

FEEDBACK



APRIL 2001

VOLUME 46 NUMBER 4



APRIL MEETING

The meeting for the month of April will be held at the Massillon Senior Center on April 6, 2001 at 8:00 P.M.

On March 20, 2001, a very important date passed us by. Know what it was? It was the beginning of SPRING! With that date passed we should be aware of what spring brings. First and foremost, it brings ever - changing weather. I sure hope everyone got a chance to attend the Sky - Warn meeting at Stark State College on March 21, 2001 . It was a packed house with a very informative discussion conducted by Gary Garnet, of NOAA

We must be aware of the tornado season and what our duties as amateurs are. We have agreements with both Doctor's and Massillon Community Hospital's as well as the RED Center that in case of tornado or other inclement weather to man the Sky - Warn stations located in these facilities. If you would like to volunteer to man one of these stations, please let Don W8DEF know and he will be sure to put you on the list. We need more people to be able to go to the hospital's and man the stations, especially during the daylight hours.

So please help do your part, become a volunteer and help out the community in a time of need!

-- SHORT SKIP --

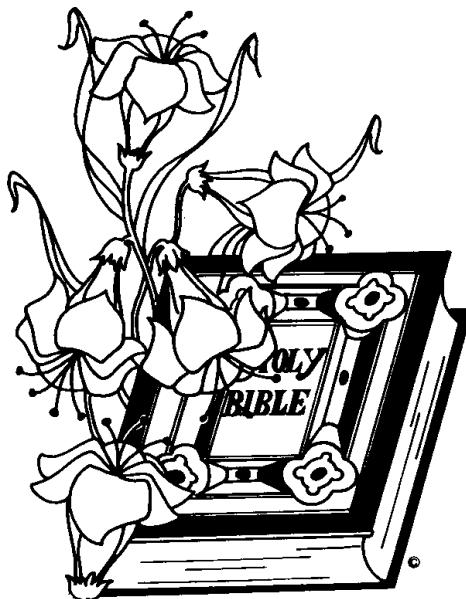
April showers may bring May flowers and P -L -E -N -T -Y of ear shattering QRN ! Be smart. At the First sign of a storm, Disconnect and Ground everything.

FLA\$H ! As predicted in the January installment of this column, Look for the ARRL Dues to TRIPLE, effective APRIL 1st.... (HI)

73 de WB80WM



SKYWARN



MARC MINUTES

Friday March 2,2001

The March MARC meeting was held at the Senior Center with 40 members and guests present. The President Don W8DEF called the meeting to order at 8:05 P.M. The Pledge of Allegiance was given and a round of introductions was made. The guest speaker was Jeff Covelli WA8SAJ. He did a video presentation and talk on ATV. He is also an author on books on Drake equipment.

We then had a brief intermission for refreshments. Thanks again Dan N8DZM for picking up the donuts.

The meeting was called back to order by Don W8DEF. He asked the minutes be accepted as written in the FEEDBACK. They were accepted by Steve WD8MIJ and second by Don W8DEA. Motion to suspend reading of minutes by Terry N8ATZ, second by Don W8DEA.

The Treasurer Anne N8GAF gave the financial report. it was accepted by Steve WD8MIJ and second by Don W8DEA.

Gene W8KXR, Vice President, had news letters from other Amateur Radio Clubs. To save time, since our meeting was running a little late, he would let anyone wanting to read them do so. The ARRL Letter wasn't available yet.

OLD BUSINESS:

Bruce AB8FB needs volunteers to help with the MS Walk on April 22 at Quail Hollow State Park. If you can help contact Bruce at 330-837-0359 or catch him on the 147.18MHz repeater, or at the meeting.

Anne N8GAF has Dayton Hamvention tickets, anyone needing one contact her at the meeting.

Don W8DEF gave prices on shirts and jackets, those wanting to order them go to Engravers Gallery on Lincoln way E next to Duncan Jewelry.

Don W8DEF presented Russ N8PII with the Bob Rodgers W8NWR 2000 Field Day for his long hours and work on Field Day, Congratulations Russ.

NEW BUSINESS:

A very big THANK YOU goes to Jeff KC8KIX for all the work on the Stark County Directory. Good job! See Don W8DEF or Anne N8GAF if you need one. The price is \$2.00 for members and \$3.00 for non-members.

