



DELARA



Delaware Amateur Radio Association Newsletter

May 2010

Volume 29, Number 5

DELARA Meetings

- 3rd Wednesday of every month
- Tri-Twp. Fire Dept.
- 7:30 PM

DELARA On the Air

- Monday evening net
- 145.17 repeater
- 8 PM Call K8ES
- Volunteer for Net Control!

DELARA Officers

- President: Tim Trombley K8TAT
- Vice President: Joe Papworth K8MP
- Sec/Treas: Ken Bird W8SMK

In This Issue

- The New Website
- Tower Update! Pg.4

The Calendar.

- May 19 Delara Mtng.
- June 10 ARES Mtng.
- June 26-27 Field Day

This Month's Meeting: Go Vertical!

Dale, W8KTQ, will discuss "Understanding and Matching Phased Verticals." Multiple vertical antennas are pretty much on the list for "Big Gun" and contesting stations!

New DELARA Website Debuts!

Thanks to Vern Kollas, KC8YOH, DELARA has been well represented in both its newsletter and on the Internet. Now, after a great deal of input from DELARA officers and contributors, there's a brand new look for DELARA on the Web! It's still at <http://www.k8es.org>.

Stan, N8BHL, says there were two big goals- keep it simple, and make it interesting for members and the general public. Its design allows you to reach any spot within the website with two clicks. What's more, a calendar on the front page lists activities for those who want to make a quick check. There are some useful downloads including band plans, and there are photo galleries to show off your own shack or our club activities.

The "Links" page has been expanded with a useful categorized list of some interesting Web sites. In addition, there's information for non-hams who are interested in getting licensed.

DELARA
Delaware Amateur Radio Association, Delaware, OH

Welcome to DELARA!

Welcome to the web home of the Delaware Amateur Radio Association. We are made up of licensed amateur radio operators in and around Delaware County, Ohio. DELARA is an ARES Special Services Club. We are involved in many community activities, including Field Day! Many of our members are also members of the Delaware County A.R.E.S. (Amateur Radio Emergency Services) organization and as such take part in triathlons, parades, races and other events to serve Delaware County.

DELARA meets every third Wednesday of the month (See the Meetings page) and we hold an informal net every Monday evening at 8:00 PM on the W5DMK 145.17 repeater. This is a laid-back gather of friends with stories and some tall tales to tell. If you have a "ham radio" license, you are warmly invited to attend! If you don't have an FCC Amateur Radio license, we can help you get one and take part in the fun!

DELARA Activities and Net Control Schedule

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
May							
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		N8OB					
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
		K8MP					
	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
				K8TAT			
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
2010				Cal Mar 2010			
	30	31					

Interested? Click here to E-mail for more information! clubinfo@k8es.org

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[Links](#)
[Field Day](#)
[ARES](#)

[Delaware Area Repeaters](#)
 W5DMK 145.17 (none)
 K8TWB 145.29 (123.0)
 W5SIV 443.55 (none)
 IRLP #166

clubinfo@k8es.org
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Here's what we need from you to complete this work-in-progress!

1. We need a picture of your shack, antenna, and any other interesting aspect of your station. (Email digital picture to newsletter@k8es.org.)
2. We need a picture of you at your station, or at an activity for the club.
3. Email your comments and suggestions for the site!

NOTE: Adjust any links or bookmarks to <http://www.k8es.org> (nothing after the org).



The Prez Sez:

Tim K8TAT



It's the month of May now which means the April showers are hopefully over, fingers and toes crossed; and all your planting should commence for your gardens, either flower or vegetable, whatever your fancy might be; we have both garden types here at the Trombley farm so I will be busy this year again. And I'm even going to try my green thumb at an herb container garden this year, so we can enjoy some fresh herbs to go with the healthier eating style we're trying to achieve here.

Last month I talked about cruising; the wife and I just got back a week ago from a 5 day cruise and we had a nice relaxing time again. We wish we could have stayed longer, but we sure look forward to the next one which already is in the planning stages here at the Trombley household. If you haven't tried this method of vacationing yet, give it a try, you might be surprised and enjoy it too, just like we have in the past and hopefully the future.

