DIAL RADIO CLUB

Middletown, Ohio

APRS Digipeater: W8BLV 144.39
Repeaters:146.01/146.61, 147.915/147.315, 449.825/444.825
DMR 449.3625/444.3625
Web page: http://www.qsl.net/w8blv/ e-mail: W8BLV@QSL.net

President:
Ernie Howard, W8EH
Vice-President:
Carl Morgan, K8CM
Secretary:
Barney Taylor, N8HP
Treasurer:
Ron Spaulding, N8QF
Activities Manager:
Roy Dalton, N8LRN
Newsletter Editor:
Carl Morgan, K8CM
Webmaster:
Chris Nunn, WM8MM

the prez sez .....

Happy New Year. Hopefully Santa brought you some new ham gear. No new radio toys here at the W8EH shack, but Hamvention isn't that far away (May 20-22). And, speaking of Hamvention, we are reserving our usual spaces in the Fleamarket, so start thinking about what you may want to sell.

Ernie, W8EH

MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 21st, 2015 MEETING

Attendance

N8AA, K8CM, N8DHW, WA8DTU, W8EH, N8GGE, N8HP, KI8I, W8ISZ, W8LKU, NN8M, N8QF, NR8R & Barbara, KD8TGE, KC8TXA, W8WLM, N8YFQ

Call to order:

Ernie, W8EH, called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

Secretary's Report:

A motion to accept the minutes of the previous month's meeting as published in the newsletter was made by Jim, W8ISZ, and seconded by Beverley, N8GGE. The motion passed with no dissention.

Treasurer's Report:

Ron, N8QF, presented the Treasurer's report. Membership for 2015 ended with 79 members representing 55 families. The renewals for 2016 as of the meeting are 48 members representing 32 families. Ron reported that number as being normal. A motion to approve the Treasurer's report was made by Carl, K8CM, and seconded by Bob, NR8R. The motion passed unanimously.

Next Meeting: Monday, January 18, 2016 at the Golden Corral
Dinner at 6 followed by business meeting at 7

Repeater/Station Report:

Ernie, W8EH, reported that "everything's going good" with the Dial Repeater system. Carl, K8CM, reported that Echolink continues to work well.

Activity Report:

None.

Classes and Exams:

Beverley, N8GGE, reported that a new class to prepare students for the Technician level examination will begin on January 20th. She hopes to get the prospective teaching assignments out to the instructors soon.

Newsletter:

Carl, K8CM, reported that none of the newsletters had bounced.

Website:

No report.

Old Business

Ernie, W8EH, asked Evan, KC8TXA, to give the Nominating Committee Report. Evan reported that Carl, K8CM, had agreed to be nominated for Vice President and that the remaining 2015 office holders had agreed to serve another year.

Ernie, W8EH, asked for nominations from the floor. After a short while Bob, NR8R, moved that nominations be ceased. Dave N8YFQ seconded the motion that passed with all ayes. Jim, W8ISZ, made a motion along the lines that the Chair of the Nominating Committee cast a multiple unanimous vote... The Secretary, N8HP, (who didn't understand the motion) essentially refused to record the motion which languished without a second. After some good natured jesting by those in attendance, Dave, N8YFQ, moved that the Club accept the slate as presented by the Nominating Committee. Bob, NR8R, seconded the motion which passed unanimously. *The whistle blew as the engine chugged away from the station for another year.* The 2016 Officers are:

President:	Ernie Howard, Jr., W8EH
Vice President:	Carl Morgan, K8CM
Secretary:	Barney Taylor, N8HP
Treasurer	Ron Spaulding, N8QF
Activities Manager:	Roy Dalton, N8LRN

New Business

During the Treasurer's report, Carl, K8CM, asked when those not renewing should be dropped from the Newsletter mailing list. Ron, N8QF, replied that the precedent has been April. Barney, N8HP, noted that the Club's Website has the current Newsletter. There was a brief discussion of possible actions, but no decision was reached.

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Ernie, W8EH, asked for a motion to purchase Hamvention tickets for 2016. Evan, KC8TXA, moved and Bob, NR8R, seconded a motion to purchase 5 spaces and 10 early entry tickets for Hamvention. The motion passed with no dissent.

Carl, K8CM, asked if Dial should sublet spaces, possibly to BCARA. Ron, N8QF, offered the possibility of inviting them to participate at Dial's site subject to the expectation of the same donation to Dial as our members make. Someone *(N8AA??)* was concerned that sharing Dial's sites might not allow enough room for Club members to display their merchandise. Dave, N8YFQ, volunteered that club spaces at Hamvention are $100 for 2, 3, or 4 spaces. Jim, W8ISZ, suggested that they try to obtain spaces adjacent to ours (Dial has 5 spaces, and N8QF has 3 spaces). No motions were made.

Ernie, W8EH, asked for volunteers for the annual Audit Committee. Ron, N8QF, has requested that the Committee meet during the 2nd week of January. Evan, KC8TXA, John, N8AA, and Bob, NR8R volunteered. Ernie appointed Bob to be Chair.

Dave, N8YFQ, brought up the topic of the beam that failed at Field Day and suggested that we get together on a Saturday morning well before Field Day to test, and if necessary, to repair it. A short discussion followed, including testing the alternate Mosley antenna by Jim, W8ISZ. Dave suggested that we start planning a work party.

Ernie, W8EH, reported that two Dial members had received certificates for finishing first in Ohio in the 2014 ARRL 160 Meter Contest. Ernie, W8EH, took first place for the high power unlimited class. Barney, N8HP, earned a certificate for QRP.

Adjournment:

Carl, K8CM, moved and Bob, NR8R, seconded a motion to adjourn. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 7:31 pm.

Barney Taylor, N8HP
Secretary

"OFFICIAL" P5/3Z9DX NORTH KOREA ACTIVATION NOW SET FOR THIS SUMMER

Following an unexpected "demonstration" operation from North Korea -- officially the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) -- just before Christmas, Polish DXer Dom Grzyb, 3Z9DX, now expects to be back in the DPRK -- the most-wanted DXCC entity -- for his "official" activation by late this summer, according to The Daily DX. He initially had anticipated returning this month or next.

Dom Grzyb, 3Z9DX, in Pyongyang, DPRK.

P5/3Z9DX showed up on the air from the most-wanted DXCC entity on December 20 and 21 to demonstrate Amateur Radio for North Korean officials. Over the course of that activation -- the first in more than a decade -- P5/3Z9DX made nearly 785 SSB contacts, most of them on 15 meters. Nearly 600 of the contacts were with stations in Asia; P5/3Z9DX worked just 26 stations in North America. He has posted his log on ClubLog.

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Grzyb recently contacted The Daily DX Editor Bernie McClenny, W3UR, to update his situation. During his visit, authorities were friendly and polite, McClenny reported, noting that he was also surprised that they allowed him to operate in December. P5/3Z9DX was severely hampered by extremely high noise levels on all HF bands, not to mention a geomagnetic storm. Noise, he said in a video posted on his website, made it "almost impossible" to copy weaker signals in Pyongyang.

When he goes back to the DPRK this summer, he will be operating from a far quieter location in a rural area, Grzyb told The Daily DX. While operating from North Korea in December, P5/3Z9DX was running 100 W to a vertical antenna mounted on a metal fence post some 7 feet above the ground among government high-rise buildings. His equipment was left behind in Pyongyang, as was agreed to before his December visit. The P5/3Z9DX preview was the first activation from North Korea since the 2001-2002 operation by Ed Giorgadze, 4L4FN. -- Thanks to OPDX, The Daily DX

-ARRL Letter, January 7, 2016

ON THE ORIGIN OF “73”

Many amateurs already know that "73" is from what is known as the "Phillips Code", a series of numeric messages conceived for the purpose of cutting down transmission time on the old land telegraph systems when sending text that is basically the same.

In the April 1935 issue of *QST* on page 60 there is a short article on the origin of 73. This article was a summation of another article that appeared in the "December Bulletin from the Navy Department Office of the Chief of Naval Operations". That would be December of 1934.

The quotation from the Navy is as follows: "It appears from a research of telegraph histories that in 1859 the telegraph people held a convention, and one of its features was a discussion as to the saving of 'line time'. A committee was appointed to devise a code to reduce standard expressions to symbols or figures. This committee worked out a figure code, from figure 1 to 92. Most of these figure symbols became obsolete, but a few remain to this date, such as 4, which means "Where shall I go ahead?'. Figure 9 means 'wire', the wire chief being on the wire and that everyone should close their keys. Symbol 13 means 'I don't understand'; 22 is 'love and a kiss'; 30 means 'good night' or 'the end'. The symbol most often used now is 73, which means 'my compliments' and 92 is for the word 'deliver.' The other figures in between the forgoing have fallen into almost complete disuse."

Now days, 22 has become 88 (love and kisses), 30 is still used in the newspaper and magazine business to indicate the end of a feature, story, or column, and, of course, 73 is still used by amateur radio operators to mean "best regards".

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Making any of these numbers plural (73s, 88s, etc.) is incorrect since they are already plural. 73s would mean best regardses and 88s would mean love and kisseses. Those make no sense.

“73” is a term developed and grown from telegraphy and properly sent as *“seven-three”* and not seventy-three. In telegraphy there is no way, short of spelling each word out, to send seventy-three.

Similarly, adulterations that have come into some but uncommon usage on the phone bands, *i.e.* “threes” and “seven-thirds” are unfitting and should be avoided.

-Wikipedia, et.al

NATIONAL PARKS ON THE AIR (NPOTA) EVENT OFF TO A STRONG START!

ARRL's National Parks on the Air (NPOTA) year-long event got off to a strong start on New Year's Day, with considerable activity reported on the HF bands and even some on the SO-50 satellite over the first weekend of the new year. Throughout 2016, Amateur Radio will be helping the National Park Service (NPS) to celebrate its 100th anniversary. Hams will activate NPS units, promote the Park Service, and showcase Amateur Radio to the public. During the first 3 days of NPOTA, "Activators" were on the air from 78 of the 483 NPOTA Units.

"Pileups were pretty strong all weekend long," said ARRL Media and Public Relations Manager Sean Kutzko, KX9X. "At least two units -- Weir Farm National Historic Site in Connecticut (NS76), and Little Rock Central High School National Historic Site in Arkansas (NS45) -- were activated via the SO50 FM satellite."

The program has two participation tracks -- Chasers and Activators. Chasers will simply attempt to make contact with operators in as many of the NPS units as possible. NPOTA participants may serve in both roles. Chaser and Activator totals will be tracked via an online NPOTA Leader Board based on LoTW data.

"We've received an official welcome from the NPS superintendent of the North Country National Scenic Trail and the Executive Director of the North Country Trail Association," Kutzko reported. The trail runs from New York to North Dakota.

"We appreciate your enthusiasm and engagement as we celebrate this 100th anniversary of the National Park Service," wrote Mark Weaver, the Scenic Trail superintendent, and Bruce Matthews, executive director of the North Country Trail Association. "While operating from the North Country National Scenic Trail, we encourage all radio amateurs to participate in the NCTAs Hike 100 Challenge, to hike 100 miles on the trail this year; to get out, enjoy the fresh air, get some exercise, and take a moment to appreciate one of America's great scenic and recreational resources."

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Kutzko said 400 new NPOTA Facebook group members have signed on since New Year's Eve. "The Facebook group is the central location for all things NPOTA," he said. "It has lots of people exchanging ideas, tips, spots, and success stories. We're also using it as the place to keep everybody updated on administrative issues."

#ARRL_NPOTA, #NPS100, and #HamRadioInParks remain the common Twitter feeds. Read more

- *ARRL Letter, January 7, 2016*

AMATEUR RADIO PARITY ATC UPDATE

Amateur Radio Parity Act--we've been talking about it for a while. Now it's ACTION TIME for at least some of you in the Division. Next Tuesday, January 12th, the House Bill comes up before the House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Communications and Technology. Five House members from Ohio, Kentucky and Michigan sit on that committee.

The ARRL is asking each ham in those congressional districts to contact their representatives and ask for their support for the bill. It's easy. Just go to this website: https://arrl.rallycongress.net/ctas/urge-congress-to-support-amateur-radio-parity-act. All you have to do is fill in your zip code, and get a message to your congressman. Do it today!

This specifically applies to those of you who live in Michigan in Fred Upton's district, which is generally the southwestern part of the state; those who live in Ohio Rep. Robert Latta's district, which is generally around the Toledo area; those who live in Ohio Rep. Bill Johnson's district, which is generally southeastern Ohio along the river; those who live in Kentucky Rep. Brett Guthrie's district, which is generally south of Louisville and Lexington; and those who live in Kentucky Rep. John Yarmouth's district, which is in the immediate Louisville area.

Even if you don't live in those districts, you can contact your representative. If the bill passes out of committee, we'll need to have a full effort from everyone before the bill comes to a vote in the House. We're getting close. Thanks for your past efforts, and get ready to make your voice heard again soon!

-via e-mail: ***ARRL Great Lakes Division Director Dale R Williams, WA8EFK***

Don't forget, 2016 renewal dues are $26, and were due January 1.

If you haven't already done so, please make your check payable to the "Dial Radio Club" and mail to: DIAL Radio Club,

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Amateur Radio Class

Introductory Level

Ham Radio Class To Begin !

Beginning January 20, 2016, 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 March 2 and be followed by an examination session on Wednesday, March 9. (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 $25-30) 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

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Webmaster:
Chris Nunn, WM8MM

the prez sez .....

Everyone may have not heard, but DIAL ARC is observing an anniversary this year. DIAL was formed on May 9, 1941 and affiliated with the ARRL on that date. That makes our club 75 years old this year. We had several ideas tossed about at the last meeting, including an on the air operating event with a special call sign. If you have any ideas of how we can commemorate this anniversary, please let the officers know right away. The time is close. We will finalize our plans at the next meeting.

Ernie, W8EH

MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 18th, 2016 MEETING

Attendance

N8AA, W8ATG, KE8CIE, KE8CJC, K8CM, KD8CPV, N8DHW, WA8DTU, W8EH, N8GGE, KC8GMR, N8HP, KI8I, W8ISZ, W8LKU, N8LRN, N8QF, NR8R & Barbara, KC8TXA, W8WLM, KC8WOF, WA8YXY, KD8ZOV, KD8ZOW

Call to order:

Ernie, W8EH, called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm. Ernie asked for a 'round the room' introduction. Mike, KE8CJC, was recognized for earning his license based on his statement during introduction.

Secretary's Report:

A motion to accept the minutes of the previous month's meeting as published in the newsletter was made by Bob, NR8R, and seconded by Dave, N8YFQ. The motion passed with no dissention.

Treasurer's Report:

Ron, N8QF, presented the Treasurer's report. Membership for 2015 ended with 81 members representing 56 families. The renewals for 2016 as of the meeting are 64 members representing 46 families. Several people

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have renewed at the meeting and are not included in his totals. Ron reported that the Audit Committee had found an error in the membership count, and that the final number for 2015 shown above is correct. Otherwise, no issues were found with the finances. Ron then presented the annual summary of finances for Dial. A motion to approve the Treasurer's report was made by Barney, N8HP, and seconded by Bob, NR8R. The motion passed unanimously.

Ron announced that the Form FT990 had been filed with the IRS to maintain the Club's tax exempt status for another year.

Ron discussed the dumpster that was rented for the work party at WNKU (the 146.61 repeater site) last fall. WNKU had agreed to reimburse DIAL for the dumpster. Since Dial's checking account balance was low and Ron wished to avoid losing free checking because of dropping below the minimum balance, Ron paid for the rental of the dumpster personally and billed WNKU under Dial. WNKU has sent the reimbursement to Dial and Ron asked for a motion to reimburse him. Jim, W8ISZ, moved and Roy, N8LRN, seconded a motion to reimburse Ron. The motion passed with 1 nay (due to Ron).

Repeater/Station Report:

Ernie, W8EH, reported that "everything's going good" with the Dial Repeater system. Carl, K8CM, reported that Echolink continues to work well. Carl gave a summary of activity on Echolink for the year. There were 452 connections associated with 169 distinct call signs resulting in almost 58 hours of connect time. The average connect time was slightly less than 8 minutes. Besides the USA and Canada, other calls logged were from Croatia, China, Chile, The Philippines, and the UK.

Activity Report:

None.

Classes and Exams:

Beverley, N8GGE, reported that a new class to prepare students for the Technician level examination will begin in two days (on January 20th). The next exam will be on March 9th. A 'snow week' has been built into the Technician Schedule, allowing 7 periods to achieve 6 classes if needed.

Newsletter:

Carl, K8CM, reported that the newsletter is 'humming right along'.

Website:

No report.

Old Business

Ernie, W8EH, addressed the topic of Hamvention, and advised those in attendance to 'start getting ready' with regard to items to sell at the Flea Market.

Ernie, W8EH, asked Bob, NR8R, to give the Audit Committee Report. Bob took the floor and reported that the Committee had met on the previous Tuesday. The Committee had found a mistake in the membership count for 2015, which has been corrected. Otherwise they found the books to in fine order. The Committee's letter of findings has been sent to the President with copies to the Treasurer and Secretary.

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Carl, K8CM, moved to accept the Audit Committee's report, and Dave, N8YFQ, seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business

Ron, N8QF, brought up record retention for the Club. Wanda, W8WLM, brought up the idea of having a Club Historian, to go through the Dial archives and retain things of interest while discarding items of no value. Ron reported having several shelves of financial records that he inherited when he became Treasurer. Barney, N8HP, reported that he is also holding archives from the previous Secretary. Bob, NR8R, addresses the topic of legal requirements versus historical importance of retained documents. Carl, K8CM, spoke of the desirability of scanning the records before their destruction; he also addressed the huge time burden that would be required.

Ernie suggested that the idea of a Club Historian be tabled and addressed at a later date. Carl, K8CM, moved and Dave, N8YFQ, seconded a motion to table the issue. The motion passed.

Ernie, W8EH, brought up the topic of a Club Property Inventory. He suggested taking a couple of months to inventory the repeater system and Club property stored by Club members. Field Day materials in the Club's trailer can be inventoried when the trailer is reloaded after Hamvention. Ernie's goal is to have the inventory completed by early summer (i.e. before Field Day).

Ernie reported that Dial's 75th Anniversary is coming up and suggested that we do something as a Club – possibly an operating event. Carl, K8CM, reported that the Club was affiliated with the ARRL on May 9, 1941. WWII caused a radio blackout until 1946 when the FCC allowed amateur transmissions again. The Club blossomed in 1969 when the 146.61 repeater was put on the air.

A discussion followed. K8CM mentioned the possibility of some sort of commemorative that could be purchased at low cost. Barney, N8HP, suggest getting a 1x1 vanity such as W8D for a special event station. Ernie asked Barney to look into the details of getting a 1x1 call sign for temporary use. It was decided to have further discussion at upcoming meetings.

A discussion of the need to check and, repair if necessary, the Field Day antennas prior to Field Day was postponed, in part due to the absence of Dave, KD8W, who is storing the Club's other Field Day beam antenna.

Jim, W8ISZ, moved and Carl, K8CM, seconded a motion to again have Field Day in Smith Park. The motion passed unanimously.

Mike, KE8CJC, gave an update on the VOA Club in Westchester. They have been renting their site from the VOA Museum, but the museum has now absorbed the VOA Club. With their new status, it might be possible to use the VOA Club's permanent station for special event activities. Mike stated that he is attending many radio clubs around the area and looking for ways to increase cooperation between clubs to revitalize amateur radio.

Mike also expressed thanks to his instructors during the classes that he took at Verity.

Adjournment:

Ron, N8QF, moved and Carl, K8CM, seconded a motion to adjourn at 7:37. The motion passed.

Barney Taylor, N8HP
Secretary

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NATIONAL PARKS ON THE AIR UPDATE

Statistics from the first month of National Parks on the Air (NPOTA) prove that the event is a big hit nationwide! In January, 243 of the 483 eligible NPOTA units had at least one activation, with 606 total qualified activations. More than 72,100 NPOTA contacts were uploaded to Logbook of The World (LoTW) in January.

The top three most-activated units are all trails: The Appalachian National Scenic Trail, TR01 (15); the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail, TR23 (10); and the Santa Fe National Historic Trail, TR11 (9).

The top three units attracting the greatest number of contacts were the Santa Fe National Historic Trail, TR11 (1977); Hot Springs National Park, NP30 (1781), and Cape Cod National Seashore, SS03 (1563).

With an expected uptick in activity as the weather gets warmer across the country, 1 million NPOTA QSOs are not out of the realm of possibility. For the week of February 4-10, 28 different NPOTA units are scheduled to be activated, including the Fort Pulaski National Monument in Georgia. See the NPOTA Activations Calendar for the complete listings.

Details about these and other activations coming up can be found on the NPOTA Activations calendar.

Keep up with the latest NPOTA news on Facebook. Follow NPOTA on Twitter (@ARRL_NPOTA).