Perry W8AU talked about Safety Breaks. He can soon apply for the MARC dates. He will try to get the first one in May.

Thank You goes to Terry N8ATZ and Dan N8DZM who helped with a screen saver of MARC activities. It shows pictures of Field Day, calenders, safety breaks, public service events, ect. Good Job!

Congratulations to Gary KC8IHR for winning first prize at the Cuyahoga Hamfest.

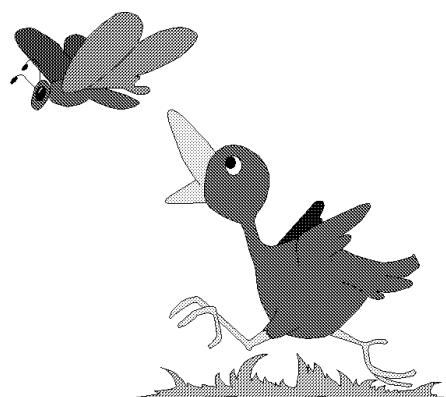
Gary WC8W had to leave, so he didn't give his VE Session report but three were present at the meeting. Congratulations goes to Extra Class Bruce W8ZNV, Extra Class Tom WD8MIF, and General Class Jeff KC8KIX.

The Friday night net is now every Friday at 8:00 P.M. on the 147.180 Repeater. Everyone can check-in now with Don W8DEA, Jeff KC8KIX, Jason KC8LIN, or Bruce AB8FB. Thanks for doing such a great job.

Don W8DEF asked for motion to close the meeting at 10:10 P.M. Steve WD8MIJ did so and Jeff KC8KIX second it.

Minutes by Linda K8MOO Secretary MARC

SPRING 2001



.... TIME FOR CONGRATULATIONS

Past club member Greg Miller - W8XY was recently was recently named manager for self-service terminal systems engineering for Diebold Inc. Greg is now responsible for the development of system software used in various Diebold self-service terminals. Greg began working at Diebold in 1983 as a systems engineer. Previously, he was a project engineer for R.L. Drake Company, in Franklin, Ohio. He earned a bachelor's and master's degree in electrical engineering from the University of Cincinnati. Greg helped out last year during the CROP walk in Brewster. Congratulations Greg on the terrific promotion ! (Now I wonder how much he knows about ATM machines ??????)

Another congratulations are in order for Roger Grey - W8VE another long time Diebold Inc engineer and Secretary of the Canton ARC for his stellar performance during the 2000 IARU HF World Championship Contest. Unlike most sprints or QSO parties, the single operator participant paces himself to last the full length of the contest in order to have the best chance of winning, Roger's performance him 4th place in Ohio racking up 451 QSO's to total a score of 140,250 points. Congratulations Roger on a great contest effort !

.... MARC MAKES THE NEWS

The newspaper caption reads "Ham Radio Fans Aren't Hogs" which may leave some people confused about the rest of the article, but however it reads the Sunday, March 18th copy of the Canton Repository is definitely a keeper. Our thanks to Repository reporter Edd Pritchard and photographer Bob Rossiter on the fine story about the club that recently appeared in the newspaper. The original idea came when the reporter noticed one of our posters promoting our license classes that we had been placing around the community. After talking to Club President Don Finley, W8DEF, they decided a full club article would be done. So on a Saturday, the reporter and photographer dropped by the Senior Center for an interview and club station tour. The article did contain a few minor mistakes but none the less was a fine article about us and has generated a number of phone calls from people looking for additional information about the club. We have even picked up a few membership renewals in the process. The response was so positive in fact that we have formally invited the Repository to the MARC Field Day exercises this year. We will also be forwarding a copy of the article the ARRL for hopefully an honorable mention in a future issue of QST magazine. While the article was a non-hams view of our hobby it was well done and provided the club with a few well deserved Kudos. The original article was also available on the Canton Repository website at cantonrep.com. Look in the archived articles section.

