

# Dial Radio Club

Middletown, Ohio

APRS Digipeater: W8MWO (MWO) 144.39

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@gth.net](mailto:dial@gth.net)

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**President:**

Art Frasier, N8PI

**Vice-president:**

Mark Johnson, WD8DFK

**Secretary:**

Ernie Howard., W8EH

**Treasurer:**

Carl Morgan, K8CM

**Activities Manager:**

Lorie Urschel, W8LKU

**Newsletter Printing**

Ron Spaulding, N8NQG

**Newsletter Distribution:**

Ruth Howard, N8OZN

Elaine Howard, KC8WOF

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## September 2004

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### Silent Key: N8WCE

We note, with sadness, the passing of **William E. (Willie) Mullins, N8WCE**, on Sunday, August 1. Willie had been active with *Dial* for a number of years and had an equal interest and passion for photography.

Willie will be sorely missed by his family, many friends and neighbors. Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with his family and friends though this trying time.

### Minutes of the August 16, 2004 Dial Radio Club Meeting

**Attendance:**

N8HP, N8GGE, KD8W, WD8DFK, WB8MYT, W8MVN, Bonnie, N8TFH, N8DHW, N8BH, KC8ZJM, K8TNF, KB8WKL, N8DIG, KB8VSX, KB8ZMO, Sarah, KE8OH, N8RYS, N8OZN, N8LWM, N8ODK, KC8WOF, W8EH, N8NQG, KC8TXA, N8LKU, WA8DTU, N8EH, N8HRA, N8PI, AB8QP, Ben.

**Call to Order:**

Meeting called to order by Art, N8PI. Since there were no new people, introductions were skipped.

**Secretary's Report:**

Motion to approve the minutes as published by Ernie, N8EH, second by Ron, N8NQG. Motion approved. Nothing further for the Secretary to report.

**Treasurer's Report:**

In Carl's absence, Ron, N8NQG, presented the expenses and income for July. We have 109 members.

Motion to approve by Ron, N8NQG, second by Jon, K8TNF. Motion approved.

**Repeater/Station Report:**

No news.

**Activity Report:**

Lorie, W8LKU, reported that ARES will be participating in the county wide drill September 8. They still need some operators.

**Classes & Exams:**

Beverly, N8GGE, said next exam is this Wednesday. Classes start August 25 with Technician. Start time is 6 pm on Wednesdays in room 110 Johnson Hall, Miami U in Middletown.

**Old Business:**

Dave, KD8W, brought up the demo by Bill Hayes on SWR. We are trying to coordinate a better location and time because of the required space.

Jon, K8TNF, gave a commercial about joining in on the 9:30 pm Saturday round table net.

**New Business:**

There was no new business to be considered..

**Adjourn:**

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Kelley, KC8ZJM, and duly seconded by Lorie, W8LKU. Motion approved, without dissent, by the membership.

Ernie Howard, Jr., W8EH  
Secretary

### Round Table Net: 146.610

A, new, round-table net has begun on Saturday evenings, at 9:30pm, on the 146.610 (W8BLV/R) repeater.

Welcoming any and all topics, this net encourages open discussion of various subjects of interest to the attendees.

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Next Meeting: Monday, September 20, *Golden Corral Buffet & Grill*; dinner at 6 meeting at 7

Please feel welcome to check into the net or contact Jon, K8TNF, for more information.

[K8CM]

For more information on BPL, visit the "Broadband Over Power Line (BPL) and Amateur Radio" page on the ARRL Web site.

[ARRL Web]

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## Broadband Provider Drops BPL in New York Trial Community

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The broadband provider that's been testing BPL in the Village of Penn Yan, New York, reportedly plans to "move away" from that technology. The Western New York community of some 5000 residents has been considering various proposals with Data Ventures (DVI) to offer broadband service, with the village reportedly getting 10 percent of any generated revenue. A BPL trial has been underway in Penn Yan for several months. According to an article in the July 28 edition of the Finger Lakes Times Online, DVI now is proposing to employ wireless mesh "WiFi" technology instead of BPL. ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, congratulated Penn Yan Mayor Douglas G. Marchionda Jr and DVI for going with wireless broadband instead of BPL.

