 as cosponsors. Additional details are on the ARRL Web site.

[ARRL Bulletin]

Next Meeting

Our meeting time is 7pm (6pm if you are coming for dinner) and will be at the Golden Corral Buffet & Grill at 3350 Village Drive, Franklin, OH (Towne Mall area). **Hope to see you on Monday, March 17!**

Join the ARRL and demonstrate your support for the growth of amateur Radio.

March 2002

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
March 12 and March 26 **Butler County Emergency Communication Team** Meeting 6:30 pm Room 229 D. Russel Lee JVS http://www.qsl.net/n8tvu						1 **ARRL** International DX Contest (Phone)
2 **ARRL** International DX Contest (Phone)	3	4 **ARES Net Tonight** 7pm on 147.330 + W8CCI/R	5 **Ham Exams** 110 Johnston Hall Miami-Middletown Registration Opens @ 6 pm; Exams begin at 6:30	6 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	7	8 **BCVHFA** License Exams - 8:30am **OH-KY-IN** Fox Hunt - 10am
9	10	11 **ARES Net Tonight** 7pm on 147.330 + W8CCI/R	12 Amateur Licensee Class Cancelled University Closed	13 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	14	15 **ARECC Study Session** D. Russel Lee Rm 229 9am-5pm
16 **Hamfest/Computer Fair** Toledo Mobile Radio Association Toledo	17 **Dial Meeting** 7pn Golden Corral Buffet & Grill Dinner at 6pm	18 **ARES Net Tonight** 7pm on 147.330 + W8CCI/R	19 Amateur License Class 6pm 110 Johnston Hall Miami-Middletown	20 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	21	22 **ARECC Study Session** D. Russel Lee Rm 229 9am-5pm
23	24 **ARECC Test Session** Warren Co. EOC 7pm	25 **ARES Net Tonight** 7pm on 147.330 + W8CCI/R	26 Amateur License Class 6pm 110 Johnston Hall Miami-Middletown	27 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	28 **CQ WPX Contest**	29 **CQ WPX Contest** **ARES Live Drill** D. Russel Lee 9am
30 **CQ WPX Contest**	31					

April 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
April 9 **Butler County Emergency Communication Team** Meeting 6:30pm Rm 229 D. Russel Lee JVS http://www.qsl.net/n8tvu		1 **ARES Net Tonight** 7pm on 147.330 + W8CCI/R	2 Amateur License Class 6pm 110 Johnston Hall Miami-Middletown	3 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	4	5
6 ***DST Begins***	7	8 **ARES Net Tonight** 7pm on 147.330 + W8CCI/R	9 Amateur License Class 6pm 110 Johnston Hall Miami-Middletown	10 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	11	12 **BCVHFA** License Exams - 8:30am **OH-KY-IN** Fox Hunt - 10am
13	14	15 **ARES Net Tonight** 7pm on 147.330 + W8CCI/R	16 Amateur License Class 6pm 110 Johnston Hall Miami-Middletown	17 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	18	19 **ARES Live Drill** Standby on 146.330
20	21 **Dial Meeting** 7pn Golden Corral Buffet & Grill Dinner at 6pm	22 **ARES Net Tonight** 7pm on 147.330 + W8CCI/R	23 Amateur License Class 6pm 110 Johnston Hall Miami-Middletown	24 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	25	26 **ARES Conference** Columbus, OH
27	28	29 **ARES Net Tonight** 7pm on 147.330 + W8CCI/R	30 **Ham Exams** 110 Johnston Hall Miami-Middletown Registration Opens @ 6 pm; Exams begin at 6:30			

Dial Radio Club, Middletown, OH

Dial Radio Club

Middletown, Ohio
Packet Node: W8BLV-3 (MWO) 144.91 APRS Node: W8MWO (MWO) 144.39

Repeaters: 52.21/53.21, 146.01/146.61, 147.915/147.315, 223.36/224.96, 449.825/444.825
Web page: ***http://www.qsl.net/w8blv/*** e-mail: ***dial@qth.net***

President:
Ron Spaulding, N8NQF
Vice-president:
Art Frasik, N8PI
Secretary:
Ernie Howard., W8EH
Treasurer:
Carl Morgan, K8CM

Activities Manager:
Lorie Urschel, W8LKU
Newsletter Printing
Ron Spaulding, N8NQF
Newsletter Distribution:
Ruth Howard, N8OZN
Elaine Howard

April 2003

Silent Key: W8LQW

We note, with sadness, the passing of **Russell Bost, W8LQW**, on Monday, March 24. Russ had been active with *Dial* for a number of years and well-known within the *Club* and the community. Clearly, Russ will be missed by many.

Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and many friends.

Minutes of the March 17, 2003 Dial Radio Club Meeting

Members Attending:
W8EH, Elaine, N8NQF, N8OZN, W3GP, KC8DUX, KC8TXA, N8HRA, N8EH, N8NQF, KC8IZF, Kathy, KB8USX, KB8ZMO, K4BQE, Phyllis, KC8SKW, N8PI, AB8QP, W8MVN, Bonnie, WB8MYT, N8TFH, KC8THL, N8DHW, W8LKU, WA8DTU, N8BH, KF8PD, KE8OH, Tillie, N8HP, N8GGE, KB8HSO. (34)

Call to Order:
Meeting called to order by Ron, N8NQF, with introductions of all present.

Secretary's Report:
Motion to approve minutes of the February meeting as published by Ernie, N8EH, second George, W3GP, approved.

Treasurer's Report:
The treasurer was absent so the summary report was given by Ernie, W8EH. We have 115 active members.

Repeater/Station Report:
Station committee report by Ernie, W8EH. Everything is normal and working.

Butler County ARES:
ARES report by Lori, W8LKU. There is a emergency communications course test in Lebanon on March 24. Butler County ARES net is on Tuesdays at 9 pm on the 147.33 repeater. Meetings are switched to once a month on the second Wednesday.

Classes & Exams:
Exam report by Barney, N8HP. Tests were administered and all but one received an upgrade or new license.

Old Business:
Contest operation by Art, N8PI. The CQ WPX contest will be operated by the club at Art's house and there will be food. Motion by Tom, K4BQE, second by Lorie, W8LKU to approve $75 for expenses. Motion approved.

Field day June 28 & 29. The field day tee shirts from the ARRL will be available. Sandi, AB8LA, will take orders for interested club members. Deadline for ordering will be the April meeting. Ernie, W8EH, reported that we have official approval to use Smith Park.

The Field Day committee had a meeting. It was decided that we would run 150 watts or less; we will have 3 towers and 3 stations along with the GOTA and VHF stations; we are looking into some screen tents to operate outside. Next field day meeting will be in April and will be announced on the email reflector.

Another suggestion was made to send a post card to area hams inviting them to field day. Volunteers will be needed to make mail labels and postcards. We purchased a license for the N3FJP contest software that is good for field day logging. There will be a training session for this software after the ham classes are over.

New Business:
Ron appointed Art, N8PI, as the chairman for the club's Hamvention setup committee.

John, KC8IZF, noted that ***Hamvention*** is seeking volunteers.

Next Meeting: Monday, April 21, *Golden Corral Buffet & Grill*; dinner at 6 meeting at 7

Volunteers will receive a free admission ticket and other perks. Contact John if you would like to volunteer.

John, KC8IZF, has a specialty business and offered an item for a door prize. Bonnie Helton was the winner of the drawing.

Adjourn:

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Ernie, N8EH, seconded by George, W3GP, and approved, without dissent, by the membership.

Ernest W. Howard, Jr., W8EH
Secretary

Upgrade and New Callsign

Congratulations to Jody Frasik, AB8QP, (formerly KC8QQF) on her upgrade to Amateur Extra Class and the issuance of her new callsign. Jodie upgraded to General last December and Extra at the March 5 *DIAL*-sponsored exam session. ***Nice job, Jody*** .

Congratulations, as well, to Tom Wrenn on the receipt of his new callsign, K4BQE. Tom's previous callsign was KC8SKV.

Ham License Exams

An examination session in Technician, General and Extra Class Amateur Radio Operator's License will be conducted on:

Wednesday evening, April 30, 2003
at 6:30 p.m. in room 110 Johnston Hall,
Miami University-Middletown, Middletown, OH

Doors will open for registration at 6 p.m. Please plan to arrive early as all registration activities must be completed by 7 p.m.

Applicants must furnish the original and one photocopy of their current license (if any), original and one photocopy of any certificates of successful completion of examination (CSCE) they may hold, positive (photo) identification, social security (TIN) or Licensee ID number, and the test fee of $12.

NCVEC Form 605, Application for License, will be available at the test site. Advance registrations are recommended but not required ... walk-ins are accepted on a "space available" basis. Map to exam site and/or NCVEC 605 form available from K8CM for SASE.

Advance registration consists of a completed NCVEC 605, copies of your current license and valid CSCEs, and a check ($12) made payable to the *Dial Radio Club*. Please enclose a note stating the class of license you will be attempting. Advance registrations should be mailed to: David Williamson,

and must arrive no later than Monday, April 28. ***Please include your telephone number on your check.***

Special examination accommodations must be requested at least two weeks prior to the test date.

Additional information may be obtained from David Williamson, KD8W

Talk-in on 146.610 -600

Weaver's Words

Fellow amateurs and members of the Great Lakes Division, this is the first of what will be periodic messages to you from your Director.

I, first of all, thank the many of you who made it possible for me to hold this important position in ARRL. My goal is to represent the members and the best interests of Amateur Radio throughout my ter in this office.

I congratulate Vice Director Dick Mondro, W8FQT, for remaining Vice Director and look forward to continued cooperation with him as we strive mutually to advance Amateur Radio and ARRL. I also thank former Great Lakes Division Directors Gary Johnston, KI4LA, and George Race, WB8BGY, and former Director and ARRL Past President George Wilson, W4OYI, for sharing their time and consultation so freely with me. The assistance of Dick and these former leaders in our Division has been extremely helpful to me, a true newbie on the Board.

GENERAL THOUGHTS

The ARRL Staff members as directed by the Board are working their tails off to improve the position of Amateur Radio through state and national government action, FCC action and International Treaty. The single most major activity on the international front at present is the strong involvement of the Staff to achieve "harmonization" of the 7 MHz band and removal of shortwave broadcast stations from it. This effort is quite costly, requiring much overseas and US travel for meetings in foreign countries with treaty delegates and representatives of Amateur Radio organizations in foreign countries. ARRL negotiations internal to the US and internationally is augmented by staffing and financial support it gives to the International Amateur Radio Union and its overseas member organizations. In turn, IARU member organizations are working aggressively with government agencies and treaty delegation in their respective countries so Amateur Radio can present a unified positic at coming treaty negotiations. Your ARRL dues dollars are very truly hard at work to benefit you.

Another major Staff activity is the ongoing battle to protect our frequencies -- from throughout essentially the entire radio wave spectrum -- from encroachment by commercial and other interests, and from interference caused by devices that do not require specific licenses to operate.

In the case of devices of the latter type, any of these that are authorized to operate in Amateur Radio bands are required to transmit at such low power as not to interfere with our operations. Not all of the devices sold by these manufacturers comply with this limit. Many of them are causing interference to repeater and other amateur operations.

Be assured that through your membership dollars, the HQ technical lab folks are constantly on guard against such devices and along with the HQ regulatory folks are working diligently to ensure FCC takes appropriate actions against these devices and their makers.

VISITS TO CLUB MEETINGS, HAMFESTS, SWAPS AND CONVENTIONS

Your Vice Director and I plan to get around the Division quite a bit so we can visit with as many members as possible. We want to hear your thinking on what you like or don't like, and what think regarding Amateur Radio, ARRL and how we are doing our jobs on your behalf. The following is the current schedule for our trips. We invite you to meet us and talk with us at these visits. Where we will

be is:

[List deleted to conserve space as there were no visits listed for clubs in Butler County - Ed]

If your club/'fest would like to have Dick or me speak at your event, please let us know. We will try to work this into our schedules. Please make your request as soon as possible.

This is all for now. Thanks for your continued support of Amateur Radio as shown through your support of ARRL. Thanks to you, the League is able to continue working on your behalf and the best interest of Amateur Radio. Make no mistake about it, without ARRL there would be no Amateur Radio. One of the best ways you help protect Amateur Radio is to get new members. To get information and forms you need to do this, contact your local affiliated club, Dick or me. One may disagree with certain actions taken by the Board, but there is no other organization to fight effectively for Amateur Radio.

Incidentally, if you are not aware of it, President Haynie and the Board have made a new video on Amateur Radio available. It is modern, it is hard hitting and it is perfect to promote Amateur Radio to government and civic organization, and to non-amateurs. It is perfect to show to amateurs as a tool to bolster their pride in this great avocation of ours. It is free when downloaded from the ARRL web site in mpeg-1 format. It will soon be available at minimal cost in VHS and CD-ROM format. Go to ***arrl.org*** and click on the video site listed in the right hand column. BECAUSE OF COPYRIGHT RESTRICTIONS, THE VIDEO MAY NOT BE BROADCAST however, it may be shown on closed circuit TV in schools.

Tnx, 73, more later,
Jim Weaver, K8JE
Director, Great Lakes Division

Ohio Section News

A special Ohio Bicentennial Edition of Ohio Section News has been added to the March Edition of Ohio Section News. Both are currently located on two Web Sites available to all Ohio ARRL members.

The Special Bicentennial Edition lists, by county, the special ham radio events being arranged to celebrate Ohio's 200 years as a state. Ohio entered the union on March 1, 1803. This list of events will be on the Ohio Section web sites all year and updated as new events are reported to us.

The list of events was compiled by Ohio Assistant Section Manager, Bob Winston, W2THU, Cleveland. If you know of an event not listed or is currently being planned, send the information to Bob

Members can access the current Section News edition, with Bicentennial special section, on the Ohio Section page at the following address of <***www.maser.org***> and/or at the Ohio Section site maintained by the ARRL at <***www.arrl.org/sections/OH.html***>.

Scott Yonally, N8SY, Mansfield, Ohio Public Information Coordinator, maintains the two Section web sites for Ohio. Assistant Section Manager John Haungs, W8STX, Cincinnati, compiles and reports the traffic net counts each month.

Section News is also made available to Ohio newsletter editors throughout the state and many newsletters reprint the column for their members.

Joe Phillips, K8QOE
Ohio Section Manager

April Section News

First let's honor all Ohio Section Hams serving the United States Armed Forces during the Iraq Campaign. And pray for everyone's safe return.

In our memorial, we also remember three ham radio operators, Dr. Kalpana Chawla, KD5ESI (sk); Dr. Laurel Clark, KC5ZSU (sk); and David Brown, KC5ZTC (sk); who all lost their lives in the STS 107 Columbia Shuttle.

Also check out on this Web Site for the complete list of Ohio's Ham Radio Bicentennial Events...Ashland ARC dropped plans for the 2003 Ashland Hamfest, usually held in mid-October.

If your club has a Dayton Hamvention bus schedule, time is running out for reservations, I'll bet.

And planning for 2003 Field Day (June 28-29) is underway all through Ohio. Special pins and other materials are available from the ARRL.

Also available is a six minute video "Amateur Radio Today," a special presentation for non-ham groups, narrated by Walter Cronkite, KB2GSD (you get to see his shack). Great recruiting tool and education promotion of our special hobby.

OHIO SECT CONGRATS will be long this month as we spotlight the 12 Section officers (called the Ohio Section Cabinet) who serve the ARRL membership. But how? Here is a quick guide on what each one does specifically. First five assistant section managers (ASM's) are appointed for each of five geographic divisions. These ASM's - NW Ohio - Ron Griffin, N8AEH, Findlay
SW - John Haungs, W8STX, Cincinnati
NE - Bob Winston, W2THU, Cleveland
SE - Connie Hamilton, N8IO, Marietta
and Central - Bill Carpenter, AA8EY, Westerville
- all represent the Section Manager and promote the ARRL in their individual areas. They are available for speaking to ham radio club meetings and Hamfest forums. The ARES emergency programs are all under the leadership of Section Emergency Coordinator (SEC) Larry Rain, WD8IHP, Mansfield
Each of Ohio's 88 counties have an EC under his guidance. The Amateur Auxiliary is under the authority of Official Observer Coordinator, Alan Cook, N7CEU, Newark,
These Official Observer volunteers monitor our frequencies (both lo-bands and repeaters) for unsafe or illegal acts. The Section Traffic Manager, Jack Wagoner, WB8FSV, Hillard
organizes Ohio's fine traffic nets. State Government Liaison Reuben Meeks, W8GUC, Vandalia
works with local LGL's in reviewing all local governments handling of ham radio matters. Biggest concern -- restrictive antenna laws, of course. Special Service Clubs and Affiliated Clubs of the ARRL in Ohio are under the guidance of Affiliated Clubs Coordinator Brenda Krukowski, KB8IUP, Toledo
Public relations and Ohio ham radio newsletters are the responsibility of Public Information Coordinator Scott Yonally, N8SY, Mansfield

Special technical advisors, a service to non-hams, are under the guidance of Technical Coordinator Tom Holmes, N8ZM, Tipp City

Beside the basic responsibilities, two cabinet members perform special tasks. Ron Griffin edits the Ohio Section Journal - now in its 17th year and Scott Yonally is contest manager for the Ohio Section Newsletter contest - now in its 12th year. That's it. Interested in any of these areas, contact that officer or the Section Manager.

OHIO SECTION APRIL HAMFESTS: (12) Jackson County ARC at Coalton, More Info, contact (27) Athens County ARA at Athens, More info, contact

[K8QOE]

ADRF Practice Session

A VHF and HF practice ARDF session will be held on April 26th at McFarland Woods in Cincinnati, OH. Starting time is 10AM. Send us an e-mail if you would like to attend this training session. Several loaner receivers for both 2 meters and 80 meters will be available. Come early if you want equipment training.

You can walk any or all of the course and try to locate from one to five transmitters at your pace. You need not be an amateur to participate in the fun of ARDF.

Thanks,
Bob, WA6EZV
[via e-mail]

ARRL Surveying Interest in High-speed Digital Networks

The ARRL High Speed Multimedia (HSMM) Working Group is surveying the amateur community to gauge interest in IEEE 802.11b "Hinternet" activity.

The HSMM Working Group encourages spread-spectrum communication modes including such protocols as IEEE 802.11b operating on Amateur Radio frequencies under FCC Part 97 rules. It's adopted Hinternet (a contraction of "ham" and "Internet") as a way to describe the technology. The HSMM Working Group's survey is on the ARRL Web site <***http://www.arrl.org/hsmm***>.

"The primary goal of the survey is to encourage amateurs to get on the air and start playing with this cheap digital microwave gear," says HSMM Working Group Chair John Champa, K8OCL Hinternet Radio Local Area Networks (RLANs) typically use direct-sequence spread spectrum between 2412 and 2437 MHz and are capable of simultaneously carrying audio, video and data signals. Hinternet aficionados adapt commercial 802.11b interfaces designed for Part 15 operation to amateur use.

The HSMM Web survey is brief and permits an opportunity for open-ended input. It asks if respondents have a IEEE 802.11 or "other high-speed digital station" running under Part 97. If so, amateurs are asked to register their stations. It also asks respondents to explain how they might use a high-speed digital system or network if they were to set one up.

Champa urged Hinternet-minded amateurs to also report what they've learned and any new applications to the ARRL IEEE 802.11b reflector operated by Texas A&M University <***http://listserv.tamu.edu/archives/arrl-80211b.html***> (and linked from the "HSMM Resources" menu under "Contacts").

Asked if the Hinternet is catching on within Amateur Radio, Champa simply points to the more than 15,000 hits to the HSMM Working Group's Web site.

The Hinternet also is the focus of the article "High Speed Multimedia Radio" by Kris Mraz, N5KM, in the April 2003 issue of QST.

Hinternet proponent Mark Williams, AB8LN, of Milford, Michigan, says he envisions growth of amateur 802.11b operation to cover all large metropolitan areas in the US, not just the few miles some contend is the outer limit for such point-to-point connections. "This is just too easy," he says. "With some of the Amateur Radio pioneering that we are famous for, we should be able to push this technology to its limits--50, 75 and 100-mile links at 2.4 GHz." He said wireless networks dedicated to Amateur Radio stretching across states and linking hams everywhere with high-speed voice and video are possible.

"File-sharing and e-mail, network gaming and pop-up chat are just the tip of a titanic iceberg," he predicted.

Applications abound for public service work too. Amateurs recently involved in the Texas search for debris from the shuttle Columbia used a 802.11b high-speed system on ham radio to link the net control station in Nacagdoches with the Internet.

More information is available on the ARRL High Speed Digital Networks and Multimedia Web page <***http://www.arrl.org/hsmm/***>.

[ARRL Letter]

Butler County ARES

We all train to sharpen our skills and abilities in the hope and anticipation of never really having to use any of it. With the unfortunate turn of events since September 2001, our training and skills as Emergency Communicators may be put to the test all too soon.

And let's not forget we are also in the beginning stages of the severe weather season, just as another bit of a good news reminder.

Now is the time to make sure you "GO BAG" are actually ready to go. Check the batteries in your equipment and all the spares. Look for swelling, leaking, and test the voltage with a meter. REPLACE anything that looks "iffy" to you.

Remember this is the stuff that will be bailing you out of a bad situation, during adverse conditions, and you will need it to function at 100%.

Check your coax connectors. Things that are moved and bumped around tend to get damaged. The center leads break, the reducers work loose, and even the solder cracks or forms a "cold" joint causing problems.

Make sure you test them for shorts too. The braiding can wrap around the center conductor on smaller RG type cables making for a bad day and costly replacement of finals, not to mention the loss of communications capabilities.

Carry a spare microphone! They usually don't break in the house or the car, but this one is stuffed in a container with lots of other stuff that pulls and tugs at it all the time.

Include a headset. Most likely you will be working in a noisy environment or a NOSEY environment, either way the headset will keep the traffic understandable for those it was intended for.

ZIP LOCK your batteries! One thing it will keep them all in one place so it is easy to see what your "reserve supply" is. The other is,

IF they leak, it will stay in the bag instead of getting all over everything else in the bag.

It is not a bad idea to try and zip lock everything in your bag, and for clothing use a water proof or water resistant stuff sack. If your bag gets wet, your stuff will stay dry inside!

Equipment: Try to get a dry cell or alkaline battery pack for all your portables. Most of them use "AA" batteries. When shopping for other items like flashlights, weather radios, GPS units, try to pick one that uses the same type battery as your portable. That cuts down on your inventory of what is needed.

Flashlights are now readily available that uses 2-"AA" batteries and a LED for illumination. These are great for Emergency use! The device has no filament to break or burn out, are rated for 100,000 hours of use, are rugged, and most of the one's I have seen "float" if dropped in water (try that with a SL-20).

Antenna's - There are a few dual band beam antenna's on the market today. One of these a camera tripod, 30 feet of coax and you have one heck of a portable station for both VHF & UHF.

I have seen one such beam antenna "reconstructed" using a small cabinet hinge and a screw with a wing nut to allow the beam to fold in half to make it more compact for travel.

What ever your equipment happens to be, or your system consist of, make sure it is functional BEFORE you need it!

Reminder- April 26th is the ARES Conference in Columbus Ohio. I would like to see Butler County well represented at this conference. Feel free to contact me if you plan to go-we can arrange for car pooling as an option.

Robert Spratt, N8TVU
Butler County EC

Will Ham radio be Shut Down if War is Declared?

Some amateurs have been wondering if the FCC will shut down Amateur Radio in the event that war breaks out in the Middle East. The short answer is "no."

Just prior to the Gulf War, §214.4(b)(4) of Title 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations was deleted. This section had mandated the closing of all Amateur Radio stations except Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) stations in the event that the president proclaimed a war or national emergency. The last time Amateur Radio was shut down was during World War II, although the FCC continued to give Amateur Radio examinations.

While the Amateur Radio Service will not automatically be shut down if the president invokes the War Powers Act, Amateur Radio licensees must continue to observe any directives the FCC may issue in the interests of national security and of making spectrum available for government use.

The FCC is directed to work in coordination with the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) to issue "appropriate rules, regulations, orders and instructions" for use of the spectrum "as may be necessary to ensure the effective use of those portions of the radio spectrum shared by government and non-government users." Amateurs share most UHF allocations with the US government.

[ARRL Letter]

Radio Commentator Paul Harvey Plugs Ham Radio's Emergency Communications Role

Veteran ABC Radio Networks commentator Paul Harvey this week offered some kind words for Amateur Radio. The mention was the second item on "page four" of his March 19 Paul Harvey Noon News and Comment program.

"America's quiet warriors are the legion of ham radio operators, 700,000 of them, who are always at ready for backup duty in emergencies--amateur, unpaid, uncelebrated, civilian radio operators, during and after floods and fires and tornadoes," Harvey said. "After the 9/11 attacks, hams were indispensable in reuniting friends and families. Most recently it was they who expedited the search for debris after the disaster to the space shuttle Columbia, and right now, at this moment, they are involved in homeland security to a greater degree than you would want me to make public."

The commentary's enigmatic and mysterious final sentence--typical of Harvey's habit of leaving his listeners hanging--apparently refers to the fact that many Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) and Radio Amateur Emergency Service (RACES) teams have ramped up their alert status as hostilities get under way in the Middle East.

The entire Wednesday noon broadcast is available on Paul Harvey's Web site <***http://www.paulharvey.com***/>. Click on the Wednesday noon link under "Listen Now."

[ARRL Letter]

ARRL Executive Committee Updated on FCC Legislative Matters

ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, has told the League's Executive Committee that he expects the FCC to release an "omnibus" Amateur Radio Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) sometime in May. Imlay told the EC that the NPRM likely will incorporate proposals resulting from several petitions for rule making, including some from the ARRL. The FCC also might propose additional items on its own motion, Imlay said.

Because the comment period for the omnibus NPRM could expire before the ARRL Board of Directors meets in July, the EC discussed several issues it's anticipated the NPRM will contain. While providing Imlay with guidance in developing draft ARRL comments, the EC did not adopt any positions as ARRL policy, since it's not yet clear which proposals the NPRM might include.

Imlay also told the EC that it may not be necessary to request temporary relief from spread-spectrum automatic power control requirements at 2.4 GHz for a group of ARRL High Speed Digital and Multimedia (HSMM) Working Group experimenters. Imlay suggested that the group could achieve its objectives within existing Part 97 regulations. The Committee agreed to have Imlay draft a letter, subject to staff review, to HSMM Working Group Chair John Champa, K8OCL, explaining his interpretation. A copy also would go to the FCC.

Committee members also took part in what was termed "a wide-ranging and thoughtful discussion" of issues raised in a draft report on options to better protect and deploy Amateur Radio in the bands between 902 MHz and 24.25 GHz. The EC concluded that the final report should include an analysis of the concept of "strategic

partnering" with nonamateur interests.

Imlay also updated the EC on the status of several other pending FCC matters. He noted that in a recent filing in the Ultra Wideband (UWB) proceeding, Cingular Wireless echoed an oft-stated League argument.

Cingular agreed with ARRL's position that the FCC lacks authority to permit operation of unlicensed devices except as explicitly provided by statute. Imlay also noted that the Department of Defense has rebutted claims by SAVI Technology that restrictions on the use of 425 to 435 MHz under Part 15 rules can be relaxed without adversely affecting military radars. The FCC has proposed relaxing certain restrictions in response to SAVI's request to deploy RF identification tags.

ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, told the Committee that reintroduction in the US House of Representatives of the Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Consistency Act was expected to happen soon. The measure seeks a congressional solution to the problem of private deed covenants, conditions and restrictions--so-called CC&Rs--that can impede or prevent installation of outdoor amateur antennas.

ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, chaired the March 15 Executive Committee meeting, held in Irving, Texas. Attending their first EC meeting as new members were Roanoke Division Director Dennis Bodson, W4PWF, and Atlantic Division Director Bernie Fuller, N3EFN. Bodson was appointed to the EC to fill a vacancy caused by the death February 6 of Pacific Division Director Jim Maxwell, W6CF. Fuller was elected to the EC during the January Board meeting. Minutes of the March 15 Executive Committee session are available on the ARRL Web site <***http://www.arrl.org/announce/ec_minutes_471.html***>.

[ARRL Letter]

Support Growing for Favorable 40-Meter Realignment Plans

With World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 (WRC-03) getting under way in about three months in Geneva, support is growing for two favorable proposals to create a 300-kHz worldwide 40-meter allocation. ARRL and the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) seek a return to the 300-kHz allocation that existed worldwide prior to World War II but that now exists only in the Americas. Delegates to WRC-03 will attempt to address--and possibly eliminate--the overlap on 40 meters between amateurs in the Americas (Region 2) and broadcasters elsewhere (Regions 1 and 3). "There is encouraging news," says ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, in his "It Seems to Us . . ." editorial set to appear in April QST. He reports that, thanks to the efforts of IARU volunteers and others, more than 30 countries now have gone on record to support either one or the other of two favorable 40-meter realignment formulas. Sumner said more support is needed, but he called the interim head count "a good start."

Most popular among the half dozen realignment schemes outlined by participants at last November's WRC-03 Conference Preparatory Meeting is so-called Method B. This approach calls for a three-stage transition that would begin by allowing Region 1 and 3 amateurs on 7100-7200 kHz on a secondary basis starting in 2005 and end with all ITU regions gaining access to 7000-7300 kHz by the end of 2009--with the top 100 kHz shared with fixed and mobile stations in Regions 1 and 3. Broadcasters would shift upward to 7300-7550 kHz worldwide.

For US and other Region 2 stations, such a change would mean an end to deafening nighttime phone band QRM from broadcasters and the necessity to operate split-frequency to work stations Regions 1 and 3 on SSB.

Sumner says Method B is now a European Common Proposal with initial support from 17 CEPT administrations. At least three other countries in Africa, Asia, and the Pacific have also expressed support for Method B, he said. The IARU team now is working to gain the support of additional administrations in Regions 1 and 3 either for Method B or for the similar Method A, Sumner reports. Otherwise identical to Method B, Method A does not include any sharing with fixed and mobile services.

In the Americas, a dozen ITU Region 2 countries last month agreed to support an Inter-American Proposal that's virtually the same as the so-called Method D. Proposed by Canada, Method D would provide 300 kHz worldwide for amateurs by shifting broadcasters in Regions 1 and 3 upward by 200 kHz. Region 2's broadcasting allocation would remain unchanged. IARU Region 2 is now working to expand the list of Region 2 countries supporting that plan.

The US so far has taken no position on the 40-meter realignment issue, although it has long supported a 300-kHz worldwide, exclusive allocation for Amateur Radio. The FCC WRC-03 Advisory Committee has recommended that Method A be a US proposal, but the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) has not yet agreed.

"Acting on behalf of the federal government users of the radio spectrum, the NTIA has been advocating 'no proposal' from the US, a position that the ARRL is working hard to overcome," Sumner points out. "A small number of federal agencies claim to be concerned that their backup circuits on HF would be affected by a upward shift of broadcasters."

Sumner also calls it "unfortunate" that some broadcasters persist in efforts to link the 7 MHz WRC-03 agenda item with another that deals with the adequacy of broadcasting spectrum between 4 and 10 MHz. Sumner said the broadcasting spectrum item is "a separate issue with an entirely different genesis.

Next Meeting

Our meeting time is 7pm (6pm if you are coming for dinner) and will be at the Golden Corral Buffet & Grill at 3350 Village Drive, Franklin, OH (Towne Mall area). **Hope to see you on Monday, April 21!**

Join the ARRL and demonstrate your support for the growth of amateur Radio.

April 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
April 9 **Butler County Emergency Communication Team** Meeting 6:30pm Rm 229 D. Russel Lee JVS http://www.qsl.net/n8tvu		1 **ARES Net Tonight** 7pm on 147.330 + W8CCI/R	2 Amateur License Class 6pm 110 Johnston Hall Miami-Middletown	3 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	4	5
6 ***DST Begins***	7	8 **ARES Net Tonight** 7pm on 147.330 + W8CCI/R	9 Amateur License Class 6pm 110 Johnston Hall Miami-Middletown	10 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	11	12 **BCVHFA** License Exams - 8:30am **OH-KY-IN** Fox Hunt - 10am
13	14	15 **ARES Net Tonight** 7pm on 147.330 + W8CCI/R	16 Amateur License Class 6pm 110 Johnston Hall Miami-Middletown	17 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	18	19
20	21 **Dial Meeting** 7pn Golden Corral Buffet & Grill Dinner at 6pm	22 **ARES Net Tonight** 7pm on 147.330 + W8CCI/R	23 Amateur License Class 6pm 110 Johnston Hall Miami-Middletown	24 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	25	26 **ARES Conference** Columbus, OH
27	28	29 **ARES Net Tonight** 7pm on 147.330 + W8CCI/R	30 **Ham Exams** 110 Johnston Hall Miami-Middletown Registration Opens @ 6 pm; Exams begin at 6:30			

May *2003*

Sun	*Mon*	*Tue*	*Wed*	*Thurs*	*Fri*	*Sat*
May 14 **Butler County Emergency Communication Team** Meeting 6:30pm Rm 229 D. Russel Lee JVS http://www.qsl.net/n8tvu				1 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	2	3
4	5	6	7	8 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	9	10 **BCVHFA** License Exams - 8:30am **OH-KY-IN** Fox Hunt - 10am
11 **Mother's Day**	12	13	14	15 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	16 ***Dayton Hamvention***	17 ***Dayton Hamvention***
18 ***Dayton Hamvention***	19 **Dial Meeting** 7pn Golden Corral Buffet & Grill Dinner at 6pm	20	21	22 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	23	24 **ARES Live Drill** D. Russel Lee 9am
25	26	27	28	29 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	30	31

Dial Radio Club

Middletown, Ohio
Packet Node: W8BLV-3 (MWO) 144.91 APRS Node: W8MWO (MWO) 144.39

Repeaters: 52.21/53.21, 146.01/146.61, 147.915/147.315, 223.36/224.96, 449.825/444.825
Web page: ***http://www.qsl.net/w8blv/*** e-mail: ***dial@qth.net***

President:
Ron Spaulding, N8NQF
Vice-president:
Art Frasik, N8PI
Secretary:
Ernie Howard., W8EH
Treasurer:
Carl Morgan, K8CM

Activities Manager:
Lorie Urschel, W8LKU
Newsletter Printing
Ron Spaulding, N8NQF
Newsletter Distribution:
Ruth Howard, N8OZN
Elaine Howard

May 2003

Dayton Hamvention

May 16 - 18

Come visit us in spaces 3201-3203 in the Flea Market

Minutes of the April 21, 2003 Dial Radio Club Meeting

Members Attending:
W8EH, Elaine, N8OZN, N8ODK, N8LWM, N8HRA, N8EH, N8NQF, N8LRN, Eve, KC8DUX, WA8DTU, W8LKU, W8MVN, Bonnie, WB8MYT, N8TFH, N8HP, N8GGE, K8CM, W8WLM, KB8WKL, KB8VSX, N8PI, KC8SKW, AB8QP, K2WRP, K4BQE, Phyllis, KF8PD, AB8LA, Jessica, Tommy, N8DHW, KC8THL, KE8OK, KC8TXA, KB8HSO, NZ8K, WD8NKJ. (40)

Call to Order:
Meeting called to order by Ron, N8NQF, at 7:02 pm, followed by introductions of those present.

