



# Dial Radio Club



Middletown, Ohio

APRS Digipeater: W8BLV 144.39

Repeaters: 52.21/53.21, 146.01/146.61, 147.915/147.315, 449.825/444.825

Web page: <http://www.qsl.net/w8blv/> e-mail: [W8BLV@QSL.net](mailto:W8BLV@QSL.net)

President:  
Bob Rohrbach, NR8R

Activities Manager:  
Lorie Urschel, W8LKU

Vice-president:  
Dave Williamson, KD8W

Newsletter Editor:  
Jason Mossbarger, KD8GXD

Secretary:  
Barney Taylor, N8HP

Newsletter Printing:  
Ron Spaulding, N8QF

Treasurer:  
Ron Spaulding, N8QF

## January 2014

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### Minutes of the DECEMBER 16<sup>th</sup>, 2013 Dial Radio Club Meeting

#### Attendance

N8AA, N8DHW, WA8DTU, W8EH, N8GGE, KD8GXD, N8HP, KI8I, W8ISZ, W8LKU, N8LRN & Eve, NN8M, WA8PRA, N8QF, KD8QLP, DF8QS, KD8W, W8WCQ & Ginny, N8YFQ

#### Call to order:

Dave, KD8W, called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

#### Secretary's Report:

A motion to accept the minutes of the November meeting was made by Jim, W8ISZ, and seconded by Dave, N8YFQ. The motion passed without dissent.

#### Treasurer's Report:

Ron, N8QF, reported that membership for 2013 stands at 81 members representing 57 families. A motion to approve the Treasurer's report was made by Barney, N8HP, and seconded by Lorie, W8LKU. The motion passed with one nay.

#### Membership:

Ron, N8QF, presented an application for membership from John Comella, N8AA. John's application was sponsored by Bob, NN8M. Ron, N8QF, moved and Barney, N8HP, seconded a motion to accept John's membership. The motion passed unanimously. Welcome to Dial, John!

#### Repeater/Station Report:

Ernie, W8EH, gave the station report: "No Change". Ron, N8QF, reported that Echolink is back up and running without problems.

#### Activity Report:

No report.

#### Classes and Exams:

Beverley, N8GGE, announced that Dial will hold classes to prepare applicants for the Technician Level Exam starting in late January. Ron, N8QF, asked for the date of the next exam.

#### Old Business

None:

Next Meeting: Monday, January 20th, at the **Golden Corral**

## New Business

Roy, N8LRN, reported that several pieces of large (6-inch diameter) PVC pipe that was previously used to store the posts for the old Hamvention/Field Day shelter needed to find a permanent home now that Dial uses Pop-Up canopies. Ernie, W8EH, made a motion that the pipes be provided to a Dial member if they expressed interest within one week of the announcement of their availability via the list serve. After a week, the pipe sections will be discarded. Ron, N8QF, seconded the motion which passed without dissent.

In a similar vein, it was announced that there are 4 quarts of loose motor oil in the bucket with the Club's Field Day generator. Dave instructed that the oil be safely disposed of.

Dave, KD8W, gave the floor to the Chair of the Nominating Committee, Don, WA8DTU. Don announced that all of the outgoing officers had agreed to serve for another year, and he asked for nominations from the floor. After a short pause, Ernie, W8EH, made a motion that nominations cease and the present officers be re-elected by acclamation. Jason, KD8GXD, seconded the motion. As there were no nays, the room filled with smoke from the train carrying the officers into another term – Choo Choo!

Jim, W8ISZ, announced that online Flea Market reservations for Hamvention were open as of December 1<sup>st</sup>. Don, WA8DTU, moved that Ernie, W8EH, be authorized to procure Flea Market spaces for this year's Hamvention. Barney, N8HP, seconded the motion which passed without dissent.

Ernie, W8EH, asked if the Club again wishes to hold Field Day at Smith Park. Dave asked Ernie to fill out the necessary application for Dial to use Smith Park again this year.

Dave, KD8W, asked if the membership wished to keep the smaller, lighter, Mosley beam that had been previously used on the mast that was sold during 2013. Strong support from those present was given to retaining the Mosley.

## Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn was made by Ron, N8QF, and seconded by Jason, KD8GXD. The motion was approved unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 7:16pm.

*Barney Taylor, N8HP*

***Secretary***

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## **Ham Radio CubeSats launched to ISS**

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01/10/2014

An unmanned Orbital Sciences Corp *Antares* rocket that blasted off from NASA's Wallops Island launch pad on Virginia's Eastern Shore January 10, carried aloft an Orbital Sciences Corp (OSC) *Cygnus* freighter with a bevy of Amateur Radio CubeSats aboard, bound for the International Space Station (ISS).

"We're in good shape," Orbital Sciences Executive Vice President Frank Culbertson, ex-KD5OPQ, told reporters after launch. The launch had been delayed twice, first by cold weather and then by high radiation levels due to a massive solar flare on January 7, both of which could have affected critical rocket systems.

The *Cygnus* freighter will rendezvous with the ISS on January 12. The four Amateur Radio CubeSats are *LituanicaSat-1*, *LitSat-1*, *ArduSat-2* (an improved version of the single unit *ArduSat-1*), and *UAPSat-1*. Other satellites also are onboard.

*LituanicaSat-1* carries a 145/435 MHz FM transponder, while *LitSat-1* is thought to carry a 435/145 MHz linear transponder for SSB/CW. *UAPSat-1* will carry an AX.25 145/437 MHz packet digipeater. *ArduSat-2* will downlink 9,6 k MSK CCSDS data format on 437 MHz.

The CubeSats are expected to be deployed from the ISS in the coming months. Tuesday's launch marks the first of eight OSC cargo resupply missions to the ISS for NASA. — *Thanks to Southgate ARC and Orbital Sciences Corp*

*ARRL*



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Secretary:  
Barney Taylor, N8HP

Newsletter Printing:  
Ron Spaulding, N8QF

Treasurer:  
Ron Spaulding, N8QF

## February 2014

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### Minutes of the January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014 Dial Radio Club Meeting

#### Attendance

N8AA, N8DHW, WA8DTU, W8EH, N8GGE, KD8GXD, N8HP, KI8I, W8ISZ, W8LKU, NN8M, N8QF, NR8R, KD8TGE, KC8TXA, KD8W, W8WCQ & Ginny, KB8WKL & Barbara, KC8WOF, N8YFQ

#### Call to order:

Bob, NR8R, called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

#### Secretary's Report:

A motion to accept the minutes of the December meeting was made by Bob, NN8M, and seconded by Jason, KD8GXD. The motion passed without dissent.

#### Treasurer's Report:

Ron, N8QF, reported that final membership for 2013 stood at 81 members representing 57 families. Ron presented the Annual Summary of Finances for Dial to those present. The Club was able to meet expenses for 2013 based upon 2013 membership dues and donations. A small surplus was added to the Club's rainy day fund.

Ron added that as of the meeting, Dial has 9 members from 2013 that have not yet renewed. That number is typical.

A motion to approve the Treasurer's report was made by Dave, KD8W, and seconded by Barney, N8HP. The motion passed unanimously.

#### Membership:

Ron, N8QF, presented an application for membership from Rick Slone, AF8T. Rick is a former member of Dial. Ron, N8QF, moved and Ernie, W8EH, seconded the motion to approve Rick's application. The motion passed unanimously. Welcome back to Dial, Rick.

#### Repeater/Station Report:

Ernie, W8EH, again gave the station report: "No Change". Ron, N8QF, reported that Echolink is back up and running at his place of business without problems.

#### Activity Report:

No report.

#### Classes and Exams:

Next Meeting: Monday, Feb, 17th, at the Golden Corral

Beverley, N8GGE, announced that the next exam will be on January 22<sup>nd</sup>, at Verity Lodge, Miami University Middletown. Registration begins at 6:00. VE's are asked to report earlier if possible. A class to prepare applicants for the Technician Class License will begin on January 29<sup>th</sup> at the same location. The class will run from 6:00 pm until 9:00 pm for six weeks. Beverley stated that 6 or 7 people had requested information about the class.

### Old Business

None:

### New Business

Ron, N8QF, reported that the Audit Committee had met with the Treasurer and found everything to be in order. Roy, N8LRN, is drafting a letter with the official report to the Club.

Member supported WNKU provides space for Dial's primary repeater on their transmitting tower at no cost to Dial. Dave, KD8W, moved and Jim, W8ISZ, seconded a motion to donate \$100 to WNKU from Dial. The motion passed without dissent.

Ernie, W8EH, reported that the Club's application to hold Field Day at Smith Park has been submitted.

Ernie also praised the hams in charge of Flea Market spaces for the 2014 Hamvention as being 'First Rate'. Those individuals are Jim, W8ISZ, and Dave, N8YFQ.

### Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn was made by Ron, N8QF, and seconded by Ernie, W8EH. The motion was approved unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm.

*Barney Taylor, N8HP*

**Secretary**

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## **CubeSats deployed from International Space Station**

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On Tuesday, February 11, 2014 astronaut Koichi Wakata KC5ZTA successfully deployed the first of the 33 CubeSats that were launched from the Wallops Flight Facility, VA to the International Space Station (ISS) in the Cygnus freighter on January 9

He deployed the first two of the Flock-1 constellation of 28 Dove CubeSats made by Planet Labs at about 0831 UT.



### CubeSat Deployment from ISS

In addition to the 28 Planet Labs CubeSats there are four amateur radio CubeSats – LituanicaSat-1, LitSat-1, ArduSat-2 and UAPSat-1 as well as a 915 MHz CubeSat SkyCube planned to be deployed in the coming weeks.

LituanicaSat-1 carries a 145/435 MHz FM transponder while LitSat-1 is thought to carry a 435/145 MHz linear transponder for SSB/CW communications.

