



Dial Radio Club



Middletown, Ohio

APRS Digipeater: W8BLV 144.39
Repeaters: 52.21/53.21, 146.01/146.61, 147.915/147.315, 449.825/444.825
Web page: <http://www.qsl.net/w8blv/> e-mail: W8BLV@OSL.net

President:
Don Urschel, WA8DTU
Vice-president:
Roy Dalton, N8LRN
Secretary:
Barney Taylor, N8HP
Treasurer:
Ron Spaulding, N8QF

Activities Manager:
Lorie Urschel, W8LKU
Newsletter Editor:
Rick Slone, AF8T
Newsletter Printing:
Ron Spaulding, N8QF

December 2008

Minutes of the November 17, 2008 Dial Radio Club Meeting

Attendance

K8CM, N8DHW, WA8DTU, W8EH, KD8GXD, N8HP, N8HRA, W8ISZ, W8LKU, N8LRN & Eve, N8OZN, WA8PRA, N8QF, K8RJH, KB8WKL, W8WLM, KC8WOF

Call to order:

The meeting was called to order by Don, WA8DTU, at 7:03 pm at the temporary site of Richard's Pizza in Trenton.

Secretary's Report:

A motion to accept the minutes of the October meeting as published was made by Jim, W8ISZ, and seconded by Lorie, W8LKU. The motion passed with 1 nay.

Treasurer's Report:

Ron, N8NQG, presented the treasurer's report. 2008 membership is 103 members representing 71 families. Barney, N8HP, made the motion to accept the treasurer's report and, Jason, KD8GXD, seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Repeater/Station Report:

Ernie, W8EH, reported that he had monitored 146.400 for a week in response to complaints that W8BLV was "interfering" with simplex operation there. Ernie had his beam pointed at

W8BLV, and a radio set to a subaudible tone of 77Hz was connected to a computer to record any instances of squelch opening. After the week's monitoring, Ernie reported that W8BLV is clean and otherwise working as normal. No squelch openings were recorded. He mentioned that the backup batteries for W8BLV are getting quite old and that we may be getting some newer batteries to replace them.

Activity Report:

Lorie, W8LKU, Butler County ARES will be providing communications for two parades in Lebanon on December 6th. Anyone interested in participating should contact David, N8DHW. She reminded those in attendance of the Dial Intercom Net on Thursdays at 9:00 pm local time.

Classes and Exams:

Carl, K8CM, reported there are two more classes left in the General Exam preparation course, followed by the next Dial exam session on December 10th at Verity Lodge, Miami University Middletown. Registration will begin at 6:00 pm and exams will begin at 6:30 pm. Carl reported that the test fee increases to \$15 on January 1st.

Old Business

Anyone with suggestions for Dial officers for the next year should get them to the nominating committee – N8EH, W8EH, or KD8W – before the next meeting.

Next Meeting: Monday December 15, at the **Golden Corral**

New Business

Don, WA8DTU, announced that we will be returning to the Golden Corral for the December meeting. He also commented that Marion's Pizza at the Dayton Mall has a very nice meeting room.

Wanda, W8WLM, suggested that someone should confirm with the management of Golden Corral that the Dial meeting is on Golden Corral's calendar for the upcoming year. Don, WA8DTU, agreed to do so.

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn was made by Lorie, W8LKU, and seconded by Barney, N8HP. The motion passed, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:19 pm.

*Barney Taylor, N8HP
Secretary*

News and Information

Ohio Section December 2008 News

(Hamfests in Ohio and Ohio Cabinet listing is at the end of this issue)

By AFFILIATED CLUBS COORDINATOR, JOANNE SOLAK, KJ30

Hard to believe the Holiday Season is already here--seems like the Holidays come earlier each year! Between getting ready to entertain family and friends and finishing up gift shopping, don't forget one of the greatest sources of gifts is the ARRL. Check out all the "goodies" available on line from Headquarters, and if you know a "ham" could use a really great gift, get them membership in the ARRL. One of the benefits of being a member of ARRL is the magazine QST. So, for that special gift, or last minute gift, consider a gift of membership in the ARRL!

Well, 'Tis the season to be jolly! Did you work the November Sweepstakes? Just think of all the contests to come in just a few months. The New Year will bring with it many chances to contest. Not to mention all the ARES activities, the many Hamfests, Auctions, and just plain old fun enjoying amateur radio.

You know, the Ohio Section is blessed by many amateur radio operators. We have a wonderful Ohio Section Cabinet with many capable people. We have a Section Manager who shows his leadership at every turn. Many amateurs, too many to count, have stepped up to the plate and taken on huge responsibilities as Ohio Section Volunteers. We have one of the BEST SECTIONS

in the Country. And, in 2009 We have a win, win situation with all of us working together for the same cause...To make the Ohio Section number one!

