

# The Ragchewer



January 2004

Greetings from the pres.

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

I hope everyone's holidays were great. I hope this year is good to everyone. I would like to thank the members who helped out with food, gifts & money for our adopted family this xmas. They were very thankful for everthing. Without are club they would not have had a very nice xmas. Also thanks to those who helped with door prizes at are xmas party. I would like to set a goal for this year. Let's see if each member can bring a new member into the club this year. The club is only what the members put into it.

## **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 Thursday) at the Clubhouse, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on State Route 37 (Granville Pike) next to Beavers Field.

## **Net:**

Mondays 9 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)

WEAVER'S WORDS -- SOME FOKS TALK TRASH. I TALK PLAINLY.

Date: 9 Jan 2004 07:18:42 -0000

(DIRECT ANY COMMENTS TO: k8je@arrl.org. Do not simply click on reply. The reflector does not receive or forward E-mail.)

E-MAIL & US MAIL ON MORSE CODE REQUIREMENT

During recent days I've received E-mail messages promoting absolutely no code from proponents of No Code International. Before this, I received code-forever cards from FISTS followers. Partly because of this, I'm motivated to come out with a bit of plain talk. I do not wish to offend anyone. I respect anyone's opinion (regardless of my opinion of it) and continue to invite people, ARRL members especially, to let me know their thinking. However, here is what I think about the Morse code licensing issue and how I intend to proceed at the ARRL Board meeting next week . . . and a few thoughts on other topics. Please take these words at face value.

THE OPINIONS OF MEMBERS

Members' opinions are very important to me. Your answers to my July CW questionnaire caused me to modify my initial position on code requirements. Any member of this Division was eligible and requested to give me his/her thoughts. For members who somehow did not receive the poll, I regret you were missed. For you who chose to ignore the questionnaire, I am sorry you shut yourselves out of helping shape my opinion. You snooze; you lose!

NO CODE INTERNATIONAL (NCI)

NCI has done a good job of encouraging its members and followers to let me know what they think. No problem. Unfortunately, most of the NCI people who contacted me and identified themselves as such do not belong to ARRL. They lost their opportunity to help me formulate my position on code requirements by not being an ARRL member and, therefore, not replying to my questionnaire. My position was developed by mid-Fall after studying the hundreds of responses by members to my questionnaire

## WEAVER'S WORDS Continued

### NON-MEMBERS

To be very frank, unless a non-member comes to me with a clearly good idea or points out a clear problem, their opinion holds significantly less weight with me than those of members. With exception, nonmembers do not actively support the fight ARRL is making to defeat the forces (BPL) attempting to QRM our frequencies on a wholesale basis. They also generally do not support our effort to pass legislation that prohibits FCC from skimming off our frequencies at will . . . or our fight to secure the right for each amateur to install an antenna/tower (provided doing this is physically reasonable and safe). In short, nonmembers who ask my support for a position usually have not in my opinion shown they care enough about Amateur Radio by joining the fight to protect it and enhance it.

If anyone wants my unqualified representation, all they need to do is to join ARRL and become part of the only organization in the world that is fighting to preserve and enhance Amateur Radio in the US. Shouldn't it be more important that all of us get together under one strong organization to defeat the BPLs, frequency skimmers and anti-antenna/tower rules than to have a head-butting contest over either of the no code or know code extremes?

As an example of the reason I feel this way, it would matter not that I have a 20-wpm license or a no-code license, if we lose essential battles and find ourselves but have only insufficient, and highly QRMD frequencies on which to exercise these licenses.

### MY POSITION

I agree with and will pursue offering the opportunity in a meaningful way to no code licensees to use HF. I have just become a Bad Guy in the eyes of the strict know-coders.

I also agree with and will pursue requiring Morse code requirements for a specified class of license. I have now also become a Bad Guy in the eyes of the strict no-coders. Let's face it, no matter what I and the rest of the Board do in this matter, we will be labeled stooges, a bunch of out-of-touch old men and saddled with the claim we have prostituted ourselves to the financial dictates of someone or other, somewhere. This easily-concocted view of the Directors and Officers is an easy, if not fully inaccurate, target for anyone who does not get exactly what they feel they deserve. So much for the goings on in the world of friendly politics!

### EVER WANT TO SEE WHO TO QSL FOR A 1X1 SPECIAL EVENT CALL?

"The 1 X 1 calls don't appear on the FCC Web page because they are only assigned for short durations by a Special Event Call Sign Administrator of which the ARRL VEC is one. The 1 X 1 calls are assigned for very short durations, like a weekend. The database is searchable at [http://ncvec.spindle.net/html/show\\_all.cfm](http://ncvec.spindle.net/html/show_all.cfm). For the 1 X 1 Web page, see <http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/1x1.html>." Per John Hennessey, N1KB at ARRL HQ

### ACKNOWLEDGING CONTACTS

I try to acknowledge each message I receive, but I am not so foolish as to believe I have a perfect record of doing this. To any of you who have written me and not received a reply, I apologize. So far, I have not been bashed on the head for ignoring correspondence so I must be doing reasonably well.

### OTHER

Hamfest/swap season is underway. If you would like Vice Director Dick Mondro, W8FQT or me to visit your event or meeting, please ask us as early as possible. Dick can be contacted at [w8ftq@arrl.org](mailto:w8ftq@arrl.org). You can reach me at [k8je@arrl.org](mailto:k8je@arrl.org). We hope to see many of you this year. 73 for the new year to each of you, your families and friends.

