# FEEDBACK

## NOVEMBER MEETING

The meeting for the month of November will be held at the Senior Center on November 2, 2001 at 8:00 PM.

Last month's tragic events in New York and Washington DC will lie in our hearts and memories forever. The statement on the cover of last month's Feedback "We Will Never Forget" is an understatement. We must however move on with our lives. Many memorials and tributes have been set up to help with the tragic loss of lives, and I'm sure all of you have helped in one way or another. Some members have enlisted their time with the American Red Cross and others including myself have signed up for the ARRL's Introduction to Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Course.

At lengthy discussion at last month's meeting, Don Wade W8DEA brought up the chilling fact, are we ready for such a tragic event here?? Most members agreed, we are not ready. Charlie Scherger KB8STV  volunteered to head up a committee to encourage members to get involved, take courses like the ARRL's ECC course, FEMA's Disaster Preparedness  course, American Red Cross Disaster Services,  and to become members of ARES. We CAN do more and we MUST do more. Becoming an involved member will  not only benefit your fellow man, but will benefit yourself as to the satisfaction of helping out where needed.

## MARC PROGRAM

The program for the evening will be a discussion of the Linux Computer System. One of our own members Ralph Bugg, K8HSQ will give the presentation. Ralph is a "retired" employee of Ohio Edison. Although he still travels around and "fixes" problems with OE's computers.

Ralph is a longtime ham. He started out ham radio as a teen- ager. Ralph has been a member for quite some time now although he has let his membership in MARC laps for a few years.

This should be a very interesting program to see and learn how the system works. See you at the Meeting!!

## - SHORT SKIP -

LATE BREAKING NEWS FREQS.....

| | |
|---|---|
| BBC | 5.975 Mc. |
| Cairo | 9.900 Mc. |
| Iran | 9.022 Mc. |
| Israel | 9.435 Mc. |
| Pakistan 1200z | 11.650 |
| Radio Canada | 6.175 Mc. |
| Radio Nethrlands | 6.175 Mc. |
| Russia | 7.180 Mc. |

Good listening.

73 DE WB8OWM

## HAPPY THANKSGIVING  NOV. 22, 2001

<h1 style="text-align:center">MARC MINUTESOctober 5, 2001</h1>

The October MARC meeting was held at the Senior Center with 32 members and guests present.
MARC President Don W8DEF called the meeting to order at 8:05 P.M.

A moment of silence was given for our tragic loss on Sept.11th. in New York. The Pledge of Allegiance was given and a round of  introductions was made. Don then asked that the September minutes be  accepted as stated in the FEEDBACK. They were accepted by Steve WD8MIJ and second by Byron KF8UN.

Vice President Gene W8KXR gave the correspondence report He had newsletters from other Amateur Radio Clubs. Anyone wanting to read them was welcome to do so after the meeting.

Don W8DEF received information as of 10-01-01 the $2.00 rebate  for paying renewals thru the club has been discontinued. They now are offering clubs to retain $15.00 for each new member they get to join. Renewal, lapsed, Blind ,Family, and Youth Memberships do not qualify for any commission.

## OLD BUSINESS

Terry N8ATZ said the new A/C-Heater had arrived for the E-COM trailer. Thanks goes to Don W8DEF, Jim WA8GXM, Terry N8ATZ, and Marty N8XPK for installing it. They will be testing it on the CROP WALK.

Byron KF8UN reminded all the antenna on top of the Senior Center still needed changed before winter. He also volunteered to help do this task.

Bruce AB8FB had prices for a new Copier for the Shack. Motion was made by Gary KC8IHR to purchase a Cannon for around $350.00 and second by Saundra N8TZB.. A vote was taken and passed.

## NEW BUSINESS

Don W8DEA said we need to fill out ARES and RACES forms to be registered to qualify to operate in an emergency. Contact Don W8DEA for the forms. Upon Gene W8KXR suggestion, a committee has been formed to look into ARES training. Don W8DEA will be helping  Charlie KB8STV, Rick K8RLW, and Jason KC8LIN.