"Not only will your citizens receive better service, but a serious radio spectrum pollution problem has been averted as well," Sumner said in a fax to Marchionda and to DVI CEO Marc Burling. "We hope that other communities will be able to profit from your experience." Sumner raised the issue of interference complaints from the Penn Yan BPL trial with Marchionda last April.

The *Finger Lakes Times* report quotes Burling as saying that his company didn't feel BPL was "commercially deployable." He also cited issues with the BPL trial including security concerns and interference--which will not be an issue with the wireless system.

Burling told ARRL that the Penn Yan BPL system remains on line but would be shut down once DVI starts deploying its wireless system. As for BPL, "We are going to sit back and wait for an official ruling from the FCC and go from there," he added.

Penn Yan already has rejected two DVI proposals to bring high-speed Internet service to the community, the newspaper said. Village officials reportedly met again with DVI representatives this week. DVI is partnering with Nortel to offer the wireless service.

The *Finger Lakes Times* article quotes Marchionda as saying that the village didn't want to be involved with handling complaints or operating the broadband system. It just wants to rent space on village-owned utility poles and benefit from any revenue the system generates.

Penn Yan and DVI had been looking at a 10-year agreement, but the latest proposal calls for a two-year contract with provisions for an automatic two-year renewal.

In a March 23 article "In This Power Play, High-Wire Act Riles Ham-Radio Fans," *Wall Street Journal* reporter Ken Brown described a "firestorm" of protest from amateurs when Penn Yan approved the BPL test plan.

ARRL also has learned that Energy East--a cooperative of New York State Electric & Gas and Rochester Gas & Electric--decided against deploying BPL in its Western New York service area. Energy East based its decision in large part on the high levels of radio frequency interference that an engineer and company officials observed during a visit to the Penn Yan field trial.

On July 29, Grand Haven, Michigan, announced that it had become the first community in the US to deploy a WiFi network that blankets the city and up to 15 miles off shore in Lake Michigan with broadband Internet access.

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## Weaver's Words

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### GETTING ON THE SAME PAGE

To be certain we are all on the same page when it comes to the new Grassroots Congressional Action program the ARRL Board has approved, it appears a few additional words of explanation are in order. Specifically, I have heard speculation that this project threatens the non-profit, US CFR 501(c)(3) tax status of the League. It is right to be concerned over such issues, but in this case, the concern is without foundation.

The issue here is that we are openly planning to "lobby".

Many people erroneously believe that "lobbying" is prohibited to tax exempt organizations. It is true that tax-exempt organizations including ARRL are limited in what they can do to lobby, but it is incorrect to believe they cannot lobby. A variety of factors is involved in determining if the manner in which a tax-exempt organization lobbies is consistent with its tax status. These include the percent of receipts spent in lobbying, to whom the lobbying effort is directed, what the lobbying effort is and more.

Some people prefer to call the type of lobbying ARRL is allowed "advocacy" instead of lobbying. Regardless, a rose by any other name still smells the same. I prefer to call lobbying exactly what it is -- lobbying. Our ARRL General Counsel and our Congressional Public Relations (lobby) firm feel the same way.

One key factor concerning the propriety of ARRL lobbying is that we are asking only our members to take action. We are not and will not under the current laws ask non-members to follow our lead. If someone decides on their own that our plan is the way to go, they are free to do whatever it is they wish. If the whatever is the same thing we advocate, it is not our fault and we risk no penalty. We cannot, however, direct our lobbying efforts to non-members.

So, let's get ready to lobby-by! Lobbying is proper for us and will prove useful in protecting the legitimate needs of Amateur Radio. It has become the only viable way we have of getting our story across to critical decision makers.

### THE LAST POLL

I didn't keep detailed statistics on the last poll, but I can report its results pretty well. You will recall I asked what you in the Great Lakes Division (GLD) felt about your contact (!) with ARRL HQ and 2) with the SMs and his staff, Vice Director Mondro and me. Here is where we came out with some 500 replies having been received:

1. Feelings about HQ: ca 95% had excellent experiences, ca 5% had poor experiences.
2. Feelings about the Division: ca 90% had excellent experiences, ca 10% had poor experiences.