The IARU coordinated frequencies are listed as:

#### LituanicaSAT-1

- FM Transponder Uplink 145.950 MHz Downlink 435.180 MHz
- AX25 Uplink 145.850 MHz AX25 Downlink 437.550 MHz
- CW Beacon 437.275 MHz

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/Lituanicasat1>

#### LitSat-1

- SSB Transponder Uplink 435.180 MHz Downlink 145.950 MHz
- AX25 Uplink 437.550 MHz Downlink 145.850 MHz

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/palydovas>

#### ArduSat

- 9k6 MSK CCSDS data format downlink 437.? MHz
- <http://www.kickstarter.com/projects/575960623/ardusat-your-arduino-experiment-in-space>

#### UAPSAT

- AX.25 Packet Radio uplink 145.980 MHz downlink 437.385

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

MHz

Koichi Wakata KC5ZTA  
[https://twitter.com/Astro\\_Wakata](https://twitter.com/Astro_Wakata)

NanoRacks <https://twitter.com/nanoracks/>  
Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/nanoracks>

Planet Labs  
<https://twitter.com/planetlabs>

A Dove in Space  
<https://twitter.com/adoveinspace>

Video of NanoRacks interview: Deploying CubeSats from the  
Space Station  
[http://amsat-uk.org/2014/01/31/  
video-deploying-cubesats-from-the-space-station/](http://amsat-uk.org/2014/01/31/video-deploying-cubesats-from-the-space-station/)

CubeSats deployments are streamed live at  
<http://m.ustream.tv/channel/live-iss-stream>

*Southgate Amateur Radio News*

Next Meeting: Monday, Feb, 17th, at the **Golden Corral**



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Secretary:  
Barney Taylor, N8HP

Newsletter Printing:  
Ron Spaulding, N8QF

Treasurer:  
Ron Spaulding, N8QF

## March 2014

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### Minutes of the February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2014 Dial Radio Club Meeting

#### Attendance

N8BH, N8DHW, W8EH, N8GGE, KD8GXD, N8HP, W8ISZ, N8LRN & Eve, NN8M, N8QF, KD8QLP, KF8QS, NR8R & Barbara, KD8W, W8WCQ & Ginny, KC8WOF, N8YFQ

#### Call to order:

Bob, NR8R, called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

#### Secretary's Report:

A motion to accept the minutes of the January meeting was made by Jason, KD8GXD, and seconded by Dave, N8YFQ. The motion passed without dissent.

#### Treasurer's Report:

Ron, N8QF, reported that membership stands at 71 members representing 50 families. Seven 2013 members have not renewed. A motion to approve the Treasurer's report was made by Barney, N8HP, and seconded by Roy, N8LRN. The motion passed unanimously.

#### Repeater/Station Report:

Ernie, W8EH, again gave the station report: "Operation Normal". Echolink was reported to be working as of the previous Wednesday.

#### Activity Report:

No report.

#### Classes and Exams:

Beverley, N8GGE, stated that 5 people had attended the first Technician class, and 4 (two couples) for the later classes.

The next exam will be on Wednesday March 19<sup>th</sup> at Verity Lodge, Miami University Middletown. Registration at 6:00 pm and exams starting after.

A class to prepare students for the General exam will begin on the 26<sup>th</sup> of March at Verity Lodge.

Dave, KD8W, reported that he expected quite a few examinees from Mason at the next exam. Bob, NR8R, asked how the new volunteer examiners from BCARA had worked out at the last exam. Dave replied with "good".

Next Meeting: Monday, March, 17<sup>th</sup>, at the **Golden Corral**

## Old Business

Ernie, W8EH, reported that the application to use Smith Park for Field Day had been filed, and that it usually takes a couple of months before he hears back.

Roy, N8LRN, reported that the Audit Committee Report has been filed.

## New Business

Bob, NR8R, reported a number of items of possible interest to attendees: A SKYWARN training session will be held on March 7<sup>th</sup> at Miami Valley Hospital; The fall Cincinnati Hamfest has been canceled; The Bellbrook Amateur Radio Club will be starting a Morse Code class on February 18<sup>th</sup>.

Bob also informed the audience that John, W8WCQ, had participated in the development of the 10 meter beacon transmitter that was on the cover of QST. Congratulations, John.

Roy, N8LRN, reported that the club generator had wintered well. It started and ran well when recently tested.

Bob, NN8M, reported that the FCC rules do not require that previous elements be passed before taking a higher element exam. There was some discussion that, although it is not forbidden, it does not make a lot of sense to do so. No one in attendance reported a case where that happened.

## Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn was made by Dave, N8YFQ, and seconded by Ron, N8QF. The motion was approved unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.

*Barney Taylor, N8HP*

*Secretary*

## W1AW/8 - Ohio

As many of you may know, the ARRL is operating W1AW in every state and many territories during this Centennial year. Operation from Ohio will begin at 0:00 UTC on Wednesday March 12<sup>th</sup> (8:00 pm EDT Tuesday). Steve Bolia, N8BJQ, is the coordinator for this activation. Steve's goal is to have W1AW/OH on as many bands as possible in all three modes (CW, SSB and Digital) for as many hours as possible during the week long activation. Steve has enlisted other amateurs to activate their stations across the state during the week.

John, N8AA, is one of the individuals that is activating his station for the week. John is planning to have his station operate as W1AW/8 for 120 hours during the week. Since John is an avid CW operator, about 50 percent of the time will be CW

operation. SSB will occur for 40 percent of time and RTTY (radio teletype) will be used for the remaining 10% of the operating time.

John has enlisted help in putting W1AW/8 on the air for the 120 hours. Guest operators at John's station will include people that have are DXpedition team members, active DXers, and contesters. NN8M, W8EH and N8HP have also volunteered to operate some of the slots as well. We expect a good time to be had for all. Many thanks to John for being the one of the hosts for W1AW/portable as it visits Ohio for the first time.

Bob, NN8M, will also be operating W1AW/8 from his home. Bob is most active on the digital modes. He is planning to operate for about 30 hours over the week from his home.

Over twenty stations will be using the W1AW/8 call over the state during the week. The other Ohio stations activating W1AW/8 will set their own schedules – subject to the rule that there can be only 1 station on a given mode (CW, SSB, or RTTY) transmitting on a given band at any time under the W1AW/8 call. It should be an impressive display of amateur activity since several states have had passed the 40,000 qso level during their activation.

Logs will be forwarded to the ARRL, and the ARRL will enter the contacts into Logbook of the World. They will also print QSL cards, and distribute them through the QSL Bureau to hams if requested (see the ARRL web site for more information).

*Submitted by Barney, N8HP*

Don't forget that club dues are due for 2014!



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Newsletter Printing:  
Ron Spaulding, N8QF

Treasurer:  
Ron Spaulding, N8QF

## April 2014

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### Minutes of the March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2014 Dial Radio Club Meeting

#### Attendance

K8CM, N8DHW, WA8DTU, N8EH, W8EH, N8GGE, KD8GXD, N8HP, N8HRA, W8ISZ, W8LKU, N8LRN & Eve, NN8M, N8QF, KF8QS, NR8R & Barbara, KC8TXA, KD8W, KD8WNO, KC8WOF, N8YFQ, WA8YXY

#### Call to order:

Bob, NR8R, called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm and asked for an 'around the room' self-introduction.

#### Secretary's Report:

A motion to accept the minutes of the January meeting was made by Bob, NN8M, and seconded by Jason, KD8GXD. The motion passed without dissent.

#### Treasurer's Report:

Ron, N8QF, reported that membership stands at 73 members representing 51 families. Five 2013 members have not renewed. A motion to approve the Treasurer's report was made by Barney,

N8HP, and seconded Carl, K8CM. The motion passed unanimously.

Ron announced that he had received a 'Thank You' from WNKU for the donation made by Dial.

#### Repeater/Station Report:

Ernie, W8EH, gave the station report: "Nothing has changed." Carl, K8CM, chimed in that Echolink is "working great."

#### Activity Report:

No report.

#### Classes and Exams:

Beverley, N8GGE, reported that the class to prepare for the Technician Exam had completed and that the next exam will be on March 19<sup>th</sup> at Verity Lodge, Miami University Middletown. VE's are asked to arrive early. Registration at 6:00 pm and exams starting after.

A class to prepare students for the General exam will begin on the 26<sup>th</sup> of March at Verity Lodge.

Next Meeting: Monday, April, 21, at the **Golden Corral**

## Old Business

Hamvention:

Tickets have been received for Hamvention. After some discussion regarding available dates, trailer cleanout was set for Thursday May 1<sup>st</sup> at 5:30 pm at W8EH's place of employment.

Ron, N8QF, reported that the trailer will depart his place of business at noon on Thursday preceding Hamvention. The usual lunch stop will be made at the Germantown McDonalds before proceeding to Hara Arena to set up the shelters. With the new shelters, it is expected that the setup will be much easier than years past.

Bob, NR8R, volunteered to again secure parking at the Germantown shopping center behind McDonalds for those that want to join the Hara Caravan in Germantown.

As in past years departure for Hamvention for those with early entry tickets will be 05:30 am from Ron's place of business.

Lorie, W8LKU, will take care of the drinks and snacks for Hamvention.

Field Day:

Ernie, W8EH, reported that he is still waiting for final approval, but at present there are no conflicts with Dial's use of Smith Park for Field Day.

## New Business

Dave, N8YFQ, Jim, W8ISZ, and Bob, NN8M, reported that the SouthWest Ohio DX Association (SWODXA) was selling raffle tickets for a Yaesu FT-1200 (or up to \$2500 store credit) to winner. SWODXA uses the raffle as a fund raiser to help support Dxpeditions to various locations throughout the year. The tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20. The drawing will be held at the DX Forum at Hamvention, and the winner need not be present. They quickly sold out after adjournment.

## Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn was made by Dave, N8YFQ, and seconded by Ron, N8QF. The motion was approved unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm.

*Barney Taylor, N8HP  
Secretary*

## W1AW/8 – On the Air at N8AA

As many of you may know, W1AW/8 was operated in Ohio from 00:00 UTC on March 12<sup>th</sup> until 23:59 on March 18<sup>th</sup>. John, N8AA, scheduled his station for about 120 of the 168 hours during the week. John sought assistance operating during this Marathon. Several hams agreed to assist John: W8CAA, W8EH, W8GEX, N8HP, K8LEE, NN8M, K9NW, and K8NZ. John generated statistics for his station once the operation was complete. The following numbers were taken from the sheet that John sent to his guest operators:

Total different countries worked = 115.

Total QSOs (all modes) = 8,642 Rate = 74.75 QSOs/hour.

