

# COSHOCTON COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC

**W8CCA** [Http://www.W8CCA.org](http://www.W8CCA.org)

PO BOX 501 Coshocton, OH 43812

## MARCH 2008 Newsletter



**Meeting: First Tuesday Each Month, 7:00 PM Coshocton County Services Bldg. 724 S. 7<sup>th</sup> Street**

### 2008 Club Officers

**President:** Steve Wheatcraft, AA8BN  
[aa8bn@arrl.net](mailto:aa8bn@arrl.net)

**Vice President:** Rob Rizk, KD8FAI  
[rizk@wwdb.org](mailto:rizk@wwdb.org)

**Secretary:** Pat Tucker, KB8CRB  
[kb8crb@msn.com](mailto:kb8crb@msn.com)

**Treasurer:** Dan Hardy, N8VV  
[n8vv@arrl.net](mailto:n8vv@arrl.net)

### Coshocton County EC

Bruce Adams, KE8XM  
[abalarm@sbcglobal.net](mailto:abalarm@sbcglobal.net)

### MCC Representatives

Dan Hardy, N8VV  
[n8vv@arrl.net](mailto:n8vv@arrl.net)  
Bruce Adams, KE8XM  
[abalarm@sbcglobal.net](mailto:abalarm@sbcglobal.net)  
Saturday 2100 weekly

### NETS

- **Coshocton Co. ARA** -  
Sunday 2100 hrs EST  
147.045 MHz W8CCA Rptr

- **Coshocton Co. ARES** -  
Monday 2100 hrs EST  
145.230 MHz KE8XM Rptr

- **Johnny Appleseed** -  
Friday 2100 hrs EST  
28.450 Mhz SSB

### COARVET Manager

Steve Wheatcraft, AA8BN  
[aa8bn@arrl.net](mailto:aa8bn@arrl.net)

### CCARA Newsletter Editor

Ron Carns, N8KRR  
[n8krr@arrl.net](mailto:n8krr@arrl.net)



**Severe Weather Awareness Week:**  
**March 23-29, 2008 Statewide Tornado Drill: Wednesday, March 26, 2008 at 9:50 AM.**

Check into 145.230 repeater

<http://www.weathersafety.ohio.gov/TornadoFacts2007.aspx>

**Prez Says:**

Hope all are surviving the Ice and Snow this winter. I know for a fact the EC, KE8XM is doing fine. He may even have a sunburn by this time. I almost feel sorry for him... no not really. The December meeting of CCARA went pretty good, although somehow I ended up being President again. Thanks for the confidence. Probably more to the point is that no one else wanted to run. I want to thank EC Bruce, KE8XM for doing a fine job as Vice President in 2007 and for all you do for CCARA. After elections in December 2007, the NEW Vice President of the club is Rob, KD8FAI. Thanks for all you're doing. Re-elected CCARA Secretary is Pat, KB8CRB. Thanks for all the years of service recording all we do. Dan, N8VV was re-elected Treasurer of CCARA. Thank you for keeping our financial affairs in excellent order! So there you have the 2008 CCARA Officers. An election for the Board of Trustees was also held. KL7RF and AA8UA were re-elected Trustees for 2008. New to the group is Trustee, N8KRR, Ron. Remaining Statuary Agent is Dan, N8VV. After the election the group enjoyed a holiday party. Thanks to all for the good food.

Financially the club is doing fine compared to previous years, thanks to membership and fund raising events in 2007. The January meeting as always was all about filling CCARA committee positions. Some committees of interest in 2008 will be the Library display at the Coshocton Public Library, chaired by N8LPB, Ron. An Amateur Radio class committee was formed with KL7RF as chair. Email committee chair will be N8KRR. The calling committee was incorporated into the membership committee chaired by KB8HEA, Tom. We formed a GOBA committee with AA8BN as chair from the club. If you're interested in being on a committee, let us know.

The February meeting of CCARA went just fine I understand. I missed the meeting due to a bad cold. Vice President KD8FAI, Rob ran his first meeting without much notice... Thank you. For the program, Rob brought a crossword puzzle in from the ARRL. Sounds like that was a fun program. Good idea Rob.

The March meeting will be on the 4<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at the County Services Building in the basement. The program will be show and tell. Hope all can attend. Bring something of interest to talk about. A special QSL card, Award, contact on the air, something you built...etc. Should be fun. We haven't had one of these for a few years.