Looking at this further, the poor experiences reported for HQ related essentially to the perception that the HQ folks were disinterested in what the member had to say. Pretty much was true of the feelings of those who reported poor experiences within the Division.

Regarding HQ, the information you provided me served as the basis for an in-depth discussion at a committee meeting held immediately prior to the Board meeting and again during a session of

the Board meeting. Our conclusion is that the staff truly is interested in each member, but that on occasion of heavy load this interest sometimes appear to be hidden. Measures are being taken to make our good, responsive people at HQ even better.

As to perceptions within the Division, I forwarded comments to the proper SM for whatever action he sees appropriate. And, yes, there was an instance or two when I dropped the ball. All I can do is to apologize for these instances and try to avoid them in the future.

Tnx for sharing your comments with me.

### **REGULATING BAND SEGMENTS BY TRANSMITTED BANDWIDTH**

The editorial in the September QST discusses the rationale behind regulation by bandwidth. I encourage you to read this and consider it carefully. At the same time or soon thereafter a synopsis of the proposal will be available to you to review. You will be asked to tell us if you see any problems that are likely to occur if the proposal would be implemented in the manner it is presented to you.

In the meantime, don't get bent out of shape thinking Regulating by Bandwidth will take us into a new ballgame. Simply stated, it won't. About the only thing that will change materially is the fact that putting newer forms of transmission into our bands will become simpler, quicker and more logical. All of your favorite modes of transmission (yes, AM included) will still be available.

All is good!

### **GLD CONVENTION**

Mark your calendars for Saturday, March 18. This is the date of the second, biannual Great Lakes Division Convention. It will be held in Greater Toledo this year on the day before the Toledo Hamfest (March 19)). Our friend, Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH of FCC Enforcement fame will be the banquet speaker Saturday evening. In the planning stages at this moment are a meeting of Letter Sorters of the 8th District Incoming QSL Bureau and a DX forum with some heavy shooters -- i.e., Big Guns -- to discuss how to get things done. The list of remaining top-class seminars is being firmed as we speak.

### **CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING GLD STUDENTS**

The following GLD students received scholarships through the Foundation for Amateur Radio (FAR) at the recent meeting of the ARRL Board of Directors. Their names, residences and scholarship names are:

#### **QCWA SILENT KEY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS**

Robert C. Mate, KB8VXJ, No. Olmstead, OH

David R. Parmiter, KC8IHT, Roseville, OH

Stephen M. Sciarini, KC8IDJ, Dover, OH

#### **LAWRENCE E. AND THELMA J. NORRIE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Therese G. Long, KC8PEZ, Imlay City, MI

#### **10-10 INTERNATIONAL NET SCHOLARSHIP**

Joshua J. Long, N8CFS, Imlay City, MI

#### **ROBERT E. TRUE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Justin R. Rigling, KC8OIO, Hamilton, OH

Fifty five scholarships were awarded. Each scholarship carried

a financial award with it. Congratulations to all of the winners. If one of these is in your area, why not invite him/her to a club meeting or activity. Make them at home in the club. Praise their accomplishment.

### **ENFORCEMENT**

Over the years, I've received questions and heard comments that indicate many hams do not understand how FCC and International rules that govern Amateur Radio are enforced. Here it is in a nut shell.

