



# DELARA

Delaware Amateur Radio Association Newsletter



September 2011

Volume 30, Number 9

## DELARA Meetings

- 3<sup>rd</sup> 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

- Sept 21 DELARA
- Sept 22 Contest net  
145.17 8:30P
- Oct 1 (9A) Tech class 1
- Oct 6 ARES Net
- Oct 8 (9A) Tech class 2
- Oct 13 ARES Meeting
- Oct 15 (12) Tech Class  
3 Test at 2PM
- Oct 19 DELARA

## DELARA NEWS - NUMBER ONE IN ARRL GREAT LAKES DIVISION!

Details, page 3

## Our Meeting This Month:

Many are intrigued by the newest Chinese handhelds to hit the market! Let's take a look.



### The Prez Sez:

Tim K8TAT



This month I would like to talk about the various methods of stringing those lines of antenna supports many of us have at our various QTH locations.

I realize there are many ways in your various locations to get those antenna supports up - like the fish pole and weight, wrist rocket slingshot with weight, bow and arrow, heavy wrench and stringer method, and even a water balloon launcher with weight on a paint pole. All have their own various hazards, and since I've been a DELARA club member over the years we have tried many at various field day locations! I believe we have had very good success with the most popular, the tennis ball launcher. I think this is one of the safer launchers out there. One reason is the softness of the tennis ball - when it's falling it doesn't hurt or damage much when it hits because it can bounce, even with the addition of weight to make it drop thru the leaf covered trees.



K18GW launches one

Now I would like to thank to N0TW (Terry) for turning us on to this one, developed and sold by WB6ZQZ on his website ([www.antennalaunchers.com](http://www.antennalaunchers.com)). That also gives the instructions to build your own, which I did in the past. This is the one to have if you like me have a wire antenna at your QTH, or participant in various other activities that require putting those lines up in the trees.

The only drawback with these is the need for an air supply. it is pneumatic powered and the basic set-up only gives one shot per charge. Re-charging can be accomplished by having a battery operated air compressor which many in the club have purchased just for this reason. You can use a cigarette lighter operated compressor, a bicycle pump (tried and used by N0TW many times - slow but effective and very exercising,) and even the portable storage tank filled from either the gas station compress hose or even your air compress at home.

So if you haven't seen one in action at field day or need help putting antenna supports up at your QTH, ask around! Someone will give you a demo or even help you get those lines up.

Hope to see you all at the meeting this month; I am sure Dave has something good to share with us!

73, K8TAT, Tim

## K8H - Special Event!

DELARA will be operating a Special Event again this year for the 26th Annual Delaware All-Horse Parade.



The event starts on Friday, Sept 10th at 8pm (Local) and runs until Sunday, Sept 18th at 8pm (local). Special Event operators will operate the event from the comfort of their own home station. We will be using the same internet

*Alice Wilson, artist* web based log as last year. By using the web log it gives anyone who makes contact with our Special Event the ability to go to the website and print out their Special Event certificate as soon as you log the contact.

Everyone who operated last year said they had a blast. If you would like to participate this year let me know. I have prepared a script that you can read that gives some history about the All-Horse Parade, instructions where to send people to print out their certificate, and how to use the web logging software.

Operating time slots will be handled on a first come first serve basis. So if you have a particular time slot you would like to operate please send me an e-mail with the band and mode you want. I will keep track of everyone's request this week and send out a schedule as it gets closer. Once we're into the Special Event window we'll just communicate with each other using an e-mail list to coordinate. About the only constraint we have is that we cannot have two stations using the same band and mode at the same time.

Below are the suggested frequencies from this month's QST. We used the DX cluster to make a spot to tell folks where to find us. I suggest doing the same this year.

21.340, 21.040 14.340, 14.040 7.240, 7.040 3.840, 3.540.

So please let me know if you want to operate and I'll send you the Special Event package. -Gary, K8EHB

### DELARA is on the Internet!

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

## K8H Logging Instructions

We're giving out <http://www.k8es.org> as the official pathway so our contacts can get their certificates. But we have to enter our logs before they do! Here are the instructions from Steve Schmitz to enter your contacts.

