DIAL RADIO CLUB

Middletown, Ohio

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

President:
Dave Williamson, KD8W
Vice-President:
Carl Morgan, K8CM
Secretary:
Ernie Howard, Jr., W8EH
Treasurer:
Ron Spaulding, N8QF
Activities Manager:
Roy Dalton, N8LRN
Newsletter Editor:
Carl Morgan, K8CM
Webmaster
Tim Murphy, WA8YXY

the prez sez ...

I trust all had a Happy New Year!!

Our next club meeting is Jan-21 at Monroe. Dinner starts about 5:30 pm and the meeting starts at 7:00 pm. We are usually done by 7:30 or so!! Come join us if you have the time.

The 'fellowship' is good, and so is the food service!

The ARRL!! Are you a member? If not, I would like to suggest that you visit the ARRL.org website and browse around. I like the LOTW system which allows an offsite place to store all my contacts. I don't have as many as I would like, but it is a good backup to my local machine setup.

Another 'really great' feature is the historical database where you can search/download files of technical information on subjects that other 'hams' present/past have done.

You do have to be a member! Check it out!! One year is $49, not bad really.

The ARRL database is where I got a lot of info on trap-coils for antennas and it was very interesting to compare what I do now -vs- what they did then!!

See U on the 21st !!

- Dave, KD8W

2019 Dial Radio Club dues are $26 and were due January 1. If you have paid, here's a big **Thank You!** *If not, please do so as soon as may be convenient. Dues may be paid by mailing your check to DIAL Radio Club,*

Next Meeting: January 21, 2019 at the at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 17, 2018 MEETING

Attendance:

N8ACR, K8CM, W8DH, WA8DUT, N8EH, KE8FLT, N8GGE, KC8GMR, N8HP, N8HRA, W8LKU, N8LRN, K8MRC, KC8NHP, N8NMB, N8PI, K8QF, AB8QP, 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 Aaron, N8ACR. The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report:

Ron, N8QF, presented the Treasurer's report. Final membership for 2018 is 89 members representing 65 families. Ron added that 63 renewal statements have been mailed and as of the meeting there have been 33 returns. A motion to approve the report was made by Dave, KD8W, and seconded by Art, N8PI. The motion passed.

Classes and Exams:

Beverley, N8GGE, reported that the class to prepare students for the Technician Class will begin on January 30th. It will be preceded by an exam on January 23rd. Due to the increasing frequency of Miami University events preempting Dial's use of Verity, classes and exams have been moved to room 7 of Thesken Hall in the lower section of the Campus.

Newsletter:

When asked about the status of the newsletter, Carl, K8CM, reported they had gone out without problems. He added that the newsletter needed to be corrected to reflect a room change for classes and exams (Room 7, Thesken) rather than the one in the newsletter (Room 9).

Website:

Tim, WA8YXY, reported that the website is up to date except for adding in the exam session and class schedules.

Repeater/Station Report:

Ernie, W8EH, reported that the Southwest Regional Water System had notified him of their plans to remove the water tank in West Middletown that houses the 147.315, W8JEU, repeater within the next year. Dial will need to find a new site for the repeater. Anyone with information on a possible site should contact Ernie.

Art, N8PI, asked if the Club would be interested in erecting a tower for the repeater. There was limited discussion.

Next Meeting: January 21, 2019 at the at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH
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Activity Report:

As part of the report Roy, N8LRN, made a motion that Ernie, W8EH, fill out the paperwork to apply for the Club's Field Day site in Smith Park. Barney, N8HP, seconded the motion which passed.

Nominating Committee Report:

The slate of candidates for Dial office was reported as: Dave, KD8W for President, Carl, K8CM, for Vice President, Ernie, W8EH, for Secretary, Ron, N8QF, for Treasurer and Roy, N8LRN, for Activities Director. The floor was opened for nominations. After a short wait, Ernie, W8EH, moved that nominations be closed and the slate be elected by acclamation. Bob, NR8R, seconded the motion. The motion passed. Officers will assume their duties on January 1, 2019.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Ernie, W8EH, reported that the Club's Kenwood TS-520 (a hybrid radio with tube finals) donated by Nelson, NW8NW, was available to be borrowed by Club members. Ernie has been storing the radio at his home and will be transferring it to the Club's trailer to regain the space. Members interested in borrowing the radio should contact Ernie.

Ernie reported that Dave, N8YFQ, had sent him an update on Hamvention. Everything is on track for the upcoming event. More of the ground asphalt will be added to the road within the flea market and hopefully, it will be wider. A pedestrian gate will be added about 60 feet north of the automobile entrance to keep pedestrians from having to compete with automobiles while entering/exiting the flea market. The tentative date for opening flea market online reservations is January 2, 2019.

Ron, N8QF, moved and Carl, K8CM, seconded a motion to purchase 2019 flea market tickets. The motion passed.

After a bit of nudging, Ernie, W8EH, announced that the protocol used in FT8 has been replaced with a newer, non-compatible, message format that allows the use of FT8 in contests such a Field Day. He has been using the new version for a while and about 50% of the people heard have updated. Everyone should be using it by the new year.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Ron, N8QF, and seconded by Barney, N8HP, to adjourn at 7:18. The motion carried.

Barney Taylor, N8HP

Secretary

Next Meeting: January 21, 2019 at the at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH
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The 2018 Ohio Section Yearbook is now on-line and ready for you to read!

This Yearbook is 21 pages chocked full of need to know information about all of our programs - from who runs them - to what happened throughout the year with them.

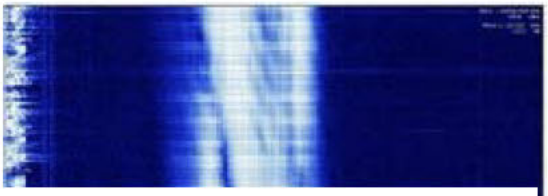
Go take a look!!

http://arrl-ohio.org/news/2018/2018Yearbook.pdf

BROADCASTERS INTRUDING ON EXCLUSIVE AMATEUR RADIO FREQUENCIES

Somaliland has returned to 7,120 kHz after a break of several weeks, while Radio Eritrea has been reported on 7,140 and 7,180 kHz. Radio Sudan has been transmitting on 7,205 kHz with excessive splatter, IARUMS said. German telecommunications authorities have filed official complaints.

IARUMS has also reported digital signals attributed to the Israeli Navy on 7,107 and 7,150 kHz. In addition, a Russian military F1B signal was observed in mid-November on 7,179 kHz. A Russian over-the-horizon radar has returned to 20 meters on 14,335 - 14,348 kHz. It was monitored on November 22.



The signal of a Russian over-the-horizon radio on 20 meters. [Photo courtesy of Wolf Hadel, DK2OM]

Earlier this fall, IARUMS reported digital signals from the Polish military daily on 7,001.8 kHz where Amateur Radio has a worldwide primary allocation. Telecommunications officials in Germany filed a complaint.

ARUMS has received reports of short "beeps" exactly 1 second apart, as well as frequency hopping between 10,108 and 10,115 kHz and 18,834 and 18,899 kHz. The signals are believed to emanate from a site near Chicago associated with an FCC-licensed experimental operation involved with low-latency exchange trading on HF (see "Experiments Look to Leverage Low-Latency HF to Shave Microseconds off Trade Times"). Although Amateur Radio is secondary on 30 and 17 meters, Experimental licenses may not interfere with Amateur Radio operations.current code of regulations

- ARRL Letter, December 13, 2018

ARRL PETITIONS FCC TO INCORPORATE PARITY ACT PROVISIONS INTO ITS AMATEUR RADIO RULES

The ARRL has filed a Petition for Rulemaking (PRM) asking the FCC to amend its Part 97 Amateur Service rules to incorporate the provisions of the Amateur Radio Parity Act. The Petition has not yet been assigned a rule making (RM) number and is not yet open for public comment. In the past, the FCC has said that it would not take such action without guidance from the US Congress, but, as ARRL's Petition notes, Congress "has overwhelmingly and consistently" offered bipartisan support for the Amateur Radio Parity Act.

"Private land use regulations which either prohibit or which do not accommodate the installation and maintenance of an effective outdoor antenna in residences of Amateur Service licensees are unquestionably the most significant and damaging impediments to Amateur Radio Service communications that exist now," ARRL said in its Petition. "They are already precluding opportunities for young people to become active in the avocation and to conduct technical self-training and participate in STEM [science, technology, engineering, and mathematics] learning activities inherent in an active, experiential learning environment. Without the relief in this Petition, the future of Amateur Radio is bleak indeed." The proposed amendments would have no

effect on the FCC's limited preemption policy in §97.15(b), which pertains to state and municipal governing bodies, ARRL said.

Specifically, ARRL is proposing that the FCC amend Part 97 by adding a new subsection under §97.15 that prohibits and ceases the enforcement of "any private land use restriction, including restrictive covenants and regulations imposed by a community association," that either fails to permit a licensee to install and maintain an effective outdoor antenna capable of operation on all Amateur Radio frequency bands; on property under the exclusive use or control of the licensee; precludes or fails to permit Amateur Service communications, or which does not constitute the minimum practicable restriction on such communications to accomplish the lawful purposes specifically articulated in the declaration of covenants of a community association seeking to enforce such restriction. ARRL's proposed rule would not affect any existing antenna approved or installed before the effective date of a Report and Order resulting from ARRL's petition.

The proposed provisions reflect the accommodation reached in the ultimate version of the Parity Act bill at the urging of federal lawmakers between ARRL and the Community Associations Institute (CAI), the only organization representing homeowners' associations. "That legislation was passed unanimously by the House of Representatives four separate times and has the support of the Senate Commerce Committee and the current Administration," ARRL stressed.

"Private land use regulations are not 'contracts' in the sense that there is any meeting of the minds between the buyer and seller of land," ARRL said. "Rather, they are simply restrictions on the use of owned land, imposed by the developer of a subdivision... They bind all lots in the subdivision." ARRL noted in its Petition that an increasing number of homes available for purchase today are already subject to restrictive covenants prohibiting outdoor antennas.

In addition, ARRL pointed out that the Telecommunications Act of 1996 gives the FCC jurisdiction "to preempt private land use regulations that conflict with federal policy..."

"It is now time for actual and functional parity in the Commission's regulations in order to protect the strong federal interest in Amateur Radio communications," ARRL said. Read more.

- ARRL Letter, December 20, 2018

COUNTDOWN TO THIRD ANNUAL AM RALLY HAS BEGUN

The third annual AM Rally is on the near horizon -- just about 6 weeks away -- beginning at 0000 UTC on February 2 and continuing until 0700 UTC on February 4. The event aims to encourage the use of AM on 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, and 6 meters while highlighting the various types of AM equipment in use today. The event is open to all radio amateurs running AM using any type of radio equipment -- modern, vintage, tube, solid-state, software-defined, military, boatanchor, broadcast, homebrew, or commercial. It's an incentive to dig out that old AM-capable tube gear that's collecting dust and spiderwebs in the attic or basement.

All it takes is a turn, push, or click to participate!

"We're very excited about the upcoming AM Rally in February, given its growth over the past 2 years and the positive comments we've received," said Clark Burgard, N1BCG, who is spearheading the event with Steve Cloutier, WA1QIX, and Brian Kress, KB3WFV. "In particular, it's great to hear how so many ops are giving this classic mode a try, many for the first time, and of the help offered to them by those who have mastered the technology."

For many, if not most, radio amateurs getting on AM is as simple as pressing the AM mode button on the front panel. Numerous transceivers in use today offer AM capability. A lot of hams enjoy restoring and using vintage Amateur Radio

equipment, which typically means a separate transmitter and receiver. Until SSB subsumed it on the ham bands, AM was the primary HF voice mode.

Today, a group of dedicated radio amateurs keeps the flame alive, getting on AM frequently, and for many of them, AM is their primary operating mode. The AM Rally gives the uninitiated a chance to dip a toe into the pool, so to speak.

AM superstar Tim Smith, WA1HLR, with the Gates BC-1T AM broadcast transmitter he helped to restore for occasional use under W1AW or under the ARRL Headquarters Operators Club call sign, W1INF.

The event website has complete AM Rally details, contact information, award categories, logging, and tips on how to get the most out of your station equipment in AM mode. Contact Clark Bergard, N1BCG, for more information.

The event is sponsored by Radio Engineering Associates (REA), in cooperation with ARRL, which supports all modes of Amateur Radio operation. W1AW will play a leading role in the event, as it has for the past 2 years.

Certificates will be awarded to stations scoring the highest number of points in each of the five power classes, regardless of rig category, both for most contacts and most states/provinces.

- ARRL Letter, January 3, 2019

CLASS AND EXAM NEWS

Next exam, hosted by Gial, will be at 6 pm Wednesday evening, January 23, and our next Technician class will begin Wednesday evening, January 30 at Miami University-Middletown. *[please see pp 8-9]*

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 .

- Carl, K8CM

REGISTRATION OPEN FOR HAMSCI 2019 WORKSHOP, CALL FOR PAPERS ISSUED

The 2019 HamSCI Workshop will take place on March 22 - 23 at Case Western Reserve University (CWRU) in Cleveland, Ohio, in association with the CWRU Amateur Radio Club (W8EDU). Registration is now open, and papers are invited.

"We are especially looking for speakers with presentations showing analysis of ionospheric observations, ideas and proposals for the design of the Personal Space Weather Station and instrumentation for the 2024 eclipse," HamSCI's Nathaniel Frissell, W2NAF, said. "We will also accept other presentations related to Amateur Radio and science." Email abstracts to hamsci@hamsci.org by February 10, 2019.

The theme for this year's conference will be "Ionospheric Effects and Sensing," including the use of Amateur Radio techniques to characterize and study ionospheric phenomena, such as traveling ionospheric disturbances, sporadic E, response to solar flares, geomagnetic storms, the 2024 total solar eclipse, and other space weather events. Discussion will include continued development of the HamSCI Personal Space Weather Station and integration of Amateur Radio into the collegiate curriculum.

Featured speakers will include well-known Amateur Radio author Ward Silver, NoAX, propagation specialist Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA, and Larisa Goncharenko, who will talk on Space Science for Ham Radio Operators. The workshop is hosted by CWRU in collaboration with New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT).

-ARRL Letter, January 10, 2019

Twenty Years Ago .....

Dial Radio Club

Middletown, Ohio
Packet Node: W8BLV-3 (MWO) 144.91 APRS Node: W8WMO (MID) 144.39
Packet BBS: W8MWO (MWOBBS) 144.91
Repeaters: 52.21/53.21, 146.01/146.61, 147.915/147.315, 223.36/224.96, 449.825/444.825
Web page: *http://www.qsl.net/w8blv/* e-mail: *dial@qth.net*

President:
George Pappayliou, W3GP
Vice-president:
Mark Johnson, WD8DFK
Secretary:
Dave Williamson, KD8W

Treasurer:
Carl Morgan, K8CM
Activities Manager:
Tom Snelling, WA8AGQ
Newsletter Editor:

January 1999

Happy New Year !!

Minutes of the December 21 Dial Radio Club Meeting

Members Present:
W8EH, N8NQF, WD8DFK, WA8AGQ, K8CM, KC8ECK, Megan, KB8QQG, KI8I, N8RDJ, Jordan, N8PL, KB8ROD, K8GET & Sally, W8ULC & Marilyn, N8TFH, WB8DPZ, WT7F, WA8PRA, KC8CYP, KC8DVC, KC8IZE, KC8ISN WA8DTU, KC8BZV & Kathy, KE8OH, WB8WKL, K8INF, KC8IZF, KB8WTC, KC8KYC, W8MVN, KB8VSX.

Call to order by VP Mark, WD8DFK. W3GP was absent. We went around the room and introduced ourselves.

Motion by WA8AGQ to approve the minutes as published and dispense with reading, second by N8NQF, passed.

Treasurer's report by K8CM. October balance $3,208.13, income $850.00, expenses $222.58, November balance $4,141.55. Active members 154, 1999 renewals so far, 59. It's time to renew your membership.

Old Business:
WA8AGQ spoke for the nominating committee. The only candidates for officers were those already serving. Nominations from the floor were solicited. Being none, K8GET moved, K8INF seconded to close nominations, passed. The present officers were declared elected for 1999.

Fox hunt was reported by W8EH. Lane and Ernie hid in the new Twin Creek park off of Chamberlain Road. WA6EZV from Cincinnati was the winner. Next hunt will be sometime in April. Date to be set. (See article in newsletter for details of the hunt.)

Carl K8CM told about the SW OH Digital Symposium coming up January 16, 9am to 4pm. Come learn about different modes of amateur digital communication. Since Dial is a sponsor, several members are needed to assist in various duties. Contact K8CM and let him know you can help.

Next session of classes for Novice/Technician will start January 13 at 6 pm. Elements 1A, 2 and 3A will be covered.

KC8BZV passed out prizes for those who guessed the mystery person on the Thursday net.

New Business:
It was reported that the Foundation For Amateur Radio has 66 scholarships available for the 1999-2000 school year. Awards range from $500 to $2,500. Write: FAR Scholarships, P.O. Box 831, Riverdale, MD, 20738 for information.

Carl brought applications for KC8KYC and Megan Oberschlake. Both were approved for membership.

W8EH suggested a committee be formed to study placing an APRS packet digi in Oxford. N8NQF, W8EH, K8CM and KC8ECK will serve and report back.

Door Prize:
This month's winner in the drawing for a complimentary meal, courtesy of *The Old Country Buffet*, was Megan Oberschlake.. *Congratulations Megan!*

Adjournment:
Being no additional business, motion by K8INF, second by WA8AGQ to adjourn, approved

Ernie Howard, W8EH
Secretary ProTem

1999 Dues

1999 dues are now past due. There was no change in the 1999 dues structure; annual dues remain at $26 for repeater and $12 for basic membership.

If you have paid your dues, thank you *and* your new membership card is enclosed.

If you not, a renewal form is included with

Next Meeting: Monday, January 18, *Old Country Buffet*; dinner at 6 meeting at 7

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Next Meeting: January 21, 2019 at the 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, January 23, 2019
at 6 p.m. in 007 Thesken Hall
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, and Licensee ID number (FRN) .

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]

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Amateur Radio Class

Introductory Level

Ham Radio Class To Begin !

Beginning January 30, 2019, 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 007 Thesken Hall, on the Middletown Campus of Miami University, this class will meet Wednesday evenings, 6-9 pm.

Class will conclude March 6 and be followed by an examination session on Wednesday, March 20.

Morse code proficiency is *no longer* a requirement for any amateur radio operator's license.

Although there is no charge for the instructional portion of this class, students should be prepared to purchase a license training manual and supplies (approximately $25-30) for use in class.

Class enrollment will be limited to twenty students. For registration and/or additional information, please call Beverley Taylor
or Carl Morgan

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Tim Murphy, WA8YXY

the prez sez ...

While looking through some web sites this week, I came across an interesting post by a new ham who recently became a Tech. Some of his comments were;

a) Spend a little time learning the phonetic alphabet! Why? Well a lot of us are older, a little hard of hearing and when you pass your callsign, it can be hard to understand. Some of us speak 'too fast', warble our letters and realize it.

b) Find a Club to join. We discussed that a little at our last meeting. So, if you have friends who have not joined a Club, tell them about us or other clubs in 'their' area and encourage them to join.

c) Now that you are (hopefully) a member of a club, GET-INVOLVED!!. It's not just about meetings and monthly dinner!

The bottom line, is you get out of our hobby what you put into it!

- Dave, KD8W

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MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 21, 2019 MEETING

Attendance:

W8EH, KC8WOF, N8QF, N8HRA, N8EH, KD8CPV, KC8GMR, K8MRC, N8NMB, KC8TXA, W8ISZ, W8RES, N8YFQ, KD8W, K8WWS, SUE, NN8M, WA8YXY, KC8IZE, KO8F, NR8R, BARBARA, KD8TGE, CALEB, ALYSSA, KE8AIR, KE8AIQ, K8CM W8WLM, N8HP, N8GGE, N8DHW. 32.

Call to order:

Dave, KD8W, called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

Secretary's Report:

A motion to accept the Minutes as published was made by Dave, KD8W, and seconded by Dave, N8YFQ. The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer's report by N8QF. 69 members representing 49 families. 15 not renewed yet. Three paid this evening, down to 12 not renewed. Balance in checking at the end of December was $3,666.23. Ron reported that the dues change has had a minor impact on renewals. Ron gave the detailed year-end report of our accounts in CD's. 2018 income was $3,466 with 2018 expenses $1,956.19. The sale of club equipment boosted the 2018 income. Motion to approve the report by Barney, N8HP, second by Bob, NR8R; motion approved.

Tim, WA8YXY reported for the audit committee. They met with Ron on January 15 to review the Treasurer's records. They found everything to be in order. Motion to approve the report by Tim, WA8YXY, second by Jim, W8ISZ, motion approved.

Classes and Exams:

Beverley, N8GGE, reported on classes and exams. Exam this Wednesday at MUM in Thesken Hall, room 7. Classes will meet the following week (Jan 30th) also in room 7. The lodge has other events going on so we are in this new location.

Website:

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

Repeater/Station Report:

Repeater report by W8EH. Everything OK. During the weekend snow the DMR repeaters were active with a statewide ARES emergency net collecting reports. West tower replacement and new location for the 147.315 repeater still up in the air.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Dave brought up the QSL.NET server that hosts our web page and email list. We have not donated lately. Motion made to donate $100 to QSL.NET by Dave, N8YFQ, second by W8RES, motion approved.

Ernie, W8EH, mentioned that the City of Middletown is now charging a $25 application fee for our Field Day site. Motion to approve the $25 fee by Ernie, W8EH, seconded by Carl, K8CM, motion approved.

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Brian, KO8F, initiated discussion about attracting new licensees to DIAL. Discussion was about some restrictions we had about recruiting during test sessions. We may be able to have an uninvolved member pass out information. This will be looked into.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn was made by Steve, KD8CPV, and seconded by Ron, N8QF. Motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Ernie Howard, W8EH
Secretary

ARRL Launching New Podcast Geared Toward New Radio Amateurs

For those just getting started on their Amateur Radio journey, ARRL is launching a new podcast aimed at answering your questions, providing support and encouragement for newcomers to get the most out of the hobby. The podcast "So Now What?" will launch on Thursday, March 7, and new episodes will be posted every other Thursday, alternating new-episode weeks with the "ARRL The Doctor is In" podcast.

Co-hosting "So Now What?" will be ARRL Communications Content Producer Michelle Patnode, W3MVP, and ARRL Station Manager Joe Carcia, NJ1Q. Presented as a lively conversation, with Patnode representing newer hams and Carcia the veteran operators, the podcast will explore questions that newer hams may have and the issues that keep participants from staying active in the hobby. Some episodes will feature guests to answer questions on specific topic areas.

"No other podcast is really aimed at this segment of the Amateur Radio community... that is being underserved, that is not getting the answers to the many questions they have," said ARRL Communications Manager David Isgur, N1RSN, who will serve as the podcast's executive producer.

Topics to be discussed in the first several episodes include getting started, operating modes available to Technician licensees, VEC and licensing issues, sunspots and propagation, mobile operating, contesting, Amateur Radio in pop culture, and perceptions of Technician license holders.

Given the growing popularity of podcasts, Isgur believes that providing this information in a podcast format will be a very effective method of reaching out and engaging this particular part of the Amateur Radio community, which is important for building and maintaining Amateur Radio interest and activity.

Patnode said she is excited to ask questions she has about different aspects of Amateur Radio, such as how to incorporate ham radio with newer technologies like Raspberry Pi computers and Arduinos, and to learn more about the hobby right along with the audience.

Carcia believes the "So Now What?" podcast will be a perfect complement to the podcasts that the ARRL already offers — "ARRL The Doctor Is In" and "ARRL Audio News."

In addition to serving as co-host, Patnode is also the audio editor/producer of the podcast. ARRL Graphics Department Supervisor Sue Fagan, KB1OKW, designed the podcast logo, and ARRL Radiosport Administrative Manager Sabrina Jackson, KC1JMW, will voice the introduction and closing. Listeners will be able to find the

"So Now What?" podcast on Apple iTunes, Blubrry, or Stitcher (free registration required, or browse the site as a guest) and through the free Stitcher app for iOS, Kindle, or Android devices...or wherever you get your podcasts. Episodes will also be archived on the ARRL website.

"So Now What?" will be sponsored by LDG Electronics, a family owned and operated business with laboratories in southern Maryland that offers a wide array of antenna tuners and other Amateur Radio products.

- Postscript; Ohio Section News update, February 4, 2019

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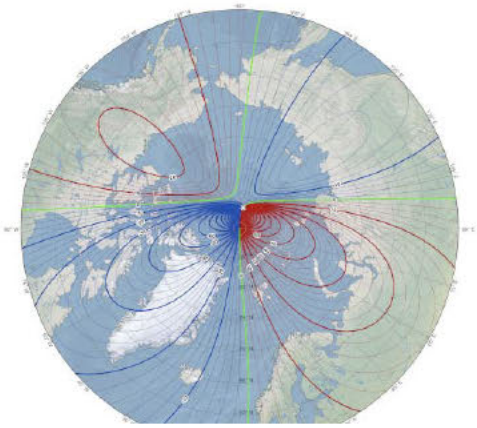
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

EARTH'S MAGNETIC NORTH POLE SHIFTS TOWARD SIBERIA

National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI) scientists have updated the world magnetic model (WMM) mid-cycle, as Earth's northern magnetic pole has begun shifting quickly away from the Canadian Arctic and toward Siberia, an NCEI report said this week. While the new WMM more accurately represents the change of the magnetic field since 2015, it has no impact on propagation.



This map shows the location of the north magnetic pole (white star) and the magnetic declination (contour interval = 2°) at the start of 2019. [Photo courtesy of NOAA NCEI/CIRES]

Updated versions of the WMM are typically released every 5 years. This update comes about 1 year early.