1. ARRL does not have and does not want powers and authority to enforce Amateur Radio regulations. Enforcement is the job of the FCC in this country.
2. ARRL gets involved in enforcement only to the extent of sponsoring the Official Observer Corps which is trained to gather and document information on poor operating practices. OOs typically provide a gentle reminder of good operating practices to operators who slide off the path of good operating. These reminders typically are enough to bring a mild transgressor back to the straight line. In instances in which someone insists upon violating legal practices on a routine basis, OOs are trained in gathering and documenting occurrences of bad operating and forwarding these to ARRL HQ.
3. At HQ, evidence of bad operating are reviewed. Consistent with instructions from the FCC this forwarded to the FCC enforcement bureau.
4. FCC may judge the information they receive to be inadequate to take strong disciplinary action. In these cases, more evidence is usually developed by FCC. Considering that some FCC enforcement actions are likely to be argued in court, the rules of evidence in these cases require that evidence be irrefutable. It takes time to gather irrefutable evidence in most cases.
5. Action upon information that is considered to be fully legitimate and dictate enforcement action may still take quite a bit of additional time. FCC may feel a need to gather its own data. In addition, any enforcement action by FCC requires having it approved by FCC attorneys. I have to say from years of experience with attorneys and litigation, the only one of them I've ever seen move swiftly is our League General Counsel, Chris Imlay, W3KD. This means, enforcement action approval is likely to take awhile.

Bottom line: It may happen, but it won't happen fast.

'Nuf for now. 73, GL, Jim, K8JE

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ARRL Great Lakes Division

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k8je@arrl.org  
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### **2004 Ohio Section Conference**

The 2004 Ohio Section Conference, which skipped a year in 2003, will be held Saturday, September 18, at the Ohio EMA headquarters in NW Columbus. Which means the big social event of the year, the OSC Pizza Lunch, returns as well.

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Next Meeting: Monday, September 20, *Golden Corral Buffet & Grill*; dinner at 6 meeting at 7

The Section Conference, a meeting of Ohio Section field appointments but all are welcomed, is held each September to review ARRL activity in Ohio. The *Severson Memorial Award* and Ohio Section Newsletter award winners are also announced. Plus pizza for lunch.

In 2003, the Conference was canceled because of the Great Lakes Division Convention being the same week.

The Conference begins at 10 a.m. The Ohio EMA address is 2855 W. Dublin-Granville Road (Ohio 161) in Northwest Columbus. [K8QOE]

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### **Ohio Emergency Vans on Display at Columbus in September**

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Special treat this year's Ohio Section Conference will be the display of emergency vans from various county ARES programs in Ohio. In the era of Homeland Security, it is helpful to see what other Ohio ARES County groups are doing, said Ohio Section Manager Joe Phillips, K8QOE

The 2004 Ohio Section Conference is Saturday, September 18, at the Ohio EMA headquarters in NW Columbus. Beside the parade of emergency vans, the Conference will feature the big social event of the year, the Pizza Lunch Party sponsored by the Ohio Section of the ARRL.

This meeting of Ohio Section field appointments but all Ohio hams are welcomed is held each September to review ARRL activity in Ohio. The Severson Memorial Award and Ohio Section Newsletter award winners are also announced. It begins at 9 a.m. (Not 10 a.m. as originally announced.) The Ohio EMA address is 2855 W. Dublin-Granville Road (Ohio 161) in Northwest Columbus.

The Parade of Vans was last done in the September 2003 Conference. Nine such vans made the trip - but this year Section Emergency Coordinator John Chapman, WB8INY, is looking for a few more. At this display, you can see what other ARES programs in Ohio are doing and the equipment they employ.

[K8QOE]

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### **Canadian Licensing Changes Proposed**

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Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) has proposed formally that Industry Canada (IC) eliminate Morse code as a ham radio testing requirement for operation in bands below 30 MHz in Canada. RAC wants Industry Canada to continue to make Morse testing available to Canadian amateurs still wishing to have that qualification specified on their certificate, however. At the same time, the RAC wants IC to require applicants for the Basic examination to score at least 80 percent before permitting operation below 30 MHz.

Under the proposal, present Basic plus Morse holders would be considered as holders of the new Intermediate qualification. Basic holders who have not passed the Morse exam would continue to hold that class with existing operating privileges. Current Basic-without-Morse licensees who retake the Basic examination and obtain at least 80 percent would be upgraded to Intermediate.

RAC also recommends that the passing grade for the Basic and Advanced examinations be raised from 60 to 70 percent when the Morse requirement is dropped. Ultimately, RAC wants the passing grade to be upped to 75 percent for all examination elements.

