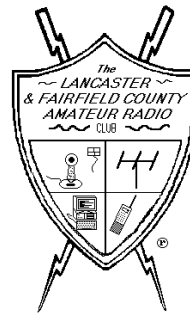


# The Ragchewer



February 2001

Volume 5, Issue 2

The Monthly  
News Letter  
of The  
Lancaster &  
Fairfield  
County  
Amateur  
Radio Club

## **Club Meetings:**

1st Thursday of  
every month at  
7:30 p.m. at the  
Club House on  
State Route 37  
(Granville Pike)  
next to Beavers  
Field.

## **Radio Night:**

Every Thursday  
of every month  
(Except 1st Thurs-  
day) at the Club-  
house, 6:30 p.m.  
to 8:30 p.m. on  
State Route 37  
(Granville Pike)  
next to Beavers  
Field.

## **Net:**

Mondays 8 p.m.  
147.030 MHz (+.6)  
146.700 MHz (-.6)  
Alternate Freq.  
443.875 MHz (+5)

*Club Packet BBS:*  
145.53 MHz  
K8QIK-1 BBS  
K8QIK-2: OHIO53  
(Club Node)

## *From the U.P. ....*

### **NEW 10M, 15M, 20M, 40M, & 80M DIPOLE**

Thanks to Fred Stutske W8FZ, for the donation of the Alpha Delta DX-CC multi-band dipole and Harry Vollmer W8LXC, for the new coax. The Dipole was put up on a very cold Saturday, December 30th, by Fred Stutske W8FZ, Mike Stutske KC8FOU, Charlie Snoke N8KZN, and Larry Wright KB8AHK.

### **STRAIGHT KEY NIGHT**

Thanks to the XYL's for making our Straight Key Night a very enjoyable evening. The food prepared was Sauerkraut and ribs, mashed potatoes and gravy, rolls and snacks by Connie Snoke N8LPC, Kay Hanna KC8HJW, Candy Wright KC8NQG, and Carolyn Campbell KB8ZBV. Our club is very fortunate that we have the XYL's that support and participate in the club activities. The OM's attending were Charlie Snoke N8KZN, Harry Vollmer W8LXC, Larry Wright KB8AHK, Gary Hanna KC8HCD, Tom Moore KB8USK, Ed Campbell WD8PGO and Tom Whited KB8UVJ.

Thanks to all,

*Larry Wright, U.P.,*  
**KB8AHK**

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## **AWARDS... AWARDS... AWARDS...**

### **ARRL FRIENDSHIP AWARD**

**TOM MOORE, KB8USK**

The purpose of this award is to encourage friendly contact between radio amateurs (Hams) and thereby discover new friends through personal communication with others. The ARRL Friendship Award is available to any ARRL member who submits log extracts that show two-way communications with 26 stations whose call signs end with each of the 26 letters of the alphabet. (For example: W4RA, K0ORB, W3ABC, ...K1ZZ. ) An S.A.S. E. to the ARRL Will bring you the rules and application or see Tom Moore, KB8USK --Awards Manager.

# The Foundation For Amateur Radio, Inc.



Washington, DC

## 2001-2002 Scholarships

WASHINGTON, DC, Dec 2, 2000--The Foundation For Amateur Radio Inc, a non-profit organization with headquarters in Washington, DC, plans to administer 67 scholarships for the 2001-2002 academic year to assist radio amateurs. FAR invites applications from qualified amateurs. The Foundation--composed of more than 75 local area Amateur Radio clubs--fully funds 10 of these scholarships with the income from grants and its annual hamfest. The remaining 57 are administered by FAR without cost to the various donors.

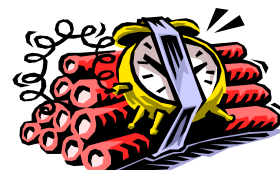
Amateur Radio operators holding a valid license may compete for these awards if they plan to pursue a full-time course of studies beyond high school and are enrolled in or have been accepted for enrollment at an accredited university, college or technical school. The awards range from \$500 to \$2500 with preference given in some cases to residents of specified geographical areas or the pursuit of certain study programs. Clubs--especially those in Delaware, Florida, Maryland, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, Virginia and Wisconsin--are encouraged to announce these opportunities at their meetings, in their club newsletters, during training classes, on their nets and on their web home pages.

Additional information and an application form are available by letter or QSL card request postmarked prior to April 30, 2001. Address requests to:

FAR Scholarships  
PO Box 831  
Riverdale, MD 20738.

