



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@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, N8QF

January 2009

Minutes of the December 15, 2008 Dial Radio Club Meeting

Attendance

KC8CPV, N8DHW, WA8DTU, KC8DUX, W8EH, N8GGE, KD8GKL, KD8GXD, N8HP, W8ISZ, W8LKU, N8LRN & Eve, N8LRP, KC8NHP, N8NRF, K8PI, N8QF, NR8R & Barb, K8RJH, K2RWP, AF8T, KC8TXA, KD8W, W8WCQ, KB8WKL, KC8WOF

Call to order:

The meeting was called to order by Don, WA8DTU, at 7:01 after moving from the general public area of Golden Corral into the meeting room.

Secretary's Report:

A motion to accept the minutes of the October meeting as published was made by Jim, W8ISZ, and seconded by Bob, NR8R. The motion passed with 1 nay.

Treasurer's Report:

Ron, N8NQP, presented the treasurer's report. 2008 membership ended with 103 members representing 71 families. Barney, N8HP, made the motion to accept the treasurer's report and, Charles, KB8WKL seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Ron announced that now is the time to pay the 2009 dues and that several people had already paid at the

meeting. A dues form was included in the email version of the newsletter, but not the print version.

Repeater/Station Report:

Ernie, W8EH, reported on a work visit to the W8BLV site and the problem of W8BLV being heard by users of 146.400 simplex. A detailed summary has been provided by Ernie and may be found in the "Extended Station Report" section following the minutes. Ernie's final comment on the issue was "It's not us!"

Activity Report:

Lorie, W8LKU, reminded those in attendance of the Dial Intercom Net on Thursdays at 9:00 pm local time.

Classes and Exams:

Beverley, N8GGE, announced that the 12 week long class to prepare for the Extra Examination would begin on Wednesday, January 21st at Verity Lodge, Miami University Middletown. The classes will run from 6:00 until 9:00 pm. Four or five persons have already expressed a desire to attend.

Dave, KD8W, reported that 11 persons had attended the most recent exam sponsored by Dial and that 9 had earned a license or upgrades. He expressed thanks to the volunteer examiners for having a very smooth process in spite of the large number of examinees.

Next Meeting: Monday January 19, at the **Golden Corral**

Old Business

None.

New Business

Don, WA8DTU, tried extracting a 'pound of flesh' from the manager of Golden Corral who had verified earlier in the day of the 15th that Dial had the room reserved. The miscue was attributed to someone else booking the room and an employee not carefully looking to see that the room was available. Hopefully, the stability of the meeting room will be better during the upcoming year.

Don appointed a committee consisting of Bob, NR8R, Bob, K8RJH, and Roy, N8LRN to audit the financial records of Dial and to report to the membership. Ron, N8QF, announced that it would likely be late January before he would have all of the 2008 data ready for the audit.

The nominating committee offered no slate of candidates for officers for 2009. The suggested excuse was that no one had been appointed 'Chair', hence no one had called a meeting. Barney, N8HP, suggested that the committee members be forced to serve as officers much like the old tradition of a guard having to serve the sentence of a prisoner that had escaped. Jim, W8ISZ, made a motion to reelect the current officers for 2009, and Ernie, W8EH, seconded. The motion passed as a train whistle faintly passed through the Golden Corral...

Barney, N8HP, made an announcement in Carl's absence (K8CM) regarding the upcoming **Twenty Third Annual Southwest Ohio Digital Symposium** scheduled for Saturday January 10th in Thesken Hall of Miami University Middletown. Carl will need volunteers to help with setup, registration, lunch, etc. starting at about 7:00 am. Barney went on to read the tentative program that he had found on the web page for the symposium (<http://www.swohdigi.org/>). Rick, AF8T, pointed out that those talks were from 2008 – no wonder they sounded so familiar....

Announcements:

Brick, K2RWP, announced that he has a 2002 Grand Caravan with a chair lift for sale. Interested parties should contact him.

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn was made by Bob, K8RJH, and seconded by Lorie, W8LKU. The motion passed, and the meeting was adjourned.

