

The Ragchewer

July 2007

The monthly newsletter of the
Lancaster & Fairfield
County Amateur Radio Club

On the Web: www.k8qik.org
Send email to K8QIK@columbus.rr.com

Club Meetings :

1st Thursday of every month
at 7:30 pm at the club house.

Radio Night:

Every Thursday except the
1st Thursday at the club
house, 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

VE Testing:

The third Sunday of every
even numbered month.
Register at 9:30 am and
testing at 10:00 am

Club House

Location:

On State Route 37 (Granville
Pike) next to Beavers Field.

Nets:

Mondays at 9:00 p.m.
147.03 MHz (+.6)
146.70 MHz (-.6) Alt. Freq.
443.875 MHz (+5)
Thursday at 8:00 p.m.
443.875 MHz (+5)
UHF linked system

Packet BBS 145.53MHz
K8QIK-1 BBS
K8QIK-2: Ohio53

Weather Spotter Net:

146.76 Repeater with 123Hz
tone Tuesday at 7:30 pm
Alt frequency 147.24 MHz

July Birthdays

Edward M Bennett	KD8EEJ
Jack R Travis	AE8P
John G Hilliard	W8OF
Mike T Amirault	KB8GHW
Charles M Doty	W0MNE
David B O'Hare	KB8DRQ

Thursday Night Radio Night

Radio night is every Thursday at 6:30 p.m.
(except the first Thursday which is the club
monthly meeting). Work a little HF, make a
few DX contacts, maybe build something? How
about a hot cup of coffee and a few good
stories? We'll have them all waiting for you.

ARRL Membership

When you join the ARRL, or renew your
membership through the club, we retain \$15 for
each new membership OR lapsed membership
(of two years or more), and we retain \$2 for
each renewal. Please support our club, it doesn't
cost any more. Send or give all paperwork to
Treasurer with your money.

August VE Test:

The next VE test will be Sunday August 19th
at the club house on Route 37. Register at 9:30
a.m. and testing begins at 10:00 a.m. Prepare
yourself, take this test and upgrade!

Free Swap and Sell

If you have anything ham radio related, you can
swap it or sell it here. List your items for free.
Give a price and how to contact you. Send the
list to K8QIK@columbus.rr.com

2006-2007 Officers

President:

Don Stephenson, WD8PCF

Vice President:

Scott Snoke, WD8IXO

Treasurer:

Ed Campbell Sr., WD8PGO

Secretary:

Robert Northrup, KC8PSW

Trustee:

John Hilliard, W8OF

Station Engineer:

John Hilliard, W8OF

Net Manager:

John Fick, KD8EEK

Activities Manager:

Kay Hanna, KC8HJW

Public Relations:

Allen Sellers, KB8JLG

Flower Fund:

Mary Travis, KD8EEI

Chief Cook and Bottle

Washer:

Charlie Snoke, N8KZN

Editor:

Jack Travis, AE8P
(740) 687-1985

July 5, 2007 Meeting Minutes

At 7:30pm the meeting called to order by President Stephenson, WD8PCF, who lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were 20 members and 2 guests present.
Guests were: Kaye Hartman, K8GZ and John Camm, W8JTC.

Officer Reports

Secretary Report: Robert Northrup, KC8PSW

Minutes are posted in the Ragchewer. Motion to accept by Allen, KB8JLG and second by Ralph, W8BVH. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Ed Campbell, Sr., WD8PGO.

Ed gave the club financials. Motion to accept by Ralph, W8BVH and second by Ray, W8FLX. Motion carried.

VP Report: Scott Snoke, WD8IXO

No Report

Trustee Report: John Hilliard, W8OF

John reported all was running OK.

Committee Reports

VE Testing: Allen Sellers, KB8JLG

Allen reported there were 25 folks at the last testing session. Of those 25, 22 passed their exams, whether it was a first ticket or an upgrade. He further reported that of those 3 who did not pass the first time, there were 2 more testing sessions and all 3 passed the second time.

Monday Night Net: John, KD8EEK

July 9 John, W8AGS
July 16 John, W8OF
July 23 to be determined
July 30 to be determined

Ragchewer: Jack Travis, AE8P

Jack said all is going well and is ready for the next installment of the "Chewer".