Hamfest business was discussed. Gary KC8IHR will be head of security. Anne N8GAF, Heather KC8IIU, Dennis N8UDL and Linda K8MOO will be selling tickets. Gary WC8W and Don W8DEA will be at the head table. Terry N8ATZ and his XYL Lynette will be in charge of selling table space. Helpers will be needed to set up tables on Sat. Oct. 27th. at 9:00 A.M. Mobile check-ins will be done by Jason KC8LIN and Saundra N8TZB. Also Perry W8AU will be doing the Auction.

Don W8DEF talked about the wonderful door prizes that were donated this year. He's hoping to get a picture of the winners this year to send along with the Thank You cards to the donors.

Ed WA8DRT said the CROP WALK would be Sunday Oct.7, at John Glen Cove on Warmington Rd. Volunteers are to meet there at 1:00 P.M.

Thanks goes to Dan N8DZM for the work he did getting our Hamfest tickets. Advanced tickets are available. You will get an extra ticket if you buy in advance.

Helpers will be needed for the Christmas Parade for Nov. 17th. Contact Perry W8AU if you are not going to the Fort Wayne Hamfest.

The meeting ended at 9:50 P.M. then we had refreshments.

Congratulations goes to Dan N8DZM for winning the 50-50 for $14.00.

<p style="text-align:center"><strong>Minutes by Linda K8MOO Secretary MARC</strong></p>

## ..... MARC ACTIVE AT CROP WALK .....

On Sunday afternoon October 7th, members of the Massillon Amateur Radio Club once again provided both safety and support communications for this years Brewster CROP Walk. An annual event sponsored in part by the Brewster United Methodist Church, this years walk was again a collaboration of over 11 area churches. CROP began in 1947 under the wing of Church World Service and was initially known as Christian Rural Overseas Program, with a mission to help Midwest farm families share their grain during post World War II Europe & Asia. Since then it is the name given to community, interfaith hunger education and fundraising events sponsored by Church World Service.

This years walk took place from Navarre into Massillon along the beautiful fall setting of the Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail. Because the event continues to increase in both size and complexity, event sponsor Pastor Merlin Kerstetter of Brewster United Methodist Church again asked the club to provide assistance for this years event. EComm 1, the club's emergency communications trailer was positioned at John Glenn Cove park about midway along the route to act as our net control station with additional operators at registration, along the route and with a small church shuttle bus that was used to pick up crop walkers and run them back to the church. Because the walkers had to cross over a busy side road along the walk route, we used Amateur Television to provide a live video feed back to the EComm trailer to monitor car traffic flow and walker safety. Several club members walked the trail to monitor crop walkers and also brought bicycles to ride the route.

Over 150 walkers participated in this event and we are glad to report a safe and enjoyable event for everyone. A special thanks to the following MARC members for assisting with this years event. They were Terry - N8ATZ, Don - W8DEA, Perry - W8AU, Bruce - AB8FB, Linda - K8MOO, Don - W8DEF, Ed - WA8DRT, Jim - WA8GXM and Charlie - KB8STV. Be sure to check out the club's website for some pictures of this years event.

## .... ECOMM 1 GETS NEW EQUIPMENT ....

On Saturday, September 23, 2001 members of the EComm 1 trailer committee including Crew Chief Terry - N8ATZ, Crew Captain Jim - WA8GXM, MARC President Don - W8DEF and long time club friend Marty - N8XPK completed installation of our new Duo-Therm High Efficiency RV Rooftop Heat Pump Unit. This installation completes the third and final major EComm 1 project for this year. The first & second projects were the remaining exterior lettering and the installation of the new packet radio equipment.

The unit, approved for purchase at the September club meeting will finally allow us to enjoy efficient heating & cooling in one package. This 120 volt unit was purchased from Beggs Motor Homes in North Canton, Ohio at a discount thanks to the clubs record of service to the community. Its high efficiency rating allows it to run easily using the clubs Honda generator and will certainly be a benefit at next years normally warm Field Day event and no doubt the heater will get a workout during our special event demonstration this December at Massillon's 175th Anniversary Celebration. Be sure to check out the clubs website for some pictures taken during the installation.

## .... KONTEST KUDO'S TIME AGAIN ....

The October issue of QST has the results of the 2001 ARRL International DX CW Contest. This year two local calls appeared in the standings. CARC member Roger Grey - W8VE worthy effort yielded 384,282 points on 577 contacts ranking 4th place in Ohio. Our own MARC member Bryon Berger - KF8UN earned 127,296 points on 408 contacts ranking 11th place. A solid effort by both operators, congratulations on a job well done !

