

The Ragchewer

Remember Lightning protection for antennas

March 2014





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:

P. O. Box 3
1611 Grandville Pike,
LANCASTER, OH 43130
Near Lancaster on State
Route 37 North (Granville
Pike) next to Beavers Field.
Across from the Ohio
University-Lancaster Branch
campus.

Nets:

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

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:

VE test sessions are no longer scheduled. Call Allen KB8JLG (740) 654 – 8167 for details/or to schedule one.

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

To find a convention or hamfest near you, click [here](#)

Special Event Stations

<http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>

2012-2013 Officers

President:

Charlie Snoke, N8KZN

Vice President:

Paul Flaut, KB8CMW

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, N8LPC

Public Relations:

Mark Urbine, KC8TUW

Web Master:

John, K9ULO & Carol Dolske
webmaster@k8qik.org

Editor:

Ralph Howes, W8BVH
ragchewer@sbcglobal.net

March 6, 2014 Meeting Minutes

At 7:30 p.m., Charlie, N8KZN, called the meeting to order and lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

First reading for the following application: Jimmy P Amrine, KB8TRL; David J Shaffer, KB8IRG; Thomas J Boch, N8MUL. Second Reading for David W Jackson, KD8MOY and Neal W Burdette, W8BUR.

Officer Reports

Secretary Report: Mary Travis, KD8EEI

Minutes of the December meeting were posted in the Ragchewer. John, W8AGS made a motion to accept the minutes as posted, seconded by Paul, KD8CMW. All were in favor. The minutes of the special meeting held January 9th were posted in the Ragchewer. John, W8OF made a motion to approve as posted, seconded by Greg, KD8SSJ. All were in favor.

Roll call taken tonight: 17 members in attendance with four guests David, KB8IRG; Ray, KD8WHY; David, KD8MOY; Dennis, KB8W.

Brent	KD8MGO	Mary	KD8EEI
Charlie	N8KZN	Mike	WN8C
David	WB9PXH	Patrick	KD8TXI
Gary	W8GTS	Paul	KD8DDD
George	KB8USP	Paul	KB8CMW
Greg	KD8SSJ	Ralph	W8BVH
Jack	AE8P	Scott	WD8IXO
John	W8OF	Steve	KD8JLA
John	W8AGS		

Treasurer's Report: Ed Campbell, Sr., WD8PGO (George Lambert, KB8USP Acting Treas.)

George gave treasurer's report and Ralph, W8BVH made a motion to accept the report, seconded by John, W8AGS. All were in favor.

VP Report: Paul Flautt, KB8CMW

Paul questioned why we would cancel a meeting since the road to the meeting room was not plowed. He felt the President should have the authority to pay to have someone shovel the driveway. After discussion, it was discovered that there was a misunderstanding about the driveway. Ralph, W8BVH spoke to Mike Kiger, County Commissioner, and they will continue to plow the driveway since it is a county road.

Trustee Report: John Hilliard, W8OF

A motion was made by Ralph, W8BVH to pay John, W8OF \$171.68 for expenses incurred in getting the 6 meter antenna side mount ready for the tower. Seconded by John, W8AGS. All were in favor.

A motion was made by Brent, KD8MGR to authorize John, W8OF the amount necessary for company who is climbing the tower and installing them. Seconded by Patrick, KD8TXI. Charlie asked for show of hands, all but two were in favor.

Committee Reports

Webmaster: John (K9ULO) & Carol Dolske

No report.

Chairman Educational Committee: Allen Sellers, KB8JLG

No report...

Monday Night Net

Net was not established because of lack of volunteers to do the net. John, W8AGS will try to fill in for the nights that John Dolske can't do the net.

Ragchewer: Ralph Howes, W8BVH

No report.

Emergency Coordinator: Ed Campbell, WD8PGO

George will send information to Mary so she can send out an email of the upcoming ARES meeting.

Safety: Scott Snoke, WD8IXO

No report.

Station Engineer: John Hilliard, W8OF

Nothing to report.

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

No report.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Gary, W8GTS made a motion to send \$50 to the memorial for Carl Carder. Seconded by Paul, KD8CMW. All were in favor. Mary will forward the organization name to George so he can send the check.

