



The Ragchewer

November 3, 2011

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

Club Meetings :

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

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.

VE Test:

The next test has not been scheduled. Call Allen KB8JLG (740) 654 – 8167 for details.

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 ragchewer@sbcglobal.net

HAMFESTS

01/29/2012 ... Tusco ARC Hamfest, Strasburg, OH
<http://www.tuscoarc.org>

02/05/2012 ... Winter Hamfest, Lorain, OH
<http://www.noars.net>

Special Event Stations

<http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>
Choose dates of 11-8-2011 to 12-12-2011.

2011-2012 Officers

President:

Rob Ruffner, KD8DXC

Vice President:

George Lambert, KB8USP

Treasurer:

Ed Campbell Sr., WD8PGO

Secretary:

Mary Travis, KD8EEI

Trustee:

John Hilliard, W8OF

Station Engineer:

John Hilliard, W8OF

Education:

Allen Sellers, KB8JLG

Activities Managers

Sandy Snider, KD8FTX
Connie Snoke,

Public Relations:

Mark Urbine, KC8TUW

Flower Fund:

Ed Bennett, SK 7-2011

Web Master:

John, K9ULO & Carol Dolske
Webmaster@K8QIK.ORG

Editor:

Ralph Howes, W8BVH
ragchewer@sbcglobal.net

November 3, 2011 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 24 members present.

George, KB8USP explained to the members that Robert VanDyke has withdrawn from office of President and stated the Executive Committee met on October 28th. According to the constitution vacancies in office occurring between elections shall be filled by appointment of the executive committee. Rob Ruffner, KD8DXC was asked if he would be willing to be President and George Lambert, KB8USP was asked if he would be Vice President. Rob and George agreed to take the appropriate offices.

Charlie, N8KZN swore in the new officers as follows: **President:** Rob Ruffner, KD8DXC; **Vice President,** George Lambert, KB8USP; **Treasurer,** Ed Campbell, **WD8PGO;** **Secretary,** Mary Travis, KD8EEI.

Officer Reports

Secretary Report: Mary Travis, KD8EEI

Minutes for the October meeting were posted in the Ragchewer. Motion to accept minutes was made by Ray, W8FLX and seconded by Ralph, W8BVH. Motion carried.

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

Ed gave the treasurer's report and Ray, W8FLX made motion to approve, seconded by John, K9ULO. All in favor.

VP Report: George Lambert, KB8USP

No report

Trustee Report: John Hilliard, W8OF

No report.

Committee Reports

Webmaster: John (K9ULO) & Carol Dolske

John, K9ULO reported that he would update the membership on the website once he received a new list from Ed, WD8PGO.

Chairman Educational Committee: Allen Sellers, KB8JLG

Allen not at the meeting but his Extra Class is continuing to meet on Saturday from 9 – 11 a.m. at the clubhouse.

Monday Night Nets

Nov. 7th John Rader KD8PAF
Nov. 14th John Lawson, W8AGS
Nov. 21st Rob Ruffner, KD8DXC
Nov. 28th John Dolske, K9ULO

Ragchewer: Ralph Howes, W8BVH

Ralph asked members to submit anything they might have of interest to the membership.

Emergency Coordinator: Ed Campbell, WD8PGO

Ed reported that the ARES group would be meeting again on Nov. 15th at 7 p.m. at the EMA office.

Charlie, N8KZN asked for volunteers for working the holiday parade on Nov. 19th. They are: George, KB8USP; Rob, KD8DXC; Mary, KD8EEI; Ray, W8FLX; Connie, N8LPC; Charlie, N8KZN; Gary, W8GTS; Sandy, KD8FTX; Paul, KD8DDD; Ed, WD8PGO; Dave, WB9PXH; Don, WD8PCF; and Candy, KC8NQG. John, K9ULO will have his truck entered in the parade for the club. We will operate on 147.030 but may have to start on 146.70 to check in.

Safety: Scott Snoke, WD8IXO

No report.

Station Engineer: John Hilliard, W8OF

No report.

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

Connie reported for Sandy that the Christmas party would be held December 10th at 6:30 p.m. at Fat Cats Pizza temporary location or Golden Corral. Members will be limited to one guest because of the limited room size. Members will be notified via email once the decision is made on which location.

