



The Wave Bender

August 2011



PRESIDENT'S QST

I want to thank everyone that came out and worked the Tour of the Valley. They were, KC8SOY, KD8LDY, KD8OXJ, KD8IJF, NN8B, N8GOB, KC8WY, N8DMC, KC8VCT, KC8HSD, K8JAA, AB8AA, KD8NXR, KD8NXS, N8YMZ, NB5R, N8XKP, and KC8SPF. There were good comments about how we handled things. Everyone that worked the TOV, please give me your comments (good or bad).

The picnic was a good time for all. We had a lot of good food. We had a short "T" Hunt, the first to find the "T" was Brian, NB5R. Others got close. Better luck next time.

Soon it will be fall and then it will be winter. When you are stuck in the house, it is a good time to make contacts with other hams around the world. Also a good time to build something, work on studying for that upgraded license you want, and get caught up on all the reading you have put off.

Just remember that any antenna put up during a snow storm will work better than one put up in the middle of summer, just do not ask *Continued page 2*

TOUR OF THE VALLEY REPRISÉ



The Tour Attracted USA Cycling's Elite and a National Championship Criterium Winner and VALLEY

NATIVE David Wenger. David graduated from South Range in 1998 and Miami University in 2002. He now lives in Austin Texas, where he operates a cycling and triathlete coaching business.

David started bicycle road racing in his early teens, racing with local Glenwood and Mahoning Valley Cycling teams, before achieving a national track collegiate track title, and spending a few years in the domestic professional cycling ranks. The North Lima native, is a recent winner of the criterium national championship, and raced in the criterium on July 10. He won the USA Cycling's Elite National Championship Criterium event in Augusta, Georgia among the nation's top Category 1 riders. He also placed 8th nationally in the time trial event and he went to the Valley to race in the third annual Tour of the Valley.

The Third annual Tour of the Valley featured 21 categories of races from July 8-10. North Lima native David Wenger, the U.S. criterium champion, gave a cycling clinic at Cycle Sales in Boardman on July 5. Time Trial which ran from 5-8 p.m. and was open to all cyclists was held at the Mastropietro Winery in Berlin Center on July 8. The Columbiana Road Race featured a 33-mile course that began in Columbiana. Pro riders made three laps on July 9. In 2009, the Tour attracted 155 riders. This year it attracted over 400.



co-race directors

Dan Quinlan said the race would test the toughest cyclists. "The riders were tired after three days of racing," I think the design of the course was actually going to make this race something the riders will want to do again.

The Tour shifted to Columbiana County on July 9 for a 33-mile course that started in Columbiana and went south toward Beaver Creek. This year, the pro cyclists rode the course three times compared to two in 2010.

Also on July 10 there was a community ride for non-racers that began at 8:30 a.m. at YSU and proceed to Mill Creek Park. This ride was with the Outspoken Wheelmen (OSW) of Boardman. They met at the Williamson School of Business (YSU) at 8:00am. This leisurely paced 25 mile ride went through *Continued page 2*



Officer's Meeting: Aug. 14, 7:00 P.M.
At the Avnet's, 2050 E. South Range Rd. New Springfield (330-549-3051)

Regular Meeting: Aug. 16, 7:00 P.M.
Davidson's, in Cornersburgh- 6:00 P.M. meet for a dinner. Dutch of course.

Program: E. Mike McCardle ARRL ACC will be our speaker.

2011 Officers

President:	Al Avnet AB8AA	ab8aa@arrl.net
VP:	Roy Haren KD8IJF	harens@juno.com
Secretary:	Jane Avnet K8JAA	k8jaa@arrl.net
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Mill Creek Park which was somewhat hilly.

Quinlan's wife, Erin, was co-race director. She said their goal for the weekend event was to promote the Mahoning Valley. "Our mission is to play a leading role in making the Valley a young and active community," the president of Carbon Racing said. "We are creating with Tour of the Valley a new culture of cycling. "As an eco-friendly event," the Tour also is promoting ways for residents "to reduce their impact on the environment."

The hams who came out to help or lend support the first two days of the event were: KC8SOY, KD8LDY, KD8OXJ, KD8IJF, KD8IJE, NN8B, N8GOB, KC8WY, N8DMC, KC8VCT, KC8HSD, K8JAA, AB8AA, KD8NXR, KD8NXS, NB5R, N8XKP, KC8SPF, and N8YIMZ for moral support. These hams represent 20/9, Columbiana County EMA, PCARS, SAARA, MVARA, and WRARC all working together to support the riders of the 2011 Tour of the valley. The members of WRARC want to thank these Hams for their help, we couldn't have done it without you. A special thanks to Maureen for her help being my scribe. The scribe is as an important a job as are all the others.