Submit your article, news item, cartoon, or other Ham related bits of trivia to Jack at k8qik@columbus.rr.com.

Emergency Coordinator: Ed Campbell, WD8PGO

Ed thanked all who helped with the Fourth of July parade as 15 to 16 Hams turned out to help along the parade route. Also another 11 Hams helped out with parking for the fireworks later in the evening.

Ed is also looking for several Hams to help out in the Red Cross tent for the Lancaster festival. If you can help, contact Ed via phone or email. The weekend he needs help is July 21 and 28.

Safety: Scott Snoke, WD8IXO

No Report

Station Engineer: John Hilliard, W8OF

John reported he has a new Hustler ground plane antenna to replace the one damaged during winter storms. He has contacted Jim, KC8JPZ, who has tower climbing experience, to help with the install in the next 2 months.

Activities Manager: Kay Hanna, KC8HJW

Kay reported planning for the Christmas Party is still continuing and she has a speaker lined up and a new twist, a "Bell Ringer". Stay tuned for more info

Field Day: Allen, KB8JLG

Allen, KB8JLG volunteered to step in at the last minute in place of Jim, KC8JPZ to run field day activities. Allen was recognized by all present with a round of applause for a job well done.

Flower Fund: Mary Travis, WD8EEI

Mary said there was \$14 collected and Jack, AE8P won half which he donated it to the Radio Fund.

Fund Raising: Kay Hanna, KC8HJW

Kay said there \$14 collected and Ed, KD8EEJ was selected but didn't qualify as he didn't enter the contest so monies roll over to next month

Old Business:

Ralph, W8BVH noted that election of officers for the 2007/2008 club year will soon be upon us and we should each be seriously thinking about taking an office when the opportunity comes up, as there will be openings to be filled.

New Business:

A motion was made by Ray, W8FLX and second by John, W8OF to fund the Christmas Party with \$250 from general funds. Motion carried.

A point of order was made by John, W8OF for the club secretary to write a letter to the County Commissioners thanking them for the new roof at the clubhouse. A letter will be written this week.

John, W8OF also said that Robert, KI8JM and Gary, W8GTS said a fellow ham in Circleville has a Yaseu FT-897 all-mode radio for sale at a very attractive price for the updated radio room upstairs.

The radio would cost the club \$500 and it covers 160M to 70CM. A motion was made by Ray, W8FLX and second by Ed, KD8EEJ to purchase said radio from general funds, providing the radio was still for sale. Motion carried.

George, KB8USP stated he has 3 Pentium III PCs he is willing to donate to the club. They need memory and hard drives but include monitors, keyboards, mice, etc.

Mary, KD8EEI said the Lancaster Kiwanis organization is looking for lunchtime speakers for their fall meeting schedule. Members asked Allen,

KB8JLG, our PR man, to look into this to help spread the word on our ham activities.

Ralph, W8BVH noted that we need some type of stairs or walkway from the parking lot to the rear steps in the winter. This provoked lots of discussion and was left that Scott, WD8IXO would inquire with the commissioners to carry out the work or if safety concerns and liabilities would prevent club members from performing the work.

At the end of the meeting, John Camm, W8JTC spoke about the Millersport Lions club and their need for help during the Sweet Corn Festival. The club already assists the parade for the festival but this request would be to aid security at the gates for the festival itself. John needs help on August 29, 30, and 31 from 4pm to 11 pm and Sept 1 from 11am to 11 pm. Remember: you get free parking and admission to the festival for helping out.

Motion to adjourn was made by Ray, W8FLX and second by John, W8OF. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:31 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert Northrup, KC8PSW

Upcoming Hamfests

July 14 is the 43rd annual Noarsfest Electronics & Computer Show in Wellington, Ohio. You can get information at <http://www.noars.net/hamfests/NF.htm>

July 22 is the 20th annual Van Wert Hamfest in Van Wert, Ohio. You can get more info at <http://www.w8fy.org/>

July 29 is the Portage Hamfair in Randolph, Ohio. Get information at <http://www.hamfair.com/>.

