



Field Day Edition!



Delaware Amateur Radio Association Newsletter

June 2011

Volume 30, Number 6

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:
Dave Le May
WB2CWJ
- Sec/Treas:
Ken Bird W8SMK

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The Calendar

- June 9 ARES Mtng
- June 15 DELARA
- June 16 Contest net
145.17 8:30PM
- June 25 FIELD DAY!

This Month's Meeting: Field Day!

Remember in an old battle movie, the crews all sit in the ready room suited up and ready to go! That's us this month; as **Field Day** approaches we'll be in our 'ready room' to hear the final instructions, and start to make it happen! Read more page 2!



The Prez Sez:

Tim K8TAT



Well, it that time again, to hear the rambling of "The Prez," and your fellow amateur radio (ham) buddies.

I hope some of you might have experienced for yourself one of the greatest hamfests around. The Dayton Hamfest, happened May 19 – 22 this year. We sure had good weather for it and it sounds like the club's flea market spot did very well. But if you missed it, there's always next year; or you can try one of the smaller hamfests around like Findley, Mansfield or others.

As I said last month, my shopping list for Dayton had gotten BIGGER along with the wallet, so I had my sparkling eyes set on a portable multiband – multifunction uhf/vhf/hf radio for my home station.

I have studied numerous ads, reviews, etc, of all the newer portable rigs that I could afford. All the radios seem to have their values of sorts, but I made up my mind on my next big Ham Radio purchase: an ICOM 706 MKIIG.

With that decided I went to Dayton to shop the different dealers that day, shopping for the best price. I took careful comparisons, and by midday I believe I had found the best price on the ICOM 706 MKIIG so I made my purchase from AES. Now that I had made my purchase, I had a new sparkle in my eyes! I just wanted to get my purchase home or at least somewhere I could open the box and hold it and examine it, to start my next big adventure in the world of ham radio.

With the new rig come the many possibilities in the hobby that I could only have imagined before. But now I have UHF/VHF/HF capabilities all in one radio! The world is out in front of me with the right antennas and station set-up, so stay tuned.

Hope to see you all at the meeting this month! It finally stopped raining here, got hot and humid, going from one extreme to another. But least I can cut the grass.

-Tim, K8TAT



DELARA Field Day

As I write this article, we have 26 days until Field Day. It's a good thing we are a well prepared group of hams! At this month's club meeting, we will be discussing and finalizing our Field Day plans. We have most of the details hammered out, we just need to go over a few things to be sure everyone is on the same page.

Speaking of hams, let's not forget the club picnic that will be held during Field Day. Barb, N8BSS and Linda, N8FES have been working hard to provide us with a great meal that we will share with the Delaware County Public Safety Personnel (i.e. Fire, Law Enforcement, EMS and 911) Barb has a sign up sheet that she will be passing around for folks to sign up to bring a dish to pass. We would hope that since the club is hosting a 'special' picnic this year, that you will take a moment to read over what the picnic coordinators need in the way of food donations, and sign up to bring the amount specified for that item.

Something else I have been working on is a flyer that will be sent out to the appropriate people that we wish to invite to the picnic. I was in the EOC the other day working on the Picnic Flyer that we will be sending out to the Delaware County Public Safety Personnel. I will bring a copy of it with me to the meeting, so all of you can see what we will be distributing. The guys at the EMA; Brian, Sean and Bobby, have been a great help to me getting this picnic invite list going and I wanted to thank them for their enthusiasm in helping out the Delaware County Amateur Radio Operators. Hopefully, we will see a good turnout at the picnic by both Public Safety Personnel and DELARA club members!

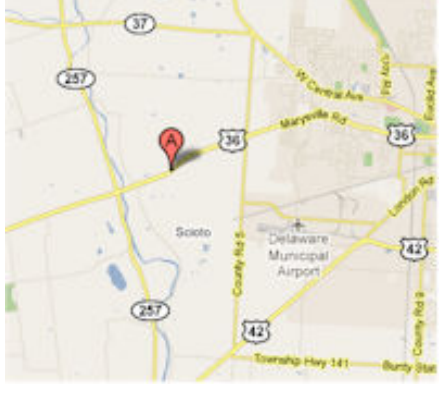
The Ohio Section Affiliated Club Coordinator KC8YLD made a point to stop by the DELARA flea market space at the Dayton Hamfest to remind us that he has put out a challenge to other clubs in the State to try and do as well as DELARA has in the past, to which Gary, K8EHB responded, "Them is fightin' words!" but we took the opportunity to show him the club award that we won for the 2010 Ohio QSO party. He also suggested that he may be dropping by our Field Day site, which we would love to have happen.