Secretary's Report:
Motion by Ernie, N8EH, to approve minutes as published and dispense with reading. Second by Bob, KC8DUX; motion approved.

Treasurer's Report:
Treasurer's report was detailed by Carl, K8CM. We have 121 members of 78 families. Motion to approve by Bob, KC8DUX, second Ernie, N8EH; motion approved.

Repeater/Station Report:
Station report by Ernie, W8EH. The WPFB site was visited this week. The squelch on the main receiver was opened up a bit. Also the two UHF link receivers were getting a bit of pager qrm. The squelch was tightened on both and problem seems to be gone. We still need to replace the phone patch wire line between buildings. Other sites are ok.

Butler County ARES:
ARES report by Lorie, W8LKU. No drills this month to allow time to attend the state ARES conference. Future activities are the flying pig marathon *[Cincinnati]* and a practice drill on May 10. Next ARES meeting May 14.

Classes & Exams:
Education report by Carl, K8CM. Class will be over this week followed by an exam on April 30. Next exam will be mid August *[August 20]*. Technician classes will start end of August *[August 27]* and run for 7 weeks, followed by an exam *[October 15]*.

Old Business:
Art, N8PI, gave a report on the club's operating in the CQ WPX contest. All had fun. Worked about 500 contacts. Good food. Learned

Next Meeting: Monday, May 19, *Golden Corral Buffet & Grill*; dinner at 6 meeting at 7

some stuff for next time.

Ron, N8NQF, reported on the WARN and NWS training this month. Several Dial members attended. Dial has quite a few trained weather spotters now.

Art & Ron discussed Hamvention. If you are there we need your help selling. A 5% commission to the club is expected to offset space costs. If you have stuff to sell contact us to work out details to get it there. We will have the same portable repeater on site on 147.315 + with PL of 100.0 Hz. Trailer clean up will be May 7, meet at the funeral home? Details will on the email reflector and net. Motion by Art, N8PI, second by Carl, K8CM, to do the food (box lunch) the same as last year, cost $10 for one day, $20 for weekend. Motion approved.

Ron and Judy will again do food. Lori will get pop, coffee, and snacks. **Space numbers 3201, 3202, 3203; be sure to look for the yellow *DIAL* flag that will be flying from the antenna mast. Our *Hamvention* repeater will be on 147.315MHz + and using 100 Hz CTCSS.**

Field day was discussed. Plans are proceeding. On May 28 there will be a combination committee meeting, equipment check out and logging software training session at Art's house.

New Business:

Ernie, W8EH, proposed disposing of some unused club equipment. The Drake TR-7, power supply and microphone has not been used since 1999. It also has had some troubles. Carl, K8CM, suggested offering on email reflectors and web sites. If not sold, take to Hamvention. An asking price of $450 was settled on. Motion by Vernon, NZ8K, to proceed, second by Lorie, W8LKU; motion approved.

Sandi, AB8LA, is ordering field day shirts and pins. Contact here ASAP to order yours.

Ernie, W8EH, announced that the Great Ohio Bicycle Adventure (GOBA) will be arriving at Smith Park in Middletown on Thursday June 19 to stay over night. Communications support is being provided by Ohio ARES members. They have asked to use the 146.61 repeater and for persons to stand by on the repeater to provide assistance (to make phone calls or give directions). Let the officers know if you can stand by on the repeater to help.

Adjourn:

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Ernie, N8EH, seconded by George, W3GP, and approved, without dissent, by the membership.

Ernest W. Howard, Jr., W8EH
Secretary

Ohio Section News

This is, of course, Dayton Hamvention time. May 16-18 at Hara Arena Exposition Center. For more information, see the web site of <***www.hamvention.org***>.

...Two Ohio major bicycle events come this month and next. Tour of the Scioto River Valley (TOSRV) begins May 10 in Columbus, to Portsmouth and return the next day. Route mainly on Ohio Route 104. Then in June, we have the Great Ohio Bicycle Adventure (GOBA) which involves 6,000 participants through 20 Ohio counties for a weeklong trip. Ham Radio operators provide communications for both events.

...Check out on this Web Site for the complete list of Ohio's Ham Radio Bicentennial Events as Ohio's 200th Birthday Celebration continues.

...Ron West, N8OD, Lagrange, was elected Net Manager of th Ohio Single Side Band Net (OSSBN). Jim Williams, N8IBR, Johnston, was elected to the OSSBN Advisory Board (3 year term).

...Former Ohio Section STM Joyce Judy, KD8HB, Mechanicsburg, just completed her sixth complete County Hunters Certificate (worked all 3077 US counties in the 50 states). This was the second certificate on CW.

OHIO CLUB NEWS Welcome back to the Mid-Ohio Amateur Radio Club as being re-affiliated with ARRL. Toledo Mobile Radio Association (TMRA) has again been renewed as a Special Service Club. If your club is interested becoming a Special Service Club, check out the qualifications on the ARRL web site.

...If any clubs have information about any activities your clubs are doing for the 2003 Ohio Bicentennial contact Bob Winston, W2THU

...Remember that your annual report for ARRL needs to be done each year and if you are a Special Service Club check your date of when you received your status. This needs to be renewed every two years. You can do both of these on the ARRL web site.

... On July 3rd, the Huber Heights Amateur Radio Club (HHARC) along with the Clark County Amateur Radio Association (CLARA) will sponsor the special events station W8I in conjunction with the Inventing Flight Celebration in Dayton Ohio.

OHIO SECT CONGRATS (A) To new officers for the Firelands Amateur Repeater Association -- Pres.: Jim Hartman, N8CF, VP: Fred Coffey, KC8HJZ, Sec.: Tom Gundlach, N8FMJ and Treas.: Gary Howell, WW8H: (B) To Harry Davis, WA8LOJ, Ham of th Year for the OH-KY-IN Amateur Radio Society (Cincinnati): (C) To Steve Bellner, W8TER, as the Lucas County ARES Ham of the Year (Toledo): (D) To Ernie Greenisen, KC8QPH, Salem, for being named Ham of the Year for Salem Area ARA (Columbiana Coun*[K8QOE]*

FCC Warns Amateurs: Unlicensed Operation Could Cost Your Ham Ticket

The FCC has let a trio of Idaho amateurs know that unlicensed operation outside Amateur Radio frequencies could lead to revocation of their ham tickets. FCC Special Counsel Riley Hollingsworth recently wrote three Boise amateurs, citing allegations that they had transmitted without a license on several 11-meter frequencies.

"Information before the Commission indicates that you have transmitted without a license on 26.350, 27.420 and 27.700 MHz using SSB and SSTV," Hollingsworth said. He pointed out that, in addition to revocation proceedings, fines for unlicensed operation normally range from $7500 to $10,000. Letters went out March 17 to Dave Every, KD7QAS; John F. Hail, KD7QAW; and Tom M. Sjoberg, KD7RCS. Every holds a General ticket, while Hail and Sjoberg are Technician licensees. Hollingsworth says he understands that the unlicensed operations have ceased. The three frequencies involved are below and above the Citizens Band.

An Ohio ham, Dave K. Childers, N8QGI, also heard from Hollingsworth March 18 in a case involving alleged obscene or indecent transmissions last December on 27.115 MHz--CB channel

13. Hollingsworth did not raise the issue of unlicensed operation in that case, but he did spell out the FCC's position on the transmission of obscene or indecent words or language. He also requested Childers, a Technician licensee, to respond to the complaint within 20 days and indicated that a tape recording would be made available to him upon request.

Although the alleged Idaho and Ohio operations occurred on 11 meters, Hollingsworth said he contacted the four individuals only because it was determined that they were FCC Amateur Radio Service licensees. Complaints in the Idaho cases came from the amateur community, Hollingsworth indicated.

The FCC also sent a Warning Notice March 24 to Anthony L. Basile, N3HFB, of Pennsylvania, citing "monitoring information" indicating that the licensee has been deliberately interfering with three 2-meter repeater systems in his area. Hollingsworth warned of fines and revocation proceedings and said that until the matter is resolved, the FCC would not routinely renew Basile's Advanced class license, which expires in September. A similar Warning Notice went out March 18 to Tech Plus licensee Erin J. Rourke, N0KCN, of North Dakota, alleging deliberate interference to a 2-meter repeater in the Fargo area.

In another enforcement case, Hollingsworth has notified Drew B. Feldman of Los Angeles that the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau had set aside his Amateur Radio license KG6PFC. "That action is based upon complaints about the operation of your station," Hollingsworth wrote March 18. In May 2000, the FCC canceled Feldman's Tech Plus ticket, N3KSO, after he failed to appear as requested for re-examination. Feldman subsequently retested for the Technician license and was issued KG6PFC on February 20. Following the complaints, the FCC canceled the grant a month later.

[ARRL Letter]

"Broadband Over Power Line" Poses HF Interference Threat

The FCC soon will invite public comment on the concept of using existing electrical power lines to deliver Internet and broadband service to homes and offices. The Commission initiated a Notice of Inquiry (NOI) in ET Docket 03-104 when it met April 23. What the FCC calls "Broadband over Power Line" (BPL) is a form of carrier-current technology typically known as power line communication (PLC). Whatever its name, the technology is raising serious interference concerns within the Amateur Radio community, since BPL would apply high-frequency RF to parts of the power grid. One aspect of the NOI is to gather information on potential interference effects on authorized spectrum users.

"Entire communities will be affected, so every amateur in that community could have part of the radiating system 'next door' on the power wiring on his or her street," cautioned ARRL Lab Supervisor Ed Hare, W1RFI. Hare chairs the PLC Work Group of the IEEE C63 Accredited Standards Committee on Electromagnetic Compatibility <***http://c63.ieee.org***/>.

The complete NOI has not yet been released, and until that happens, the FCC will not formally accept comments in the proceeding. The ARRL will be among those expected to submit detailed comments in ET 03-104.

So-called "access BPL" would use medium-voltage (1 kV to 40 kV) power lines to deliver Internet and broadband applications. Hare says access BPL is likely to be a more significant interference source than in-building PLC technology "because overhead electrical wiring is a much better antenna than the electrical wiring within a building."

ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, editorialized on the subject of PLC in "It Seems to Us . . ." in the October issue of 2002 QST. "Is it possible to do power line communications without causing interference to over-the-air communications?" Sumner asked. "Count us among the skeptics. What may be a fine transmission line at 60 Hz looks more like an antenna at HF." Hare said his own computer analyses of interference potential from access BPL/PLC suggest "a significant increase in noise levels" from deployed systems.

The FCC appears enthusiastic about BPL, however, saying it has the potential to "provide consumers with the freedom to access broadband services from any room in the house without adding or paying for additional connections." The Commission also touted BPL as "a competitive alternative to digital subscriber line and cable modem services."

New digital power line designs use multiple carriers spread over a wide frequency range--from 2 MHz up to 80 MHz--and capable of high data rates--up to 20 MB/s, the FCC said.

In addition to viewpoints on interference potential, the FCC also has requested comments on the current state of high-speed BPL technology, test results from BPL experimental sites, appropriate measurement procedure for testing emission characteristics for all types of carrier-current systems, changes that may be needed in Part 15 technical rules, and the equipment approval process to foster the development of BPL.

Tests of BPL are under way in several states, including Alabama, Maryland, Missouri, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Virginia. Hare says ARRL Lab personnel will visit some of the test cities this spring to take field measurements to quantify the potential for interference to Amateur Radio operations.

BPL/PLC technology already has been deployed in some European countries, and amateurs there have complained about interference. Japan--responding in part to concerns expressed by its amateur community--decided last year not to adopt the technology because of its interference potential.

[ARRL Letter]

"Enhanced SSB" Bandwidths "Extremely Inconsiderate," FCC Says

The FCC has sent advisory notices to four enthusiasts of what's become known as "enhanced SSB"--the practice of engineering transmitted single-sideband audio to approach broadcast quality. Letters went out earlier this month to amateurs in Illinois, Florida and New Jersey who are aficionados of enhanced SSB, also known as "upper wideband" and "lower wideband."

"The Commission has received numerous complaints regarding the operation of your station," FCC Special Counsel Riley Hollingsworth wrote Paul Christensen, W9AC, John Anning, NU9N, Anthony Latin, W4NSG, and Sareno Salerno, W2ONV, on April 3. Hollingsworth said complaints to the FCC alleged that the bandwidths of the stations' enhanced SSB emissions were "wider than necessary and contrary to good engineering practice."

"Wideband overly-processed audio, especially when coupled with the high intermodulation levels of certain amplifiers, results in the use of bandwidths extremely inconsiderate of other operators,"

Hollingsworth said. Such transmissions may violate FCC rules and may be at odds with what Hollingsworth described as "the expectation that the Amateur Service be largely self-regulated."

Occupying more bandwidth than necessary in a heavily used amateur band, Hollingsworth wrote, not only could generate ill will among operators but lead to petitions asking the FCC to establish bandwidth limits for amateur emissions. At present, the FCC imposes no specific bandwidth limits on various amateur modes.

Hollingsworth cited §97.307(a) of the Amateur Service rules that requires the signal of an amateur station not occupy "more bandwidth than necessary for the information rate and emission type being transmitted, in accordance with good amateur practice." Some amateurs have complained that enhanced SSB signals can take up 8 kHz or more of spectrum, cause splatter and unnecessarily interfere with other stations.

"The Amateur Service is not a substitute for the Broadcast Service," Hollingsworth said, "and the frequencies allocated to the Amateur Service were not allocated for a 'broadcast quality' audio emission or sound." Hollingsworth suggested the enhanced SSBers operate when the bands are less busy or on bands that are not heavily used.

The many complaints the FCC has been getting--20 or so per week--leads to the conclusion that the stations' enhanced SSB operation is having "a negative impact" on the Amateur Service, Hollingsworth said. He requested that the four amateurs "fully review the rules" and make sure their stations conform to them.

[ARRL Letter]

Ham Radio "CC&R Bill" Reintroduced in Congress

Another Congressional attempt is under way to provide relief to amateurs prevented by private deed covenants, conditions and restrictions (CC&Rs) from installing outdoor antennas. Rep Steve Israel (D-NY) has again introduced the "Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Consistency Act" into the current session of Congress. The measure, designated HR 1478, would require private land-use regulators such as homeowners' associations to "reasonably accommodate" Amateur Radio antennas consistent with the PRB-1 limited federal preemption. PRB-1 now applies only to states and municipalities.

In remarks introducing HR 1478, Israel said passage of his bill not only would assist Amateur Radio operators but society as a whole. "Organized Amateur Radio operators--or "hams"--regularly provide emergency communication when regular communications channels are disrupted by disaster," Israel pointed out. The growth of developed communities has put a growing number of hams under an "array of inconsistent regulations," he said, that make it harder and harder--or altogether impossible--to erect the necessary antennas.

"Not allowing hams the equipment they need could restrict communication to the local community in similar situations in the future." Israel said his bill "seeks to ensure the continued viability of Amateur Radio through consistent application of federal regulations."

The one-sentence measure is identical to the text of the CC&R bill that was introduced in the last Congress: "For purposes of the Federal Communications Commission's regulation relating to station antenna structures in the Amateur Radio Service (47 CFR 97.15), any private land use rules applicable to such structures shall be treated as a state or local regulation and shall be subject to the same requirements and limitations as a state or local regulation."

HR 1478 has bipartisan support. Leading the list of 13 initial cosponsors for the measure are Reps Greg Walden, WB7OCE (R-OR) and Mike Ross, WD5DVR, (D-AR)--believed to be the only Amateur Radio licensees in Congress. Joining them are representatives Tammy Baldwin (D-WI), Roscoe Bartlett (R-MD), Marion Berry (D-AR), Rick Boucher (D-VA), Jo Ann Davis (R-VA), Ralph Hall (D-TX), Carolyn McCarthy (D-NY), Michael McNulty (D-NY), Dennis Moore (D-KS), Charles Taylor (R-NC) and Patrick Tiberi (R-OH).

ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, said he was happy to see the bill back before Congress. "Of course I am very pleased that Rep Israel has reintroduced the bill," Haynie said. "The League can do the mechanics, but it is now up to our members to write their elected representative and urge support and ask that they cosponsor and support the bill." Haynie noted that the League has recently ramped up its efforts to educate members of Congress about Amateur Radio, but he said lawmakers respond best to individual members.

HR 1478 has been assigned to the House Energy and Commerce Committee. Information about the bill and a sample letter to use when contacting your representative are available on the ARRL Web site ***<http://www.arrl.org/govrelations/hr1478/>***.

[ARRL Letter]

Butler County ARES

I would first like to thank the DIAL club members for their continued participation in the ARES group, and for the Memorandum of Understanding for the use of the club's repeater systems.

As of March 31, ARES has 64 members with signed registration forms and photo identification. That is up 6 new members from February.

The ARES group was involved in 94 activities, including training sessions, nets, drills, and in the field test. The total man-hour's spent preparing for Communications Emergencies for March is 607 hrs.

Other March accomplishments:

Finished the hardware and software installation at the EMA-EOC and had the three assigned operators to the EMA checked out on our equipment and software, and training on how to use the EMA Statewide radio system.

EMA Director Bill Turner is still waiting a decision from the Commissioners about mounting the 144/440 antenna on the roof of the building.

Red Cross Hamilton had the remaining hardware and software installed and it was tested out and made fully operational. N8TVU provided a 47 MHz. 110 watt base station on Red Cross frequencies that will be utilized to communicate between chapters, Emergency Response Vehicles, and other Chapters in south west Ohio.

Red Cross Middletown had the remaining hardware and software installed and it too was tested out and made fully operational. Test were also conducted on Channel 1 - the National Red Cross frequency to the Hamilton Chapter, and on Channel 2 the Butler County Chapters frequency.

The assigned operators for the Red Cross locations will be introduced to our equipment, Red Cross equipment and the software in April.

Both stations are fully functional. We are negotiating Internet

access at both sites for the computers since EMA and the main County Control Station is already on line, e-mail and other Internet bells and whistles can be utilized.

This might not seem like much now that we are seeing 70 & 80 egrees, most of these installations were done between days of freezing or below and 40-45 degree days during March.

We had five more operators take the Level I coarse March 15 & March 22, which tested on March 24 at the Warren County EOC Test Session.

The test session produced 17 - Level I, 1 - Level II, and 1 - Level III. Butler County ARES members taking the test were:

Doug Inman KC8JRR Achieved Level I
Larry Moore W8WT Achieved Level I
David Williamson KD8W Achieved Level I
Ernie Howard Jr. W8EH Achieved Level II & III

Congratulations to all that took the classes, studied on their own and passed the test. Great Job!

We had 25 in attendance for the Red Cross Introduction to Disaster Class March 12th. This class is required before any other Red Cross disaster services training can be obtained.

March 31st Red Cross held the damage assessment training at the Warren County EMA and 6 BC-ARES members attended that training.

April's schedule is fairly full too.

Lori W8LKU is writing the scenario for the May 10th drill. This will be the last monthly drill we will do until the fall. It doesn't matter if you're a current ARES member or not, if you want to participate in the drill, be tuned into 147.330(+) around 9 A.M. May 10th and simple "call in" to get your assignment!

Robert Spratt, N8TVU
Butler County EC

Communications Subcommittee Chair Co-sponsors Spectrum Protection Act

The chairman of the Senate Communications Subcommittee, Montana Republican Conrad Burns, has signed on as a cosponsor of the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act, Senate Bill 537. The commitment by Burns, the expected architect of the Senate's spectrum management legislation, indicates that the measure--an ARRL initiative on its third attempt in Congress--now has his attention. Burns' cosponsorship also could convince others to follow suit.

The Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act of 2003 has been introduced in both chambers of Congress. Florida Rep Michael Bilirakis filed the House version of the bill, HR 713, on February 12, while Idaho Sen Michael Crapo introduced the Senate version, S 537, on March 6.

The legislation would amend the Communications Act to require the FCC to provide "equivalent replacement spectrum" to Amateur Radio and the Amateur-Satellite Service in the event of a reallocation of primary amateur allocations, any reduction in secondary amateur allocations, or additional allocations within such bands that would substantially reduce their utility to amateurs. Bilirakis and Crapo, both Republicans, have twice before sponsored similar legislation at the League's recommendation.

The bills point out Amateur Radio's volunteer role in providing emergency communication "before, during, and after floods, hurricanes, tornadoes, forest fires, earthquakes, blizzards, train accidents, chemical spills, and other disasters." They also note that FCC actions "have resulted in the loss of at least 107 MHz of spectrum to radio amateurs."

A Billings, Montana, amateur with a professional and personal relationship with Burns--ARRL member Terry Whiteside, W7WWW--was instrumental in calling the senator's attention to the measure. A transportation attorney, Whiteside called the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act "a natural" for inclusion in spectrum management and reform legislation expected to come out of this session of Congress.

ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, has encouraged League members to urge their senators and representatives and to cosponsor the bills. Cosponsorhip lends support to legislation while it's in committee. The House bill has been referred to the Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet; the Senate bill will be considered by the Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee. "Letters and e-mails are the key to getting legislation passed," Haynie says. So far, there are three Senate and 15 House cosponsors.

A sample letter is available on the ARRL Web site <***http://www.arrl.org/govrelations/arspa.html***>. Those writing their lawmakers are asked to copy their correspondence to the League via e-mail <***specbill03@arrl.org***>. The text of HR 713 and S 537 is available via the Thomas Web site <***http://thomas.loc.gov/***>.

[ARRL Letter]

ARRL Kicks Off WRC-03 Spectrum Defense Campaign on Web

As preparations for this summer's World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 (WRC-03) head into the home stretch, ARRL this week launched a special WRC-03 campaign <***http://www.arrl.org/defense***> to help generate the funds needed to continue the defense of Amateur Radio spectrum. Issues that affect amateurs, such as the Amateur Radio/International Broadcasting overlap on 40 meters and the desire of commercial interests to expand their slices of spectrum are on the table and will be decided.

"While much of what happens at international conferences may seem very far away to the average ham, the decisions made at WRC-03 will have a dramatic impact on every ham in the country," said ARRL Chief Development Officer Mary Hobart, K1MMH. "The totality of these issues is huge for Amateur Radio."

Hobart said Amateur Radio needs to present "its best face and voice" to the various parties and interests that gather for WRC-03 in Geneva. The new WRC-03 campaign, which is aimed at making that possible, takes a twofold tack. "We are reaching out to ARRL members by mail and on the Web to contribute before May 30," she explained. The secure Web site features a detailed letter <***https://www.arrl.org/forms/fdefense/index.html***> from ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ.

"A contribution toward a healthy future for ham radio is just a click or two away," Hobart noted. Contributors also may mail in donations by check, if they wish.

Hobart points out that over the last several years, the "relentless efforts of ARRL in Washington, DC, and at international conferences" have led to the fund's depletion on the eve of the most

important international radio conference in a decade. She stated that Amateur Radio must have strength and resolve when ARRL and International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) <***http://www.iaru.org***/> representatives go to the conference.

"It is only through the continuing efforts of all hams--ARRL members and non-members alike--that a successful defense and promotion of Amateur Radio can take place in the face of commercial and governmental parties, which have very deep pockets," Hobart said.

In his letter, Sumner notes that close to 2000 delegates from nearly every country in the world will take part in the conference. In addition to the pressing problem of the overlap at 40 meters, international broadcasters are claiming they need additional spectrum in the 4 to 10 MHz range--the top end of 75 meters could be affected.

Sumner adds that satellite-borne radar systems and the so-called "Little LEO" satellites are also on the WRC-03 agenda, and decisions on these issues could affect amateur spectrum. In addition, broadband wireless devices, third-party traffic and the extent to which amateur licensing standards will be recognized in the international regulations also will be discussed and adjudicated.

WRC-03 takes place in Geneva June 9 through July 4.

[ARRL Letter]

FCC Proposes to Hike Amateur Radio Vanity Call Sign Fee; ARLB026

The FCC proposed March 26 increasing the regulatory fee to apply for, renew or reinstate an Amateur Radio vanity call sign from $14.50 to $16.30 this fall. The Commission included the new fee in a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) "Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 2003" (MD 03-83), released today. The closing date for comments on the new fee schedule is April 25. Reply comments are due by May 5.

"We estimate that 9800 applicants will apply for vanity call signs in FY2003," the FCC said in its NPRM. That's up by 800 from FY2002. It expects to collect revenues of nearly $160,000, an increase of almost $30,000 from FY2002.

The FCC NPRM also seeks comments on its efforts to review, streamline and modernize its fee assessment and collection processes and procedures. "We welcome comments on a broad range of options in this regard," the FCC said. Areas of particular interest include suggestions for improvement in the agency's electronic payment system.

Interested parties may comment via the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) on the web at, ***http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs/***. Enter "MD 03-83" in the "Proceeding" field. Electronic comments by e-mail also are welcome.

[ARRL Bulletin]

"Beyond the Repeater" Course is Next C&CE Offering

The next ARRL Certification and Continuing Education (C-CE) Program course soon will be available. "VHF/UHF: Beyond the Repeater" delivers on the promise of its title, immersing students in the smorgasbord of operating in the world above 50 MHz beyond FM voice. Beta testing of the course now is under way.

"Most of our testers went through the course fairly quickly, partly because it's such a good read," said C-CE Coordinator Howard Robins, W1HSR. "The input we've been getting has been very positive." Beta testing will continue through April 4. Initia registration for the first class is tentatively set for May 19. The course will be designated EC-008.

One tester said the new course "covers a lot of ground and is very thorough." Another commented that the course had reinvigorated his interest in satellite operating and direction finding. A third found the APRS unit "very informative."

QST Editor Steve Ford, WB8IMY, authored the course. He said its purpose is not only to reach out to Technician class licensees but to open new operating vistas for anyone who has not ventured beyond the local 2-meter machine.

"This course shows what else there is to do with VHF and UHF," Ford said. "There's the challenge of 'weak-signal' operating, the novelty of amateur television (ATV) and new frontiers in meteor-scatter work and Internet radio linking. This brings new life to the old hand-held radio."

The course features a variety of Internet resources, audio and visual materials, and even an on-the-rocket launch video utilizing ATV. Further, course activities were designed with the typical ham's budget in mind, recognizing that most amateurs have modest station equipment.

The new course will join seven others now offered by ARRL's burgeoning Certification and Continuing Education Program. To learn more, visit the ARRL Certification and Continuing Education (C-CE) Web page <***http://www.arrl.org/cce***>.

[ARRL Letter]

Next Meeting

Our meeting time is 7pm (6pm if you are coming for dinner) and will be at the Golden Corral Buffet & Grill at 3350 Village Drive, Franklin, OH (Towne Mall area). **Hope to see you on Monday, May 19!**

Join the ARRL and demonstrate your support for the growth of amateur Radio.

May — *2003*

Sun	*Mon*	*Tue*	*Wed*	*Thurs*	*Fri*	*Sat*
May 14 **Butler County Emergency Communication Team** Meeting 6:30pm Rm 229 D. Russel Lee JVS http://www.qsl.net/n8tvu				1 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	2	3
4	5	6	7	8 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	9	10 **BCVHFA** License Exams - 8:30am **OH-KY-IN** Fox Hunt - 10am **ARES Practice Drill**
11 **Mother's Day**	12	13	14	15 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	16 ***Dayton Hamvention***	17 ***Dayton Hamvention***
18 ***Dayton Hamvention***	19 **Dial Meeting** 7pn Golden Corral Buffet & Grill Dinner at 6pm	20	21	22 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	23	24 **ARES Live Drill** D. Russel Lee 9am
25	26	27	28	29 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	30	31

June 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	6	7 **BCVHFA** License Exams - 8:30am **OH-KY-IN** Fox Hunt - 10am **ARRL** June VHF QSO Party
8 **ARRL** June VHF QSO Party **Ham-O-Rama** Edgewood, KY 147.255+	9 **ARRL** June VHF QSO Party	10	11 **Butler County Emergency Communication Team** Meeting 6:30pm Rm 229 D. Russel Lee JVS http://www.qsl.net/n8tvu	12 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	13	14 **Milford Hamfest** Live Oaks Campus Buckwheat Road 147.345+
15	16 **Dial Meeting** 7pn Golden Corral Buffet & Grill Dinner at 6pm	17	18	19 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	20	21 ***Field Day*** at Smith Park Family Picnic 6pm
22 ***Field Day*** at Smith Park	23	24	25	26 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	27	28
29	30	Don't forget Field Day, June 21 and 22 at Smith Park. Family picnic will be at 6 pm on Saturday evening. Be sure to call Lorie (937-743-9450) and tell her how many of your family will be attending and what covered dish you will be bringing.				

Dial Radio Club

Middletown, Ohio
Packet Node: W8BLV-3 (MWO) 144.91 APRS Node: W8MWO (MWO) 144.39

Repeaters: 52.21/53.21, 146.01/146.61, 147.915/147.315, 223.36/224.96, 449.825/444.825
Web page: ***http://www.qsl.net/w8blv/*** e-mail: ***dial@qth.net***

President:
Ron Spaulding, N8NQF
Vice-president:
Art Frasik, N8PI
Secretary:
Ernie Howard., W8EH
Treasurer:
Carl Morgan, K8CM

Activities Manager:
Lorie Urschel, W8LKU
Newsletter Printing
Ron Spaulding, N8NQF
Newsletter Distribution:
Ruth Howard, N8OZN
Elaine Howard, KC8WOF

June 2003

Minutes of the May 19, 2003 Dial Radio Club Meeting

Members Attending:
W8EH, KC8WOF, N8OZN, N8HRA, KB8HSO, N8EH, N8ODK, N8LWM, N8NQF, KC8TXA, N8DHW, KC8DUX, KE8OH, Tillie, K2WRP, K4BQE, Phyllis, N8PI, WA8DTU, W8LKU, KB8WKL, KD8W, N8GGE, N8HP, K8CM, W8WLM, KC8CYP, WB8MYT, N8TFH, W8MVN, Bonnie, W8GNV, WA8PRA, KF8PD, N8TQG, W3GP, AB8QP, Ben, N8BH. (39)

Call to Order:
Meeting called to order by Ron, N8NQF, at 7:02 pm, followed by introductions of those present.

Secretary's Report:
Motion by Ernie, N8EH, to approve minutes as published and dispense with reading. Second by Bob, KC8DUX; motion approved.

Treasurer's Report:
Treasurer's report for April was detailed by Carl, K8CM. We have 121 members of 78 families. Motion to approve by Bob, KC8DUX, second Ernie, N8EH; motion approved.

Repeater/Station Report:
Station report by W8EH. The 146.61 main site was struck by lightning a couple of weeks ago. The controller system was damaged, memory scrambled, some systems didn't return to working order. Last week it got hit again and knocked off the air. K8CM and W8EH removed the main repeater equipment today.

We researched a replacement controller and checked at Hamvention. An informal vote was taken of those attending Hamvention that was in favor of buying then while we could get a deal. We were able to purchase a CAT-1000 unit with all the options we needed for $899, more than a $250 savings. Motion by George, W3GP, second by Dave, KD8W, to officially approve the purchase; motion approved.

We will need to install a better lightning protection panel for both power line and phone line before installing the new controller. A work party will be scheduled. Wiring of the new controller to the repeater will be done over the next few weeks.

Classes & Exams:
Carl, K8CM, & Dave, KD8W, reported at the last test session. We had several upgrades to Extra Class, General and new Technician. There was a big showing.

Old Business:
Field Day is June 28 & 29. We will set up on Friday June 27. We had some discussion.

Trailer needs to be reloaded with the field day stuff at Ed's house this Wednesday *(May 21)* at 6 pm.

There will be a Field Day committee meeting and contest logging software training at Art, N8PI's house on Wednesday May 28.

Carl, K8CM, reported on the sale of the club's Drake TR-7. It was sold to a Cincinnati ham for $450. The sale of the TR-7 will be used to offset the purchase of the new CAT-1000 controller.

Beverley, N8GGE, reported that she had several astronomy books if anyone was interested.

Art, N8PI, spoke about name badges. Those attending 3 meetings are eligible. Several at the meeting signed up. He also spoke about getting a club logo. Ron, N8NQF, appointed Art to head a committee to select a logo. A report will be given next meeting.

Dick, W8GNV, has lots of old *QST*, *CQ*, *73* and *Ham Radio* magazines to get rid of. He also has a Ten-Tec Omni 6 plus for sale.

Ed, KF8PD, says some field day shirts are on back order. Should be available soon.

Motion by Ed, KF8PD, to reimburse Sandi, AB8LA for a $50 purchase of 192 pencils, containing *Dial* information, for distribution

Next Meeting: Monday, June 16, *Golden Corral Buffet & Grill*; dinner at 6 meeting at 7

at Field Day. Second by Don, WA8DTU; motion approved.

New Business:

There was no new business presented at this meeting.

Adjourn:

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made and approved, without dissent, by the membership.

Ernest W. Howard, Jr., W8EH
Secretary

New Licenses and Upgrades

Congratulations to Elaine Howard, KC8WOF, earning her Technician license at *DIAL's* April 30 exam session.

In addition upgrades to Amateur Extra class were earned by Mark Ward, WD8NKJ, and William Bowen, KC8QQH. Upgrades to General class were earned by Elizabeth Howard, N8RYS, and Rick Slone, KB8HSO.

Our ***heartiest Congratulations*** to these members of *DIAL* for their accomplishment.