Tubes For Sale

If you need tubes for your boat anchor or TV contact Jeff Bell WD8JLI at 614-774-2973 or email at jbelle@imagearray.net he has a huge supply for most needs.

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General License Study Class

Contact Allen Sellers, KB8JLG. He likes to have classes at 7PM Tuesdays. Let him know if you are interested

Wanted For The Club

We need PC-100 or PC-133 memory chips and 2 – 10 Gigabyte or larger hard drives to build 2 – Pentium 3 computers for the club.

Contact George Lambert at 740-654-1612

For Sale

Kay, KC8HJW has the following items for sale. All work and are in great shape. She can be reached at 740-862-6569.

1. Alinco dual band mobile 605TQ for \$150
2. Cushcraft dual band mobile antenna CS270 for \$30
3. Dual band mobile antenna for \$25
4. MFJ Morse code tutor for \$29

The Wayback Machine #13

by Bill Continelli, W2XOY

Mention November 22 to many people in the US, and they will immediately associate it with the date that President John F Kennedy was assassinated. But for amateur radio operators, especially those licensed for more than 30 years, it means something totally different: INCENTIVE LICENSING. In a three-stage process starting on November 22, 1967, and ending on November 22, 1969, the FCC instituted "incentive licensing," ostensibly designed to encourage amateurs to upgrade, but in reality a process under which most amateurs lost up to 50% of the frequencies they usually operated. Incentive licensing (or incentive punishment as some have called it) has been blamed for the demise of many American amateur radio equipment manufacturers such as Hammarlund and Hallicrafters, a temporary decline in the number of licensed hams, and bitter feelings against the ARRL and FCC that last to this day. As we approach the 30th anniversary of incentive Licensing, let's take a look at the events that led up to this controversial decision. In order to do so, we must go back to 1951.

Prior to 1951, a rather simple license structure existed in this country. Amateurs had a Class A, Class B or Class C license.

Class A conveyed all amateur privileges on all frequencies, including exclusive access to the 75 and 20 meter phone bands. Class A required passing a comprehensive theory exam, and a 13 WPM CW test, which included sending as well as receiving.

Class B conveyed all CW privileges on all bands, and allowed phone operation on 160, 11 and ten meters in the HF spectrum, and on all VHF/UHF frequencies. Note that 75 and 20 phone operation was limited to Class A hams. What about 40 and 15 meters? Well, 40 at that time was CW only. And as for 21 Mc, It wasn't a ham band back then! 15 meters was given to us in 1947 in exchange for the 14.35-14.40 mc segment of 20 meters, but the 15 meter band actually wasn't available to hams until 1952. In addition, 160 meter access was severely restricted at that time because of LORAN Radionavigation and 11 meters was a secondary US only allocation, with limited popularity, so the Class B ham who wanted HF phone action went to ten meters by default. Class B hams passed the same 13 WPM code test as Class A, but a less comprehensive written test.

Class C gave the exact same privileges as Class B, but the exam was given by mail, under the supervision of a Class B (or higher) license, to those who couldn't walk the 175 miles (uphill both ways through the snow!) to a quarterly FCC examination point.

In 1951, the FCC reorganized the entire license structure. Class A was replaced by the Advanced, Class B by the General, and Class C by the Conditional. Three new licenses were created at that time, the Extra, Technician and Novice. The Extra (actually "Amateur Extra") had a 20 WPM code requirement and a written exam more difficult than the old Class A. In order to qualify for the Extra, one needed to be licensed as a Class B or General for at least two years, in addition to passing the test. However, if you held a Class B, or General license (or higher), and you were licensed prior to April, 1917, you could get an Extra with no additional test. Technicians had to pass the General theory and a five WPM CW test. They had privileges above 220 Mc only. Novices had a basic 20 question written exam, the five WPM code test, and limited CW privileges on 80, 11 and two meters, as well as voice privileges on two meters. This was a one-year, non-renewable license. The Advanced was available until December 31, 1952, for upgrades/new licenses, at which time it was withdrawn from availability. Those holding Advanced class licenses could continue to renew, but no new licenses were issued. In 1952-53, the FCC also dropped a couple of other surprises -- phone operation was allowed for the first time on 40 meters, 15 meters was finally opened, the 14.35-14.4 Mc segment of 20 meters was removed from the amateur service, and, in the biggest bombshell of them all, Generals (former Class B) and Conditionals (former Class C) were given access to all former exclusive Class A phone frequencies. Now, Conditional, General, Advanced and Extra Class operators had the exact on-the-air privileges. During the 1950s, Novices were given 40 and 15 meter CW privileges in addition to their 80 meter segment and 11 meters was removed. Technicians got six meters in 1955 and the 145-147 Mc segment of two meters in 1959. Technicians could also hold a Novice class license simultaneously.