So to all the groups out there running 4 Alpha who may try to challenge us, we have two words for you....**BRING IT!**

Everyone who knows me knows how dedicated I am to helping DELARA achieve another top notch Field Day. I am fortunate to be surrounded by a club whose members all feel the same way. As always, our number one priority is safety! Keeping things simple has proven to help us score higher and stay safe. So let's keep our station manned at all times, stay safe, have a good time and pray for blue skies! I really hope to see all your smiling faces at the meeting!

Remember to visit us on the web for everything Field Day @ www.k8es.org – click on the Field Day Link to take you to the Field Day website. Or just go straight to the site – <https://sites.google.com/site/delawarefieldday1>

- Sandy, N8YS
Field Day Coordinator



Operating events

- **ARRL VHF QSO Party**
1800z 6/11 – 0259z 6/13
- **W VA QSO Party**
1600z 6/18 – 0200z 6/19
- **ARRL FIELD DAY**
1800z 6/25 – 2100z 6/26
- **RAC Canada Day Contest**
0000z 7/1 – 2359z 7/1

We Saw You At DAYTON!

DELARA offered a wonderful selection of stuff at Dayton! Thanks to Bob, W8ERD, the former Radio Observatory at OSU had ten year's of surplus equipment to clear out- and it was all donated to DELARA. After a few work parties (thanks, everybody!) the equipment was removed and placed for sale.



C'mon! Buy a trasure!



Everything you want in classy, retro - radio!

A most important part of the DELARA booth is the seating! Always a great place in the shade!



Gary, K8EHB, Dale, W8KTO, Tim, K8TBN



Tim, K8TBN, Gary, K8EHB, Bub, W8ERD



Ready to sell! Bob, N8OB



Now THAT'S a crank-up!

Pictures from John, W8SJV !

We took in \$1541 cash at Dayton. There are a number of things still left in the storage trailer at AB8KAs place. We do not have a complete list of these things. I remember there are several large Tektronix oscilloscopes, 2 oscilloscope carts and a large signal analyzer made by Scientific Atlantic, plus many other things.

Anyone who wishes to buy stuff can go there and look around and make any reasonable offer. Also check with Dale Bauer, who brought some items back.

I had heard that John Supina was going to try and sell some of the stuff to Fair Radio Sales, but I have no further info on that. – Bob, W8ERD

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

Stan, N8BHL



ARES is in its busiest month, with lots of public service events! We've already provided communications for the Delaware Memorial Day Parade. We have a busy weekend coming with the Tour De Cure on Saturday the 11th, and the Wendy's Triathlon on the next day. Kudos' to Don, KB8SIA, for taking on NCS duties. Many thanks to all of you who volunteer your time with these activities!

Hope you got a look at the Delaware Gazette on the 3rd. The front page feature was GOBA- a visit by 3,000 bicycling enthusiasts. ARES is providing communications for that- and even if you're not a regular ARES participant, we will need all the help we can get for this one. I think our biggest need will be Tuesday June 21. So if you have a handheld, or at the least a two meter mobile, email newsletter@k8es.org and let me know you're willing to help! We think it will be a great time!

At the time of this writing, it sounds like Ham activity has slowed down a bit in storm-torn Joplin, MO, and other places hit by our unusually massive tornado outbreaks. But there is still communicating going on in the stricken areas. And just as we thought it was over, at least two tornadoes touched down in Central Massachusetts destroying parts of a surprised Springfield, MA. Are you ready?

ARES is working with the county HS/EMS and Director Brian, KD8OAD, on a public information system based on "Talking House" AM radio transmitters. We're also continuing to work on the ARES repeater to iron out the bugs. (Ken has a repeater update elsewhere in this edition.)

Here is our schedule- check your calendars and VOLUNTEER! It's fun!