4,516	CW QSOs	(52.2%)
3,602	SSB QSOs	(41.7%)
524	RTTY QSOs	(6.1%)

QSOs by band

160m	167
80m	763
40m	1,350
30m	665
20m	1,259
17m	944
15m	1,105
12m	971
10m	1,418

W1AW/8 generated 37,803 contacts statewide while operating in Ohio. John's station accounted for 8,642 (or almost 23% of the total). I believe there were a total of 22 stations operating as W1AW/8 as described in last month's newsletter. I got a glimpse of the logistics and the amount of work that John did in preparation and during the week of operating, and I would like to thank him again for his efforts to put W1AW/8 on the air at his station in such a successful manner.

Ohio outpaced California by about 650 contacts, Michigan by about 10,000 contacts and Kentucky by about 8,000 contacts. New Mexico is the present leader with more than 51,000 QSOs, followed closely by Florida, then Arizona – gee, those states are known as places where hams go upon retirement. If you are interested, and you would like to see a summary for all states on the Web check out the following URL: <https://centennial-qp.arrl.org/w1aw-portable-qsos.php> I initially got to it after logging in to Logbook of the World, but I was also able to go in directly while using a different browser.

*Barney Taylor, N8HP*

## Reflections on Operating at W1AW/N8AA

*Your Secretary suggested that Dial members that operated John's station contribute a reflection of their operating experience for W1AW/OH. Below are the contributions.*

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

### **Reflections by John, N8AA:**

I gave a lot of thought to preparing N8AA for the W1AW/8 operation. My goal was to maximize the time on the air and to give everyone world wide a good chance to contact us on all bands. That's why the long operating period.

I also chose times for bands when I knew propagation would be good and in most cases it was. We encountered some huge pile ups for extended periods to Europe and the Far East on the higher bands. Many JAs (Japan) were on ten meters late into the evening (after 8p.m. local time) which I found surprising. It was thrilling too, during those JA runs when a KH2 (Guam), KH6 (Hawaii), HS (Thailand), YB (Indonesia), BY (China), HL (Korea), and a BV (Taiwan) called in.

Some of the hours were less productive than others but I wanted the station to be on the air for European sunrise to facilitate working Europe on 80 and 40 and at our sunrise to work the JAs on 40 and 80. I deferred the 160 DX operating to Victor, K1LT, who is a top notch operator and who has a very well equipped station for 160. He has a very good receiving system and can hear signals that many of us in this area cannot hear. Most if not all the 160 DX can be attributed to him and his fine station.

Can you imagine a JA pileup on 80 meters! It happened several mornings at our sunrise. Wow, it was exhilarating and made the early morning wake up after just a few hours sleep worth it.

I was grinding it out one night at European sunrise on 80 meters. QSOs were far and few between. I noted several reports on the packet about W1AW/8's signal strength in Europe. One French station reported the signal at 20dB over nine! Another European said we were very, very loud so I knew we were getting out. But there were few callers. Sure knocked down our overall QSO rate.

One thrill for me that night on 80 was finally pulling through the call of a very weak signal caller. He persisted for about 45 minutes. I'd try to pull him through between QSOs with louder stations. He never became discouraged. I'd call CQ and he would call sometimes with other stations calling. His persistence finally paid off. We finally made it! DO2SHC is in the log!

I hope we will be able to do the W1AW/8 operation from N8AA in late August. I'll keep you posted.

### **Reflections by Bob, NN8M:**

Here is a little something about my experience.

It was a very positive experience for me. I only worked RTTY when I was operating. I was a little nervous representing ARRL, and operating John's station with all its bells and whistles was a little intimidating. But I had a great time working from both my station and from N8AA's station. I had never worked pile ups like there were in the beginning. I learned a lot during

the week and came away as a better operator. I worked for 3 hours the first night. I moved to different bands every hour in an attempt to be available for people trying get the W1AW8 on all bands and modes. I don't remember how many hours I operated at John's - 4 I think.

Here are the stats from operating my home station. I was on my station 20 hours total.

40M:	167	17M:	30	15M:	48
20M:	129	12M:	37	10M:	3

TOTAL 414 RTTY contacts from NN8M's home.

### **Reflections by Ernie, W8EH:**

I also had the privilege of participating in operating the W1AW/8 station from the home of John, N8AA. Although I operate in a lot of contests, I don't have much experience being a 'rare station' on the other end of a 'pile up' of stations calling, so I was apprehensive. Due to my vacation, I missed the first days of the pile ups, so my operation was a little more relaxed than what the others experienced.

On the last Monday and Tuesday I took the early 7 am starting time, first on 40 meters CW and then phone. John has a nice 40 meter antenna setup with both a beam and vertical. Once my brain woke up and started copying CW, I was working the mass of Japanese stations calling, with an occasional US or Canadian station dropping in. Copying Japanese calls can be a challenge sometimes, since they have some strange prefixes. About the time we had to switch to 40 phone, the sun was shining so Japan and the pacific started fading, so started working stateside on 40. There were lots of US stations, but not a big pile up.

After the first two hours on 40 meters both days, we had to switch bands. I went to 20 meters one day and 15 the next. John has stacked tribanders mounted on one tower that allowed independent pointing of each beam. For a while I ran with one toward Japan and the other toward Europe. I worked stations all over. The pileup on 20 and 15 meters was massive at times and gone at others. On 15 meter phone there were so many European stations calling that I had to wait until one popped above the rest.

I did have quite a few longer QSOs with several stations, especially when not many stations were calling. One in particular was in England. She was so excited about being able to contact us that she wanted to chat for a while to get all of the station details.

I want to thank John for the invitation to operate at his station. He has a nice antenna setup that most of us just dream about. I'd do it again in a heartbeat.

### **Reflections by Barney, N8HP:**

I initially agreed to operate expecting to split my time between CW and SSB. A couple of intense contests prior to the start of operations proved to me that my 'ears' for CW died after about 15 minutes, so I wimped out on John and only volunteered for SSB and RTTY. RTTY was a new endeavor for me. Once I got the software that would be used at John's up and running, I discovered that it is a lot of fun and can be very quick for interchanges. I played in a RTTY contest and had a blast at home.

Next Meeting: Monday, April, 21, at the **Golden Corral**

As the time to operate grew closer, I became more nervous. I had listened to other stations hosting W1AW/portable and had listened to some recordings of the CW activity. I didn't know if my voice would hold up for an hour at the rate I expected. I was afraid of messing up the computer or forgetting to log the calls or any number of other things. When my first shift came up, John gave me a little instruction regarding the radio. He put out a spot for W1AW/8 and I called CQ once or twice. Then people started seeing the spot and I was getting calls very rapidly. I quickly got into my zone (probably slower than a beginning contestor), but I was making contacts quickly and having great FUN!! I did screw up entering a couple of calls, but the people on the other end were patient. At the end of my first hour, I was exhilarated and exhausted and fairly sweaty. I didn't look at my watch for the first 45 minutes. My throat was dry at the end, but I still had my voice.

My first RTTY episode followed after a break and had a little bit of drama. The program would flash up the call of calling stations and once the program decided the call had the format of a valid call, it would change the color of the call to indicate that the call was a station that had not already been worked – helping to reduce duplicate contacts. Unfortunately, the background was the same color as the valid call color so it vanished. I stressed a bit, but made some QSOs as I got the hang of typing the call before it turned to the background color.

I was much more relaxed during my later sessions. SSB was great fun. There were times when the band would be closed to most directions. During one of them I chatted with the operator of a Special Event Station on a decommissioned submarine in San Diego for about 3 minutes. The color issue while working RTTY got corrected and my later RTTY sessions were thoroughly enjoyable.

Occasionally, people would thank me for operating. I told them in full honesty that I was having so much fun that I should be paying to operate! By the way, I was known as 'Ed' – a diminished form of my middle name. Barney is too hard for HF – even for US/Canada contacts. When Ernie, W8EH, called he wanted to speak with 'Ed'. I told him 'you got him' with a grin. I worked several other Dial members including John, W8WCQ, and Roy, N8LRN, who was operating mobile from Ernie's truck while at work. I think there were others but I was concentrating so hard on getting the contacts in to the log that I can't remember for sure. I was also able to work several other local hams on ground wave as far away as Loveland.

There were lots of European hams present when the band was open. There were also times when the band would 'open up' for 5 to 10 minutes of hectic activity and then fade away. During those more dead times I could tell people were calling but I could only occasionally make out a letter or two after calling CQ. When I did catch a letter or two, all of the other people trying to work W1AW/8 would wait and let the station transmit in the clear. It was a very positive experience, but I felt guilty that so many people could hear me and I could barely tell

anyone was present. At home, I would have thought the band to be completely empty.

John has a super station at a super location – on top of a hill with room for big antennas. Operating in John's shack was a delight. I am very glad that John was willing to let me operate his station when I felt that I was still on 'training wheels'. I came away feeling like I am a better operator from the positive experience.

Finally, I would like to thank John's XYL, Marion, for allowing her home to be invaded for a week and for making us feel most welcome. My first day, John sent me into the house to have lunch as he began operating just after I finished a slot. Marion provided a nice lunch, and we had a pleasant conversation over her delicious homemade soup. I came back to the shack for my next time slot without having dessert. Marion insisted that I have some before leaving for home, and also sent some home with me – saying that it would keep John from eating too much dessert ☺. Marion's hospitality consisted not only of meals and beverages for persons living within a short drive, but also overnight accommodations for operators from outside the local area. Thanks again to John and Marion for doing much more than one could reasonably ask.

*Submitted by Barney, N8HP*



**John, N8AA, operating 80 m CW during the W1AW/Ohio week.**



# Dial Radio Club



Middletown, Ohio

APRS Digipeater: W8BLV 144.39

Repeaters: 52.21/53.21, 146.01/146.61, 147.915/147.315, 449.825/444.825

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Bob Rohrbach, NR8R

Activities Manager:  
Lorie Urschel, W8LKU

Vice-president:  
Dave Williamson, KD8W

Newsletter Editor:  
Jason Mossbarger, KD8GXD

Secretary:  
Barney Taylor, N8HP

Newsletter Printing:  
Ron Spaulding, N8QF

Treasurer:  
Ron Spaulding, N8QF

## May 2014

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### Minutes of the April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2014 Dial Radio Club Meeting

#### Attendance

N8AA, K8CM, N8DHW, WA8DTU, N8EH, W8EH, N8GGE, KD8GXD, N8HP, N8HRA, KI8I, W8ISZ, KB1KDW, W8LKU, N8QF, KF8QS, NR8R & Barbara, KD8TGE, KD8W, W8WLM, N8YFQ, WA8YXY

#### Call to order:

Bob, NR8R, called the meeting to order at 7:01 after waiting for the Secretary to become ready to take the minutes.