The information page and actual logging URL link for your K8H ops at:

<http://www.w0sjs.com/k8hoperatorlogininfo.html>

From there all works as it did last year. If you have some new ops send them this link and have them do some practice. I will clear the log just before your event starts.

Have fun again this year and I am happy to help your group out. I know our club enjoys doing this and we did 3 special events last year. Also, this year I am hosting W6P which is the St. Louis leg of the annual Route 66 on the Air radio event which runs concurrent with yours ... so listen for them. They are at: <http://www.w0sjs.com/w6p/> if you work them.

- Gary, K8EHB

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## Thanks!

I want to thank all hams who participated in the All Horse Parade this past Sunday. There was a pretty good downpour during the set up at the fairgrounds but then the weather cleared up for the parade. We did have one medical injury when a woman fell off her horse after it had slipped on a manhole cover. Here is the list of hams working the event: Jedidiah, K8QY; Joe, N8ZGL; Walter, KC8CNT; Wally, W8WLK; Jim, W8CQT; Laura, KA8IWB, Don, KA8SIA; John, W8RXX; Ken, W8SMK; Craig, W8CR; Josiah, KD8LEZ; Joe, K8MP; Tim, K8TAT; Don, AB8KA; Larry, N9AUG; Carol, N8MRU, Sandy, N8YS; Gary, K8EHB; Drew, W8DRE; and Joe, N8DRZ. As always, the parade committee thanks you for helping to make this enjoyable community event happen.

Thanks also go out to Laura, KA8IWB for the use of the repeater. Next year, the parade falls on September 9<sup>th</sup>, so mark your calendars now.

- Linda, N8FES

*See pictures page 11*

## Operating events

- **CQ Worldwide RTTY**  
0000z 9/24 – 2400z 9/25
- **ARRL EME Contest**  
0000z 9/24 – 2359z 9/25
- **TARA PSK Rumble**  
0000z 10/1 – 2400z 10/1
- **Pennsylvania QSO Party**  
1600z 10/8 – 0500z 10/9  
and 1400z -2359z 10/9
- **CQ Worldwide DX SSB**  
0000z 10/29 – 2400z 10/30
- **ARRL Sweepstakes CW**  
2100z 11/5 – 0300z 11/6

## Contribute!

We need your articles,  
comments and ads!

Newsletter@k8es.org

## Contact Us

clubinfo@k8es.org

elmer@k8es.org

http://www.k8es.org

## DELARA NEWS Scores ARRL Division Award

The DELARA NEWS has been awarded the "Joseph E. Phillips (K8QOE, SK) Newsletter of the Year" Award for 2011! At the Great Lakes Division Conference, held during the Findlay Hamfest September 11, 2011, awards were presented in several fields. One of the competitions was among newsletters in the three state division of Michigan, Ohio and Kentucky. Since DELARA NEWS was awarded "Best Newsletter" in Ohio for 2010, we were the Ohio entry into the competition against all newsletters for Michigan and Kentucky clubs.



Standing from left Jim Weaver, K8JE Great Lakes Division Director, Frank Piper, K18GW Ohio Section Manager, Stan Broadway, N8BHL of DELARA, Scott Yonally, N8SY Ohio Section Information Coordinator, and Gary Johnston, K14LA Great Lakes Section Vice Director.



The award is named for Joe Phillips (K8QOE, SK) who was a popular ARRL Ohio Section Manager from 1998 until his death in 2009. That doesn't tell his story. ARRL Membership and Volunteer Programs Manager Dave Patton, NN1N, said, "...he really gave all of himself to ARRL for 20 plus years."

In charge of the award was Scott Yonally, N8SY, who said the competition was extremely close- DELARA NEWS winning by one point. This year's scoring was higher than in years past, indicating that all the newsletters were of a better quality and more professional than ever before.