## .... IT'S HOLIDAY PARADE TIME AGAIN ....

One of our longest running public service events is coming up right around the corner. Massillon's Annual Holiday Parade is Saturday, November 17th and the club will once again be assisting with communications for this annual pre-holiday event. Plenty of operators are needed to help with this years parade since a few may be making the trek to the Fort Wayne Hamfest in Indiana which is unfortunately occurring over the same weekend. Contact Perry Ballinger - W8AU, communications coordinator for the parade to volunteer for this event. He can be reached at (330) 832 - 8612 or via email at w8au@sssnet.com.

**Till next time,
Terry - N8ATZ**

## M.A.R.C. REFERENCE LIBRARY UPDATE

Just in case you haven't visited the MARC Hamshack lately, there is a reference library for the use of the membership. We are assembling a fairly complete collection of QST's as well as a number of CQ's, 73's and other related ham radio literature. Here is a current update of our present QST holdings:

1932    All except Jan, March, may
1933-4  All
1935    All except Feb
1936-45 All
1946    All except Jan.
1947-8  None ! AAARRRGHHHHH Tubeless in these years. Must be a solid state (I mean sorry state) of affairs.
1949-1968 All (some in CQ binders)
1969    All but July, Aug., Sept., Nov
1970    All
1971    All but Feb
1972    All
1973    All but May
1974-75 All
1976    All
1977    All but Sept.
1978    All
1979    All but May

# FIRST MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM

A few days ago I received an email from a friend concerning the possibility of Canton upgrading their 800Mhz trunked radio system to a new 800MHz Digital trunking system. As I was reading the article and thinking about how I would not be able to receive their new system on my scanners, It made me wonder. Which department was the first to install radios for dispatching? Well, here is a brief history lesson concerning the beginning of wireless dispatching.

Let's step back in time to around the 1920's. Radio broadcasting was just first starting out in the AM broadcast band. Radio was still fairly new and unknown to many people. This is when the first police dispatching over radio was done. It was in San Francisco during the early 1920's that the San Francisco Police Department saw the need for radio dispatching. They did their broadcasting in a very different way than what is used today. They did not have their own private frequency to operate on. Instead, they made police radio announcements over a commercial station, KFRC, which interrupted their regular broadcasts to broadcast important police dispatches. This system worked fairly well, but their police calls were not secure. During the next year, they installed a private radio system operating on a different frequency. This system was slightly more secure then using the commercial station, but the commercial system had its drawbacks. The dispatchers had the only transmitter and the cars only had receivers. The only way an officer could communicate with dispatch was through use of a street call box. This private radio system did not use fancy VHF frequencies, like departments use today. The frequencies resided just above the AM commercial band (1690 – 1800KHz). These transmissions were all in AM and could easily be monitored by an AM radio. Listening to police broadcast become very popular during this time and has remained popular into the 21st century. Due to the efforts of many radio hobbyists, San Francisco was able to install the first two-way FM radios in its cars during 1941. This was a giant leap for communications during this time. Thanks to the WWII military technology, many other departments were able to get on the air. The real modernization for police communication came in 1965. Due to the Los Angeles radio system crashing during the Watts rebellion in 1965, the National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders discovered that most public radio systems were not up-to-date. They recommended that portable radios be developed and given to every officer. Special grants were funded by the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration to make this goal possible. This improvement came in 1970 when San Francisco provided HTs to all officers.

Other systems such as the first computer terminals appeared in the 1970's. This provided officers with information on motor vehicle and criminal history in an instant. This system was less prone to eavesdropping. The systems did not stop there. The radio system then moved to UHF frequencies to get away from channel congestion. In the 1980's a totally new system was revealed. The system was trunking and it allowed numerous departments to use the same frequencies without interfering with each other in the 800Mhz band. Currently departments are implementing new digital trunking and digitally encoded voice transmissions to update and better secure their communications. The next phase of dispatching may be done through wireless access to e-mail and the Internet. Where will it end?

Throughout this article I have been talking about the San Francisco's radio system, but it was not the first two-way system to be created. The first two-way system was implemented by the Detroit Police Department in 1921.

Here are some historical dates.