Field Day Picnic

When: Saturday, June 28 6:00 pm
Where: Smith Park
What to bring: A covered dish of your choice

RSVP: By Saturday, June 21 to: Lorie Urschel W8LKU
in person.

Please let me know the number of people that will be in your party, so the appropriate amount of supplies can be purchased.

Questions? Feel free to contact me

[W8LKU]

Weaver's Words

Hello to you ARRL members in the Great Lakes Division. This is another of the periodic messages you can expect to receive from me. I hope to have at least a bit of information of interest to each of you in each message.

I want to thank you once again for your continued support of ARRL -- your organization. Vice Director Dick Mondro, W8FQT and I also continue to want to hear any complaints, questions and suggestions you may have about ARRL operation. All complaints may not be answered to full satisfaction. All questions may not be answered to full satisfaction. All suggestions may not be adopted. On the other hand, each complaint, question and suggestion will receive full attention and will be passed on for further consideration as appropriate. You can be assured that the Division staff of Vice Director, Section Managers and Assistant Directors will do their best to respond to your needs to our fullest extent, so keep those cards and letters -- and E-mails -- coming.

TIME LIMIT FOR ARRL CONTINUING EDUCATION EXAMS

Paul Daley, WT8S, of Cuyahoga Falls, OH posed a question about the length of time that must be given candidates who are taking ARRL Continuing Education course exams in the field. Specifically, his team wanted to know if they can set a time limit for completing the exams.

The answer from Dan Wilson, K3UFG, our Headquarters CF guru, is an unqualified yes. Dan's answer specifically is:

"I have no problem with any Certification Examiner team setting time limits -- within reasonable limits -- for examinees. When publicizing a CE Session for field exams, simply include a sentence stating: "Candidates for Certification Exams should be prepared to complete each exam within 45 minutes (or whatever your team feels comfortable with) to allow the volunteer examiner team to return to their normal schedules."

"73 and best of luck.

"Dan, K3UFG"

It clearly is not the intention of ARRL CE staff to tie volunteer examiners up for hours on end when giving CE exams. Good question, Paul.

NEW QSL BUREAU MANAGER

Paul being a hard working QSL sorter for the 8th Region Incoming QSL Bureau makes me think to tell you all that we have a new manager for this bureau. After several years of managing the bureau, Ed Gassman, N8HTT, resigned effective the end of April. I thank Paul for his work on behalf of so many other amateurs in the 8th Region.

We are fortunate to have a highly qualified member take over the managerial responsibilities as of May 1. He is Jay Slough, K4ZLE, of West Chester, OH. Jay is an avid DXer, on the DXCC Honor Roll, public service oriented, a great organizer and has great ability to work with people. He has also gone on several DXpeditions in numerous places throughout the world. I thank Jay for accepting appointment as Bureau Manager.

DAYTON HAMVENTION(c)

There are many fine hamfests throughout the Division. Vice Director Dick Mondro and I, and the SMs have been to many of these and we will attend many more throughout the year. Nothing, though, can compare with the total massive character of the Dayton Hamvention(c). You might just find a number of the Division staff members hanging around the ARRL booth throughout much of the Hamvention. You definitely will find ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, and other officers and Directors around the place part of the time.

Be sure to look in on the ARRL Forum, Saturday morning at 8:15 AM in room 3. This is a great opportunity to hear what is going on straight from the mouths of President Haynie and Chief Executive Officer Dave Sumner, K1ZZ. Find out about the effort to get a unified 40M band, worldwide, a new 5 MHz band, what is going on to protect our frequencies from interference by Broadband Communications on power lines, and many, many more projects being managed by our great HQ staff. And, yes, some unnamed Director will be on the spot at the forum as well.

DIVISION CONVENTION

The Division convention in Findlay, OH on September 6 is moving along very nicely. As mentioned previously, ARRL President Jim Haynie will be our main speaker and chief guest.

Convention Chairman Gary Johnston, KI4LA, and his folks have

also lined up Jim Bridgewater of the FCC Detroit Field Office and a rousing line-up of programs throughout the day. Last, and maybe least, I will head a forum on activity throughout the Division. I invite all Assistant Directors (including our hot Section Managers) to come and plan to participate in the proceedings along with Vice Director Mondro and myself. Check out the Division web site for for more convention information; ***http://greatlakes.arrl.org/***

This is it for now. There are many additional items that could be covered, but I've imposed on your time for long enough.

73, GL, I hope to see you all one of these days,
Jim, K8JE

ARRL Great Lakes Division
Director: James Weaver, K8JE
k8je@arrl.org

Butler County ARES

Butler County ARES has been keeping busy the first half of 2003 assisting with and in public service events, training, and finishing the installation of equipment around the county.

As of May 20th all of the EMA purchased Kenwood D-700's have been installed in their fixed locations and are working well.

The EMA-EOC was completed in January. We were waiting to get the OK from the County Commissioners to mount outside antenna's on the county building. That work was completed the first week in May. Not only did we get our dual band 144/440 antenna, but commercial UHF, VHF and 800 trunking antenna for the EOC.

Red Cross Hamilton was completed in February during our early spring weather. That installation included a new 47 MHz. base station for the Red Cross frequencies.

Red Cross Middletown went into service next. The unit is located in the basement of the building. Telephone, remote control lines for the Red Cross Radio System and internet connections are being installed at the operator location for total system control from one location.

Butler County Sheriff 911 Center was completed May 20th as the last of the fixed locations to be installed. The radio is positioned next to a console that is utilized when communications on the main consoles gets overloaded.

This has been a huge boost as far as amateur radio acceptance with the county agencies. We are looking forward to working closer with the Sheriff's Office and other county agencies as time goes on.

The system makes possible a backup communications system for the 911 center should their system go off the air, loose a remote site, or even experience a telephone outage in any given area. Amateur operators can now respond to an area in need of emergency communications and have direct contact with the 911 center dispatcher that is actually sitting at a console.

Dispatchers are so excited about the system and what they have heard it can do, that several from each shift are planning on attending the next technician class held on their own time to obtain a license.

As this system grows and the public officials realize the potential of this system, we feel the awareness, need and excitement of amateur radio will become more alive in Butler County than it has been in past years.

We appreciate the support of the DIAL radio club and it's members. Anyone not yet signed up for Butler County ARES can do so at any of our meetings held the second Wednesday of each month at Butler Technical School Room 229 6:30 P.M.

Robert Spratt, N8TVU
Butler County EC

NTIA Administrator Lauds, Cautions FCC in "Broadband Over Power Line" Inquiry

The administrator of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) <http://www.ntia.doc.gov/>, Nancy J. Victory, has applauded the FCC's decision to launch its inquiry into Broadband over Power Line (BPL)--a form of power line communications (PLC). In an April 24 letter to FCC Chairman Michael Powell, the other four commissioners and to FCC Office of Engineering and Technology Chief Edmond J. Thomas, Victory said BPL "holds great promise" and urged the Commission to "move forward expeditiously with its inquiry." At the same time, she called on the FCC to make sure that BPL does not cause harmful interference to other services.

"I also urge the Commission to promptly adopt any subsequent rule changes that may be appropriate to facilitate broadband PLC deployment, while ensuring that those rules prevent harmful radio frequency (RF) interference to other communications mediums." Victory wrote.

BPL has raised the specter of substantial interference to the HF bands since it involves coupling high-frequency RF to parts of the power grid and using existing power lines as the transmission medium to deliver broadband and Internet services. The new so-called "access BPL" and "in-home BPL" devices operate on multiple carriers spread over a wide spectrum, which could be as much as from 2 MHz up to 80 MHz.

Victory offered NTIA's services in assisting the FCC with measuring and testing broadband PLC emissions. An arm of the US Department of Commerce, the NTIA regulates radio spectrum allocated to the federal government.

The FCC released a Notice of Inquiry on BPL deployment, ET Docket 03-104, on April 28. The complete NOI is available on the FCC Web site ***<http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-03-100A1.doc>***.

Interested parties may submit electronically filed comments via the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) ***<http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs/>***. Under ECFS Main Links, click on "Submit a Filing." In the "Proceeding" field, enter "03-104" and complete the required field. Comments may be typed into a form or you may attach a file containing your comments. Comments also may be submitted via e-mail, per instructions on the ECFS page. The comment deadline will be 45 days after publication of the NOI in the Federal Register.

ARRL Laboratory Manager Ed Hare, W1RFI, has urged League members to become informed and to comment in the proceeding. "The time to raise and answer interference questions is now," he said. The ARRL Lab has prepared a comprehensive information page, "Power Line Communications (PLC) and Amateur Radio,"

<http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/HTML/plc/>. ARRL Lab staff also will visit sites where BPL is undergoing field testing.

[ARRL Letter]

FCC Declines to Grant LF Allocation, Gives Channelized Access to 5-MHz

The FCC bowed to power company concerns and declined to grant amateurs an expected sliver-band allocation at 136 kHz "at this time." But, in a compromise with government users, the Commission gave amateurs secondary access to five discrete 2.8-kHz-wide channels in the vicinity of 5 MHz instead of the 150-kHz band ARRL had requested. In its Notice of Proposed Rule Making a year ago, the FCC appeared inclined to go along with both ARRL requests.

The FCC did agree in its Report and Order (ET Docket 02-98) to elevate the Amateur Service--but not the Amateur-Satellite Service--to primary status at 2400 to 2402 MHz. The changes to Part 97 go into effect 30 days after publication in The Federal Register, which has not yet occurred.

"We are disappointed that the FCC could not see its way clear to providing even a narrow LF allocation to the amateur service, given earlier encouraging signs and the general trend in other countries," ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, said of the FCC's decision.

The FCC, however, found itself more persuaded by arguments from electrical utilities and other commenters that amateur operation at 136 kHz might interfere with power line communications (PLC) used by electrical utilities to control the power grid.

The FCC said a new amateur LF allocation is not justified "when balanced against the greater public interest of an interference-free power grid." The FCC said amateurs wishing to experiment with LF could apply for experimental licenses or operate under existing Part 15 rules. "We will not jeopardize the reliability of electrical service to the public," the FCC concluded.

The granting of just five spot frequencies--5332, 5348, 5368, 5373, and 5405 kHz--at 60 meters was less of a surprise given opposition expressed last fall by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA). The NTIA had cited a possible need for the requested band by federal government users and proposed the five specific frequencies for amateur use on a secondary basis. The FCC has granted operation on USB (2K8J3E emission) only, with a maximum effective radiated power limit of 50 W relative to a 0 dB gain antenna--a half-wave dipole. The channels--each with a maximum permissible bandwidth of 2.8 kHz--will be available to General and higher class licensees.

"While the new amateur privileges at 5 MHz are not as flexible as we had hoped, we recognize that much has changed since the ARRL petition for rulemaking was submitted to the FCC in the summer of 2001," Sumner said. "Federal agencies with homeland security responsibilities have renewed interest in HF radiocommunication." The restriction to USB is aimed at maintaining interoperability with federal government users, who conceivably could require immediate access to one of the amateur secondary channels.

Sumner said the ARRL was pleased to see 2400-2402 MHz upgraded to primary. "The upgrade of the 2400-2402 MHz amateur allocation to primary provides a seamless primary allocation from 2390 to 2417 MHz, in addition to the secondary allocations of 2300-2310 and 2417-2450 MHz," he said. Amateurs already have been experimenting with high-speed multimedia operation in the band using IEEE 802.11b protocols.

The Report and Order is available on the FCC's Web site, ***http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-03-105A1.doc.***

[ARRL Letter]

60-Meter Operation to Require Operator Prudence, Caution

When the five channels of the new 60-meter amateur allocation become available later this year, Amateur Radio operators will have to learn some new operating habits and adopt some new on-the-air attitudes. The limited spectrum and stringent bandwidth requirements will mean amateurs will have to demonstrate their best behavior and operating skills if the Amateur Service ever hopes to get an actual band segment at 60 meters.

"In terms of Amateur Radio spectrum, we usually say, 'Use it or lose it,'" said ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ. "The watchword for 60-meter operators should be, 'Misuse it and lose it.'"

The channelized scheme--similar to the 5-MHz experimental operation under way in the United Kingdom *<http://www.rsgb-hfc.org.uk/5mhz.htm>*--puts unfamiliar technical compliance demands on US hams who have, until now, not had to worry much about frequency stability or transmitted audio bandwidth. The FCC has granted amateurs 5332, 5348, 5368, 5373, and 5405 kHz--the last channel common to the UK experimental operation's band plan. These are all "channel center frequencies," the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) said in a March 13 letter to FCC Office of Engineering and Technology (OET) Chief Edmond J. Thomas. The NTIA, which administers federal government spectrum, opposed allocation of an actual ham band citing the ongoing spectrum requirements of federal licensees with homeland security responsibilities. The channels will be available to General and higher class licensees.

The NTIA says that hams planning to operate on 60 meters "must assure that their signal is transmitted on the channel center frequency." In general, the NTIA has advised, users should set their carrier frequency 1.5 kHz lower than the channel center frequency.

According to the NTIA:

Channel Center	Amateur Tuning Frequency
5332 kHz	5330.5 kHz
5348 kHz	5346.5 kHz
5368 kHz	5366.5 kHz
5373 kHz	5371.5 kHz
5405 kHz (common US/UK)	5403.5 kHz

ARRL Technical Relations Manager Paul Rinaldo, W4RI, says the assignment of these channels implies that amateurs now must adhere to certain frequency tolerances for their use. While the international Radio Regulations don't list these for the Amateur Service, he notes, they do stipulate tolerances on the order of 20 to 50 Hz for other services.

"We haven't been told anything specific about frequency tolerances for these channels but would probably annoy federal regulators if we strayed any more than 50 Hz from the assigned carrier frequencies," Rinaldo cautioned.

Keeping one's audio within the 2.8-kHz wide channel to comply with the 2K8J3E emission specification is another important issue. ARRL Laboratory Manager Ed Hare, W1RFI, believes prudence calls for not having baseband audio below 200 Hz nor greater than 2800 Hz--for a total bandwidth of 2.6 kHz. "That will probably keep us out of trouble," he said. Noting that the high-frequency response "can vary a lot from radio to radio," however, Hare recommended that amateurs play it conservatively.

Additionally, the FCC has restricted operation to USB only, with a maximum effective radiated power (ERP) of 50 W. The USB-only requirement stemmed from NTIA interoperability concerns. The NTIA wanted to make sure that federal users could copy and, if necessary, identify any amateur station using one of the 60-meter channels. As a result, the 60-meter frequencies will become the only ones available to the general amateur community that do not permit CW operation.

For the sake of this particular grant, the FCC said it would consider a half-wave dipole to have a gain of 0 dBd. In its letter to the FCC, the NTIA stipulated that radiated power should not exceed "the equivalent of 50 W PEP transmitter output power into an antenna with a gain of 0 dBd."

"Although this is less spectrum than the American Radio Relay League petition requested, this is the best we can do pending a definition of Homeland Security HF requirements," concluded Fredrick R. Wentland in the NTIA's letter to the FCC's OET.

Sumner has predicted that, over time, amateurs can and will "develop a record of disciplined, responsible use of the five channels in the public interest that will justify another look at these rather severe initial restrictions."

Just when amateurs will get their first crack at 60 meters is not yet clear. The changes to Part 97 go into effect 30 days after publication of the Report and Order (R&O) in The Federal Register, which has not yet happened. Publication could take anywhere from a few weeks to a few months. ARRL will announce a specific date as soon as it's known.

The FCC Report and Order in ET Docket 02-98 is available on the FCC's Web site <***http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-03-105A1.doc***>.

[ARRL Letter]

Ohio Ham Hit With $12,000 Fine in Malicious Interference Case

Cooperation between Canadian and US amateurs has resulted in a $12,000 Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture (NAL) from the FCC to an Ohio amateur. The FCC has alleged that Ronald E. Sauer, WE8E, of Bedford Heights violated Part 97 rules prohibiting deliberate and malicious interference, transmission of music and failure to identify. The case involved daily interference to the Trans Provincial Net <***http://www.tpn7055.ca/***>, a Canadian net that operates on 7.055 MHz.

"This was no small task and was accomplished with the help of many people from the US and Canada working together," said ARRL Great Lakes Vice Director Dick Mondro, W8FQT, who expressed thanks to all involved. In addition to TPN members, that included Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) <***http://www.rac.ca***> officials, Industry Canada, the FCC, ARRL Michigan <***http://www.arrl.org/sections/?sect=MI***> and Ohio <***http://www.arrl.org/sections/?sect=OH***> Section officials, ARRL Official Observers and members of the Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society <***http://www.cars.org/***>. "This was indeed an example of teamwork in action and proves again that the FCC does care and continues to work with us to stop interference," Mondro added.

TPN Assistant Manager Jim Taylor, VA3KU, said the interference to the net had gone on for several months. "Our break came when the jammer decided to intensify his efforts by going to his local library and sending out repulsive and threatening e-mails to a few of our members," Taylor said. He and other Canadian hams were able to determine that the e-mails had come from a public library terminal in the Cleveland, Ohio, area. Taylor contacted CARS President Bob Check, W8GC, for assistance in zeroing in on the jammer.

Tracking down the signal source involved mobile direction-finding work by three CARS members, who passed along their findings to the FCC's Detroit Office late last January. Already alerted to the situation, the FCC's Detroit Office had called on the Commission's High Frequency Direction Finding (HFDF) facility in Maryland. The HFDF group monitored jamming and the playing of music and narrowed down the search to an area near the intersection of Interstates 480 and 77 in the Cleveland area.

In the meantime, the FCC received the CARS report indicating that the interference was coming from Sauer's residence. On January 31, an FCC agent also used direction-finding techniques to track the source of the interference on 7.055 MHz to Sauer's home and conducted an inspection. The FCC said Sauer "admitted that he had been playing music and deliberately jamming the frequency of 7.055 MHz." Sauer "further admitted to jamming and playing music on this frequency on previous days."

Based on its findings, the FCC concluded that the $12,000 fine was justified. The FCC ordered Sauer to pay the fine within 30 days or file a written statement seeking a reduction or cancellation of the proposed forfeiture.

[ARRL Letter]

RSGB Delegation Reports on Foundation License Success in UK

Great Britain's new Foundation license <***http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2002/01/10/1/***> has reversed the slide in licensee numbers and reinvigorated Amateur Radio in the UK. That was the assessment of Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB) <***http://www.rsgb.org***> President Bob Whelan, G3PJT, who headed an RSGB contingent that visited ARRL Headquarters April 29-30.

"We had some pretty alarming statistics," Whelan told his audience of ARRL staff members. He said the RSGB realized that if nothing changed, the number of Amateur Radio exams given would drop to zero in five years, "and time was marching on." That trend, coupled with a rising median age in the Amateur Radio population in the UK and RSGB members' desire for a "practical, progressive" approach to licensing prompted the RSGB to rethink the licensing structure, Whelan said.

As a result, the RSGB conceived of and convinced the Radiocommunications Agency to approve the Foundation license as

a "radically different" entry-level approach to Amateur Radio and the first step in a three-tiered licensing structure. Among other new requirements, Foundation applications must demonstrate the ability to make an on-the-air contact. Because the RSGB considered HF access "essential" to newcomers, it devised a Morse assessment--rather than a proficiency examination--to qualify applicants.

Since the Foundation license became available January 1, 2002, Great Britain has seen the number of amateurs rise by 4000--approximately a quarter of them under age 21. "It was slightly unexpected," Whelan conceded. The RSGB had planned on an initial rush of 1000 candidates, but three months into the new program, the organization found itself inundated with 3000 applications. There are 50,000 amateur licensees in the UK. Foundation licensees sport M3-prefix call signs and have privileges on all bands from 136 kHz to 440 MHz--except 10 meters--with a 10 W power limit.

Foundation license classes often are offered through weekend sessions sponsored by local radio clubs. In addition to the Morse assessment, which has no specific code speed requirement, applicants must pass a 20-question (soon to be 25-question) written examination.

More information on the Foundation License is available on the RSGB Web site <***http://www.rsgb.org***> (click on "Foundation Licence Courses").

The RSGB delegation also included General Manager Peter Kirby, G0TWW, and Commercial Manager Mark Allgar, M1MPA. While at ARRL Headquarters, the RSGB team also discussed with ARRL staff members preparations for World Radiocommunication Conference 2003, International Amateur Radio Union concerns, power line communications, sales and marketing issues and other topics of mutual interest.

[ARRL Letter]

Columbus Hamvention? Vendors Voice Preferences on Alternative Sites

Most big Hamvention inside exhibitors have indicated they'd prefer the world's largest annual ham radio gathering to be held in Columbus, Ohio, if Dayton's Hara Arena were no longer available. This is the last year of Hamvention's five-year contract with Hara Arena. Event organizers have begun preliminary talks with Hara's owners for a new pact, but say they want to keep all options open. Hamvention takes place May 16-18, and the show's Production Manager Garry Matthews, KB8GOL, says Hamvention 2003's fortunes have begun moving in a more positive direction in recent days.

"I think it's going to be a good year," predicted Matthews, who said he's seen a dramatic increase in interest over the past week. "I think the show may be slightly smaller this year in terms of inside exhibitors and outside vendors," Matthews conceded, "but if activity continues as it has since Monday of this week, we possibly could sell out the show. We're getting orders every day."

Earlier this spring, Matthews reported that things had been slower to come together in terms of advance sales to visitors and vendors. He said organizers have been beefing up direct-mail and other Hamvention promotional activities over the past couple of weeks, however, and results have been encouraging.

One popular Hamvention staple--the FCC forum--will be missing this year. Because of some mis-communication and scheduling problems, neither Bill Cross of the FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau nor Riley Hollingsworth of the FCC's Enforcement Bureau will attend Dayton Hamvention this year. Last-minute efforts to find suitable substitutes for Cross and Hollingsworth did not pan out, and the forum's two-hour Saturday morning time slot remains unfilled.

Matthews and FCC sources have indicated that tentative plans are in place to schedule an FCC symposium at Hamvention 2004 featuring Cross, Hollingsworth and FCC High-Frequency Direction Finding Facility Manager Dave Larrabee.

Matthews said that while it was unlikely Hamvention would be moving to Columbus--some 60 miles from Dayton--any time soon, it remained "a very strong contingency" if Hamvention ever did have to move elsewhere. "Our option with Hamvention would be to stay at Hara for as long as we possibly could, as long as we could make it work and the show could be a good show," he said. Hamvention is sponsored by the Dayton Amateur Radio Association, but Hamvention has quietly dropped "Dayton" from the show's official name.

Hamvention's preference survey went to 225 of the largest inside exhibitors, and Matthews said 80 percent of those indicating a preference picked Columbus as their top choice as an alternative site, while 12 percent said "no" to Columbus. Matthews said the Columbus Fairgrounds appears to be a suitable site were Hamvention to ever consider relocating. The other two preferences were Indianapolis and Cincinnati respectively.

Matthews said Hamvention officials this year plan to survey a selection of "average hams" during the show itself. Attendance at last year's 50th anniversary event was 24,832--down about 5 percent from 2001's crowd of 26,151.

Late news about the show is on the Hamvention Web site <***http://www.hamvention.org***>

[ARRL Letter]

Next Meeting

Our meeting time is 7pm (6pm if you are coming for dinner) and will be at the Golden Corral Buffet & Grill at 3350 Village Drive, Franklin, OH (Towne Mall area). **Hope to see you on Monday, June 16!**

Join the ARRL and demonstrate your support for the growth of amateur Radio.

June 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 **ARES Net** 9pm 147.330 +	4	5 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	6	7 **HAM-O-RAMA 2003** Independence, KY 147.225 +
8 **GOODYEAR ARC** Suffield, OH	9	10 **ARES Net** 9pm 147.330 +	11 **Butler County Emergency Communication Team** Meeting 6:30pm Rm 229 D. Russel Lee JVS http://www.qsl.net/n8tvu	12 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	13	14 **BCVHFA** License Exams - 8:30am **OH-KY-IN** Fox Hunt - 10am **ARRL** June VHF QSO Party
15 **ARRL** June VHF QSO Party	16 **Dial Meeting** 7pm Golden Corral Buffet & Grill Dinner at 6pm **ARRL** June VHF QSO Party	17 **ARES Net** 9pm 147.330 +	18	19 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	20	21 **Milford Hamfest** Milford, OH 147.345 +
22	23	24 **ARES Net** 9pm 147.330 +	25	26 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	27 Field Day Setup after 4pm Coordinate with W8EH	28 ***Field Day*** at Smith Park Family Picnic 6pm
29 ***Field Day*** at Smith Park	30	Don't forget Field Day, June 28 and 29 at Smith Park. Family picnic will be at 6 pm on Saturday evening. Be sure to call Lorie (937-743-9450), by Saturday, June 21, and tell her how many of your family will be attending.				

July 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
		1 **ARES Net** 9pm 147.330 +	2	3 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	4	5
6	7	8 **ARES Net** 9pm 147.330 +	9 **Butler County Emergency Communication Team** Meeting 6:30pm Rm 229 D. Russel Lee JVS	10 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	11	12 **BCVHFA** License Exams - 8:30am **OH-KY-IN** Fox Hunt - 10am **IARU** HF World Championships
13 **IARU** HF World Championships	14	15 **ARES Net** 9pm 147.330 +	16	17 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	18	19
20	21 **Dial Meeting** 7pm Golden Corral Buffet & Grill Dinner at 6pm	22 **ARES Net** 9pm 147.330 +	23	24 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	25	26 **OH-KY-IN** Diamond Oaks Campus Cincinnati 146.67 -
27	28	29 **ARES Net** 9pm 147.330 +	30	31 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R		

Dial Radio Club

Middletown, Ohio
Packet Node: W8BLV-3 (MWO) 144.91 APRS Node: W8MWO (MWO) 144.39

Repeaters: 52.21/53.21, 146.01/146.61, 147.915/147.315, 223.36/224.96, 449.825/444.825
Web page: ***http://www.qsl.net/w8blv/*** e-mail: ***dial@qth.net***

President:
Ron Spaulding, N8NQF
Vice-president:
Art Frasik, N8PI
Secretary:
Ernie Howard., W8EH
Treasurer:
Carl Morgan, K8CM

Activities Manager:
Lorie Urschel, W8LKU
Newsletter Printing
Ron Spaulding, N8NQF
Newsletter Distribution:
Ruth Howard, N8OZN
Elaine Howard, KC8WOF

July 2003

Minutes of the June 16, 2003 Dial Radio Club Meeting

Members Attending:
N8NQF, W8EH, KC8WOF, N8OZN, N8LWM, N8ODK, KB8HSO, N8HRA, N8EH, N8GGE, N8HP, K8CM, KB8WKL, WD8NKJ, WA8PRA, WB8MYT, N8TFH, W8MVN, Bonnie, KC8CYP, K4BQE, W3GP, N8TQG, KE8OH, N8DHW, KC8TXA, W8LKU, WA8DTU, KF8PD, KB8VSX, WN8I. (31)

Call to Order:
Meeting called to order by Ron, N8NQF, at 7:02 pm.

Secretary's Report:
Motion by Ernie, N8EH, second by Bob, N8BH, to approve minutes as published and dispense with the reading. Motion approved.

Treasurer's Report:
Treasurer's report for May was given by Carl, K8CM. Hamvention expenses and income ended up $25.22 to the good. Membership, at the end of May, stands at 121 members / 78 families.

Repeater/Station Report:
Repeater/Station report by Ernie, W8EH. The new CAT-1000 controller has been installed at the 61 site. Everything is up and running. Some minor bugs to be worked out. Some of the repeater codes have changed, including the autodial prefix and the touchtone test prefix.

Contact Carl, K8CM, for the latest codes. *[Within the next week or so, labels will be available for the back of your membership card containing the new emergency autodial, user autodial and autopatch codes.]*

Classes & Exams:
Carl, K8CM, reported that the first exam of the season will be August 20. Technician classes will begin August 27 and run 7 weeks with General classes beginning October 22 and continuing through December 10.

Old Business:
Lorie, W8LKU, reported on the plans for the field day picnic. Reservations are due.

Dave, KD8W, says we will be testing computers for field day Wednesday.

Field day setup will be Friday, June 27, at Smith Park. Operation begins Saturday at 2 pm.

Ed, KF8PD, reported that Butler county ARES communications group activated for the recent rain and flooding in the county. Some are still activated. Butler EMA is offering CERT (citizens emergency response team) training. Contact Bob, N8TVU, for details.

Ed, KF8PD, has the Field Day shirts if you ordered one.

New Business:
Carl, K8CM, said ***QSL.NET***, our email and web site provider, was asking for donations and the club hasn't donated in a while. Motion by Carl, K8CM, to send $100, second Ernie, N8EH. Motion approved.

Adjourn:
There being no further business, a motion was made by Ernie, N8EH, second by George, W3GP to adjourn. Motion approved, without dissent, by the membership.

Ernest W. Howard, Jr., W8EH, Secretary

No Morse Code Controversy at WRC-03

Whatever else happens at World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 (WRC-03), there's no mystery about the delegates' direction regarding the Morse code requirement. Morse code proficiency will disappear as a treaty obligation for high-frequency

Next Meeting: Monday, July 21, *Golden Corral Buffet & Grill*; dinner at 6 meeting at 7

access when the International Telecommunication Union (ITU)-sponsored gathering under way in Geneva concludes July 4.

"One matter on which there appears to be no disagreement is the Morse requirement," said International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) Secretary (and ARRL CEO) David Sumner, K1ZZ, in a report <***http://www.iaru.org/rel030623.html***> on the second week of activity at WRC-03. "It is clear that the outcome will be to leave it to administrations' discretion whether or not to have a Morse receiving and sending requirement." He said no administration participating in the sub-working group spoke in favor of retaining the Morse code treaty requirement.

The modification of Article 25.5 of the international Radio Regulations cleared Working Group 4C on June 24. Working Group 4C is dealing with this and other proposals relating to Article 25. The modified text says, "Administrations shall determine whether or not a person seeking a license to operate an amateur station shall prove the ability to send and receive texts in Morse code signals."

It's possible but unlikely that the text would be tinkered with further at the committee level or even in the Plenary, which considers items for adoption. Sumner said delegates continue to wrangle over other aspects of Article 25, which defines Amateur Radio operation.

Adoption of the Article 25.5 modification would not mean the immediate disappearance of the Morse requirement to operate on the amateur bands below 30 MHz. Each administration, including the FCC, would then decide whether or not to drop the requirement from its domestic regulations. Some countries have indicated a desire to retain a Morse code requirement.

Sub-working groups this week funneled their reports to larger working groups assigned to tackle various pieces of the huge WRC-03 agenda. More than 2600 delegates and other participants are attending the four-week conference. For WRC-03, the IARU has fielded its largest team of observers at an ITU conference in more than a decade.

There's less consensus on efforts to secure a "harmonized" 300-kHz-wide amateur allocation at 7 MHz. Sumner said initial discussions in Sub-Working Group 4C1 "were spirited and reflected sharp differences of opinion" between those advocating realignment and those favoring no change out of deference to the disruption that any realignment would cause broadcasting services now occupying 7.1 to 7.3 MHz in Regions 1 and 3, and the fixed services above 7.3 MHz that would be affected by any upward shift in broadcasting. Amateurs in the US and the rest of Region 2 enjoy a 300-kHz allocation from 7.0 to 7.3 MHz, but hams in the rest of the world, Regions 1 and 3, have only 7.0 to 7.1 MHz.

Three alternative proposals have been passed on to Working Group 4C. "The largest group favored realignment in two stages," Sumner explained. That group included the US, CEPT, CITEL and the African Telecommunications Union. The two steps would expand the band in Regions 1 and 3 by 100 kHz in 2007 and add the remaining 100 kHz in 2015. Other plans put forth contained longer time lines. By week's end, Sumner said, the issue could be passed on to Committee 4 and then to the Plenary, where items need two readings for ultimate WRC-03 approval.

The issue of an allocation for satellite-borne synthetic aperture radars (SARs) in the 70-cm band (432-438 MHz) also appears well on the way to resolution. "While it appears very likely that there will be an allocation, it will be secondary," Sumner explained.

Full reports on WRC-03 activities are available on the IARU Web site <***http://www.iaru.org/news-releases.html***> *[ARRL Letter]*

July Ohio Section News

SM: Joe Phillips, K8QOE, Fairfield, (to contact me, see QST page 16); ASM-NE: Bob Winston, W2THU, Cleveland; ASM-NW Ron Griffin, N8AEH, Findlay; ASM-Central: Bill Carpenter, AA8EY, Westerville; ASM-SW: John Haungs, W8STX, Cincinnati; ASM-SE: Connie Hamilton, N8IO, Marietta; SEC: Larry Rain, WD8IHP, Mansfield; STM: Jack Wagoner, WB8FSV, Hilliard; ACC; Brenda Krukowski, KB8IUP, Toledo; TC: Tom Holmes. N8ZM, Tipp City; PIC: Scott Yonally, N8SY, Lexington; OOC: Alan Cook, N7CEU, Newark; SGL: Reuben Meeks, W8GUC, Vandalia.

JULY SECTION NEWS: For the second time in four years, Ohio is the scene of a major ARRL Convention. In conjunction with the Findlay Hamfest, the Great Lakes Division (Michigan-Ohio-Kentucky) Convention is Saturday, September 6 at the Findlay Inn downtown. Hamfest is the next day at the Hancock County Fairgrounds. Big features; ARRL president Jim Haynie, W5JBP, Dallas; FCC Detroit head Jim Bridgewater; Seminars on APRS, HSMM, PSK-31, ARDF, and Official Observers; Conference of Ham Radio Clubs and Assistant Directors meeting with Director Jim Weaver, K8JE. Beside the obvious social partying, there will be a Saturday night banquet and Wouff Hong. All in a small-town classic motif hotel setting. Plus the Convention ticket gets you in the Sunday Hamfest (attended by 3,000 annually). For all the latest information on the Convention go to <***http://greatlakes.arrl.org***> and make arrangements through Jeanie Dalton There is free toll number for reserving rooms at Findlay Inn <1-800-825-1455>. Special room rates for this convention held until August 15.

With a Division Convention so close to our regularly scheduled Ohio Section Conference (usually the following week after th Findlay Hamfest), the 2003 Conference will be canceled. But it returns in 2004, on Saturday, September 11, 2004 at the Ohio EMA Headquarters in Columbus as always. For 2003, the Ohio Section will hold a forum at the Findlay Hamfest where group reports and awards - the Severson and Newsletter Contest winners will be announced.

