



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@qth.net

President:

Art Frasik, N8PI

Vice-president:

Mark Johnson, WD8DFK

Secretary:

Jon Slone, K8TNF

Treasurer:

Ron Spaulding, N8NQG

Activities Manager:

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Ruth Howard, N8OZN

Elaine Howard, KC8WOF

July 2005

Minutes of the July 2005 Dial Radio Club Meeting

Attendance:

K2RWP,WA8DTU,W8LKU,N8DHW,N8LRN,W8GNV,KD8W,
W8MVN,WB8DPZ,N8TFH,W8MYT,N8GGE,N8HP,K8CM,W8
WLM,KB8WKL,N8NQG,W8EH,KC8WOF,N8OZN,AF8T,N8LW
M,N8ODK,N8HRA,N8EH,KE8OH,KI8I,K8CI,N8DIG,KD8BCM,
N8PI,KC8SKW,K8TNF

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Art, N8PI.

Secretary's Report:

A motion was made to read the minutes from last months meeting due to the fact that the was no newsletter published. The minutes were read and a motion was made by Bob, kc8dxu, and second by Erni N8EH Motion approved.

Treasurer's Report:

110 members representing 68 families.

Repeater/Station Report:

The repeaters are in good working order. The new UHF link to fix the noise on the 61 machine is in and ready for install.

Activity Report:

Don't forget the Thursday intercom net at 9p.m., and the Saturday round table net at 9:30 p.m. Both nets meet on the 146.610 repeater.

The ARES net is on Tuesday at 7:30p.m. on 147.330+ with a 118.8 Hz PL tone. An ARES flood drill will take place on May 11th at 19:00; meet in room 229 at Butler Tech.

Classes and Exams:

The next testing session will take place on Aug. 17th. The classes

will start the following week.

Old Business:

The committee on the phone patch usage has met and will report soon.

New Business:

None

Adjourn:

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Carl, K8CM, and seconded by Erni W8EH. Motion approved without dissent.

Jon W. Slone, K8TNF

Dial Club Roster

At the last DIAL meeting, a request was made for an updated Club roster including e-mail addresses. Working with Ron (N8NQG), I have attached a PDF copy of the current membership roster for your review.

Please check your information, especially the e-mail addresses listed, for accuracy and currency. If you are not using an e-mail alias (something like k8cm@arrl.net or k8cm@qsl.net) you might consider doing so. Both are free; however, to have the "arrl.net" alias you must be a member of the League. If you want more information in doing so, please don't hesitate to ask.

Please let me know, as soon as possible, if your

Next Meeting: Monday, Aug,15 *Golden Corral Buffet & Grill*; dinner at 6 meeting at 7

e-mail address is incorrect or if you prefer not to have it listed. Where other members of the household are DIAL members and have personal e-mail addresses, send them along if they'd like them added to this roster.

We do not intend to sell or trade e-mail lists; however, it is possible for any list to fall into the wrong hands.

Thanks for your help. [K8CM]

BAND PLAN FOR THE CONSIDERATE OPERATOR

Two Meter Band Plan: (20 khz spacing below 146 mhz, 15 khz above)

144.00-144.10	CW & EME operation	----NO SSB or FM
144.10-144.20	EME, Weak signal SSB operation	----NO FM
144.20	National SSB calling frequency	----NO FM
144.20-144.275	General SSB operation	----NO FM
144.275-144.30	Propagation beacon	operation ----NO FM
144.31-144.49	FM Simplex (144.34 ATV, 144.39 APRS)	*
144.51-144.89	FM Repeater inputs	+++
144.91-145.09	Packet, digital & FM simplex operation	
145.11-145.49	FM Repeater outputs	+++>
145.51-145.80	FM simplex, packet, experimental and misc.	*
145.80-146.00	OSCAR SSB & CW sub-band - SATELLITE USE ONLY	
146.01-146.385	FM Repeater inputs	++++
146.40-146.595	FM Simplex operation	*
146.61-146.985	FM Repeater outputs	+++>
147.00-147.39	FM Repeater outputs	+++>
147.405-147.585	FM Simplex operation	*
147.60-147.99	FM Repeater inputs	++++