.... SKYWARN SPOTTER TRAINING

It was a packed house last Wednesday as the National Weather Service in conjunction with the Stark County Emergency Operations Center hosted this years Skywarn Spotter Training Session at Stark State College. This years attendance topped 135 making this one of the best attended sessions over the last 5 years. It was

also great to see a large number of MARC members in attendance. Traditionally severe weather enters our community from the southwest making the Massillon area one of the first targets hit by severe weather. Having several well trained Skywarn Spotters in this area will greatly enhance our county Skywarn program. Thanks to all those who took the time to attend this years program.

.... MARC SCREENSAVER UPDATE

The club screensaver was a bigger hit at last months meeting than I expected with all 10 copies going faster than W8AU's 40 meter contacts at Field Day! I hope they all installed OK and you're enjoying them. If you are having any trouble with it just give me a call. In response to several requests I've got the factory cranked up (thanks to Dan, N8DZM) and burning another 10 copies for distribution at this months meeting. There's no charge for them and see me at the meeting if you're interested in a copy.

.... COMPUTER SHOW TIME

The petertrapp computer shows are back this month for those of you who need a quick computer fix. Parts, systems and software abound at these shows and prices are pretty good. Computer memory is really cheap right now and you can never have too much in your system. The more you have the less the hard drive has to crank away saving wear & tear as well as increasing your system's performance. The Akron show is on Saturday, April 21 at the Tadmore Temple with the Cleveland (Brea) show to follow on Sunday, April 22. Show times are 10 AM till 3 PM with admission set at \$ 6.00. Directions and additional information are always available on their website at www.petertrapp.com.

**Enough babbling for this month !
Till next time,
Terry - N8ATZ**

ART042.PCH



“TEN METERS AFTER DARK”
(A Return To Our Roots And Real Radio)

W8NP 11/Mar/01 - In case you haven't been on ten meters recently, or not at all, something odd has been happening up the band at 29.0 MHz. If you take a listen 'after dark,' you are very likely to hear a nearly continuous QSO in progress, especially on the weekends, as a growing group of local operators communicate point to point (Yep! No repeater) with everything from "home brew" rigs (my gosh, What are those?) to rice boxes, canoe anchors, and boat anchors, all using 'AM' mode.

Since sometime just before the Christmas holidays last year, AM radio on 29.0 has grown into a kind of 'Retro World' of local activity. The effort was started primarily by AB8FB Bruce, W8KXR Gene, and W8AU Perry, with several others joining in what has become an almost nightly gathering. They are operating small to medium power equipment operated exclusively in the AM mode.

First activity started in earnest, when AB8FB and W8KXR resurrected two E. F. Johnson "Viking Rangers." W8AU joined in with a rehabilitated Gonset G-28. The fun began, with an ever growing list of those who have come on frequency to try their hand at what used to be the way Hams operated on a local basis. As the word spreads, the informal group has grown, with QSO's on going through out the evening and into the very late hours. Visitors drop in for audio checks, antenna tests, microphone trials, trying out a rice box to see if it really operates on AM, and a great assortment of topics, mostly related to 'Wow, it really works!"

The operating style is typical Ham Radio of days past, when 'Old Buzzard' conversation was king and 'real radios' would run with out worry of 'melt down' as long as you wanted to pay the electric bill. It has been fun to watch some of the "Newbe's" to this mode feel/sound slightly uncomfortable with this throw back to gentler times. But after a few visits, they quickly fall into the relaxed and easy going round tables so typical of AM radio, with no 'time-outs,' no annoying beeps and monotonous synthetic voice ID's, no rush to make way for someone wanting to use the frequency, and no concern for limiting just plain 'ol' rag chewin' until you run out of coffee and can't stay awake any longer.

We often joke that the Old Buzzard concept is not quite appropriate for some of the QSO's because an "Old" Buzzard could never survive some of the "extended" transmissions one can hear on 'Ten Meters After Dark.' And one quickly learns that, while someone is holding forth on the finer points of some project they are either dreaming about or planning, the rest of the group is actually working steadily at their bench, with hot solder flowing, or cruising the internet, or sipping a 'cup of Joe' while the QSO moves steadily, if not sometimes slowly, around the circle.

Antenna systems are varied, but for ground wave and general coverage out to 20 miles plus or minus, verticals are the easiest to use, and even with low power, are generally effective. Some are using beams, but require 'pointing' if stations are spread geographically. Dipoles work too, but as distance becomes greater, cross polarization effects become apparent under ground wave conditions. This is quite a learning experience for some who may have never used anything except a rubber duck and a repeater!

