



# 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](mailto: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

## Best Wishes for a Healthy and Happy New Year

*the prez sez .....*

I hope that the New Year has found you well.

Due to problems that we have been having with our reservation at the Golden Corral, we decided at the December meeting to try some new meeting places. For January we will meet at the Clubhouse Grill in Monroe. They have a nice party room. Also note that we will have a special program by Dave Tritch. Directions and info elsewhere in this newsletter.

We are progressing on the new cabinet project at the 146.61 repeater site. Our cabinets have been installed and the electric has been hooked up. More work will be performed as weather permits.

*Ernie, W8EH*

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Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

Our January 2017 meeting will be held at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH. The Grill is located on the East side of Main Street, just North of the intersection of SR 63 and Main Street (aka Cincinnati-Dayton Road).

Please go to: <http://www.theclubhousesportsgrille.com/> for more information. You may check over the menu and see what they have to eat. They do have special discounts on Monday nights like 20% off for seniors over 65 and buy one get one sandwich or burger for half price.

Menu: <http://www.theclubhousesportsgrille.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/ClubhouseMenu-1.pdf>

**We'll be on the Dial 01/61 repeater in the event you need talk-in.**

## **MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 19<sup>TH</sup>, 2016 MEETING**

### **Attendance:**

N8ACR, KE8AIQ & James, KE8AIR, K8CM, KD8CPV, WA8DTU, W8EH, KE8FLT, N8GGE, N8HP, KI8I, W8ISZ, W8LKU, N8LRN, NN8M, K8MRC, N8QF, KF8QS, AC8US, KD8W, W8WLM, KC8WOF, N8YFQ, WA8YXY

### **Call to order:**

Ernie, W8EH, called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

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

A motion to revise the published minutes of the previous month's meeting was made by Carl, K8CM, and seconded by Ron, N8QF. The revision was to clarify that George, W3GP, revised the By-Laws and that Carl was responsible only for the handout of the meeting that summarized George's proposed changes. When the vote was called, this motion was approved without dissent. A motion to accept the Revised Minutes was made by Carl, K8CM, and seconded by Dave, KD8W. The motion passed without dissent. [pp 5-7 -Ed]

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

Ron, N8QF, gave the Treasurer's report. Membership for 2017 presently stands at 35 paid. There were 90 persons representing 65 families at the end of 2016. A motion to approve was made Barney, N8HP, and seconded by Carl, K8CM. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Membership:**

Ron, N8QF, presented an application from Michael Croake, K8MRC, for 2017. His application was sponsored by Ron, N8QF. A motion to approve was made by Carl, K8CM, and seconded by Dave, KD8W. The motion passed unanimously. Welcome to Dial Mike!

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**Classes and Exams:**

Beverley, N8GGE, announced classes to prepare the students for the Amateur Extra Class exam will begin on February 1, 2017. In addition to those that completed the General course, six other potential students have made contact with Beverley or Carl, K8CM. Beverley expressed regrets about not being able to disseminate the new material to instructors until early January.

**Newsletter:**

Carl, K8CM, reported that the newsletter is 'doing fine'

**Repeater/Station Report:**

Ernie, W8EH, reported we are waiting for a concrete pad to be poured at the WNKN site to support Dial's W8BLV (146.610) repeater. Ron, N8QF, commented on the large amount of 'first class' work that WNKN has had performed at the site. The Club's repeater will be housed in two metal cabinets external to the buildings but within the protective fence of WNKN. Work parties will be needed to install the cabinets and transfer the repeater into them. Details will be sent out as the appropriate time.

**Activity Report:**

Roy, N8LRN, expressed greetings of 'Merry Christmas and Happy New Years' to those in attendance as the activity report.

**Election of Officers:**

Dave, KD8W, represented the Nominating Committee and announced that the present slate of officers had agreed to serve another term if no other member desired the office. Ernie, W8EH, opened the floor to nominations. After some gentle arm twisting of those in attendance, Dave, KD8W, moved that nominations be ceased. Dave, N8YFQ, seconded the motion which passed. Don, WA8DTU, moved that the current slate be approved by acclamation. Dave, N8YFQ, seconded that motion and the train's whistle blew as the vote was unanimous.

**Old Business:**

Ernie, W8EH, announced that the proposed changes in the By-Laws to allow Dial to seek 501(c)(3) status had been published in the newsletter as required. Carl, K8CM, explained that it was up the Membership to accept or reject the proposed changes, and that making changes would require the process to start over. Dave, KD8W, moved to accept the proposed changes. Dave, N8YFQ, seconded the motion which passed without dissent.

Ron, N8QF, stated that he would quickly forward the changes to the Ohio Secretary of State, and that once the changes were approved, he would fill in the short form application for 501(c)(3) status.

Carl, K8CM, proceeded to read a resolution (to be included separately in the newsletter) about refining the statement of membership and purpose for the DIAL Radio Club of the Middletown Area. The resolution gives Ron, N8QF, permission to amend our official documents accordingly. Barney, N8HP, made a motion that the membership accept the resolution and Dave, KD8W, seconded. The motion passed. *[Resolution printed on page 4-Ed]*

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**New Business:**

Roy, N8LRN, suggested that we consider changing locations based on being moved into the general area for the second time this year. He recommended that we consider the Clubhouse Sports Grill in Monroe. Dave, N8YFQ, moved that we try it for one meeting. Aaron, N8ACR, seconded the motion and it was passed by those present. Ernie, W8EH, indicated that everyone should check the newsletter for the meeting location next month.

Ernie, W8EH, asked Dave, N8YFQ, if you could delay his planned presentation until next month and Dave agreed.

**Adjournment:**

A motion was made by Ron, N8QF, and seconded by Dave, KD8W, to adjourn at 7:26 pm. The motion carried.

*Barney Taylor, N8HP  
Secretary*

**RESOLUTION ADOPTING  
AMENDED AND RESTATED ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION  
OF  
DIAL RADIO CLUB OF THE MIDDLETOWN AREA – W8BLV**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the voting members of the Dial Radio Club of the Middletown Area - W8BLV, that:

- A. The following Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation of the Dial Radio Club of the Middletown Area – W8BLV be and the same hereby are adopted pursuant to section 1702.38(D) of the Nonprofit Corporation Law of Ohio, Chapter 1702 of the Ohio Revised Code.
- B. The purpose of these Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation of the Dial Radio Club of the Middletown Area – W8BLV is to amend the previous Articles of Incorporation and all amendments thereto of the Dial Radio Club of the Middletown Area - W8BLV and to supersede all provisions of the previous Articles of Incorporation and all amendments thereto of the Dial Radio Club of the Middletown Area - W8BLV.

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## AMENDED MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 21<sup>ST</sup>, 2016 MEETING

(Amended text is **Bold** and in this color, removed text is left in ~~Strikethrough~~)

### **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.

### **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.

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### **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. **George, W3GP, drafted the changes in the By-Laws deemed necessary for Dial to qualify for 501(c)(3) status. 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 summarized the proposed changes in a handout given to those present at the meeting and discussed those changes. 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.

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**Adjournment:**

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

*Barney Taylor  
Secretary*

**WNKN ANTENNA SITE**

You may recall photos of the WNKN (and W8BLV) antenna site as we began a clearing and cleanup project in September 2015. Our goal was to clear vegetation from the guy anchors, and dismatle and remove dilapidated wood buildings previously used to house paging transmitters.



As our work detail wound to a close, there remained but two buildings, the one to the left housing broadcast transmitters and to right Dial's 01/61 repeater.



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January 2017

August 2016 saw a second work party coverage on the antenna site. The goals that day included painting of the buildings and removal of rubbish and decommissioned satellite antennas.



At the end of the day, accumulated debris has been removed and remaining buildings painted. In this view the broadcast transmitter building is to the right and the 01/61 repeater building to the left.



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January 2017

When we walked away, August 20, this is how the antenna site appeared.



Subsequently, another transmitter building was added to the site along with new fencing and two aluminum cabinets, at the end of the white building, that will come to house Dial's 01/61 repeater.



A third work party was called for January 2, 2017. The goals accomplished that day included properly anchoring the 01/61 cabinets, installing electric service and coax feedline entry to the repeater cabinets, and make final preparations for the repeater transfer into its new home.

All photos courtesy of Ron, N8QF.

-Carl, K8CM

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## 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 11; 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

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

Just a reminder, our January 16, 2017 meeting will be held at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH. The Grill is located on the East side of Main Street, just North of the intersection of SR 63 and Main Street (aka Cincinnati-Dayton Road).

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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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**Activities Manager:**

Roy Dalton, N8LRN

**Newsletter Editor:**

Carl Morgan, K8CM

## MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 16<sup>TH</sup>, 2017 MEETING

**Attendance:**

N8AA, N8ACR, KE8CIE, K8CM, KD8CPV, N8DHW, WA8DTU, N8EH, W8EH, K8EWG, N8GGE, KC8GMR, N8HP, N8HRA, KI8I, W8ISZ, KB4JWV, W8LKU, N8LRN, N3LT, NN8M, K8MRC, N8OZN, N8QF, W8WLM, KC8WOF, WA8YXY, KD8ZOW, KD8ZOV

**Call to order:**

Ernie, W8EH, called the meeting to order at 7:09 pm with around-the-room self-introductions.

**Secretary's Report:**

A motion to accept the Minutes as published was made by Bob, NN8M, and seconded by Lorie, W8LKU. The motion passed without dissent.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Ron, N8QF, gave the Treasurer's report. Membership for 2017 presently stands at 69 members representing 54 families. A motion to approve was made Barney, N8HP, and seconded by Carl, K8CM. The motion passed unanimously.

Ron went on to give the annual report on the fiscal state of Dial. Dial is solvent, with healthy reserves, and a dues increase is not warranted. Ernie, N8EH, moved to accept Ron's annual report and Steve, KD8CPV, seconded. Again the motion passed without dissent.

Finally Ron reported that the Ohio Secretary of State had approved the changes that DIAL approved at the previous meeting. He applied for 501 (c) (3) status for Dial about one week ago.

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### **Classes and Exams:**

Beverley, N8GGE, announced classes to prepare the students for the Amateur Extra Class exam will begin on February 1, 2017. Approximately 10 individuals have expressed interest in participating in the course. The next exam session will be in mid-March.

### **Newsletter:**

Carl, K8CM, reported that the newsletter is 'still going out'.

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

Ernie, W8EH, indicated that the repeaters are working normally. His emphasis is on relocating W8BLV.

Carl, K8CM, reported that Echolink is working fantastically.

### **Activity Report:**

Roy, N8LRN, reported a good turnout for work at the W8BLV repeater site and that more help may be needed to finish the work.

Ernie, W8EH, went on to announce a work party for the upcoming Saturday (the 21<sup>st</sup>) at 9:00 am until about noon to, hopefully, finish the relocation of the repeater into the outside cabinet. About 4 or 5 persons will be needed. The weather forecast is good, however work party members should plan on parking at the street due to construction work on the driveway by WNKN.

### **Audit Committee Report:**

Dave, KD8W, represented the Audit Committee (although he failed to sign the attendance sheet ☺) and announced that the Audit Committee had met at Ron's place of business. As usual, due to Ron's good stewardship, everything balanced. A letter with the Committee's formal report has been drafted and is waiting on the signature of one member.

### **Old Business:**

None.

### **New Business:**

A motion to meet at the Clubhouse Sports Grill again next month was made by Ron, N8QF, and seconded by Bob, NN8M. In spite of Don's (WA8DTU) insincere statement of '... I just want to go back ', the motion passed without dissent.

Jim, W8ISZ, gave an update on the 2017 Hamvention in the absence of N8YFQ. Although progress is slow, everyone is hoping for a good Hamvention. The website is up now. The Flea Market website won't be up before mid-February. The total number of Flea Market sites will be around 1500. Last year only 1700 spaces were rented, and some of them were used only for onsite parking – which will be strongly discouraged by active rovers during the Hamvention. Jim's major concern, along with many others, is due to the two 2-lane roads that provide all access to the site. Bob, NN8M, asked if there was a more reasonable cost for the onsite camping. Jim responded that he did not know.

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Ernie, W8EH, reminded those in attendance to remember their server when paying. He also pointed out a 20% discount for seniors 65 or over. Be sure to tell your server.

**Adjournment:**

A motion was made by Ron, N8QF, and seconded by Ernie, N8EH, to adjourn at 7:25 pm. The motion carried.

*Barney Taylor, N8HP  
Secretary*

**ANOTHER WNKN WORK DAY**

Saturday, January 21, marked another work day at the WNKN



*Repeater installed!*

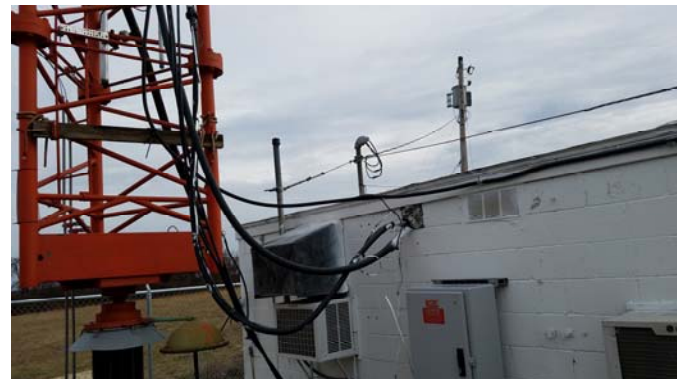
site. This time, though, was to the benefit of Dial rather than WNKU/WNKN. This was the day we completed the transfer of the .01/.61 repeater from its interim habitat to the new, outdoor, cabinets described in last month's newsletter.



*Empty repeater cabinets with batteries in place*

In addition to physically moving the repeater, additional tasks included relocating and properly securing the feedline and installing a state-of-the-art grounding system.

Also installed were new batteries and related charging system, intended to keep the repeater on the air in event of an area-wide power failure.



*Radio station feedline entering the building and repeater coax along the roof edge*

Finally, everything is working properly. Amplifier

output is 70+ watts with minimal reflected and remote links from the receivers at Breiel site (146.01 and 449.825 receive) and West Middletown (146.01 receive) are working properly.

On yet another day, ventilating fans and/or thermostats in the cabinets will be replaced and an improved UHF antenna installed to better service the path from West Middletown to the repeater.

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Voter

The voter processes audio from each receiver and passes the best signal on to the repeater. Audio from the remote receivers, located at Monroe (inactive at

the moment), West Middletown, and the UHF receiver on Breiel are linked to the repeater controller via a UHF radio link.

A wattmeter, connected to the output of the duplexer, indicates about 74 watts on its way to the antenna.

Final photo, to the right, shows the two cabinets closed and locked as we prepare to leave.

Many thanks to the crew consisting of Jim, KF8QS; Mike, K8MRC; Evan, KC8TXA; Gordon, KC8GMR; Ernie, W8EH; Carl, K8CM; Ron, N8QF; and Barney, N8HP. Thanks, too, to Ernie for the photos.

*-Carl, K8CM, et al.*



## ECHOLINK

EchoLink is a computer-based Amateur Radio system distributed free of charge that allows radio amateurs to communicate with other amateur radio operators using Voice over IP (VoIP) technology on the Internet for at least part of the path between them. It was designed by Jonathan Taylor, K1RFD.

The system allows reliable worldwide connections to be made between radio amateurs, greatly enhancing Amateur Radio's communications capabilities. In essence it is the same as other VoIP applications (such as Skype), but with the unique addition of the ability to link to an amateur radio station's transceiver. Thus any low-power handheld amateur radio transceiver which can contact a local EchoLink node (a node is an active EchoLink station with a transceiver attached) can then use the Internet connection of that station to send its transmission via VoIP to any other active EchoLink node, worldwide. No special hardware or software is required to relay a transmission via an EchoLink node.

Before using the system, it is necessary for a prospective user's callsign to be validated. The EchoLink system requires that each new user provide positive proof of license and identity before his or her callsign is added to the list of validated users. There is no cost for this service, and it ensures that this system is used only by licensed amateur radio operators.

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The software is written to run on 32-bit and 64-bit versions of Microsoft Windows. Another edition of the software runs on Apple mobile devices (iPhone, iPod touch, and iPad), and is available from the Apple App Store. An Android version is available on Google Play and several other Android app repositories.

Echolink was added to Dial's .01/.61 repeater in January 2007 and has just completed ten years of operation. In the past year, there were 399 contacts for a total time usage of 32 hours, 3 minutes, and 17 seconds. In Echolink parlance a "contact" is refers to a connection by a remote computer terminal to the repeater's Echolink terminal. During this contact time, two-way audio could be passing or the connected station could merely be listening.

Now back to the statistics; the longest contact in 2016 was one hour, 39 minutes, six seconds and the average contact time was four minutes, forty-nine seconds.

The 399 contacts were made by 142 call signs; 14 of which were DX and 128 US-issued. The DX call signs were from Germany (VHF license), East Germany, Philippines, Spain, England, Ecuador, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Turkey, and Gauteng / Mpumalanga. Want to know more about Echolink? Go here <http://www.echolink.org/>

*-Carl, K8CM; Wikipedia; et al.*

## DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that on 13 August 1912 Congress passed the Radio Act?

This was the first act by the United States to require radio stations to be licensed.

- Every such license shall be in such form as the Secretary of Commerce and Labor shall determine and shall contain the restrictions, pursuant to this Act, on and subject to which the license is granted;
- Every such license shall be issued only to citizens of the United States or Porto Rico [sic] or to a company incorporated under the laws of some State or Territory or of the United States or Porto Rico [sic], and shall specify the ownership and location of the station in which said apparatus shall be used and other particulars for its identification and to enable its range to be estimated;
- Shall state the purpose of the station, and in case of a station in actual operation at the date of passage of this Act,
- Shall contain the statement that satisfactory proof has been furnished that it was actually operating on the above-mentioned date;
- Shall state the wave length or the wave lengths authorized for use by the station for the prevention of interference and the hours for which the station is licensed for work;
- Shall not be construed to authorize the use of any apparatus for radio communication in any other station than that specified. Every such license shall be subject to the regulations contained herein, and

***Please note - 2017 dues were due January 1, if you have paid, thank you; if not, please do so ASAP!***

Next Meeting: Monday, February 20, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

such regulations as may be established from time to time by authority of this Act or subsequent Acts and treaties of the United States.

- Every such license shall provide that the President of the United States in time of war or public peril or disaster may cause the closing of any station for radio communication and the removal therefrom of all radio apparatus, or may authorize the use or control of any such station or apparatus by any department of the Government, upon just compensation to the owners.
- Established the international signal of distress shall be ...---... (“SOS” for those Morse challenged folks)

On 19 June 1934 Congress replaced the Radio Act of 1912 when they passed the Communications Act which has remained in effect since then, albeit with amendments. The Communications Act of 1934 created the Federal Communications Commission.

-via e-mail

## EXAM NEWS

Since we've not had an exam since November, there's not much to report. Our currently scheduled exams are Wednesday, March 15 and May 3 and Saturday, April 15 and May 12. The latter being sponsored by the BCARA.

-Carl, K8CM

The February 2017 Dial Radio Club meeting will be held at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH. The Grill is located on the East side of Main Street, just North of the intersection of SR 63 and Main Street (aka Cincinnati-Dayton Road).

If you missed the January meeting, please go to: <http://www.theclubhousesportsgrille.com/> for more information. There you may check over the menu and plan your evening. They have special discounts on Monday nights; *i.e.* 20% off for seniors over 65 and buy one get one sandwich or burger for half price.

Menu: <http://www.theclubhousesportsgrille.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/ClubhouseMenu-1.pdf>

**We'll be on the Dial 01/61 repeater in the event you need talk-in.**

***Please note - 2017 dues were due January 1, if you have paid, thank you; if not, please do so ASAP!***

Next Meeting: Monday, February 20, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
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## The Amateur's Code

By Paul M. Segal, W9EEA (1928)

---

### **The Radio Amateur**

**is:**

**CONSIDERATE** Never knowingly operating in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

**LOYAL** Offering loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local clubs and the American Radio Relay League, through which Amateur Radio in the United States is represented nationally and internationally.

**PROGRESSIVE** With knowledge abreast of science, a well built and efficient station and operation beyond reproach.

**FRIENDLY** With slow and patient operation when requested, friendly advice and counsel to the beginner, kindly assistance, co-operation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the hallmarks of the amateur spirit.