-ARRL Letter, February 4, 2016

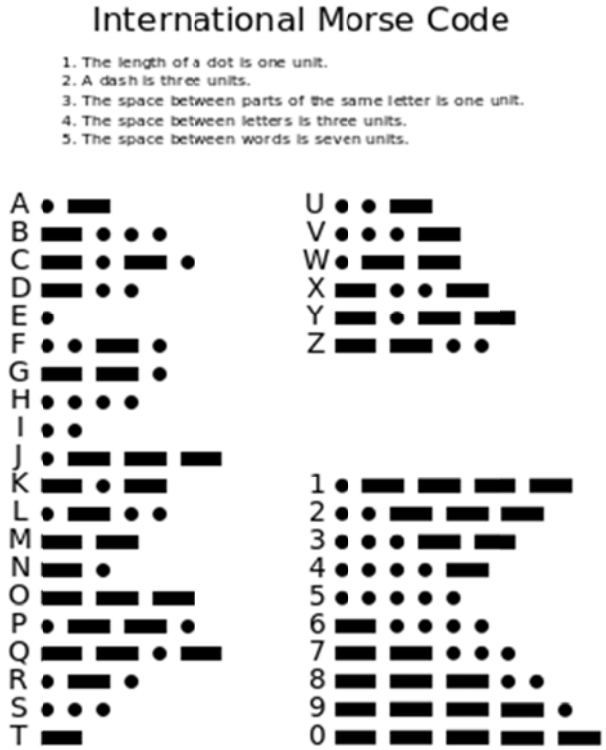
TELEGRAPHY

Telegraph or "Straight" Key

Morse code is a method of transmitting text information as a series of on-off tones, lights, or clicks that can be directly understood by a skilled listener or observer without special equipment. The International Morse Code encodes the ISO basic Latin alphabet, some extra Latin letters, the Arabic numerals and a small set of punctuation and procedural signals (prosigns) as standardized sequences of short and long signals called "dots" and "dashes", or "dits" and "dahs", as in amateur radio practice. Because many non-English natural languages use more than the 26 Roman letters, extensions to the Morse alphabet exist for those languages.

Each Morse code symbol represents either a text character (letter or numeral) or a prosign and is represented by a unique sequence of dots and dashes. The duration of a dash is three times the duration of a dot. Each dot or dash is followed by a short silence, equal to the dot duration. The letters of a word are separated by a space

equal to three dots (one dash), and the words are separated by a space equal to seven dots. The dot duration is the basic unit of time measurement in code transmission. To increase the speed of the communication, the code was designed so that the length of each character in Morse varies approximately inversely to its frequency of occurrence in English. Thus the most common letter in English, the letter "E", has the shortest code, a single dot.



Morse code is used by some amateur radio operators, although knowledge of and proficiency with it is no longer required for licensing in most countries. Pilots and air traffic controllers usually need only a cursory understanding. Aeronautical navigational aids, such as VORs and NDBs, constantly identify in Morse code. Compared to voice, Morse code is less sensitive to poor signal conditions, yet still comprehensible to humans without a decoding device. Morse is therefore a useful alternative to synthesized speech for sending automated data to skilled listeners on voice channels. Many amateur radio repeaters, for example, identify with Morse, even though they are used for voice communications.

Beginning in 1836, the American artist Samuel F. B. Morse, the American physicist Joseph Henry, and Alfred Vail developed an electrical telegraph system. This system sent pulses of electric current along wires which controlled an electromagnet that was located at the receiving end of the telegraph system. A code was needed to transmit natural language using only these pulses, and the silence between them. Morse therefore developed the forerunner to modern International Morse code.

In 1837, William Cooke and Charles Wheatstone in England began using an electrical telegraph that also used electromagnets in its receivers. However, in contrast with any system of making sounds of clicks, their system used pointing needles that rotated above alphabetical charts to indicate the letters that were being sent. In 1841, Cooke and Wheatstone built a telegraph that printed the letters from a wheel of typefaces struck by a hammer. This machine was based on their 1840 telegraph and worked well; however, they failed to find customers for this system and only two examples were ever built.

On the other hand, the three Americans' system for telegraphy, which was first used in about 1844, was designed to make indentations on a paper tape when electric currents were received. Morse's original telegraph receiver used a mechanical clockwork to move a paper tape. When an electrical current was received, an electromagnet engaged an armature that pushed a stylus onto the moving paper tape, making an indentation on the tape. When the current was interrupted, a spring retracted the stylus, and that portion of the moving tape remained unmarked.

The Morse code was developed so that operators could translate the indentations marked on the paper tape into text messages. In his earliest code, Morse had planned to transmit only numerals, and to use a codebook to

look up each word according to the number which had been sent. However, the code was soon expanded by Alfred Vail to include letters and special characters, so it could be used more generally. Vail estimated the frequency of use of letters in the English language by counting the movable type he found in the type-cases of a local newspaper in Morristown. The shorter marks were called "dots", and the longer ones "dashes", and the letters most commonly used were assigned the shorter sequences of dots and dashes.

In the original Morse telegraphs, the receiver's armature made a clicking noise as it moved in and out of position to mark the paper tape. The telegraph operators soon learned that they could translate the clicks directly into dots and dashes, and write these down by hand, thus making the paper tape unnecessary. When Morse code was adapted to radio communication, the dots and dashes were sent as short and long pulses. It was later found that people become more proficient at receiving Morse code when it is taught as a language that is heard, instead of one read from a page.

To reflect the sounds of Morse code receivers, the operators began to vocalize a dot as "dit", and a dash as "dah". Dots which are not the final element of a character became vocalized as "di". For example, the letter "c" was then vocalized as "dah-di-dah-dit".

In the 1890s, Morse code began to be used extensively for early radio communication, before it was possible to transmit voice. In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, most high-speed international communication used Morse code on telegraph lines, undersea cables and radio circuits. In aviation, Morse code in radio systems started to be used on a regular basis in the 1920s. Although previous transmitters were bulky and the spark gap system of transmission was difficult to use, there had been some earlier attempts. In 1910 the US Navy experimented with sending Morse from an airplane. That same year a radio on the airship *America* had been instrumental in coordinating the rescue of its crew. Zeppelin airships equipped with radio were used for bombing and naval scouting during World War I, and ground-based radio direction finders were used for airship navigation. Allied airships and military aircraft also made some use of radiotelegraphy. However, there was little aeronautical radio in general use during World War I, and in the 1920s there was no radio system used by such important flights as that of Charles Lindbergh from New York to Paris in 1927. Once he and the *Spirit of St. Louis* were off the ground, Lindbergh was truly alone and incommunicado. On the other hand, when the first airplane flight was made from California to Australia in the 1930s on the *Southern Cross*, one of its four crewmen was its radio operator who communicated with ground stations via radio telegraph.

Beginning in the 1930s, both civilian and military pilots were required to be able to use Morse code, both for use with early communications systems and for identification of navigational beacons which transmitted continuous two- or three-letter identifiers in Morse code. Aeronautical charts show the identifier of each navigational aid next to its location on the map.

Radio telegraphy using Morse code was vital during World War II, especially in carrying messages between the warships and the naval bases of the belligerents. Long-range ship-to-ship communication was by radio telegraphy, using encrypted messages, because the voice radio systems on ships then were quite limited in both their range and their security. Radiotelegraphy was also extensively used by warplanes, especially by long-range patrol planes that were sent out by those navies to scout for enemy warships, cargo ships, and troop ships.

In addition, rapidly moving armies in the field could not have fought effectively without radiotelegraphy, because they moved more rapidly than telegraph and telephone lines could be erected. This was seen especially

in the blitzkrieg offensives of the Nazi German Wehrmacht in Poland, Belgium, France (in 1940), the Soviet Union, and in North Africa; by the British Army in North Africa, Italy, and the Netherlands; and by the U.S. Army in France and Belgium (in 1944), and in southern Germany in 1945.

Morse code was used as an international standard for maritime distress until 1999, when it was replaced by the Global Maritime Distress Safety System. When the French Navy ceased using Morse code on January 31, 1997, the final message transmitted was "Calling all. This is our last cry before our eternal silence." In the United States the final commercial Morse code transmission was on July 12, 1999, signing off with Samuel Morse's original 1844 message, "What hath God wrought", and the prosign "SK".

As of 2015 the United States Air Force still trains ten people a year in Morse. The United States Coast Guard has ceased all use of Morse code on the radio, and no longer monitors any radio frequencies for Morse code transmissions, including the international medium frequency (MF) distress frequency of 500 kHz. However the Federal Communications Commission still grants commercial radiotelegraph operator licenses to applicants who pass its code and written tests. Licensees have reactivated the old California coastal Morse station KPH and regularly transmit from the site under either this Call sign or as KSM. Similarly, a few US Museum ship stations are operated by Morse enthusiasts.

International Morse code today is most popular among amateur radio operators, where it is used as the pattern to key a transmitter on and off in the radio communications mode commonly referred to as "continuous wave" or "CW" to distinguish it from spark transmissions, not because the transmission was continuous. Other keying methods are available in radio telegraphy, such as frequency shift keying.

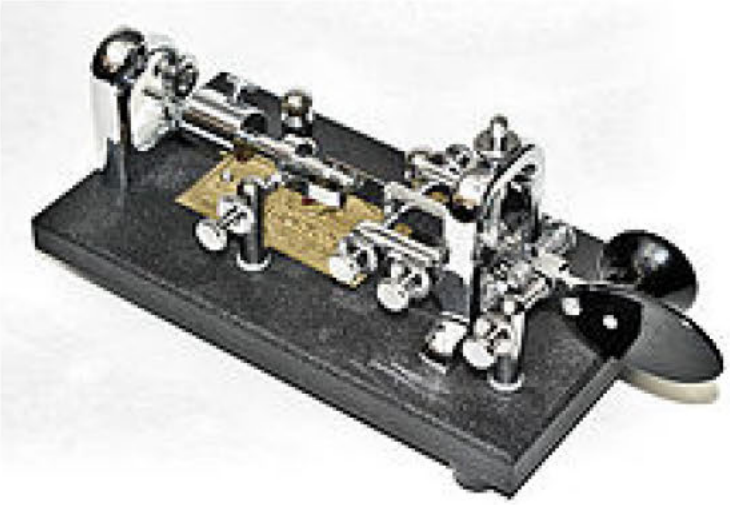
The original amateur radio operators used Morse code exclusively, since voice-capable radio transmitters did not become commonly available until around 1920. Until 2003 the International Telecommunication Union mandated Morse code proficiency as part of the amateur radio licensing procedure worldwide. However, the World Radio communication Conference of 2003 made the Morse code requirement for amateur radio licensing optional. Many countries subsequently removed the Morse requirement from their license requirements.

Until 1991 a demonstration of the ability to send and receive Morse code at a minimum of five words per minute (wpm) was required to receive an amateur radio license for use in the United States from the Federal Communications Commission. Demonstration of this ability was still required for the privilege to use the HF bands. Until 2000 proficiency at the 20 wpm level was required to receive the highest level of amateur license (Amateur Extra Class); effective April 15, 2000, the FCC reduced the Extra Class requirement to five wpm. Finally, effective on February 23, 2007 the FCC eliminated the Morse code proficiency requirements from all amateur radio licenses.

While voice and data transmissions are limited to specific amateur radio bands under U.S. rules, Morse code is permitted on all amateur bands—LF, MF, HF, VHF, and UHF. In some countries, certain portions of the amateur radio bands are reserved for transmission of Morse code signals only.

The relatively limited speed at which Morse code can be sent led to the development of an extensive number of abbreviations to speed communication. These include prosigns, Q codes, and a set of Morse code abbreviations for typical message components. For example, CQ is broadcast to be interpreted as "seek you" (I'd like to converse with anyone who can hear my signal). OM (old man), YL (young lady) and XYL ("ex-YL" –

wife) are common abbreviations. YL or OM is used by an operator when referring to the other operator, XYL or OM is used by an operator when referring to his or her spouse. QTH is "location" ("My QTH" is "My location"). The use of abbreviations for common terms permits conversation even when the operators speak different languages.



Vibroplex brand semiautomatic key [commonly called a "bug"]

Although the traditional telegraph key (straight key) is still used by some amateurs, the use of mechanical semi-automatic keyers (known as "bugs") and of fully automatic electronic keyers is prevalent today. Software is also frequently employed to produce and decode Morse code radio signals.

The paddle, when pressed to the right by the thumb, generates a series of *dits*, the length and timing of which are controlled by a sliding weight toward the rear of the unit. When pressed to the left by the knuckle of the index finger, the paddle generates a single *dah*, the length of which is controlled by the operator. Multiple *dahs* require multiple presses. Left-handed operators use a key built as a mirror image of this one.

- Wikipedia

ANOTHER ORIGIN OF "HAM"*... and it goes something like this*:

The term "ham operator" was commonly applied by 19th century landline telegraphers to an operator with poor or "ham fisted" skills.

Early radio (initially known as wireless telegraphy) included many former wire telegraph operators, and within the new service "ham" was employed as a pejorative term by professional radiotelegraph operators to suggest that amateur enthusiasts were unskilled. In "*Floods and Wireless*" by Hanby Carver, from the August 1915 *Technical World Magazine*, the author noted "Then someone thought of the 'hams'. This is the name that the commercial wireless service has given to amateur operators..."

This pejorative usage continued into at least 1940, as evidenced in the January 1940 issue of *The APCO Bulletin*, where it was written "Rumors of citations by the FCC for violation of the superfluous traffic regulation on the part of certain of our radiotelegraph stations have resulted in a sudden decrease in 'hamming' on the police frequencies...".

Even among amateur radio operators, the term was used pejoratively at first by serious experimenters. For example, in December 1916 *QST* magazine, an amateur operator working on long distance message passing describes one way to avoid interference was to send messages "...on Thursday nights, when the children and

spark coil 'hams' are tucked up in bed" (a spark coil was an unsophisticated radio transmitter, made from an automobile ignition coil, that produced noisy interference).

But only a few months later, in an indication of the changing use of the term among amateurs, a *QST* writer uses it in a clearly complimentary manner, saying that a particular 16-year-old amateur operator "...is the equal of a ham gaining five years of experience by hard luck."

Use of "ham" as a slur by professionals continued, however. A letter from a Western Union Telegraph Company employee, printed in the December 1919 edition *QST*, showed familiarity with the word's negative connotations, expressing concern that "Many unknowing land wire telegraphers, hearing the word 'amateur' applied to men connected with wireless, regard him as a 'ham' or 'lid'".

But many other amateurs increasingly adopted the word "ham" to describe their hobby and themselves during this period, embracing the word that was originally an insult, similar to the way Yankee Doodle evolved, as seen, for example, in Thomas F. Hunter's exuberant "I am the wandering Ham" from the January 1920 issue of *QST*.

-Wikipedia

A VHF CONTEST IN JANUARY -- HOW COOL IS THAT?

If El Niño has your weather upside down, perhaps the ARRL January VHF Contest will get you right side up and back in a contesting mood! This annual event begins at 1900 UTC on Saturday, January 30, and it wraps up at 0359 UTC on Monday, February 1. The object is for amateurs in the US and Canada (and possessions) to work as many stations in as many different Maidenhead grid squares as possible using frequencies above 50 MHz. It's the US and Canada (and possessions) working each other and the rest of the world (think F2 propagation!).

"Assuming Mother Nature cooperates, the January VHF Contest offers a welcome reprieve from what might be the long winter doldrums," said new ARRL Contest Branch Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ. Whether from home, portable, or even as a rover, he said, the event offers something for everyone, including FM-only operators.

Jahnke said a good mix of propagation typically manifests in January, and, while tropo may be less of a factor, aurora can provide a boost for northern tier stations. "Meteor scatter and EME (moonbounce) folks will be looking for newcomers as well as the seasoned crowd to join in this more-challenging fun," he added.

Contact the ARRL Contest Branch for more information. Read more

-ARRL Letter, January 28, 2016

Just a friendly reminder, 2016 renewal dues are $26, and were due by January 1.

If you haven't already done so, please make your check payable to the "Dial Radio Club" and mail to the DIAL Radio Club,

Next Meeting: Monday, February 15, 2016 at the Golden Corral
Dinner at 6 followed by business meeting at 7

Amateur Radio License Exams

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

Wednesday evening, March 9, 2016
at 6 p.m. in Verity Lodge
Miami University-Middletown, Middletown, OH

Doors will open for registration at 6 p.m and examinations will commence shortly thereafter. Please plan to arrive early as all registration activities are to 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, and social security (SSN) or Licensee ID number (FRN).

There is no test fee required for these examinations.

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

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

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

Talk-in on 146.61 (-600) 77 Hz PL
444.3625 (+5) MID Local-2 [DMR]

Next Meeting: Monday, February 15, 2016 at the Golden Corral
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Amateur Radio Class

Intermediate level Amateur Radio Class To Begin

Beginning March 16, 2016, the **DIAL RADIO CLUB** will offer a six-week class to prepare a candidate for examination in **General 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 April 20 and be followed by an examination session on Wednesday, April 27. (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 $25-30) for use in class.

Class enrollment may be limited to twenty students. For registration and/or additional information, please contact Beverley Taylor, N8GGE,
or Carl Morgan, K8CM,

Next Meeting: Monday, February 15, 2016 at the Golden Corral
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DIAL RADIO CLUB

Middletown, Ohio

APRS Digipeater: W8BLV 144.39
Repeaters:146.01/146.61, 147.915/147.315, 449.825/444.825
DMR 449.3625/444.3625
Web page: http://www.qsl.net/w8blv/ e-mail: W8BLV@QSL.net

President:
Ernie Howard, W8EH
Vice-President:
Carl Morgan, K8CM
Secretary:
Barney Taylor, N8HP
Treasurer:
Ron Spaulding, N8QF
Activities Manager:
Roy Dalton, N8LRN
Newsletter Editor:
Carl Morgan, K8CM
Webmaster:
Chris Nunn, WM8MM

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 15th, 2016 MEETING

Attendance

N8AA, KE8AIQ, KE8AIR, N8BH, KE8CIE, K8CM, KD8CPV, N8EH, W8EH, N8GGE, KC8GMR, N8HP, N8HRA, W8ISZ, NN8M, KF8QS, NR8R & Barbara, KC8TXA, KD8W, W8WLM, KC8WOF, N8YFQ, WA8YXY, KD8ZOV, KD8ZOW

Call to order:

Ernie, W8EH, called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm. Ernie asked for a 'round the room' introduction. Bob, NR8R announced that it was his and Barbara's 41st Anniversary. The audience gave them a hearty round of applause.

Secretary's Report:

A motion to accept the minutes of the previous month's meeting as published in the newsletter was made by Carl, K8CM, and seconded by Bob, NR8R. The motion passed with no dissention.

Treasurer's Report:

In Ron's absence, Evan KC8TXA, presented the Treasurer's report. Membership for 2016 is 70 members representing 51 families. There are still 5 unpaid memberships from 2015. Barney, N8HP, moved to accept the report and Bob, NR8R seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Repeater/Station Report:

Ernie, W8EH, reported that "everything's going good" with the Dial Repeater system. Carl, K8CM, reported that Echolink continues to work well. Ernie then added that he had recently heard echoes during an Echolink QSO ☺.

Next Meeting: Monday, March 18, 2016 at the Golden Corral
Dinner at 6 followed by business meeting at 7

Activity Report:

None.

Classes and Exams:

Beverley, N8GGE, reported that the next exam will be on March 9th. A class to prepare students for the General Class license will begin on March 16. She is working on a schedule of dates for instructors. Both exam sessions and classes take place at Miami University Middletown's Verity Lodge, and activities begin at 6:00 pm.

Newsletter:

Carl, K8CM, reported no problems with the newsletter.

Website:

Chris, WM8MM, was not present to give an update. Ernie, W8EH, reported that Mark, KE8CIE, had volunteered to help with the web pages.

Old Business

Ernie, W8EH, addressed the topic of Hamvention, and advised that the Flea Market and early entry tickets have been ordered.

Ernie, W8EH, reported that he is still working on the reservations for Smith Park for our Field Day activities. Dave, KD8W, has expressed interest in checking out the Club's Cushcraft beam that had problems during last year's Field Day. Ernie appointed a working group of Dave, KD8W, Dave, N8YFQ, Jim, KF8QS, and Jim, W8ISZ, to look into the maintenance needed by the beam.

Ernie, W8EH, followed up on last month's announcement of the upcoming 75th anniversary of Dial's affiliation with the ARRL. He recommended a Committee consisting of Club officers, NR8R and W8ISZ to plan and coordinate Club activities for the event. He then asked for volunteers from those in attendance to participate on the Committee, and no one volunteered.

Ernie, W8EH, proceeded with the major actions to be addressed by the Committee:

1. That Dial have an in-town celebration during a regular meeting night with food served. The ARRL Director, Vice Director and Section Manager have been contacted and expressed interest in coming to the meeting subject to their calendars.
2. Obtain a '1x1' call (preferably W8D) for the time period centered on the anniversary date of May 9th. Operation will be either a 'hosted' event like the recent OH QSOP and last year's Pi-Day, or Club members operating from their home station under the 1x1 call. The likely outcome is a combination of the two. An appropriate QSL card or certificate will be designed.

Dave, KD8W, made a motion to accept Ernie's recommendation and charge the Committee. Evan, KC8TXA seconded the motion that passed with one dissention. Ernie went on to appoint Carl, K8CM, Chairperson of the Committee.

Ernie, W8EH, revisited the issue of records retention for the Club. Dave, N8YFQ, suggested that "we let Ron keep it up." Ernie again asked for volunteers.

Next Meeting: Monday, March 18, 2016 at the Golden Corral
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New Business

Ernie, W8EH, reminded those in attendance that the Club's remote repeater used at Hamvention (147.315) would not be available in the future. The duplexers from the portable repeater were used to replace the failing duplexers at the west Middletown repeater site when the repeater was upgraded to the new Yaesu Fusion repeater. Ernie suggested that we use a UHF repeater on 444.825 MHz. Some discussion followed regarding the joys of reprogramming Chinese hand held radios for the new frequency. Dave, KD8W, moved and Bob, NR8R, seconded a motion to move the remote repeater to 444.825 MHz. The motion passed. Carl, K8CM, asked if the Club wants to sell the old duplexers – possibly AS1S (*... it is an old story but someone at Hamvention once bought an item Marked AS IS from a member, and returned wanting to complain to AS1S that it didn't work*).