FROM THE AUGUST FRESH AIR, OSW
NEWSLETTER

Tour of the Valley Recap -Thank you for a record breaking year! July 8, 9 and 10th was truly, July's test of America's best. That weekend kicked off with a phenomenal Time Trial show at Mastropietro Winery. It was a show of talented athletes, good food and wine. The Tour started the weekend off with upwards of 300 cyclists (a 15% increase from 2011!!) coming out to break their personal records in the time trial and they did just that.

The fastest time for this 9 mile course was 18:24min, avg of close to 30mph! Saturday morning Columbiana hosted the amateur categories and kids bike safety rodeo at 9 a.m. The kids each received a helmet, safety instructions and more.

Then it was on to the Road Race where cyclists endured long courses in the hot sun. Despite the heat they were happy with results. The Pro Men did 93 miles and commented that they "Loved the course and it was hard and grueling."

Sunday turned out to be a hot one!! All categories raced at different times for the stage race but also for the overall winner in each category. We had additional spectators stop down from the YSU Festival of the Arts, friends, sponsors and many more came to see the sprint up Hazel St ext. There was also an increased enrollment in the community ride. After all that, last weekend proved to be even better than last year's race with the increased rider numbers, new spectators and double the volunteer registration from last year.

Thank you for your support!

Rich Obertots

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me to help!!!

This year we have to elect a new board. Open is president, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and one Trustee. If you want to run for one of these offices, please contact the nominating committee Ted, KD8IJE or Steve, KC8SOY.

Till next month.

73 Allan, AB8AA

**Amateur Radio is a Hobby, Emergency
Communications is a Commitment!**

CLASSES STARTING

TECHNICIAN CLASS

**SEPTEMBER 14 - TESTING OCTOBER 19
7 - 9:00+ P.M.**

EXTRA CLASS

**OCTOBER 26 - TESTING DECEMBER 21
7 - 9:30+ P.M.**

MAHONING COUNTY EMA

700 INDUSTRIAL RD.

YOUNGSTOWN

330-549-3051



Join us for the WRARC

Friday night Net

9:00 P.M. on 145.270, PL -110.9

**This is a directed net, with all interested
members taking a turn
at Net Control**

**Contact Steve KC8SOY to take your turn
330-774-6346**

COLUMBIANA COUNTY DIGITAL NET

8:30 pm - 9:30 pm

145.510 MHZ SIMPLEX Wednesdays

**First Wednesday of the Month
the Mahoning County
ARES/RACES/Skywarn training net
is held on the W8QLY repeater
146.745 (-) at 8:30P.M.**



GREAT LAKES DIVISION CONVENTION &
(FINDLAY HAMFEST)

HAMFEST/CONVENTION - 09/11/2011

Start Date: 09/11/2011

End Date: 09/11/2011

Location: Hancock County Fairgrounds

1017 East Sandusky Street

Findlay, OH 45839

Website: <http://www.w8ft.org>

Sponsor: Findlay Radio Club

Type: ARRL Convention

Talk-In: 147.15/.75

Public Contact: Bill Kelsey , N8ET

3521 Spring Lake Drive Findlay, OH 45840

Phone: 419-423-5643

Email: n8et@woh.rr.com

September 11th Agenda

8AM – Registration

9 AM -- Welcome from the Division and Keynote Speaker - Allen Pitts, W1AGP (Allen's address will be on the changes in Amateur Radio since 9/11 (A Q&A will follow the discussion)

10 AM -- NTS (OSSBN - moderator) and DX (SE Michigan DX Association - moderator) (concurrent sessions)

11 AM -- EmComm (WA8EFK - moderator) and ATV/Digital ATV (WA8RMC - moderator) (concurrent sessions)

12 Noon -- D-Star (Ohio Digital Interconnect Group - moderator) and -- You can be a Winner. How you can Benefit from Low Power Contesting (K8ZT moderator) (concurrent sessions)

2 PM -- Luncheon/ Awards Presentation – TBD (Admission to Division Convention included in Hamfest ticket price)

QSL Card Field Checking by AA4XA will be available during the convention If more information is needed contact Scott Yonaly: n8sy@n8sy.com

There are Six Awards open for nomination. These are:

- the George S. Wilson III (W4OYI, SK), Lifetime Achievement Award
- the Amateur of the Year Award
- the Technical Achievement Award
- the DX Achievement Award
- the Young Radio Amateur of the Year Award
- the Joseph J. Phillips (K8QOE, SK) Newsletter Award will also be given.