Anyone holding both the Basic and Advanced qualifications

would have HF privileges, and the Intermediate qualification or Basic plus Morse would become a prerequisite to obtaining the Advanced.

The RAC also wants IC to create a new entry-level qualification. RAC President Daniel Lamoureux, VE2KA, says Canadian amateurs can anticipate implementation of a first phase of the RAC recommendations by year's end. Details are available on the RAC Web site <<http://www.rac.ca/downloads/morserec.pdf>>.

[ARRL Letter]

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### **Still Time to Comment in "Omnibus" Part 97 Rule Making**

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Because the complete text of the FCC Notice of Proposed Rule Making and Order (NPRM&O) in WT Docket 04-140 failed to make it into the Federal Register until August 17, interested parties now will have until September 15 to comment. Released in April, the so-called "omnibus NPRM" seeks comments on a wide range of proposed Amateur Service (Part 97) rules changes as well as certain changes to Parts 1 and 2 of the FCC's rules. It does not deal with Amateur Radio license restructuring or the Morse code examination requirement for HF privileges.

Among other things, the NPRM&O recommends adoption of the ARRL's "Novice refarming" plan and proposes eliminating FCC rules prohibiting manufacture or marketing of Amateur Radio Service power amplifiers capable of operating between 24 and 35 MHz.

Interested parties may comment on the NPRM via the FCC Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS). Click on "Submit a filing." To view filed comments, click on "Search for filed comments." In both cases, enter "04-140" (without the quotation marks) in the "Proceeding" field.

[ARRL Letter]

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### **FCC Emergency Communications Declaration Policy Prefers VHF-UHF**

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The FCC has formalized its policy for issuing an emergency communications declaration (ECD) on Amateur Radio Service frequencies. The policy, which became effective August 2, states that ECDs will be issued for VHF or UHF repeaters--if the licensee consents--or on simplex channels in the 60-meter band. The FCC will not entertain requests to specifically sequester frequencies in other HF bands for emergency traffic only. Past emergency communications declarations--typically issued during weather-related emergencies--have put frequencies on 75 and 40 meters off limits to general use in an affected region.

"ECDs may only be issued after a disaster disrupts normal communication systems in a geographic area subject to FCC regulation," the FCC said, citing 97.401(b). Under its provisions, when a disaster disrupts normal telecommunications systems in a given area, the FCC may declare a temporary communication emergency that sets forth any special conditions and special rules stations must observe while it's in effect. The policy clarifies that the FCC has authority to issue ECDs only for communication emergencies and not on the basis of anticipated emergencies. It also tightens up the requirements to request an ECD.

The policy calls for VHF and UHF Amateur Service channels to receive preference for ECDs. Requests may indicate a specific repeater system, subject to permission from the repeater's licensee or

trustee. On HF, the FCC says, an ECD may authorize the use of one or two 60-meter channels, centered on 5332, 5348, 5368, 5373 and 5405 kHz, subject to 97.303(s). See ARRL's Frequently Asked Questions regarding 60-meter operation <<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/faq-60.html>> for details.

The FCC said frequencies in other amateur bands--where emergency nets already have been established--may be used during emergencies under the provisions of 97.101(c). That rule section stipulates that amateur operators give priority to stations providing emergency communications "at all times and on all frequencies."

The FCC policy, Emergency Communications Declarations in the Amateur Radio Service, is available on the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/emcom-declarations.html>>.

[ARRL Letter]

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### **Ham Radio "Only Reliable Communication" at Hurricane Charley Ground Zero**

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Once again, Amateur Radio has proven its value in an emergency. With conventional telecommunication systems unreliable and power still out after the Category 4 Hurricane Charley blasted across the Florida Peninsula August 13, Amateur Radio has proven to be a communication mainstay.

"The only reliable communication we have here is Amateur Radio," ARRL West Central Florida Section Manager Dave Armbrust, AE4MR, told ARRL earlier this week. He was one of the three dozen ARES volunteers at the Charlotte County command post. "We're out in the field trying to handle so many different things that it's almost overwhelming," he said five days into the activation.