Jim, W8ISZ, announced that he would be selling raffle tickets for a Yaesu FTDX 1200 transceiver. The raffle is sponsored by the Southwest Ohio DX Association (SWODXA). The tickets are $5 each or 5 for $20. The drawing will occur during the DX Forum at Hamvention.

Carl, K8CM, encouraged those in attendance with Technician class licenses, or having friends with Technician class licenses, to participate in the upcoming General course and upgrade to General after 6 weeks.

Adjournment:

Ernie, N8EH, moved and Dave, N8YFQ, seconded a motion to adjourn at 7:32. The motion passed.

Barney Taylor, N8HP
Secretary

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY THE FREE LANGUAGE OF THE WORLD

www.trafficlist.net

Dear Sparks,
A very interesting review of a couple of days ago informs US Navy are switching back to Morse Code. It seems there is not a so reliable way for communications...maybe now Smartphone, iPhone or tablets start to be OBSOLETE...read carefully the article on the following link:

https://www.dvidshub.net/news/187384/morse-code-staple-navy-iw-toolkit#.Vq398aT2bIV

Or try
https://www.dvidshub.net/news/187384/morse-code-staple-navy-iw-toolkit#.Vq7NoOaRPVq

-ARRL Letter, December 4, 2015

Next Meeting: Monday, March 18, 2016 at the Golden Corral
Dinner at 6 followed by business meeting at 7

LICENSE EXAM NEWS

Dial's most recent license exam was held on Wednesday, March 9. Twelve VEs served 12 applicants to whom 17 exam elements were administered. The 17 elements consisted of Element 2 (8 administered and 6 passing), Element 3 (6 administered and 2 passing), and Element 4 (3 administered and 3 passing). There were 6 new Technicians, 2 Generals, and 3 Amateur Extra licensees by evening's end.

Next exam will be 6 pm, Wednesday, April 27, 2016 in Verity Lodge, Miami University-Middletown.

- Carl, K8CM

"FREQUENCY" TV SERIES NOW PLANNED FOR THE CW NETWORK

The buzz from Hollywood is that a TV series based on the 2000 movie "Frequency" is in development and -- appropriately enough for a show featuring ham radio -- on The CW network. Amateur Radio served as a plot device in the movie and will play the same role in the TV series.

Actor Jim Caviezel in the 2000 movie, "Frequency." [Courtesy of New Line Cinema]

In November 2014, The Hollywood Reporter indicated that NBC had committed to a "Frequency" series, but those plans apparently fell by the wayside. Now, The CW has ordered a pilot episode of "Frequency," and, if the network does go forward with the project, the modern-day version of "Frequency," the TV series, would feature a young female police detective named Raimy, who uses ham radio to communicate through time with her deceased father.

Actor Jim Caviezel in the 2000 movie, "Frequency." [Courtesy of New Line Cinema]

Actress Peyton List is said to have landed to role of Raimy, reprising Jim Caviezel's movie character. Riley Smith would play her father.

When the original "Frequency" movie debuted, the ham radio theme and the chance to see vintage ham gear and real, glowing vacuum tubes on the big screen generated considerable interest within the community of "boatanchor" enthusiasts. ARRL worked with the film's producers.

-ARRL Letter, March 3, 2016

One last reminder regarding 2016 dues .....

If you haven't already done so, please make your check payable to the "Dial Radio Club" and mail to the DIAL Radio Club,

Next Meeting: Monday, March 18, 2016 at the Golden Corral
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ARMED FORCES D Y 2016 COMMUNICATION TEST TO INCLUDE DIRECT MILITARY-HAM CO TACT ON 60 METERS

This year's Arm d Forces Day Crossband Communication Test on Saturda , May 14, will include a significant new wrinkle: Select military stations will be using 60 meter interoperabilit channels to communicate directly with Amateur Radio stations on the band. Back this year, select military stations will use crossband Automatic Link Establish ent (2G AL E) communication as well as MIL-STD Serial P K to send the Secretary of Defense Armed Forces Day message Armed Forces Day 2016 is Saturday, May 21, ut the radio event is held earlier to avoid conflictin with Dayt n Hamvention, May 20-22.

The annual Armed Forces Day Communication Test is an opportunity to exercise two-way communicati n capability between Amateur Radio and military stations using a variety of modes, including SSB and CW as well as digital modes. The annual event gives participants - including shortwave listeners (SWLs) -- an opportunity to demonstrate their technical skills, and to receive recognition from the appropriate military radio station.

The Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard cosponsor the joint military/Amateur Radio, with military stations transmitting on military freq encies and listening on Amateur Radio bands.

Amateur Radio stations an shortwave listeners interested in trying the MIL-STD Serial PSK mode can download the s ftware program, MS-DMT.

Full details about this year's Armed Forces Day radio will be posted by April 12 and will also appear on the US Army MARS Fa ebook page.

PLANNING FOR HAMVENTION 2016?

Dial will be there, in spaces 3201-3205, with our Club flag flying. Bring your surplus gear to sell or trade, stop by for f llowship, or simply rest your weary toes.

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Amateur Radio Class

Intermediate level Amateur Radio Class To Begin

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Class will conclude April 20 and be followed by an examination session on Wednesday, April 27. (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 $25-30) for use in class.

Class enrollment may be limited to twenty students. For registration and/or additional information, please contact Beverley Taylor, N8GGE,
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Special examination accommodations must be requested at least two weeks prior to the test date.

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

Talk-in on 146.61 (-600) 77 Hz PL
444.3625 (+5) MID Local-2 [DMR]

Next Meeting: Monday, March 18, 2016 at the Golden Corral
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DIAL RADIO CLUB

Middletown, Ohio

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President:
Ernie Howard, W8EH
Vice-President:
Carl Morgan, K8CM
Secretary:
Barney Taylor, N8HP
Treasurer:
Ron Spaulding, N8QF
Activities Manager:
Roy Dalton, N8LRN
Newsletter Editor:
Carl Morgan, K8CM
Webmaster:
Chris Nunn, WM8MM

the prez sez .....

Dial Radio Club 75th Anniversary Celebration

On Monday April 18 we will have a special dinner meeting to celebrate our club's 75th anniversary. The dinner meeting will be held in the lower level fellowship hall at the Salvation Army, 1914 First Avenue in Middletown. Social hour will start at 6:00, dinner will start at 6:30. Members, their families and their guests are invited to attend.

We will have a special recognition program after dinner. Tentative guests include ARRL Great Lakes Director WA8EFK and Vice Director W8WTD, ARRL Ohio Section Manager N8SY, and the Mayor of Middletown. We will have a historical display of pictures and other items.

Dinner will be a covered dish, with the club providing fried chicken, meat trays and drinks. Members should bring a side dish.

There will be a door prize drawing of an ICOM ID-880H.

Directions to the Salvation Army Fellowship Hall, 1914 First Ave, Middletown:
From I-75 go west on State Route 122 about 5 miles. SR 122 goes right onto University Blvd North. At the second traffic light on University turn right onto First Avenue. The Salvation Army building will be on your right about 300 feet ahead. Parking is available on street in front or in the parking lots on the west side or across the alley in the rear. There is a handicapped ramp in the rear (off the alley) between the buildings that will take you to the lower level entrance. If entering from the front, use the east door and go down the steps to the lower level.

Talk-in. We will have a talk-in station on 146.61- PL 77hz for directions.

Next Meeting: Monday, April 18, 2016 in the Salvation Army Fellowship Hall,
1914 First Avenue, Middletown, Ohio.
Gathering at 6 pm, dinner at 6:30, followed by 75th Anniversary celebration

Map: https://goo.gl/maps/y56ck4auwiM2

PLEASE RSVP:

We need members to RSVP for a head count and also let us know what they think that they will bring for a covered dish. Email Ron, N8QF

NOTE: This special meeting takes the place of our regular April meeting. *Don't show up at our usual place!*

On The Air Special Event Station

Starting May 6 and ending May 19, Dial members will be operating a special event station using the callsign W8D. A special QSL card commemorating the 75th anniversary will be available. More information on this will be available later.

Ernie, W8EH

MINUTES OF THE MARCH 21st, 2016 MEETING

Attendance

KE8CJC, K8CM, KD8CPV, N8DHW, KE8DLQ, KE8DLU, KE8DLV, W8EH, N8EH, KC8GMR, N8HRA, N8LRN, N8PI, N8QF, AB8QP, NR8R & Barbara, W8WLM, KC8WOF, N8YFQ

Call to order:

Ernie, W8EH, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Ernie asked for a 'round the room' introduction.

Secretary's Report:

A motion to accept the minutes of the previous month's meeting as published in the newsletter, was made by Bob, NR8R, and seconded by Dave, N8YFQ. This motion was approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report:

Ron, N8QF, presented the Treasurer's report. All bills have been paid and the books show a positive balance. 2016 membership stands at 75 members representing 54 families after having lost three families to non-renewal.

Ron presented an application to reinstate the memberships of Art and Jody Frasik, N8PI and AB8QP. On Ron's motion to accept, seconded by Ernie, N8EH, their membership was approved unanimously.

Ron then presented applications for membership submitted by Michael Borgerding, KE8CJC; Anne Borgerding, KE8CET; Aaron Renner, KE8DLQ; Scott Northern, KE8DLU; and Karen Northern, KE8DLV. On Ron's motion to accept, seconded by Bob, NR8R, membership was approved unanimously. Aaron, Scott, and

Karen each qualified for Technician license at our March 9 exam session and are currently enrolled in the General class.

Repeater/Station Report:

Ernie, W8EH, reported that "everything's going good" with Dial's repeater system. Carl, K8CM, reported on recent interference on Echolink and its remedy. Now, all is well.

Activity Report:

No report.

Classes and Exams:

Carl, K8CM, reported the outcome of the March 9 exam session. Next [Dial] exam is scheduled for Wednesday, April 27, in Verity Lodge. Then on Saturday, May 19, BCARA will host an exam at the Fairfield Township Police Department on Vonnie Vale Court.

Newsletter:

Carl, K8CM, reported that the newsletter is 'humming right along'.

Website:

No report.

Old Business

Anniversary - Ernie, W8EH, elaborated on planning for Dial's 75th anniversary celebration. April 18 we will meet, for our regular monthly meeting, in the Salvation Army Fellowship Hall, 1914 First Avenue, Middletown. Fellowship begins at 6 pm and dinner at 6:30. The Club will provide fried chicken, a meat platter, beverages, and a celebratory cake. Members are asked to provide a covered dish much as is done at Field Day.

We expect to have the ARRL Division Director, Vice Director, and Section Manager in attendance along with Middletown's Mayor Lawrence Mulligan.

On motion by Roy, N8LRN, and seconded by Gordon, KC8GMR, $300 was approved for expenses related to the celebration. Motion approved unanimously.

In addition to the celebration, Dial has been granted a special event call sign, W8D, that will be used to celebrate, on the air, Dial's anniversary. The license is valid on May 6 through May 19 and may be used on private stations as well as an organized Club activity. Check with Ernie, W8EH, for details and permission.

Hamvention – May 20-May 22 and we are waiting for tickets. We expect to have the same outdoor vendor (a.k.a. flea market) location as last year. One important change for 2016; we will be using an on-site UHF repeater rather than the 2M repeater as in past years. Frequency will be 444.825 +5MHz and PL 100 Hz. Tweak your H-T and be ready to go.

Space will be available for members to display items for sale. We ask a donation of 10% of your sales to help offset costs associate with the flea market rentals and other expenses of the weekend.

Trailer clean-out will be scheduled early May. Details to be forthcoming.

Next Meeting: Monday, April 18, 2016 in the Salvation Army Fellowship Hall,
1914 First Avenue, Middletown, Ohio.
Gathering at 6 pm, dinner at 6:30, followed by 75th Anniversary celebration

Bob, NR8R, reported that vehicle parking had been approved in Germantown.

Field Day – approved for Smith Park. Details to follow.

Upon recommendation [vial e-mail] by Barney, N8HP, and concurrence of Dave, KD8W, a motion was offered by Ron, N8QF, and seconded by Dave, N8YFQ, to sell the A4 antenna either to a Club member or taken to Hamvention. In either instance, prospective buyers will be made fully aware of its condition.

New Business

None.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Ron, N8QF and seconded by Dave, N8DHW, to adjourn at 7:43 pm. Motion approved unanimously.

Carl Morgan, K8CM
Acting Secretary

DIAL'S STORY ……

Amateur radio in Middletown actually dates back to 1915 when there were three active hams in the area. Details of radio activity from 1915 into the 1930's are pretty sketchy. Indications point to an interest in amateur radio which attracted young men in the community. Most of those interested in amateur radio were involved in related commercial radio fields such as telegraph (Morse code) instruction, shipboard radio operation and radio construction, installation and maintenance specialties.

Monday, May 9, 2016 will mark 75 years of Dial's existence and affiliation with the American Radio Relay League (ARRL). Founded and affiliated in 1941, just prior to US involvement in the Second World War, Dial had a very short operating window prior to cessation ordered by the War Department.

The first activity for the new club was Field Day. On Saturday and Sunday, June 7 and 8, 1941, amateur operators set up self-powered stations and performed exhaustive tests of equipment while operating under emergency conditions. Five Dial members set up at the old Hetzler School, southwest of Germantown, OH. Power was provided by a truck-mounted motor generator set which was provided by the Cincinnati Gas and Electric Company. Sadly, we have no written records of their successes, or failures, at this Field Day exercise.

During WWII, on-air amateur radio activity was severely curtailed.

In April, 1947, the Dial Radio Club operated under the amateur call sign W8ROT and had 18 active members. Dial, then under the sponsorship of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, returned to operation. War-time restrictions on amateur radio had been lifted and Dial was ready to go. The next Field Day experience was in June, 1951, on a Marshall Road farm. There were 30 active amateur radio operators in Middletown and a total of 100 in Butler and Warren counties.

Next Meeting: Monday, April 18, 2016 in the Salvation Army Fellowship Hall,
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In the late 1960's, frequency modulation, thanks to new rules of the FCC, was a new and exciting mode. Repeaters, at that time illegal in the Amateur service, were the rage. A local group, under the leadership of Sam (WB8FNR) and Marge (WB8CLG) Noblet, guided Dial in this new facet of technology.

A 2M (146.61), automatically controlled, amateur radio repeater was built and located in the press box at Monroe High School. A year or two later, this repeater was moved to its current location on the WNKU (previously WPFB) tower. The 2M repeater currently has an antenna located at a 325' level on this tower and has a commanding footprint both north and south along the I-75 corridor.

During the following years, an additional 2M (147.315) repeater was added in Madison Township, a UHF (444.825) repeater, linked to the 146.61 repeater, was added in Middletown, a 6M repeater (now decommissioned) was placed in Madison Twp. and a DMR (444.3625) repeater was located on Breiel Boulevard. In 2015, the 2M repeater in Madison Township was replaced with a Yaesu System Fusion repeater capable of operating in either digital or analog mode.

Amateur license instruction was initiated in the early 1970's and numerous Novice and Technician licensees emerged. In late 1988, after a short hiatus, license classes were reintroduced. Over the past 28 years, approximately 600 students have attended Dial's license classes and more than 500 have earned either a new license or an upgraded existing license. We have offered license examination services, which are open to the public, since 1988 and tested an estimated 1400 applicants over the 28-year period.

-K8CM, et.al

A NEW "ARRL THE DOCTOR IS IN" AUDIO PODCAST EPISODE IS NOW AVAILABLE

"HF Vertical Antennas" will be the topic of the inaugural "ARRL The Doctor is In" audio podcast, available on April 7 and sponsored by DX Engineering. "ARRL The Doctor is In" is a lively discussion of all things technical. Listen on your computer, tablet, or smartphone -- whenever and wherever you like!

Every 2 weeks your host, QST Editor in Chief Steve Ford, WB8IMY, and the Doctor himself, Joel Hallas, W1ZR, will discuss a broad range of technical topics. You can e-mail your questions to doctor@arrl.org, and they may be answered in a future podcast.

Enjoy "ARRL The Doctor is In" on Apple iTunes, or by using your iPhone or iPad podcast app (just search for "ARRL The Doctor is In"). You can also listen online through Stitcher and through the free Stitcher app for iOS, Kindle, or Android devices. Subscribe to the podcast free of charge through either service and never miss an episode.

Podcast episodes will be archived on the ARRL website.

-ARRL Letter, April 7, 2016

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A "F.Y.I."

The following is an e-mail received by Barney – and a few others – and looks legitimate. Although this *Newsletter* does not advertise and/or promote products or services, we thought it worth bringing your your attention.

From: **Bo Tian**
Date: Thu, Mar 31, 2016 at 8:06 PM
Subject: Bioenno LIFEPO4 Batteries for Ham Radio

Hi Barney,

Our company Bioenno Power, a leading Santa Ana, California based manufacturer, offers you a variety of advanced battery solutions including LiFePO4 (Lithium Iron Phosphate) batteries for ham radio applications. We work with different ham radio enthusiasts across the U.S. and heard about your ham radio club through our customer base. We offer a full line of LiFePO4 battery products across a wide range of voltages from 12V to 48V with capacities ranging from 3Ah to 200Ah. Our LiFePO4 batteries are manufactured to ISO9001 standards using high quality materials and stringent quality control. In addition, we also offer a variety of powerpacks (portable energy storage systems) and foldable solar panels for your field applications.

Check out:
Bioenno Power

Feel free to contact us:
Bioenno Power

Contact us now for your initial order! A bit about us, since early 2012, Bioenno Power started to provide LiFePO4 batteries, powerpacks, LiPo batteries, and various other energy products that have been well tested. Local ham radio clubs such as the Orange County Amateur Radio Club (OCARC) have positively evaluated our LiFePO4 batteries, among others. These are among best performing batteries available at a competitive price! Since then, we have sold our batteries across the country via our sales channels and overseas as well.

Again, we look forward to your business and hope you have a great day!

Thank you very much and best regards,

Bo Tian
Sales & Marketing Agent

-via e-mail, N8HP

Next Meeting: Monday, April 18, 2016 in the Salvation Army Fellowship Hall,
1914 First Avenue, Middletown, Ohio.
Gathering at 6 pm, dinner at 6:30, followed by 75th Anniversary celebration

Amateur Radio License Exams

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

Wednesday evening, April 27, 2016
at 6 p.m. in Verity Lodge
Miami University-Middletown, Middletown, OH

Doors will open for registration at 6 p.m and examinations will commence shortly thereafter. Please plan to arrive early as all registration activities are to 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, and social security (SSN) or Licensee ID number (FRN).

There is no test fee required for these examinations.

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

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

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

Talk-in on 146.61 (-600) 77 Hz PL
444.3625 (+5) MID Local-2 [DMR]

Next Meeting: Monday, April 18, 2016 in the Salvation Army Fellowship Hall, 1914 First Avenue, Middletown, Ohio.
Gathering at 6 pm, dinner at 6:30, followed by 75th Anniversary celebration

Amateur Radio License Exam

The Butler County Amateur Radio Association will offer amateur radio operator's license examinations, beginning at 9 am, on Saturday, May 14, 2016 at the Fairfield Township Police Department, 6485 Vonnie Vale Court, Hamilton, 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.

Walk-ins welcome - Preregistration not required.

Exams are free ... No test fees will be collected.

Additional information may be obtained from Thurl Golden, KD8VLU, or Carl Morgan, K8CM,

Talk-in will be available on W8WRK/R
146.700 - , 123 Hz PL

Next Meeting: Monday, April 18, 2016 in the Salvation Army Fellowship Hall, 1914 First Avenue, Middletown, Ohio.
Gathering at 6 pm, dinner at 6:30, followed by 75th Anniversary celebration

DIAL RADIO CLUB

Middletown, Ohio

APRS Digipeater: W8BLV 144.39
Repeaters:146.01/146.61, 147.915/147.315, 449.825/444.825
DMR 449.3625/444.3625
Web page: http://www.qsl.net/w8blv/ e-mail: W8BLV@QSL.net

President:
Ernie Howard, W8EH
Vice-President:
Carl Morgan, K8CM
Secretary:
Barney Taylor, N8HP
Treasurer:
Ron Spaulding, N8QF
Activities Manager:
Roy Dalton, N8LRN
Newsletter Editor:
Carl Morgan, K8CM
Webmaster:

the prez sez .....

Hamvention is next weekend, May 20, 21, 22.

Dial received our space passes. We are in the same location with several spaces starting at 3201.

As usual we will have tables and be selling stuff. Start gathering your stuff now and bring it to sell. A 10% donation to the club is expected.

NEW FREQUENCY ---- The club's on-site repeater will be on a new frequency this year: - - - 444.825, + 5 MHz offset, PL tone 100.0 Hz.

Get your book out and program your radio ahead of time. If you can't figure it out, bring your hand-held to the next club meeting or trailer clean-out as there may be someone who can help. I do have an updated program file for the Baofeng UV-5R radios if you need that.

Thanks to everyone who attended the Dial 75th anniversary dinner. We all had a good time. It was fun seeing old pictures and remembering some of the old guys that we knew in the past. Thanks to the committee and those who put it all together.