As Editor, I must give all the credit for this accomplishment to our crew of creative, personable writers who have a habit of providing interesting and informative articles that are worth reading! From Craig's infamous Callsign Change humor, to Bob's authoritative EMP piece, to a relaxed visit at Joe's Place, our writers have kept us up with the hobby and more importantly with each other to help spread the humor, friendship and support that is the hallmark of Amateur Radio. I have the privilege of taking

these articles and fitting them together each month. Writers, I've told you you're the best...and now we have absolute proof!

Thanks also to our club members and readers for your encouragement! It makes us feel like we're doing it right when we hear you say things like, "I read it from front to back every month!" I am continually impressed with each of your talents and accomplishments; my goal is to represent our great members through the DELARA NEWS. -Stan, N8BHL, Editor



## ARES Happenings

Stan, N8BHL



Wow! We've had a busy season, providing communications for some pretty large events! We have another coming up September 24, a ride through multiple counties sponsored by the DEAF Service Group in Dublin. We are going to need around 14 operators for this event, which will last pretty much all that day. One challenge we'll face is reliably reaching the repeater from such a wide area.

I don't want to be over-confident, but we're getting to be old hands at these, thanks to the dedicated participation of our ARES members. And what's that get us? Well, we perform a viable service to the public – for free – and just as important we get a chance to practice our communications in preparation for a real emergency event. There are a number of facets to this practice: repeater coverage, our own radio performance and operation, getting to know our fellow ARES'ers and how they operate and practicing our net operating procedures. I must tell you that after hearing some other events, I have high compliments for all of your operating skills!

We still have some projects underway that will keep us occupied through the winter – the AM transmitter project for EMA, handheld programming for EMA, and continuing through the new ARRL emcomm course that just came out.

**New Website!** Delaware ARES has a new website, <http://www.delares.org> and we invite you to take a look! We have some training material (we'll be adding more) some reports on our activities, and some other links and resources, along with an active calendar (which we share with DELARA.) We invite your comments!

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## 20 / 10 Years Ago in DELARA

**September, 1991-** Jerry Pittenger, K8RA spoke on a systems approach to home brewing. A personality profile featured Paul, K8ES. (*My K8RA cw paddles are always at the ready –Stan, N8BHL*)

**September, 2001-** The meeting was held with a tour of the new Delaware County 911 Center. DELARA NEWS won third place in the ARRL Section newsletter contest.



## I HAVE MY LICENSE, WHAT IS NEXT?

colvet.org  
No Registration  
Required.

Join us on Saturday September 17, 2011 for a comprehensive group of presentations on Amateur Radio at Universal Radio. These forums are for new Hams, perspective Hams as well as those Hams looking for new challenges in Amateur Radio. We have assembled a Blue Ribbon panel of speakers for a comprehensive group of talks on Amateur Radio. We'll start at 9:30 AM and run until 3:30 PM. Feel free to stop in or come and hear all the speakers.

Featured speakers include:

Ron-W9WL, Speaking on how to choose your 'first radio'. Which functions are a must and others you'll never use.

Frank-K18GW, Ohio ARRL Section Manager on the League and the Ohio Section. Future of Amateur Radio as well as the historical past.

John-W8RXX, Central Ohio Radio Club Trustee of the 146.76 W8RXX/R repeater. Speaking on repeaters and repeater etiquette.

John-KD8DVR, Speaking on satellite operations through a handheld.

Stan-N8BHL, Delaware, Ohio ARES Emergency Coordinator. What to expect on both the provider and provided for end.

Matt-KB8UVN, Builder of the largest Packet system in Ohio. The digital modes that everyone can do on a budget.

Beyond the presentations we'll have a tour of the showroom, demonstrations and refreshments. This is the opportunity that most new Hams will never have to see this many experts and leaders of Amateur Radio at one time in such an intimate setting.

Bring your questions. Bring your friends. This will get you a large amount of experience in one quick event.

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## Wanted / For Sale

FOR SALE: Wouxun KG-UV2D hand held 2M & 440 5W Tx. Full dual band Rx. Already programmed for all local repeaters. With antenna & drop in charger. \$80. Contact Ken, W8SMK

WANTED: LDG 100-watt autotuner for around \$100.  
Stan, N8BHL

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## Hey! I Know That Guy!