#### Secretary's Report:

A motion to accept the minutes of the March meeting was made by Ernie, N8EH, and seconded by Jason, KD8GXD. The motion passed without dissent.

#### Treasurer's Report:

Ron, N8QF, reported that membership stands at 78 members representing 54 families. A motion to approve the Treasurer's report was made by Barney, N8HP, and seconded Lorie, W8LKU. The motion passed unanimously.

#### Membership:

Ron, N8QF, presented an application for membership by Cameron (Cam) Bernadsky, N8CMB (formerly KD8SIH). The application was sponsored by Carl, K8CM. Ron, N8QF, moved and Carl, K8CM, seconded a motion to accept Cam's application. The vote was unanimous. Welcome to Dial, Cam!

#### Repeater/Station Report:

Ernie, W8EH, gave the station report: "Everything is workin' normally" and then complained that the "hardware guy" had to reset the repeater's clock after the change to DST. Carl, K8CM, reported that Echolink is "working beyond expectation."

#### Activity Report:

Lorie, W8LKU, reported that she would be purchasing drinks and snacks for Hamvention and asked if she should buy condiments. After some discussion, those in attendance decided that was a good idea. Anyone desiring a certain brand of soft drink, or a specific condiment should let Lorie know.

#### Classes and Exams:

Beverley, N8GGE, reported that the class to prepare for the General Exam has two more weeks and that the next exam will be on May 7<sup>th</sup> at Verity Lodge, Miami University Middletown.

Next Meeting: Monday, May, 19th, at the **Golden Corral**

VE's are asked to arrive early. Registration at 6:00 pm and exams starting after.

Carl, K8CM, gave a report on the unusually large participation at the previous exam session. Thirty people were tested at the most recent exam – possibly the largest number since the removal of the morse code requirement years ago. 46 elements were taken. The exam was staffed by 16 VEs: 10 from Dial and 6 from BCARA. 19 of 22 applicants earned Technician privileges, 6 upgraded to General and 2 earned Extra. One of the new Extras was Vickie Rupe, a student in the Dial Technician class earned Amateur Extra privileges as her first license and was assigned callsign AC8QA. Congratulations Vickie.

Carl announced an exam for Field Day at 3:00 pm in Smith Park, and he gave the dates of exams for the upcoming year. He also reported that the BCARA team will offer exams on the last two Saturdays in July. This will be the first sessions that BCARA will give as a separate entity rather than a combined effort.

### Old Business

Hamvention:

Ron, N8QF, gave a summary of the timelines for Dial's venture to Hamvention:

Trailer cleanout will be Thursday May 1 at 5:30 pm at W8EH's shop. Persons wanting to bring chairs or stuff to sell should meet there.

On May 15<sup>th</sup> at noon the group will leave Ron's place of business, go to the Germantown McDonalds for lunch and proceed to Hara to set up the shelter.

The Group will leave Ron's place at 5:30 am on Friday, Saturday and Sunday for Hara Arena.

Bob, NR8R, reported that he has secured parking (by the closed hardware store) at the Germantown shopping center behind McDonalds for those that want to join the Hara Caravan in Germantown.

Field Day:

Ernie, W8EH, reported that the paperwork has been approved and the city is waiting an 'insurance letter' before final approval.

Ernie reminded those in attendance that Dial won our class last year and hoped for equally good results this year. Bob, NR8R, chimed in that he wasn't there to 'hinder us'.

Ernie asked for a short Field Day meeting after the close of the business meeting for those interested or those that brought equipment to Field Day last year.

### New Business

Carl, K8CM, reported on the death of Marge Noblet, WB8CLG, a long time Dial member. Marge was a member of the group that reconstituted Dial during the early 1970s. She was active in education – she taught the Novice class that Ernie, W8EH, earned his first license. Marge was 93 and living in New Hampshire when she passed. Carl stated that memorial plans were incomplete.

Bob, NR8R, thanked John, N8AA, for hosting W1AW/OH at his home. He also commented on the nice write up in the Newsletter and thanked all who contributed.

Bob, NR8R, reported that he and Kaylee, KD8TGE, have been taking the morse code class given by BCARA and having fun in the process. *Did you read that di-dah-di dah-dah-dah dah-di??*

### Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn was made by Ron, N8QF, and seconded by Dave, N8YFQ. The motion was approved unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm.

*Barney Taylor, N8HP*

**Secretary**

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### May 7 Exam

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Thanks to all who participated in the license exam last night. A notably smaller candidate turn out than we experienced in March.

Now for a few statistics from the exam. There were 9 VEs serving 6 applicants to whom 12 exam elements were administered. The 12 elements consisted of Element 2 (2 administered and 2 passing), Element 3 (6 administered and 6 passing), and Element 4 (4 administered and none passing). There were 2 new and 4 upgrades to General by the end of the evening.

Two applicants were new to amateur radio and had just completed Dial's General class the previous week. They earned a General license by passing both Elements 2 and 3 at the single sitting.

For your information and planning, our next scheduled exams will be June 28, August 13, October 1, November 19, March 11, 2015, and April 29. All exams will be on Wednesday evenings in Verity Lodge excluding the June exam which will be at our Field Day site in Smith Park (Middletown, OH).

Additionally, the Butler County Amateur Radio Assn. (BCARA) will be hosting an exam on Saturday, July 26, at 9 am in the Fairfield Township Police facility at 6485 Vonnie Vail Court, Hamilton.

Again, my profound thanks for you service. 73 <> Carl

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



# Dial Radio Club



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Newsletter Editor:  
Jason Mossbarger, KD8GXD

Secretary:  
Barney Taylor, N8HP

Newsletter Printing:  
Ron Spaulding, N8QF

Treasurer:  
Ron Spaulding, N8QF

## June 2014

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### Minutes of the May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2014 Dial Radio Club Meeting

#### Attendance

N8AA, K8CM, WA8DTU, N8GGE, KD8GXD, N8HP, KI8I, W8ISZ, KB4JWV, W8LKU, N8LRN & Eve, N3LT, NN8M, N8QF, NR8R & Barbara, W8WLM, KD8WNO, N8YFQ

#### Call to order:

Bob, NR8R, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

#### Secretary's Report:

A motion to accept the minutes of the April meeting was made by Bob, NN8M, and seconded by Jason, KD8GXD. The motion passed without dissent.

#### Treasurer's Report:

Ron, N8QF, reported that membership stands at 81 members representing 56 families.

Ron also gave the report on Hamvention, which generated significantly more income than the Club's expenses this year resulting in a nice addition to the Club's bottom line.

After Ron's report, John, N8AA, got up and stated very solemnly that a severe problem with the amount he donated to the club had been brought to his attention and that the problem needed to be rectified. Ron had a very strange look on his face as John approached his table. John then attempted to give Ron the 2-cents that he had underpaid on his contribution. Those in attendance roared with laughter. *(For those of you that are not long time Dial members, the Audit Committee struggled for several years without finding the discrepancy of \$0.02 – which was eventually 'forgotten' – Ed)*

After we calmed down, a motion to approve the Treasurer's report was made by Barney, N8HP, and seconded Carl, K8CM. The motion passed unanimously.

#### Membership:

Ron, N8QF, presented an application for membership by Matt Wortley, KB1KDW, a former member with more than a year's lapse in membership. Matt's application was sponsored by Barney, N8HP. Ron moved to approved Matt's membership in spite of Matt's dubious sponsor, and Carl, K8CM, seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Welcome Back to Dial, Matt.

Ron also presented an application from John Weston Moss, KD8WNO, of Blanchester to join Dial. Weston upgraded at our last exam and works in Monroe. Weston's application was

Next Meeting: Monday, June, 16th, at the **Golden Corral**

sponsored by Wanda, W8WLM. Ron moved to accept Weston's application, Carl, K8CM, seconded, and the vote was unanimous. Welcome to Dial Weston!

### **Repeater/Station Report:**

Carl, K8CM, reported that the repeater is working as normal and that Echolink is "working superbly."

### **Activity Report:**

Lorie, W8LKU, reported that the Field Day Picnic will be on June 28<sup>th</sup> in Smith Park at 6:00 pm. Members, their families and guests are invited. Each family is asked to bring a covered dish to share. Lorie would like to have the number of people attending by the 21<sup>st</sup> of June so that she can purchase an appropriate amount of food. As usual, the Club will provide hamburgers, hotdogs, soft drinks and water along with utensils. The shared dishes will round out the menu.

### **Classes and Exams:**

Beverly, N8GGE, reported all members of the class to prepare for the General License Exam had passed. She added that the next exam will be Saturday afternoon at 3:00 pm at the Field Day site, and the classes would begin again in the fall.

Carl, K8CM, gave a detailed report on the previous exam session.

### **Old Business**

Field Day:

Ernie, W8EH, reported via email that the 'insurance letter' has been submitted.

Barney, N8HP, opened a discussion that had previously circulated via email to purchase a length of good coax to use on the 6-meter station at Field Day. He put forth two possibilities: LMR 600 (lower loss and much greater cost) and LMR 400 (more loss and less \$). After some discussion, Jim, W8ISZ, moved to purchase 150 feet of LMR 400 for Field Day use with the strong suggestion that it NOT be stored with the other coax in the trailer. There was a discussion of connectors, the need for weather proofing, etc., before John, N8AA, seconded the motion. The motion passed with all ayes. Ernie, W8EH, had previously volunteered to order the cable if approved.

### **New Business**

Lorie, W8LKU, reported that long time member Charles Tuggle, KB8WKL, had ruptured a lumbar disk. That along with other health problems may keep Charles from attending future Dial meetings. Charles had a run of almost 7 years without missing a meeting. She asked that we keep Charles in our thoughts.

Ron, N8QF, reported that the trailer would be back in its normal storage location tomorrow (May 20<sup>th</sup>) and that trailer cleanout would occur at 5:30 on the 28<sup>th</sup> of May at Ernie's place of employment.