1875: Alexander Graham Bell invents the telephone.

1883: Detroit Police Department gets its first telephone, only one of seven in the city.

1889: As Washington attains statehood, the Detroit Police Department creates the first police communications division, the Police Signal Bureau.

1897: Guglielmo Marconi develops the spark transmitter capable of sending Morse code by radio.

1916: New York Harbor Police begin using Marconi Spark Transmitters to communicate with police boats and other ships in the harbor using Morse Code.

1923: Pennsylvania State Police establish a state wide radio-telegraph network between headquarters and outlying stations on 250 Khz.

1921 - 1928: Detroit Police Department. These were the development years of the first police voice radio communications systems. Until now, only large home based broadcast receivers with large antennas were available. A smaller, more sensitive receiver was needed that would work inside a moving car. Under Police Commissioner William P Rutledge, a young radio technician and student at Purdue University Robert L Batts was enlisted to design a mobile radio receiver. Because the city did not have a radio technicians position in the police department, Rutledge commissioned Batts as a police officer. Batts spent seven years developing his mobile receiver. This was also the "Roaring 20's". Gangsters with high powered cars and machine guns raced through the city unchecked.

1927: Teletype terminals are installed by several police agencies in Connecticut.

1928: April 7, 1928 Detroit Police Department went on the air with call sign W8FS from its transmitter on Belle Island in the Detroit River. The world's first police voice radio system was operational. Headquarters was now able to transmit messages to its only radio equipped vehicle, cruiser number 5. Soon after cruiser 10 was also so equipped. The result was criminal arrests, sometimes as the crime was taking place. But remember, this was only one-way communications, the police officer in the field still had to contact headquarters via telephone or call booth.

1928: Pennsylvania State Police install statewide teletype network. Other states soon followed.

1929 - 1931: During these years other agencies such as Cleveland, Indianapolis, Michigan State Police, San Francisco, Berkeley and Pasadena began to equip the police cars with radio receivers.

1930: The first interstate police teletype network is established between New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania.

1930 - 1965: Interstate connection of teletype systems developed into regional networks.

1931: Indianapolis Police Department installs radio receivers on 32 police motorcycles.

1933: Bayonne, NJ Police Department installs first 2-way police communications system between headquarters and 9 police cars.

1934: The FCC notifies police departments nationwide that they may not use their radios for communications between departments. They must use the telephone or telegraph (wireline services). The departments are told that if they did not cease, citations would be issued.

1935: January 1, 1935, there were 159 police departments in the nation operating radio stations on the air.

1935: January 20, 1935 St. Louis (Mo.). A conference was called to discuss the problems of the police departments vs. the FCC. Its result was the formation of APCO, the Associated Police Communications Officers. Everett Fisher was elected the first President by vote of the 30 members present. On the agenda that day was the creation of a nationwide radio-telegraph network for police inter-city traffic. The idea was presented by the FCC Lieutenant Commander E.K. Jett. After two days of committee meetings a proposal was presented to the group by Robert L. Batts. The plan passed.

1935: October, Indianapolis. APCO membership is up to 95.

1936: January. Six police departments were operational with the radio-telegraph network with another six pending FCC permits. Robert L. Batts is elected President of APCO.

1936: General Electric and RCA enter the public-safety communications market followed by Motorola the following year.

1937: October 13, 1937. FCC order #19. Through lobbying by APCO, 29 VHF Low Band Channels are assigned for police two way radiocommunications in the 30.58 - 39.9 Mhz range. Note: The average cost per mobile radio at that time was $735.00, more than the price of a car at that time.

1940: First state-wide radio system installed by the Connecticut State Police.

1940: Contra Costa County, Ca. The first unattended repeater station was installed.

1940: Connecticut State Police establish first statewide radio network.

1945: Transportable field pack radios are used by the military in World War II. These were battery and tube operated and had limited operating time.

1950s: Microwave systems are used for point to point communications. Police and fire departments make the move to VHF frequencies in the 150 - 170 Mhz band.

1960s: As America's Mercury Space program begins, and Seattle hosts a World's Fair, true hand held portable radios are introduced although they are the size of a "brick" and weigh about 5 pounds.

1963: The Eastern Seaboard completes their regional teletype network that extended from Maine to South Carolina and west to Ohio. The Western and Gulf states also developed their regional networks.