-Ernie, W8EH

MINUTES OF THE APRIL 18th, 2016 MEETING

Attendance

N8AA, N8ACR, KE8CIE, K8CM, KE8DKS, KD8DLU, KE8DLV, WA8DTU, WA8EFK, N8EH, W8EH, N8GGE, KC8GMR, N8HP, N8HRA, N8HRA, W8ISZ, W8LKU, W8LR, N8LRN, WD8NKJ, N8OZN, N8QF & Judy, KF8QS & Doreena, NR8R & Barbara, K8SI, N8SY, KD8W & Judy, W8WLM, KC8WOF, W8WTD, N8YFQ, KD8ZOV, KD8ZOW

Next Meeting: Monday, May 16, 2016 at the Golden Corral
Dinner at 6 followed by business meeting at 7

Call to order:

Ernie, W8EH, called the meeting to order at 7:21 pm. Ernie announced that the Business Meeting would be abbreviated due to the celebration of Dial's 75th Anniversary as an ARRL Affiliated Club.

Secretary's Report:

A motion to accept the minutes of the previous month's meeting as published in the newsletter, was made by Ernie, N8EH.and seconded by Lorie, W8LKU. This motion was approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report:

A motion to delay the Treasurer's Report until the May meeting was made by Ernie, N8EH, and seconded by Bob, NR8R. The motion passed without dissent.

Repeater/Station Report:

Ernie, W8EH, reported that "everything's ok" with Dial's repeater system.

Activity Report:

Report Postponed.

Classes and Exams:

Beverley, N8GGE, reported that the last meeting of the class to prepare candidates for the General exam will be this Wednesday. An exam session is scheduled for Wednesday April 27, at Verity Lodge, Miami University Middletown.

Newsletter:

Report postponed.

Website:

No report.

Old Business

Hamvention – May 20-May 22 and have the tickets for the same outdoor vendor (a.k.a. flea market) location as last year - 3201. One important change for 2016; we will be using an on-site UHF repeater rather than the 2M repeater as in past years. Frequency will be **444.825 +5MHz** and **PL 100 Hz**. Tweak your H-T and be ready to go. Baofeng owners were reminded to look for their programming cable.

New Business

Trailer clean-out will be scheduled for May 11th. Details to be forthcoming by email.

Dial has been granted the Special Event call W8D, starting May 6th and lasting for two weeks. Dave, KD8W, has offered his QTH for operation of W8D on Saturday May 7th. Details will be sent out later on the email reflector.

Carl, K8CM, read a congratulatory note from HAMARC *[page 8]*, commending Dial for the classes and exam sessions over the years, and congratulating Dial for the number of amateurs added to the radio community.

Next Meeting: Monday, May 16, 2016 at the Golden Corral
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Barney, N8HP, asked for recognition of Ernie, W8EH, Elaine, KC8WOF, and their helpers in getting the Fellowship Hall set up for the meeting. Ernie, W8EH, added that they had much help – Ernie Sr., N8EH, Marilyn, N8HRA, Ruth, N8OZN and others.

Bob, NR8R, was commended by Ernie, W8EH, for the excellent posters on the history of Dial and the slideshow. Bob offered to make copies of the slideshow for any that were interested.

Ernie, W8EH, gave a brief history of Dial commenting that the Club was more loosely formed prior to its affiliation with the ARRL, and went on to recognize our special guests from the ARRL Great Lakes Division: Dale, WA8DFK, Division Director; Tom, W8WTD, Vice Director; and Scott, N8SY, Section Manager.

Scott, N8SY, presented Ernie, W8EH, a plaque from the ARRL Section and read it aloud. The audience responded with applause. *[page 9]*

Dale, WA8EFK, spoke with deep gratitude and commended Dial for enduring as a Club with the radio silence brought on by World War II shortly after Dial's affiliation. Dale also brought two ARRL books to be given away as door prizes. Those in attendance applauded Dale's comments.

Tom, W8WTD, offered congratulations to Dial and told the audience how impressed he was the display of the Club's history. He charged us to never forget the Club's history. Tom might be a little bit partial as he is the Historian of the Queen City Emergency Net.

Ernie, W8EH, turned the proceedings over to Ron, N8QF, for awarding the door prizes. Ron asked Scott, N8SY, to draw the tickets. Nancy, KD8ZOW, was the first winner and chose a cap. Judy Williamson (spouse of KD8W) also chose a cap. Doreena (spouse of KF8QS) chose a book operating practices, and Barbara, (spouse of NR8R) chose a book on antennas. Books and hats were donated by Dale, WA8EFK, and Scott, N8SY, respectively. The final drawing was for an Icom Dstar radio donated by Ron, N8QF. Elaine, KC8WOF, was the lucky winner. It certainly was ladies night.

Ernie, W8EH, invited those in attendance to stay and enjoy the fellowship, food, and snacks.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Dave, N8YFQ, and seconded by Ernie, N8EH, to adjourn at 7:37 pm. Motion approved unanimously.

Barney Taylor, N8HP
Secretary

FIELD DAY 2016

The Dial Radio Club Field Day 2016 is June 25-26, beginning at 1800 UTC Saturday and running through 2059 UTC Sunday. Field Day site is Smith Park in Middletown, OH.

The objective of Field Day is to work as many stations as possible on any and all amateur bands (excluding the 60, 30, 17, and 12-meter bands) and to learn to operate in abnormal situations in less than optimal conditions. Field Day is open to all amateurs in the areas covered by the ARRL/RAC Field Organizations and

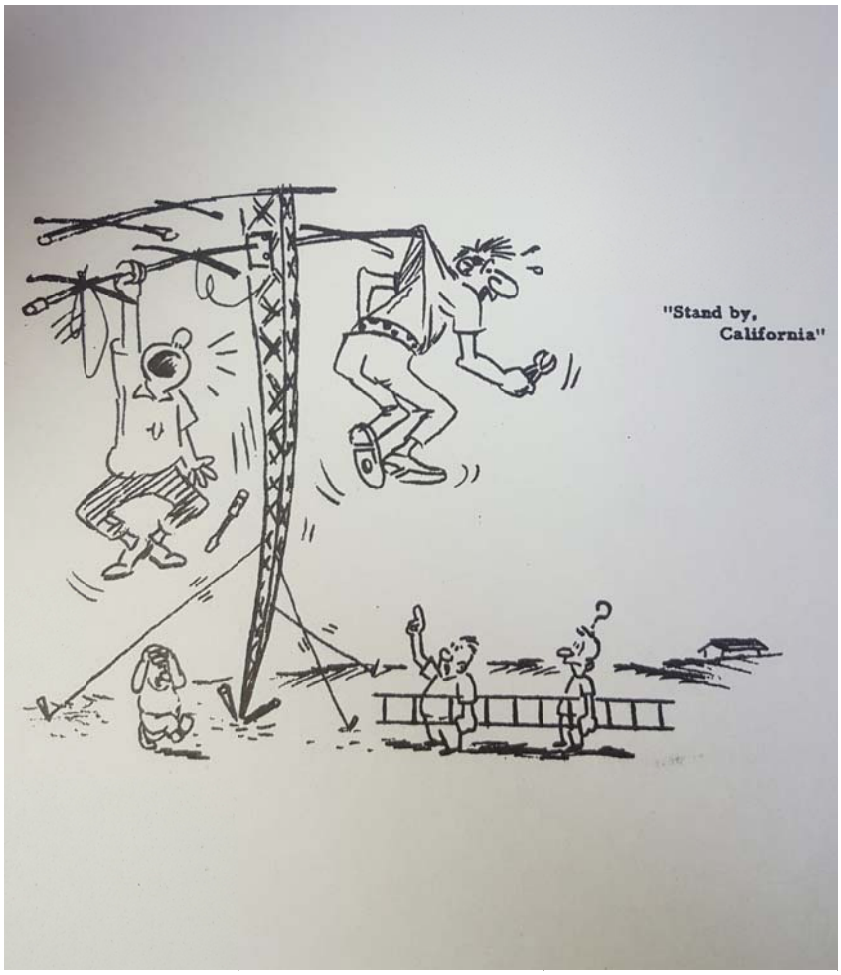

Photo from NR8R collection

countries within IARU Region 2. DX stations residing in other regions may be contacted for credit, but are not eligible to submit entries.

Photo from 1960. Amazing, no matter how much things change, how much they stay the same.

LICENSE EXAM NEWS

Dial's most recent license exam was held on Wednesday, April 27. Eleven VEs served 12 applicants to whom 18 exam elements were administered. The 18 elements consisted of Element 2 (6 administered and 6 passing), Element 3 (10 administered and 3 passing), and Element 4 (2 administered and 1 passing). There were 6 new Technicians, 3 Generals, and 1 Amateur Extra licensees by evening's end.

Next exam, to be hosted by the BCARA, will be 9 am, Saturday, May 14, 2016 at the Fairfield Township Police Department.

- Carl, K8CM

PLANNING FOR HAMVENTION 2016?

Dial will be there, in flea market spaces 3201-3205, with our Club flag flying. Bring your surplus gear to sell or trade, stop by for fellowship, or simply rest your weary toes.

Next Meeting: Monday, May 16, 2016 at the Golden Corral
Dinner at 6 followed by business meeting at 7

AND A FINE TIME WAS HAD BY ALL ……

Ernie, W8EH, and Mayor Mulligan

Monday, April 19, 2016 was the date of Dial's 75th Anniversary celebration. The evening opened with Lawrence P Mulligan, Middletown mayor, presenting a proclamation recognizing the Dial Radio Club and amateur radio in general for its many contributions to the public. [*page 7]*

Following Mayor Mulligan's presentation, the membership enjoyed dinner. The Club extends its thanks to Ernie Jr., W8EH; Elaine, KC8WOF; Ernie Sr., N8EH; Marilyn, N8HRA; Ruth, N8OZN and all others for their efforts in helping with the setup. A delicious dinner prepared us for the evening's business meeting. Thank you to all who brought side dishes.

The Club recognized ARRL representatives; Scott Yonally, N8SY, Ohio Section Manager, Dale Williams, WA8EFK, Great Lakes Division Director, and Tom Delanay, W8WTD, Great Lakes Division Vice-Director. It was a honor to have them in attendance.

During the business meeting, greetings were delivered by Dale, WA8EFK, and Scott, N8SY. A special recognition award was presented by Scott. [p*age 9]*

A congratulatory note was received from the Hamilton Amateur Radio Club (HAMARC) and was read aloud by Carl, K8CM. [*page 8].*

A special recognition to Bob, NR8R, who organized an impressive display of photos and historical documents. He also prepared a slide show which played throughout the evening. A job well done and a great contribution to the evening and to Dial Radio Club.

Scott, N8SY, and Ernie, W8EH

At the conclusion of the business meeting, Ron, N8QF, proceeded with awarding door prizes. Ron asked Scott, N8SY, to draw the tickets. Nancy, KD8ZOW, was the first winner and chose a cap. Judy Williamson (spouse of KD8W) also chose a cap. Doreena (spouse of KF8QS) chose an ARRL publication on operating practices, and Barbara (spouse of NR8R) chose a book on antennas. Books and hats were donated by Dale, WA8EFK, and Scott, N8SY, respectively. The final drawing was for an Icom D-STAR radio donated by Ron, N8QF. Elaine, KC8WOF, was the lucky winner. It certainly was a ladies night!

-Carl, K8CM, et.al

Next Meeting: Monday, May 16, 2016 at the Golden Corral
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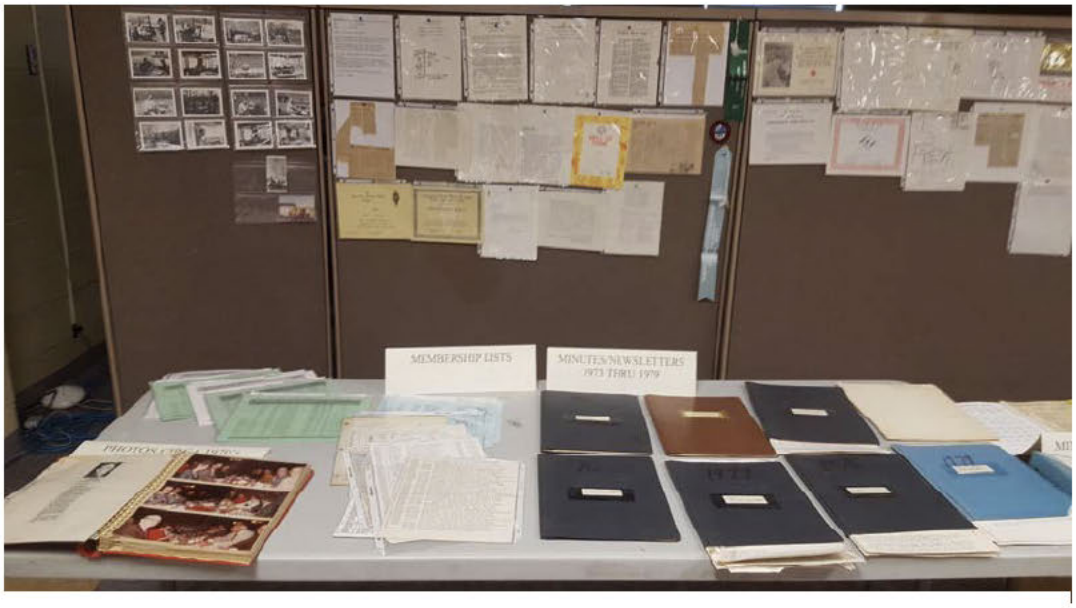
Birthday Cake *photo by W8WLM*

N8SY, W8EH, W8WTD, WA8EFK *photo by NR8R*

photo by NR8R

photo by NR8R



Memorabilia Table by NR8R

Next Meeting: Monday, May 16, 2016 at the Golden Corral
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Proclamation

WHEREAS, the Dial Radio Club, Middletown, Ohio, was formed on May 9, 1941, and today we are gathered together to honor and celebrate the Club's 75th anniversary; and

WHEREAS, amateur radio (ham radio) is a popular hobby and service that brings people, electronics and communication together. People use ham radio to talk across town, around the world, or even into space, all without the internet or cell phones. It's fun, social, educational, and can be a lifeline during times of need; and

WHEREAS, amateur radio operators come from all walks of life -- doctors, students, kids, politicians, truck drivers, movie stars, missionaries and even your average neighbor next door. They are of all ages, genders, income levels and nationalities. Whether through Morse Code on an old brass telegraph key, voice communication on a hand-held radio or computerized messages transmitted via satellite, all hams use radio to reach out to the world; and

NOW THEREFORE, I, Lawrence P. Mulligan, Jr., Mayor of the City of Middletown, Counties of Butler/Warren, State of Ohio, extend a sincere congratulations to all who are present and do hereby proclaim April 18, 2016, as a day fitting to celebrate the

75th Anniversary of the Dial Radio Club

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the City of Middletown this 18th day of April, 2016.

Lawrence P. Mulligan, Jr., Ma

Attest: Clerk of Council

CITY OF MIDDLETOWN
CHARTER DATE AUG. 8, 1913
OHIO

Dinner at 6 followed by business meeting at 7

HAMARC

W8AJT

Hamilton Amateur Radio Club

THE HAMILTON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB CONGRATULATES THE

DIAL RADIO CLUB

W8BLV

ON ITS 75TH YEAR AS AN AFFILIATED CLUB OF THE OF THE AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE BEING CELEBRATED ON MAY 9, 2016!

OVER THE DECADES OF DIAL'S SERVICE TO THE AMATEUR RADIO COMMUNITY, HUNDREDS OF "HAMS" IN SOUTHWEST OHIO OBTAINED THEIR LICENSES THANKS TO DIAL'S CLASSES AND EXAMINATION SESSIONS.

Next Meeting: Monday, May 16, 2016 at the Golden Corral
Dinner at 6 followed by business meeting at 7

Next Meeting: Monday, May 16, 2016 at the Golden Corral
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Amateur Radio License Exam

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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.

Walk-ins welcome - Preregistration not required.

Exams are free ... No test fees will be collected.

Additional information may be obtained from Thurl Golden, KD8VLU, or Carl Morgan, K8CM,

Talk-in will be available on W8WRK/R
146.700 - , 123 Hz PL

Next Meeting: Monday, May 16, 2016 at the Golden Corral
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DIAL RADIO CLUB

Middletown, Ohio

APRS Digipeater: W8BLV 144.39
Repeaters:146.01/146.61, 147.915/147.315, 449.825/444.825
DMR 449.3625/444.3625
Web page: http://www.qsl.net/w8blv/ e-mail: W8BLV@QSL.net

President:
Ernie Howard, W8EH
Vice-President:
Carl Morgan, K8CM
Secretary:
Barney Taylor, N8HP
Treasurer:
Ron Spaulding, N8QF
Activities Manager:
Roy Dalton, N8LRN
Newsletter Editor:
Carl Morgan, K8CM

the prez sez .....

Mark your calendars because this month brings our biggest event of the year, Field Day. The dates are June 24, 25, and 26 (Friday, Saturday, Sunday). We have our usual spot at Smith Park, in Middletown, reserved.

Friday at noon we will be assembling on site to start our setup. We will be working until early evening.

Saturday morning between 8:30 and 9 we will complete our set up and equipment testing.

The official Field Day operation starts at 2 pm Saturday afternoon and runs for 24 hours until 2 pm Sunday.

At 6 pm Saturday is the Dial Radio Club family covered dish/picnic. The club is providing chicken and hot dogs, you bring a covered dish.

We will try to repeat last year's achievement by winning Ohio. See you there!

-Ernie, W8EH

MINUTES OF THE MAY 16th, 2016 MEETING

Attendance

N8AA, N8ACR, K8CM, N8DHW, WA8DTU, N8EH, W8EH, N8GGE, N8HP, N8HRA, KI8I, W8ISZ, W8LKU, W8LR, NN8M, NW8NW, N8PI, N8QF, AB8QP, KF8QS & Doreena, NR8R & Barbara, KD8TGE, MC8TXA, AC8US, KD8W, W8WLM, N8YFQ, WA8YXY

Next Meeting: Monday, June 20, 2016 at the Golden Corral
Dinner at 6 followed by business meeting at 7

Call to order:

Ernie, W8EH, called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm. Ernie asked for an around-the-room self-introduction of those present.

Secretary's Report:

A motion to accept the minutes of the previous month's meeting as published in the newsletter, was made by Bob, NR8R, and seconded by Ernie, N8EH. This motion was approved with one dissention.

Treasurer's Report:

Ron, N8QF, began with the March Treasurer's Report which had been postponed due to the 75th Anniversary meeting last month. Membership stood at 81 persons representing 57 families. A motion to approve was made by Barney, N8HP, and seconded by Carl, K8CM. The motion passed.

Ron then gave the April report with 82 members representing 58 families. Ernie, N8EH, moved and Bob, NN8M, seconded a motion to accept Ron's report. The motion passed without dissent.

A number of motions related to funding were then acted upon. Each motion passed unanimously.

Food for the April Anniversary Meeting: $171.83 (N8EH moved and NN8M seconded)

Food for the operation at KD8W's home: $37.96 (NR8R moved and N8YFQ seconded)

Money to purchase drinks for Hamvention: $150.00 (KD8W moved and N8EH seconded)

Repeater/Station Report:

Ernie, W8EH, reported on the failure of the 'voter' for the 146.61 repeater. He took the repeater home, ordered replacements for the IC's and replaced 6 IC's. The repeater is now back in service and seems to be working well (*Thanks to Ernie for service well beyond that expected – Sec*). Ernie went on to report that both the Motorola DMR and Yaesu Fusion repeaters were both working well.

Activity Report:

Ernie, W8EH, gave a brief report on the 75th Anniversary Meeting and announced that the Plaques and Proclamation will be at Field Day in June.

Classes and Exams:

Beverley, N8GGE, reported that the Spring classes were over, and that, as usual, classes will not be held over the summer.

Carl, K8CM, gave a summary of recent exam sessions: The first was held at Miami University Middletown and sponsored by Dial. The second was offered by BCARA. Both had very good outcomes. No exams are scheduled until August.

Newsletter:

Carl, K8CM, reported that they are "still going out once per month".

Next Meeting: Monday, June 20, 2016 at the Golden Corral
Dinner at 6 followed by business meeting at 7

Website:

No report.

Old Business

Ernie, W8EH, announced that Bob, NR8R, had volunteered to be the Club's Historian after the huge amount of work that he did in preparing the historic materials for last month's meeting. (*He wasn't wearing a sling, but his arm was likely still hurting – Sec*). Bob asked that members send items of possible historic significance to him. He also announced that he had DVD copies of the slide show and materials on the wall at the 75th Anniversary meeting that were free to members that desired the DVD.

Dave, KD8W, related an incident at a Field Day at Jacot Park when the Club was using a helium filled weather balloon to hoist a vertical antenna for 160 meters. Jerry, W8LR, was operating the late night hours when the SWR became quite bad. He awakened Dave and they discovered that dew on the balloon had caused it to fall to about 8 feet – hence most of the antenna was on the ground. After sunrise, when the dew dried, the balloon again lifted the antenna wire.

Barney, N8HP, reminded those in attendance that the Club had the Special Event Station call W8D through midnight of the Thursday before Hamvention. He encouraged anyone with interest to operate.