John, N8AA, reported that he had won an Icom IC-7600 at the Contest Dinner at Hamvention. Congratulations John!

Barney, N8HP, introduced Larry, N3LT, and Gloria, KB4JWV, Freeman – Dial members that live in Pennsylvania and occasionally get to attend the Club meeting after Hamvention. Barney also introduced Weston, KD8WNO, and announced him as a new General as of the last exam.

### **Adjournment:**

A motion to adjourn was made by Carl, K8CM, and seconded by Jason, KD8GXD. The motion was approved unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 7:28 pm.

*Barney Taylor, N8HP*

***Secretary***

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### **Dial Reflector**

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The Dial email reflector had quite a few problems with certain email addresses in the last two weeks. If you have not received any messages (4+) from the email reflector since the 27<sup>th</sup> of May, you may have been unsubscribed by the server for bounced messages.

If you have not been a subscriber to the Dial email reflector, now would be a good time to sign up to keep up to date with the last minute field day

please contact me

Ernie W8EH

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### **Field Day**

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Field day is June 28 & 29 at Smith Park in Middletown next to the airport.

We will start setup for field day the day before at noon on Friday June 27. Setup will continue until dark so come by when you can help. Setup will resume at 9 am on Saturday the 28<sup>th</sup>. On the air operation will start at 2pm Saturday and run until 2 pm Sunday (24 hours straight). We will have two HF phone stations, a CW station, a 6 meter station and the GOTA station, on the air as much as possible.

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

If you would like to schedule any time slots to operate CW, please contact Dave KD8W, he would love to reserve you a spot.

If you would like to schedule any time slots to operate phone, please contact Ernie W8EH. Usually the phone stations are open and not scheduled. But we need to line up some operators for the less popular times, like late evening, overnight and early morning. So if you are inclined to operate when it is dark, we'd love to schedule you on a station. If you are reluctant to operate the radio, you can set in the second chair and log contacts on the computer.

**Field Day Picnic:**

The Field Day Picnic will be on June 28<sup>th</sup> in Smith Park at 6:00 pm. Members, their families and guests are invited. Each family is asked to bring a covered dish to share. Lorie would like to have the number of people attending by the 21<sup>st</sup> of June so that she can purchase an appropriate amount of food.

**License Exam:**

Amateur Radio Operator's License exams will be available 3 until 5 PM, on Saturday, June 28, 2014 at the DIAL Radio Club's Field Day site in Smith Park, Middletown, OH.

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, and social security (SSN) or license ID number (FRN).

If you are applying for your first license, please go to <https://fjallfoss.fcc.gov/coresWeb/publicHome.do> and obtain a FRN. This web site is self explanatory and the FRN registration is free.

Exams are free ... No test fees will be collected and, after the exam, you may "hang around" and do some operating on the amateur bands.

Additional information may be obtained from Dave Williamson, KD8W, or Carl Morgan, K8CM,

These exams will be held out-of doors; in the event of inclement weather, the exam will be moved to 9 AM, Saturday, July 26, at the Fairfield Township Police Department. Please ask for details.

**Next Meeting: Monday, June, 16th, at the Golden Corral**



# Dial Radio Club



Middletown, Ohio

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Jason Mossbarger, KD8GXD

Secretary:  
Barney Taylor, N8HP

Newsletter Printing:  
Ron Spaulding, N8QF

Treasurer:  
Ron Spaulding, N8QF

## July 2014

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### Minutes of the June 16th, 2014 Dial Radio Club Meeting

#### Attendance

N8AA, K8CM, WA8DTU, N8EH, W8EH, N8GGE, KD8GXD, N8HP, N8HRA, K18I, W8ISZ, W8LKU, NN8M, N8QF, NR8R & Barbara, KC8WOF, N8YFQ

#### Call to order:

Bob, NR8R, called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

#### Secretary's Report:

A motion to accept the minutes of the May meeting was made by Bob, NN8M, and seconded by Jason, KD8GXD. The motion passed without dissent.

#### Treasurer's Report:

Ron, N8QF, reported that membership stands at 82 members representing 57 families.

A motion to approve the Treasurer's report was made by Barney, N8HP, and seconded by Dave, N8YFQ. The motion passed unanimously.

#### Repeater/Station Report:

Ernie, W8EH, reported that "nothing's changed" regarding the repeater.

Carl, K8CM, reported Echolink was down from the 4<sup>th</sup> to the 16<sup>th</sup> of May due to computer issues. It is now back on the air.

#### Activity Report:

Lorie, W8LKU, asked anyone planning to attend the Field Day Picnic (June 28<sup>th</sup> in Smith Park at 6:00 pm) to let her know by the 23<sup>rd</sup> of their plans so that she can purchase an appropriate amount of food. Each family is asked to bring a covered dish to share.

#### Classes and Exams:

Beverley, N8GGE, reported that the next exam will be at Field Day in Smith Park on the 28<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm. Technician level classes will begin in August. There is a new book for the Technician class. Beverley has that book if anyone would like to look at their material, see Beverley after the meeting.

Next Meeting: Monday, July, 21th, at the Golden Corral

## **Field Day Committee:**

*Barney Taylor, N8HP*

***Secretary***

Ron, N8QF, made a motion to authorize renting a port-o-let for Field Day. Jason, KD8GXD, seconded the motion which passed without dissent.

Ernie, W8EH, gave a tentative timeline for setup/operation at Field Day:

- Arrive around noon on the 27<sup>th</sup> and start to set up shelters (and campers for those staying overnight).
- Starting at 2:00 pm assemble the beam and set up the base section of the tower – goal 3:30 pm.
- Other antennas will be set up as time permits.
- Starting at 9:00 am on Saturday, set up the stations and complete any antenna setup.
- Operation begins at 2:00 on Saturday and continue until 2:00 pm on Sunday.
- Around 1:00 pm Sunday will start tearing down unused antennas and empty shelters and other non-essential items.

Lorie, will be providing ‘sloppy Joe’ sandwiches to those involved in set up. She will arrive after her ‘day job’ on Friday.

Plans are to have a station operational on Friday evening for anyone interested in operating on Friday evening.

Ernie then went through a quick checklist on items:

1. Sufficient number of shelters?
2. Sufficient number of computers?
3. Availability of 1 7/8 and 2-inch hitch balls for the generator and Club Trailer?
4. Could Dave, KD8W, schedule the CW operation?
5. A need to schedule operators overnight on the phone stations.
6. Put a waterproof coating on the Club’s 10x20 shelters?

## **Old Business**

None:

## **New Business**

None:

## **Adjournment:**

A motion to adjourn was made by Ron, N8QF, and seconded by Jason, KD8GXD. The motion was approved unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 7:32 pm.

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## **Field Day 2014**

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The K8PI field day entry has been submitted to the ARRL.

Total claimed score is 6046 for 2014. The 2013 score was 6308.

We had 1678 contacts in 2013

We had 1720 contacts in 2014

-- 42 more contacts, but less CW contacts. Each CW contact is worth 4 points to us. Each phone contact 2 points.

We had 23 less GOTA contacts this year. We did not get any GOTA bonus this year. Nobody made the required 20 contacts. So there was a slight difference in bonus points this year.

We made 841 CW contacts in 2013 vs. 702 contacts this year. We were down 139 CW QSO. That comes out to a loss of 556 CW points from last year.

Phone made 790 contacts in 2013 vs. 994 contacts this year. We were up 204 phone QSO. We gained 408 points on phone from last year.

The early technical problems with the CW station radio/SWR cost us quite a few contacts. And the hour+ evening thunderstorm shutdown cost us in all stations.

But, overall this was a very good score and near the top for class 3A Ohio low power. If you plug this years score into last years results, we would be third place. But we won our class in Ohio last year. Let's keep our fingers crossed.....

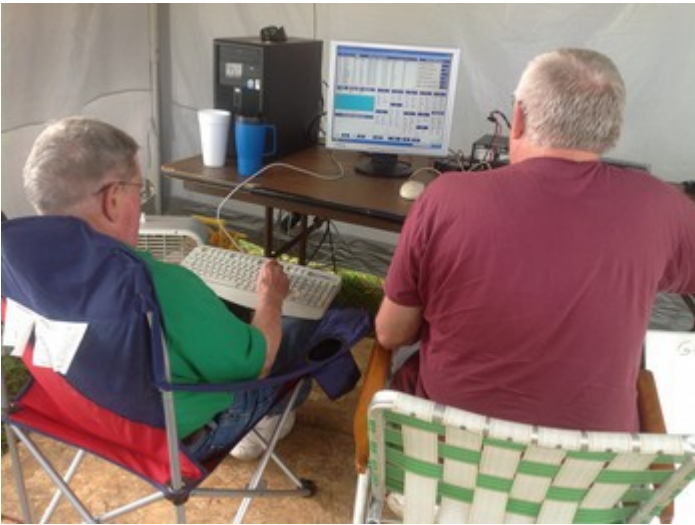
Thanks to everyone who participated.

*Ernie W8EH*

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



Next Meeting: Monday, July, 21th, at the **Golden Corral**



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Secretary:  
Barney Taylor, N8HP

Newsletter Printing:  
Ron Spaulding, N8QF

Treasurer:  
Ron Spaulding, N8QF

## August 2014

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### Minutes of the July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2014 Dial Radio Club Meeting

#### Attendance

N8AA, K8CM, N8DHW, WA8DTU, W8EH, N8GGE, KD8GXD, N8HP, KI8I, W8ISZ, W8LKU, N8LRN & Eve, NN8M, N8QF, NR8R & Barbara, KD8TGE, W8WCQ & Ginny, W8WLM, N8YFQ

#### Call to order:

Bob, NR8R, called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

#### Secretary's Report:

A motion to accept the minutes of the May meeting was made by Bob, NN8M, and seconded by Jason, KD8GXD. The motion passed without dissent.

#### Treasurer's Report:

Ron, N8QF, reported that membership stands at 82 members representing 57 families.

A motion to approve the Treasurer's report was made by Barney, N8HP, and seconded by Carl, K8CM. The motion passed unanimously.

#### Repeater/Station Report:

Ernie, W8EH, reported that the repeater is "goin' good".