ARRL IN ACTION: WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO LATELY?



07/01/2011- Compiled by S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA ARRL News Editor k1sfa@arrl.org. This feature -- including convenient Web links to useful information -- is a concise monthly update of some of the things ARRL is doing on behalf of its members. This installment covers the month of June.

ARRL Field Day was June 25-26. W1AW, the Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Station operated on 80-2 meters, making almost 3500 contacts on CW, Phone and RTTY.

The ARRL held its National Convention in Plano, Texas in conjunction with Ham-Com. Hams were invited to follow the festivities on Facebook and Twitter.

The ARRL and the National Weather Service updated their Memorandum of Understanding.

Working with the ARRL, SATERN recruited radio amateurs to help support SATERN's mission of providing communications and logistical support in the wake of the May tornadoes in Joplin, Missouri.

The ARRL's VHF/UHF Advisory Committee is seeking input from hams on how to encourage more participation in VHF/UHF contests.

The ARRL and its partners in the IARU have been involved in the preparations for several items on the 2012 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-12) agenda, including an item pertaining to oceanographic radar applications in the 3-50 MHz range. Jon Jones, N0JK, has been named the conductor of the popular QST column "The World Above 50 MHz." He takes over from Gene Zimmerman, W3ZZ, who announced his retirement in the June issue of QST. A new online introductory Emergency Communications course is now available from the ARRL. The 2010 ARRL Annual Report is now available online.

The ARRL Programs and Services Committee met in Newington in advance of July's Board of Directors meeting. The ARRL hosted an RFI workshop geared to utility company employees. For the 10th year in a row, the Combined Federal Campaign has approved the ARRL to participate in its annual campaign. Michael Keane, K1MK, *Continued page 4*

CONTACT WRARC ELMERS WITH YOUR QUESTIONS

Avnet, Allan AB8AA	Antennas, radio setup, mobile, grounding, classes, anything	ab8aa@arrl.net
Beatty, Dave KC8WY	anything	kc8wy@zoominternet.net
Fabry, Steve KC8SOY	Yaesu FT8900, FT8800, Mobile	kc8soy@yahoo.com
Haren, Roy KD8IJF	???	harens@juno.com
Webster, Robert KD8OXJ	erecting antennas	rwebster@mail.com
Williams, Russ LD8LDY	Electrician, tele-data, Amateur Extra	russellwhoknew69@aol.com

ARRL IN ACTION - CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

has been named the new ARRL Information Technology Manager. He takes over from longtime ARRL staffer Jon Bloom, KE3Z, who left the ARRL HQ staff to pursue other opportunities.

ARRL International Vice President Jay Bellows, K0QB, joined ARRL Chief Technology Officer Brennan Price, N4QX, and ARRL Membership and Volunteer Programs Manager Dave Patton, NN1N, at Ham Radio 2011 in Friedrichshafen, Germany. Price also attended meetings of ITU-R Working Party 5A in Geneva.

A new QuickStats poll was made available on the ARRL website.

The winner of the QST Cover Plaque Award for June 2011 is Kazimierz "Kai" Siwiak, KE4PT, for his article "Is There an Optimum Height for an HF Antenna?"

The August issue of QST and the July/August editions of NCJ and QEX were released to the printer. The Proceedings of the Central States VHF Society Conference was also released to the printer.

Official Observer Desk: ARRL Field and Regulatory Correspondent Chuck Skolaut, K0BOG, handled complaints regarding a 147.435 MHz repeater in California. Complaints about transmissions on 14.313, 14.310 and 3.840 MHz were also received. A complaint about music on 15 meters, as well as reports about illegal CB amplifiers being sold online were also received. Skolaut also answered questions regarding Field Day, cross band repeater operation, home station identification, selling items on nets and identification on repeaters with remote inputs. Member Contact: ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, attended the ARRL Wyoming State Convention. ARRL Field and Regulatory Correspondent Chuck Skolaut, K0BOG, attended the ARRL Tennessee State Convention. DXCC News: The DXCC Desk approved the current VK0KEV DXpedition to Macquarie Island for DXCC credit.



IN THE SHACK:

RadioShack Looking for Suggestions for DIY Parts

Back in the day, RadioShack was the first place many of us looked for parts. QST construction projects routinely referenced RS part numbers, and the Shack even sold 10 and 2 meter transceivers. What goes around comes around, and RadioShack is now looking for input from us, as members of the larger DIY community, on parts we'd like to see them carry.