Ernie, W8EH, started giving the final status of Hamvention preparation and several others joined in as summarized below:

- The Club will again be at spaces starting with 3201.
- Setup will occur on Thursday, people will leave Ron's (N8QF) place of business and proceed to the Germantown McDonalds for lunch and to pick up persons living to the north).
- Persons needing 'last minute' loading of items to sell into the trailer should be at Ron's before noon Thursday or make other arrangements with Ron, Ernie (W8EH) or Carl (K8CM).
- The group with early entry tickets will leave Ron's place at '0-dark-thirty' (5:30 am) during the weekend, again stopping in Germantown for to pick up those living north.
- Bob, NR8R, announced that parking near the closed hardware store in Germantown has been approved.
- The usual drinks and snacks will be provided – pop, water, coffee and donuts. A George Foreman grill will be present – bring your own hot dogs.
- Dave, KD8W, and Bob, NR8R, offered to bring a pop-up shelter. With the one remaining 10x20 foot shelter, that will make about 40 feet of covered space.
- Dave, N8YFQ, reported that he had 'General Admission' tickets for sale at $20 for anyone interested.
- The portable repeater has changed. It will be on 444.825 MHz with a PL of 100 Hz.

Ernie, W8EH, reported that the paperwork to operate Field Day from Smith Park has been submitted – including the Club's proof of insurance. Ernie expects to receive approval in the upcoming week. Ernie's comments lead to a discussion of the need to rent a 'Port-a-let' for Field Day. After some discussion spurred on

by Jim, W8ISZ, Ron, N8QF, made a motion to allocate $125 for a portable toilet (if needed) and up to $250 for food for the Field Day picnic. Ernie, N8EH, seconded the motion that received all ayes.

New Business

Jim, W8ISZ, asked about the status of the Club's W8BLV repeater site on the WNKN (previously referred to as WNKU) tower. Ernie, W8EH, asked Ron, N8QF, to give a summary. Ron gave a report based on his conservation with Jim Stith, the WNKN engineer. WNKU is having a severe funding problem due, in part, to cuts in higher education by Kentucky's Governor. To address a huge shortfall WNKU has sold the AM (910 kHz) part of the WNKN station and will be receiving monthly rent for use of the existing antenna. They desire to tear down or otherwise sell the old studio building that has been vacant for several years. The long term plan is to build a new building at the WNKN site that will result in the destruction of the existing shed that houses the W8BLV repeater. The possible outcomes are 1) building a new shed for Dial's repeater or 2) being granted space inside the new building. A third possibility was mentioned by Ernie, W8EH that consists of mounting a traffic style cabinet on a concrete pad – similar to the one at the West Middletown site.

Conversation about other items at the W8BLV site continued. Jim, W8ISZ, asked about the status of the weeds and undergrowth that the work party attacked last year. Ron, N8QF, reported that he had a commercial entity go in and treat the area. The weeds will not be a problem this year. Ernie, W8EH, mentioned the possibility of the Club obtaining a charitable institution status. Such status could make allowing Dial to remain on the present site more attractive if WNKU sells the Middletown site. Ron, N8QF, added that will be a question that we must address if WNKU sells. Carl, K8CM, expressed the opinion that we should move forward into looking at the transition into a charitable institution. Jim, W8ISZ, reported that he has been associated with two entities that have made such a transition and that attorneys were involved in both cases. Ernie, N8EH, reported the same results for a group in Monroe that he has been involved with. Dave, KD8W, volunteered to bring the topic up with George, W3GP, when he comes up for Hamvention.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Carl, K8CM, and seconded by Dave, KD8W, to adjourn at 7:48 pm. The motion was approved unanimously.

Barney Taylor, N8HP
Secretary

W8D REPORT

There were 256 QSO's with one call logged twice (duped) but at different times, resulting in 255 different call signs. We have now received 17 QSL cards (4 are postcard types) and the others are SASE.

All have been entered on QRZ and Logbook of the World (LoTW) and, on QRZ, the log shows 31 confirmed contacts.

At this point, Jerry, W8LR, and Barney, N8HP, have logged the majority of contacts.

-Dave, KD8W

Next Meeting: Monday, June 20, 2016 at the Golden Corral
Dinner at 6 followed by business meeting at 7

FIELD DAY 2016

Field Day is an annual amateur radio exercise, widely sponsored by IARU regions and member organizations, encouraging emergency communications preparedness among amateur radio operators. In the United States, it is typically the largest single emergency preparedness exercise in the country, with over 30,000 operators participating each year. Field Day is always the fourth full weekend of June, beginning at 1800 UTC Saturday and running through 2059 UTC Sunday.

Since the first ARRL Field Day in 1933, radio amateurs throughout North America have practiced the rapid deployment of radio communications equipment in environments ranging from operations under tents in remote areas to operations inside Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs). Operations using emergency and alternative power sources are highly encouraged, since electricity and other public infrastructures are often among the first to fail during a natural disaster or severe weather.

A 20th Century Field Day site

Field Day Site of long ago

To determine the effectiveness of the exercise and of each participant's operations, there is an integrated contesting component, and many clubs also engage in concurrent leisure activities (camping out, cookouts, etc.). Operations typically last a continuous twenty-four hours, requiring scheduled relief operators to keep stations on the air. Additional contest points are awarded for experimenting with unusual modes, making contacts via satellite, and involving youth in the activity.

-Wikipedia

Tri--bander going up !

Next Meeting: Monday, June 20, 2016 at the Golden Corral
Dinner at 6 followed by business meeting at 7

DAYTON HAMVENTION® GENERAL CHAIRMAN BELIEVES 2016 ATTENDANCE WAS UP SLIGHTLY

Recapping Dayton Hamvention® 2016, Jim Tiderman, N8IDS, who has served as general chairman of the event for the past 2 years, said attendance this year may have been up slightly from 2015. Tiderman, who now passes the baton to a new general chairman -- Ron Cramer, KD8ENJ -- said he feels the 2016 show, overall, went well.

"In my humble opinion, it went smoother than we had a right to think it could," Tiderman told ARRL. "The credit for that happening -- this year and last -- goes to our volunteer base and returning committee chairs, who get their talents in gear and go for it." He said each year's innovations feed into the vision that guides the next Hamvention administration, which Cramer will head after serving with Tiderman as assistant general chairman for the past 2 years.

Tiderman said that while it's still too soon to get an accurate attendance count for Hamvention 2016, "indicators we use as a matter of course are showing us the slightest increase." He said that while it may not have seemed that way to some visitors, he prefers to keep a positive mind. Official attendance at the 2015 show was 25,621, up by about 750 from the previous year.

Assembling flag pole and antenna mast

The weather did provide some momentary excitement, Tiderman said, when a microburst occurred in the flea market just north of the Mendelson's tent. The strong gust of wind took out two or three vendor tents, winding a pop-up tent leg around the fiber cable handling Internet service for the flea market office. "This caused stress and strain on the cable, and down it came," Tiderman recounted. "It did not break, but it did stop activity around the area of the downed cable until the Hara crew got it back into the air.

"So, where in other years there have been instances of things erupting 'from below,' this year it came from above," Tiderman quipped.

Vendor spaces were nearly full, both inside and outside Hara Arena. Tiderman said the 525 to 530 booth spaces inside were nearly filled to capacity, while first-day occupancy of the 2500 flea market spaces was at 96 percent.

Dial site as viewed from the fairway

Tiderman said he observed an "overall good mood" and "a positive attitude," and the Hamvention staff received many upbeat comments. Read more.

-via e-mail

Next Meeting: Monday, June 20, 2016 at the Golden Corral
Dinner at 6 followed by business meeting at 7

DIAL RADIO CLUB

Middletown, Ohio

APRS Digipeater: W8BLV 144.39
Repeaters:146.01/146.61, 147.915/147.315, 449.825/444.825
DMR 449.3625/444.3625
Web page: http://www.qsl.net/w8blv/ e-mail: W8BLV@QSL.net

President:
Ernie Howard, W8EH
Vice-President:
Carl Morgan, K8CM
Secretary:
Barney Taylor, N8HP
Treasurer:
Ron Spaulding, N8QF
Activities Manager:
Roy Dalton, N8LRN
Newsletter Editor:
Carl Morgan, K8CM

the prez sez .....

Well, another Field Day is in the books. We did well but QSO totals were slightly down from last year. Band conditions were not great on Saturday, and that may have had some bearing on the totals. 40 meters seems to be the best band for QSOs, and the upper bands were quiet. We also had many times when the stations were not fully maned.

Several things were discussed about how we can change our setup next year to do more with less equipment to set up. We need to simplify our setup to match the number of operators and setup people. One option discussed was to drop from class 3A (which we usually run) to 2A. If we go 2A (two transmitters), we could run one on CW and one on phone, and have the GOTA station to fill in during the day. And we could share a 20-15-10 meter tribander between both stations. That means that we could get by with less antennas, less tents, less computers and less radios. Then we should do a better job of spreading out (scheduling) the operators to cover the stations fully.

A big thanks to everyone who showed up this year and it was good to see everyone at the picnic.

Ernie, W8EH

MINUTES OF THE JUNE 20th, 2016 MEETING

Attendance

N8AA, N8ACR, KE8CJC, K8CM, KD8CPV, N8DHW, WA8DTU, N8EH, W8EH, N8GGE, KC8GMR, N8HP, N8HRA, KI8I, W8ISZ, W8LKU, N8LRN, NN8M, NW8NW & Sharon, N8QF, KF8QS, NR8R & Barbara, KD8W, W8WLM, N8YFQ

Next Meeting: Monday, July 18, 2016 2016 at the Golden Corral
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

Call to order:

Ernie, W8EH, called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm. Ernie asked for an around-the-room self-introduction of those present.

Secretary's Report:

A motion to accept the minutes of the previous month's meeting as published in the newsletter, was made by Bob, NN8M, and seconded by Bob, NR8R. This motion was approved without dissention.

Treasurer's Report:

Ron, N8QF, gave the Treasurer's Report and a summary of Hamvention expenses and income. The Club received more income from donations than the expenses of Hamvention. Membership stands at 82 persons representing 58 families. A motion to approve was made by Ernie, N8EH, and seconded by Bob, NR8R. The motion passed.

Membership:

Ron made a motion to approve the application of Nelson Webb, NW8NW, to become a member. Carl, K8CM, seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Welcome to Dial, Nelson!

Repeater/Station Report:

Ernie, W8EH, reported that Dial's repeater system is working properly. Carl, K8CM, gave the same report for Echolink.

Activity Report:

Roy, N8LRN, reminded those in attendance of the upcoming ARRL Field Day on the 25th and 26th of June. Roy asked for operators and for a good attendance at the picnic on Saturday at 6:00 pm. The Club will provide fried chicken and hot dogs. Families are asked to bring a side dish to share. Roy added that breakfast will be served to the operators on Sunday morning.

Classes and Exams:

Beverley, N8GGE, reported that there are no current plans for classes as it looks like Dial has lost access to Verity Lodge. She reported that she is in contact with Miami officials and will try to get them to reconsider. Carl, K8CM, reported that Dial currently has no exam plans, but that BCARA will likely give an exam in August. Carl asked that anyone knowing of a suitable space for classes and exams let him know.

Newsletter:

No report.

Website:

No report.

Old Business – Field Day Details:

Ron, N8QF, moved that up to $200 be allocated for food expenses and up to $75 for gasoline for the generator. Dave, KD8W, seconded the motion which passed without dissent.

Next Meeting: Monday, July 18, 2016 2016 at the Golden Corral
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

Ernie, W8EH, discussed Field Day planning. He asked those that had brought equipment or stations last year to do so again. Plans are to set up campers for those spending the night first and then set up the shelters for the stations starting about 12:00 on Friday. Once 2:00 pm arrives, the antennas will be assembled and installed. We should be finished by 7:00 pm. Activity will resume on Saturday morning at 9:00 am to set up and test the stations. Enough shelters were volunteered to reserve the Club's lone remaining 10'x20' shelter for the food tables. The people bringing stations have decided to return to N3FJP's program for logging. Ernie asked for tow vehicles to bring the Club's generator and trailer to the FD site. Ernie also reported that he had checked out one of the Club's radios and that it had checked out as being ok. Ernie reported that we can get bonus points for having a full-time safety officer and asked for a volunteer.

New Business:

Ron, N8QF, reported that he had been in contact with the underwriter of the Club's liability insurance which we purchase as an ARRL Affiliated Club. He discovered that raising the Club's 1 million dollar liability limit to 2 million would be a minor cost (roughly $50 more than the current $300 for the policy). Discussion followed that showed an interest in upgrading the coverage. Carl, K8CM, moved and Bob, NR8R, seconded a motion to upgrade the policy to two million dollars at the next renewal. The motion passed with all ayes.

Dave, N8YFQ, gave a summary from Hamvention. He had been told that the total attendance was over 26,000 this year. Since he was director of the Flea Market he gave a thorough report on it. 1900 of 2200 sites were sold this year. Almost 400 spaces were rented to clubs. More than 80 clubs were present. The reduced rates for clubs saved club members more than $16,000. Spaces were rented to hams from Russia, Great Britain, Brazil, Columbia, Germany, New Zealand, Australia, The Dominican Republic, Japan and France.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Dave, KD8W, and seconded by Dave, N8YFQ, to adjourn at 7:42 pm. The motion was approved unanimously.

Barney Taylor, N8HP
Secretary

FIELD DAY 2016

Field Day 2016 is complete. Below is an incomplete summary of the activity:

Friday: Setup began on Friday morning when Ernie, W8EH, and Barney, N8HP, arrived early to set up their campers for the weekend. Roy, N8LRN, and Steve, KD8CPV, arrived later with their campers. Dave, KD8W, was an early arriver with a trailer full of shelters, antennas, radios and other equipment. The EZ-Up shelters were set up for the CW, 6m, and two SSB stations. Then work began on the antennas. Jim, KF8QS, was present with two grandchildren Alicia (5) and Ethan (10) who used W8EH's tennis ball cannon to launch the strings for the CW antennas before they left to return to SC. Later in the afternoon the tower went up with the Club's 'old' Mosley antenna. Standing wave ratio issues caused Dave, N8YFQ, to adjust the length of all three elements while perched on top of a folding ladder. Later the screen house for the GOTA station was set up.

Saturday Morning: The 80m 'double bazooka' and 40 m loop antennas were set up. The stations were set up in the shelters, antenna cables run and the radios and computers tested out. A 160m/80m inverted L was set up for the CW station. Steve, KD8CPV, volunteered the use of his Kenwood TS-2000 for the 80m/20m HF station. The other stations were the same as last year: CW, a FT-990; 40m, a TS-850S, 6m, an IC-746. We did

not have sufficiently long cables to be able to network the K8PI computers. The GOTA rig was W8ISZ's TS-850S. GOTA shared the antennas with the K8PI 80/20m station.

Operation:

At the start John, N8AA, was at the CW station, Roy, N8LRN, was on the 40m station, Dave, N8YFQ, was operating on 20m, and Barney, N8HP, was on 6m. Initial contacts were easy. Operation continued until the picnic started, however, making contacts was more difficult than last year and the rate was down – only about 330 contacts in the first 4 hours.

Six meters had a very high noise that masked all but the strongest nearby stations. For all the effort in setting up a station, only 7 contacts were made during the entire contest. The band was checked frequently but the noise did not go away.

After the picnic, Dick, K8CI, relieved N8AA on CW. Dick was relieved by Barney at 21:00. Ernie, W8EH, suggested a pause to refill the generator at that time. Around 10:20 Jerry, W8LR, relieved Barney. By midnight the total number of contacts was about 610 – mostly from the CW tent. The 40m station was setting at 96 contacts, and Barney decided that he could not go to bed with fewer than 100 contacts. By 02:15 he had the number up to 110, and the total was about 734. At 03:00 Dave, KD8W, and Tim, KD8SSC, arrived. Steve, KD8CPV was back on the air. At 06:15 Roy, N8LRN, had replaced Steve and all stations were being productive with 910 total contacts. Roy continued until he stopped to cook our breakfast of bacon biscuits and jelly biscuits. About that time Tim decided he needed a break from 40m. Barney took over with a hoarse voice. Jim, W8ISZ, and Dave, N8YFQ, returned around 08:30 and Jim took over 40m – he continued until the end of the contest with only a couple of 5 minute breaks. Ernie, W8EH, operated 20m from 08:15 until about 10:15. Dave, N8YFQ, continued on 20m until about 12:45 and Steve, KD8CPV finished the contest on 20m. Our rates were much improved. Dick, K8CI, relieved KD8W in the CW tent at 08:20 and continued on until the end.

In the end we wound up with 1832 contacts: 938 from the two SSB stations and 894 from the CW station. Since the CW contacts give double the points of a SSB contact, the CW tent again whipped up on the voice operators by almost two-to-one in terms of points. Barney combined the logs for all of the stations (except GOTA) and generated the tables from the combined log. Ernie, W8EH, will generate the final scores from the log and submit the results.

According to the operator's call and initials in the log files, 12 people operated K8PI. Carl, K8CM, doubled his usual Field Day contacts. Nelson, NW8NW, made 11 contacts on K8PI, and Ernie, N8EH, made 14 contacts. Our number of operators was down this year. Especially missed were Kaylee, KD8TGE, and Bob, NR8R, who decided a Florida beach was more fun than Dial's Field Day ☺. Sometimes the initials were not changed during a short break to heed the call of nature, etc., so the numbers in the tables are not absolute.

Teardown: As usual, some of the EZ-Ups were disassembled while the station was in operation and unused antennas were lowered before the official end of Field Day. At 2:00 pm the antennas other than the tower were quickly dropped. The stations were packed away, and the remaining shelters knocked down. Coax and power cables were coiled for next year. The 40 m loop and the remaining CW antennas were taken down. The tower was lowered, the beam disassembled and the trailer was reloaded. Thanks to all that helped with the process – especially those that returned to help with teardown. By 16:15 we had everything down and packed away. Another Field Day is in the Log!

Next Meeting: Monday, July 18, 2016 2016 at the Golden Corral
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

Get On The Air (GOTA) Results

Jim Frey, W8ISZ, was again the GOTA coach. All of the GOTA activity occurred on Saturday between 2:00 pm and about 8:00 pm under the call W8BLV. There were 44 contacts with one duplicate for a total of 43 SSB contacts on the GOTA station. The GOTA station made more contacts on 15 meters than K8PI.

Jim's five year old granddaughter Isabella made a SSB contact and her 10 year old sister Gabrielle logged under Grandpa's supervision. Roy, N8LRN, had some relatives operate, but their names were not logged. Mike, K8MRC, passed his Technician exam at Dial's last exam session and upgraded to General at Dayton and changed to his new vanity call. He had never made a HF contact before 2:00 pm. Once the day was over he had 24 contacts on the 80m and 15m bands. Great start Mike! Nelson, NW8NW, who made his first HF contact last year at Field Day, made 12 contacts. Nelson made his first HF contact last year at Dial's Field Day, and he had not made another contact since. He went on to later operate one of the K8PI SSB stations for a while.

-Barney, N8HP

FIELD DAY BY THE NUMBERS ..... *[as reported to the ARRL]*

Call Used: K8PI GOTA Station Call: W8BLV ARRL/RAC Section: OH Class: 3A
Participants: 26 Club/Group Name: Dial Radio Club
Power Source(s): Generator, Battery, Solar
Power Multiplier: 2X

QSO Score Summary:

	CW	Digital	Phone	Total
Total QSOs	894	0	978	1872
Total Points	1788	0	978	2766

Power multiplier 2 x 2766
Claimed Score = 5,532
Total Bonus Points = 1,270
Total score with bonus: 6,802

Band/Mode QSO Breakdown:

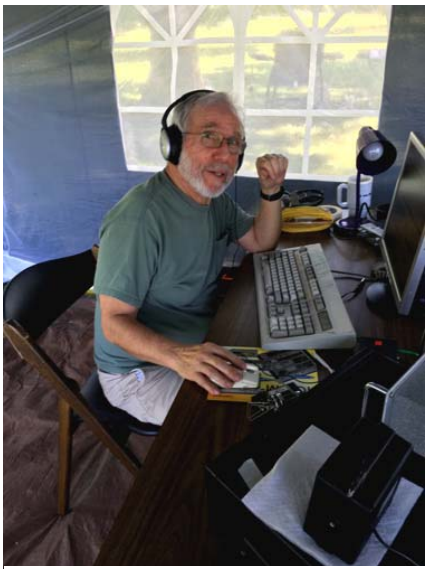
	CW		Digital		Phone	
	QSOs	Pwr(W)	QSOs	Pwr(W)	QSOs	Pwr(W)
160m	1	100				
80m	253	100			202	100
40m	326	100			565	100
20m	308	100			164	100
15m	6	100				
6m					7	100
GOTA					40	100
TOTAL	894					978

-Ernie, W8EH

Next Meeting: Monday, July 18, 2016 2016 at the Golden Corral
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

FIELD DAY PHOTOS …… *by Beverley, N8GGE, and Carl, K8CM*

Jim, W8ISZ & Nelson, NW8NW in GOTA tent



John, N8AA in CW tent

Steven, KD8CPV & Dave, N8YFQ in SSB tent

Barney, N8HP at the 6M position

Next Meeting: Monday, July 18, 2016 2016 at the Golden Corral
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Information Table in center field

Dick, K8CI, taking a break from CW

DIAL's mobile power supply

Culinary Wizards: Gordon, KC8GMR & Roy, N8LRN

EXAM AND CLASS NEWS

We will be offering a Technician-level class, in Middletown, beginning on August 17; six weeks in length and culminating in an exam on Wednesday evening, September 28. Our traditional August exam will not be in Middletown this year but will be hosted by the Butler County Amateur Radio Assn. on Saturday, August 27.