**BALANCED** Radio is an avocation, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.

**PATRIOTIC** With station and skill always ready for service to country and community

***Please note - 2017 dues were due January 1, if you have paid, thank you; if not, please do so ASAP!***

Next Meeting: Monday, February 20, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
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# 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 15, 2017  
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://fallfoss.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]**

***Please note - 2017 dues were due January 1, if you have paid, thank you; if not, please do so ASAP.***  
Next Meeting: Monday, February 20, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
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](mailto: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 .....

Hamvention® anyone? If you missed the last meeting, Dave Tritch, N8YFQ, gave us a detailed run down on the new layout of the flea market at Hamvention. It will be quite a bit more compact than it was at Hara, so maybe less walking to see good stuff. We applied for sites for the club and will hear soon. So make your plans to attend, May 19, 20, and 21.

*Ernie, W8EH*

## MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 20<sup>TH</sup>, 2017 MEETING

### Attendance:

N8ACR, KE8AIQ, KE8AIR, K8CM, KD8CPV, WA8DTU, N8EH, W8EH, N8GGE, KC8GMR, KD8GXD, N8HP, N8HRA, KC8ISN, W8ISZ, KC8IZE, W8LKU, NN8M, K8MRC, N8OZN, N8QF, NR8R & Barbara, KC8TXA, KD8W, W8WCQ & Ginny, W8WLM, KC8WOF, N8YFQ, KD8ZOV, KD8ZOW

### Call to order:

Ernie, W8EH, called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

### Secretary's Report:

A motion to accept the Minutes as published was made by Bob, NN8M, and seconded by Bob, NR8R. The motion passed without dissent.

### Treasurer's Report:

Ron, N8QF, gave the Treasurer's report. Membership for 2017 presently stands at 73 members representing 58 families. Ron informed the group that Ed and Sandy Thornsburg have decided not to renew as they are fully involved in their life in Mississippi. Both were very active in Dial when they lived in the area.

Next Meeting: Monday, March 20, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
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There remain 6 unpaid families from 2016. A motion to approve was made Ernie, N8EH, and seconded by Dave, N8YFQ. The motion passed unanimously.

Finally Ron reported that the IRS had returned the application fee for 501 (c) (3) status for due to the fact that we are presently a 501 (c) (7) entity. Changing to 501 (c) (3) requires completing the 'long form' application and requires a \$400 application fee. Ernie, N8EH, moved to approve the \$400 fee and Steve, KC8CPV, seconded the motion which passed without dissent. Ron and George, W3GP, are already at work on completing the multi-page application.

#### Classes and Exams:

Beverley, N8GGE, reported an enrollment of 13 students and two 'auditors' for the Extra preparation course. About half of the students are associated with Dial. The next exam session will be on the 15th of March at Verity Lodge, Miami University Middletown. Registration will begin at 6:00 pm. VE's are asked to arrive earlier if possible.

#### Newsletter:

Carl, K8CM, reported that the newsletter is doing well. He requested that Dial members write articles for the newsletter.

#### Repeater/Station Report:

Ernie, W8EH, gave an update on the W8BLV repeater into the exterior cabinets at WNKN. He reported on one incident that allowed smoke to escape from the link receivers for the remote sites. Ernie seemed amazed at the desire of onlookers to see and smell the smoke. Fortunately, Ernie got the receivers repaired quickly with no long term ill effects on repeater operation. One or two small items still remain to be addressed at a later date. Ernie reported that he had heard W8BLV while in Columbus.

Carl, K8CM, reported that Echolink is doing fine.

Ron, N8QF, reported that the sale of the Breiel site by WNKU is still being negotiated. The local news had recently reported on the sale of the WNKU's other two sites. The sale seems to be inevitable.

#### Activity Report:

None.

#### Audit Committee Report:

A letter with the Committee's formal report has been to the Treasurer and a copy to the Secretary. Ernie, W8EH, disbanded the Committee with thanks.

#### Old Business:

Ernie, W8EH, reported that Tim, WA8YXY, has worked on the web page for Dial (<http://qth.net/w8blv>). Tim has not yet officially accepted the position of Webmaster, although he is presently doing the work. Ernie mentioned that some updates of the web page are needed for possible support of the Club's 501 (c) (3) application.

Ernie asked for input regarding the meeting location. Beverley, N8GGE, commented that it is more difficult to hear at the sports bar than at the old location. She did not think that sports bar would be any more

Next Meeting: Monday, March 20, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
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appropriate for a presentation than the old location. Some other options were discussed: Larosa's, the Chinese Buffet on Roosevelt. Wandu, W8WLM, wondered if Larosa's could hold 30 people. Another possibility is the Spinning Fork on Verity. Ernie asked for a show of hands to remain at Clubhouse Sports Grill for the next meeting. The response was greatly in favor of remaining at the Clubhouse. Ernie asked Carl, K8CM, to investigate Spinning Fork as a possibility since they are closed for private parties on Mondays. Carl agreed to do so.

New Business:

None.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Ron, N8QF, and seconded by Gordon, KC8GM to adjourn at 7:20 pm. The motion carried.

Barney Taylor, N8HP  
Secretary

Addendum:

Ernie, 8EH, re-called the meeting to order at 7:54 pm, after a presentation on the Flea Market for the upcoming Dayton Hamvention by Dave, N8YFQ. The reason for reopening the meeting was to allow Bob, NN8M, to move to allocate funds to purchase Flea Market spaces for Dial. Dave, KD8W, seconded the motion that passed. The meeting was adjourned a second time at 7:55 pm.

*Barney Taylor, N8HP*  
*Secretary*

The Treasurer reports six families who have not renewed their membership for 2017.

2017 dues were due and payable last January 1. If you have chosen not to renew, we're sincerely sorry to lose you and wish you well in your amateur radio endeavors. Know, too, that you'll always be welcome to visit with us as your calendar may permit.

If you've simply overlooked renewal, it's not too late; just bring your renewal to our next meeting or mail to Ron, N8QF, and, if your calendar permits, join us for our March meeting at the Clubhouse Sports Grill in Monroe.

Next Meeting: Monday, March 20, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
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## DID YOU KNOW?

More on The Radio Act of 1912.

*Please note that the grammar, composition, sentence structure and spelling used in some of these articles is that which was common in the early 20th century.*

The Radio Act of 1912 (37 Stat. 302) is the United States federal law that mandated that all radio stations in the United States be licensed by the federal government, as well as mandating that seagoing vessels continuously monitor distress frequencies. The original bill was initiated during the investigations following the sinking of the Titanic. The act set a precedent for international and federal legislation of wireless communications.

The 'commerce' clause of the U. S. Constitution assigned to Congress the task of regulating interstate and foreign commerce. Early radio stations served as basic communication systems, transmitters of messages that were meant to facilitate commerce and protect the health and wellbeing of U. S. citizens. As a result, responsibility for implementing and enforcing the Act was the responsibility of the United States Secretary of Commerce and Labor.

The U.S. Department of Commerce and Labor (Department of Commerce in 1913) was empowered to impose fines of not more than \$500 and to revoke the licenses of those radio operators who violated the restrictions laid down by the Act. Furthermore, the government could seize the equipment of the offending station, as well as suspending the radio license of the operator for one year.

The Radio Act of 1912 contained 19 “rules”. In my opinion, the “highlights” of these rules are listed below. As you can see, some of these initial rules are still contained in our current rules:

Rule #6 - The distress call used shall be the international signal of distress “...---...” [SOS for those who may be CW challenged]

Rule #9 - All stations are required to give absolute priority to signals and radiograms relating to ships in distress; to cease all sending on hearing a distress signal; and, except when engaged in answering or aiding the ship in distress, to refrain from sending until all signals and radiograms relating thereto are completed.

Rule #14 - In all circumstances, except in case of signals or radiograms relating to vessels in distress, all stations shall use the minimum amount of energy necessary to carry out any communication desired.

Rule #15 - No private [e.g., Amateur] or commercial station not engaged in the transaction of bona fide commercial business by radio communication or in experimentation in connection with the development and manufacture of radio apparatus for commercial purposes shall use a transmitting wave length exceeding two hundred meters, or a transformer input exceeding one kilowatt, except by special authority of the Secretary of Commerce and Labor contained in the license of that station.

Next Meeting: Monday, March 20, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
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Rule #19 - No person or persons engaged in or having knowledge of the operation of any station or stations, shall divulge or publish the contents of any messages transmitted or received by such station, except to the person or persons to whom the same may be directed, or their authorized agent, or to another station employed to forward such message to its destination, unless legally required so to do by the court of competent jurisdiction or other competent authority.

The Department of Commerce and Labor, Bureau of Navigation published the September 28, 1912 edition of Regulations Governing Radio Communication. <http://earlyradiohistory.us/1912reg.htm>. The highlights of those regulations follow:

- Nine districts were created for the purpose of enforcing through radio inspectors the acts relating to radio communication and the International Convention. These districts supersede those announced in Department Circular No. 241, of September 5, 1912.
- The license provides that the holder shall take the oath for the preservation of the secrecy of messages before a notary public or officer authorized to administer oaths.
- General amateur stations are restricted to a transmitting wave length not exceeding 200 meters and a transformer input not exceeding 1 kilowatt. (Sec. 4, Fifteenth Regulation.)
- Special amateur stations may be licensed by the Secretary of Commerce and Labor to use a longer wave length and a higher power on special application to the Secretary of Commerce and Labor. Applications for this class from amateurs with less than two years of experience in actual radio communication will not be approved. The application must state the experience and purpose of the applicant, the local conditions of radio communication, especially of maritime radio communication in the vicinity of the station, and a special license will be granted only if some substantial benefit to the art or to commerce apart from individual amusement seems probable.
- Restricted amateur stations, within 5 nautical miles of a naval or military station, are restricted to a wave length not exceeding 200 meters and to a transformer input not exceeding one-half kilowatt.
- There were two classes of amateur radio license
  - First grade.
  - Second grade.

The criteria for receiving an amateur radio license are listed below:

General. Amateurs, before applying for licenses, should read and understand the essential parts of the Berlin Radiotelegraphic Convention and sections 3, 4, 5, and 7 of the act of August 13, 1912. The Department recognizes that radio communication offers a wholesome form of instructive recreation for amateurs. At the same time its use for this purpose must observe strictly the rights of others to the

Next Meeting: Monday, March 20, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
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uninterrupted use of apparatus for important public and commercial purposes. The Department will not knowingly issue a license to an amateur who does not recognize and will not obey this principle. To this end the intelligent reading of the International Convention and the act of Congress is prescribed as the first step to be taken by amateurs. Copies of the two publications may be secured for this purpose from the Department's radio inspectors or from the Commissioner of Navigation, but they are not for public distribution.

- First grade license.
  - The applicant must have a sufficient knowledge of the adjustment and operation of the apparatus, and of the regulations of the International Convention and acts of Congress in so far as they relate to interference with other radio communication and impose certain duties on all grades of operators.
  - The applicant must be able to transmit and receive in Continental Morse, but no speed rate will be prescribed.
  - Applicants for licenses of this grade residing at or near any place where examinations are held will communicate with examining officers and will be examined and receive licenses of amateur grades.
  - At places in seaboard States, remote from examining officers, applicants will file applications with the radio inspector, who will endeavor to arrange for examinations on his inspection trips.
  - Good for 2 years
- Second grade license.
  - The requirements for the second grade will be the same as for the first grade.
  - The second-grade license will be issued where an applicant cannot be examined or until he can be examined.
  - An examining officer or radio inspector is authorized in his discretion to waive an actual examination of an applicant for an amateur license, if the amateur for adequate reasons cannot present himself for examination but in writing can satisfy the examining officer or radio inspector that he is qualified to hold a license and will conform to its obligations.
  - Good for 8 months or until examined.

Licenses for the use and operation of apparatus for radio communication under the act may be issued only to citizens of the United States or Porto Rico [Sic]. Licenses are required before December 13, 1912.

Next Meeting: Monday, March 20, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

## Applications for amateur licenses

- Amateurs in the seaboard States should write to the examining officer in their vicinity for Form 756 (application for operator's license) and to the radio inspector in their vicinity, for Form 757 (application for license for land station). If the application for operator's license is also made to the radio inspector, both applications should be forwarded in the same envelope.
- Amateurs in the inland States will follow the same course, but they are requested to be patient, as licenses probably cannot be issued to them as operators or to their apparatus before November or December. Where application has been made for a license and the Department has not been able to act, through lack of time, steps toward imposing penalties of course will not be taken.
- Amateurs in doubt as to where or how to apply for licenses may address the Commissioner of Navigation.
- Women are eligible as applicants for licenses of any class or grade upon the same conditions as men.
- Operator's licenses should be framed and posted in the radio room, and licenses for stations should be accessible at all times to inspectors.

Now you know.

*-via e-mail*

## EXAM NEWS

Since we've not had an exam since November, there's not much to report. Dial's currently scheduled exams are Wednesday, March 15 and May 3; Germantown Amateur Radio Society on Saturday March 25; and BCARA on Saturday, April 15 and May 12.

*-Carl, K8CM*

The March 2017 Dial Radio Club meeting will be held at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH. The Grill is located on the East side of Main Street, just North of the intersection of SR 63 and Main Street (aka Cincinnati-Dayton Road).

Menu: <http://www.theclubhousesportsgrille.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/ClubhouseMenu-1.pdf>

Next Meeting: Monday, March 20, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
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, March 15, 2017  
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, March 20, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

# ***GARS***



**Germantown Amateur Radio Society**

# **Free Amateur Radio License Exams**

**Technician, General, and Extra**

**Saturday, March 25<sup>th</sup> Starting at 6pm**

**German Township Complex**

**12102 State Route 725 West**

**Germantown, Ohio**

**Pre-Registration is Preferred**

**Walk-in's welcomed**

**To Register or for more Information**

**Contact: Phil Thomas W8RMJ**

Next Meeting: Monday, March 20, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
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, April 15, 2017 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, March 20, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
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](mailto:W8BLV@QSL.net)

## the prez sez ...

**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**

Tim Murphy, WA8YXY

Hamvention plans are coming together. We received and paid for our requested spaces, 8301, 8302, 8303 and 8304. These are a good spots on the perimeter of the track, next to the walk-in entrance, close to the main buildings. You can go to <http://hamvention.org/travel-parking/directions/#maps> and look at the flea market maps (<http://hamvention.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/Flea-Market-02-17-Full.pdf>) to find our location. Ron has the four spaces next to ours.

Get ready, it is only one month away, so it is time for everyone gather up their things to take up to sell.

*Ernie, W8EH*

## MINUTES OF THE MARCH 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017 MEETING

**Attendance:**

N8AA, N8ACR, KE8AIQ, KE8AIR, K8CM, KD8CPV, N8DHW, WA8DTU, N8EH, W8EH, K8EWG, KE8FLT, KC8GMR, KI8I,

KC8ISN, W8ISZ, KC8IZE, N8LRN & Eve, W8LKU, NN8M, KC8NHP, N8OZN, K8PFT, N8PI, N8QF, AB8QP, KF8QS, NR8R & Barbara, W8RES, KD8SES, KC8TXA, KD8W, W8WCQ, W8WLM, KC8WOF, N8YFQ, WA8YXY, John Frasik, Ray Nickell

**Call to order:**

Ernie, W8EH, called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm.

**Secretary's Report:**

A motion to accept the Minutes as published was made by Ernie, N8EH, and seconded by Bob, NR8R. The motion passed without dissent.

Next Meeting: Monday, April 17, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

**Treasurer's Report:**

Ron, N8QF, gave the Treasurer's report. Membership for 2017 presently stands at 74 members representing 59 families. There remain 6 unpaid families from 2016. A motion to approve was made Bob, NR8R, and seconded by John, W8WCQ. The motion passed without dissent.

**Classes and Exams:**

Carl, K8CM, reported that the Extra class is going well and enrollment has grown by one student. The class embarks on its second half this week and will conclude April 26. The most recent exam session occurred this past Wednesday evening with 9 candidates and fourteen VEs in attendance. Next Dial exam will be May 3 in Verity Lodge, Miami University Middletown. Registration will begin at 6:00 pm. VE's are asked to arrive about 5:30 if possible.

**Newsletter:**

Carl, K8CM, reported that the newsletter is doing well. He requested that Dial members originate articles for the newsletter.

**Repeater/Station Report:**

Ernie, W8EH, reported all systems working well.

Carl, K8CM, reported that Echolink is doing fine.

**Activity Report:**

Roy, N8LRN, reminded all of the upcoming Hamvention® and encouraged them to participate in the flea market. Roy reminded us Field Day is June 24-25 and asked for a volunteer to coordinate. A motion was offered by Bob, NR8R, and seconded by Don, WA8DTU to reserve space at Smith Park for Dial's Field Day activity. The motion passed without dissent.

**Old Business:**

Ernie, W8EH, formally appointed Tim, WA8YXY, as Webmaster for the Dial page. Tim has done considerable work on the web page for Dial (<http://qth.net/w8blv>) and is now recognized as "the man in charge".

Ron, N8QF, reported that the 501(c)(3) long-form application has been filed; we now await IRS's processing.

Carl, K8CM, reported on his discussion with the management of *Spinning Fork*. The restaurant is closed on Monday for private meetings, and the thought was that we might use that venue for our meeting. Those hopes were dashed when we became aware that a minimum \$600 charge would be required. Motion was made by Bob, NR8R, seconded by Don, WA8DTU, to continue at the *Clubhouse Sports Grille* for subsequent meetings. The motion passed without dissent.

Ernie, W8EH, brought a portable microphone and amplifier to address the comments last month regarding the Grille's acoustics. It worked well and may become a staple of future meetings.

Next Meeting: Monday, April 17, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

**New Business:**

None.

**Adjournment:**

A motion was made by Ron, N8QF, and seconded by Gordon, KC8GMR to adjourn at 7:23 pm. The motion carried.

*Jim Frey, W8ISZ  
Secretary pro tem*

*Following adjournment, Dave, N8YFQ, presented a very interesting and informative program on his deployment with Ohio TaskForce-1 while responding to hurricane Matthew. Additional information on Ohio Taskforce-1 may be found at <http://www.publicsafety.ohio.gov/ohtf1/index.htm>.*

**DID YOU KNOW?**

On May 9, 1913 the Department of Commerce published instructions regarding the use of call signs.

· By international agreement the United States was allowed to issue call signs within the following blocks of letters (Note: AA-AL was not granted to the USA at this time):

KDA to KZZ  
NAA-NZZ  
WAA-WZZ

- All combinations beginning with the letter N are reserved for Government stations and in addition, the combinations from WUA to WVZ and WXA to WZZ are reserved for Stations of the Army of the United States.
- The combinations KDA to KZZ, with a few exceptions, are reserved for ship and coast stations on the Atlantic coast and Gulf of Mexico.
- The combinations beginning with W (except WUA to WVZ and WXA to WZZ as already indicated) are reserved, with a few exceptions, for ship and coast stations on the Pacific coast and on the Great Lakes.

In addition, the Department of Commerce created districts for managing radio stations across the country.

District	Headquarters	Area
1	Boston, MA	Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont., Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut

Next Meeting: Monday, April 17, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
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2	New York, NY	New York (county of New York, Staten Island, Long Island and counties on the Hudson River to and including Albany, Rensselaer, and Schenectady), and New Jersey (counties of Bergen, Passaic, Essex, Union, Middlesex, Monmouth, Hudson, and Ocean)
3	Baltimore, MD	New Jersey (all counties not included in second district), Pennsylvania (counties of Philadelphia, Delaware, all counties south of the Blue Mountains, and Franklin County), Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, District of Columbia
4	Savannah, CA	North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Porto Rico.
5	New Orleans, LA	Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, Tennessee, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Arkansas
6	San Francisco, CA	California, Hawaii, Nevada, Utah, Arizona
7	Seattle, WA	Oregon, Washington, Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming
8	Cleveland, OH	New York (all counties not included in second district), Pennsylvania (all counties not included in third district), West Virginia, Ohio, Michigan (Lower Peninsula).
9	Chicago, IL	Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan (Upper Peninsula), Minnesota, Kentucky, Missouri, Kansas, Colorado, Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota, North Dakota

The call letters for amateur stations in the United States were awarded by radio inspectors, each for his own district, according to the following system:

- The call consists of three items:
  - Number of the radio district (1-9) as described above and
  - Two letters of the alphabet.
    - The first letter may not be X, Y, or Z.
- This results in 598 possible call signs for each district
- Thus, the call of all stations in New England (which comprises the first district) will be the figure "one" in Continental Morse, followed by two letters (1RF); in California (in the sixth district) the figure "six" followed by two letter (HF); in South Carolina the figure "four" followed by two letters (4MQ); in Missouri the figure "nine" followed by two letters (9PZ), etc.