WEAVER'S WORDS -- SUMMER TIME AND THE +++ Homebrew Challenge Issued +++ The art of homebrewing amateur equipment is not dead. To help keep it strong, ARRL sponsors homebrewing contests annually. The following information relates to the 2011 contest.

"The ARRL has sponsored two Homebrew Challenges in the past, designed to test our members' design and construction skills by making useful amateur gear at low cost -- and sharing their results with our members.

Our first ARRL Homebrew Challenge, announced in QST for August 2006, required the construction of a 40 meter, 5 W voice and CW transceiver built for less than \$50 of new parts.

The Second Homebrew Challenge, announced in February 2009, resulted in a number of creative designs of low cost 50 W linear amplifiers to follow the transceiver -- two for about \$30, as well as a multiband amplifier with many features for somewhat more.

"For 2011, the ARRL has issued a challenge to build a transceiver in celebration of the (slow) return of sunspots. This challenge will be in two parts and hams can enter either or both options:

"Option 1: A single band 25 W SSB and CW transceiver for 10 or 6 meters, with a prize of \$200.

Option 2: A 25 W SSB and CW transceiver that can be switched between 10 and 6 meters, using one or two switches, with a prize of \$300.

"Instead of challenging entrants to make the transceiver at the lowest cost, the ARRL will instead challenge builders to provide the highest quality, best performance and most features within the cost target of \$150 for Option 1 and \$200 for Option 2. In addition to the cash prize, the winners of these challenges will have articles describing their designs in QST and will receive the usual page rate for the published articles. Additional entrants who meet the minimum requirements -- and have interesting design features -- may also be considered for QST or ARRL Web articles.

"Entries for either option must be received at ARRL Headquarters no later than November 1, 2011. To be considered, each entrant must submit a working transceiver that is suitable for testing in the ARRL Lab and for on-the-air judging by the ARRL staff judges. Documentation required includes a priced parts list indicating the source and purchase price of each part, an article draft including a design description, construction hints, alignment instruction, block diagrams and schematic diagrams. Photographs may be provided, but final magazine photos will be taken by ARRL staff.

"For more information, including specific requirements and evaluation criteria, please visit the ARRL Homebrew Challenge web page." *Continued page 5*

WEAVER'S WORDS - CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4**+++ Amateur Radio Comic Books Available +++**

Writing in The Ham Radio Promoter, Dee Logan, W1HEO, reminds that several Amateur Radio comic books are available for use with youngsters. These can be gotten online from ICOM. The Zack and Max comics are at http://www.icomamerica.com/en/amateur/comic_book/Default.aspx. The comics may be read online, downloaded and printed, or copies may be requested from ICOM.

+++ The Status of HR 607 +++ HR 607 is titled the Broadband for First Responders bill. Unfortunately, one of the bill's clauses would take the amateur 420-440 MHz frequencies in achieving its otherwise excellent objective.

Upon being introduced into the House, the bill was referred to the House Energy and Commerce Committee. To date, the subcommittee has taken no action. In addition, in a meeting with a group of amateur constituents the bill's sponsor, Rep. Peter King of New York, has stated he no longer favors taking the amateur frequencies. Finally, alternative bills having the same objective as HR 607, but that do not involve amateur frequencies, have been introduced into the House as well as the US Senate.

Considering the above facts, one can easily speculate that the present threat to 420-440 MHz may be over. Using only the letter generating utility developed by Rick Haltermon, KD4PYR, amateurs are known to have generated over 13,000 letters in opposition to the potential frequency grab. What a great response to the call for action!

As tempting as it is to speculate on victory, it is more important that amateurs keep an eye on HR 607 and other bills that could impact our frequencies. This is precisely what is being done by legislation watchers at ARRL. For now, it is appropriate to sheathe our pens, but to keep them primed and handy to use if the need arises.

+++ Division Elections this Fall +++ As announced in QST, elections for director and vice director of the Great Lakes Division will be held this fall. At this time, I know of only one candidate for each of these positions.

+++ Red Cross-ARRL Memorandum of Understanding -- Where it Stands +++ On May 25, 2010, the American Red Cross (RC) and the ARRL signed a new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). This new MOU replaced one that had expired many months earlier. Significantly, the new MOU put the decision of where a ham can get the RC-required background check done squarely in the hands of the amateur. The new agreement gives a ham the privilege of having a criminal background check done through a local government agency such as police

and sheriff rather than only through the commercial organization, Mybackgroundcheck.com, used by the RC.