If you haven't noticed, DELARA has been active these past few months. I would like commend everyone in their efforts in making this happen for the better, like the new look of the newsletter, the improved look of the redeveloped website and the newest addition to the club: a tower mounted to a trailer. What are the possibilities we have now before us! So with that said, let us start with the next major adventure coming our way, which is **Field Day**. If you can spare some time and effort check with our field day coordinator, N9AUG, Larry and see where you can help.

That's it for now, so I look forward to seeing everyone at the May meeting and hopefully the weather will cooperate and be warm and sunny.

73, K8TAT



Joe's Place

a collection of thought



"Direct from Orange Township, Joe's Place is on-the-air"

This month's show is brought to you by Spam: the mystery-meat that kept our G.I.'s fed in WWII. (I bet I'm not the only one in the club that ate a lot of Spam as a kid.)

May's big news is the acquisition of the long anticipated "Tower-on-a-trailer." Thanks to Dale, W8KTQ, we were given a 100-foot tower that is mounted on a tandem-axle trailer. It didn't hurt that Dale is employed by the company that donated it, but his persistence is what made the deal happen. ([Article pg 6, -ed](#))

From our Man-on-the-Street:

Karl, KB8GUM, reported the downing of an antenna. Not to worry folks, he's still on-the-air. But he and Carolyn may be missing their favorite television shows because his TV antenna bit the dust in a wind storm. He asked me if I'd put it back up, and I do want to get it done, but I'm hoping there's an able-bodied member closer to his QTH. (Last time I drove up there, I got lost) Karl said it would be a one-man job because all that needs to be done is move the toppled antenna over to a tripod that is already up there. He has a ladder and any tools that might be needed to do the job. Volunteers any one?

In other news:

Stan, N8BHL, has assumed the duty of web master for k8es.org. He welcomes your ideas and suggestions for the site. Also, as you all probably know, Stan is the new Perry White of "The DELARA News." The newsletter has a new look and the talk on the street is that everyone likes it. "Thank you Stan", for stepping forward and taking on these responsibilities.

By the time you read this, Field Day will only be 5 or 6 weeks away. I hope you all plan to be involved in some capacity.

See you all in June... At Joe's Place.

Operating events

- EU PSK DX (bpsk63)
1200z 5/22 – 1200z 5/23
- UN DX test
1200z 5/22 – 1200z 5/23
- CQ WW WPX cw
0000 5/29 – 1359z 5/30
- ARRL June VHF Party
1800z 6/12 – 0300z 6/14
- WVa QSO Party
0600z 6/19 – 0200z 6/20
- ARRL FIELD DAY
1800z 6/26 – 2100z 6/27

Contribute!

We need your articles,
comments and ads!

newsletter@k8es.org

Contact Us

clubinfo@k8es.org

elmer@k8es.org

<http://www.k8es.org>



ARES Happenings

Don KB8SIA

Mark your Calendars and volunteer:

May 25 "Kids Safety Scene" May 30 "Memorial Day Parade"

June 5 "Tour de Cure" June 13 "Wendy's Triathlon"

Hi All....First on the docket this month is a comment on the new DELARA newsletter assembled and edited by Stan, N8BHL and also the Web Master of our changed look on the web pages. In both instances I think one word describes them both....."Exquisite"

A reminder of the change in the ARES meeting facility in June. The date is June 10, 2010 at the **EOC** facility at regular time 7:30 PM.

The Kids Safety Scenes scheduled for May 25, 2010 is on schedule. It will be a rain or shine affair as there is access to cover in case of inclement weather. Those signed up for the event will be assigned when they arrive at the fairgrounds. We will use HT's and use the simplex frequency of 146.460 MHz, so be sure you have well charged batteries for your equipment.

Joe, K8MP the Memorial Day Parade coordinator says all is well but may need a few more volunteers.



The Tour de Cure event on June 5, 2010 is on schedule but I am lacking two volunteers to complete our afternoon (1:00PM to 4:00PM) route positions in Delaware Co. Call me for locations, and I may sign you up.



The Wendy's Triathlon on June 13, 2010 is in jeopardy. I'm lacking seven (7) names to place at critical positions on the route. I'll be at the Delara meeting with my "sign on" roster and route map asking for additional help.

Well I'll say 73 to all and get this over to our editor in chief.

Who's Elmer? We all are!

A new program will launch with the new DELARA website, one we hope will increase the sharing and friendship among club members - - it's the "Elmer" program.

