



The Wave Bender

March 2012



PRESIDENT'S QST

With the possibility of weather, traffic, or earthquake event in the future, I have only one question. How many of you would want to get involved in emergency communications? One of the reasons that we have the frequencies we do, is that we are considered an emergency service. The real name is "Amateur Radio Service" not the Amateur Radio Hobby. If you pay any attention to the news, you would see that Amateur Radio is involved in most of the disasters that happen. Now if there is an emergency, we are not ready to help. I understand why it is hard to get involved in things around here. But we can change that by just going ahead with learning what is needed.

There is training that we should be doing. Learning how to handle a net, set up a net, and how to pass traffic. Without the skills required it would be better for us to stay home and not go to help. There is only one way to get prepared and that is to practice a lot. It would require us to do training on air as well as classroom work. Everyone *Continued page 5*

K3LR's VISIT TO MCCTC

On Friday, January 27, Tim Duffy, K3LR, paid a visit to MCCTC while on his way to the D-Star event on Saturday, January 28 in West Middlesex, PA. He also spoke to the X-treme Technology Engineering Tech Prep, Information Technology-Business, and the Information Technology-Programming classes in the Joyce Brooks conference center at MCCTC about his company Seterla Wireless. How he plans to have rural areas of the country, such as areas east, west, north, and south of Denver, Colorado, eastern and Western Montana, Wyoming, certain areas of the state of Washington, and Oregon to have faster internet service than "cable" or "DSL." To have more people have the internet provided by his company. Tim Duffy is the CEO of Seterla Wireless. Before Duffy became CEO of Seterla Wireless, he was the VP of AT&T.



Tim said the United States has the slowest Internet speed of any country in the world, while South Korea has the fastest (68Mb/S), Japan has the second fastest in the world.

Duffy said when he was in high school he only played football, as a wide receiver, to "get a date," he actually hated football. He discovered he loved electronics and engineering. Interesting, his original major in college was pre-med, but switched to engineering.

During his presentation Duffy stated that Amateur Radio was the internet back in the 1970's and it helped him find a niche which he turned into a career. He wanted the students to learn how a niche can be used to make a successful career and make you enjoy your life too.

Bob Dukish, KK8DX, instructor of the X-treme Technology Engineering Tech Prep class, arranged for Duffy to speak at MCCTC. Dukish also explained to the students about Wes Boyd's, W8IZC, career as Chief Engineer at Cumulus Broadcasting and how he maintains radio stations from Youngstown to Sharon PA. (about 36 different stations.) Boyd was a guest at the presentation.

Continued page 2



Officer's Meeting: March 18, 7:00P.M.
At the Avnet's, 2050 E. South Range Rd. New
Springfield (330-549-3051)

Regular Meeting: March 20 7:00 P.M. at
Davidson's, in Cornersburgh

Program: Dan Betts, Financial Planner, will present information on leaving a financial legacy.

2012 Officers

President: Al Avnet, AB8AA ab8aa@arrl.net

VP: Robert Webster, KD8OXJ
rswbster@mail.com

Secretary: Jane Avnet, K8JAA k8jaa@arrl.net

Treasurer: Maureen Stein, KD8NXS
mfstein@zoominternet.net

Trustees: Ted Filmer, KD8IJE efilmer@aol.com
Steve Fabry, KC8SOY kc8soy@yahoo.com
Roy Haren, KD8IJF harens@juno.com

Social: Maureen Stein, KD8NXS
mfstein@zoominternet.net

Publicity: Robert Webster, KD8OXJ
rswbster@mail.com

K3LR - CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Duffy actually lives in the state of Oklahoma, but his world famous Ham Shack is in West Middlesex, Pa. which is very close to us. I got to meet Duffy for the first time. Bob Dukish, my engineering teacher at MCCTD, told Duffy I was the only student that was a Ham in the class, that I recently upgraded to Extra, and my first DX contact was with OH0X on Alland Island off the coast of Finland. Duffy was impressed by my accomplishments, he was very nice.

Unfortunately, I was not able to get any pictures with him, because he was only there for 20-minutes. He told the students, Amateur Radio is an excellent hobby to get into, and of course it is. WKBN, WFMJ, and WYTV the local news stations had a report about him speaking to us. It was incredible to meet a "World Famous" Ham such as K3LR.

