



DeFOREST

AMATEUR RADIO CLUB – K8GE



FEBRUARY 2004

SERVING SOUTH CENTRAL OHIO SINCE 1974

<http://www.qsl.net/k8ge>

The President's Shack

I was glad to see a good turn out at the February meeting. Kyle did a good job with the minutes of the last meeting. The March meeting is coming up with the Weather Class. That will be on March 9 at the Sr. Citizens Building. Jerry will probably have more information in the News Letter.

We have 19 computer monitors that were donated by DP&L to the DeForest Club to sale for a fund raiser. It was decided to sale them for \$10 each. These were checked out by DP&L and are said to be in good working order.

Included are:

14 View Sonic 15GS

3 Compaq

1 Dell

1 NEC

1 IBM Laser Printer(Lexmark)

Not checked out Yet

1 HP Deskjet 694C Printer Not checked out yet

Anyone interested can get in touch with me. The only guarantee is that if it doesn't work we will give you another.

Heres hoping we can make a little money for the Club.

I hope to see a good turnout at the Weather Class.

Secretary's Minutes

By KC8OLS – Kyle West

February's meeting began around 7:15 p.m. and ended around 8:10 p.m. There were eleven people in

attendance at the meeting. Secretary's minutes for the January meeting were accepted as they were posted in the newsletter. Pat, KC8LVE went over the Treasurer's Report.

Ed, KE8FK mentioned that those who want to keep voting rights and be eligible to hold an office next year must pay their dues before the end of this month. Jerry, WB8IOW will be sending them to people who haven't paid if he hasn't done so already.

DP&L donated 24 computer monitors to the club. Ed sold 5 before he even left the parking lot for ten dollars each. If you are interested in buying a monitor contact one of the club officers. The price is ten dollars each.

The repeater is working pretty well but there is still a hum in the phone patch. Kim would still like to update ARES information if you haven't done so already, contact Kim whenever possible. The weather spotter class will be on March 9. It will be at the senior building across from the steps of the courthouse. It will begin around 6:30 p.m.

The covered bridge information will be at the club web site. You can also find information at qsl.net/ohiocovered-bridges. Field Day this year will so far be at Kim and Jerry's house. (*Editors note: pending final club decision.*)

Jerry talked about how the FCC is talking about restructuring. There will be only three classes of

licenses; Novice, General, and Extra. Novices will require a 25 word written test, no code required. General will require no code. All technicians will become Generals. Advanced licenses will become extras and will require a 5 wpm code test. As of now these changes have only been proposed but Jerry believes that they will surely go through.

Kim's father was at the meeting from Dover, Delaware. I enjoyed meeting him and speaking to him, he is a very nice man to talk to. Kim gave Pat and I a neat little picture for being club officers this year. Thanks Kim for the gift.

Meeting Attendance

- 1.Ed KE8FK
- 2.Kyle KC8OLS
- 3.Pat KC8LVE
- 4.Barb N8HI A
- 5.Barry KB8OMG
- 6.Ridney N8XGP
- 7.Kelly KB8UAO
- 8.Bill N8SND
- 9.Jerry WB8IOW
- 10.Kim N8YWXX
- 11.Robert;Dover, Delaware

NEXT MEETING

Weather Spotter Class

TUESDAY – March 9, 2004 -

6:30 PM

**ABCAP Senior Nutrition Center
Across from the front steps of
the Adams County Courthouse,
In West Union, Ohio**

Birthdays & Special Events

March

8 KB8NSJ Larry Bennington
9 Weather Spotter
Training - ABCAP
Building 6:30 PM
16 N8XGM Tony Kimmerly
19 KC8DDY Lyle Lambert
21 KC8HFX Robert Kempfues
22 KC8LIA Karen Lambert
22 KB8YKM Imogene Seymour

April

4 KB8NBI Jack King
5 KC8LIC Ronald Buhr
6 KB8RYG Lawrence Lewis
13 DeForest Amateur Radio
Club Meeting - 7:00 PM
14 KC8LIE Sharon Buhr
18 KD4PYZ T J Whitehead
25 KA8VEE Robert Ralston
27 KB8VPR Joe Rogers
29 KQ4TN Paul Whitehead

WEAVER'S WORDS

(Reply to k8je@arrl.org.)