* FM simplex areas

Suggested FM simplex channels: (15 khz spacing)

146.40	146.49	146.58	147.48	147.57
146.415	146.505	146.595	147.495	
147.585				

146.43	#146.52	147.405	147.51
146.445	146.535	147.42	147.525
146.46	146.55	147.435	147.54
146.475	146.565	147.465	147.555

NOTES--

146.52 is the National calling frequency, make contact and move to another recognized simplex channel
147.45 & 144.34 are ATV repeater audio channels

Other optional simplex channels: (20 KHz spacing) (you may find packet or other operations on these frequencies)

145.51	145.61	145.71	144.31	144.41
145.53	145.63	145.73		144.43
145.55	145.65	145.75		144.45
145.57	145.67	145.77	144.37	144.47
145.59	145.69	145.79		144.49

(144.34 is used for ATV coordination & audio in Dayton)

NOTE:

Per FCC Rule 97.305, you may operate ONLY CW below 144.100 MHz.

Apology To All Members

I would like to take this time to apologize to all the Dial Radio Club members. I took on the responsibility to produce the newsletter and came across some problems. As time goes on and I get into a cycle it will get easier. Thanks for understanding.

[K8TNF]

Newsletter Contribution

Anyone wanting to contribute to the newsletter please send it to Jon, K8TNF at

jwslone@sbcglobal.net.

Guest Speaker

We will have a guest speaker at the next meeting. Kelly N8XQ will talk about his experience at his NASA rocket camp.

FCC Proposes to Drop Morse Code Requirement for All License Classes

NEWINGTON, CT, July 20, 2005--The FCC has proposed dropping the 5 WPM Morse code element as a requirement to obtain an Amateur Radio license of any class. The Commission recommended the change to its Part 97 Amateur Service rules in a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) in WT Docket 05-235. Any rule changes proposed in the NPRM would not become final until the FCC gathers additional public comments, formally adopts any changes to its rules and concludes the proceeding by issuing a Report and Order (R&O) spelling out the changes and specifying an effective date. That's not likely to happen for several months. The FCC declined in its NPRM to go forward with any other suggested changes to Amateur Service licensing rules or operating privileges beyond elimination of the Morse requirement.

"Based upon the petitions and comments, we propose to amend our amateur service rules to eliminate the requirement that individuals pass a telegraphy examination in order to qualify for any amateur radio operator license," the FCC said in its NPRM, released July 19. This week's NPRM consolidated 18 petitions for rule making from the amateur community--including one from the ARRL--that proposed a wide range of additional changes to the amateur rules. The FCC said the various petitions had attracted 6200 comments from the amateur community, which soon will have the opportunity to comment again--this time on the FCC's proposals in response to those petitions.

The Commission said it believes dropping Element 1--the 5 WPM Morse examination--would "encourage individuals who are interested in communications technology, or who are able to contribute to the advancement of the radio art, to become amateur radio operators." The FCC said it also would eliminate a requirement it believes "is now unnecessary and that may discourage" current licensees from advancing their skills, and that it would "promote more efficient use" of current Amateur Radio spectrum.

The FCC cited changes in Article 25 of the international Radio Regulations adopted at World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 as the primary reason to go forward with eliminating Morse code as an Amateur Radio licensing requirement in the future. Among other changes, WRC-03 deleted the Morse

testing requirement for amateur applicants seeking HF privileges, leaving it up to individual countries to determine whether or not they want to mandate Morse testing. Several countries already have dropped their Morse requirements.

ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, said he was not surprised that the FCC proposed altogether scrapping the Morse code requirement. The League and others had called for retaining the 5 WPM requirement only for Amateur Extra class applicants. Sumner expressed dismay, however, that the FCC turned away proposals from the League and other petitioners to create a new entry-level Amateur Radio license class.