By week's end, the need for additional ARES volunteers in the Hurricane Charley relief and recovery effort had stabilized. Communications and Warning Officer John Fleming, WD4FFX, of the Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) told ARRL that ham radio volunteers already on duty in the five most severely affected counties were holding their own in maintaining necessary emergency communication. But he advised Amateur Radio volunteers to remain at the ready, just in case, and recommended that ARES teams, clubs and individuals work through their ARES Section Emergency Coordinator.

The FDEM says Hurricane Charley caused two dozen deaths and nearly 4000 injuries, and almost a quarter-million residents were still without power at week's end. Other reports indicate that as many as 10,000 homes were badly damaged or destroyed.

The most severely stricken communities are in largely rural areas of western and central Florida made up of smaller towns. Among other storm relief duties, hams have been part of an effort to check on residents and determine what they need and to "make sure everyone's okay," Armbrust said.

Amateur Radio operators have been handling emergency traffic and assisting the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in setting up HF communication to the state emergency operations center in the capital of Tallahassee. ARES also has provided communication for search-and-rescue teams and supported American Red Cross and The Salvation Army humanitarian relief efforts.

In addition, ARES operators handled outgoing health-and-welfare traffic from storm victims now taking refuge in shelters, provided or supplemented public safety communication and even took on some dispatching duties. Amateur Radio volunteers also

deployed to hospitals, some of which have experienced spotty communication. Several VHF and UHF repeaters have been buzzing with emergency traffic all week.

Armbrust emphasized that Hurricane Charley cut a broad swath across Florida, and the devastation was widespread. "This looks like a war zone," he remarked. Hot, humid weather has aggravated the relief effort, especially for emergency medical service personnel who not only are dealing with storm-related health issues but with those resulting from the heat.

ARES teams from Florida Miami-Dade, Martin, St Lucie, Broward, Okeechobee and Palm Beach counties deployed to relieve or assist the amateur operators on duty in the affected communities.

In Sarasota County, Ron Wetjen, WD4AHZ, has been working at the county EOC and assigning volunteers to assist in neighboring Charlotte County, where Armbrust has been holding down the fort.

"We've had offers of help from guys in Montana, Ohio, and New York!" Wetjen said August 19. "We have a couple from Tennessee here now, with two more on the way for the weekend."

The Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network (SATERN) on 14.265 MHz spent nearly five days in continuous operation. It's also used Amateur Radio for its logistical communications. The Salvation Army has been providing meals, household necessities and other assistance to residents displaced by the storm and has been relying on its own Amateur Radio resources. SATERN also has taken on responsibility for health-and-welfare inquiries, both via Amateur Radio and through its Web site <<http://www.saturn.net>>.

In advance of the storm, SKYWARN teams were active the Hurricane Watch Net and WX4NHC at the National Hurricane Center cooperated to gather ground-level weather data and damage reports.

"It seems as if the Amateur Radio world is listening and waiting to help when an event such as this occurs," observed SATERN National Director Pat McPherson, WW9E, "and it's edifying to realize the positive impact of their dedication to the task of helping others."

[ARRL Letter]

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### **ARRL Goes to Bat for Arizona Amateurs, Seeks BPL Field Trial Shutdown**

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The ARRL has asked the FCC to immediately shut down a broadband over power line (BPL) field trial in the Cottonwood, Arizona, area because it's causing "severe interference" to Amateur Radio communication. Electric Broadband LLC and utility APS have been operating the BPL experiment at two Yavapai County sites since June under a Special Temporary Authorization (STA) the FCC granted Electric Broadband in March. Michael Kinney, KU7W, filed the first Amateur Radio complaint in June. It cited testing by the Verde Valley Amateur Radio Association (VVARA) <<http://www.vvara.org>> in the 1.8-30 MHz range to show that BPL interference made attempts at ham radio communication useless.

