



# 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: [W8BLV@QSL.net](mailto:W8BLV@QSL.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, N8NQG

July 2008

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## Minutes of the June 16, 2008 Dial Radio Club Meeting

### Attendance

KD8AUK, K8CM, WD8DFK, N8DHW, WA8DTU, N8EH, W8EH, N8GGE, N8HRA, KI8I, W8ISZ, W8LKU, N8LRN & Eve, WB8MYT, KC8NHP, N8NRF, N8OZN, KF8PD, WA8PRA, N8QF, NR8R & Barb, K8RJH, N2RWP, AF8T, N8TFH, W8ULC, W8WCQ, KB8WKL, W8WLM, KC8WOF

### Call to order:

The meeting was called to order by Don, WA8DTU, at 7:02 pm.

### Secretary's Report:

A motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes and to accept them as published was made by Ernie, N8EH, and seconded by Bob, K8RJH. The motion passed with one nay vote.

### Treasurer's Report:

Ron, N8NQG, presented the treasurer's report. 2008 membership is 99 members representing 67 families. Barney, N8HP, made the motion to accept the treasurer's report and, Bob, NR8R, seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Ron also passed out a membership roster and asked for corrections – especially for email address and ARRL member

status. Barney, N8HP, suggested that anyone who has recently changed calls notify Ron. Beverley, N8GGE, asked why ARRL membership was important, and Carl, K8CM, noted the advantages of being an ARRL affiliated Club – most notably, the ARRL liability insurance and ARRL VEC affiliation.

### Repeater/Station Report:

Ernie, W8EH, reported that there is a new repeater in Kentucky with its output on one of the W8BLV link frequencies. The best solution to the problem, since link use is secondary to coordinated repeater use, is to replace the two crystal controlled link transmitters with synthesized units, so that Dial can change link frequencies as repeaters utilize them. Options for the transmitters are to convert commercial radios (if available) or to buy new transmitters.

Carl, K8CM, made a motion to provide funds up to \$550 to purchase new transmitters if suitable commercial units cannot be obtained. The motion was seconded by Ernie, N8EH, and passed unanimously.

Brian, KC8NHP, noted that W8BLV was not active on EchoLink. Carl, K8CM, indicated that he would check out the problem.

### Activity Report:

Lorie, W8LKU, reminded those in attendance of the Dial Picnic held around 6:00p.m. on the Saturday of Field Day. The deadline for letting Lorie know if you plan to attend is the 23<sup>rd</sup>, so Lorie can purchase sufficient meat and soft drinks.

Next Meeting: Monday July 21, at the Golden Corral

## Classes and Exams:

Beverly, N8GGE, noted that the next Dial exam session will be at Verity Lodge, Miami University Middletown on August 20. A new Technician class will begin on the 27<sup>th</sup> at Verity Lodge, followed by a General class beginning on October 15<sup>th</sup>.

## Old/New Business: Field Day at Smith Park, Middletown, OH

Roy, N8LRN, the Field Day Chair, lead a discussion about preparation for the upcoming event. Numerous items were made known and briefly discussed.

Jim, W8ISZ, will serve as the Get-On-The-Air (GOTA) coach. He will bring his radio from home and make use of the 80 meter vertical and the Club's R7000. The GOTA station will operate on bands not being used by the three main stations. Barney, N8HP, offered to bring an ICE bandpass filter for the GOTA station to reduce interference from the other stations.

Jim, W8ISZ, indicated that from about 3:00 p.m. to dark on Saturday would be the prime time to have the GOTA station operational due to the visitors to the park and the guests at the picnic. More serious discussion concerned the antennas for the GOTA station, and the problem of interference that plagued a previous attempt to run a GOTA station. The ultimate decision on GOTA will be made at the Field Day preparation meeting that Roy, N8LRN, announced would be held before Field Day.

The large generator and the smaller backup generator have been tested.

The 40 meter phone station will use the Club's Kenwood, and John, W8WCQ, will provide a rig for the 20/80 meter station.

An announcement has been running on TV Middletown about Dial's Field Day activities.

Dave, KD8W, asked when the setup activities for Field Day would begin. By the rules, no station related activities can be performed prior to 2:00 pm on Friday the 27<sup>th</sup>. However, we are free to erect the canopy for the picnic, and those camping at Smith Park overnight are free to set up their camping equipment. Roy, N8LRN, expressed a desire to have the two towers bases erected and ready to receive antennas by 3:30 p.m., so that we can finish in time to enjoy the food provided for dinner.