"This out-of-cycle update before next year's official release of WMM 2020 will ensure safe navigation for military applications, commercial airlines, search and rescue operations, and others operating around the North Pole," said NCEI, which is part of the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). "Organizations such as NASA, the Federal Aviation Administration, US Forest Service, and many more use this technology. The military uses the WMM for undersea and aircraft navigation, parachute deployment, and more." Other governmental entities use the technology for surveying and mapping, satellite/antenna tracking, and air traffic management. Smartphone and consumer electronics companies also rely on the WMM to provide consumers with accurate compass apps, maps, and GPS services.

Airport runways may be the most visible example of a navigation aid updated to match shifts in Earth's magnetic field. Airports around the country use the data to give runways numerical names, which pilots refer to on the ground. The declination has changed slightly more than 2.5° over the past 2 decades or so. Compasses use declination -- the difference between true north and where a compass points -- to help correct navigation systems for a wide variety of uses. -- Thanks to NOAA-NCEI

- ARRL Letter, February 7, 2019

CLASS AND EXAM NEWS

Dial opened their 2019 exam season on Wednesday evening, January 23, with nine VEs serving four applicants to whom 5 exam elements were administered. The 5 elements consisted of Element 2 (2 administered and 2 passing) and Element 3 (3 administered and 2 passing). At evening's end, there were 2 new Technicians and 2 General upgrades.

Next exam in Middletown will be March 20 *[see pg 6]*.

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 amateur radio license [General] class will begin March 7 and conclude May 1.

- Carl, K8CM

Thirty-five Years Ago .....

Jan 1984 mtg

DIAL RADIO CLUB

Minutes of 1-16-84 meeting

The regular monthly meeting of the Dial Radio Club was held on January 16, 1984. It was called to order by the president, Tom Snelling WA8AGQ. The following were in attendance:

Ray K8GET, Roy Jr. KA8IIX, Don N8DFR, Ernie AG8Y, Ed N8EZY, Mark WD8NKJ, Stojan KA8PZD, Roy Sr. W8JEU, Tom K8GCV, Delmar WA8ABG, Gene W8HYJ, Tom WA8AGQ, Chet K8UFB, Jerry KA8PTL and Ed WA8SFX.

The treasurer reported a balance of $848.42. (Not for newsletter)

The Boy Scout Klondike Derby was held January 14 at Camp Hook. Eleven hams showed up for communications, K8NHE, WA8AWM, K8GET, AG8Y, WA8AGQ, WA8SFX, and K8GCV, also Bob Robke WD8NBI from Kettering, Roger Keeny W8LHL from Dayton, Vernon Stanfill N8FLZ from West Virginia and Ken Foltz WD8PDP from Mason. About 800 scouts participated in the derby, and the weather was good.

Twenty-three persons have signed up for the After-Christmas dinner to be held at David's Buffet in Evendale on January 20, 1984.

About moving the West Middletown Repeater to West Elkton, it was decided not to do it at this time as it would cost too much. The logic system on the repeater is old and needs to be rebuilt, also we would have to have a new antenna and coax at the new location, and it would be too far away for the club to service.

Coming events will be the following:

The Dayton Hamvention in April. It will be decided at the next meeting whether the club will have a space at the flea market.

Field Day sometime this summer. It was decided to have it close by. We should have a spot picked by the March meeting.

K8UFB will look into getting signs for club activities.

Ed Steinbach WA8SFX
Secretary

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 20, 2019
at 6 p.m. in 007 Thesken Hall
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, and Licensee ID number (FRN) .

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

If you are applying for your first license, please go to *https://apps.fcc.gov/cores/userLogin.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: February 18, 2019 at the 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

President:
Dave Williamson, KD8W
Vice-President:
Carl Morgan, K8CM
Secretary:
Ernie Howard, Jr., W8EH
Treasurer:
Ron Spaulding, N8QF
Activities Manager:
Roy Dalton, N8LRN
Newsletter Editor:
Carl Morgan, K8CM
Webmaster
Tim Murphy, WA8YXY

the prez sez ...

For all Tech's! We have a 'General Class' scheduled by our Club from Mar-27th to May-1st with an exam session on May 8th! What an opportunity to get your upgrade to General! Just in time for HAMVENTION.

Hamvention is not far off. If you have not been to a 'Hamvention', you should seriously consider attending if you can. Pluses for members,

a) We have spaces, so you have a place to rest, store those ham 'specials', and support the club.

b) A good place to find that rig if you are looking for new or used. [Got your new 'General Ticket!!]

c) Pick up supplies for DIY projects!

All in all a great weekend!! So start preparing NOW so you will be ready to make the most of it. I'll mention it again, but this is the early "Don't Forget!"

- Dave, KD8W

Next Meeting: March 18, 2019 at the at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 18, 2019 MEETING

Attendance:

W8EH, KC8WOF, N8QF, N8LRN, N8EH, KD8CPV, KC8GMR, K8MRC, KC8TXA, W8RES, N8ACR, KD8W, NR8R, BARBARA, KO8F, K8CM, W8WLM, KC8ICE, K8WWS, SUE, N8HP, N8GGE, W8ISZ, N8YFQ, N8DHW. (25)

Call to order:

Meeting called to order at 7:04pm by Dave, KD8W.

Secretary's report:

Motion by N8EH, Second by NR8R to approve the minutes as published, passed.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer's report was given by N8QF. We have 54 paid up families. 10 people not renewed yet. Last year we had 12 unpaid at this time. Checking balance at the end of January was $3,471.26. Motion to approve by N8HP, second by N8ACR, passed

Ron completed the form 990 with the IRS and updated our 501(c)3 status with the Ohio Attorney General.

Classes and Exams:

Beverly N8GGE reported that 2 of the 4 students showed up for the classes. Due to the low turnout, the Technician class was canceled. March 20 will be next exam in either Thesken Hall room 7 or possibly room 2. The next class will be for General and will start on March 27.

K8CM reported that there are changes at the FCC regarding the CORES/FRN records and initial FRN registration for new hams. There is a different procedure that will result in some changes at the exams. Some of us may need to update our records too.

January 23 exam had 4 people tested. 2 upgraded to General, 2 received Technician.

Website:

No report

Repeater/Station Report:

W8EH reported regarding the loss of the west Middletown tower site. The plan is to vacate the site by the end of May. We have a temporary move location at the Breiel tower, where our UHF repeaters and packet digipeater are located. We should be able to share the packet digipeater antenna (144.39) with the 147.315 repeater until a more permanent location can be arranged. Motion by W8EH, second by N8QF to make the move, passed.

Evan, KC8TXA brought up a solution that we have been working on to lower our Internet cost on the DMR repeater. We presently pay AT&T $45.11 for Internet. Evan has offered to add a HotSpot on his Verizon account for about $10.54. Our usage is very low, Verizon cell site is on the same tower with us, and so it should work. We will test it before disconnecting the AT&T service. Motion by N8EH to proceed with the change and reimburse Evan the cost each month, second by N8YFQ, passed.

Next Meeting: March 18, 2019 at the at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

Activities Report:

Roy N8LRN says three months until Hamvention *[May 17-18-19 Ed.]* and asked N8YFQ to report on Hamvention. Dave said that Hamvention was going smooth. Additional asphalt grindings will be put down in the flea market.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

None

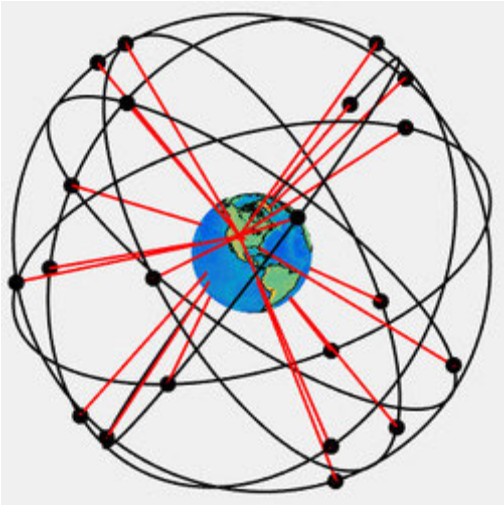
Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn by Brian, second by Dave N8YFQ, passed.

Ernie Howard, W8EH, Secretary

GPS NETWORK MAY EXPERIENCE ERRORS IN "WEEK NUMBER" ROLLBACK

The GPS network will encounter a small millennium bug of its own in April when the network's "week number" rolls back to zero. This known issue especially could affect those who use GPS to obtain accurate Coordinated Universal Time (i.e., UTC). In the GPS network, the number of the current week is encoded into the message the GPS receives using a 10-bit field. This allows for weeks ranging from zero to 1023. The current period began on August 1, 1999. On April 6, 2019, the week number rolls over to zero and starts counting back up to 1023.



This should not affect later-model GPS receivers that conform to IS-GPS-200 and provide UTC, but testing carried out by the US Department for Homeland Security (DHS) raised the possibility that some units may misinterpret the rollover, shifting the date back to January 6, 1980, or possibly to another incorrect date. An affected GPS not only may report the incorrect date, but time accuracy that is critical to precise location data could be compromised. A nanosecond error in GPS time can equate to 1 foot of position (ranging) error, according to DHS-published guidelines that explain the issue and suggest how to address it.

- *ARRL Letter, March 7, 2019*

WORLD SCOUT JAMBOREE IS POSSIBLE ARISS AMATEUR RADIO CONTACT HOST

The Amateur Radio on the International Space Station US team (ARISS-US) has announced the list of schools or organizations that may host Amateur Radio contacts with International Space Station (ISS) crew

members from July through December. The list includes the 24th World Scout Jamboree, which is set for this summer at the Summit Bechtel Reserve in West Virginia.

Schools and organizations had submitted proposals seeking an opportunity to host contacts, and a review team of teachers from the ARISS-US Education Committee selected from among those submissions. Applicants chosen will advance to the second phase of the selection process -- developing an Amateur Radio equipment plan to host a scheduled ARISS contact.

ARISS's primary goal is to engage young people in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) activities, and involve them in pursuits related to space exploration, Amateur Radio, communication, and associated areas of study and career options. Read more.

- ARRL Letter, February 21, 2019

BAKELITE PATENT AWARDED 100 YEARS AGO

Radio amateurs of a certain age are more familiar than most newcomers with the trade name Bakelite, which derives its name from its inventor Leo Baekeland, who developed Bakelite phenolic resin, the first thermosetting plastic, in 1907. His process patent for making insoluble products of phenol and formaldehyde -- the components of Bakelite -- was filed that year, and Baekeland was awarded a patent a century ago come this December. Bakelite found a place in numerous technologies, including early ham gear and radios, widely employed as an insulating material.

Once a Bakelite product is formed, it will not change shape or melt under heat. In compression molding, the resin is generally combined with fillers such as wood or asbestos before it's pressed into the ultimate product shape. Tube sockets often were constructed using Bakelite. It later found its way into such products as jewelry. In February 1909, Baekeland officially announced his achievement at a meeting of the New York section of the American Chemical Society.

- ARRL Letter, February 28, 2019

Microsoft Compatibility Official Steers Enterprise Users Away from Internet Explorer

Microsoft, which transitioned to its new browser, Edge, several years ago, is now advising enterprise users to avoid its legacy browser, Internet Explorer (IE). Microsoft Worldwide Lead for Application Compatibility Chris Jackson said that IE isn't really a browser but a "compatibility solution" to deal with legacy sites. Microsoft no longer supports IE with new web standards, which is at the core of the problem.

In a new blog post, Jackson said that, for some organizations, using Internet Explorer as the default for all situations "is the 'easy button,' because, well, most of your sites were designed for Internet Explorer." Jackson said this sort of thinking "seems like a deliberate decision to take on some 'technical debt,'" as he put it.

Next Meeting: March 18, 2019 at the at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH
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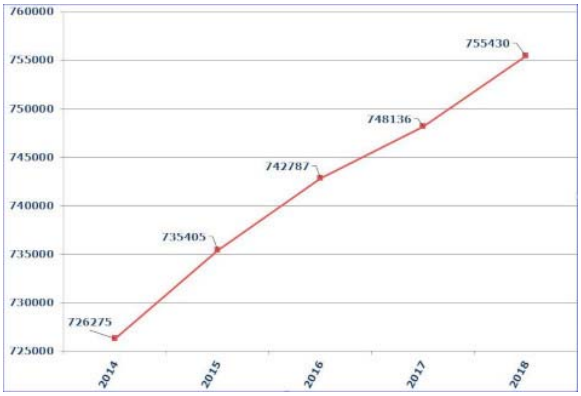
It's complicated. Jackson explained that as the IE standards mode supported more and more standards, "we decided not to just update the mode we called standards mode, because, when we did, we risked breaking applications written for an older interpretation of the standards. So, with Internet Explorer 8, we added IE8 standards, but also kept IE7 standards."

Jackson said companies' "habit" of paying for extended support for legacy software "needs to stop in the case of IE." He suggests using IE only selectively for internal sites that require it, pointing to tools that help customers make the transition and limit the use of IE to only where it's needed.

"Internet Explorer is a compatibility solution," Jackson concluded. Read more.

- ARRL Letter, February 14, 2019

US AMATEUR RADIO POPULATION GROWS SLIGHTLY IN 2018



The US Amateur Radio population once again grew by about 1%, based upon 2017 and 2018 year-end FCC database statistics provided by Joe Speroni, AH0A. The 755,430 total licensees represent nearly 7,300 more license holders than those that were in the database at the end of 2017. Nearly 51% of the Amateur Radio population in the US -- 384,145 -- holds a Technician license. Generals are second with 175,949, and Amateur Extras number 147,369. Advanced and Novice licensee populations continue to decline, with 39,607 Advanced and 8,360 Novices, as the FCC no longer issues Advanced or Novice licenses. A more significant statistic is 31,576 new FCC licenses last year, although that's 620 fewer than came aboard in 2017.

"New amateur licenses granted by FCC are down 2% over last year," noted ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC) Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM, "but this is the fifth year in a row the total has been greater than 31,000. I predict that the number of new licensees will be more than 30,000 at the end of this year as well, and I'm optimistic this trend will continue."

Upgrades also are down slightly, compared to last year -- 9,456 in 2018 versus 9,576 in 2017, she added. "For the fifth year in a row, we have conducted more than 7,000 Amateur Radio exam sessions in a year -- an important milestone for the ARRL VEC," Somma recounted. "Our program continues to provide outstanding service to the ARRL, its members, and the entire Amateur Radio community."

ARRL VEC filed a total 30,393 license application forms last year, compared to 31,014 in 2017. That includes new, upgrade, modification, renewal, and club station filings. At 7,035 in 2018, the number of exam sessions conducted by ARRL VEC marginally trailed the 7,075 held in 2017. ARRL VEC served 34,493 exam applicants in 2018, compared to 35,352 in 2017. Exam elements administered by ARRL decreased from 47,152 last year to 45,817 this year, Somma said. Nearly 1,800 new Volunteer Examiners (VEs) have been added to the ARRL VEC program.

- ARRL Letter, February 14, 2019

ARES CONFERENCE COMING UP

We're getting things lined up for the Ohio ARES Conference April 6 in Marion. If YOU have a topic you think we should discuss, now's the time- send me an email with your ideas! I want this information to be well worth your time! Get ready for NVIS Day April 27! 73, Stan N8BHL

- Ohio Section Journal, February 17, 2019

Next Meeting: March 18, 2019 at the at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH
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FCC TAKES A NEW TACK IN COMBATTING UNLICENSED RADIO BROADCASTING

In what may be a first in the effort to crack down on unlicensed broadcasters, the United States has filed a civil action to stop a church-related pirate radio station from operating in Worcester, Massachusetts. The Massachusetts US Attorney's Office is seeking an injunction to shut down the station, operating on 97.1 MHz.

"This groundbreaking step, for an injunction to stop a pirate radio operator's illegal activities, is part of our continued efforts to combat illegal broadcasting," FCC Enforcement Bureau Chief Rosemary Harold said this week. "As we work with our law enforcement colleagues to use every tool in our toolbox to combat pirate radio, I welcome the Justice Department's renewed use of its Section 401(a) injunction authority. Along with fines, equipment seizures, and warnings, this action underlines our continued interest in combatting this serious problem."

The FCC already has fined operator Vasco Oburoni and Christian Praise International Church $15,000 for repeated violations of its rules against unlicensed operation. The complaint recounts that Oburoni and the church first began operating an unlicensed station in Worcester on 102.3 MHz. After issuing multiple warnings, the FCC levied the $15,000 penalty, and Oburoni agreed to a payment plan. But later, he began broadcasting again, this time on 97.1 MHz. At least one licensed broadcaster has complained to the FCC, citing interference concerns.

- ARRL Letter, March 7, 2019

CLASS AND EXAM NEWS

Sadly the Technician class offered on January 27 was cancelled due to poor attendance. Our next class offering will be General Class, beginning on March 27 [*see pg 8*].

No exams were scheduled for February; consequently our next exam offering will be Wednesday evening, March 20 in room 7, Thesken Hall [*see pg 7*].

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 .

- Carl, K8CM

"i" before "e" except after "c", or when sounded as "a" as in neighbor and weigh.

This rule is "counterfeit". General spelling rules "forfeit" generality.

They are "foreign", being not "either" or "neither", possibly the result of some "leisure" activity of a "sovereign heir" who, lacking "height", is studying, without "conscience, inefficient glacier science". It's not as nutritious as "protein". It's just plain old "weird"

Is this example "sufficient"?

- Anonymous, via e-mail

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Amateur Radio License Exams

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Wednesday evening, March 20, 2019
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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, and Licensee ID number (FRN) .

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

If you are applying for your first license, please go to *https://apps.fcc.gov/cores/userLogin.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: March 18, 2019 at the at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH
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Amateur Radio Class

Intermediate Level

Ham Radio Class to Begin!

Beginning March 27, 2019, the DIAL RADIO CLUB will offer a six-week class to prepare a candidate for examination in the General Class Amateur Radio operator license. This class will meet Wednesday evenings, 6:00 – 9:00 PM, on the campus of Miami University Middletown in Thesken Hall room 007.

Class will conclude May 1 and be followed by an examination session on Wednesday, May 8.

Although there is no charge for the class, students should purchase the *ARRL General Class License Manual,* 8th Ed.

Morse code proficiency is no longer a requirement for any amateur radio operator's license.

Pre-registration is appreciated, but not required. For registration, directions, or other information, please contact either

Beverley Taylor

Aaron Renner

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
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President:
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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 ...

Wow! The cold nights are almost over! Winter is about done, really.

Those outside 'chores' you have been putting off, can now get done so you don't have to worry about it after the Hamvention. Hamvention is just around the corner (next month!) Hope you plan to attend.

If you have the opportunity, you can download and checkout the weekend contest-corral for April. There are a lot of different 'contests' listed in all modes, phone, CW and digital. The great thing about most of these is you don't have to try and 'win' or set down for long periods of time.

It is a great way to get some experience on the bands in whatever mode you choose. The exchanges are simple so you don't have to be intimidated! Check it out, you might find something interesting!. You don't have to have all band capability either. One antenna will work most of the time. You just have to DO-IT!!

Next meeting April 15, Clubhouse Sports Grill, Monroe. See U there!

- Dave, KD8W

MINUTES OF THE MARCH 18, 2019 MEETING

Attendance:

KC8WOF, W8EH, N8EH, N8QF, N8HRA, KC8GMR, W8LKU, WA8DTU, K8MRC, W8ISZ, N8AA, N8YFQ, NR8R, Barbara, KC8OIX, KE8CPM, KE8JDX, KC8IZE, K8WWS, Sue, K8CM, W8WLM, KE8AIR, KE8AIQ, W8RES, KD8W, WA8YXY, KF8QS, N8ACR, NN8M. (30)

Call to Order:

Meeting called to order by KD8W at 7:02pm.

Next Meeting: April 15, 2019 at the at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

Secretary's Report:

Motion by N8EH, second K8CM to approve the February minutes as published in the newsletter, passed.

Treasurer's Report:

Ron, N8QF gave the February treasurer's report. 78 members, 53 families. Checking $3,452.31. Motion by NR8R, second K8MRC to approve, passed.

Classes and Exams:

N8ACR reported that our General class session starts March 27th in room 7, Thesken Hall MUM. Exam is March 20th same location.

Newsletter:

K8CM reports no problems.

Website:

WA8YXY reported the web page is up to date.

Repeater/Station Report:

W8EH reports the west Middletown site equipment will be moved in the next few weeks. 147.315 will be on at the Breiel tower location temporarily until new site secured. The DMR repeater has been switched to a 'wireless' Verizon hot spot card on KC8TXA's account. Testing is showing no problems. The AT&T DSL account will be canceled, saving money.

Activities Report:

None

Old Business:

W8EH reports that the Field Day park permit application has been accepted and should be no problem.

New Business:

N8ACR brought up that we need to start a social media presence. Aaron and Tim will work on a Facebook page. W8EH mentioned that there was a 'Technician Enhancement' rulemaking up for comments at the FCC.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn by N8QF, second by WA8DTU, passed.

Ernie Howard, W8EH
Secretary

Next Meeting: April 15, 2019 at the at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

NVIS DAY

April 27, a Saturday, from 10 am until 4 pm will be this year's NVIS Day in Ohio. This has become a tradition, and the importance of easily deployed portable antennas was brought to the spotlight after Hurricane Michael and others this past year. The devastation took down ALL commercial, safety and amateur communications. There were no towers, no repeaters, and very little formal generator power. I was honestly surprised that of all things 80-meter sideband was one of the most-used forms of emergency communication. It worked well for them and would work well for Ohio in a wide-spread "flat-earth" situation. We got a taste of that during "Snow Net" where operators in 44 counties participated both on 80 and on DMR Ohio. This to me makes NVIS practice even more important.

I have received one suggestion that makes sense. The real purpose of NVIS day is to test antenna performance compare signals and try different configurations. There is a contest type ranking for how many contacts you can make, that just creates a more fun atmosphere. The suggestion is that we use the DMR Ohio Talk Group to coordinate contacts, and to advertise that a station is operating on a certain frequency. That can help to remove the searching and some frustration since we're all over the bands that day. I think using DMR Ohio similar to a spotter type operation would make it much more fun and provide better ways to find other participating stations for our testing. Thanks to Alan Rothweiler KD8TNS for the idea!

I hope to see you at the ARES Conference! Remember, it is open (and strongly suggested!!) for EC's and above, as well as AEC's or others with special interest in being there. The facility seats over 150, and we usually comfortably fill the room (120-ish) so, yes, there's room for you!! MANY THANKS TO MARION ARES for hosting us! They put some work and planning into our day.

I don't want to take manpower away from your local nets, so let's try a ~fast~ check-in net on the Ohio DMR Talk Group (3139) starting at 0930. That should give everyone time to check in and get back to your local Skywarn weather nets. We'll call two districts at a time, in numeric order. Wednesday, 0930 on Ohio Hope to hear from you!!

73, Stan N8BHL You can view all of the SEC's monthly reports on the website.. http://arrl-ohio.org/SEC/default.html

- Ohio Section Journal, March 17, 2019

HOW NVIS WORKS

If you don't know what NVIS is, it stands for Near Vertical Incidence Skywave. RF is launched at a high elevation angle and is refracted back to earth as shown here. Notice that unlike a signal launched at a low angle for DX, the NVIS signal returns to the ground close to the antenna.

NVIS is well suited to regional emergency communication. Reliable NVIS communications are possible out to distances of approximately 300 miles. This means that a small number of NVIS stations are required to provide a statewide network. Amateurs can quickly establish communications using NVIS after a natural disaster because NVIS uses readily available HF equipment and simple antenna that can be constructed from readily available materials and do not require towers or other special types of mounting. CW, SSB and various HF digital modes all can be used with NVIS. See: http://www.arrl-ohio.org/SEC/

73, David, WA3EZN

- Ohio Section Journal, March 17, 2019

Next Meeting: April 15, 2019 at the at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

MODIFIED DIGITAL QST APP NOW AVAILABLE FOR APPLE iOS USERS

Apple has released a new app for digital *QST* (version 5.1) for digital readers that use iOS devices. A long-standing problem involved the inability of some Apple iOS app users to download digital *QST* issues to their devices. When they attempted to do so, the app crashed. The new app is now available on the Apple iTunes store. Apple also required ARRL to create a new version of the app that allows non-members to purchase individual issues of the *QST* digital edition.

"Members must update their digital *QST* apps for the changes to take effect," *QST* Editor Steve Ford, WB8IMY, explained. "This entails tapping the App Store icon, and then tapping Updates from the store menu. They may have to log in after the update, but should not have to log in after that."

The updated app will be a so-called "in-app purchase" version, which Apple requires ARRL and other publishers to use. "You might think of it as an electronic newsstand. It will allow non-members to purchase single issues of *QST* for $6.99," Ford said.

Android and Kindle users and those who view digital *QST* on desktop or laptop computers will not be affected by this change. Android and Kindle users *do not* need to update their apps.

- ARRL Letter, March 28, 2019

FLAW COULD PERMIT HACKING OF IMPLANTED DEVICES

Medtronic, the world's largest medical device company, has acknowledged that many of its implanted cardiac defibrillators use an unencrypted wireless protocol that could let an attacker change the device settings. The Department of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) has assigned the flaw a vulnerability score of 9.3 -- near the top of its 10-point scale. It said the flaw makes it possible for an unauthorized party to read and write any memory location of the implanted devices. At issue is the Conexus radio frequency telemetry protocol, which is used as part of its remote patient-management system for communicating between defibrillators, home monitoring devices, and clinician programming devices. According to CISA, affected devices include the MyCareLink Monitor, CareLink Monitor, CareLink 2090 Programmer, and other Medtronic implanted cardiac devices listed in its alert. The primary vulnerabilities are improper access control and transmission of sensitive information.