As I've said before, I am always impressed with our DELARA members! The September issue of QST has an article by DELARA member John Perone, W8RXX, about the computer RFI in Laura, KA8IWB's, brand new car! Nightmare situation, but a great read!



Howdy from Joe's Place...

### "The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly"

As summer winds down, I've been thinking about the past seven or eight months, mainly in regards to the weather and radio conditions. Some was good, some was bad, and some was downright ugly.

### "The Ugly and the Bad"

Nationally, we had a tragic tornado season, with entire cities nearly wiped out, not to mention Irene, who just days ago tore up the east coast. (And we're only half-way through the 'cane season)

Locally, (I'm almost embarrassed to mention this in the same article as Irene and what happened in Missouri, Alabama, and other places), but locally, we had a bad ice storm that took out several member's antennas. OK, in the grand scheme of things, Ham antennas would be far down on the list of impacts from storm damage but when it happens to you or a close friend, it leaves a mark. (Bob's log-periodic comes to mind first)

### Is it just me or...

did it seem like we had worse than normal extremes for winter and summer? Winter got real cold early and just stayed cold. I can only remember one or two decent thaws between the first part of December and sometime in February. When summer arrived, it got hot and stayed hot. I don't even know if we set any temperature records during either season but we sure had long periods of heat and cold.

Shucks, I just remembered that in an earlier Joe's Place article I said that I wouldn't complain about the hot summer after such a long, cold winter. *The jury will disregard any mention of "Hot weather" in the previous paragraph.*

### "The Good and the Almost Good"

Recently, we have had perfect weather. I haven't had the A/C on in quite a while. As for radio conditions, it has been a mixed bag. So far, solar cycle 24 has been mostly a bust. There have been a few spikes in the flux but they have been short-lived. You know it's bad when guys are counting sun spots one at a time and it shows up in the propagation bulletins.

On the upside, the summer sporadic E-skip season was decent. I checked ten meters a lot and heard beacons coming through most days. Unfortunately, on many of those days, I heard more beacons than people. (I don't count the "Free banders" that have invaded the band)

### What lies ahead?

Weather-wise, who knows?

But radio-wise I do have some experience on what to expect, assuming Cycle 24 does get jump started. Years ago I noticed that even during solar peaks the higher bands (i.e. 10 and 15 meters) would go into what I call the "Summer doldrums." The paths to Europe and Japan would all but disappear from about April through October. I assume this has something to do with the higher angle of the sun during that time of year. So, if the solar numbers do pick up, we can expect some nice action on those upper bands soon. And it would be just in time for the upcoming winter contest season.

Well, that's about it for this edition. I hope to see you all at the September meeting but if not, then at Joe's Place next month.

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## Order your DELARA T-shirt and Hat!

Ken, W8SMK, is going strong with our project of reviving the DELARA T-shirt and hat. These help identify radio operators at public service events, and get us noticed at hamfests and other occasions. The price is reasonable. You can email Ken with your requests or get with him at the meeting!

(back)



(front)



## Friends Remembered

I worked this former Delaware resident in the OQP.

I replied and asked him if he could scan and email the FD photos from '74 and also possibly ID some of the participants.  
- Joe, K8MP

From: Ken Hankins k7ldt@yahoo.com

Hi Joe,

It was nice working you in the Ohio QSO Party. Good to hear Delaware County on the air.

Too bad conditions were less than optimal. Would like to have had a longer QSO with you.

I graduated from Frank B. Willis HS in 1954. Joined the Air Force in 1955, and here I am in Arizona.

I lived on Pennsylvania Ave. just West of where Penn Lanes bowling alley is. The house is gone, and there is now a convenience store there!!! I was setting pins at the bowling alley in 1952/53.

I was in Delaware in June 1974, and attended the Field Day event near the old Kingman drive in. They were using a DL call at that time. I have a lot of pictures that I took while there. It was a rainy weekend. I also have pictures of the Dragon in the Delaware Run!!! It is also gone!!!

