

The Ragchewer

February 2011

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

On the Web: www.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.

2011 VE Test:

Tests are even months at the clubhouse on Route 37. The next test is 26FEB11 at the K8QIK clubhouse, 10AM. 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 ASELLERS1081@att.NET

Dave K8KEG has a Heath HW-8 in excellent condition. His phone is (740) 689 – 1158

Ralph W8BVH has a Dentron tuner 160 – 10M, 1 KW in excellent condition (740) 876 – 0344.

HAMFESTS

Mansfield OH:	02-13 -2011
Athens, OH:	05- 01-2011
K8QIK Swapmeet	05-07- 2011
Dayton, OH	05-27/29-2011

2010-2011 Officers

President:

George Lambert, KB8USP

Vice President:

Robert Ruffner, KD8DXC

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

Public Relations:

Mark Urbine, KC8TUW

Flower Fund:

Ed Bennett, KD8EEJ

Web Master:

John(K9ULO)/Carol Dolske

Webmaster@K8QIK.ORG

Editor:

Allen Sellers, KB8JLG

Asellers1081@att.net

February 3, 2011 Meeting Minutes

At 7:30 p.m. the monthly meeting was called to order by Vice President Rob Ruffner, KD8DXC who lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were 17 members present and one guest, Susan Bloom, KD8PKU.

Officer Reports

Secretary Report: Mary Travis, KD8EEI

Minutes for the January meeting was posted in the Ragchewer with one change which John Hilliard requested on wording to read as follows: "John reported that he has worked with the Executive Committee on an issue concerning lifetime membership for a previous member. He also worked with the Committee on an issue that arose during the Christmas party." Motion to accept minutes with the change made by John, W8AGS and seconded by Ralph, W8BVH. Motion carried.

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

Ed gave the December treasurer's report and Steve, KD8JLA made motion to approve, seconded by Charlie, N8KZN. All in favor.

Ed gave the January treasurer's report and Steve, KD8JLA made motion to approve, seconded by Charlie, N8KZN. All in favor.

VP Report: Rob Ruffner, KD8DXC

Rob reported that he has started a Sunday night net on the 146.70 repeater for ARES group at 8 p.m.

Rob reported that the radio which was dropped when installing it upstairs has been sent back to ICOM and they have repaired it at no cost. Motion made by John, W8AGS to reimburse Rob \$12.34 for shipping charges. Seconded by Gary, W8GTS. All in favor.

Trustee Report: John Hilliard, W8OF

Mary, KD8EEI reported the following for John since he will be unable to attend meetings: Prepared forms to the Ohio Area Repeater Council for continued coordination for the three club repeaters for the year 2011. Ed Campbell, WD8PGO mailed the forms with a \$15 dues check to the Council.

Committee Reports

Webmaster: Carol Dolske

John, K9ULO reported there were changes on five pages since last meeting. For sale, calendar and others. Please go to the website and check out the information that is posted there.

Chairman Educational Committee: Allen Sellers, KB8JLG

Mary, KD8EEI reported for Allen the following: Technician test was held at end of recent class and one passed, one failed and one did not take the test. He had another person who passed.

Allen will be starting a General class in March. Anyone interested, please let him know.

Allen will be giving a test in February but date has not been set at this time.

Monday Night Net

Feb 7th	W8AGS	John Lawson
Feb 14th	K9ULO	John Dolske
Feb 21st	W9AGS	John Lawson
Feb 28th	K9ULO	John Dolske

Rob Ruffner, KD8DXC will be backup

Ragchewer: Allen Sellers, KB8JLG

No report.

Emergency Coordinator: Ed Campbell, WD8PGO

Ed reported the next ARES meeting will be held at EMA office on Feb. 15th at 7 p.m. The ICS 100 test will be given at this meeting.

Safety: Scott Snoke, WD8IXO

Scott - no report

Station Engineer: John Hilliard, W8OF

Mary, KD8EEI reported for John the following: On 2/2/11 repaired weather alert radio keying circuit for the 147.03 repeater. On 1/20/11 repaired receiver power supply on 146.70 repeater.