"Successful exploitation of these vulnerabilities may allow an attacker with adjacent short-range access to one of the affected products to interfere with, generate, modify, or intercept the radio frequency (RF) communication of the Medtronic proprietary Conexus telemetry system, potentially impacting product functionality and/or allowing access to transmitted sensitive data," CISA said. "The result of successful exploitation of these vulnerabilities may include the ability to read and write any valid memory location on the affected implanted device and therefore impact the intended function of the device."

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The CISA alert goes on to say, "Medtronic has applied additional controls for monitoring and responding to improper use of the Conexus telemetry protocol by the affected implanted cardiac devices. Additional mitigations are being developed and will be deployed through future updates, assuming regulatory approval. Medtronic recommends that users take additional defensive measures to minimize the risk of exploitation of these vulnerabilities." These "additional defensive measures" are spelled out in the CISA alert.

The US Food and Drug Administration has also issued an alert. -- *Thanks to Department of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency*

-ARRL Letter, March 28, 2019

UHF/VHF SPRINTS

According to Bob Mathews, K8TQK, April will be filled with opportunities for those interested in giving UHF and VHF CW and SSB a try. The month starts with the annual Central States VHF Society's sponsored two meter sprint on Monday evening, April 8. On April 16 the activity moves to the 222 band and on April 24 it concludes on the 432 band. Each four hour activity starts at 7 pm local time and concludes at 11. A 6 version will take place in early May. The purpose of the sprints is to encourage "weak signal" work on these bands while having fun on the air. Rules and more information can be found with a search for the 'springvhfupsprints' web site.

- Monday Morning Memo, Highland AmateurRadioAssociation, April 1, 2019

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TO TRANSMIT INTEROPERABILITY EXERCISE INFO VIA WWV/WWVH

The US Department of Defense (DOD) plans to start making use of a provisional time slot on WWV and WWVH to announce upcoming HF military communication exercises and how the Amateur Radio community can become involved in them. The announcements will occur at 10 minutes past on WWV and at 50 minutes past on WWVH. WWV and WWVH transmit on 2.5, 5, 10, 15, and 20 MHz.

"DOD's use of the broadcast time slot on WWV/WWVH will benefit the MARS program's mission of outreach to the Amateur Radio community," said US Army Military Auxiliary Radio System (MARS) Program Manager Paul English, WD8DBY. "The actual messages to be broadcast are coordinated by the DOD Headquarters that the MARS program supports."

The initial announcements are set for the period from April 20 - May 3, which coincides with the "Vital Connection" interoperability exercise to be held in Wisconsin. Future time slots will coincide with the Vital Connection exercise Ohio in June; DOD COMEX 19-3 in August, and the DOD COMEX 19-4 in October. Following the proof of concept this year, DOD anticipates making use of the WWV/WWVH broadcast time slot full-time, year-round.

At the outset, broadcast messages will likely be static. For future exercises, announcements could be updated throughout an exercise. The messages will direct listeners to a specified website to provide reception reports and feedback.

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The reception report will also ask the listener to submit a survey that will be shared among DOD, MARS, and WWV/WWVH personnel. English said that the survey will ask listeners questions about how often they listen to WWV/WWVH signals, how they use them, and what types of messages they would like to hear, but he notes that the survey is still under development.

"We want to provide feedback to WWV/WWVH to improve situational awareness of who is using their service and how it's being used, as well as future considerations," English said.

- ARRL Letter, April 4, 2019

PETITION FOR RULE MAKING CALLS FOR "AMATEUR DIGITAL MODE TRANSPARENCY"

The FCC is accepting comments on a Petition for Rule Making (RM-11831) seeking to amend FCC Part 97 rules that require all ham radio digital transmissions to use techniques "whose technical characteristics have been documented publicly." The Petition, filed by Ron Kolarik, K0IDT, of Lincoln, Nebraska, expresses concerns that some currently used digital modes are not readily and freely able to be decoded, and it asks the FCC to require all digital codes to use protocols that "can be monitored in [their] entirety by third parties with freely available, open-source software," per §97.113(a)(4).

Kolarik said his petition also aims to reduce levels of amateur-to-amateur interference from Automated Controlled Digital Stations (ACDS) on HF operating under §97.221(c)(2). Kolarik wants the FCC to delete §97.221(c), which permits automatic control of digital emissions provided the station "is responding to interrogation by a station under local or remote control, and [n]o transmission from the automatically controlled station occupies a bandwidth of more than 500 Hz." The petition does not call for eliminating ACDS, however. Under current rules, ACDS are allowed in specific sub-bands.

In his Petition, Kolarik maintains that interference from ACDS continues to be "a major problem on the amateur bands." He suggested that an absence of formal complaints may be due to the fact that such stations are "difficult to identify."

The Petition also proposes to amend §97.309(a)(4) to ease monitoring of certain digital transmissions. "Without open, over-the-air interception capability for all transmissions in the Amateur Radio spectrum, there is no way to determine if there is commercial or other prohibited, inappropriate content in ongoing communications..." Kolarik's Petition asserts. He said problems arise when "protocols and devices used in commercial, government, and marine services are used in the Amateur Service with no adequate means to fully decode transmissions," thwarting any efforts at self-policing of such transmissions. He said simplifying the language "would remove ambiguity about what constitutes 'publicly documented technical characteristics' by requiring any protocol to be freely decodable," and lead to "amateur digital mode transparency, present and future." Read more.

- ARRL Letter, April 4, 2019

ADDITIONAL AMATEUR RADIO-RELATED PETITIONS OPEN FOR COMMENT

The FCC has also placed three other Amateur Radio-related Petitions for Rule Making (PRMs) on public notice and has invited comments.

Jerry Oxendine, K4KWH, of Gastonia, North Carolina, wants the FCC to clarify that state and localities should have no authority to regulate Amateur Radio with respect to enacting "distracted driving" statutes. In his Petition for Rule Making, now designated as RM-11833, Oxendine contends that such statutes violate FCC rules on scope and operation of equipment by licensees; violate the intent of the FCC and Congress with respect to Amateur Radio's role in disasters, and hinder emergency operations using mobile equipment.

"There is no evidence that the operation of two-way radio has but an insignificant impact on 'distracted driving,'" Oxendine stated.

Such distracted driving statutes usurp the authority of the FCC to regulate Amateur Radio, as well as Citizens Band and Part 90 Land Mobile Service users, Oxendine said in his Petition.

Edward C. Borghi, KB2E, of Farmington, New York, has submitted a Petition, now designated as RM-11834, that would prohibit applicants from requesting a vanity call sign outside their call sign district. Exceptions would be made for call signs applied for under rules governing call signs previously held by family members.

"I see no reason for a licensee to have to compete with out-of-area people for the few 1 × 2 or 2 × 1 or catchy 2 × 3 call signs available in their area of residence," Borghi told the FCC.

Jeffrey Bail, NT1K, of West Springfield, Massachusetts, has submitted a very similar Petition, now designated as RM-11835, asking that the FCC give residential preference in competing applications to applicants whose listed FCC address is within the same district/region as the applied call sign. He cites limited availability and increased demand for 1 × 2 and 2 × 1 call signs. Read more.

- ARRL Letter, April 4, 2019

CLASS AND EXAM NEWS

Dial's most recent exam was on Wednesday evening, March 20, with 14 VEs serving eight applicants to whom 9 exam elements were administered. The 9 elements consisted of Element 2 (4 administered and all passing), Element 3 (4 administered and all passing), and Element 4 (1 administered and none passing). At evening's end, there were 3 new Technicians and 4 General upgrades. One of the General upgrades was a Novice licensee; his comment upon leaving was "I'm going home and firing up on 80-phone".

Next exams will be April 13 (Hamilton) and May 8 (Middletown). *[Announcements on pages 8 and 9]*

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 .

- Carl, K8CM

> People seldom want to be part of the process, but they always want to be part of the outcome. The *process* is where you figure out who is worth being part of the outcome.
>
> *- Anonymous*

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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, April 13, 2019, at the Fairfield Township Administration Building, 6032 Morris Road, Hamilton, OH 45011.

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://apps.fcc.gov/cores/userLogin.do* and obtain a FRN. This web site is self explanatory and the FRN registration is free.

Walk-ins welcome - Preregistration not required.

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

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

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

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Amateur Radio License Exams

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

Wednesday evening, May 8, 2019
at 6 p.m. in 007 Thesken Hall
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, and Licensee ID number (FRN) .

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

If you are applying for your first license, please go to *https://apps.fcc.gov/cores/userLogin.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]

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DIAL RADIO CLUB

Middletown, Ohio

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

President:
Dave Williamson, KD8W
Vice-President:
Carl Morgan, K8CM
Secretary:
Ernie Howard, Jr., W8EH
Treasurer:
Ron Spaulding, N8QF
Activities Manager:
Roy Dalton, N8LRN
Newsletter Editor:
Carl Morgan, K8CM
Webmaster
Tim Murphy, WA8YXY

the prez sez ...

Well, Hamvention is on us! Our next meeting is May 20th, the day after Hamvention. I hope you have luck in your purchases. It should be a great time to find that 'antenna-match' (tuner) box or whatever you are looking for. I have a small list, if the funds hold out! See U there!

- Dave, KD8W

MINUTES OF THE APRIL 15, 2019 MEETING

Attendance:
N8HRA, N8LRN, N8QF, KO8F, NR8R, K8MRC, N8ACR, KD8W, NN8M, W8RES, K8EWG, W8JBL, K8WWS, SUE, N8HP, N8GGE, W8WLM, K8CM, N8DHW, W8EH, KC8WOF, WA8YXY, W8ISZ (23)

Call to Order:
Meeting called to order by KD8W at 7:00pm. Dave asked for everyone to introduce themselves.

Secretary's Report:
Motion by Bob NR8R, second by Bob W8RES to approve the minutes as published in the newsletter, approved.

Treasurer's Report:
Treasurer's report by Ron N8QF. Balance in checking $3,547.71. We have 78 members of 53 families. Motion to approve the report by Barney N8HP, second by Aaron N8ACR, approved.

Classes and Exams:
There was an exam in Hamilton last Saturday. Dial exam at Miami on May 8th. Beverly N8GGE says General class is going with 3 students.

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Newsletter:

Carl needs people to write something for the newsletter.

Website:

Tim WA8YXY says the website is up to date.

Repeater/Station Report: W8EH reports that 147.315 has been moved to its temporary home at the Breiel site. We are still working on permanent site.

Activities Report:

Roy N8LRN Hamvention is coming. The club trailer cleanup is Monday May 6. Motion to allocate $100 for Hamvention ice, pop and water by K8CM, second by N8DHW, approved.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Ron N8QF Hamvention setup for us is Thursday May 16th. Leaving Ron's at 11 am Thursday (earlier this year). On Friday and Saturday the early crew is leaving from the funeral home at 6 am.

Ron N8QF said he is cleaning up things and wants to get the club trailer properly transferred to the club's name with new license tag. He is also looking into insurance on contents; it will be about $35. Motion to transfer title and license to Dial by Ron N8QF, second by Carl K8CM, passed.

Announcements:

Brian KO8F asked about any other classes.

Ron N8QF thanked Bob W8RES for getting him running on FT8.

Adjournment:

Motion by Ron N8QF, second by Dave N8DHW to adjourn, passed.

Ernie Howard, W8EH
Secretary

A NEW 'ANTENNA'!

Have you gotten the bug to put your first antenna? You have one up and want to make improvements? Well, let me make an attempt to help. Right now the most useful bands in the HF region seem to be 80, 40, and 20m. That is where my interest mostly lies, so I cannot comment on other band segments. If you're not endowed with a great amount "antenna-space", then you have some work to do. One area you should consider then is the use of the so called "inverted-vee" dipole configuration. On 20m, this is a relatively short dipole. In a flat-top (straight) type, it only needs about 35-37 feet of total space. You don't have to get it very high either. If you can get it up in the center about 16-20 feet and the ends about 10 feet off the ground (for safety), you can feed this with standard coax. Yes, I know a balun may be necessary, but a standard current choke balun will do. (You can make that also with a piece of pvc pipe and coax!) What is nice about this one is you can build this yourself and 'learn' while doing, and save the budget! There are several well written articles on these types of

antennas on the "WWW", and I encourage you to look into it. I have worked a lot of countries on 20m and we have some members who have done way more than I have!!

The element length is about 16.8, for the lower end, but start at 17 ft and trim (both) sides until you have it where you want! Easy to build, easy to put up, and fun to operate.

- KD8W, Dave

ARRL REPLY COMMENTS STRESS NEED TO UPDATE TECHNICIAN PRIVILEGES IN A DIGITAL WORLD

In reply comments to the FCC (comments on comments already filed) on its *Petition for Rule Making* (RM-11828), ARRL has stressed that updating HF privileges for the entry-level Technician license "is the sole subject and intent" of the petition. ARRL filed its reply comments on April 29, urging the FCC to disregard comments irrelevant to its petition and maintaining that Technician privileges must be relevant within the context of today's technological environment.

"[T]he increasingly rapid pace of change in communications technologies, coupled with the national need for self-training in science, technology, engineering, and math" necessitate the rule changes requested, ARRL asserted. "ARRL made its request because of the gap between today's digital technologies and the privileges accorded the current entry-level Technician license." ARRL characterized its proposal to update the rules as "balanced and modest."

"If adopted, there would be no change to the operating privileges for all license classes other than those of the Technician class," ARRL said. In 2018, ARRL asked the FCC to expand HF privileges for Technician licensees to include limited phone privileges on 75, 40, and 15 meters, plus RTTY and digital mode privileges on 80, 40, and 15 meters. The FCC invited comments on the proposal in April.

ARRL pointed out that some comments filed on its petition address subjects related to other open proceedings rather than expanding Technician privileges, citing comments cross-filed in such proceedings as WT Docket 16-239, RM-11708, RM-11759, and RM-11831. "Those filings should be considered in the proceedings that they address, rather than here," ARRL said.

ARRL said some opposition appears based on fears of increased interference potential due to additional digital operation by Technicians. "It is improbable that all, or even a majority, of Technician licensees suddenly would develop a passion for the same digital technology," ARRL said. "Our hope and expectation is that many will engage with digital modes on the high-frequency spectrum at issue, but it is unrealistic to suggest that every Technician licensee blessed with new privileges would suddenly appear on the same band."

The comments note the development of very efficient digital modes, such as FT8, which occupies just 90 Hz of spectrum per signal. "The experience with FT8 clearly demonstrates the attraction of the digital modes *and* the spectrum efficiencies that can be achieved," ARRL said. "This is why opening up limited digital opportunities to new radio amateurs so clearly would serve

the broad public interest as well as the specific purposes of Amateur Radio in experimentation and innovation, as enumerated in the governing FCC rules."

ARRL further said that comments regarding disagreement on the definition of encryption for masking the content of certain digital transmissions are also "out of place in this proceeding" and "should not delay initiation of a proceeding" proposing to update Technician privileges.

"Technology has changed dramatically in the Amateur Radio domain, and ARRL believes the requested Technician license enhancement would foster the regulatory goals for the Amateur Service and continue to increase amateurs' historical experimentation and service in a meaningful way," ARRL concluded.

- ARRL Letter, May 2, 2019

FCC RELEASES NATIONWIDE EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM TEST REPORT

(from Radio Resource and Gregory Drezdzon, WD9FTZ)

The FCC has released the final 31-page report on the Oct. 3, 2018, nationwide test of wireless emergency alerts (WEA) and the emergency alert system (EAS). The tests were conducted with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in coordination with the FCC and the National Weather Service (NWS).

The purpose of the test was to assess the reliability and effectiveness of the nation's alert and warning infrastructure, or the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS), as well as the efficacy of WEA and the EAS as nationwide alerting tools.

IPAWS is a FEMA-operated alert aggregator that government authorities may use to send WEA alert messages to commercial service providers and EAS alerts to EAS participants using the common alerting protocol (CAP). This protocol enables alerts to be consistently and simultaneously distributed over the EAS and WEA architectures and ultimately transmitted to the public.

The nationwide test demonstrated that WEA is an effective alerting tool to rapidly disseminate emergency information to the public. Based on survey data shared with the FCC, most people reported successful receipt of the WEA test message, with several news reports noting the success of the nationwide test to reach the public.

The test also highlighted areas where WEA delivery can be improved, such as ensuring more delivery that is consistent, reducing duplicate messages, and resolving issues concerning alert message audio tone and vibration cadence.

With respect to EAS, the nationwide test also demonstrated that IPAWS continues to deliver high-quality, effective and accessible EAS alerts, and that EAS participants' *results are comparable to 2017* performance levels, with continued improvement in several areas.

A majority (58.7%) received the test alert first via IPAWS compared with 41.9% in 2017.

The test found a similar rate of both successfully receiving and retransmitting the test alert, 95.7% receipt compared with 95.8% in 2017, and 92.1% retransmission compared with 91.9% in 2017.

The rates of receiving and retransmitting the test alert in both English and Spanish increased — up from 2017 by 388% for receiving the alert and by 350% for retransmitting the alert.

There was a decline in audio issues reported as an explanation for complications in receipt and retransmission — down to 68 explanations from 1,056 explanations provided in 2017. There were slightly higher rates of configuring equipment to monitor IPAWS, 96.8% compared with 96.7% in 2017.

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The report provides information on areas for improvement regarding technical and operational performance. The report also includes recommended next steps for all participants and the FCC.

The full report is at https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-356902A1.pdf .

- Ohio Section Postscript, April 14, 2019

REGISTRATION OPENS FOR USA ARDF CHAMPIONSHIPS

Registration is now open for the 2019 USA and IARU Region 2 Championships of Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF), set for August 1 - 4. Competition venues will be near Raleigh, North Carolina.

"The USA ARDF Championships are an ideal opportunity to watch and learn from the best radio-orienteers in the US and from around the world, because visiting competitors from numerous other countries are expected to attend," said ARRL ARDF Coordinator Joe Moell, K0OV. "Winners who qualify by citizenship or residence may be selected for positions on ARDF Team USA, which will travel to Serbia for the 2020 ARDF World Championships."

Thursday, August 1, will be devoted to the foxoring championship. Foxoring is a combination of radio direction finding and classic orienteering. Friday morning will be the sprint, a short course with 12-second fox transmissions instead of the usual 60 seconds each, followed by a model event for equipment testing and a competitor briefing.

Classic 2-meter and 80-meter competitions will take place Saturday and Sunday, respectively. An awards banquet on Saturday evening will include presentation of medals for foxoring, sprint, and 2-meter classic events; awards for 80-meter classic will be given out on Sunday afternoon immediately after the competition.

Members of the Backwoods Orienteering Klub (BOK) will organize the 2019 USA and IARU Region 2 Championships. The International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) sets ARDF Championship rules. For scoring and awards, participants are divided into 11 age/gender categories.

The USA ARDF Championships are open to anyone who can safely navigate the woods by themselves. A ham radio license is not required. Each participant competes as an individual -- any teamwork or GPS use is forbidden.

Information bulletin #2 contains the complete schedule, technical details, lodging, T-shirts, fees, rule variations, and more. Bulletins and links for online registration are on the event web page on the BOK site. An email reflector is available for Q&A with the organizers as well as for coordinating transportation and arranging equipment loans.

Basic information on international-style transmitter hunting is on the "Homing In" radio direction finding website. Read more. -- *Thanks to Joe Moell, K0OV*

- ARRL Letter, April 18, 2019

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THREE BIRDS CONSTELLATION CUBESATS DELIVERED TO ISS FOR ORBITAL DEPLOYMENT

A Cygnus resupply mission to the International Space Station (ISS) on April 11 also delivered three CubeSats of the BIRDS-3 constellation and three other CubeSats. The BIRDS-3 constellation is a project of students at the Kyushu Institute of Technology. The additional CubeSats include Swiatowid, KrakSat, and EntrySat.

All BIRDS-3 CubeSats are of the same design and have been coordinated to operate on a common downlink frequency of 435.375 MHz. Each will transmit a CW beacon and 9.6 k GMSK telemetry. The CubeSat deployer in the ISS Kibo module will deploy the BIRDS-3 CubeSats at a later date.

The BIRDS-3 constellation includes CubeSats from three countries: They are Nepal's first satellite, NepaliSat-1; Uguisu from Japan, and Sri Lanka's first satellite, Raavana-1. The primary mission of the BIRDS constellation is to provide ciphered short messages via its 435.375 MHz beacon, giving the opportunity for the Amateur Radio community to decipher the messages using a publicly available key on the BIRDS-3 website. Operators able to successfully decipher the message will be recognized on the BIRDS-3 website and receive a BIRDS-3 QSL card.

In addition to their primary mission, BIRDS-3 CubeSats will conduct remote data collection based on low-powered LoRa modulation to demonstrate remote data collection and processing aboard a CubeSat to, for example, monitor water levels in flood-prone areas. The LoRa remote station will operate at 433 MHz for Sri Lanka and Nepal and at 920 MHz for Japan. Data collected will be posted on the BIRDS-3 website. Radio amateurs contributing to receiving the processed data will receive a QSL card showing the nature of data collected.

Swiatowid will carry a V/U transponder, with an FM voice uplink at 436.000 MHz and downlink at 145.850. EntrySat will carry an Amateur Radio FM relay with a downlink of 436.950 (uplink not available). Read more. -- Thanks to AMSAT News Service

- ARRL Letter, April 25, 2019

OPERATING: THE UPSIDE OF REMOTE CONTROL

If you've ever worked Hal Offutt, W1NN, in a contest and thought he was in Ohio, the more likely possibility is that he was in Japan (he is also 7J1AAI), operating his station in Ohio remotely via the internet. A philosophical debate continues as to whether operating a station from one place (e.g., Japan) that is physically in another (e.g., Ohio) is *really* Amateur Radio. We'll leave that for the reflector pundits to resolve among themselves. Fact is, the ability to remotely control a distant station is not all that new, and it's gaining in popularity, with remotely controlled, specially sited contest stations now available on a rental basis.

Some hams have done it over the POTS (plain old telephone service) or a cell phone in years past, but the typical arrangement these days is via the internet, and some very sophisticated hardware and software (it takes a combination of both) has been cobbled together to make it work.

In his "Remote Contesting" column in the November/December 2018 issue of *NCJ*, Mark Aaker, K6UFO, notes: "Remotely operated contest stations are appearing in greater numbers with each passing contest." Aaker said he's noticed four effects of remote stations on contesting: 1. Remote stations are being used to win, and place highly, in major contests; 2. Remote stations provide valuable contacts and multipliers for other contest participants; 3. Remote stations are allowing operators to get on the air who might otherwise not be able to participate, and 4. Remote stations are developing technology that's useful for all station builders. W1NN explained how it works for him.

Hal Offutt, W1NN, at his remote station control point in Tokyo. [Hal Offutt, W1NN, photo]

"Like most Tokyo residents, I live in an apartment where it is not practical to put up a ham antenna," he told *NCJ*. "For much of the contest season I was off the air, missing contests that I had come to like. Dan, WA6URY, helped me through the process of setting up a remote station. I made my first contacts from Japan via my Ohio station in the winter of 2011, so I have been at this now for 7 years. My station in Ohio is quite modest, but it is a lot better than having no station, and [operating remotely] allows me to contest as much as I want while in Japan."

-ARRL Letter, April 25, 2019

WORLD SCOUT JAMBOREE GEARING UP FOR SIGNIFICANT AMATEUR RADIO PRESENCE

Amateur Radio will be a part of this summer's 24th World Scout Jamboree in West Virginia, the first World Jamboree held in North America since 1983. The Jamboree has chosen the theme "Unlock a New World." Thousands of Scouts and Scout leaders from some 200 countries are expected to attend. The Jamboree's Amateur Radio Exhibit will use the call sign NA1WJ -- **N**orth **A**merica's **1**st **W**orld **J**amboree. It will be on the air during the event, July 22 until August 2, at the Summit Bechtel Reserve, hosted by Canada, Mexico, and the US. Amateur Radio testing is expected to begin as early as July 14. Operating frequencies will be posted in real time via Facebook and Twitter or via an NA1WJ email group.

"The goals of the Amateur Radio station at the World Scout Jamboree are to introduce Amateur Radio to Scouts and Scout leaders through hands-on participation in two-way communication with other stations across the globe. This activity will also serve as the Amateur Radio voice of the Jamboree," the World Scout Jamboree Amateur Radio Exhibit Operational Vision document states. Other facets of Amateur Radio at the Jamboree will include Amateur Radio direction finding (ARDF), Amateur Radio satellite contacts, and a scheduled Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) contact with an ISS crew member.

"We also expect to launch one or two balloons with Amateur Radio payloads and track them as they cross the Atlantic," the vision document continues.

Next Meeting: May 20, 2019 at the at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

Organizers are encouraging radio amateurs around the globe to get on the air during the World Jamboree to help NA1WJ demonstrate Amateur Radio for Jamboree visitors.

The 2019 World Scout Jamboree operation at the Summit Bechtel Scout Reserve will take advantage of lessons learned by the K2BSA Amateur Radio operation during the 2013 and 2017 USA National Jamborees. It will also take advantage of the existing infrastructure, which includes three VHF/UHF repeaters installed by Icom America, as well as the utility poles for installing antennas. K2BSA ham gear stored in West Virginia includes antennas, rotators, and cables.

Evening operation from NA1WJ will involve at least two operators using the buddy system. VHF/UHF repeaters will offer full coverage of the Jamboree area via handheld transceivers, facilitating networking as well as emergency communication. The exhibit will include an Amateur Radio station with the special event call sign W8J.