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- If the entire 598 calls have been exhausted, radio inspectors were authorized to issue additional calls, consisting of the figure of the district followed by three letters (1FDQ, 6TNS, 4OMG, 9RLR, etc.).
- The following combinations must be excluded:
  - The combination SOS, and PRB,
  - All three-letter combinations beginning with QR or QS,
  - All combinations involving the repetition of the same letter three times (e.g., GGG),
  - Three-letter combinations beginning with K, N, W, X, Y, Z. and
  - Other combinations, which for various reasons, international, national, local, or individual, may be objectionable.
- With such exclusions, over 10,000 calls will remain for each district.

*-via e-mail*

## **NEW BANDS! FCC ISSUES AMATEUR RADIO SERVICE RULES FOR 630 METERS AND 2,200 METERS**

The Amateur Service will officially get two new bands in the near future. The FCC has adopted rules that will allow Amateur Radio access to the 630 and 2,200-meter bands, with minor conditions. A Report and Order (R&O) was released on March 29. The effective date of the new rules is hard to predict at this point; more below. (This corrects and updates information that appeared in The ARRL Letter edition that circulated to members.) The R&O, which also addresses several non-Amateur Radio issues, allocates the 472-479 kHz band (630 meters) to the Amateur Service on a secondary basis and amends Part 97 to provide for Amateur Service use of that band as well as of the previously allocated 135.7-137.8 kHz band (2,200 meters). The R&O also amends Part 80 rules to authorize radio buoy operations in the 1900-2000 kHz band under a ship station license.



"It's a big win for the Amateur community and the ARRL," ARRL CEO Tom Gallagher, NY2RF, said. "We are excited by the FCC's action to authorize Amateur Radio access for the first time on the MF and LF spectrum."

The FCC said the Amateur Radio service rules it has adopted for 630 meters and 2,200 meters allow "for co-existence with Power Line Carrier (PLC) systems that use these bands." Utilities have opposed Amateur Radio use of the MF and LF spectrum, fearing interference to unlicensed Part 15 PLC systems used to manage the power grid.

Amateurs operating on 472-479 kHz would be permitted a maximum equivalent isotropically radiated power (EIRP) of 5 W, except in parts of Alaska within 800 kilometers (approximately 496 miles) of Russia, where the maximum would be 1 W EIRP. Amateurs operating in the 135.7-137.8 kHz band could run up to 1 W EIRP.

Next Meeting: Monday, April 17, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

April 2017

The FCC is requiring a 1-kilometer separation distance between radio amateurs using the two new bands and electric power transmission lines with PLC systems on those bands. Amateur Radio operators will have to notify UTC of station location prior to commencing operations.

The FCC also placed a 60-meter (approximately 197 feet) above-ground-level (AGL) height limit on transmitting antennas used on 630 meters and 2,200 meters. The bands would be available to General class and higher licensees, and permissible modes would include CW, RTTY, data, phone, and image. Automatically controlled stations would be permitted to operate in the bands. More details soon, on the ARRL website.

The fact that the new rules contain a new information-collection requirement -- notification of operation to the UTC -- makes it difficult to guess at an effective date. The FCC R&O says the Office of Management and Budget (under the Paperwork Reduction Act) must first approve the information-collection requirements (in §97.303[g][2]). Then, the revised Part 97 rules sections will become effective after the FCC publishes a notice in The Federal Register "announcing such approval and the relevant effective date."

- ARRL Letter, March 30, 2017

## **NEW ROOKIE ROUNDUP RULES GO INTO EFFECT FOR SSB EVENT ON APRIL 17**

You might be a rookie and not even know it! The definition of a rookie has been changed for the Rookie Roundup (<http://www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup>), making it possible for more radio amateurs to qualify for the "Rookie" category. Rookie Roundup is a 6-hour operating event aimed at radio amateurs licensed for 3 years or less.

Operators first licensed in 2015, 2016, or 2017 already qualify as Rookies. Starting with the April 17 SSB event, however, operators licensed before 2015 may enter as Rookies, if they made their first Amateur Radio contact during 2015, 2016 or 2017 -- or if they have never made a contact using the mode of the Rookie Roundup (i.e., SSB for April, RTTY for August, and CW for December). These operators should send 2017 in their exchange, and those qualifying for either of these reasons will be Rookies only for 1 year.

Rookie Roundup is the third Sunday in April (SSB), August (RTTY), and December (CW). Rookies may work any station. Non-Rookies may only work Rookies.

- ARRL Letter, April 6, 2017

## **ARDUINO**

*[The following came to us via unsolicited e-mail and is included herein merely for your information. No recommendation or encouragement of use is to be assumed. Click <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arduino> for more information on Arduino. -Ed]*

Webmaster or Executive - Dial Radio Club

Next Meeting: Monday, April 17, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

April 2017

Earlier this year, I published a series of articles on my web site called the "Arduino Ham Radio Starter Kit". The purpose of this information is to encourage more hams and their clubs to engage with the local maker community as a gateway to amateur radio.

These articles explain Arduino basics in a ham radio context. They contain many suggestions about how amateurs can use Arduinos, as well as how a ham club can engage other makers in hobby activities.

Please take a moment to review the Arduino Ham Radio Starter Kit articles. If you find them to be useful, please consider passing these along to your members or contacts.

You can use these articles by linking them to your web site, Twitter feed, Facebook page or by e-mail. The URL is: <http://play.fallows.ca/wp/series/arduino-ham-radio-starter-kit/>

Thanks for your consideration. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact me.

73 John Fallows VE6EY  
Calgary, Alberta

## EXAM NEWS

Our first license exam of 2017 was held on Wednesday evening, March 15, in Verity Lodge, Miami University-Middletown. Fourteen VEs served 9 applicants to whom 14 exam elements were administered. The elements consisted of Element 2 (7 administered and 6 passing), Element 3 (7 administered and 2 passing). There were 5 new Technicians, 1 new General, and 1 General upgrade by evening's end.

Our next exam will be 9 am, Saturday, April 15, 2017 in the Fairfield Township Police Department, 6485 Vonnie Vale Court, Hamilton, OH 45011.

- Carl, K8CM



Next Meeting: Monday, April 17, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
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, April 15, 2017 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, April 17, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
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# Amateur Radio License Exams

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

**Wednesday evening, May 3, 2017  
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://fallfoss.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 17, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
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## Amateur Radio License Exam

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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



# 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](mailto: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:**

Tim Murphy, WA8YXY

## the prez sez .....

Hamvention is almost here, May 19, 20, and 21. Dial has secured spaces for the flea market, near the walkway into the flea market from the main display area (8301-8304). If you are there and are looking for us, look up in the air for the yellow club flag. As we said earlier, everyone should be collecting up their items that you want to sell.

The Club will have it's on site portable repeater again this year. It will be on 444.825, plus 5 Mhz offset, with a PL tone of 100.0. This is the same as last year. You will find most of the crowd listening there.

The trailer clean-out in preparation for Hamvention will take place on Wednesday May 10. We will meet at 5:30. In addition, we will be jacking up the trailer and swapping out the tires/wheels for new one. After the cleanup we will head over to LaRosa's for something to eat. You can load your sale items and chairs the same evening. If you can't make it then, contact Ron or me to get into the trailer.

We will talk about it more at the next Dial meeting.

*Ernie, W8EH*

## MINUTES OF THE APRIL 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017 MEETING

### **Attendance:**

KE8AIQ, KE8AIR, K8CM, KD8CPV, N8DHW, WAS8DU, N8EH, W8EH, KE8FLT, N8GGE, KC8GMR, KD8GXD, N8HP, N8HRA, KC8ISN, W8ISZ, KC8IZE, W8LKU, N8OZN, N8PI, N8QF, AB8QP, KD8W, W8WLM, KC8WOF, N8YFQ, WA8YXY, John Hanisch

Next Meeting: Monday, May 15, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

**Call to order:**

Ernie, W8EH, called the meeting to order at 7:07 pm.

**Secretary's Report:**

A motion to accept the Minutes as published was made by Ron, N8QF, and seconded by Dave, N8YFQ. The motion passed without dissent.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Ron, N8QF, gave the Treasurer's report. Membership for 2017 presently stands at 77 members representing 62 families. There remain 5 unpaid families from 2016. A motion to approve was made by Barney, N8HP, and seconded by Art, N8PI. The motion passed without dissent.

Ron gave an update on the Club's 501 (c) (3) application. The paper work was submitted about 30 days ago. The IRS says to expect to hear from them in about 90 days if the application is properly filled out or about 6 months if it has problems.

**Classes and Exams:**

Beverley, N8GGE, commented that the Extra preparation class is nearly through. There has been very little attrition during the classes. The room is still full of students. There will not be any more class activity until Miami begins its Fall Semester in late August.

Carl, K8CM, reported that the next Dial exam will be May 3 in Verity Lodge, Miami University Middletown. Registration will begin at 6:00 pm. VE's are asked to arrive about 5:30 if possible.

**Newsletter:**

Tim, WA8YXY, asked those in attendance to provide materials for the Club's website at QSL.net/w8blv.

**Newsletter:**

Carl, K8CM, reported that the newsletter is ok.

**Repeater/Station Report:**

Ernie, W8EH, reported all systems working well.

Carl, K8CM, reported that Echolink is doing fine.

**Activity Report:**

In the absence of Roy, N8LRN, Ernie announced that he had completed the paperwork to reserve space at Smith Park for Dial's Field Day activity.

**Old Business:**

Ron, N8QF, gave a summary of the plans for the Dayton Hamvention. Spaces have been assigned (*the secretary could not hear the space numbers, so they were not recorded*). The '0-Dark Thirty' gang, that opens up the trailer and raises the pop-ups will leave Ron's place of business at 5:30 am on Friday morning. Remaining days may have a later departure based upon the difficulty of getting into the holding area and into

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May 2017

the flea market after the track has been cleared of horses. The Flea Market will open at 9:00 am each day – same time as the buildings.

Ron also announced that the Thursday setup group will depart Ron's place of business at 12:00 pm (i.e. noon) on Thursday. As usual, a stop for lunch will be made along the way. The Xenia site is about 10 miles farther away from Middletown than Hara Arena.

Ron asked about the condition of the shelters for Hamvention. Dave, KD8W, said that he would set up the Club's 10x20 shelter and see if it is still serviceable. There was discussion about borrowing pop-up shelters from members for the weekend.

Ernie, W8EH, announced that trailer cleanout will be May 10<sup>th</sup> at W8EH's place of employment, starting at 6:00 pm. A couple of days later the trailer will be moved to Ron's place of business, so that Club Members desiring to load items for sale will be to bring them to Ron's. As usual, Club Members are asked to donate 10% of their sales to the Club to offset the cost of the Hamvention Spaces.

Donuts, soft drinks and coffee will be provided by the Club. *(Although not mentioned explicitly, Club Members wishing to have a folding chair at Hamvention should bring it to trailer clean out to keep from having to carry the chairs in for themselves – Sec).*

Art, N8PI, asked about talk-in frequencies for Hamvention. Dave, N8YFQ, strongly suggested that everyone listen to the official talk-in station. That station will be advising attendees how to avoid accidents, traffic tie ups, etc. in an effort to get people into the venue. Ernie, W8EH, announced that Club's local repeater will again be on 444.825 MHz with a 100 Hz PL.

Steve, KD8CPV, asked if it is allowable to drive stakes for shelters and the answer is yes, since the area is grassy.

Dave, N8YFQ, gave an update of the Flea Market reservation process. Some people that think they have made reservations may not have done so. Also, there is a time limit during which the reservation fee must be paid or the slot will be returned to the active pool. In reply to a question, Dave said that this year's Flea Market space holders will have the same spots next year if they apply in a timely fashion and pay their fees in the appropriate time frame.

### **New Business:**

Ernie, W8EH, announced that Jerry, W8LR, had set an ISS Digipeater record on UHF by working VA7THO in grid CN89oa (a distance of 3,224 km or about 2,000 miles). The result is listed on the AMSAT web site. Congratulations, Jerry!

Ernie also announced that Barney, N8HP, had been listed as a high finisher in a CQ Magazine contest, and asked him for details. Barney replied that he was 3<sup>rd</sup> in the USA in the CQ WW DX RTTY contest for 20 meters. *(That means that at least three people entered that category ☺ - Sec).*

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**Adjournment:**

A motion was made by Dave, N8YFQ, and seconded by Art, N8PI, to adjourn at 7:26 pm. The motion carried.

Barney Taylor, N8HP  
Secretary

**FROM OUR DIVISION DIRECTOR**

Upcoming: Of course, it is the Dayton Hamvention®. Certainly, this year's event will be a new adventure, much as it was when the Hamvention moved from downtown Dayton to Wampler's Ballarena many years ago. We all grew with the expansion into the entire HARA Arena and hardly noticed those changes. Now, there is a major venue change and associated with that, a new learning experience for everyone. I certainly want to encourage everyone - attendees, flea marketers, vendors, sponsors and casual observers to be patient and understanding, as the learning curve is steep for all.

The Greene County Fairgrounds offers a great venue for THE major event in ham radio. All the old familiar vendor locations are gone and replaced by new booths and displays. We will search them all out and quite likely find new friends and vendors in the process. I am truly looking forward to this new location and all it has to offer. As your Director and representing the hosting ARRL Great Lakes Division, I'll be spending most of my time at the ARRL EXPO's "Meet and Greet" area; I do hope to see you there. Be sure to check out the Hamvention web pages for the latest information: <http://hamvention.org/>

Scott N8SY, Ohio SM will also host the Ohio Section Hospitality Booth at the ARRL EXPO. Scott always welcomes visitors from all across the country, so be sure to stop by.

Spring is here and along with it the potential severe weather that appears all across the Great Lakes Division. Many, if not most ARES groups have completed their Skywarn training for this year and are prepared for activation if the situation calls for it. And, IF their key Served Agency calls them into action. "IF" is the intended key word. Self-deployment is not the desired action. It is fraught with problems - going to the wrong place, not being really needed, being ill prepared for the scenario, not registered with the served agency, needed elsewhere, the list goes on. Moreover, every season, it seems, we hear of someone who chose to self-deploy into a disaster area only to create a mini-disaster all by themselves. The self-deployment rule espoused by all leaders in Emergency management is simply "Don't do it"! Instead, contact your E.C. and let him or her know of your availability and ask if you are needed, where you may best serve, when you should arrive and what resources you need to take with you. We need to be the best communicators - let's make sure we are on that path.

Dale Williams, WA8EFK, Director  
Great Lakes Division

- "Dale's Tales" for May 2017

Next Meeting: Monday, May 15, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
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May 2017

[The following came to us via unsolicited e-mail and is included here in merely for your information. No recommendation or encouragement of use is to be assumed. -Ed]

Subject: PLEASE SUPPORT ADAPTIVE TECHNOLOGIES FOR BLIND HAMMS

Date: Sun, 30 Apr 2017 15:14:49 -0700

From: Richard McDonald KK6MRH

To: w8blv@qsl.net

Dear Fellow Ham,

Recently, an app has been created that for the first time ever allows blind hams to participate in PSK31. The app is being given away to the world for free. Essentially, this app allows blind hams to use their computer's "screen reader" to work with DigiPan. Several members of the "Westside [of Los Angeles] Amateur Radio Club" participated in creating this app. We would be most grateful to you if you could forward this email on to your club members. Please help us spread this great news!

To support the continued creation of adaptive technologies for blind hams, a GoFundMe webpage has been created. The link to it is below. You can learn a little more about this app there too.

<https://www.gofundme.com/accessible-digipan-for-blind-hams>

Please donate in whatever amount you can. Most especially, forward this email on to all of your friends and family, "Like" the GoFundMe webpage on Facebook, "Share" it with all your friends, tweet it out and ask everyone to do the same!

73, Richard, KK6MRH

-via e-mail

## IMPORTANT NOTICE -- NEW MF AND LF BANDS ARE NOT YET AVAILABLE TO USE!

The new 630-meter and 2,200-meter bands are **not yet available for Amateur Radio use**. The effective date of the recent FCC *Report & Order* ([R&O](#)) granting these allocations has not yet been determined, and until the start date has been set, it is *not* legal under an Amateur Radio license to transmit on either band.

The fact that these new rules contain a new information-collection requirement -- notification of operation to the United Telecoms Council ([UTC](#)) -- complicates the matter of determining an effective date. According to the FCC *R&O*, the Office of Management and Budget (under the Paperwork Reduction Act) must first approve the information-collection requirements in 47 CFR 97.303(g)(2), which must be in place before radio amateurs can use the new bands. Once that happens, the FCC will publish a notice in *The Federal Register* "announcing such approval and the relevant effective date," the *R&O* said. ARRL will announce the UTC



Next Meeting: Monday, May 15, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
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May 2017

notification procedures and the effective date to use these new bands as soon as these are known.

- ARRL Letter, May 4, 2017

## EXAM NEWS

Dial's most recent license exam was held on Wednesday, May 3. Thirteen VEs served 14 applicants to whom 19 exam elements were administered. The 19 elements consisted of Element 2 (3 administered and 3 passing), Element 3 (4 administered and 1 passing), and Element 4 (12 administered and 4 passing). There were 3 new Technicians, 1 General upgrade, and 4 Amateur Extra upgrades by evening's end.

Next exam, to be hosted by the BCARA, will be 9 am, Saturday, May 13, 2017 at the Fairfield Township Police Department.

-Carl, K8CM

## LOL: A FINE EXECUTIVE ORDER



Next Meeting: Monday, May 15, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
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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](mailto:W8BLV@QSL.net)

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**Secretary:**

Barney Taylor, N8HP

**Treasurer:**

Ron Spaulding, N8QF

**Activities Manager:**

Roy Dalton, N8LRN

**Newsletter Editor:**

Carl Morgan, K8CM

**Webmaster:**

Tim Murphy, WA8YXY

## the prez sez .....

I hope Hamvention went well for everyone who attended. It was a little wet, but it was a very good event for the first time at the new location.

Field Day is fast approaching. We hope everyone has their calendar marked for June 23, 24 and 25 to be at Smith Park to participate. We have some preliminary planning done. There will be another Field Day planning meeting after our regular meeting on Monday June 19.

Remember, we do our setup at the field day site starting after noon on Friday the 23, lasting until about supper time. We start testing equipment before lunch on Saturday. Official operating starts at 2 pm Saturday and runs until Sunday at 2 pm. Then we start take down. See you then.

Don't forget the club family picnic will be at 6 pm on Saturday the 24th. Bring a covered dish. The Club will provide meat....

*Ernie, W8EH*

## MINUTES OF THE MAY 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017 MEETING

### Attendance:

N8AA, N8ACR, KE8AIQ, KE8AIR, K8CM, KD8CPV, N8DHW, WA8DTU, N8EH, W8EH, K8EWG, N8GGE, KC8GMR, N8HP, KC8ISN, W8ISZ, W8JBL, W8LKU, N8LRN, NN8M, K8MRC, KC8NHP, NW8NW & Sharon, N8OZN, N8PI, N8QF, AB8QP, KF8QS, NR8R & Barbara, KD8W, W8WCQ, W8WLM, KC8WOF, N8YFQ, WA8YXY, John Hanisch

Next Meeting: Monday, June 19, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

**Call to order:**

Ernie, W8EH, called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

**Secretary's Report:**

A motion to accept the Minutes as published was made by Ernie, N8EH, and seconded by Carl, K8CM. The motion passed without dissent.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Ron, N8QF, gave the Treasurer's report. Membership for 2017 presently stands at 77 members representing 62 families. There remain 5 unpaid families from 2016. A motion to approve was made by Barney, N8HP, and seconded by Dave, N8YFQ. The motion passed without dissent.

