

COSHOCTON COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

PO Box 501 Coshocton, OH 43812

WEB SITE www.w8cca.org

D E C E M B E R 2 0 0 9

NEXT CLUB MEETING DECEMBER 1, 2009



50 YEAR ARRL MEMBER 2009

Club meetings are the first Tuesday of each month at the Coshocton County Services building at 725 South 7th St. at 7:00 PM

2009 CLUB ELECTED OFFICERS

PRESIDENT:

Randy Fisher - KL7RF

VICE PRESIDENT:

B.J. McDowell - KD8HHQ

SECRETARY:

Pat Tucker - KB8CRB

TREASURER:

Tom Cordes - KB8HEA

TRUSTEE:

Colleen Wheatcraft – AA8UA

Craig Affolter – K8CAA

Ron Carns – N8KRR

COARVET MANAGER:

Steve Wheatcraft – AA8BN

HISTORIAN:

Pat Tucker – KB8CRB

NEWSLETTER:

Ron Carns – N8KRR

CLUB REPEATER:

Randy Fisher – KL7RF

Tom Cordes – KB8HEA

A.R.E.S. REPEATER:

Bruce Adams – KE8XM

COSHOCTON CO A.R.E.S. EC

Bruce Adams – KE8XM

COSHOCTON CO AECs

Dan Hardy – N8VV

Steve Wheatcraft – AA8BN

Randy Fisher – KL7RF

Tom Cordes – KB8HEA

MCC REPRESENTATIVE: Dan Hardy – N8VV

“Keep an eye to the sky!”

NETS

- Coshocton Co. ARA - - Coshocton Co. ARES -
Sunday 2100 hrs EST Monday 2100 hrs EST
147.045 MHz W8CCA Rptr 145.230 MHz KE8XM Rptr

- Johnny Appleseed -

Friday 2100 hrs EST

28.450 MHz SSB

- Coshocton Co. EMA: James Van Horn –
725 South 7th St, Coshocton, OH 43812
Tel: 740.622.1984

<http://www.coshoctoncounty.net/agency/ema>

PREZ SAYS...

Winter is fast approaching, and with it the darker colder days of the year makes me feel like getting some quality time in with my radio gear. The solar cycle has played a bit of a trick on those of us who remember the super propagation of the past solar maximum. Fortunately we seem to be witnessing a little increase in solar activity from the doldrums of this lingering solar minimum. Hopefully we can get our HF rigs warmed up and the ionosphere reflecting our SSB, CW, and PSK signals around the globe with ease again this season.

Looking back over the year, we have enjoyed some good times together including a great field day, a profitable fund raiser at Buehler's, and a fun picnic and fox hunt this September. I was very pleased to see that we had very few storms which brought up the need for Skywarn this year. Don't forget to keep your radio gear in top condition with batteries charged; you never know when ARES might be called out to help in a real communications emergency. If you have not sent in an ARES report lately, including your equipment changes and emergency capabilities, please send them to Steve AA8BN so that he can update our ARES records. Soon we should also be able to renew or get our new ARES badges at the EMA office with photo ID.

Don't miss our ham radio display at the Coshocton Public Library front entrance. Ron, N8KRR will have a great presentation of our hobby for public viewing through the month of December. Talk about it to friends and neighbors; maybe we will get some folks interested in hamming.

Another plus for our club this year has been the reviving of our website. It is now up, running, and filled with info about our club and ham radio. You can use it to find out about upcoming events, pics of past events, newsletters, forms, VE exam dates,....and lots more. We are keeping it up-to-date; it is there for you and anyone interested in ham radio in Coshocton County. The URL is: <http://www.w8cca.org>

Come down to the meetings each month, get on the local repeaters, get those HF rigs dusted off & exciting the atmosphere, and let's have some real ham radio fun this winter.

Randy KL7RF

CCARA MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

KC8YXY Jamie HOY

My interest in radios began with my Grandpa when I was really young. He had a CB that he talked on to my uncle. He also listened to a scanner a lot. When I was about 9 or 10 I got my first scanner. I enjoyed listening to the scanner. I started to listen to the local net when I was in high school. I thought I would like to try to get my license. I got the book and studied for a while.

Then I got involved with other things and went to college. In 2002 I was in Buehler's and saw the club's display. It renewed my interest. I went to the Technician class that was being offered. I didn't get my ticket that time. I took the class again in the fall of 2003 and successfully passed and got my license in January, 2004. The first time I got on the radio it was on a net. I had just hooked up my radio that day and was anxious to try it. I got my Pathfinder (communication device) ready to check in. When I checked in that first time I think it surprised everybody. The more I was on the air everybody got used to hearing my Pathfinder and understands me pretty well. I really appreciated everyone's patience when I started.