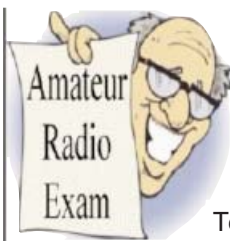


73 to all, Kevin KD8NXR
<http://www.k3lr.com/>

HOW MANY OF TESLA'S PATENTS
 ARE STILL IN USE?

OUT OF THE 11 ORIGINAL PATENTS MADE BY
 NIKOLA TESLA, FOR THE GENERATION OF
 HYDROELECTRIC ENERGY, 9 ARE STILL IN USE,
 (UNCHANGED) TODAY.

FEBRUARY TEST SESSION



We had a full house at our February 15, 2012 Test Session. Every person who came for a test passed what they came to the test session for.

There are now three new Techs - **Randall Cadle KD8RSL**, **Brenda Knapp-Sole KD8RSN**, and **Andrew Pratt KD8RSO**.

There are six New Generals - **Stanley Adamski, KB3WPD**, **Richard Cadle KD8RSM**, who passed both his Tech & Gen., **Jerry Goddard, KC8EFO**, **Vernon Penny, KC8UCK**, **Dave Ruck, N8YMZ**, **Joseph Wojtowicz, KD8RCC**. All of the members of our latest General class passed!

One new Extra - **Maureen Stein, KD8NXS**. Congratulations to all of you.

Four VEs - **Dave KC8WY**, **Wes W8IZC**, **Jane K8JAA**, and **AI AB8AA** were there to administer the tests. Thanks to you all for your help!. **Kevin KD8NXR**, one of our our newest VEs was there, but couldn't help 'cause his Mom was busy passing her Extra! Thanks for your moral support! Yes, we were all very busy!

FIRST CONTACT!

Robert Webster – KD8OXJ It had been almost ten months since I had sat for, and passed, my General exam in October 2010. In March came the antenna, the GAP Titan DX, which I had purchased from Dave (KC8WY). Next came the HF Rig purchase at the Dayton "Hamvention" in May (I found that the rumors of better prices at these events was really true). Then came Field Day. A member's misbehaving HF Rig at the field site pressed my new hardware into service for the good of the club. The GAP never got off the ground that weekend due to a screw point that had pierced a coaxial cable shield. I did get to use my HF Rig during field day to help Russ (KD8LDY) with the 40 meter-band contribution to our Field Day points. But at home...things had not come together yet.

Not too long after Field Day the GAP issue was corrected thanks to AI (AB8AA) and a small file that dulled the points of the antenna's sheet metal screws. The next dry day (remember the 2011 rainy season) "the hole" was completed thanks to assistance from Roy (KD8JMO) followed by the concrete for the GAP's foundation being poured into the ground. Ah yes, progress. Needless to say the "push" was on!

A few days later the GAP was reassemble, the counterpoise set, and finally with the help of my bride Debbie (KD8QCE) all 33 feet of the GAP were hoisted up to their vertical home. The temporary coax feed line was run over shrubs, grape arbors, and garden hose spigots through an open window in to the house. Insects ignored, the feed line was connected to the radio, and the Astron power supply rose to the occasion. The TS-590 came to life. Now, on August 4, 2011, the moment that had escaped me for all those months was firmly in hand. I tuned up 20 meters and listened. Not too far beyond the General lower band limit the smooth voice of P43E in Aruba, announcing QRZ, came through the headphones. There was no pile-up. I poked the auto-tuner then keyed the mic: "Kilo Delta Eight Oscar X-ray Juliet." "OXJ come back" was the quick response. First Contact!

The conversation was brief...but enough. QRZ revealed that the smooth voice on the other end of the contact was Emily Thiel in Aruba. Almost 2,100-miles away. There was only one other experience that I could even compare this to. That was waiting for a tower controller to clear me for take off on my first solo flight as a private pilot. This was another of life's experiences that would not be forgotten. I spent the remainder of that first evening in my own "shack" making contacts in Croatia and Sweden. A fulfilling day to say the least.