Ron reported that he has not heard from the IRS regarding the Club's 501 (c) (3) application.

**Classes and Exams:**

Beverley, N8GGE, reported that no class activity will occur until Miami begins its Fall Semester in late August. A 6-week course to prepare participants for the Technician Class exam is planned.

Carl, K8CM, reported that the BCARA hosted exam in Hamilton on the previous Saturday had resulted in 3 upgrades to General and one new Technician. The next Dial exam will be in August.

**Website:**

No significant changes were reported in the website status.

**Newsletter:**

According to Ernie, W8EH, Carl, K8CM, responded with 'just a blank stare' when asked about the newsletter status.

**Repeater/Station Report:**

Ron, N8QF, started the Station Report by summarizing the work done at the 146.610 repeater site earlier in the month. The work party started at 9:00 am and finished by 1:00 pm. During that time they cleared the growth in and around the fence and removed many of the stumps inside the three concrete pier guy regions. The rubber roofing material (which was put down during Dial's first work party at WNKU) was removed along with the bricks. WNKU management plans to have fabric cloth put down and covered by several inches of gravel to prevent future growth. A number of Dial members severely dulled the chains on their chainsaws while trimming at the site. Dave, KD8W, made a motion that Dial reimburse those people for the cost of a new chain. Brian, KC8NHP, seconded the motion that passed without dissent. Work party members replacing chains were asked to send a copy of their receipt to Ron.

Carl, K8CM, reported that Echolink is doing fine.

**Activity Report:**

Roy, N8LRN, began by announcing that the lawn chairs that had be left in the trailer had been disposed of if they were no longer serviceable. In view of the weather forecast, Roy suggested that Members consider bringing an umbrella.

Next Meeting: Monday, June 19, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

### **Old Business:**

Roy, N8LRN, reported there is still room in the trailer if Members wish to load items to be sold at Hamvention. They should contact Ron, N8QF, to make arrangements to bring the items to his place of business. The set up group will leave Ron's at noon on Thursday. After stopping for lunch, they will go to the Hamvention site and set up the shelters. The "O-Dark-Thirty" group will depart Ron's place of business at 5:30 am on Friday. The departure times for Saturday and Sunday may change based upon traffic.

Dave, N8YFQ, suggested that bringing a leaf rake for the setup might be useful, as the freshly cut heavy grass might form mats in the flea market spaces. Another of Dave's suggestions was: "Don't loan your rakes". Dave went on to dispel a couple of myths about Flea Market rules. Dave announced that the first person 'on standby' for a Flea Market ticket had entered their reservation on February 27<sup>th</sup>. Registration opened on February 18<sup>th</sup>, and all of the Flea Market sites are sold out. Dave went on to add that Mendelson's will not be present this year.

### **New Business:**

Brian, KC8NHP, expressed interest in generating a new logo for Dial after celebrating our 75<sup>th</sup> year. His wife has volunteered to do the artwork. He asked members with suggestions to email him

Ernie, W8EH, asked that the Field Day Committee (anyone with interest or anyone who sets up a station) remain for a few minutes after the post meeting demonstrations to discuss plans for Field Day. Ernie announced that he and David, N8DHW, had brought some hardware that allows persons not in range of a DMR digital repeater to use their DMR radios provided they have network access. David's is a standalone 'box' while Ernie's is based upon peripherals for a Raspberry Pi. Members were encouraged to stay for the demonstrations and ask questions.

### **Adjournment:**

A motion was made by Lorie, W8LKU, and seconded by Brian, KC8NHP, to adjourn at 7:22 pm. The motion carried.

Barney Taylor, N8HP  
Secretary



### **MAKE READY FOR FIELD DAY 2017**

**Field Day is ham radio's open house.** Every June, more than 40,000 hams throughout North America set up temporary transmitting stations in public places to demonstrate ham radio's science, skill and service to our communities and our nation. It combines public service, emergency preparedness, community outreach, and technical skills all in a single event. Field Day has been an annual event since 1933, and remains the most popular event in ham radio.

-ARRL

Next Meeting: Monday, June 19, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
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## HAMVENTION® 2017

Hamvention 2017 is history. After many years at Hara Arena, Hamvention relocated to the Greene County fairground in Xenia. It was a new experience for all as the terrain was, primarily, grass with good drainage. Absent were the issues of the Hara parking lot and the annual admonishment of “no holes in the asphalt”.

This year Dial’s location in the flea market was near the gated entrance to the flea market area and up wind from the portable facilities. We were on a mound and had good drainage away from the site.

Upon arrival, Thursday, our “campsite” looked pretty good; 10’x20’ spaces were well-marked and we set about to stake out our territory.

Friday morning opened and the site was “ready to go”. However, before



W8EH photo



W8EH photo

Prior to Friday’s rain, Dial’s site from the other end.



W8EH photo

long the heavens opened and the rain poured. We were pleased with the drainage of our site but clearly wished for more.

Quickly the grass gave way to mud, driveways became rutted and quickly turned to mush, and travel, by foot or vehicle, quickly deteriorated.

Next Meeting: Monday, June 19, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
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June 2017

More rain on Saturday caused further deterioration of both walkways and vehicular paths. Couple this with inexperienced drivers and vehicles ill-equipped for the conditions in which they found themselves.

After striking our campsite, all that remained on Sunday was the trailer. Upon leaving Saturday evening, most of the canvas had been lowered and stowed to keep it dry through an anticipated night of showers. Driveways, on Sunday, were less favorable than the day before and many attendees found themselves mired. We were fortunate that Dial's drivers made use of 4WD and careful maneuvering to make a safe and speedy exit.



*KD8W photo*

All in all, Hamvention 2017 was a good experience. Its new venue, along with things taught this year, lead me to believe that we can look forward to many improvements for Hamvention 2018. That being said, Hamvention 2017 was successful and enjoyed by most, despite the glitches.

Not too early to start thinking and planning for Hamvention 2018.

*- K8CM*



*W8EH photo*

Part of the Dial group “hangin’ out”.

Next Meeting: Monday, June 19, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
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# *Amateur Radio Class*

## **Introductory Level**

### **Ham Radio Class To Begin !**

Beginning August 16, 2017, 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 20 and be followed by an examination session on Wednesday, September 27.

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, June 19, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
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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](mailto: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:**

Tim Murphy, WA8YXY

## the prez sez .....

We just wrapped up another very successful Field Day. Our setup was delayed by the Friday downpour but we recovered to get up and operating in time. Our operators worked through the full 24 hours. Our score compares with our main Ohio competition, so we may come out on top. It will be several months before we know the results.

Our next event will be the Ohio QSO Party. This will take place on Saturday August 26 at Dave, KD8W's home. Mark your calendar and join us.

*Ernie, W8EH*

## MINUTES OF THE JUNE 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017 MEETING

### Attendance:

N8AA, N8ACR, KE8CIE, K8CM, KD8CPV, N8DHW, K8DSS, WA8DTU, N8EH, W8EH, K8EWG, N8GGE, KC8GMR, KE8HAX, N8HP, N8HRA, KI8I, W8ISZ, W8JBL, W8LKU, N8LRN, K8MRC, KC8NHP, N8PI, AB8QP, KF8QS, ND8R, NR8R & Barbara, KD8W, W8WLM, N8YFQ, WA8YXY

### Call to order:

Ernie, W8EH, called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

### Secretary's Report:

A motion to accept the Minutes as published was made by Brian, KC8NHP, and seconded by Bob, NR8R. The motion passed without dissent.

Next Meeting: Monday, July 17, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

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

Ron, N8QF, gave the Treasurer's report. Membership for 2017 presently stands at 78 members representing 63 families. There remain 4 unpaid families from 2016 that have now been dropped from the roster. A motion to approve was made by Carl, K8CM, and seconded by Barney, N8HP. The motion passed unanimously.

Ron gave the summary of Hamvention expenses. After the donations from the Members selling at Hamvention, the Club made a modest profit of \$71.

Ron reported that the IRS has granted Dial's 501 (c) (3) application. Ron's announcement was met with a well-deserved round of applause for the work that Ron and George, W3GP, had done completing the paperwork.

### **Classes and Exams:**

Beverley, N8GGE, reported that a 6-week course to prepare participants for the Technician Class will begin at Verity Lodge, Miami University Middletown. A class to prepare for General will begin two weeks after the end of the Technician course. Dial's ability to continue using Verity Lodge for classes and exams has turned into a more formal process with a renewal required each year.

Beverley announced that Eileen, K8EWG/ae had just passed her Extra exam and is waiting for her Extra status to appear in the database. Art, N8PI, announced that his neighbor John Hanish, had passed the Technician at Hamvention and is now KE8HAX. Congrats to all!

### **Website:**

Tim, WA8YXY, made another request for Dial members to send him content for the website. Otherwise it is doing fine.

### **Newsletter:**

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

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

No report.

### **Activity Report:**

Roy, N8LRN, reported there is a need to borrow two coolers for Field Day. If members have ones to loan, they are requested to bring them to Roy's place of work. Roy held a straw vote on the menu for the picnic. By a show of hands of those present, pulled pork won over fried chicken by a 13/8 margin. Brats and metts will also be served at the picnic. Roy asked those attending the picnic to bring a covered dish to share – one per family.

### **Old Business:**

Ernie, W8EH, reminded those in attendance that the FD Picnic will begin at 6:00 pm on Saturday. He also announced a Field Day planning meeting to follow the Business meeting.

Ernie solicited comments on Hamvention. With a little cajoling, Dave, N8YFQ, announced with a sigh that 'it is over'. He had been at a meeting the previous week that reported an attendance in excess of 29,000.

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July 2017

Previous years were running in the 25,000 to 26,000 range. Hamvention helped to extricate more than 400 vehicles from the mud in the grass parking lots.

Dave reported that comments regarding Hamvention have been positive and that plans for next year's event had started on the Saturday preceding the Dial meeting.

Members of the audience made comments that were quite positive regarding the execution of the first Hamvention at the Greene County Fairgrounds.

### **New Business:**

Ernie, W8EH, spoke highly of the 10x20 pipe framed shelter purchased by Evan, KC8TXA, which was quite dry during Hamvention. He wondered if the Club might purchase one to replace the failed 10x20 pop-up shelter that is not really usable. Ernie, N8EH, moved to allocate up to \$150 for the shelter. Carl, K8CM, seconded the motion which passed without dissent.

Mark, KE8CIE, commented on his pleasant experience during 'Kids On The Air'. One of the operators was a 12-year old YL with an Extra. Mark reported that she had earned her General at age 10, and that she was operating in a very professional and focused manner – continuing to work other people rather than having an extended rag chew with one individual.

Brian, KC8NHP, reported that he had not received any suggestions for Dial's new Logo, so he was giving his XYL artistic freedom in the design.

Carl, K8CM, announced that he has free firewood for anyone that wishes to pick it up. He also has a 22" snow blower that has a good engine but needs work. Ernie, N8EH, announced that he has a motor home for sale.

Ernie, W8EH, announced that the Club can earn Bonus points for a press announcement regarding Field Day operations. Brian, KC8NHP, volunteered to see to it.

### **Adjournment:**

A motion was made by Marilyn, N8HRA, and seconded by Jim, W8ISZ, to adjourn at 7:21pm. The motion carried.

Barney Taylor, N8HP  
Secretary

## **FIELD DAY**

We are officially submitted! Field Day results for K8PI have been entered on-line and the supporting documents and pictures for all of our bonus points emailed to the ARRL. Below is the summary. Better than last year..... Total claimed score with bonus is 7666. *[Score for 2016 was 6802 – an increase of*

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July 2017

12.7%.]

If you wish to compare this with previous years, you can look up scores here: [http://www.arrl.org/results-database?event\\_id=80253](http://www.arrl.org/results-database?event_id=80253)

Our score made up of 1129 CW QSOs, 2 Satellite QSOs, and 806 Phone QSOs; all done with 100 watts or less. After adding bonus points for 100% Emergency power, Media publicity, Public Location, Public Information Table, W1AW Field Day Message, Satellite QSO, Natural power QSOs completed, Site Visit by invited served agency official, Youth participation, GOTA Bonus, Submitted via the Web, Educational activity, Social media, and a designated Safety officer.

A big thanks to Roy, N8LR I, for an exceptional picnic Saturday night. Anyone who left hungry had no one but themselves to blame.



John, N8AA with K8DSS and KD8W

N8YFQ photo



Operating position in the tree :

K8DSS photo



Aaron, N8ACR

N8YFQ photo



An evening in the 40M tent

K8EWG photo

Next Meeting: Monday, July 17, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
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## GOTA

On-The-Air (GOTA) Station. Any Class A (or F) entry whose transmitter classification is two or more transmitters may also operate one additional station without changing its base entry category, known as the GET-ON-THE-AIR (GOTA) station. This GOTA station may operate on any Field Day band, HF or VHF, but is limited to one GOTA station transmitted signal at any time.

The GOTA station may be operated by any person licensed since the previous year's Field Day, regardless of license class. It may also be operated by a generally inactive licensee. Non-licensed persons may participate under the direct supervision of an appropriate control operator.

Participants are reminded that non-licensed participants working under the direction of a valid control operator may only communicate with other W/VE stations or with stations in countries with which the US has entered a third-party agreement.

**We had a total of 12 participants of whom 8 were unlicensed and 4 were either new or inactive hams.**

**These operators made 113 contacts thereby earning an additional 80 bonus points to Dial's score.**



*Sheriff's Office visitor working a 15M contact in the GOTA tent ; supervised by W8ISZ*

*N8ACR photo*

**Next Meeting: Monday, July 17, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
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## MORE FIELD DAY STATISTICS

You may have wondered how the various modes shook out during the weekend. The CW ops managed to keep things jumping – scoring more than 80 contacts per half-hour as the activity drew to a close. Low point – about 10/half-hour - occurred fourteen hours into the weekend. The CW ops accounted for 1129 contacts, each valued at 2 points in the final score.

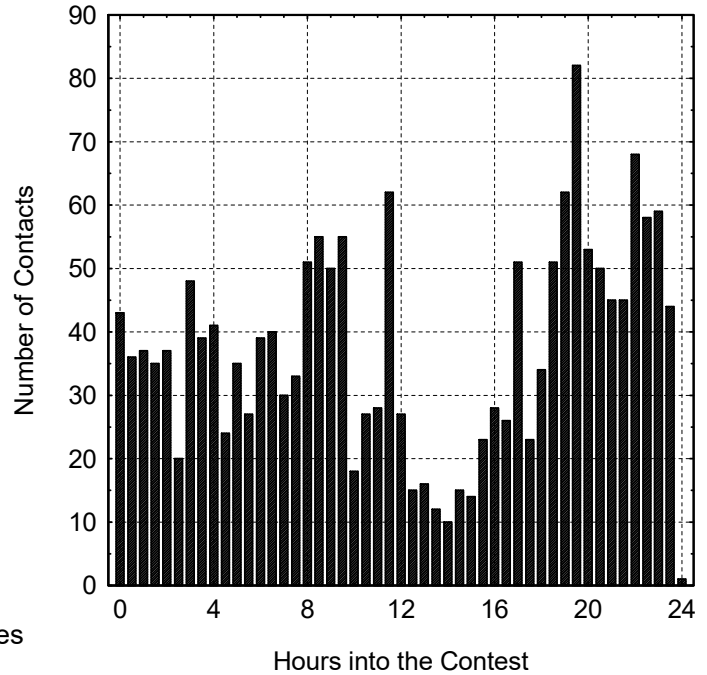
80/20 SSB contacts peaked at 46 approximately 11-1/2 hours into the contest.

40 SSB developed a peak about 20 hours in, registering nearly 55 contacts per half-hour. Quite a surprise given the “nearly-dead” conditions demonstrated during the preceding hours.

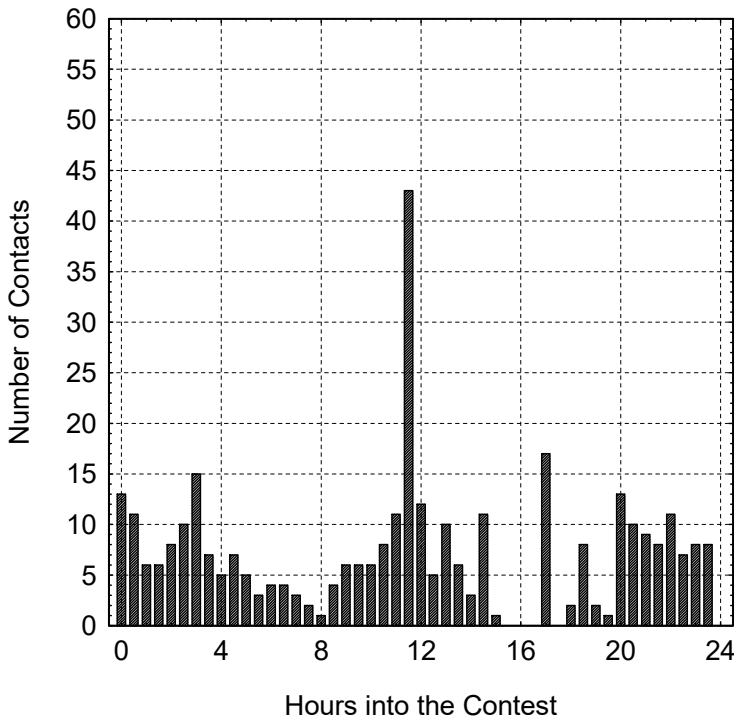
The 806 SSB (phone) contacts, valued at 1 point each, contribute to our final count of 1937 QSOs.

Graphs courtesy of Barney, N8HP.

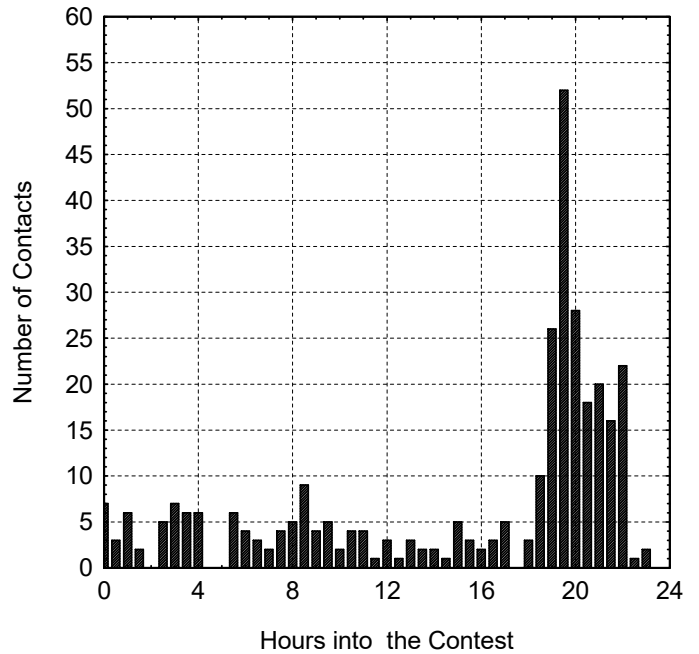
CW Contacts per 30 Minutes



80/20 m SSB Number of Contacts per 30 Minutes



40 m SSB Contacts per 30 minutes



Next Meeting: Monday, July 17, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
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July 2017

## 2017 OHIO QSO PARTY

Event> Ohio QSO Party  
Date > Saturday, August 26, 2017  
Time > Noon to Midnight (12 hour total)  
Where> My QTH:  
Other details to follow

The Ohio QSO Party is an opportunity for amateur radio operators around the world to celebrate the great state of Ohio. Additional information is available at <https://www.ohqp.org/>

Do you have an interest in operating during the 2017 Ohio QSO Party? If so, would you let me know when you will come, how long you plan to stay and talk/operate/visit ??

We are trying to get a handle on the number of folks who will participate and that gives us an idea of how many antennas/stations will be needed. At present I am thinking two stations, but if the operators are there, we can make it three.

Also indicate if you are able to help set up antennas before the event either Thursday or Friday before the event.

I realize Field Day was just completed, but these things do require some advance planning!

*- Dave, KD8W*

## CLASS & EXAM NEWS

Our Fall Technician class will begin at 6 pm, Wednesday, August 16, Verity Lodge, Miami University-Middletown. Class is free; however, a license manual (approximately \$30) is required. Class meets 6-9 pm, weekly, for six weeks. Please tell your friends and family members.