The 8th Call QSL Bureau, for years headquartered in Columbus, had an address change last month. For all you Dxers, we repeat the new address of the bureau -- Eighth District QSL Bureau, Post Office 307, West Chester, Ohio, 45071-0307. Jay Slough, K4ZLE, of West Chester (north of Cincinnati) is the new Bureau Manager.

Frank Schwab, W8OK (sk), Dayton, who died in late May, was called the Father of The Dayton Hamvention, but it was a title he didn't endorse because as Frank liked to say "there were many people in the room" when the first Hamvention was formed 52 years ago - two tiny rooms at a downtown Dayton hotel.

OHIO SECTION CLUB NEWS: Recent election results - (A) Dayton ARA; Mike Buehler, N8XGA; Veep, Mike Arquilla; Sec, Nancy Krodel, KC8RMT; Tres, Keith Marshall, AB8BD, and trustee, Steve Coy, K8UD; (B) Tusco ARC; Pres. Jim Foote, K8KSN, VP: Ben Pfeiffer, KA8LLE, Sec.: David Lomady, WD8CKK, Treas: Kenneth Stockert, KA8WUV and Activities Manager: Howard Blind, KD8KF, and (C) Bellbrook ARC: Pres.: Harry Noble, N8CYS, VP: John Ferguson, N8FJ, Sec.: Ed Kulesa, K2VEE, Newsletter Editor: Fred Stone, W8LLY, and Trustee: Clyde Schaffnit, KB8HV...Two clubs recently renewed their Special Service Club status - Cuyahoga ARS (near Cleveland) and Alliance

ARC (Columbiana County).

OHIO SECTION JULY HAMFESTS: (19) Northern Ohio ARS at Wellington, For more information <*http://www.apk.net/noars/noarsfe.htm*>; (20) Van Wert ARC at Van Wert. For more info, contact ; (26) OHKYIN ARS at Cincinnati. For more info, contact and (27) Portage County ARC at Randolph. For more info, contact

[K8QOE]

Weaver's Words

KUDOS

I tip my cap to the Division leadership. This starts of course with Vice Director Dick, W8QFT and moves on to the three Section Managers, Debbie, KA8YKK (MI), Joe, K8QOE (OH) and John, NB4K (KY). These, the Assistant Directors and the three Section staffs are doing great jobs in giving their time to support and promote Amateur Radio. Keep up the good work, y'all (John, did I spell y'all correctly?).

It is with considerable sadness that I acknowledge family health issues have required Debbie to resign her post, but she assures all of us she will not disappear from the Amateur Radio scene. A search committee of the Michigan leadership chaired by Vice Director Mondro is recommending a nominee for appointment to the remaining portion of Debbie's term.

FREQUENCIES

Thanks to the efforts of your staff at ARRL Headquarters and in Washington, US amateurs will have 5 discrete channels in the 5 MHz frequency range open in July to our use. Concerns over changing needs for military and government communications in the aftermath of 9/11 denied us a 5 MHz "band." Before anyone operates on these channels, be certain to read and understand the limitations and the extent of our legal use of them. Make certain you are precisely on the frequency you think you are on when transmitting, be certain you understand the frequency to which your transmitter should be tuned (NOT the center of the channel), be certain to follow power limitations, and be certain to use the designated mode of transmission. You can read all of the requirements and restrictions at ***http://www.arrl.org***.

If we mess things up on these channels, you can safely bet Amateur Radio will get a black eye in the perception of US Government agencies, and risk the loss of these channels and any chance to have them expanded into a band.

FORTY METERS

We won't know for a couple of weeks, but there is a very good chance the World Radio Conference going on now will award Amateur Radio a much cleaner 40 meter band than we now have. There is strong support for this improvement throughout most of the world. At this time, the Arabian bloc and Australia are the main governments that oppose changing frequency allocations for BC stations and other non-amateur stations in the band. WRC decisions are made by consensus. Therefore, "our side" could win a vote of delegates, but in the absence of a consensus, there still might be no change in international treaty. As is said, "Stay tuned." Watch ***http://www.arrl.org*** for up-to-the-minute news.

GREAT LAKES DIVISION CONVENTION - September 6, 2003

This is in Findlay, Ohio the day before the Findlay Hamfest. Former Director Gary Johnston, KI4LA and his committee have pulled together a great set of activities which include ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP as the banquet speaker. Details at ***http://greatlakes.arrl.org***.

ARRL FINANCIAL INFORMATION

A couple of members have asked why ARRL does not publish financial reports. The League does publish an Annual Report, well, annually. This report contains a financial report. The financial report gives a full picture of the League's finances. You will find the report for 2002 and several earlier years at ***http://www.arrl.org/announce/annualreport/index.html***.

QSL BUREAU

The following discussion applies in general to all US incoming QSL Bureaus. Details of the operation of individual Bureaus often differ. This discussion is written regarding the 8th Region Bureau. Great Lakes Division 4-landers are served by the 4th Region Bureau.

From the time a QSL is sent by a US Ham to the ARRL outgoing bureau at HQ, from here on to a foreign bureau and finally to the overseas Ham, it is likely to require long as 6 months to 2 years. By this time, the card has been sorted at least three times and combined with additional cards to make mailing it practical.

From the time the overseas Ham reviews his incoming cards, fills out reply cards, gets them to his outgoing bureau, on to ARRL HQ and finally to the incoming Bureau for the Region, it is likely to take an additional 6 months to 2 years.

In our example, the card is sorted to go the 8th Region where it is sorted to go on to the correct letter Sorter (to the volunteer who takes all x8Kxx cards, for example). The Sorter sorts his incoming cards into mail slots for each person for whom he/she sorts cards. They are finally mailed (in due course) to the amateur who started this sequence with his outgoing card.

Total elapsed time? From as little as 1 year (abnormally short) to as long as 5 years (not so abnormally long). The bottom line is that if you do not mail your QSLs directly to folks overseas, be patient. Even if you mail directly, it can easily take over a year for a reply mailed directly back to you. Remember; don't kill the messenger when he has no good news for you.

GETTING AROUND

I hope to see many of you at a meeting or hamfest throughout the Division. In the meantime, if you have a complaint, suggestion or observation regarding ARRL, please let me know. I want to know your thinking. You can also contact W8FQT or any of the Assistant Directors listed at ***http://greatlakes.arrl.org***.

73, GL, CUL, Jim, K8JE

ARRL Great Lakes Division
Director: James Weaver, K8JE

Butler County ARES

June 11, our guest speaker was Butler County EMA Director William Turner. He had a power point presentation where Emergency Management was at the end of WWII and where it is today, the new concerns and dangers we all face due to the constant threat of terrorism.

The second half of his presentation addressed how we as citizens of our own communities and neighborhoods can obtain specialized training to perform basic fire suppression, first aid, CPR, and light

rescue BEFORE the fire trucks arrive. If the problem is city wide, it may take them a long time to get there.

You and your neighbors need to be capable of saving your own homes, neighbors and family members.

"CERT" stands for Community Emergency Response Team. Learn how to shut off the gas, water and electric to avoid further damage, explosion, fires, loss of property and lives!

How Long Does It Take For Fire-Rescue To Reach You On A Normal Basis?

During an Emergency - TIME IS EVERYTHING! The problem can be handled immediately by training the people in your neighborhood. ANYONE can be trained to do the basic things-anyone-including YOU!

Pull together, help your neighbor, help yourself, become part of a community CERT team! BE READY!

Contact William Turner Butler County EMA to schedule a class for YOU!

****

ARES members are becoming CERT Team members! The first class will be the 2cd & 3rd week of July and the second class will be the 3rd & 4th week in August. This is just one more way the ARES team is working, training, and preparing to aid Butler County in the time of need.

****

May Stats:

- 112 training hours
- 296 Net hours
- 236 Public Service Events hours
- 20 Damage Assessment hours
- 8 SKYWARN Activation Hours
- 673 total hours for May.

****

We are planning several "In-The-Field" drills that will span into and include the cooperation of our surrounding county ARES teams.

We are also planning a District Wide drill for this fall. We invite you to come out to a drill, participate or just observe, which ever you choose but come on out and get in on the fun of learning about Emergency Communications!

We seem to be getting more involved with Special Service Events and Public Service Events. We can always use extra operators and this too is a great way to get some "on the job training".

Dust off those portable batteries, dig out that speaker mic or boom mic headset and come on out!

Believe it or not We Do Have Fun!

[N8TVU]

New 60-meter Band to Become Available July 3!

The new five-channel 60-meter amateur allocation becomes available to US Amateur Radio operators at midnight (12:00 AM) local time on July 3. The local time designation means that amateurs in the US territory of Guam likely will be the first to get a crack at the new band.

The new band will be a secondary allocation--federal government users are primary--and the first on which the only permitted mode will be upper-sideband (USB) phone (emission type 2K8J3E). The FCC last month announced it would grant hams access to five discrete 2.8-kHz-wide channels instead of the 150 kHz-wide band ARRL had requested and the FCC initially proposed. The League remains optimistic, however, that Amateur Radio eventually may be able to enjoy a band segment with multiple mode privileges at 60 meters. ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, has said that in the meantime hams will have to be on their best behavior when taking advantage of the limited channelized allocation, open to General and higher class licensees.

The FCC has granted amateurs center-channel frequencies of 5332, 5348, 5368, 5373 and 5405 kHz--the last channel common to the amateur experimental operation under way in the United Kingdom <*http://www.rsgb-hfc.org.uk/5mhz.htm*>. To be "on channel," users of 60 meters should set their transmitted carrier frequency 1.5 kHz lower than the channel-center frequency. In terms of day-to-day operation, the new band is expected to resemble the sort of channel sharing typical on local repeaters.

ARRL Laboratory Manager Ed Hare, W1RFI, says hams need to be very careful if they're considering modifying their current transceiver or transmitter for 5 MHz. The ARRL advises that members check with the appropriate equipment manufacturers regarding specific modification information. Some modifications not only may void the warranty but could affect or alter a transmitter's operation in unpredictable ways.

"Hams need to be sure that any modifications put them right on the desired channel," Hare said. "Most hams are used to just having to think about band edges, so on other bands, if a mod were a bit 'off,' all operators would need to ensure is that they are not transmitting outside the band." Hare recommended that on 5 MHz amateurs remain within "a few tens of Hertz" of suppressed-carrier accuracy. He also pointed out that hams have a mandate not to have any of their signal occupy spectrum outside the assigned 2.8 kHz channels.

Noting that high-frequency audio response can vary considerably from radio to radio, Hare has suggested restricting occupied channe. audio bandwidth to 2600 Hz, rolling off below 200 Hz on the low end and above 2800 Hz on the high end.

Last-minute opposition to the granting of a band segment at 5 MHz came last year from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), which cited the ongoing spectrum requirements of federal government licensees having homeland security responsibilities. The NTIA administers spectrum allocated to the federal government. A compromise between the FCC and the NTIA resulted in the limited, channelized allocation.

The NTIA selected the channels the FCC authorized to minimize the possibility of interference to federal government users, and it dictated the use of USB so that federal government users--who also use only USB--could readily identify amateur stations if necessary.

The FCC has set maximum power at 50 W ERP and said it would consider a typical half-wave dipole to exhibit no gain.

[ARRL Letter]

60-Meter Rules Add New Record-keeping Requirement

When the five new 60-meter channels become available to US Amateur Radio operators at midnight (12 AM) local time on July 3, the rules will impose a new record-keeping requirement for hams. The requirement applies only to those using something other than a simple half-wave dipole for an antenna on the 5-MHz allocation.

According to °97.303(s), a half-wave dipole on the 5 MHz allocation will be presumed to have a gain of 0 dBd. "Licensees using

other antennas must maintain in their station records either manufacturer data on the antenna gain or calculations of the antenna gain," the newest addition to the FCC's Amateur Service rules says.

Because the new rules also require hams to run no more than 50 W effective radiated power (ERP) on the new channels, the choice of antenna becomes an important compliance factor. The FCC rules stipulate, "For the purpose of computing ERP, the transmitter PEP will be multiplied with [sic] the antenna gain relative to a dipole or the equivalent calculation in decibels."

If you use a half-wave dipole--about 87 feet 3 inches for the "middle" channel according to the formula--setting your transmitter's power output power at up to 50 W peak envelope power (PEP) should ensure compliance.

Under no circumstances may amateurs on 5 MHz radiate more than 50 W ERP in any direction, so those choosing to employ gain antennas will have to "do the math" and calculate their ERP. They also will have to keep a record of such antenna gain calculations on file. This might include documentation such as output from a computer modeling program for a homebrew antenna design. For example, an amateur using an array for 5 MHz exhibiting a calculated or modeled gain of 3 dB would have to cut power to 25 W PEP to comply with the new rules.

Operating on 60 meters is the subject of the July 2003 QST "It Seems to Us . . ." editorial <*http://www.arrl.org/news/features/2003/07/01/1/*> by ARL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ. "If we demonstrate that we can use [the 60-meter channels] responsibly, cooperatively and in the public interest, there is no reason we cannot seek expanded access at an appropriate time," Sumner wrote. "If your personal operating practices are inconsistent with that, please do yourself and everyone else a favor and confine your operating to the traditional bands."

The FCC Report and Order in ET Docket 02-98 is available on the FCC's Web site <*http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-03-105A1.doc*>. The ARRL has posted a list of frequently asked questions concerning 5 MHz operation on the ARRL Web site <*http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/faq.html#sixty*>

[ARRL Letter]

FCC Writes Part 15 Device Users About Alleged Interference to Amateur

Hold the phone! The FCC has written two Northern Virginia residents to follow up on complaints from a local amateur who's alleging that he's on the receiving end of harmful interference from telephone devices with the capability to support multiple cordless remotes. Both are unlicensed Part 15 consumer electronics devices made by a well-known manufacturer. The complaints from Bernie Keiser, W4SW--an ARRL member in Vienna, Virginia, near Washington, DC--represented a bit of a turnabout from the typical interference scenario, where ham operation occasionally generates complaints of interference to cordless consumer equipment.

"Harmful interference to a licensed radio service from a Part 15 device is a violation of FCC rules," warned Sharon Bowers, deputy chief of the Consumer Inquiries and Complaint Division of the FCC's Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau. Bowers explained that the equipment was classified as an "intentional radiator"--a device that generates an RF signal as part of its normal operation. In separate letters June 2 to the two Part 15 users--both also Vienna residents--she pointed out that if their cordless telephone devices cause harmful interference to licensed spectrum users, "the operator of the device is responsible for correcting the interference, ceasing operation, if necessary, whenever such interference occurs."

Keiser told ARRL that the interference--in the form of broadband noise from 2400 to 2450 MHz--impairs his ability to hear the AO-40 downlink and beacon on the band. "I have a 2.4-GHz cordless telephone that does not cause problems," he said. According to Keiser, the devices in question electronically poll various remote stations, and it's the polling function that apparently causes the noise. He was able to track down the noise sources on his own and has discussed the issue with his neighbors, with whom, he says, he remains on friendly terms. He said the owner of the device that's causing the worst interference is a communications attorney who understands the problem and hopes to deal with it through the manufacturer.

In her letters, Bowers cited the applicable sections of Part 15 and advised that the alleged harmful interference must be corrected before they may use the devices legally. She suggested the consumers contact the manufacturer or retailer of the devices to see if they'd either allow them to return them or exchange them for devices that don't cause interference.

[ARRL Letter]

Amateurs "First of the First Responders," DHS Official Says

ARRL now is an official affiliate program of Citizen Corps <*http://www.citizencorps.gov*>, an initiative within the Department of Homeland Security <*http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/*> to enhance public preparedness and safety. ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, signed the formal Statement of Affiliation between DHS and ARRL during the ARRL 2003National Convention June 21. Chief Operating Officer of the Emergency Preparedness and Response Directorate (FEMA) Ron Castleman represented Under Secretary for Emergency Preparedness and Response Michael D. Brownat the signing. Citizen Corps Liaison to the White House Liz DiGregorio called ham radio operators the "first of the first responders."

"You are there. You are part of that very, very first response when it happens locally," especially in the initial stages of an emergency or disaster, DiGregorio told an overflow audience. She urged amateurs to explore ways to expand their role in the community beyond being the last resort when other communication systems fail. "You need to show your community that you're engaged," she said. "They need to know as a community that ARRL is there."

Castleman said his agency really needs Amateur Radio's help. "Hams have a long and distinguished history of assisting and cooperating with FEMA," he said. He said FEMA wants to continue to work with Amateur Radio operators as partners and expand hams' community safety role. "We also want to help prepare every citizen across our country before disaster strikes," Castleman said.

The League joins the National Safety Council, Points of Light Foundation, National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster, National Volunteer Fire Council, National Fire Protection Association, Save A Life Foundation and The Jaycees as Citizen Corps affiliate programs.

The SoA calls on DHS and ARRL to raise public awareness of Amateur Radio as a safety resource. "That's what you are all about, and we need a safer America," DiGregorio said.

In addition, DHS and ARRL will cooperate in providing training and accreditation for Amateur Radio emergency communications. They also will work together to promote the formation of local Citizen Corps councils and assist them with education, training and volunteer service opportunities "that support first responders, disaster relief organizations and community safety efforts." As an affiliate, ARRL will be linked from the FEMA and Citizen Corps Web sites.

"We need you, and you need us, and we want to work together with you to make this all happen," DiGregorio concluded, "because we all share the same goal, and that goal is a better, stronger, more secure America."

The ARRL National Convention 2003 was held in conjunction with Ham-Com <***http://www.hamcom.org***> in Arlington, Texas. FEMA announced the SoA signing on its Web site <***http://www.fema.gov/nwz03/nwz03_138.shtm***>.

[ARRL Letter]

Hamvention Reports Attendance Down in 2003

Hamvention reported June 4 that attendance for this year's 52nd show was 22,168, down a bit more than 10 percent from last year's crowd. "This is based on the number of admission tickets issued and exhibitor and staff badges issued," said a statement from the office of Hamvention Production Manager Garry Matthews, KB8GOL. Matthews told ARRL that weather played a big factor in attendance this year.

"Our biggest contributing factor to the drop was the near-constant rain on Saturday," he said. "We had a whole day washed out."

On the plus side, Matthews said, Hamvention 2003 came close to selling out vendor spaces, and many vendors reported that they had a good year, despite the smaller crowd.

The 2003 number marks the third year in a row that Hamvention's attendance had dipped. Attendance at last year's 50th anniversary event was 24,832, down about 5 percent from 2001's crowd of 26,151. The crowd size climbed to 28,804 in 2000, the year of the ARRL National Convention at Hamvention.

Matthews said Hamvention expects to wrap up negotiations within the next three weeks on a new, two-year contract with Hara Arena, Hamvention's home since the 1960s. The anticipated contract, in conjunction with support from local hotels and motels and area municipalities, "would allow Hamvention to stay in the Dayton area for the foreseeable future," Matthews' office said.

Hamvention 2004 will be held May 14-16. For more information, visit the Hamvention Web site <***http://www.hamvention.org***>.

[ARRL Letter]

MARS Operations Begin in Iraq; More Operators Sought

The Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) is poised to start the flow of messages between troops in Iraq and Kuwait and their families and friends back home. The first MARS licenses have been issued to soldier stations in Iraq and Kuwait, and a broad range of frequencies has been assigned for MARS use. MARS also is operational in Afghanistan.

Daniel Wolff, assistant affiliate MARS coordinator for Europe, Africa and Southwest Asia, reports that four soldier licenses had been issued as of June 1 but he hopes there will be many more as active hostilities continue to wind down. These new operations will open up MARSgram and phone patch communications for troops stationed beyond the reach of e-mail and cell phones. Just about every company-size unit overseas has high frequency radio equipment ir house--or, more likely, "in tent."

While preparedness to provide emergency or contingency communications backup now occupies first place, handling "morale and welfare traffic" is another role MARS members still can play. The only drawback is the shortage of stations to receive it. MARSgrams are being handled at least one-way. Those addressed to Iraq or Kuwait are transmitted by radio to the nearest MARS gateway station, then refiled into the Military Postal System for delivery. This shaves days or weeks off the time it takes a message going by mail.

Information on sending MARSgrams is available on the Army MARS Web site <***http://www.netcom.army.mil/MARS***>. Now that most hostile action has ceased, Wolff says, MARS should be among the organizations assuming a humanitarian and support role--if only there were more stations in the region.

FCC-licensed amateurs may apply for an overseas MARS license much as they would in the US, except that some additional information is required. Commanding officers may also apply for a MARS station license for their units and are exempt from the FCC Amateur Radio license requirement, he explained. Full information and application forms are available to overseas applicants by e-mailing Wolff <aem1wf@qsl.net> or for US amateurs by visiting the US Army MARS Web site <***http://www.netcom.army.mil/MARS/***>.--Bill Sexton, N1IN/AAA9PC

[ARRL Letter]

Next Meeting

Our meeting time is 7pm (6pm if you are coming for dinner) and will be at the Golden Corral Buffet & Grill at 3350 Village Drive, Franklin, OH (Towne Mall area). **Hope to see you on Monday, July 21!**

> The gift of happiness belongs to those who unwrap it.
>
> *Andrew Dunbar*

July 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
CERT TEAM TRAINING - William Turner EMA Director has scheduled two classes. The classes are 3 hours each for 8 nights. They will be held at Butler Tech; room to be announced. The first is July 14-15-16-17-18-21-22-23 from 7 P.M. until 10 P.M.		1 **ARES Net** 9pm 147.330 +	2	3 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	4	5
6	7	8 **ARES Net** 9pm 147.330 +	9 **Butler County Emergency Communication Team** Meeting 7 pm Rm 229 D. Russel Lee JVS	10 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	11	12 **BCVHFA** License Exams - 8:30am **OH-KY-IN** Fox Hunt - 10am **IARU** HF World Championships
13 **IARU** HF World Championships	14	15 **ARES Net** 9pm 147.330 +	16	17 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	18	19 **Northern Ohio ARS** Wellingron, OH
20 **Van Wert ARC** Van Wert, OH	21 **Dial Meeting** 7pm Golden Corral Buffet & Grill Dinner at 6pm	22 **ARES Net** 9pm 147.330 +	23	24 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	25	26 **OH-KY-IN** Diamond Oaks Campus Cincinnati 146.67 -
27 **Portage County ARC** Randolph, OH	28	29 **ARES Net** 9pm 147.330 +	30	31 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R		

August 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
CERT TEAM TRAINING - William Turner EMA Director has scheduled two classes. The classes are 3 hours each for 8 nights. They will be held at Butler Tech-unknown which room at this time. The second is August 18-19-21-22-25-26-28-29 from 7 P.M. until 10 P.M. Those that signed up for the training that did not specify AUGUST, will be scheduled to attend the July Class. Email notifications will be going out to confirm your attendance in those classes.					1	2 **ARRL** UHF Contest **Voice of Aladdin** Columbus 147.24+
3 **ARRL** UHF Contest	4	5 **ARES Net** 9pm 147.330 +	6	7 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	8	9 **BCVHFA** License Exams - 8:30am **OH-KY-IN** Fox Hunt - 10am
10	11	12 **ARES Net** 9pm 147.330 +	13 **Butler County Emergency Communication Team** Meeting 7 pm Rm 229 D. Russel Lee JVS	14 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	15	16 **ARRL** 10 GHz and Up Contest
17 **ARRL** 10 GHz and Up Contest	18 **Dial Meeting** 7pn Golden Corral Buffet & Grill Dinner at 6pm	19 **ARES Net** 9pm 147.330 +	20 **Ham Exams** Johnston Hall MU-Middletown Registration Opens @ 6 pm	21 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	22	23
24	25	26 **ARES Net** 9pm 147.330 +	27 **Technician Ham Class** Johnston Hall MU-Middletown 6 - 9 pm	28 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	29	30
31						

Dial Radio Club

Middletown, Ohio
APRS Digipeater: W8MWO (MWO) 144.39
Repeaters: 52.21/53.21, 146.01/146.61, 147.915/147.315, 223.36/224.96, 449.825/444.825
Web page: ***http://www.qsl.net/w8blv/*** e-mail: ***dial@qth.net***

President:
Ron Spaulding, N8NQF
Vice-president:
Art Frasik, N8PI
Secretary:
Ernie Howard., W8EH
Treasurer:
Carl Morgan, K8CM

Activities Manager:
Lorie Urschel, W8LKU
Newsletter Printing
Ron Spaulding, N8NQF
Newsletter Distribution:
Ruth Howard, N8OZN
Elaine Howard, KC8WOF

August 2003

Minutes of the July 21, 2003 Dial Radio Club Meeting

Members Attending:
N8NQF, N8RTG, KB8HSO, N8ODK, N8LWM, KC8TXA, W8LKU, WA8DTU, N8DHW, KE8OH, Tillie Svet, Ben Foster, N8PI, AB8QP, Christopher McIntosh, K8CM, W8WLM, WA8PRA, N8HP, N8GGE, N8TFH, WB8MYT, KD8W, KC8PRW, KC8SUD, K4BQE, Phyllis Wrenn, KC8DUX, KB8WKL. (29) Two guests attended; David Isabel, KB8INH, from Moraine and James Andrews, W8JWA, from Miamisburg, OH

Call to Order:
Meeting called to order by Ron, N8NQF, at 7:03 pm.

Secretary's Report:
Motion by Dave, KD8W, second by Lorie, W8LKU, to approve minutes as published and dispense with the reading. Motion approved.

Carl read a communication from Wally Slone's (SK-K8TNF) spouse thanking the *Club's* membership for their donation to *Dan Beard Boy Scout Council* in Wally's memory.

Treasurer's Report:
Treasurer's report for June was given by Carl, K8CM. Membership, at the end of June, stands at 121 members / 78 families. Motion to accept by Barney, N8HP, second by Omer, KC8SUD. Motion approved.

Membership application was received from Jon Sloan, N8RTG. Motion to accept by Carl, K8CM, second by Dave, KD8W. Motion approved.

Repeater/Station Report:
Carl, K8CM, reported that the West Middletown APRS station (MWO) had been moved to the Breiel location. The move was necessitated by local interference to the 146.01 receiver at West Middletown and a need to improve the APRS coverage. The APRS station replaced the data switch (W8BLV-3) which has been taken off line for now. Prior to the move, traffic on the packet 144.91MHz packet channel was studied and demonstrated little to no activity!

Butler County ARES:
Lorie reported that the Butler County ARES net will meet at 8:30pm (local time), on Tuesday evenings. All the approved emergency frequencies will be used. See the Butler ARES website for the frequencies and format. Up-to-date information may be found on the ARES web site; ***http://www.qsl.net/n8tvu*** or ***http://www.qsl.net/n8tvu/bc00002.html***

Classes & Exams:
Dave, KD8W, talked about upcoming classes. First exam for the season will be on August 20th, with classes to begin the following week on August 27. More information will be put on the reflector later. *[Class and exam announcements on next page]*

Field Day Report:
Short wrap-up on the Field Day outing. It was a great time had by all who participated. Lorie, W8LKU, should be complimented on the fine job she had done with respect the overall Field Day activity and, in particular, our annual family picnic. Second, but equally notable, was Sandi's, AB8LA, information table. In addition to various amateur radio handouts and class announcements, there was a continuous-running video presentation from the ARRL.

Old Business:
There was no old business to come before the membership.

New Business:
Ron, N8NQF, alerted the group to a letter from *Hamvention* regarding reservations for 2004. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Art, N8PI, seconded by Bob, KC8DUX, to go ahead

with the pre-registration for next year. We will reserve the same outdoor spaces ($90/ea) and order twelve admission tickets ($20/ea) to be sold, at cost, to members.

Carl has labels, containing the new repeater codes, to be attached to your membership card. Contact him if you would like an update label.

Carl presented a member's suggestion to add an ARES members' designation to the *Dial* roster. A discussion followed and in the final consensus, it was decided not to add the ARES designation as it would essentially open the door for 'all other' types of special categories. ARRL membership is the only one we maintain in the club database due the requirement that a certain number of our members must be ARRL members for us to remain affiliated. Our biggest support from ARRL is the *Digital Symposium* and our Ham Class materials.

Adjourn:

There being no further business, a motion was made and duly seconded to adjourn. Motion approved, without dissent, by the membership.

Dave Williamson, KD8W, Secretary Pro-Tem

Upgrade

Congratulations to Rick Slone, KB8HSO, on his upgrade to Amateur Extra Class at the *BCVHFA* test session on July 12. ***Good job, Rick .***

V-E Team Meeting

Dave, KD8W, has called a meeting of the V-E team for Wednesday evening, August 13, at 6 pm, in 110 Johnston Hall, Middletown Campus.

We will do a "dry run" with the new *Examwin* software and organize duties for the August 20 exam session.

Amateur Classes to Begin

Fall 2003-2004 Ham Radio Class To Begin !

Beginning August 27, the ***DIAL RADIO CLUB's*** Fall, 2003-2004, Amateur Radio class will be offered, in Middletown, on Wednesday evenings, 6-9 pm. Meeting in Johnston Hall, on the Middletown Campus of Miami University, classes will be offered to prepare a candidate for examination in Technician and General Class amateur operator license.

Technician Class instruction will begin August 27 and conclude October 8; General Class instruction will be offered October 22 through December 11.

Instruction in the International Morse code, working toward proficiency at 5 wpm, will begin August 27 and continue through December 11.

Amateur radio operator license examinations will be available, in Middletown, on October 15 and December 18, 2002.

Although there is no charge for the instructional portion of these classes, students should be prepared to purchase a license training manual and supplies (approximately $20-25) for use in class.

Through an agreement with *R&L Electronics*, our instructors will have the license manual (*Now You're Talking*, Fifth Edition) available for purchase by the students at the first class meeting.

Class enrollment will be limited to forty students. For registration and/or additional information, please call Miami's Continuing Education office

Ham License Exams

An examination session in Technician, General and Extra Class Amateur Radio Operator's License will be conducted on:

Wednesday evening, August 20, 2003
at 6:30 p.m. in room 110 Johnston Hall,
Miami University-Middletown, Middletown, OH

Doors will open for registration at 6 p.m. Please plan to arrive early as all registration activities must be completed by 7 p.m.

Applicants must furnish the original and one photocopy of their current license (if any), original and one photocopy of any certificates of successful completion of examination (CSCE) they may hold, positive (photo) identification, social security (TIN) or Licensee ID number, and the test fee of $12.

NCVEC Form 605, Application for License, will be available at the test site. Advance registrations are recommended but not required ... walk-ins are accepted on a "space available" basis. Map to exam site and/or NCVEC 605 form available from K8CM for SASE.

Advance registration consists of a completed NCVEC 605, copies of your current license and valid CSCEs, and a check ($12) made payable to the *Dial Radio Club*. Please enclose a note stating the class of license you will be attempting. Advance registrations should be mailed to: David Williamson,

and must arrive no later than Monday, August 18. ***Please include your telephone number on your check.***

Special examination accommodations must be requested at least two weeks prior to the test date.

Additional information may be obtained from David Williamson, KD8W

Talk-in on 146.610 -

Field Day 2003

The club again held Field Day at Smith Park in Middletown. What a nice weekend it was, clear and no rain. But the old band conditions were lacking. The lower bands 80-40-20 were ok but 15 and 10 were dead. Band openings on 6 meters were lacking too. QSO counts were down but comments from other clubs indicated similar results. Everyone was jammed onto the lower bands and wall to wall.

Below are thoughts, thanks and comments from members on the activities. Perhaps if you were not there, this will give you a taste of how the weekend activity went

Lori, W8LKU: I owe a very big thank you to all who helped make the picnic a big success. There were two ladies in particular (and you know who you are) that jumped in and got things organized for me when I got caught up in making contacts on 20 meters, and one that took over breaking down when I took an

injured soldier to Urgent Care. Food was plentiful, not to mention delicious, so if you were not there, you missed a great time.

Ernie, W8EH: I'd like to say to those who attended, we had a very nice Field Day. The weather cooperated, the equipment mostly worked and we all had a lot of fun. Barney's 40 meter ladder antenna was the best. We knew we were getting out good because it was BIG and broad banded. Sandy did a great job with the publicity. We had lots of lookers and quite a few who came in for more information and to look around. It was good to see everyone who showed up! Several members we hadn't seen in a while and even a couple former members, who saw the newspaper article, stopped by.

Dave, KD8W: We had good weather. We had a lot of good setups this time. We had a great dinner and breakfast, Lorie, Sandy, and others, deserve a big praise for all of that!! We should do it the same way next year. We had plenty of folks staying over on Friday and Saturday, the best we've ever had, and that was good!! The equipment did okay despite a few minor problems. We should stay at Smith Park, its really a good site for us. The planning this year was the best ever for the *Club*. On the negative side, we need more operators.

Vernon, NZ8K: Here is a story: I had to change my vacation time this year and went to Michigan early. Boy, did I feel down about not being in Middletown for Field Day. I met up with a local group in Alpena, (MI) on Friday afternoon for setup and was welcomed. I even got to operate but had problems because their club call is K8PA, and I was used to our K8PI !! I sure did miss you guys until Sunday morning about 1130 zulu when I noticed on the computer screen that my newly found friends worked W8BLV on 40 meters just minutes before I walked up ! I jumped up and down a moment saying "That's my home club !"; I felt better knowing you guys were out there.

Carl, K8CM: This was my first *Field Day* experience in Smith Park. The location, and use of the space, was exceptional. The foot traffic through the park and resultant exposure to the public, notable. Sandi (AB8LA) provided an information table with numerous handouts and a continuously-running video presentation from the ARRL. Even a few folks visited the site and had one-on-one conversations with *Dial* members. A few even expressed interest in our fall classes. As always, the picnic was well attended and plenty of good food on hand. It was such a good experience that I even made a couple of contacts. All-in-all, I believe *Dial* is quite capable of addressing an emergency situation and has the ability to provide communications in the field

[W8EH]

What to Do About Morse? Code Requirement Remains on the Books in US, Canada

World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 (WRC-03) made optional the requirement to prove the ability to send and receive Morse signals to operate below 30 MHz. While a Morse code exam element remains on the books in the US, Canada and elsewhere, some countries already have moved to drop their Morse requirements. In the US, however, Morse will not go away that easily, since the FCC appears unlikely to act on its own motion to make that happen.