Many amateurs were unhappy with this structure. Extras complained that they had to go through a two year waiting period as a General or Advanced, had to

pass a difficult test, and yet received no exclusive frequencies for their efforts. Advanced class amateurs were upset with the "limbo" status of their licenses, the fact that they no longer held the highest class license, and the fact that they no longer had exclusive use of 75 and 20 meter phone. General, Advanced and Extra class amateurs complained that Novices should not have been given 15 meter CW. The General, Advanced and Extra class hams were also opposed to increasing Technician class privileges, for reasons we will see in our next installment.

In summary, although the vast number of hams were satisfied, a small minority had complaints. And the ARRL listened. In 1963, acting on complaints they claim they received from members and operators in other countries, the ARRL proposed "Incentive

Licensing." In an editorial, the ARRL implied that perhaps it was a mistake when the Class B and Generals were given the 75 and 20 meter phone segments. The ARRL's stand was now clear. Exclusive frequencies must be restored to the Advanced and Extra class amateurs in order to give the Generals an "incentive" to upgrade. Of course, what was left unsaid was that in order to do so, frequencies would have to be taken away from the General class hams.

What was the ARRL's original proposal? How did hams react to it? What was the controversy about the Technician class license that was dragged to the forefront in this battle? Be on board "The Wayback Machine" next time for the answers!

June 2007 VE Testing

Allen Sellers, KB8JLG

The VE test session on June 17, 2007 was a "really big shew" as the late Ed Sullivan would say. There were twenty five candidates... Four people passed the Technician, thirteen passed the General and one person passed the Extra with a perfect score.

We had to ask two people to wait until there were empty chairs because the testing room was packed. Because candidates were sitting shoulder to shoulder, we used three versions of the tests so that no one was sitting next to a person taking the same test version.

I received so many inquiries before the test that I asked five other VE's to help so that we had six. I

guess the General question pool change at the end of June caused the big turn out.

Thanks to Bob KI8JM, John W8AGS, John W8OF, Gary W8GTS and Jack AE8P for helping on Father's Day. Bob and Gary also stayed until 2PM to help check the paperwork before we left the building.

I want to conduct a General license study class later this summer after the question pool has changed. It would take about seven weeks and I like to have classes at 7PM Tuesdays.

Let me know if you are interested.

Radio Night VE Exam and Other Stuff

By Allen Sellers, KB8JLG

Two club members requested a testing session before the General class question pool change and we conducted it at the Fun Night session on June 28 2007. Jack AE8P, Gary W8GTS and Allen KB8JLG administered the test and both passed. The five of us were able to fit into the office and the rest of the activities weren't disrupted.

The General study guide changes to the new version July 1, 2007. The current Extra study guide is good until 2008 and the Technician study guide is valid until 2009. I am reminded that some people cannot attend our testing sessions on Sundays and I

want to restate that I will be glad to setup tests for club members on days other than Sundays.

I am planning a Ham Radio Yard Sale for Saturday, July 21, 2007 at the club house. I plan on starting at 8AM and quitting about 2PM. Anyone who wants to bring items to sell are requested to notify me so it doesn't unexpectedly get too big. I have a junk box of electrical/ham stuff (relays, heatsinks, transformers, etc) that isn't very valuable but I dislike throwing it away. I also live in the country where I am hard to find and there is no space for visitors' cars... so a yard sale at the clubhouse because I don't want to wait till the Swap Meet next October. I am not limiting the types of

items but if you bring something that doesn't sell you have to remove it. We have to be cognizant of the county's concerns so we cannot use their dumpster. I am not planning on advertising the sale in any paper... just among the ham community.