Jim, K8JE

AMATEUR RADIO: The only fail-safe communications system in the world.

ARRL: The reason Amateur Radio is! Jim Weaver, K8JE, Director, Great Lakes Division ARRL 5065 Bethany Rd., Mason, OH 45040-9660, Tel. 513-459-0142, E-mail [k8je@arrl.org](mailto:k8je@arrl.org)

Subject: Ohio Section News for January 2004

Joe Phillips, K8QOE, Ohio Section Manager

Section News (Ohio Section) for January, 2004 edition for Ohio Section Newsletters and Web Sites

JANUARY SECTION NEWS: Welcome to 2004. To start, here are important dates for the Ohio Section this year, Sunday, February 8 - Mansfield Hamfest; Sunday, March 21 - Toledo (Maumee) Hamfest; Saturday, April 24 - annual ARES Conference in Columbus; Friday-Sunday, May 14-16 - Dayton Hamvention; Saturday, June 26 - Field Day begins; Sunday, September 5 - Findlay Hamfest; Saturday, September 11 - Ohio Section Conference in Columbus at the Ohio EMA Headquarters. (The Section Conference was not held in 2003 since the Great Lakes Division Convention was a week earlier. It returns this year - same place; same date).

OHIO NET NEWS: Thomas Carroll, WA8ZGL, of Cuyahoga Falls, has been named Net Manager for the Buckeye Net Early (BNE) one of two operating CW traffic nets in Ohio. The BNE (at 6:45 p.m. daily) and its companion CW net, Buckeye Net Late (BNL at 10 p.m.) both meet daily for the purpose of handling CW traffic on 3.577 MHz. The traffic is handled to and from the Eighth Region Net (8RN) of the National Traffic System.

OHIO SECTION CLUB NEWS: Great Lakes Division Vice Director Dick Mondro, W8FQT, is organizing letter writing through Division clubs (Michigan and Kentucky as well as Ohio) on BPL, Spectrum Protection Act and antenna protection legislation.... Just a reminder for clubs to check your Special Service Club status and Affiliation status and keep it up to date. Any new officers? Any news about your club? Contact Brenda Krukowski, KB8IUP, The Ohio ACC, <kb8iup@arrl.net>.

OHIO SECTION REMEMBERS: Adrian Fallert, WB8GEW (SK) who for more than three decades made badges and other identifications for most Cincinnati-Dayton ham club members. He died in December.

OHIO SECTION CONGRATS ... (A) All Ohio Amateur Radio Operators in military service now serving in Iraq. Local clubs keep track of their members on active duty. Be sure to write them; (B) Tedd Mirgliotta, KB8NM, of Cleveland, whose DX Bulletins on packet networks and other modes are known nationwide; (C) George Shaffer, W8NTX, of Hillsboro, recognized recently for his ham radio recruiting efforts in the 70s and 80s in Highland and Clinton County (Hillsboro) area; and (D) Kevin Halloran, W8KPH, Kenton, for his article in local newspaper about a three county emergency drill. An excellent media hit; it was called.

OHIO SECTION JANUARY HAMFESTS AND SYMPOSIUMS... (10) SouthWest Ohio Digital Symposium begins at 9 a.m. at Miami University-Middletown. Check the web site <www.swohdigi.org> or E-mail <n8xx@arrl.net>. All day symposium on digital modes: no flea market; (18) Sunday Creek ARF at Nelsonville. More info? E-mail <n8mwl@arrl.net> and (25) TUSCO ARC at New Philadelphia. More info? E-mail <k8wfn@tusco.net>.

NOW FOR THE November traffic counts.....

OHIO SECTION INDIVIDUAL TRAFFIC - November 2003

N8XF-485, N8IO-382, KD8HB-277, KC8UTL-258, KX8B-232, W8QIW-199, N8BV-196, W8PBX-190, AB8NI-184, N8CW-131, W8STX-130, W8MMN- 97, N8TNV-96, N8IBR-82, KA8FCC-74, NS8C-71, N8DD-59, N8OD-57, KA8WQL-57, WB8SIQ-56, KA8CXG-52, WA8SSI-52. KB8SBK-50, WA8EYQ-44, K8PJ-44, KC8VPA-39, WB8SRN-27, K18IM-24, NY8V-23, N8GOB-22, KC8TKB-22, W8RPS-21, KF8LE-20, KC8KYP-18, WB8PMG-18, W8RG-17, KC4IYD-16, N8EFB-13, K8QX-8, N8WLE-8, KC8HTP-7, W8TAH-4, K8QIP-1, LATE OCTOBER 2003: N8TNV-71, WB8HHZ-48, N8SC-26, KA8WQL-14.