I want to thank all who have paid your DUES!!!! For those who haven't ventured out in the snow and ice to a meeting or Post Office, your renewal or new membership in CCARA can still be made. \$15.00 for single or \$20.00 for family membership payable to CCARA, PO Box 501, Coshocton, Ohio 43812. Questions, get in touch with AA8BN at [AA8BN@ARRL.NET](mailto:AA8BN@ARRL.NET) / 740 622 5761.

An important item of discussion at the March 4<sup>th</sup> meeting and perhaps the April meeting will be the Fair booth and whether or not we (the club) are willing to pay the \$230. (+) fee. A vote may come up at the April meeting. I had some comments about this in the December 2007 CCARA Newsletter. If you have an opinion, please attend the meetings and express your views. As a member, you also will have a vote.

GOBA !!!! is coming. Mark your calendar for June 18, 19 and 20, 2008 for the Coshocton County part of the route. The Great Ohio Bicycle Adventure needs our help in providing Communications. This will be a great ARES exercise. Get your Go bag in order now. Check out the GOBA web sites for additional information. <http://www.gobahams.org/> and <http://www.goba.com/index.htm>. CCARA and ARES will have a program concerning our

participation at a CCARA meeting. Check out the club web site [www.w8cca.org](http://www.w8cca.org) under News for updates. This will give us the chance of working with neighboring counties, as the route will come from Knox Co. into Coshocton Co. and then into Tuscarawas Co. On the last day the route will begin in Coshocton and travel north into Holmes and onto Orrville. Around 3000 Bicycles will be participating.

The Club missed the Tusco and Mansfield Hamfest but I believe we may attend the Cambridge Amateur Radio Assoc. Hamfest and computer show August 24 at the Pritchard Laughlin Civic Center, Cambridge ,Ohio. The club will discuss this and make a decision. Don't forget that another kind of weather is just around the corner. NWS PITTSBURGH web site <http://www.erh.noaa.gov/pbz/index.php> that has Coshocton Co in their forecast area .

Tune to the NOAA WX frequencies of 162.425 or 162.475 for WX information concerning our county. NWS Wilmington <http://www.erh.noaa.gov/iln/> and Cleveland NWS

<http://www.erh.noaa.gov/cle/> for radar to our west and north. Check out this site for NOAA's NWS Storm Prediction Center <http://www.spc.noaa.gov/products/outlook/> .

Last but not least, don't forget to contribute to the CCARA Newsletter. Send any articles to Editor, N8KRR. [rcarns@arrl.net](mailto:rcarns@arrl.net)

All for now....hope to see you at a meeting, or on the air. Don't forget the 147.045 club repeater and the 145.230 ARES® repeater and even Simplex!!! On 146.535 you might find AA8UA and AA8BN along with a few others.

73

Steve, AA8BN, CCARA President

## **CCARA MEMBER SPOTLIGHT**

### **N8VV's Ham Radio Bio**

Unlike those who had a father, uncle, or neighbor who was a ham radio operator, I can't point to a single person or event that sparked my interest in Amateur Radio.

I remember building crystal radios in grade school and even a transistor broadcast band receiver in about the sixth grade. I moved up to a real radio when I received an Allied Radio Spanmaster super regenerative two tube receiver kit for Christmas in the eighth or ninth grade. I logged all the strong short wave broadcast stations of the day like Radio Moscow, HCJB Quito, Ecuador, and Voice of America. I could also receive several Hams as there was still a considerable amount of AM in those days. In high school I worked evenings and summers and bought a National NC-105 superhetrodyne receiver and continued to listen to SW broadcasts and Hams.

I didn't have a mentor to help me with Morse code so I attempted to teach myself and made every mistake possible like memorizing the dots and dashes from a chart. As a result, I didn't learn the code well enough to get a license.

After graduating from high school I joined the Army and served four year in the Army Security Agency. In those days the Viet Nam war was going on and there was a draft. I wasn't planning on going to college at the time and without a college deferment there was a good chance of getting drafted. To avoid the infantry and to try to learn something I might use when I got out, I joined and chose the ASA. After basic training I spent the next nine or ten months in school at Ft. Devens, MA learning to be a Morse intercept operator and radio direction finding operator. I served 13 months in Korea and the balance of my time was at Homestead AFB and the National Security Agency HQ at Ft. Meade, MD. On being discharged from the army, I went to work for the telephone company. A few months later I received my Novice License as WN8FFM and about a year later upgraded to General with the call WB8FFM. I was attending technical school nights and made friends with a guy who introduced me to Louis, K8RMN. Louis and I became friends

through our mutual interest in Ham Radio, and he invited me to go to my first Field Day. He was in a group of four or five operators who operated CW only FD, and they let me log for the first year or so. Louis also liked to operate in the November Sweepstakes contest so I tried that also and my interest in radio contesting continues today.