DELAWARE ARES ACTIVITIES

June 11	Tour De Cure	KB8SIA
June 12	Wendy's Triathlon	KB8SIA
June 20	GOBA Day 1	N8BHL / ?
June 21	GOBA Day 2	N8BHL / ?
June 22	GOBA Day 3	N8BHL / ?

- June 24-25-26 FIELD DAY
- July 4 (?) Sunbury Parade
- July 16 Greenswell 1
- July 17 Greenswell 1
- Aug 6 Greenswell 2
- Aug 7 Greenswell 2

~whew!~ **Thank you** for all your time and energy! You make this an active, respected ARES unit! ...And thanks for keeping me straight!

-Stan, N8BHL

20 / 10 Years Ago in DELARA

June, 1991- Attention was directed toward Charlie, WD8NII's, cabin in Morrow County. A reminder to bring your bug spray!

June, 2001- In Joe's Place, it was revealed that the club flirted with the idea of running 5A for a while. The Field Day Site was Riverview Park.

DELARA is on the Internet!

"Like" the Delaware Amateur Radio Association's Facebook Page! And check our all the features on our DELARA website: <http://www.k8es.org>

Ham 'Zam's Coming Up:

Know someone who want to get licensed? COLVET offers a 'free' Technician License Class Course Saturday, July 30 at Universal Radio! Pre-study is encouraged, space is limited to pre-register with Bill Neill, NE1LL, ne1ll@ymail.com.

Our DELARA exams were a success, with two new hams and several upgrades. There will also be testing at the Columbus Hamfest, August 6, 2011. (More info this issue)



Joe's
Place

a collection of thought



Howdy from Joe's Place

Welcome to summer. It was a long winter and spring wasn't much better (unless you like rain and cool weather). I vow not to complain about the heat this year. You can hold me to that.

I really don't have a topic this month so I'll just cover a two smaller items.

"I like big bucks and I cannot lie"

OK, so I paraphrased Sir Mixalot on that one. I like *free* stuff too. That's two things I like. One thing I *hate* being wrong. I have to admit I was way off base regarding the equipment from OSU. I didn't think anyone would want to buy that old stuff. It only proved once again that "One man's trash is another man's treasure." The club made big bucks off that deal and some members got some free stuff

Bob, how could I have ever doubted you? A wise man once said "Every club needs a Bob." I wonder who that guy was and where was he when I needed him?

"Mobile mount mayhem"

My Antenna Specialists HF mobile mount broke a few weeks ago. No biggie, just buy a new one, right? BUZZZZZ !!! Wrong answer Joe, you can't get that one anymore. (I think they're out of business) Well, I snooped around the web and found one made by Newtronics. It was described as "Heavy Duty" and the bolt pattern matched my old mount. Y-e-s-s-s !!!

I ordered one through DX Engineering. It arrived the next day and I proceeded to install it. What a piece of junk!!! You would have to see it to believe how poorly it is constructed, especially since they called it a "heavy-duty mount."

I went ahead and put it on the car and checked the SWR. Every thing looked good. I just hoped it would turn out to be mechanically stronger than it looked.

After the first day of driving, I noticed the antenna was leaning towards the rear of the car. That is not

unusual in a new installation. The new mount had "twisted" due to wind-loading. It just meant I needed to get the bolt(s) tighter. I loosened the hardware, straightened the antenna, and cranked down harder on the bolt this time.

Well, I went through this on several occasions until finally the threads in the mount stripped. I called Newtronics and said I wanted a refund. They were only willing to send me a warranty replacement. "Why would I want to replace a piece of junk with another piece of junk", I asked and then said good-bye. I had better luck with DX Engineering. They are going to refund my \$\$\$.

By the way, I have since found a source for a true heavy-duty mount. There is a guy in Texas who makes a variety of mounts out of solid metal (Not pot-metal either. They're real brass, stainless, and others) He will even custom-make a mount if he doesn't have one that meets your needs. I sent him the engineering drawing of my original Antenna Specialists mount so he can match my bolt pattern. He expects to have it ready to ship this week.