OHIO SECTION PSHR REPORTS: NOVEMBER 2003

N8IO 40, 40, 20, 25, 0, 0, TOTAL = 125  
WA8SSI 40, 40, 20, 0, 0, 0, TOTAL = 100  
N8OD 32, 40, 20, 0, 0, 0, TOTAL = 92  
N8DD 40, 40, 10, 0, 0, 0, TOTAL = 90  
KC8UTL 40, 40, 10, 0, 0, 0, TOTAL = 90

OHIO SECTION NETS TRAFFIC REPORTS - November 2003

	QNI	QTC	QTR	SESSIONS	TIME	FREQ	NM
BN (E)	129	93	330	30	1845	3.577	WA8ZGL
BN (L)	139	60	311	30	2200	3.577	NY8V

Subject: The ARRL Letter, Vol 23, No 01 Date: Fri, 2 Jan 2004 16:50:43 -0500

The ARRL Letter Vol. 23, No. 01 January 2, 2004

IN THIS EDITION:

- \* +Comments augment BPL alarm
- \* +A BPL tale of two cities
- \* +ISS commander debuts new ham gear
- \* +California ARES/RACES teams respond following earthquake
- \* +Joe Knight, W5PDY, SK
- \* +Washington state lawmakers hear from ARRL SM on BPL threat
- \* +Hamvention 2004 award nomination deadline looms
- \* Solar Update
- \* IN BRIEF:

This weekend on the radio : Reminder: Kid's Day is Sunday, January 4!

ARRL Emergency Communications course registration

ARECC/ARES seminar set in New York City-Long Island Section

Amateur Radio assists in Iran earthquake relief

Emanuel G. "Manny" Papandreas, W4SS, SK

Canadian hams may lose 220-222 MHz segment

TO4E/TO4WW DXpedition racks up 34,000 Qs

CQ names Floyd Gerald, N5FG, as Worked All Zones awards manager

#### ORGANIZATIONS' COMMENTS AUGMENT ALARM OVER BPL

Two organizations have filed comments with the FCC that augment previously expressed worries about potential interference from and to Broadband over Power Line (BPL) systems. Picking up on the "grave concerns" the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) <<http://www.fema.gov>> expressed over BPL December 4, the non-profit Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Response Association (DERA) <<http://www.disasters.org>> called on the FCC to require impartial BPL field testing as well as additional public comment and full and open public hearings.

"DERA concludes that serious interference to and disruption of critical emergency communications systems in several licensed services throughout North America would almost certainly result from BPL implementation as currently proposed," DERA said. Endorsing the earlier FEMA remarks, DERA said proposed BPL systems don't just pose a risk of interference, they've already been shown to "actually cause harmful interference to licensed radio services."

Meanwhile, the Amateur Radio Research and Development Corporation (AMRAD) has filed additional test data with the FCC to support preliminary findings suggesting that BPL systems are susceptible to interference from even modest Amateur Radio HF signals. AMRAD said its newest data demonstrated that amateur operation in the test neighborhood would cause many homes to lose their Internet service.

"At least an area out to a radius of 0.51 miles from the transmitting station could have their Internet connection interrupted," AMRAD said. "Closer-in homes would almost certainly have their Internet service interrupted."

For its RF susceptibility experiment, AMRAD used the Potomac Electric Power Company system test site. It features a mid-1960s vintage home with unshielded interior electrical wiring and overhead power lines.

AMRAD found that at a distance of just over one-half mile, data transfer ceased in the face of a 100-W signal on 3980 kHz from a mobile transmitter. Adjacent to the test property, AMRAD said data transfer ceased in all but one instance at a transmitter power of just 4 W in the BPL operating band of from 4 to 21 MHz.

The ARRL hopes to complete an independent BPL engineering study early this year. It will explore how BPL might affect HF and low-VHF amateur operation as well as how Amateur Radio operation could affect BPL systems.

In related news, BPL equipment manufacturer Amperion Inc recently announced an "industry first" by successfully testing its high-speed "Connect" system on 69 kV transmission lines. Typical BPL systems have employed medium and low-voltage lines to deliver broadband and Internet access. Amperion said its tests, performed in conjunction with American Electric Power, demonstrated multi-megabit data transmission to a distance of nearly one mile without the need for a repeater. There's more information on Amperion's Web site <<http://www.amperion.com/press.asp?pid=89>>.

Additional information about BPL and Amateur Radio is on the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/HTML/plc/>>. To support the League's efforts in this area, visit the ARRL's secure BPL Web site <<https://www.arrl.org/forms/development/donations/bpl/>>.

#### A BPL TALE OF TWO CITIES

A Virginia community is preparing to go forward with plans to deploy a city-owned BPL network, while a California city has decided against BPL for its own municipal broadband system.

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The city council in Lompoc, California <<http://www.cityoflomdoc.com/>>--a community of some 42,000--opted December 16 to go with a wireless and fiber optic cable-based broadband network, rejecting BPL and other possible options. ARRL Santa Barbara Section Technical Coordinator Paul Andreasen, K1JAN, said he and other members of the local Amateur Radio community lobbied hard to ensure that Lompoc would not pick BPL. After contacting Lompoc Mayor Dick DeWesse to spell out the downside of BPL, Andreasen said he subsequently received assurances from City Manager Gary Keefe that Lompoc's consultants would not entertain technology that would radiate in the HF/low-VHF spectrum. The report from McKibben Consulting noted the "ongoing controversy" about BPL and cited a 2003 British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) study that, McKibben said, "made it clear that there is very good reason to be concerned about RF interference." The consultant concluded that BPL's advantages failed to outweigh its disadvantages.

The Washington, DC, suburb of Manassas, Virginia, meanwhile, indicates it will go ahead this month with plans to inaugurate BPL service in four subdivisions--a total of some 2100 homes. Manassas--with a population of nearly 35,000--hopes to be the first community in the US to deploy BPL citywide.