Power levels used are running from five to ten watts with smaller rigs, up to soon to be heard Johnson Viking II's capable of almost 100 watts. W8KXR and AB8FB are working to put a pair of these heavy weight classics on frequency, as clean up and debugging pesky audio circuits progresses. The full bodied sound of these big radios, using the tried and true 'D104's,' heard on a receiver that can open its pass band to 6 or 8 kHz, is a real pleasure and a fresh experience for those who may not be familiar with high quality audio.

- - - 02/02 - - -

Some of those who have come up to Ten Meters After Dark, are WA8HHO, WB8HHP, K8HSQ, KA8ZQH, W8GBJ, W8SEC, WD8BMP, WB8HYR, WB0IQK, KB8RFA, KC8IHR, N8AZC, KC8KIX, N8PII, W8DEA, K8KIP, K8DON, K8MGC. There are others too, in QSO's this writer wasn't part of. The list seems to grow nearly weekly...

Finally, our Club, W8NP has again provided just the right atmosphere where new and old traditions start and /or are revisited with great energy and enthusiasm. The variety of activity continues to expand, and push into fresh aspects of the hobby. Ten Meters After Dark and its late night "After Midnight" session, for the really dedicated rag chewers and hot solder gang, are providing lots of fun, learning, and challenges for local Ops. Come and join us...Pour a 'cup of Joe,' and settle in for some serious operating, some hot solder while you rag-chew and real camaraderie.

DE W8KXR

ARRL NEWS

ARLP013 Propagation de K7VVV

ZCZC AP13
 QST de W1AW
 Propagation Forecast Bulletin 13 ARLP013
 From Tad Cook, K7VVV
 Seattle, WA March 27, 2001
 To all radio amateurs

SB PROP ARL ARLP013
 ARLP013 Propagation de K7VVV

Solar activity made a huge jump this week, with Monday's sunspot number at 339 and solar flux at 263.7. There has been a rapid increase in sunspots all over the visible solar disk. The most prominent is region 9393, one of the largest sunspots observed in recent years. Sunspots drift across the visible solar disk as the sun goes through a 27.5 day rotation, and they have the greatest effect on the earth when they are at the center. This sunspot has not quite reached the center of the disk, so probably more excitement is in store.

The sunspot number has not been anywhere near this high since last July, in what looked like the peak for Cycle 23. From July 17-21, 2000 the sunspot numbers were 335, 343, 342, 401 and 325. During those same five days the solar flux was 228.3, 261.9, 249.9, 252.9 and 250.9. On May 17, 2000 the solar flux was 262 and sunspot number was 342, so by a margin of only 1.7 points, Monday of this week had the peak solar flux value for Cycle 23.

Counting the number of spots and factoring in their area derives sunspot numbers. Daily solar flux is a measurement of 2.8 GHz energy read at noon daily in Penticton, British Columbia. Although this number is more easily quantifiable, it is probably not as useful as the sunspot number for determining the energy charging the ionosphere, where radio waves are refracted.

The really neat thing about this peak though is that it came just days after the spring equinox, when solar radiation is equal in the southern and northern hemispheres, and seasonal HF conditions are at their best. The other two peaks occurred later in the spring and in summer. The other great thing for HF radio enthusiasts is that geomagnetic activity has been extremely quiet. The middle latitude K index yesterday was mostly 0 or 1, and the A index was 2. Both the high latitude College A index and planetary A index were 6.

What often happens during a period of high sunspot count is that there are more solar flares, and so the absorption of radio waves increases, especially over polar paths. This week we have been very lucky so far.

As has been mentioned in the past, the official daily solar flux is taken at noon local time in Penticton (2000z), but there is a 1700z and 2300z reading as well. It is not noon yet as this bulletin is being written, but the 1700z reading this morning was 271.6. If the noon reading is as high, it may develop that today (Tuesday) is the solar flux peak of Cycle 23, and not yesterday.

Above all have fun on the air. I would like to hear reports of conditions, particularly on 10 and 6 meters, which can be sent to k7vvv@arrl.net.