Roll call taken tonight:

George	KB8USP
Don	WD8PCF
Mary	KD8EEI
Charlie	N8KZN
Steve	KD8JLA
Gary	W8GTS
Ray	W8FLX
Rob	KD8DXC
Mark	KD8IMT
Mike	WD8EBS
Paula	KD8OCI
Mike	WN8C
Dave	WB9PXH
Jack	AE8P
Robert	KC8PSW
John	KD8EEK
Connie	N8LPC
Ed	WD8PGO
John	K9ULO
Paul	KD8DDD
Ralph	W8BVH
Larry	KB8AHK
Candy	KC8NQG
Mike	W0MNE

Morse Tips & Quips



**"IT'S NEVER TOO EARLY TO START
LEARNING MORSE CODE!"**

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Old Business:

Rob, KD8DXC will get a tarp and cover the generator on the front porch.

New Business:

Robert, KC8PSW stated he had been asked to submit a quote for continuing the steps to the front porch, which are 16 feet long and 42 inches wide. It would be \$120 without a rail and \$170 with a rail the same as the steps. Ray, W8FLX made motion to install the ramp pending approval from the County (Ed, WD8PGO will check with County and let Robert know the answer), seconded by Steve, KD8JLA. Rob asked for show of hands and 21 approved and 3 were opposed. Motion carried.

Mary, KD8EEI will send a thank you to Jim Snider, WB8RCT for his donation of equipment to the club. Club will keep ICOM 2 meter and Lafayette 6 meter rig. Since John, W8OF is station engineer he looked at equipment and decided that only the 2-meter and 6 meter would be kept for club members and the other equipment will be given to Allen, KB8JLG to sell for the club.

Ray, W8FLX reminded everyone that he would be showing a video "The Last Big Field Day" at 7 p.m. on December 1st. Steve, KD8JLA will bring projector and laptop and Mary, KD8EEI will bring the club laptop. Mary will also send an email a few days before the December meeting reminding everyone of the 7p.m. video.

A question came up about who was doing public relations for the club. It has been Mark, KC8TUW. Mary will send an email asking if he wishes to continue in this role. If not, we will ask for a volunteer.

Rob, KD8DXC stated there may be no Sunday night net on Nov. 13th since he has to work longer that day.

John, K9ULO made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Gary, W8GTS. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Travis, KD8EEI,
Secretary

The December meeting will be preceded by the showing of a video at 7pm. The video title is "The Last Big Field Day". Come early and stay for the meeting. See Ray (W8FLX) for questions.



As most of you know, this Friday is Veteran's Day. Please remember our service men and women in your prayers. Hope they all come home safe.....and soon...

On another note, there will be a lot of special event stations on the air this weekend due to Veteran's Day celebrations. Hop on board and work a few. It is a lot of fun and you can get some experience on HF.

Results of Ohio State Parks on the Air 2011.....(local members).

Well for the second year in a row **Gary (W8GTS)** participated in the OSPOTA Contest . This year it was held on September 10, 2011 and the hours were from noon till 8:00 PM.

This year he worked 28 State Parks and had 38 QSO's for a score of 1064 points which was good enough to place 5th and earn a certificate in the "Single Operator or Multi-Op Operating inside Ohio not at an Ohio State Park" class.

Last year he had a 550 score and was also 5th. He seemed to be in a rut *Hi Hi*. Hopefully next year he will move up a little.

Anyone wanting to have an enjoyable contesting experience would surely find a lot of fun to be had in this one, give it a try next year in September.

For Full Results See URL Below:

<http://parks.portcars.org/ospota/wp-content/uploads/2011/10/ospota-2011summary-18oct2000.pdf>

Fred (WA8PGE) writes that he had a terrific experience this year in the OSPOTA contest and operated with a friend of his, **Dave Brown (K8AX)**, from Great Seal State Park near Chillicothe.

They operated in the Low Power- Multi Operator category but with a twist, rather than "under 10 watts" they decided to operate true QRP - under 5 watts. The rigs we used were Dave's 706 and Fred's SDR Softrock 6.3, both under 5 watts. They used 2 solar panels to keep their batteries topped off for the event. There was no AC in the park.

Almost all of our QSO's were on SSB and this was their first experience with NVIS antennas. Their 80m dipole was 20' high or so at the center.

They worked Gary W8GTS, on 80 and 40 and were pleasantly surprised to have Allen Sellers (KB8JLG) visit them in the afternoon.

They ended up qualifying for a certificate, placing #3 in Low Power, Multi Operator category. Fred said "Pretty darn good for QRP if I don't say so myself!"