The demonstration station will include multiple operating positions offering a variety of modes. These include six stations with 100 W HF transceivers, computer logging software, and large screen computer displays; two VHF/UHF stations for demonstrations and repeater monitoring, and two satellite communication systems. The antenna farm will include two HF directional antennas, three HF dipoles, three HF vertical antennas, VHF/UHF verticals and satellite antennas with azimuth and elevation control, a trailer-based crank-up tower, a five-band Yagi, a 40-meter rotatable dipole, and a 6-meter Yagi.

Each station will be able to accommodate four participants at a time, plus one control operator. The goal is to give each participant up to about 10 minutes of operating time.

The K2BSA Amateur Radio Association will host a "Radio Scouting" booth at Dayton Hamvention® (Booth 2205 in Building 2).

-ARRL Letter, May 2, 2019

MEET THE AUTHOR AT THE ARRL NATIONAL CONVENTION

ARRL will present a “Meet the Author” area at the 2019 ARRL National Convention at Hamvention® May 17 – 19 in Xenia, Ohio. This is an opportunity for visitors to speak with the radio amateurs who are inspiring today’s experimenters, operators, and innovators. A schedule will be posted in the ARRL exhibit area to meet these authors and editors:

- Bob Bruninga, WB4APR, author of ARRL’s new book ***Energy Choices for the Radio Amateur***.
- Glen Popiel, KW5GP, author of ***Arduino for Ham Radio***, ***More Arduino Projects for Ham Radio***, and ***High Speed Multimedia for Amateur Radio***.
- Ward Silver, N0AX, lead editor for ***The ARRL Handbook*** and ***The ARRL Antenna Book***, and author of ***Grounding and Bonding for the Radio Amateur***, ***ARRL’s Hands-On Radio Experiments***, and **ARRL License Manuals**.

Next Meeting: May 20, 2019 at the at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

- Dr. Scott Wright, K0MD, editor of ***NCJ***, ARRL's premiere contesting journal.
- Bob Allison, WB1GCM, ARRL Lab Product Review and author of ***Amateur Radio Transceiver Performance Testing***.

Books will be available for purchase within the ARRL exhibit area for authors to autograph. In addition to the Meet the Authors area, ARRL National Convention exhibits and activities will include QSL card checking for ARRL award programs, the opportunity to have your handheld transceiver checked for spurious emissions, and much more.

ARRL exhibits will be located in Building 2 of the Greene County Fairgrounds and Expo Center. Visit the **ARRL National Convention** and **Hamvention** websites for a complete convention rundown.

- Ohio Section Postscript April 29, 2019

OHIO STATEWIDE COURTHOUSES ON THE AIR SPECIAL EVENT, AUGUST 24, 2019

Event Background

Last year there was the Ohio Covered Bridge Special Event that was led by John Levo, W8KIW Editor of the Highland ARC's Monday Morning Memo. Several clubs participated and was a complete success. Additionally, there were several folks interested in Ham Radio at the event who have now become new Hams. Yes, anytime there is a public event resulting in a gain to the Ham Radio community, it is a total success. This year in keeping with the historical event series, John and the members of the Highland ARC decided to do a special event from their courthouse lawn.

John published an article in the Monday Morning Memo which attracted the attention of Michael Love, WB8YKS Southern Ohio Amateur Radio Association (SOARA) PIO. John and Mike decided that there may be interest in an all-state special event celebrating the courthouses in all of Ohio's 88 counties. Scott Yonally, N8SY Ohio Section Manager thought it was a fantastic idea and requested John and Mike to reach out across the state to determine the level of support for the event. The Ohio Section has 117 affiliated clubs of which 48 are Special Service Clubs and there are 29 PIOs. There may not be a club listed in each county by address, but we do have Hams in each county.

Promoting Ham Radio

This may be a first for the ARRL and the Ohio Section. This event has all the opportunities for a FUNFILLED family day engaging the public and our government officials. Additionally, one county's club is partnering with their county commissioners, historical society, EMA, sheriff's office, public library, chamber of commerce, and news media. The club has decided to use a large tent as the event will take place rain or shine. Their PIO will make handouts available about ham radio and promoting the ARRL, ARES, RACES, Ohio Section and their local club. A special focus will be made to spotlight the public awareness of the hobby and the

benefits of a Ham radio license, emergency and community service. The public will be invited to talk on the radios under the direct supervision of a licensed operator. Several clubs plan to provide contact QSL cards and/or certificates to capture this historical event.

Fun for Everyone

There may be some folks dressed in period costumes providing history about their courthouse and the early days in their county. Moreover, one club has requested, August 24, 2019, to be declared as Ham Radio Day in their county, and their county commissioners have approved it.

Event Details

Yes, we are excited and hopefully you are as well, about participating in this historical Ohio Courthouses on the Air Special Event. We are requesting ALL Ohio Clubs and Hams to consider supporting this special event. The event will take place on, Saturday, August 24, 2019, from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. However, the hours can be extended by each club. Additionally, each club will determine the frequencies and modes they will use.

Another opportunity presents itself as the Ohio QSO Party www.ohqp.org is also on the air, Saturday, August 24th. Therefore, these two events will complement each other providing contacts not only from within Ohio but across the country. All Hams are invited to participate.

Staying in Touch

Please inform the listed contacts that your club will be participating, and the name of the county represented. Additionally, there will be updates provided in the *Monday Morning Memo*, the *PostScript*, *Ohio Section Journal*, and www.arrl-ohio.org.

Contact for additional information:

Michael Love, WB8YKS

John Levo, W8KIW

- Ohio Section Postscript April 29, 2019

CLASS AND EXAM NEWS

The last exam of the 2019 Spring season was held in Thesken Hall on May 8. Ten VEs served nine applicants to whom 15 exam elements were administered. The 15 elements consisted of Element 2 (7 administered and 4 passing), Element 3 (7 administered and 4 passing), and Element 4 (1 administered and none passing). At evening's end, there were 3 new Technicians, 1 new General, and 3 General upgrades.

Our first exam of the Fall season, will be offered August 24 in the Fairfield Township Administration building, 6032 Morris Road, Hamilton, OH.

Exam announcements appear on the ARRL page http://www.arrl.org/find-an-amateur-radio-license-exam-session and the Laurel Amateur Radio Club's web page http://www.laurelvec.com/?pg=exams .

- Carl, K8CM

AN INVITATION FROM THE WEST CHESTER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, WC8VOA:

Greetings Butler County Hams,

Mark your calendar for Thursday June 6th. The West Chester Amateur Radio Club would like to invite all Butler County HAM clubs to our next monthly program meeting. The meeting is all about "Bonding and Grounding" The seminar will be held at the VOA facility. Our special guest speaker is "Walt Silver, N0AX" Walt is the author of ARRL's training book on Bonding & Grounding. He will be joining us via a Skype presentation.

Where: Voice of America Museum, 8070 Tylersville Rd, 7:00pm, Thursday June 6th

See you there or maybe at our HamVention booth

Mark Haverkos, KE8CIE
WC8VOA Treasurer

Walt's Bio from QRZ:

I was first licensed at age 16 in 1972 as WNØGQP, primarily Elmered by WBØDYV, now KJ7PC, then upgraded to Extra and NØAX in 1975. Ham radio led directly to electrical engineering studies at Univ of MO – Rolla (now the MO Univ of Science and Technology, radio club WØEEE) and a BSEE degree in 1978. I spent the next 20-something years in field and product development engineering.

In 1983 I moved to the Seattle area (specifically, Vashon Island NA-065/WA-060S) and after my twin boys grew up to allow some personal time again, started putting up antennas and getting on the air more regularly in the late 1980s. About that time, I discovered the Western Washington DX Club (**www.wwdxc.org**) and found a community of like-minded operators with a pretty good sense of humor about ham radio. You have to have a good sense of humor if you're going to be active on HF from the Pacific Northwest! In 2010, I returned to the St Louis area and now live in St Charles' "Midtown" neighborhood a few blocks from the Missouri River.

During the 1990s I became more active in contesting and DXing, eventually appearing in the DXCC Honor Roll, lots of contest Top Ten boxes, and on a few Record lists. I was fortunate to be among the founders of the World Radiosport Team Championships, first held in Seattle in 1990. I continue to support the organization as the Sanctioning Committee Secretary. A few years ago, I joined the YASME Foundation (**www.yasme.org**) as a Board Member, becoming the organization's President in April of 2013, and enjoy extending a helping hand to amateur radio around the world that way, too.

Competitive operating really gets my ham radio juices flowing, whether individually or in teams, operating from stations such as K3LR, HC8N, VE7SV, N7WA, N7BV, KØKL and others. I finally got to go on a Real DX-pedition in 2005 as part of the K7C team's adventure to Kure Atoll and managed not to wreck the boat, even though I was permitted to pilot it more than my experience at sea warranted.

In 2000, I began writing and teaching in earnest, realizing an achievement I never thought possible in my younger days, becoming the Lead Editor for the legendary ***ARRL Handbook*** and the ***ARRL Antenna Book***. I'm also the author and editor of the three ***ARRL License Study Guides*** so I get in a lot of "Elmering" (mentoring) along the way. I've also written ***Ham Radio for Dummies*** in 2004 (now it its second edition), ***Two-Way Radios and***

Scanners for Dummies (2006), and***Circuitbuilding for Dummies*** (2008). I've written a lot for *QST* magazine, including the ***Hands-On Radio*** column, now in its twelfth year with two compilations of columns released in book form. (**www.arrl.org/hands-on-radio**). The ARRL book ***Antenna Modeling for Beginners*** was released in 2012 and has been well-received. I edited the ***ARRL Contest Update*** biweekly newsletter (**www.arrl.org/contest-update-issues**) for 13 years and the ***ARRL Contest Corral* for** 20 years before handing off those duties to N9ADG and AA5B, respectively - thanks, guys!

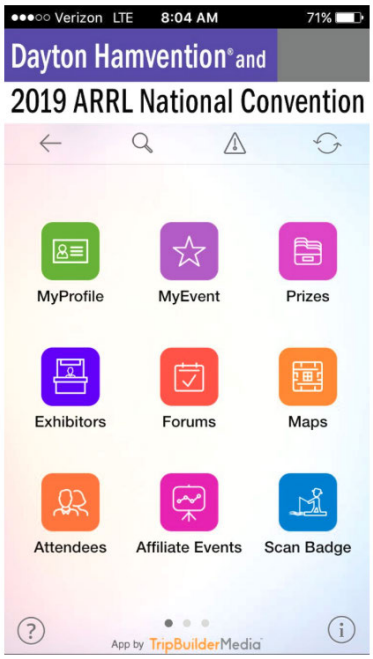
I was honored to receive the second Bill Orr Technical Writing Award (2003) from the ARRL and have a couple of QST cover plaques. This would amaze my high-school English teachers! While my list of publications continues, the best reward, is hearing from readers that have found my writing helpful in understanding some aspect of electronics or radio.

For a bit of fun, I published what will be the first of an infrequent line of ham radio detective novelettes, ***Ray Tracy - Zone of Iniquity***, with a big thanks to Jeff Murray, K1NSS (**www.dashtoons.com**) for some superb graphics and cover art. A second tale of Ray's exploits is in the works but don't hold your breath - it will write itself when it's ready!

During my time on Vashon Island I worked closely with community leaders and the Vashon-Maury Island Radio Club (W7VMI - **www.w7vmi.org**) to provide effective emergency communications. Working together, the fire district, CERT, and radio club members have created one of the best local communications systems in the state of Washington. The club is active in recruiting and Elmering new hams, performing public service, and having a good time on the air, too! I'm now a member of the St Charles Amateur Radio Club WBØHSI (**www.wb0hsi.org**) and active in the ARES Rapid Response Team (RRT). I'm also a founding member of the Mississippi Valley DX and Contest Club (**www.mvdxcc.org**).

A couple of years ago, I received the humbling and unexpected honor of being selected as the Dayton Hamvention's "Amateur of the Year" for 2008. This year (2015) I was completely floored to be inducted into the CQ Contest Hall of Fame (www.cq-amateur-radio.com/cq_awards/cq_hall_of_fame_awards/cq_hall_of_fame_awards.html) along with my good friend and 15 meter K3LR running mate, Doug Grant K1DG.

It is very gratifying to be recognized as having made a contribution to this amazing hobby and service - it's been quite a long journey since finding the May 1966 *QST* in the library! I owe a lot to the friends and readers that have encouraged me to continue to write and provided me with ideas, corrections, and guidance. Ham radio continues to open doors for me and I am honored to enjoy the friendship of my many ham radio friends in every corner of the globe, whether it has corners or not :-)



MOBILE EVENT APP WILL HELP DAYTON HAMVENTION VISITORS TO NAVIGATE THE SHOW

Dayton Hamvention® 2019, host of the ARRL National Convention, will mark the debut of a free mobile event app to help attendees navigate the extensive Hamvention program, activities, and exhibits using their smartphones or tablets. A collaborative effort between ARRL and Dayton Hamvention, the app was developed by **TripBuilder Media**™. ARRL Convention and Event Coordinator Eric Casey, KC2ERC, has been readying the app, with content contributions from Dayton Hamvention Committee members, and he just introduced it in a new ARRL **YouTube video**.

"Our goal is to have all of the printed program content mirrored in the app, organized so that you can schedule the forums you're planning to attend, and find the exhibitors you want to visit," Casey said. In addition to including exhibits and forums, the app will highlight schedules and details for affiliated events, such as dinners and other special gatherings, and a feature to allow

attendees to follow the hourly prize drawings from wherever they are.

"Use the app so you don't miss a winning ticket!" Casey suggested. The Dayton Hamvention Prize Committee will populate the app as winners are drawn.

Attendees are also encouraged to tap on the "MyProfile" icon to optionally include their name and call sign, email address, and any other information they'd like to share with other attendees. "One of the neat features of this app is connecting with other Dayton Hamvention guests who choose to share their contact info," says Casey. "The icon labeled 'Scan Badge' will allow users to scan a QR Code displayed on a second device using the 'MyBadge' icon — instantly connecting your shared contact information with another ham. After all, Dayton Hamvention and the ARRL National Convention is where you meet with other members and friends from this great big world of Amateur Radio."

The free 2019 Dayton Hamvention event app is available for both Apple and Android smart devices. A web-browser version is also available, which is optimized for nearly any browser or other mobile device type. Visit your app store to download the Apple and Android versions (search "Hamvention") or find **links** on the ARRL National Convention web page. If you are reading this article on a mobile device, **click here** to be automatically redirected to the appropriate app store to download the app, or to be redirected to the web browser version. Please email **HamventionApp@arrl.org**with any questions about the app.

Dayton Hamvention 2019 is May 17 – 19 at the Greene County Fairgrounds and Expo Center in Xenia, Ohio.

- Ohio Section Postscript May 13, 2019

ARRL FIELD DAY SITE LOCATOR IS LIVE, PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL AVAILABLE

This 1956 QST cover by Gil Gildemeyer, W1CID (SK), depicts Field Day setup by the legendary Podunk Hollow Amateur Radio Club.

ARRL Field Day is June 22 – 23. See the May issue of *QST*, page 85, for the Field Day announcement. The **Field Day site locator** is now up and running, and so far more than 430 sites already are in the database. To find a Field Day site near you, enter your town and state in the "Location or Call Sign" box at the upper left.

Listings also are available by state or Canadian province.

To add a site, visit the **Add Field Day Station** page. **Information** on promoting Field Day is available. Also, **visit** the Field Day social media page for information on promoting your Field Day operation via Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn, and YouTube.

- Ohio Section Postscript May 13, 2019

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 24, 2019, at the Fairfield Township Administration Building, 6032 Morris Road, Hamilton, OH 45011.

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://apps.fcc.gov/cores/userLogin.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: May 20, 2019 at the 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

President:
Dave Williamson, KD8W
Vice-President:
Carl Morgan, K8CM
Secretary:
Ernie Howard, Jr., W8EH
Treasurer:
Ron Spaulding, N8QF
Activities Manager:
Roy Dalton, N8LRN
Newsletter Editor:
Carl Morgan, K8CM
Webmaster
Tim Murphy, WA8YXY

the prez sez ...

Well, Hamvention is behind us, and we did well as a Club. I hope those of you who attended, picked up the 'items' you were looking for! Field Day 2019 is just around the corner. If you have never done this event, you should plan on getting involved. We always can use help setting up, operating a station, and tearing down. And let's not forget we have a great picnic on Saturday afternoon. If you have not operated a station nor have questions on how to set up a station, then this is an event that can 'open your eyes'!! We have another club meeting on third Monday in June, just before the Field Day event. I invite you to participate!

- Dave, KD8W

MINUTES OF THE APRIL 15, 2019 MEETING

Attendance:

KD8W, N8AA, NN8M, WA8YXY, W8RES, N8ACR, K8WWS, SUE, KC8IZE, BECKY, W8ELI, N8LRN, NR8R, BARBARA, N3LT, KB4JWV, N8HP, N8GGE, N8XQ, W8EH, KC8WOF, N8HRA, N8EH, N8QF, WA8DTU, KC8GMR, K8MTS, K8MRC, KO8F, W8WLM, K8CM, W8ISZ, N8YFQ (33)

Call to Order:

Meeting called to order by Dave KD8W. Dave asked for introductions of those present.

Secretary's Report:

No news. Motion to approve minutes as published by NR8R, second NM8M, passed.

Next Meeting: June 17, 2019 at the 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 reported that the checking balance at the beginning of May was $3,537.40. Income after expenses from Hamvention was $90.91. We have 78 members of 53 families. Motion to approve by N8EH, second by K8CM, approved.

New members- Motion to approve KC8TZW by NR8R, second by N8HP, passed. Motion to approve K8MTS by N8HP, second by N8ACR, passed. Motion to approve N8XQ by N8HP, second NR8R, passed. (Welcome new and returning members)

Classes and Exams:

N8GGE reported an Amateur Extra class will start August 28 for 12 weeks. Spread the word. We will have an exam at the end of the class in November. May exam had good results with new hams and upgrades.

Newsletter:

K8CM said no bounces. Need people to submit stuff for the newsletter.

Website:

WA8YXY added 15 pictures to the web site.

Repeater/Station Report:

OK, working. 147.315 working OK from temporary location.

Activities Report:

N8LRN said we will have pulled pork and other cooked meat for Field Day picnic. Bring a covered dish to share. (Picnic is at 6 pm June 22 at the field day site.) Motion to approve expenses for Field Day by K8CM, second by N8YFQ, approved.

Old Business:

N8QF discussed the insurance for the club trailer. Cost is a factor for ARRL, private insurance limited. Ron previously discussed this with W3GP, and he recommended for us to be self-insured. Ron is ready to transfer the license. Motion by N8DHW, second by N8YFQ to proceed with the transfer without purchasing insurance, passed.

New Business:

Field day committee meeting will be after we adjourn. KO8F volunteered to contact officials for field day.

Announcements:

N8YFQ gave a short report on Hamvention. Said flea market was 88% booked. Hamvention will be back at Xenia next year.

A member is missing a Baofeng UV-3 hand held from Hamvention. If found let us know.

Other new business: N8GGE brought up that we should cover any deductible for a member who is towing the club trailer and might be involved in a crash with it. Motion to approve N8YFQ, second NR8R, passed

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn by N8QF, second by N8HP, passed.

Ernie Howard, W8EH
Secretary

WHAT IS ARRL FIELD DAY?

ARRL Field Day is the single most popular on-the-air event held annually in the US and Canada. On the fourth weekend of June of each year, more than 35,000

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radio amateurs gather with their clubs, groups or simply with friends to operate from remote locations.

Field Day is a picnic, a campout, practice for emergencies, an informal contest and, most of all, FUN!

It is a time where many aspects of Amateur Radio come together to highlight our many roles. While some will treat it as a contest, other groups use the opportunity to practice their emergency response capabilities. It is an excellent opportunity to demonstrate Amateur Radio to the organizations that Amateur Radio might serve in an emergency, as well as the general public. For many clubs, ARRL Field Day is one of the highlights of their annual calendar.

The contest part is simply to contact as many other stations as possible and to learn to operate our radio gear in abnormal situations and less than optimal conditions.

We use these same skills when we help with events such as marathons and bike-a-thons; fund-raisers such as walka-thons; celebrations such as parades; and exhibits at fairs, malls and museums — these are all large, preplanned, non-emergency activities.

But despite the development of very complex, modern communications systems — or maybe because they ARE so complex — ham radio has been called into action again and again to provide communications in crises when it really matters. Amateur Radio people (also called “hams”) are well known for our communications support in real disaster and post-disaster situations.

What is the ARRL? The American Radio Relay League is the national association for Amateur Radio in the USA, representing over 170,000 FCC-licensed Amateurs. The ARRL is the primary source of information about what is going on in ham radio. It provides books, news, support and information for individuals and clubs, special events, continuing education classes and other benefits for its members.

What is Amateur Radio Often called “ham radio,” the Amateur Radio Service has been around for a century. In that time, it’s grown into a worldwide community of licensed operators using the airwaves with every conceivable means of communications technology. Its people range in age from youngsters to grandparents. Even rocket scientists and a rock star or two are in the ham ranks. Most, however, are just normal folks like you and me who enjoy learning and being able to transmit voice, data and pictures through the air to unusual places, both near and far, without depending on commercial systems.

The Amateur Radio frequencies are the last remaining place in the usable radio spectrum where you as an individual can develop and experiment with wireless communications. Hams not only can make and modify their equipment, but can create whole new ways to do things.

For More Information visit: www.arrl.org.

American Radio Relay League

A NEW 'ANTENNA'!

Last month, I presented an option for an antenna as an inverted-Vee 20m dipole. This month, I present some interesting characteristics according to the antenna modeling program I use called 4Nec2. You have heard other hams say, get your antenna up as high as you can! Look at the short table below, specifically the 'RadEff' or Radiation Eff% column. Look at the big jump from 10 to 20 ft high. This increase is fairly significant. On this band (20m) at least, assuming a 'real-average ground', we gain a lot by just getting up a little higher. The antenna efficiency is high, but the radiation efficiency is significant with height. The other thing to observe is no antenna puts out 100% efficiency. If you keep plotting this as elevation rises, you reach a

point of optimum height. It is NOT all about SWR! Download the 4Nec2 software (Its free!) and read the documentation that goes with it. It will help you a lot!!

apex(ft)	SWR	AntEff	RadEff	Ra	jXa	Curr
10	1.27	94.51	46.06	62.3	4.83	1.26
15	1.51	95.44	64.52	74.9	3.99	1.15
20	1.71	95.99	72.23	84.7	-5.53	1.08
25	1.81	96.04	74.24	85.1	-17.7	1.06

KD8W, Dave

FCC CHAIRMAN PROPOSES CALL BLOCKING BY DEFAULT TO COMBAT ROBOCALLS

FCC Chair Ajit Pai is proposing action to help consumers block unwanted robocalls. He has circulated a declaratory ruling that, if adopted, would allow phone companies to block unwanted calls to their customers by default. In addition, companies could allow consumers to block calls not on their own contacts lists. A draft *Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* would propose a safe harbor for providers that implement network-wide blocking of calls that fail caller authentication under the SHAKEN/STIR framework, once it is implemented.

FCC Chair Ajit Pai.

"Allowing call blocking by default could be a big benefit for consumers who are sick and tired of robocalls," Pai said. "By making it clear that such call blocking is allowed, the FCC will give voice service providers the legal certainty they need to block unwanted calls from the outset." Pai encouraged carriers to start providing these services free of charge and by default to current and future customers.

According to an FCC news release, many voice providers have held off developing and deploying call-blocking tools by default because of uncertainty about whether these tools are legal. "Allowing default call blocking by voice providers could significantly increase development and consumer adoption of such tools," the FCC said. "This blocking could be based on analytics and consumer 'white lists.' Similar analytics are currently used by third-party developers in call-blocking apps." The FCC said consumer white lists could be based on a customer's own contacts list.

Pai also proposed seeking public comment on how caller ID authentication standards, known as SHAKEN/STIR, can inform call blocking. He has demanded that carriers adopt these standards to combat malicious spoofing. This system of signing calls as legitimate as they pass through the phone networks may be useful for call-blocking tools, the FCC said.

The May 15 action would mark the first by the FCC to directly combat robocalls that spoof legitimate, in-service numbers. This follows adoption of new rules in 2017, which allowed blocking of calls before they reach consumers when they are highly likely to be illegitimate. "These calls might appear to come from nonexistent area codes or from numbers on the Do Not Originate list that do not make outbound calls -- like the FCC's own

consumer help line, which was added to the list following scam calls that spoofed the agency's 888-CALL-FCC number," the Commission said.

The FCC will consider these measures at its June 6 open meeting.

- ARRL Letter, May 16, 2019

DAYTON HAMVENTION ATTRACTS A HAPPY CROWD

Dayton Hamvention®, hosting the 2019 ARRL National Convention, chalked up its third year at its new venue, the Greene County Fairgrounds and Expo Center in Xenia, Ohio. Amateur Radio's largest annual gathering took place May 17 - 19. Hamvention officials have not yet released a 2019 attendance figure, but last year's show drew 28,417 -- the third largest attendance ever. For many hams, Hamvention offers an opportunity each spring to renew old acquaintances and make new ones, and for manufacturers to debut their latest and greatest gear.

"These were some of the biggest crowds I've seen since Dayton Hamvention relocated to Xenia," ARRL Product Development Manager Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R, said.

Hamvention visitors enjoyed largely comfortable weather, with some drizzle on opening day. By all accounts, the crowd was animated and amiable. This year marked the first that Hamvention offered free Sunday admission.

"Dayton Hamvention 2019 was a fantastic event and was a great setting for the ARRL National Convention," said ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR. "Thank you to everyone for stopping by the ARRL exhibit area to visit with ARRL officials, staff, and volunteers. It's always a pleasure to be able to have a face-to-face QSO with everyone. Isn't ham radio great? The greatest hobby in the world!"

ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR.