In 2007 I got my General license. I am waiting on the day when I get an HF rig so I can talk further. A few years ago at Field Day I asked Randy if he thought I could try to make some contacts with my Pathfinder. After figuring how to do it, I tried it and was amazed. I made my first HF contact that day. I sat there for a couple hours trying to get contacts. I was getting some. It got me hooked for HF. I knew then that I wanted to get my General license. The past two Field Day's I was able to work the radio without a control operator with me. It made me feel good to be able to do it independently.

I have also enjoyed tinkering with APRS and Packet even though I am not currently doing them. I am looking forward to trying my hand at PSK 31 when I get a HF rig. I always try to be on the air during a weather net. I enjoy participating and watching the weather.

I really appreciate everyone who has helped me and made it possible for me to pursue amateur radio as a hobby.

Talk to you on down the page.

Jamie Hoy, KC8YXY

DECEMBER 1, 2009 CCARA MEETING --

--will be held at the County Services Building at 7:00PM; in the lower meeting room. December is our "Election of Officers" night. Come and vote for the leaders of the club for the coming year.

We are also planning our annual holiday eats night, so bring in some "finger foods" and let's enjoy good "Ham" fellowship as well. We will be looking forward to seeing you then....

ARRL - The Reason Amateur Radio Is!

MEMBERS - The Reason ARRL Is!

FIELD DAY

Field Day was June 27th and 28th. We had a great new location this year. It was at the USDA Experimental Water Shed on SR 621N. We had a voice, PSK-31 Digital, and a CW station operating. Check out the view!



▲ Here are some of the guys setting up the tower and antennas for the event on Friday afternoon. {KL7RF photo}



▲ Randy Fisher KL7RF



▲ In the A.R.E.S. communications van.



▲ Mike Casey N8GXQ, Dan Hardy N8VV, and Bruce Adams KE8XM, put our Field Day CW station on the air. {AA8BN photo}



▲ Shelter at the Water Shed.

Many Thanks to all who helped set up and man our Field Day operations. It was great fun and lots of good fellowship. A Special Thanks goes to our Field Day Committee members, Jamie Hoy KC8YXY, Bruce Adams KE8XM, and Mike Casey N8GXQ. Great job, guys!



SEPTEMBER CLUB PICNIC and FOX HUNT

We had a great time on Sunday, September 13th at the event. Superior WX and a good turn out. Thanks to BJ, KD8HHQ, our Picnic Committee Chair Person for a great job and all who brought food and made it a fine picnic. There were games for young folks also.

The elusive "Fox" was found hiding behind the ample theater building across from the Richard Downing airport. It could not evade our intrepid radio hounds.

AMATEUR RADIO IS ACCESSIBLE RADIO

Fm QST December 2009 Issue

Amateur Radio is not necessarily an expensive hobby. For \$500 or less, you can be on the air on HF. Granted that \$500 will not buy the latest transceiver/antenna setup, but \$500 can buy a good used HF transceiver, antenna tuner, power supply and materials to make an antenna (or three). One of the nice things about Amateur Radio is that a modest station will allow an amateur to get on the air, make contacts and have fun. You may not break the pile-up for a DX station on the first try very often, but you can usually eventually get through.

While \$500 may seem a lot to spend in one shot, consider it this way: Divide that \$500 by 52. That's less than \$10 a week. Even if you spent \$3000 for a modern station setup, when you consider that it should run fine for 5 to 10 years or more without any serious problems, the investment is minimal. Some new hams, with the assistance of some generous and helpful Elmer's, have even gotten on the air almost free. I know I have certainly benefited from the generosity of some local ham friends and I appreciate it very much!

MARTIN CAMPBELL, KBOHEA
Burlington, Iowa

NCVEC to Release New Technician Question Pool to Public in January 2010

(Nov 19, 2009) -- The Question Pool Committee (QPC) of the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC) is due to release the new Technician class (Element 2) question pool to the 14 VECs on December 1, 2009; it will be released to the public in January 2010. Each question pool for the three Amateur Radio license classes -- Technician, General and Amateur Extra -- is reviewed on a four-year rotation. This new Technician class pool will become effective on July 1, 2010.