Many Clubs have announced plans for their Christmas Parties. Have fun as you celebrate the Holiday Season. Thank You who have invited Larry, WD8MPV, and myself to join you in your celebration.

A final reminder for the year, File the Annual Report form as you make officer changes to your club leadership rosters.

AND, it is that time of year again. Club Dues are due. Please continue to support your Club by paying your membership dues on time.

The Spotlight Club of the month column is still alive and well. If you would like to have your Club featured in the Spotlight, contact me by the 10th of the month with all the information about your Club. For instance, when it was founded, by whom, special events and activities your Club is famous for, how many members, contests, etc.

Remember to visit the Ohio Section Web Site often for the latest happening within the Section www.arrloho.org will get you in. Enjoy!

It has been a busy year for the Ohio Section. There is not many days left in the year 2008 so we must make the best of them. At this time I would like to "thank" all those of you for your continued support in what I do in the Ohio Section. I appreciate all the Newsletters, E-Mails and just plain good wishes from time to time. Thank You for the many invitations to the picnics, parties, club meetings, and hamfests. We have met a lot of great "hams" throughout this year and plan on seeing many of you in the coming year.

As a parting reminder, The Ohio Section Cabinet has 12 members and all these members are listed on the back page of every issue of the Ohio Section Journal and on our Ohio Section web site in case you need to contact any of us.

The Ohio Section Journal also has a list of Amateur Radio Exams in Ohio which is compiled and edited by Bob Johnson, K3RC

CONGRATULATIONS to all the New Ohio Section Clubs that have affiliated with the ARRL and to all the many Ohio Section Clubs that have celebrated many years of ARRL Affiliation.

Well, that's it for this month and this year. May you and Yours have a very Happy, Blessed Holiday Season. From me and mine to you and yours, until sometime, somewhere, when you least expect it, I will be seeing YOU....

VERY BEST 73
Joanne Solak, KJ30, ACC Ohio Section

OHIO DECEMBER HAMFEST
None scheduled in Ohio for this Month

OHIO SECTION CABINET LISTING:

SM: Joe Phillips, K8QOE, Fairfield, (to contact me, see QST page 16 or on the Web at <www.arrloho.org>; ASM-NE: Bob Winston, W2THU, Cleveland; ASM-NW: Ron Griffin, N8AEH, Findlay; ASM-Central: Bill Carpenter, AA8EY, Westerville; ASM-SW: Dave Coons, WT8W, New Carlisle; ASM-SE: Connie Hamilton, N8IO, Marietta; SEC: Jack Sovik, KB8WPZ, Austintown; ACC: Joanne Solak, KJ3O, Mantua; TC: Tom Holmes, N8ZM, Tipp City; PIC: Emily Wells, KC8RAL, Warren; OOC: Rick Swain, KK8O, Galion; SGL: Nick Pittner, WB8TMF, West Jefferson; STM: John Tipka, W8UL, Reynoldsburg.

ARRL Ohio Section

Section Manager: Joseph J. Phillips, K8QOE

k8qoe@arrl.org

KI4LA is Re-elected Vice Director

To ensure as many members as possible have heard the news, incumbent Vice Director, Gary Johnston, KI4LA of Edgewood, KY has been reelected to his post for another three years in a very close, 3-candidate race.

In addition to Gary, the candidates were former Kentucky Section Manager and current Division Legislative Action Chairman John D. Meyers, NB4K of Butler, KY and current Michigan Affiliated Club Coordinator Dan Romanchik, KB6NU of Ann Arbor, MI. Voting in this election ended at noon, November 21. The results of the vote count as reported on the ARRL web site were:

Gary Johnston, KI4LA = 1218

Dan Romanchik = 1205

John Meyers = 1155

Upon learning of the election results, I sent the following message by e-mail to the three candidates:

"Gentlemen,

"Congratulations to Vice Director Johnston for his re-election victory in the just-completed election (the counting machine is still warm as I write this). I look forward to the assistance of Vice Director Johnston during the coming three years as together we strive to further the interests of Amateur Radio, the ARRL and the Great Lakes Division.

Congratulations also to Dan and John on their strong campaigns.

"Thanks to the three of you for the deep interest you demonstrated in the ARRL electoral process. It is through spirited competition such as you displayed that ARRL is assured of competent leadership in coming years. I feel confident that each of you will continue your leadership support of the League

regardless of the precise form this will take.

"73,"

Thanks to each Division member who voted in the just-completed election. It is votes of members such as you that select each of the 15 directors on the ARRL Board of Directors. The directors determine ARRL policy. Vice directors perform services to support their respective divisions as requested by their director and fill-in for the director as necessary.