There is a technical and potentially practical reason why many amateurs, including me did not want to have the check done through Mybackgroundcheck.com. This reason is that in authorizing Mybackgroundcheck.com to perform a background check, we officially authorize them to perform a manner of living check and a financial check -- not merely a criminal check. There may be situations in which RC would need to have these added background checks run. These situations would arise only in instances in which an individual wishes to perform tasks that far exceed those of a simple communicator.

My personal position is that I do not care to become a Red Cross "volunteer" as RC defines this term. I wish only to be able to provide communications support to the agency in emergencies. I do not wish to become a RC relief worker or a shelter manager or stores manager or work at levels which inherently would categorize me as a "volunteer" in RC's terminology. I understand RC's need to perform more invasive background checking on many volunteer positions and have no problem with this. I just don't want to open my personal history any more than is needed to accomplish my personal goals.

I recently spoke with officials of the Cincinnati Region Red Cross and was informed they were unaware of the new (or, for that matter, the old) MOU with ARRL. Consequently, they were not prepared to allow me to serve the local Chapter without undergoing a background check as described in RC guidelines. It would seem that National RC may not have notified local chapters of the new MOU and of the liberalized background check policy it contains.

I shared a copy of the RC-ARRL MOU with the local chapter. After reviewing the document, I was told they indeed will accept the results of a criminal background check-only that I plan to have done through my county sheriff's department. I will not become a RC "volunteer," but will be credentialed to provide communications support which is my objective.

My reason for passing the above information on is to assure anyone interested that the MOU is being accepted even though additional effort may be needed to make local officials aware of it. To obtain a copy of the RC-ARRL MOU, go to http://www.arrl.org/files/media/News/ARRL-ARC_MoU.pdf. It is in Adobe Acrobat format and is signed by Joseph C. Becker, Senior Vice President, Disaster Services of the RC and by Kay Craigie (N3KN), President of ARRL. If needed, the MOU can be forwarded to a local RC official to demonstrate its existence.

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WEAVER'S WORDS - CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

+++ Today's Final +++

Its been a busy time at the K8JE QTH recently. Mixed in among other activities, a new tower has been put up, and a TH-11DX monster beam and an M2-5X 6 meter beam have been assembled. The antenna "uprising" is scheduled for July 6 -- thanks to a friendly tower technician and several fellow amateurs. All this work was necessitated by a gust of wind that brought tower, beams, wire antenna and two Ringos crashing down one early morning in late February.

According to the note I made on the assembly/instruction manual, I had assembled my previous TH-11 in 1996. For some reason, my memory tells me the amount of work required to put it together was far less than the effort required to assemble the new one. The other disparity between then and now is that somehow I managed to climb the first tower the old TH-11 adorned and, with the help of just one friend on the ground, managed getting it properly mounted. This time, I'm looking at a ground crew of about four buddies plus the tower monkey.

Something seems to have changed over the last 15 years. I'll figure out what -- some day.

Jim Weaver, K8JE
 Director, Great Lakes Division
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 Mason, OH 45040
 Tel. 513-459-1661; e-mail
 K8JE@arrl.org

ARRL: The reason Amateur Radio Is



Members: The reason ARRL is



A BIG THANK-YOU!!

On behalf of the Blue Knights Motorcycle Club and ARES/RACES of Mahoning County. I would like to thank the following Hams who came out and helped with the Mike Hartzell Memorial Motorcycle Run on July 10th. W8YSU, KB8UNJ, KB8TPG, KF8OG, WB8HYO, WD8JZP, KD8JMO, WD8DFW, KB8UCZ, KB8VRF, KC8HSD, KC8VCT, N8XKP, KD8IJF, KF8OG, K8PRR, KB8SUJ, KE8KT, N8TIS, KB8UDA, KB8GAE, KC8RJS, KC8SYF, N8DMC, KB8YHC, KC8PUO, N8TOG, AB8OP, KD8EHW, KB8VAO, & KC8VCR.

Thanks, Dean DeMain W8YSU
 Asst. E/C, Mahoning County
 ARES/RACES & SKYWARN

THE OHIO SINGLE SIDEBAND NET WANTS YOUR BUSINESS!

Are you an Amateur Radio Operator who has HF privileges? Do you have an HF station (or access to an HF station) that can operate on 3972.5 kHz?

Want to meet new people in the Ohio Section? Then join the Ohio Single Sideband Net (OSSBN) each day at 10:30 am, 4:15pm, and 6:45pm each day to check-in, help pass traffic, and join in on the discussion round!