A free ARRL/Dayton Hamvention mobile event app helped visitors navigate the landscape of exhibitors and forums. Attendees also used the app to follow the hourly prize drawings, connect with other visitors, and view maps of the sprawling fairgrounds. The new app got a positive reception.

The Nashua (New Hampshire) Area Radio Society (NARS) -- the 2019 Dayton Hamvention Club of the Year -- led the "ARRL Spotlight on Radio Clubs and Mentoring" forum. NARS members described the ways the club builds and maintains a strong and active membership through its website, licensing classes, and programs that fit members' schedules. The success rate for licensing classes is 93%, and the club retains 70% of active members. Instructors from the ARRL Education & Technology Program shared resources available for introducing radio science and wireless technology.

Next Meeting: June 17, 2019 at the at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

In step with the shared ARRL Convention-Hamvention theme, "Mentoring the Next Generation," the 2019 Youth Forum moderated by Carole Perry, WB2MGP, drew attendees of all ages.

It was standing room only at Saturday's ARRL Member Forum, which featured a panel of ARRL Board members with ARRL Great Lakes Division Director Dale Williams, WA8EFK, moderating. Pacific Division Director Jim Tiemstra, K6JAT, who chairs the Legislative Advocacy Committee, addressed the Board's decision to hit the pause button on the Amateur Radio Parity Act. He said the Board intends to renew efforts to get a bill passed and will craft a new strategy to make that happen.

ARRL CEO Howard Michel, WB2ITX, addresses the ARRL Member Forum. [Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R, photo]

Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, discusses the new Volunteer Monitor Program. [Allison McLellan photo]

President Roderick and CEO Howard Michel, WB2ITX, stressed the need to attract more Technician licensees into ARRL. Roderick challenged forum attendees to make sure their clubs are welcoming newcomers and helping them to get active and engaged as radio amateurs. At Michel's "Engaging Today's Radio Amateur" presentation, audience members expressed support for the new directions Michel is taking ARRL in terms of delivering more value to members.

Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, headed up a Sunday forum on ARRL's new Volunteer Monitor Program. Hollingsworth explained how the program evolved out of an FCC request. Hollingsworth explained that he polled FCC District Directors to see which areas of the US needed the most attention. He said that's where most Volunteer Monitors will be deployed.

ARRL's Public Service Communications Panel Discussion drew a large crowd of Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) members and other active volunteers.

Audience members expressed constructive concerns over the new ARES Plan and with reinforcing Amateur Radio recognition nationwide.

"ARRL's big team included 118 members supporting exhibits, activities, and presentations to help all radio amateurs become more active, involved, and engaged," Inderbitzen said. "Together we helped represent the very best of our Amateur Radio Service and ARRL."

At a Thursday Donors' Reception, President Roderick presented the National Convention recognition award to Hamvention Chairman Jack Gerbs, WB8SCT, and

Dayton Amateur Radio Association (DARA) President (and past Hamvention General Chair) Ron Cramer, KD8ENJ.

- ARRL Letter, May 23, 2019

HAMVENTION 2019

"Camp" site & building crew at work WA8YXY

Skeleton taking shape NR8R

Ready for "lookers" and "buyers" WA8YXY

The "Crew" WA8YXY

Tally Time WA8YXY

Next Meeting: June 17, 2019 at the at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH
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Break time! *N8YFQ*

CLASS AND EXAM NEWS

Next exam will be hosted by the BCARA and be available on Saturday, August 24, in the Fairfield Township Administration building, 6032 Morris Road, Hamilton, OH.

Next DIAL-sponsored class will prepare a candidate for the Amateur Extra class license exam. Beginning August 28, this class will meet 6-9 pm for 12 weeks cumulating in an examination on the evening of November 20, 2019. Interested persons should have the General class license at the beginning of instruction.

Exam announcements appear on the ARRL page http://www.arrl.org/find-an-amateur-radio-license-exam-session and the Laurel Amateur Radio Club's web page http://www.laurelvec.com/?pg=exams .

Carl, K8CM

Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious People. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other.
- John Adams

Next Meeting: June 17, 2019 at the 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 24, 2019, at the Fairfield Township Administration Building, 6032 Morris Road, Hamilton, OH 45011.

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://apps.fcc.gov/cores/userLogin.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: June 17, 2019 at the 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

President:
Dave Williamson, KD8W
Vice-President:
Carl Morgan, K8CM
Secretary:
Ernie Howard, Jr., W8EH
Treasurer:
Ron Spaulding, N8QF
Activities Manager:
Roy Dalton, N8LRN
Newsletter Editor:
Carl Morgan, K8CM
Webmaster
Tim Murphy, WA8YXY

the prez sez ...

Well, Field Day was a success for us. We planned for bad weather, and it turned out we lucked out, with NO RAIN!! I have not heard the preliminary results yet, but we did some new things this year and it worked out for us for the most part. Thanks to all who participated, helped setup and tear down and operate the stations!

The ARRL website will give you access to the contest calendar which includes non-ARRL contests. Have a look and see if you would like to try one. There are contests for all modes. You can participate in any of them and you do not have to be in competition mode. Relax and just enjoy doing one. You gain the experience of operating and you may just get 'hooked' on one or two.

I just did the RAC (Canada Day) contest on July 1. I didn't have a lot of time to operate, and I just did S&P(Search n Pounce) for Canada stations only(after all its their contest!). I got 63. Even got on 15m for some of them.

Get Active!!

- Dave, KD8W

MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 21, 2019 MEETING

Attendance:

W8EH, N8EH, N8QF, N8HRA, KC8GMR, K8MRC, W8ISZ, N8AA, N8YFQ, NR8R, Barbara, K8WWS, Sue, K8CM, W8WLM, W8RES, KD8W, WA8YXY, K8EWG, N8XQ, KO8F, N8NMB, N8GGE, N8HP, N8LRN, K8DSS, K8MTS, NN8M.

Call to Order:

Meeting called to order by KD8W at 7pm.

Next Meeting July 15, 2019 at the at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

Secretary's Report:

Motion by N8YFQ, second NN8M to approve the May minutes as published in the newsletter, passed.

Treasurer's Report:

Ron, N8QF gave the May treasurer's report. 82 members, 56 families. Checking $3,968.91. Motion by N8EH, second NR8R to approve, passed. Ron reported an additional contribution from Hamvention bring the net income to $105.91. Ron reported that the club trailer license was transferred and will expire January 31, 2020. Ron discussed the Amazon Smile program where Amazon customers can sign up and donations of 0.5% can be received by the club. Motion to sign up by N8HP, second by K8EWG, approved.

Classes and Exams:

N8GGE reported that the fall class session will be for the Extra Class license. It will start in August. Carl reported our next Middletown exam will be in November. There will be an exam in Hamilton August 28th.

Newsletter:

K8CM reports no problems.

Website:

WA8YXY reported the web page is up to date.

Repeater/Station Report:

W8EH reports everything working. The new 147.315 site is still in the works. DMR repeater had to be rebooted as it lost connection to the cBridge.

Activities Report:

There was some stuff in the club trailer left over from Hamvention. Field day is next weekend. N8LRN reports there will be burgers, dogs and pulled pork. Gordon is helping cook. Bring a covered dish.
Field day setup will start Friday about noon. Operation starts Saturday at 2 and we need ops to be there. There will be a FD meeting after business meeting. W8EH reported that we will have FT8 digital capability.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

None

Announcements:

Brian KO8F reported that he talked to Lori and Don is home doing better.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn by N8QF, second by N8YFQ, passed.

Ernie Howard, W8EH
Secretary

Next Meeting July 15, 2019 at the at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH
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FIELD DAY 2019 IMPRESSIONS BY BARNEY TAYLOR, N8HP

We (N8GGE & I) arrived at Smith Park about noon. Ernie, W8EH, had already arrived with his camper. We parked behind him. Bob, NN8M, arrived with his camper and parked behind N8HP. Roy, N8LRN, arrived on Saturday morning and set up in front of Ernie.

By noon, Dave, KD8W, and a few others were already setting up the shelter for the CW station. More folks arrived and before 2:00 all four shelters were set up along with the two dining canopies used at Hamvention. We sat around waiting for 2:00 pm when we could start erecting antennas. Once 2:00 pm arrived we were very busy – sometimes in twos or threes and other times in larger groups. A large collection of antennas were erected. Those who contributed antennas were (to the best of my ability to remember): 75 meter Double Bazooka (SSB, N8AA); 40 meter full size vertical (CW, N8AA); 6 meter Squalo (FT-8, N8HP); 10-15-20 meter rotatable dipole (CW, Dial); second 10-15-20 meter rotatable dipole (SSB, KD8W); 80 meter Double Bazooka (CW, N8AA), 40 meter horizontal loop (SSB, N8HP); The last to go up was the 40 meter loop which was installed about 6:00 am on Saturday. Both of the Double Bazooka antennas had to be repaired due to a broken wire at the insulator. Dave, KD8W, checked the resonance of all of the antennas using his new vector antenna analyzer that could show a graph of the SWR for each antenna. Dave, N8YFQ, ran the Ethernet cables needed for networking.

Brian tuning up photo by W8LKU

The HF stations were Icom IC-7300's contributed by N8AA, W8EH, N8HP. The two SSB stations were set up for SSB, FT-8, and CW at the operator's choice. The CW guys didn't want "no stinkin' microphone in their tent" – as expected. Setup of the HF stations got underway about 9:00 am on Saturday with N8HP setting up the radio and computer for three stations. W8EH completed the setup of the 20/80 meter SSB station. KD8W, N8AA, and K8DSS finished the setup of the CW station. N8HP completed the setup of the 40 meter SSB station. W8ISZ was lead on the GOTA station. W8EH set up the Kenwood TS-2000 (provided by Steve, KC8NHP) for 6 meter FT-8 in the same shelter as the 20 meter SSB station. Jim, W8ISZ, and Dave, N8YFQ set up the Club's Kenwood TS-850 for GOTA use. Jerry, W8LR, brought a brand new satellite station with an Icom IC-9100, Yaesu Alt-Az rotor, new 2 meter and 440 beams along with two coils of coax. W8LR shared the GOTA shelter.

WA8YXY planning approach photo by NR8R

At 2:00 pm the contest started. N8AA was at the helm of the CW station, NN8M at the 40 meter SSB and KO8F at the 20 meter station. CW contacts started to roll in. I was with NN8M, who was running 'Search and Pounce' (where you answer someone calling CQ). Bob was having trouble getting a reply – which is normal during the start of a contest. I helped him to change over to FT-8 and he started trying to make contacts. We were seeing all kinds of signals on the waterfall display but were not decoding any. We determined that the clock was not set properly (we thought it should be 'automagic').

FT-8 requires a very accurate clock in order to operate. The time should be within one or two tenths of a second of the international time standards. At home the internet is used to keep the computer's clock set. Ernie, W8EH, had a GPS receiver with a USB interface and some software to allow one computer to keep its clock accurate. The logging program by N1MM uses one computer to set the clock on the other computers. The GPS clock was installed on the CW computer, and that computer was set to 'Master'. We 'ASS-U-ME-d' that all three computers would have perfect time for the entire contest.

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Once the contest started, we learned that something went wrong with the GPS clock's software. The other computers would not set to the Master's time. Worse, the CW computer's clock ran extremely slow causing the computer to be slow to respond. As a result the number of 'Dups' (duplicate contacts with a given station) was much higher than usual for the CW results.

In the end, either WWV or CHU was used to set the computer's clock when using FT-8. After a couple of tries, the clock was close enough to make FT-8 contacts on 40 meters. I left NN8M clicking contacts into the log.

The GOTA tent was active and W8LR was waiting for his first satellite to pass within range. ... Things continued until the Club Picnic at 6:00 pm. Everyone broke to eat except for the CW operator. The picnic was very nice with about 35 people present. There was plenty of food and drink for all. The Club provided hamburgers, hotdogs cooked by the grill master Gordon, KC8GMR. Pulled pork for sandwiches was also provided by Dial. Attendees brought a wide variety of side dishes that were very well received as indicated by the empty containers. A few desert items and some snack items were left for the overnight gang after the picnic cleanup. Several people that normally attend the Picnic were absent and they were missed.

Saturday night picnic *photo by NR8R*

Operators changed throughout the day and early evening. FT-8 seemed to be doing quite well: NN8M and others on 40 meters and W8EH and KD8CPV on 6 meters were making contacts. 20 meter SSB was slow and only 4 SSB contacts had been logged on 40 meters by 10:00 pm on Saturday. However, the number of FT-8 contacts generated the same number of points as about 200 SSB contacts. The CW guys were chugging out contacts as usual. Since I had been active since 5:30 am, I went to bed early.

I awoke and went outside a bit after 3:00 am. KD8W was operating CW and having problems getting replies. We found an antenna issue and he was off and running on 80 meter CW. W8LR was still working satellite passes. KD8CPV was still operating on 20 meters and N8LRN was expected for a late night shift on the GOTA station. I returned to bed...

On Sunday morning Roy, N8LRN, cooked bacon and eggs that were eaten as BLT breakfast sandwiches. W8EH was working 40 meter SSB. He moved over to the 20 meter station citing difficult getting responses. People that had gone home for the evening returned. All three stations were active during the morning. About noon Roy arrived with Pizza Hut pizza for those present. Stations continued to be active after lunch.

The Chef; Gordon, KC8GMR *photo by NR8R*

The 75 and 80 meter Double Bazooka antennas were taken down after lunch since 80/75 meters is primarily a night-time band. Screening and rain-fly tarps were removed from the shelters. About 1:30 pm the Club's generator ran out of gas – shutting down operations temporarily. The backup generator was pulled from the trailer and started. We were back on the air. Some of the UPS power supplies did not like the backup generator. The computer for the 20 meter station crashed and would not reboot so that station shut down early. At 2:00 the last contacts were logged and the generator was shut down. The stations were disassembled, the antennas taken down, the shelters taken down and snacks were eaten – all before 4:00 pm.

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Many people were present to help with setup and tear down. The extra help was greatly appreciated. The following list will show how bad my memory is as I am certain that I will forget several people: John (N8AA), Dave (KD8W), Ed (K8DSS), Tim (WA8YXY), Mike (W8MRC), Mike (K8MTS), Ernie (W8EH), Barney (N8HP), Jim (W8ISZ), Dave (N8YFQ), Steve (KD8CPV), Bob (NR8R), Bob (NN8M), Brian (KO8F), and Adam (grandson of NR8R).

The tables below show a list of contacts logged in N1MM for K8PI. We encouraged every operator to change to their call (or initials for GOTA), but it did not always happen. I gave K8DSS a short break on the CW station and didn't bother to change operators. When W8EH moved from 40 meters to 20 meters on SSB early Sunday, I worked a few stations before remembering to change to my initials. I'm sure other people operated – such as Eileen, K8EWG, but didn't get listed in the log. The biggest indicator of not listing the operator is the number of contacts by K8PI!

Band	Mode	Operator	Number Of QSOs
15	CW	N8AA	42
20	CW	N8AA	107
20	CW	K8DSS	66
40	CW	N8AA	368
40	CW	K8DSS	107
40	CW	KD8W	46
80	CW	KD8W	82
80	CW	K8DSS	77
80	CW	N8AA	50
6	FT8	KD8CPV	48
6	FT8	W8EH	11
40	FT8	NN8M	148
20	SSB	NR8R	35
20	SSB	KD8CPV	27
20	SSB	KO8F	23
20	SSB	N8YFQ	15
20	SSB	KD8TGE	13
20	SSB	K8PI	10
20	SSB	W8EH	7
20	SSB	ROY	2
40	SSB	W8ISZ	83
40	SSB	KD8CPV	18
40	SSB	N8HP	15
40	SSB	W8EH	15
40	SSB	K8PI	4
SAT	SAT	W8LR	14

The GOTA station was quite active. All contacts were SSB. The coaches were primarily W8ISZ, NR8R, and N8LRN. Kaylee, KD8TGE, made one GOTA contact and encouraged her friend Julia to make more than 30 contacts. Brian KO8F, is credited with 9. Ryan (son of KD8CPV) with 10 contacts; Eli (grandson of W8ELI) made 3 contacts near dark. I acted as his coach. He was very excited to make his first contact. Once he discovered that some sections had not been worked by the GOTA station, he wanted to work a new section. He worked norther New York and was very excited. Roy, N8LRN, is credited with 45 GOTA contacts although some might have been his grandchildren Levi (6) and Elli (8).

Satellite *photo by W8LR*

Relaxation *photo by NR8R*

Sunset on the 6M antenna *photo by KD8CPV*

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TOM'S TOME *Comments from your ARRL Vice-director.*

Repeaters –what they were, what they are, what they never were, and what they might become.

OK. We all know that repeater activity is not what it was twenty or thirty years ago. I had occasion to remember that a few weeks ago when it would have been nice to have someone to talk to. I was in an area with several road closures that popped up. The first one, okay, just take another route. After the second one, I started wondering what else would be closed, and could I get where I wanted to go. The repeater for there is usually quiet (like most) and, no one on to talk to. Maybe someone could have helped, maybe not. Of course I have GPS in the car as well as on my phone. I just noticed that there was no friendly voice to either guide, or even to commiserate.

By the way, for those few people reading this, who think they know the repeater and the situation, don't worry. I'm not pointing fingers.

It happens everywhere. No one is to blame.

Back to the friendly voice. I certainly remember earlier times when any call on a repeater would get an answer, and sometimes even helpful comments. (And some unhelpful, even if genuinely meant, suggestions.)

Automated traffic reporting such as GPS signals are a better way to go.

Generally, that stuff keeps better track of traffic and situations than any of us could. But it's the idea of a response from someone who knows the area, the back routes, and maybe even the situations.

What ever happened to people who monitored their repeaters while they did other tasks? Have other things so taken over our attention that it's no longer important to listen? Of course, if no one talks, there's no one to listen to. Where does it start to get better?

And finally, this. ARRL ran a news story that the WRC has an agenda item asking for the study of the 144-146 MHz portion of the band globally for potential reassignment to Aeronautical Mobile Service. Do we care? That full band is where most of our repeaters are located.

Time to start communicating again?

--73, Tom W8WTD Vice Director, Great Lakes Division

[Further information on this topic may be found on the next page-Ed]

- *Dale's Tales for July '19, June 30, 2019*

TUNING ELECTRICALLY SHORT ANTENNAS FOR FIELD OPERATION

An article,"Tuning Electrically Short Antennas for Field Operation," by two well-known amateurs, appeared in *Microwave Journal*. Authored by *QEX* Editor Kai Siwiak, KE4PT, and award-winning researcher Ulrich Rohde, N1UL, the article points out that both Amateur Radio and military applications exist for 20 W battery-powered radios equipped with whip antennas. "In general, the whip antenna [that] makes the radio portable is not optimized for signal propagation: A whip antenna has no ground return or proper counterpoise," the article notes. "While some users drag a wire of up to 8 meters behind, this is not an ideal solution."

As the article explains, electrically short antennas -- typically 0.1 λ or shorter -- look like a capacitor, with a typical capacitance of 25 pF per meter of length. "At 2 MHz, where the wavelength is 150 meters, an inductor of 84 µH is required for resonance," the article says. But just getting a good VSWR is not all there is to it.

Rohde told ARRL that loading coil placement in a short vertical antenna is critical, and "the greater the elevation of the coil, the better the radiation. He said that "center loading" -- he considers the "best compromise" to be more on the order of two-thirds' loading -- can dramatically affect both the antenna's transmitting and receiving performance, as opposed to base loading, as found with popular so-called screwdriver antennas. Radials of some sort also are essential.

As the article points out, "With center loading, both the radiation resistance and integrated surface are larger, which are better for radiation." Inductors are the lossy components of an antenna tuner, while capacitors "are infinitely better." The authors conclude that, for optimal operation, antenna radials should be 0.25 λ, with one sufficient for tuning, and up to four producing a symmetrical azimuth. "Connecting the HF radio ground to a large metallic object is a good choice," the article said.

Rohde's *al fresco* test stand for short HF antennas. [Photo courtesy of Ulrich Rohde, N1UL]

Ulrich told ARRL that optimizing an antenna in the manner the article describes will produce "significantly better" signal reception, although a short antenna will also have a narrower bandwidth. The objective should not be to get a good VSWR but to keep in mind that there's a difference between resonance and radiation.

"These requirements for optimum antenna performance make HF manpack radios somewhat complicated and unattractive," the authors concede. "Nonetheless, the well matched and radiating antenna provides the most success, and some of these highly portable radios provide vital communications in disaster areas -- recently in Puerto Rico and South Florida."

- ARRL Letter, June 13, 2019

PROPOSED WRC-23 AGENDA ITEMS CAUSING CONCERN

Two proposals under discussion in Europe as possible World Radiocommunication Conference 2023 (WRC-23) agenda items "could impact important Amateur Radio frequencies," IARU reported this week. Included is a proposal from France to consider the 144 - 146 MHz band as a primary allocation to the Aeronautical Mobile service, as part of a broader consideration of spectrum allocated to that service. IARU also cautioned the amateur community against overreacting to the news.

France will submit a paper containing a proposal for an agenda item for "new

non-safety Aeronautical Mobile applications" at the June 17 - 21 Conference Preparatory Group meeting of the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT) in Prague. The 144 - 146 MHz segment is a primary global Amateur and Amateur Satellite allocation. IARU said it "views with grave concern any proposal to include this band in the proposed study" and pledged to "energetically" promote this viewpoint in the appropriate forums "to seek to obtain assurances that the spectrum will remain a primary allocation for the amateur services."

Another proposal has been raised to study the 23-centimeter amateur allocation, 1240 - 1300 MHz, following reports of interference to the Galileo navigation system -- Europe's GPS system. IARU said it's aware of "a handful of cases" of reported interference to the Galileo E6 signal on 1278.750 MHz. According to IARU, joint studies have been carried out to assess the vulnerability of the system and, based on these, it considers the proposal to initiate an Agenda item for WRC-23 premature.

IARU asked its member-societies to "refrain at this time from making speculative public comments about the situation until further progress has been made in regulatory discussions," and said it's ready to discuss the issue with other non-IARU societies.

One European Amateur Radio organization already has called for radio amateurs to "occupy" 2 meters on June 15 for 1 hour in protest of the French proposal.

- ARRL Letter, June 13, 2019

WHERE HAVE ALL THE MAPS GONE? Jeff Kopcak, K8JTK, Ohio Section Technical Coordinator

A lot of ham radio is about location and maps - APRS, repeater locations, grid square, propagation, beacons, satellite, or spotting maps. You may have noticed, starting last year, the quality of maps has degraded or looked different on your favorite website or on your favorite app. You're not going crazy. It's because many of those who developed their map around Google Maps API were forced to make some changes and decisions.

Ohio map – Google Maps

If you're not a programmer, an API stands for Application Programming Interface. APIs are a set of defined tools or commands that can be called allowing for easy communication between different components or systems. If an API is available, they are (supposed to be) well documented and available for anyone to use.

Since the Google Maps service existed, it could be used for free. There were usage limits, but they were artificially high enough were most implementations we not going to hit 25,000 requests/day. If requests exceeded the daily limit, the owner was charged $0.50/additional 1,000 requests up to 100,000 in a 24-hour period. If that maximum was reached per day, it was likely a heavy traffic website and commercial in nature where overages could be supplemented.

Last year, Google reduced the number of free requests to 28,000/**month**, which is the $200 "credit" referred to in their pricing plan. Additionally, it was required of the developer to register for an API key. That key MUST be linked to a credit card even if usage didn't come anywhere near the free credit. Overages are automatically charged to the linked credit card and amount to $7.00 per 1,000 additional requests.

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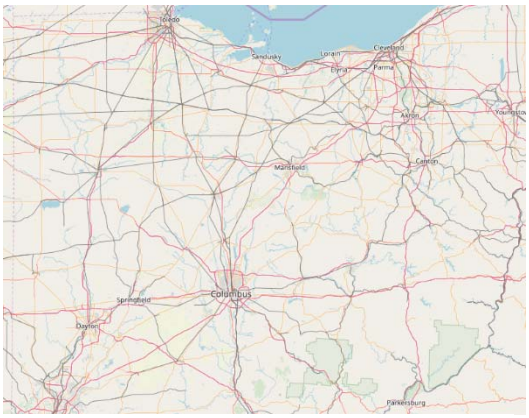
It still sounds like a lot of requests per month, but not when I think about sites I have running in the shack. I can easily refresh sites 10 times while I'm operating. If 2,800 other hams did the same thing, all of a sudden, they've blown through their free credit. This put many free and non-profit developers between a rock and a hard place. Start shelling out for hefty overage fees for access to Google Maps – which was arguably very good, move to an alternative, or close shop.

Commercial sites, which sell products and services or rely on ad revenue, have stayed with Google Maps because they can offset that cost with subscriptions or ads.

Free, non-profit, and programmers doing it for fun have moved to a free and open license alternative called OpenStreetMap. I came across one website that said, "I'm done" citing the price hike and closed their site.

These microservices are provided free (as in beer). They end up not being able to monetize the service so they drastically change it or it's pricing. This is happening quite often in tech and will continue as we rely more and more on other services.



Ohio map – Open Street Map

- Ohio Section Journal, Field Day [2019] Edition

PETITION FOR RULEMAKING ASKS FCC TO CREATE A NEW 8-METER AMATEUR BAND

The FCC has put on public notice for comment a Petition for Rulemaking (RM-11843) that seeks the creation of a new 8-meter Amateur Radio allocation on a secondary basis. The Petition suggests the new band could be centered on an industrial-scientific-medical (ISM) segment somewhere between 40.51 and 40.70 MHz. The spectrum between 40 and 41 MHz is currently allocated to the Federal Government and, as such, within the purview of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA). ARRL member Michelle Bradley, KU3N, of Maryland, filed the Petition in May on behalf of REC Networks, which she founded and described in the Petition as "a leading advocate for a citizen's access to spectrum," including Amateur Radio spectrum.