The run-up to that first contact taught me several things about ham radio. First and *Continued page 3*

FIRST CONTACT - CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

foremost...patience! Good things don't always come quickly. In the time it takes to "arrive" there is much worthwhile learning to be gained. Second...Elmers are everywhere (and willing to help). Without the assistance and patience of Al, Dave, Russ, Roy D, and others I would have never been successfully on the air. Third...even in these days of "high tech" devices with all their dependencies, we as hams are everywhere and going strong.

The sounds of HF on a good day or night are infectious. As well the knowledge that you are communicating over long distances without phone companies or Internet providers is incredible. If you haven't taken the "General" plunge, I encourage you to go for it. Study, take the test, pass it, participate in the real learning, and get on the air. Then make that first contact. **-73- KD8OXJ**



PRB1 FOR OHIO



Ohio House Bill 158 Is Approved by Senate Committee, Moves to Full Senate Vote

House Bill 158 (a.k.a. "PRB-1 for Ohio"), the legislation that will codify federal restrictions on local zoning of amateur station antenna structures, passed the Senate's State and Local Government and Veterans Affairs Committee yesterday, after the 6th hearing for this Bill.

The Bill is now given a green light to proceed to the Ohio Senate Floor for a full vote of the Senate. The Ohio Senate is not expected to convene for any voting for the next three weeks.

This is the furthest we have ever moved such legislation through the State House. I would like to thank Nick Pittner, K8NAP, State Government Liaison, and his team for their time and support in seeing this legislation progress through its stages.

As the time draws closer to the Senate meeting for vote, we will let all the Amateur Radio Operators in Ohio know how to contact their State Senator to ask for their support when the vote is called.

73, Frank Piper, K18GW

WRARC 10-mtr Rag-Chew Net

The net before the net

Friday Nites 8:30P.M.

28.410+/-

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

March 2 Mike Austin, KC8WUX

March 9 Dave Beatty, KC8WY

March 16 Kevin, KD8NXR

March 23 Brent, KD8PQN

March 30 Ted, KD8IJE

April 6 Russ, KD8LDY

April 13 Robert, KD8OXJ

"NEW" Ask The Elmer Net

Right after the Friday Night Net

"The net after the net"

KC8SOY Moderator

COLUMBIANA COUNTY DIGITAL NET

8:30 pm - 9:30 pm

145.510 MHZ SIMPLEX Wednesdays

First Wednesday of the Month

Mahoning County

ARES/RACES/Skywarn Training Net

is held on the W8QLY repeater

146.745 (-) at 8:30P.M.



WRARC UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Austintown Home Show, March 16, 17, and 18 at the Austintown Plaza. We will need to man the booth on all three days. We will have a radio up and running, and be in the same place as we were last year. Contact Al (330-207-3296) to volunteer.
- Dan Betts, Financial Advisor from Smith Barney, March 19 meeting
- Mat Welsh W8DEC, Section Emergency Coordinator, April 17 meeting
- Field Day info at the June 19 meeting
- Field Day Weekend June 22,23,24
- our Annual Picnic July 17

CONTACT WRARC ELMERS WITH YOUR QUESTIONS - QUESTIONS@WRARC.NET

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	rswebster@mail.com
Williams, Russ KD8LDY	Electrician, tele-data, Amateur Extra	russellwhoknew69@aol.com

CONGRESS TO SELL PUBLIC AIRWAVES TO PAY BENEFITS

February 16, 2012

By EDWARD WYATT and JENNIFER STEINHAUER

WASHINGTON — The need for revenue to partly cover the extension of the payroll tax cut and long-term unemployment benefits has pushed Congress to embrace a generational shift in the country's media landscape: the auction of public airwaves now used for television broadcasts to create more wireless Internet systems.

If a compromise bill completed Thursday by Congress is approved as expected by this weekend, the result will eventually be faster connections for smartphones, iPads and other data-hungry mobile devices. Their explosive popularity has overwhelmed the ability, particularly in big cities, for systems to quickly download maps, video games and movies.

The measure would be a rare instance of the government compensating private companies with the proceeds from an auction of public property — broadcast licenses — once given free.