Carl, K8CM, reported Echolink was also "goin' good".

#### Activity Report:

Lorie, W8LKU, thanked those in attendance for their support of the Field Day Picnic. She estimated that about 30 people attended. Barbara Rohrbach thanked Lorie for her efforts in the picnic.

#### Classes and Exams:

Beverley, N8GGE, reported that the next exam will be on August 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm at Verity Lodge, Miami University Middletown. A class to prepare participants for the Technician Class License will begin on August 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm at Verity Lodge. The class will be approximately 3 hours per night for six weeks. The class will be followed by

Next Meeting: Monday, August, 18th, at the **Golden Corral**

another exam. No fee is required for the class. Beverley stated that she hoped to have the new materials to the instructors soon.

Carl, K8CM, reported that BCARA will be offering its first exam on Saturday, July 26<sup>th</sup>, at the Fairfield Township Police Department Building (which is across the street from Menards). Registration will begin at 8:00 am, and Dial VEs are invited to attend if they are free.

### **Field Day Committee:**

Ernie, W8EH, gave a summary of the Field Day scores. We had more QSOs than last year but fewer points earned. SSB contacts were up but due to equipment issues the number of CW contacts (which count twice the value of a SSB contact) were down. Our score was competitive with last year's score. If the CW station was able to operate the full time and we didn't have the thunderstorm during the picnic, our score would likely surpassed last year's score.

Bob, NR8R, commented that Field Day went well.

### **Old Business**

None:

### **New Business**

Carl, K8CM, gave a report on the memorial service for Marge Noblet who was instrumental in bringing Dial back from a lapse of several years. She taught the Novice class when Ernie, W8EH, earned his first license. The details had been shared previously by the Dial Mailing List.

John, N8AA, announced that his station will again be part of W1AW's Centennial Celebration during the week starting on August 19<sup>th</sup>. Anyone wishing to be a guest operator at John's QTH should email him:  
Due to band conditions and other stations wanting to operate under W1AW/8, he may not have as many time slots as in March.

### **Adjournment:**

A motion to adjourn was made by Ron, N8QF, and seconded by Jason, KD8GXD. The motion was approved unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 7:14pm.

*Barney Taylor, N8HP*

***Secretary***

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## **Introductory Level Ham Radio Class To Begin**

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Beginning August 20, the DIAL RADIO CLUB will offer a six-week class to prepare a candidate for examination in Technician Class Amateur Radio operator license. Meeting in Verity Lodge, on the Middletown Campus of Miami University, this class will meet Wednesday evenings, 6-9 PM.

Class will conclude September 24 and be followed by an examination session on Wednesday, October 1. (Please note, Morse code proficiency is no longer a requirement for any amateur radio operator's license).

Although there is no charge for the instructional portion of this class, 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 twenty students. For registration and/or additional information, please call Beverley Taylor or Carl Morgan

Calendar Agenda:

**Monday, August 18**

7:00pm

Dial Radio Club Meeting

**Wednesday, August 20**

6:00pm

Dial Radio Technician Class

**Wednesday, August 27**

6:00pm

Dial Radio Technician Class

**Wednesday, September 3**

6:00pm

Dial Radio Technician Class

**Wednesday, September 10**

6:00pm

Dial Radio Technician Class

**Monday, September 15**

7:00pm

Dial Radio Club Meeting

**Wednesday, September 17**

6:00pm

Dial Radio Technician Class

**Wednesday, September 24**

6:00pm

Dial Radio Technician Class

**Wednesday, October 1**

6:00pm

Exam

**Monday, October 20**

7:00pm

Dial Radio Club Meeting

Next Meeting: Monday, August, 18th, at the **Golden Corral**



# Dial Radio Club



Middletown, Ohio

APRS Digipeater: W8BLV 144.39

Repeaters: 52.21/53.21, 146.01/146.61, 147.915/147.315, 449.825/444.825

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Bob Rohrbach, NR8R

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Lorie Urschel, W8LKU

Vice-president:  
Dave Williamson, KD8W

Newsletter Editor:  
Jason Mossbarger, KD8GXD

Secretary:  
Barney Taylor, N8HP

Newsletter Printing:  
Ron Spaulding, N8QF

Treasurer:  
Ron Spaulding, N8QF

## September 2014

\*\*\*\*\*

### Minutes of the August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2014 Dial Radio Club Meeting

#### Attendance

N8AA, K8CM, KD8CPV, N8DHW, N8EH, W8EH, N8GGE, KD8GXD, N8HP, N8HRA, KI8I, W8ISZ, NN8M, N8QF, KF8QS, NR8R & Barbara, KD8TGE, W8WCQ & Ginny, W8WLM, KD8WNO, N8YFQ

#### Call to order:

Bob, NR8R, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and asked those in attendance to introduce themselves.

#### Secretary's Report:

A motion to accept the minutes of the May meeting was made by Carl, K8CM, and seconded by Dave, N8YQF. The motion passed without dissent.

#### Treasurer's Report:

Ron, N8QF, reported that membership stands at 82 members representing 59 families.

A motion to approve the Treasurer's report was made by Barney, N8HP, and seconded by Bob, NN8M. The motion passed unanimously. Ron moved that Steve's application be

accepted. Carl, K8CM, seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Welcome back to Dial, Steve!

#### Membership:

Ron, N8QF, brought forward an application for renewal in Dial by Steve Howard, KC8CPV. Steve's application was sponsored by Ron

#### Repeater/Station Report:

Ernie, W8EH, reported that "the guys I left to take care of the repeater let it fail while I was on vacation" – referring to the power amplifier on W8BLV. Ernie, Carl, and Barney have made a trip to the repeater site and Ernie has the amplifier on his bench. Ernie has diagnosed and repaired the failure, but is not sure of its cause. Currently the repeater is operating at 20 watts using the low power amplifier. Ernie also reported that the shed in which the repeater is housed is leaning significantly and we might want to make plans to fix it.

Carl, K8CM, gave a summary of Echolink usage on W8BLV. Between June 1<sup>st</sup> and August 15<sup>th</sup>, 44 different call signs connected to W8BLV via Echolink including 5 DX stations from Poland, France, Germany, Italy and Canada. Carl also gave statistics on number of connections, average connection time, longest connection time and shortest connection time – 2 seconds.

Next Meeting: Monday, September, 15th, at the **Golden Corral**

### Activity Report:

No report.

### Classes and Exams:

Beverley, N8GGE, reported that a class to prepare participants for the Technician Class License will begin on August 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm at Verity Lodge. The class will be approximately 3 hours per night for six weeks. The class will be followed by another exam on October 1<sup>st</sup> at Verity Lodge, Miami University Middletown.

Carl, K8CM, reported on the exam given on the 13<sup>th</sup> of August. There were 7 examinees that earned 3 upgrades and 4 new tickets. The next exam sponsored by Laurel and proctored by local VEs will be at the Masonic Temple in Hamilton on September 6<sup>th</sup> at 9:00. VEs are asked to arrive after 8:00 but well before 9:00 if possible and to park in the back of the temple off 7<sup>th</sup> Street in Hamilton. There is an entrance from 7<sup>th</sup> Street.

### Ohio QSO Party

Dial's entry into the Ohio QSO Party will occur on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of August from noon until midnight at Dave, KD8W's, home. Antenna and station setup will occur on the previous Thursday at 1:00 pm. Operators are needed for both phone and cw. The previous times have been great fun for the operators.

Ron, N8QF, moved to reimburse Dave for the cost of food and beverages for the event. Jim, W8ISZ, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. *Ron must have been under the weather because there was no monetary cap on the motion – Ed.*

Dave, KD8W, asked for a discussion of those helping to set up the station after the end of Business Meeting.

### Old Business

John, N8AA, discussed plans to operate again under W1AW/8 starting at 8:00 pm Tuesday (i.e. the day after the Club meeting). John announced that the Mad River Radio Club has a schedule of all planned activity at <http://madriverradioclub.org>.

### New Business

Jim, W8ISZ, announced that the Miamisburg Swapfest will be held on the morning of September 20<sup>th</sup> at Mound Park from 9:00am until 1:00 pm. There is no charge. Jim stated that it is a nice, laid back, event with the opportunity to bring home that much desired boat anchor. He found his last year at a very modest price. The event is FREE!

### Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn was made by Dave, N8YFQ, and seconded by Jason, KD8GXD. The motion was approved unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 7:23 pm.

*Barney Taylor, N8HP*

*Secretary*

### W1AW/8 Stats From N8AA's Station

Bob, NN8M, Dave, N8YFQ, and Barney, N8HP, were guest operators at John's station during the second run of W1AW in Ohio. Just like the first time, operating was great fun, especially using John's superb station.

John, N8AA, sent a summary comparing the number of contacts by band and mode compared between the March and August activations of W1AW to his guest operators.

The lack of sunspots hurt the number of QSOs on 10 and 12 meters. Summertime static due to thunderstorms had a significant reduction in the number of QSOs on 160 through 40 meters. 10 meters was down to about 12% of its March level. Other affected bands were at about 2/3 of the number of March QSOs.

While sounding bleak, the week actually turned out pretty well. The March activation lead to 8,642 contacts over 115 hours of operation. August's activation lead to 6372 contacts in 83 hours of operation. The QSO rate in August was 75.6 QSOs/hr compared to 74.8 QSOs per hour in March. The August operators were: AJ8B, K4ZLE, K8LEE, N8AA, N8HP, N8YFQ, NN8M, W8CAA, W8GEX, and W8KJ.

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### **AF8T SK**

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SLONE, Richard (Rick) age 59, of Middletown, passed away Tuesday, August 19, 2014 at his residence. He was born September 13, 1954 in Middletown, OH to L. Caney and Alma (Scott) Slone. He was a technician for G Tech Ohio State Lottery for many years. Rick was a graduate of ITT Tech and was a Ham operator with his call sign AF8T. He was a member of Boy Scouts of America and was very involved in computers. Rick is survived by his brother, Timmy Slone of Middletown; daughters, Tami Miller of Trenton, Sandy (Rodney) Cook of Middletown, Shelly (Jeremy) Mathews of West Alexandria; uncles, Don (Ollie) Scott, Charlie (Beulah) Scott both of TN; 6 grandchildren; 4 great-grandchildren and numerous cousins. He is preceded in death by his parents, LC and Alma Slone.

