



The Ragchewer

September 6, 2012

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.
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:

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](#)

**October 6..... Lancaster & Fairfield Co.
ARC local tailgate fest in the parking
lot starting at 8:00am.**

Special Event Stations

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

2011-2012 Officers

President:

Rob Ruffner, KD8DXC

Vice President:

Charles Snoko, N8KZN

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 Snoko, N8LPC

Public Relations:

Mark Urbine, KC8TUW

Web Master:

John, K9ULO & Carol Dolske
webmaster@k8qik.org

Editor:

Ralph Howes, W8BVH
ragchewer@sbcglobal.net

September 6, 2012 Meeting Minutes

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

Officer Reports

Secretary Report: Mary Travis, KD8EEI

Minutes for the August meeting were posted in the Ragchewer. Ray, W8FLX made a motion to accept minutes and seconded John, K9ULO. All in favor.

Roll call taken tonight: 20 members in attendance and four guests: Wayne Larue, KD8MGO; Isaac Spangler, KD8SYM; Amy and Eden Spangler

Allen	KB8RNP	Mark	KD8IMT
Charlie	N8KZN	Mary	KD8EEI
Dave	WB9PXH	Ralph	W8BVH
Gary	W8GTS	Ray	W8FLX
Jack	AE8P	Rob	KD8DXC
John	KD8EEK	Steve	KD8JLA
John	K9ULO	Ed	WD8PGO
John	W8OF	Ron	W8MY Y
Mike	W0MNE	Scott	WD8IXO
Connie	N8LPC	William	KD8RNQ

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

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

VP Report: Charlie Snoke, N8KZN

Charlie reported that food would start on November 8th for radio night. Charlie asked for a show of hands of those who were interested in starting food up again for Radio Night and a majority was interested.

Trustee Report: John Hilliard, W8OF

Nothing to report.

Committee Reports

Webmaster: John (K9ULO) & Carol Dolske

John noted Carol has put a banner on the website for the Christmas party on Dec. 8th.

Chairman Educational Committee: Allen Sellers, KB8JLG

Absent – no report.

Monday Night Net

Sept. 10th	John Lawson, W8AGS
Sept. 17th	John Rader, KD8PAF
Sept. 24th	John Rader, KD8PAF
Oct. 1st	John Dolske, K9ULO

Ragchewer: Ralph Howes, W8BVH

Ralph asked members if they were in support of him sending the Ragchewer to other clubs. Members thought this was a great idea and would give us more exposure.

Emergency Coordinator: Ed Campbell, WD8PGO

Ed thanked everyone who worked the Sweet Corn Festival.

ARES meetings will start on October 16th at 7 p.m. at the EMA office.

Ed mentioned he received a call from the police to come up to the clubhouse. They said they had received a 911 call from the clubhouse. Ed met police at 1:30 a.m. and there was one window unlocked (window behind the radio table in meeting room). They walked thru all floors and did not see anything out of place. As a result of this there was discussion about possibly having a siren on our alarm system. John, W8OF volunteered to look into seeing if he could get a couple of sirens so we could arm our security system.

Question was raised about possibility of training courses that would be required since FEMA has approved amateur radio for disaster events. John, K9ULO and Ed, WD8PGO will look into putting a link on our website to the courses which might be required.

Safety: Scott Snoke, WD8IXO

No report.

Station Engineer: John Hilliard, W8OF

John reported that he would be working on getting refurbished repeater boxes to replace the current ones on Waterworks hill site.

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

No report but Christmas Party will be held December 8th from 6 to 9 p.m.

Old Business:

Mary reported that the tree damaged in the last storm has been taken down and removed by the County.

John, W8OF stated that the generator given to us by the County could not be sold. We would need the County Commissioners approval. John strongly suggested that we should move the generator to the basement before it gets stolen.

New Business:

John, W8OF recommended we approve Steve, KD8JLA as a lifetime member due to the services and equipment he has supplied to the club through his efforts at Fairfield Medical Center and his ability to provide the club with the alternate repeaters location. Ralph, W8BVH made a motion to give Steve Anderson, KD8JLA a lifetime membership to the club, seconded by Jack, AE8P. All in favor.

Mary, KD8EEI reported that the Kroger check we received for the last quarter is \$346.12.

John, KD8EEK asked if the traffic time for the net could be changed to 8:30 - 9 p.m. and John, K9ULO said he would take care of changing the script for the net and would advise John, W8AGS about the change for September 10th net.

Rob, KD8DXC stated he is stepping down as President and ARES Net due to family circumstances that required more of his personal time.

Since a Nominating Committee was not named at the August meeting, motions were taken from the floor.