The Butler County Amateur Radio Association will host Saturday morning exams on August 26 and October 28. Exams will be held in the Fairfield Township Police Department, 6485 Vonnie Vale Court, Hamilton, OH.

Next scheduled Dial-hosted exam will be Wednesday evening, September 27, in Verity Lodge, Miami University-Middletown.

*-Carl, K8CM*

Next Meeting: Monday, July 17, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
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# *Amateur Radio Class*

## **Introductory Level**

### **Ham Radio Class To Begin !**

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Class will conclude September 20 and be followed by an examination session on Wednesday, September 27.

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 17, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
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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 26, 2017 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 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 17, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
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# DIAL RADIO CLUB

Middletown, Ohio

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**Treasurer:**

Ron Spaulding, N8QF

**Activities Manager:**

Roy Dalton, N8LRN

**Newsletter Editor:**

Carl Morgan, K8CM

**Webmaster:**

Tim Murphy, WA8YXY

## *the prez sez ....*

The end of summer is upon us and that means it's time for the Ohio QSO Party. Dave, KD8W, will be hosting the club's participation in this event at his home on Saturday, August 26. Feel free to drop by and make a few casual contacts. Pizza will be served for supper. More information will available at our meeting on the 21st.

*Ernie, W8EH*

## **MINUTES OF THE JULY 17<sup>TH</sup>, 2017 MEETING**

### **Attendance:**

N8AA, N8ACR, KE8AIQ, KE8AIR, K8CM, K8DSS, N8EH, W8EH, K8EWG, N8GGE, KE8HDV, KE8HFY, N8HP, N8HRA, KI8I, W8ISZ, K8MRC, KC8NHP, N8OZN, N8QF, KF8QS, ND8R, NR8R & Barbara, KD8W, W8WLM, KC8WOF, N8YFQ, WA8YXY

### **Call to order:**

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

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

A motion to accept the Minutes as published was made by Dave, KD8W, and seconded by Bob, NR8R. The motion passed without dissent.

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

Ron, N8QF, gave the Treasurer's report. Membership for 2017 presently stands at 78 members representing 63 families.

Ron gave the summary of Field Day expenses, mostly for food and gasoline, totaled \$292.

Next Meeting: Monday, August 21, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
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### **Membership:**

Ron, presented an application for Ed Armstrong, ND8R, which was sponsored by Ed, K8DSS. A motion to accept the application was made by Jim, W8ISZ, and seconded by Bob, NR8R. The motion passed unanimously. Ed, welcome to Dial!

### **Classes and Exams:**

Beverley, N8GGE, reported that a 6-week course to prepare participants for the Technician Class will begin at Verity Lodge, Miami University Middletown on August 16<sup>th</sup>. The next Dial exam will be held on the last Wednesday in September. Carl, K8CM, added that BCARA will be hosting an exam on August 26<sup>th</sup>.

### **Website:**

Tim, WA8YXY, reported that he has added Field Day and picnic photos to the Club's website. Anyone wishing to contribute additional photos should send them to Tim. He also reported that the malware issue (somewhere on qth.net) had been remedied and that browsers were no longer giving warnings or refusing to go to the Club's website.

### **Newsletter:**

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

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

Ernie, W8EH, reported that the 147.315 repeater has been receiving interference from an Indianapolis repeater that has an IRLP link. The interference has forced Ernie to place the repeater on PL (77Hz) full time. Otherwise, things with the repeater system are normal.

### **Activity Report:**

No report.

### **Old Business:**

Ernie, W8EH, gave a summary of the Field Day scores. Dial was barely behind OH-KY-IN in raw points and earned about 200 to 300 more bonus points this year due to 2 GOTA operators making 20+ contacts, more children operating and a satellite contact. We will have to wait and see where Dial places in the 'battle for Ohio'.

### **New Business:**

Ernie, W8EH, gave the floor to Dave, KD8W, to discuss the upcoming Ohio QSO Party. Dave's points were:

The contest will be from noon until midnight on August 26<sup>th</sup>.

Dave will be hosting the contest from his home

Three stations will be set up in Dave's air-conditioned basement.

Antenna set up will be on the preceding Thursday with Friday as a rain date.

Those wishing to eat should be present at 5:00 on Saturday.

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August 2017

*We have participated in the contest for several years. It is an enjoyable, easygoing, event. One station will be for CW and two for SSB. One station is particularly well suited for having less experienced operators work with an 'Elmer'. Please come out and participate! N8HP*

Ron, N8QF, made a motion to provide food for the event up to a maximum of \$100. Carl, K8CM, seconded the motion which passed without dissent.

**Adjournment:**

A motion was made by Ernie, N8EH, and seconded by Dave, N8YFQ, to adjourn at 7:19 pm. The motion carried.

Barney Taylor, N8HP  
Secretary

**MORE FIELD DAY FOTOS** - *Thanks to NR8R*



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Also indicate if you are able to help set up antennas before the event either Thursday or Friday before the event.

- Dave, KD8W

## ANOTHER NEW RECORD; W8LR<>VA7THO VIA ISS

From the age of 11 years old I have always been fascinated with shortwave radio and listening to radio stations from as far away as I could possibly hear. In 1982 when after finally getting over the fear of learning Morse code, I received my first Amateur Radio Callsign and the world I had so intently listened to as a young boy now became a world that I could actually talk to as well. Doing so however took room for antennas so antennas became a part of every home I lived in, until a few months ago when due to family care issues I had to move into a covenant antenna restricted community. So my days of being an avid DXer came to an end – well – sort of came to an end. After researching how I could feed my desire for working DX I found that DMR radio and Satellite work could expand my severely compromised situation for antennas. When I was first licensed I did work some of the older Amateur Satellites that had VHF/HF capability but that was more of a “yeah I have done that” but I don’t really care for it kind of thing. So now being totally restricted my interest has returned to using satellites to fill my “need” to work DX. Though I cannot put up a satellite array, I became fascinated with the possibility of “working the birds” again and especially the “BIG bird”, the International Space Station. From the time that Amateur Radio was flown into space aboard the ISS, I have wanted to make a contact with the ISS and talk with one of the astronauts or cosmonauts (still trying to get that contact). Having used packet as a HF DXer for DX spotting, I began to investigate the use of APRS that was available aboard the ISS. After seeing displays at the Dayton Hamvention last year and reading some of the articles in the AMSAT Journal, my desire to accomplish a goal of at least getting a contact with the ISS was renewed – and really became a mission to complete after knowing I was going to move into an antenna restricted community.

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So how was I going to do this?

While at the Dayton Hamvention last year and knowing that I was going to lose having my “antenna farm”, I began looking at transceivers that I could use from my car that would allow me to at least be mobile. That seemed like a pretty good thing to do and then I could be a rover in some of the VHF contests and get back into UHF/VHF and some HF work as well. That idea was short lived when the XYL said she really was not too keen on having an SUV setting in the driveway with all manner of metal sticking out from it like a porcupine. OK, so plan B! Plan B, get a VHF/UHF hand held and a portable hand held Yagi and focus on getting that contact with the ISS.

Plan B became a reality. I found a used Kenwood TH-D72A that from what I understood about APRS was a good little rig to use, and I then decided to get the Arrow 146/437-14 that gave me 10 elements on UHF and 4 elements on VHF since I was only going to be running 5 watts or less I felt I needed that extra gain the antenna offered.

After making a few APRS contacts locally I thought it time to try and work the “BIG bird”. Getting all of the pass prediction software loaded up into the PC and the rig programmed I was off on my quest – which lasted about 10 minutes and resulted in no contact but I did decode the RSOISS beacon. After some thinking about the failure of making a contact, I realized that I had not taken into account the Doppler Shift on the signal. Having been in multiple VHF/UHF contest teams I was familiar with the VHF/UHF propagation but the Doppler Effect was something new to me and honestly not considered very seriously when I programmed the rig. After doing some more reading and posts by Patrick WD9EWK, I used his chart of frequencies to help program the rig for the UHF frequencies that the ISS uses for packet. When I started listening to the ISS the ISS had already switched over to the UHF rig because of the failure of the VHF rig that had been in operation for many years. So I owe thanks and gratitude to WD9EWK for helping me get started successfully working the ISS, though he never knew he had done so.

After a week of getting used to hearing the Doppler Shift on UHF and how the ISS sounded when it was in different positions in the passes, along with learning how to compensate for the change in polarization, my thoughts returned to making that contact with the ISS that I had wanted to make for so many years.

It did not take long for me to make the contact with the ISS APRS system and I was so excited that I had accomplished a long time goal/desire. Then my thoughts turned back to DXing. DXing via ISS? Well that was an intriguing thought to me. I know that all satellites have “foot prints” and just like HF, if you don’t have the propagation (foot print) you won’t be making any contacts. So how do you DX the ISS? That is an easy answer but not an easy thing to do – find another station at the edge of the footprint with a “window” of time just long enough to make a contact with the other station.

After a few weeks of making contacts from the Midwest and East Coast and into the Southwest I would occasionally see, only for a minute, a beacon from Dave Thomson VA7THO, though I never had worked him I thought I would try to do so. After many times of waiting to see his beacon and never being on when he was on I thought I would ask him to schedule an attempted contact, at which time I learned after looking at the AMSAT.ORG website, that if VA7THO and I could make a contact that it would be a new ISS UHF Digipeater distance record.

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When I contacted Dave, I asked him if he would be interested in trying to set a new record. I was so excited about doing some DXing and setting a record that I just bypassed the courteous request for a simple contact. I seriously thought that he would politely say, “No, but thanks for asking”, as not everyone is hooked on DXing as I am, but I was totally shocked when in February I got a reply email from him saying he would be excited to participate.

Over the next six weeks we both looked over charts for shared passes that would accommodate direction and elevations that were conducive for each of us, yet allow us to “see” each other via the ISS. Those six weeks preceding the contact were filled with multiple failures, finding new sites to work from, and late night hours on work nights to go to a site only to be greeted by failure. However we were not going to let failure stop us. We took each failure as a lesson in learning more about propagation and how weather, cloud cover, and the Doppler Shift greatly effect signals on UHF. And how much a 25 mph wind with sleet and snow in 17 degree air temperature can make fingertips turn blue and numb in a matter of a minute ... yes I know, “Where was your glove?” It was in my pocket because I could not use the keypad on the TH-D72A with a gloved hand. (Again I remembered something I already knew about –wind chill- but I was chasing DX!) – The fingers recovered by-the-way.

During the multiple failures, at least a dozen, our hope were beginning to fade. We both wondered if our modest setups would even be able to do the job. After all we were basically QRP into hand held Yagis.

March 28, 2017, was expected to be a failure as Dave informed me that he had rain in his area but he was going to try anyway, but will still hoped that this attempt would be a success. It was time to try it again. As the ISS came just below my horizon I started beaconing, but all I could hear at first was some Midwest stations who were able to hit the digipeater, then all of a sudden VA7THO showed up on my display. I sent him a report but I heard nothing from him. As other made contacts (thank goodness there were no stations beaconing every two seconds) I sent him another report and then got a reply – it was done! After about 1 ½ months of planning and trying to connect – we did it. We each took a series photos of our displays and some were mailed to AMSAT for review and confirmation and we were informed about a week later that we had indeed set a new ISS UHF Digipeater record. Dave told me a story about what also occurred at the time of the contact. Here is his story,

“There I was, sitting in the back of my SUV, open hatchback keeping the rain off the Yagi, which was supported by a tripod and aimed for the stars. Well not really. Aimed for the International Space Station, which was due very soon. The engine running and the heater on made sure I was comfortable as I stared at my faithful Kenwood hand-held transceiver. The previous dozen or more attempts had failed, but it was a time for optimism. (photo A)

Suddenly the little screen lit up with not one, but three call signs. One from Kansas (I found out later), one from Colorado, and the important one, the reason I was there and not home with a TV and bottle of wine, W8LR, Jerry in Ohio, who organized this endeavor to set a record for distant UHF APRS exchange of messages. Hastily I consulted my instruction sheet and sent my reply. I was rewarded with an “ACK” on my screen for a second or two.

Time to go home.

Two weeks later the UHF digipeater was replaced by VHF. We made it!

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I might say “the rest is history” but that would be inappropriate.

I had been fascinated by the ISS ever since I became a ham 6 years ago. I once logged into the bulletin board as it flew by (Don't try it. It monopolizes the system and keeps everyone else out). But I had never used the messaging feature of APRS (except to send e-mails once or twice). I am excited to have had a chance to help with this project. “

As you can see Amateur Radio holds opportunity for many forms of “radio sport” and yes, in this case, continued educational opportunities for us as “hams” with hands on learning as Dave and I have had, and the opportunity to display it in front of educators at a school parking lot that I was using to try to make the contact with Dave. The ARISS program and AMSAT go a long way to in helping further, in some students, the hunger to become scientists, engineers, and for others, who are not so inclined, the opportunity to embrace a new hobby that will help them learn new things, and develop many friendships -some distant, that could last a life time.

In this effort, some educators from the school have expressed some interest and “coolness” in seeing if a request for a scheduled school contact with one of the ISS “Hams” could be submitted for approval.

Gee, all of this from just wanting to play radio and DX!

73's

See you on the “birds”

Jerry L. Rogers W8LR



Photo A (VA7THO -Almost a Faraday Cage but he stayed “dry”)



Photo B (@W8LR QTH)

- Jerry, W8LR

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## **ARRL BOARD EXPLORES ENTRY-LEVEL LICENSE OPTIONS, WAYS TO FACE FUTURE CHALLENGES**

Meeting July 21-22 in Farmington, Connecticut, the ARRL Board of Directors took steps to chart a firmer future for Amateur Radio by enhancing the value of the entry-level license and by providing ongoing support for new licensees. ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, chaired the second regular meeting of 2017.

ARRL New England Division Director Tom Frenaye, K1KI, presented the report of the Ad Hoc Entry-Level License Committee. He said the committee's initial, informal survey attracted nearly 7,900 responses. A second random survey drew another 375 responses. "A clear majority favored a revision to the Technician rather than a new entry-level license," the committee's report said, noting that this would require no change to the Technician examination, which already covers more material than necessary for an entry-level examination. "This choice requires the simplest revision to FCC rules," the committee report said. The committee suggested expanded digital access on 80, 40, and 15 meters, where Technicians already have CW access, as well as the addition of Technician phone privileges on those bands. Frenaye pointed out that while the Amateur Radio population is growing, the annual rate of growth has stagnated at about 1%. "There is a general consensus...that 'something needs to happen,'" the committee's report said, noting a generally favorable attitude toward attracting newcomers.

"The general goal here is to have an entry-level license that offers a way for a newcomer to experience multiple facets of Amateur Radio," the committee's report said, "encouraging them to get on the air, meet other licensees, and engage in a lifetime of learning while using Amateur Radio."

Later in the meeting, the Board charged the ARRL Executive Committee with developing a plan to implement the ad hoc committee's recommendation to make the current Technician class license more attractive and useful by expanding its operating privileges on HF to include phone and digital modes. The Board asked the Ad Hoc Entry-Level License Committee to further research and develop the details of a second recommendation to improve successful outreach to prospective radio amateurs and help them through the licensing process.

*-ARRL Letter, August 3, 2017*

## **CLASS & EXAM NEWS**

Our Fall Technician class will begin at 6 pm, Wednesday, August 16, Verity Lodge, Miami University-Middletown. Class is free; however, a license manual (approximately \$25) is required. Class meets 6-9 pm, weekly, for six weeks. Please tell your friends and family members.

The Butler County Amateur Radio Association will host Saturday morning exams on August 26 and October 28. Exams will be held in the Fairfield Township Police Department, 6485 Vonnie Vale Court, Hamilton, OH.

Next scheduled Dial-hosted exam will be Wednesday evening, September 27, in Verity Lodge, Miami University-Middletown.

*-Carl, K8CM*

Next Meeting: Monday, August 21, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
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# *Amateur Radio Class*

## **Introductory Level**

### **Ham Radio Class To Begin !**

Beginning August 16, 2017, 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 20 and be followed by an examination session on Wednesday, September 27.

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, August 21, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
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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 26, 2017 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 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, August 21, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
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# 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 27, 2017  
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 of any certificates of successful completion of examination (CSCE) they may hold, positive (photo) identification, Licensee ID number (FRN) or social security (SSN) number.

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

If you are applying for your first license, please go to <https://fallfoss.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, August 21, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
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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](mailto:W8BLV@QSL.net)

## MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 21<sup>ST</sup>, 2017 MEETING

**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:**

Tim Murphy, WA8YXY

**Attendance:**

N8AA, N8ACR, K8CM, N8EH, W8EH, N8HRA, KI8I, W8ISZ, K8LRN, K8MRC, KC8NHP, NW8NW, N8PI, N8QF, AB8QP, KF8QS, NR8R & Barbara, KD8W, W8WLM, KC8WOF, WA8YXY.

**Call to order:**

Ernie, W8EH, called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

**Secretary's Report:**

A motion to accept the Minutes as published was made by Ernie, N8EH, and seconded by Bob, NR8R. The motion passed without dissent.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Ron, N8QF, gave the Treasurer's report. Membership for 2017 presently stands at 79 members representing 64 families. A motion to accept was offered by Carl, K8CM, seconded by Bob, NR8R and

passed without dissent.

**Classes and Exams:**

Carl, K8CM, reported that a 6-week course to prepare participants for the Technician Class began last Wednesday with five students. Class will conclude September 20 and be followed by an exam on September 27.

Carl reminded us that BCARA will be hosting an exam on this coming Saturday, August 26 at the Fairfield Township Police Department.

**Website:**

Tim, WA8YXY, reported that the web site is healthy but needs more "stuff". He requests photos and news info to be included therein.

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**Newsletter:**

Carl, K8CM, reported “no stated problems with the Newsletter”. This last Newsletter was the largest to date; 15 MB mainly due to the additional FD photos. Mailing date is about the second Sunday/Monday; if you haven't received yours by this time, please e-mail Carl and let him know.

**Repeater/Station Report:**

Ernie, W8EH, reported that the 147.315 repeater has been resolved by placing the it in full-PL mode. No other issues have been reported.

**Activity Report:**

Dave, KD8W, reminded us of the Ohio QSO party this weekend. He and Judy will be hosting operation from their home Party runs for twelve hours, commencing at noon and concluding at midnight.

**Old Business:**

None

**New Business:**

Ron, N8QF, reported on the sale of the WNKN site. It appears that Dial will be allowed to remain in the facility and on the tower.

After some discussion a suggestion was made to consider developing educational sessions on various amateur radio topics; *i.e.* WSJT modes, DMR technologies, and other topics of interest but yet to be determined. These could be held in Verity Lodge in lieu of license classes when the latter may have been cancelled.

Bob, NR8R, thanked and called attention to Carl, K8CM, for his support of the Germantown Amateur Radio Society as they are getting their VE program up and running.

**Adjournment:**

A motion was made by Ernie, N8EH, and seconded by Gordon, KI8I, to adjourn at 7:19 pm. The motion passed without dissent.

Jim Frey, W8ISZ  
Secretary *pro tem*

**2017 OHIO QSO PARTY**

“The Ohio QSO Party is an opportunity for amateur radio operators around the world to celebrate the great state of Ohio.” Sponsored by the Mad River Radio Club, Dayton, OH, the Ohio QSO Party occurs annually during the month of August. More information on this operating activity may be found by pointing your browser to <https://www.ohqp.org/>.

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This year's local party was hosted by Dave [KD8W] and Judy Williamson at their Madison Township home. Dial members participating this year included: John, N8AA; Ed, K8DSS; Dave, KD8W; Eileen, K8EWG; Beverley, N8GGE; Barney, N8HP; Ron, N8QF; Jim, KF8QS; and Tim, WA8YXY. And a fine time was had by all.

By the end of the day, the operating log tallied 264 phone and 297 CW QSOs distributed as follows: 57 Ohio counties, 40 States and/or provinces, and 2 DX stations, totaling 561 contacts. The raw score, as assigned by MRRC, is 138,138. Now we'll just have to wait until all logs are evaluated to know our final standing.