Although station set up cannot begin before 2:00 on Friday, help in setting up the picnic shelter is needed starting at noon on Friday. Help taking down the equipment is needed starting at noon on Sunday.

## Adjourn:

Prior to adjournment, door prizes consisting of repeater directories on CD were awarded. The winners were Brian, KC8NHP, and Mark, WD8DFK.

A motion to adjourn was made by Ernie, N8EH, and seconded by Carl, K8CM. The motion passed, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 pm.

*Barney Taylor, N8HP  
Secretary*

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## **Field Day from the Secretary's Perspective - Wind, Rain and Good Times**

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Field Day weekend 2008 was much more active (in a weather sense) than previous years. We had rain, wind and thunder on each of the three days. Station shelters were almost blown down, but Field Day operation continued with only a few short lulls.

The antennas went up very smoothly on Friday. A 6 meter 'squalo' was a last minute addition that was mounted above the Club's triband beam. On Friday evening, Brian, KC8NHP, Rick, AF8T, and several others sitting under the dining canopy worked stations in Maine and Nova Scotia on six meters – which they found exciting.

Saturday morning was station/computer set up and testing. Rain again caused a pause in the activities. Later, Dave, KD8W, discovered problems with getting the computer to key the CW rig which took a while to fix. The other stations exhibited fewer startup problems.

At 2:00 pm Ernie, W8EH, started the 40 meter station using a battery charged by solar cells and made (on low power) the first 10 contacts. Bob, WA6EZV, started on 20 meters and managed to hold a frequency that he had been on before the start of the contest. Dave, KD8W, and Dick, K8CI, were on their way in the CW tent, and Steve, KC8CPV, was Jim's, W8ISZ, first GOTA student – and we were off and running.

I calculated the number of QSOs logged in each half hour interval. Between 2:30 and 3:00 pm K8PI logged 80 contacts. Then the thunderstorms rolled through which caused stations to be shut down, antennas disconnected etc – resulting in about 5 QSO's in a full hour.

The thunderstorms passed and the activity returned. The rain finally passed by 4:30, and Red, W8ULC, and Lorie, W8LKU, started making plans to cook for the picnic. Attendance seemed to be down this year – probably due to the weather – but there was plenty to eat for those in attendance.

Possibly for the first time ever, all of the stations were active throughout the night. The CW guys had "shifts" – Art, K8PI, and Bob, KD8HGE, Jerry, W8LR, and Ernie, W8EH, – in a semblance of reason. Brian (KC8NHP) and Matt (KB1KDW) ran the phone stations through the early hours of the morning.

Operators were trying to attain even numbers of contacts as the 2:00 pm stopping time occurred. According to information provided by W8EH, we had 1579 QSOs for the contest. The 40 meter station was down compared to previous years due to the high noise associated with the thunderstorms. Due to being able to hold a frequency and call CQ, the 20/80 meter station earned more contacts than the cw station which operated more in the search and pounce mode.

Jim, W8ISZ, had a number of participants in the GOTA tent starting with Steve, KC8CPV, and including other higher class, but HF inactive operators like N8HRA. Our Field Day Chair, Roy, even convinced his XYL, Eve, to take a stab at the GOTA station. The total for the GOTA station was about 40 contacts.

The last minute 6 meter station contributed 50 QSOs to the effort. The persons contributing the most were Ed, KF8PD, and Andy, KD8GKL.

The stations came down quickly (although part of the time was a very cold rain) and we were out of Smith Park before 4:00 pm to go home and try to rest up.

N8HP

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## News and Information

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### Jonathon Taylor K1RFD Interview Available for Download

An interview with Jonathon Taylor K1RFD, the creator of EchoLink, took place Saturday July 12th on the "EchoLinksters Saturday Night Net" on the \*DODROPIN\* EchoLink conference server.

For those that missed the interview it is available for download on the EchoLinksters web site at [www.echolinksters.com](http://www.echolinksters.com).