The auctions, which are projected to raise more than \$25 billion, would also further the Obama administration's broadband expansion plans and create a nationwide communications network for emergency workers that would allow police, fire and other responders from different departments and jurisdictions to talk to each other directly.

Public safety officials have wanted such a seamless communications system ever since the 9/11 terrorist attacks. The sweeping changes are even more remarkable because they resulted not from an effort to address communications policy, but from a hard-fought bipartisan compromise to extend a payroll tax holiday and jobless benefits. Republicans insisted that the extension of the unemployment insurance — a cost of roughly \$30 billion — be paid for in full, and one area that both sides could agree on was spectrum sales.

The spectrum auctions are at least one to two years away, but most of the programs they pay for would be covered immediately. Consumers are unlikely to see additional charges since the auction would add new spectrum rather than adding to the costs of existing spectrum.

The payroll tax exemption would be extended through the end of this year, providing a worker earning \$50,000 annually with \$1,000 more in take-home pay over that time. The bill would also prevent a reimbursement cut for doctors who accept Medicare.

The legislation is the result of an unusual degree of cooperation between two parties that have fought bitterly over recent issues, and members of the conference committee that negotiated the deal



played to the cameras on Thursday. One by one, members filed into the office of the committee's chairman, Representative Dave Camp, Republican from Michigan, to sign the papers splayed out neatly on a large table that rested under an ornate chandelier.

Mr. Camp and his chief negotiating partner, Senator Max Baucus, Democrat of Montana, linked hands for the cameras, as Mr. Baucus said helpfully for anyone who did not get the visual cue: "Working together!"

Not everyone agrees on the ultimate benefit of the new policies. Democrats, telecommunications companies and public safety officials have argued that the auctions of public airwaves will create thousands of jobs and billions of dollars of investment to build the systems.

But the House speaker, John A. Boehner, was more lukewarm in his enthusiasm for the measure. While saying that the compromise was "one that I support," he added: "Let's be honest. This is an economic relief package, not a bill that's going to grow the economy and create jobs."

Some members of Mr. Boehner's party disagreed. Representative Fred Upton of Michigan, chairman of the Energy and Commerce Committee, and Representative Greg Walden of Oregon, who leads a communications subcommittee, said in a joint statement that the bill would be "an economic game-changer."

"With 13 million Americans still seeking employment, job creation is a driving force behind efforts to expand wireless broadband," the congressmen said in their statement. "Spectrum auctions are not only good public policy for the communications and technology sector, they will produce meaningful job creation when we need it most."

Julius Genachowski, chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, who for much of the last two years has pushed the idea of reclaiming what he called inefficiently used airwaves from broadcasters, said he was "pleased that Congress has recognized the vital importance of freeing up more spectrum for mobile broadband."

But he expressed caution about some of the bill's language, which he said "could limit the F.C.C.'s ability to maximize the amount and benefits of recovered spectrum."

He was referring to a provision in the bill, pushed aggressively by broadcasters, that sets limits on what actions the F.C.C. can take to reclaim airwaves from broadcasters. The bill prohibits the F.C.C. from excluding from the auctions companies like AT&T and Verizon, which already hold large chunks of spectrum for their networks.

The bill does allow the F.C.C. *Continued page 5*

CONGRESS TO SELL PUBLIC AIRWAVES - FROM 4

to write formal rules that set limits on how much spectrum one company can hold in a given market, however.

The legislation also provides for the creation of bands of unlicensed airwaves, so-called white space, around each segment of auctioned spectrum for use in building large Wi-Fi networks in urban areas and for use by cellphone companies in temporarily easing crowding on their networks.

About \$15 billion of the \$30 billion extension in unemployment benefits will be paid for with the proceeds of the incentive auctions.

Another \$7 billion of auction proceeds will be used to build the public safety network on a block of spectrum that, had it been sold, might have raised another \$2.75 billion, according to the Congressional Budget Office's evaluation of the bill.

Roughly \$1.75 billion will be available for the F.C.C. to compensate television stations that volunteer to give up their spot on the spectrum. The F.C.C., with some restrictions, can also move some stations around on the broadcast spectrum, allowing it to put together packages of contiguous bands of spectrum. Those would be more valuable than scattered pieces and thus should raise more money at auction.