See details in the announcements on pages 10 and 11 of this newsletter.

-Carl, K8CM

Next Meeting: Monday, July 18, 2016 2016 at the Golden Corral
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

AMATEUR RADIO LIGHTHOUSE SOCIETY

Purpose

The Amateur Radio Lighthouse Society (ARLHS) is devoted to maritime communications, amateur radio, lighthouses, and lightships. Its members travel to lighthouses around the world where they operate amateur radio equipment at or near the light. Collecting lighthouse QSLs is popular for some amateur radio operators. ARLHS is a membership organization with over 1665 members worldwide. Key points include:

To promote public awareness of the role ham radio and light beacons have played in assisting and maintaining safety at sea;
To preserve the heritage and history of lighthouses and lightships;
To aid in preserving those lights in danger of destruction or decay;
To recognize the keepers of the lights as maritime heroes;
To foster camaraderie within the ham fraternity;
To provide fellowship amongst nations and members of the Amateur Radio Lighthouse Society.
Directory of light, lighthouses and lightships

The ARLHS maintains a catalog of lighthouses called The World List of Lights (WLOL). Its main feature is a short, and easily transmitted identification number for each lighthouse. The WLOL lists any lighthouse that is or was an Aid to Navigation (ATN) and can reasonably accommodate an amateur radio operation. Lights that are no longer in existence, but were once an ATN, also show up on the list, designated as historical. With over 15,000 entries, the WLOL is one of the most complete lighthouse catalogs in existence.

Roy, N8LRN at HF SSB

Lighthouse and Lightship Week August 6 & 7, 2016

More info here: http://arlhs.com/

PURPOSES:

To promote public awareness of ham radio and lighthouses; to contribute to the recognition that lighthouses, lightships, and their keepers deserve; to foster camaraderie within the ham fraternity; and to provide fellowship amongst the members of the Amateur Radio Lighthouse Society

DATES & TIMES:

0001 hrs UTC on August 6 through 2359 hrs UTC on August 7.

NOTE: The first week in August each year, beginning August 1st through August 8th, will be known as "Intercontinental Lighthouse-Lightship Week (ILLW)."

SUGGESTED MODES & CALLING FREQUENCIES:

Any and all modes : SSB, CW, RTTY, PSK, FM, SSTV, etc.

Next Meeting: Monday, July 18, 2016 2016 at the Golden Corral
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

Suggested SSB freqs: 1950-1990, 3950-3990, 7250-7290, 14.250-14.290, 21.350-21.390, 28.350-28.390
(Calling on the centered 0.70 kHz on each band - Example: 14.270.)

Suggested CW center freqs: 1830, 3530, 7030, 14.030, 21.030, 28.030
These are center calling frequencies. Work 20 kHz each side of center.

Digital modes: 1838, 3580, 7035, 10.040, 14.070, 18.100, 21.080, 24.920, 28.070
Slow Scan TV (SSTV): 14.230, 14.233
RTTY: 14.080 and other standard RTTY frequencies.

EXCHANGES:

ARLHS members: send call sign, member number, and state/province/country
Non-members: send call, sequential contact number, and state/province/country
Lighthouse/Lightship Stations: send call, ARLHS lighthouse name, ARLHS number, and state/province/country

The frequencies above are suggestions only and are based on the USA band plan. You are free to use whatever frequencies your country and license class allow.

-Carl, K8CM et.al

Aluminum ladder doubling as a 40M vertical antenna

Next Meeting: Monday, July 18, 2016 2016 at the Golden Corral
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

Amateur Radio License Exam

The Butler County Amateur Radio Association will offer amateur radio operator's license examinations, beginning at 9 am, on Saturday, August 27, 2016 at the Fairfield Township Police Department, 6485 Vonnie Vale Court, Hamilton, 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 license ID number (FRN) or social security (SSN) number.

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.

Walk-ins welcome - Preregistration not required.

Exams are free ... No test fees will be collected.

Additional information may be obtained from Thurl Golden, KD8VLU, or Carl Morgan, K8CM,

Talk-in will be available on W8WRK/R
146.700 - , 123 Hz PL

Next Meeting: Monday, July 18, 2016 2016 at the Golden Corral
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

Amateur Radio Class

Introductory Level

Ham Radio Class To Begin !

Beginning August 17, 2016, 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 21 and be followed by an examination session on Wednesday, September 28.

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 $25-30) 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

Next Meeting: Monday, July 18, 2016 2016 at the Golden Corral
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

DIAL RADIO CLUB

Middletown, Ohio

APRS Digipeater: W8BLV 144.39
Repeaters:146.01/146.61, 147.915/147.315, 449.825/444.825
DMR 449.3625/444.3625
Web page: http://www.qsl.net/w8blv/ e-mail: W8BLV@QSL.net

President:
Ernie Howard, W8EH
Vice-President:
Carl Morgan, K8CM
Secretary:
Barney Taylor, N8HP
Treasurer:
Ron Spaulding, N8QF
Activities Manager:
Roy Dalton, N8LRN
Newsletter Editor:
Carl Morgan, K8CM

the prez sez .....

One thing that I've noticed lately is that we don't hear many of our members on the air. The repeaters are quiet. It might be time to get out that radio, turn it on, listen, make a few calls, and talk to some people. Maybe a 'contest' is in order? It seems like long ago, but a few years back we had a club operating event, where we tried to work each other and fill out the 'alphabet'. Anybody want to give that a try again?

Ernie, W8EH

MINUTES OF THE JULY 18th, 2016 MEETING

Attendance

N8AA, KE8CIE, K8CM, KD8CPV, N8EH, N8GGE, N8HP, N8HRA, KI8I, W8ISZ, N8LRN, NN8M, N8QF, KF8QS, NR8R & Barbara, KD8W, W8WLM, N8YFQ

Call to order:

Carl, K8CM, called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm and dispensed with the around-the-room self-introduction due to the relatively small number of those present.

Secretary's Report:

A motion to accept the minutes of the previous month's meeting as published in the newsletter, was made by Bob, NN8M, and seconded by Ernie, N8EH. This motion was approved without dissention.

Treasurer's Report:

Ron, N8QF, gave the Treasurer's Report and a summary of Field Day expenses. The Club spent slightly over $200 on Field Day food, supplies and gasoline for the generator. Membership stands at 84 persons representing 59 families. A motion to approve was made by Barney, N8HP, and seconded by Bob, NR8R. The motion passed.

Next Meeting: Monday, August 15, 2016 2016 at the Golden Corral
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

Repeater/Station Report:

Carl, K8CM, reported that Dial's repeater system is working properly. The Echolink UPS failed causing Echolink to be off the air for about 6 hours. Scott, AC8US, reported to Carl that he had heard some interference on the W8JEU repeater. It is possible that the repeater was being used for digital modes which would sound like interference on an analog radio.

Activity Report:

Roy, N8LRN, gave a summary of Field Day and thanked those who helped in preparation, operation, with the picnic and with teardown.

Classes and Exams:

Beverley, N8GGE, reported that the issue with Verity Lodge has been resolved, at least for this year. A class to prepare students to take the Technician Level exam will be on Wednesday August 17th at Verity Lodge, Miami University Middletown. Teachers will soon receive a tentative schedule from Beverley.

Carl, K8CM, announced that Dial's next exam will follow the Technician class at Verity. BCARA will be holding an exam session on the 27th of August at Fairfield Township. Dial VE's are welcome at the BCARA session.

Newsletter:

No bounces of the newsletter were reported, so Carl assumes that everyone is receiving their newsletter.

Website:

Barney, N8HP, reported that he had updated the Club's homepage to give information about the upcoming Technician Class and upcoming Exams. He also changed the webmaster to 'currently vacant'. Carl, K8CM, asked for a volunteer for webmaster. Dave, KD8W, said he would approach Tim, WA8YXY.

Old Business – Field Day Results:

Roy, N8LRN, brought forward the suggestion by Ernie, W8EH, that we consider dropping down to class 2A for next year based upon the fewer number of operators and times that the phone stations were unmanned. Others made comments positive and negative, but no consensus was reached. Dave, KD8W, suggested two CW stations and one SSB station.

Roy commented on the hot conditions and the long time to bring down the triband beam (*it was very hot, but bringing down the beam antenna went fairly quickly and pretty smoothly – much as in years past … Sec)*. Jim, W8ISZ, suggested not using the triband beam and tower, but to use wire antennas instead.

Carl asked Barney, N8HP, and Dave, KD8W, for a report. Since Barney's summary was in the previous newsletter, Dave responded with a summary. Overall, he felt the scores were down, but he was positive with regard to the operation – especially of the CW station. Several members commented that they had heard persons at other Field Day sites report scores of about 50% of their 2015 score. If that is the case, Dial might still finish very high in 2016.

Next Meeting: Monday, August 15, 2016 2016 at the Golden Corral
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New Business:

Ron, N8QF, reported on two items with regard to the Club's W8BLV repeater. Lt. Curliss of the Monroe Police Department contacted Ron to let him know that the water tower that supports the southern receive antenna for W8BLV is going to be torn down, and that he had given Ron's name and phone number to the Monroe Public Works Director. Lt Curliss indicated that a 501c3 status for Dial might make Monroe respond more favorably to allowing Dial to retain a remote receive antenna on a City of Monroe structure. Some discussion followed and it was decided to "nudge" George, W3GP, to determine what would be involved for Dial could become a 501C3 entity. Jim, W8ISZ, reported that he had been in two clubs in Florida that had made the transition, and both had positive outcomes because of the change.

Ron's second report is in regard to the WNKN site. He had received a call from Jim Stitt, the WNKU/WNKN engineer earlier today. Jim indicated that Dial should plan on staying in the present building. He also asked if the Club would be willing to clean up the area inside the fence around the transmitter building and to apply a coat of paint to the building. Again, WNKN will provide the dumpster, and Dial is asked to supply the labor to clean up – including the removal of satellite dishes and other items within the fenced area. A discussion followed. Several members thought that if we are remaining in the wooden shed, then we should paint the shed as well as the building. Ron reported that some shingles had been blown off. It was suggested that we re-shingle the roof with a light colored shingle to reduce the heat within the building. A work party to clean out the area within the fence and to paint the transmitter building was set for August 6th at 9:00 am. (*That date has been since cancelled due to conflicts. The new date is August 21 – Sec*).

The removal of the hardline from the old studio building to the tower will still need to be removed. Ron was not sure of when it will need to be removed.

Beverley, N8GGE, announced that a plaid shirt size XL had been left at Field Day. The owner should contact her to make arrangements to get it back.

Jim, W8ISZ, asked if the Club was going to participate in the Ohio QSO Party on August 28th? There was a positive show of hands, and 8 potential operators responded. Dave, N8YFQ, volunteered to host the event at his home. There will more discussion at the next meeting.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Dave, N8YFQ, and seconded by Ron, N8QF, to adjourn at 7:38 pm. The motion was approved unanimously.

Barney Taylor, N8HP
Secretary

GOOD-BYE, HARA ARENA! DAYTON HAMVENTION HEADED FOR XENIA IN 2017

"X" marks the spot! After 52 years at Hara Arena and its entire 64-year history in the Greater Dayton area, Hamvention® announced on August 1 that it would relocate to the Greene County Fairgrounds in Xenia, Ohio. The new venue is about 16 miles east of downtown Dayton off US Route 35 and north of Xenia. On June 29, the Amateur Radio community was stunned to learn that Hara Arena would shut down at the end of August, leaving Hamvention homeless -- at least until this week's big reveal.

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"We appreciate and value all the time and effort the many partners, in particular the Greene County Agricultural Society, the Greene County Board of Commissioners, and the Greene County Convention & Visitors Bureau, have put into helping Hamvention find the right venue to continue our long history here in the Miami Valley," Hamvention General Chair Ron Cramer, KD8ENJ, said on August 1. "We look forward to a long and mutually prosperous relationship."

Cramer has said that Hamvention spent "many hours over the last few years evaluating possible [new] locations," and he has assured visitors that their "current accommodations and outside events already planned for Hamvention 2017 should not be affected."

Hamvention chief spokesman and board member Mike Kalter, W8CI, made clear that the move to Xenia was not done in desperation. "Montgomery County didn't have anything for us," he told ARRL. "We looked exhaustively."

"The key thing is that we plan to have a 5-star event," he said of Hamvention 2017. "We'll put a lot of time and energy into it."

The move to Xenia could prove to be a huge economic bonanza for the city and for Greene County. Hamvention attracts some 25,000 visitors each May. Its annual economic impact has been estimated at between $15 and $17 million to the Dayton/Montgomery County area, and some -- if not most -- of that benefit now could migrate eastward down US 35.

Kalter conceded that the new venue in Greene County is a slightly longer drive from downtown Dayton -- where some Hamvention-related events traditionally occur -- than it was to Hara Arena, but he believes it will be worth the trip. James M. Cox International Airport in Dayton remains the closest for anyone flying in for the event, although the drive from the airport will be about twice as long for those deciding to stay in Xenia.

"We expect next year to be a big year," Kalter said. "We expect a lot of people to come to see what it's like." Read more. Also see this story. On his website, KE9V has offered some first-hand information regarding the new venue.

-ARRL Letter, August 4, 2016

We will meet on Saturday, August 20, beginning at 9 am at the WNKU antenna site. Our task involves clearing the tower site of debris and discarded [dish] antenna equipment in preparation for building construction to begin.

Best guess, we'll be finished around noon.

It would be helpful if you'll let us know you will be coming - an e-mail reply will be fine.

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ARRL BULLETIN 27 ARLB027

ARRL Bulletin 27 ARLB027
From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT July 29, 2016
To all radio amateurs

SB QST ARL ARLB027
ARLB027 FCC Proposes Rule Changes in Response to ARRL's "Symbol Rate" Petition, Seeks Comment

The FCC has proposed to revise the Amateur Service Part 97 rules in response to the ARRL's so-called "Symbol Rate" Petition for Rule Making (RM-11708), filed in late 2013, and it has invited comments on its recommended changes. The Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) in WT Docket 16-239, released on July 28, had been making the rounds at the FCC since May. ARRL had asked the FCC to change the Part 97 rules to delete the symbol rate limits in Part 97.307(f) and replace it with a maximum bandwidth for data emissions of 2.8 kHz on amateur frequencies below 29.7 MHz.

The NPRM can be found on the web in PDF format at,
http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2016/db0728/FCC-16-96A1.pdf.

"[W]e believe that the public interest may be served by revising the Amateur Service rules to eliminate the current baud rate limitations for data emissions, consistent with ARRL's Petition, to allow Amateur Service licensees to use modern digital emissions, thereby furthering the purposes of the Amateur Service and enhancing the usefulness of the service," the FCC said in its NPRM.

"We do not, however, propose a bandwidth limitation for data emissions in the MF and HF bands to replace the baud rate limitations," the NPRM concluded, "because the rules' current approach for limiting bandwidth use by amateur stations using one of the specified digital codes to encode the signal being transmitted appears sufficient to ensure that general access to the band by licensees in the Amateur Service does not become unduly impaired."

Under the current rules, "specified digital codes" in Part 97 may be used with a symbol rate that does not exceed 300 baud for frequencies below 28 MHz, with the exception of 60 meters, and 1200 baud in the 10 meter band. The baud rate limits were adopted in 1980, when the FCC amended Part 97 to specify ASCII as a permissible digital code.

Comments in the proceeding will be due 60 days after the date that the NPRM appears in the Federal Register.

-via ARRL e-mail

AMATEUR RADIO PARITY ACT RECEIVES FAVORABLE HOUSE ENERGY AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE REPORT

An amended version of the Amateur Radio Parity Act, H.R. 1301, received a unanimous favorable report on July 13 from members of the US House Energy and Commerce Committee. The bill now will go to the full House for consideration. Before reporting the bill out of committee, the panel first voted to accept the amended language, "in the nature of a substitute." Rep Greg Walden, W7EQI (R-OR), who chairs the Energy and Commerce Committee's Subcommittee on Communications and Technology, said the substitute bill represented "a good balance" that came in the wake of months of meetings, hard work, and compromise, and he recommended the measure to his colleagues.

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"The amendment guarantees that even in deed-restricted communities, Amateur Radio operators are able to use an effective outdoor antenna," Walden said. "Without an effective antenna Amateur Radio operators are severely limited, so this amendment ensures that amateurs are free to pursue their passion wherever they live."

At the same time, he continued, the measure protects the rights of those "who have chosen to live in deed-restricted communities and to set their own aesthetic and other rules."

In early June, the ARRL and the Community Associations Institute (CAI) -- the national association of homeowners associations (HOAs) -- announced that they had reached consensus on substitute language for HR 1301 in an effort to move it through committee and to overcome objections to the companion US Senate bill, S 1685. The offices of US Representatives Adam Kinzinger (R-IL), the bill's sponsor, Anna Eshoo (D-CA), and Walden mediated and offered assistance.

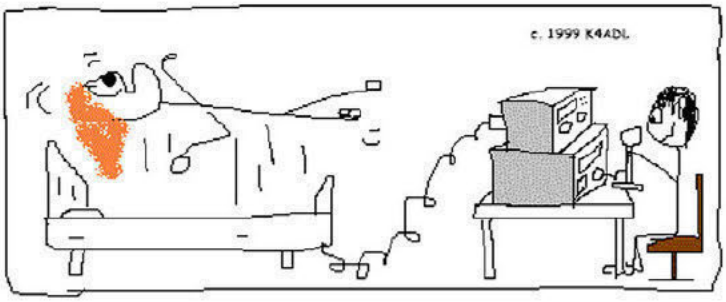
"While it's rare to have two groups with opposing viewpoints walk away from legislation happy, by golly, I think we've done it here," Walden concluded. He said the substitute bill represented "the best of what our committee can do when we work together in bipartisan compromise that meets the needs of all parties involved."

In her remarks, Eshoo said she was glad that an agreement had been reached on the bill's language, which she initially feared would violate the rights of homeowners associations. "We found a balance that works for all stakeholders," she said, calling the ARRL and CAI "the bookends of the effort."

Kinzinger called the amended bill "a good amendment that strikes the right balance."

-ARRL Letter, July14, 2016

To be ***'in the know'*** about what is happening with DIAL, you need to be subscribed to the Dial e-mail reflector. If you encounter difficulty, contact Ernie for assistance.



ONCE A COMMON PRACTICE FOR APARTMENT DWELLERS,
LOADING UP THE BEDSPRINGS IS NOW CONSIDERED POLITICALLY INCORRECT.

Tnx to: www.qsl.net/k4adl

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Amateur Radio License Exam

The Butler County Amateur Radio Association will offer amateur radio operator's license examinations, beginning at 9 am, on Saturday, August 27, 2016 at the Fairfield Township Police Department, 6485 Vonnie Vale Court, Hamilton, 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 license ID number (FRN) or social security (SSN) number.

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.

Walk-ins welcome - Preregistration not required.

Exams are free ... No test fees will be collected.

Additional information may be obtained from Thurl Golden, KD8VLU, or Carl Morgan, K8CM,

Talk-in will be available on W8WRK/R
146.700 - , 123 Hz PL

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Amateur Radio Class

Introductory Level

Ham Radio Class To Begin !

Beginning August 17, 2016, 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 21 and be followed by an examination session on Wednesday, September 28.

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 $25-30) 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

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Activities Manager:
Roy Dalton, N8LRN
Newsletter Editor:
Carl Morgan, K8CM

MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 15TH, 2016 MEETING

Attendance

N8ACR, K8CM, N8DHW, WA8DTU, N8EH, W8EH, N8GGE, KC8GMR, N8HP, N8HRA, KI8I, W8ISZ, W8LKU, NN8M, NW8NW & Sharon, N8QF, KF8QS, NR8R & Barbara, KD8W, W8WLM, KC8WOF, N8YFQ

Call to order:

Ernie, W8EH, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and dispensed with the around-the-room self-introduction due to the relatively small number present.

Secretary's Report:

A motion to accept the minutes of the previous month's meeting as published in the newsletter, was made by Ernie, N8EH, and seconded by Bob, NN8M. This motion was approved without dissention.

Treasurer's Report:

Ron, N8QF, gave the Treasurer's report. Membership stands at 84 persons representing 59 families. A motion to approve was made by Carl, K8CM, and seconded by Barney, N8HP. The motion passed.

Ron continued to explain to those present his interactions regarding increasing the Club's liability insurance to $2 million. The company is declining to write policies for more than $1 million unless a club can provide written proof that some relevant entity requires the higher limit. Presently Dial has no such requirements. *(Examples would be WNKU for allowing tower access or the City of Middletown to secure Field Day in Smith Park. Secretary)* Dial's present cost for liability insurance remains at $300 per year.

Repeater/Station Report:

Ernie, W8EH, reported that Dial's repeater system is working properly – except Dial has lost the Monroe remote receiver for W8BLV due to the imminent demolition of the water tower that has supported the antenna.

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An impromptu work party (W8EH, K8CM, N8QF, and KC8TXA) went to the water tower and removed the equipment and cabinet. They were told that that there might be some hope of salvaging the antenna – depending upon who removed other antennas from the tower. Ernie reported that other possible sites for a receive antenna are being investigated.

Carl, K8CM, reported that Echolink is "superb".

Activity Report:

No Report.

Classes and Exams:

Beverley, N8GGE, announced that a class to prepare students to take the Technician Level exam will be on Wednesday August 17th at Verity Lodge, Miami University Middletown. Dial's next exam will follow the class on September 27th at Verity Lodge, Miami University Middletown. Carl, K8CM, added that the BCARA will be holding an exam on August 27th at the Fairfield Township Police building. He invited Dial VEs to join in with the BCARA VEs if they desired since both Dial and BCARA VEs operate under the auspices of the Laurel VEC.