If you would like to see Jerry's products: <http://bellsouthpwp.net/b/r/breedlove1/> [*I too am another happy Breedlove customer, -ed N8BHL*]

Well, I guess that's about it for this edition of Joe's Place. I hope to see you all at the meeting and/or at Field Day. Even if you aren't participating in Field Day, don't forget that our club picnic will be held at the FD site during the event. I'm sure you'll find details about the picnic elsewhere in this newsletter.

Otherwise, I'll see you all next month...

at Joe's Place.

PS-- Shucks, I almost forgot to tell you how I'm staying on-the-air while waiting for the new mount. I have one of those giant triple-mag-mounts and I put it on the trunk lid of the Bonneville. It works great. Signal reports seem comparable to what I had with the body mount. By the way, I've been holding my highway speeds to 65 MPH cuz I don't to chance the thing coming off the car.

Wanted / For Sale

Free to a good home.
Triband single element trap dipole. TA33 driven element. Worked well for me for years but now have a beam. N9AUG



Bitten By the Bug!

Craig Miller, W8CR

Ahhhh...the kid's on the bus and the wife is on her way to the salt mine. 45 minutes before I have log into HQ and see what disasters happened overnight that are for me to fix or pass on the blame. Down to the man-cave with a hot cup-o-joe to see if I can scare up a quick QSO on the Yaesu rice box.

40 meters sounds pretty quiet this morning, no ear splitting static crashes. The usual morning CW junkies must have already headed off to work or out mowing the grass. Spin the dial down to 7.023 to see if any speedsters are still on. I like listening to those wizards for practice. Some days are better than others for me to copy 30-35 WPM. I usually putz around 18-25 WPM depending on the cobwebs in the ol' noggin. Wow it must be later than I thought, those guys are gone too.

Back up to 7.030, coupla guys wrapping up a chat at about 20 wpm. I listen for a bit, "FB FRED MUST QRT TO WALK THE DOG 73 ES CUL..." (translation: "Good copy, Frederick, I must end this conversation because I really have to go to the bathroom! Best wishes and see you later.).

Spin up to 7.032, don't hear any beeps or boops. Rock the knob back and forth, nobody nearby. I guess here is where I'll cast my line. "QRL?" (translation: "Anybody out there working that last rare DX station for your DXCC, that I can't hear, and will soon trash this frequency with my splatter?"). Nuttin' heard. I'll QRL one more time before "CQ CQCQ DE W8CRW8CR K" (I mean KG8*%&). Silence. Again "CQ CQ...". Just the hiss out of the speaker. Well maybe this ain't gonna happen today. One more time...

Bam - I got one! Strong signal too, a good 589, I like comfortable signal strengths, makes copying code much easier. "What the ...? What is he sending me?"

"DAAAAHHHHHH DIT DITDITDIT DAAAAHHHHHHH DAAAAHHHHHHH DAAAAHHHHH DIT DITDITDIT DIT DIT DITDITDITDAAAAHHHHHHH."

NUTS! He's using a bug, a mechanical keyer dating back to the old railroad days. Ingenious mechanism for sending high speed CW and takes a lot of practice to send clear, copy-able code. But in the wrong hands, it's almost impossible to decipher the gibberish. I can barely make out my callsign let alone his - this isn't gonna be fun.

Two options - 1) don't reply, pretend I didn't hear him. But he's 589, most likely I'm 589 to him, he knows I can hear him - plus that's the coward's way out. 2) answer him and tough it out, Chump.

We exchange the usual stuff, I was 589, his name is Bill and lives in NiassaFihls, er, Niagara Falls, NY. "Niagara Falls, eh?" We've wanted to visit there sometime before our kid gets too old to even want to be seen with his parents, let alone ride in a car for 6 hours to look at water flowing over rocks. Plus that's where Nikola Tesla built his hydro power station that illuminated Buffalo over a hundred years ago. I'm hooked now - lotsa questions for him.

He can't possibly be listening to himself else he would be using that built in keyer that God put in his FT950. As our conversation progressed I was getting more used to his style of CW. Kinda like listening to British talk on PBS, at first they're totally unintelligible, but over time your brain figures things out. Same with Bill's fist. I have to give him credit, he's using something that is a passing skill. I have a bug I bought used years ago, but could never master it well enough for me to feel comfortable subjecting others to my noise.

