



Dial Radio Club



Middletown, Ohio

APRS Digipeater: W8BLV 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:

Ernie Howard, N8EH

Vice-president:

Ernie Howard, Jr, W8EH

Secretary:

Barney Taylor, N8HP

Treasurer:

Ron Spaulding, N8NQG

Activities Manager:

Lorie Urschel, W8LKU

Newsletter Editor:

Judy Spaulding

Newsletter Printing:

Ron Spaulding, N8NQG

April 2007

Minutes of the March 19, 2007 Dial Radio Club Meeting

Attendance

K8CM, WD8DFK, WA8DTU, KC8DUX, N8EH, W8EH, N8GGE, N8HP, KI8I, W8ISZ, W8LKU, N8LRN & Eve, WB8MYT, KC8NHP, WD8NKQ & Barb, N8NQG, WB8QEA & Pat, N8TFH, KC8TXA, W8WCQ, KB8WKL, KC8WOF, N8XQ

Treasurer's Report:



Ron, N8NQG, presented the treasurer's report which reflected a membership 90 persons and 57 families. Barney, N8HP, made the motion to accept the treasurer's report and, Bob, WD8NKQ, seconded. The motion passed.

Call to order:

The meeting was called to order by N8EH at 7:02 pm.

Repeater/Station Report:

Ernie, W8EH, reported that the repeater system is working at the same level as last month. The Echolink system is also working well according to Carl, K8CM and others.

Secretary's Report:

A motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes and to accept them as published electronically was made by Ron, N8NQG, and seconded by Lorie, W8LKU. The motion passed.

Activity Report:

Lorie, W8LKU, gave the activities report. The next Butler county ARES meeting will be at Butler Tech, Room 229 on April 11 at 7:00 pm. She reminded those in attendance that ARES net meets on Tuesdays at 7:00 pm on the 147.330 repeater. Lorie also encouraged participation in the Dial Intercom Net on Thursday evenings at 9:00 pm local time.

Next Meeting: Monday, April 16, 2007, *Hometown Buffet*; dinner at 6 meeting at 7

Classes and Exams:



Beverly, N8GGE, gave the education report. The next exam will on April 25, 2007 at Verity Lodge, Miami University Middletown. She and Carl, K8CM, reported on the exam activity during the March exams. Five persons examined at the Wednesday session (March 21). Another 20 attended the special Saturday session on the following Saturday. There were 6 administrative upgrades (paperwork with no exam). Of those taking exams, two earned Technician licenses, one earned Extra, and the rest earned General. The current General class has two students making good progress towards the General.

Old Business:

The topic of possibly selling off some of the antennas and towers, which was tabled at the last meeting was revisited. Brian, KC8NHP, made a motion to remove the issue's 'Tabled' status. Evan, KC8TXA, seconded. Barney, N8HP, revealed that he had been in conversation with Ed, KF8PD, (who had raised the idea) and, Ed wished to have no further discussion on the issue. After comments from various members in attendance, Carl, K8CM, made a motion to kill the issue. Brian, KC8NHP, seconded and the motion passed.

New Business:

Ernie, N8EH, introduced and welcomed Ray Loesch, WB8QEA, and Pat. Ray was a member of Dial during the 1970's – one of the real Old Timers from that era.

The topic of food at the upcoming Hamvention was raised by W8EH. Roy, N8LRN, recommended that we ask Ron, N8NQF, to ask of Judy whether she would be willing to again provide the box lunches for Dial attendees at Hamvention. Ron

called Judy, placed her on speakerphone, and asked her. She graciously accepted the task of keeping us fed. Ron requested the same rate as last year \$10/day or \$25 for the entire weekend. Carl, K8CM, made a motion to establish the cost of meals as requested by Ron. Further, the food reservations must be made and paid by 5:00 pm on Wednesday May 9. Sellers are expected to contribute 10 percent of their gross to Dial to help defray the cost of the sites. Kelly, N8XQ, seconded the motion, which passed.

Ernie, N8EH, asked the audit committee for a meeting prior to the next Dial meeting. After some discussion, the audit committee members (N8HRA, N8GGE, and WD8NKQ) agreed to meet at 6:00 pm on April 5th at Ron's place of business.

Adjourn:

A motion to adjourn was made by Carl, K8CM, and seconded by Ron, N8NQF. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 7:44p.m.

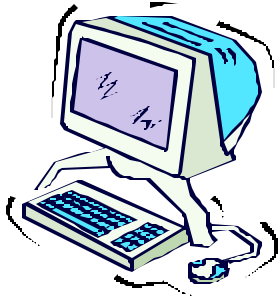
*Barney Taylor, N8HP
Secretary*

FCC NOW POSTING AMATEUR RADIO ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

Amateur Radio enforcement correspondence -- with some exceptions -- now is available to the public on the FCC's "Amateur Radio Service Enforcement Actions" Web site <http://www.fcc.gov/eb/AmateurActions/Welcome.html>. The listing will be cumulative, and Special Counsel in the FCC Spectrum Enforcement Division Riley Hollingsworth anticipates updating it every 7 to 10 days.