On June 26, 2007 I met Jonathon Baker from Athens and his grandfather Andrew Batchelor at the

club house to help Jon get his Boy Scout Radio Merit Badge. He already had most of the requirements done so it was just a matter of showing him a radio station. Ralph W8BVH and I had a schedule on 2 meters so Jon was able to talk on the radio and Ralph did a good job of keeping the conversation going.

Final VE Exam for June

By Allen Sellers, KB8JLG
Allen KB8JLG, Jack AE8P and Larry Lamb N8AKO, a long time local ham and VE, administered a General class exam on June 30, 2007, the last day for the old question pool at the club house. The lady,

who passed, had taken the Technician exam at the June 17 session and called on Thursday to ask if it was possible to get in ahead of the deadline. Someone had given her the old General study guide. Thanks to Jack and Larry.

Field Day 2007

By Allen Sellers, KB8JLG
We operated from the clubhouse as class 2D; the 100 watt Kenwood upstairs with the triband beam on SSB and a 40 watt Yaesu FT 897 in the meeting room with the Alpha Delta DX-CC doublet on CW. The CW signals were heard on the Kenwood but I was told it wasn't too bad. We made 87 SSB contacts on 20 and 15 meters. Most of the 15 meter contacts were Sunday morning. We made 39 CW contacts. These were all Saturday night high speed (20WPM plus) on 40 meters except one 80 meter contact Sunday morning. Mike W0MNE loaned us the CW rig and MFJ 948 tuner. We tried 6 meters but the club Halo antenna wouldn't load better than 3 to 1. We concluded that the matching section must have a fault inside the enclosure. The band was dead when Griff's KG4IDG nice temporary mast and antenna was tried. The logging program by N3FJP worked great and is very inexpensive... less than \$10 (for the single FD application and not the entire package).

of us went to breakfast at Root's Restaurant at 9AM Saturday and returned to the club house to start the setup early. We accepted the 24 hour operating limit since we anticipated everyone would be tired and ready to quit early on Sunday (we actually quit around Noon). We discussed going to get a generator (I had brought 5 gallons of gas and a case of oil) since most of us had one at home... but we thought what's the point when we all use them for power outages on a regular basis. This was a minor mistake as we learned later that this put us in Class D where we could not contact other D stations for credit. This only affected the CW station twice but perhaps a dozen or more of the SSB contacts Saturday night.

I think we operated with an operator and logger better than 90 percent of the time at both stations. At 11PM Saturday there were only three people left, myself and two Technicians (one who was a guest), so I asked them to quit for the night as I needed some sleep. I had brought my dog and sleeping bag (my wife was in Las Vegas) so you can see that I, personally, had really planned ahead for Field Day.

The big problems with setup were the computers. One with a 400MB hard drive and 4MB RAM couldn't run the 15MB logging program, another did not have a hard drive and there was a bad monitor. Fred W8FZ, Jeff WD8JLY and Griff KG4IDG all volunteered and made trips for parts or equipment. I brought a package of test leads with clips that enabled us to use a straight key that did not have the correct size cable plug. The weather was cool with an overcast sky so Ralph W8BVH turned the AC off, the fan on and opened most of the windows so we were very comfortable. I noticed that there had been several sprinkles of rain on Saturday but wasn't aware of them at the time.

Since I knew most of the preliminary planning, I volunteered to coordinate the event due to last minute unavoidable changes and it went pretty well. Seven

Twenty six people signed the register and I want to express my appreciation for their attendance as it was nice to see everyone and maybe take a break

from ham radio for a while and visit. There were two visitors, Mark's KC8TUW son Jonathan, age ten, and Terry N8WXU from Kingston, OH. Marie KB8VOL brought a nice vegetable plate and dip that didn't last long. Tom KB8USK brought a crock pot full of chilidogs that never ran out... there were at least three dozen and maybe more. Very tasty; it was nice to leave what ever I was doing, grab a veggie or sandwich and return with very little inconvenience.