Don Zickefoose, WB8SIQ of Vermillion is new Net Manager, and he is asking for all Ohio Section hams to come participate in the net as often as you can!

wb8siq@centurytel.net

<http://www.qsl.net/ossbn/index.html>

Morning session 10:30 AM 3972.5 KHz
 Afternoon session 4:15 PM 3972.5 KHz
 Evening session 6:45 PM 3972.5 KHz



**OCTOBER SPEAKER
 CAROL D. SHREINER PH.D.
 THE
 CEMISTRY OF FOOD**

*Einstein once said,
 'The definition of insanity is
 doing the same thing over
 and over again
 and expecting different results.'*



AWARE

Aware is published by NOAA's National Weather Service to enhance communications within the Agency and with the emergency management community.

<http://www.weather.gov/os/Aware/pdfs/11summer-aware.pdf>



The Ohio QSO Party is right around the corner..... Aug 27- noon til midnight - 80-10m!!

2011 Ohio QSO Party Rules Summary Rule Changes

We've grown tired of the QSO Party = Contest crowd. We now only have one rule (besides your countries regulations which I encourage that you follow to the letter), any Ohio Station can work any other station, any band or mode. Yes, contacts on nets count and we encourage them. So does the WARC bands, because this isn't one of those events that are prohibited by international regulation (if you believe in such things). We also encourage; in fact we demand, actual QSOs, you know the ones where you actually communicate and exchange actual relevant information? You remember those, the thing that actually made this hobby fun when you first got licensed.

So, who will "win" this event? Everybody wins, by actually having real QSOs instead of babbling ridiculous fake signal reports and zero intelligence nonsense we remove the competitive BS that infects the Amateur Radio bands every weekend. (Note: There are only two contest you should make an effort to operate, CQ WW CW and CQ WW SSB).

We are also changing the date to sometime in the Winter for better propagation. Also, we are working on making this QSO Party more friendly to everyone and not just to a certain class of license (US Extra) or a particular radio club.

If you wish to sponsor some kind of reward, don't bother, If you think somebody did an outstanding job, actually tell them that and remember neither sitting on a frequency and spotting nonsense nor sending cw at high speed from a moving car really matter our count for anything. Did you know that in the past, people actually drove, sent CW and logged at night, all at the same time? Yes, that is crazy (and no it was NOT this person).

Logs you ask? Send in what you think would be useful to encourage more people to become Amateur Radio Operators, stories, interesting anecdotes, cool pictures, something about you so we can get to know you better, reasons why you didn't get on the radio (excuses in other words), or whatever you want.

73, N8VW
<http://www.oqp.us/main>

FEMA

FEMA Administrator Calls Amateur Radio "The Last Line of Defense"



In an FCC forum on earthquake communications preparedness, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Administrator Craig Fugate described the Amateur Radio operator as "the ultimate backup, the originators of what we call social media." The forum-- held May 3 at FCC Headquarters in Washington, DC -- brought together officials from the White House, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), the United States Geological Survey (USGS), FEMA, the FCC and the private sector. Fugate and FCC Bureau of Public Safety and Homeland Security Chief Jamie Barnett gave the opening remarks.

In an earthquake communications preparedness forum sponsored by the FCC, FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate praised Amateur Radio, saying "...when you need Amateur Radio, you really need it."

Later in the forum, Fugate spoke more on Amateur Radio. "During the initial communications out of Haiti, volunteers using assigned frequencies that they are allocated, their own equipment, their own money, nobody pays them, were the first ones oftentimes getting word out in the critical first hours and first days as the rest of the systems came back up," he told the forum. "I think that there is a tendency because we have done so much to build infrastructure and resiliency in all our other systems, we have tended to dismiss that role 'When Everything Else Fails.' Amateur Radio oftentimes is our last line of defense."

Fugate said that he thinks "we get so sophisticated and we have gotten so used to the reliability and resilience in our wireless and wired and our broadcast industry and all of our public safety communications, that we can never fathom that they'll fail. They do. They have. They will. I think a strong Amateur Radio community [needs to be] plugged into these plans. Yes, most of the time they're going to be bored, because a lot of the time, there's not a lot they're going to be doing that other people aren't doing with Twitter and Facebook and everything else. But when you need Amateur Radio, you really need them."

**DONT ARGUE WITH STUPIDITY...
THEY WILL JUST DRAG YOU DOWN TO
THEIR LEVEL, AND BEAT YOU WITH
EXPERIENCE.....**

CLUB PICNIC

Our first annual WRARC Picnic went off with out a hitch at the United Methodist Church picnic grounds in Canfield thanks to Ted and his wife Jeannie, who got the beautiful site, Maureen (our Social chair), Mike (Maureen's O.M.), Kevin, and their younger son Mark. The food was excellent, thanks to everyone who brought something or just cme for a fun outing.

