



October 2010

Volume 29, Number 10

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

- A Smart Meter
- Horse Wrapup

The Calendar

- Oct 21 ARES Mtng
- Oct 20 DELARA

This Month's Meeting:

This is it! **The Great 2010 Boat Anchor Swap!** See President Tim's comments below!



Good evening to all. I hope you're all enjoying this edition of the DELARA news.

October is now here and the weather is finally starting to feel and look like fall. Leaves are starting to fall, which means we have to rake or mow them, no matter it's a pain. Time also to think about the fall harvest from the garden. We visited someone else's garden this past weekend and picked about 2 bushels of apples to be made into applesauce for winter and spring enjoyment and even an apple pie or 2, yum yum.

Just a few quick reminders for all this month. First up, please think of someone you would like to nominate for club officers. To make this process a little less painful, please talk to the person you have in mind. Please consider some other members than the usual who have held these positions in the past. It really can be a lot of fun to find other ways to enjoy our hobby of amateur radio and help out with usual club business too. I know I was only a member of the club for about a year before being voted in as sec/treasurer, which I held for about 4 years. Then I was vice president/program director for 2 years, and now president for 2 years. I can say from first hand experience that this is a great way to get to know people in this fine group of DELARA.

You now need to start digging through all those lost treasures that you would like to bring to the "Boat Anchor Exchange" at the meeting this month. This is always a fun event and gives us all a chance to clean up around the shack and get something we need from someone else. Please remember that if someone else doesn't take that the treasures you brought from home, you **MUST** take it back with you. We cannot leave items at the fire station.

Also, we should also start talking about our annual Holiday party. It is NEVER too soon to get a location lined up so we don't have to worry about this right before the party. If we hold to tradition, the first Saturday of the New Year would be January 1. Because of the holiday I believe January 8 would be a better choice. Please keep that date in mind as well as any possible alternates. For the new members that are reading, this is a FAMILY event where members are welcome to bring along their spouse/significant other and children to share in a nice meal with the group and enjoy each other's company. There is always plenty of food to go around. Well, that is about all I have for you this month. See you at the meeting.

73, Tim - K8TAT



Joe's Place

a collection of thought



I looked really hard, and couldn't find a rule that a newsletter article is only good once. So when Joe told me the size of his workgroup was reduced (fortunately NOT including him) I suggested he pick a favorite. So wind your minds back to 2002, and consider how far ahead of the times this energy saving idea actually was! -ed

Hello from Joe's Place!

I hope Santa was good to your shacks. I got coal myself, but I've been thinking that maybe I could develop a new natural-power source for my radios with it. I already have an exhaust fan for my radio room, so coal smoke wouldn't be a problem. I just need a combustion chamber of some sort, and a way to convert the heat to electricity.

Don't they have things called thermo-couples that do that? I think that is the name. Or am I just thinking about a hot pair of newly-weds? Anyway, I know they have a way of doing that, and if I can't figure out how to do it, I know Terry Webb probably already has one in his garage.

I wonder if we could get special Field Day bonus points for such a set up? I bet we could. It might just put us over the top...FINALLY. Well, guess I'm getting ahead of myself. I still have to get it built.

I remember when I was a Boy Scout that our troop leader built a Dutch oven for baking bread and other stuff while on camping trips. That thing would make a great coal-burner for the shack. I would just need to get it hot enough to put out 12 volts, so I could charge my shack-battery.

It could double as a cooker at Field Day too. We could bake cakes and bread in it, while making QSO's. What a deal. And if we use it for the 2.4 GHZ ATV station, we could call it our microwave oven.

My brain is just buzzing with possibilities. We could pioneer a new ham activity, called "Field day in January". We'd have plenty of heat from the coal-fired, 12 volt, bread-baking, microwave Dutch-oven.

Man, now we're cookin'.

I hope to see you in November, at Joe's Place.

20 / 10 Years Ago in DELARA

October, 1990: [File unreadable] so in October of 1989: Meeting topic- The Penguin Queen, Linda, N8FES, with an Alaskan tour report.

October, 2000: The second annual swapfest was on! Bob, then W8BOB, reported on his trip to Tennessee and the Ten Tec gathering.

ARES Gang:

We have been asked to provide communications for the Delaware Veteran's Day Parade. It will be held on Sunday, November 7th, at 3 PM, with parade set-up starting around 1 PM. I'll send the specifics along at a later date. (Maps, times to report, individual post locations, etc)

For now, I just need 12 volunteers for that day and if you have a location preference, please let me know.