I tried to have an operating schedule so that people could "reserve" a time for operating that met their schedule. It seemed to work but I didn't explain that my real reason is that when people are operating/logging it is difficult to remember to share with others. If you were excluded from an activity, please accept my apologies and we all will try to do better. It would be perfectly OK to ask an operator/logger when you could take a turn even if you had not signed the schedule sheet.

Fred will keep the logging program CD and had spent some time contacting N3FJP to make sure we have the latest version. I only learned to enter the operator's name into the logging program Sunday morning so we do not have that information in the report.

In the lessons learned area, I can say I learned a lot. It was nice to operate Mike's Yaesu since I hadn't seen one before. Our club Kenwood is a REALLY nice rig even today, although it doesn't have the computer interface capabilities of state-of-the-art rigs. I got some practice at tuning an antenna tuner with a cross-needle SWR meter. I also got to use the logging program and if the other applications include a generic log for everyday use, I might be interested in buying a copy.

Several of us of varying CW ability tried to make contacts but only John W8AGS (20WPM+) and Jeff had much luck. My 10WPM+ and Mark's 15WPM+ didn't have any contacts. Since John stated that he got a contact from everyone he called, I don't think the 40 watts output explains the problem. My conclusion is, and I'm not being facetious... Set up a separate station with 800/1000 watts and a decent antenna so these high-speed elitists have to work you so you will go away. In all fairness, if a rig has a menu to control keyer speed, it is inconvenient to

accommodate slower operators. John spaced his characters farther apart to help in this situation. All CW contacts were made without the aid of a memory keyer.

Computers are susceptible to nearby RF energy. Keep the computer cover on (I'm guilty here) and move the coax if necessary, even two feet or a different arrangement (thanks Don WD8PCF).

Next year have a formal interest survey so that we can plan a little better. As an example, I hadn't expected any attempt on 6 meters and I'm sorry I didn't provide any help in that area. Also, if you are a slow speed CW operator like me would you like to help setup and operate a monster station for that purpose?

I got to see Bob's KD8EXK mobile 2 meter rig mount that was very cleverly done. Ralph had a nice audio filter for the SSB station. Griff had a military surplus 20 foot vertical mast with a folding base that was guyed with tent stakes. It looked very versatile and sturdy.

Best of all, no one got hurt (thanks to Ralph for covering the CW station coax that was on the floor) and there were no disagreements that I am aware of. If you have suggestions for next year, tell me now so I can make a note of it.

The roof is going to be repaired this summer. Jeff was on the roof for the 6 meter antenna and said even the flatter sections were like walking on marbles due to the crumbling shingles.

Here is the list from the sign-in log –

KB8JLG	W8AGS	W0MNE	W8BVH
KG4IDG	WD8PGO	KD8DXC	KD8EEK
W8FZ	WD8JLY	WD8PCF	KD8EXK
AE8P	KD8EEI	KB8USK	K8MGA
KB8VOL	KB8DRQ	KC8NQG	KB8AHK
N8WXU	KD8FTY	KC8TUW	W8EZE
KB8USP	Jonathan Urbine		

Editors Note: A big thank you to Allen, KB8JLG for coordinating Field Day on such short notice. Everything ran very smoothly and you deserve our most sincere thanks for a job well done.

Field Day 2007 Another Perspective

By Griff Warren, KG4IDG

A number of members participated in Field Day 2007 between June 23 and June 24, 2007 at the L&FCARC Clubhouse.

Two transceivers were operated simultaneously from commercial power main using the club's permanent antenna array. This classified our entry as "2D".

Upstairs in the newly remodeled radio room the Kenwood transceiver fed the tri-band beam. Operation was purposely limited to 20m and 15m to avoid interfering with the CW station below. QSOs were logged using simple and functional logging software. The bands were open almost anywhere that the beam was pointed. Contacts were logged from Los Angeles (LAX) to South Florida (SFL) with a few Canadian calls logged as well. Eighty six Phne QSOs were completed from the air-conditioned comfort of K8QIKs main operating position.