1966: May 2, 1966, NLETS the National Law Enforcement Teletype System was born. Its switching computer was housed and operated in Phoenix, Az by the Arizona Highway Patrol. This set the technical standards for interstate teletype communications between law enforcement agencies.

1970s: Police and fire departments make the move to UHF frequencies in the 450 - 470 Mhz band. 911 is introduced as the nationwide emergency telephone number although very few areas have adopted it due to cost. Corning Glass begins development and experimentation with fiber optics, LEDs & lasers as a means of replacing thousands of pairs of copper hard wire with single glass filament.

1980s: Police and fire departments make the move to 800 Mhz frequencies and trunking technology. Mobile data terminals are installed in police and fire department vehicles in major cities, computer aided dispatch, microprocessor controlled dispatch consoles, UHF & VHF combined in a single hand held portable radio, Cellular Telephone and Automatic Vehicle Tracking Systems. Fiber optics cables are being laid across the Atlantic Ocean to provide low cost high quality international communications.

73 until next month,
Jason Stroll (KC8LIN)
2001 Jason Productions
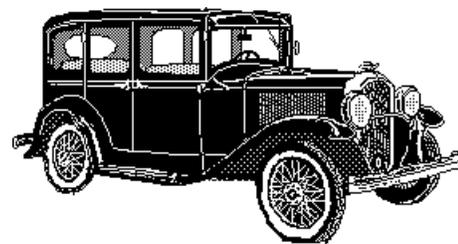
1980    All but March, Nov.
1981-86   All
1987-Oct thru Dec. All 1988,Jan. - April 1999, 1992 None Yet!!!
Nov 1992-June 2001 Complete except for May '95, Feb '99, Jan. '01. ( Thanks to N8UDL for this latest 8 year donation ! )

As soon as the other material if formally cataloged, I will report that as well. Hopefully we will be able to add a new copier to the library soon ( ed note: copier installed on 10/06/2001)

Last minuite news: They are not cataloged yet, but we are getting some QST's from the 1920's!

### 73's  BRUCE  AB8FB

# ARRL  NEWS

## ARLD043 DX news

ZCZC AE43
QST de W1AW
DX Bulletin 43  ARLD043
From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT  October 25, 2001
To all radio amateurs

SB DX ARL ARLD043
ARLD043 DX news

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by Tedd, KB8NW, the OPDX Bulletin, QRZ DX, The Daily DX, DXNL, 425DXnews, KA2AEV, OZ0J and Contest Corral from QST. Thanks to all.

CYPRUS, 5B.  RA0AM, RA9JX, RZ9UA, RV0AU, RW3QC, RW9UP, UA9MA, UA9UR and UA9YAB are active as 5B4/homecalls until October 30.  They will participate in the CQ WW SSB Contest as P3A.  QSL via operators' instructions.

EAST MALAYSIA, 9M6.  Irwin, KD3TB and Andy, KD3RF will be active using SSB, RTTY and PSK31 as 9M6TBT.  This includes an entry in the CQ WW SSB Contest as a Multi/Single entry.  QSL via KD3TB.

BHUTAN, A5.  Look for A50A to be a Multi/Multi entry in the CQ WW SSB Contest.  QSL via KW4DA.

CUBA, CO.  Pepin, CO2TK will be active in the CQ WW SSB Contest as a Single Op/Low Power entry.  QSL via F6FNU.

MADEIRA ISLANDS, CT3.  Walter, DJ6QT is active until November 26. He will participate in both CQ WW Contests as CT9L.

QSL to home call.

SAINT MARTIN, FS.  Craig will be QRV as FS/AH8DX during the CQ WW SSB Contest as a Single Op/All Band entry.  QSL to home call.

ISLE OF MAN, GD.  Joe, K1JB and Mike, K1EU will participate in the CQ WW SSB Contest as GD6IA.  Before the contest they will operate using CW as MD/K1JB and MD/K1EU, respectively.  QSL via operators' instructions.

JERSEY, GJ.  Look for MJ0C to be a Single Op/Single Band entry in the CQ WW SSB Contest.  Activity should be on 15 meters.  QSL via G3XTT.

ITALY, I.  A large group of operators will participate in the CQ WW SSB Contest as IG9A as a Multi/Multi entry from Lampedusa Island, IOTA AF-019.  QSL via I2MQP.