Newsletter:

Carl, K8CM, reported that the newsletter "is doing fine".

Old Business:

Ron, N8QF, gave a summary of the goals for the work party scheduled for 9:00 am on Saturday August 20th at the W8BLV site. Dial has been asked to remove concrete blocks, rubber roofing, bricks and satellite dishes within the fence surrounding the tower and transmitter building. WNKU will provide a dumpster. Dial will also replace/repair the power vent in the repeater shed and paint the block transmitter building and try to remove a couple of stumps. It was requested that someone bring a wheelbarrow. After some discussion, Ron, N8QF, made a motion to allocate up to $100 for a power vent replacement/repair parts. Carl, K8CM, seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Dave, N8YFQ, offered to bring a thermostat to donate if that was the problem.

The Club will participate in the Ohio QSO Party on August 27th at the home of Dave, N8YFQ. Operation will be between noon and midnight. A show of hands of persons intending to participate indicated about 6 to 8 people interested. Setup was scheduled for the 17th of August at Dave's home.

Dave, KD8W, made a motion to allocate up to $100 for food and drinks for the OH QSO Party. Bob, NN8M, seconded the motion that passed without dissent. Hope to see you at Dave's!

New Business:

Dave, N8YFQ, the continuing Flea Market Chair for Hamvention gave a summary of what is known at this point. *(Oversimplifications or omissions are likely due to the Secretary.)*

- The fairgrounds have multiple buildings that are nice inside.
- The Flea Market will be in the grass covered infield of the ½ mile long horse track.
    - The layout will be much different
    - There is the possibility that clubs will be grouped together

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- Gates will not open until 7:00 am due to exercising/training horses. As a result, the Flea market will likely open to the public at 9:00 rather than the traditional 8:00 am. It will close at 5:00 pm and the track must be clear by 6:00 pm.
- Flea Market parking may be on the 50-foot wide cinder track.

Dave emphasized that everything will be new and that people are working feverishly to have the best Hamvention possible. Dave responded to a few questions from the audience: Early set-up on Thursday will remain. There are four 2-lane roads into the Fairgrounds. Traffic control will be a learning experience.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Ron, N8QF, and seconded by Dave, KD8W, to adjourn at 7:43 pm. The motion carried.

Barney Taylor, N8HP
Secretary

DIGITAL RADIOS

A few months back a survey was conducted on the Ohio Section website to find out just which mode seems to be the most popular right now. Popular being who's using what digital mode the most.

The survey showed the following:

D-Star - 11%
Fusion - 28%
DMR - 61%

Now I realize that this survey is not very scientific, but I feel that it does show that DMR seems to be the up and coming new digital mode that's worth looking at. There were over 250 responses to this survey and 30 of them were from digital repeater owners.

What I have discovered through this poll is that buy/owning a digital radio is a lot like buying a car. Some only like Ford's and others like Chevy's .. Is one better than the other? That really depends on who's doing the buying and what the needs of the person are! So with that in mind, please don't misinterpret this survey as being conclusive. It isn't. It's just a fun way of finding out who's using what right now.

I use DMR. I purchased a Tytera MD-380 radio and it uses what is called a "codeplug" to plug into all the repeaters. This is where the settings for each repeater are located. This codeplug is created by someone and can be "cloned" to any amount of other like radios. It's not proprietary so exchanging it between friends is ok. Firmware updates are also free for you as well.

Now because I travel all over the state I was finding that there are a lot of DMR repeaters around that if I only had them programmed in I could use them as I travel .. So, I went to a friend of mine with this problem and he resolved it for me by creating a codeplug with all of the DMR repeaters in Ohio programmed into it. Thanks

Andy .. This codeplug can be used to program any of the very popular Tytera MD-380's or MD-390 digital UHF radios.

For those of you who are looking for a great use for DMR, there are several nets around the country that you can freely join in on.

We also have a statewide net in Ohio that meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesday at 8:30pm local.

There's also a statewide net in Kentucky that meets every Thursday at 8pm local.

Want a copy of the codeplug that I use? Send me an email and I'll send it over to you.. n8sy@n8sy.com Please note .. This codeplug is for the Tytera MD-380 / MD-390 only.

[Dial's DMR repeater may be found at 444.3625 MHz. Ask Ron, N8QF; Ernie, W8EH; or Carl, K8CM for details about becoming active on DMR. –Ed.]

-ARRL Members Only Web site; August 30, 2016

GOLD! NPOTA ACTIVATION SET FROM ALASKA'S KLONDIKE GOLD RUSH NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

Mark Bowers, VY1MAB, from Whitehorse, Yukon Territory, will activate the Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park (HP21), for the National Parks on the Air (NPOTA) program. A storm has forced postponement of his trip until Saturday and Sunday, September 17 and 18.

The NPOTA unit has been only lightly activated this year, so it remains "a rare one." VY1MAB/KL7 will begin operation at 1700 UTC on both days, continuing for as long as he can on Saturday and wrapping up at 2100 UTC on Sunday. He will run 100 W into a Buddipole and dipole antennas. Plans call for operating SSB, PSK31, and WSJT modes.

Word that gold had been discovered in the region in 1897 started the Klondike Gold Rush. Thousands of prospectors headed north hoping to cash in.

The park commemorates the bravery of these so-called stampeders by protecting the trails, historic boom towns, and buildings of the Klondike Gold Rush era.

-ARRL Letter, September 8, 2016

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AUGUST 20 WORKDAY AT WNKN ANTENNA SITE

Workday at the WNKN (a.k.a. W8BLV/R) antenna site brought out 15 members; N8EH, W8EH, KD8TXA, NR8R, N8BH, N8LRN, W8ISZ, N8YFQ, K8CM, AC8US, KE8BXV, N8QF, KE8CIE, KD8W, and KF8QS. After a morning visit to the donut box, the crew was thoroughly invigorated and proceeded to the task at hand. Surveying the site from the South, the existing block building shows its need for paint. Around to the back, (tower side) the field of debris becomes more noticeable and, again, the crying need for paint.

At the conclusion of the work detail, the area to the tower side has been cleared of discarded building materials, large sheets of rubber, and satellite dish antennas. Both buildings now have a new coat of paint. The concrete block building in front of the tower houses broadcast equipment and the one to the left is home to Dial's 01/61 repeater. All in all, a very good day for both NKU and Dial. Thanks to all who participated and thanks to N8QF for the photos.

MORE COUNTRIES ACT ON 60 METER AMATEUR ALLOCATIONS

Belarus and Latvia are among the latest countries to open Amateur Radio bands at 5 MHz. The Belarus Federation of Amateur Radio and Radiosportsmen (BFRR) announced recently that radio amateurs there now

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have access to a new contiguous 15-kilohertz 60 meter band, consistent with the consensus reached at World Radiocommunication Conference 2015 (WRC-15). Class A licensees in Belarus may operate on 5351.5-5366.5 kHz on CW, SSB, and digital modes, on a secondary basis with a maximum output power of 50 W. In Latvia, radio amateurs also are now permitted to use 5351.5-5366.5 kHz, with a maximum power output of 15 W EIRP. (Some Latvian hams now may also operate on the new 630 meter band, 472-479 kHz, with a power of 1 W EIRP and a transmitted signal bandwidth no greater than 800 Hz.)

Andorra returned to 60 meters earlier this summer under a new allocation of 5351.5-5366.5 kHz with a maximum power of 15 W EIRP, CW and USB, per consensus reached at WRC-15. Temporary for now, the allocation will become permanent starting in 2017. Andorra's previous 60 meter allocation was withdrawn last fall after WRC-15.

The South African Radio League (SARL) reports that its recommendation for a 100-kilohertz-wide 60 meter allocation, presented to telecoms regulator ICASA earlier this year, has received approval from the frequency spectrum department, although it's not yet authorized for use. The SARL proposal seeks the continued use of 5290 kHz for a WSPR propagation experiment and a secondary allocation of 100 kilohertz that includes the WRC-agreed range of 5351.5-5366.5 kHz, with a power maximum of 400 W.

The SARL supported a 5350-5450 kHz allocation proposed at WRC-15 by the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU). Opposition to that proposal resulted in a compromise to allocate 5351.5-5366.5 kHz. Nonetheless, some countries, including the Netherlands, have given their radio amateurs access to the proposed 100 kilohertz.

Article 4.4 of the ITU Radio Regulations lets countries authorize frequency assignments that are contrary to the international Table of Allocations, only on a non-interference, non-protected basis.

Telecomunications regulators in more than 40 countries have authorized access to 60 meters -- many, including the US, in the form of discrete channels -- on a secondary basis.

IARU Region 1 (Europe and Africa) earlier this year agreed to a paper presented by RSGB HF Manager Ian Greenshields, G4FSU, outlining a basic provisional band plan for the new 5 MHz allocation agreed upon at WRC-15. IARU Region 1 is hoping that its proposed 5351.5-5366.5 kHz usage plan will eventually be adopted by all three IARU regions.

The Region 1 plan sets aside 5351.5-5354 kHz for CW and narrowband modes; 5354.0-5366 kHz for all modes, USB voice recommended, and 5366.0-5366.5 kHz for "weak-signal narrowband modes."

The Region 1 plan strongly recommends that frequencies within the WRC-15 allocation only be used if there are no other frequencies available at 5 MHz under domestic (ie, ITU-R Article 4.4) authorizations. "Local nets and long rag-chew QSOs should not use the 5 MHz WRC-15 allocation but should instead make use of the 3.5 MHz, 5 MHz domestic, or 7 MHz bands, where there is more spectrum available," the plan advises.

Next Meeting: Monday, September 19, 2016 at the Golden Corral
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

The recent St Paul Island CY9C DXpedition operated on 60 meters, activating that DXCC entity for the first time on that band.

-ARRL Letter, September 8, 2016

LICENSE EXAM NEWS

Our Fall license exam was held on Saturday morning, August 27, at the Fairfield Township Police Department. Seven VEs served 10 applicants to whom 15 exam elements were administered. The 15 elements consisted of Element 2 (5 administered and 4 passing), Element 3 (8 administered and 2 passing), and Element 4 (2 administered and 1 passing). There were 3 new Technicians, 2 Generals, and 1 Amateur Extra licensees by evening's end.

Our next exam will be 6 pm, Wednesday, September 28, 2016 in Verity Lodge, Miami University-Middletown.

"INTERESTING....IT'S LIKE A PORTABLE BOOK FILE and YOU DON'T HAVE TO WAIT FOR IT TO DOWNLOAD... AND YOU SAY IT'S CALLED A NEWSPAPER?"

To be ***'in the know'*** about what is happening with DIAL, you need to be subscribed to the Dial e-mail reflector.

If you encounter difficulty, contact Ernie, for assistance.

Next Meeting: Monday, September 19, 2016 at the Golden Corral
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

Amateur Radio License Exams

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

Wednesday evening, September 28, 2016
at 6 p.m. in Verity Lodge
Miami University-Middletown, Middletown, OH

Doors will open for registration at 6 p.m and examinations will commence shortly thereafter. Please plan to arrive early as all registration activities are to 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, Licensee ID number (FRN) or social security (SSN) number.

There is no test fee required for these examinations.

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

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

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

Talk-in on 146.61 (-600) 77 Hz PL
444.3625 (+5) MID Local-2 [DMR]

Next Meeting: Monday, September 19, 2016 at the Golden Corral
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

Amateur Radio Class

Intermediate level Amateur Radio Class To Begin

Beginning October 5, 2016, the **DIAL RADIO CLUB** will offer a six-week class to prepare a candidate for examination in **General 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 November 9 and be followed by an examination session on Wednesday, November 16. (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 $25-30) for use in class.

Class enrollment may be limited to twenty students. For registration and/or additional information, please contact Beverley Taylor, N8GGE,
or Carl Morgan, K8CM,

Next Meeting: Monday, September 19, 2016 at the Golden Corral
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

DIAL RADIO CLUB

Middletown, Ohio

APRS Digipeater: W8BLV 144.39
Repeaters:146.01/146.61, 147.915/147.315, 449.825/444.825
DMR 449.3625/444.3625
Web page: http://www.qsl.net/w8blv/ e-mail: W8BLV@QSL.net

President:
Ernie Howard, W8EH
Vice-President:
Carl Morgan, K8CM
Secretary:
Barney Taylor, N8HP
Treasurer:
Ron Spaulding, N8QF
Activities Manager:
Roy Dalton, N8LRN
Newsletter Editor:
Carl Morgan, K8CM

MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 19th, 2016 MEETING

Attendance:

N8AA, N8ACR, KE8AIQ, KE8AIR, K8CM, K8DSS, W8EH, N8GGE, KC8GMR, N8HP, KI8I, W8ISZ, N8MM, N8QF, KF8QS, KD8W, W8WLM, KC8WOF, N8YFQ

Call to order:

Ernie, W8EH, called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm with the around-the-room self-introductions by those present. Due to a double-booking by Golden Corral, the Dial meeting was held in the general area on the opposite end of the building from our normal meeting site.

Secretary's Report:

A motion to accept the minutes of the previous month's meeting as published in the newsletter, was made by Dave, N8YFQ, and seconded by Dave, KD8W. This motion was approved without dissention.

Treasurer's Report:

Ron, N8QF, gave the Treasurer's report. Membership stands at 84 persons representing 59 families. A motion to approve was made by Carl, K8CM, and seconded by Barney, N8HP. The motion passed.

Ron informed those present that Dial had paid for the rental of a dumpster for the WNKU work party for $350, but that WNKU will be reimbursing Dial.

Membership:

Ron, presented applications from Bryan Lynch, KC8IZE, and William Lynch, KC8ISN. Ron was their sponsor. He also presented and application for Ed Gansen, K8DSS, sponsored by Jim, W8ISZ. Ron made a

Next Meeting: Monday, October 17, 2016 at the Golden Corral
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

motion to approve the applications and Dave, KD8W, seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Brian, William and Ed – Welcome to Dial!

Repeater/Station Report:

Ernie, W8EH, reported that Dial's repeater system is working properly. The Monroe water tower that previously hosted one of Dial's remote receivers for W8BLV has been completely demolished at this point.

Carl, K8CM, reported that Echolink continues to work without problems.

Activity Report:

No Report.

Classes and Exams:

Beverley, N8GGE, announced that Wednesday (Sep 21) will be the last meeting of the class to prepare students to take the Technician Level exam and that an exam session will follow on September 28th at Verity Lodge, Miami University Middletown. Dial's next class will begin on October 5th at Verity Lodge, Miami University Middletown and will prepare students for the General Class exam. A schedule will be sent to instructors shortly to see if there are any time conflicts.

Newsletter:

Carl, K8CM, reported no problems with the newsletter and that he had sent copies of the newsletter to those enrolled in the Technician class.

Old Business:

Ron, N8QF, gave a summary of the work party on Saturday, August 20th, at the W8BLV site. Two buildings were painted, the dish antennas removed, and the other debris around the transmitter was also removed. WNKU is happy with the effort of the Dial work party of about 15 members. Ernie, W8EH, recognized efforts of all involved and sent special thanks to Ron, N8QF, and Evan, KC8TXA. The audience responded with applause.

The Club participated in the Ohio QSO Party on August 27th at the home of Dave, N8YFQ. Dave gave a summary of the activities. Participation was smaller this year with 5 people attending (K8YFQ, W8ISZ, KF8QS, KD8W, and N8HP). Activities began at noon and continued until 11:30 pm with breaks for a thunderstorm around 3:00 pm and for dinner. The operation was enjoyed by all, and the number of contacts, while down from last year, was good at 356. Dave expressed hope for more participation in next year's Ohio QSO Party. Dave, KD8W, reported that he had uploaded the results. Thanks to Dave, N8YFQ, for offering his home and for all of his effort.

Ron, N8QF, informed the audience that he had received an email from George, W3GP, regarding changing Dial's status to a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. George pointed out several changes that would need to be made to the Dial's Articles before Dial could qualify for 501(c)(3) status. These would be to remove 'general interest' statements and to include charitable efforts to 'enhance the art of radio' and to 'provide education' among others. Since the meeting was being held in the public area of Golden Corral, discussion was delayed until we can meet in a quieter, more private environment at a later meeting.

Next Meeting: Monday, October 17, 2016 at the Golden Corral
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

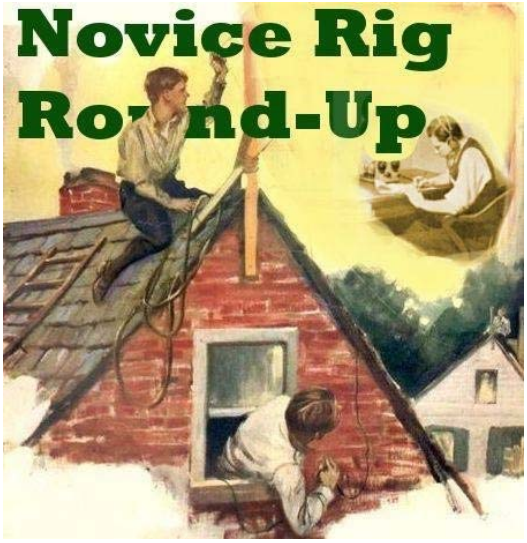
New Business:

John, N8AA, asked to give a presentation on his experiences as a member of the St. Paul Island Dxpedition – CY9C – during late August. A video projector and screen were volunteered for the next meeting. It will be a most interesting presentation, so make plans to attend.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Dave, N8YFQ, and seconded by Dave, KD8W, to adjourn at 7:15 pm. The motion carried.

Barney Taylor, N8HP
Secretary



A thrilling period of amateur radio activity in February where radio amateurs contact stations using vintage ham radio equipment from the early era of the NOVICE LICENSE. Any licensed radio amateur may participate any using equipment and the objective is to contact novice style stations built prior to 1978. Details may be found at http://novicerigroundup.com/.

OHIO SECTION NETS

SSB: Ohio Single Sideband Net (OSSBN), 10:30 AM, 4:15 PM and 6:45 PM daily, 3.972.50 MHz, KC8WH manager http://ossbn.org/

CW: Buckeye Net (Early), BN-E, 6:45 PM daily, 3.580 MHz, WB8YLO manager
Buckeye Net (Late), BN-L, 10:00 PM daily, 3.590 MHz, WB9LBI manager
Ohio Slow Net (OSN), 6:00 PM daily, 3.53535 MHz, W8OLO manager

DMR : Ohio Statewide Net meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday night at 8:30pm local on the Ohio Talk Group
Kentucky Statewide Net meets every Thursday night at 8pm local on the Kentucky Talk Group

Ohio HF Digital: OHDEN will meet 3585 USB
OLIVIA 8/500/PSK31 alternate, with MT63 1K for bulletins. Frequency: 3585Khz, 7072KHz alternate.
MT63 2K on VHF/UHF with PSK as an alternate (Assigned locally)

HF Digital Net Manager: Eldon E. Peterson, W5UHQ

Next Meeting: Monday, October 17, 2016 at the Golden Corral
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AO-7 STILL GOING STRONG AFTER ALMOST 42 YEARS IN SPACE

In a little more than a month, the venerable AO-7 Amateur Radio satellite will mark 42 years in space. AMSAT says AO-7, the oldest ham radio satellite still in operation, is now switching between Mode A and Mode B on a daily basis, after coming up in Mode A on September 30.

"That suggests that the satellite is now in constant sunlight and receiving enough power from the solar cells for the 24-hour timer to stay on throughout its entire orbit," AMSAT-NA Secretary Paul Stoetzer, N8HM, said. "Expect daily mode switches between Mode A and Mode B to occur for the next 3 months or so. As AO-7's orbit precesses and the periods of constant sunlight become fewer and fewer, there will be less of an opportunity to use Mode A on a yearly basis, so enjoy it while it lasts!"

In Mode A, earthbound amateurs transmit on 2 meters and receive on 10 meters. Stoetzer said the type of 10-meter antenna isn't fussy. "Try whatever you can," he said. When continuously illuminated, AO-7's mode will alternate between Modes A and B (70 centimeters up/2 meters down) every 24 hours.

November 15 will mark 42 years since AO-7 was launched into space from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California. AO-7 was the second so-called "Phase 2" Amateur Radio satellite that AMSAT-NA constructed and launched into low-Earth orbit. It remained in operation until a short circuit occurred in a battery in 1981. More than 20 years later, however, AO-7 unexpectedly returned to life, its 2-meter beacon showing up on 145.9775 MHz. Satellite experts speculate that AO-7's resurrection occurred when the short circuit in the battery opened up for some reason, allowing the solar cells to power the spacecraft. When the satellite goes into eclipse, it powers down.

Last February Dave Swanson, KG5CCI, of Arkansas achieved a distance milestone on AO-7 using Mode B to work Eduardo Erlemann, PY2RN (GG66lw), in Brazil -- a path of 8030.895 kilometers. -- Thanks to AMSAT-NA, AMSAT News Service

-ARRL Letter, October 6, 2016

LICENSE EXAM NEWS

Our most recent license exam was held on Wednesday evening, September 28, in Verity Lodge, Miami Middletown. Eleven VEs served 9 applicants to whom 16 exam elements were administered. The 16 elements consisted of Element 2 (9 administered and 3 passing), Element 3 (3 administered and 3 passing), and Element 4 (4 administered and none passing). There were 2 new Technicians, one new General, and 2 General upgrade licensees by evening's end.