Ed, WD8PGO made a motion to nominate Charlie, N8KZN as President. Seconded by Ray, W8FLX. All in favor and Charlie stated he would accept the nomination.

Ray, W8FLX asked Mary, KD8EEI if she would run as Secretary, Ed, WD8PGO as Treasurer and they both agreed to have their names for the respective office. Mark, KD8IMT was asked if he would accept Vice President and he agreed. Ray, W8FLX made a motion to nominate Mary, KD8EEI as secretary; Ed, WD8PGO as Treasurer and Mark, KD8IMT as Vice President. Seconded by Charlie, N8KZN. All in favor.

Gary, W8GTS was asked if Sandy would run as Activities Chairman and Gary stated he would have to ask her and report his findings to us at the October meeting.

John, K9ULO stated he would not be able to have his vehicle in the Holiday Parade on November 17th. Robert, KC8PSW and Dave, WD8AOL will be asked if they will be able to enter their vehicles. Charlie, N8KZN has not been contacted to attend meeting for this event.

Ralph, W8BVH mentioned the TenTec Hamfest in Seville, TN being held on September 28 and 29th.

Ray, W8FLX made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Ralph, W8BVH. Meeting adjourned at 830 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Travis, KD8EEI, Secretary

Computer virus update – Allen Sellers KB8JLG 04SEP12

Recently I saw this notice and realized other people are experiencing this attack. I see this once or twice a month. Reveton is drive-by malware which can install itself when users simply click on a compromised website. Once infected, the victim's computer immediately locks, and the monitor displays a screen stating there has been a violation of federal law. The bogus message goes on to say that the user's Internet address was identified by the FBI or the Department of Justice's Computer Crime and Intellectual Property Section as having been associated with music download sites or other illegal online activity (which I don't do). To unlock their machines, users are required to pay a fine using a prepaid money card service.

As I wrote more than a year ago after a similar problem, I now only use a "User" account with a simple password on my XP or System 7 operating system Microsoft compatible computer. I also save all files to a USB thumb drive and never to the computer's hard drive. This means I can erase my account and still have access to saved material.

After my computer has been infected- I turn 120VAC power OFF, then ON and restart the computer in a SYSTEM ADMINISTRATOR account. - I delete the infected USER account along with all files. - I setup a new USER account (with new name and password). - Using the new user account I sign-on to the internet and reset the security setting.

I have a second (backup) system administrator's account, just "in case". I keep a log of all user account names and passwords used since I am not concerned about others in my home using the computer. USB Thumb drives are available at OfficeMax at less than \$10 for 8GB. The procedure for user account deletion and set-up can be found in any of the common " for

Dummies” books available for your operating system. As for buying virus protection, why pay when you can avoid most problems by using a little knowledge and care?

If your computer is already infected but you haven't taken precautions; I have had good experience with TCR Personal Computers, 1410 Ety Rd. Lancaster OH (\$90). and Mike Ervin, 2617 Palmer Rd. Hebron OH(somewhat cheaper but a long drive).

I keep a written log of account names and passwords. I don't have a problem of anyone using my computer so I don't hide them. I also have a second System Administrators account that is available as a backup

A NOTE FROM Fred Saas, WA8PGE.....

Saturday Sept. 9/8 from noon to 8pm EST, Dave (K8AX) and Fred (WA8PGE) operated in the OSPOTA contest from "GSL", Great Seal State Park, near Chillicothe OH.

Although there are only two power level classifications, 11W and higher and 10w and under, they operated CW and SSB at QRP levels.

They used Fred's call, WA8PGE, and were mostly on 20, 40 and 80.

Their rigs were solar/battery powered and consist of one or two of the following:

Norcal 40a

Norcal 20

Icom 703+

SDR Softrock 6.3 + 5w amp.

More OSPOTA contest info is at <http://parks.portcars.org/ospota/>

It sounds like they had a great time. Please let us know the outcome of the contest Fred.



ANTENNA PROJECT from:

<http://www.hamuniverse.com/2metergp.html>

If you are just getting experience in building antennas or you are an old pro, here is a simple and fun project! This antenna is perfect for those hams living in the primary coverage area of the repeater for 2 meter use. This antenna is nothing more than the old standby "Droopy Groundplane" and can be used on any band where it's physical size does not pose a problem. Remember that the vertical radiator is 1/4 wavelength long at your operating frequency.

It has no gain but makes an excellent small antenna that can be mounted just about anywhere and with a little planning, can be used mobile on a short mast from the bumper!! Adding a small attachment loop at the tip of the radiator will enable it to be suspended from above for inside use.