Amateurs in the Manassas vicinity have pointed to FEMA's "grave concerns" that BPL could interfere with HF communications systems critical to national security and public safety. They've also cited Japan's banning of BPL deployment in the wake of Amateur Radio pressure as well as the BBC study, where the BPL system used the same Main.net technology Manassas plans to employ.

City officials seem unimpressed. "Nobody has proven it's a problem," City Councilman Ulysses X. White told Potomac News <<http://www.potomacnews.com/>>. "If it is a problem, then we re-evaluate it. There's no reason not to go forward with it." The same article quotes City Utilities Director Allen Todd, W4VUB, as saying that the city will monitor the system and rectify any problems that crop up. No field testing for RF interference took place during the system's pilot program.

Potomac News also quoted ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, saying that the risk of disrupting worldwide and emergency communications for BPL is shortsighted and, as FEMA already has noted, carries potential national security implications.

## ISS COMMANDER GETS ON THE AIR WITH NEW HAM GEAR

Astronaut Mike Foale, KB5UAC, fired up the new Phase 2 Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) equipment December 21 to make a number of 2-meter contacts with amateurs around the world. The Expedition 8 commander completed QSOs with amateurs in Australia, Europe and North America from 1100 to approximately 1700 UTC.

"I heard him at approximately 1100 UTC and also on the next pass." commented Ib Christofferson, OZ1MY, on the SAREX reflector. "He had a large pileup."

A new Kenwood TM-D700E VHF-UHF dualband transceiver was installed late last fall in the ISS Zvezda Service Module--the crew's living quarters. ARISS International Chair Frank Bauer, KA3HDO, said official permission to use the new gear came December 17. The RS0ISS packet system also is back in operation.

"This equipment, including antennas, radios, hardware and software were developed and provided by a diverse set of team members located around the world," Bauer said in a year-end statement. "This was quite a challenge to make happen."

Activation of the new gear means a power boost from 5 W to 25 W for the NA1SS downlink signal. It also means the ISS now has two functional ham stations. Additional Phase 2 equipment--which could go into space this month--is to include a slow-scan television (SSTV) system and a Yaesu FT-100 HF/VHF/UHF transceiver.

"I was able to hear him from as far out as 1200 miles," reported Arthur Rowe, N1ORC, of Lawrence, Massachusetts. "I guess that the new output power was helping."

Foale's operation was part of a special event to honor SAREX/ARISS Working Group Chairman Roy Neal, K6DUE, who died last August. Stations contacting or monitoring the ISS on voice (NA1SS) or packet (RS0ISS) through the end of 2003 are eligible for special event certificates. See "K6DUE ISS Commemorative Event Certificates" on the ARISS Web site <<http://www.rac.ca/ariss/>> for details.

ARISS is an international educational outreach program with participation by ARRL, NASA and AMSAT.

## CENTRAL CALIFORNIA HAMS RESPOND TO EARTHQUAKE

Amateur Radio operators aided the American Red Cross after a magnitude 6.5 earthquake struck California's Central Coast region Monday, December 22. Amateurs in San Luis Obispo County provided radio links between shelters and the Red Cross San Luis Obispo Chapter office. Santa Barbara Section Manager Robert Griffin, K6YR, said the San Luis Obispo County Office of Emergency Services requested the assistance of the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES)/Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) teams. Griffin said San Luis Obispo

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"About 24 operators were involved," Griffin said. "By 10 PM Monday night, the primary American Red Cross communication resources were again reliable, and the ARES net secured." Griffin says a few operators continued communications support at the EOC.

Griffin said the American Red Cross quickly established three shelters for quake victims--one in hard-hit Paso Robles, another in Morro Bay and a third in the southern part of the county. Hams staffed shelters to maintain contact with the Red Cross chapter office. Two people died in Paso Robles, some 25 miles from the epicenter.

Force 12 President Tom Schiller, N6BT, reports the antenna manufacturer--located in Paso Robles--suffered "minimal damage" from the December 22 quake.

"Most of it was confined to the front office, with ceiling tiles falling down, books and computers being tossed around," Schiller said in an update on the company's Web site. "Those who had a view out the front glass doors watched the cars and trucks in the street leave the ground as the shock waves rolled through." He said the quake took out electric power, telephone and cell service within less than a minute, although the power returned and telephones became sporadically operative within a few hours.

Schiller reports his own house--about a mile away--was "trashed," although his towers and the plumbing and electrical systems survived. Standing outside while checking the house, Schiller said he noticed that there was no wildlife at all. "No birds, no deer, no dogs barking. Not even a breeze," he said. "Thankfully, we made it through."

DEAN EMERITUS OF ARRL SECTION MANAGERS JOE T. KNIGHT, W5PDY, SK

Former ARRL New Mexico Section Manager Joe Knight, W5PDY, of Albuquerque died December 28. He was 76. Until he stepped down last July after his health began to fail, Knight had provided leadership to the New Mexico Section for nearly 27 years--longer than any of his peers. ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, called Knight an exemplary amateur and volunteer and said he was saddened to learn of his passing. "You couldn't ask for anybody who was more dedicated to Amateur Radio and to the League than Joe Knight," Haynie said. "He was the consummate ham."