We had an unexpected Visitor from ITT, Dave Brett, who only stayed long enough to donate some equipment to the club. There are some oscillo-scopes, function generators, power supplies, and digital volt meters. They will get checked out to be sure they all are in working order. What a wonderful surprise for all of us! Dave had to leave before we ate due to another commitment.



There was a "T" hunt after the meal that was sooo much fun! Brian, NB5R found the Transmitter before anyone else and helped keep it a secret so others could have the fun of finding it.

There was a very short meeting after the T-hunt. Those who attended were: AB8AA, K8JAA, KD8DWV, KC8WY, KD8IJF, KC8SPF, NB5R, KB8QDZ, KD8LDY, WN8OAB, KD8OXJ, KD8QCB, KD8OKK, KC8UNR, KC8SOY, KD8CGW, KD8NXR, KD8NXS, KD8IJE, N8FMC. The following guests were present: Nancy Williams, Donna Haren, Mike Stein, Mark Stein, Jeannie Filmer, and Carol Shreiner. Liz won the 50/50 and donated it back to the club - Thanks so much!

AMATEUR RADIO CRUISE-IN NIGHT



So you think that you have one of the best amateur radio mobile installations to be found? Well here is your chance to show off that mobile rig and have the opportunity to compare it to dozens of others, HF, VHF, UHF, you name it.

On **Wednesday, August 17, 2011, starting at 5:00 p.m.**, the Portage County Amateur Radio Service (PCARS) will be sponsoring an Amateur Radio Cruise-In Night at the A&W Restaurant located at 769 East Main Street in Ravenna.

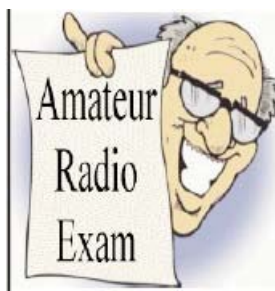
Hams from all over Northeast Ohio will be cruising in to check out the wide variety of mobile radio setups and get some ideas for their own vehicles. Prizes will be awarded for the most unique and the ugliest installations and for the farthest DX station worked by an HF mobile rig from the A&W between 5:00 and 7:00 p.m.

Have you wondered how well screwdriver antennas perform? Confused about how best to run your power cables from the battery to the passenger compartment? How have other hams dealt with all that noise generating equipment in newer cars? Can you work DX from your truck? Need a solution for mounting that remote control head? Well come on by and get those questions answered while you enjoy a burger, some fries, and a mug of A&W root beer. Enjoy an evening of ham radio fellowship and fun and get to know other hams from throughout the area.

Talk-in will be on the N8EQJ repeater, 146.895 MHz, PL 110.9

More information can be found at the PCARS web site, www.portcars.org or contact Jim, KC8PD, at KC8PD@portcars.org or 330-297-7979.

TEST SESSION THIS MONTH



Test session 17 Aug. at the EMA in Youngstown. We will be testing all license classes. Call Al 330-549-3051 or ab8aa@arrl.net to reserve a spot and for directions. bring two forms of ID, your LICENSE and a COPY with you!



two beautiful cakes





The Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS) announces the fourth annual Ohio State Parks On The Air The Portage County Amateur Radio Service (PCARS) announces the Contest to be held on Saturday, September 10, 2011, from the hours of noon to eight p.m. EDT (1600Z to2400Z).

For hams throughout the State of Ohio this contest presents an opportunity to visit and enjoy the amenities offered by the seventy-six beautiful State Parks here in Ohio. You can spend the day or even spend the weekend at the park of your choice. No matter whether you are camping or staying at one of the outstanding lodges or resorts you will find that the parks are one of Ohio's greatest assets.

Find out more about the parks and all that they have to offer at <http://tinyurl.com/4beq>.

This contest places a premium on working stations at the State Parks. That means that it is critical to have as many parks activated as possible. The challenge for Ohio stations will be to work HF in the 50 to 300 mile range. Contacts can be made with any mode on the HF and VHF bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 and 2 meters and all contacts have the same point value. This is a great chance to try something new, like an NVIS antenna or two meter SSB.

Individuals and clubs can operate high or low power park stations and there is a special award for the club that activates the greatest number of parks! Non-park stations in Ohio as well as outside of Ohio can also compete with each other.

