

The Ragchewer

December 2009

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

On the Web: www.k8qik.org
Send email to webmaster@k8qik.org

Club Meetings :

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

VE Testing:

Every even numbered
month. See ARRL.ORG for
date. Register and testing at
10:00 am

Clubhouse Location:

Near Lancaster on State
Route 37 North (Granville
Pike) next to Beavers Field.
Across from campus Ohio
University-Lancaster

Nets:

Mondays at 9:00 p.m.
147.03 MHz (+.6)
146.70 MHz (-.6) Alt. Freq.
443.875 MHz (+5)
Sunday 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

Thursday Night Radio Night

Radio night is every Thursday at 6:00 p.m.
(except the first Thursday which is the club
monthly meeting). Work a little HF, maybe
build something? How about a hot cup of
coffee. 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.

December VE Test:

The next VE test will be Saturday, 19DEC09
at the clubhouse on Route 37. Register 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 Webmaster@K8QIK.ORG or Ragchewer
Editor at ASELLERS1081@att.NET

HAMFESTS

Nelsonville OH: 17JAN10
Mansfield OH: 14FEB10
Lancaster OH: 03APR10
Dayton OH: 14-16 MAY10

2009-2010 Officers

President:

George Lambert, KB8USP

Vice President:

Mark Urbine, KC8TUW

Treasurer:

Ed Campbell Sr., WD8PGO

Secretary:

Mary Travis, KD8EEI

Trustee:

John Hilliard, W8OF

Station Engineer:

John Hilliard, W8OF

Education:

Allen Sellers, KB8JLG

Activities Manager:

Sandy Snider, KD8FTX
Connie Snoke, N8LPC

Public Relations:

Mark Urbine, KC8TUW

Flower Fund:

Ed Bennett, KD8EEJ

Web Master:

Robert Northrup, KC8PSW

Editor:

Allen Sellers, KB8JLG
Asellers1081@att.net

December 3, 2009 Meeting Minutes

At 7:30 p.m. the monthly meeting was called to order by President George Lambert, KB8USP who lead the Pledge of Allegiance. There were 22 members present.

The Executive Committee met and approved the appointment of Allen Sellers as "Chairman Educational Committee". As chairman of that committee, Allen will have members who can conduct classes for Technical, General and Extra as well as tutoring classing for Extra and VE testing.

Our Thursday night event in the future will be called "Good Eats At 6 PM".

Officer Reports

Secretary Report: Mary Travis, KD8EEI

Minutes for the November meeting were posted in the Ragchewer. Motion to accept was made by John, W8AGS and seconded by Ray, W8FLX. Motion carried.

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

Ed gave the treasurer's report. Motion to accept by Don, WD8PCF and seconded by Ray, W8FLX. Motion carried.

VP Report: Mark Urbine, KC8TUW

Mark reported that he has been discussing the possibility of a high school group for amateur radio with Eric Morris, Career Tech Instructor at Stanberry and with Don Smith, Observatory at the high school. Mark is thinking of a possible radio theory class and then have some of our members instruct. Mark also said maybe it would be possible to have a weather astronomy combined with field day at the high school next year. Mark will get information from Mark White who has put together an outline for possible events.

Mark reported that he did some checking at the library and found out that the books he had the library order in 2002 have been disposed of since they were not used within the time frame necessary to keep the books. He also brought up the fact that if we donate the books, our club name would be noted in the front of the book for publicity. At the present time there are no funds for the library to purchase new books.

Trustee Report: John Hilliard, W8OF

John reported that the new generator will probably be installed at the county site sometime next week. As a result, John felt that a committee should be established to be ready to work on getting the old generator (which is being given to the club by the County) up and ready to use if needed.

Committee Reports

Webmaster: Robert Northrup, KC8PSW

Robert reported that he has had some serious problems with the website recently and has spent many, many hours on the phone with Go-Daddy and he is not sure if the problems have been solved. Robert has found a work around for the present and has agreed to stay on as webmaster until he returns from his winter vacation in April. At that time we will see how the website is going.

Chairman Educational Committee: Allen Sellers, KB8JLG

Allen reported that the recent technician classes were completed and test session was conducted which resulted in 5 passing the Technician and 1 person who also took the General and passed. There were two 8th graders who did not pass but attended the classes.

Monday Night Net

| | | |
|--------------------------|--------|---------------|
| December 7th | W8OF | John Hilliard |
| December 14th | W8AGS | John Lawson |
| December 21st | KD8DXC | Rob Ruffner |
| December 28th | K9ULO | John Dolske |
| January 4 th | W8OF | John Hilliard |
| January 11 th | W8AGS | John Lawson |

Ragchewer: Allen Sellers, KB8JLG - Nothing new to report.

Emergency Coordinator: Ed Campbell, WD8PGO - Ed thanked everyone who worked for the 5K run and Christmas parade

Safety: Scott Snoke, WD8IXO - No report

Station Engineer: John Hilliard, W8OF - The packet computer has been crashing and John had a gentleman down from Columbus to work on the system. John has taken the computer home to work on it and once it is up and running, he will bring it back to the clubhouse.