ARLP014 Propagation de K7VVV

ZCZC AP14
 QST de W1AW
 Propagation Forecast Bulletin 14 ARLP014
 From Tad Cook, K7VVV
 Seattle, WA March 30, 2001
 To all radio amateurs

SB PROP ARL ARLP014
 ARLP014 Propagation de K7VVV

This has been an amazing week of high solar activity. For some time now the assumption has been that activity was declining from last year's peak, but now it seems that cycle 23 did not peak and then begin declining in 2000 after all. This week's activity was so remarkable that we put out mid-week bulletin ARLP013 a few days ago to report it.

The peak solar flux values in 2000 were 262 on May 17 and 261.9 on July 18. Then on Monday of this week a growing region 9393 produced a new high for cycle 23 of 263.7. The next two days produced even higher solar flux numbers of 273.4 and 273.5, breaking the cycle 23 record two more times. The highest recorded solar flux for the week was actually at 2300z on Wednesday, at 293.8, but this one does not count because the official daily number is always taken at 2000z in Penticton, B.C.

It is interesting to look at the progression of all the recent solar flux numbers, including the morning and afternoon readings. Beginning at 1700z on March 18, and running through 2300z Thursday, March 29, they were 135.3, 139.8, 143.1, 145.4, 147.0, 147.9, 157.2, 153.3, 158.1, 154.2, 159.4, 160.3, 180.4, 183.0, 184.0, 178.9, 180.0, 179.8, 201.1, 218.7, 216.6, 248.9, 216.8, 229.5, 247.6, 263.7, 261.1, 271.6, 273.4, 276.3, 272.4, 273.5, 293.8, 261.0, 261.7, and 276.1. We have not seen a value as high as 293.8 since the period of January 30 through February 2, 1992 when they were 280, 303, 284 and 288.

Sunspot numbers also went very high this week, peaking at 352 on Wednesday. This is not a record for cycle 23, which had a higher sunspot number of 401 on July 20, 2000.

The cause of all this excitement is an explosion in the number and size of sunspots recently, the largest being region 9393, which is the largest sunspot to appear in the last 10 years. Astronomers rate the size of sunspots in terms of millionths of the sun's earth-facing hemisphere. A big sunspot measures 300 to 500 millionths, and 9393 registered about 2400 millionths on March 29. The biggest spot of the current cycle, until now, was 9169 which measured 2140 millionths on September 20, 2000. There is also a statistic for the total area of all the visible spots, and that has been growing steadily and is still growing. The numbers for March 23 through 29 were 1210, 1760, 1870, 2290, 2830, 3830 and 3940.

Unfortunately, while earlier in the week we were blessed with low geomagnetic indices (indicating good HF radio conditions and low absorption), a frequent byproduct of high solar activity is solar flares, and a bombardment of protons. The high A indices of last week are back again, and there is more activity predicted for the next few days due to a coronal mass ejection from sunspot 9393 on Wednesday. The probable planetary A index for Friday and Satur-

day is 50, dropping to 30 on Sunday and 15 on Monday. Predicted solar flux for the next few days (Friday through Monday) is 260, 255, 250 and 245. These numbers are difficult to predict though, because there is so much new activity.

Quite a bit of email was received this week (via k7vvv@arrl.net) concerning propagation reports. Most reported bands open louder and longer. Of course, it helps that this activity follows the spring equinox, when the northern and southern hemispheres are each receiving a lot of solar radiation.

NG3Q reported working Cocos Keeling (a 10,400 mile path from Cleveland) on Sunday with loud signals. W3FF heard and was called by AP2JBZ in Pakistan on 12 meters, but W3FF was too weak for the AP2 to work him. Nothing remarkable about this, except that W3FF was walking in Northern California and using a handheld antenna and radio. NX9B in Southern Indiana noted that 15 meters was open later than usual when he worked Pakistan at 0340z, and China at 0003z on 10 meters with a dipole. DL9KAC near Bonn on Tuesday said propagation was very good to the Pacific and Asia on 10 and 15 meters. KF4ZAB in N.E. North Carolina had great luck with 35 watts and a ground-mounted vertical working Europe on 10 and 17 meters. 3B8GO in Mauritius noticed a big peak in conditions around the 27th. Unfortunately, the reports from 6 meters were unremarkable.