An ARRL Life Member, Knight had belonged to the League for 55 years. For several years through 2002, Knight was a regular participant at the New Section Manager workshops each fall, at which he would share the wealth of expertise derived from his many years of Field Organization leadership experience.

Knight was the subject and chief narrator of an article, "The Luckiest Man Alive," which appeared in the January 2003 issue of QST. In it Knight said, "Amateur Radio will exist as long as there are people who love the art and science of communicating by radio." The article also outlined the vast emergency communication resources that Knight and hundreds of other dedicated volunteers built up over the years in New Mexico.

During Knight's tenure as SM, New Mexico amateurs convinced state lawmakers to pass The Emergency Communication Preservation Act--an Amateur Radio antenna bill--signed into law in 2002. Knight also was at the helm as amateurs in New Mexico assisted in response and relief efforts during devastating wildfires in 2000 and in 2002. Last July, the ARRL Board of Directors created the Knight Distinguished Service Award and named Knight as its inaugural recipient. The award honors "exceptionally notable contributions" to the health and vitality of the League by an SM.

With Knight's blessing, then-New Mexico Assistant SM Bill Weatherford, KM5FT, of Albuquerque, was appointed fill the remainder of Knight's term. Weatherford, who recently was elected to a new two-year term in his own right, appointed Knight in September as an Assistant SM.

Official Observer (and former ARRL Web youth columnist) Brian Milesosky, N5ZGT, said Knight "served as a great example that each of us should follow every day to keep our beloved hobby alive and healthy."

In addition to his lengthy service as New Mexico's SM, Knight was a past president and long-time member of the Upper Rio FM Society. He also belonged to the Albuquerque Amateur Radio Club, the Albuquerque DX Association and the A1 Operator Club, and he served on the board of the Duke City Hamfest. He also was active in the Quarter Century Wireless Association. Survivors include his wife, Lois, KC5CXO, who often accompanied Knight on his hamfest and convention visits and was a tireless recruiter for new ARRL members.

A memorial service was held January 2 in Albuquerque. The family has invited memorial contributions to the Knight Distinguished Service Award or to the ARRL Foundation Scholarship Fund. Memorials may be made to either fund on the ARRL Memorial Gifts Web page <<http://www.arrl.org/development/memorial.html>> or to ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington CT 006111-1494.

ARRL SECTION MANAGER REPRESENTS HAM RADIO IN STATE SENATE BPL INQUIRY

ARRL Western Washington Section Manager Ed Bruette, N7NVP, testified December 9 before the Washington Senate Technology and Communications Committee during an informational inquiry on Broadband over Power Line (BPL). The committee invited Bruette to speak after Gloria Sharp, WA7GYD, of Ellensburg, contacted a senior committee staffer to ask if Amateur Radio would be represented at the hearing. As a result, the panel added Bruette to the list of spokespersons.

continued

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#### ARRL SECTION MANAGER REPRESENTS HAM RADIO IN STATE SENATE BPL INQUIRY

"My presentation outlined the Part 15 device limitations, the interference issues both to and from Amateur Radio, BPL trials in Europe and Japan, and the other users of the HF and VHF spectrum who will be impacted by interference by BPL," Bruette said in summing up his 15-minute presentation. "I included the first 37 seconds of the BPL video made by ARRL Lab Manager Ed Hare, W1RFI, along with an NTIA spectrum allocation chart that I modified to show the potential loss of spectrum."

Bruette followed remarks by two industry representatives. He said the committee's feedback was positive, as was the reaction from the four radio amateurs in the audience.

Bruette said he was surprised to hear one industry representative characterize power lines as antennas. He also said he was pleased to learn that the Chelan County Public Utility District had received letters from local hams expressing concern about BPL.

#### HAMVENTION 2004 SEEKS AWARD NOMINEES

Nominations close January 31 for the Hamvention 2004 Radio Amateur of the Year, Technical Excellence and Special Achievement awards.

The Radio Amateur of the Year is an individual with a long term commitment to the advancement of Amateur Radio--a well-rounded amateur who has contributed in an exceptional manner to Amateur Radio.

The Technical Excellence award goes to an amateur who has made an outstanding technical contribution to advance Amateur Radio. This could include, but is not limited to, a revolutionary equipment design or operational mode that has positively influenced the day-to-day operation of many amateurs.

The Special Achievement award honors an outstanding contribution to the advancement of Amateur Radio and typically recognizes an amateur who has spearheaded a significant project.

All amateurs are eligible for any of these awards, and the Hamvention Awards Committee makes the final decision on recipients, based in part on the information submitted on the nominee's behalf (and not on the number of nominations). Documentation to support a nomination is essential. This could be in the form of magazine articles, newsletters, newspaper clippings or videos. All materials become the property of Hamvention and will not be returned.

Submit nominations by mail to Awards Committee, Hamvention 2004, PO Box 964, Dayton OH 45401, or complete the on-line Nominating Form on the Hamvention 2004 Web site <<http://www.hamvention.org>> (click on "Award Nominations"). Nominees are responsible for submitting substantiating documentation via mail by January 31, 2004.

Hamvention 2004 is May 14-16.

#### SOLAR UPDATE

Sun watcher Tad "I stayed up to watch that glittery ball drop" Cook, K7RA, Seattle, Washington, reports: This is the first "Solar Update" for 2004--time to review averages from 2003 and compare them to previous years.