The theme for this year's parade is: "Honor-Duty-Country" and the Grand Marshals will be Vietnam vets.

The planning committee is looking for military vehicles to be in the parade, so if you have one or know someone who has one, let me know and I'll get you an application form.

RSVP if you want to help out.

Thanks, Joe

Important note: Ken Bird's email has changed to w8smk@frontier.com.

Operating events

- ARRL School club roundup
1300z 10/18 – 2400z 10/22
- Stew Perry Topband Challenge
1500z 10/23 – 1500z 10/24
- **CQ WW SSB**
0000z 10/30 – 2400z 10/31
- ARRL EME
0000z 10/30 – 2359z 10/31
- **ARRL Sweepstakes CW**
2100z 11/6 – 0300z 11/8
- CQ-WE
1900z 11/13 – 0500z 11/15
- **ARRL Sweepstakes SSB**
2100z 11/20 – 0300z 11/22
- **CQ WW CW**
0000z 11/27 – 2400z 11/28

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

Boy the weather sure has changed from the hot and steamy /dry to a sort of comfortable cool type fall season. It is much more conducive to completing necessary yard work before winter really sets in.

The latest bit of event news is the Veterans Day Parade on Sunday November 7, 2010 in downtown Delaware at 3:00PM. Joe, K8MP has agreed to handle the event from start to finish. Give him a call if you can participate in this worthwhile event.

Speaking of events....The Horse Parade was really something this year. Many new entries and the crowds were enormous compared to previous years.

Our ARES meeting for October 14th has been moved to the following week October 21, 2010 due to a schedule restructuring glitch on the ARC computer. We will meet at the American Red Cross facility 380 Hills Miller Rd. at 7:30 PM. Our guest speaker will be Ms. Tracey Wilson, Executive Director of the American Red Cross Delaware Chapter. And for those that missed the unveiling of the Canned Ham project, it will be at the site for viewing before the meeting. I know Stan, **N8BHL** is very proud of his mobile Canned Ham Shack.

And From my desk the following:

Dear A.R.E.S. members of Delaware County, Ohio.....

Members of the Delaware A.R.E.S., it seems fitting at this time to think about my replacement as E.C. (Emergency Coordinator) for Delaware County A.R.E.S. I will not be returning as E.C. after December 31, 2010. It has been a learning process for the last 12 + years. I've been fortunate to work with such fine and dedicated "hams" in these past years and find it necessary to pass the "torch" to another. I do want to thank each individual member for their support and confidence over the years I'm not leaving the organization, but just going to take a step back and enjoy some remaining years and let my successor take the ARES group to a higher level of readiness.

We did succeed in accomplishing a few things thanks to Brian Galligher, **KD8OAD**; Bob Greenlaw, **KE7YEP** and of course your continuing support. I've made a number of friends over the past years, and a few enemies I'm sure.

At this time, and my last request, I want to appoint **Sandy, N8YS** as "teller" to take and record those members' names submitted by the membership, or a volunteer who they wish to have represent them as Emergency Coordinator for the Delaware County A.R.E.S. and send that person/persons name to the Ohio DEC for consideration.

So, Sandy if you would be so kind I would greatly appreciate it.

73 to all, don kb8sia



Laura, N8FES, steps to the podium as the crowd settles in for her report. She is wearing a horse parade visor.

Thanks to all who participated in the 25th All Horse Parade. The Committee would like to let you know that your being there was much appreciated in helping once again to make this a safe and enjoyable community event. We had a beautiful day and really lucked out that the fire on Saturday did not cause a route change.

The following hams were working that day: Jedidiah, K8QY; Josiah, KD8LFB; Don, AB8KA; Barbara, N8BSS; Joe, N8ZGL; Walter, KC8CNT; Wally, W8WLK; Jim, W8CQT; Laura, KA8IWB; Don, KB8SIA; John, W8RXX; Isaiah, KD8LFC; Ken, W8SMK; Craig, W8CR; Elias, KD8MHG; Anthony, KE5RIP; Tim, K8TAT; Larry, N9AUG; Joe, N8DRZ; Gary, K8EHB; Sandy, N8YS, Carol Anne, N8MRU and Drew, W8DRE.