Well that 45 minutes passed fast. Time to get to work. I promised I would look him up whenever we get to Niagara. We do the usual end-of-QSO formalities and sign off. I guess it wasn't a total nightmare working him and his bug, after all. Kinda like talking to somebody with a thick accent.

After all, he is a New Yorker.

ARRL Outgoing QSL Service


One feature of the ARRL's Outgoing QSL Service is that members of an ARRL affiliated club (that's Delara) who are also members of the ARRL can pool their outgoing DX QSL cards. This can save you cash when you only have a few cards to send. For example, it costs \$2.00 to send 10 or fewer cards but just \$6.00 to send a half-pound of cards, which is approximately 75 cards.

If anyone is interested in doing this, please contact me at k8mp@aol.com or better yet, just bring your cards to this month's meeting. Also include your proof of ARRL membership. (a copy of your current QST mailing label or the label info written on a piece of paper is fine.)

See <http://www.arrl.org/outgoing-qsl-service> for details about how to presort your cards and other topics regarding this service. Keep in mind, this service is **not** for stateside QSLs.

Ham News and Calendar

- 7/16 NOARSFEST – Elyria, OH
- 7/17 Van Wert Hamfest
- 7/30 COLVET Tech class 9:30, Universal Radio
- 7/31 Portage Hamfair – Randolph, OH
- 8/6 Columbus Hamfest (includes CRES exams)



21ST ANNUAL

Columbus Hamfest

SAVE THE DATE
Saturday
August 6
2011
8 am – 1 pm

At the air-conditioned
Aladdin Shrine
Center

3850 Steitzer Road
Columbus, OH 43209

ARRL Sanctioned Hamfest
www.arri.org
Hosted by The Voice of Aladdin
Amateur Radio Club
w8fez@yahoo.com

GPS Coordinates
N 40° 03.155'
W 082° 54.43'

21ST ANNUAL

\$5 admission includes:

- FREE indoor vendor space...or...FREE outdoor flea market space. (See website for further details.)
- FREE wireless internet
- FREE parking
- FREE Education Forums
- VEC License Testing, walk-ins welcome. Prepaid exam includes free admission ticket.

Enjoy shopping at the nearby Easton Town Center.

Vendor setup begins at 6:30 AM

GRAND PRIZE
Yaesu

For the latest information, please visit our webpage at www.aladdinshrine.org/hamfest.htm

Always the first Saturday in August

Repeater News

Work continues to improve our repeaters. Unfortunately, it would appear that the South receiver for 145.17 will have to be put into tone access. **If you haven't yet programmed the PL tone into all of your radios, you'd better do it now.**

The 145.19 'Temporary' machine is not working well with a continuing Rx de-sense problem. I have acquired some Motorola parts to complete the rebuild of the ARES machine.

Stay tuned for further good news.

MAGNETS, MAGNETS, MAGNETS! After recycling all of the stuff I brought home from OSU, I have a dozen or more 'super magnets'. None are the size to make a mag mount antenna, but would be perfect

for finding lost nails or other parts you may have dropped. OR, if you are a 'believer' in the theory that magnets will cure almost any medical ailment, **WOW** what a deal I have for you! I will bring them to the next meeting.

-Ken, W8SMK

Welcome to our newest member, Trig Tabor, K8NIO. If you don't know Trig, you must be a brand new ham- Trig's been an integral part of Ham Radio around here for years. Do you know someone who *should* be in DELARA? Why not ask?

STATE OF OHIO
Executive Department

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Columbus
RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, amateur radio operators play a vital role in emergency communications preparedness plans for the United States, the state of Ohio and many other local government agencies; and

WHEREAS, Ohio has more than 28,000 licensed amateur radio operators many of whom have provided valuable public assistance through emergency radio communications on a local, statewide, national and international basis in times of need; and

WHEREAS, amateur radio operators donate the time, equipment and expertise to help provide the public with free emergency communications; and

WHEREAS, June 25-26, 2011 has been set aside in Ohio as amateur radio field day for emergency communications preparedness exercises.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, John R. Kasich, Governor of the State of Ohio, do hereby designate June 25, 2011 as

AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS' APPRECIATION DAY

throughout Ohio and recognize the contributions and importance of the amateur radio operators' role in preparing for public service and emergency communications.

On this 17th day of May, 2011;



John R. Kasich
Governor