John also reported that Steve, KD8JLA has requested some changes be made to the radio room at FMC and they are in the process of removing a table and chairs and building a bench where the radio equipment can be set up for our use when needed. We thank Steve for all he has done to get this emergency station equipped and ready.

Activities Co-Managers: Connie Snoke, N8LPC and Sandy Snider, KD8FTX

Connie reminded everyone of the Christmas Party on December 12th at the Pizza Cottage, Fair Avenue at 6:30 p.m. Connie & Sandy have been working on door prizes.

Flower Fund: Ed Bennett, KD8EEJ - Ed reported \$11.00 collected and Steve, KD8JLA won \$5.50.

Ed also reported no winner for the 50/50/

New Business:

George asked for volunteers for the Generator Committee and the following volunteered: Ed, KD8EEJ; John, K9ULO; Allen, KB8JLG and George, KB8USP.

George asked for volunteers for the Audit Committee and Ray, W8FLX and John, K9ULO volunteered.

Charlie, N8KZN reported that he was working with Amanda and Bremen library to see what books they have in their libraries.

Connie N8LPC will set up a meeting with Business Pro and the officers of the club to discuss what our reporting requirements and record keeping is needed for our 501 (C) (3) classification.

Jay, KD8HVW asked for communications volunteers for Santa in the Park at Alley Park from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on December 10, 11 and 12th. Anyone who can help, please contact Jay.

Robert, KC8PSW stated that we might want to consider having something in the 4th of July and Christmas Parades to help get the word out that we have a local radio club.

Don, WD8PCF made motion to adjourn. Seconded by John, K9ULO. Motion carried and we adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Travis, KD8EEI, Secretary

2009 Fort Wayne Hamfest – Allen Sellers KB8JLG

This is the second one I've attended, even though it is 3 hours each way, because it is a two-day event and is second only to Dayton. To be candid, it is a distant second but because it is a two-day event the vendors stay until 4PM (5PM EST time). We left Canal Winchester at 7AM and got back at 7:30PM There was a major accident at Upper Sandusky on the way home and when we saw the "Life flight" helicopter overhead, we crossed the median and went back to an interchange and by-passed it.

There were more than a dozen Vendors and many (approximately 200) tables in the fleamarket area. There was quite a bit of computer stuff and the ham equipment was a good mix of decent rigs at typical prices- not many boat anchors - and all were fairly clean. I am reminded that there was a lot of nice TEN-TEC and Heathkit stuff compared to other hamfests. There were easily more than 300 cars in the parking lot. The three or four vendors selling tubes were very organized and knowledgeable. Most small, common tubes were \$3 and beam power tubes like 6LQ6's were \$30 (new-in-box) or \$15 (used-tested). Most of the power tubes sold before 11AM.

There weren't many books in the fleamarket area but I did get a set of manuals for Knight T50, T60, T150 transmitters and the beginners series of Knight regenerative kit receivers (Space Spanner, Ocean Hopper, etc.).

I shared a ride with a person from the Technician class and we got there at 10AM EST and we finished one pass of the fleamarket after four hours. We did leave the venue for lunch and paid a second parking fee- given the venue's food prices (soft drinks \$3) and quality I thought it was a worthwhile expense.

2009 Nelsonville Hamfest – Allen Sellers KB8JLG

This is scheduled for Sunday 17JAN10; setup at 7AM and open to the public 8AM to 2PM. The location is the Joint Vocational School just south of Nelsonville, Ohio. As you know, almost everyone (vendors and the public) will leave before 12Noon. Entry is \$6 and tables are \$7 each. The VE Test is 12Noon. Contact people are Les Westfall N8TRK@ YAHOO.COM or tables at SDUNCAN@ INTELLIWAVE.COM.

If you want to go with others to save gas costs, ask at the club meetings or call me; I can help arrange a "car pool". In the past, six or eight of us from Lancaster have met with a similar group from Logan, Ohio for breakfast at Dee's restaurant just this side of Nelsonville. This is a such a small hamfest you can see everything in half an hour, so it is more of a social event- BUT it is the FIRST hamfest of the year and it is indoor at a nice facility.

2009 Extra Class Study class – Allen Sellers KB8JLG

This is George's KB8USP idea and is scheduled for March 2010 and is limited to about 15 people. Contact me if interested because we already have 5 people signed on. You do not have to be a club member or live in Lancaster. We will use the ARRL EXTRA CLASS LICENSE MANUAL and may have a fee of \$15 that will apply toward the test, which will occur the week after the class completion. We are not sure of the details but it looks like the classes will be at the clubhouse, Tuesday nights at 7PM and meet weekly.

Because this is such a big task we are going to try and have ten instructors to cover the ten study sections- so we need more instructors (we have four now). Any one can be an instructor- even a class student if you are willing to learn a section's material well enough to teach it. And why not? I used to teach Novice and Technician classes when I was a Novice.

Education Committee – Allen Sellers KB8JLG

Mark White KD8IMT has volunteered to be on the Education Committee. I could use more people and even ideas if you can't serve on the committee.