The site will not be a comprehensive listing of enforcement correspondence. For example, it will not include letters requiring retesting pursuant to §97.519(d) of the FCC's rules, letters regarding radio frequency interference to amateur licensees and letters requesting an initial response to a complaint.

Direct all questions concerning the Amateur Radio Service Enforcement Actions Web postings via e-mail only to Riley Hollingsworth in the FCC Spectrum Enforcement Division <fccham@fcc.gov>.



DIAL's VoIP Connection

EchoLink® software allows licensed Amateur Radio stations to communicate over the Internet, using voice-over-IP (VoIP) technology. This program allows worldwide connections to be made between stations, or between computer and station, thereby enhancing amateur radio's communication capability. On the *EchoLink*® “network” there are nearly 200,000 validated (a valid amateur radio operator's license is required) users worldwide; populating 162 of the world's 193 nations, with about 3,400 users online at any given time.

There are several different ways you can use EchoLink. Communication may be established from computer-to-computer, computer-to-radio, or radio-to-computer. A computer-to-radio connection enables a distant operator to make on-the-air contacts in an area where normal radio operation may not be possible. The radio-to-computer connection is simply the reverse of the preceding (computer-to-radio) scenario.

The ultimate connection becomes radio-to-computer-to-radio. This scenario enables an operator (perhaps in Germany) to use a VHF radio and ultimately converse with an operator in the Middletown-area, also using a VHF radio. Communication that would not be possible on VHF alone and with superior quality and reliability as compared with HF operation.

The hardware required to add EchoLink to your home computer is a microphone and sound card, both of which, you probably have. The final component is the software, available from the web site noted below. Oh, did I mention the software is free?

DIAL opened their “connection” on January 10 with the W8BLV 01/61 repeater. In the ensuing 80 days of operation, the system logged 162 hours, 22 minutes, and 16 seconds of connectivity with the repeater. The DIAL connection is, essentially, a remote connection to the repeater's transmitter and receiver which allows it to be operated in areas that would be outside normal radio coverage. Virtually any Internet connection will work, even dial-up.

Stations have connected not only locally but across the nation and around the world. Within the US stations that have remotely

accessed our repeater are AE5DW, AF8T, K8BWF, K8CM, K8CTI, K8SCH-R, K8SDX, K8SGL, K8STV, K8TNF, KA3CYW, KA4WRR, KB3OGV, KB8KID, KC8BYK, KC8GDW, KC8NBX, KC8NHP, KC8UJR, KC8ZJO, KC9HUL, KC9JGG, KC9KLX, KC9KUH, KD4EFM, KD7YQO, KD8BUS, KD8CDP, KD8CPV, KD8EJD, KD8ETS, KD8FGF, KD8FKI, KE3KV, KE4ALS, KE5ELU, KE7KOT, KF8PD, KG4TEW, KG8BB, KI4SDF, KI4TBP, KI8I, N8DHW, N8HP, N8JRZ, N8LRP, N8MFN, N8MIJ, N8NQF, N8RDO, N8XQ, N8ZZF, W1CKD, W1PRO, W5MDS, W6MAU, W7JI, W7MTT, W8EH, W8WCQ, WA1YLP, WA6RQD, WA8VMR, WB8ULC, WD8ADG, WD8CHW, WD8DFK, and WD8KBC.

International stations include DL2SAS and DX4CN (Germany), F5LER (France), G0RBA, G3ZQQ, and GB3IN (England), HK6CAN (Columbia), JH1PLL (Japan), PU1WCP (Brazil), UA3ATC (Russia), VE1WRG, VE3ELJ, VO1HX, and VU3PLP (Canada)

The longest connect by any station was a little over 3 hours, 25 minutes and the minimum time 1 second. All in all, the average time a station remains connected, via *Echolink*, to the W8BLV repeater was 3 hours, 8 minutes and 23 seconds.

You may learn more about *Echolink*, and download the free software, by going to <http://www.echolink.org/>.

Advisory to Amateur Radio License/Upgrade Applicants

Use your FRN! (Mar 8, 2007) -- ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (ARRL VEC) urges all Amateur Radio license and upgrade applicants to use their FCC Registration Number (FRN), if they have one, when completing Form 605, *not* their Social Security number.

The FCC asks applicants to register via the FCC's **CO**mmission **RE**gistration System (CORES), to obtain an FRN, and it *requires* applicants to use their FRNs when filing Form 605. The FRN uniquely identifies an applicant in all transactions with the FCC and avoids the need to provide a Social Security number on the application form. ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM, says that if her department submits license data to the FCC using a Social Security number when the applicant already has an FRN, the FCC rejects the data because an FRN already exists. Somma also reminds applicants and Volunteer Examiner teams to attach any *Certificate of Successful Completion of Examination (CSCE)* for element credit to upgrade applications. Using your FRN and attaching any needed CSCE to your Amateur Radio application in Form 605 will eliminate delays in obtaining your license or upgrade.

Reference: <http://www.arrl.org/?artid=7281>