So get to an Ohio State Park and get On The Air in September. Have some fun with this contest! You can get complete information, including rules, forms and FAQ's, at <http://parks.portcars.org>, or contact the contest chairman, Chuck, W8PT, at w8pt@portcars.org.

Check back at the web site for announcements about updates and prizes. The Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS) Rules? Entry Forms? Log Sheets? Ohio State Park Information? Check out all the details at: <http://parks.portcars.org> Questions? Contact Chuck, W8PT at W8PT@portcars.org

*Life is short, Break the rules,
Forgive quickly, Kiss slowly,
Love truly, Laugh uncontrollably,
And never regret anything
that made you smile.*

WE GET EMAILS!

From the internet. This may be of interest to some of you. 73 Allan

ARES of Portage County will be conducting a two hour class on Public Communications - Basic Skills at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 30th, at the Center of Hope, 1034 West Main Street in Ravenna.

The class is open to all area hams. If you would like to participate, please send a note to aylwardjim@aol.com to reserve a seat. We would like to have a reasonably accurate head count before the class in order to ensure that we have sufficient copies of the materials for distribution.

This will be a good way for hams who have thought about getting involved in public service communications to learn more about it and also a good refresher course for those who have been communications volunteers in the past. Let me know if you have any questions.

*73, Jim, KC8PD
EC, ARES of Portage County
aylwardjim@aol.com*

MORE EMAILS

The Triangle Amateur Radio Club of East Liverpool will again be setting up a special event station at the Twins Days Festival in Twinsburg next week end (August 5-7). I will be helping set up and tear down the station, since I am a native of EL. The club's emcomm vehicle will be parked next to the Senior Center and will be operating during the entire festival. A 2-element Steppir and inverted vee will be up, so operation on a number of bands will be possible.

TARC has asked me to invite all area hams to come to the vehicle and operate the stations whenever they are able to do so and hopes that WRARC members will be able to attend. I would appreciate it if you would pass the word. The event attracts a good deal of attention to our hobby.

*Hope to see you there.
73, Jack, K8HGX*

HERE ARE THE UPCOMING LOCAL HAMFESTS IN OHIO FOR AUGUST:

08/07/2011 CFARC 3rd Annual TailgateFest
Location: Robert Pinn Armory (aka: Stow Armory)
4630 Allen Rd., Stow, OH - Times:8:00am to Noon
Sponsor: Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club
<http://www.cfarc.org/tailgate2011.html>
Talk-In: 147.27+ (pl 110.9)

08/21/2011 55th Annual Warren ARA Hamfest
Location: Trumbull County Fairgrounds
899 Everett Hull Road, Cortland, OH 44410
Sponsor: Warren Amateur Radio Association
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/WARA_HAMFEST
Talk-In: 146.97

August 2011



Family Fun Month

July 31 Mutt's Day	1 National Raspberry Cream Pie Day	2 National Ice Cream Sandwich Day	3 ARES Net 8:30 P.M. 146.745 COLUMBIANA COUNTY DIGITAL NET 8:30 pm - 9:30 pm 145.510 MHZ SIMPLEX	4 Happy Birthday  KD8OKK	5 WRARC Net 9:00PM 145.270 KD8LDY Happy Birthday  KD8OXJ	6
7 Sisters Day	8 Sneak Some Zucchini onto Your Neighbor's Porch Day - <i>now that's nasty!</i>	9 Eat'n Park Boardman 8:30 A.M. Ham Community Breakfast	10 COLUMBIANA COUNTY DIGITAL NET 8:30 pm - 9:30 pm 145.510 MHZ SIMPLEX	11	12 WRARC Net 9:00PM 145.270	13
14 WRARC Board Meeting 7:00P.M. VJ-day or V-J Day	15	16 WRARC Meeting 7:00P.M Speaker: Mike McCardle KC8YLD	17 Test Session EMA 6:30 P.M. Columbiana County Digital Net 8:30 pm - 9:30 pm 145.510 Mhz Simplex	18	19 WRARC Net 9:00PM 145.270	20
21	22	23 Eat'n Park 8:30 A.M. Ham Breakfast	24 COLUMBIANA COUNTY DIGITAL NET 8:30 pm - 9:30 pm 145.510 MHZ SIMPLEX	25	26 WRARC Net 9:00PM 145.270	27
28	29	30	31 COLUMBIANA COUNTY DIGITAL NET 8:30 pm - 9:30 pm 145.510 MHZ SIMPLEX Canfield Fair	Sept. 1 Canfield Fair	Sept. 2 WRARC Net 9:00PM 145.270 Canfield Fair	Sept. 3 Canfield Fair