Rick was also known to be very friendly, loved to laugh, and help anyone he could. He took many new hams under his wing to assist them in getting started playing radio.



# Dial Radio Club



Middletown, Ohio

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Lorie Urschel, W8LKU

Vice-president:  
Dave Williamson, KD8W

Newsletter Editor:  
Jason Mossbarger, KD8GXD

Secretary:  
Barney Taylor, N8HP

Newsletter Printing:  
Ron Spaulding, N8QF

Treasurer:  
Ron Spaulding, N8QF

## October 2014

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### Minutes of the September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014 Dial Radio Club Meeting

#### Attendance

N8AA, K8CM, N8DHW, WA8DTU, N8EH, W8EH, WB8FXJ, N8GGE, KC8GMR, KD8GXD, N8HP, N8HRA, KI8I, W8ISZ, W8LKU & Kathy, NN8M, KC8NHP, N8QF, KF8QS, NR8R, W8WLM, KC8WOF, N8YFQ, Alfredo Huerta, Nancy Huerta, Jack Gundon

#### Call to order:

Bob, NR8R, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and asked those in attendance to introduce themselves.

#### Secretary's Report:

A motion to accept the minutes of the May meeting was made by Jason, KD8GXD, and seconded by Ernie, N8EH. The motion passed without dissent.

#### Treasurer's Report:

Ron, N8QF, reported that membership stands at 83 members representing 58 families.

A motion to approve the Treasurer's report was made by Ernie, N8EH, and seconded by David, N8YFQ. The motion passed unanimously.

#### Repeater/Station Report:

Ernie, W8EH, reported the high power amplifier has been repaired and is waiting on his workbench for a work party to reinstall the amplifier.

Ron, N8QF, asked whether the work on the floor of the building would be done at the same time. No decision was reached.

Carl, K8CM, noted that EchoLink is working well and doing a beautiful job.

#### Activity Report:

No report.

#### Classes and Exams:

Beverley, N8GGE, reported that a class to prepare participants for the General Class License will begin on October 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm at Verity Lodge. The class will be approximately

Next Meeting: Monday, October, 20<sup>th</sup>, at the **Golden Corral**

3 hours per night for six weeks. The class will be followed by another exam just before Thanksgiving.

There will be an exam for all classes of licenses on October 1<sup>st</sup> at Miami University Middletown's Verity Lodge. VE's are asked to arrive around 5:30 pm if possible. Registration will begin at 6:00 followed by exams.

Carl, K8CM, reported that Dial has been associated with the Laurel VEC for three years. During that time 246 examinees have been served and 358 elements have been taken. The largest session had 30 examinees while the smallest had 3.

Carl also reported on the exam held in Hamilton as mentioned in last month's newsletter. Twenty-two candidates were served, and 14 new Technicians were licensed. They received their calls on the Friday before Club meeting.

### Old Business

Bob, NR8R, asked John, N8AA, about how the activation of W1AW/8 at his station had gone. John reported that, all things considered, it had gone very well. The QSO rate per hour was up 1 QSO compared to the earlier activation.

Bob asked Dave, KD8W, to comment on the Ohio QSO Party that he and Judy hosted. Dave mentioned the (*ever present??*) computer problems, but that things had gone well and suggested that Barney give a summary since he had worked up the scores. Barney, N8HP, reported that we had done well. There were 13 entries in the multi-operator class and K8PI was fourth based on raw scores. Our scores were competitive with those near us, except the SWODXA team was in first place with a claimed score 4 times ours.

Jim, W8ISZ, reminded those in attendance that the Miamisburg Swapfest will be held on the morning of September 20<sup>th</sup> at Mound Park from 9:00am until 1:00 pm. There is no charge.

### New Business

Bob, NR8R, wanted to form a nominating committee for next year's officers, but the audience suggested he might be a little early.

Bob asked for a motion to adjourn so that a presentation on Digital Mobile Radio could follow the business meeting. David, N8DHW was the organizer and liaison for the presentation.

### Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn was made by Dave, N8YFQ, and seconded by Carl, K8CM. The motion was approved unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 7:18 pm.

*Barney Taylor, N8HP*

*Secretary*

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## DMR (Digital Mobile Radio)

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For those of you who missed the presentation about DMR after the recent meeting, here is the description from the dmr-marc FAQ <http://www.dmr-marc.net/FAQ.html>

DMR is an open and published international digital radio standard that specifies the 2-slot (channel) TDMA communications. DMR is amateur radio's newest digital protocol. DMR radios are produced by several manufacturers and they all work on our TRBO system as long as they are Tier II compliant, as most are. DMR is not compatible with Icom's D-Star technology. Competition between manufacturers is a big reason why DMR radio prices are fair. DMR is here to stay since it is not a single manufacturer technology.



DMR also satisfies the FCC's narrowbanding mandate by being 6.25 kHz equivalent. It's actually more spectrum efficient than other 6.25 kHz modes since no guard band is needed for the two channels. Think of DMR as 1/3 the channel bandwidth of a 25 kHz analog signal with TWICE the number of voice channels. It also offers extended battery life,

and did we mention it has superior voice quality over other digital voice modes?

Another advantage of most DMR radios is superb RF performance. Many DMR radios have to satisfy both ETSI and TIA specs to perform in the most challenging RF environments. When you use a commercial radio for amateur radio you'll notice it has better intermod rejection, better selectivity, less spurious emissions, and it is mechanically a very well designed radio. Tired of the "turkey talk" and loss of signal sync from older digital technologies? Well, DMR (and in particular MOTOTRBO) has 2 layers of packet recovery: Forward Error Correction and Cyclic Redundancy Codes. DMR has better RF coverage than older digital technologies.

Could there be more? Of course there is! Motorola DMR radios feature roaming. Roaming works similarly to mobile/cellular phone technology. If you program your radio properly it will find the repeater with the best signal in your local area and without your intervention, it will roam to that repeater. Lately, distracted driving and safety have become very important issues. MOTOTRBO DMR allows you to focus your attention on driving and not on changing repeater channels. Roaming is used extensively in Northern California, New England, and Chicagoland.



# Dial Radio Club



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Jason Mossbarger, KD8GXD

Secretary:  
Barney Taylor, N8HP

Newsletter Printing:  
Ron Spaulding, N8QF

Treasurer:  
Ron Spaulding, N8QF

**May 2014**

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## **Minutes of the October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014 Dial Radio Club Meeting**

### **Attendance**

K8CM, KD8CPV, N8DHW, N8GGE, N8HP, KI8I, W8ISZ, N8LRN, NN8M, N8QF, NR8R & Barbara, KD8TGE, KC8TXA, W8WLM, N8YFQ, KD8ZOV, KD8ZOW

### **Call to order:**

Bob, NR8R, called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm and asked those in attendance to introduce themselves.

### **Secretary's Report:**

A motion to accept the minutes of the May meeting was made by Bob, NN8M, and seconded by Jim, W8ISZ. The motion passed without dissent.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Ron, N8QF, reported that membership stands at 83 members representing 58 families.

A motion to approve the Treasurer's report was made by Barney, N8HP, and seconded by Jim, W8ISZ. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Repeater/Station Report:**

Carl, K8CM, gave the station report: "Everything's fine". The repeater is still using the low power amplifier. A work detail is possible on Friday the 25<sup>th</sup> to replace the amplifier and to shore up the repeater cabinet. A notice will be put out on the Dial Reflector. Carl finished by adding that Echolink is working well.

**Next Meeting: Monday, November, 17th, at the Golden Corral**

### **Activity Report:**

No report.

### **Classes and Exams:**

Beverley, N8GGE, reported that a class to prepare participants for the General Class License has six students with a good attitude. The next Dial exam will be Wednesday, November 19<sup>th</sup> at Verity Lodge, Miami University Middletown. Registration will begin at 6:00 and exams will follow shortly.

Carl, K8CM, reported there will be an exam Saturday at 9:00 am on the 26<sup>th</sup> at the Fairfield Township Police building. He expects that exam to be primarily staffed by BCARA VEs, but Dial VE's are also welcome.

Carl also announced an exam on the 6<sup>th</sup> of December in the old Target store on south University Boulevard at a hamfest being sponsored by the International Brotherhood of Radio (IBOR). There will not be an exam at R&L's customer appreciation day this year.

### **Old Business**

None:

### **New Business**

Bob, NR8R, appointed a nominating committee consisting of Jim, W8ISZ, Bob, NN8M, and Roy, N8LRN. The Committee is charged with having a slate of candidates for December's election.

Bob appointed a committee to look into Digital Mobile Radio (DMR) and determine whether there is enough interest to merit adopting it at this time. The committee consists of Ron, N8QF, Evan, KC8TXA, Jason, KD8GXD, and Ernie, W8EH. No date was specified for their report.

Bob also announced to those in attendance that he had been made aware of two free tickets to a fundraiser for the Butler County Sheriff who is seeking re-election. He can provide details should anyone be interested.

### **Adjournment:**

A motion to adjourn was made by Ron, N8QF, and seconded by Bob, NN8M. The motion was approved unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 7:12pm.

*Barney Taylor, N8HP*

**Secretary**

## **ARRL Asks FCC to Continue Issuing Hard Copy Licenses to Those Who Want Them**

*11/06/2014*

In comments filed November 5, the ARRL has recommended that the FCC continue to provide paper license documents to Amateur Radio licensees who want them. The League's remarks were in response to an FCC *Public Notice* (in WT Docket 14-161) that proposed to cease the routine issuance of hard-copy license documents to all Wireless Service licensees, including radio amateurs. While having a paper license document from the FCC to post on the wall of the ham shack has been a tradition, the Commission for several years has considered the "official" Amateur Radio license to be the virtual document residing in its Universal Licensing System (ULS) database.

"The FCC is willing to continue to mail paper licenses to those who request them," ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, has explained. "However, they are making available to licensees — starting right now — the actual license to print via the FCC ULS, and it is allowing hams now to opt out of receiving paper licenses from the FCC directly." (See ULS menu image.)