Thanks also to Laura, KA8IWB for the use of the .29 machine and Gary, K8EHB for going the extra mile in taking on the special event station, K8H.

Gary steps forward to continue the report. He is not wearing a horse visor.

Thanks to our DELARA members, and a whole lot of help from the members of SLSRC (The St. Louis and Suburban Radio Club) who donated their time and technical services to provided us with a wonderful website which included online logging and online certificate retrieval. I can say that the 25th Delaware All-Horse Parade Special Event was a big success and brought worldwide recognition to this year's parade. Oh,

and I can't forget to thank Alice Wilson, an Ohio State University Art Major who created the beautiful watercolor sketch that was the background on our Special Event certificate.

I know during the weekend of our Special Event we had a lot of other activities to contend with. We had the main event on Sunday afternoon (All-Horse Parade), the VHF/UHF contest which ran the entire weekend, the Ohio State Parks contest which lasted most of Saturday, and finally the Findlay Hamfest on Sunday. Despite all of these activities I'm very proud to say we logged a total of 594 QSO, made contacts into 31 different countries with our furthest contact being into Japan. I would like to give a big round of applause to the operators who made time during a very busy weekend to log some contacts. Our Special Event operators in callsign order: Gary, K8EHB (hey that's me), Joe, K8MP, Larry, K8OMA, Scott, KQ8RP, Linda, N8FES, Bob, N8OB, Sandy, N8YS, Larry, N9AUG, Craig, W8CR, and last but not least Bob, W8ERD.

I don't really have any way to tell how many of the 594 contacts took advantage of the online certificate, but I can tell you so far I've received 30 QSL card requests and on many of those cards it says "Hope to work you again next year". So I guess that gives us something to think about over the winter. If we decide to have a Special Event next year the St. Louis and Suburban Radio Club has offered us the use of their Special Event services again.

Both take seats to appreciative applause from the crowd. Your moderator continues the story.

Funny how some things happen. Joe, K8MP was taking his turn at operating as K8H when he happened across Tom, KN5S. Seems Tom Mayse had a special interest in the contact- and went to the K8ES website. There, he ran across Ken Bird's call and information- and the emails started to fly! Seems that Tom and Ken had worked together a number of years ago, then Tom moved away and changed calls several times. Ken was unable to find his old friend until the K8H contact. A phone call followed, and the two friends were able to revive their friendship! Look for a face-to-face QSO in the future.

That's what ham radio is all about!



... The Saga

I cannot speak highly enough of the work by Canned Ham's Chief Engineer Tim, K8TBN! Not only did he catch the vision from the onset of the project, but he even put up with the old girl sitting in his yard for months while we did the work. OK. While he did the work and I watched.



As it turned out, the first use of Canned was actually a great way to test her under a full load – three HF operating positions at the "Ohio State Parks on the Air" event. Our thinking was that it would take a major catastrophe to require all three operating positions. To launch the trailer under that

full load was a great shakedown. Canned weathered it with excellence!

Joe, K8MP hung the wire antennas. Larry, N9AUG, mounted the six-meter and two-meter beams to the military mast affixed to the side of the trailer. It raised with ease. It turned after all three of us grabbed the mast and heaved. A rotor would have been nice.



The spacious desk area disappeared when Joe added the big TenTec rig. Larry brought a laptop and 20' flat screen monitor with his neat package of radio, tuner, and power supply. But there was room for it all. Nice! I set up the 706 in the auxiliary position near the door.

End result: satisfied! I now have two Dell laptops programmed and ready. Interfacing
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with the radios will be a winter project. The printer and wifi are running. I am collecting supplies and additions as I think of them, and I'm waiting for a great deal on a generator. Overall, I think it's ready.

This is the time when YOU get involved – if there's a public service event just give me a call.

-Stan, N8BHL



Bob's Traveling Treasure Trove

Bob W8ERD

To be given away at our next meeting.

Now we are getting down to the bigger stuff.

1. Heath deluxe stereo audio preamplifier model SP-2A. Lots of knobs, lots of inputs. Uses tubes (all the rage among audiofiles these days). Remarkable features - cancels noise from LP records; has remote control for left/right balance.

2. Heath inverter; 12VDC to 120VAC. Model MP-10. 175 watts continuous, 240 watts intermittent.

3. And now we have a special deal, to be given away only to the most deserving and dedicated.

Icom IC-02AT 2M handheld transceiver, including all possible accessories.