Once geomagnetic conditions quiet down, expect great conditions again, with 20 meters open all night to the west and 15 meters open into the evening. Monitor WWV at 18 minutes after the hour (or call 303-497-3235) and when K indices are 3 or less, good conditions may return.

By the averages below, we can see that the average sunspot number for this week was more than double last week's, rising from 101.7 to 248. Average solar flux rose nearly 86 points to 229.9. Average figures one year ago were comparable to this week, although somewhat lower, with sunspot numbers at 237.3 and solar flux at 210.6.

Sunspot numbers for March 22 through 28 were 129, 145, 204, 276, 339, 291 and 352 with a mean of 248. 10.7 cm flux was 183, 180, 218.7, 216.8, 263.7, 273.4 and 273.5, with a mean of 229.9, and estimated planetary A indices were 10, 21, 13, 8, 6, 18 and 31 with a mean of 15.3.

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Date: Thursday, March 29, 2001 3:29 PM

ARLD013 DX news

ZCZC AE13
QST de W1AW
DX Bulletin 13 ARLD013
From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT March 29, 2001
To all radio amateurs

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by Tedd, KB8NW, The OPDX Bulletin, F6BJW, W1HEO, QRZ DX, The Daily DX, 425DXnews and DXNL. Thanks to all.

EAST TIMOR, 4W. Neville, VK2QF, is QRV as 4W/VK2QF from Dili until April 5. Activity is on 80 to 6 meters using CW and SSB. QSL to home call.

GHANA, 9G. Derek, 9G5MD, has been very active on 15 and 10 meters generally between 1200 to 1800z. QSL via F5VCR.

PAKISTAN, AP. Bob, AP2JZB, is active on 12 meters and 10 meters, usually around 1430 and 1530z.

EASTER ISLAND, CE0. Arliss, W7XU, and Holly, N0QJM, are active as CE0Y/W7XU and CE0Y/N0QJM, respectively, until April 8. Activity is concentrated on 6 meters using CW and SSB. QSL to home calls.

JUAN FERNANDEZ ISLAND, CE0. Key, JE6JYT, Chip, N6CA, Jack, N6XQ, and Roman, XE2EED, are QRV as 3G0Z until April 3 from Robinson Crusoe running two stations on 6 meters. They will transmit on 50102 kHz and receive on 50140 kHz. QSL via N6XQ.

IRAN, EP. Abdullah, EP2FM, has been QRV using RTTY on 20 meters after 0330z. He is also active using SSB on 20 meters generally after 1430z and again around 2000z.

FRANCE, F. Look for F6BJW to be QRV as TM2A from Noirmoutier Island, IOTA EU-064, from March 31 to April 7. QSL to home call.

GRENADA, J3. W1HEO and W5PF will be QRV as J3/homecalls from March 30 to April 11. Activity will be on 40 to 10 meters, including 17 and 12 meters, using CW and SSB. QSL to home calls.

JAN MAYEN, JX. Trond, LA8XM, will be QRV in his spare time as JX8XM from March 30 to April 4. QSL to home call.

ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL ROCKS, PY0S. Kim, PS7JN, will be here to carry out some scientific research between April 1 to 15. He plans to be QRV as ZY0SAT in his free time. Activity is planned on 80 to 10 meters. There is also some satellite activity planned on AO-10, UO-14, FO-20 and FO-29. QSL to home call.

CHRISTMAS ISLAND, VK9X. Jerzy, SP9EVP, will be QRV as VK9KXP from March 31 to April 6. QSL to home call.

ANTARCTICA. Mike, GM0HCQ, is QRV as VP8ROT from Rothera Base. He will be here for another month. Look for him on 21052 or 28052 kHz around 1530z and on 14052 or 18082 kHz around 2130z. QSL to home call.

VIETNAM, XV. Look for JA3AFJ, JR1JAA and JA1TAA to be QRV as XV3MRC, XV3JAA and XV3TAA, respectively, until April 3. Activity is on 80 to 6 meters, excluding 30 meters, using CW, SSB, RTTY and PSK31. QSL all calls via JA1TAA.

VENEZUELA, YV. Rick, NE8Z, will be active as YV5/NE8Z from Los Roques, IOTA SA-035, from March 31 to April 2. Activity will be mainly on 10 meters, with some operations on 20 and 15 meters using SSB. QSL to home call.