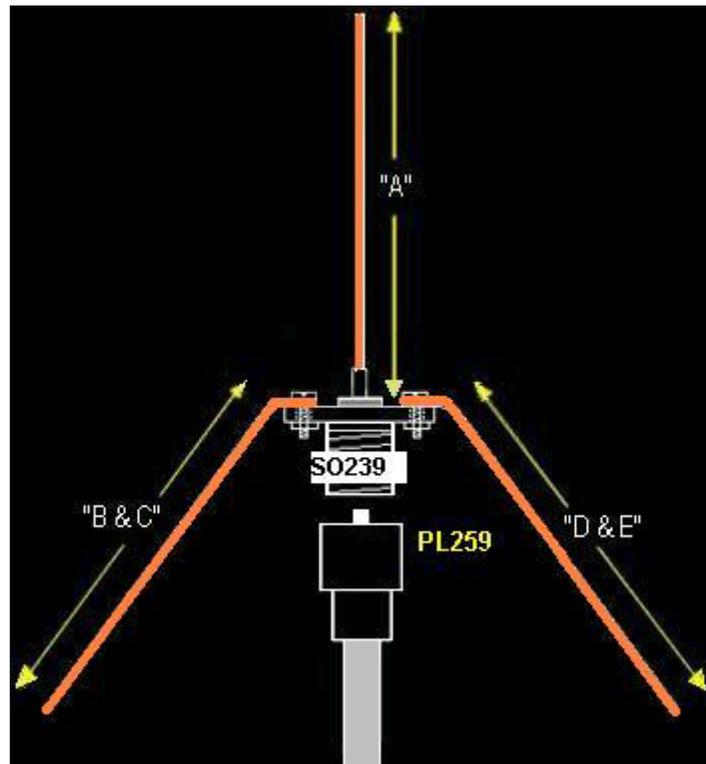
Build it! (See drawing below)

The vertical element and radials can be made of #12 copper wire or welding rods, coat hanger, etc. The vertical radiator (A) should be soldered to the center connector of the SO239.

The four base radials (B & C) and (D & E) can be soldered or bolted to the SO239 mounting holes using 4-40 hardware. **The four base radials then should be bent downward to a 45 degree angle.**

The antenna can be mounted by clamping the PL259 to a mast or even passing the coax through a 3/4 ID PVC pipe and compression clamping the PL259. Either way let your creativity work for you. If you plan on mounting it outside, apply RTV or sealant around the center pin and PL259, and **TAPE WELL**, to keep water out of the coax.

Make each radial a 1/4 wave of your desired xmit frequency. Sometimes it helps to add a little extra length to the radials and radiator. This will give you some adjusting room when you adjust the SWR. (If adjustment is needed, clip all radials equally about 1/8 inch at a time while checking SWR, USING LOW POWER). Center the lowest swr on your transmit operating frequency.



Example Calculation:

Freq (mhz) 146
A (inches) 19 5/16 (Note "A" length is to the SO-239 insulator but not critical)
B THRU E (INCHES) 20 3/16

LENGTHS FROM FORMULA ($234/\text{FREQ MHZ}$) + 5 % LONGER FOR RADIALS



Sandy, KD8FTX, says that club members should mark their calendars for **Saturday, December 8, 2012** for the radio club **Christmas Party**. It will be held at the **Golden Corral** (Lancaster) starting at 6:00 PM.



Scioto Valley Amateur Radio Club
Waverly, OH

website: www.qsl.net/w8bap/SVARC.html/

newsletters: www.w8bapdstar.info/library/SVARC%20News



Morse Code Class

Allen Sellers, KB8JLG

I am planning a Morse code class later this summer or fall (2012). As the class starts, I would like everyone ready with a code practice oscillator of some kind along with a straight key.



There are a few cats that are looking for a good home. They are good mousers and have been spayed or neutered. If you are interested contact Mike Doty, W0MNE, mikedoty@reagan.com Mike is getting ready to retire and these kitty's need a good home.



Fall is coming upon us. Saturday, October 6 will be our tailgate fest. It will start at 8AM. Close at 12 Noon. - Allen KB8JLG



I was just thinking about all of the people that use 'QRZ' to look up call signs. When you fill in your profile information, some people leave out their birth info and others put all of it in. I would prefer that each of us would put the year of birth **only** in their profile. The reasoning I use is that when I look up a person's call I look for their license class and their year of birth. These are important tools in determining if I want to proceed in purchasing things from them online. This is just my opinion and your mileage may be different. Ralph Howes, w8bvh



That's all for this month. We hope you enjoy the information and use some of it. Check our website often www.k8qik.org .Till next month.....73.