Barney Taylor, N8HP

Secretary

Editors Note: The following was provided by Ernie, W8EH, by email for inclusion into the newsletter.

- 1- We are getting QRM from some electronic devices that emit a signal on 146.012, the input to our repeater. One source is near Breiel and Central.
- 2- K8CM, K8RJH and I went to the WPFB site and checked out the 61 repeater. We installed two newer deep cycle batteries into the repeater cabinet. I also changed the PL tone on the main receiver back to 77 Hz. All the repeater receivers respond to 77 Hz PL now.
- 3- We have been getting random complaints from operators on 146.40 simplex that they are hearing the 146.61 repeater while listening on 146.40. The operators that are hearing this signal are in the Carlisle, Franklin, Springboro and Germantown areas.

Rick AF8T discovered that they were hearing our repeater only when the 146.82 repeater was also transmitting. This turns out to be a 3rd order intermodulation product, 146.61 times 2, minus 146.82 equals 146.40. They hear the audio from our repeater stronger because this is a second harmonic mix of our transmitter.

Our main repeater transmitter has a dual stage ferrite isolator in line as well as a 6 can duplexer that should filter out any harmonics. The isolator by itself has in excess of 57 dB of isolation at the second harmonic. I also tested the backup repeater. The backup also has a dual stage ferrite isolator and 3 pass/notch cavities in line. Second harmonic isolation was in excess of 75 dB through the isolator and cavities. I tested both repeaters for spurious signals with the spectrum analyzer and found none. All harmonics and spurious emissions are better than the FCC requirements.

I discovered that I had only one radio that would hear the mix of the two repeaters, my Kenwood TM-733. All others would not hear any intermodulation. Testing showed that both the main repeater at WPFB and the backup repeater at the Breiel site would mix with 146.82 and be heard on 146.40 on my Kenwood. The backup repeater would make the intermod stronger in my Kenwood. If I turn on my AIP function (turns off the preamp), the intermodulation almost disappears.

I wrote an email to some of the 146.40 operators and asked them to conduct a test. They had one station transmit on the 146.82 repeater output, another transmit on the 146.61 repeater output and a third station listen. The 146.40 listening station heard both stations come through their radio on 146.40. The intermod was generated in this test without our repeater being involved.

This appears to be a problem with the affected station's receivers, not our repeater transmitters.

Further testing will be conducted.

News and Information

George "Brick" Trumppore, K2RWP, Silent Key



George "Brick" Trumppore K2RWP, 83, of Monroe, died Friday, December 19, 2008, at Atrium Medical Center. He was born in Huntington Mills, Pennsylvania on March 31, 1925 to parents Jesse Bowman and Violet Ladietia (Holmes) Trumppore.

Brick served his country in the United States Navy during WWI. He came to Monroe in 2000. He was an active member of the Dial Radio Club attending meetings and other club activities on a regular basis. Brick was also a member of SAR (Sons of the American Revolution), a scout leader for 24 years, and had been a senior systems engineer with IBM before his retirement.

He will be sadly missed.

Sources: *The Middletown Journal*, AF8T

Amateur Extra Class Course

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, 4200 E. University Blvd., 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

Legislative Action and the 111th Congress

As the New Year approaches so will the change in Washington. President elect Barack Obama will take office on January 20th. New Senators and members of the US House of Representatives also take office after the first of this year. Caucus totals are 233 Democrats and 202 Republicans in the U.S. House of Representatives and 49 Democrats, 49 Republicans and 2 Independents (who plan to caucus with Democrats) in the U.S. Senate.

With the changes in Congress and the House of Representatives we have our job cut out for us no matter how you look at it. With the changes in seat holders this means that a number of our LAAs will need to establish relations with the freshman Representatives or Senators or their aides who have taken over the offices. This will need to be done as soon as possible. The time is now to start making contact with these freshman Legislators and Congressman or their aides.

Incidentally, you are not expected to travel to Washington to perform your duties. Instead, the following discussion assumes your visits with Congressmen or their aides will occur "back home" in a local office.