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

Under the FCC-proposed process, once a license application is granted, the ULS will generate an official electronic license but will no longer mail a hard copy license unless notified that the licensee wishes to receive an official paper license document. Until new procedures are final, however, the Commission will continue to print and mail official paper licenses, unless notified to stop. “Should the Commission proceed with the *Notice* proposals,” the League said in its comments, “it is ARRL’s strong recommendation that the Commission give serious consideration to continuing a default provision for sending an initial paper license document to new licensees in the Amateur Radio Service, along with detailed, simple instructions for how to make the elections set forth in the notice relative to future modified or renewed licenses.”

The ARRL pointed out that not everyone has easy access to, or is comfortable using, the ULS and that Amateur Radio licensees may occasionally need an official license document — for example, when applying for a license upgrade at a VEC exam session or for vehicle call sign license plates.

“If there is not a license printed on distinctive license stock by the Commission, authentication issues arise and the possibility of electronic alteration of a license document is created,” the League.

The ARRL also suggested that requiring individuals to go online in order to obtain a license document may prove to be a roadblock to some applicants.

“It is not acceptable to erect barriers to entry for anyone to obtain an Amateur Radio license or to modify a license,” the League commented. “ARRL is concerned that there should be, especially for newcomers, an easy, intuitive path to make the election for license delivery method that does not involve ULS access at the outset.”

The *Notice* also proposes, alternatively, that the FCC send the official electronic license via e-mail upon grant of an application, if the applicant has provided a valid e-mail address on the application form. Licensees not wanting to provide an e-mail address could obtain an official electronic license document directly from the ULS. The *Notice* further proposes that licensees could notify the Commission that they wish to receive or continue receiving official authorizations on paper.

The ULS License Manager online system now includes a setting that allows licensees to notify the FCC that they want to receive official licenses on paper. Licensees could change the default setting online, so that once an application has been granted, the FCC would mail an official paper license.

The deadline to file comments is November 10.

Next Meeting: Monday, November, 17th, at the **Golden Corral**



# DIAL RADIO CLUB

Middletown, Ohio

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DMR 449.3625/444.3625

Web page: <http://www.qsl.net/w8blv/> e-mail: [W8BLV@QSL.net](mailto:W8BLV@QSL.net)

## MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 17<sup>TH</sup>, 2014 MEETING

**President:**

Bob Rohrbach, NR8R

**Vice-Presidnet**

Dave Williamson, KD8W

**Secretary:**

Barney Taylor, N8HP

**Treasurer:**

Ron Spaulding, N8QF

**Activities Manager:**

Lori Urschel, W8LKU

**Newsletter Editor:**

Jason Mossbarger, KD8GXD

**Attendance:**

K8CI, K8CM, N8DHW, WA8DTU, N8EH, W8EH, N8GGE, KC8GMR, KD8GXD, N8HP, N8HRA, W8LKU, N8LRN & Eve, N8OZN, N8QF, KF8QS, NR8R & Barbara, KD8TGE, KC8TXA, KD8W, W8WLM, KC8WOF, KD8ZOV, KD8ZOW

**Call to order:**

Bob, NR8R, called the meeting to order at 7:03 and explained that the meeting had to be moved away from Golden Corral due to their 'Free Meals to Vets' program in celebration of Veteran's Day. Bob had previously checked and was told that the meeting date would be OK, but Carl, K8CM, checked and found that the meeting room was unavailable.

**Secretary's Report:**

A motion to accept the minutes of the September meeting was made by Jason, KD8GXD, and seconded by Jim, KF8QS. The motion passed without dissent.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Ron, N8QF, reported that membership stands at 83 members representing 58 families, and is likely to not change.

A motion to approve the Treasurer's report was made by Barney, N8HP, and seconded by Jason, KD8GXD. The motion passed unanimously.

Ron had previously pass out renewal envelopes to those in attendance.

**Repeater/Station Report:**

Ernie, W8EH, gave a brief description of the work party that consisted of himself, N8QF, KC8TXA and N8HP at the 146.610 repeater site. The repaired amplifier was reinstalled. The floor of the shed was shored up and some missing roof shingles were replaced.

Ernie reported that everything else was normal.

Carl, K8CM, gave a report on Echolink and reported activity by 4 DX stations during the past month. Echolink continues to work very well.

**Activity Report:**

No report.

## **Classes and Exams:**

Beverly, N8GGE, reported that a class to prepare participants for the General Class License has finished. The next exam will be in two days on the 19<sup>th</sup> of November at Verity Lodge, Miami University Middletown.

She asked the instructors in attendance whether they would prefer offering an Extra or a Technician class in January. Two members of the class would very much like to continue, and two others had expressed interest to K8CM. As part of the discussion an inquiry was made about whether the Club might lose access to Verity if we did not have a class go forward. Carl reported that Verity is reserved for Dial on Wednesday evenings. No decision was made.

## **Old Business:**

Roy, N8LRN, gave an update from the Nominating Committee. Candidates have been identified for all positions except Activities Director. They expect to have a complete slate before the next meeting.

Ernie, W8EH, started the report for the DMR Committee by reminding those in attendance that the Club had not added anything new to the repeater system since 2007 when Echolink was installed. He then addressed the capabilities of digital voice radios and gave a brief survey of the competing systems. At the end he recommended the Motorola system.

The new repeater will require a full time internet connection in order to make use of some of the more desirable features that DMR offers. A number of possibilities had been explored. The most cost effective was to add DSL internet to the 146.610 phone line. Since the DMR repeater is to be situated at the site of Dial's backup repeater, the phone line will have to be relocated and the phone patch discontinued on the 146.610 repeater (*which is only used during work parties to make sure it still works*). The addition of DSL will cause a modest increase in the telephone expense. (The 146.610 repeater will be controlled by a 900 MHz link as a failsafe alternative to the present phone line.

In summary Ernie's recommendation was to go with a Motorola Turbo DMR repeater box on a new UHF frequency pair with a full time internet connection.

Evan, KC8TXA, took the floor next and gave a report of the cost of an appropriate repeater from a number of providers and made a recommendation of a vendor based upon delivered price and customer reputation.

Ron, N8QF, finished the report for the DMR Committee by addressing the current financial state of the Club. His summary was that the Club has sufficient funds to purchase a DMR repeater – should that be the will of the Club.

Discussion followed. Presently 6 Club members have DMR radios and another 4 plan to purchase them in the near future. Discussion topics included work done by the Committee to minimize other costs with new repeater such as antenna, feedline and tower work.

At that time Jason, KD8GXD, made a motion that authorized up to \$2,500 for the purchase of the repeater and required accessories/installation fees. The motion was seconded by Carl, K8CM and passed without dissent.

## **New Business:**

Ron reported the passing of long time Club member Frank Crabtree, WA8PRA.

Barney, N8HP, stated that Frank was probably the most colorful of Dial's members – voting 'nay' at every opportunity; 'herding' picnic tables for the first Field Day in Smith Park with his pickup truck and a rope. Frank's most colorful action was probably tossing a burger – fresh from the grill – onto the ground, stepping on it and then proceeding to eat it. Frank will be missed.

Ron, N8QF, stated that only 4 newsletters are sent out by 'snail mail' and that two of those likely would not renew. So he moved that paper mailing of the Club's Newsletter cease. Ernie, N8EH, seconded the motion which passed with one nay – N8GGE.

**Adjournment:**

A motion to adjourn was made by Ron, N8QF, and seconded by Jason, KD8GXD. The motion was approved unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 7:59 pm.

*Barney Taylor, N8HP*

*Secretary*

**Dial DMR Repeater on the air!**

The repeater is on the air at 444.3625.



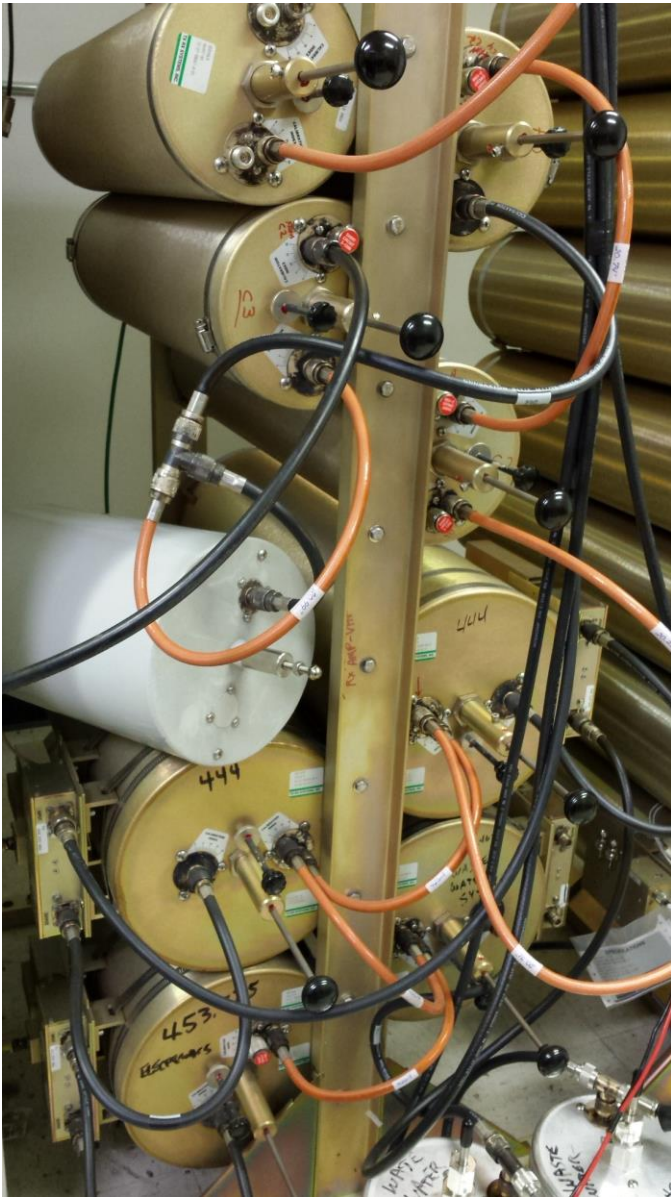
This is a close up of the DMR repeater. The rack above has a router on the left and a ferrite isolator for the transmitter on the right.



Another close up.



The DMR repeater above and the AG8Y analog repeater/power supply below.



The transmitter and receiver combiner cavities shared by all the UHF repeater equipment in the building.

*Ernie Howard, W8EH*