"There isn't an exception in the Administrative Procedures Act that I am aware of that would permit the Commission to issue an administrative fiat changing the license structure or exam-requirement rules," said an FCC staffer who's closely involved with Amateur Service rules. Other countries can do this because they have different laws and procedures, the FCC staff member observed, adding that even if it could be done here, "that still leaves unanswered the fundamental question: What do you want the new rules to be?"

As for where the FCC stands, the Commission itself may have tipped its hand slightly in its December 1999 Report and Order restructuring the Amateur Radio licensing system. "We believe that an individual's ability to demonstrate increased Morse code proficiency is not necessarily indicative of that individual's ability to contribute to the advancement of the radio art," the FCC said in dropping the 20 and 13-WPM Morse code elements from the testing regime.

While the FCC in 1999 minimized radiotelegraphy as "just one of numerous diverse modes of radiocommunication," it stopped short of revising the Amateur Service rules to sunset the Morse examination requirement automatically if WRC-03 deleted Morse proficiency from the international Radio Regulations. At the same time, the FCC acknowledged "a clear dichotomy of viewpoints" on the Morse code issue within the amateur community.

Switzerland apparently has become the first country to delete its Morse requirement for HF operation. The Swiss Federal Office of Communications (OFCOM) recently granted all Swiss "no-code" licensees access--albeit provisional--to the HF bands using their current call signs. Citing the recent WRC-03 decision, OFCOM said the temporary permission to use the HF bands would suffice until the rule could be changed. USKA--the Swiss International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) member-society--wished "good DX" to present no-code licensees on HF.

The first move on the Morse code question in the US would be for someone in the amateur community to file a Petition for Rule Making with the FCC seeking the change. That apparently has not happened yet. No Code International (NCI) has long spearheaded the battle to eliminate the Morse requirement and is the most likely organization to file such a petition. As of late last week, NCI was still studying the matter.

"NCI has not yet made a final decision on a plan of action, though we are discussing it amongst the Board of Directors and have sought the advice of acquaintances at several well-regarded Washington communications law firms on how to best approach the matter," said NCI Executive Director Carl Stevenson, WK3C.

Stevenson--an ARRL member--says it's his personal hope that the League would join NCI in actively encouraging the FCC to eliminate the Morse test element as soon as possible. "I think the League will do itself a great disservice if it continues to seek to impose Morse testing in the US rules as other countries around the world drop Morse testing en masse," he said. Stevenson said the League "does many, many things that are very valuable to the US amateur community," and he believes the ARRL's stance on the Morse issue has diluted or even negated some of the goodwill it's established.

NCI's and Stevenson's hopes for a quick resolution to the Morse question could be wishful thinking, however. Once a petition to drop Morse is filed, the FCC will put it on "public notice" by assigning an RM number and soliciting comments. If more than one such petition is filed, the FCC is obliged to put each

on public notice and invite comments. When that process is completed, the FCC may determine that a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) is in order. The Commission at that point could incorporate all Morse-related rule making petitions into a single proceeding. The NPRM would get a docket number, and the comment process would begin anew.

Further complicating and extending the process, the FCC most likely would incorporate other pending Amateur Radio-related issues into the same NPRM. That's how it's tended to handle amateur regulatory matters in recent years.

At the end of the comment and reply comment periods, the FCC would issue a Report and Order (R&O) that includes its decision on the Morse code requirement and the other issues it may have incorporated into the proceeding. The whole process could take a couple of years, perhaps longer.

Some believe that because the Morse code requirement was, in effect, a treaty obligation, its deletion requires ratification by the US Senate before the FCC can act. This is not the case.

According to a footnote in a Government Accounting Office (GAO) report, "Telecommunications: Better Coordination and Enhanced Accountability Needed to Improve Spectrum Management," released last September, the US Department of State has yet to submit the Final Acts of the World Radiocommunication Conferences of 1992, 1995, 1997 or 2000 to the US Senate for ratification.

"Department of State officials said that the agency is preparing to send all of these Final Acts to the Senate as one package," the GAO report said, "and that ratification is not necessary for the United States to implement the agreements."

The United Kingdom's Radiocommunications Agency (RA) recently proposed dropping the 5 WPM Morse requirement for access to amateur bands below 30 MHz and merging the Class A and B license classes. The Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB) says it's learned from the RA that a Gazette Notice--the equivalent of an FCC Report and Order--will be published shortly to announce the end of the Morse requirement for access to the HF bands by UK amateurs. "From the date of the Gazette Notice all Full and Intermediate Class B amateurs will automatically have Class A privileges," the RSGB said this week, "and will be allowed to operate on the HF bands with their existing call signs."

The RSGB has been ahead of the curve in the effort to oust Morse as a requirement. Last year, the society convinced the RA to adopt the new Foundation license, in Great Britain, to further the RSGB's campaign--begun in 1998--to have the IARU reconsider its support at that time for mandatory Morse code testing for HF access. The Foundation ticket requires a simplified Morse code "assessment" instead of an exam. In 2001, the IARU announced that it was setting aside "any previous relevant decisions" and henceforth would "support the removal of Morse code testing as an ITU requirement for an amateur license to operate on frequencies below 30 MHz."

That same year, the ARRL Board of Directors reiterated the League's policy that Morse "should be retained as a testing element in the US." That policy continues. Following its January 2001 Board meeting, the League said Morse code was "deserving of continued support as an important operating mode including providing for the protection and maintenance of sufficient spectrum in band planning." At its July 19-20 meeting in Connecticut, the Board affirmed its interest in reviewing input from members on this and other possible revisions to Part 97 that arose from WRC-03.

The Industry Canada Amateur Radio Service Centre and Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) have received numerous inquiries about the status of Morse examinations north of the border and the qualifications required for HF operation.

"Canadian radio amateurs are advised that Basic and Morse Qualifications are still required for operation below 30 MHz," the RAC said, "and that this requirement will remain pending a review by Industry Canada of the impact of the WRC-2003 regulatory changes on the Canadian radio regulations, policies and procedures."

RAC said it would work with Industry Canada to review the impact of the WRC-03 decisions. It advised Canadian amateurs to send comments on the topic of Morse code as a licensing requirement to their RAC regional directors.

[ARRL Web]

July Ohio Section News

SM: Joe Phillips, K8QOE, Fairfield, (to contact me, see QST page 16); ASM-NE: Bob Winston, W2THU, Cleveland; ASM-NW: Ron Griffin, N8AEH, Findlay; ASM-Central: Bill Carpenter, AA8EY, Westerville; ASM-SW: John Haungs, W8STX, Cincinnati; ASM-SE: Connie Hamilton, N8IO, Marietta; SEC: Larry Rain, WD8IHP, Mansfield; STM: Jack Wagoner, WB8FSV, Hilliard; ACC; Brenda Krukowski, KB8IUP, Toledo; TC: Tom Holmes. N8ZM, Tipp City; PIC: Scott Yonally, N8SY, Lexington; OOC: Alan Cook, N7CEU, Newark; SGL: Reuben Meeks, W8GUC, Vandalia.

AUGUST SECTION NEWS: For all the latest information on the Convention go to <***http://greatlakes.arrl.org***> and make arrangements through Jeanie Dalton There is free toll number for reserving rooms at Findlay Inn <1-800-825-1455>. Special room rates for this convention hold until August 15.

.... Among the many features of The Convention will be Division awards. TC Tom Holmes, N8ZM, is an Ohio representative on that committee (former ASM Mary Carpenter, N8OAM, is the other). Tom is seeking Ohio Section hams who have made exceptional TECHNICAL contributions to ham radio. Know any? Tell Tom quickly

..... With a Division Convention so close to our regularly scheduled Ohio Section Conference (usually the following week after the Findlay Hamfest), the 2003 Conference will be canceled. But it returns in 2004, on Saturday, September 11, 2004, at the Ohio EMA Headquarters in Columbus as always. For 2003, the Ohio Section will hold a forum at the Findlay Hamfest where group reports and awards (The Severson and Newsletter Contest winners) will be announced.

.....Speaking of the Severson award, former Ohio SM and Great Lakes Division Director, Al Severson, AB8P, (SK) died in 1997. His leadership to the Ohio Section was so special, the Section annually awards the Allan Severson AB8P, Memorial Award to hams who make outstanding contributions to Ohio ham radio. Al's final resting place was determined recently at the wishes of his two children. In late June, his ashes were buried at the Western Reserve National Veterans Cemetery in Seville, Ohio.

.....The third edition (published 4 times annually) of the Ohio Section Journal will be mailed this month. Don't know what the

OSJ is? Contact me immediately (QST, Page 16 or **<k8qoe@arrl.org>**).

.....The OHKYIN ARS of Cincinnati will sponsor the Region Two Amateur Radio Direction Finding Championships, July 31 to August 2. Events will be mainly held at Miami University in Oxford. Thanks to Dick Arnett, WB4SUV; and Bob Frey, WA6EZV, for bringing this international event to Ohio.

.....Do not need to see the final results (in November, QST) to know that Field Day was a great success in the Ohio Section. There were 41 Field Day messages to the Section Manager which represents an 11 percent increase over 2002. Especially pleasing was to see a large number of new Field Day operations reporting such as Central Ohio ARES which has not had a
Field Day in many years but did this year at a public park in Westerville. Great job all around for Field Day in Ohio.

.... For those entering the 12th annual Ohio Newsletter Contest, please note the Contest Manager and Ohio Public Information Coordinator, Scott Yonally, N8SY, has a new address.

OHIO SECTION CLUB NEWS: Attention all clubs in Ohio: On September 6th the Great Lakes Division is sponsoring the ARRL Convention at Findlay, OH. It will be held at the Findlay Inn in downtown Findlay. Among the convention seminars will be a Clubs Seminar for all clubs to share what is happening with your club, problems, etc. and is organized by the Affiliated Club Coordinators for Ohio, Mich. and Kentucky. It will be very informative. Go the ARRL website and go to the Great Lakes Division web page and all the information for the convention, registering and hotel information. The latest date for registering is Aug. 15 so that the committee will have the accurate numbers.

OHIO SECTION REMEMBERS: Ron Gratch, WB8UND (SK), a professional night club standup comedian who performed gratis frequently for more than two decades at ham radio functions in Southwest Ohio. Known professionally as Ron Stewart, his endless putdowns of Norwood, Ohio and miming act with a handheld will be remembered fondly by Cincinnati hams.

OHIO SECTION AUGUST HAMFESTS: (2) Ham O' Rama by Voice of Aladdin ARC, in Columbus. Info at ***<www.qsl.net/w8fez>*** or write ; (17) Warren by Warren ARA. Info at or write (23) Portsmouth by Portsmouth RC. For more information write

STATE OF OHIO REGISTERED AMATEUR RADIO BICENTENNIAL PARTICIPATION On March 1, 1803, Ohio joined the United States as its 17th state entry. To honor that event, Ohio is throwing itself a year-long party: The Ohio Bicentennial. The following amateur radio events have announced plans to the Ohio Section.

The Ohio Section policy on the Bicentennial is to promote all local activities of ham radio operators we can find. I am well aware there are more such events planned in Ohio.

If you know of any other amateur radio Bicentennial events, please forward that information to me It will be added to this list. Full participation by all Ohio Amateur Radio Operators is our goal. Here is the list; alphabetical by county.

Assistant Section Manager Bob Winston, W2THU, Cleveland.

CUYAHOGA County:
Greater Cleveland Amateur Radio Committee Special Event Station K8ZOO and K8CRF located at the Cleveland Rain Forest Operates throughout 2003 on all bands. Contact: Bob Winston, W2THU:

FRANKLIN County:
Central Ohio ARES
(2) Special Event Station No. 2 at the Ohio Historical Society June through August 2003
(3) Special Event Station No. 3 combined with the SET-COARES October 2003. Contact: Skip Howell, KC8HIN:

STATEWIDE:

(1) Buckeye Belles events still in the planning stage. Contact Nancy Rabal Hall : **kc4iyd@yahoo.com**

(2)Mad River Radio Club. Ohio QSO Party coordination with Bicentennial. Last full weekend in August (Saturday, the 23rd). Contact: Jim Stahl, K8MR:

(3)Northeast Ohio Bicentennial Amateur Radio Club KO8HIO Special Event Station. Contact Anthony A. Luscre: Website: **www.qsl.net/k8zt/ko8hio.html**

[K8QOE]

Weaver's Words

This is a special regulatory edition of Weaver's Words to cover a few points related to regulatory action that has been taken or is being considered on Amateur Radio. These are examples of what YOUR ARRL is doing with your dues money as well as possible incidental donations you make to the League.

MORSE CODE LICENSING REQUIREMENT

As you probably know by now, World Radio Conference 2003 has determined to abolish international requirements for Morse code proficiency for amateurs. This was a decision taken by the representatives of national governments who were delegates to WRC'03 (e.g., the US State Department). This action has been anticipated since the last conference. The decision leaves it to individual, national agencies (the FCC for the US) to decide if there will be or will not be a requirement for its budding hams to demonstrate code proficiency in the future.

What I want to know is your opinion. Should ARRL work to keep a Morse requirement, should ARRL advocate abolishing the code requirement or should we do nothing about it? In sending me your opinion, please answer the following questions:

1. (Yes) (No) I think we should encourage the FCC to keep a Morse code requirement.
2. (Yes) (No) I think we should encourage the FCC to abolish a Morse code requirement.
3. If you answered Yes to question No. 1, how much effort do you believe we should expend to keep the Morse requirement?

a. Divert all effort from protecting our frequencies, obtaining passage of legislation to abolish antenna restrictions, finalizing development of the Logbook of the World, and any other distraction to fight for a continued Morse code requirement.

b. Keeping code should be a moderate effort. Our first objective should be to protect our frequencies and to gain passage of legislation to abolish antenna restrictions, but other effort such as Logbook of the World and various other projects should be continued.

c. File a petition in favor of continuing Morse code

requirements and let it go at this.

If you have an opinion you wish to share with me, please answer the above questions. If you feel it important to expand on your answers, this will be fine, but first of all, please answer the specific questions.

40 METERS

To all you loyal members and supporters of ARRL, thank you. It is through your support that the cleaning up of the amateur 40 M band was adopted by WRC '03. Through your financial support, you made it possible for ARRL to coordinate the effort of Amateur Radio national organizations worldwide (the ARRL in the US) to lobby their governments effectively for the past several years to where your and my operating pleasure will be greatly enhanced. You members and you members, only, deserve the credit for our success! I won't take the space to go into detail on the changes that are coming or when they will come. I encourage you to check this all out ***at http://www.arrl.org*** and in coming issues of QST. Nonetheless, you, through the effort of Board of Director members (before me) and senior ARRL staff (most notably Dave Sumner, K1ZZ) pulled off the victory of the century. Who could have thought Amateur Radio would pull of a coup that moves overseas broadcasters out of the 40 M band? Not many thought it possible. But, you did it!

BE ON GUARD AGAINST BPL!

No, in this instance, BPL is not Brass Pounders League, but rather it is Broadband over Power Lines. At the request of the electric utility companies, FCC is considering loosening the rules for transmitting signals over power lines. If this is done, the result would include using power lines for the Internet. If this is done following current plans, the result would be catastrophic. Think of the current situation on 40 M with all the foreign broadcast stations running rampant. Multiply this situation by hundreds of times and you will approximate the amount of QRN/QRM we will face on HF bands. Even if you have no connection to the Internet, you have connection to an electrical generating and distribution company. Their power lines could carry interference to nearly every house and roadway throughout the country.

No one had expected this BPL proposal, so no one had developed a budget to determine just how bad things could become and just what measures would be needed to avoid problems.

This brings me back to you, the ARRL member. Our only representative organization to FCC (and Congress, etc.) is ARRL. Only ARRL will fight to prevent BPL from taking away our frequencies by filling them with garbage.

Many of you recently received a request for a donation to help us evaluate and act as needed regarding BPL. No one likes to receive requests for donations. I doubt if many people like to send out these requests. What I ask of you is to think carefully about how much you value Amateur Radio. If you enjoy Amateur Radio at all, please consider a nice donation to help in the League's in-depth evaluation of BPL. For what it may be worth, I am sending in my donation.

DIVISION/SECTION E-MAIL BULLETINS

If you receive this message, you are signed up to receive Division and Section E-mail bulletins. These bulletins are being used by me to keep in touch with you and as the situation arises to learn your opinions. It may be much like preaching to the choir, but I ask you to keep your ears open for ARRL members who have not signed up for these bulletins. Ask members if they are signed up. If they aren't, encourage them to go to ***http://www.arrl.org***, go into the Members Only Page and sign up to receive these bulletins so I can learn their opinions as well as yours.

Thanks, 73, CU,
Jim

ARRL -- The reason Amateur Radio is!

GREAT LAKES DIVISION CONVENTION, September 6, 2003: See ***http://greatlakes.arrl.org***

ARRL Great Lakes Division
Director: James Weaver, K8JE

Butler County ARES

Unfortunately - we had to put our training to work!

The heavy rains began on Saturday June 14th in the southern part of the county caused flooding in Morgan Township, Ross Township, and Fairfield areas. The rain continued Sunday with over 4.5 inches dumped on the Ohio-Indiana / Butler-Preble County lines in about an hour and fifteen minutes.

Four Mile and Seven Mile creek and all of the surrounding tributaries became rivers flowing well out of their banks.

Sunday June 15th 1400 hrs; SKYWARN was being activated to report flood conditions to the National Weather Service in Wilmington; the Butler County Red Cross also activated ARES for emergency communications and damage assessment to the flood stricken areas.

Initially 20 operators responded to Somerville and Collinsville were people were still trapped in their homes, and were being rescued by fire department boats and the Sheriff's 2-1/2 ton all wheel drive troop carrier.

ARES team members and Red Cross units responding into the area had to find alternate routes that were not yet under water-they were few and far between.

By early evening the move was to New Miami. The water there was still rising. We suspended the damage assessment due to darkness, but returned at day light the following day.

400 plus homes were involved in the flooding and damage assessment, 25 were totally destroyed, 65 had Major damage over 100 had minor damage.

ARES team members logged over 350 hours performing damage assessment, completing the task in just four days. Other events in June include:

- 15 man-hours for the response to a double drowning at the low level dam across from the Miami University campus Hamilton branch.
- 55 man-hours in training
- 26 ma- hours on public service events (GOBA)
- 216 nets checked into in the tri-state area
- 58 hours spent on misc. ARES related activities for June total of over 700 man hours.

Thirty ARES team members are signed up to take the EMA Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) classes in July

and August. This class will provide basic training, skills, and knowledge as a first response to a disaster situation teaching students Disaster preparedness, basic fire suppression, first aid, CPR, light search and rescue, disaster psychology and team organization.

This too helps to strengthen the overall emergency response to Butler County by training amateur radio operators to also be part of the emergency response system.

Just another way ARES and RACES continues to serve the communities we live in and the county we serve.

Robert Spratt N8TVU
Butler County EC

Web *www.qsl.net/n8tvu*

7 MHz Realignment Compromise Makes Radio History; ARLB045

In an 11th-hour compromise, delegates to World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 (WRC-03) agreed to move broadcasters out of 7100 to 7200 kHz in Regions 1 and 3 to make room for the Amateur Service. The expanded worldwide allocation at 40 meters goes into effect on March 29, 2009. Amateurs in the US and the rest of Region 2 will continue to enjoy the 7000 to 7300 kHz band they now have, but with greatly reduced broadcasting interference.

The compromise marked the first time in the history of internationally coordinated radio spectrum allocation that an HF broadcasting band was shifted to accommodate the needs of another service. The compromise cuts in half the incompatibility between amateur and broadcasting use of the 7 MHz band and doubles the 40-meter spectrum available to amateurs in Regions 1 and 3.

While the result falls short of the IARU's goal of a 300-kHz worldwide exclusive band for amateurs, the cooperation of broadcasters, opposing delegates and many others was required to make a positive step for ham radio. Spectrum between 4 and 10 MHz is on the agenda for WRC-07, but further changes to 7000-7200 kHz will not be considered.

The conference also dropped the international Morse code requirement, leaving individual countries to decide if they want to retain a code proficiency requirement, and adopted a number of improvements to the other international regulations for the amateur service. The delegates also agreed to allowed a secondary allocation for satellite borne synthetic aperture radars at 70 cm and made amateur call sign assignment more flexible.

[ARRL bulletin]

Dial APRS Digipeater Relocated Packet Switch Disconnected

The APRS digipeater, W8MWO on 144.39MHz, was the cause of QRM to our 146.01 voice remote receiver at West Middletown. In an effort to clear the interference problem, a decision was made to relocate it to the Breiel site, thereby replacing the W8BLV-3/MWO node.

With the APRS digi at Breiel, we will have better coverage for the area. It has an improved antenna and it is about 50feet higher in elevation. We will be evaluating the operation to see if this should remain a permanent move or not. The move places the digipeater on a *Diamond* 2m/70cm dual band antenna.

Prior to the move, a study was conducted for a few weeks determining there was NO traffic on the node. Previously, the node had serviced a (UHF) high speed link into Dayton. Once the high-speed link went down, usage of the switch dropped as well. With the link out of service on the Dayton end, our connection to the outside world ceased.

There seems to be some activity on the nationwide packet channel (145.01MHz); therefore, we will evaluate the feasibility of re-establishing a node on that frequency

[W8EH]

FCC Opinion Bolsters Federal Preemption Over RF Interference Matters

An FCC Memorandum Opinion and Order (MO&O) released earlier July bolsters the doctrine of federal preemption over local efforts to regulate radio frequency interference (RFI). The ARRL had commented in the proceeding, WT Docket 02-100, which could have implications for Amateur Radio. The proceeding stemmed from efforts by Anne Arundel County, Maryland, to require telecommunication service providers to certify their facilities would not interfere with the county's public safety communication system.

"We find that federal law preempts provisions of the Anne Arundel County, Maryland, zoning ordinances involving radio frequency interference," the FCC declared in granting Cingular Wireless' Petition for a declaratory ruling and denying the county's motion to dismiss. ARRL had supported Cingular's position in the proceeding. Cingular asserted in its petition that Congress had established a "pervasive regulatory scheme" that grants the FCC exclusive jurisdiction to regulate RFI, and that the Anne Arundel zoning amendments conflicted with the Commission's rules regarding resolution of RFI cases. The FCC also said it expected all parties to continue cooperating to resolve remaining RFI issues.

Anne Arundel County in January 2002 adopted zoning amendments requiring commercial telecommunication providers to demonstrate that their facilities would not degrade or interfere with the public safety radio system. The amended ordinance gave the county the authority to revoke a zoning certificate if such interference or degradation occurred or if telecommunication service providers did not certify their systems to be in compliance with FCC standards and guidelines.

The FCC said it found that the county's zoning provisions went beyond traditional zoning functions and attempted to regulate RFI. The FCC Memorandum Opinion and Order is available on the FCC Web site ***<http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-03-2196A1.doc>***.

[ARRL Letter]

Become a Morse Coder--and Decoder By Visiting this Web Site.

For a lucky few, learning Morse code is easy. or the rest of us, learning the code may be the most difficult thing we have to do to get our Amateur Radio license.

Visit "*Learn Morse Code on Our Web Site*" and get over one big hump on your way to an Amateur Radio license.

On the Internet, "*Learn Morse Code on Our Web Site*" is such a find. Presented in both French and English, it's part of the VE2CRD, Club Radioamateur, Drummondville (Quebec), Inc. Web site.

Learn Morse Code on Our Web Site is the handiwork of Stephane Burgoyne, VE2OWL. "We've wanted to create something of our own and help young people and newcomers that are mainly using the Internet instead of any other media. So why not learn everything you need to know about Morse right on the Web?" Stephane said. The on-line training course is divided into nine one-day sections, during which you learn and practice the letters, numbers and punctuation marks that make up the code. You learn the code by listening to the sound of each character repeatedly, rather than memorizing dots and dashes. So, you will need a computer with sound capabilities in order to use this Web site.

The Web site is very clean without extraneous text and graphics, so it loads quickly into your browser, even over a slow dialup modem. Point your browser to:

http://www.9bit.qc.ca/ve2crd/cours/cw_course.html

[ARRL Web]

ARRL Board Requests Policy Recommendations to Implement WRC-03 Results

The ARRL Board of Directors has called on ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, and General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, and the ARRL Executive Committee to develop ARRL policy recommendations for an FCC filing to implement the results of World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 (WRC-03). ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, chaired the July 18-19 Board session in Windsor, Connecticut.

New Pacific Division Team: Vice Director Andy Oppel, N6AIO, and Director Bob Vallio, W6RGG--were together for the first time at an ARRL Board meeting. Vallio succeeded Jim Maxwell, W6CF, who died in February. "The League, as the Amateur Radio representative in the United States, will, through its democratic process, review input from its members as to the impact and implementation of these results to the Part 97 rules," the Board's resolution declared. The Board is to hear a report on the policy recommendations at its January 2004 meeting. The Board also expressed gratitude to the IARU and ARRL WRC-03 team for its "tireless and dedicated efforts in promoting Amateur Radio" and congratulated it for achieving the IARU's goals at the month-long international conference, which wrapped up in Geneva July 4.

Delegates to WRC-03 reached a compromise on a 200-kHz worldwide allocation--7000 to 7200 kHz--effective in 2009, with no change to the existing 300-kHz allocation in the US or elsewhere in Region 2. The conference also eliminated the requirement that amateur applicants prove Morse code proficiency to operate below 30 MHz. That action left it up to individual administrations to retain or drop Morse code as an examination element for HF access.

Decisions made at WRC-03 also resulted in a wide variety of changes to other sections of Article 25 of the international Radio Regulations affecting international communications involving third-party traffic, international recognition of the licenses of visiting amateurs and communication with so-called "banned countries."

[ARRL Web]

Next Meeting

Our meeting time is 7pm (6pm if you are coming for dinner) and will be at the Golden Corral Buffet & Grill at 3350 Village Drive, Franklin, OH (Towne Mall area). **Hope to see you on Monday, August 18!**

> The outer limit of your potential is determined solely by your own beliefs and your own confidence in what you think is possible.
>
> *Brian Tracy*

Demonstrate your support for amateur radio. Join the ARRL today!!

August 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
August 13: Butler County Emergency Communication Team Meeting, 6:30pm Rm 229, D. Russel Lee JVS					1	2 **ARRL** UHF Contest **Voice of Aladdin** Columbus 147.24+
3 **ARRL** UHF Contest	4	5 **ARES Net** 8:30pm 145.150 -	6	7 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	8	9 **BCVHFA** License Exams - 8:30am **OH-KY-IN** Fox Hunt - 10am
10	11	12 **ARES Net** 8:30pm 146.715 -	13 **V-E Team Meeting** 6 pm, 110 Johnston Hall, MU-Middletown	14 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	15	16 **ARRL** 10 GHz and Up Contest
17 **ARRL** 10 GHz and Up Contest	18 **Dial Meeting** 7pn Golden Corral Buffet & Grill Dinner at 6pm	19 **ARES Net** 8:30pm 147.330 +	20 **Ham Exams** Johnston Hall MU-Middletown Registration Opens @ 6 pm	21 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	22	23
24	25	26 **ARES Net** 8:30pm 146.400	27 **Technician Ham Class** Johnston Hall MU-Middletown 6 - 9 pm	28 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	29	30
31	**CERT TEAM TRAINING -** William Turner EMA Director has scheduled two classes. The classes are 3 hours each for 8 nights. They will be held at Butler Tech-unknown which room at this time. The second is August 18-19-21-22-25-26-28-29 from 7 P.M. until 10 P.M. Those that signed up for the training that did not specify AUGUST, will be scheduled to attend the July Class. Email notifications will be going out to confirm your attendance in those classes.					

September 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	1	2 **ARES Net** 8:30pm 147.330 +	3 **Technician Ham Class** Johnston Hall MU-Middletown 6 - 9 pm	4 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	5	6 **GREAT LAKES DIVISION CONVENTION** Findlay, OH
7	8	9 **ARES Net** 8:30pm 147.330 +	10 **Technician Ham Class** Johnston Hall MU-Middletown 6 - 9 pm	11 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	12	13 **BCVHFA** License Exams - 8:30am **OH-KY-IN** Fox Hunt - 10am **ARRL** September VHF QSO Party
14 **ARRL** September VHF QSO Party	15 **Dial Meeting** 7pn Golden Corral Buffet & Grill Dinner at 6pm	16 **ARES Net** 8:30pm 147.330 +	17 **Technician Ham Class** Johnston Hall MU-Middletown 6 - 9 pm	18 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	19	20 **ARRL** 10 GHz and Up Contest
21 **ARRL** 10 GHz and Up Contest **GCARA Hamfest** Scarlet Oaks Cincinnati	22	23 **ARES Net** 8:30pm 147.330 +	24 **Technician Ham Class** Johnston Hall MU-Middletown 6 - 9 pm	25 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	26	27
28	29	30 **ARES Net** 8:30pm 147.330 +	**September 10: Butler County Emergency Communication Team** Meeting, 6:30pm Rm 229, D. Russel Lee JVS			

Dial Radio Club

Middletown, Ohio
APRS Digipeater: W8MWO (MWO) 144.39
Repeaters: 52.21/53.21, 146.01/146.61, 147.915/147.315, 223.36/224.96, 449.825/444.825
Web page: ***http://www.qsl.net/w8blv/*** e-mail: ***dial@qth.net***

President:
Ron Spaulding, N8NQF
Vice-president:
Art Frasik, N8PI
Secretary:
Ernie Howard., W8EH
Treasurer:
Carl Morgan, K8CM

Activities Manager:
Lorie Urschel, W8LKU
Newsletter Printing
Ron Spaulding, N8NQF
Newsletter Distribution:
Ruth Howard, N8OZN
Elaine Howard, KC8WOF

September 2003

Minutes of the August 19, 2003 Dial Radio Club Meeting

Members Attending:
W8EH, KC8WOF, N8NQF, KC8TXA, N8HRA, N8EH, N8RYS, N8OZN, N8RTG, Nicole, KE8OH, WA8DTU, K4BQE, KC8CYP, N8PI, W8MVN, Bonnie, N8TFH, WB8MYT, WB8DPZ, Lois, N8GGE, N8HP, K8CM, W8WLM, KB8WKL, KD8W, Judy, N8DHW, KC8DUX, KB8HSO. (31)

Call to Order:
Meeting called to order by Ron, N8NQF, at 7:02 pm.

Secretary's Report:
Motion by Bob, KC8DUX, second by David, N8DHW, to approve minutes as published and dispense with the reading. Motion approved.

Ernie, W8EH, announced, and offered, free tickets to two different hamfests.

Treasurer's Report:
Treasurer's report for July was given by Carl, K8CM. Membership, at the end of July, stands at 122 members / 79 families. A motion was made and duly seconded to approve the Treasurer's report as presented. Motion approved.

Carl had and application for a new membership from Herman L. Tibbs, KC8VJD. Motion for acceptance by Carl, K8CM, second by Dave, KD8W. Motion approved.

Repeater/Station Report:
Station report by W8EH. Everything normal.

Classes & Exams:
Classes will begin August 27 for Technician class. General instruction will begin October 22.

Activities:
No report.

Old Business:
None.

New Business:
Ernie, W8MVN, said he had some portable tables for sale for $5 each. Motion by Ernie, N8EH, second by Art, N8PI, to purchase for club use. Motion approved.

We had a short discussion on the morse code changes. Ron says he my live long enough to have 'no-code' on the low bands.

Motion by Tom, K4BQE, second by Ernie, W8EH, to award Evan, KC8TXA, the ratchet jaw of the month award for his exploits earlier in the day.

Adjourn:
There being no further business, a motion was made and duly seconded to adjourn. Motion approved, without dissent, by the membership.

Ernest W. Howard, Jr., W8EH
Secretary

Ham License Exams

An examination session in Technician, General and Extra Class Amateur Radio Operator's License will be conducted on:

Wednesday evening, October 15, 2003
at 6:30 p.m. in room 110 Johnston Hall,
Miami University-Middletown, Middletown, OH

Doors will open for registration at 6 p.m. Please plan to arrive early as all registration activities must be completed by 7 p.m.

Applicants must furnish the original and one photocopy of their current license (if any), original and one photocopy of any certificates of successful completion of examination (CSCE) they

may hold, positive (photo) identification, social security (TIN) or Licensee ID number, and the test fee of $12.

NCVEC Form 605, Application for License, will be available at the test site. Advance registrations are recommended but not required ... walk-ins are accepted on a "space available" basis. Map to exam site and/or NCVEC 605 form available from K8CM for SASE.

Advance registration consists of a completed NCVEC 605, copies of your current license and valid CSCEs, and a check ($12) made payable to the *Dial Radio Club*. Please enclose a note stating the class of license you will be attempting. Advance registrations should be mailed to: David Williamson,

and must arrive no later than Monday, October 13. ***Please include your telephone number on your check.***

Special examination accommodations must be requested at least two weeks prior to the test date.

Additional information may be obtained from David Williamson, KD8W

Talk-in on 146.610 -

Ah, for the Wisdom of Kings

By Joe Phillips, K8QOE
Ohio Section Manager

These are the days when I wish I had the wisdom of King Solomon. Then it would be easy to answer what's going to happen to CW.

And I thought the biggest story out of the World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-03) in Geneva in July would concern 40 meters. Silly me. As it turns out most hams want to know what will happen to the Morse Code now the WRC said all countries no longer needed to require CW for amateur HF bands use.

Now what will the United States do?

Why don't people ask me an easy one--such as explain the meaning of life? Like the issues of abortion or gun control, the CW or no CW issue divides this hobby right down the middle. Not quite along generational lines but close – veterans of 20 or more years (count me in) want CW to stay. The younger crowd would have CW disappear altogether

How will US vote? What will the ARRL finally support?

While I may not agree with this outcome (and I don't), I believe CW will probably disappear as a testing requirement of ANY U.S. HAM LICENSE altogether in about five years

Why do I say that? Because every time I hear discussions of Morse Code by ARRL officials and membership forums on the subject, the defense of Morse Code gets weaker and fainter. Remember it was about ten years ago when ANY no code license was on the table. The ARRL response, taking its cue from the membership as it should, started taking the no-code side of the debate. After a year or so just before the FCC acted, the League's attitude for the No Code Tech License finished up in whole hearted support

In 1999, when the Friendly Candy Company dropped 20WPM and 13WPM requirements, the ARRL said it agreed to the FCC action but was going to have a brand new proficiency element to encourage CW. These proficiency programs have not been a raging success.