Dave and Fred have their sights set on operating from one of the Lake Erie island state parks next year, possibly Put-in-Bay (South Bass Island State Park). Some of those parks have never been activated for this contest.

Dave and Fred are both looking forward to **OSPOTA 2012!**

John (K9ULO) writes that he also participated in OSPOTA but only had about 2 hours of free time to participate. He operated portable from his back yard. He used his I-Com 706IIG and a Buddy Pole in the NVIS configuration on 80 meters SSB as a single operator (in Ohio, but not in a state park) category. He was able to make 7 contacts with 7 different parks to finish tied for 12th place. Great job John. That's using some creativity.

Congratulations to all of our members for participating and sharing their stories.

Editor's note:

There are a lot of other activities such as this one we all can take advantage of and they are fun. Also visiting a site where one of these activities are going on, such as the one at the Great Seal Park near Chillicothe is time well spent and you make new friends also. Next time you hear of an activity, ask on of your fellow club members and you will get all the help you can handle.

LFCARC

Christmas Party

December 10, 2011

6:30 till 9:30

Golden Corral (Lancaster)

Business RT. 33 by Lowes

Lots of door prizes

**Due to limitations on room size available,
Members and one guest are invited to attend.**

Sandy Snider, KD8FTX
740- 569-4732
sksnider0533@gmail.com

Connie Snoke, N8LPC
740- 654-4582

ARRL Section Manager Recall – by Allen Sellers KB8JLG

I have heard that there is a petition being circulated to recall the Ohio ARRL Section Manager Frank Piper KI8GW. I went to a public information meeting of ARRL representatives (three of them) at the Massillon Hamfest and asked for information. They would not disclose the details but I learned the following from them–

There is a recall petition being circulated, at least in central Ohio.

The deadline for signing is sometime in November 2011.

A valid petition must have about 250 signatures based on membership in Ohio.

If there is enough signatures, a recall ballot will be sent to ARRL members in Ohio in December 2011.

Nothing was done by Mr. Piper to require immediate action... but every member has the right to circulate a petition.

There seems to be a personal conflict behind this effort and I personally regret that this has occurred. Too bad that cooler heads weren't able to prevail and encourage an orderly process of running another candidate during the next election cycle. Instead our hobby has to experience this ugly event in which a "well-meaning" member is subjected public abuse.

2011 October Massillon Hamfest – by Allen Sellers KB8JLG

Once again a nice hamfest... indoor, warm and well-lit with nice restrooms. There were a lot of used tubes from a vendor and all the tables were sold. I was surprised as the tables cost \$14 each. When I asked about the cost of tables I was told the tables were rented for the occasion. There was a nice crowd at the 8AM opening but it cleared out pretty early as it only took about an hour to see the flea market display. There were less than five people taking the VE test when I looked into the room.

The old-time auction had items from a ham estate with many items collected over the years. More than 500 tested tubes, about a dozen "Variacs" from 10 watt to 500 watt, wire and coax cable. The nicer ham equipment from the estate was sold at table in the flea market area. I got an MFJ-207 HF antenna analyzer for a good price.

I am still cleaning my basement and sold about \$50 worth of stuff so the trip was worthwhile. In addition to seeing my son during my overnight visit, I got to buy him a solid wheelbarrow tire (\$23) at the Canton Harbor Freight and spent four hours helping him rake leaves.

Special Note.....

Jim Snider WB8RCT made a donation of the following equipment to our club. A big thank you to Jim is in order and Mary is doing just that for the club. See George, KB8USP about these items. The 6 & 2 meter. rigs are to stay at the club house for now.

- a-Scanner - Bearcat 12
- b-6M AM transceiver Lafayette HA-460 + manual + power cord
- c-2M FM transceiver Icom 22-A + manual
- d-Coax cable relay DOW
- e-Power Supply Pyramid 12VDC-3AMP
- f-2M mobile power amplifier (Heath??)
- g-Computer memory sticks, five envelopes (fairly recent)
- h-80M-6M AM/CW Johnson Challenger transmitter
- i-One jar - assorted antique capacitors/resistors
- j-CB AM Pierce-Simpson 23-ch, variable tuning + power cord
- k-ARRL 1982 Antenna book
- l-Radio Amateur Callbook 1977
- m-ARRL 1971 Amateur handbook
- n-ARRL 1974 Amateur license manual
- o-ARRL 1993 Repeater directory
- p-NAVSHIPS 1944 Radar Electronic Fundamentals