Charlie, N8KZN said that there would be food on the first Thursday after the meeting night. They are going to do food only one night a month until the attendance for radio night increases and the cost of food is covered.

Scott, WD8IXO made a motion to allow the secretary to spend up to a maximum of \$50 for flowers or memorial for members who pass away. Seconded by Mike, WN8C. All were in favor.

Charlie asked for volunteers for working MS Walk on April 12th (8:30 a.m. – noon). The following people volunteered: George, KB8USP; Paul, KD8DDD; Gary, W8GTS, Sandy, KD8FTX; Charlie, N8KZN; Connie, N8LPC.

Ralph, W8BVH made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Gary, W8GTS. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Mary Travis, KD8EEI
Secretary

A reminder that the FCC has authorized the Maxim Memorial Station W1AW to also use the call sign W100AW during 2014, the ARRL's centennial year.

Contacts made from the Maxim Memorial Station in Newington, from regional Centennial conventions, and during the IARU HF Championship will use W100AW, with portable designators as appropriate. The "W1AW WAS" operations throughout 2014 from each of the 50 states will use W1AW, not W100AW.

Bulletins and code practice transmissions during 2014 also will still use W1AW. Contacts with W100AW are worth 100 points in the ARRL Centennial QSO Party.

Information on the ARRL Centennial QSO Party may be found on the web at, <http://www.arrl.org/centennial-gso-party> .



+++ Tracking Progress in Working W1AW/p +++

Anthony, K8ZT, has developed a spreadsheet for keeping track of his Qs with the many W1AW portable stations that are operating during this ARRL Centennial Year. Anthony, who is Ohio Assistant SM for Educational Outreach, wanted an interactive means for doing this. The spreadsheet uses Google Docs. He offers this to anyone who would like to use it. It is, of course, free. To look into use of the spreadsheet, go to <http://goo.gl/xIO8gv>. There are no fees associated with using the spreadsheet and no additional software is needed.

Anthony wrote:

"To Get Started-

"Make a copy of this spreadsheet, so you can enter your personal data. In its current state, you can only view it and not make changes. From the spreadsheet, Go to menu "File"... "Make a copy"

"There are three worksheet tabs-

"1. Instructions (along with version number and update notes)

"2. Data Entry

"3. Summary

If you have any questions or comments concerning the spreadsheet, please contact Anthony at K8ZT@arrl.net directly.

Thanks, Anthony.

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A NOTE FROM OUR STATION ENGINEER

I performed this modification on 7 Yaesu mobile microphones and it makes an astounding improvement in the quality of the transmitted audio. Takes about 20 minutes to modify the mic if you're interested here is the mod pages >>>> <http://www.w1aex.com/8900/8900.html>
John, W8OF



FROM THE OFFICIAL OBSERVER COORDINATOR..

New Year greetings from your new Ohio Section Official Observer Coordinator John, W8RXX

I want to thank Rick, KK8O who has recently stepped down from his 10 years of service as OOC. He was first appointed an OO in 1977. He has been most helpful during this transition. He is off helping his 11 year old granddaughter get licensed amongst other things. I hope to continue receiving his OO reports. Rick, we all wish you the best!

I want to thank all the OO's in the program as often they are unappreciated. If you happen to run into an OO please thank them for helping protect YOUR hobby into the future.

Most amateurs realize the OO program is there to note discrepancies and call them the attention of those who are often unaware of a violation of the rules. Here is a fact you may be unaware of, many OO's send out more Good Operator Reports than Advisory Notices.

73, John Perone, 8RXX
Official Observer Coordinator
w8rxx@arrl.net



KB6NU's Ham Radio Tip of the Week

Use an HF SWR meter on VHF

It's been my experience that most 2m antennas don't need any tweaking, but if you really feel the need to do so, there's no need to buy a VHF SWR meter. You can use any HF SWR meter, even a cheap CB meter.

First, connect the meter inline as you normally would and set the switch to read forward power. Then, transmit and set the meter reading for full scale. Next, without touching that setting, swap the antenna and transmitter connections, so that the rig is connected to the antenna connector and the antenna is connected to the transmitter connector. Key the rig again and read the SWR. This reading will be reasonably accurate, especially the closer to 1:1 that you are.