- Carl, K8CM

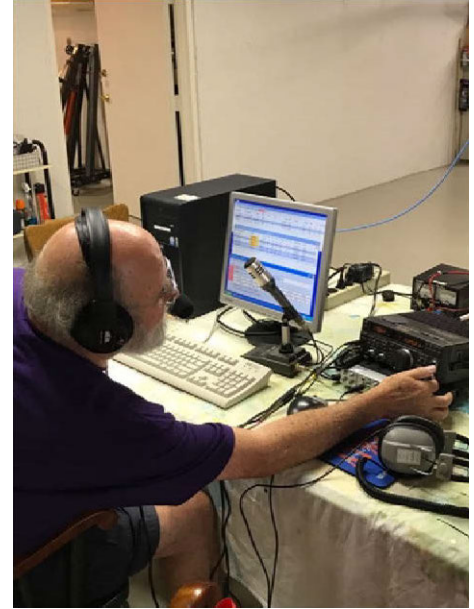


Left: Dave, KD8W

Right: Barney, N8HP

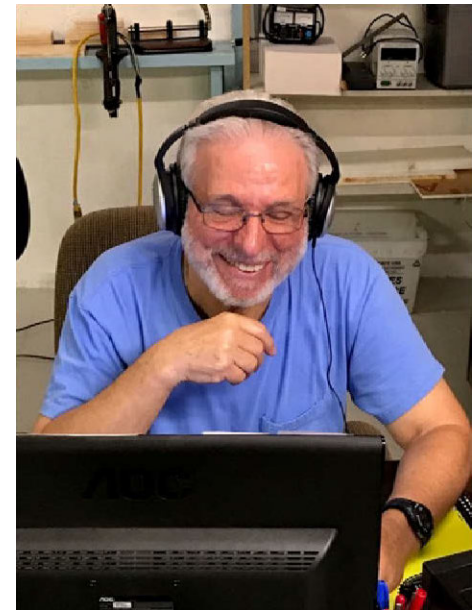
Lower left: Eileen, K8EWG

Lower right: John, N8AA



The 40M ladder antenna

Photos by Ed, K8DSS



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## ARRL SIMULATED EMERGENCY TEST (SET) FALL CLASSIC SET FOR FIRST WEEKEND IN OCTOBER

The main weekend for the 2017 ARRL Simulated Emergency Test (SET) is only a little more than a month away -- Saturday and Sunday, October 7 and 8. This primary League-sponsored national emergency exercise is designed to assess the skills and preparedness of ARES® and other organizations involved with emergency and disaster response.

"Every local ARES team and/or ARRL Section will come up with their own scenarios and work with served agencies and partner organizations during the SET," said ARRL Field Organization Team Supervisor Steve Ewald, WV1X, who pointed out that not all SETs will take place on the first full weekend of October.

"SETs can be scheduled at the local and Section levels and conducted throughout the fall season to help maximize participation," Ewald said, "and ARRL Field Organization leaders have the option of conducting their SETs on another weekend if October 7 and 8 are not convenient."



ARRL Field Organization Leaders -- Section Managers, Section Emergency Coordinators, Section Traffic Managers, District Emergency Coordinators, Emergency Coordinators, and all of their Assistants and Net Managers -- are among those tasked with developing plans and scenarios for this year's SET, Ewald explained.

"The SET invites all radio amateurs to become aware of emergency preparedness and available training," Ewald said. "ARES, Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES), National Traffic System, SKYWARN, Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network (SATERN), and other allied groups and public service-oriented radio amateurs are encouraged to participate."

The object of the annual nationwide exercise is to test training and skills and to try out new methods. "It's a time to work with partner organizations and served agencies to get to know them better and to determine their needs before an emergency or disaster strikes," Ewald said. "Knowing who to contact within partner groups with the planned procedures will help everyone accomplish their goals and succeed in their missions."

To get involved, contact your local ARRL Emergency Coordinator or Net Manager. See the ARRL Sections pages or get in touch with your ARRL Section Manager (see page 16 of QST for contact information).

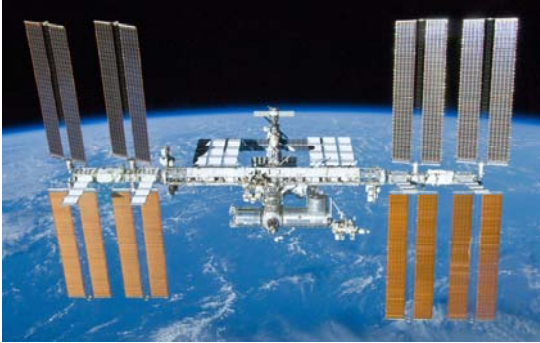
- ARRL Letter, August 24, 2017

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

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## ARISS CROSS-BAND REPEATER NOT AVAILABLE FOR GENERAL COMMUNICATION

The cross-band FM voice repeater aboard the International Space Station (ISS) has not officially been activated for general amateur use, although some stations have reported successful contacts. The system is being used in an effort to detect telemetry from three recently deployed CubeSats.



Russian ISS crew members last week released three satellites carrying Amateur Radio payloads -- TOMSK TPU-120 (RS04S), with FM voice announcements on 437.025 MHz; Tanusha-SWSU-1 (RS-6S) with FM voice announcements and AX.25 9,600 bps packet on 437.050 MHz, and Tanusha-SWSU-2 (RS-7S) with FM voice announcements and on AX.25 9,600 bps packet on 437.050 MHz.

They set up the ISS repeater as a cross-band relay between 437.050 MHz and 145.800 MHz at the last minute, because they were concerned about getting telemetry from their satellites, which might be spinning more than expected. They are hoping that the nearby receiver on the ISS might be able to capture and retransmit telemetry not being received up on the ground.

ARISS has advised that using the voice repeater for general contacts can interfere with this mission. ARISS Ham Project Coordinator Kenneth Ransom, N5VHO, noted that the FM cross band repeater has been a capability of the onboard Kenwood D-700 transceiver since it was first flown to the ISS in 2004.

"It has been utilized very little during that time, due to concerns by the Russians that the unit might overheat," he said.

When the ARISS voice repeater is active and authorized for general amateur voice contacts, the uplink is 437.800 MHz, and the downlink is 145.800 MHz. -- Thanks to ARISS and AMSAT News Service

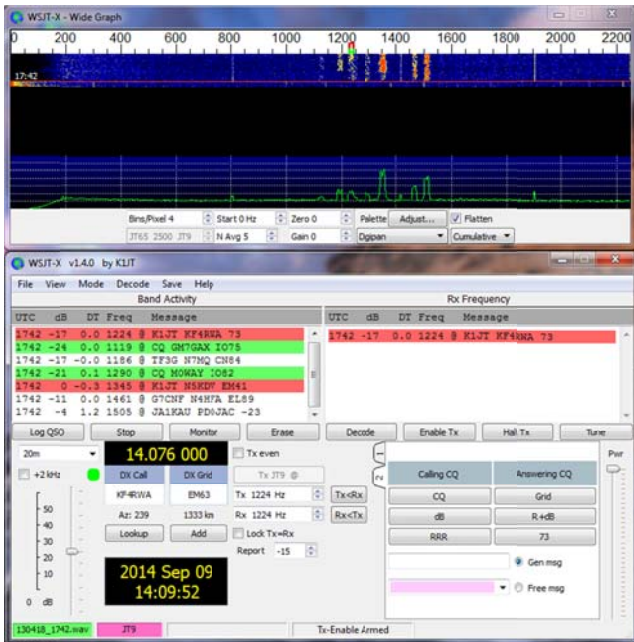
*- ARRL Letter, August 31, 2017*

## NEW "PRE-RELEASE" VERSION OF WSJT-X INCLUDES FT8 CHANGES

A new "pre-release" version of [WSJT-X](#) now is available. This is the Amateur Radio digital software suite developed by Joe Taylor, K1JT, that includes the increasingly popular FT8 mode. The September 2 release, WSJT-X version 1.8.0-rc2, fixes a number of issues, provides better performance, and offers some new features.

"Implementation of FT8 and its auto-sequencing feature is now more capable and more polished," Taylor said in the release notes. "The decoder is faster and better. It now includes signal subtraction, multi-pass decoding,

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and the use of accumulated 'a priori' information as a QSO progresses. Sensitivity extends downward as far as -24 dB in some circumstances."

Taylor said that overlapping signals "two and three deep" are frequently decoded at essentially the same frequency, and on a crowded band "we sometimes see more than 30 decodes in a single 15-second interval over a 2 kHz window." In addition, the North American VHF Contesting Mode has been expanded to include both FT8 and MSK144 modes, and the WSJT-X User Guide has been extensively updated.

"Depending on what core revision you upgrade from, it may be necessary to do a one-time reset of the default list of suggested operating frequencies," Taylor pointed out. Some

new features have been discussed in the [WSJT Meteor Scatter](#) and [Weak Signal Group](#).

Digital modes such as JT65 and FT8 require that your computer's internal time clock be set precisely. If your computer's clock is off by more than 1 or 2 seconds, contacts may be difficult or impossible. Internet time synchronization may be sufficient. The WSJT-X documentation recommends using [Meinberg NTP](#) on Windows machines to synchronize with internet time servers.

Logbook of The World ([LoTW](#)) now supports the upload of FT8 contacts after a TQSL configuration file update, which was released shortly after the mid-August debut of the new ADIF standard ([version 3.0.6](#)) with support for FT8. -- Thanks to the [ARRL Contest Update](#)

- ARRL Letter, September 7, 2017

## CLASS & EXAM NE VS

The current Fall Technician class will conclude September 20 and be followed by a General class beginning Wednesday, October 4, at 6 pm in Verity Lodge, Miami University-Middletown.

Our fall license exam of 2017 was hosted by BCARA on Saturday morning, August 26, in the Fairfield Twp. Police Department. Eight VEs served 5 applicants to whom 6 exam elements were administered. The elements consisted of Element 2 (2 administered and 2 passing), Element 3 (3 administered and 1 passing), and Element 4 (1 administered and 1 passing). There were 2 new Technicians, 1 General upgrade and 1 Amateur Extra upgrade by morning's end.

Our next exam will be 6 pm Wednesday, September 27, in Verity Lodge, Miami University – Middletown.

-Carl, K8CM

Next Meeting: Monday, September 18, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
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# 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 27, 2017  
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 of any certificates of successful completion of examination (CSCE) they may hold, positive (photo) identification, Licensee ID number (FRN) or social security (SSN) number.

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

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 18, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

# *Amateur Radio Class*

## **Intermediate Level**

### **Ham Radio Class To Begin !**

Beginning October 4, 2017, 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 8 and be followed by an examination session on Wednesday, November 15.

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, September 18, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
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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, October 28, 2017 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 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, September 18, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
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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](mailto: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:**

Tim Murphy, WA8YXY

## *the prez sez ....*

Thinking.... thinking..... thinking.....

Most of you have already heard about the FCC releasing two new bands, the 630 meter band and the 2200 meter band. These are narrow low frequencies (472 kHz and 173 kHz respectively). The main restriction is that you must only operate from a fixed location that is registered with the United Technology Council (power company council). [See pp 5-6 May 2017 Dial Newsletter] This is to minimize interference with power company control systems that use frequencies in the long wave band.

The day that this was announced, many of us got on line and entered our data, including geographical coordinates. After 30 days for them to review our data, we can commence operation.

Others in the know suggest that all hams that have the time should go to the UTC web site and register your station location to preempt any use by your local power company.

I hope some of you will be interested and join in on the new bands.

*Ernie, W8EH*

## **MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 18<sup>TH</sup>, 2017 MEETING**

### **Attendance:**

N8AA, N8ACR, K8CM, K8DSS, N8EH, W8EH, K8EWG, N8GGE, N8HP, N8HRA, KI8I, W8ISZ, K8MRC, KC8NHP, N8QF, KF8QS, KD8W, W8WLM, KC8WOF, N8YFQ, WA8YXY

Next Meeting: Monday, October 16, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
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**Call to order:**

Ernie, W8EH, called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.

**Secretary's Report:**

A motion to accept the Minutes as published was made by Ernie, N8EH, and seconded by Dave, KD8W. The motion passed without dissent.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Ron, N8QF, gave the Treasurer's report. Membership for 2017 presently stands at 79 members representing 64 families. A motion to approve the report was made by Barney, N8HP, and seconded by Dave, N8YFQ. The motion passed unanimously.

**Classes and Exams:**

Beverley, N8GGE, reported that the students are near the end of a 6-week course to prepare them for the Technician Class. The next Dial exam will be held on September 27<sup>th</sup> at Verity Lodge, Miami University Middletown. A class to prepare for the General examination will begin on October 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Website:**

Tim, WA8YXY, reported that the website is up to date.

**Newsletter:**

Carl, K8CM reported that the newsletter is 'going good'.

**Repeater/Station Report:**

Ernie, W8EH, reported that operation of Dial's repeater system is normal. He added that an 'Acceptable Use Policy' for Dial's repeater will be discussed later in the meeting.

**Activity Report:**

No report.

**Old Business:**

Dave, KD8W, gave a summary of Dial's participation in the Ohio QSO Party. As of the day of the meeting Dial stands at 5<sup>th</sup> place in the submitted scores, a higher finish than the DARA Club. He reported that 9 people operated up until 11:50 pm. He also added the "pizza was good". John, N8AA, gave thanks to Dave for the use of his QTH for the QSO party. Dave was given a round of applause.

**New Business:**

Ernie, W8EH, gave the background of an incident that lead the Officers to consider adopting an "Acceptable Use Policy" for Dial's repeaters. He distributed a document that was adapted from one used for the repeaters around Gatlinburg, TN, with the enthusiastic permission of its original author. The document was discussed by those in attendance. Ron, N8QF, moved and Dave, N8YFQ, seconded a motion which passed unanimously to adopt the Acceptable Use Policy, which can be found elsewhere in the Newsletter. The policy will be added to the Club's web site.

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Brian, KC8NHP, announced that he has an Icom IC-718 for sale. The radio has been used for less than half a year. If interested, contact Brian.

Ernie, W8EH, encouraged those in attendance to check out the new issue of QST, particularly the article on the new FT-8 mode added to the WSJT suite. Ernie has been using the new mode and has made over 380 contacts to 45 states and 38 countries. It is much quicker than JT-65.

Ernie also announced that the new 630 and 2200 meter bands will open soon.

It was announced that Eileen, K8EWG, had made her first DX contact with Belgium using FT-8 with a power of only 5 watts. Congratulations!

### **Adjournment:**

A motion was made by Ernie, N8EH, and seconded by Dave, N8YFQ, to adjourn at 7:24 pm. The motion carried.

Barney Taylor, N8HP  
Secretary

## **REPEATER USE POLICY**

About mid-August, we experienced a flagrant misuse of Dial's 01/61 VHF repeater. Two operators were involved, one local and one out-of-state via our Echolink connection. The opinions expressed and content of the transmissions were both inappropriate and offensive to Club members as well as the community at large.

I mention the community because it is not uncommon for the general public to listen to us on their scanner receivers. Seems to me that would be an audience we'd like to attract to amateur radio not drive them away with unpleasant rhetoric.

According to Part 97 of the FCC's Rules and Regulations, the licensee is held responsible for the emissions of amateur radio stations. Since we're talking about the W8BLV repeater, that person is the license trustee, Ernest W. Howard, Jr., W8EH. Ernie, acting in his role as license trustee, took decisive and appropriate action to terminate the communication. He included a thorough warning to the participants that such activity was not welcome on the Dial repeater system.

In an effort to have everyone on a level playing field, the following Repeater Policy is being reiterated for your information and comment. We really don't have a current problem; we just want to make sure we don't **develop** a problem.

A PDF version of this document, suitable for download, is available on the Dial Radio Club web page; <http://www.qsl.net/w8blv/>

- Carl, K8CM

Next Meeting: Monday, October 16, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
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## Acceptable Use Policy and Basic Rules for Using the W8BLV/ W8JEU Dial Radio Club Repeater Systems:

**These repeaters are “G” rated at all times. ANYTHING THAT IS NOT SUITABLE FOR ALL AUDIENCES IS NOT WELCOME ON OUR REPEATER SYSTEMS.**

By regulation, Amateur Radio Operators are required to be “self-policing”. On the DIAL RADIO CLUB repeaters, each operator is expected to do this in two ways – by ensuring that their own individual conduct of operations is above reproach; and also by exhorting and challenging other operators to present their best practice on the air. A good operator *that is already engaged in a QSO* should *politely* note that a discussion or practice has “crossed the line” and then demur from further involvement in a QSO gone bad. (Note: if you are not already engaged, PLEASE DO NOT “jump in” and correct any conduct. Leave that up to a Control Operator or the License Trustee.) Instead, please see the following:

It is recommended that - Any *alleged* FCC violations and/or bad behavior should be noted by forwarding the date and time of observation for review to the trustee, W8EH at [w8eh@arrl.net](mailto:w8eh@arrl.net) and/or the club email address [w8blv@qsl.net](mailto:w8blv@qsl.net).

We have a number of control operators who monitor the Dial repeaters. The control operators have a say as to violations occurring. They have the ability to shut down the repeaters for violation. Control operators coordinate and take their direction from the Dial Radio Club license Trustee.

Note that when you are using a Dial Radio Club repeater, you are using the W8BLV/W8JEU club license, which the trustee is legally responsible for. You are still responsible for your own transmissions, but the licensee is responsible to ensure proper legal operation of the repeaters.

There are certain types of conversations and transmissions which are not appropriate for the DIAL RADIO CLUB Repeater Systems. It falls upon the W8BLV/W8JEU Repeater Systems Owner, The Dial Radio Club, through the appointed license trustee and control operators to make the determinations regarding unsuitable content.

**These repeater systems are not your personal entertainment system. They are a shared community resource, and are “G” rated at all times. ANYTHING THAT IS NOT SUITABLE FOR ALL AGES AND AUDIENCES IS NOT WELCOME ON DIAL RADIO CLUB REPEATER SYSTEMS.**

IN ORDER TO BEST SERVE ALL MEMBERS AND USERS, THE DIAL RADIO CLUB, (REPEATER SYSTEMS OWNER) RESERVES THE RIGHT TO ENFORCE ANY AND ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

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**AT A MINIMUM, VIOLATION OF THE MAJOR POLICIES, and/or RULES OF ETIQUETTE AND CONDUCT LISTED BELOW WILL PLACE THE OFFENDER IN DIRE RISK OF ENFORCEMENT POLICY, UP TO AND INCLUDING IMMEDIATE BAN FROM USE OF ALL DIAL RADIO CLUB REPEATER SYSTEMS.**

## **Acceptable Use Policy: Major Policies**

The Dial Radio Club of Middletown Area will have the final say on any repeater systems operation and/or USERS access by legislation and by appointment of the W8BLV/W8JEU license Trustee, who holds legal station license authority granted to him by FCC Regulation. The DIAL RADIO CLUB Acceptable Use Policy may be periodically reviewed and revised by the Dial Radio Club membership. *USERS and club members are responsible for reading, understanding, and adhering to this Policy. Conduct on the repeaters should also be governed by common sense and courtesy, including the use of plain language (technical acronyms are fine). Just talk normal! Please* don't give bad impressions of our services by making thoughtless or off-color remarks. Instead, set an example which others will be proud to follow!

Questions and concerns may be forwarded to w8eh@arrl.net or a Dial Radio Club officer.

- A. Do not violate any provision of FCC Part 97. Period.** If it becomes apparent that a user is willfully ignorant of, and/or disregarding FCC regulation, that station may be asked by the Trustee or his Control Operators to immediately cease transmissions and to review FCC requirements before returning on-air on the DIAL RADIO CLUB repeater systems. *Alternately*, the repeater in use at the time of violation may be shut down without warning.
- B. Refrain from discussing religion excessively.** Criticizing or ridiculing (as opposed to discussing, clarifying, or edifying) anyone else's religious beliefs will not be tolerated.
- C.** Politics is a topic that can be very highly charged. However, most ham operators of voting age already know who they are going to support, and no amount of persuasion will change an individual's political position and platform. *THUS, please refrain from discussing politics excessively. While better avoided entirely*, a few brief remarks pertaining to domestic politics are OK... Occasionally. Somewhat. Raised voices and/or name calling (even in jest) will NOT be tolerated. *Frequently repeating a political opinion / soliloquy will be considered excessive. Criticism of foreign politics and policies of other countries IS NOT OK.*
- D. Do not engage in political, religious, or personal soap boxing** (can be related to B & C above). Soap boxing (often during overly long conversations), is when people carry on a conversation on the repeater that is a thinly disguised broadcast of personal rhetoric (especially when often repeated over time). The subject is generally to "put down" or ridicule an institution, group, *or an individual* in the presence of as wide an audience as possible (repeater listeners). *This is very objectionable to other users and listeners.* Using the DIAL RADIO CLUB repeater systems as a platform for soap boxing of any sort, especially harassing or baiting / ridiculing of other ham operators, is unacceptable.
- E. Do not belittle, berate, defame or speak ill of others....period.** This includes individuals, groups, nations, etc. Using words such as idiot, stupid, hate monger, etc. in reference to any person, entity or group will not be tolerated.