"REC feels that the time is right for the Commission to open a Notice of Inquiry and eventually a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, and in cooperation with the NTIA, this new band opportunity can be realized to spark the next generation of 'makers' in the fields of science, technology, education, and math (STEM), especially women and girls," Bradley told the FCC in the Petition. "The more opportunities we give to make things, the more opportunities we have to build a pool of experts in STEM, right here at home."

The Petition said the objective of a new band would be "an effort to foster experimentation into the propagation characteristics of this band midway between the 10- and 6-meter bands." An allocation in the 8-meter band is available to radio amateurs in Ireland, where the Irish Radio Transmitters Society has developed a band plan for 40 - 41 MHz.

"REC perceives this spectrum can be used for weak signal experimentation and eventually general amateur use, especially along transatlantic paths using CW, SSB, digital modes such as FT8 and digital voice," the

Petition said. "As no radios are mass-produced for this band at this time, this opens up new opportunities for 'makers' to construct transmitters, receivers, and antenna systems that can be used in this spectrum."

REC anticipates "very low" usage of the new band, "with peak usage around sporadic-E episodes, operating events such as ARRL Field Day, and VHF contests, as well as during the peak of sunspot cycles," Bradley told the Commission. "[W]e feel that the sharing of 40 MHz can be accomplished in a manner that serves the needs of the Amateur Radio Service while meeting the organizational missions of Federal Government agencies that utilize this spectrum."

Interested parties may file short comments on RM-11843 via the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing Service (Express).

- ARRL Letter, June 27, 2019

CLASS AND EXAM NEWS

Our Fall exam schedule includes August 24 and October 26 at the Fairfield Township Administration Building, Morris and Millikin Roads and November 20 in room 007, Thesken Hall, Miami University-Middletown.

Our exams are routinely 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 .

Our next amateur radio license [Amateur Extra] class will begin August 28 and conclude November 13. Class details may be found on page 13.

- Carl, K8CM

FIELD DAY 2019 FINAL REPORT (SUMMARY)

Preliminary Total Score: 6,938 points

Score Summary:

	CW	Digital	Phone
Total QSOs	945	207	380
Total Points	1890	414	380

Total QSO points 2684

Claimed Score = (QSO points x power multiplier) = 5,368
Bonus points = 1570
Final score = 6938

Bottom line: We had fewer points than in previous years. Last year's score was 7,726 points with 1,975 QSO's. We were down 788 points from 2018. I looked at the listings on the ARRL contest page from 2018 to compare with 2019. We would still be second in Ohio for class 3A low power, unless OH-KY-IN's score was down too.

- Ernie, W8EH

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 24, 2019, at the Fairfield Township Administration Building, 6032 Morris Road, Hamilton, OH 45011.

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://apps.fcc.gov/cores/userLogin.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

Amateur Radio Course

For the *Extra Class* License

to be held in the Fall!

Beginning August 28, 2019, the DIAL RADIO CLUB will offer a twelve-week class to prepare a candidate for examination in the Extra Class Amateur Radio operator license. This class will meet Wednesday evenings, 6:00 – 9:00 PM, on the campus of Miami University Middletown in Thesken Hall Room 007.

Class will conclude Nov. 13 and be followed by an examination session on Wednesday, Nov. 20.

Although there is no charge for the class, students should purchase the ARRL Extra Class License Manual, 11th Ed.

Morse code proficiency is no longer a requirement for any amateur radio operator's license.

Pre-registration is appreciated, but not required. For registration, directions, or other information, please contact either

Beverley Taylor

Aaron Renner

DIAL RADIO CLUB

Middletown, Ohio

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

President:
Dave Williamson, KD8W
Vice-President:
Carl Morgan, K8CM
Secretary:
Ernie Howard, Jr., W8EH
Treasurer:
Ron Spaulding, N8QF
Activities Manager:
Roy Dalton, N8LRN
Newsletter Editor:
Carl Morgan, K8CM
Webmaster
Tim Murphy, WA8YXY

the prez sez ...

Hope everyone is having a good summer! Just want to remind everyone who is interested, we are going to participate in the 2019 "Ohio Qso Party". This is event will be on Aug 24 at my QTH this year.

If you have not done much operating and would like to try your hand at SSB, FT8 or even CW, then this is an event you should make some time and give it a try. We use my basement area, which will be 'cool' and will operate three stations. It runs from Noon till Midnite! Come by and take some time on a station, or just sit and chat with some others. The menu is soda pop(mostly diet) chips etc. and about 5:30pm we look at the folks present and order from Dons Pizza (new location in Middletown)!

We have at least two individuals who are planning to operate as 'rover' station for the Club. If you cannot come and still want to participate, you can add your score to Dial's and it will enhance our standing! This event will be discussed again at the next meeting on the 19th.

- Dave, KD8W

MINUTES OF THE JULY 15, 2019 MEETING

Attendance:

W8ISZ, W8RES, N8YFQ, N8QF, N8EH, N8HRA, K8EWG, W8WLM, K8CM, KE8AIQ, KE8AIR, K8WWS & Sue, NR8R & Barbara, W8ELI, KO8F, N8ACR, KD8W, WA8YXY, N8AA, NN8M, K8MRC, K8MTS, N8NMB. (25)

Call to Order:

Meeting called to order by KD8W at 7:05 pm.

Next Meeting August 19, 2019 at the at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

Secretary's Report:

Motion to approve minutes of the June meeting as published in the Newsletter by NR8R and second by W8RES. Motion approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Ron, N8QF, reported membership to consist of 82 members and 62 families. Motion to approve by Dave, N8YFQ, 2nd by Matt, N8NMB. Motion approved.

Ron reported that he has registered the club with the Amazon Smile Program.

Classes and Exams:

N8ACR reported for the Education Committee that an Amateur Extra class will run August 28 until November 13. Examination for all classes will be on November 20 in Thesken Hall, Miami University-Middletown.

Newsletter:

K8CM reports no problems.

Website:

WA8YXY reported the recent posting of 90+ additional photos of Field Day activities.

Repeater/Station Report:

In the absence of W8EH, N8QF reports all repeaters are working satisfactorily.

Activities Report:

There was some stuff in the club trailer left over from Hamvention. Field day is next weekend. N8LRN reports there will be burgers, dogs and pulled pork. Gordon is helping cook. Bring a covered dish.
Field day setup will start Friday about noon. Operation starts Saturday at 2 and we need ops to be there. There will be a FD meeting after business meeting. W8EH reported that we will have FT8 digital capability.

Old Business:

Field Day report will be next month.

New Business:

The Dial Radio club will be participating in the Ohio QSO Party on August 24. Dave, KD8W, will be hosting the multi station activity at his house. This is a fun event lasting 12 hours, and everyone is invited to come and spend a little time operating. This will be a 3 or 4 transmitter operation, so we need help. Motion was made by KO8F, seconded by N8YFQ, to allocate $100 for food budget. Motion approved. Additional information to come over the next month and at the August meeting.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn by NN8M second by NR8R. Motion approved and meeting adjourned at 7:22 pm.

Jim Frey, W8ISZ
Secretary pro tem

Next Meeting August 19, 2019 at the at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

OHIO QSO PARTY

Just a reminder .....

Event> Ohio QSO Party
Date > Saturday, August 24, 2019
Time > Noon to Midnight (12 hour total)
Where> My QTH

Do you have an interest in operating during the 2019 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. Present thinking is two stations, but if the operators are there, we can make it three.

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

- K8CM, et.al

OHIO STATEWIDE COURTHOUSES ON THE AIR SPECIAL EVENT, AUGUST 24, 2019

Event Background

Last year there was the Ohio Covered Bridge Special Event that was led by John Levo, W8KIW Editor of the Highland ARC's *Monday Morning Memo*. Several clubs participated and was a complete success. Additionally, there were several folks interested in Ham Radio at the event who have now become new Hams. Yes, anytime there is a public event resulting in a gain to the Ham Radio community, it is a total success.

This year in keeping with the historical event series, John and the members of the Highland ARC decided to do a special event from their courthouse lawn. John published an article in the *Monday Morning Memo* which attracted the attention of Michael Love, WB8YKS Southern Ohio Amateur Radio Association (SOARA) PIO. John and Mike decided that there may be interest in an all-state special event celebrating the courthouses in all of Ohio's 88 counties. Scott Yonally, N8SY Ohio Section Manager thought it was a fantastic idea and requested John and Mike to reach out across the state to determine the level of support for the event. The Ohio Section has 117 affiliated clubs of which 48 are Special Service Clubs and there are 29 PIOs. There may not be a club listed in each county by address, but we do have Hams in each county.

Promoting Ham Radio

This may be a first for the ARRL and the Ohio Section. This event has all the opportunities for a FUNFILLED family day engaging the public and our government officials. Additionally, one county's club is partnering with their county commissioners, historical society, EMA, sheriff's office, public library, chamber of commerce, and news media. The club has decided to use a large tent as the event will take place rain or shine. Their PIO will make handouts available about ham radio and promoting the ARRL, ARES, RACES, Ohio

Section and their local club. A special focus will be made to spotlight the public awareness of the hobby and the benefits of a Ham radio license, emergency and community service. The public will be invited to talk on the radios under the direct supervision of a licensed operator. Several clubs plan to provide contact QSL cards and/or certificates to capture this historical event.

Event Details

Yes, we are excited and hopefully you are as well, about participating in this historical Ohio Courthouses on the Air Special Event. **We are requesting ALL Ohio Clubs and Hams to consider supporting this special event. The event will take place on, Saturday, August 24, 2019, from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. However, the hours can be extended by each club. Additionally, each club will determine the frequencies and modes they will use.**

Another opportunity presents itself as the Ohio QSO Party www.ohqp.org is also on the air, Saturday, August 24th. Therefore, these two events will complement each other providing contacts not only from within Ohio but across the country. All Hams are invited to participate.

Staying in Touch

Please inform the listed contacts that your club will be participating, and the name of the county represented.

Contacts for additional information:

Michael Love, or John Levo, W8KIW

- Ohio Section Postscript, July 29, 2019

MAJOR WSJT-X UPGRADE BOOSTS FT4 INTO "A FINISHED PROTOCOL FOR HF CONTESTING"

The WSJT Development Group has announced the "general availability" release of *WSJT-X* version 2.1.0. This major upgrade formally introduces FT4 as "a finished protocol for HF contesting." Users have been advised to discontinue using any "release candidate" (beta) versions of the software that *WSJT-X* version 2.1.0 supplants. The latest edition of the popular digital software suite also includes improvements and bug fixes in several areas, including FT8. The list includes:

- FT8 waveform generated with GMSK and fully backward compatible
- User options for waterfall and spectrum display
- Contest logging
- Rig control
- User interface

The WSJT-X Development Group is providing a separate *WSJT*-X version 2.1.0 installation package for 64-bit Windows that offers significant improvements in decoding speed.

A detailed list of program changes since *WSJT-X* version 2.0.1 is included in the cumulative release notes. Upgrading from earlier versions of *WSJT-X* should be seamless, with no need to uninstall a previous version or to move any files.

Installation packages for Windows, Linux, and Macintosh are available.

Visit the FT8/FT4/JT9: WSJT 2-Way Narrow Modes for Amateur Radio Facebook page for additional information. Read more.

- ARRL Letter, July 18, 2019

FAA REAUTHORIZATION ACT LANGUAGE SERVES TO EXCLUDE VAST MAJORITY OF AMATEUR RADIO TOWERS

Language in the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) **E8** will exclude all but a small number of Amateur Radio towers from marking requirements. Thanks to action taken in 2017 and 2018 by ARRL, the bill's original language was amended to the extent that amateur towers, as well as residential towers used for over-the-air TV reception, were effectively exempted from marking requirements.

The topic was addressed at the annual "Ham Radio and the Law" forum at the **Dayton Hamvention®** this past May. Some key points from that presentation: (1) Towers covered by the rules are structures at least 50 feet tall that support an antenna and are located in a rural area or on farmland or immediately adjacent to such land. (2) According to the Act, the term "covered tower" does not include any structure that is adjacent to a house, barn, or other building, and "is within the curtilage of a farmstead or adjacent to another building or visible structure."

ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, explains that, while a few Amateur Radio towers will fall under the Act's marking requirements and will have to be registered, towers in residential yards or within farmland are specifically exempted.

More information is on the ARRL website.

- ARRL Letter, June 13, 2019

IARU President Offers Assurances Regarding French 144 - 146 MHz Allocation Proposal

International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) President Tim Ellam, VE6SH/G4HUA, said his organization empathizes with the concerns of radio amateurs worldwide regarding a French proposal to allocate 144 - 146 MHz to the Aeronautical Service on a primary basis, essentially sharing it with Amateur Radio. The band is currently allocated to Amateur Radio on a primary basis around the world. Ellam this week offered assurances that the IARU is on top of the matter, which is still a regional issue, and is already working to keep the band in the hands of radio amateurs. While the issue could end up on the agenda of World Radiocommunication Conference 2023 (WRC-23), a lot would have to happen first.

"There is a lot of misinformation circulating as to what the proposal is seeking and how IARU is responding to it," Ellam told ARRL. "While the proposal is a

concern, petitions and the like, while well intended, are going to have very limited value and, in fact, may harm the steps being taken in the regulatory environment."

The French proposal, submitted last month to a pre-WRC-19 European Conference of Telecommunications and Postal Administrations (CEPT) meeting, included 144 - 146 MHz within a range of frequencies to be studied for future airborne, non-safety applications in the Aeronautical Service. Germany opposed the move, and IARU "objected strongly," Ellam said. "Nonetheless, the proposal was carried forward to the next meeting of the CEPT Conference Preparatory Group in late August." IARU anticipates that other countries attending the August meeting will oppose the inclusion of 144 - 146 MHz as a frequency range to be considered for the WRC-23 agenda, Ellam said.

IARU President Tim Ellam, VE6SH/G4HUA

Since the June meeting, IARU Region 1 (Europe, Africa, and the Middle East) has asked its member-societies to contact their national administrations (i.e., governments) to explain the importance of the 144 - 146 MHz primary allocation, Ellam recounted. "IARU is also taking other actions to make its views known to those involved in the proposal," he said.

"If accepted as a WRC-23 Agenda Item, this proposal would require *4 years* of studies by administrations," Ellam stressed. "Considering the challenges of sharing spectrum with aeronautical systems, it seems inevitable that the conclusion of such studies would be that sharing with a widely used part of the amateur spectrum presents too many problems to be viable."

Ellam encouraged individual radio amateurs who want to help to become members of their IARU member-society. "If anything," Ellam concluded, "this recent news should serve as a timely reminder that defense of the amateur spectrum does not just happen. Your member-societies and the IARU constantly work at defending the amateur allocations." Read more.

- ARRL Letter, July 11, 2019

FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018 Changes Recreational Drone Flying Requirements

The FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018 includes changes to recreational drone flying in the US. Radio amateurs have used drones to inspect antenna systems and terrain and to carry support lines aloft, as well as for other purposes. The FAA considers those who fly their drones for fun as recreational users. The FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018 describes how, when, and where owners may fly drones for recreational purposes. These broad guidelines should apply to most Amateur Radio users of drones.

- Register as a "modeler." A registrant must be at least 13 years old and a US citizen or legal permanent resident.
- Label your model aircraft with your registration number.
- Fly only for recreational purposes.
- Follow the safety guidelines of a community-based organization (see below).
- Fly your drone at or below 400 feet when in uncontrolled or Class G airspace, and do not fly it in airspace where flight is prohibited.
- Keep your drone within your line of sight or within the line-of-sight of a visual observer who is co-located and in direct communication with the operator.
- Never fly near other aircraft, especially near airports.
- Never fly over groups of people, public events, or stadiums full of people.
- Never fly near emergencies such as any type of accident response, law enforcement activities, firefighting, or hurricane recovery efforts.
- Never fly under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

Recreational flyers who intentionally violate any of these safety requirements and/or operate in a careless and reckless manner could be liable for criminal and/or civil penalties. Read the Authorization for limited recreational operations as described in Section 44809 (PDF). All limited recreational operations should be conducted in accordance with this authorization.

For more information, read Advisory Circular 91-57B.

The FAA is upgrading the online system, known as LAANC (the Low Altitude Authorization and Notification Capability), so that recreational operations can get automated airspace authorizations to fly in controlled airspace.

The new law also will require that drone operators pass an online aeronautical knowledge and safety test and carry proof of test passage. The FAA is developing the test in consultation with stakeholders. Recreational flyers would have to pass the test, which could be administered electronically. The FAA will provide additional guidance and will notify when the test is available. The FAA also will issue guidance for how it will recognize community-based organizations.

More detailed information about the FAA's plan to fully implement the requirements of Section 349 of the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018 is available in the *Federal Register*.

- ARRL Letter, July 11, 2019

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Our next amateur radio license [Amateur Extra] class will begin August 28 and conclude November 13. Class details may be found on page 11.

- Carl, K8CM

A FEW MORE FIELD DAY 2019 PHOTOS *and on the Dial website; gsl.net/w8blv/*

-FOTO CREDIT TO WA8YXY

Next Meeting August 19, 2019 at the at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

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Although there is no charge for the class, students should purchase the ARRL Extra Class License Manual, 11th Ed.

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Beverley Taylor

Aaron Renner

DIAL RADIO CLUB

Middletown, Ohio

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President:
Dave Williamson, KD8W
Vice-President:
Carl Morgan, K8CM
Secretary:
Ernie Howard, Jr., W8EH
Treasurer:
Ron Spaulding, N8QF
Activities Manager:
Roy Dalton, N8LRN
Newsletter Editor:
Carl Morgan, K8CM
Webmaster
Tim Murphy, WA8YXY

the prez sez ...

We had a total of 13 operators for the OHQP QSO Party. Everyone operated a station for a period of time, some doing more than one session. For a while, we had two stations doing CW! It was a relaxed evening, our gear working well. I hope some others comment on their experience. We operated in the Multi-op mode with one person (N8AA) adding his score to ours from his home station. Dinner was three large family pizzas and it was very good! Judy had made special cookies for us and they were all gone before the evening was over.

We ran fixed-mode, three stations, and low power. Our operators were; W8LR, WA8YXY, NN8M, KO8F, and W8ISZ, K8EWG, K8WWS, NR8R, K8DSS, N8YFQ, KD8W, N8AA, and N8HP.

We had a total of six antennas set up. It made our selection fairly easy. Six individuals stayed the whole time (all twelve hours).

- Dave, KD8W

MINUTES OF THE JULY 15, 2019 MEETING

Attendance:

W8EH, N8EH, N8QF, N8GGE, W8WLM, KC8IZE, NR8R, BARBARA, KO8F, W8ISZ, K8DSS, N8YFQ, W8RES, KC8WOF, N8HRA, N8HP, K8CM, K8WWS, W8ELI, NN8M, WA8YXY, N8LRN, KD8W, N8DHW. (23)

Call to Order: By Dave, KD8W, at 7 pm

Secretary's Report:

Nothing to report. Motion to approve minutes as published in the Newsletter by K8CM, second by N8HP, approved.

Next Meeting: September 16, 2019 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

Treasurer's Report:

N8QF reported income for July as $0.16. Checking balance at the end of July was $3,646.91. We have 84 members of 57 families. Motion to approve by N8HP, second K8CM, approved. Ron reported that the liability insurance was paid, effective September 1st for the next 12 months.

Ron presented an application for membership for Eric (N8ODK) and Gloria (N8LWM) Ring, sponsored by N8OZN. They were members in the past. Motion to accept K8CM, second KO8F, approved.

Classes and Exams:

N8GGE reported that the next class will be for Amateur Extra. It starts August 28th at MUM in room 7, Thesken Hall. It runs 12 weeks. K8CM reported that then next area exam is this Saturday in Fairfield. The next exam in Middletown is in November.

Newsletter:

K8CM reported that we still have newsletters. He has two email bounces that he is dealing with.

Website:

WA8YXY reported that he has added more field day photos and removed some from last year.

Repeater/Station Report:

W8EH reported there are no complaints.

Activities Report:

N8LRN had nothing to report.

Old Business:

KD8W reminded us that the Ohio QSO Party is this Saturday Noon to Midnight at his house. Stop by. There will be 6 antennas covering the bands.

New Business:

KD8W reported that W8ISZ donated a prize that he won, a N3FJP logging software certificate. We discussed that we might want to raffle it for a $1 a chance. Motion by W8EH, second by N8QF that we raffle it next month, passed.

KD8W thanked K8DSS, who donated a radio, power supply and antenna tuner to the club. It will be put in the club trailer.

N8YFQ mentioned that Mendelson's Surplus in Dayton was selling out. Get there while you can.

NM8M reported a strange coincidence. He received his 5,000th QSO confirmation from the Logbook of the World and it turned out to be Joe, W8GEX, one of our locals who was a DX station at the time.

Adjournment:

Motion by NM8M, second by W8RES to adjourn, approved. Meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

Ernie Howard, W8EH
Secretary

Next Meeting: September 16, 2019 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

TOM'S TOME COMMENTS FROM YOUR ARRL VICE DIRECTOR

Of the many ways that ham radio has changed over the years, one of them has to be in the operating habits of many of us. It used to be that you could find contacts on the HF bands easily, whenever they were open. (As an operator who prefers SSB, I wish we were at a different point in the sunspot cycle. Oh well....) Of course, there are still some contacts to be made. But not as easily. Maybe our schedules provide us with so many more things to do that we allocate less time to radio.

So “events” become more important. Probably the biggest event to bring out lots of activity of HF was the National Parks on the Air several years ago. It was the right combination of contesting, contacting, portable operating, etc., to really make a hit with hams and get a lot of radio waves stirred up.

There are still lots of operating events to take advantage of. For example, the state QSO parties usually do well for participation. So if you’re looking for an “event,” you can probably find something to operate in most weekends.

A short-term “event” sponsored by ARRL is coming up right now. The Hiram Percy Maxim Birthday Celebration starts on August 31st and runs through September 8th. Full details are on the ARRL website or in the September issue of QST.

Some of us need an “excuse” to get on the air, or at least an assurance that we’ll find stations to work. This is a good one. Hope we take advantage of it.

- 73, Tom, W8WTD, Vice Director, Great Lakes Division

"Dale's Tales" for September, 2019

144 - 146 MHZ REMOVED FROM FRENCH PROPOSAL FOR ADDITIONAL AERONAUTICAL APPLICATIONS

The 144 - 146 MHz Amateur Radio segment has been removed from a French proposal to study additional spectrum for Aeronautical Mobile Service (AMS) applications. France had included the band, which comprises the entire 2-meter band in ITU Region 1, for consideration as a European Conference of Telecommunications and Postal Administrations (CEPT) position for World Radiocommunication Conference 2019 (WRC-19). Heading into a CEPT Conference Preparatory Group (CPG) meeting in Turkey last week, France was holding firm on the proposal to have AMS share 144 - 146 MHz with Amateur Radio. The CPG meeting considered CEPT ECC positions on this and other issues for WRC-19.

The International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) had called the French proposal for 144 - 146 MHz "unsound" and contended that sharing of the current amateur allocation with AMS radio systems would not be possible "without a significant likelihood of mutual interference."

The French spectrum study proposal would have had to gain approval from at least 10 CEPT countries at the CPG meeting -- with not more than 6 opposing -- to appear on the agendas of WRC-19 and WRC-23, where a final decision would be made.

Other Amateur Radio-related issues addressed at the CEPT CPG included:

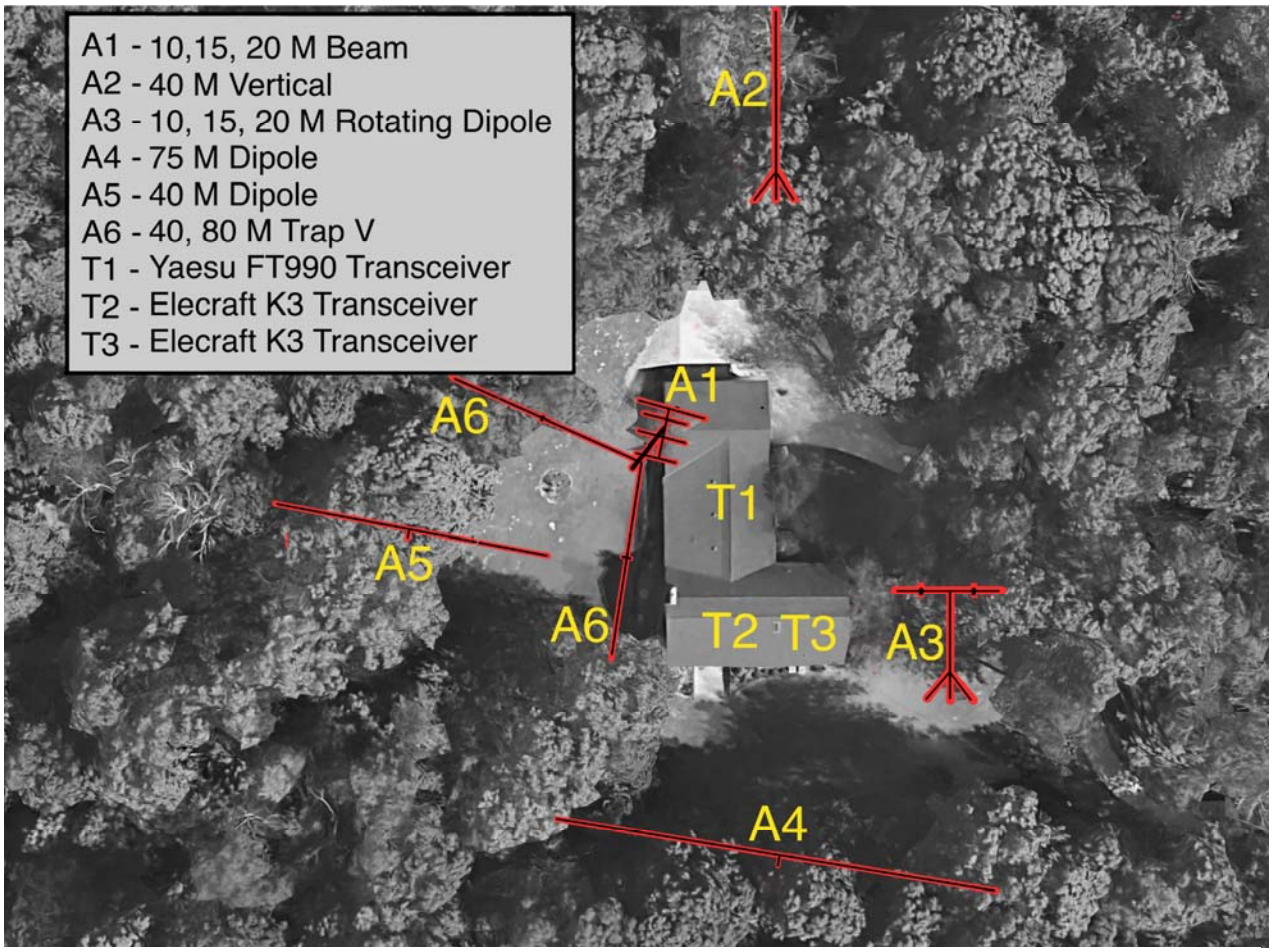
- Agreement to a European Common Proposal (ECP) on allocating 50 - 52 MHz to the Amateur Service in Region 1 (Europe, Africa, and the Middle East) on a secondary basis, with a footnote listing those countries where the Amateur Service will have a primary allocation in the band at 50 - 50.5 MHz (WRC-19 Agenda Item 1.1).
- Agreement to an ECP on spectrum to be considered for International Mobile Telecommunications (IMT), which does not now include the primary Amateur Radio band at 47 - 47.2 GHz (WRC Agenda Item 1.13).
- No change in the *Radio Regulations* to address the question of operating frequency for wireless power transmission for electric vehicle charging (WPT-EV), leaving open the question of spurious emissions from WPT-EV (WRC Agenda item 9.1.6).