Be aware that we often are unable to meet directly with a Congressman. Instead, we may meet with one of his/her aides. This is fine. The fact that you met and the legislative position you supported during your meeting will be forwarded to the Congressman. The support you show during your meeting will provide much assistance to the ARRL Legislative Advocate in Washington, DC. Your meeting will prove to the Congressman that voters back home are interested in the legislation. If you have the opportunity to drop in to meet your Congressman's aide in a local office, consider introducing yourself. Tell them that later on you will doubtlessly contact them to make an appointment to visit the Congressman while he/she is at home, or to visit him (the aide) to discuss legislation that relates to Amateur Radio. Leave your Legislative Action business card and, if possible, a brief introduction to what Amateur Radio is and how it benefits the public.

Before the day of any meeting that is to promote the ARRL/Amateur Radio legislative agenda try to read a bio on the Senator or Representative. This can be found on the Internet, so you'll know about as much as possible of his or her background

and issues as well. Get a list of the committees he/she serves on or chairs so you can familiarize yourself with your senator's pet projects or work. Get with your partner and go over the packet you have received from me. Make sure you know what's in it and a little about it. Make a plan on who is going to be the main speaker for the two of you and don't contradict one another. Be professional about what you want to talk about and to the point. Write a brief summary of the issue you will discuss with the Senator.

Day of the meeting; dress appropriately; depending on where you live, where you'll be meeting with the Senator or Legislator will depend on what you should wear. If you were meeting them in their primary home office then a pair of dress slacks and dress shirt and maybe a tie would be appropriate. If it is in a town hall then a casual pair of slacks and shirt would fit the bill, however do not wear jeans, shorts, tee shirts or muscle shirts to these meetings be professional as you can be without going over board, if your everyday dress is a suit that is okay just don't out do your partner try and go as a team. Do not wear a ham radio name badge unless the meeting will occur at an Amateur Radio event. Arrive early to the location but don't go into the office until 5 to 10 minutes before your appointed time. Arriving early takes the guesswork out of making sure you're at the right place, that traffic wouldn't be a problem and that your nerves have a chance to calm down as these folks want to hear from you as you are the some of constituents that have put them there.

Deliver the program or subject you have practiced. Make sure they have your contact information. As a member of the ARRL legislative action team you will receive a legislative action business card with your name, address, telephone number and e-mail address. Be certain to thank the Congress member or aide for their time. It is also a good idea to send an e-mail "thank you" a day or two after your meeting.

73
John D. Meyers, NB4K
Great Lakes Division Legislative Action Coordinator

ARRL

Butler County Weather Spotters Training

Weather Spotters Training will be on January 27th, 2009, 7:00 PM - 9:30 PM at the Garfield Middle School, 250 North Fair Avenue, Hamilton, OH.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The National Weather Service (NWS) office in Wilmington uses Doppler radar and satellite pictures as its primary tools to detect severe weather. However, the most important tool for observing thunderstorms is the trained eye of the storm spotter.

Doppler radar gives indications of air motions inside a storm, but will not show the wind at ground level. It is impossible for any radar to detect every severe weather event in its coverage area,

and radar occasionally suggests severe weather when, in fact, none is present.

As a trained spotter, you perform an invaluable service for the NWS. Your real-time observations of tornadoes, hail, wind, and significant cloud formations provide a truly reliable information base for severe weather detection and verification. By providing observations, you are assisting the meteorologists at Wilmington in their warning decisions, and enabling the NWS to fulfill its mission of protecting life and property.

You are helping to provide the citizens of your community with potentially lifesaving information.

INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1) Course minimum is 20 students.
- 2) There are no course fees.
- 3) Registration is limited to the first 80 applicants.
- 4) **PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED**

TO APPLY FOR THIS COURSE

1) You will:

a) Fill Out the application (below) or register online at:
http://66.117.197.5/ema/index.cfm?page=register_form

or

b) Send the application to: fax (513-785-5811) – no phone registrations)

Butler County Emergency Management Agency
315 High Street, Suite 670
Hamilton! OH 45011
Fax 513-785-5811

Name _____

Title _____

Organization _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Office Phone _____ Home Phone _____

E-mail _____

Spotter 2009 _____

Source: Butler County Emergency Management Agency

December VE Testing Session

Thanks to all who participated in the December VE testing session. We had 11 license applicants; four earning Technician, two upgrading to General, and three upgrading to Amateur Extra. Two, I'm sad to report, were unsuccessful earning either a new license or upgrade.