The Foundation for Amateur Radio, incorporated in the District of Columbia, is an exempt organization under §501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954. It is devoted exclusively to promoting the interests of Amateur Radio and those scientific, literary and educational pursuits that advance the purposes of the Amateur Radio Service.

**HAVE A BLAST! ATTEND RADIO NIGHT ON THURSDAY NIGHTS 6:30 PM TO 8:30 PM**



## Upcoming Central Ohio Amateur Radio Exams:

<i>Date</i>	<i>City</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Contact</i>	<i>Phone Number</i>
Feb. 18	Lancaster 10:00 AM	Red Cross – 121 W. Mulberry (Rear) Walk-ins allowed	Allen Sellers, KB8JLG	740-654-8167
Mar. 10	Columbus 9:00 AM	Capital Univ. Law School 303 E. Broad St. - Rooms 229 & 230 Walk-ins allowed	Frank J. Piper, KI8GW	614-833-1926 (after 6 pm)

**The Lancaster  
and Fairfield  
County Amateur  
Radio Club**

**2000/2001  
Officers:**

*President:*  
Charlie Snoko,  
N8KZN

*Vice President:*  
Larry Wright,  
KB8AHK

*Treasurer:*  
Ed Campbell Sr.,  
WD8PGO

*Secretary:*  
Kevin Numbers,  
KC8MTV

*Activities:*  
Candy Wright,  
KC8NQG

*Station Engineer:*  
John Hilliard,  
W8OF

*Trustee:*  
Richard A. Schleiffer,  
W9ZZX

*Flower Fund:*  
Marie Moore,  
KB8VOL  
653-9092  
and  
Connie Snoko,  
N8LPC  
654-4582

*Editor:*  
Fred Stutske,  
W8FZ

*Co-Editor:*  
Tom Moore,  
KB8USK

*Field Day Chairman:*  
Chuck Bruckelmeyer,  
W8LCT

## Public Service Communications



**Edward Campbell, WD8PGO  
Fairfield Co. EC**

Hello Everyone!

March 8th, there will be a Severe Weather Spotters Workshop at the American Red Cross, 121 W. Mulberry St., Lancaster. Mark your calendars and plan to be there! Severe weather is just around the corner.

Edward Campbell, Sr.  
Emergency Coordinator – Fairfield County

### February Birthdays.....

Carolyn Campbell, KB8ZBV  
John Christman, KB8ABT  
Richard Roundhouse, W8APT  
Candy Wright, KC8NQG

***Happy Birthday to all!***

Check our Web Site at: [www.qsl.net/k8qik](http://www.qsl.net/k8qik) This is a Club site and all are welcome to submit articles for publication. Send articles to Kevin Numbers at: [kc8mtv@arrl.net](mailto:kc8mtv@arrl.net) or [knumbers@lucent.com](mailto:knumbers@lucent.com)

Do you have items for the **Ragchewer**? If so, send them by e-mail to: Fred Stutske, W8FZ at: [w8fz@arrl.net](mailto:w8fz@arrl.net) ***In order to improve Club Communications and update the member list, all Members are urged to send there e-mail address (by e-mail) to Fred as soon as possible.***

### **CW LEARNING NET**

The CARA CW Learning Net is Every Friday night at 8:00 P.M. on the K8NIO repeater 145.490 (-). Portion of 2 hour net is devoted to letter learning and the balance to QSO designed to promote speed development. Carl, AA8YY is Net Control.

### **SLOW SCAN TV NET**

The COSSTV (Central Ohio Slow Scan TV), <http://www.qsl.net/n8tut/sstv>, Net is the first Sunday of every Month at 7:00 PM. The group meets on the K8NIO repeater 145.490 (-). All you need is a 2 m radio, a computer with a sound card and the W95SSTV software. The Software is available on the internet at <http://www.siliconpixels.com/W95SSTV/W95dload.htm>.

**The Lancaster & Fairfield County Amateur Radio Club**

Monthly Meeting Notes January 4, 2001 7:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Kevin Numbers – KC8MTV

Secretary Report Meeting Minutes read from November 2000 meeting, no minutes read for December because of Pizza Party.

Motion to accept by Tom Moore – KB8USK

Seconded motion by Gary Hanna – KC8HCD

Ed Campbell Sr. – WD8PGO

Treasurer Report Presented budget and expenses for November.