Downstairs in the meeting room the CW station was set up using a Yaesu FT 897 driving the Alpha-Delta DX CC antenna. Operation was mainly on 40m with a stray QSO logged on 80m before the end of the event. Most of the action was in the Northeast

with calls common from Long Island, New York, New Jersey Massachusetts, Rhode Island, etc. But the Mid-west and South were not silent. Thirty nine CW QSOs were logged, each earning double points under Field Day rules.

The Old-Timers' Room housed a VHF rig on 6 meters feeding a venerable Saturn 6 Halo temporarily mounted on the lawn. But the "Magic Band" disappointed by never really opening.

So the log books added up to 164 QSO points each earning a power multiplier of two (for operating below 150 watts). On top of the resulting 328 points, we claimed 150 Bonus Points resulting in a total score of 478 points. Not bad!

A copy of the complete ARRL submission package will be available at the club house shortly for inspection

The club extends many thanks and warm 73 to Allen Sellers KB8JLG who assumed Field Day chairmanship on short notice. Allen and his trusty dog, Butler, also spent the night operating and keeping an eye on the station for us.

Kenwood – Death of a Radio Company ?

Thanks to Ralph Howes, W8BVH for sending the following 2 articles for the Ragchewer

(Jun 25, 2007). Kenwood to merge with JVC next year This Week in Consumer Electronics (TWICE) reports that Kenwood has agreed to merge in 2008 with Victor Company of Japan (JVC) under a holding company. JVC is owned by Matsushita Electric Industrial Company. Japan's Nikkei business newspaper reports that the final details should be worked out by the end of the month, and that under the plan, Kenwood will buy 20 billion yen (\$161,469,466) in JVC shares as early as this summer, raising its stake to 13 percent. Matsushita will also sell part of its 52.7 percent of JVC to Kenwood's top shareholder, the Sparx Group. When JVC and Kenwood integrate operations under the holding company in 2008, Matsushita will sell the rest of its JVC shares to the holding company to

complete the transaction. The holding company's stock will be listed instead of Kenwood and JVC, according to Nikkei. Combined, Kenwood's and JVC's sales are \$7.3 billion dollars annually for their fiscal year that ended March 31.

Editors Note: Losing Kenwood could be a huge set-back for the Amateur radio scene.

On the other hand, there is no indication at this time that they will quit manufacturing amateur radios. We have no idea what direction the company will take. It may be the best thing that could happen for Kenwood and they may be a better and stronger company as a result. We'll just have to wait and see.

Ten Tec Takes Trade-Ins

Forwarded by Ralph Howes, W8BVH

As of July 2007, Ten-Tec and The Ham Station of Evansville, IN are pleased to announce via a joint venture that Ten-Tec will now take used Icom, Kenwood, and Yaesu transceivers as trade-ins on Ten-Tec equipment.

How the program works: It's very easy -- if you have a Japanese transceiver to trade for Ten-Tec equipment, contact The Ham Station at (812) 422-0231 for an approximate quote via telephone and specify that you are interested in trading your used

radio for equipment to be shipped by Ten-Tec. The Ham Station will request that you send the transceiver to them for an evaluation and exact sales quote if the approximate quote is satisfactory to you.

Ham Station will provide the exact quote to Ten-Tec after your trade-in has been evaluated. We can then take your order for new, demo, or used Ten-Tec equipment and will charge your credit card the sales price of the Ten-Tec gear minus the trade-in value agreed on by The Ham Station for your trade-in.

<http://radio.tentec.com/Amateur/UsedDemo>



Editors Note:

Thanks to Ralph Howes, W8BVH for the photos taken at Field Day, and the contributions to the Ragchewer. Thanks to Griff Warren, KG4IDG for the article about Field Day.

How can we show our appreciation to Allen Sellers, KB8JLG for all his work. The VE testing which he organizes and administers. Taking over Field Day at the last minute and doing a fine job, then writing up all his activities. It's his selfless contributions that will make this club stronger. A huge THANKS Allen !!!!

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LFCARC
P.O. Box 3
Lancaster, OH 43130

K8QIK

July 2007



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