This was probably the best attended and the "quickest" exam we've had for quite awhile. Registration opened at 6 PM and we were "out the door" by 8. It sure helps to have a number of VEs so everybody has something to do and no one gets spread too thin.

Our next exam is scheduled for Wednesday, February 25, 2009. Please mark your calendar and plan to "work" again.

Carl Morgan K8CM

License Exams

DIAL Radio Club of Middletown Exam Dates:

Feb 25, Apr 29, 2009

Butler County VHF Association Exam Dates:

Mar 14, May 9, Sep 12, Nov 14, 2009

Dates to Remember for 2009

Dial Meetings: Jan 19, Feb 16, Mar 16, Apr 20, May 18, Jun 15, Jul 20, Aug 17, Sep 21, Oct 19, Nov 16 and Dec 21, 2009.

Dayton Hamvention: May 15, 16 and 17, 2009

Field Day Set-up: Jun 26, 2009

Field Day: Jun 27 and 28, 2009 (Picnic: Jun 27)

AF8T

OHIO SECTION JANUARY 09 NEWS

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

By AFFILIATED CLUBS COORDINATOR, JOANNE SOLAK, KJ30

GREETINGS OF THE SEASON! FROM THE OHIO SECTION.

As I write this Ohio Section News it is still December and Christmas is just a few days away. That is how it goes, we write the Section news in the month prior to the month due, (if you know what I am trying to say)? Anyway, things around the

Section are moving along quite well considering the really cold weather and all the activities scheduled.

The Ohio Section had a very full year 2008 and it looks as if the year 2009 is proceeding along those same lines. My calendar for January has quite a few messages on the dates already. There will be a lot of changes coming in the Section also. So keep watch for those.

As we start the New Year, remember to pay your Club Membership Dues. If you have Club Officer elections, remember to file the ANNUAL REPORT FORM. Yes, I am going to remind you of this over and over again this year as usual. It is very important that your Club Secretary file the form as early as possible so that ARRL Headquarters has your Club updates and other information on file in case your club needs to be contacted for any reason.

Do you have VE Exams scheduled for 2009? If so contact Bob Johnson, K3RC who compiles and edits the Amateur Radio Exams in Ohio. You can get all his contact information in the latest Ohio Section Journal.

If you have a Hamfest to schedule, contact ARRL HQ and get it ARRL approved as soon as possible. [HYPERLINK "mailto:hamfests@arrl.org"](mailto:hamfests@arrl.org) hamfests@arrl.org gets you started.

Remember I, as the Ohio Section Affiliated Clubs Coordinator (ACC) provide support services to your Club. If you ever need to contact me at anytime, my information is on the back page of the Ohio Section Journal. Any of the Ohio Section Cabinet members information is there for your convenience.

The FCC is asking Clubs to provide information about the DTV conversion in your area. Let our Section Manager, Joe Phillips, K8QOE, know if your Club is willing to help during the month of January and February 2009. Remember "Hams" should not make house calls, sell any equipment, or install any equipment, just offer the information about the conversion. Contact Joe if your Club wishes to participate.

Joyce Judy, KD8HB, will retire the first of January as Net Manager of the CW Traffic Net.

The ARRL has just introduced a new Membership Benefit..With just a click or two of a mouse, ARRL members can now access the online QST magazine archive. This new benefit provides PDF copies of all QST articles from December 1915 through December 2004, enabling members to view and print their favorite article, project and more.

New Years Eve and Straight Key Night! The speed is down from the typical CW contest speed and very easy to copy. Give it a try!

I wish to THANK all the many Club Newsletter Editors that have continued to send me their Club Newsletters. Please continue to do so. I read them all. Spotlight Club of the Month is still alive and well. If you wish to have your Club in the Spotlight, send me the club information (when founded, by

whom, how many members, your objectives, etc) by the 10th of the month. And I will get it in the Ohio Section News.