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**F. DO NOT REBROADCAST OR OTHERWISE ANNOUNCE LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY!!**

Placing LEO personnel or their work at risk *will not be tolerated*.

**G. Emergency Traffic, Service NETS, and Special Events sanctioned by The Dial Radio Club on the W8BLV/W8EJU repeater systems hold absolute priority over routine use of system resources.**

Are we talking about censorship? No, not exactly. A person may have the right to stand on the street and say bad things about someone. However, they don't have the same right when they are a guest in that person's house and expect to stay welcome. When using the DIAL RADIO CLUB repeater systems, you are a guest operator of our club station, and no one retains the right to use our repeater systems in ways that the Dial Radio Club feels are objectionable.

In the event that users become derelict in their charge, repeater owners must step in – thus, violating the preceding **MAJOR POLICIES** and the following **Rules of ETIQUETTE AND CONDUCT** will put any guest operator at immediate risk of any and all of the **Enforcement Policy** listed below:

## **Acceptable Use Policy: Rules of ETIQUETTE AND CONDUCT**

**The following information is a simple guide (and are also system rules USERS are expected to follow) to supplement our Major Rules and foster courteous operation on the DIAL RADIO CLUB amateur radio repeaters.** It is inspired by best-practices reported from repeater owners and operators across the country (some who have adopted zero-tolerance for violations and discourteous behavior).

If you operate by these simple guidelines, you should be welcomed on any amateur radio repeater, including those of the DIAL RADIO CLUB repeater systems:

**1.) There shall be absolutely no communications containing obscene, indecent, or profane words, language, or meaning. Period.** Even 'mild' obscenities are not good operating practice and are prohibited on DIAL RADIO CLUB repeater systems. This includes suggestive phrases, *innuendo* (sexual or otherwise), and suggestive phonetics OR enunciation of such using Morse Code.

**1A.)** Juvenile behavior is not appropriate for the repeater. Talk like mature and polite adults.

**2.) Do not monopolize the repeater.** The repeater is a SHARED resource. *Please be attentive to the amount of time you use the system during a given day, thereby allowing more amateurs the opportunity to use the system under their terms and topics.* Long winded QSO's discourage other users from making use of the system (and no, not everyone wants to break up or join a multiple-hour QSO). So, please be courteous to your fellow operators while using our system. Remember that the DIAL RADIO CLUB repeaters cover most of SW Ohio. Please use the appropriate resources (simplex per ARRL Band Plan or a shorter-range repeater) for extended-duration local coverage QSO's (i.e. more than ½ hour).

Note: Other hams probably want to use the repeater but might not be interested in the subject your group is discussing. None of us should monopolize the repeater, even unintentionally.

*Note: It's not enough to just pause now and then and invite others to join in. They may just not be interested in the topic. Be polite, and don't be a "repeater hog."*

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**3.) Don't just break up a QSO** and change the topic (hint, you can wait until they finish their discussion); *Do not interrupt existing conversations unless you have something meaningful to add.* If you feel compelled to interrupt an existing conversation, remember that it is just as distasteful to do so on the air as if you did it in person. If you do "jump in", please be patient and keep in mind that previous parties may wish to take a moment to finish their line of thought.

**4.) Ignore jammers** and others who try to disrupt the repeater's normal operation. Without any reaction from the repeater users, they will have no audience and probably go away in short order. When you attempt to engage them, it only fuels their actions. *If you feel compelled to help, DO check the repeater input and report your observations (signal strength and other identifiable attributes) to the license trustee via email or private message.*

**5.) You May BE the Problem** - Note: If you are someone who is the subject of frequent interference, it may be a sign that you are aggravating people with your operating habits. This may be a sign that it is time for you to adjust your attitude and use of the repeater (no trolling for purposes of self-entertainment by controversy are allowed).

**6a.) "For Identification"** - The Dial Radio Club understands the minimal FCC requirements set for identification, however, FCC regulation also allows repeater owners to set additional guidance and rules for use of their repeater systems; *Thus – while on the DIAL RADIO CLUB repeater systems, please transmit your call sign when you first come on the air, in order to state the source of the signal being transmitted.* Make sure that your station transmits its ID a minimum of once every 10 minutes (you are encouraged to operate in good practice, but there is no need to identify too often). If a contact is less than 10 minutes, please give your station's call sign as you end the contact.

**6b.) Unidentified transmissions** are not allowed. Period.... (this includes "kerchunking the repeater")... it's prohibited by FCC regulation. However, testing the repeater is allowable with identification included. Simply say your call sign and the word "test".

**7.) Don't do these!** Don't cough, clear your throat, sneeze, perform other bodily functions, etc., on the air; Please un-key your microphone before these "emissions" take place.

**8.) Be upbeat and courteous. Don't habitually complain!** This especially includes complaining about other hams, the repeater, or some aspect of the hobby.

**9.) Do NOT use the word "break" to join a conversation.** It is not considered good operating practice and in most circles the word "break" is reserved for announcing emergencies. If you simply want to join in, simply transmit your call sign.

**10.) Promptly acknowledge any break-in stations** and permit them to join the conversation or make a quick call. **Always – immediately - yield the frequency to a breaking station with emergency traffic.**

**11.) Please do not use phrases learned on 11 meters, and please use appropriate language for operating ham repeaters.** - *Please speak plain English...period - the truth is, the scanning public needs to hear good operating practice, and... most Amateur Radio operators find the sound of CB lingo worse than fingernails on a blackboard. The main thing to remember is to just talk in a normal manner.*

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Talk just like you would to someone in person. There's nothing different about talking over the radio. Using slang jargon on FM repeaters just labels a person as a LID. In summary, Conduct on the repeaters should be governed by common sense and courtesy, and the use of plain language (technical acronyms are fine). Just talk normal! Please don't give bad impressions of our amateur radio services by making thoughtless or off-color remarks or using arcane jargon. Instead, set an example which others will be proud to follow!

**12.) Be considerate during commuting hours** (6-9AM and 4-7PM drive times) should be left to the mobile stations who have limited time to converse. The repeater is there to help extend the range of mobiles and portables, so be courteous and give them priority during commuting hours.

**13.) Roundtables** - Following a roundtable, or rotation format is the best way for 3 or more to participate. Please don't ignore people by not passing it to them for several turns.

**14.) Courtesy pause** - Please provide a brief pause between transmissions in order to allow folks to join in. Please do not "quick key" to respond to others. Wait for the courtesy beep before making your transmission. If the repeater doesn't have a courtesy beep (like 147.315), wait for the repeater carrier to drop before transmitting. *People breaking into / joining a conversation* should transmit their call sign when the currently transmitting station un-keys.

*For people already in the conversation*, we suggest that before you key the mic, count to three (allow others an opportunity), transmit for a moment, then let up to ensure that you are not doubling (or tripling, or quadrupling!), then continue your transmission. It's not hard. Maybe even consider letting the repeater drop out for a moment during crowded QSOs.

**15.) Equipment** - There are no minimum "equipment requirements" on the DIAL RADIO CLUB repeater systems. Just do your best to maintain a communications quality signal, and understand that the listening audience certainly appreciates a "full-quieting" signal more than a "scratchy" one. Technical assistance is available to help you achieve your higher signal-quality goals.

**16.) Intimidation is not allowed** – direct, implied, inferred, or threats ("joking" or otherwise). Period.

**17.) "Advisory Intimidation" is not allowed** – including *any* – joking or otherwise... advisory or provocation to physically harm others (example "you ought to shoot Joe" or "You should slap your waitress or your wife"). It's simply derogatory.

**18.) Pecuniary Interest** – USERS shall NOT have even the appearance of conducting business-related activities; i.e. pecuniary interest. Communications on behalf of your employer or your business is strictly prohibited by FCC rules.

**19.) USERS shall NOT suggest, advise, or otherwise recommend any illegal activity.** Period. In any context. Weasel words will not change the inference involved, so just don't do it.

**20.)** When using the DIAL RADIO CLUB repeater systems, on-the-air advertisement of personally-owned HAM RADIO related items is permitted, *as long as prices are not discussed on the air, and the deal is not consummated on the air.*

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## ENFORCEMENT Policy

**Please note that ALL DIAL RADIO CLUB repeaters may be recorded.**

The Trustee, and his assigned Control Operators prefer *NOT* to intervene on any given conversations held on the System's repeaters. USERS are expected to "play by the house rules" which are provided in the sections above which are titled "**Acceptable Use Policy: Major Policies**" and also "**Acceptable Use Policy: Rules of ETIQUETTE AND CONDUCT**". When USERS exceed the boundaries described above, or exhibit behaviors deemed to be out of line with intent expressed above, then access to the DIAL RADIO CLUB repeater system resources is subject to evaluation, restriction, and enforcement.

### Enforcement Pathways include the following:

- **1. First warning:** Verbal reminder, email, phone call, or private message (via Control Operators OR Trustee). Multiple violations are subject to Written Warning.
- **2. Written Warning** - Offender is given a formal written warning (via Owner) and Offender is placed under routine moderation by Control Operators (you now have our undivided attention when we hear you on the air)
- **3. Continued violation after Written Warning:** Individual will be formally banned from the System by Owner. Attempts to use the repeater for other than bona fide emergency after being banned will lead to a complaint filed by the System Owner to the FCC, and relevant civil law options exercised.
- **Note: The repeater owner retains the right to bypass all warnings in lieu of issuing an "immediate ban" for gross violations of the Acceptable Use Policy**
- **Note: The W8BLV/W8JEU Repeater Systems Owner, the DIAL Radio Club retains rights to issue Preemptive Letters as may be required, in order to ensure at-large compliance with Acceptable Use Policy**
- **Note:** In some very rare and unique circumstances, our repeaters will require 100% Control Operator coverage, and have to be shut down due to lack of Control Operator availability. In these cases, the System Owner advises USERS to review the Acceptable Use Policy and adjust operating practices until "Automatic Control" is resumed.
- **Note:** In certain circumstances, Control Operators, or the license Trustee may not be able to respond as quickly as some users might expect; For example, they may have stepped out of the room, be on the phone, the system may be in 'automatic control', or they may be otherwise diverted from providing instant responses to radio-induced situations. . **Therefore – "deferred intervention" may take place (after the fact), and additionally, information regarding any interventions (shutdowns, phone calls, etc.) may or may not be shared with the general audiences. In all cases however, USERS are encouraged to review the Acceptable Use Policy for reasonable explanations.**
- **Note:** A repeater may be turned off for "kerchunking". USERS are advised to review the section above regarding **unidentified transmissions**.

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- **Note:** A repeater can be turned off for “doesn’t play well with others” (and also failure to read & follow policies)
- **Note:** A repeater will often be turned off for the reasons including — antagonism, baiting, trolling, grousing / griping at USERS, broadcasting of music, and other content rebroadcasting, and interference. Under these causes, the repeater will stay off the air as long as warranted.
- **Note:** USERS may not agree with the reasoning, timing, or severity (or the lack of) of any applied “intervention”, however the license Trustee makes every attempt to find full understanding of each situation, take a reasonable balance from a perspective of ham-radio and community standards, and has charged his team of control operators to do the same.

*This document originated with the WB4GBI repeater system. Document revised and used with permission. Their web site is: <http://www.wb4gbi.com/>*

- Ernie, W8EH

## CLASS & EXAM NEWS

Our Fall Technician concluded Wednesday, September 20 and was followed by an exam session on September 27. Ten VEs served 10 applicants to whom 15 exam elements were administered. The 15 elements consisted of Element 2 (10 administered and 6 passing), Element 3 (5 administered and 3 passing), and Element 4 (1 administered and none passing). There were 6 new Technicians and 2 General upgrades by evening’s end.

A General Class training session began Wednesday, October 4 in Verity Lodge, Miami University-Middletown with five in attendance. Class is free; however, a license manual (approximately \$25) is required. Class meets 6-9 pm, weekly, for six weeks. Please tell your friends and family members. If you missed the first class, you still have an opportunity to join in by attending on the 11<sup>th</sup>. Should you wish to attend, books will be available on the evening of the 11<sup>th</sup>.

The Butler County Amateur Radio Association will host a Saturday morning exam at 9 am on October 28 in the Fairfield Township Police Department, 6485 Vonnie Vale Court, Hamilton, OH.

Next scheduled Dial-hosted exam will be 6 pm Wednesday evening, November 15, in Verity Lodge, Miami University-Middletown.

Our exams are announced on the Laurel Amateur Radio Club’s (LARC) web page;  
<http://www.laurelvec.com/?pg=exams>

- Carl, K8CM

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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, October 28, 2017 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 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, October 16, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
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# 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 15, 2017  
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 of any certificates of successful completion of examination (CSCE) they may hold, positive (photo) identification, Licensee ID number (FRN) or social security (SSN) number.

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

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, October 16, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
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](mailto: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:**

Tim Murphy, WA8YXY



## MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017 MEETING

**Attendance:**

N8AA, N8ACR, KE8AIQ, KE8AIR, K8DSS, N8EH, K8EWG, N8GGE, N8HP, N8HRA, KC8ISN, W8ISZ, KC8IZE, K8K8, N8LRN, NN8M,

K8MRC, N8QF, NR8R & Barbara, KD8W, N8YFQ, WA8YXY

**Call to order:**

Barney, N8HP, called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

**Secretary's Report:**

A motion to accept the Minutes as published was made by Jim, W8ISZ, and seconded by Dave, N8YFQ. The motion passed without dissent.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Ron, N8QF, gave the Treasurer's report. Membership for 2017 presently stands at 79 members representing 64 families. Ernie, N8EH, moved and Bob, NR8R, seconded a motion to accept the report. The motion passed unanimously.

Next Meeting: Monday, November 20, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
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**Classes and Exams:**

Beverley, N8GGE, reported that the 6-week course to prepare participants for the General Class is underway and has six participants. The next exam for Dial will be on November 15<sup>th</sup> at Verity Lodge, Miami University Middletown. Registration will begin at 6:00 pm.

**Website:**

Tim, WA8YXY, reported that he has added the Acceptable Use Policy and about 40 photographs from Field Day and the Picnic to the website. Bob, NR8R, supplied the photos.

**Newsletter:**

Barney reported that an email from Carl, K8CM, indicates that the newsletter is 'doing fine'. Carl is seeking input from members for the newsletter.

**Repeater/Station Report:**

Barney reported on an email from Ernie, W8EH, indicating things with the repeater system are normal.

**Activity Report:**

Roy, N8LRN, reported that he had nothing to present regarding activities.

**Old Business:**

None.

**New Business:**

Barney, N8HP, appointed a Nominating Committee consisting of Jim, W8ISZ (Chair), Eileen, K8EWG, and Tim, WA8YXY. The Committee is charged with finding a slate of candidates for the five officers of Dial before the election in December. Anyone with an interest in serving should contact one of the Committee members. Those in attendance were reminded that nominations from the floor would be welcomed as well.

Barney gave a short report on the SEDCO Conference in Pigeon Forge, TN in late September. The conference was focused on DX and had an attendance of about 240 people. Four Dial members were present: Eileen, K8EWG, Beverley, N8GGE, Barney, N8HP, and John, N8AA, who gave one of the major presentations about his recent DX-pedition. Many of the talks were focused on the FT-8 mode that offers long distance contacts with low power and modest antennas. FT-8 contacts go much more quickly than JT-65. Barney encouraged those present to consider attending in the future.

**Adjournment:**

A motion was made by Dave, KD8W, and seconded by Ron, N8QF, to adjourn at 7:09 pm. The motion carried.

*Beverley Taylor, N8GGE  
Acting Secretary*

Next Meeting: Monday, November 20, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
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## TINY LF SIGNAL MAKES THE HOP FROM NEWFOUNDLAND TO THE UK

For Joe Craig, VO1NA, in Torbay, Newfoundland, things have been pretty exciting lately on VLF (very low frequency). He's among the early MF, LF, and VLF experimenters in North America -- active even before Canada allocated Amateur Radio bands in that part of the spectrum. He believes he accomplished a "first" for a Canadian radio amateur on October 22, when his very VLF, very QRP signal on 8.27 kHz (that would be the 36-kilometer band) was copied in the UK.

"After much effort on both sides of the pond, SWL Paul Nicholson in Todmorden finally copied a three-letter message," he told ARRL. "It's the lowest-frequency transatlantic message, made possible because of Paul's EbNaut coherent BPSK mode and DL4YHF's Spectrum Lab spectrum analyzer." Even more amazing: The power was 10  $\mu$ W ERP. Craig is permitted to run 10 mW by regulator ISED Canada (formerly Industry Canada). The transmission path was more than 3,500 kilometers (approximately 2,170 miles).



*The VLF loading coil at VO1NA.*

VLF signals have been copied across the Atlantic in the past. In March 2014, a very slow-speed (QRSS) CW signal on 29.499 kHz, transmitted by Bob Raide, W2ZM, a New York Experimental licensee, initially was detected in the UK by Nicholson. In June 2014, Dex McIntyre, W4DEX, in North Carolina, transmitted an EbNaut signal on 8.971 kHz, while running on the order of 150  $\mu$ W effective radiated power. Nicholson detected that signal too. McIntyre needed no FCC license to transmit on 8.971 kHz, because the Commission has not designated any [allocations](#) below 9 kHz, dubbed "the Dreamers' Band."

Craig's transmission from Newfoundland began at 2300 UTC on October 22 and ended 7 hours later. "Paul replied by e-mail the following day with the correct message," Craig said, "and there was much rejoicing across the pond and in the Marconi Radio Club of Newfoundland!"

Craig said that Nicholson had detected a carrier from VO1NA this past spring, but it was not stable enough to send a message.

DL4YHF's Spectrum Lab, with a GPS module output signal used to calibrate the computer and help from DF6NM and DK7FC, worked much better, Craig said. "Paul measured the phase for a few days before the message was sent. With the new high-stability carrier, Paul got me on the first call."



VO1NA's "Tower A." His VLF antenna is attached to the second guy station at this point. *[Joe Craig, VO1NA, photo]*

The final stage of his VLF transmitter is what Craig described as "the very Canadian Traynor Group One/SC stage amplifier" from the 1970s. He says his is "the only known VLF transmitter in Newfoundland and

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Labrador." His antenna, by the way, is approximately 100 meters (approximately 328 feet) of #12 copper wire, about 12 meters high on average.

Craig's [blog](#) offers more information.

- ARRL Letter, October 26, 2017

## ARRL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE UPDATED ON ENTRY-LEVEL LICENSE

The ARRL Executive Committee reviewed plans to implement recommendations of the Entry Level License Committee, when it met on October 14 in Hartford, Connecticut. At its July meeting, the ARRL Board of Directors called for work to go forward on a plan to pursue additional HF digital and phone privileges for Technician licensees. The Executive Committee was told that New England Director and Entry-Level License Committee Chair Tom Frenaye, K1KI, will work with ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, and International Affairs Vice President Jay Bellows, KOQB, to develop the specifics of a proposal to the FCC requesting expanded frequency and mode privileges for Technicians. This will be completed in time for review by the full Board of Directors at its January meeting. Frenaye explained this week that enhancing the Technician license would be "an immediate step that can take place with little FCC impact, since the question pool would not need to be changed." He pointed out, however, that this approach "does not rule out longer-term consideration of a new entry-level license." The Entry-Level License Committee had recommended both steps in its July report to the Board. The Executive Committee also heard a brief report on the work of the ad hoc Amateur Auxiliary Study Committee, which has prepared the first draft of a new training manual.