Motion to accept by Fred Stutske – W8FZ

Seconded by Larry Wright – KB8AHK

Presented budget and expenses for December.

Motion to accept by Wes Whitley Jr. – N8UTC

Seconded by Ivor “Hollywood” Rutan – WA8YSC

Becky Numbers – KC8NQE

Net Control Report Becky needs help with the net. She will be resigning as Net Control due to her pregnancy, which she is due in April. She has also been doing the net for a year now and would like to give others the opportunity to be Net Control. Any volunteers would greatly be appreciated.

Fred Stutske – W8FZ

Club Reporter Fred has been sending the Ragchewer via e-mail and it has been working out great. He is also trying to find sponsors for the Ragchewer. He is contacting different people to advertise in the Ragchewer to offset the cost of producing the Ragchewer. Also, articles are needed for the newsletter to continue to be successful. Please submit articles to Fred via e-mail.

Marie Moore – KB8VOL

Flower Fund The winner was Connie Snoke

Scott Snoke – WD8IXO

Safety Report Scott would like to have a Safety Committee to help with different aspects of safety items in the club. Fred Stutske, W8FZ and Tom Moore, KB8USK volunteer.

Ed Campbell Sr. – WD8PGO

Emergency Coordinator The Red Cross would like an official letter put together saying that the club would be willing to help with communications in the event of an emergency. He also asks who is able to operate their home stations without commercial AC power.

OLD BUSINESS: Charlie Snoke – N8KZN is checking on CPR classes for those interested.

NEW BUSINESS: Tom Moore – KB8USK suggests that we send a letter to the new sheriff for Fairfield County offering our communication services for various things, such as search and rescue.

Larry Wright – KB8AHK says that Terry Newman donated a working copier, a Canon MP-1218, to the club. The copier needs looked over and a good cleaning. John Hilliard – W8OF makes a motion to spend up to \$200 on the copier to get it in good working condition. The motion is seconded by Fred Stutske – W8FZ.

Charlie Snoke – N8KZN says that the new antenna, Multi Band DXCC, which was donated by Fred Stutske, W8FZ, has been installed. The new coax, donated by Harry Vollmer, W8LXC, and new wall plate have also been installed in the radio rooms. There will be new antennas installed in the future at the clubhouse. The antenna Rotor has also been repaired. He suggests that the Club Roster and Repeater Codes be updated. Charlie is also going to check with Peg, at Multi-Stitch, to see about getting hats made.

Charlie asks for volunteers to help Chuck Bruckelmeyer, W8LCT, with this year's field Day activities. Larry Wright, KB8AHK and Fred Stutske, W8FZ volunteer to help.

REFRESHMENTS FOR FEBRUARY MEETING: Larry & Candy Wright

Motion to close meeting by Ivor “Hollywood” Rutan – WA8YSC

Seconded by Wes Whitley Jr. – N8UTC

Meeting closed at 8:45 p.m.

The following article was reprinted from  
WORLD RADIO January 1998 and  
submitted by Harry Vollmer, W8LXC

## Amateur Licensing

Just how did it all get started? Some thoughts from NY2V. Fred was licensed at the age of 14, in 1948, and says the following is to his best recollection and subject to comment and correction.

Chaos reigned on the radio waves until at least 1912. In that year, the Feds began issuing licenses for all radio services. Ham licenses all had identical privileges – 5 wpm code and written theory exam.

Virtually all ham operation was done at “200 meters and down,” all of the spectrum having wavelengths shorter than 200 being seen as worthless.

### 1923

Amateur Extra First Grade license introduced. Required 2 years at lower grade, theory exam, 20 wpm code test (20 wpm was the licensing standard for the commercial applicants). Distinctive call sign given. Additional HF frequencies given.

### 1927

Amateur Second Grade license made 1-year non-renewable.

### 1929

Amateur Extra First Grade gets 20M phone privileges.

### 1932

Amateur Extra First Grade gets 75M phone privileges.

### 1933

Class A new name for Amateur Extra First Grade. 20 wpm test dropped, since LF operations were dropped, eliminating need for ham/govt./commercial intercommunications via Morse.

### 1936

ARRL requested 13 wpm instead of 10 wpm. The book *200 Meters and Down* states this was to effectively create a maximum of 16,000 hams, so as to minimize band congestion. This was granted and 13 wpm remained

the lowest test speed until the Novice and Technician Licenses were created in 1951.