CEPT is one of the six regional telecommunications organizations and is viewed as the most influential. The issues now move to WRC-19 in Egypt this fall for final resolution. IARU will be represented at the international gathering, which gets under way in late October. Read more.

- ARRL Letter, September 6, 2019

OHIO QSO PARTY PHOTOS

Thanks to Tim, WA8YXY for the following photos.



Antenna Placement and Transceiver Utilization

Next Meeting: September 16, 2019 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

Rotatable-dipole Antenna going Up

Rotatable-dipole is up! (A3)

Engineering & Management

40/80M Trap-V under construction (A6)

Next Meeting: September 16, 2019 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

Installing ties for wire antenna

10-15-20M Yagi (A1)

John, N8AA and Dave, KD8W

Jerry, W8LR

Next Meeting: September 16, 2019 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

More photos may be found on the Dial Radio Club web page; http://www.qsl.net/w8blv/

Bob, NN8M

Eileen, N8EWG and Dave, N8YFQ

ENDING THE GREAT RADIO SILENCE AFTER "THE GREAT WAR"

Practical wireless was still in its infancy at the turn of the 20th century and unregulated experimentation rampant. Chaos reigned on the airwaves. Given the technology of the day -- spark gap transmitters that emitted very, very broad signals -- interference was a problem. As Al Brogdon, W1AB, explains in "The World War I Shutdown," in the September 2019 issue of *QST* (p. 70), hams, passenger ships, and the US Navy were the main users of wireless, and the Navy went to Congress in an unsuccessful effort to wrest control over radio and, effectively, abolish ham radio in the US. Radio amateurs opposing the bill had an ally in the Marconi Company.

When the US in 1917 joined the European conflict that became World War I, the federal government ordered hams to disassemble their stations, lower their antennas, and not use transmitters *or* receivers. Many hams who joined the military took their own radio gear along, because, as Brogdon explains, "the military didn't have enough radio equipment."

The end of the war did not mean the resumption of Amateur Radio. Hams were allowed to use their receivers again but not transmit. The Navy was still in charge of all US radio communications, and another bill introduced in Congress proposed handing over ongoing control of all radio to the Navy.

ARRL First President Hiram Percy Maxim, W1AW.

Publication of *QST* also ceased during the war, and many hams had let their ARRL memberships lapse for the duration. ARRL officers and key members dug into their own wallets to thwart the bill, mailing a "Little Blue Card" to members urging them to ask their congressional representatives to oppose the Navy proposal. ARRL President Hiram Percy Maxim went to Washington to speak against the bill, which died in committee.

It was not until 1919 -- amid another Navy effort to gain control over radio that was stalled by opposition from hams and others -- that the transmitting ban was lifted by an act of Congress. As Brogdon explains, "Maxim went to Washington again and found a sympathetic ear in Massachusetts Congressman William Greene, who ultimately introduced the successful House Joint Resolution 217, which asked the Navy 'to remove the restrictions on the use and operation of Amateur Radio stations throughout the United States.'"

Hams were back on the air by the fall of 1919 -- 100 years ago!

- ARRL Letter, August 22, 2019

REGISTRATION NOW IS OPEN for stations to register for Scouting's 2019 Jamboree on the Air (JOTA). JOTA will take place October 18 - 20. JOTA is Scouting's largest event in the world and always takes place over the third weekend of October. Click on "Sign Up Now" and register using your free

Scout.org user id. Use the same site to register for the 2019 Jamboree on the Internet. Bill Stearns, NE4RD, has been named the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) National Jamboree on the Air Task Force Chair. He has activated a number of JOTA and Scout Camp stations from the Montana Scout Council and served on the 2017 National Scout Jamboree K2BSA and 2019 World Scout Jamboree NA1WJ staffs. The NA1WJ Amateur Radio operation at the 2019 World Scout Jamboree in West Virginia reported that more than 3,000 Scouts took part in the ham radio demonstrations, logging more than 4,000 contacts in 86 DXCC entities.

- ARRL Letter, July 29, 2019

EXAM NEWS

Sponsored by the BCARA, our most recent license exam was held in the Fairfield Township Administration building on Saturday, August 24. Ten VEs served four applicants to whom 7 exam elements were administered. The 7 elements consisted of Element 2 (4 administered and 4 passing), Element 3 (2 administered and none passing, Element 4 (1 administered and none passing). At morning's end, there were 3 new Technicians and 1 new General.

Our next scheduled exam will be hosted by the BCARA on Saturday morning, October 26, at the Fairfield Township Administration Building, Morris and Millikin Roads.

Exam announcements appear on the ARRL page http://www.arrl.org/find-an-amateur-radio-license-exam-session and the Laurel Amateur Radio Club's web page http://www.laurelvec.com/?pg=exams .

- Carl, K8CM

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 26, 2019, at the Fairfield Township Administration Building, 6032 Morris Road, Hamilton, OH 45011.

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://apps.fcc.gov/cores/userLogin.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: September 16, 2019 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, November 20, 2019
at 6 p.m. in 007 Thesken Hall
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, and Licensee ID number (FRN) .

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

If you are applying for your first license, please go to *https://apps.fcc.gov/cores/userLogin.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: September 16, 2019 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

President:
Dave Williamson, KD8W
Vice-President:
Carl Morgan, K8CM
Secretary:
Ernie Howard, Jr., W8EH
Treasurer:
Ron Spaulding, N8QF
Activities Manager:
Roy Dalton, N8LRN
Newsletter Editor:
Carl Morgan, K8CM
Webmaster
Tim Murphy, WA8YXY

the prez sez ...

We are now in the fall! Cool nights and leaf time is upon us soon. A good time to get those antennas up you plan to use for the winter. Take a look at the ARRL "Contest Calendar". There are many upcoming events in Digital, SSB, and CW that may perk your interests. Most of these are done in a laid back manner so that operators need not feel pressure for competition. Just good fun and an excuse to use that new antenna and rig!! Pick some for October and join in. Bet you will have fun and begin to log those contacts. See you at the October 21st meeting, Monroe Sports Grill on old 25

- Dave, KD8W

MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 16, 2019 MEETING

Attendance:

N8EH, N8HRA, WA8DTU, W8LKU, N8AA, K8DSS, W8ISZ, KE8AIQ, KE8AIR, W8RES, W8JBL, K8MRC, KC8GMR, NR8R, BARBARA, W8EH, N8QF, N8XQ, NN8M, N8ACR, KD8W, WA8YXY, K8MTX (23)

Call to Order:
by KD8W at 7pm

Secretary's Report:
Motion by N8EH, second by NR8R to approve the minutes as published in the newsletter, passed. W8EH reported an email was received from OH-KY-IN announcing their hamfest, on September 21.

Treasurer's Report:
By N8QF. Ron presented the expenses and income for August. Our balance in checking at the end of August was $3,359.52. We have 84 members out of 57 families. Motion to approve K8MRC, second W8RES, approved.

Next Meeting: October 21, 2019 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

Classes and Exams:

N8ACR reported the Extra Class session was going on and that there were 3 students regularly attending and a 4th student attending most classes. Class ends November 13 with exam to follow on November 20.

Newsletter:

No report

Website:

WA8YXY said that he put on 33 pictures from the Ohio QSO Party operation.

Repeater/Station Report:

W8EH reported normal operations.

Old Business:

KD8W reported that the Ohio QSO Party went well at his house. Thirteen members attended and everyone made at least one contact. Contact total was 616. We finished 5th place out of 19 multi op stations in Ohio. The pizza was good.

New Business:

N8QF reported on our site at the radio station. In exchange for our tower space, we are expected to help out with some labor at the site from time to time. We have not had much to do for a while. They requested assistance in removing the old feedlines and supports between the tower and the old farm house building. The club can salvage the old feedlines. This is a multiple day operation. Last Saturday KC8TXA (Evan) and N8YLS (Mark) used a Bobcat/bush hog to clear out brush under the feedlines. Next Saturday there will be a work party to remove some of the valuable copper. There will be additional work days to load junk into the dumpster. At that time we will need to rent a Bobcat for additional work. Motion by N8QF, second by NN8M to approve up to $700 to rent a Bobcat. The scrap should offset some of this cost.

More Old Business:

N8EH followed up on our new tower site in Monroe, on the Britton Lane water tower. This site replaces our West Middletown repeater tower site that we lost last spring. The agreement with Monroe was a minor edit of our previous agreement, from the East Street tower that was torn down. The agreement will be presented to Monroe council at their next meeting. We will need to hire a tower crew. Motion to approve up to $1,500 to hire Mobilcomm tower crew to install our antenna and feedline by N8EH, second by N8ACR, approved.

We have feedline, but need an antenna for the site. Motion by W8EH, second by N8ACR to approve up to $225 for a new antenna, approved.

Announcements:

N8AA reported that the W4DXCC convention in Pigeon Forge Tennessee will be this weekend. Friday is contest boot camp, Saturday are the presentations and evening banquet. Several of our members attend. KD8W has a few computer monitors and keyboards for FREE.

KD8W says there will be a drawing next club meeting for a certificate for N3FJP logging software.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn by N8QF, second by N8ACR, approved.

Ernie Howard, W8EH
Secretary

Next Meeting: October 21, 2019 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

WORK PROJECT

Over the past month, a group of members descended on the WPFB antenna site with the goal of removing old coaxial cables, abandoned conduits, and miscellaneous hardware. At least three workdays plus planning time was involved and at the conclusion, all tasks were accomplished.

Members involved included Mike, K8MRC; Roy, N8LRN; Evan, KC8TXA; Jim, W8ISZ; Ernie, W8EH; Carl, K8CM; Tim, WA8YXY; Mike, K8MTS; Mark, N8LYS; Ron, N8QF; Barney, N8HP; and Mark, WD8NKJ.

Special thanks to Evan, KC8TXA and Mark, N8LYS for the additional work clearing the pathway from the transmitter building to the tower and to Mark for his disposal of the copper material for recycling. Uncontrolled weed and scrub trash growth had pretty well concealed the coax and cable runs that were to be removed.

- Carl, K8CM, et al

Coaxial cable (feedline) from the transmitter building to the antenna. Foliage had to be cleared before any removal efforts could begin.
Photo by N8QF

Looking North from the transmitter building, past the dumpster, showing the field once all debris and recycled material had been cleared.
Photo by N8QF

Next Meeting: October 21, 2019 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

NINE SCHOOLS AND ORGANIZATIONS MAKE THE CUT FOR HAM CONTACTS WITH ISS CREW

Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) has announced that nine schools and organizations have been selected to host Amateur Radio contacts with International Space Station crew members during the first half of 2020. The selected host organizations must now complete an equipment plan that demonstrates their ability to execute the ham radio contact. Once a plan is approved, the final selected schools/organizations will have contacts scheduled as their availability matches up with the opportunities offered by NASA.

The schools and host organizations are: Celia Hays Elementary School, Rockwall, Texas; Golden Gate Middle School, Naples, Florida; J.P. McConnell Middle School, Loganville, Georgia; Kittredge Magnet School, Atlanta, Georgia; Maple Dale Elementary School, Cincinnati, Ohio; Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt, Nashville, Tennessee; Oakwood School, Morgan Hill, California; Ramona Lutheran School, Ramona, California, and River Ridge High School, New Port Richey Florida.

The primary goal of the ARISS program is to engage young people in science, technology, engineering, arts, and math (STEAM) activities and raise their awareness of space communication, radio communication, space exploration, and related areas of study and career possibilities.

- ARRL Letter, September 26, 2019

DAYTON HAMVENTION SIGNS 5-YEAR CONTRACT WITH GREENE COUNTY EXPO CENTER

The Dayton Amateur Radio Association (DARA) has signed a 5-year agreement to keep Dayton Hamvention® at the Greene County Expo Center. The agreement was announced on September 9 by Hamvention General Chairman Jack Gerbs, WB8SCT.

"It has been a wonderful experience working with the Expo Center team in the development of this agreement," Gerbs said. "With the 5-year agreement signed, the Expo Center and Hamvention can move forward with additional enhancements to the facilities."

Dayton Amateur Radio Association President Ron Cramer, KD8ENJ, said the DARA Board, in approving the contract, noted that the relationship with the Expo Center and Greene County, the City of Xenia, and Xenia Township "has proven especially rewarding." Cramer said, "They all have worked hard to make Hamvention a success over the last 3 years. We look forward to a great relationship over the next 5

years and beyond." Hamvention's 2019 attendance was 32,472 -- the highest recorded since the move to the Exposition Center in Xenia in 2017, which was coordinated by Cramer, the Hamvention General Chairman in 2017 and 2018.

The largest Amateur Radio show in the US, Dayton Hamvention is held the third full weekend in May. The dates for 2020 are May 15 - 17.

- ARRL Letter, September 12, 2019

A RADIO ON YOUR BELT -- 1930S STYLE

Since the advent of wireless technology, efforts have aimed at condensing the size of the necessary equipment to permit ease of transport, mobile installation, and radios that could be hand carried, slipped into a pocket or -- in this case -- carried on the belt. Hugo Gernsback's *Radio-Craft* for December 1936 included the article, "How to Make the World's Smallest 3-Tube Radio Set" by Arthur Miller (likely not the playwright). It details how a clever radio crafter could construct a set worn on a belt around the waist and -- in this case -- with the antenna worn on the head in the manner of an old-time banker's eyeshade. The individual wearing such equipment today likely would not only have to endure considerable pointing and laughing but would raise the alert level at any airport TSA checkpoint.

Vacuum tubes of the day were not too sensitive, required separate voltage sources for filament and plate, and were pretty hard on batteries. The filaments for the three tubes came from "a liquid unspillable storage cell" (i.e., rechargeable) to supply the necessary 2 V. The article says this battery should last from 7 to 10 hours and came "with an oiled silk bag and fits in the hip pocket." This was the sort of futuristic innovation that Gernsback typically featured in his publications, and the entire December 1936 issue of *Radio-Craft* is worth perusing.

"When using this 'Belt-Radio' the wearer is quite unmindful that the latest news or dance music is coming from an ultra-midget receiver which is actually being worn on the belt!" the article exults. "And it takes only a minute to put the whole equipment on -- and less to take it off!"

According to Miller's article, building the three-tube set was easy. "The loop aerial is wound on a cardboard disc 13 ins. in dia," it explains. "Litz wire is used and 22 turns are interlaced around the 9 ribs." No mention of gauging hat size.

The article concedes just to "one disadvantage" in having to wear the antenna on one's head. "The 4-ft. cable connecting it with the receiver acts as a capacity and restricts the tuning range of the set," it explains.

The set tuned the AM broadcast band, and with the antenna on the head, directionality was less of an issue. While it might look silly to us now, project ideas such as this helped advance the radio art toward the technology we use and enjoy today.

- ARRL Letter, September 19, 2019

FESTIVAL OF FREQUENCY MEASUREMENT SET TO HONOR WWV CENTENNIAL

HamSCI and the Case Amateur Radio Club of Case Western Reserve University (W8EDU) will sponsor a "Festival of Frequency Measurement" on the day of WWV's centennial, October 1, from 0000 to 2359 UTC (starting on Monday evening, September 30, in the Americas). The event invites radio amateurs, shortwave listeners, and others capable of making high-quality frequency measurements on HF to participate and publish their data to the HamSCI community on the Zenodo open-data sharing site.

"Changes in ionospheric electron density caused by space weather and diurnal solar changes are known to cause Doppler shifts on HF ray paths," the event announcement says. "HamSCI's first attempt at a measurement of these Doppler shifts was during the August 2017 total solar eclipse. We plan a careful measurement during the 2024 eclipse."

Some of the questions the research event is hoping to answer include how WWV's 5 MHz propagation path varies over a given calendar day, and how various measurement techniques for understanding the path variations compare. The objectives are to measure Doppler shifts caused by the effect of space weather on the ionosphere, and to use a specified measurement protocol available to Amateur Radio operators and other citizen-scientists. The experiment will use August 1, 2019 (UTC) as a control date.

"The recordings in this experiment are expected to show formations of the D-layer at stations' local sunrise and other daily events of the ionosphere," the announcement said. "Space weather varies day to day and some features may be prominent. We'll see what we get!"

Full information is on the Festival of Frequency Measurement website.

- ARRL Letter, September 19, 2019

EXAM NEWS

Our next scheduled exam will be hosted by the BCARA on Saturday morning, October 26, at the Fairfield Township Administration Building, Morris and Millikin Roads.

Exam announcements appear on the ARRL page http://www.arrl.org/find-an-amateur-radio-license-exam-session and the Laurel Amateur Radio Club's web page http://www.laurelvec.com/?pg=exams .

- Carl, K8CM

Amateur Radio License Exam

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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.

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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: October 21, 2019 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, November 20, 2019
at 6 p.m. in 007 Thesken Hall
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, and Licensee ID number (FRN) .

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

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

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Next Meeting: October 21, 2019 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

President:
Dave Williamson, KD8W
Vice-President:
Carl Morgan, K8CM
Secretary:
Ernie Howard, Jr., W8EH
Treasurer:
Ron Spaulding, N8QF
Activities Manager:
Roy Dalton, N8LRN
Newsletter Editor:
Carl Morgan, K8CM
Webmaster
Tim Murphy, WA8YXY

the prez sez ...

Well, it's colder and I've been checking the schedule for winter operations. We have to nominate officers for the coming year. If you are interested in trying a slot, please let me know. The more folks that actively participate in the Club the better a club we have! Its dues time again for the coming year, so now is a good time to get that in. You can submit to the Treasurer at the club meeting.

Did you get a contact with the Pitcairn Isl DXpedition?? I had 3 bands solid for sure. Mine were on 20, 15, and 17m. There is a lot of activity on the bands even though we are at the transition from cycle-24 to cycle-25. Some days are good and some days not so hot!

There is a generic contest calendar with listings of all contests and modes along with info on how to participate. I look at these and try to schedule one in when I'm not doing the high-school fall sports.

I have one grandson starting his Junior wrestling (out of town!), so it makes it difficult to operate when I am going to watch him. I usually make a few of the contests though through the winter.

You should try to do some of them, and a lot of them are not really contests.

One good thing is it gives you a chance to use your gear and get used to operating! After a few contacts, those butterflies in the tummy go away and you will have a good time. Give it a try!!

- Dave, KD8W

MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 21, 2019 MEETING

Attendance:

N8EH, N8HRA, WA8DTU, W8LKU, N8AA, W8ISZ, W8RES, W8ELI, K8MRC, K8CM, W8WLM, NR8R, BARBARA, W8EH, N8QF, N8HP, N8GGE, NN8M, N8YFQ, KD8W, WA8YXY, K8MTX, KF8QS (23)

Call to Order:

by KD8W at 7:03 pm

Next Meeting: November 18, 2019 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

Secretary's Report:

Motion by NR8R, second by N8EH to approve the minutes as published in the newsletter, passed.

Treasurer's Report:

By N8QF. Ron gave a report on the work that was performed at the radio station repeater site. KC8TXA and N8YLS worked with a brush cutter the first weekend to prepare the area to allow access to the old feedlines. The second weekend, other club members joined with them to scrap the most valuable material using a Bobcat. The third weekend, club members helped finish up the feedline removal. We received a lot for the scrap copper and aluminum. After expenses we realized $5,100.40. (Ed. Note... We should all thank Ron for all the work organizing this. Also thank Evan and Mark for their extra effort.)

Ron presented the expenses and income for September. Our balance in checking at the end of September was $8,428.32. We have 84 members out of 57 families. Motion to approve N8HP, second W8RES, approved.

Classes and Exams:

N8GGE reported the Extra Class session was going on and that there were 3 students regularly attending. There will be a TECH class starting January 29th. There will be a test the week before (Jan 22nd).

Newsletter:

Carl reported that he is getting one bounce.

Website:

WA8YXY said it was up to date. He had to update his software that edits the web page.

Repeater/Station Report:

W8EH reported that the Monroe tower project is progressing. The agreement was approved by Monroe, and we had to wait 30 days for it to be signed, which is November 7th. Tentatively we will do some ground work November 9th. We had a bid from Mobilcomm to install the antenna and feedline on the tower for $1,958.40. We had previously approved $1,500. We attempted to get another bid, but he contractor was too busy. Motion by W8EH, second by K8CM to approve the bid/contract with Mobilcomm for $1,958.40 was approved.

Old Business: A question was asked about OQP. KD8W reported that Dial scored 5th out of 19 multi op stations in the Ohio QSO Party. It went well, and everyone got to operate

New Business:

KD8W asked for volunteers to serve on the nominating committee. Hearing none, he appointed NR8R, NN8M, and WA8YXY to serve. (Election is at the December meeting).

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn by N8EH, second by N8YFQ, approved.

Ernie Howard, W8EH
Secretary

Next Meeting: November 18, 2019 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

ARRL TO LAUNCH NEW ON THE AIR MAGAZINE

ARRL is launching a new magazine, *On the Air*, in January 2020. To be published on a bimonthly basis, *On the Air* will offer new and beginner-to-intermediate-level radio amateurs a fresh approach to exploring radio communication. Each issue will include advice and insights on topics from the variety of Amateur Radio interests and activities: radio technology, operating, equipment, project building, and emergency communication. The goal of this new magazine is to be a vital resource in helping new and newer radio amateurs get active and involved in radio communications.

"*On the Air* responds to the brand-new and not-so-brand-new radio amateur seeking ideas and answers," said *QST* Managing Editor Becky Schoenfeld, W1BXY. Schoenfeld is part of the ARRL staff team that developed the new magazine. The planning included an extensive national-level study of new Amateur Radio licensees, identifying their motivations for getting licensed and their experiences of getting started. A focus group responded positively to a trial sample edition of the magazine.

"Too many new licensees never take the next step," says Schoenfeld. "We're excited to introduce a new Amateur Radio magazine for this audience, aimed at getting them active, getting them involved, and getting them on the air."

The first issue of *On the Air* will be published in January 2020 (January/February issue) and will be introduced as a new ARRL membership benefit. Effective November 1, when eligible US radio amateurs join ARRL or renew their memberships, they will be prompted to select the print magazine of their choice -- *On the Air* or *QST*. Current members receiving the print edition of *QST*, upon renewal, may choose to continue receiving the print edition of *QST* (monthly) or the print edition of *On the Air* (bimonthly).

All ARRL members, including international members, will be able to access digital editions of both *QST* and *On the Air*. Members who already access *QST* on the web or from the mobile app will be able to access *QST* and *On the Air* starting in January.

- ARRL Letter, October 17, 2019

FCC TURNS DOWN PETITION TO AMEND AMATEUR RADIO IDENTIFICATION RULES

The FCC has denied a Petition for Rule Making (PRM) to amend Part 97 station identification rules to better accommodate and simplify station identification during emergency nets, drills, or activations. ARRL member Robert A. Dukish, KK8DX, of Canfield, Ohio, had sought a change to Section 97.119(a) of the rules to allow a single point of transmission for station ID on those occasions. He proposed permitting a net control station or other designated participant to announce the call signs of every station taking part in the net or exercise, when tactical call signs often are in use, at 10-minute intervals, using automatic CW identification.

Next Meeting: November 18, 2019 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

In turning down Dukish's petition, Scot Stone, the Deputy Chief of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau's Mobility Division, said commenters overwhelmingly opposed the proposal.

"They argue that the current rule strikes the appropriate balance between the need to identify the source of transmissions and ease of communication," Stone wrote. "Commenters state that, in their years of experience with amateur emergency communications, the station identification requirement has not proven to be a burden or obstacle, and that the current procedure actually contributes to efficient operations by providing a clear indication that a communication has ended and the channel is available."

Stone said some commenters asserted that Dukish's proposed procedure would be unworkable and cause confusion, while others characterized his proposal as a solution in search of a problem.