I used to go back for HS reunions every five years. My last trip was in 2004 for the BIG 50!!! Probably will not be coming back anymore.

I was not a ham when I lived there. I was interested in Ham Radio, but the code was my brick wall then. My first receiver was a HB single 6SN7 super regen. that I built from a Boys Life magazine article.

One day I was listening and heard a "ROCK CRUSHER" signal, we were only about a mile apart, it was W8GUS, Ron Long, who was going to OWU. I looked up his call in a call book, and paid him a visit one afternoon. Had a nice eyeball QSO with him. He had a Hallicrafters S-38B for sale, and I bought it. That was a giant step up from my crude HB receiver!!!

I think I talked to him once on the local 2 meter repeater later in the 70's/80's. If you know him, and ever talk with him, pass along my 73's.

After I got out of the Air Force in 1959, I went to work at Motorola as an electronic tech. It seemed like everyone was a Ham!!! I finally got my Novice ticket in February 1960, my Tech. license in 1961, and Advanced in 1969. I was in the RF Engineering group for several years, working on all those EB/APP Notes projects, from HF to UHF. I built the first 1 KW solid state amplifier, AN-758. It was also on the QST cover in May 1975 or 1976.

Too bad about the radio telescope becoming a golf course. The telescope from the Perkins Observatory has been at the Lowell Observatory in Flagstaff, Az. for many years. We have much better viewing conditions out here.

73, Ken Hankins, K7LDT  
Mesa, Arizona

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## Delaware County Chopper! -W8CR

We found this poor old bike tossed out with the trash. Rotted whitewall tires, hand painted red, white and blue. Obviously was sitting outside for years. Aaron and I disassembled every part and sandblasted. Cut, heated, bent and re-welded the upper cross tube to convert from the woman's bike to a standard frame (you can see the original location of the upper tube on the downtube just above the sprocket). New rubber, chain and repacked bearings. It's a Huffy, my guess it was early 70's.



Slap on a 66CC Chinese 2 stroke, extra rear sprocket, fabricate engine mount. Perks along quite nicely. I don't have a speedometer on it yet but it feels like 15-20 mph.

Gotta carry a toolkit to tighten parts during the initial cruise. Runs better and better the more time the engine breaks in. Supposed to get upwards of 150 mpg.

The colors are military flat drab and satin black. The muffler is in a funky position. I'm planning on fabricating a new exhaust system to route the muffler

out back like a normal motorcycle.

Pickin' out a tattoo now...

*(Do Pops and Aaron start yelling and throwing wrenches like on TV? Just wondered -ed)*

CQ TEST...  
KV8Q



The Ohio QSO Party for 2011 is on the books! DELARA had a big stake in this one, since we took first place in club competition last year! It looks like we're in a great place to do that again in 2011!

I am very impressed. Take a look at Joe's (K8MP) score. It looks like he will come in the top five in the state for High Power. And then, neither Larry (N9AUG) or Bob (W8ERD) even tried. Hold on a minute!!! Larry operated K8ES and Bob was driving W8JK. We had a couple of new timers enter and they all did very well. Everyone made more than 100 QSO's!!! And, as a group, we are about 8,000 points over what we had last year. Yes, I think we are in good shape to retain our title. I'll keep you posted as I hear things.

	QSO's	MULTS	Score
N9AUG			
N8BHL			
K8BSW	373	106	39,804
K8BTU	178	65	22,815
W8CQT			
W8CR			
K8EHB	320	98	31,262
K8EHE			
W8ERD			
K8ES	419	158	112,180
W8GCD			
AC8HN			
W8JK	298	85	50,660
WD8KNC			
W8KTQ	338	99	51,678
K8MP	760	189	200,718
N8OB			
N2OPW	143	80	17,040
KV8Q	414	107	88,596
KQ8RP	481	113	54,353
K8ROX	323	112	37,856
WA8UNP			
N8YS			
Totals:	4,047	1,212	706,962

Looking at the results of the Minnesota QSO Party held a few months back, Larry, N9AUG, came in 3rd place in the Low Power CW category - out of state. Good Job, Larry. Enjoy your certificate. (use it to cover that ugly hole in the drywall in your hamshack



I was going to do the OQP, but wound up on a date with Irene - N8BHL

I had even taken the day as vacation, to make sure I would be able to run in this year's contest! But that all ended Wednesday evening, when a lady - no, a floozy - named Irene took over my life for five days.