BPL

As most of you know, FCC has announced it will issue a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) on BPL very soon. At the time the NPRM is publicized, you will have additional opportunity to write FCC to protest. The Commission has asserted BPL will be done in a manner that will avoid interference, but they are leaving policing of this to the Power Companies. My only thought is that self-policing is great when it is actually done. Isn't this BPL thing sort of like hiring the fox to guard the hen house? The Power Companies have proven time and time again as an industry that they cannot or will not manage interference caused by broken insulators, capacitors, etc. Will this all change?

In reality, provided FCC acts aggressively to prevent interference, as they say they will, we will not be in bad shape. I'm not holding my breath for long, though.

Keep your eyes on arrl.org and on further E-mail information from me. Each source will advise you when and how comments can be made.

In the meantime, I strongly encourage any member who is experiencing interference from a faulty power line to write (USPS or E-mail) the company and complain. Be as specific as possible. Above all, keep copies of your correspondence with them. If they do not respond within a reasonable time, write again. Keep a copy. If you do not get a timely response or if the problem is not fixed, please send a copy of your file to Riley Hollingsworth. Include a letter explaining the situation. Let's get the power companies on notice that they have to keep their acts clean.

AMATEUR RADIO SPECTRUM PROTECTION ACT

The new year 2004 is here. Congress is back in session. It is time to renew our campaign to gain sponsors for the Spectrum Protection Act. I've written about this several times previously, but if you need further information, let me know. I'll be happy to send whatever you need to you.

Other than for this, please write to your US Representative and to each of your US Senators. Ask them to co-sponsor HR 713 (House) and S 537 (Senate), the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act as it has been introduced into each of these houses. For sample letters, go to:
<http://www.arrl.org/govrelations/arspa.html#write>. Please

personalize your letter by adding an example of a fairly recent public service/emergency communications activity that was held in your state or the Representatives' District.

To learn your Representative's name and address, go to:

<http://www.house.gov/writerep/>.

To learn your Senators' names and addresses, go to:

<http://www.senate.gov/contacting/index.cfm>. It is possible in most

cases to send E-mail letters to Representatives and Senators right from the page that has their names and addresses. Please copy me on your letters and any replies you receive. I will forward these to our lobbyist in DC for his follow-up.

If you have written before, please do it again. There is an exception to this request. It would not be correct to ask a Representative or Senator who has already co-signed the bill to do this again. It would be nice to send a thank you note to them, but not one to ask them to do what they've already done. A list of Great Lakes Division Representatives and Senators who have already co-signed is given below. The dates are when they became co-sponsors.

Rep Brown, Sherrod - 11/4/2003 [OH-13]
Rep Gillmor, Paul E. - 6/9/2003 [OH-5]
Rep Hoekstra, Peter - 10/30/2003 [MI-2]
Rep Jones, Stephanie Tubbs - 11/7/2003 [OH-11]
Rep Kildee, Dale E. - 10/29/2003 [MI-5]
Rep Kilpatrick, Carolyn C. - 10/29/2003 [MI-13]
Rep Levin, Sander M. - 12/8/2003 [MI-12]
Rep Miller, Candice - 1/20/2004 [MI-10]
Rep Rogers, Mike - 10/21/2003 [MI-8]
Rep Strickland, Ted - 3/13/2003 [OH-6]
Rep Stupak, Bart - 6/4/2003 [MI-1]
Rep Tiberi, Patrick J. - 2/13/2003 [OH-12]
Rep Turner, Michael - 10/29/2003 [OH-3]

Sen Levin, Carl - 9/29/2003 [MI] is the only US Senator who has co-sponsored the bill.

Lets get busy and several more in two thousand four!

SPAM VIA ARRL.NET

Many of you have asked why ARRL does not put a filter on the arrl.net forwarding service and block SPAM from being sent through it. To you I've suggested it is better for each person to put a SPAM blocking program on their computer rather than to let an ISP do the filtering. The reason is that when you and I set the filter on our own computers, we are the ones who define exactly what SPAM is to us. When we do this, mail that we define as NOT being SPAM gets through. When an ISP does the filtering, SPAM is whatever a worker at the ISP considers it to be. The risk is substantial that the block will kick messages we want to receive out of the system so we don't even know they were sent.

The following quote from another reflector to which I belong clearly shows what I mean. I have removed the identity of the sender (a former work colleague of mine) and the name of the ISP. He is totally frustrated over the ISP setting the filter standards, which cause him to lose wanted E-mail.