UK SOVEREIGN BASE AREAS ON CYPRUS, ZC4. Dez, G0DEZ, is QRV as ZC4DW. He has been active using CW, SSB and RTTY on 12 meters around 1500z. QSL to home call.

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Tuesday, March 13, 2001 12:10 PM

SB QST @ ARL \$ARLB008 ARLB008 ARRL Seeks to Expand Amateur Access to 216-220 MHz

ZCZC AG08
QST de W1AW
ARRL Bulletin 8 ARLB008
From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT March 13, 2001
To all radio amateurs

The ARRL has suggested that the FCC expand the secondary amateur allocation at 219-220 MHz to provide access to the entire 216-220 MHz band. The League commented this month in response to a Notice of Proposed Rule Making, ET Docket 00-221, that proposes to reallocate 27 MHz of spectrum in various bands, including 216-220 MHz, from government to non-government use.

In general, the FCC seeks to allocate the entire 216-220 MHz band to the Fixed and Mobile services on a primary basis. At 219-220 MHz, Amateur Radio now is secondary to the Automated Maritime Telecommunications System (AMTS). Within the 1-MHz of spectrum, Amateurs may install and operate point-to-point digital message forwarding systems, including intercity packet backbones, but only under strict limitations.

While the FCC has promised to protect AMTS and other operations from new interference, it extended no such assurances to amateur operations at 219-220 MHz. In its comments, the ARRL expressed fears that additional co-primary users "will essentially foreclose what limited opportunities there are now for amateurs to make use of the 219-220 MHz segment."

The League suggested that permitting amateur access to the entire 216-220 MHz band on a non-interference basis would be one means to accommodate Amateur Radio operations in that portion of the spectrum. Such a move would, the ARRL said, "provide at least some opportunity for amateurs to engineer fixed links into the band, which would not be possible in the 219-220 MHz segment alone."

"The Amateur Service is well-known for being able to make use of bands used by other services, which increases the efficiency of spectrum use," the League said. The allocation could be made "without any adverse impact on AMTS operations, television broadcast reception, or other, new co-primary operations in the 216-220 MHz band, Fixed or Mobile," the ARRL concluded.

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Date: Wednesday, March 14, 2001 5:26 PM

ARLB009 ARRL 160-Meter Band Plan Committee seeks input

ZCZC AG09
QST de W1AW
ARRL Bulletin 9 ARLB009
From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT March 14, 2001
To all radio amateurs

ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, has selected five amateurs to serve on the ad hoc 160-Meter Band Plan Committee. The panel is open for input from the amateur community regarding the current 160-meter band plan and recommendations for changes. The ARRL Board of Directors approved formation of the committee at its annual meeting in January.

"With the ever-increasing activity on 160, it is time to revisit the band plan," said ARRL Delta Division Director Rick Roderick, K5UR, who was named to chair the committee.

Also asked to serve on the panel were ARRL New England Director Tom Frenaye, K1KI; ARRL Dakota Division Director Emeritus Tod Olson, K0TO; Jeff Briggs, K1ZM, and Bill Tippett, W4ZV. All of the appointees are veteran amateurs and familiar with 160 meters and the issues facing the band. Briggs, a perennial Top Band contest and DXer, literally wrote the book on 160 meters, DXing on the Edge—the Thrill of 160 Meters. Tippett has more than 300 DXCC entities to his credit on 160.

ARRL Membership Services Manager Wayne Mills, N7NG, will serve as Headquarters staff liaison with the committee. Roderick says the band plan committee is open for comments "from all parties—the digital folks, DXers, ragchewers, anyone." The e-mail address for comments is 160-BANDPLAN@arrl.org. To be accepted, all submitted comments must include a subject line.

The committee plans to report back to the ARRL Board of Directors in July.

All ARRL band plans are on the ARRL Web site, <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/bandplan.html>.

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“From the Ohio Section Journal; Ron Griffin, N8AEH, Findlay, editor.

**By Joe Phillips, K8QOE
Ohio Section Manager**

My favorite movie line - “Sure the town prostitute can join the church but she can’t run the choir the first week.”