Now the WRC-03 says drop the code and the official ARRL statement did not even BOTHER to object on any scale. Our response is that the WRC's proposal ending the CW testing requirement was an issue moving as fast as a speeding freight train - any United States' vote was not going make any difference.

Look, I have not used CW mode regularly since my Novice days 40 years ago. But my defense of CW remains solid and has for many years. Beginning with the winter, 1992 issue of the ***Ohio Section Journal***, I wrote against dropping CW. And continue to promote that thought to this day. But please understand my opposition has nothing to do with do the romantic notions of CW and the nostalgic feelings some hams express. Those historic arguments are nice but neither practical or relevant.

No, my comments are practical - CW remains the easiest back up mode of getting the message through when others fail. Only problem is that it requires a cadre of operators who know how to send and receive. Keeping the testing requirements assures that cadre of operators

But this is no criticism of the ARRL. Generally the League leadership is reading the polls on this and believe (they are probably right); the dropping CW stance represents the majority of hams as the ARRL looks to the future.

[Ohio Section Journal]

8th Call Area QSL Bureau

Please visit the new 8th call area Bureau page where changes in bureau operation is explained. This page is located at ***<//home.fuse.net/jslough/w8buro.html>***.

Here is a summary of the changes to the bureau page:

- 1) Added a description of where the bureau will soon be physically located (VOA Museum)
- 2) Suggestion that users of the bureau be ARRL members
- 3) Not accepting cards for other than W8 bureau designees (not being an input point for cards brought back from other bureaus or for outbound cards to DX but rather be sent to ARRL HQ per outbound bureau operating guidelines as found on the ARRL website.)
- 4) Once cards have reached the unclaimed status for a given call, we will continue to destroy future incoming cards without further notification, until we are notified by the intended recipient that they want the cards. (We are assuming that once refused or the recipient is uncontactable, they remain so which gives implied consent to destroy forever.)
- 5) We will not forward between letter mangers/bureaus for calls without envelopes; i.e., you must have envelopes on file for every call for which you want to receive cards. If you change calls for any reason, vanity call, upgrade, moved to or from the 8th call area, you need envelopes for every call.
- 6) We will NOT use used envelopes
- 7) 1x1's require envelopes on file with dates of operation on the envelope
- 8) If you do not want bureau cards for DX operations you did or are manager for, once we are notified, we will destroy the cards and not return them and do not take responsibility for destroying cards addressed to you, for your US operations.
- 9) Similarly, we will not forward bureau cards at league

expense to the new manager if you cease being the manager for a DX station.

Part of what is implied is that we will no longer return unclaimed cards at league expense except for cards to Silent Keys and other obvious defects like invalid call or wrong call. Cards not returned will be destroyed. Before they are destroyed the letter manager will have attempted to contact the intended recipient and have held the cards for at least the minimum time required under the SOGs (90 days).

As stated on the web page the biggest problem we have is not having envelopes on file for those whom we receive cards. The letter managers expend too much time trying to track people down to notify them that they have cards at the bureau and need to send us an envelope. Please encourge our fellow hams that if they work any DX at all they should expect to get bureau cards.

I also want to remind everyone that we can not accept cards for lower-48 US to lower-48 US contacts- period! They too will be destroyed.

If anyone has questions or concerns after reading the web page, they may contact me

Thanks for your assistance in making the hobby more fun for all of us.

73, Jay, K4ZLE
8th Area incoming QSL bureau manager

BPL is "Spectrum Pollution," ARRL President Says

ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, says Broadband over Power Line (BPL)--if widely deployed--would represent "spectrum pollution" on a level that is "difficult to imagine." Haynie reacted after seeing videotape and early data from recent ARRL field studies in four states where BPL is undergoing testing.

"BPL is the most crucial issue facing Amateur Radio and the one that has the most devastating potential," Haynie said. In terms of interference potential on HF and low-VHF frequencies, "nothing is on the same scale as BPL."

A form of power line carrier (PLC) technology, BPL would use existing low and medium-voltage power lines to deliver broadband services to homes and businesses. Because it uses frequencies between 2 and 80 MHz, BPL could affect HF and low-VHF amateur allocations wherever it's deployed. BPL proponents--primarily electric power utilities--already are testing BPL systems in several markets, and one reportedly is already offering the service. FCC rules already allow BPL, although industry proponents want the FCC to relax radiation limits. It's feared such a change could exacerbate BPL's interference potential.

During the ARRL forum at the West Gulf Division Convention (Austin Summerfest 2003) August 1-2 in Austin, Texas, Haynie previewed a short video highlighting a recent tour of BPL field trial sites by ARRL Lab Manager Ed Hare, W1RFI. In late July, Hare traveled to BPL trial communities in Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania and New York to take measurements over significant parts of the HF spectrum and initial readings at low-VHF. Driving a specially equipped vehicle loaded with radio gear and measurement devices, Hare said he didn't need to look long to find BPL interference. "The signals were all over," he said. "The interference found ranged from moderate to extremely strong." The video shows the S meter of an HF transceiver holding steady in excess of S9 as the speaker emits a crackling din, which one observer described as sounding like a Geiger counter. Only the very strongest amateur signals broke through on 20 and 15 meters. Hare noted, however, that the field strengths of the various systems all were within FCC Part 15 limits for power line carrier (PLC) devices.

Each BPL system exhibited a unique sound depending upon the modulation scheme it used. While in most cases it sounded like static or pulse noise, in one city warbling "birdies" blanketed the bands at closely spaced intervals.

The ARRL already has filed a 120-page package of text and technical exhibits in response to the FCC's Notice of Inquiry in late May. The League plans to file reply comments--responses to comments already filed--by the recently extended August 20 FCC deadline.

Haynie has been doing a bit of traveling of his own, including more than two weeks in Washington so far this year dealing with the FCC and with members of Congress on BPL and other Amateur Radio-related issues.

Countering critics who suggest that the League is only using BPL as a fund-raising ploy, Haynie said the League would not be putting as much effort into attempting to quantify the BPL threat and to put a face on it if it weren't real.

"The BPL industry and their associations have told the FCC and the world that there is no interference potential from BPL systems," Haynie said. "Anyone seeing these BPL signals for megahertz after megahertz for miles along a power line should be convinced that BPL--even operating at the present FCC limits--poses a serious threat to all HF and low-VHF communications."

More information is available on the ARRL Web site <***http://www.arrl.org/news/features/2003/07/08/1/***>. Additional information and video clips are on the ARRL "Power Line Communications (PLC) and Amateur Radio" page <***http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/HTML/plc/***>.

[ARRL Web]

NTIA Expresses "Broad Concerns" in BPL Comments

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) has weighed in on the FCC's Broadband over Power Line (BPL) initiative. While urging the FCC to "move forward expeditiously" with its inquiry into BPL, the NTIA expressed "broad concerns" about interference to government users. The NTIA also has launched an extensive modeling, analysis and measurement program for BPL. A Commerce Department branch, NTIA administers spectrum allocated to federal government users.

"Notwithstanding BPL's potential benefits, the Commission must ensure that other communications services, especially government operations, are adequately protected from unacceptable interference," the NTIA said in late-filed comments in the BPL Notice of Inquiry. "In tailoring its rules to promote BPL deployment, the Commission must be certain to provide all communications stakeholders with adequate protections against BPL emissions that may cause unacceptable radio frequency interference."

Until releasing its comments this month, the NTIA has been

largely silent on the issue since last spring. In an April 24 letter, then-NTIA administrator Nancy J. Victory applauded the FCC's decision to launch its inquiry into BPL, but called on the Commission to make sure that BPL does not cause harmful interference to other services.

In early July, Frederick R. Wentland, NTIA's associate administrator in the Office of Spectrum Management, told the FCC that the NTIA did not favor Current Technologies LLC's <***http://www.currenttechnologies.com/***> request for a permanent waiver of the field strength limit specified for Class B emissions under FCC Part 15 rules. A Maryland BPL developer, Current Technologies already is field testing and marketing the technology.

Wentland worried that the pole-mounted interfaces and outdoor power lines used for BPL could interfere with public safety communication in the 30 to 50 MHz range. He told FCC Office of Engineering and Technology Chief Edmond J. Thomas that the "unobstructed and ubiquitous nature of this BPL application, and perhaps other aspects of BPL, differs considerably from the situations presently found in typical unintentional radiators" operating under Part 15.

Wentland--named recently to succeed Victory as NTIA administrator on an interim basis--also invited the FCC to coordinate its own BPL measurement activities with those of the NTIA.

The NTIA's comments, which have not been posted on the FCC Web site, are available on the NTIA Web site <***http://www.ntia.doc.gov/ntiahome/fccfilings/2003/bplcomments_08132003.htm***

[ARRL Letter]

September Ohio Section News

FOR THE SECOND TIME this year, ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, of Dallas, will be appearing in Ohio. He is the main Banquet Speaker for the Great Lakes Division Convention at the Findlay Inn and Conference Center, Saturday, September 6 (Jim Bridgewater of the FCC will be there as well). President Haynie will be at the Findlay Hamfest on Sunday answering your questions about League matters. Jim was in Ohio at the 2003 Dayton Hamvention.

PLEASE REMEMBER because the Great Lakes Convention being so close to our usual date, the Oho Section Conference will not be held in 2003. But we will return in 2004 at the Ohio EMA facility in Columbus.

NEW 8TH CALL AREA QSL Bureau chief, Jay Slough, K4ZLE, has announced new procedures for the bureau. Please visit the new 8th call area Bureau page where changes in bureau operation is explained. This page is located at ***http://home.fuse.net/jslough/w8buro.html***. And Jay thanks everyone for your assistance in making the hobby more fun for all of us.

JACK WAGONER, WB8FSV, Hilliard, Ohio (near Columbus) and one of this state's top CW operators, has retired from the position of State Traffic Manager after six years of service. He and his wife just adopted a Chinese baby and he expects busy days ahead. Thank you Jack for your service to the Ohio Section.

STM OFFICE DROPPED Mr. Wagoner also recommended the STM position be retired as well and the Section Manager agreed Both CW nets (Buckeye Net Early and Buckeye Net Lake) and the statewide phone net (the Ohio Single Side Band Net - OSSBN) have been operating independently and will continue to do so. Traffic counts and honor roll points will continue to be collected by ASM John Haungs, W8STX, Cincinnati, as always. Three years ago Ohio wrote the OSSBN into the Ohio Section Emergency Response Plan under the leadership of Ohio Section Emergency Coordinator, Larry Rain, WD8IHP, Mansfield, and Assistant Section Manager Connie Hamilton, N8IO, who was Net Manager of OSSBN at the time. This move of traffic nets to be included directly in emergency communications has being recommended by the ARRL. Ohio was among the first Sections to complete this step.

OHIO SECTION CONGRATS (A) To the ARRL officials, lead by CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, for the nice defense of our 40 meter privileges at the 2003 Geneva World Radio Conference. Read about it in this month's QST on Page nine and starting on Page 40, and (B) To the newsletter Feedback of the Massillon ARC for its listing of Special Event Stations. Since this area of Ham Radio is growing, other newsletters should copy this membership service.

OHIO SECTION SEPTEMBER HAMFESTS AND CONVENTION; (6) Great Lakes Convention for all Ohio, Michigan and Kentucky ARRL members at Findlay Inn and Conference Center. For all the info, go to ***http://www.greatlakes.arrl.org***; and click on Convention; (7) Findlay Radio Club hamfest at Hancock County Rec Center. For more info, go to ***http://www.findlayradioclub.org*** (21) GCARA at Scarlet Oaks Career Center, Cincinnati. For more info, see ***http://www.cincinnatiamateurradio.com*** and (28) Hamfest Assn. at Cleveland. For more info, see ***http://www.hac.org***. de Joe, K8QOE. Now for the July traffic reports:

[K8QOE]

Weaver's Words

I am beginning to feel cheated. For what is apparently the second straight Board meeting, this meeting proved to be quite calm. Sure, there were a few things to work out and a few calm debates, but there was very little heat generated to go along with these debates. My general emphasis at this meeting was to bring the membership more involved by getting input from you all just as I did on the code licensing requirement issue.

Speaking of this issue, there was no action by the Board. We did not even put the issue on the official agenda. There was a fair amount of discussion of code requirement during breaks and after the sessions, but the general sense is that we should wait to see what FCC proposes to do before investing much effort in anticipation of FCC's plan. Remember, there is no need for the Commission to do anything. No action is necessary if they decide to let things stand as they are at this time.

Incidentally, a bit a incorrect information about the recent WRC treaty is being spread in at least one Amateur Radio new source. This source indicates that FCC can take no action on WRC-03 until after this treaty has been ratified by the US Senate. Not true. FCC can begin implementing any provision of WRC-03 at will. If anyone wishes to check, you can see that the last two or three WRC treaties have not yet been presented to the Senate by the Department of State, yet, FCC has implemented facets of these earlier treaties. The Commission does not need to wait.

NTS BEING KILLED BY ARRL?

I've received several questions about this as a result of rumors surrounding a report developed from answers to a questionnaire on Field Service activities. This questionnaire was completed by nearly every SM in ARRL. All three of our SMs participated in it, much to their credit. Thank you, Deb (Michigan SM at the time), Joe (Ohio SM) and Dick (KY SM) for your great assistance in this and all the other activities you pursue on behalf of Amateur Radio.

Before anyone storms HQ to protest, please understand that NTS is very much alive and very well in our Division. I expect it to stay this way or get even stronger. I also expect there may be some changes in NTS nationwide, especially in its prime objective. If you want further details, I suggest you contact your SM who is studying the report of the study. I believe that our and other Divisions will end up with a even more relevant and even more strategic NTS.

LETTERS. We write letters.

Before long, you can expect to begin receiving E-mail notification through either the SMs or me alerting you to the need to support Amateur Radio by writing letters or sending E-mails -- or making visits -- to the FCC or your Congressman or Senator. To make this feasible, the Board voted to offer the Division/Section E-mail letters available to all registered members. I hope you take full advantage of this service so you will know what is at issue and what action you are being asked to take to preserve and enhance Amateur Radio -- your and my favorite avocation. The details are being completed essentially as I am typing this note. You will hear more, later.

MORSE CODE AS A LICENSING REQUIREMENT

Thanks to all you who replied to my questionnaire and shared your thoughts about keeping or not keeping the Morse code testing requirement. The results are summarized as:

- Work to keep the requirement = 60%
- Do not work to keep requirement = 40%

Seems straight forward? Well look at this:

- Pull out all stops or work moderately hard to keep a code requirement = 40%
- Do very little or nothing to keep a code requirement = 60%

My take on this is that the majority wants to keep a code requirement, but that an equal majority says we should do no more than submit a petition to FCC to keep the code or do nothing at all. The expanded answers generally followed this same thinking. Some suggested keeping the requirement, but demanding only that the candidate for a license should be required merely to recognize very slow code -- essentially at no "speed". Many suggested code for Extra Class, only.

Again, thanks to you for this perspective. It will be useful when the subject comes up for discussion at a coming Board meeting.

DIVISION CONVENTION

You won't want to miss this!

This convention is a day of seminars on current ham radio topics and Division activities. FCC Detroit Field Office head James Bridgewater is featured presenter along with other major ham radio topics. The convention concludes with a Banquet Saturday evening highlighted by ARRL President Jim Haynie W5JBP. Then, Sunday, the convention moves to the Findlay Hamfest - one of the largest hamfests in Ohio. The convention ticket is a free pass to the hamfest. Transportation is available to the Hamfest location.

Seminars begin at 12:30 p.m. Saturday at the Findlay Inn. Two separate meeting rooms are reserved for these seminars. The Banquet begins at 6 p.m. A Royal Order of the Wouff Hong installation ceremony will begin 20 minutes after the Banquet concludes for all those who qualify. If you haven't gone through the Wouff Hong, you will want to do this at the convention.

For additional information on the convention, see ***http://greatlakes.arrl.org/division_convention.htm***.

CUL, GL, 73, Jim, K8JE

ARRL Great Lakes Division
Director: James Weaver, K8JE

Butler County ARES

Never Say Our Drills aren't Realistic!

September 28, 2002 Butler County ARES held a flood related drill. June 15th that scenario played out with flooding from Somerville and Collinsville all the way to Ross.

Operators put in over 400 hours total for this single event providing damage assessment and communications coordinating the activities.

The May 2003 drill was setup to be a hazardous materials spill in Middletown. Because of our busy schedule of public service events, never got a chance to "drill" on the chemical spill, but, Friday morning July 25, a tractor trailer truck hauling hazardous materials had it's load shift which caused leakage of hydrochloric acid at Breiel & Roosevelt (SR122) Boulevards..

According to the Emergency Response Guidebook, Product Code 1789, Guide 157, this is pretty nasty stuff if inhaled, or if contact is made with just the vapors/fumes, you can expect the worst to happen.

Butler County Red Cross activated the ARES team about 0940 hours, and by 0955 operators were set up at the Verity Middle School awaiting the over 150 residence that had to be evacuated.

The majority of the operators were from the DIAL Radio Club of Middletown, and are to be congratulated on the fast response time, their professionalism, and a job well done! Thank You!

We had people in the Red Cross organization that "doubted" the capabilities and dedication of amateur radio operators. A special thanks to Bruce Smith KC8URF and Evan Dobroski KC8TXA for the fine job they did shadowing the Red Cross officials at the shelter.

We have heard nothing but praise from the two officials they shadowed and how they changed one gentleman's mind about amateur radio operators.

Hats off to you two guys!

Congratulations and Thank You for being such excellent representatives of amateur radio and the Butler County ARES team.

Butler County ARES also thanks the DIAL Radio Club of Middletown for the use of their 146.610 and 147.315 repeaters during this event.

Robert Spratt N8TVU
Butler County EC

Web *www.qsl.net/n8tvu*

NCVEC Committee Studying New Entry-level License Proposals

The National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC) has formed a committee to develop an FCC rule making proposal for a new entry-level Amateur Service license. The move came during the NCVEC's annual meeting July 25 in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, where attendees heard presentations on the possibilities for such a new ticket. At the same session, the NCVEC also approved plans to draft and submit a rule making petition to eliminate the current 5 WPM Morse code requirement (Element 1) and to give Novice/Tech Plus HF privileges to all current Technician licensees. NCVEC Chair John Creel, WB3GXW, of the Laurel VEC presided over the gathering, which included representatives of 12 of the nation's 14 VECs.

NCVEC Question Pool Committee Chair Scotty Neustadter, W4WW, and Rules Committee Chair Fred Maia, W5YI, offered separate proposals for an entry-level license. Neustadter said while the current entry-level license, the Technician class, provides full VHF and UHF privileges, it does not offer a simple entry path. He recommended a 50-W maximum power output level, Novice/Tech HF subbands plus 12 and 17-meter privileges and a 20-question written exam.

Maia's proposal suggested upgrading all current Tech and Tech Plus licensees to General and allowing their use of all bands. Beginner licensees should be granted call signs from the NA-NZ#xxx call sign block, he said. Both Maia and Neustadter suggest ways to streamline the number of license classes. Maia offered up the possibility of asking the FCC to eliminate the Morse testing requirement immediately, easing code exam format restrictions and giving serious thought to dropping CW-only subbands as well. Neustadter recommended no changes in CW/phone allocations, at least for now.

Maia, Neustadter, Jim Wiley, KL7CC, and John Johnston, W3BE, will serve on the entry-level license study committee. The panel is to report back to the NCVEC within a few weeks.

The NCVEC representatives' approval to petition the FCC seeking the deletion of the Element 1 Morse code examination requirement for HF access was in reaction to the World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 (WRC-03) decision to leave such requirements up to individual administrations. The ARRL-VEC abstained from voting on the issue.

Responding to a question, the FCC's Bill Cross, W3TN, told the group that he did not believe the Administrative Procedures Act would permit the FCC to drop the Morse code testing requirement on its own motion. He predicted a lively debate during any proposal-and-comment period.

In remarks at the meeting, FCC Special Counsel for Enforcement Riley Hollingsworth complimented the VECs for their efforts. He noted that complaints concerning the administration of amateur exams were at their lowest point in the five years he's been handling amateur enforcement. He also said VECs should not underestimate the FCC's concerns regarding examination integrity.

Members of the Licensing and Technical Analysis Branch staff at the FCC's Gettysburg office demonstrated a beta version of new Universal Licensing System <***http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/***> on-line filing software expected to go live in September. Among other features, the new, user-friendly software will incorporate on-screen links to context-relevant "common questions" and ease the process of applying for a vanity call sign. It also will provide compatibility with screen-reading software employed by sight-impaired users.

The NCVEC unanimously approved an extension of an experiment to use videoconferencing technology to conduct Amateur Radio testing in remote areas of Alaska. The NCVEC had voted last year to back a one-year trial run to be conducted by the Anchorage Volunteer Examiner Coordinator. Jim Wiley, KL7CC, of the Anchorage VEC told his colleagues that, after unexpected delays, his VEC expects to be testing within three months.

[ARRL Letter]

Section Traffic Manager Retires

For six years, Jack Wagoner, WB8FSV, Hilliard, Ohio (near Columbus) and one of this state's top CW operators, has been Ohio Section Traffic Manager (STM). On August 1, 2003, Jack will retire from that position. He recommended the position be retired as well.

Jack and his wife are headed to China (his fourth trip) to adopt a Chinese baby. This is Jack's first attempt at fatherhood and he suspects this will change his daily routine. Because of the increased family responsibilities, he asked to retire as STM.

Ohio Section Manager Joe Phillips, K8QOE, asks all Ohio Section members thank Jack for his six years of service to the ARRL and Ohio Section. SM Phillips accepts Jack's retirement proposal and also has announced the position will be retired as well.

Retiring the STM position will not have any affect on traffic handling in Ohio, Phillips said. Both CW nets (Buckeye Net Early and Buckeye Net Lake) and the statewide phone net (the Ohio Single Side Band Net - OSSBN) have been operating independently and will continue to do so, he added. Traffic counts and honor roll points will continue to be collected by Assistant Section Manager, John Haungs, W8STX, Cincinnati, as always.

"Three years ago Ohio wrote the OSSBN into the Ohio Section Emergency Response Plan under the leadership of Ohio Section Emergency Coordinator, Larry Rain, WD8IHP, Mansfield, and Assistant Section Manager Connie Hamilton, N8IO, who was Net Manager of OSSBN at the time," Phillips said. This move of traffic nets to be included directly in emergency communications is being recommended by the ARRL.

"I have asked SEC Rain to recommend new administrative changes but none of these will have any affect on how traffic is passed, CW or Phone," Phillips said. Just to recognize the operation of traffic nets in case of emergency use in the Buckeye State. Phillips asked traffic handlers in Ohio contact him or SEC Rain for any ideas or questions in this area they may have. *[F.Y.I., Jack is a former resident of Middletown and his parents continue to reside here - Ed]*

[K8QOE]

More Countries Drop Morse Code Requirement

Two more countries have joined the small, but growing, list of administrations that no longer require Amateur Radio applicants to pass a Morse code test to have access to HF. Others have indicated

they will do so soon. Affected countries also have granted HF privileges to their amateurs who hold "no-code" VHF/UHF licenses.

Joining Switzerland, Belgium, the UK and Germany are Norway and the Netherlands. Waiting in the wings are Austria and New Zealand.

The actions are in response to the World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 decision to delete the requirement to prove Morse code ability from the international Radio Regulations, leaving individual administrations to decide if they want to retain it or not.

The Norwegian Post and Telecommunication Authority <***http://www.npt.no/***> reportedly has told the Norwegian Radio Relay League <***http://www.nrrl.no/***> that the three former license classes--with LA, LB and LC call sign prefixes--were combined into one class on August 19. Those holding LC call signs have been issued new LA-prefix call signs, and those holding LB-prefix call signs may apply for LA call signs if they wish.

The Netherlands Radiocommunications Agency <***http://www.agentschaptelecom.nl/***> announced this week that Morse proficiency will cease to be a requirement for HF access as of September 1. The Netherlands' Class A and C licenses--which correspond to CEPT Classes 1 and 2 respectively--will enjoy the same privileges, although they'll retain their distinctive call sign prefixes for now. The change does not affect the Class N license, which permits 2-meter and 70-cm operation only. A letter to all amateurs was to go out this week to all hams in the Netherlands.

Information from Austria's IARU member-society, the Austrian Experimental Radio Transmitters Union (OeVSV) <***http://www.oevsv.at/***>, indicates that country will grant provisional HF access to all CEPT Class 2 licenses "sometime in September," pending formal changes.

New Zealand telecommunications authorities plan to remove the requirement for Morse competency from the General class syllabus as part of the next round of updates to that country's radiocommunications regulations. The change is expected to go into effect later this year.

In the US, six unrelated petitioners have requested the FCC to delete the requirement that applicants pass the 5 WPM Element 1 Morse code test to gain HF access and make related changes in the Amateur Service rules (Part 97). The FCC has not yet invited public comment on any of these petitions.--some information from RSGB, No-Code International and Kees Murre, PA2CHM

[ARRL Letter]

FCC Upholds Vanity Fee Policy, Sets New Fee Start Date

The FCC says the new, higher Amateur Radio vanity call sign regulatory fee of $16.30 for the 10-year license term will go into effect September 9. Until then, applicants for amateur vanity call signs will continue to pay the current $14.50 fee per vanity application. The FCC expects to collect close to $160,000 from 9800 Amateur Radio vanity call sign applicants during Fiscal Year 2003. That's up by almost $30,000 and 800 applications from FY2002.

In releasing its annual Report and Order on the assessment and collection of regulatory fees for FY2003, the FCC responded at some length to comments filed from the amateur community. Some commenters had questioned the need for the fee, the requirement to pay it when renewing a vanity call sign and why refunds were not automatic.

Telecommunications Act provisions governing regulatory fee assessment cover applications for vanity call signs, which, the FCC said, "are voluntarily requested by licensees" and are "a value-added benefit not afforded to all licensees." Assessment of a regulatory fee to cover the FCC's processing and enforcement costs to make the vanity call sign service available is reasonable, the Commission concluded.

The FCC said its current policy of assessing "a nominal fee" at the time of initial application and at each renewal also allows greater access to vanity call signs. "A high one-time-only fee would be cost prohibitive for many entities wishing to obtain a vanity call sign," the Commission said. The Commission also said it incurs costs to manage each vanity call sign throughout its existence, not just in the first 10 years.

Regarding refunds due when the FCC denies an application, the FCC said its rules require a written request from applicants before it can process refunds of regulatory fees. "The written request serves as documentation when cross-referencing each unique file number that may be entitled to a refund," the FCC added.

The FCC said the documentation was particularly important in the case of Amateur Radio vanity applications, "because filing trends indicate that some applicants file several vanity call sign applications per day for several days on end." Requiring a written request makes it easier to certify "which fees are to be refunded for which dismissed applications," the Commission said. In addition, those processing applications in FCC bureaus and offices don't have the authority to issue refunds without proper documentation.

A copy of the Report and Order is available on the FCC Web site:
<***http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-03-184A1.doc***>.

[ARRL Letter]

ARRL Board Requests Policy Recommendations to Implement WRC-03 results; ARLB050

The ARRL Board of Directors has called on ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, and the ARRL Executive Committee to develop ARRL policy recommendations for an FCC filing to implement the results of World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 (WRC-03). ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, chaired the July 18-19 Board session in Windsor, Connecticut.

"The League, as the Amateur Radio representative in the United
States, will, through its democratic process, review input from its members as to the impact and implementation of these results to the Part 97 rules," a Board resolution declared. A report on the policy recommendations is due next January. The Board expressed gratitude to the IARU and ARRL WRC-03 team for its "tireless and dedicated efforts in promoting Amateur Radio" and congratulated it for achieving the IARU's goals at the month-long international conference, which wrapped up in Geneva July 4.

Delegates to WRC-03 reached a compromise on a 200-kHz worldwide allocation--7000 to 7200 kHz--effective in 2009, with no change to the existing 300-kHz allocation in the US or elsewhere in Region 2.

The conference also eliminated the requirement that amateur

applicants prove Morse code proficiency to operate below 30 MHz, leaving it up to individual administrations to retain or drop Morse as an exam element. WRC-03 decisions also resulted in changes affecting international third-party traffic, guidelines for standards of competence of amateur licensees, and recognition of the licenses of visiting amateurs.

The Board also implemented some recommendations of the wide-ranging Final Report of the Volunteer Resources Committee to the ARRL Board of Directors--an Evaluation of the ARRL's Field Organization. The committee, chaired by ARRL Midwest Division Director Wade Walstrom, W0EJ, concluded that the state of the ARRL Field Organization is "fair," but not sufficient to meet the League's obligation to provide emergency communications, especially at the national level.

In light of the report, the Board called for a comprehensive system to enhance the communications capabilities of the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES). There are situations, the Board said--especially given the League's new Citizen Corps partnership with the Department of Homeland Security--when ARES "must have the capability to pass traffic across the nation quickly and accurately."

The Board also called on all 71 Section Emergency Coordinators to develop, implement and maintain a comprehensive Section Emergency Plan by year's end. Additionally, the Board asked Sumner to formally establish leadership training courses as a part of routine Section Manager orientation.

In response to the so-called "Minute 56" report initiated at last July's meeting, the Board voted to initiate a process to revise ARRL band plans for amateur allocations between 902 MHz and 24.25 GHz.

"New band plans will be developed using as a goal the full amateur deployment of each band," the Board said. The Board voted unanimously to authorize President Haynie--with assistance from Imlay and Technical Relations Manager Paul Rinaldo, W4RI, "to explore specific terms of expanded partnering plans with the National Public Safety Telecommunications Council (NPSTC). Such cooperation could involve greater integration of amateur operation in the bands from 902 MHz to 24.25 GHz in public safety and homeland security communications."

Citing the Amateur Radio tradition of Elmering (mentoring) new and prospective amateurs, the Board okayed a resolution instructing the VRC to develop two or more viable options for an ARRL Volunteer Mentor program that would provide for "the promotion, support and growth of mentoring in Amateur Radio." The VRC is to present its options at the Board's January meeting.

Additional details are on the ARRL Web site. The minutes of the July ARRL Board of Directors meeting will be posted on the ARRL Web site as soon as they are available.

[ARRL Bulletin]

FCC Warns Trucking Firms About Alleged Unlicensed 10-Meter Operation

The FCC Enforcement Bureau has sent Warning Notice letters to three highway transportation firms asserting that drivers of some of their vehicles may have transmitted without a license on 10 meters. The notices allege the unlicensed operations took place July 8 on Interstate highways in South Carolina.

Letters went out July 14 from FCC Special Counsel Riley Hollingsworth to Jolly Roger Capital Ltd of Columbia, South Carolina, Tidewater Transit Company of Kinston, North Carolina, and Shuford Lumber of Marion, North Carolina. He warned all three firms that operation of radio transmitting equipment without a license could lead to fines of up to $10,000, equipment seizure and even imprisonment.

Hollingsworth asked all three firms to get in touch with him to discuss the allegations. He told ARRL that one of the companies already had responded and required its driver to remove all radio gear from his truck.

Amateur Radio-related FCC Enforcement Bureau correspondence is available on the ARRL Web site ***<http://www.arrl.org/news/enforcement_logs/>***.

[ARRL Letter]

Next Meeting

Our meeting time is 7pm (6pm if you are coming for dinner) and will be at the Golden Corral Buffet & Grill at 3350 Village Drive, Franklin, OH (Towne Mall area). **Hope to see you on Monday, September 15!**

If a good person does you wrong, act as though you had not noticed it. They will make note of this and not remain in your debt long.

Goeth

Demonstrate your support for amateur radio. Join the ARRL today!!

September *2003*

Sun	*Mon*	*Tue*	*Wed*	*Thurs*	*Fri*	*Sat*
	1	2 **ARES Net** 8:30pm 147.330 +	3 **Technician Ham Class** Johnston Hall MU-Middletown 6 - 9 pm	4 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	5	6 **GREAT LAKES DIVISION CONVENTION** Findlay, OH
7	8	9 **ARES Net** 8:30pm 147.330 +	10 **Technician Ham Class** Johnston Hall MU-Middletown 6 - 9 pm	11 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	12	13 **BCVHFA** License Exams - 8:30am **OH-KY-IN** Fox Hunt - 10am **ARRL** September VHF QSO Party
14 **ARRL** September VHF QSO Party	15 **Dial Meeting** 7pn Golden Corral Buffet & Grill Dinner at 6pm	16 **ARES Net** 8:30pm 147.330 +	17 **Technician Ham Class** Johnston Hall MU-Middletown 6 - 9 pm	18 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	19	20 **ARRL** 10 GHz and Up Contest
21 **ARRL** 10 GHz and Up Contest **GCARA Hamfest** Scarlet Oaks Cincinnati	22	23 **ARES Net** 8:30pm 147.330 +	24 **Technician Ham Class** Johnston Hall MU-Middletown 6 - 9 pm	25 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	26	27
28	29	30 **ARES Net** 8:30pm 147.330 +	**September 10: Butler County Emergency Communication Team** Meeting, 7 pm Rm 229, D. Russel Lee JVS			

October 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
October 8: Butler County Emergency Communication Team Meeting, 7 pm Rm 229, D. Russel Lee JVS			1 **Technician Ham Class** Johnston Hall MU-Middletown 6 - 9 pm	2 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	3	4
5	6	7 **ARES Net** 9pm 147.330 +	8 **Technician Ham Class** Johnston Hall MU-Middletown 6 - 9 pm	9 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	10	11 **BCVHFA** License Exams - 8:30am **OH-KY-IN** Fox Hunt - 10am
12	13	14 **ARES Net** 9pm 147.330 +	15 **Ham Exams** Johnston Hall MU-Middletown Registration Opens @ 6 pm	16 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	17	18
19	20 **Dial Meeting** 7pn Golden Corral Buffet & Grill Dinner at 6pm	21 **ARES Net** 9pm 147.330 +	22 **General Ham Class** Johnston Hall MU-Middletown 6 - 9 pm	23 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	24	25
26 **DST Ends**	27	28 **ARES Net** 9pm 147.330 +	29 **General Ham Class** Johnston Hall MU-Middletown 6 - 9 pm	30 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	31	

Dial Radio Club

Middletown, Ohio
APRS Digipeater: W8MWO (MWO) 144.39
Repeaters: 52.21/53.21, 146.01/146.61, 147.915/147.315, 223.36/224.96, 449.825/444.825
Web page: ***http://www.qsl.net/w8blv/*** e-mail: ***dial@qth.net***

President:
Ron Spaulding, N8NQF
Vice-president:
Art Frasik, N8PI
Secretary:
Ernie Howard., W8EH
Treasurer:
Carl Morgan, K8CM

Activities Manager:
Lorie Urschel, W8LKU
Newsletter Printing
Ron Spaulding, N8NQF
Newsletter Distribution:
Ruth Howard, N8OZN
Elaine Howard, KC8WOF

October 2003

Minutes of the September 15, 2003 Dial Radio Club Meeting

Members Attending:

W8EH, KC8WOF, N8OZN, N8HRA, N8EH, KC8PRW, WD8DFK, KB8WKL, KF8PD, AB8LA, Tommy, Jessica, N8GGE, N8HP, Lois, WD8DPZ, N8TFH, WB8MYT, W8MVN, Bonnie, N8PI, AB8QP, WA8PRA, KC8CYP, Ben, K4BQE, KC8QQH, KC8SUD, WA8DTU, W8LKU, N8RTG, N8XBQ, AF8T, W3GP, K8CM. (35)

Call to Order:

Meeting called to order by Vice-president Art, N8PI, at 7:04 pm.