Remember to support your local Clubs. You do not have to be a member of any particular club to support it. Go to the meetings, go to events sponsored by the Clubs and enjoy Amateur Radio, it is a FUN Hobby. Make up your amateur radio plans early in the year. Check out the many Ohio Section Hamfests, Club events, Contests etc. sponsored by Ohio Section Clubs and plan to attend or volunteer your assistance, you will be glad you did.

Well, that's it for this month. I hope you are enjoying a very Happy Holiday Season. Happy New Year and remember, sometime, somewhere, when you least expect it, I will be seeing you.

VERY BEST 73

Joanne Solak, KJ3O, ACC Ohio Section

OHIO JANUARY HAMFESTS

(10) SATURDAY - 22nd ANNUAL DIGITAL SYMPOSIUM. There is no flea market. At Miami University Middletown. For more information, call Jay Slough, K4ZLE, 513-934-0235 or visit; www.swohdigi.org.

(18) SUNDAY - Sunday Creek ARF; at Nelsonville; for more information, call Jeramy Duncan, KC8QDQ, 740-767-2554 or E-mail; duncan10847@embarq.com.

(25) SUNDAY - TUSCO Hamfest. at Strasburg. For more information, call Kyle Quillen, KD8HDJ at 330-331-6269 or E-mail; hamfest@tuscoarc.org.

OHIO SECTION CABINET LISTING:

SM: Joe Phillips, K8QOE, Fairfield, (to contact me, see QST page 16 or on the Web at www.arrlohio.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, K8NAP, West Jefferson; STM: John Tipka, W8UL, Reynoldsburg.

OHIO SLOW NET CHANGES - 12/18/08

TIME; FREQ CHANGES FOR OSN

The Ohio Slow Net, where Morse Code is always the mode of choice, has announced immediate frequency and time changes due to seasonal band conditions. These changes were announced by OSN Net Manager Henry Koenig, ND8Q, of Richland County.

The OSN will start at 6 p.m. local time and be located at 3.535.5 MHz in the future. The starting time is 10 minutes earlier than

before. The old frequency was 3.705 MHz. NM Koenig said these changes will remain in effect until further notice.

For those who may not know about the OSN - it is a traffic net whose sole purpose is to practice CW skills. The code speeds are usually from 10 to 12 WPM, but will slow down for someone who needs it. NM Koenig says OSN will pass traffic and give some instruction or direct folks to instructional nets, such as the Maryland Slow Net. New check ins are always welcome, and, again, we will match sender's speed, he added.

UPDATE ON TOWER LEGISLATION NEW YEAR; SAME OBJECTIVE

From the Ohio Section of the ARRL, Happy New Year to all Ohio ham radio operators. The work to put National PRB-1 antenna and tower language into Ohio law continues. It has been a couple of months since the last update because the election of a new Ohio General Assembly needed to be evaluated.

A new project manager for the Ohio effort was appointed - Steve Katz, N8WL, of Granville. Steve, Ohio State Government Liaison, Nick Pittner, K8NAP, and the Ohio Section Manager, will be meeting throughout January in doing this evaluating.

The old bill - House Bill 563 - will be reintroduced with possibly a new number. As soon as it hits the legislative hopper, we will announce the number.

Many of you wrote about information in 2008 and these letters are on file. When plans are formulated on proceeding in 2009, you will be contacted by the Project Manager or the SGL. Thank you for your patience.

When we started this in 2006, we knew it would take a few years. Making changes in the law and working through the political system always takes time and patience.

Happy New Year and everyone have a safe and prosperous 2009.

Joe Phillips, K8QOE
Ohio Section Manager

ARRL

Help Wanted

Looking for items of interest for the Dial newsletter. Please send me items you would like to be considered for our newsletter. For example ham related news articles, items for sale or you would like to buy, photos of interest, up coming events, and ham related websites or links.

In other words if it is ham related and you would like to share it with other hams send it to me.

Please send items to rick.slone@sbcglobal.net.

Rick Slone AF8T

Ham Humor

A Viking Challenger is NOT a Scandinavian warrior.