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

Sandy reported that they will be doing something for Field Day. More information will be given at next meeting.

Flower Fund: Ed Bennett, KD8EEJ

Ed reported that we took in \$10.00 and Steve, KD8JLA won \$5.00 which he donated to the general fund.

Ed also reported that there was no winner on 50-50 fund.

Old Business:

Six applications were sent for second reading. They are as follows: John A Rader, KD8PAF; David E White,

WD8LZK; Paula L Cahill, KD8OCI; Mike F Cahill, KD8KOM; Rita S Leiendecker, KD8MNU; and Terry L Leiendecker, KD8MNT.

Steve Anderson made a motion to approve all six applications for membership and seconded by John, K9ULO. All in favor.

John, K9ULO stated that he and Ray need to set up a date to audit the treasurers books.

Mary, KD8EEI reported that she has prepared the paperwork for the Gannett grant and we will be requesting \$3,750 for a generator to be permanently installation at the clubhouse. Ed, WD8PGO has checked with the County and received their approval for us to put in a permanently installed generator.

Mary also reported that she will start to look for a grant to have a handicap entrance installed at the clubhouse

Recent news from Allen KB8JLG

The additional person taking the test at the recent Technician class test session was an OU-L student from Nelsonville OH.

The next ARRL VE test session will be 26FEB11, 10AM at the K8QIK clubhouse.

2011 Nelsonville Hamfest – Allen Sellers KB8JLG

The 16JAN11 Nelsonville hamfest was well attended and the weather was pretty good... Clear sky and roads with the temperature in the lower thirties. There were only a few empty tables. The club was offering free, 2011 Ohio Repeater directories by The Ohio Repeater Council and I got several copies for my Technician Class students. I also got to talk to Frank Piper, The ARRL Great Lakes Section Manager and many friends from Logan, Nelsonville, Chillicothe, Athens, Zanesville, Newark and Cambridge.

I ate breakfast (7AM) at Dee's Truckstop near Nelsonville with the group from Logan; and Mike WD8EBS and John K9ULO from the Lancaster club. After the hamfest Fritz WD8E, Bob NR8U (both Licking County) and Dave WB8UCD (Clark County) and I ate at the adjacent Hocking College managed restaurant. Their \$13 buffet is excellent (I had mutton), is open from 11AM till 2PM Sundays and I can recommend it for a Sunday outing with the family.

Dave WB8UCD tells me there is a free swap meet near West Liberty, Ohio the last weekend in July every year. It is held in a park near the intersection of highways #68 and #245. They do not advertise it, but all are welcome.

Gary, W8GTS made a motion that we use a certificate that Jack, AE8P will prepare to honor the charter members of the club. This will be framed and hung at the clubhouse and John, K9ULO will post it on the website. Seconded by Ralph, W8BVH. Motion passed with one nay vote.

New Business:

Rob, KD8DXC reported that he will be chairman for Field Day which will be held on June 25 & 26. John, K9ULO will assist him with preparing publicity for this event. The event will be held at the clubhouse and we will set up in the upper parking lot above the clubhouse.

Jack, AE8P made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by John, W8AGS. Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Travis, KD8EEI, Secretary

There were several used Icom, Yaesu and Kenwood used HF rigs, and except for Earl's AA8AT Kenwood TS-830S, mostly at the high end of the price ranges. I did see one Yaesu FT-101, one Heath HW-101 and one Heath HW-8. There were many used UHF handhelds but only a few 2M units. The flea market had the usual nice mixture of interesting stuff... a used AEA 14Mhz-30Mhz loop XMT/RCV antenna (\$90); many types of new, Chinese handtools (\$4/\$5); Ideal wire strippers (\$5); some Harbor Freight 7-function multi-tools (\$10); used flat screen computer monitors (3 sizes, \$25, \$35 & \$50); an Imperial 3/8" copper tubing bender (\$1); two Konica 35mm, SLR cameras (one was non-operative) with two zoom lens and a 2X extender (\$20 total).