Started with a reference in the ARRL publication "QST" back in the early 70's, the term quickly came to personify the practice of helping each other move forward in Amateur Radio. Virtually all of us can remember that one person who introduced us to ham radio, answered our questions, or even taught us some new aspect of the hobby - usually involving smoking soldering guns. For me it was Bob Ranck, W8MRE (SK) who spent several months with John Walker, KA8EMR, and me in his basement building RF amplifiers from wire and sheet metal. (Mine still works!) It's a rewarding part of the hobby- one which is made easier by email, the Internet, and our website! Web users can submit a question with an easy click to email elmer@k8es.org. We'll forward that question to a club member with expertise in that area who can offer answers.

You do not need to be a "triple E" engineer-level wizard to help. You just need to be able to pass along what you've experienced in our hobby! Like to build HF antennas? Like traffic nets? Familiar with how you get the most from an amplifier? Into digi-modes? Any of these areas can be confusing and challenging to a new ham, or to a veteran who's entering a new aspect of the hobby. Here's how we do this! Think about areas in which you might be able to help. Drop an email to elmer@k8es.org, and you're in!

If you're on the other end - at a stopping point while trying something new in the hobby - drop your question to Elmer and we'll hook you up!

20 / 10 Years Ago in DELARA

April, 1990: The May meeting was "Black Box Night." There was a big welcome for the newest novice-class ham, Carol Anne McConnell.

April, 2000: Bob (then W8BOB) issued a report on his latest toy- the Garmin12. In the newsletter was a brief review of the brand new ham-radio movie, "Frequency."



The preliminary planning for field day has been completed. The captains have been chosen (they all volunteered). Thank you to:

Joe K8MP	- 40/15 cw
Dale W8KTQ	- 80/20 cw
Don AB8KA	- 40/15 ssb
Craig W8CR	- 80/20 ssb
Larry N9AUG	- VHF
Sandy N8YS	- Media and Publicity
Paul N8TQN	- Information Table
Don KB8SIA	- Message handling
Linda N8FES and Barb N8BSS	- Picnic
Tim K8TAT	- FOOD
Nate	- A Number ONE gofer

This is going to be another great time. We will be setting up antennas from 2 PM until maybe dark on Friday, Jun 25. Then we will be back to Scioto Township Park Saturday morning (8 AM or 9 AM) to complete setup of radios and operating positions. Someone will always be at the park until Sunday at 2 PM at which time we will commence tear down and clean.

If you would like to help with any part of Delaware County Field Day, e-mail me at n9aug@arrl.net

Final field day details will be finalized at the June 19 meeting.

Sandy Mackey, N8YS, has Field Day in her blood. She's put together a page on "What Is Field Day." We think this is a pretty good primer on the whole Field Day experience. If you're a new ham, or if you've just never been a part of the experience- it's time to get involved! Check the link on Sandy's Field Day website:

<http://sites.google.com/site/delawarefieldday1/what-is-field-day>

CQ TEST...
KV8Q



It's almost Dayton time!!! You say, "What is this guy talking about? What the heck is Dayton time?" It translates to the Dayton Hamvention which is held the third weekend of May each year over in Dayton. I have been attending every year since 1978 with the exception of one year. A friend of mine from Wisconsin comes down every year and he goes over there with me and my son, Patrick, N8XAW. About every five years or so, we get a flea market spot and setup a table. It's sort of like a recycling plan. You get to clean out your shack and make some money so you can immediately begin accumulating more junk. And, if you don't know what 'reverse shoplifting' is, ask me. I will gladly explain.

So, what is this Hamvention all about? It all started back in 1952 and it has been going strong ever since. If you go, you will find a mammoth flea market area where you can locate just about anything related to ham radio. It usually takes me a day to stroll through the flea market and really look at everything. I find myself asking lots of questions when I see stuff and I have no idea what it might be. You will also find lots and lots of ham radio vendors inside the Hara Arena. It's amazing to see antennas and towers mounted inside the building!!! If you are ready to upgrade your license, you can take your test over there. And, they have plenty of forums where you can learn from the 'pros' about a variety of subjects, such as ARPS, D-Star, Antennas, BalloonSat, Fox Hunting, Power-line Noise, County Hunting, HAARP, QRP, etc. For a complete list of activities, go to www.hamvention.org. The event runs from Friday, the 14th, through Sunday, the 16th. Beware!!! If you go, you will probably get hooked and end up going every year.