Secretary's Report:

Motion by Ernie, N8EH, second by George, W3GP, to approve minutes as published and dispense with the reading. Motion approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer's report for August was given by Carl, K8CM. Membership stands at 123 members / 80 families. A motion was made by George, W3GP, and duly seconded by Omer, KC8SUD, to approve the Treasurer's report as presented. Motion approved.

Carl, K8CM, presented the application from Fred Krause, N8XBQ, a former member of *Dial*, and moved that it be accepted. Second by Sandi, AB8LA. Motion approved.

Repeater/Station Report:

Station report by, Ernie W8EH; everything normal. We are working to get special identifications and announcements recorded for the repeater.

Classes & Exams:

We had six students in the last class with nine registered. Next exam will be Wednesday, October 15. The General written classes begin October 22; all with Tech class licenses should consider signing up!

Old Business:

Ernie, W8MVN, has 5 tables for the Club to be picked up or delivered.

New Business:

The ARRL is requesting clubs and individuals make donations to the '*Broad Band over Power Line*' fund to help them pay for studies to fight this infringement on our bands. There was much discussion on this topic.

Motion by Sandi, AB8LA, to make donation, second by Jon, N8RTG. After further discussion the motion was approved.

Motion by Ed, KF8PD, second by Omer, KC8SUD, to set the donation amount at $100. Motion approved.

Adjourn:

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Ernie, N8EH, and duly seconded by Jon, N8RTG. Motion approved, without dissent, by the membership.

Ernest W. Howard, Jr., W8EH

New Callsign

Congratulations to Rick Slone on the receipt of his new callsign, AF8T. Rick's previous callsign was KB8HSO.

BSA Jamboree on the Air

The annual Jamboree On The Air (JOTA), which combines Amateur Radio and Scouting, takes place this year on October 18-19. JOTA offers amateurs an opportunity to offer Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts (Cub Scouts, Brownies and Girl Guides are welcome) a chance to participate in this worldwide scouting tradition--now in

its 46th year--and share experiences over the air with other scouts. Maxim Memorial Station W1AW will be on the air Saturday, October 18, during the afternoon and early evening.

More details at:

http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2003/09/21/1/?nc=1

[ARRL]

Ham License Exams

An examination session in Technician, General and Extra Class Amateur Radio Operator's License will be conducted on:

Wednesday evening, October 15, 2003
at 6:30 p.m. in room 110 Johnston Hall,
Miami University-Middletown, Middletown, OH

Doors will open for registration at 6 p.m. Please plan to arrive early as all registration activities must be completed by 7 p.m.

Applicants must furnish the original and one photocopy of their current license (if any), original and one photocopy of any certificates of successful completion of examination (CSCE) they may hold, positive (photo) identification, social security (TIN) or Licensee ID number, and the test fee of $12.

NCVEC Form 605, Application for License, will be available at the test site. Advance registrations are recommended but not required ... walk-ins are accepted on a "space available" basis. Map to exam site and/or NCVEC 605 form available from K8CM for SASE.

Advance registration consists of a completed NCVEC 605, copies of your current license and valid CSCEs, and a check ($12) made payable to the *Dial Radio Club*. Please enclose a note stating the class of license you will be attempting. Advance registrations should be mailed to: David Williamson,

and must arrive no later than Monday, October 13. ***Please include your telephone number on your check.***

Special examination accommodations must be requested at least two weeks prior to the test date.

Additional information may be obtained from David Williamson, KD8W

Talk-in on 146.610 -

Amateur Radio Class
Fall 2003-2004 Ham Radio Class

The General Class section of the **DIAL RADIO CLUB's** Fall, 2003-2004, Amateur Radio class will begin on October 22, in Middletown, 6-9 pm. Meeting in room 110, Johnston Hall, on the Middletown Campus of Miami University, classes will be offered to prepare a candidate for examination in General Class amateur operator license.

General Class instruction will conclude December 10. Instruction in the International Morse code, working toward proficiency at 5 wpm, will be available.

Amateur radio operator license examinations will be available, in Middletown, at the conclusion of General class instruction, December 17, 2003.

Although there is no charge for the instructional portion of these classes, students should be prepared to purchase a license training manual and supplies (approximately $20-25) for use in class.

Class enrollment will be limited to forty students. For registration and/or additional information, please call Miami's Continuing Education office

W1AW 160-meter Transmission to QSY Slightly

Starting Monday, September 29, W1AW will shift its 160-meter code practice and bulletin transmission frequency from 1818 kHz to 1817.5 kHz, starting with the 4 PM EDT (2000 UTC) code practice run. The change not only brings W1AW's Top Band frequency in line with those the station uses on other bands, it also should help to eliminate possible interference from broadcast station harmonics and birdies--something that's more likely on an integer (ie, whole number) frequency. W1AW has been conducting code practice and bulletin transmissions on 1818 kHz since 1982. Prior to that, W1AW transmitted both CW and phone bulletins on 1835 kHz. *[ARRL Letter]*

Weaver's Words

WRITE TO SUPPORT THE FREQUENCY PROTECTION ACT

The Frequency Protection Act of 2003, IF PASSED, will ensure Amateur Radio has adequate frequencies on which to operate. In short, the FCC will be prohibited from arbitrarily taking frequencies they have assigned to us away from us. Your help is needed to support this act which has been introduced into the US House of Representatives as HR 713 and into the US Senate as S 537.

The first action needed is to encourage as many representatives and senators as possible to cosponsor these bills. Many members of Congress will not consider co-sponsorship of comparatively small, technical bills like HR 713 and S 537 without concrete evidence of support from their own constituents. We Amateurs have not yet provided meaningful support of these bills. Now is the time to do it. Please help Amateur Radio make a statement on The Hill, by sending your Representatives and Senators letters asking them to be a co-sponsor. I'm doing this.

Too busy to send a letter? Send a QSL card that simply says "Support Amateur Radio. Cosponsor HR 713 or S 537."

Still too busy? Follow the instructions below to find your representative and senators and see if they list E-mail addresses.

Regardless of how you do it, please write. To learn the names and addresses of your representative and senators, click on (you may need to click while pressing Control) the following links, one at a time: ***http://www.house.gov/writerep/ Representatives*** and ***http://www.senate.gov/contacting/index.cfm Senators***.

You will need to know your ZIP+4 postal code.

When you write, be aware that the following already are sponsors of the bills. Please write to express your continued interest in the legislation and to thank them for being sponsors. The current sponsors are:

US House of Representatives: From Kentucky: None, From Michigan: Bart Stupak (1st Dist.), From Ohio: Paul Gilmore (5th Dist.), Ted Strickland (6th Dist.), Patrick Tiberi (12th Dist.)

US Senate: , from Kentucky: None, From Michigan: None, From Ohio: None.

When you can take the time to write a letter, you can use the following sample letter as a starting point. Then insert information about Amateur Radio emergency activities or other benefits we have given to the state and congressional district. Don't have time to modify the letter? Simply remove the "localization sentence" and send it as a boilerplate letter.

NOTE TO CLUBS: Why not get in on the act and write as a club to Representatives and Senators in your members' districts? Be sure to include the number of members in your club in the letter.

NOTE: Please send a copy of your correspondence via e-mail to ARRL HQ at specbill03@arrl.org and to k8je@arrl.org. Tnx.

[Sample letters deleted to save space. If you wish to have a sample letter, please contact Jim or Carl

Incidentally, I got most of the information for this item from the ARRL web site, ***www.arrl.org***. Go there to learn more about this bill. When you get to the ARRL home page, search for Frequency Protection Act.

The main thing for you to do is to write your representative and senators. The more of us who write, the more influence we will have. Please do this before you forget. Many thanks for your help.

GOINGS ON

Vice Director Dick Mondro, W8FQT and I have been making the rounds of hamfests/swaps and club meetings during recent weeks. In addition, we participated in a very successful Great Lakes Division Convention. I want to thank Former Director Gary Johnston, KI4LA for his peerless leadership as Convention Chairman, SM Joe Phillips, K8QOE for managing the arrangements with and at the Findlay Inn and Convention Center, SMs John Meyers, NB4K and Dale Williams, WA8EFK, former SM Debbie Kirkbride, KA8YKK and ACC Sandy Mondro, KG8HM for serving on the Planning Committee and Jeanie Dalton, KB8QLC for managing the Convention Headquarters.

The forums were great, having ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP with us as speaker for the banquet and during the convention forums was tremendous. Jim told it like it is.

I will mention two Division-centered highlights for me: 1) Learning that FCC Engineer in charge of the Detroit office, Jim Bridgewater is AA8JD and a graduate of Purdue University (my alma mater), and, 2) Most of all, being able to present the very first George S. Wilson, III, W4OYI Award for Lifetime Achievement to Former Director and friend George Race, WB8BGY. To the other award recipients and all the rest who gave freely of their time and talents to make this a great, first, full convention, thanks also. You all were wonderful! (NOTE: I expect Gary will have a full summary of the Convention and the Convention Awardees on the Great Lakes Division web site before long.)

Oh, yes, I should not forget the *Mighty Wouff Hong Thespians*. I will simply say they put on an unforgettable show as they guided "new, aspiring amateur" Jim Haynie, W5JBP to become a full-fledged amateur operator. To call this event unique is to understate the facts!

DIRECTOR-OFFICER PLANNING SESSION

FYI, the ARRL Directors and Officers, and selected HQ Staff members met in St. Louis last weekend for a challenging and exhausting session of setting basic goals and strategies for the League for the coming several years. You will hear more about these once the report has been fine-tuned and approved (in January). In the meantime, I firmly believe nearly all members and many nonmembers will be very pleased with where we are heading. I can unabashedly say, "GO BLUE" regarding this session and I won't mean anything related to college sports.

73, CUL, GL,Jim, K8JE

ARRL Great Lakes Division
Director: James Weaver, K8JE

Butler County ARES

September 9th was the Butler County ARES first anniversary, and the team has accomplished a megaton of training and activities in the first year. Here are the numbers:

Membership - 74
Training – 63 sessions – 2,243 hours
Nets – 1040 – 3, 441 hours
Public Service Events – 20 – 763 hours
Emergency Activation's – 10 – 454 hours
SKYWARN Activation's – 5 – 29 hours
ARES Related Events-Meetings-Promotion's-etc.– 155 – 840 hours

For a total of 1,293 events 7,770 man-hours!

Members are trained in:
National Weather Service SKYWARN – 17
Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Level I – 23
Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Level II – 16
Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Level III – 14
Amateur Radio Emergency Communications VE's – 4
Red Cross First Aid & CPR – 20
Red Cross Automatic Emergency Defibrillator – 18
Red Cross Introduction to Disaster – 27
Red Cross Disaster Assessment – 7
Red Cross Shelter Management – 3
Red Cross Mass Care – 2
Red Cross Emergency Response Vehicle Driving – 3
Red Cross Emergency Assistance to Families – 2
Red Cross Aviation Disasters – 2
Emergency Management Disaster Recovery –3
Emergency Management First Responder – 2
Emergency Management Radiological Monitoring – 1
Emergency Management CAMEO/MARPLOT/ALOHA – 3
Emergency Management ICS-100 – 4
Emergency Management Hazardous Awareness – 15
Emergency Management Domestic Preparedness and Awareness – 21
Emergency Management Citizen Emergency Response Team – 18

Our members also assisted with two Red Cross National Disasters:

DR476 – Disaster Assessment for the Flooding in Hamilton County & Northern KY – 2 members assisted

DA501-03 – Disaster Assessment for the flooding in Butler County – 22 members assisted

13 members assisted for the Hazardous Materials Incident in Middletown 7-25-03.

We have more than gotten our feet wet in our first full year of operation, but it's not about the numbers.

It is about providing a much needed communications service to the community "When All Else Fails".

It is about being the professional communicator the public and our served agencies expect us to be, in their time of need.

I thank all of the ARES team members for their contribution of time, equipment, and effort having a fantastic first year of training, education, events, activation's, and camaraderie between team members.

Don't feel like you have left in the dust! We have a core group of members that have taken the available training so they can help you "get on board"!

Come on out and join in the fun and excitement of Emergency Communications. Meetings are the second Wednesday of each month from 7 P.M. until 9 P.M. Butler Technical School has been kind enough to allow us to meet in Room 229 on the second floor on the south side of the building.

Please check our website calendar for up coming events, and come out and observe or participate in our drills! Next drill is the National Simulated Emergency Test (SET) October 4th 0830 till 1400 hrs. at Butler Tech.

You do not need an amateur license to be able to help out! There are also plenty of non-operator jobs to be filled too! So bring the wife and teenagers with you-we can put them to work too!

Robert Spratt N8TVU
Butler County EC

Web *www.qsl.net/n8tvu*

Ham Radio Kept Bermuda Connected When All Else Failed

Amateur Radio became a primary means of contact between Bermuda and the rest of the world as Hurricane Fabian swept across the island September 5, claiming at least four lives and causing extensive property damage in some areas. Authorities in Bermuda this week were assessing its extent. A dangerous category 3 storm, Fabian took out power to some 25,000 homes--about two-thirds of the island--as well as all radio and TV stations. Additionally, generator problems took the government's emergency FM station off the air for a time. Tony Siese, VP9HK, reports the police operations center was evacuated after the 120-MPH winds took off part of its roof.

Siese said the only contact with the outside world for a couple of hours was via hams like himself relaying information on 2 meters to HF operators and getting weather reports from the National Hurricane Center via the Hurricane Watch Net <*http://www.hwn.org/*> on 20 meters. He said that when the government emergency station dreturned to the air, amateurs provided it with updated National Hurricane Center reports from the HWN.

Hurricane Watch Net Manager Mike Pilgrim, K5MP, reports his net on 14.325 MHz secured operations September 6 at 0300 UTC "after a very long and busy day." Participating HWN volunteers feed ground-level weather data to forecasters via WX4NHC <*http://www.wx4nhc.org/*> at the National Hurricane Center. WX4NHC also operates with a volunteer staff. The weather data and information help meteorologists to develop more accurate storm forecasts.

"We had excellent assistance and vital communications from five VP9 hams who, unfortunately, had to resort to makeshift antennas and back-up battery power as the storm approached their locations," Pilgrim said. WX4NHC Assistant Amateur Radio Coordinator Julio Ripoll, WD4JR, said that while news reporters on Bermuda found themselves uncharacteristically out of touch, "old-fashioned" ham radio HF technology got through. As he put it, "brave Bermuda hams, using car batteries, basic wire antennas and only 50 W of power, were able to send those valued 'surface reports' and receive vital hurricane advisories." Decent conditions on 20 meters also helped.

Also pitching in were Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network (SATERN) volunteers. "The SATERN Net stood by two days at full alert monitoring for information from Bermuda as Hurricane Fabian raged through the island," said National SATERN Coordinator Pat McPherson, WW9E. SATERN Territorial Coordinator Rick Shirran, VE3NUZ/VP9, said that with power and telephone service down, "the only communication that held up during the event was that of the members of the Radio Society of Bermuda via 2 meters, and HF on the Hurricane Watch Net and the SATERN Net." Shirran lost part of his own roof and the driven element to his antenna. He got back on the air using a makeshift antenna and power from a car battery.

Shirran said it could take more than two weeks to restore power to Bermuda. Telephone service "remains tentative," he said at week's end. The airport was only open to daylight flights as of September 11.

Amateur Radio reports gathered September 7 by Dick Montgomery, N3DV, on the 20-meter Bermuda Net indicated many trees down, damage to docked boats and amateur antennas blown away, but power slowly being restored.

National Hurricane Center Director Max Mayfield expressed his sincere thanks to amateurs who supplied critical information during Fabian. "We never would have known what was going on in Bermuda without your help," he said. "You are a part of the hurricane team, and it is a pleasure to work with you."

[ARRL Letter]

FCC Puts No-code International's Morse Petition on Public Notice

The FCC has invited public comments on another Morse code-related petition for rule making--this one from No-Code International (NCI) <*http://www.nocode.org/*>. It's designated RM-10786. When the FCC put six other Morse-related petitions in the sequence RM-10781 through RM-10787 on public notice, RM-10786 failed to show up on the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) <http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs/>. It remained missing through September 2. NCI calls on the FCC to

delete Element 1--the 5 WPM Morse code exam--"totally" from the Amateur Service rules and grant "Tech Plus" privileges to current Technicians. It also wants the FCC to act on the matter as soon as possible, preferably in a separate rule making and without further ado.

"The Commission clearly has the authority to modify its rules on its own initiative and without further public notice or comment," NCI asserted in its 20-page petition.

NCI notes that World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 (WRC-03) made optional the requirement to prove the ability to send and receive Morse signals to operate below 30 MHz. As a result, "the Commission is no longer bound to maintain any Morse proficiency requirement." The Morse requirement, NCI contends, is keeping newcomers away from Amateur Radio.

Comments poured in this week from members of the amateur community on all seven petitions. Clearly ahead in the comment-collection race is the petition filed by the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators, RM-10787, which had collected more than 350 comments by week's end. The other petitions each have garnered more than 100 comments apiece.

Interested parties may file comments on any or all petitions now on public notice <***http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-238494A1.pdf***> by using the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) <***http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs/***>. The ECFS also permits users to view all comments on file. There is a 30-day comment window.

To file a comment, click on "Submit a Filing" under "ECFS Main Links." In the "Proceeding" field, type the full RM number, including the hyphen, and complete the required fields. "RM" must be in capital letters, and you must include the hyphen between "RM" and the five-digit number. You may type your remarks into a form or attach a file. ECFS also accepts comments in active proceedings via e-mail, per instructions on the ECFS page.

To view any comments already submitted for each petition, click on "Search for Filed Comments" under "ECFS Main Links" and type in the complete RM number, including the hyphen, in the "Proceeding" field. "RM" must be in capital letters, and you must include the hyphen between "RM" and the five-digit number.

Several countries--including Switzerland, Belgium, the UK, Germany, Norway and the Netherlands--already have moved to drop their Morse requirements. Austria, New Zealand and Australia are expected to do so soon. *[ARRL Letter]*

FCC Invites Comments on Six Morse Code-related Petitions

The FCC has invited public comments on six separate Morse code-related petitions for rule making, some of which would altogether eliminate Element 1, the 5 WPM Morse test, from the Amateur Service rules (Part 97). World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 (WRC-03) made optional the requirement to prove the ability to send and receive Morse signals to operate below 30 MHz.

A petition from Peter M. Beauregard, KI1I, designated RM-10781, would give all Technician licensees current Novice/Tech Plus CW privileges on 80, 40, 15 and 10 meters and limited phone and image privileges on 80, 40 and 10 meters. Beauregard said the CW privileges would "encourage Technician class licensees to upgrade to General" by giving them a "practice area." He has proposed new Tech phone/image privileges on 3850-3900 kHz and 7225-7300 kHz. His petition would not eliminate Element 1, however.

Pete V. Coppola, KG4QDZ, and family--Tina Coppola, KG4YUM, and Pete A. Coppola, KG4QDY--have asked the FCC to eliminate Element 1 from the rules. The Coppolas' petition, designated RM-10782, would grant Tech Plus HF privileges to current Technician licensees. It also would retain the current CW-only subbands. The Coppolas asked the FCC to make the change effective immediately on a provisional basis.

Kiernan K. Holliday, WA6BJH, has asked the FCC simply to "remove all requirements for knowledge of Morse code" from the Amateur Service rules. Holliday said there is less reason to require Morse code in the Amateur Service today. In his petition, designated RM-10783, Holliday also said the code requirement limits the ability of handicapped individuals to get ham tickets. "The Commission's policy should be to encourage the use of Amateur Radio," he said.

Dale Reich, K8AD, petitioned the FCC to delete Element 1 for General class applicants but keep it in place for Extra class applicants. Under Reich's scheme, "no-code" Techs wanting HF privileges would have to upgrade to General first. Reich's petition is designated RM-10784.

Eric Ward, N0HHS, seeks immediate elimination of "proficiency in telegraphy using Morse code." The "immediate removal of the telegraphy requirement from Amateur Radio licensing is appropriate and clearly in the public interest," Ward contended in his petition, designated RM-10785.

In a detailed, nine-page petition, the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC) is calling on the FCC to delete Element 1and give "Tech Plus" privileges to current Technician licensees. The NCVEC also asked the FCC to "take expedited action" to allow volunteer examiner coordinators (VECs) to discontinue administering Element 1 "as soon as possible."

"The Amateur Service community suffers from the loss to its ranks of a large number of potentially excellent operators who are turned away because of the CW requirement," the NCVEC petition said.

The organization, the umbrella group for the 14 VECs in the US, said there's "no longer any reasonable justification for requiring an applicant to demonstrate this antiquated skill," and that most applicants never use Morse after they pass the test. The NCVEC petition is designated RM-10787.

The ARRL-VEC abstained from voting on the NCVEC's petition question when it came up during the NCVEC's July 25 meeting in Pennsylvania. At its own July meeting in Connecticut, the ARRL Board of Directors affirmed its interest in reviewing members' input on the Morse issue as well as on other possible revisions to Part 97 arising from WRC-03. The Board's current position is to retain the Morse requirement for HF access.

Two more recently filed petitions--one from No Code International and another from two amateur licensees--are expected to be put on public notice in the near future.

Interested parties may file comments on any or all of these petitions using the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) <***http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs/***>, which also permits users to view the petitions and all comments on file. There is a 30-day comment window.

To file a comment, click on "Submit a Filing" under "ECFS Main Links." In the "Proceeding" field, type the full RM number, including the hyphen, and complete the required fields. "RM" must be in capital letters, and you must include the hyphen between "RM" and the five-digit number. You may type your remarks into a form or attach a file. ECFS also accepts comments in active proceedings via e-mail, per instructions on the ECFS page.

While a Morse code exam element remains on the books in the US, Canada and elsewhere, a handful of countries--including Switzerland, Belgium, the UK, Germany, Norway and the Netherlands--already have moved to drop their Morse requirements. Austria and New Zealand are expected to do so soon. *[ARRL Letter]*

ARRL Announces Contest Rule Changes

The ARRL Contest Branch has announced rule changes governing ARRL-sponsored operating events. The changes become effective November 1, 2003.

In any contest that requires off-time, any claimed off-time period must be at least 30 minutes long. "Remember that listening time counts as operating time when calculating off-time," said ARRL Contest Branch Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND.

Second, the Northwest Territories (NWT) multiplier has been renamed "Northern Territories"--abbreviated NT--for contests that use ARRL and Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) sections as part of the exchange.

"While not an official RAC section, the VE8, VY1 and VY0 (Northwest Territories, Yukon and Nunavut) are grouped together as a multiplier in the ARRL November Sweepstakes and the ARRL 160-Meter Contest," Henderson explained. "The new name and abbreviation will more accurately describe their makeup."

Henderson said use of the NWT abbreviation was inconsistent to designate a multiplier that also included Yukon and Nunavut. Awards for ARRL-sponsored contests will continue to be issued to the VE8, VY1 and VY0 together as the Northern Territories section.

Finally, in contests using geopolitical entities as multipliers--the ARRL RTTY Roundup, the ARRL International DX Contest and the ARRL 10-Meter Contest--the official abbreviation for Northwest Territories is NWT. "This change brings the multipliers for those events into a consistent form," Henderson said. ARRL encourages contest participants to update the necessary files for their logging software.

For more information, contact Henderson

[ARRL Letter]

Court Kicks New York Ham's "Police Radio" Case

A New York court has dismissed a misdemeanor charge against ARRL member Richard C. "Dick" Lalone, KC5GAX, for violating §397 of that state's Vehicle and Traffic Law. That section prohibits individuals other than law officers from equipping their vehicles with radios "capable of receiving signals on the frequencies allocated for police use" without first securing a permit.

The section, which also prohibits knowingly interfering with police transmissions, contains an explicit exemption for "any person who holds a valid amateur radio operator's license . . . and who operates a duly licensed portable mobile transmitter and in connection therewith a receiver or receiving set on frequencies exclusively allocated . . . to duly licensed radio amateurs."

In a nearly 1300-word decision, Judge John J. Hallet said it was clear the legislature never intended the provisions of §397 from applying to licensed Amateur Radio operators, and he dismissed the charge August 5. Susan Terry, KF4SUE, a former New York assistant attorney general, represented Lalone.

ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, and ARRL Regulatory Information Specialist John Hennessee, N1KB, provided advice or assistance to Lalone. *[ARRL Letter]*

Next Meeting

Our meeting time is 7pm (6pm if you are coming for dinner) and will be at the Golden Corral Buffet & Grill at 3350 Village Drive, Franklin, OH (Towne Mall area). **Hope to see you on Monday, October 20!**

There are two things to aim at in life; first, to get what you want; and, after that, to enjoy it. Only the wisest of mankind achieve the second.

Logan Pearsall Smith

Demonstrate your support for amateur radio by joining the ARRL today !!

October 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
October 8: Butler County Emergency Communication Team Meeting, 7 pm Rm 229, D. Russel Lee JVS			1 **Technician Ham Class** Johnston Hall MU-Middletown 6 - 9 pm	2 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	3	4
5	6	7 **ARES Net** 9pm 147.330 +	8 **Technician Ham Class** Johnston Hall MU-Middletown 6 - 9 pm	9 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	10	11 **BCVHFA** License Exams - 8:30am **OH-KY-IN** Fox Hunt - 10am
12	13	14 **ARES Net** 9pm 147.330 +	15 **Ham Exams** Johnston Hall MU-Middletown Registration Opens @ 6 pm	16 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	17	18 **BSA Jamboree on the Air**
19 **BSA Jamboree on the Air**	20 **Dial Meeting** 7pn Golden Corral Buffet & Grill Dinner at 6pm	21 **ARES Net** 9pm 147.330 +	22 **General Ham Class** Johnston Hall MU-Middletown 6 - 9 pm	23 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	24	25
26 **DST Ends**	27	28 **ARES Net** 9pm 147.330 +	29 **General Ham Class** Johnston Hall MU-Middletown 6 - 9 pm	30 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	31	

November 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
November 12: Butler County Emergency Communication Team Meeting, 6:30pm Rm 229, D. Russel Lee JVS						1 **ARRL** November Sweepstakes CW
2 **ARRL** November Sweepstakes CW	3	4 **ARES Net** 9pm 147.330 +	5 **General Ham Class** Johnston Hall MU-Middletown 6 - 9 pm	6 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	7	8 **BCVHFA** License Exams - 8:30am **OH-KY-IN** Fox Hunt - 10am
9	10	11 **ARES Net** 9pm 147.330 +	12 **General Ham Class** Johnston Hall MU-Middletown 6 - 9 pm	13 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	14	15 **ARRL** November Sweepstakes Phone
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31						

Dial Radio Club

Middletown, Ohio
APRS Digipeater: W8MWO (MWO) 144.39
Repeaters: 52.21/53.21, 146.01/146.61, 147.915/147.315, 223.36/224.96, 449.825/444.825
Web page: ***http://www.qsl.net/w8blv/*** e-mail: ***dial@qth.net***

President:
Ron Spaulding, N8NQF
Vice-president:
Art Frasik, N8PI
Secretary:
Ernie Howard., W8EH
Treasurer:
Carl Morgan, K8CM

Activities Manager:
Lorie Urschel, W8LKU
Newsletter Printing
Ron Spaulding, N8NQF
Newsletter Distribution:
Ruth Howard, N8OZN
Elaine Howard, KC8WOF

November 2003

Silent Key: WA8AGQ

We note, with sadness, the passing of **Tom Snelling, WA8AGQ**, on Thursday, October 23. Tom served *Dial* for many years as an instructor, a Volunteer Examiner, and multiple terms as President and Activities Manager. Tom was a formidable "*Hamventioneer*", and an active technical support resource. He will be missed by all but he leaves us with many special memories.

Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and many friends.

Minutes of the October 20, 2003 Dial Radio Club Meeting

Members Attending:
KB8WKL, N8DHW, W8WLM, K8CM, W8GNV, W8MVN, Bonnie, WB8MYT, N8TFH, AB8QP, Ben, KC8SKW, N8PI, Chris, N8GGE, N8HP, KD8W, K4BQE, KB8VSX, KB8ZMO, WA8DTU, W8LKU, Kathy, KE8OH, Tillie, K2WRP, W8EH, KC8WOF, N8OZN, N8LWM, N8ODK. (31)

Call to Order:
The meeting was called to order at 7 pm by Vice-president Art Frasik, N8PI. Art asked those in attendance to introduce themselves.

Secretary's Report:
Motion by Dave, KD8W, second by Lori, W8LKU, to approve minutes as published and dispense with the reading. Motion approved. The club received a certificate from the ARRL in appreciation of our donation to the BPL defense fund for fighting against the broadband over power line system.

Treasurer's Report:
Report for September was given by Carl, K8CM. Membership stands at 125 members / 81 families. A motion was made by Barney, N8HP, and duly seconded by Dave, KD8W, to approve the Treasurer's report as presented. Motion approved

Repeater/Station Report:
Report was given by Ernie, W8EH; everything is working ok.

Activity Report:
Report was given by Lorie, W8LKU. The Butler County ARES will be holding a full drill December 13. Get your "GO" bags read for anything. Several members participated in the ARRL simulated emergency test this month.

Classes & Exams:
Education report by Beverley, N8GGE and others. Beverley reported the completion of a new General class lesson plan and the recruitment of a teaching staff for the class beginning this week (October 22).

At the last exam (October 15), there was one new Technician licensee created. Our next exam is December 17.

Old Business:
There was no old business to be discussed.

New Business:
The ARRL Sweepstakes Contest is November 15. Ed, KF8PD, and Sandi, AB8LA, will again be hosting the operation at their home. All club members are welcome to attend. Operation starts at 5 pm on the 15th. Motion by Carl, K8CM, second by Dave, KD8W, to approve up to $75 for Sweepstakes expenses. Motion approved.

Art says Ron appointed the following nominating committee; Barney, N8HP, Chairman, Dave, KD8W, and Don, WA8DTU. They will develop and report a slate of officers at the November meeting. Additional nominations will be taken from the floor, prior to balloting, at the annual meeting in December.

Carl, K8CM, says that Fred, N8XBQ, would like to get in touch with anyone interested in running ARRL 802.11b on the air.

Art, N8PI, had flyers and two complementary tickets for the Ft. Wayne hamfest. Only Dick, W8GNV, expressed an interest in the tickets, so he took them

Next Meeting: Monday, November 17, *Golden Corral Buffet & Grill*; dinner at 6 meeting at 7

Adjourn:

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Dave, KD8W, and duly seconded by Tom, K4BQE. Motion approved, without dissent, by the membership.

Ernest W. Howard, Jr., W8EH

New Callsign

Congratulations to Jon Slone on the receipt of his new callsign, K8TNF, the callsign of his deceased Grandfather. Jon's previous callsign was N8RTG.

DIAL Radio Club Scores 2nd in OHIO at FIELD DAY 2003

As you all know, the club participated in the ARRL Field Day exercise from Smith Park last June. The official report with scores is now posted on the ARRL web site. You can view the results at the ARRL web page: ***http://www.arrl.org***

The news is good. We scored an all time best for the club. Everyone who participated deserves a good pat on the back for his or her work. The results are proof that we had the right formula this year

From comparing everyone's scores with last year, it is obvious that propagation and band conditions were poor for everyone.

The most notable facts is that we scored 3rd in the Great Lakes division in class 3A. We were #2 in Ohio in 3A. The absolute highest ranking ever!

Here are our scoring stats:

- 3rd of 37 stations in class 3A in our division.
- 2nd of 15 stations in class 3A in the Ohio section.
- 58th of 275 stations nationwide in class 3A, low power.
- Nationwide we were in the top 21% of class 3A.
- Only one station in the country that ran high power, scored higher.
- Only three stations of 278 in class 3A nationwide ran high power, 275 ran low power.
- We were only 32 points from being FIRST in Ohio.
- We were only 94 points from being FIRST in the Great Lakes Division.
- If we would have earned and documented all of the possible bonus points, we would have been first in the division.

Top three scores for the Great Lakes Division:

W4NJA 4,066 points, 1,000 QSO
K8FH 4,004 points, 1,045 QSO
K8PI 3,972 points, 899 QSO

Here is a score comparison for K8PI in 2003, 2002, 2001 and 2000:

Year	Points	QSO	
2003	3,972	899	(ran 100 watts)
2002	4,883	3,025	(ran 1,500 watts)
2001	4,194	2,120	(ran 1,500 watts)
2000	2,707	1,557	(ran 1,500 watts)

Notice that we almost matched our 2001 effort with less that half the QSOs. That's a big **WOW.**

That pretty much tells the statistics story of the K8PI effort. We should celebrate this club achievement. It's someplace that we have never been before! **Lets do it again.**

Thoughts for next year: Recruit more operators to keep the radios on the air more hours. Get every possible bonus point. Use less energy during setup and save it for operating. Recruit more setup help. Run low power again!