Public safety departments pressed to include in this bill a dedicated nationwide network, since fire and police departments in New York found that their radio systems couldn't talk to each other during the attacks on the World Trade Center on Sept. 11, 2001. The 9/11 Commission endorsed such a project in 2004, and emergency units continued to have the same problems after Hurricane Katrina in 2005 and the BP oil spill in 2010.

The F.C.C. had favored auctioning off the section of spectrum that now will be turned over for emergency services, letting it be developed by cellphone companies that would agree to give first priority to public safety transmissions during an emergency.

The conditions for the auction, however, resulted in no company bidding the required minimum, and the block of spectrum has sat largely unused for several years.

**Thanks to W8IZC for this information -
Use our frequencies!**

Articles from members for the Wave Bender are encouraged. They must be received by the editor three days before the end of the month. Please send your articles to: k8jaa@arrl.net, and put WRARC on the subject line of your email. You may also send your articles to the editor at:
Jane Avnet
2050 E. South Range Rd.
New Springfield, OH 44443

**ATTENTION! HELP NEEDED FOR THE
AUSTINTOWN HOME SHOW**

March 16, 17, and 18 is the Home Show at the Austintown Plaza. We need to have members come out to show off Ham radio to the public. We will be in the same place as last year. You can come in the back door. We should have a HF station set up. We may also have a 2-meter station set up. The big thing is to have people there to talk to the crowd. Have the club shirts on while you are in the booth. Talk up the club and Ham Radio. Tell the people about all the things we do and all the fun we have. Invite them to the meeting on March 20. We will need to have a few people to help set up the booth on March 15. See you there.

73, Allan, AB8AA

PRES. QST - CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

should get the FEMA Incident Command IC-100, IC-200, IC-700, and IC-800. These are free from the FEMA web site.

Having lived thru several earthquakes, fires, and landslides in the past, we know how important being trained and ready to go at anytime is. The big question is, are you willing to put in the time to get the training required to be a good communicator? The hams in this area do not have a good standing due to the past performance of some of them. I really want to know how many of you are willing to work at training and the practice needed to get good at this. Soon it will be hurricane and tornado seasons. We have the potential to see both here.

The Elmer's are here to help you, contact us at questions@wrarc.net. Anyone that needs help with a problem, a radio, antennas, grounding, or setting up a station, please contact the Elmers listed in the newsletter or stop into the Elmer's net right after the Friday night club net on 145.270—110.9PL. Also check out the 10-meter net at 8:15 P.M. on Friday, on 28.410 +/- MHz.

See you on the nets and at the next meeting on March 20.

73, Allan, AB8AA

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

**FASCINATING 1936 FOOTAGE OF CAR
ASSEMBLY LINE**

WWW.DUMP.COM/2011/07/15/FASCINATING-1936-FOOTAGE-OF-CAR-ASSEMBLY-LINE-VIDEO/
FROM KB8MNE

INTERESTING HAM VIDEO:

[HTTP://FORUMS.QRZ.COM/SHOWTHREAD.PHP?33463](http://FORUMS.QRZ.COM/SHOWTHREAD.PHP?33463)
6-NEW-HAM-RADIO-VIDEO-BY-THE-HAM-BAND
FROM W8IZC

FOR SALE

EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

Contact Allan Avnet, AB8AA 330-549-3051 or ab8aa@arrl.net

1 GW Instek Function Generator, Model GFG-8219A \$75

2 ea BK precision Digital Multimeter, Model 2831A \$20

1 GW Instek Laboratory DC Power Supply Model GPC-3020 \$75 Dual 0-30 Volt @ 2 Amps

1 BK Oscilloscope, Model 2120 20 Mhz \$75

1 Micronta Power Supply 13.8 volt – 2.5 A \$10

All of these have power cords, but no probes. Accepting reasonable offers.