ARRL

SUBSCRIBE TO THE ARES® E-LETTER - IT'S FREE!

www.arrl.org/ares-letter

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ARRL has online classes beginning every month: emergency communications, antenna design & construction, HF digital communications and more. Register at: www.arrl.org/cce

ARRL CLUB MEMBERSHIP

When you join the ARRL, or renew your membership through the club, we retain \$15 for each new membership OR lapsed membership (of two years or more), and retain \$2 for each renewal. Please support your club, it doesn't cost any more. Send or give all paper work to the club Treasurer with your money.



SKYWARN Recognition Day Set for December 5

The 11th Annual SKYWARN Recognition Day ([SRD](#)) Special Event will take place Saturday, December 5, 2009. SRD is co-sponsored by the ARRL and the National Weather Service ([NWS](#)) as a way to recognize the commitment made by Amateur Radio operators in helping to keep their communities safe. According to SRD Coordinator David Floyd, N5DBZ, Amateur Radio operators can visit their [local participating NWS office](#), working as a team to contact other hams across the world throughout the 24 hour event.

The idea for the first SRD took shape in the summer of 1999. Meteorologist-in-Charge of the Goodland, Kansas NWS office Scott Mentzer, NOQE, tried to find a way to recognize the valuable contributions storm spotters make to the National Weather Service. "Since many of those storm spotters were also hams," Floyd told the ARRL, "it seemed like a natural fit for the recognition to be centered on Amateur Radio."

With the approval of NWS headquarters and a commitment to participate from many local NWS offices across the country, the first National Weather Service Special Event took place on November 27, 1999. "At the end of the event, almost 16,000 QSOs were logged, with contacts made to all 50 states and 63 countries," Floyd recounted. "The Des Moines forecast office took the honor of making the most contacts of any office that first year with 761 QSOs, and went on to lead the pack until 2003 by logging between 1300-1500 contacts each year."

Floyd said that feedback from that first event was "overwhelmingly positive" from both the NWS staff and the local ham clubs: "Many local club members who came to that first event had never visited an NWS office before. When they came for the special event, they learned the value of their reports and how they were used in conjunction with existing technology". And so began an annual tradition. The following year, 85 of the 122 NWS offices -- almost 70 percent -- participated in the event, making nearly 24,000 QSOs. In 2001, the name of the event was changed to SKYWARN Recognition Day, a name Floyd said better relayed what the day was all about: "Each year since the inception of SRD, the number of NWS offices participating with local ham clubs has increased; more than 100 offices sign up each year to take part. The most contacts made during any SRD occurred in

2006 when -- thanks to and local hams in the Grand Junction, Colorado area -- 1640 QSOs were logged!"

Station call signs have also changed over the years. Floyd said that some NWS offices and clubs apply for a special event call sign, "such as W3B in Brownsville or NOY in Aberdeen, South Dakota. Other call signs hint at office location, including WX9GRB in Green Bay and WX4NHC at the National Hurricane Center. Still others represent more of the big picture, as in KCOSKY in Pleasant Hill, Missouri."

Floyd said that as SKYWARN Recognition Day has grown throughout the years, he has seen a greater use of digital communications in addition to CW, RTTY and packet radio: "Each year, more and more contacts are being made using EchoLink, *Winlink* and the use of e-mail reflectors." In keeping with the NWS setting, stations are [asked to include a weather report of their location](#) in their exchange.

In 2008, the Des Moines office reported the most QSOs -- 1203 QSOs -- than any other NWS office; the Melbourne, Florida office, with 1192 QSOs, ran a close second. Melbourne also contacted the 74 NWS offices, the most reported last year. Lincoln, Illinois, was close behind, with 70 QSOs to other NWS offices.

2009 SKYWARN Recognition Day will be held on December 5 from 0000 UTC-2400 UTC. Last year, contacts were made in all 50 states and more than 40 countries during the 24 hour event. Even if you make just one QSO to an NWS office, you are eligible to [receive a certificate](#). Just submit a list of the station(s) you worked to submit a list of the NWS stations you worked with a self-addressed stamped envelope to SKYWARN Recognition Day, 920 Armory Rd, Goodland, KS 67735. Many NWS offices also send out special QSL cards for this event. If you haven't yet joined in the fun of SKYWARN Recognition Day, make 2009 your year to do so!