I, along with a couple dozen other Hams positioned around North America, am one of the net control stations for the Hurricane Watch Net. This fixture on 20 meters has been carrying information since the 60's to and from the Atlantic Basin. I must confess with the Internet, a reduction in the number of active hams in that area, and so many other forms of communication, I have wondered whether this is worth the effort any more. Times have changed. On some nets, we sit calling for information on lesser-strength storms and hear nothing but crickets.



This time, it was different. Haiti's Meteorological Director (a ham) was on with us. I barely heard Carolyn, C6AGG, with an extremely weak signal because her antenna was blown to the ground, yet somehow still radiating. Across the island, Cris, C6ADI on backup batteries so weak he was FM'ing, told me he was looking at 100-MPH winds. This was serious stuff! The Bahamas, Dominican Republic and the rest soon reported no power at all. The only means for them to communicate was, you guessed it, Amateur Radio. And communicate we did, as the storm walloped the Bahamas then moved in open water on Friday, headed for the U.S. Saturday, the storm crossed inland over North Carolina, re-shaping some of the Outer Banks and moving up the east coast. We continued to relay information to the Hurricane Center in Miami. They, in turn, were warning of a 'water' event for New England.

We were swamped with checkins as the storm moved north. We operated concurrent nets on 20 and 40 to handle the load, and the propagation. I was quite pleased as the vast majority of Hams realized how important this was, quietly listening on our frequency, helping with relays and voluntarily moving off to either side to chase off nearby stations. Other nets such as the "Waterways Net" on 40 eagerly included us on their frequency. The "68 Group" readily moved for us. When it was over for us, with no more high wind threat to speak of, I was able to see the results of my date with Irene on national news broadcasts.

This was Ham Radio at its best.

(For HWN Info, see <http://www.hwn.org> )

## It's Fall – and That Means Antenna Work!

We all know the law of reciprocal antenna installation, expressed by the statement: "An antenna's successful performance increases in the reciprocal of the weather." In other words, the worse the weather when you install the antenna, the better it will perform. Here are some accounts of work our members have been engaging in over the last few weeks!

This morning we finished installing my 30M beam. After a year of struggle with the manufacturers incompetence, and rebuilding many aspects of the antenna, it is now working really well. SWR 1.4, front-to-back several S units, front-to-side too high to measure. Found some beacons on 30M which helped make measurements.

Since the power limit is 200W on 30M, that is why I chose the FT2000 "D" model for my latest transceiver (to replace my failing FT-920), since that has 200W out.

I also measured the effect of antenna height on signal strength. Raising the height from about 40 ft to about 100 ft made no difference! But this is with a beacon station in Missouri, close enough that the signal angle of arrival is probably too high for the height to make much difference.

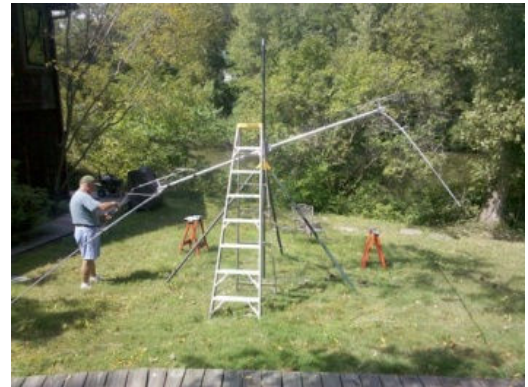
I expect it will make much more difference with DX stations.