It reminds me of a new contention we’re having in Ham Radio. New members of a ham group at times display to the leadership, the attitude that somehow they can’t be bothered with certain work details necessary for the operation of the club. That’s one side of the dispute.

In the December issue of “The Listening Post,” (see end of column for credits) Greg Elsbernd, KI8JC, of Cincinnati, outlined another perspective. In relating about the questions new club members have about the status quo he wrote -”(As a newcomer) I was only viewed as fresh meat just to be used whenever those in charge wanted.”

Just to make sure no one misunderstood what Greg was saying, he continued, “I wonder how many new hams get started, raring to go, but get discouraged when they feel they are spoken down to as if they are children. When they ask a question and are made to feel ignorant and stupid because they haven’t achieve a high enough consciousness to understand the mystical higher planes of ham radio.”

Now while I have no first hand knowledge of Greg’s individual complaint; in my travels across Ohio I’ve found both attitudes are getting said too frequently to be ignored.

Somewhere between the “town prostitute” attitude and Greg’s “fresh meat” feeling lies an important message. Yes, fresh blood is necessary to our growth. And we have to remember that the old days of young kids getting licenses and quietly paying their dues while waiting for their turn at leadership is gone for now. No one likes it but reacting against it is somewhat like telling the evening ocean tide not to come in tonight.

Today’s new member isn’t going to have the same “gee whiz” attitude of the 60s or 70s. Something about new hams are older and more mature and they already know how valuable a new ham is - partially because the ARRL and newsletter ham editorials keep stressing our “new blood” needs.

Yet while I admire Greg’s directness and honesty in his writing, the “fresh meat” editorial smacks of a kind of brashness which does not lend itself to instant friendship. Too many ham radio organizations have tasks, previously given to new members, which now go undone cause no one will take the trouble. Again I am unaware of any of the particulars of Greg’s complaint, but it, and similar complaints throughout Ohio, does smack of an unwillingness to give on both sides - the new ham and the old guard.

Don’t get me wrong. I’m thrilled Greg wrote it and thrilled “The Listening Post” editor Henry Greeb, N8XX, had the courage to print it. The attitudes on both sides are too frequent and too important to be ignored. Greg brought this up front where it belongs, not only in Cincinnati but all of Ohio.

(“The Listening Post” is the official publication of the Queen City

Emergency Net -QCEN- which is affiliated with the Hamilton County Chapter, The American Red Cross. A shorter version of this column originally appeared the March, 2001 issue. It’s use is with the permission of “Listening Post” Editor Henry Greeb, N8XX. Greg’s editorial appeared in the December, 2000 issue).

**Subject: First Aid & CPR
Date: Wednesday, March 28, 2001 2:29 PM**

The Red Cross class for club members will be held at the Red Cross Chapter on Third Street SE in Massillon, Saturday April 21, 2001 from 9:00AM till 5:00PM.. The class will be taught by Bruce Robinson. Gene W8KXR will probably have more information. Jim WA8GXM didn’t have e-mail addresses so I am passing this on second hand. He said maybe it wouldn’t be too late to get it on the Nets but it may be to late in the month for The Feedback. This will be Basic First Aid and CPR and the cost for MARC member will be \$42.00.

73's Don W8DEA

SALE
LOOK

Eico Model 324 Signal Generator — \$15.00

Eico Model 232 V.T.V.M. — \$15.00

Eico Model 460 Oscilloscope — \$25.00

Simpson Model 460 Digital Volt Meter — \$15.00

Simpson Model 260 Volt Meter — \$15.00

DSI Model 3600A Frequency Counter — \$15.00

Amphenol Transistor Tester — \$20.00

Heathkit Laboratory Grade Signal Generator — \$20.00

Hy-Gain TH3/Mk3 Three Element Tri-band Beam Antenna — \$25.00

Alliance Dual Speed Heavy Duty Antenna Rotor — \$25.00

**Contact:
Chuck Frederick
WB8IEY
330-874-3007
chuck@wilkshire.net**

April 2001

Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																											
1 Stark County Mutual Aid Net 146.520 11:30 AM	2 Sloppy Fist Net every Monday thru Friday at 9PM on 28.138	3	4	5 7:30 PM QCWA (Chapter 21) Net, 147.180	6 BD WD8CIB Massillon ARC Meeting	7																																																																																											
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