Directors and vice directors serve terms three years in length. The terms begin at noon on January 1 following the election. One-third of the 15 directors and their associated vice directors are elected each year on a staggered basis. Director and vice director elections for the Central, Hudson, New England, Northwestern and Roanoke Divisions will be held in 2009.

Section Managers including Joe Phillips, K8QOE (OH), Dale Williams, WA8EFK (MI) and Jim in contrast serve for terms of two years.

73,

Jim Weaver, K8JE, Director
ARRL Great Lakes Division

5065 Bethany Road

Mason, OH 45040

E-mail: k8je@arrl.net ; Tel.: 513-459-0142

ARRL - The Reason Amateur Radio Is!

Members - The Reason ARRL Is!

Winter 2009 Extra Class Ham Radio Class

Beginning Wednesday, January 21, the DIAL RADIO CLUB will offer a twelve-week class to prepare a candidate for examination in Amateur Extra Class amateur radio operator license. Meeting on the Middletown Campus of Miami University, this class will meet in Verity Lodge on Wednesday evenings, 6-9 PM.

Theory instruction will begin January 21 and conclude April 22. Class will not meet the evenings of February 25 and March 11. An ARRL/VEC examination session will be scheduled at the conclusion of the class on the evening of April 29. (Note, Morse code proficiency is no longer a requirement for any amateur radio operator's license).

Although there is no charge for the instructional portion of this class, students should be prepared to purchase a license training manual and supplies (approximately \$20-25) for use in class.

Class enrollment will be limited to twenty students. For registration and/or additional information, please contact Beverley Taylor, N8GGE, by phone (513) 423-3165 or e-mail taylorba@muohio.edu .

Carl Morgan, K8CM

23rd Southwest Ohio Digital & Technical Symposium

Sponsored by the Dial Radio Club and The Center for Chemistry Education of Miami University will be held Saturday January 10th, 2009, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at Miami University Middletown, 4200 East University Blvd., Middletown, OH.

Talk-In: 146.61 (-) PL 77.0

Contact person:

Jay Slough, K4ZLE
2554 Hamilton Road
Lebanon, OH 45036-8849
Phone: 513-934-0235

<http://www.swohdigi.org>

Note: If you're an early bird Carl K8CM would appreciate help with set up. Contact Carl if you can help.

AF8T

ARRL 10 Meter Contest Means HF Fun for Techs, Too!

This weekend brings an opportunity for Technician licensees to exercise their HF privileges and have fun at the same time. The ARRL 10 Meter Contest is set to begin at 0000 UTC on Saturday December 13 (this is Friday evening in the US) and runs through 2359 UTC on Sunday, December 14.

"Anyone having tuned across 10 meters lately might think the band is uninhabited," said ARRL Contest Branch Manager Sean Kutzko, KX9X, "but on Friday afternoon, activity will increase dramatically. We're at the bottom of the solar sunspot cycle, so the worldwide band openings of a few years ago won't be happening, but the 10 Meter Contest brings hundreds of stations to the band."

Kutzko said that the contest "concentrates the activity, so all sorts of interesting contacts take place via local line-of-sight, sporadic-E and all kinds of scatter modes -- even meteor scatter!"

If you would like to try your hand at HF operating, Kutzko recommends a radio that can operate SSB (and CW, if you know Morse code) from 28.000 to about 28.500 MHz, as that's where most of the contest activity takes place; SSB activity will be between 28.300-28.500 MHz (listen to beacon stations located between 28.200-28.300 MHz to check for band openings).

If you need an antenna for 10 meters, ARRL Contributing Editor H. Ward Silver, N0AX, suggests using a full-size CB mobile whip trimmed to about 98 inches in length, but a dipole is also easy to make, he explains: "Cut two pieces of wire (any size from #12 to #20) to a length of 98 inches and strip the end of a piece of RG-8X or RG-213 coax. Solder the shield braid to one length of wire and the center conductor to the other. Stretch out the wires and attach each free end to an insulator, such as a piece

of PVC pipe or Plexiglass. You've just made a dipole!" You should then attach some thin cord or rope to the insulators so that they don't touch the wires and then hoist the dipole up in the air between a couple of trees or whatever supports you have -- it doesn't have to be very high. Check out this [article on how to make dipoles](#) on the ARRL Web site.