Thanks to all !!! - Bob W8ERD

There's More! After years of climbing towers, Ken, W8SMK, realized there's a better way- that's to use the elevator! In this case, that means climbing into the work-bucket of a crane. The rest is easy! Ask Ken and Tim, K8TBN, as they work on John Beal's, W8SJV, antennas in this series. Tim was in the bucket!



*WB2CWJ Tunes 30 Meters*



John, W8RXX, joined Tiffin's John Walker, K8EMR, to construct a satellite antenna array for the Seneca County ARC (SCARE). This mode has scored some interest with that club. Nice to see the greater Ham Radio population sharing the wisdom!

# Yes. I was there, too

-Craig, W8CR



After much consternation, I must confess.

I was young, naive, under immense peer pressure. Everyone was doing it, class mates were seen before and after school doing it. Some even braved getting caught sneaking out to the parking lot during lunch to do it. It was out of control. It was everywhere: on the highway, back alleys, on TV, movies. Rumors had it that even the President has been known to do it.

Discussing this with my wife, I found out she had been on it so much, she was known to her friends as "Snow White". What are we to tell our son if he asks? Ignore it? Deny it? Be another hypocritical, "Do as I say, not as I do", parent? Now-a-days, we're told we experimented. We weren't experimenting, we were using it. No beating around the bush: We liked it!

Yes, please forgive me, for I too, have been known to be on... Citizens Band radio (gasp).

What could I do? You were an outcast in the 70's if you didn't partake. CB was definitely quite a phenomenon. I'm not really sure how it gained such a foothold, maybe the advent of the transistor and (relatively) inexpensive mass production or the romance of the over-the-road trucker.

If ham radio is likened to the first Internet, then CB was Facebook. It was a social thing, open to anybody. Glamorized (well maybe glamor ain't the term I'm searching for) in songs, "Convoy", or in movies like "Smokey and the Bandit".

Think about it, "Smokey and the Bandit" couldn't possibly work today. Imagine Burt Reynolds tweaking Jackie Gleason's nose on Twitter with his Droid while zooming through the back roads of Arkansas. Sally Fields looking good in the passenger seat of the screaming chicken Trans Am, updating her Facebook status back to "single" on her iPhone. Ain't the same.

As you travel about, you can still see symbols of a by-gone era, fading in to the haze of time.

Obsolete, like the common outhouse. Looked down upon, like the rusting tractor out in the weeds. The icon of CB America: the base station antenna. Sitting on top of a three legged tower, once the domain of the television antenna (another soon to be extinct animal), they took many forms: vertically polarized three element yagi, the pleasing to the eye two element, diamond shaped quad or the classic 1/4 wave ground plane. They are now missing pieces, sagging, stuck in position forever while trees have encroached.



Ham radio has benefitted immensely from CB-ers looking for something better, different, more exhilarating. Some went cold turkey, others used the 12 step method. Everyone is different. They all have their own stories. Monthly club meetings offer reinforcement, camaraderie or just a good shoulder to cry on. I suspect many still have their old 23 channel Cobra, hidden in the basement, behind the canned beets, taunting them: "Come on, Good Buddy, just one quick Breaker-breaker...". Be strong.

I still dabble in it once in a while, on occasions, never talk, I know my limits. Just listen on my Kenwood, mostly in traffic jams out on the interstates. It's still there, the noise, the squeals, the jargon, the trucker with the echo box (whatsupwiththat?), "10-4". Glad some things never change.

Wish I could say the same for Sally. Burt ain't lookin' too good either...

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## Technician Class for October!

**DELARA will be holding a Technician class October 1 and 8 from 8AM 'til noon and the 15<sup>th</sup> from Noon to the end of the test. A test will be given at 2PM the 15<sup>th</sup>. Class will be held at the Delaware EOC downtown. Contact Sandy, N8YS for details and reservations at 740-362-6283 or [sandymackey@gmail.com](mailto:sandymackey@gmail.com).**

There has been interest expressed in DELARA holding more classes – are you interested? Contact Tim, K8TAT with your suggestions!