"The interference on typical Amateur Radio equipment shows received undesired signal levels in excess of 60 dB over S9 on the receiver's signal strength meter," ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, told FCC officials on the League's behalf. "The utility and Electric Broadband were contacted, and no response was received." The ARRL asserted that both companies are aware that the BPL field trial has been causing harmful interference and "neither has taken any steps to either resolve it or terminate the test."

The League said VVARA and ARRL testing indicates

"extremely high" levels of radiated RF energy on amateur HF allocations--well in excess of the FCC Part 15 levels with which Electric Broadband told the FCC it would comply. VVARA testing revealed "actual harmful interference" from the BPL system to mobile stations in the vicinity and to a fixed station.

The League's shutdown request went out August 16 to FCC Enforcement Bureau Chief David Solomon and Deputy Office of Engineering and Technology Chief Bruce Franca.

ARRL called on the FCC to instruct Electric Broadband and APS to shut down the BPL trial immediately and not resume operation until it can demonstrate that all interference issues have been resolved. It also insisted that the FCC immediately revoke any STAs granted for the Cottonwood or nearby operations, and that it institute forfeiture proceedings against the two companies for knowingly causing harmful interference.

VVARA submitted a lengthy and comprehensive report to the two companies and to the Commission in late July detailing the interference issues. The club took baseline measurements in January, before the BPL trial began, and it's continued taking measurements since the system's startup. ARRL Lab Manager Ed Hare, W1RFI, conducted independent tests of the Cottonwood BPL system in July, and the League attached a summary of his findings to its letter.

The VVARA and ARRL measurements, the League said, indicate widespread interference to Amateur Radio communication in an area within a mile of the BPL field trial, and radiated emissions from BPL modems at levels "several orders of magnitude higher" than the FCC Part 15 limits. One ARRL measurement cited was more than 32 dB higher than Part 15 allows. The League further accused Electric Broadband of misrepresenting facts to the Commission by saying it would comply with §15.109 of the FCC's rules. The ARRL said continued operation of the system while violating the conditions under which the STA was granted constitutes "willful and repeated interference," and both the utility and the BPL provider should be subject to fines as a result.

"ARRL requests that this test station be shut down immediately and that the appropriate monetary forfeitures be imposed against both Electric Broadband and APS," the League concluded.

[ARRL Letter]

### **ARRL Offers "First QST" Reproduction With Early 2005 ARRL Handbook Orders**

To mark the League's 90th anniversary, those placing early orders for the 2005 edition of The ARRL Handbook for Radio Communications will get a reproduction of the first edition of QST as a bonus. Orders received by 1159 UTC on September 30 will qualify to receive the bonus reproduction--while supplies last. The September issue of QST spells out details of the 90th anniversary promotion.

"A limited supply of QST, Vol I, No 1, will be printed before it is returned to the 'ARRL vault' for at least 10 years," said ARRL Marketing Manager Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R. He points out that the 2005 edition of the Handbook edition--the 82nd--is by far the most extensively revised version of the popular reference in a decade. ARRL Assistant Technical Editor Dana Reed, W1LC, edited the 2005 edition, with assistance from Dean Straw, N6BV, Jan Carman, K5MA, and Chuck Hutchinson, K8CH.

"Entire sections of this book were updated to reflect the most current state-of-the-art," Inderbitzen noted. The new edition includes material on digital techniques, DSP and software-defined radio

design, surface-mount construction and components, high-speed multimedia and previously unpublished antenna designs plus advice on baluns, satellites and moonbounce--including details on the pending Phase 3E satellite--and much more. There's a new chapter covering Internet tips for hams, wireless fidelity ("WiFi") and other wireless and PC technology. The 2005 Handbook also includes more projects, including a new 10 W transceiver for 60 meters.

For the first time, the 2005 Handbook will come bundled with a free copy of The ARRL Handbook CD (version 9.0)--a \$39.95 value. The 2005 Handbook is available in softcover, Item 9280, for \$39.95 and hardcover, Item 9299, for \$54.95 (visit the ARRL Products Catalog <<http://www.arrl.org/catalog/>>). It will begin shipping by early October.