- Many batteries and chargers.
- Multiple antennas.
- 30 watt mobile amplifier.
- Carrying case.
- All manuals including the detailed service manual.
- Hand microphone.
- Belt PTT switch.

Applications and nominations will be accepted starting now, and lasting until someone is found. **The recipient must be a DELARA member and participate in activities and nets, and not have a hand-held radio.**

Smart Meter - Didn't know the old one was stupid

-Stan, N8BHL

My Wonderwife Sandi left a letter on the table from the Electric Co-op. It and a nice tri-fold brochure extolled the virtues of something new and futuristic-the "Smart Meter." The problem is that neither the letter nor the brochure said anything about how the magic meter actually worked and neither promised me it would not cause mega-problems the next time I turned on the ham rigs. Hmmpf.

That same afternoon, the dogs barking announced a gentleman standing on my front porch, holding a shiny new electric meter in his hand. He suggested I turn off appliances or computers that might be irritated by a five-second power outage. I watched as he snapped the old meter out, and plugged the new one in. Click. Smack. Done. "Have a nice day."

Now what am I in for?

I spent some time on the Internet to discover what made this meter tick ...er... hum. It seems that smart meters come in different packages. There are two major classifications: AMR and AMI. AMR - "Automated Meter Reading" is the simpler of the two, most often called "drive by" or "dial up" metering. These meters wake up to send their data to a passing vehicle or send it via radio to a collection point. It is an infrequent one-way communication path. The other classification is being installed in our Coop area: AMI or "Automated Meter Infrastructure." This involves a more sophisticated two-way communication path to the meters. Cell technology, RF, and power-line carrier are three of the means of communicating between the meter and the utility. In our case, they're using power-line carrier - modulating a signal that runs over the power line to a concentrator or repeater station. That boosts the signals, and sends them back to the utility's collecting point. Apparently, power levels in these applications are very small. The technician said there might be more concentration of signal at that repeater site.

So all this makes me very nervous. Not that I'm all that active on the air, but still the vision of S9+20 buzzing is not pleasant. According to most people reporting either in articles or in forum posts there doesn't seem to be a lot of RF interference particularly affecting Amateur Radio. More widespread are reports of 'clicking' noises in baby monitors and on some satellite TVs but then they're not exactly know to be high-end RF devices. Last year, Pacific Gas & Electric started their installation across California. There were reports of satellite TV interference, alarm systems randomly going off, cordless phones misbehaving, Human sacrifice, dogs and cats living together... mass hysteria! Oh, wait. Cancel that last, I just watched Ghost Busters again.

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DELARA NEWS

But you get the idea. And is it true? As you might expect from the Internet, the answer is, "Yes and no." If you receive one of these new meters, and you suddenly begin to hear a buzz where before there was none, there is some possibility it might be the Smart Meter. But everything I've read so far indicates that is very unlikely. We have little choice in the matter, all we are left with is to watch and listen. Report any problems to the utility and let us know for the newsletter.



ARES Weather Staffing Explained

This is just a note to answer some questions that have come up on the repeater involving ARES staffing the county EMA center during severe weather. Some ARES members have access cards to the county EOC (Emergency Operations Center). We staff one person when there is a likelihood that severe weather may strike Delaware County. That operator makes contact with the 911 center, and checks into the .76 weather net representing the EOC. We're there to take traffic from 76, and feed information both to 76 and to the 911 center. We hope that the information flow can go both directions- we can serve as an 'early warning' to the 911 center, and they can report to us significant events they're hearing about. Should there be a situation warranting ARES activation, that operator is already in place. Once given the call by EMA staff that operator merely beings up the ARES net on .29.

What does that mean to you and everyone in the club? First and foremost, **listen and contribute** to the Central Ohio Severe Weather Net on 76. They need as many experienced operators as possible watching the skies. Get mobile if you can, or get to a vantage point that allows you to see the oncoming storms. Should there be an ARES activation, we will make the announcement on 76 that Delaware County ARES members should move to .29.