## Ham News and Calendar

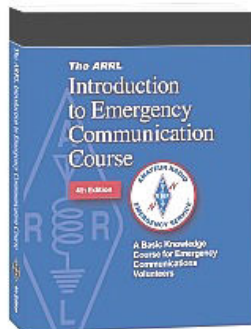
9/17 I have my license, what's next? (see pg 4)  
9/18 GCARA Hamfest, Cincinnati  
9/18 Adrian, MI hamfest  
9/24 DEAF bike ride- Delco ARES  
9/24 Ham test, Universal Radio  
9/25 Berea, OH hamfest  
10/3 Ham test, Muskingum County EMA  
10-8-9 Intro to Emergency Communications,  
COLVET, 1021 E Broad, Columbus (\$15)  
10/1 (9AM) First of three Saturday TECH LICENSE  
CLASSES in Delaware. Contact  
Sandy, N8YS 740-362-6283  
10/8 (9AM) Second Tech Class  
10/15 (12N) Third Tech Class Test at 2PM  
10/29 Ham test, Universal Radio  
11/6 Ham test, Marion ARC

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### COLVET Course offering – Introduction to Emergency Communications

Saturday & Sunday October 8 & 9, 2011 8:00 AM to 6 PM This course is a 20 Hour two day intensive course leading to the exam for ARRL's 'Introduction to Emergency Communications' Certification.

This course contains all the topics and subject matter found in the ARRL's online Introduction to Emergency Communication Course in a classroom format. This format leads to the same certification as the online version in a single weekend for those who pass the exam. An exam will be offered after the class.



The lead instructor will be Bill NE1LL. Bill is a veteran mentor of the online version mentoring over 150 Hams in over 50 sessions. Special topics instructors will include: David Dilbeck Ph.D-W8ACE and Bob Fitrakis JD Ph.D-KD8JLL

The course is free but registration is required. Those wishing to purchase a book may do so at Universal Radio for \$22.95 plus tax. For those wishing to take the exam, the fee is \$15 payable to the ARRL.

This course will be held at the Columbus Institute of Contemporary Journalism's Carriage House, 1021 East Broad Street- Columbus, Ohio. Saturday will include a working lunch. On Sunday, lunch will be on your own.

Reservations to: colvetexams@yahoo.com or 614-726-5539. Further information and updates are available at our website [www.colvet.org](http://www.colvet.org) and at the American Radio Relay League website [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org).

## ARRL Division Names and Places

Congratulations to Michigan Section Manager Dale Williams, WA8EFK for becoming Vice Director-elect for the Great Lakes Division. Dale was unopposed in his bid to become the Vice Director. Following ARRL rules, he was named to the position. He will take office for a three-year term that begins at noon on January 1, 2012. He will succeed Vice Director Gary Johnston, KI4LA who decided not to run for re-election.



Being unopposed for re-election, Jim Weaver, K8JE, will continue as Director for the Division for an additional three-year term that similarly begins January 1.

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### ARRL Sets Band Plan Committee for 33cm through 9cm

ARRL President Kay Craigie, N3KN, reports the ARRL Board has established a UHF Band Plan Committee chaired by Vice President Rock Roderick, K5UR. "The general charges to the Committee are:

1. To determine current band usage in the United States.
2. To seek input and comments from the amateur community.
3. To consider international issues.
4. To look toward emerging technology and projected future usage.
5. To keep the ad hoc National Broadband Plan Committee apprised of its progress.
6. To, above all else, be conducive to increasing amateur usage in these bands."

The primary purpose of this committee is to map the use of the 33 cm through 9 cm. band segments by amateurs and to determine how best to expand this usage.

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### New Ham Band?

Get those ~really~ long antennas ready. The World Radio Conference will hear a US proposal to add a new amateur band just below the AM broadcast band, using frequencies from 415 to 526.5 KHz as secondary amateur use. Does that make a half-wave dipole 1127 feet long? Oh my. Gerry Moersdorf - you won't even have to modify your "Big Iron" AM transmitters!

## The 26<sup>th</sup> Annual All-Horse Parade



For these and more visit <http://www.delawarecountyfair.com/>