The EchoLinksters team invites all hams to join them for future nets every Saturday night on the \*DODROPIN\* conference server, EchoLink Node# 355800. *AF8T*

### Attention All ARRL Members

E-mails Asking for Personal Information Are Not from ARRL (Jul 14, 2008)

-- We have received several reports from ARRL members with arrl.net e-mail accounts who have recently been contacted via e-mail asking for personal information, such as user names and passwords. Please be assured that these e-mails are fraudulent attempts at "phishing" and did not originate from ARRL. According to ARRL Information Technology Manager Don Durand, "This is a very crude attempt at phishing, using an

easily determined spoof of the originating/return address. There is never a time when we would ask via mass e-mail for user names and passwords of arrl.net users. There is simply no need to ever do so." If you receive an e-mail asking for personal information and it looks like it originated from ARRL, please do not respond, just delete it. *ARRL*

### Art "Buck" Randall, KD8AUK, Introduction



Buck Randall KD8AUK, the newest Dial member, was voted in at the May meeting. Buck who lives in the Franklin area has been a ham since December 2004 and holds a technician license. He is already proving to be an active Dial member attending club meetings, Hamvention and field day. *AF8T*

### US Government Recalls RadioShack Power Supplies

On July 2, the US Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), in cooperation with RadioShack, announced a voluntary recall of 13.8 V dc power supplies. The CPSC said that consumers should stop using these power supplies immediately, as the "power supplies are wired incorrectly, posing electrocution and fire hazards." No injuries have been reported in conjunction with the power supplies that were sold in RadioShack stores nationwide from October 2004-January 2008 for between \$50 and \$85. Manufactured in China, the CPSC said that the recall involves RadioShack 13.8 V DC Power Supplies, catalog numbers 22-507 and 22-508 with date codes from 08A04 through 01A08. Date code format is MMYY where MM is the month and YY is the year. The catalog number and date code are located on the back of the power supply. Power supplies with a green dot on the product and the product's packaging have already been repaired and are not included in the recall. The CPSC recommends for consumers to unplug the recalled power supply immediately and take it to any RadioShack store for a free repair. Registered owners of the recalled power supplies will be mailed a notice. For additional info, contact RadioShack at 800-843-7422 anytime, or visit their Web site. *ARRL*

## Did Hell Freeze Over?



Photo by W8EH

What well known Dial member (shown above) who claimed it would be a cold day in hell before he would ever operate a Kenwood radio was caught doing just that at field day?

What next Don, will you get a cell phone? AF8T

## Lima Ham Fest 2008! Saturday, August 9th, 2008

The North West Ohio Amateur Radio Club in association with Fair Radio Sales proudly presents Ham Fest 2008! Saturday, August 9th, 2008. Gates open at 6 AM for vendors. Front doors open at 8 AM.

VE Ham Radio License Testing On Site at 10:30AM

Ham Fest - Flea Market - Commercial Vendors - Computer Supplies and Extras

Talk in on 146.670 No PL

### General Information

Admission at the gate for tickets is \$5.00 with children 12 and under free. Each ticket will be entered into a door prize drawing. Free Parking. Vendors will be allowed to park next to their outside booths. Tailgate or trunk sales will be allowed. Refreshments and food are available starting with coffee and doughnuts at 7 AM.

Outdoor flea market locations are free with admission ticket. Clean Restrooms that are Handicap Accessible.

For More information please contact:  
Gary Clements  
Phone: (419) 227-6573

E-mail: [kc0jdt@yahoo.com](mailto:kc0jdt@yahoo.com) or  
[FAIRRADIO@fairradio.com](mailto:FAIRRADIO@fairradio.com)

### Door Prizes:

Grand Prize: Handheld Radio (Must be present to win at the noon drawing)

Second Prize: \$50 Monetary Prize

Many Other Prizes Will Be Awarded!

### Location:

This event is held at the following address:

Fair Radio Sales  
2395 Saint Johns Road  
Lima, OH 45802

## 2008 Field Day Results for K8PI

	CW		Digital		Phone	
	QSOs	Pwr (W)	QSOs	Pwr (W)	QSOs	Pwr (W)
<b>160m</b>						
<b>80m</b>	123	100			83	100
<b>40m</b>	317	100			196	100
<b>20m</b>	77	100			433	100
<b>15m</b>	112	100			36	100
<b>10m</b>	53	100				
<b>6m</b>					50	100
<b>2m</b>						
<b>1.25</b>						
<b>Other</b>						
<b>Satellite</b>						
<b>GOTA</b>					46	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>682</b>		<b>0</b>		<b>844</b>	

Total QSOs = 1572

Our claimed points will be 5506 .

For comparison, here some previous year's scores.

In 2007 we had 3,922 points, 922 QSOs - third place in Ohio, out of 17 in class 3A

In 2006 we had 4,526 points, 1210 QSOs - third place in Ohio, out of 21 in class 3A

In 2005 we had 5,474 points, 1387 QSOs - third place in Ohio, out of 16 in class 3A

W8EH

Field Day Photos





Dial Radio Club, Middletown, OH