GRENADA, J3.  Look for J3A to be QRV as a Multi/Multi entry in the CQ WW SSB Contest.  QSL via WA1S.

ST. LUCIA, J6.  David, K3LP and Ernest, J69AZ will operate as J6R during the CQ WW SSB Contest as a Multi/Single entry.  QSL via operators' instructions.

ARGENTINA, LU.  L21I will be a Single Op/All Band entry in the CQ WW SSB Contest.  QSL via LU7DW.

GREENLAND, OX.  Look for XP1AB to be QRV from Sondrestrom, IOTA NA-018, during the CQ WW SSB Contest.  QSL via OZ1ACB.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA, P2.  Yoshi, JG7AMD is active as P29JA until October 29.  This includes an entry in the CQ WW SSB Contest.  QSL to home call.

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA, V2.  Team Antigua will be QRV as V26B in the CQ WW SSB Contest as a Multi/Multi entry.  A few days before and after the contest, look for team members to be QRV using their personal V2 calls on all bands, including the newer ones, using RTTY and PSK31. Conditions permitting, there may be some 6 meter activity as well. QSL V26B via WT3Q and all others via home calls.

BRUNEI, V8.  V85RH has been QRV on 10 meters between 2300 and 0000z. This station may also be active as V8A during the CQ WW SSB Contest. QSL both calls via JH7FQK.

THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO.  The CQ WW DX SSB Contest and the Ten-Ten International Net Fall CW QSO Party will certainly keep contesters busy this weekend.  Please see October QST, page 113 for details.

### NNNN /EX

## *The End of an Era*

The Massillon/Western Stark area (and possibly the whole county) has lost the last of it's pre-1930 Hams as of last week.

Ralph Schoener, W8TPS, of 1205 Lincoln Way West, Massillon, and his xyl Eileeen, have moved to Coshocton to live with their Son Bill, K8ZBY, and their daughter-in-law, Sharon.

The familiar black with yellow trim house on the corner of Lincoln Way and 12th Street NW, with the tall tower and Moseley TA-33 beam (which appears to be almost nestled into the 69 kV transmission lines) will still remain, but the antennas which made it a unique landmark on the "west side" will be gone.

Ralph will continue his on the air activities from his new QTH, but we will no longer receive him via groundwave, just occasional ionospheric reflection and maybe backscatter.

Ralph, a second cousin to one of our foremost club founders, Bill North, W8NP, showed up as a newborn on Dec 16, 1913, at "smoky hollow," near the old Massillon Ice Company on Canal Street south, now known as 1st Street SW.  His stay was short as the family moved to WVA, then at age six, back to Gnadenhutten, OH.

Ralph's dad, William, became interested in radio in 1921 at Gnadenhutten and received the call 8BZB.  (no prefixes before 1927)  Ralph then learned the code at the age of nine.

Ralph's family moved back to Massillon in 1928, residing on 8th Street SE, between Oak and South streets, just west of the new Washington H.S. campus.  It was here that he became a Ham himself, receiving the call W8BPM.
Ralph's W8BPM activity was going smoothly until a neighbor wrote the FRC (Federal Radio Commission, the forerunner of our FCC) about BCI (broadcast interference) from the W8BZB/W8BPM station.  The Radio Inspectors visit was a
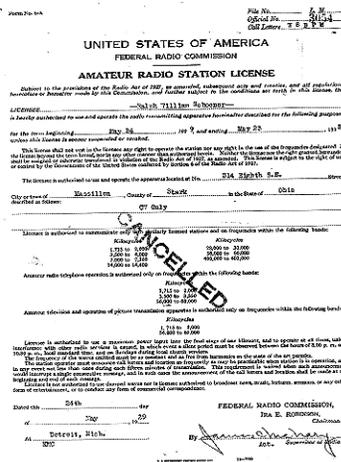


nice one, with the RI and Bill's dad enjoying a few beers… and ruling that the neighbor's radio set was "obsolete" and not able to reject ham signals.  But the RI had to tell them that the rules stated that only ONE Amateur Radio station could occupy the premises, not two.   From thence, Ralph lost his BPM call and became a 2nd OPR under the callsign    of his dad!  How about that?