ARRL co-founders Hiram Percy Maxim and Clarence D. Tuska published the premiere issue of QST in December 1915 at their own expense. It cost 10 cents and contained 24 pages. Contents included the "December Radio Relay Bulletin," an ARRL membership application (membership was free in 1915!), a membership list, photographs of early amateur stations, advertisements for headsets and radio components and more. The debut back-cover advertised a rotary spark gap and a cat's whisker detector.

[ARRL Letter]

### **Next Meeting**

Our meeting time is 7pm (6pm if you are coming for dinner) and will be at the Golden Corral Buffet & Grill at 3350 Village Drive, Franklin, OH (Towne Mall area). Hope to see you on Monday, September 20, 2004!!

The worst thing you can do for those you love is the things they could and should do for themselves.

Abraham Lincoln

**Demonstrate your support for amateur radio by joining the ARRL today !!**



Next Meeting: Monday, September 20, Golden Corral Buffet & Grill; dinner at 6 meeting at 7

# September

# 2004

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thurs</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
<b>September 8 - Butler County EMA Countywide FEMA Drill - 0700-1400 focusing on WMD</b>			<b>1</b> Technician Ham Class Johnston Hall MU-Middletown 6 - 9 pm	<b>2</b> <i>DIAL</i> Radio Club Net @ 9pm W8BLV/R	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Butler County <i>ARES</i> Net 7:30 pm 147.330 - PL 118.8	<b>8</b> Technician Ham Class Johnston Hall MU-Middletown 6 - 9 pm	<b>9</b> <i>DIAL</i> Radio Club Net @ 9pm W8BLV/R	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> BCVHFA License Exams - 8:30am  OH-KY-IN Fox Hunt - 10am  ARRL September VHF QSO Party
<b>12</b> Findlay Radio Club Findlay, OH  ARRL September VHF QSO Party	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Technician Ham Class Johnston Hall MU-Middletown 6 - 9 pm	<b>16</b> <i>DIAL</i> Radio Club Net @ 9pm W8BLV/R	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> OHIO Section Conference Columbus  ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest
<b>19</b> ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest  GCARA Hamfest Scarlet Oaks Cincinnati	<b>20</b> Dial Meeting 7pm Golden Corral Buffet & Grill Dinner at 6pm	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Technician Ham Class Johnston Hall MU-Middletown 6 - 9 pm	<b>23</b> <i>DIAL</i> Radio Club Net @ 9pm W8BLV/R	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> Hamfest Association of Cleveland Cleveland, OH	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Technician Ham Class Johnston Hall MU-Middletown 6 - 9 pm	<b>30</b> <i>DIAL</i> Radio Club Net @ 9pm W8BLV/R	<b>September 8 Butler County Emergency Communication Team Meeting, 7 - 9 pm Rm 229, D. Russel Lee JVS</b>	

# October

# 2004

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thurs</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
<b>October 13: Butler County Emergency Communication Team Meeting, 7 - 9 pm Room 229, D. Russel Lee JVS</b>					1	2
3	4	5	6 Technician Ham Class Johnston Hall MU-Middletown 6 - 9 pm	7 <i>DIAL</i> Radio Club Net @ 9pm W8BLV/R	8	9 BCVHFA License Exams - 8:30am  OH-KY-IN Fox Hunt - 10am
10	11	12 Butler County ARES Net 7:30 pm 147.330 - PL 118.8	13 Technician Ham Class Johnston Hall MU-Middletown 6 - 9 pm	14 <i>DIAL</i> Radio Club Net @ 9pm W8BLV/R	15	16 BSA Jamboree on the Air
17 BSA Jamboree on the Air	18 Dial Meeting 7pm Golden Corral Buffet & Grill Dinner at 6pm	19	20 Ham Exams Johnston Hall MU-Middletown Registration Opens @ 6 pm	21 <i>DIAL</i> Radio Club Net @ 9pm W8BLV/R	22	23
24	25	26	27 General Ham Class Johnston Hall MU-Middletown 6 - 9 pm	28 <i>DIAL</i> Radio Club Net @ 9pm W8BLV/R	29	30
31 DST Ends						