[W8EH]

Ham License Exams

An examination session in Technician, General and Extra Class Amateur Radio Operator's License will be conducted on:

Wednesday evening, December 17, 2003
at 6:30 p.m. in room 13 Johnston Hall,
Miami University-Middletown, Middletown, OH

Doors will open for registration at 6 p.m. Please plan to arrive early as all registration activities must be completed by 7 p.m.

Applicants must furnish the original and one photocopy of their current license (if any), original and one photocopy of any certificates of successful completion of examination (CSCE) they may hold, positive (photo) identification, social security (TIN) or Licensee ID number, and the test fee of $12.

NCVEC Form 605, Application for License, will be available at the test site. Advance registrations are recommended but not required ... walk-ins are accepted on a "space available" basis. Map to exam site and/or NCVEC 605 form available from K8CM for SASE.

Advance registration consists of a completed NCVEC 605, copies of your current license and valid CSCEs, and a check ($12) made payable to the *Dial Radio Club*. Please enclose a note stating the class of license you will be attempting. Advance registrations should be mailed to: David Williamson,

and must arrive no later than Monday, December 15. ***Please include your telephone number on your check.***

Special examination accommodations must be requested at least two weeks prior to the test date.

Additional information may be obtained from David Williamson, KD8W

Talk-in on 146.610 -

Amateur Radio Class
Winter 2003-2004 Ham Radio Class

The Amateur Extra Class offering of the ***DIAL RADIO CLUB*** will begin on January 14, in Middletown, 6-9 pm. Meeting in room 110, Johnston Hall, on the Middletown Campus of Miami University, classes will be offered to prepare a candidate for examination in Amateur Extra Class amateur operator license.

Instruction will focus on the written examination and will conclude April 14.

Amateur radio operator license examinations will be available, in Middletown, on Wednesday, February 25, and at the conclusion of instruction; April 21, 2004.

Although there is no charge for the instructional portion of these classes, students should be prepared to purchase a license training manual and supplies (approximately $20-25) for use in class.

Class enrollment will be limited to forty students. For registration and/or additional information, please call Miami's Continuing

Education office at (513) 727-3200.

Amateur Radio Enforcement "The Riley Way" Marks Five Years

Close to 1000 Amateur Radio enforcement cases have crossed his desk since Riley Hollingsworth was tapped five years ago to resurrect the FCC's Amateur Radio enforcement efforts. That doesn't include countless ham radio "situations" he's resolved through informal counseling on the telephone or through an exchange of e-mails. At the time he took the job in the fall of 1998, Hollingsworth--whose official title is Special Counsel for Enforcement--called it "a new day for Amateur Radio" after years of amateur enforcement neglect on the Commission's part. As he sees things today, rules compliance and on-air behavior have improved since the new sheriff rode into town, but there's still lots to do.

"I'm fairly satisfied with the progress that we've made in five years," Hollingsworth said in modest acknowledgment of the milestone, "but I think we need at least five more years of this type--of this level--of enforcement, because the bands have quite a long way to go. It's no time to rest."

Five years ago, Hollingsworth began with a "top-10" list of alleged high-profile Amateur Radio offenders. By and large, he's slowly--and most would say successfully--worked his way to the point that many of today's cases appear comparatively mundane. But they get the same level of attention.

"The biggest problem we have now, I think, stems from conduct-type problems--lack of courtesy, taking serious offense and reacting to what is perceived as deliberate interference," Hollingsworth said this week. "Ninety percent of the interference that's reported to me is not deliberate." As he regards all enforcement cases, the remaining 10 percent are "serious."

"I think a lot of the 'radio rage' has subsided, but I wish that people would be a little more aware of just how valuable Amateur Radio is and how they sound on the air," said Hollingsworth. That's a message he's repeated often on the hamfest circuit.

"Maintenance mode" is a goal he'd like to see enforcement achieve. Hollingsworth explained that's when the number of enforcement cases is perceived to be in balance with the number of licensees. "I don't think we're there yet in the Amateur Service, but I think that we can get there," he said. Hollingsworth credits the amateur community's desire for strong, even stern, enforcement for his program's success.

"Probably 99 percent of the reason it's worked is everybody wants it," he said. "In this service they plead for enforcement. In every other service, they don't want to see you coming." This attitude, he believes, stems from a sincere desire by licensees to keep Amateur Radio a self-policing service. He counts keeping the support of the amateur community among his major accomplishments.

Looking out on the Amateur Radio enforcement horizon, Hollingsworth said he'll "keep pedaling" and chipping away at the enforcement workload. He'll also continue to look to the assistance and cooperation of his fellow radio amateurs, whom he called "just good people."

Amateurs "have got to stick together and cooperate and stay away from the infighting because they've got some very serious external threats," Hollingsworth said, citing BPL as just one example. "To the extent that they're not rowing together, it makes those threats more dangerous."

In his many public appearances--including several at Hamvention--Hollingsworth has stayed "on message" over the five years of his amateur enforcement tenure. "I just want everyone to realize what they have," he said. "We have incredible frequencies, power, modes, and so forth." He said a realization of the value of Amateur Radio itself is a deterrent to potential rule breakers, but he said Amateur Radio enforcement is "permanently ensconced" at the FCC.

While he's had some very interesting assignments and enjoyed nearly every day of his tenure with the FCC, he says the past five years have been the highlight of his 30-year FCC career.

"My greatest satisfaction is thinking that I may have paid back a debt," said Hollingsworth, who's been licensed since age 13. "It's the most rewarding thing I've ever done with the Commission."

[ARRL Letter]

World's Broadcasters Join Anti-BPL Chorus

A subcommittee of an International Telecommunication Union (ITU) <***http://www.itu.org***/> panel of technical experts responsible for terrestrial broadcasting issues has joined a growing chorus of concern about the interference potential of power line telecommunication (PLT)--better known in the US as Broadband over Power Line (BPL). ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R) Sub Working Group (SWG) 6E1 expressed the view that interference produced by systems employing PLT as well as by Industrial, Scientific and Medical (ISM) equipment and short-range devices, would compromise broadcast reception.

"SWG 6E1 is of the opinion that any increase in the amount of noise due to these systems is unacceptable," said a statement from the group's chairman to the chairman of Working Party 6E (WP 6E). "In particular, broadcast services should be protected from unwanted emissions from PLT systems," the panel asserted, "as these emissions are a byproduct of a system that is not itself a user of the radio spectrum." The panel recommended the formation of a group representing all users of the radio spectrum "to coordinate development of limits to be imposed on the radiation from these systems."

WP 6E says it will continue to study the effects of PLT/BPL, ISM equipment and short-range devices on terrestrial broadcasting and send the results to ITU-R Working Party 1A, which is responsible for spectrum engineering techniques. WP 1A is scheduled to meet in Geneva October 30 to November 5.

ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, expressed strong support and appreciation for the SWG's conclusions and the ongoing efforts of parent Working Party 6E to study the issue. "If BPL is a problem for broadcasters," Sumner said, "it's easy to see that it would be a disaster for us."

Broadcasters themselves also have exhibited increased concern about the potential of PLT/BPL to prevent their signals from reaching listeners. The Research and Development branch of the highly regarded British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) has released a White Paper <***http://www.bbc.co.uk/rd/pubs/whp/whp067.html***> reporting on a brief trial in Scotland. The two competing PLT/BPL systems in operation in the town of Crieff both interfered with HF reception. Tests were conducted at four locations.

"The forms of access PLT that were tested in Crieff were found to have demonstrable potential to cause interference to indoor reception of broadcasting in relevant bands," the White Paper

concluded. Significant interference even occurred in one residential area with an underground power distribution cable. BBC engineers described the interference as varying between "annoying" and "a level sufficient to make the broadcast completely unintelligible." Before commercially licensing PLT, the report advised, regulators need to undertake further study of other PLT systems and, among other issues, look into possible ways to make the PLT systems compatible with radio reception.

A report prepared by the Australian Communications Authority (ACA), Broadband Powerline Communications Systems--A Background Brief
<http://www.aca.gov.au/radcomm/frequency_planning/spps/0311spp.pdf>, concluded that "a potential risk to HF radiocommunications services from the widespread use of broadband powerline communications systems" appeared to exist. Citing BPL trials in the US, Europe and Asia, the ACA brief said, "The results of these trials have not alleviated concerns over the potential interference risk to radiocommunications."

ARRL's comments
<http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/et03-104/>, reply comments
<http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/et03-104/reply-comments-index.html> > and technical exhibits filed with the FCC in response to the Commission's Notice of Inquiry (ET Docket ET 03-104) are available on the ARRL Web site. See also the article "BPL is a Pandora's Box of Unprecedented Proportions, ARRL Tells FCC" ***<http://www.arrl.org/news/features/2003/07/08/1/>***. Additional information and video clips are on the ARRL "Power Line Communications (PLC) and Amateur Radio" page ***<http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/HTML/plc/>***.

To support the League's efforts in the BPL fight, visit the ARRL's secure BPL Web site
<https://www.arrl.org/forms/development/donations/bpl/>.

[ARRL Letter]

A Wager in the Wind

The Michigan and Ohio ARRL Section Managers will use the 2004 Dayton Hamvention as the prize for a wager on this November's Ohio State-Michigan football game at The Big House in Ann Arbor, Michigan

The two Big Ten football rivals play the 100th edition of their famous game Saturday, November 22. Michigan Section Manager Dale Williams, WA8EFK, and Ohio SM Joe Phillips, K8QOE, depending on whether Michigan Wolverines or the Ohio State Buckeyes win, agreed to the following:

The losing Section Manager will be the slave of the winner during all three days of Hamvention (Friday, May 14 to Sunday, May 16, 2004) which means (1) chauffeuring the winning SM to and from Hara Arena; (2) taking all the winner's purchases, including all boat anchors, to his car, and (3) pay for lunch at the Hara Arena for all three days.

"Our Ohio brother, Joe, K8QOE, will discover the real meaning of the word, work, after the Michigan Wolverines takes care of business this year," Michigan SM Dale said of the wager, "Joe will wish he had never heard of football.

The University of Michigan leads the storied rivalry the past 99 games -- 56-37-6 -- but The Ohio State University has won the past two games, That football competition, which ends the regular season for both teams, is one of America's most well known college football games. Conference championships and national rankings are decided on this contest as well

[K8QOE]

Ohio Section News

..NOVEMBER SECTION NEWS; This paragraph will change November 1. That day a new Section Emergency Coordinator, successor to Larry Rain, WD8IHP (SK) will be named here. Until then, Interim SEC is John Chapman, WBB8INY, of Gahanna,
 DEC for District 7.

..FROM THE ACC...Congratulations to the "PIONEER RADIATOR" as the winner of
 the Ohio Section Newsletter contest. Much hard work goes into the clubs
 newsletters and in my book all the newsletters are winners.

Clubs, it is important that you UPDATE your club's information with ARRL. This is to be done every year and your Special Service Club information needs to be renewed every two year. Remind your secretary or club president of this important item. Easily done online at the ARRL web site - <www.arrl.org>.

..OHIO CLUBS NEWS...It was great seeing many club representatives at the Ham Club Forum at the ARRL Great Lakes Division Convention in September at Findlay. The Seminar attracted more than 45 attendees. A lot of great and useful discussion which gave myself (Ohio ACC Brenda Krukowski, KB8IUP) and Michigan ACC Sandy Mondro, KG8HM, many good ideas to help the clubs. Any ideas that you think would help other clubs such as meeting ideas, getting new members, etc., please let me know so that I can pass these ideas on to other Ohio clubs.

..New officers for Toledo Mobile Radio Assn. are: Pres. Tom Swartz, KB8PAI, VP - Steve Bellner, W8TER, Treas., Chuck Ferguson, N8NIR and Sec. Randi Parton, KC8IVV... Also congratulations to TMRA on their 50th Anniversary as a club.

..And finally, congratulations to those who were inducted into the Wouff Hong. This is a great honor and you will always remember this ceremony! Thanks to all who had some part in planning the ARRL Great Lakes Division Convention. You did a great job and look forward to doing it again. (From Brenda.)

..OHIO NON CLUB NEWS: Not in a club??? Now is the time to investigate what your local club is doing. Christmas parties, elections, next years plans are part of most Ohio club programs in December. Strong Ohio clubs means a strong Ohio Section.

..OHIO SECTION CONGRATS: (A) TO the Toledo Ham of the Year, Martha Hanna, K8AAC, named in September, (B) TO all Ohio hams who followed Great Lakes Jim Weaver's, K8JE, advice and wrote letters opposing BPL. We are not a numerous group - letters to the FCC and our local congressmen are more important for us to gain respect; (C) TO Terry Russ, N8ATZ, Massillon, for a complete and excellent report of the Findlay 2003 Great Lakes Convention in the newsletter, "FEEDBACK." Locally written articles makes newsletters stronger and more useful to the local membership; and (D) TO Mark Baker, WD8KPU, Milford, for his ARRL history articles in the "MARC NEWS" newsletter.

..OHIO SECTION NOVEMBER HAMFEST; (8) in Georgetown (Brown County) on Ohio 125 (200 S. Green Street). Grant ARC is sponsor. Check the web site at ***www.grocities.com/garcohio.***

[K8QOE]

Next Meeting: Monday, November 17, *Golden Corral Buffet & Grill*; dinner at 6 meeting at 7

Weaver's Words

Thanks to each of you who wrote your Congressmen/women on behalf of the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act. It is gratifying when information I share with you results in action.

I am disappointed though in the apparent few number of members who chose to write. I say apparent, because I expect not all of you sent me copies of your letters or told me you had sent them. It is not my intent to try to police who does and who does not write. My request for you to let me know you wrote was merely to learn how effective my appeal was. The more who tell our legislators what we want, the more they will listen.

The current politics-vs.-science haggle that is going on with the FCC and within the FCC is a perfect example of the reason we not longer can rely totally on letting our fine HQ Staff, alone, deal with the FCC. We are dealing with FCC Commissioners who have chosen not to represent the public, but rather to become lobbyists for selected causes of selected people. In this interest, the cause they are espousing and promoting is that of the Power Distribution Companies.

We -- you and I -- must figuratively pound the streets if we are to win.

One final thing on this topic: Regarding Amateur Radio, do not become involved in partisan politics. We promote nonpartisan causes. Similarly, the sole voice of ARRL must be the heard only through the Board of Directors and the people they designate to speak for them. For this reason, in writing to regulators and our political representatives, DO NOT indicate you are an official (appointed or elected) of ARRL. When I write to my Congressmen, I am Jim Weaver, private citizen. The fact that I am a Director of the League has no relevance to my personal correspondence. Please adopt the same posture when you write.

CODE REQUIREMENTS

The current position of the ARRL Board of Directors is to support retention of code requirements for Amateur Radio licensing. In view of a number of events that relate to licensing -- the WRC 03 code position included -- the Executive Committee of the Board is reviewing all aspects of licensing. A draft report is expected to the Board in time for us to take any desired action at the January Board meeting. This will be in time to allow us to submit a petition to FCC before they begin to consider any action of existing code proposals. It is quite likely I will use this newsletter again to obtain your opinions on any possible licensing changes.

AMATEUR RADIO SPECTRUM PROTECTION ACT 2003

If you haven't written your Representative and Senators, please do. Ask them to become a cosponsor of House Bill 713 or Senate Bill 537, depending on their office. Let us show Congress that we care and that we want them to care as well.

BROADBAND OVER POWER LINES (BPL)

This is brewing around within the FCC staff. The HQ technical folks are working to refine still further some aspects of the comments they made early on. There is nothing to be gained at this time by us members writing to Congress, especially, and FCC. Stay tuned.

FINAL THOUGHT

Word that the Board of Directors is trying to kill the National Traffic System (NTS) is going around. This comes from a misunderstanding of the recent Volunteer Resource Committee report. The VRC reported responses of Section Managers (SMs) to a survey on operations of all Field Services in their Sections. As a member of the Board, I voted to accept the report. Board acceptance of the report did not endorse either the comments of the SMs or any effort to kill the NTS. The report is the basis for subsequent, Board-directed studies that will recommend what if anything in Field Services operations should be changed and how any changes should be made.

As part of the new studies, a committee of Vice Directors and SMs has been formed to study NTS. This Division is capably represented on the committee. I recommended this appointment to ensure the committee will have a full knowledge of the strengths of NTS in our Division.

It is not true that the Board intends to kill NTS.

73, GL, CUL,
Jim

ARRL Great Lakes Division
Director: James Weaver, K8JE

Butler County ARES

Butler County ARES began an ARECC Level I class October 18th and will conclude on October 25th at the Clermont County Emergency Management Agency Office for the Clermont County ARES Team.

The test session for all three levels will be given on November 1 at 0900 at the Clermont County EMA facility.

December 6th BCARES will be hosting a ARECC Level II class at Butler Technical School from 0900 to 1600 hrs.

The only cost involved will be the purchase of the Level II books.

We encourage you to have a book prior to taking the class. You can order the book on line from the ARRL bookstore.

The test session for all three levels will be given on December 7th 0900 at Butler Tech.

December 13 Drill

November 8th from about 1100-1500 hours we will be testing the Mobile Communications Trailer at Butler Tech for compatibility of the computer systems at the County Control Station and in the trailer.

We will also test the portable telephone system in the trailer as to "connectivity" with the schools telephone system.

If you are or would like to be a Net Control Operator, this would be an excellent opportunity for you to get some "hands on" training with the CAD system.

We will also be providing CAD training on November 22 and 29 in preparation not only for the December drill, for future events as well.

We are always seeking new members for the Butler County Amateur Radio Emergency Services team.

You do not have to be a licensed amateur radio operator to participate!

There are several "off the air" task that have to be performed to support the work ARES does. Involve the wife and kids (prefer 16

years and up), relatives and neighbors that may just have an interest in helping out!

To all the ARES members, *KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK*!

Robert Spratt N8TVU
Butler County EC

Web *www.qsl.net/n8tvu*

Hundreds Comment on Morse Petitions

Although the bell has sounded ending Round 1 of the comment period on the initial seven Morse code-related petitions for rulemaking, members of the Amateur Radio community continue to post their opinions. Some of the petitions called for altogether eliminating Element 1, the 5 WPM Morse test, from the Amateur Service rules (Part 97). The FCC recorded a total of nearly 2300 comments on the petitions, although the number of commenters is likely much smaller since many individuals commented on more than one petition. While some were content to express a brief comment pro or con, a few put forth recommendations that were nearly petitions in themselves. The tenor of many comments reflected the fact that Morse code remains an emotional issue.

"The CW issue, as expected, is a very gut-wrenching issue for many hams," ARRL Great Lakes Director Jim Weaver, K8JE, observed recently. "Sometimes we mortals let issues to which we have emotional ties get out of perspective."

The ARRL did not comment on any of the seven initial petitions for rule making and has no plans to comment on any future such petitions. ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, explained that there's no particular urgency to the issue and ample reason for the League to devote its attention to issues having more immediacy such as the Broadband over Power Line (BPL) threat.

"There have been numerous proposals submitted to the FCC with regard to amateur licensing qualifications and privileges," Sumner said. "No doubt there will be more. There is no need for the ARRL to react to each and every one."

The Petition for Rule Making filed by the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC), designated RM-10787, attracted the most attention, logging more than 600 comments. The NCVEC reported the tally on its proposals was 56 percent in favor of dropping Element 1 and 43 percent opposed, with 1 percent of the comments either undecipherable or taking no position.

Other Morse-related petitions were filed by Peter M. Beauregard, KI1I, Pete V. Coppola, KG4QDZ, and family, Tina Coppola, KG4YUM, and Pete A. Coppola, KG4QDY, Kiernan K. Holliday, WA6BJH, Dale Reich, K8AD, Eric Ward, N0HHS, and No-Code International <***http://www.nocode.org***>.

The FCC has yet to put another five Morse code-related petitions for rulemaking on public notice and invite comments. Sumner predicted it would be "months, if not longer" before the FCC takes any action on any of the petitions. In the meantime, he said, "there is plenty of time for the ARRL to receive considered input from its members and either to formulate a reasoned proposal for change or a rationale for maintaining the status quo."

At its January 2001 meeting, the ARRL Board of Directors reaffirmed the League's position to retain the Morse code examination requirement for HF access. World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 (WRC-03) left it up to individual countries to decide whether or not they want a Morse requirement for HF privileges.

In the wake of WRC-03, the ARRL Executive Committee has been working on its own comprehensive Amateur Radio licensing proposal, of which the Morse requirement would be a part. Once completed, the proposal will go to the ARRL Board of Directors for consideration and possible action at its January 2004 meeting.

"There is simply no urgency to address it any sooner than that," Sumner said.

The most recent countries to summarily drop the Morse requirement are Ireland, Singapore and Luxembourg. Switzerland, Belgium, the UK, Germany, Norway, the Netherlands, Austria, New Zealand and Australia also have moved to drop their Morse requirements or are expected to do so this year.

[ARRL Letter]

Hamvention Signs Contract for 2004 Show at HARA Arena

Hamvention <***http://www.hamvention.org***> will be at Hara Arena near Dayton, Ohio, at least for another year. General Chairman Gary Des Combes, N8EMO, announced the one-show contract this week. The last *Hamvention* contract with Hara Arena was for five years. Des Combes also expressed confidence that behind-the-scenes management changes he's instituted since taking over July 1 will translate into success for "the world's largest Amateur Radio gathering and trade show."

"Overall, I think things are going very well," Des Combes said of progress toward pulling together *Hamvention's* 53rd show, which will take place May 14-16. "I'm confident we're going to be successful." The always popular annual gathering attracted slightly more than 22,100 visitors in 2003. That figure was down by more than 10 percent from the 2002 crowd, and it marked the third year in a row of declining *Hamvention* attendance.

Des Combes is banking that the management team and "best business practices" approach he's put into place for next spring's show will turn things around. One significant change is a shift away from jobbing out *Hamvention's* production to paid professionals and returning to the strong reliance on volunteers that was a hallmark of past *Hamventions*.

"Some of the volunteers, quite frankly, felt they were not welcome," said Des Combes, who believes that moving away from an all-volunteer *Hamvention* was a mistake and created some unease within the organization. Under his regime, some volunteer staffers from the past now have returned to the fold, Des Combes said. Most of the volunteers for the 2004 show are from the sponsoring Dayton Amateur Radio Association (DARA) <***http://www.ceitron.com/dara/***>.

The new order at *Hamvention* means that Garry Matthews, KB8GOL, is out as the show's paid production manager (See "How Hamvention Happens" <***http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2003/03/06/4/0004053.pdf***>, by Rick Lindquist, N1RL, QST, Apr 2000). Matthews had served as the backstage impresario for more than three decades of Hamventions. Des Combes said he intends to spread out Matthews' former duties among several volunteers, saving money in the process. He's also establishing--and in some cases re-establishing a set of committees responsible for various aspects of Hamvention. The Hamvention assistant chairman is Jim Nies, WX8F.

"We have to just work smarter and tougher," he said, adding that the management change will be invisible to those attending. "I don't think John Q. Ham will see anything much different."

While the show is still in the planning stages, Des Combes said one possible change would be to have the award winners' recognition ceremony during Hamvention itself. The recognition event has replaced the traditional Saturday evening banquet, done away with this year because of slack attendance.

A project management professional, Des Combes says he anticipates the all-volunteer approach will make it possible for Hamvention to more economically mount a show that's of the same quality or better than those of past years.

"I can tell you I am leading sweeping changes in how we operate Hamvention," he said. All of them, he says, will better serve the vendors, DARA and the amateurs who attend *Hamvention*. "I think it's going to be good for everybody."

Ticket prices for the 2004 *Hamvention* will remain at the prices established prior to Des Combes' taking over the reins. Advance tickets for all three days are $20 ($23 park-n-ride bus transportation). Tickets at the gate will cost $25. All under 12 years of age are admitted free Des Combes says arrangements are under way to enable on-line ticket purchases.

There's more information on the *Hamvention* Web site ***<http://www.hamvention.org>***.

[ARRL Letter]

Push to Identify Unlicensed 10-meter Operators Continues

A concerted effort begun last spring to monitor for and possibly identify unlicensed operators on 10 meters will continue through October. The FCC already has asked the ARRL Amateur Auxiliary/Official Observers ***<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/org/oo.html>*** for assistance. Now, FCC Special Counsel Riley Hollingsworth is inviting hard information on suspected interlopers from all amateurs.

"If I don't receive reports, we'll have to conclude that unlicensed operation on 10 meters no longer is a problem," Hollingsworth said this week. Hollingsworth's initial request to beef up monitoring came in the wake of complaints from the amateur community that rose to the level of a major enforcement headache. He's expressed some disappointment, however, that the number of solid reports received so far has been few, although he's aware that a problem exists.

Hollingsworth asks amateurs to be specific in what they report. "Everybody should police their own neighborhood," he suggested. "Turn on the radio, and take a listen on the band. If you hear a loud signal that's obviously an unlicensed interloper, see if you can track it down."

Hollingsworth said that in the case of a suspected unlicensed trucker on the highway, amateurs should try to get the license plate number of the tractor--not the trailer--or at least the company name and, if possible, the DOT number.

The FCC does not require direction-finding data but would appreciate, where possible, names and addresses of alleged or suspected operators. Audio recordings of apparently illegal transmissions also can prove helpful.

Individual amateurs with solid information on alleged unlicensed operation on 10 or even 12 meters should report it to the FCC via e-mail ***<fccham@fcc.gov>***. Official Observers should file their reports through normal ARRL channels.

ARRL Field and Regulatory Correspondent Chuck Skolaut, K0BOG, says the FCC wants to pin down specific areas where unlicensed operation is prevalent in the US. He and Hollingsworth concede, however, that not all illegal 10-meter operation is of domestic origin.

The FCC's initial request last May request was made in accordance with the Communications Act and a longstanding agreement between ARRL and the FCC regarding the use of Amateur Radio volunteers to assist in enforcement.

[ARRL Letter]

73 Magazine Says "73 and QRT"

After completing 43 years of publication, 73 Amateur Radio Today magazine is calling it quits. Plans to publish a joint October/November issue fell through this week, and the September 2003 issue was the magazine's last. According to self-proclaimed "El Supremo and Founder" Wayne S. Green II, W2NSD, it was a simple matter of economics.

"After failing a last minute effort to collect on some larger accounts receivable we decided yesterday to throw in the towel--that the September issue will have to be the last," Green told ARRL October 9. "SK after 43 years of publishing."

The first issue of 73 was published in October 1960 from what Green – a former editor of CQ--once described as "a small, dingy apartment" in Brooklyn, New York. Since the summer of 1962, 73 has been based in Peterborough, New Hampshire--Green's home state. The magazine was a pioneer promoter of SSB, FM, solid-state, easy construction projects and the marriage of personal computing and Amateur Radio. His interest in microcomputing led Green in 1975 to found Byte, a magazine devoted to the then-nascent and largely do-it-yourself computer hobby.

At the peak of its popularity in the 1970s and 1980s, individual issues of 73 totaled more than 300 pages of ads, articles and commentary. Heading each issue was Green's inimitable "Never Say Die"--some would say never-ending--editorial, in which he rarely missed an opportunity to tweak the ARRL and his magazine competitors for their perceived shortcomings.

QST Editor Steve Ford, WB8IMY, says 73 published his first article in the 1970s. "I was saddened to hear that 73 has ceased publishing," Ford said. "Wayne's excitement about the growing amateur FM repeater phenomenon at the time was infectious."

Green's 73 editorials and regular round of personal appearances originally concentrated on Amateur Radio and his ideas to improve, advance and grow it. In recent years, however, they've veered into conspiracy theories, cures for cancer, AIDS and other ailments and Green's proliferation of book titles on those topics.

Green says he'll continue his essays on his Web site ***<http://www.waynegreen.com>*** "for those subscribers who mainly bought the magazine for them." He told ARRL that no definite arrangements have been made yet about how to handle outstanding 73 subscriptions.

CQ Publisher Dick Ross, K2MGA, said he takes no joy from he passing of 73. "The loss of any publication serving Amateur radio leaves all of us a bit poorer," he said. "Thank you, Wayne, for 43 entertaining, informative, sometimes infuriating, and always interesting years of 73. We'll genuinely miss it."

[ARRL Letter]

W1AW 2003/2004 Winter Operating Schedule: ARLB062

Morning Schedule:

Time	Mode	Days
1400 UTC (9 AM EST)	CWs	Wed, Fri
1400 UTC (9 AM EST)	CWf	Tue, Thu

Daily Visitor Operating Hours:
1500 UTC to 1700 UTC - (10 AM to 12 PM EST)
1800 UTC to 2045 UTC - (1 PM to 3:45 PM EST)
(Station closed 1700 to 1800 UTC (12 PM to 1 PM EST))

Afternoon/Evening Schedule: (UTC)

2100 (4 PM EST)	CWf	Mon, Wed, Fri
2100	CWs	Tue, Thu
2200 (5 PM EST)	CWb	Daily
2300 (6 PM EST)	RTTY	Daily
0000 (7 PM EST)	CWs	Mon, Wed, Fri
0000	CWf	Tue, Thu
0100 (8 PM EST)	CWb	Daily
0200 (9 PM EST)	RTTY	Daily
0245 (9:45 PM EST)	VOICE	Daily
0300 (10 PM EST)	CWf	Mon, Wed, Fri
0300	CWs	Tue, Thu
0400 (11 PM EST)	CWb	Daily

Frequencies (MHz)

CW:	1.8175 3.5815 7.0475 14.0475 18.0975 21.0675 28.0675 147.555
RTTY:	3.625 7.095 14.095 18.1025 21.095 28.095 147.555
VOICE:	1.855 3.990 7.290 14.290 18.160 21.390 28.590 147.555

Notes:
CWs = Morse Code practice (slow) = 5, 7.5, 10, 13 and 15 WPM
CWf = Morse Code practice (fast) = 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 13 and 10 WPM
CWb = Morse Code Bulletins = 18 WPM

CW frequencies include code practices, Qualifying Runs and CW bulletins.

RTTY = Teleprinter Bulletins = BAUDOT (45.45 baud) and AMTOR-FEC (100 Baud). ASCII (110 Baud) is sent only as time allows.

Code practice texts are from QST, and the source of each practice is given at the beginning of each practice and at the beginning of alternate speeds.

On Tuesdays and Fridays at 2330 UTC (6:30 PM EST), Keplerian Elements for active amateur satellites are sent on the regular teleprinter frequencies.

A DX bulletin replaces or is added to the regular bulletins between 0100 UTC (8 PM EST) Thursdays and 0100 UTC (8 PM EST) Fridays.

In a communications emergency, monitor W1AW for special bulletins as follows: Voice on the hour, Teleprinter at 15 minutes past the hour, and CW on the half hour.

FCC licensed amateurs may operate the station from 1500 UTC to 1700 UTC (10 AM to 12 PM EST), and then from 1800 UTC to 2045 UTC (1 PM to 3:45 PM EST) Monday through Friday. Be sure to bring your current FCC amateur license or a photocopy.

The W1AW Operating Schedule may also be found on page 109 in the November 2003 issue of QST or on the web at, ***http://www.arrl.org/w1aw.html.***

[ARRL Bulletin]

Coming Soon ....

The 18th Annual SWOH Digital Symposium. January 10, 2004, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Thesken Hall, Miami University , Middletown, OH. Co-sponsored by the Center for Chemistry Education, Miami University, and the Dial Radio Club, Middletown, OH.

Program will, again, be under the able leadership of Hank Greeb, N8XX. Details may be obtained by contacting Hank at

Next Meeting

Our meeting time is 7pm (6pm if you are coming for dinner) and will be at the Golden Corral Buffet & Grill at 3350 Village Drive, Franklin, OH (Towne Mall area). **Hope to see you on Monday, November 17!**

Appreciation can make a day -- even change a life. Your willingness to put it into words is all that is necessary.

Margaret Cousins

Demonstrate your support for amateur radio by joining the ARRL today !!

November 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
November 12: Butler County Emergency Communication Team Meeting, 6:30pm Rm 229, D. Russel Lee JVS						1 **ARRL** November Sweepstakes CW
2 **ARRL** November Sweepstakes CW	3	4 **ARES Net** 9pm 147.330 +	5 **General Ham Class** Johnston Hall MU-Middletown 6 - 9 pm	6 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	7	8 **BCVHFA** License Exams - 8:30am **OH-KY-IN** Fox Hunt - 10am
9	10	11 **ARES Net** 9pm 147.330 +	12 **General Ham Class** Johnston Hall MU-Middletown 6 - 9 pm	13 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	14	15 **ARRL** November Sweepstakes Phone
16 **ARRL** November Sweepstakes Phone	17 **Dial Meeting** 7pn Golden Corral Buffet & Grill Dinner at 6pm	18 **ARES Net** 9pm 147.330 +	19 **General Ham Class** Johnston Hall MU-Middletown 6 - 9 pm	20 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	21	22
23	24	25 **ARES Net** 9pm 147.330 +	26	27 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	28	29
31	Happy Thanksgiving					

Dial Radio Club, Middletown, OH

December 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
Season's Greetings	1	2 **ARES Net** 9pm 147.330 +	3 **General Ham Class** Johnston Hall MU-Middletown 6 - 9 pm	4 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	5 **ARRL** 160 Meter Contest	6 **ARRL** 160 Meter Contest
7 **ARRL** 160 Meter Contest	8	9 **ARES Net** 9pm 147.330 +	10 **General Ham Class** Johnston Hall MU-Middletown 6 - 9 pm	11 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	12	13 **BCVHFA** License Exams - 8:30am **OH-KY-IN** Fox Hunt - 10am **ARRL** 10 Meter Contest
14 **ARRL** 10 Meter Contest	15 **Dial Meeting** 7pn Golden Corral Buffet & Grill Dinner at 6pm	16 **ARES Net** 9pm 147.330 +	17 **Ham Exams** Johnston Hall MU-Middletown Registration Opens @ 6 pm	18 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	19	20
21	22	23 **ARES Net** 9pm 147.330 +	24	25 **Net Tonight** 9pm W8BLV/R	26	27
28	29	30 **ARES Net** 9pm 147.330 +	31	Merry Christmas and Happy New Year		

December 10: Butler County Emergency Communication Team Meeting, 6:30pm Rm 229, D. Russel Lee JVS

Dial Radio Club, Middletown, OH