2nd Opr status remained until Ralph married in 1937 and moved to new residence at



847 Commonwealth  NE.
During a Republic Steel layoff, he hired in at Nickel Plate Railroad / Brewster as a telegrapher, learned American Morse on a sounder, and even trained other operators. After recall to Republic, he part-timed for NKPRR until WW2, when his supervisor job required 16 hour days.

1946 saw a move to Freeman St, in Genoa (Perry Twp), followed by another to 406 Cherry Rd. NE.  It was 1949 when Ralph and xyl moved to 1205 Lincoln Way West, which became home for the next 52 years.



Folded dipoles for each band were used until a wood pole and Mosely TA-33 beam (from Bill North) were added in 1959.  This was also the year that Ralph and son Bill had acquired their first commercial transmitter, the Heathkit TX-1 Apache.  It was also the first time he had used AM Fone, regularly QSOing Frank Wagner, W8FSM (SK) and John Edel, K8LBZ, on Ten meters. In 1980, he was accepted into the England based FOC (First Classoperators club), a CW group limited to  500.

Asked what differences he finds in Ham Radio from the twenties to the new century, he says that rag-chewing occurs much less today.

Most exciting time?  His and Bill's skeds with Macquarie Island, VK0AC for a year in the mid-70s and his ARRL DX contest stint at C6A with Len Riegler, W8DNC (SK) and Don Karvonen, K8MFO.

Today, in addition to cw Dxing, daily skeds on 2 meter FM with son Bill were kept until last week's move. Ralph will still be available on the HF bands, and we will probably still hear him on 2 meters….for a long time, we hope. One thing for sure, son Bill is happy that the old "2nd Opr" rule no longer applies… Signals from both W8TPS and K8ZBY will emanate from the same address.

(ARRL NEWS CONT)

# ARLP044 Propagation de K7VVV

ZCZC AP44
QST de W1AW
Propagation Forecast Bulletin 44
ARLP044
From Tad Cook, K7VVV
Seattle, WA October 26, 2001
To all radio amateurs

SB PROP ARL ARLP044
ARLP044 Propagation de K7VVV

Solar flux and sunspot numbers rose this week. Unfortunately for HF operators, so did geomagnetic activity. Average sunspot numbers rose nearly 47 points and average daily solar flux was up nearly 43 points.

Geomagnetic conditions were quite active on Sunday and Monday, and reached a peak on Monday with a planetary A index of 66. Planetary K indices were 5 during three of the three-hour reporting periods, 6 during three periods, and 7 during one period. This indicates a severe geomagnetic storm, one that produced dramatic aurora displays.

Conditions were worse toward the poles. Alaska's College A index was

93 on Monday, with the K index as high as 8. HF radio operators like a K index of 3 or less.

What is bad for HF conditions can make VHF very interesting. JA7SSB reported that 6-meters was quite active in Japan, with SSB signals from Italy monitored in Sendai City, 350 km north of Tokyo around 0600z on Monday. On both Monday and Tuesday from 0600-0900z, JA7SSB was hearing VK9 (Norfolk Island), VK, A51, KH6 and FO signals from his QTH in Fukushima, 80 km south of Sendai.

All this excitement was from solar activity on Friday when flares erupted above sunspot 9661. Another coronal mass ejection hit the earth's magnetosphere on October 25, but did not cause a disturbance. K indices on Wednesday and Thursday were very low, around 1 and 2, and the planetary A index on Wednesday 3.

Even though conditions had quieted down by Thursday, this does not look like a quiet weekend for the CQ Worldwide DX SSB Contest. A flare around 1500z on Thursday caused a strong radio blackout across the Americas and Europe. This expanding cloud of energy will probably strike earth this weekend, ruining northern propagation paths.

When this occurs, some operators notice an enhanced north-south propagation path, but what really happens is that the north-south path is often the only remaining path for HF propagation.

NNN

# ARLB046 FCC clarifies CORES amateur implementation

ZCZC AG46
QST de W1AW
ARRL Bulletin 46 ARLB046
From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT October 24, 2001
To all radio amateurs

The FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau has clarified several issues regarding Amateur Service implementation of the Commission Registration System—or CORES. Starting December 3, everyone doing business with the FCC—including amateur licensees—must obtain and use a 10-digit FCC Registration Number (FRN) when filing.