73,

Dan KB6NU



The ARRL has brought out a new book that may be of interest to all the hams in our club. Never too old to get information.....

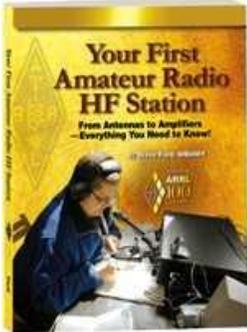
NEW BOOK! Your First Amateur Radio HF Station

From Antennas to Amplifiers – Everything You Need to Know!

by Steve Ford, WB8IMY

Setting up your first HF Amateur Radio station can be a complicated task. From selecting your first radio to putting up your first antenna, there are a number of important choices you'll need to make.

Your First Amateur Radio HF Station is the most complete guide to setting up your station and getting started in HF communications. It's filled with practical advice you can put to use right away. Whether you're new to Amateur Radio or HF operating, live on acres of open property or in a tiny apartment, this book will show you how to get on the air and enjoy all that Amateur Radio has to offer.



- **What kind of antenna should you use?** Your antenna is by far the most important part of your new station. The type of antenna you choose will determine how well your station will function for years to come. Learn not only the technical advantages and disadvantages, but the economics of choosing one type of antenna over another. Includes antenna designs you can build yourself!
- **What radio should you buy?** Get the most radio for your money. Should you buy new or used? What features are most important? You'll find the answers here!
- **Do You Need an Amplifier?** Amplifiers are handy, but they can also be expensive. Find out if you really need an amplifier and, if so, how much you may need to invest.
- **What About a Computer?** Computers and software are important components of modern Amateur Radio stations. Save trouble and money when shopping for one.
- **What Types of Accessories Do You Need?** An HF station is more than just a radio and antenna. Find out which accessories will add the most operating pleasure and convenience.
- **Electricity – Good and Bad.** Learn how to supply proper power for your equipment, and how to keep Mother Nature's power – lightning! – away from your gear.

ARRL Order No. 0079

Special Member Price! Only \$19.95 -- [Order Now](#)

Retail \$22.95. 176 pages.



FOR SALE



I have for sale a nice used 'Tempo One' HF transceiver and power supply. It was recently checked out and found to operate to proper specifications. It comes with the original manual w/ schematics.

\$200.00 if you pick up from Lancaster, OH.

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TS830s (10-160 HF transceiver); SM220 (station monitor w/ pan adapter); VFO230 (external; VFO with cables); SP230 (external speaker); SM50 (desk microphone).

They all are very nice condition. The transceiver was checked at a Kenwood Service center 8 months ago, aligned and it worked right up to specs. Made a few contacts and put it back in the original TS830S box. Thought I would set it up after I got my new room added on but this isn't going to happen so I had better get it to someone who will use it and have a lot of fun. I also have the original SM220 box but the other two do not have their original boxes. They all look very clean. Non-smoker.



For the TS830s transceiver I have the original instruction manual as well as a cd of the service manual and the user's manual. For the SP 230 speaker I have the spec sheet and the parts list. For the VFO 230 I have a copy of the manual. For the SM220 station monitor (with the pan adapter) I have the original manual.

Asking \$1100.00 you pick up in Lancaster, OH. {6 boxes total}

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Also for sale is a very nice Ten Tec HF transceiver. It covers 10-160 meters except the 12 & 17 meter bands. Those crystals are available from Ten Tec. The radio plays very well and looks very good. There is some wear around the AF knob (volume). Really well cared for from a non-smoker home. It comes with the power

cord with an AirPax magnetic circuit breaker in line as suggested by Ten Tec. This will help protect your radio. Asking \$350.00 you pick up in Lancaster, OH

Thanks for your time,
Ralph Howes, W8BVH
<good on QRZ>

Well that's about all for this month. Hope you get some use out of the articles and have been inspired to participate more in all of the club activities. Don't forget to check for Special Events going on. Stay warm and safe.....Spring is just around the corner!



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