From the third quarter of 2002 through the last quarter of 2003, the average daily sunspot numbers were 193.5, 152.7, 120.3, 107.3, 110.2 and 99.2. Average daily solar flux for the same six quarters were 178.1, 164.2, 134.3, 124.2, 120.8 and 137.4.

Average daily sunspot numbers for 1997 through 2003 were 30.7, 88.7, 136.3, 173, 170.3, 176.6 and 109.2. Average daily solar flux for the same seven years was 81, 117.9, 153.7, 179.6, 181.6, 179.5 and 129.2. By averaging the daily numbers on an annual basis, we certainly can see a decline in the solar cycle over the past few years.

Over the next week, expect solar flux numbers between 120 and 125. A geomagnetic forecast for January 1 predicted planetary A index values for January 2-8 of 20, 15, 35, 30, 35, 35 and 25. With the exception of this Saturday, January 3, those numbers portend rough conditions with geomagnetic storms--especially in those cases where the A index is above 30. This should be the result of a big blast of solar wind beginning on Sunday, January 4.

Remember that the long winter nights are great for 160, 80, 60, 40 and 30 meters. The typically higher summertime noise is long gone, and long hours of darkness are great for the lower frequencies--at least when there isn't a major geomagnetic storm.

Sunspot numbers for December 25 through 31 were 58, 65, 47, 47, 56, 15 and 25, with a mean of 44.7. The 10.7 cm flux was 139.1, 137.2, 161.5, 119, 114.5, 107.7 and 105.6, with a mean of 126.4. Estimated planetary A indices were 6, 9, 12, 12, 6, 8 and 17, with a mean of 10.

#### IN BRIEF:

\* This weekend on the radio: The ARRL RTTY Roundup, the EUCW 160-Meter Contest, and Kid's Day (Sunday, January 4--see below) are the weekend of January 3-4. JUST AHEAD: The North American QSO Party (CW), the Hunting Lions in the Air Contest, the East Asia 160/80 DX Contest, the UK DX Contest (SSB), the Midwinter Contest (CW), the NRAU-Baltic Contest (separate CW and SSB events), the Midwinter Contest (SSB) and the DARC 10-Meter Contest are the weekend of January 10-11. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <<http://www.arrl.org/>>

Subject: Fwd: S.E. OH WAN Packet map

Date: Mon, 29 Dec 2003 23:25:43 GMT

Forwarded Message:

To: jh@greenapple.com, n8htt@greenapple.com, aday@acm.org, jslattery@athensmasons.org (Jeff Slattery), david@sabahdreams.com (David Underwood)

From: Ted Jacobson <aa270@seorf.ohiou.edu>

Date: Thu, 25 Dec 2003 09:11:24 -0500 (EST)

145.09 mHz Southeast Ohio/WV Wide Area Packet Network

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(updated December 2003)

BALDXC:N8HTT-7 (G8BPQ Switch) --+

(Baltimore/Columbus) : (East Central and )

: N8HR-7 (KA-node) (Central OH Networks)

+--- OHIO09:W8OF-2 (Zanesville) / separate map

: (Lancaster) / / |

To K8QIK BBS & : / #VALNO & N8JXO-2

Columbus Metro : / N8GP (crosslink to 145.01)

Networks : / (Msys BBS) /

ATHENS -. Marietta \ /

: \ \ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ WOODWV (KA-node)

: \ \ (pbbs=PKBGWV)

: \ \ N8UBG Parkersburg WV

/ \ \ wx svr /

/ \ \ \ \ /

/ MEIGOH- - -\ JCO

N8HPR-7 ---- Pomeroy, OH Ravenswood WV

Gallispols, OH (KA-node) :

(pbbs=N8HPR-3) PARC

Fayetteville WV

Subject: Fwd: Re: Lancaster .09 Packet Node

Date: Mon, 29 Dec 2003 23:27:54 GMT

Forwarded Message:

To: jh@greenapple.com, aday@acm.org, n8htt@greenapple.com, Ted Jacobson aa270@seorf.ohiou.edu

From: "David Underwood" <david@sabahdreams.com>

Subject: Re: Lancaster .09 Packet Node

Date: Thu, 25 Dec 2003 18:59:22 -0500

Let me echo Ted's thoughts also. kc8ryl David Underwood Hi John (W8OF),...

And Merry Christmas! Wanted to drop you a note to say how pleased we are to see your OHIO09 Network Node on 145.09 mHz!

David B. Underwood KC8RYL

Disaster Services Volunteer

Athens County Chapter

American Red Cross

22398 Jordan Run Road

Guysville OH 45735-9332

740-667-9803 Home

740-593-0143 Office

underwoo@ohiou.edu

david@sabahdreams.com

PACKET: 145.09 JCO>KC8RYL

"The intuitive mind is a sacred gift and the rational mind is a faithful > > servant. We have created a society that honors the servant and has forgotten the gift."

- Albert Einstein



**The Lancaster and Fairfield County Amateur Radio Club**  
(Monthly Meeting Minutes)

- Meeting Called to order by President

- Pledge of Allegance by Richard Scheliffer

- Applications  
None

- Secretary's Report (Jonathan Larabee)

Motion made to accept from Tom Moore and seconded by Bob Bickel

- Treasurer's report (Ed Campbell Sr)

Treasury report read by Ed.