- ARRL Letter, November 2, 2017

## CW GETS THE MESSAGE THROUGH IN WAKE OF HURRICANE IRMA

Any CW operator worth his or her salt will tell you that CW is the mode that gets through when all others fall short of the mark. CW certainly did the job for Chet Hogue, N3BK, who handled dozens of messages for residents of Florida's Lower Keys in the days following Hurricane Irma in September.

"A message from a Big Pine Key man to his girlfriend, who evacuated with their young daughter and was waiting to hear how he weathered the storm, was one of about 80 sent out over the airwaves by ham radio enthusiast Chet Hogue in the days following Irma's destruction," reporter Katie Atkins wrote in The Keynoter in describing Hogue's activity.

"Things here are still incredibly a mess!" Hogue told ARRL this week.

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November 2017

The Summerland Key charter captain, known as "Captain Chester," weathered the storm in place. He noted that the primary frequencies handling traffic were quite busy, so he got on CW, which, he told Atkins, allowed him "to relay messages clearly." He operated from a station at his home as well as from his boat.

According to the news report, Hogue would transmit message traffic gathered from residents trying to get in touch with family and friends outside the area. He urged anyone interested in Amateur Radio to visit the ARRL website. "It's just neat, this system," he told Atkins. "With a piece of wire and a car battery, you can talk around the world."

Hogue told ARRL that he "escaped" to the Keys in 2010 after recovering from an injury suffered in a vehicle accident. "I haven't been active in some time, but have kept my 'bug-out bag' ready for just this situation," he said. "[This] was my first emergency, as it was for many who passed traffic for me."

Hogue's father -- also Chester -- is N3VA, and his dad and some of his friends got him interested in Amateur Radio. Hogue entered the military as a teenager and, he said, realized the vital importance of communication.

Hogue used a 100 W radio powered from deep-cycle marine batteries, a G5RV antenna on shore and a fiberglass vertical antenna on his charter boat. He kept a handwritten log on a piece of cardboard.

"This is a good reason for all of us to learn CW and use it on the bands, and become skilled at sending and receiving CW," remarked Whitey Doherty, K1VV, a CW stalwart who shared the news story with ARRL Headquarters. -- Thanks to "Captain Chester" Hogue, N3BK, The Keynoter, and Whitey Doherty, K1VV

- ARRL Letter, October 26, 2017

## **CLASS & EXAM NEWS**

BCARA hosted their last exam of the season on Saturday morning, October 28, with nine VEs serving 4 applicants to whom 7 exam elements were administered. The 7 elements consisted of Element 2 (3 administered and 3 passing), Element 3 (3 administered and 2 passing), and Element 4 (1 administered and none passing). There were 2 new Technicians, 1 General as his first license, and 1 General upgrade by noon.

The next Dial-hosted exam will be 6 pm Wednesday evening, November 15, in Verity Lodge, Miami University-Middletown.

Our exams are announced on the ARRL page <http://www.arrl.org/find-an-amateur-radio-license-exam-session> and the Laurel Amateur Radio Club's (LARC) web page; <http://www.laurelvec.com/?pg=exams> .

Next classes will begin early February. Stay tuned for more information.

- Carl, K8CM

Next Meeting: Monday, November 20, 2017 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH  
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# 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 15, 2017  
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 of any certificates of successful completion of examination (CSCE) they may hold, positive (photo) identification, Licensee ID number (FRN) or social security (SSN) number.

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

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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Web page: <http://www.qsl.net/w8blv/> e-mail: [W83LV@QSL.net](mailto:W83LV@QSL.net)

*Merry Christmas & Best*

*Wishes for a  
happy and  
healthy 2018*



*the Prez Sez...*

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:

Tim Murphy, W8YXY

Is anybody up for some show and tell? Last month we had a short talk about DMR and equipment. At the December meeting we will have some time after the business meeting for 'show and tell' and sharing.

Have any of you tried something new radio related lately? Have you tried a new mode? Talk about it. Do you have a new piece of equipment? Bring something that you have been working on, playing with or just want to show off that would be of interest to other members.

Due to a previously scheduled party booking, (I should have called sooner) we were unable to secure the room at our usual meeting place for December. After discussion with the officers, I reserved the back room at the Golden Dragon Chinese Buffet at 4535 Roosevelt Blvd. This is in the plaza next to Save a Lot, Big Lots and Tractor Supply. Our reservation starts at 5:45 pm. Enter the front door and go to the room on the back left side. Their buffet menu has a variety of items, including fruits and dessert. We should be back at our usual place next month.

*Ernie, W8EH*

Next Meeting: Monday, December 18, 2017 at the Golden Dragon Chinese Buffet at 4535 Roosevelt Blvd., Middletown, OH

Doors open at 5:45 pm, dinner at 6 and business meeting at 7

## **MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 20<sup>TH</sup>, 2017 MEETING**

### **Attendance:**

N8AA, N8ACR, KE8AIR, K8CM, KD8CPV, N8DGGE, N8DHW, WA8DTU, N8EH, W8EH, W8ELI, N8HP, KC8ISN, W8ISZ, KC8IZE, NN8M, K8MRC, N8OZN, N8QF, KC8TXA, W8WLM, KC8WOF

### **Call to order:**

Ernie, W8EH, called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

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

A motion to accept the Minutes as published was made by Bob, NN8M, and seconded by Aaron, N8ACR. The motion passed with one dissent.

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

Ron, N8QF, gave the Treasurer's report. Membership for 2017 presently stands at 79 members representing 64 families. Ron passed out the 2018 renewal statements to those present and announced that other members would receive theirs by mail. Barney, N8HP, moved and Ernie, N8EH, seconded a motion to accept the report. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Classes and Exams:**

Beverley, N8GGE, announced that the next educational activity will be a class to prepare for the Technician Class License starting in late January, 2018, at Verity Lodge, Miami University Middletown.

Carl, K8CM, gave a summary of the most recent exam session where 9 VE's served 10 applicants. Six people upgraded to General – including all members of Dial's most recent class! In addition the session was noteworthy because no one examined for Technician. Carl could not remember when that had happened in the past. Also, several of the students in the most recent class commented that they were pleased with the instruction they had received.

### **Website:**

Tim, WA8YXY, reported on minor updates to the website. Carl, K8CM, asked about the Dial membership application form. Tim indicated that he had not received it. Carl is going to re-send.

### **Newsletter:**

Carl, K8CM, discussed the changes in the way that he sends out the newsletter. With the changes, 3 people did not receive their newsletter after Carl's email asking members to look out for it and reply if they did not receive it in a timely manner. Carl had updated one member and is working on the other two.

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

Ernie, W8EH, discussed recent receiving problems at the W8BLV site (146.01 Mhz). After a visit to the repeater site, he took the receiver and voter home for repair. He made repairs to the voter and also to the main receiver which he found to be 'deaf'. He is waiting on free time with good weather to return to the repeater site and install the receiver and further test the repeater. During this time the backup repeater has worked well.

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**Activity Report:**

No report.

**Nominating Committee Report:**

Ernie, W8EH, gave the floor to Jim, W8ISZ, who is the Chair of the Nominating Committee. After acknowledging the other members (WA8YXY and N8EWG), Jim reported that a full slate of potential officers had been filled. All of the 2017 officers have agreed to continue if the membership wishes – except for the Vice President. Jim reported that Dave, KD8W, had agreed to run for Vice President. So the slate is:

President:	Ernie Howard, Jr.	W8EH
Vice President	Dave Williamson	KD8W
Secretary	Barney Taylor	N8HP
Treasurer	Ron Spaulding	N8QF
Activities Director	Roy Dalton	N8LRN

Carl, K8CM, made a motion to accept the slate. Carla, KE8AIR, seconded and the motion passed with one dissent. Ernie discharged the Committee Members with thanks. He reminded those in attendance that nominations from the floor would be welcomed during the December meeting.

**Old Business:**

None.

**New Business:**

Ernie, W8EH, reported on the first Charitable Gift to Dial since the Club received its 501(c)(3) status. Richard Kuns, KC8TW, has donated a significant amount of his shack to Dial with no strings attached regarding Dial's usage or disposition. Ernie reported that he and Carl, K8CM, had picked the equipment up on the Friday preceding the meeting. The equipment included a Kenwood TS-850S transceiver, with matching power supply and station monitor, a Kenwood R-5000 general coverage receiver and an Icom R7100 VHF/UHF receiver along with several boxes of accessories. Ernie had checked out the transceiver and found it to be in excellent shape. He will compile a complete inventory list and present it to the membership later.

**Adjournment:**

A motion was made by Ernie, N8EH, and seconded by Steve, KD8CPV, to adjourn at 7:20 pm. The motion carried.

After the meeting Ernie and David, N8DHW, gave an update on DMR around the area. Miamisburg has a 2 meter DMR repeater. R&L has a TYT dual band DMR handheld for about \$150.

*Barney Taylor, N8HP  
Secretary*

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## MY DAY JOB



Photo provided by John, N8AA. No, the feet in the photo **are not** John's but of a friend of his, Murray, WA4DAN atop a 1,000' TV tower. The strobe flash head, weighing in at 31 pounds is to be replaced. His climbing gear, tools and flash head weigh in at about 60 pounds. It took Murray 90 minutes to make the climb and yes, Murray does tower work for a living

Murray was a co-leader for the CY9C DXpedition in August 2016 and has also operated from Navassa, Desecheo, Sable Island and VK9 Mellish Reef.

Murray also does triathlons. He recently won a triathlon for his age class; he is 60 years of age.

*-via e-mail*

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## WHICH WAY DO I GO – ANALOG, D-STAR, FUSION OR DMR?

I know that this year you have been hearing a lot from me about DMR or Digital Mobile Radio. Some of you have expressed some concerns that I am wanting to use DMR for everything!

Well, I'm here to tell ya', that it ain't so!

DMR, D-Star and Fusion all have their place in the digital world for sure, and so does IRLP and Echolink. Which one is better? Take your pick. It's like asking someone what is the best car. Some will pick Chevy, some Ford. It all depends on what you like, and what you can afford.

Yes, I'm sure that's not the answer that a few of you expected! But, the simple truth of the matter is this, if your area has a lot of D-Star repeaters in it, then D-Star will most likely be the preferred mode. The same holds true for Fusion, DMR, analog FM, Echolink and IRLP as well. It all depends on what repeaters populate your area, if any, and what you can afford.

Why do I talk about DMR so much? I feel that it's the most cost effective for the user right now. Let's face it, hams are cheap. We want the best of everything for the cheapest price we can get. The average price for a single band DMR hand-held is just around \$80. That's pretty inexpensive. D-Star and Fusion have very few



manufactures, thus very few choices in models and price. DMR, with its open architecture, has many different manufactures that are all fighting for your attention, thus a lower price. But fear not, if you already own a D-Star or Fusion radio you still can connect to DMR via a "Connect Bridge" or C-Bridge for short. So, you see a whole new expanded world of digital is now at our disposal, not to mention the OpenSpots and MMDVM boards and so forth.



Now I don't want to leave out our HF Digital guys here either. Which sound card and HF rig is best? The one that you own is my answer. You see,

again, it all depends on what you want to do with it, and how much money you have to throw at it.

During any emergency situation here in Ohio, we will use whatever means we have at our disposal to get the communications through. It may be Digital HF. It may be DMR or D-Star or Fusion or CW or Side-Band or even analog FM. We will utilize any mode or band that will do what we need to do, at the time we need to do it, regardless.



I've heard some of you state that using DMR, D-Star or Fusion is just not Amateur Radio because it's hooked to the internet. Aren't these digital repeaters just like any other repeater? Yes, they are! When the internet is available to them, they become an even more valuable tool for our toolbox, but when that option isn't there, it's still a repeater none-the-less. Now, I will say that IRLP and Echolink rely exclusively on an internet connection in order to use them. So, if the connection fails, you are out of luck. Not so with the repeaters. They

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are still there, and repeating away. Yes, they are now a standalone repeater at this point, but they still can be utilized just the same as any analog repeater will be.



Now if you noticed, I have not said anywhere that the internet fails. It doesn't, in fact, the internet has never gone down! No, I'm not crazy, it hasn't. What does happen is your connection to the internet fails, but the internet itself keeps on truckin', whether you're connected to it or not!

Now, what's making my mouth water for DMR more than the other digital machines is that fact that we now have over 70 repeaters interconnected within the state. Far more than D-Star or Fusion combined! IRLP and Echolink have a pretty good selection, but again, you have to be connected to the internet to make those two options work. So, having this many repeaters at our disposal makes the possibilities of what we can accomplish even better. And, when you add in the fact that through a C-Bridge you can increase your numbers by including D-Star and Fusion repeaters, it really blows the mind! But, even with all of this said, it's still "JUST ANOTHER TOOL" for the toolbox.

I wish I could tell ya' that we have the perfect mode that will never fail, and will always be at our fingertips to use when everything else is failing, but we don't. What we do have, that no one else does, is the wide range of frequencies and modes to use when nothing else seems to be working. That's what makes us (Amateur Radio) so valuable. We are the experimenters and builders. We have modes that can put a signal through when all you hear is noise. If you don't believe that, check-in on OHDEN sometime. It's really hard to understand just how your soundcard heard something intelligible out of all that racket, but it does. And, those guys are doing it every week!

I do want to ease everyone's mind on this subject. We will not abandon the analog repeaters, HF or any of the other modes that we have available to us for DMR only. That would be disastrous. What we will do is to utilize the mode of operation that best fits the situation at hand, rest assured. Analog repeaters are still the most populated repeaters in our state. They will be used along with any other mode that will help us get the communications through.

Now that you know how the Ohio Section will go about operating in emergencies, go out and have FUN!!



- N8SY, Ohio Section News, November 13, 2017

## AREA DMR UPDATE

Miamisburg Wireless Association just completed installation of a VHF DMR repeater on 147.36 in Dayton. It is on a tower on the west side of downtown Dayton receiving at 750 feet, transmitting at 550 feet with excellent coverage of the Dayton area. It is on the same cBridge as our DMR repeater, connected on our common Local 2, Ohio State and other talkgroups.

There will also be a new UHF repeater going up on the west side of Hamilton in the next few months.

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Up until now, DMR coverage has been mainly on UHF in our area, like our Dial UHF repeater. Now with this new VHF repeater in Dayton, we will need dual band radios to keep up. And there will be another VHF repeater going on in northwest Warren County in the next few months.

Most DMR users in our area have UHF radios, not many VHF radios. But there are dual band options now, including the Anytone D868UV hand held and the Connect Systems CS-800D mobile. Check out these two radios at <http://www.connectsystems.com>

I purchased the Anytone D868UV from Connect Systems. It will hold 4000 channels and work both DMR and standard FM analog. There is more than enough room to hold all of the analog and digital DMR repeaters in our area. There are other dual band hand held radios available, but this model has the most features and does perform better than the others. It has a color display, monitor mode, and VFO/keypad frequency entry. It will replace most hand held radios that I have.

-Ernie, W8EH

## AO-91 COMMISSIONED, DECLARED OPEN FOR AMATEUR USE!

AMSAT-NA's latest Amateur Radio CubeSat, RadFxSat (Fox-1B), now known as AO-91, has been opened for general use. AMSAT Engineering officially announced that AO-91 was ready for use at 0650 UTC on Thanksgiving Day, November 23. AMSAT VP of Engineering, Jerry Buxton, NOJY, turned over operation to Mark Hammond, N8MH, and AMSAT Operations during a contact on the AO-91 repeater during the pass over the Eastern US, AMSAT said in a bulletin.

The latest CubeSat in the Fox series was launched on November 18 from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California. Telemetry is downlinked via the DUV sub-audible telemetry stream, which can be decoded using [FoxTelem](#) software.

A 1U CubeSat, RadFxSat (Fox-1B) is a joint mission of AMSAT and the Institute for Space and Defense Electronics ([ISDE](#)) at Vanderbilt University. AMSAT constructed the rest of the satellite, including the spaceframe, on-board computer, and power system. The Amateur Radio package is similar to that currently on orbit on AO-85, with an uplink on 435.250 MHz (67.0 Hz CTCSS) and a downlink on 145.960 MHz. -- *Thanks to AMSAT News Service*



- ARRL Letter, November 30, 2017

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## COUNTRIES AUTHORIZE NEW, EXPANDED AMATEUR RADIO ALLOCATIONS

Several countries around the globe have allowed access to new and expanded frequency allocations.

Croatian radio amateurs now have a secondary 60-meter allocation of 5351.5-5366.5 kHz, as agreed to at World Radiocommunication Conference 2015 (WRC 15), with a maximum 15 W EIRP. For the last several years, the Croatian Regulatory Authority for Network Industries (HAKOM) had issued 1-year licenses to operate on 60 meters. Hams in Croatia now also have access to more of 160 meters: 1810-1850 kHz with a maximum power of 1.5 kW PEP, and 1850-2000 kHz with a maximum power of 1 kW PEP. The changes became effective on December 2.

Earlier this fall, radio amateurs in Colombia gained new allocations at 60, 630, and 2200 meters, as a result of efforts by the Liga Colombiana de Radioaficionados (LCRA) -- with the support of its "strategic partner" Liga Radio Bogotá (LRB). Access to the new bands was to become effective when the Colombian Communications Ministry granted the privileges by administrative act. The new allocations are 135.7-137.8 kHz (2200 meters); 472-479 kHz (630 meters); and 5351.5-5366.5 kHz (60 meters).



In Germany, radio amateurs now have a 60-meter band plus an extended 6-meter band, the Deutscher Amateur Radio Club (DARC) reports. Amateur Radio has been allocated the band 5351.5-5366.5 kHz at a maximum power of 15 W EIRP on a secondary basis. This is in accordance with the allocation agreed upon at WRC 15. In addition, 6 meters was expanded slightly. The band 50.08-51.0 MHz, previously allocated to Amateur Radio on a secondary basis, has been enlarged to 50.03-51.0 MHz at a maximum 25 W EIRP.

Spain has also adopted the global, secondary 60-meter Amateur Radio allocation of 5351.5-5366.5 kHz, per WRC 15.

The Radio Club of Argentina has announced that Argentina will soon have privileges in the 630- and 60-meter bands, as well as extended allocations at 160, 80, and 30 meters. The new allocations are 472-479 kHz (630 meters) and 5351.5-5366.5 kHz (60 meters). Hams in Argentina will also be permitted to use 1800-2000 kHz (160 meters); 3500-4000 kHz (80/75 meters), and 10,100-10,150 kHz (30 meters) -- the same allocations available in the US. -- Thanks to Zeljko Ulip, 9A2EY, via Paul Gaskell, G4MWO/The 5 MHz Newsletter, Southgate Amateur Radio News.

- ARRL Letter, December 7, 2017

Next Meeting: Monday, December 18, 2017 at the Golden Dragon Chinese Buffet at 4535 Roosevelt Blvd.,  
Middletown, OH  
Doors open at 5:45 pm, dinner at 6 and business meeting at 7

## CLASS & EXAM NEWS

Dial hosted their last exam of the season on Wednesday evening, November 15, with nine VEs serving 10 applicants to whom 15 exam elements were administered. The 15 elements consisted of Element 2 (4 administered and none passing), Element 3 (7 administered and 6 passing), and Element 4 (4 administered and none passing). There were 6 General upgrades by evening's end.

The next Dial-hosted exam will be 6 pm Wednesday evening, March 21, 2018 in Verity Lodge, Miami University-Middletown.

Our exams are announced on the ARRL page <http://www.arrl.org/find-an-amateur-radio-license-exam-session> and the Laurel Amateur Radio Club's (LARC) web page; <http://www.laurelvec.com/?pg=exams> .

Next Dial-sponsored exams will be offered March 21 and our next class will begin January 31; updated class information may be found on page 10.

- Carl, K8CM

*A reminder .... The December meeting of the Dial Radio Club will be held at the Golden Dragon Chinese Buffet at 4535 Roosevelt Boulevard, Middletown, OH. Doors open at 5:45 pm, dinner at 6, and business meeting begins at 7. Details on p. 1 of the Newsletter.*

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# *Amateur Radio Class*

## **Introductory Level**

### **Ham Radio Class To Begin !**

Beginning January 31, 2018, 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 7 and be followed by an examination session on Wednesday, March 21.

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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