



# 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/>

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## September 2005

### Minutes of the August 15, 2005 Dial Radio Club Meeting

**Attendance:**

W8LKU, WA8DTU, N8HRA, N8EH, N8NQF, W8EH, KC8WOF, N8OZN, N8LWM, N8ODK, KE8OH, TILLIE, AF8T, K2RWP, WIGNV, KD8W, KB8WKL, N8GGE, N8HP, WD8DFK, K8CM, WB8MYT, W8MVN, BONNIE, WB8DPZ, LOIS, N8TFH, N8PI, N8XQ, KC8SKW, KD8BXP, KF8II

**Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order by Art, N8PI.

**Secretary's Report:**

Motion was made to accept the report as printed in the newsletter by Ron, N8NQF, seconded by Ernie, N8EH. Motion was carried.

**Treasurer's Report:**

We have 110 members representing 68 families.

**Repeater/Station Report:**

No change

**Activity Report:**

Ed KF8PD, and Sandy, AB8LA, are on standby to go to the disaster area. Bob Spratt, N8TVU, and 4 other gentlemen from Hamilton Co. are currently in Kiln, MS. They have the 147.330 repeater with them, so until they return, Butler Co ARES will be using the 146.610 repeater for it's weekly nets (Tues. nights at 7:30 PM) and for use during any ARES activations.

Don't forget the Thursday intercom net at 9p.m 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.

**Classes and Exams:**

Bev, N8GGE, reported that the Tech class currently has 4 students. The next test session will be Oct. 4, and the General classes are set to begin Oct. 26.

**Old Business:**

None

**New Business:**

Ernie, W8EH, went to the ARRL Ohio Sectional Conference on Saturday Sept. 17, and gave a report.

**Adjourn:**

Motion to adjourn was made by Dave, KD8W, and seconded by Charles, KB8WKL

Jon W. Slone, K8TNF

### Newsletter Contribution

Anyone wanting to contribute to the newsletter please send it to Jon, K8TNF at [jwslone@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jwslone@sbcglobal.net) or at 513-464-3630. Also any suggestions on how to improve or what to include in the newsletter would be welcome.

Next Meeting: Monday, October, 17th, *Golden Corral Buffet & Grill*; dinner at 6 meeting at 7

## Saturday Roundtable Net

As some of you have might noticed the roundtable net has not taken place lately. Mostly do to the lack of interest. If anybody has any suggestions or would like to see the net return to the air please contact K8TNF on the air or at [jwslone@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jwslone@sbcglobal.net).

[K8TNF]

## LIFE ABOARD ISS "VERY COMFORTABLE," ASTRONAUT TELLS JAPANESE YOUNGSTERS

NASA ISS Science Officer John Phillips, KE5DRY, told members of the Sapporo Junior Amateur Radio Club in Japan that he's enjoying his stay aboard the International Space Station.

The direct 2-meter contact August 22 between 8J8X in Japan and NA1SS in space was arranged by the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) program. Responding to one youngster's question, Phillips said he finds it "very comfortable" to be aboard the ISS, and that it's "fun to float around." He also shared his thoughts about the importance of space exploration.

"For me, the importance of spaceflight is we are pushing the frontiers of humanity every outward, discovering new things" Phillips said. The US astronaut and Expedition 11 crew commander Sergei Krikalev, U5MIR, will remain aboard the ISS until October.

One student wanted to know if Phillips had experienced any difference in his blood pressure during his duty tour aboard the ISS. Phillips said he hasn't noticed any big change. "I think that maybe my blood pressure may be just a little bit higher because the fluids in my body are distributed differently on the earth," he said. "But the difference is very small." In fact, he allowed, his blood pressure was probably about normal.

Another ham club member asked Phillips what he thinks about when he's looking at Earth from the ISS. "I think that it's very beautiful," Phillips replied, "and that all peoples of Earth share a responsibility for safeguarding our planet and working together to keep the earth beautiful for many generations to come."

In all, 13 students--including control operator Jun Maeda, JL8AQH, a high school student--took part in the August 22 contact. They asked 19 questions. In addition to an audience of more than 40 people, two TV stations and three newspapers covered the event. "This was my pleasure to talk to the students of the Sapporo Junior

Amateur Radio Club," Phillips said in his parting remarks. "I've been to Sapporo a couple of times, and I have very fond memories of that city."

Those assembled for the event broke out in cheers and applause as the contact concluded. ARISS <<http://www.rac.ca/ariss>> is an international educational outreach with participation by ARRL, AMSAT and NASA.

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## AMATEUR RADIO RESOURCES READY FOR RITA

As Hurricane Rita continues on course for landfall sometime early on the morning of September 24 along the Gulf Coast between Texas and Louisiana, Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES)/Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) and other Amateur Radio groups are at the ready.