Amateur licensees now registered in the Universal Licensing System (ULS) already have been cross-registered in

CORES and issued an FRN by mail. The FCC said it planned another cross-registration by November 28. Amateurs can check to see if they have an FRN via a ULS license search. Many Internet call sign servers, including ARRL's, also can provide this information.

Once CORES becomes mandatory, the FCC will "auto-register" all amateurs who seek to register in ULS and will issue them an FRN. Amateurs then should use their FRN in place of their Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN—typically an individual's Social Security Number) when filing applications with the FCC. New or upgrade license applicants not previously registered in ULS will be registered automatically in both CORES and ULS when they provide a TIN on a license application filed through a Volunteer Examiner Coordinator.

Although both ULS and CORES will contain a licensee's FRN, updating information in one system will not update the other. For amateurs, CORES registration will replace ULS "TIN/Call Sign" registration, but the ULS will remain the Amateur Service licensing database within WTB, and only ULS will associate an individual with a particular call sign and FRN. Once CORES/FRN becomes mandatory, those registering in ULS will be redirected to CORES registration.

Going away December 3 will be the so-called Assigned Taxpayer Identification Number, or ATIN, which the FCC has been issuing to applicants ineligible to obtain a Social Security Number, such as foreign applicants and club station licensees. An FCC Public Notice this week said applicants that have been using ATINs "must now register in CORES." The FCC said it will accept ATINs only "during a short transitional period" after December 3.

CORES will offer exemptions to amateur clubs and to foreign entities not holding a TIN/SSN. Club station applicants also may use a trustee's TIN/SSN or a tax-exempt club's IRS-assigned EIN.

The WTB says that starting December 3, "all passwords will be maintained in the CORES database." Amateurs also may use FCC Form 160 to register in CORES, and those doing so will be mailed a CORES password for on-line access.

The FCC continues to work out the details of how amateurs, CORES and ULS will coexist. Amateur Service testing with CORES is planned for early November.

# November 2001

## *Monthly Planner*

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **October**<br>S M T W T F S<br>　1　2　3　4　5　6<br>7　8　9　10　11　12　13<br>14　15　16　17　18　19　20<br>21　22　23　24　25　26　27<br>28　29　30　31 | **December**<br>S M T W T F S<br>　　　　　　　1<br>2　3　4　5　6　7　8<br>9　10　11　12　13　14　15<br>16　17　18　19　20　21　22<br>23　24　25　26　27　28　29<br>30　31 | | | **1**<br>7:30 PM QCWA (Chapter 21) Net, 147.180<br>KC8IHR BD | **2**<br>Massillon ARC Meeting | **3** |
| **4**<br>K8JPM BD<br>Stark County Mutual Aid Net 146.520 11:30 AM | **5**<br>Sloppy Fist Net every Monday thru Friday at 9PM on 28.138 | **6**<br>BD N8LCS | **7** | **8**<br>7:30 PM QCWA (Chapter 21) Net, 147.180 | **9**<br>West Stark Info Net 147.180 at 8:00 PM | **10**<br>BD WC8I |
| **11**<br>Stark County Mutual Aid Net 146.520 11:30 AM | **12** | **13** | **14** | **15**<br>7:30 PM QCWA (Chapter 21) Net, 147.180 | **16**<br>West Stark Info Net 147.180 at 8:00 PM | **17**<br>BD KC8KIX |
| **18**<br>Stark County Mutual Aid Net 146.520 11:30 AM | **19**<br>BD N8GXO<br>BD N8UDL | **20** | **21**<br>BD KB8PXM<br>Canton ARC Meeting 7:30 PM | **22**<br>7:30 PM QCWA (Chapter 21) Net, 147.180 | **23**<br>West Stark Info Net 147.180 at 8:00 PM | **24**<br>VE TESTS @ EOC call Gary @330-837-2927 |
| **25**<br>Stark County Mutual Aid Net 146.520 11:30 AM | **26**<br>Sloppy Fist Net every Monday thru Friday at 9PM on 28.138<br>W8PUC BD | **27** | **28** | **29**<br>7:30 PM QCWA (Chapter 21) Net, 147.180<br>BD KD8NR | **30**<br>West Stark Info Net 147.180 at 8:00 PM | |