I've been very busy lately and haven't found much time to play radio lately. Mother Nature decided to separate my ladder line from my 1:1

choke balun, so that's on the list to re-build when I get the chance. I still haven't completed my SO2R (Single Op 2 Radio) work yet. I really hope to get those two jobs in the rear-view mirror prior to the CQ WW WPX CW contest at the end of this month. I will give a report on how the SO2R functions when I get that setup.

And, now for the educational portion of this month's article: *"Electricity originates inside clouds. There, it forms into lightning, which is attracted to the Earth by golfers. After entering the ground, the electricity hardens into coal, which, when dug up by power companies and burned in big ovens called 'generators,' turns back into electricity...where it is transformed by TV sets into commercials for beer, which passes through the consumers and back into the ground, thus completing what is known as a "circuit".....Dave Barry*

Until next month, look for me on the low end of the CW bands - once my antenna gets fixed.



Welcome!

We encourage and congratulate everyone who goes through the testing process and obtains a new or upgraded ham radio license. This is quite an accomplishment! Among these is Jed, KD8LFB, who upgraded to Extra last month. Jed and his brothers are active in ARES. We welcome all of you all to the hobby and pledge to help you along in your interest! We want to offer a special welcome to Brian Galligher, Manager of the Delaware County Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Management. You'll be hearing Brian on the air after he successfully completed his test at Mt. Vernon this last week to qualify for his first ham license! Brian was a featured speaker at DELARA this year, and has welcomed the Delaware County ARES group as a partner.

If you know of someone who's obtained a license or upgraded, drop a line to newsletter@k8es.org!



Bob's Traveling Treasure Trove

Bob W8CRD

Last month these items were snapped up by eager grabbers:

- Book - Non-Broadcast Shortwave Stations - W8KTQ
- Book - Traveling Wave Antennas - W8TKQ
- Battery charger - W8TKQ
- Pocket AM/FM radio - W8CR
- Small AM/FM radio - K8TAT
- Wall chart of radio frequencies - K8TAT
- Undercounter fluorescent light - K8TAT
- Unknown, quantity 2 - K8TAT
- 12 Volt portable magnetic car light - KB8SIA
- Headphones - K8MP
- TV antenna switch, 3 position - K8MP
- TV antenna switch, 3 position - WB2CWJ
- UHF TV antenna - N8DRZ

A few items were not claimed, and I will bring them to this month's meeting if you let me know you want them. Or you can come and get them.

- MFJ 1270 Packet radio TNC, with adapters for all kinds of radios.
- US Robotics 56K modem, with software CD.
- Book - Home TV/FM antennas

A new item is available upon request. It is too big for me to easily carry but I will put it in my car if you want it. Picnic Canopy, 20 ft by 10 ft, blue and yellow stripes, made by Sears. Covers a picnic table nicely. Includes all poles, bag etc. Collapses to a 6 foot tube, about 8 inches in diameter.

A box of new secret goodies will be given away as usual at this month's meeting. Don't miss out!

The Mobile Tower

We finally have it! The 100' crank-up tower that seems to have been eluding us for the last two years is now ours and the best news is that it was a free donation from Verizon Wireless! Thank you!

Jimmie (WD8DCF), Ken (W8SMK) and Dale (W8KTQ) picked the tower up on May 2nd from the Verizon Wireless site. We had a little trouble with the trailer hitch and there was another 100' crank-up in the way (which we had to move first) but after about an hour, it was on its way to Jimmie's place for initial restoration.

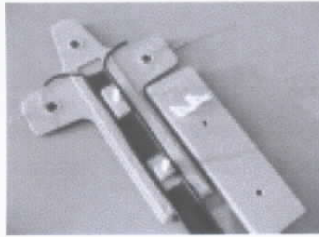
Progress so far is that we've inspected it for structural integrity and have determined what it needs to get it ready for Field Day. The tires and brakes are good, licensing and registration are underway. It does need trailer lights so we're working on that. It also needs the 3/4 hp electric motor that raises the tower to the vertical position. That is on order and should be here shortly. The top section won't accept a rotor so we're in the process of modifying that to accommodate Dale's rotor for his beam. Some wooden blocks to support the outriggers and trailer supports have to be built and some other minor issues need to be addressed but overall, it's in pretty good shape.