The Hurricane Watch Net (HWN) on 14.325 MHz has announced plans to remain active until 0300 UTC or as long as the 20-meter band is available--whichever comes first. ARRL Headquarters is maintaining regular contact with Section Managers and Section Emergency Coordinators in the Gulf Coast region as they muster their own volunteer resources, some of whom already have been deployed to emergency operating centers and other strategic sites.

"Once again, the entire ARRL organization--including our volunteers in the field, our Headquarters staff and our members--are gearing up as Hurricane Rita approaches to provide needed emergency communications when all else fails," said ARRL Chief Operating Officer Harold Kramer, WJ1B. He has announced that Maxim Memorial Station W1AW will be staffed throughout the September 24-25 weekend to monitor emergency nets and assist as needed. W1AW remained available through the weekend after Hurricane Katrina struck the region in late August.

As of 2300 UTC on September 23, Hurricane Rita was a strong Category 3 storm with maximum sustained winds of nearly 125 MPH with higher gusts. Although further weakening was anticipated, the National Hurricane Center (NHC) says Rita was still expected to come ashore as "a dangerous hurricane." The HWN announced plans to reactivate Saturday, September 24, at 1300 UTC and remain in session until Rita is downgraded to a tropical storm.

"Obviously, among our priorities will be to listen for people in the affected area who might have emergency or priority needs," said HWN Manager Mike Pilgrim, K5MP. "Otherwise, we seek observed and/or measured weather data which can be used to supplement other input for forecasters to create and/or validate their forecast projections." The HWN will work with WX4NHC at the National Hurricane Center to relay the information to forecasters.

The West Gulf ARES Emergency Net on 7.285 MHz (days) and 3.873 MHz (evenings) has activated for the latest weather threat. The net also will utilize 7.290 MHz (days) and 3.935 MHz (evenings) for health-and-welfare (H&W) traffic. Briefings on the West Gulf ARES Emergency Net are taking place daily at noon CDT (7.285 MHz) and at 7 PM CDT (3.873 MHz). Local resource nets are opening up on various VHF-UHF repeaters as well.

The Harris County, Texas, emergency operations center (EOC) activated earlier in the week and already was receiving requests for Amateur Radio support. EOCs in other counties and cities in the potential strike zone will have Amateur Radio operators on site--some around the clock.

The American Red Cross has established its headquarters for the Hurricane Rita emergency in the Texas capital of Austin, and the ARC's W5KA already has checked into the West Gulf ARES Emergency Net.

ARRL South Texas Section Emergency Coordinator Jerry Reimer, KK5CA, reports the Red Cross opened nearly two dozen shelters and seeks Amateur Radio communication support. Reimer and his counterparts in the Gulf Coast region are currently recruiting Amateur Radio volunteers from within the region or from outside. One problem, Reimer noted this week, is that radio amateurs in coastal counties were under mandatory evacuation orders.

Alabama SM Greg Sarratt, W4OZK, told ARRL Headquarters that he's holding some volunteers who reported for Hurricane Katrina duty for quick deployment in the wake of Hurricane Rita. He notes that the Montgomery, Alabama, American Red Cross volunteer marshaling center where he's been stationed for more than three weeks continues to supply Amateur Radio volunteers to hard-hit areas of Mississippi--especially

Hancock and Harrison counties--where he expects they'll be needed at least until month's end. Louisiana SEC Gary Stratton, K5GLS, is maintaining a similar holding pattern, although he reports that most ham radio activity in his section associated with Hurricane Katrina has wound down for now.

Prospective volunteers may sign up for possible deployment in the region via the Hurricane Rita Disaster Communications Volunteer Registration & Message Traffic Database <<http://rita.ab2m.net/>>. Only volunteers who are willing to travel into the disaster area should indicate their interest in this database. Prospective volunteers should not self-deploy.

Elsewhere, The Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network (SATERN) Net on 14.265 MHz announced plans to activate in emergency mode at 0000 UTC Saturday, September 24. "SATERN will run its two-pronged operation, handling as first priority emergency communication and as second priority health-and-welfare traffic," said SATERN National Director Pat McPherson, WW9E. The National Radio Emergency Net (NREN) will be working with SATERN during the Hurricane Rita response, maintaining liaison with SATERN's 14.265 MHz operation and providing alternate routes for operators handling emergency traffic on CW. NREN operations will be on 14.050 and 10.115 MHz days and 10.115 MHz and 7.050 MHz evenings.

Amateur Radio stations not involved in the Hurricane Rita emergency are requested to give all HF emergency net frequencies a wide berth of at least 5 kHz on either side. The FCC is aware of all emergency frequencies in use during the Hurricane Rita emergency.

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