"I'm getting testier about this mail filtering thing. [His ISP] constructed a Filtered Mail folder (without my asking). The things I know are missing from [name of the reflector] don't go there. If they must filter, put it there so I can selectively handle it."

"All I find in the Filtered Mail folder are what I can only call the "Do What, With What and To Whom" stuff (at what size and at what cost). Others have reported frustration with various "help" desks. Next ??"

The arrl.net forwarding service is not the cause or source of SPAM. There is no question that by the

very nature of the patterns used to assign callsigns, amateurs are ripe targets for SPAMMERS.

THANKS!

I thank each of you who have written your support as well as suggestions for the new restructuring proposal and for the work I've been doing. Your suggestions and other input -- yes, your disagreements -- are key to whatever I may do to benefit Amateur Radio and you. Keep up writing.

MANY NON-MEMBERS AND SOME MEMBERS ARE SURPRISED

Why are many non-members and even members surprised when they learn they cannot carry the ARRL banner if they are not members? Many non-members are surprised to learn that I do not represent them. I certainly try to represent the best interests of Amateur Radio and ARRL members, and if this happens to include non-members, fine. I feel no need to bend over backwards to acknowledge the thoughts and wishes of non-members.

Similarly, why would a non-member even consider they could become an ARRL banner carrier by receiving appointment as a DX card checker or any other appointment to a program sponsored by the League? This should not even be a consideration. One cannot have allegiance to a program of an organization to which they choose not to belong. It is this simple.

Soon after you elected me Director I began looking through the many member programs of the League as I had promised during my campaign. I'm still going through these to see if there are programs that ought to be deleted or

modified. I quickly learned that the criteria for becoming an ARRL WAS QSL checker were rather loose. For one thing, there was no requirement that the checker need be an ARRL member. This clearly was a slip-up. You can bet I jumped on this. WAS QSL checkers now need to be ARRL members. The coming ARRL Mentor program, the DXCC QSL checker program and others are further examples of appointments that are or will be available only to members.

The League exists because of the support of its members. Its members, not non-members, are the ones who should benefit from the recognition available through appointments.

SEE YOU THIS SUMMER?

Vice Director Mondro, W8FQT (w8fqt@arrl.org) and I (k8je@arrl.org) will be attending a number of meetings and hamfest/swaps this summer. Look us up when you are at one of those we attend. If you would like us to attend one of your meetings or hamfests/swaps, please let us know.

73, GL, Jim

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Jim Weaver, K8JE, Director, Great Lakes Division ARRL
5065 Bethany Rd.,
Mason, OH 45040-9660,
Tel. 513-459-0142,
E-mail k8je@arrl.org

AMATEUR RADIO SATELLITES

K8YMI - Bob Halley

AMSAT-NA expects to launch our new satellite, ECHO, on March 31st. from the Baikonour Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan on a converted SS-18 ICBM. The launch window will be open thru April and into May. This 10 inch cubed microsat will carry 2 UHF transmitters capable of 1 to 8 watts and capable of simultaneous operation. It will also carry 4 VHF receivers and a multiband, multimode receiver capable of operating on the 10 meter, 2 meter, 70 cm and 23 cm bands. FM voice and various digital modes--including PSK-31 on a 10-meter uplink--also will be available. You should be able to work this "bird" with a dualband handheld and a small hand held antenna. It will replace AO-27 in some ways and outperform it in many other ways.

Launch costs for ECHO will be \$110,000, which is quite low. Several of our Phase 3 satellites launches have cost over a million dollars. A special effort is underway now to ask Hams to send any contribution they can make to AMSAT. About 60 thousand dollars has been raised by the end of January. IF YOU CAN HELP, PLEASE DO SO. I suspect that, in time, this will become the most used amateur radio satellite.

AO-40 had a serious battery problem late in January. It appears that the main battery supply has failed and cannot be recharged by the solar cells. There is a backup battery system in parallel and is use now and it seems healthy. There is some optimism that the basic system can be restored. Tests are being run now in the Orlando Laboratory on spare batteries to simulate the failure and determine what can be

done for recovery.

AMSAT-NA maintains a web site at AMSAT-NA.org that you might find very interesting. It includes the Amsat News Service, orbit data (Keplerian elements)

Manned space missions, general satellite discussion, and leads to other related sources of information. Try it!