Motion to accept by Bob Bickel, seconded by Richard Scheliffer.

- Station Engineer (John Hillard)

Emails were received about the new network node. The repeater is working great. There is the possibility of setting up a repeater at the hospital but there would need to be parts bought that could run around a grand (duplexer, controllers). Currently, both John and Ed are looking into help from the EMA in possibly funding the purchases.

- Vice President's report (Tom Moore)

No Report

- VE Testing - (Harry Vollmer)

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in February, 9:30 AM at the Red Cross

- Old Buisness

The Christmas party went rather well after a small mix up was corrected.

- New Buisness

Quarter Century Wireless club asked through Richard if they could hold some of their meetings at the club house. Fred made the motion to allow this, and John Hillard seconded it. No one was opposed.

☞Closing

Refreshments would be provided by Kay

Bob motioned to adjourn, Tom Moore seconded it. No one was opposed.

# UNIVERSAL RADIO TOP 80 ITEMS: Prices & Specials

## ▶ ALINCO

Order	Model	Regular	Comment	Price	Pg.
#4238	DJ-196T	\$139.95		\$139.95	67
#1596	DJ-596T	219.95		219.95	67
#1003	DJ-X 3T	239.95		229.95	17
#3610	DJ-X10T	319.95		319.95	17
#2020	DJ-X2000T	769.95		499.95	17
#1980	DR-135T	169.95		169.95	62
#4236	DR-135TP	269.95		269.95	62
#3621	DR-605TQ	339.95		339.95	
#0620	DR-620T	369.95		338.95	62

## ▶ AOR

AOR promotion ends 01/31/04.

Order	Model	Regular	Comment	Price	Pg.
#3705	AR-5000A+3B		Not yet FCC approved.		
#0083	AR-8200Mk3B	589.95	Free Aero Book #0042	589.95	21
#1860	AR-8600Mk2B	889.95	Free Aero Book #0042	889.95	21

## ▶ DRAKE

Drake promotion ends 01/31/04.

Order	Model	Regular	Comment	Price	Pg.
#0082	R8B	1469.95	Free Cal. & Book #0042	\$1469.95	11

## ▶ GRUNDIG

Grundig promotion ends 01/31/04.

Order	Model	Regular	Comment	Price	Pg.
#0800	Satellit 800	499.95	Free MiniWorld100 #4440	499.95	7
#3500	S350	99.95	Free MiniWorld100 #4440	99.95	6
#0300	YB-300PE	79.95	Free SWL Guidebook	79.95	6
#0400	YB-400PE	149.95	Free Stand #0022	149.95	6
#0550	YB-550PE	99.95	New item!	99.95	7

## ▶ ICOM

ICOM promotion ends 01/31/04.

Order	Model	Regular	Comment	Price	Pg.
#0208	208H	319.95	\$20 Coupon +DT830D	299.95	
#3450	706Mk2-G	769.95	\$20 Coupon +RMK706	749.95	58
#0703	703 Plus-15	729.95	\$20 + \$40 Coupon	669.95	58
#0718	718	599.95	\$50 Coupon +UT106	549.95	58
#0074	746 Pro	1699.99	\$250 Coupon +PS125	1449.99	58
#1756	756 Pro II		\$250 Coupon +PS125	2299.99	58
#1910	910H	1099.95	\$50 Coupon	1049.95	61
#2100	2100H-25N	179.95	\$20 Coupon	159.95	61
#0272	2720H	379.95	\$20 Coupon +DT830D	359.95	61
#2481	Q7A	114.98	\$10 Coupon +#2546	104.98	64
#1002	PCR1000-02BON	369.95	\$20 Coupon +#0042	349.95	20
#3333	R 3-26	359.95	\$10 Coupon+Spectrum Chart	349.95	18
#0005	R 5-06	199.95	\$10 Coupon	189.95	19
#3550	R10-05	299.95	\$10 Coupon+Spectrum Chart	289.95	19
#0175	R75	549.95	\$50 Cpn. +UT106 +#0042	499.95	10
#1850	R8500-02	1489.95	\$50 Coupon +Book #0042	1439.95	18
#4429	T2H Sport	99.95	\$10 Coupon +#2546	89.95	64
#3052	T7H	189.95	\$10 Coupon +#2546	179.95	64
#0690	T90A	259.95	\$10 Coupon +#2546	249.95	64
#0088	V8	129.95	\$10 Coupon +#2546	119.95	64
#4080	V8000	189.95	\$20 Coupon +#2546	169.95	61
#0838	W32A	269.95	\$10 Coupon +#2546	259.95	65

## ▶ JAPAN RADIO CO.

JRC promotion ends 12/31/03.

Order	Model	Regular	Comment	Price	Pg.
#1545	NRD-545DSP	1799.95	Free JRC ST-3	\$1799.95	12

## ▶ KENWOOD

Kenwood promotion ends 02/28/04.