The following equipment is from a SK. All is about 4-5 years old:

- 1 YAESU FT950 \$900.00
- 1 ICOM IC7000 \$850.00
- 1 MFJ 989C Tuner \$200.00
- 1 RS PRO 76 Scanner \$ 25.00
- 1 Comet 2Mtr/440 Vertical \$100.00
- 1 Uniden BC 350A Scanner \$35.00
- 1 RS PRO 2021 Scanner \$20.00

IF LAWYERS ARE DISBARRED AND CLERGYMEN
 DEFROCKED, DOESN'T IT FOLLOW
 THAT ELECTRICIANS CAN BE DELIGHTED,
 MUSICIANS DENOTED, COWBOYS DERANGED,
 MODELS DEPOSED,
 TREE SURGEONS DEBARKED, AND
 DRY CLEANERS DEPRESSED?

SUBMIT AN ARTICLE

Do you have an idea for a newsletter article? Maybe you have acquired a new piece of equipment, designed or constructed a new antenna, took a trip focused around Ham Radio, want to share an Amateur Radio related experience or discuss a technical topic. Why not write an article for the monthly Wave Bender? The article can be short or long, simple or elaborate, and can even include pictures!

You don't need to write like William "Bill" Shakespeare in order to write an article for the Wave Bender. In fact, we prefer articles without the words "Thy", "Whilst", " 'Tis" and "Off".

The Wave Bender would love articles from our members and about our members. So why not give it try? Write an article and send it to the newsletter editor. It's fun, and at the same time, your contribution helps support our club and our hobby!

JANUARY 2012 SURVEY RESULTS

Robert Webster KD8OXJ - In early January we asked you our members to participate in a survey. The goal of the survey was to clearly understand your thoughts on our current meeting place and other aspects of our meetings. The response was excellent. Twenty-eight of our forty members, at the time, responded. To receive a 70% response rate on any survey is outstanding.

When your input was tabulated and reviewed here is what we found:

- An overwhelming majority of you were satisfied, or better than satisfied, with the food and service at our current meeting place and the "price points" for the food
- A full meal or appetizers and snacks were by far the food offerings that you were pleased with
- A very large percentage of those who responded did indicate that if we were to move the meeting place a few more miles or change the food offerings that you would still attend
- A number of you raised the point about our space situation...the good news is that this issue has already been corrected in our current meeting place

Your feedback to us has been extremely helpful! Our ongoing request to you is: If you have concerns or questions about any aspects of our meetings (location, food, programs, & etc.) do not hesitate to let us know. The meetings are for you. Our goal is to make them enjoyable for you and your guests.

Thanks again for your excellent responses and participation in the survey.

-73- Robert (KD8OXJ)

"Never look down on anybody, unless you're helping them up!"

NATIONAL DO NOT CALL LIST

Very soon telemarketers will start calling on cell phones. If you are like me, you pay for the time of these calls even if you didn't initiate them. Nor do I want to be bothered with them. But there is a way out of some of it. There's a national "do not call" list that is some protection. It may not help you survive the oncoming flood of political robo-calls later this year, but it's better than nothing. You can help others in your community by sharing the word. See <https://www.donotcall.gov/>

- OARC** HOMEPAGE
[HTTP://WWW.OARC.COM/](http://www.oarc.com/)
- WPRC** HOMEPAGE
[HTTP://WWW.QSL.NET/WPRC/RDFREQ.HTM](http://www.qsl.net/wprc/rdfreq.htm)
- THANKS TO KC8WY**

FROM THE OHIO SECTION NEWS



The Western Reserve ARC is looking for a new Field Day venue as well as looking around for a new meeting place where they can set up a permanent station. My suggestion, as always, for Field Day is a truly Public Place like a shopping mall or maybe the Giant Eagle where Steve KC8SOY felt the earthquake. Oh, if anyone in the WRARC area needs an Elmer contact: questions@wrarc.com.

AND

. . . The Western Reserve ARC has taken a similar approach by having members Harry, KD8PQK, and Sam, W8SDD present on Amateur Astronomy, showing what amateur astronomy is and how it's done. They'll try to review what it is, the basic equipment, what type of things are done and present some amateur astrophotography done by members of the Mahoning Valley Astronomical Society and wrap up with a quick review of the MVAS, what we do and invite to anybody who'd like to visit or participate. Another fine example of reaching out to those who are like us.