"The purpose of the station identification requirement is to make the source of transmissions clearly known to those receiving those transmissions," Stone wrote. "Separating the call sign from each transmission would defeat this purpose." Moreover, he said there's no evidence that the current station ID requirements have hindered amateur radio emergency communications.

- ARRL Letter, October 23, 2019

TOM'S TOME: COMMENTS FROM YOUR ARRL VICE DIRECTOR

Youth in ham radio--October was a good month for that. JOTA (Jamboree on the Air) happened at mid-month. I have always enjoyed that event, all the way back to the time when my own sons were in Scouts. Unfortunately, my schedule did not let me participate this year.

The School Club round-up happened this month, too. I only made a few contacts, but it's great to hear the young people on. Totally by chance, I happened to hear the Kettering University club on the air, and talked to Ruth, KM4LAO, a young lady whom I had worked with on a video about ARISS. And then, in the same afternoon, I heard the Dixie Heights High School (Kentucky) club on the air. Besides talking to the young lady operator, I was surprised to hear former Vice Director Gary Johnson, KI4LA, who is advising the club.

It's all part of keeping ham radio alive. You know, we get new people from anywhere. If young people have someone to guide them, some will get interested and become life-long hams. Thank you to all those of you who work with young people. Keep up your efforts. It's especially difficult these days to figure out just what attracts youth. So keep in touch with the youth coordinators in each of your Sections, and share what you know. Meanwhile, encourage those young people by helping them learn more and more about all the aspects of ham radio.

Others join us at various stages in life. We have to acknowledge all the hard work that so many clubs do in putting on license classes, in the evenings, on weekends, throughout the year. That work recruits new people, too, and every new ham has a story, and an interest which we hope will keep going. Besides just enjoying what we do in radio, we all need to help each other keep this great service/hobby alive and strong.

--73, Tom W8WTD Vice Director, Great Lakes Division
"Dale's Tales" for November 2019

W1AW TO COMMEMORATE 98TH ANNIVERSARY OF FIRST AMATEUR RADIO SIGNALS TO SPAN THE ATLANTIC

December 11 marks the 98th anniversary of the success of ARRL's Transatlantic Tests in 1921, organized to see if low-power amateur radio stations could be heard across the Atlantic using shortwave frequencies (i.e., above 200 meters). On that day, a message transmitted by a group of Radio Club of America members at 1BCG in Greenwich, Connecticut, was copied by Paul Godley, 2ZE, in Scotland.

QST

PUBLISHED IN THE INTERESTS OF POPULAR WIRELESS BY THE AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE, INC.

TRANSATLANTIC TESTS SUCCEED!

The Atlantic Ocean has been bridged by the signals of American amateur stations—not one but dozens of them! Paul F. Godley, next overseas with American equipment by the ARRL, set up his station at Ardrossan, Scotland, and there copied the signals of the following stations:

SPARK

1ARY Burlington, Vt.
1AAW Illegal Station, not yet located
1BDT Atlantic, Mass.
2BK Yonkers, N.Y.
2BN Yonkers, N.Y.
CAN. 3BP Newmarket, Ont.

C.W.

1RU West Hartford, Conn.
1RZ Ridgefield Conn.
1ARY Burlington, Vt.
1BCG Greenwich, Conn.
1BDT Atlantic, Mass.
1BGF Hartford, Conn.
1BKA Glenbrook, Conn.
1XM Cambridge, Mass.
1YK Worcester, Mass.
2EH Riverhead, N.Y.
2FD New York City
2FP Brooklyn, N.Y.
2ARY Brooklyn, N.Y.
2AJW Babylon, N.Y.
2BHL Riverhead, N.Y.
3DH Princeton, N.J.
3FB Atlantic City, N.J.
8BU Cleveland, Ohio
8ACF Washington, Pa.
8KV Pittsburgh, Pa.

This accomplishment is epoch-making and opens the door to unlimited possibilities in private radio communication. We will publish the

COMPLETE STORY IN OUR NEXT ISSUE – DON'T MISS IT!

January 1922 20 Cents

While the first two-way contact would not take place until 1923, the 1921 transatlantic success marked the beginning of what would become routine communication between US radio amateurs and those in other parts of the world -- the birth of DX.

To commemorate this amateur radio milestone, Maxim Memorial Station W1AW will be on the air through the day on December 11 with volunteer operators. The goal is to encourage contacts between radio amateurs in the US and Europe while showcasing the significance of the transmissions that pioneered global communication and laid the groundwork for technology widely used today.

- ARRL Letter, November 7, 2019

ANTENNA GOES UP AT MONROE

PHOTOS BY W8EH

The morning of November 8, was the day chosen to install an anrtenna for the the 147.315 repeater, preciously operated from West Middletown, to its new home in Monroe, OH. You may recall the 147.315 repeater, having being in Madiston Township since May 1978, was removed last summer as the Townhip prepared to have a water tank repainted. It was exciting that Ernie, W8EH, and I had the pleasure of witnessing this new antenna installation.

The new antenna location is atop a water storage tank on Britton Road in Monroe. As work began, there was but one antenna on the tank - utilized by the City of Monroe – which is to share space with a high-gain, dual-band (146/442MHz) antenna for Dial's use. *[Sorry I didn't have a photo without the antenna at the right]*

Antenna installation was accomplished by a team from MobilComm in Cincinnati. A crew of four; two climbers and two ground crew spent the morning on the project.

The new antenna was mounted to the right of the existing antenna with an offset bracket to increase spacing between the two.

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Conclusion view, looking up at the top of the tank, better showing both antennas.

A close-up of the antenna's mounting

The "aerial" crew during installation.

- Carl, K8CM

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SKYWARN RECOGNITION DAY CELEBRATES 20 YEARS ON DECEMBER 7

SKYWARN Recognition Day (SRD) will mark its 20th anniversary on December 7, 0000 to 2400 UTC. This is the day each year when radio amateurs operate from National Weather Service (NWS) forecast offices across the country, celebrating the long relationship between the amateur radio community and the National Weather Service SKYWARN program. The purpose of the event is to recognize amateur radio operators for the vital public service they perform during times of severe weather and to strengthen the bond between radio amateurs and their local NWS offices.

Developed in 1999, SRD is cosponsored by ARRL and the NWS. Traditionally, radio amateurs have assisted the mission of the NWS through providing near real-time reports of severe weather and storm development. Reports received from radio amateurs have proven invaluable to NWS forecasters.

During SRD, participants exchange contact information with as many NWS stations as possible on 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6, and 2 meters, plus 70 centimeters. Contacts via repeaters are permitted. Stations should exchange call signs, signal reports, and locations, plus a quick description of the weather at your location (e.g., sunny, partly cloudy, windy, rainy, etc.). EchoLink and IRLP nodes, including the Voice over Internet Protocol Weather Net (VoIP-WX), are expected to be active as well.

WX4NHC at the National Hurricane Center will also be on the air for SRD, 1300 - 1700 UTC, for its 21st year of SRD participation.

Event certificates are electronic and printable from the main website at the conclusion of SRD. To learn more, visit the SKYWARN Recognition Day website.

- ARRL Letter, November 7, 2019

CLASS AND EXAM NEWS

BCARA hosted our last exam session on October 26, with nine VEs serving nine applicants to whom 9 exam elements were administered. The 9 elements consisted of Element 2 (3 administered and 3 passing), Element 3 (6 administered and 4 passing), and Element 4 (6 administered and 2 passing). At morning's end, there were 2 new Technicians, 1 new General, 3 General upgrades and 3 Amateur Extra upgrades.

Our last exam of 2019 will be offered at 6 pm on November 20, in room 007 Thesken Hall, Miami University-Middletown.

Exam announcements appear on the ARRL page http://www.arrl.org/find-an-amateur-radio-license-exam-session

- Carl, K8CM

LATE-BREAKING NEWS ON FIELD DAY

Field Day 2019 results are out. Dial scored third in Ohio, out of the top 15, in class 3A. We were also third in the Great Lakes division and 23rd in the US.

- Ernie, W8EH

Next Meeting: November 18, 2019 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 20, 2019
at 6 p.m. in 007 Thesken Hall
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, and Licensee ID number (FRN) .

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

If you are applying for your first license, please go to *https://apps.fcc.gov/cores/userLogin.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: November 18, 2019 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH
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Introductory Level

Ham Radio Class to Begin Soon!

Beginning **January 29, 2020**, the DIAL RADIO CLUB will offer a six-week class to prepare a candidate for examination in the **Technician** Class Amateur Radio operator license. This class will meet Wednesday evenings, 6:00 – 9:00 PM, on the campus of **Miami University Middletown** in Thesken Hall room 007.

Class will conclude March 4 and be followed by an examination session on Wednesday, March 18.

Although the **class is free**, students will need to purchase the *The ARRL Ham Radio License Manual, 4th edition. (ISBN: 978-1-62595-082-6)* Books will be available for purchase on the first night or you may purchase it on your own in advance.

Morse code proficiency is no longer a requirement for any amateur radio operator's license.

Pre-registration is appreciated, but not required. For registration, directions, or other information, please contact either

Beverley Taylor

Aaron Renner

Next Meeting: November 18, 2019 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

President:
Dave Williamson, KD8W
Vice-President:
Carl Morgan, K8CM
Secretary:
Ernie Howard, Jr., W8EH
Treasurer:
Ron Spaulding, N8QF
Activities Manager:
Roy Dalton, N8LRN
Newsletter Editor:
Carl Morgan, K8CM
Webmaster
Tim Murphy, WA8YXY

Merry Christmas and Best Wishes for a Happy and Heathy 2020

the prez sez ...

End of the year!! Election of officers! A good meal and some good fellowship for the December meeting. I am looking forward to operating some over the holidays, going to watch the youngest grandson during his wrestling season. I hope everyone enjoys the Christmas holidays.

If you have the winning ticket for the N3FJP software (ticket# is > 4437123) You are the winner of the complete software package from N3FJP!!

Looking forward to seeing as many members as possible at the last meeting of the year! Invite someone to come visit us if you like! December 16th. We usually start about 5:30 pm for dinner and the meeting starts at 7:00 pm!

See U there!

- Dave, KD8W

Next Meeting: December 16, 2019 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH
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MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER , 2019 MEETING

Attendance:

W8EH, KC8WOF, N8QF, K8MRC, K8MTS, N8ACR, NN8M, W8ATG, KF8QS, W8ELI, NR8R, Barbara, W8RES, K8WWS, Sue, KC8IZE, K8CM, W8WLM, W8ISZ, N8HP, N8GGE, N8EH, N8HRA, WA8YXY, KD8W (25).

Call to Order:

Meeting called to order by KD8W at 6:59 pm

Secretary's Report:

Motion to approve the October minutes as published in the newsletter by N8EH, second NR8R, passed.

Treasurer's Report:

N8QF gave the treasurer's report, expenses and income for October. The checking balance at the end of October was $6,200.92. We have 84 members of 57 families. Motion to approve the report by N8HP, second NM8M, approved.

Classes and Exams:

N8GGE said next exam is January 22nd. Tech classes start on January 29th. Those teaching the tech class will be receiving information soon. K8CM said the exam is 6 pm Wednesday in room 7, Thesken Hall.

Newsletter:

K8CM reported newsletter is ok, one kickback

Website:

WA8YXY said it was up to date. He had to update his software that edits the web page.

Repeater/Station Report:

W8EH reported the antenna and feedline was installed at the Britton Lane water tank by Mobilcomm. We will be having a work party Friday to remove the old cabinet and install the Club's cabinet and run electric wiring.

Old Business:

W8EH reported the field day results were published. Dial finished 3rd in both Ohio and the Great Lakes Division. Our friends in Cincinnati finished 1st.

New Business:

KD8W reported that Ed Gansen, K8DSS, sold his house here and moved to Florida fulltime.

KD8W asked NR8R to talk for the nominating committee. Some positions are filled. Looking for new blood. Need someone for Treasurer.

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Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn by NM8M, second K8MRC, approved.

Ernie Howard, W8EH
Secretary

MONROE REPEATER SITE

Friday, November 22, a group of five consisting of Ernie, W8EH; Barney, N8HP; Bob, NN8M; Tim, WA8YXY; and Evan, KC8TXA, converged on the Britton Lane repeater site in Monroe. Target for the day was to remove an abandoned radio cabinet, install a new cabinet in which the 147.315 MHz will be housed, and provide electric service thereto.

Old, abandoned cabinet
W8EH photo

The cabinet was previously used at the now-vacated Madison Township site. An existing concrete pillar, fortunately, was just the right size and position for supporting the to-be-installed radio cabinet.

Tasks remaining are to run the feedline from the tower to the radio cabinet, install and activate the repeater. At this point we're discussing running the feedline underground but that'll be a task for yet another day.

Replacement repeater cabinet
WA8YXY photo

Saturday, December 7: We completed the final hard parts of the installation today with Tim, WA8YXY; Roy, N8LRN; Barney, N8HP; Ernie, W8EH; and Carl, K8CM for working. It was bit cold starting out, but with the bright sun, we soon warmed up. Tim will post some pictures on the Dial web page soon.

The following jobs were completed today:

- The conduit with the feedline inside was buried from the tower to our cabinet. (The last big job is done).
- Feedline was connected and tested.
- Lightning protector for the feedline was installed.
- Protected/filtered outlets were installed in both the main cabinet and the power/battery cabinet.
- The repeater duplexer cavities were installed.
- The 35 amp, 12 volt power supply for the cabinet was installed.
- A small backup battery was installed for the 147.315 repeater.
- A UHF whip antenna was installed on the cabinet for use with the 146.01 remote receiver.
- The 147.315 repeater system was installed and returned to service. This is the club's Yaesu DR-1X repeater that was running at West Middletown until we lost the site. The repeater only has a CW ID and no courtesy tone, as was normal operation. The repeater is running 20 watts output.

- The 146.01 remote receiver and UHF link transmitter was installed and hooked up temporary to the cabinet top whip antenna.
- Placard with Club ID and contact number was installed on the outside of the cabinet.
- Secondary padlocks were installed on the three cabinet doors.

Work remaining to be done:

- Connect the ground rod to cabinet. A short run of #8 bare copper will do it.
- Seal two conduits at the cabinet.
- The 146.01 remote receiver needs a couple of cavities tuned up to allow sharing of the antenna with the 147.315 repeater. This remote is on now testing using a whip antenna on top of the cabinet.
- Finish install of the W8MUM UHF repeater. It will be hooked up to and share our antenna, like it was at West Middletown. The repeater equipment has been installed. Only the duplexer and coax jumper cables need to be installed.

WA8YXY photo

Sealing against unwanted water entrance

WA8YXY photo

Notes:

This site has backup generator power. Should there be a power failure, our repeater will run on battery for the short time that it takes for the generator to auto-start, after which the generator runs on natural gas.

The antenna is a dual band (2m/70cm) Comet GP-9 at about 100 feet above ground. Feedline is Andrew LDF-4-50, half inch Heliax.

Now you can get involved with the move by getting your hand-held and check how this repeater covers the area. So far so good. It appears to be hearing as good as it is transmitting. I can access it with a good signal using my Kenwood HT on .05 watts from my desk in the lower level family room of my house, 3.5 miles away. Full quieting using 0.5 watts.

Signal reports from you would be most welcome.

- Ernie, W8EH, et al

Next Meeting: December 16, 2019 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH
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MORE REPEATER SITE PHOTOS

all photos courtesy of WA8YXY

Installing a repeater and readying it for operation

Preparing Heliax feed line for connector installation

Rear view of the repeater cabinet showing (top and middle) two repeaters, a 01/61 remote receiver, and its link transmitter. At the bottom of the cabinet sits the VHF duplexer

Trench (now covered) concealing the feedline to the repeater cabinet.

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ARRL LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY COMMITTEE DRAFTING NEW BILL ADDRESSING ANTENNA RESTRICTIONS

The ARRL Board of Directors Legislative Advocacy Committee is in the process of drafting a new bill to address the issue of private land-use restrictions on amateur radio antennas. The proposed legislation would be the successor to the Amateur Radio Parity Act. The Legislative Advocacy Committee, chaired by Pacific Division Director Jim Tiemstra, K6JAT, will report to the Board soon, once plans are fleshed out. Tiemstra told the ARRL Executive Committee (EC) on October 12 in Aurora, Colorado, that Advocacy Committee members have traveled to Washington to meet on multiple occasions with members of Congress and their staffs to inform them of the committee's plans.

- ARRL Letter, November 21, 2019

SEND YOUR YOUNG HAM TO YOTA CAMP NEXT JUNE

The first camp for young amateur radio operators in North, Central, and South America is coming to West Chester, Ohio in June, 2020. Below, is a press release on the event….Dan

WEST CHESTER, Ohio, November 13, 2019—A summer camp for licensed amateur radio operators ages 15 through 25 will take place June 21 through June 26, 2020 at the National Voice of America Museum of Broadcasting in West Chester Township (North Cincinnati), Ohio, according to an announcement today by the Youth on the Air (YOTA) committee in IARU Region 2. The camp is being hosted by the museum and the West Chester Amateur Radio Association (WC8VOA).

The camp, a modified version of the popular Youngsters on the Air camps in IARU Region 1 covering Europe and Africa, is operated by Electronic Applications Radio Service, Inc. (EARS). EARS is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization dedicated to wireless technologies and activities. IARU Region 2 covers North, Central and South America.

The camp will focus on building peer & mentor relationships and learning how to take amateur radio to the next level. Campers will attend workshops and activities in multiple STEM-related subjects, such as Radio Contesting, Electronic Kit Building, D-STAR, APRS, Satellite Communications, Building Antennas, and Radio Direction Finding and Orienteering. Campers will also build teams and contesting skills by using amateur radio at nearby Kings Island Amusement Park. A high altitude balloon launch is also being planned. Social and team building activities include a pizza and pool party, a trip to Dave & Buster's and operation of a special event station using the call sign W8Y.

The event is a pilot for what hopefully will become a future series at other locations. This is the first camp specifically for youngsters 15 to 25 living in the Americas who already have their amateur licenses.

This camp could not take place without financial and equipment support. Campers will use the latest and greatest amateur radio equipment courtesy of ICOM America, Heil Sound, X-Tronic, and R&L Electronics.

Major financial supporters at the time of this press release include: the Yasme Foundation, the World Wide Radio Operators Foundation, Orlando Hamcation and Orlando Amateur Radio Club (OARC), the Northern California DX Foundation (NCDXF), Dayton Hamvention and Dayton Amateur Radio Association (DARA), the Huntsville Hamfest, the ARRL Foundation, Southwest Ohio DX Association (SWODXA), Radio Amateurs of Canada, and Gary West, K8DEV & Dee Dee West, KA8DXE. Their financial support makes it possible for these aspiring young amateur radio operators to attend the camp at a greatly reduced cost.

Clubs and individuals who wish to donate to help further defray the costs of the camp can do so via PayPal by visiting YOTAregion2.org, and clicking on the donate button. Donations can also be made on GoFundMe.

More information about YOTA in the Americas as well as the summer camp can be found at YOTAregion2.org, and on YOTAregion2 on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube. YOTAregion2.org is also sponsored by ICOM America.

To schedule interviews or obtain additional information about YOTA in the Americas, please contact Camp Director Neil Rapp, WB9VPG at director@yotaregion2.org.

November 18, 2019 by dan kb6nu

DAYTON HAMVENTION® INVITES 2020 AWARD NOMINATIONS

Dayton Hamvention® is inviting nominations for its 2020 awards. Nominations are due by February 15, 2020. Awards will be granted for Amateur of the Year, Club of the Year, Technical Achievement, and Special Achievement.

- The Amateur of the Year Award is given to a radio amateur who has made a long-term commitment to the advancement of amateur radio. This individual will have a history of ham radio contributions and demonstrated dedication to service, professionalism, and the advancement of the avocation of amateur radio.
- The Club of the Year will be honored for clearly demonstrating its involvement in varied aspects of amateur radio for the greater good of their community and/or nation.
- The Technical Achievement Award recognizes a radio amateur who has achieved technical excellence in the world of amateur radio. Examples are inventions, processes, discoveries, experiments, and other technical accomplishments or achievements that contributed to amateur radio.
- The Special Achievement Award recognizes a radio amateur who has made an outstanding contribution to the advancement of the radio art and/or science. This award is usually given to a respected amateur who spearheaded a single significant project.

Nomination forms are specific to the award. At a minimum, each form should be completed with the information indicated. Provide contact information for the person making the nomination. Submit forms via email or via USPS to Hamvention, Attention: Awards Committee, Box 964, Dayton, Ohio 45401-0964.

The Awards Committee will make its selections and announce the recipients along with details on their accomplishments. An honors convocation and award presentation will be held on the Saturday evening of Hamvention. Award presentations will also take place at Hamvention on Sunday afternoon, prior to the prize award activity.

For more information, contact the Dayton Hamvention Awards Committee.

- ARRL Letter, November 21, 2019

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FCC INVITES COMMENTS ON DIGITAL AM BROADCASTING PROPOSAL

The FCC has invited comments on a *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* (***NPRM***), that would allow AM broadcasters to transmit an all-digital signal using the HD Radio in-band on-channel (IBOC) mode, known as MA3.1

"We tentatively conclude that a voluntary transition to all-digital broadcasting has the potential to benefit AM stations and provide improved AM service to the listening public," the FCC said. "We seek comments on proposed operating standards for all-digital stations and the impact of such operations on existing analog stations and listeners."

The proceeding was initiated by a March 2019 *Petition for Rulemaking* (Petition) filed by Bryan Broadcasting Corporation. "This proceeding continues the Commission's efforts to improve and update the AM radio service to provide a better listening experience for consumers and enhanced service offerings, as part of our continuing effort to revitalize AM broadcasting," the FCC said in the introduction to the NPRM.

Comments are due 60 days after the *NPRM* appears in *The Federal Register*.

- PostScript, Cyber Monday Edition

OHIO ARES VHF SIMPLEX CONTEST

Saturday - January 11 – Are you getting ready???

The purpose of our annual simplex activity is to improve our station and antenna capabilities, and to test our coverage areas on simplex frequencies.

These may be very important in times of emergency, when repeaters have failed, and simplex is the only method of emergency communication. We are NOT giving any consideration for backup power- this exercise is aimed at testing antennas and determining coverage areas.

More details will be coming very soon. But, in the meantime, start planning now on where you are going to setup and operate!!!

- PostScript, Cyber Monday Edition

GREAT LAKES DIVISION, ARRL, CONVENTION

I'd like to remind everyone that our Great Lakes Division convention is coming up in March, the weekend of the 14th and 15th, to be specific. It's being held in Toledo, Ohio, in conjunction with the Toledo Mobile Radio Association's annual hamfest. The folks up there have been planning for this event since early summer. They've pulled together a great line-up of speakers and topics and activities. It's all indoors, as is appropriate for that time of year, at a nice facility. More details will be available soon, but it's time to start planning for March. It may be a bit of a drive for some folks in the Division, but probably well worth the effort to see and hear about projects and techniques that you need more help with.

- Dale's Tales for December '19

DAYTON HAMVENTION® is increasing the cost of admission and its booth fees. Hamvention General Chair Jack Gerbs, WB8SCT, announced this week that general admission would rise by $4 per ticket to $26 in advance or $31 at the gate. The cost of flea market spots will go up by $5 per space, and inside exhibitors will pay $30 more. "Hamvention has always strived to produce a very high-quality event for amateur radio enthusiasts from around the globe," Gerbs said. "We have always felt it is imperative that we give back to amateur radio at many levels. We have been very generous in our support over the years." He cited "the economic pressures to present a show like Hamvention" as the reason for the price increases.

- ARRL Letter, December 5, 2019

CLASS AND EXAM NEWS

The last exam of 2019 was held in Thesken Hall on the evening of November 20. Eleven VEs served four applicants to whom 5 exam elements were administered. The 5 elements consisted of Element 2 (1 administered and 1 passing), Element 3 (1 administered and 1 passing), and Element 4 (3 administered and 1 passing). At evening's end, there was 1 new Technician, 1 General upgrade and 1 Amateur Extra upgrade.

Our next exam will signal the beginning of the 2020 season by offering an exam at 6 pm on January 22, in room 007 Thesken Hall, Miami University-Middletown.

Exam announcements continue to appear on the Laurel web site, https://www.laurelvec.com/?pg=exams, and the ARRL page http://www.arrl.org/find-an-amateur-radio-license-exam-session

- Carl, K8CM

2020 Dial Radio Club dues are $26 and will be due January 1. Dues may be paid by bringing it to the meeting next week or mailing your check to DIAL Radio Club,

Amateur Radio License Exams

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

Wednesday evening, January 22, 2020
at 6 p.m. in 007 Thesken Hall
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, and Licensee ID number (FRN).

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

If you are applying for your first license, please go to *https://apps.fcc.gov/cores/userLogin.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: December 16, 2019 at the Clubhouse Sports Grill, 250 N. Main Street, Monroe, OH
Dinner at 6 pm followed by business meeting at 7

Introductory Level

Ham Radio Class to Begin Soon!

Beginning **January 29, 2020**, the DIAL RADIO CLUB will offer a six-week class to prepare a candidate for examination in the **Technician** Class Amateur Radio operator license. This class will meet Wednesday evenings, 6:00 – 9:00 PM, on the campus of **Miami University Middletown** in Thesken Hall room 007.

Class will conclude March 4 and be followed by an examination session on Wednesday, March 18.

Although the **class is free**, students will need to purchase the *The ARRL Ham Radio License Manual, 4th edition. (ISBN: 978-1-62595-082-6)* Books will be available for purchase on the first night or you may purchase it on your own in advance.

Morse code proficiency is no longer a requirement for any amateur radio operator's license.

Pre-registration is appreciated, but not required. For registration, directions, or other information, please contact either

Beverley Taylor

Aaron Renner

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