ARRL SECTION MANAGER

Great Lakes Division Ohio

Frank J. Piper, K18GW

496 Hillview St, Pickerington, OH 43147-1197
(614-589-4641); ki8gw@arrl.org

OFFICERS, DIVISION DIRECTORS AND STAFF

Great Lakes Division

Director: Jim Weaver, K8JE

5065 Bethany Rd, Mason, OH 45040-8130
(513-459-1661); k8je@arrl.org

Vice Director: Gary L. Johnston, K14LA

3056 Hergott Dr, Edgewood, KY 41017
(859-391-6399); ki4la@arrl.org

COSHOCTON COUNTY A.R.E.S. ®

Emergency Coordinator

Bruce Adams KE8XM bruceadams67@yahoo.com

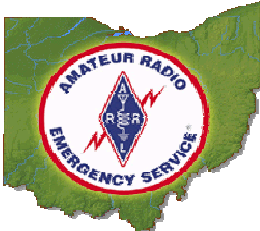
Assistant EC

Dan Hardy N8VV N8VV@arrl.net

Steve Wheatcraft AA8BN AA8BN@arrl.net

Randy Fisher KL7RF KL7RF@arrl.net

Tom Cordes KB8HEA KB8HEA@arrl.net



FREE SAMPLE TEST SITE

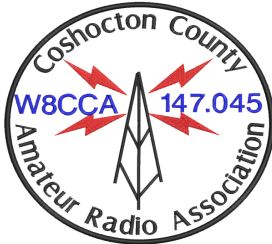
Upgrading your license, go to the following website for practice tests for aid in preparing for the upgrade.

copaseticflow.blogspot.com

W8CCA CCARA PATCHES

\$3.00 each or two for \$5.00.

Purchase from the CCARA Treasurer.



FREE SWAP AND SELL

If you have ham related items to sell you can do it here. List your item(s) here; list a price and how to contact you. Send list to: n8krr@arrl.net

Go To: www.w8cca.org for equipment on sale.

*** FYI - CLUB DUES ***

CCARA has financial obligations throughout the year-
i.e.:

- Repeater site lease
- Keene repeater maintenance
- Monthly programs
- Activities:
 - Fox hunt
 - Family picnic
 - Buehler's Food Stand
 - Johnny Appleseed net certificates
 - Post office box
 - Bank checking account
 - Coshocton Public Library Display
 - Other communications

CCARA finances come from dues. Please help your club by joining and attending meetings. Annual dues are \$15.00 per individual or \$20.00 for family membership.

**** TESTING INFORMATION ****

ARRL AMATEUR RADIO EXAM SESSION

December 19, 2009 Coshocton, Ohio

Conducted by the Coshocton Ohio Amateur Radio Volunteer Examiner Team, sponsored by the Coshocton County Amateur Radio Association, W8CCA

LOCATION: Coshocton Public Library
Large meeting Room
655 Main St
Coshocton Ohio 43812

DATE: December 19, 2009

Walk-in Session

TIME: 10:30 AM (library opens at 10AM, Arrive before 10:30 to fill out the 605 Form, etc.)

Walk-in and pre registered sessions are available throughout the year.

[Contact us for other dates and times to set up a session for you!](#)

All Exam elements available.
The 2009 exam fee is \$15.00.
[Exact amount appreciated.](#)

Checks made out to ARRL/VEC are accepted too. A 2nd version of exam is available at VE discretion, time permitting. An additional \$15 is needed.

REQUIRED:

>PHOTO ID (driver's license, passport) or two forms of non-photo ID. Bring a legal photo ID (drivers license, passport) OR, when no photo ID is available, two forms of identification must be presented (birth certificate, report card, library card, Social Security card, utility bill, bank statement, Non-photo ID/driver's license, etc.). Students may bring a school ID card, minor's work permit, school report card, library card and/or a written note from a legal guardian.

If you don't have ID, then no exam will be administered.

>CURRENT ORIGINAL AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE and COPY and ORIGINAL valid CSCE(s) if applicable, bring the original and a photocopy of your current Amateur Radio license and any Certificates of Successful Completion of Examination (CSCE) you may hold from previous exam sessions. The photocopy(s) will not be returned.

If you already have a license, then you need your FRN number on the 605 application.

>Social Security number or FCC issued FRN.

Already licensed, then you need the FRN number.

(The FRN is viewable by doing a search for LICENSE at the FCC WTU ULS web page (<http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/uls>).

Bring your Social Security Number (SSN) or your FCC issued Federal Registration Number (FRN).

VEC's are required by FCC to submit either your SSN or your FRN number with your license application form. If you prefer not to give your SSN, then you may use your **-contd** FCC issued FRN, if you have one. For instructions on how to register your SSN with the FCC and receive a FRN, visit the ARRL web page: <http://www.arrl.org/fcc/uls101.html>.

>Bring cash, exact amount appreciated or check or money order to cover the exam session fee.