The IARU Amateur Satellite Frequency Coordination web site has been updated recently with information about a number of cubesat projects and 3 new microsats. The UniSat3 being built by La Sapienza University in Rome is a 12 kg microsat scheduled for launch by Dnepr with Oscar ECHO. Look at their website at <http://www.amsat.org.uk/iaru/>

Space Daily reported recently that "spurred by China's success in its first ever manned space flight, Japan plans a drastic review of it space policy and will consider launching manned space flights as well". The government's science and technology council is expected to agree to draw up a new policy by mid-2004.

The ARISS Team plans two engineering checkout passes on the use of the Phase 2 Kenwood radio system during school contacts. One test will be run during a pass over Russia using Sergej Samurov's radio station (R3K) and the other test will be run during a pass over the U. S. using W5RRR at Johnson SC, W5D1D (Lew McFadden) at Orlando, and NN1SS at Goddard SC. These tests are now scheduled for February.

Scott Avery, WA6LIE reported hearing Mattie, KD7TYN, make a packet contact with R00ISS on the ISS. Mattie, who is 7 years old, passed her Extra Class Exam

the day before the contact. There was an ARRL news item in January that Mattie had passed her General Class exam. How about that? I had a packet contact with the same ISS station on January 29th.

ISS Commander Mike Foale, KB5UAC, was able to find an air pressure leak from a faulty hose on the Station. He was able to shut off that line and disconnect it. A replacement hose will be sent on the next supply ship. It created some real excitement before it was finally located.

NASA is making progress on adapting the new safety measures for the Shuttle Fleet and now believe that Atlantis will fly in the fall of 2004. Eileen Collins will be the Commander of that Shuttle Flight.

-73- K8YMI

DeForest Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Mailing address:

DeForest ARC

P.O. Box 73

West Union, Ohio 45693-0073

Repeater 147.00+ MHz - PL 94.8

Web site: <http://www.qsl.net/k8ge>

2003 officers:

President: Ed Lock KE8FK

VicePres.: Jerry Paquette WB8IOW

Secretary: Kim Paquette N8YWX

Treasurer: Patricia Ellis KC8LVE

2004 officers:

President: Ed Lock KE8FK

VicePres.: Lyle Lambert KC8DDY

Secretary: Kyle West KC8OLS

Treasurer: Patricia Ellis KC8LVE

PLEASE DISREGARD IF YOU HAVE ALREADY PAID YOUR DUES FOR 2004

DeFOREST AMATEUR RADIO CLUB - 2004 Membership Application
(FULL Membership dues must be paid by last day of February
in order to hold office in 2005 or to vote for 2005 officers)

NAME: _____ CALL: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ ST: _____ ZIP: _____

BIRTHDATE: _____ HOME PHONE: _____

WORK PHONE: _____ EXTENSION: _____

Is your home phone unlisted? () YES () NO

If yes, and another club member requests
your number should we give it out? () YES () NO

E-mail: _____

Send newsletter via E-mail instead of U.S. mail. () YES () NO

() FULL MEMBERSHIP - \$15 (including full autopatch privileges)
FULL MEMBER MUST BE LICENSED HAM OPERATOR

() ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP - \$5 (does not include use of autopatch)

Additional family members, living in same house, are \$5 each
and will have same membership level as first member.

NOTE: IN ANY CASE, A FULL MEMBER MUST BE A LICENSED HAM OPERATOR

NAME: _____ CALL: _____

BIRTHDATE: _____ WORK PHONE: _____

NAME: _____ CALL: _____

BIRTHDATE: _____ WORK PHONE: _____

NAME: _____ CALL: _____

BIRTHDATE: _____ WORK PHONE: _____

ANYONE WITH A DESIRE IN AMATEUR RADIO, LICENSED OR NOT, IS ELIGIBLE TO BE A MEMBER OF THE DeFOREST AMATEUR RADIO CLUB; HOWEVER, ONLY LICENSED AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS CAN BE A FULL MEMBER

SEND COMPLETED APPLICATION, AND A CHECK OR MONEY ORDER TO:

DeFOREST AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
PO BOX 73
WEST UNION OH 45693

CLUB TREASURER FILL OUT INFORMATION BELOW

Date received: _____ \$ enclosed: _____

PRATHER'S IGA FOODLINER

107 Walnut Street - West Union, Ohio
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Russ Grooms (Manager)
Connie Bradford (Manager)

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