Once you tune into the contest, Kutzko said, you'll hear stations calling "CQ Contest" and giving their call sign. Another station will call them and they'll transmit a short message called the exchange. US and Canadian amateurs give a signal report (just "59" will do fine) and their state. If you hear a DX station, likely to be from South America or the Pacific -- they'll give the signal report and the sequential serial number (starting with 001) of the QSO in this contest (if you are their 187th QSO, you will receive "187" as part of their exchange to you). For example, if K7CEX hears W5KFT, the sequence might go like this:

CQ Contest from W5KFT
W5KFT from K7CEX
K7CEX you are 59 in Texas
W5KFT from K7CEX you are 59 in Washington
Thanks, CQ Contest from W5KFT

"Your best chances of making a contact are during the middle daylight hours of Saturday and Sunday, due to propagation considerations," Kutzko advises. "But I do have to warn you -- this simple contest can keep you busy for hours as you chase new states and even different countries! There is no need to sit on the sidelines for this fun event -- get on the air and enjoy your Technician license to the fullest!"

ARRL

QRZ.com to Change

Fred, AA7BQ, QRZ Founder, announced that QRZ.COM will be changing their database / web site.

He states, "Today we're pleased to make an initial announcement about a new version of our online callsign database that will soon replace our existing pages.

"Internally, we've been calling it QRZ 2.0, however, it will soon be known simply as QRZ as it becomes the system default. The new database includes a fresh new layout plus a number of new features and information details that were not previously available. In addition, the new callsign pages are customizable by the user to include colors, fonts, and multiple pictures. We've also included the GridFinder as a mainstream part of our data.

"Additionally, we have made vast improvements in our geo coordinate database, and we now include regional mapping information for nearly every callsign, both USA and DX!

"Once we've had sufficient time to test the new system we will eventually replace all of the callsign pages with the new format."

To see an example of their new pages for AA7BQ, go to:
<http://www.qrz.com/db/AA7BQ>

Ham Humor

"To see your callsign page under the new format, just use the URL/code: http://www.qrz.com/db/your_callsign
PLEASE NOTE: You must have Javascript enabled on your browser to take full advantage of what these new pages have to offer".

Fred also mentions, "If you'd like to take a sneak peek at the new editing features as well, you must join our Beta Tester's Group (it's free) by clicking <http://forums.qrz.com/profile.php?do=editusergroups> (you must be logged in)

Your request will be approved ASAP. Your comments and constructive criticism are welcome. Please don't write to tell us that 'you prefer the old version', or that you 'don't like the changes' because, frankly, we're determined to move forward.

"This is the first major rewrite of the QRZ database in several years and a lot of new technology has come of age since the current system made its debut. This project started more than a year ago and parts of it have already been running in the background for some time. Now, however, we're finally ready to start showing off the new look and get some feedback from the users. We appreciate your feedback! Please don't be bashful! We think you're going to like it!"

OPDX, SARC News

Free Maps !

Tim, EI8IC, has a great collection of the most comprehensive prefix maps on the Web; now available for free to download (yes, for free!).

There are 34 new maps available separately or in a combined zipped archive.

EI8IC also has a unique IOTA Bearing List which has been updated with all the latest IOTA island numbers. You can create your own list of beam headings and distance in miles or kilometers to ALL of the IOTA island groups.

He also has maps for CQ Zones, ITU Zones, ITU Regions, Grid Squares, ARRL Sections and much more.

Visit the following Web page at:

<http://www.mapability.com/ei8ic/index.html>

OPDX, SARC News

Holiday Season

Please remember our troops in your prayers this holiday season and if you see one in public say thank you they'll know why.

May everyone have a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays.

AF8T

Bumper Snickers

**Pray For Me. My Husband Is A
Ham Radio Operator.**

**As A Matter Of Fact I Don't Have
Enough Antennas On My Car**

Too Much Knowledge Can Be A Bad Thing

While traveling overseas, 3 guys were arrested and wrongfully convicted of being spies. They were sentenced to death in the electric chair. When the fateful day came, the first guy was placed in the electric chair and the executioner threw the big switch. Nothing happened. The judge said "this is an omen. You are free to go" The second guy was placed in the chair. Same results. The judge said "this too is an omen. You are free to go". The third guy, an extra class amateur was placed in the chair, and before the switch could be thrown to the Zap position he said "hey fellows, I'm a ham radio operator and if you will reset the circuit breaker on that panel, I think this thing will probably work just fine"

Airport Security

A ham was waiting to board a flight for the Holy Ham Mecca of the Dayton Hamvention when he was pulled aside by the TSA employee for "random" screening. After a very thorough frisking, worthy of an episode of Cops, the screener said "well I've got good news and bad news. The good news is you get to board the flight." The ham said, well what on earth is the bad news?" The TSA screener answered "your prostate is enlarged"

Source

Thanks to the www.w4ktl.com website for all of the items in the "Ham Humor" section this month.