"We're disappointed that the Commission prefers to deny an opportunity to give Amateur Radio the restructuring it needs for the 21st century," he said. "It appears that the Commission is taking the easy road, but the easy road is seldom the right road."

Sumner said ARRL officials and the Board of Directors would closely study the 30-page NPRM and plan to comment further after they've had the opportunity to consider the Commission's stated rationales for its proposals.

In 2004, the ARRL filed a Petition for Rule Making asking the FCC to amend Part 97 to complete the Amateur Service restructuring begun in 1999 but "left unfinished." The League called on the FCC to create a new entry-level license, reduce the number of actual license classes to three and drop the Morse code testing requirement for all classes except for Amateur Extra. Among other recommendations, the League asked the FCC to automatically upgrade Technician licensees to General and Advanced licensees to Amateur Extra. In this week's NPRM, the FCC said it was not persuaded such automatic upgrades were in the public interest.

The FCC said it did not believe a new entry-level license class was warranted because current Novice and Tech Plus licensees already can easily upgrade to General. "We also note that, if our proposal to eliminate telegraphy testing in the amateur service is adopted," the FCC continued, "a person who is not a licensee will be able to qualify for a General Class operator license by passing two written examinations, and that a person who is a Technician Class licensee will be able to qualify for a General Class operator license by passing

one written examination." The FCC said it does not believe either path to be unreasonable.

The FCC also said that it's already addressed some of the other issues petitioners raised in its "Phone Band Expansion" (or "Omnibus") NPRM in WT Docket 04-140. In that proceeding, the Commission proposed to go along with the ARRL's Novice refarming proposal aimed at reallocating the current Novice/Tech Plus subbands to provide additional phone spectrum. Under the plan, Novice/Tech Plus licensees would be granted CW privileges in the current General CW subbands.

A 60-day period for members of the public to comment on the FCC's NPRM in WT 05-235 will begin once the NPRM appears in the Federal Register. Reply comments will be due within 75 days of the NPRM's publication in the Federal Register. [ARRL]

RADIO AMATEUR LOSES LIFE INSTALLING EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS ANTENNA

An Ohio radio amateur died July 30 while attempting to perform a public service for his county's RACES/ARES program. Preble County RACES Radio Officer Robert W. "Bob" French II, N8EHA, of Eaton was on a tower at the New Paris fire station installing an antenna for the RACES/ARES program when an element came into contact with a power line. The shock knocked French from the tower, and he reportedly fell some 40 feet to the ground. French's son Aaron, KA8VUS, Al Stone, KB8RPO, and other members of the work party administered CPR to no avail.

"Bob started back up the tower, pulling the antenna up by the feed line as he climbed," Stone recounted in a message shared with ARRL by Ohio Section Manager Joe Phillips, K8QOE. "At one point Bob thrust his hand upward to grab another rung of the tower, with the feed line in his hand. The antenna began swinging, and when he went for that last rung,

the antenna came in contact with [the] power line." Stone said the ham volunteers were installing two antennas on the New Paris fire station's tower as part of a project to equip every firehouse in the county with an antenna and ham radio for emergency backup communication.

French, 51, belonged to the ARRL. He was a founding member of the Preble Amateur Radio Association and very active in the club. "He was one of the biggest advocates for Amateur Radio I have known," said Gary Hollenbaugh, NJ8BB, who eulogized his friend at an August 3 service. "His leadership, organizational skills, knowledge and enthusiasm cannot be easily replaced."

Hollenbaugh says French was wearing a safety belt but not a fall restraint harness. "He was still climbing the tower and not able to secure off," he said, conceding that his friend did not follow several safety rules. He also questioned why the tower was sited so close to power lines.

ARES District 3 Emergency Coordinator Ron Moorefield, W8ILC, represented the ARRL at French's service. Survivors include his wife Cathy, KA8RWX, and their daughter and son. The family invites memorial contributions to the Preble Amateur Radio Association, 7810 US Hwy 35 E, W Alexandria, OH 45381. [ARRL]

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