GRUNDIG

SATELLIT 750



The Grundig Satellit 750 is an exciting portable that brings the world to you! You will get complete coverage of all long wave, medium wave and shortwave frequencies as well as FM (stereo to the earphone jack). Plus the Satellit 750 also receives the VHF aeronautical band (118-137 MHz). Your shortwave coverage includes the reception of the single sideband (SSB) mode allowing the reception of ham radio operators, maritime and shortwave aeronautical stations. You can select either wide or narrow selectivity to reduce co-channel interference. You can tune your favorite stations by the conventional tuning knob, quick keypad entry or via the 1000 memories. Two speed tuning increments (1 and 5 kHz) are available. And you will enjoy the fidelity you have come to expect from Grundig enhanced by separate bass and treble controls. The radio features both an Earphone Jack and a Line Output Jack. The built in 24 hour clock has a dual alarm and a sleep feature. This radio can simultaneously display the frequency and the time on the large backlit LCD. It will also indicate external/internal antenna selection, battery status, memory, selected bandwidth and attenuator status. Long distance AM band reception is possible with the built-in 360° rotatable, directional ferrite antenna. External antennas may also be attached. 14.65 x 7.24 x 5.75 inches 5.25 lbs. Includes AC adapter or may operate from four D cells (not supplied). One year limited manufacturer's warranty. Latest production with metal knobs.

List \$400.00 Order #0750 **\$299.95**

Switchable BNC jacks are provided for FM and shortwave antennas. High impedance (500 ohm) terminals are provided for simple shortwave wire antennas. There is also a mini jack available for the AM and longwave bands.



✓ **FREE Grundig G6**
AM-FM-SW-Air radio
included with your Satellit 750
purchase. A \$99.95 value!



The Grundig G6 Buzz Aldrin Edition celebrates 50 years of space travel. With the G6 at your side, you'll always have great listening options. Tune in to longwave, AM, FM, the VHF aircraft band or continuous coverage shortwave. Use the auto-tuning feature to browse stations and stop on the next available frequency. You can also use "D5" tuning to get a taste of what's playing—stop on the next available frequency for five seconds at a time. This advanced dual conversion circuit also features the reception of S.S.B. (Single Side Band) signals. This radio has keypad entry, manual tuning knob and 700 alphanumeric memories, arranged in 100 pages. The backlit display features a signal strength indicator and there is a stereo/mono and a mega-bass switch. There are mini jacks for earphones and external antenna. Use the international clock and wake-up alarms to keep you on schedule. It can operate from two regular or NiCad AA cells (not supplied). With AC adapter and earbuds. 5 x 3 x 1.2" 9 oz. The G6 will be included **FREE** with your Satellit 750 purchase through 12/31/10. This radio may also be purchased separately for \$99.95

Visit our website for great used equipment values too.

GRUNDIG G3



The Grundig G3 Globe Traveler is an innovative portable radio covering long wave, AM, FM (stereo to earphone jack), continuous shortwave plus the VHF aircraft band. It features dual conversion AM/SW circuitry for exceptional sensitivity and image rejection. It offers S.S.B. - Single sideband reception. It has a large 700 channel alpha memory system with memory scan and auto tuning storage. Unlike other portables in its class, the Globe Traveler offers Synchronous Detection. This special feature addresses the issue of selective fading and adjacent channel interference on shortwave. Other enhancements include: Wide/Narrow selectivity, auto search, RDS, signal indicator, Local/DX switch, direct frequency entry and 24 hour clock with four alarm timers. It has an external antenna jack and a Line In/Out jack. Requires four AA cells (not supplied). If four NiMH AAs are inserted, they may be recharged inside the radio. Supplied with manual, protective pouch and AC adapter/charger. 6.62 x 4.13 x 1.1". 13 oz. **G3 Globe Traveler** Order #4033 **\$149.95**

✓ **FREE Grundig M400**
AM-FM-SW compact radio
included with your Grundig G3
purchase. A \$29.95 value!

The Grundig M400 is an ultra compact portable radio that covers the AM, FM and shortwave in two bands: 5.9-10 and 11.65-18 MHz. The frequency display is to the nearest 1 kHz on AM and to 5 kHz on shortwave. There is a built-in clock-alarm. The left side of the radio has the tuning knob, an earphone jack and a lock button to prevent accidental frequency changes. An amazingly thin radio - under 1/2 inch! This radio operates from two AAA cells (not supplied). Supplied with a soft case that permits the radio to be played even while inserted. 2.75 x 4.33 x 0.472" 3.2 ounces. The M400 will be included **FREE** with your G3 purchase through 12/31/10. This radio may also be purchased separately for \$29.95



Showroom Hours
Mon.-Fri. 10:00 - 5:30
Saturday 10:00 - 3:00

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