We recently did a test "run-up" to 50' and all worked as expected. Thoughts of taking it higher crept into our minds but safety always prevails, it wasn't ready for that yet. We will definitely have it ready for Field Day.

Dale, W8KTQ.
Below- the DELARA Tower Trailer!

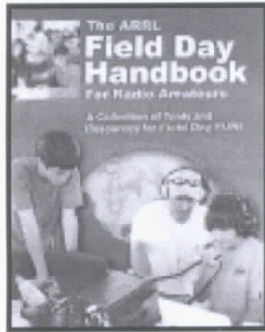


WA1FFL



The **WA1FFL Ladder-Loc®** is a patented strain-relief and mounting support for 450-ohm ladder-line. It is UV-stabilized and has a proven field record of durability.

Order #5461 **\$12.95**



ARRL FIELD DAY HANDBOOK FOR RADIO AMATEURS

ARRL Field Day is the largest on-the-air operating event in ham radio bringing new and experienced ham radio operators together. Field Day is a radio operating activity, educational event, and public demonstration! By setting up in parking lots, parks, malls, emergency centers and at home, hams develop skills to better serve amateur radio and their communities. ©2010 ARRL.

Order #4803 **\$19.95**

ARRL REPEATER DIRECTORY

This famous 3¼" by 5¼" pocket sized guide has 19,828 listings for repeaters operating from 10 meters to over 1.2 GHz. 768 p. List price \$10.95.

Order #4649 **\$9.95**

ARRL DESKTOP REPEATER DIRECTORY

This famous pocket sized directory is also available in a bigger 6 by 9 inch format with larger type. 622 p. Published March 2010.

Order #3995 **\$14.95**



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The **Yaesu VX-8R HT** provides 5 watts FM on 50/144/430 MHz plus 1.5 watts on 222 MHz. It supports Blue Tooth hands-free operation with the optional items. There is also an optional GPS unit. This radio supports APRS® (B band only). The VX-8R is submersible to IPX57 specs. It supports simultaneous independent 2-signal dual receive function with both V+V or U+U. It has weather alert and a barometric sensor is included. The dot matrix LCD provides memory tags (to 16 characters). You even get a high-resolution spectrum analyzer with ±60 channels indication with wave monitoring of received and modulated signals! DCS and CTCSS encode and decode are standard. A 7.4 V 1100 mAh Li-Ion battery is included. 2.36 x 3.74 x 0.92".

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YAESU

FT-1900R

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The **Yaesu FT-1900R** provides Yaesu's legendary mechanical toughness in a low-cost, high-performance, 2-meter FM transceiver. It has strong receiver performance, covering 136 to 174 MHz. It has illuminated front panel keys and boasts 200 memories. You get CTCSS and DCS Encoder and Decoder circuits. 5.6 x 1.6 x 5.8 inches. The FT-1900R is similar to the famous FT-1802M, but adds a *Memory Only* mode and provides 5 more watts.

List \$193.55 Order #1900 **Please Call**

NEW 128 PAGE UNIVERSAL CATALOG



The new **2010A Universal Catalog** was published April, 2010. At 128 pages, it is our largest ever, covering all the latest in shortwave, amateur and scanner communications. Please stop in or call to receive your free copy!

Visit our website for great used equipment values. It now features photographs of select items and an informative archive of hundreds of previously sold radios. If you enjoy older radio receivers, please visit our **Sold Archive** to see many old friends.

The new **2M/440 VX-8GR** with built-in GPS has just been announced. Please see our website for details on the newest member of the VX8 family.

Yaesu VX-8GR Order #3008 **Please Call**

This device has been approved by the FCC, but price and availability have not been announced.

HT GO BAGS



These insulated bags are great for creating an *Emergency Go Bag* for your HT. There is plenty of room for your radio, batteries, accessories, *Repeater Directory* and more. The top is zippered and it has a carry strap plus an open pocket on the front panel. 8 x 6 x 5 inches.

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- Kenwood Logo - Green** Order #0592 **\$7.95**
- Yaesu Logo - Orange** Order #0429 **\$7.95**

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