>We have NCVET 605 forms at session; Handicap Accessible. Copy machine available

[Contact person: Colleen, AA8UA 740.622.5761](#)

E-mail: aa8ua@arrl.net

AA8BN, Session Mgr., good luck 2009

UPCOMING EVENTS

PUBLIC SERVICE

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION

Readiness ■ Response ■ Resilience

National Weather Service/

ARRL SKYWARN Recognition Day

Fm QST December Issue

The 11th annual SKYWARN Recognition Day (SRD) will take place on Saturday, December 5, 2009. This is the day that Amateur Radio operates from many National Weather Service (NWS) offices around the United States. The purpose of the event is to recognize Amateur Radio operators for the vital public service they perform during times of severe weather and to strengthen the bond between radio amateurs and their local National Weather Service office. The event is cosponsored by the American Radio Relay League and the National Weather Service.

Traditionally, hams have assisted the National Weather Service during times of severe weather by providing real-time reports of severe events and storm evolution. The assistance that radio operators provide to the NWS throughout the year is invaluable.

SKYWARN Recognition Day this year will be held from 0000 UTC to 2400 UTC on Saturday, December 5, 2009. (This means the event actually begins on Friday evening in the United States.) To learn more, check the NOAA Web site at: www.wrth.noaa.gov/mtr/hamradio.

CLUB LIBRARY DISPLAY December 1 thru 31

Coshocton County Library, Main St. @South 7th St.

HAMFESTS

17 Jan 2010

Sunday Creek Amateur Radio Federation

Talk-In: 147.150 or 147.225

Contact: Jeremy Duncan, KC8QDQ

10847 Walnut Street

Glouster, OH 45732

Phone: 740-767-2554

Email: jeramy_duncan30@yahoo.com

Nelsonville, OH

Tri-County Vocational School

[15676 State Route 691](#)

31 Jan 2010

Tusco Amateur Radio Club (W8ZX)

<http://tuscoarc.org>

Talk-In: 146.730

Contact: Kyle Quillen, KD8HDJ

518 Fair Avenue NW

New Philadelphia, OH 44663

Phone: 888-447-2403

Email: hamfest@tuscoarc.org

Strasburg, OH

Wallick Auction House

[965 North Wooster Avenue](#)

7 Feb 2010

Winter HamFest

Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society

<http://www.noars.net>

Talk-In: 146.70 - (open)

Contact: Darlene Ohman, KA8VTS

4122 Bush Avenue

Cleveland, OH 44109

Phone: 216-398-8858

Email: dfohman@att.net

Lorain, OH

Gargus Hall

[1965 North Ridge Road](#)

14 Feb 2010

Mansfield Mid-Winter Hamfest & Computer Show

InterCity Amateur Radio Club

<http://www.w8we.org/hamfest.htm>

Talk-In: 146.940/71.9

Contact: Dean Wrasse, KB8MG

1094 Beal Road

Mansfield, OH 44905

Phone: 419-589-2415 (1-7 PM please)

Email: metal07man@yahoo.com

Mansfield, OH

Richland County Fairgrounds

[750 North Home Road](#)

18 Apr 2010

56th Annual Hamfest, Electronics, and Computer Show

Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club

<http://www.cfarc.org/hamfest2010.html>

Talk-In: 147.27

Contact: Ted Sarah, W8TTS

239 Bermont Avenue

Munroe Falls, OH 44262

Phone: 330-688-2013

Email: w8tts@w8tts.com

Cuyahoga Falls, OH

Emidio & Sons Party Center

[48 East Bath Road](#)

14-16 May 2010

Dayton Hamvention

Dayton ARA

<http://www.hamvention.org/>

Talk-In: 146.94(-) or 146.64(-)

Contact: PO Box 964

Dayton, OH 45401-0964

Phone: 937-276-6930

Email: info@hamvention.org

Trotwood, OH

Hara Arena

[1001 Shiloh Springs Road](#)

FROM THE EDITOR

Please let me know what you would like to see in “your” newsletter. E-mail me at n8krr@arrl.net with your suggestions and contributions.

All articles are appreciated.

HAM SHACK HOME SET-UP



▲ K8CAA, Craig's radio station



▲ N8KRR, Ron's radio station.

Equipment: Kenwood TM-241A/2m; Kenwood TS-830/ HF; Kenwood MC-50/mic; Astron RS-20m/power supply; MFJ Deluxe Versa Tuner III; Heathkit “Cantenna “Dummy Load””; straight key; Davis Weather Wizard III

Antenna's: Cushcraft World Ranger Rotatable DiPole-10, 15, 20, 40 meter/D4 and Cushcraft 13B2 2m Broadband Boomer. (Up 45 ft).