### 1941-1945

Off the air due to WW II.

### 1951

Amateur Extra license (but no special privileges).

Advanced Class new name for Class A. Phone only on 75M and 20M. (40M & 15M were CW only for all classes after WW II.)

General Class new name for Class B. 13 wpm CW receiving at least one minute of solid copy, followed by a short 13 wpm sending test.

Conditional Class new name for Class C, for folks living over 125 air miles from the nearest FCC examination point. Test given by ham with at least a Class C license. Privileges identical to those for Class B/General. To upgrade, one had to travel and pass the complete General exam over again, along with the advanced Class exam.

Technician License introduced. Test was General Class test, but code test was lowered to 5 wpm. No privileges below 220 MC band, although written test was more difficult than that for Novice License. This test was administered by mail and did not have to be administered by an FCC examiner.

Novice License introduced – one year, non-renewable. 80M and 11M CW plus 2M phone privileges. Test available by mail.

### 1951-1967

First, to set the tone, in 1968, Incentive Licensing was introduced. It took away roughly half the phone privileges of General and Conditional Licenses. Advanced Class was introduced with the newly-missing phone privileges, and Extra, with its 20 wpm code test, was the sole way to get all privileges restored. Many hams opposed this.

The growth rate of licenses was high and the technical advancements were many during the 1951-67 era. FM became popular above 144 MHz, and SSB essentially displaced all but a few AM rigs on the air. From

what the writer can tell, at the end of the 1951-67 period, we saw clubs, especially large-city school clubs, fall apart, radio stores began to close, and the old familiar names of ham equipment manufacturers went away, or at least, out of the ham business. Japanese firms replaced American ones as the primary source of big-ticket HF and VHF rigs.

**1954-'67**

Fifteen years of new Advanced Class licenses being issued, since privileges were the same for Advanced as for General Class.

**1968**

Incentive Licensing, as it was officially dubbed, introduced. General Class loses roughly half its phone segments to Advanced Class. Amateur Extra Class gets 25 KHz segments at bottom of HF bands for exclusive use. Novice loses HF privileges and license term extended from 1 to 2 years.

**1976**

CB begins, using the 11M band. Conditional Licensing discontinued. Technician Licenses acquire all Novice privileges, plus full access and privileges on both 6M and 2M bands. Prospective Techs must now appear before a volunteer examiner. Novices are now allowed to use VFO's but lose 2M phone.

1-year waiting period before taking Amateur Extra test eliminated. Hams no longer are required to certify that they had operated Morse for a certain number of hours at or above his license class speed in the 12 months prior to renewal. Consensus in ranks is that most were lying about it when they renewed.

**1977-78**

FCC revokes all Secondary Call signs.

FCC also drops requirement to change calls when license moves to different call district. Significance of number in call sign is thus destroyed, leading to later confusion of where a station might be based on call sign.

**1983-84**

FCC relinquishes testing function and turns it over to Volunteer Examiner system. Li-

cense terms are extended from 5 years to 10 years, except for Novices.

**1987**

Novice Enhancement introduced, converting the Novice License to a renewable one like all other classes, and giving phone privileges on 220 MHz and 1.2 GHz bands. Techs and Novices given small segment of 10M band for phone use. Complete conversion to Volunteer Examiner system is made.

**1991**

No-Code Technician license introduced. This entry class does not have the CW privileges enjoyed by Technician and Novice Class licensees.

**1991-Present Day**

More and more new licenses are No-Code Technician (renamed Technician, and former Technicians renamed Technician Plus licensees). Only a limited number of both classes of Technician license see reason to upgrade, being satisfied to mainly communicate on VHF and up. Average age of hams drops by about 8 years.

**1996**

Survey taken by ARRL. Respondees favoring retention of Morse familiarity rule by a vote of roughly 60% in favor, although the number of hams regularly using Morse code is reported as small, relative to SSB in particular. Internet use continues to gain ground at record pace. An even more massive rift develops between those favoring code testing and those not favoring it.

**My Comments**

Amateur Radio is a hobby. We use a valuable commodity – frequencies. While the government regulates these frequencies, they seem to have abandoned control to amateurs. As e-mail seems to take over the commercial world, perhaps amateurs can get back to the fun and enjoyment of checking into a traffic net, exchanging some pleasant words, making lasting friends, and enjoying the interesting game of traffic handling.