Order	Model	Regular	Comment	Price	Pg.
#2222	TH-K2AT	\$149.95		\$149.95	
#4211	TH-D7AG	349.95		349.95	63
#0066	TH-F6A	329.95		329.95	63
#3699	TH-G71A(H)	239.95		239.95	63
#2164	TM-261A	149.95		149.95	60
#0271	TM-271A	179.95		179.95	
#4116	TM-D700A	519.95		519.95	60
#1621	TM-G707A	279.95		279.95	60
#3565	TM-V7A	399.95	\$25 Coupon	374.95	60
#0480	TS-480SAT	1299.95	Free Kenwood Jacket	1299.95	
#2480	TS-480HX	1449.95	Free Kenwood Jacket	1449.95	
#1862	TS-570D(G)	969.95		969.95	54
#2519	TS-570S(G)	1129.95		1129.95	54
#1978	TS-2000	1749.95	Free Heil GM4 mic	1749.95	54
#2797	TS-2000X	2249.95	Free Heil GM4 mic	2249.95	54
#1937	TS-B2000	1549.95	Free Heil GM4 mic	1549.95	54

## ▶ SANGEAN

Sangean promotion ends 01/31/04.

Order	Model	Regular	Comment	Price	Pg.
#3505	ATS-505P	\$119.95		\$119.95	5
#1069	ATS-818ACS	199.95	Free SWL Guidebook	199.95	5
#1909	ATS-909	239.95	Free SR25V AM/FM/TV	239.95	5
#4403	CC Radio+ GRV	169.95		169.95	27
#4404	CC Radio+ SILV	169.95		169.95	27

## ▶ TEN-TEC

Ten-Tec promotion ends 01/31/04.

Order	Model	Regular	Comment	Price	Pg.
#0321	RX-320D	\$328.95	Free SWL Guidebook	\$328.95	
#0340	RX-340	3950.00	Free 2004 Passport	3950.00	16
#0350	RX-350	1199.00	Free 2004 Passport	1199.00	15

## ▶ YAESU

Yaesu promotion ends 01/31/04.

Order	Model	Regular	Comment	Price	Pg.
#2786	FRG-100B	\$599.95	Book #2984	\$599.95	14
#3070	FT-50RD-41	269.95	\$30 Rebate	239.95	66
#3473	FT-100D	999.98	Free CS4 speaker	999.98	57
#0817	FT-817	599.95	\$100 Rebate	499.95	56
#2319	FT-840	599.95		599.95	56
#1467	FT-847	1799.95	\$300 Rebate	1499.95	56
#0857	FT-857	774.95	\$175 Rebate + DPS2	599.95	57
#0897	FT-897	949.95	\$200 Rebate	749.95	56
#1955	FT-920	1049.95	\$50 Rebate	999.95	56
#2360	FT-1000MPv	2089.99	\$50 Rebate	2039.99	56
#2800	FT-2800M	179.95	Free CS4 speaker	179.95	62
#3780	FT-7800R	279.95	New item!	279.95	
#0080	FT-8800R	369.95	\$50 Rebate	319.95	62
#0890	FT-8900R	429.95	\$50 Rebate	379.95	62
#3120	VR-120D	199.95		199.95	20
#0500	VR-500	299.95		299.95	20
#0050	VR-5000	599.95	Book #0042	599.95	20
#0176	VX-2R	179.95	\$50 Rebate	129.95	66
#1795	VX-5R BLACK	248.99	\$20 Rebate	228.99	66
#4430	VX-5RS SILVER	249.99	\$20 Rebate	229.99	66
#0777	VX-7R SILVER	319.99	\$20 Rebate	299.99	66
#0778	VX-7RB BLACK	328.99	\$20 Rebate	308.99	66
#3187	VX-150/64B	119.95		119.95	67

Note that prices shown are **after** mfg's rebate on applicable items.

**Universal Radio, Inc.**  
6830 Americana Pkwy.  
Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068

800 431-3939 Orders & Prices  
614 866-4267 Information  
614 866-2339 FAX Line  
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The Lancaster  
and Fairfield County  
Amateur Radio Club

# Public Service Communications



Edward Campbell, WD8PGO  
Fairfield Co. EC

2002/2003  
Officers:

*President:*

Charles Snoke  
N8KZN

*Vice President:*

Tom Moore  
KB8USK

*Treasurer:*

Ed Campbell Sr.,  
WD8PGO

*Secretary:*

Jon Larabee  
KC8RUI

*Activities:*

ConnieSnoke  
N8LPC

*Station Engineer:*

John Hilliard,  
W8OF

*Trustee:*

Richard A.  
Schleiffer,  
W9ZZX

*Flower Fund:*

Marie Moore,  
KB8VOL  
653-9092

*Editor:*

Bob Bickel  
N8UTE

*Field Day Chairman:*

Chuck Bruckelmeyer,  
W8LCT

## January Birthdays

Constance Snoke N8LPC  
Mark Urbine KC8TUW  
Harry Vollmer W8LXC  
Tom Whited KB8UVJ  
Gary Boyer K8BY  
Larry Brunney KC8HII  
Edward Campbell WD8PGO  
Richard Lytle W8THU  
John Wilkinson WB8WEK



**Drop in and see us on Radio Night,  
Thursday evenings at 6:30 PM.**

Check out our Club Web Site at: [www.qsl.net/k8qik](http://www.qsl.net/k8qik)

## **CENTRAL OHIO CW LEARNING NET**

The CW Learning Net is Every Friday night at 8:00 P.M. on the W8CMH 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 W8CMH repeater 145.490(-). All you need is a 2m 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>.

L.F.C.A.R.C.  
P.O. Box 3  
Lancaster, OH 43130



# Here's the January 2004 Ragchewer!

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