I took five boxes of stuff, came home with four and sold enough that my expenses were covered. Dave WA8EUT and Ron WA8GFO shared two tables with me. Dave bought a box of UHF handhelds, Ron bought a clean, working Hallicrafter's S-38 receiver and I got several small items. My last purchase as I was leaving was a nice glass, Staunton-style chess set and board (\$5).

Near the end, on my last trip through the flea market, I bought the following items (\$13 total) from one table- a 2-watt solar panel (\$5); a new-in-box, 7-amp solar controller (\$5); a 2"x4" ceramic coil form; a 1-1/2" x2" miniductor coil; a new-in-box, rotary light dimmer; two DPDT knife switches (1940's style antenna switch); four 1/2"x 1" clamp-on ferrite cores; a 9VDC wallwart power supply; two 5-way binding posts; three dual-banana plugs; and two 120V neon

panel lamps. These last items were in a box marked "ALL FOR \$2".

I also talked to a frequent hamfest acquaintance from Riply, WV about solar systems. He told me that he has free natural gas, a gas range and old 1920's gas wall lights (still installed, but rarely used) so he only needs to provide electricity for the furnace fan from a small generator. For this reason he is interested in alternate energy sources. He has two 15-watt solar panels that feed gel-cells for his ham radio. He said that marine, auto and wheel-chair batteries are "stirred" by motion during normal use but have a shorter life when mounted in a stationary arrangement. He was not in favor of the Harbor Freight 45 watt panels (about \$150) for his use... which is keep the batteries topped-off and use during power outages. Another ham from Danville, Ohio told me their club used a 45-watt Harbor Freight unit during field day last year for one operating station and they plan on using more next year to power additional stations. Many magazines that I read have a Harbor Freight advertisement that includes a 20 percent discount for one item (also the company's flyers). There are a lot of comments available on the Internet... just google "harbor freight". There are two Harbor Freight stores in Columbus, Ohio, equidistant from my house so I go to the one on Morse Road near a Friendly's Ice Cream Shop.

2011 Strasburg Hamfest – Allen Sellers KB8JLG

The 30JAN11 Strasburg hamfest was typical of the last few years... really bad roads in the morning and all tables sold (the last few at the door by 9AM). I was assigned a table adjacent to Roy Ulko KG8EK from Circleville.

There was a mixture of computer, industrial and radio items but the venue was a little smaller than Nelsonville's hamfest. There was a Kenwood TS-520 for \$100 but it was inoperative on 20M due to a cracked coil/slug (it sold); an MFJ DSP unit for \$100 and only 220/440MHz used handhelds plus some scanners that looked like handheld radios. I passed on some \$3 60/40 like-new spools of Kester solder and they were gone when I went back... so as consolation I bought a nice 4" sliderule with leather case from the same vendor.

I managed to sell some of the bargains from Nelsonville with the result that I brought home more boxes than I took but ended up \$10 ahead for the day including table and entry fees. I got a book on basic tube equipment troubleshooting that I really wanted from a quick scan at the vendor's table but when I got

home it was a disappointment due to incorrect explanations throughout the basic theory section. The illustrations looked good but the labeled item's name didn't match the text terminology. I was really surprised, as the publishing date was 1975 when tubes were at their peak application.

The folks are very friendly but the club is so small I get the idea they rely on the Cambridge club for classes and VE tests.

I did meet a ham that has a business building single-band, short vertical antennas. He had the units on hand for sale. They are not very long, look homemade but very sturdy. Mounts and mobile mast pipes are available also. They will be at the Mansfield hamfest or you can check them out at www.jdcantennas.com (email jdcantennas@neo.rr.com)

M&K Engraving (Marvin Secrest), who was at Strasburg and Massillon hamfests will be at the Mansfield hamfest with his engraving equipment. He does really impressive work and you can see his on-line site at www.mkengraving.com.