Our next exam will be 6 pm, Wednesday, November 16, 2016 in Verity Lodge, Miami University-Middletown.

Next Meeting: Monday, October 17, 2016 at the Golden Corral
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

Amateur Radio License Exams

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

Wednesday evening, November 16, 2016
at 6 p.m. in Verity Lodge
Miami University-Middletown, Middletown, OH

Doors will open for registration at 6 p.m and examinations will commence shortly thereafter. Please plan to arrive early as all registration activities are to 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, Licensee ID number (FRN) or social security (SSN) number.

There is no test fee required for these examinations.

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

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

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

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Ron Spaulding, N8QF
Activities Manager:
Roy Dalton, N8LRN
Newsletter Editor:
Carl Morgan, K8CM

the prez sez .....

Lots of things are going on at our 146.61 repeater site. On short notice, changes were made to WNKN's new site plan which required us to make a temporary move into the block building. This was completed on October 22nd. We did remove the backup batteries for now.

Our permanent location on the site has been determined. We will be moving into two outdoor cabinets next to the block building. A small concrete pad will be placed for our cabinets. Here we shouldn't be in the way and we will have easy access to our equipment. One cabinet will house the power supplies and backup batteries, the other will hold everything else. Once the site is ready for us, we will organize a work party to install the cabinets and transfer our equipment.

Ernie, W8EH

MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 17th, 2016 MEETING

Attendance:

KE8AIR, N8AA, N8ACR, KE8AIQ, K8CM, KD8CPV, N8DHW, WA8DTU, N8EH, N8GGE, N8HP, N8HRA, LI8I, W8LKU, N8LRN, NN8M, K8MRC, NW8NW, N8QF, KF8QS, NR8R & Barbara, KC8TXA, KD8W, W8WLM, N8YFQ

Call to order:

Carl, K8CM, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and asked for around-the-room self-introductions by those present.

Next Meeting: Monday, November 21, 2016 at the Golden Corral
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

Secretary's Report:

A motion to accept the minutes of the previous month's meeting as published in the newsletter, was made by Bob, NN8M, and seconded by Bob, NR8R. This motion was approved without dissention.

Treasurer's Report:

Ron, N8QF, gave the Treasurer's report. Membership stands at 87 persons representing 62 families. The current membership is the highest in the last 4 years. A motion to approve was made by Barney, N8HP, and seconded by Steve, KD8CPV. The motion passed with one dissent.

Membership:

Ron, N8QF, presented an application from Eileen Sullivan, KE8FCG *(now K8EWG)*. Carl was her sponsor. Ernie, N8EH, made a motion to approve the application and Lorie, W8LKU, seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Eileen – Welcome to Dial!

Repeater/Station Report:

Carl, K8CM, reported that Dial's repeater system is working properly and that Echolink continues to work without problems.

Activity Report:

Roy, N8LRN, reported that a work party is needed and that Ron, N8QF will give the details later.

Classes and Exams:

Beverley, N8GGE, announced that the first two meetings of a class to prepare students for the General Class exam have already met at Verity Lodge, Miami University Middletown. She added that the decision to offer an Extra Class preparation course or repeat this Fall's Technician and General needs to be made soon. She welcomed input from those in the audience. Beverley also announced that there will be an exam session held on Wednesday, November 16, at Verity Lodge beginning at 6:00 pm.

Newsletter:

Carl, K8CM, reported that everything seems fine with the newsletter.

Old Business:

Ron, N8QF, reported on conversations with Jim Stitt, WNKU's engineer. Jim asked Ron about tearing down the shed that currently holds Dial's 146.610 repeater (W8BLV). WNKU could possibly provide Dial with a smaller shed at a later date. Ernie, W8EH, has suggested that we approach Jim with the plan to use traffic signal style cabinets mounted outside W8NKU's buildings to allow more free access for upgrades and repairs.

Ron, N8QF, announced a work party on Saturday, October 22nd, at the W8BLV site. WNKU wants Dial to empty the shed and temporarily move the repeater into the existing block building. WNKU will then tear down the existing shed. Ron expressed gratitude that Dial had not reroofed the present shed.

Ron, N8QF, informed the audience that he had received another email from George, W3GP, regarding changing Dial's status to a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. George was concerned with the word 'Club' in the Articles of Incorporation and thought that a name change might be necessary before we can qualify for

501(c)(3) status. Ron reported that his research had found several 501(c)(3) entities with 'Club' as part of their name. Ron stated that he would like to keep Dial's current name in the application. The filing fee for the application is $400 (Bob, NR8R, interjected that the fee as recently dropped to $275) and that the process is completed on-line. Ron moved to ask George, W3GP, to complete the changes in the Articles of Incorporation so that the application can be completed. Dave, N8YFQ, seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

New Business:

Carl, K8CM, appointed a Nominating Committee consisting of Evan, KC8TXA, Dave, N8YFQ, and Dave, KD8W. The Committee is charged with finding a slate of candidates for Dial's 2017 Officers.

Carl, K8CM, pointed out that Eileen Sullivan's membership was free based on the fact that she earned her first license after completing Dial's Technician course. Since the year is nearly over, Carl asked for a motion to extend Eileen's free membership through 2017. Ernie, N8EH, made the motion, Dave, N8YFQ, seconded and it passed without dissent. There was some discussion about others that were eligible for the free membership but had not acted. Carl reported that he had informed all that were eligible and provided them with application forms.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Dave, KD8W, and seconded by Dave, N8YFQ, to adjourn at 7:26 pm. The motion carried.

Barney Taylor, N8HP
Secretary

IRS §501(c)(3) STATUS; WHAT IS IT? WHY DO WE WANT IT?

For the past few months the officers of the Club have discussed filing with the IRS for a 501(c)(3) status.

Being "501(c)(3)" means that a particular nonprofit organization has been approved by the Internal Revenue Service as a tax-exempt, charitable organization. "Charitable" is broadly defined as being established for purposes that are, educational, charitable, scientific, etc.

A public charity (which is what Dial Radio Club would be) is generally defined by the IRS as "not a private foundation". It receives a substantial portion of its revenue from the general public or from government. In order to remain a public charity (and not a private foundation), a 501(c)(3) must obtain at least 1/3 of its donated revenue from a fairly broad base of public support. Public support can be from individuals, companies and/or other public charities. Donations to public charities can be tax deductible to the individual donor up to 50% of the donor's income. (Please note this is not tax advice from the author)

At the November 21st Dial Meeting the club will be presented with Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation and a Code of Regulations. These two items will be voted on at the Dec. 19, 2016 meeting. George Pappayliou, W3GP, a club member and attorney, has cleaned up our old Constitution & By-laws some of which was outdated and now required by law and also necessary for the 501(c)(3) qualification. There are no substantive changes.

Next Meeting: Monday, November 21, 2016 at the Golden Corral
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

Once approved by the club, we will file the necessary papers and forms with the Ohio Secretary of State, ($50.00 fee) once we receive the approval certificate back (1-2 weeks) we will proceed with the IRS forms and a fee for $ 275.00.

Once that approval is back from the IRS (3-4 weeks) we will then have to register with the Ohio Attorney General's office as a 501(c)(3).

You may ask why are we pursuing this status, if you look at the IRS web site for non-profit-tax exempt groups you will be as surprised as I was, to the number of Amateur Clubs in Ohio alone. Community Foundations can only give funds to other 501(c)(3) organizations. We have also been told that should we need tower space from a corporate entity (can be a tax savings for them) or a city they will look at a 501(c) (3) more favorability.

The Dial Radio Club of Middletown Area- W8BLV has been a corporation for non-profit in the State of Ohio since March 17, 1976.

Should you have questions, I'll do my best to answer them or get you the answer.

-Ron, N8QF

DX-PEDITION CY9C TO ST. PAUL ISLAND

Following the October business meeting, we were treated to a very interesting and informative slide show and narrative of a recent DXpedition to CY9C, St. Paul Island presented by John Comella, N8AA. Located in the province of Nova Scotia, St. Paul Island is a small uninhabited island located approximately 24 km northeast of Cape North on Cape Breton Island and 71 km southwest of Cape Ray on Newfoundland; along the boundary between the Gulf of St. Lawrence and Cabot Strait.

St. Paul Island is approximately three miles long by one mile wide at its widest point. It is formed of granite and is extremely rugged with its shores completely encircled by rock face cliffs. It is split by a narrow channel that fills with sea water. No land mammals inhabit the island, although it is inhabited by numerous seabirds. Its ecosystem is considered fragile and due to the danger posed by visiting the island, visits must be cleared beforehand with the Canadian Coast Guard which administers the island on behalf of its owner, the Government of Canada.

Next Meeting: Monday, November 21, 2016 at the Golden Corral
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Atlantic Cove CY9C

CY9C was active from two sites: five operators at North East and seven at Atlantic Cove. An eighth person, John's son John, a non-ham was with us at Atlantic Cove. The twelve-man operating team comprised; two each from Dallas and North Carolina, three from New York, and five from SW Ohio.

During the 10 days of operation, August 19-29, the team tallied 64,000 QSOs and worked all continents, including Antarctica, using CW, SSB, RTTY, JT65, EME and satellite.

NorthEast CY9C

John, N8AA

-Carl, K8CM, et.al
-Photos courtesy of John, N8AA

ARLB039 RULE MAKING PETITION TO FCC CALLS FOR VANITY CALL SIGN RULE CHANGES

The FCC is inviting comments on a Petition for Rule Making (RM-11775) from a Nevada radio amateur that seeks changes to the rules governing the Amateur Radio Vanity Call Sign Program. Christopher LaRue, W4ADL, of North Las Vegas, is proposing that any licensee obtaining a vanity call sign be required to keep it for the full license term. LaRue contends in his petition that excessive and frequent vanity call sign filings are

Next Meeting: Monday, November 21, 2016 at the Golden Corral
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hampering the ability of other qualified licensees to obtain vanity call signs in one of the more desirable 1 x 2 or 2 x 1 formats. LaRue said that since the FCC dropped the fee to file for a vanity call sign, some applicants are taking advantage by regularly obtaining new call signs, thereby keeping them out of circulation.

The petition can be found on the web in PDF format at,
https://ecfsapi.fcc.gov/file/1004220986407/Petition%20.pdf .

"Some are changing call signs almost monthly, just to keep the newer code-free Extra class operators from obtaining a shorter call sign," he said in his petition. "I even saw an older operator that said he does it all the time and has not even owned a radio in over 6 years. When I looked him up, he has had 16 different [call signs] in 18 months."

LaRue said his proposed minor rule change would require any licensee applying for and obtaining an Amateur Radio vanity call sign "be required to keep it for the duration of the license, which is currently 10 years."

He said this would "alleviate a lot of the stress on the ULS system and manpower requirements" at the FCC. "It will also keep inactive amateurs from changing call signs regularly, thereby tying up call signs for 2 years after dismissal of said call."

Interested parties may comment using the FCC Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) at,
https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/ . Comments are due within 30 days of the October 26 posting date.
NNNN

-via e-mail

LICENSE EXAM NEWS

Our next exam will be 6 pm, Wednesday, November 16, 2016 in Verity Lodge, Miami University-Middletown.

Our January-May schedule is in the planning stage. If sufficient interest is expressed, we will offer a 16-week Amateur Extra Class training session beginning early February. If offered, it will meet on Wednesday evenings, 6-9 pm, at Miami University-Middletown. If ***YOU*** are interested, contact Beverley or Carl and let them know.

To be ***'in the know'*** about what is happening with DIAL, you need to be subscribed to the Dial e-mail reflector.
and enter your email address and follow the prompts. If you encounter difficulty, contact Ernie, for assistance.

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Middletown, Ohio

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Ron Spaulding, N8QF
Activities Manager:
Roy Dalton, N8LRN
Newsletter Editor:
Carl Morgan, K8CM

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

the prez sez .....

Well it is the end of another active year for our Club. I hope that Santa brings everyone some new ham radio toys.

Don't forget the election of officers on December 19. Any last minute nominations will be taken from the floor.

Ernie, W8EH

MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 21st, 2016 MEETING

Attendance:

N8AA, K8CM, W8EH, N8GGE, KC8GMR, N8HP, KI8I, KC8ISN, W8ISZ, KC8IZE, NN8M, K8MRC, N8QF, KF8QS, KD8W, W8WLM, KC8WOF, N8YFQ, WA8YXY

Call to order:

Ernie, W8EH, called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm and asked for around-the-room self-introductions by those present.

Secretary's Report:

A motion to accept the minutes of the previous month's meeting as published in the newsletter, was made by Bob, NN8M, and seconded by Dave, N8YFQ. This motion was approved without dissention.

Next Meeting: Monday, December 19, 2016 at the Golden Corral
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Treasurer's Report:

Ron, N8QF, gave the Treasurer's report. Membership stands at 88 persons representing 63 families. A motion to approve was made by Carl, K8CM, and seconded by Bob, NN8M. The motion passed unanimously.

Membership:

Ron, N8QF, presented applications from Johnna Roark, KE8FCH, and Brad Thorpe, KE8FLT for 2017. Johnna was sponsored by Carl, K8CM, and Brad was sponsored by Dave, KD8W. Ron moved that the applications be accepted. Carl seconded the motion which was approved unanimously. Welcome to Dial Johnna and Brad!

Repeater/Station Report:

Ernie, W8EH, reported that Dial has vacated the wooden shed used to house the 146.61 repeater in recent years. The repeater is temporarily in the corner of the block building. At this time W8BLV does not have battery backup. The long-term plan for W8BLV is to house it in two cabinets on a concrete pad external to the building that WNKU is having constructed. Dave, N8YFQ, asked if WNKU was willing to pour the pad when their building is being built. Dave, KD8W, asked if it is known when the new building will be completed. Ron, N8QF, responded that that the tower hardware is being upgraded, and that work cannot begin until that is finished. Carl, K8CM, reported that Dial's repeater system is working properly and that Echolink continues to work without problems.

Activity Report:

Ernie, W8EH, gave a report on Dial's Field Day standing. We were beaten by OH-KY-IN by only 200 points for class 3A in Ohio. Barney, N8HP, added that Dial was around #14 in the nation for class 3A. The CW-ops were teased for not being more productive. Several expressed satisfaction (and surprise??) with our high placement nationally.

Classes and Exams:

Beverley, N8GGE, announced classes have completed for 2016. Due to requests, she is planning to offer Extra beginning February 1, 2017. There is a new book so instructors will have to update their slides to reflect the new question pool. Schedules will be coming out soon.

Newsletter:

Carl, K8CM, reported that everything seems fine with the newsletter. Jim, KF8QS, reported that he was not receiving his copy. Carl responded that he was certain that Jim is on the list.

Old Business:

To address changes that are thought to be necessary for Dial to qualify for 501(c)(3) status Carl, K8CM, passed out a sheet of proposed changes. He and Ron, N8QF, drafted the changes in the By-Laws to be more compliant with 501(c)(3) entities. Ron stated that, if approved, the revised document would be sent to Ohio Secretary of State amending the By-Laws. After that step the 501(c)(3) application would be submitted. Carl read though and explained the proposed changes. A discussion followed. Beverley, N8GGE, expressed concern that the revised document seemed not to mention amateur radio. John, N8AA, reported that he had worked with other clubs seeking 501(c)(3) status and their applications had been held up because they were deemed to

be missing specific goals, such as furthering the state of the art of amateur radio. Dave, KD8W made a motion to recommend the changes as presented by Carl to the Membership. Jim, KF8QS, seconded the motion which passed. *(The full proposed changes will be published in the next Dial newsletter, and the Membership will vote on the proposed changes during the December meeting.)*

New Business:

Ernie, W8EH, announced that it is time to renew the license for W8JEU, the 147.315 repeater, for another 10 years. He asked if anyone was interested in becoming Trustee for that repeater.

Ernie appointed an Audit Committee consisting of Bob, NN8M, John, N8AA, and Dave KD8W. Ron, N8QF, said that he would schedule a meeting in early January at his place of business.

Dave, KD8W, gave the report for the Nominating Committee. The Committee has contacted all present officers. Some actively sought reelection while others were willing to serve another term if no one else came forward. Anyone wishing to serve as an Officer in Dial should contact Dave or one of the other Nominating Committee members (KC8TXA, N8YFQ). Election will be at the December meeting.

Ernie asked Dave, N8YFQ, for a Hamvention update. Dave responded with a very informative, interactive, discussion. There will be fewer Flea Market spaces in the new site. Hamvention is trying to reduce the number of non-ham sites and those reserved solely as parking spaces without selling. The Flea Market layout is not complete due to delays in receiving a scaled map of the fairground that will allow the spaces to be laid out and numbered. He is hoping to have the map on the Hamvention website by mid-December. There were many questions and concerns from the audience. Dave did an excellent job of fielding those questions.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Ron, N8QF, and seconded by Dave, KD8W, to adjourn at 8:11 pm. The motion carried.

Barney Taylor, N8HP
Secretary

AMENDMENT OF THE DIAL RADIO CLUB'S CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

In accordance with Article VII, Of the Dial Radio Club's Constitution, the following amendment was duly considered at the November 2016 meeting and accepted as a Proposed Amendment. This proposed amendment will come to vote at the December meeting and, if approved by two-thirds of the members present, will become effective immediately.

Rename the governance document from "Dial Radio Club of Middletown Area – W8BLV Constitution and ByLaws" to "Code of Regulations of Dial Radio Club of Middletown Area – W8BLV".

1. Change "Article I-Name" to "Article I-Purpose"
    a. Expand content of the new Article I to include: "The Dial Radio Club of Middletown Area is organized exclusively for charitable, educational, and scientific purposes, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under

section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code."

2. Delete Constitution and ByLaws Article II-Object as this is now incorporated in the amended Article I-Purpose.
3. Renumber the subsequent Constitution and ByLaw Articles.
    a. In the Code of Regulations, Article III, §2, reference is made to Article VI, Section 4; this should be Article V, §4.
    b. In the code of Regulations, Article III, §4, reference is made to Article IV, §2; this should be Article III, §2.
4. Replace the text "Constitution and ByLaws", wherever it occurs, with "Code of Regulations".

The purpose behind these changes are to better position the Club with the IRS in our quest to obtain a satisfactory decision pertaining to a §501(c)(3) application.

We will vote all amendments as a single package since each are necessary to better align our governance document with the terms and definitions of IRS §503(c)(3).

-Carl, K8CM

FCC SPECIAL COUNSEL LAURA SMITH SAYS AMATEUR ENFORCEMENT WILL BE AGGRESSIVE

FCC Special Counsel Laura Smith told a standing-room-only audience at the ARRL Pacific Division Convention (Pacificon) in October that, despite FCC cutbacks, Amateur Radio enforcement will not be compromised. Smith spoke for nearly an hour and a half on a variety of FCC issues related to Amateur Radio, and the entire presentation is available on YouTube, thanks to Bob Miller, W6KWT, and his son Robert, KA7JKP, who recorded the forum. Smith said that with the FCC set to shut down 11 field offices across the country in January, the Enforcement Bureau has reorganized into three US regions, and she does not anticipate any significant issues for the Amateur Service as a result.

FCC Special Counsel Laura Smith at Pacificon.

"The amateur community will go forward," she said, noting that amateurs have "an incredible ability to self-police." In light of the field office closings, she has been working with ARRL to revamp the Official Observer (OO) program.

"We are going to redo the entire program," she told the Pacificon forum. Given that the field office cutbacks have left the FCC short staffed, the OO program will step into the gap, with OOs serving as the first line of defense in Amateur Radio enforcement, she explained. Working more closely with the OOs, Smith said, will get information on problems to the field staff more quickly, so they can follow up.

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Smith praised the OOs for contributing their time and effort to monitor the bands and to alert licensees both to problematic and positive behavior on the air.

She also said the FCC is more aggressively policing the Amateur Radio bands.

-ARRL Letter, December 1, 2017

NATIONAL PARKS ON THE AIR UPDATE

With 3 weeks to go until the end of ARRL's National Parks on the Air (NPOTA) program, Activators continue to operate from qualified NPS sites in record numbers. The contact count stands at more than 953,100, an increase of nearly 40,000 since December 1.

There are NPOTA activations every day -- plenty of opportunities to work stations, increase your NPOTA totals as a Chaser, and contribute to the goal of #1MillionQSOs.

Thirty-eight activations are scheduled for the week of December 8-15, including Saint Paul's Church National Historical Site in New York, and Franklin Delano Roosevelt National Memorial in Washington, DC. Details about these and other upcoming activations can be found on the NPOTA Activations calendar.

Keep up with the latest NPOTA news on Facebook. Follow NPOTA on Twitter (@ARRL_NPOTA).

-ARRL Letter, December 8, 2016

LICENSE CLASS & EXAM NEWS

Beginning Wednesday evening, February 1, 2017, Dial will be offering a 16-week Amateur Extra license preparation class. Meeting 6-9 pm in Verity Lodge, this class will conclude April 26. Additional information on page 6; questions may be directed to Beverley, N8GGE, or Carl, K8CM.

Our next scheduled exam will be 6 pm, Wednesday, March 15, 2017 in Verity Lodge, Miami University-Middletown.

-Carl, K8CM

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Amateur Radio Class

Advanced Level

Ham Radio Class To Begin !

Beginning February 1, 2017 the **DIAL RADIO CLUB** will offer a twelve-week class to prepare a candidate for examination in **Amateur Extra 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 April 26 and be followed by an examination session on Wednesday, May 3. (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 $30) 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

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