Talking Dog

During the Texas QSO Party I drove around the back woods of East Texas. On one back road I saw a sign in front of a broken down shanty-style house: "Talking Dog for Sale."

Well I needed a break so I stopped to see what the deal was. I went into the backyard and see a nice looking Labrador retriever sitting there.

"You talk?" I ask. "Yep," the Lab replies. Well after I got over the shock of hearing a dog talk, I asked "So, what's your story?" "Ah shucks there ain't much to tell. Is that a VUU screwdriver antenna on your truck out there?" "How did you know that," I ask?

The Lab looks up and says, "Well, I'm a ham radio operator. I got my Ticket when I was a young pup and in no time at all I had my 5 band DXCC in Phone and CW. The CIA heard about me and asked me to do some spy work for them. I would hang around the communications centers and with my keen hearing I could copy the transmissions. Because no one figured a dog would be eavesdropping, I was one of their most valuable spies for eight years." Copying high speed CW all day really tired me out and I knew I wasn't getting any younger. So, I decided to settle down. I retired from the CIA (8 dog years is 56 CIA years) and joined a ham radio club. In fact I won first place in the Oklahoma OSO Party two years in a row. Then I had a mess of puppies and got away from Ham Radio for a while. I sure miss my radio. Why don't you buy me and I'll be your CW operator in the Texas QSO Party. I said "let me see what I can do."

I went back in and asked the owner what he wants for the dog. "Ten dollars," the guy says. "Ten dollars? This dog is amazing! Why on earth are you selling him so cheap?" "Because he's a liar. He never did any of that stuff. He's just a No Code Technician."

Keith Pugh W5IU, WC5C.org website

DXer Q & A

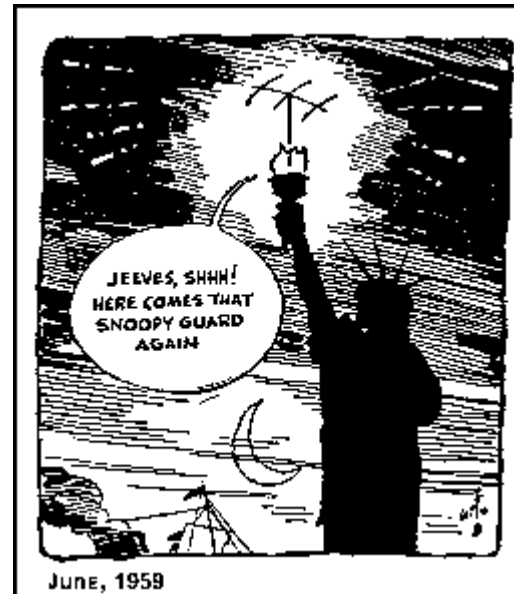
Q: How many DXers does it take to change a light bulb?

A: All of them. One to change it and the rest to argue about whether it counts as a light bulb.

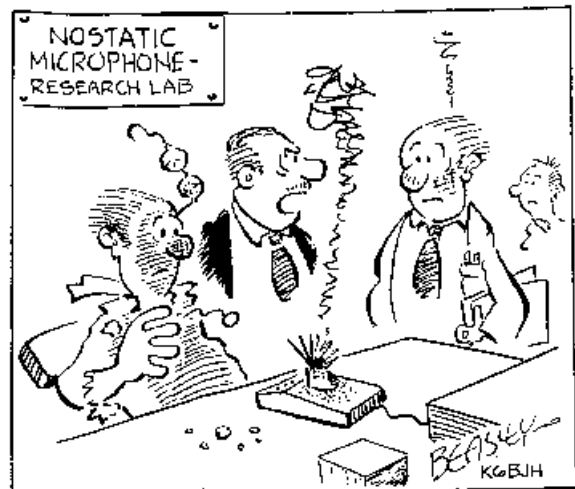
Q: What did the DX contestester get on his IQ test?

A: Drool.

Ward NOAX



Unknown



OBVIOUSLY, MOODY, YOU DON'T HAVE THE PROPER CONCEPT OF A BOOM MIKE!

K6BJH