- Geri Sweeny, N4GHI

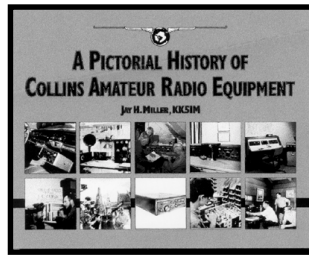
# Universal Radio - Quality equipment since 1942.



**New!**  
**2001  
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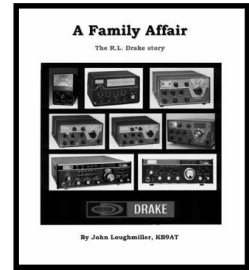
The new 2001 Universal Radio Catalog will be available January 9th.

This 104 page catalog contains everything new for the amateur and shortwave radio enthusiasts. Increasing postage costs prevent us from mailing this catalog automatically. You can request this free catalog by phone, email or simply stop by our showroom.



**A PICTORIAL HISTORY OF  
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**A FAMILY AFFAIR -  
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**IC-706 Mark II G**

- |                |                     |
|----------------|---------------------|
| 100 Memories   | 100 W HF+6 M        |
| Alpha memories | 50 W 2 M            |
| RIT/SHIFT      | 20 W 440 MHz        |
| Preamp/ATT     | All band Multimode  |
| VFO A/B        | Removable head      |
| 1 Hz Display   | Preamp/RF Atten.    |
| IF Shift       | Mini Spectrum Scope |
| Scanning       | Electronic Keyer    |
| S/RF Meter     | SSB Carrier Point   |

The IC-706 Mark IIG represents ICOM's most versatile *Next Generation* rig. This incredibly small all-mode transceiver provides 100 watts on HF and 6 meters and 50 watts on 2 meters plus 20 watts on 440 MHz. It receives from 30 kHz to 200 MHz and 400 to 470 MHz. It features a removable, remoteable, front panel that allows control of all features. The large LCD display features alphanumeric memory names and soft key descriptions. Despite its compact size (6.56" x 2.28" x 7.88"), it has big, easy to use, control dials. With hand mic. Requires 12 VDC at 20 amps. List \$1680.00 Order #3450 Call for price.

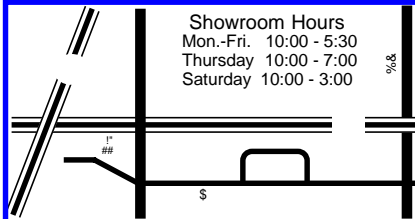


**FT-817**



The Yaesu FT-817 is a fully self-contained, battery-powered, low power amateur MF/HF/VHF/UHF transceiver for portable/camping/mountain top use. Providing coverage of the 160-10 meter amateur bands plus the 6 M, 2M and 70 cm bands, the FT-817 includes operation on the SSB, CW, AM, FM and digital modes. It may operate from 13.8 VDC or 8 AA cells (not supplied) and provides up to 5 watts of power output when on external DC power (2.5 watts when on batteries). The backlit multi-function LCD includes may be disabled for battery conservation. List \$950.00 Order #0817 Call for price.

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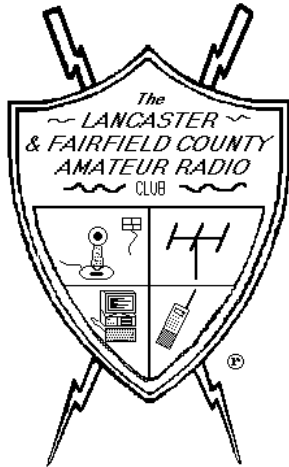
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LFCARC  
P.O. Box 3  
Lancaster, OH 43130



K8QIK

***Hamfests:***

***February 11, 2001***  
***InterCity ARC & Maser***  
Mansfield, OH  
Dean Wrasse, KB8MG  
Phone: 419-522-9893  
E-ml: deanwrasse  
@yahoo.com

***February 25, 2001***  
***Hamilton County***  
***ARPSC***  
Cincinnati, OH  
William Tittle, KA8LAY  
Phone: 513-661-1805  
E-ml: ka8lay@arrl.net

**Here's the FEBRUARY  
2001 Ragchewer!**

- ◆ *Activities*
- ◆ *Awards*
- ◆ *Upcoming Exams*
- ◆ *Public Service Communications*
- ◆ *Repeater/Net News*
- ◆ *Up coming Events*
- ◆ *And More.....*