***Until next month, Get on the Air!
73, E. Mike McCardel, KC8YLD
Affiliated Club Coordinator - Ohio Section
kc8yld@arrl.net***

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS COURSE

ARRL Digital Technology for Emergency Communications Course - "This course is a great starting point for anyone interested in the public service applications of digital communications technology." -- Steve Ford, WB8IMY, course author and QST Editor/ARRL Publications Manager

In this course, the student will be introduced to all the ways Amateur Radio operators are using digital technology as a valuable emergency communications tool. The topics discussed during the course include: Packet radio; APRS; Winlink 2000; IRLP; EchoLink and WIRES-II; D-STAR; APCO25; HF sound card modes; Automatic Link Establishment (ALE). The course will help answer questions such as: Can you transfer supply lists or personnel assignments between emergency operations sites? Can you get critical e-mails to the Internet if a connection goes down? Can you relay digital images of damage at specific locations? Can you track the locations of emergency personnel and display them on computer maps?

Illustrations, screenshots, Internet links and audio files are used to demonstrate transmission modes and equipment configurations. Bite-sized learning units and interactive knowledge checks make learning interesting and fun.

See supplemental material and product support for The ARRL Digital Technology for Emergency Communications Course. Self-study. CD-ROM, version 1.1.

HAMS QUIETLY HELPING

While we have not heard much about this at all on the US news reports, once again hams are filling in where nothing else is working. With our central states holding a major earthquake drill this month right here in the US, I thought the PIOs involved would want to see this info and may refer to it in their talking to media. - Allen Pitts, W1AGP

Written by G0DUB for VK3PC

Tuesday, 07 February 2012 11:04 Effects continue across the central Philippines after a 6.8 magnitude earthquake struck triggering landslides with dozens of people killed and many trapped in toppled homes.

Chief Operating Officer for IARU society PARA, Eddie Valdez DU1EV said ham radio operators are now active in communications assistance. Eddie DU1EV said those near the epicentre of the earthquake in the DU7 and DU6 call areas are active. They have chosen to use the VHF band for communications. Their services included message handling with phone communications cut, widespread power outages, bridges and other infrastructure damaged.

The earthquake in a narrow strait between the heavily populated island provinces of Negros and Cebu hit around lunchtime on Monday. There had been more than 200 aftershocks, some nearly as strong, causing further panic. This came after typhoon storms swept the Southern Philippines on December 16 to 18 with a heavy loss of lives and radio amateurs helping out.

***Jim Linton VK3PC, Chairman, IARU Region 3,
Disaster Communication Committee.***

MIKE AUSTIN FUND.

It's the beginning of March, and the Mike Austin fund as of our February meeting sits at \$875.05, which is good, But with a goal of \$3,000.00 it really isn't good enough, given it was started in December. Thanks to all of you who have donated so far. The rest of you, please, step up and make a small donation. Mike, a General, has been blind since birth, and needs a special type of radio to get on the HF bands. HandiHams has suggested a specific radio for someone like Mike. But, they do not help with the funding, it's all up to us! Because he is visually impaired, he can't hold a job, and has no disposable income - So let's help him get on the air. It's easy, just go to any Farmer's bank, mention Western Reserve Amateur Radio Club's Mike Austin savings Fund, and donate! Thanks in advance.

March 2012



2/26	2/27	2/28	2/29 Leap Day	1	2 WRARC Net 9:00PM 145.270	3 Happy Birthday KD8NFD
4 Happy Birthday KD8QQR	5	6 Ohio Primary 	7 ARES Net 8:30 P.M. 146.745	8	9 WRARC Net 9:00PM 145.270	10
11 Daylight Savings begins 	12	13 Eat'n Park Boardman 8:30 A.M. Ham Community Breakfast	14	15 Ides of March 	16 WRARC Net 9:00PM 145.270	17 HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY
18 WRARC Board Meeting 7:00P.M	19	20 WRARC Meeting 7:00P.M	21	22	23 WRARC Net 9:00PM 145.270	24
25	26	27 Eat'n Park Boardman 8:30 A.M. Ham Community Breakfast	28	29 Happy Birthday WB8LCD	30 WRARC Net 9:00PM 145.270	31