In 1975 I upgraded to Extra Class and in 1977 changed my call to N8VV through a vanity call sign program that only lasted a short time and allowed Extra Class Hams to change to a two letter call. When you send your call up to a couple thousand times in a 48 hour contest, two less letters really adds up!

I have always run low power with modest antennas but continue to enjoy contesting and DX'ing even though my station is a "little pistol" and not a "big gun." Like most DXers I wish I could operate from the others end just one time.

### **My Ham Radio Achievements Include:**

#### Contesting

November Sweepstakes - 1<sup>st</sup> Place, AR Section, Low Power CW - 1994, 1995, 1996  
ARRL Ten Meter Contest - 1<sup>st</sup> Place, AR Section, Low Power CW - 1993  
ARRL Ten Meter Contest - 1<sup>st</sup> Place, AR Section, Low Power Mixed Mode - 1994  
ARRL DX Contest - 1<sup>st</sup> Place, AR Section, Low Power CW - 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997  
IARU HF World Championships - 1<sup>st</sup> Place, OH Section, Low Power CW - 2007

#### Operating Certificates

Worked All States

Worked All Continents - Mixed Mode, CW, Phone, RTTY

5 Band WAC

DX Century Club - Mixed Mode, CW, Phone, RTTY

5 Band DXCC + 30 Meters, 17 Meters, and 12 Meters

DXCC Challenge - 1000 Band Countries

#### ARES Courses

Amateur Radio Emergency Communications - Level I, II, III

FEMA IS-100, 200, 700, 800

#### ARRL Certifications

Volunteer Examiner

Certified Mentor (ARECC Courses)

Certified Examiner (ARECC Courses)

Registered Instructor

### **My QSO Statistics Include:**

HF Logbook entries = 25,002 90% CW & Digital 10% Phone

(I have probably worked another 5000 using other calls on Fields Days over the past 38 years.)

Logbook of the World QSL's = 3871

Paper QSL's = 3554

Countries Worked/Confirmed

Mixed = 271/259 Phone = 198/183 CW = 259/247 RTTY = 143/125

80M = 111/103 40M = 179/156 30M = 179/166 20M = 230/205

17M = 156/148 15M = 208/199 12M = 133/120

10M = 183/164

[below added by newsletter editor N8KRR]

**N8VV 2007 IARC HF World Championships**

Displaying entries for Class=C and Power= B and Section=OH and DXCC

Entity=iarc\_dxcc

Entries 1 to 8 of 8 listed

# Call Score QSOs Mult Class Power

1 N8VV 68,040 360 81 C B OH 8  
2 W8GOC 37,245 267 65 C B OH 8  
3 ND8DX 30,730 193 70 C B OH 8  
4 W8DHG 22,419 240 53 C B OH 8  
5 K8EE 18,876 326 33 C B OH 8  
6 W8IQ 17,750 178 50 C B OH 8  
7 W8IDM 11,780 179 31 C B OH 8  
8 WB8JU I 6,925 150 25 C B OH 8

**ARES®**

Coshocton County ARES® had a busy January 2008. We asked for members to complete the annual ARES® registration. We had a great response. Thanks to all who responded. If you didn't register, you can still submit the report to the EC. If you wish to participate, we need your registration. The annual EC report was also submitted to the ARRL and SEC and DEC. by Jan 31. We also submitted the Annual SET report. On Feb 1 we submitted the monthly ARES® report FSD-212 to the DEC and SEC. The report follows:

For the month of January we reported 40 ARES® members.

The number of drills, nets, tests, training sessions were 8 with volunteer hours totaling: 22 hours.

Public Service events: 1 with 5 volunteer hours.

Number of Emergency Operations: none.

Total number of ARES® events for Jan.: 9 with the total number of volunteer hours during January being 27 hours.

We conduct weekly nets on 145.23. We also conducted a simplex net on 146.49. The simplex backup frequency for ARES® . We held an ARES® planning meeting during Jan. KB8HEA with KL7RF replaced a backup battery on the 145.23 repeater. N8VV with AA8BN setup a packet station in the ARES® Communications Van. With a request for assistance from the EMA , ARES® N8VV and AA8BN installed an antenna at the Warsaw elementary school for the new NOAA Weather radio. Over the last year we have setup WX radios (some antennas) at 7 or so schools within the county.

Don't forget the OHIO ARES® SECTION CONFERENCE

Open to all District, County, and Assistant Emergency Coordinators

Official Emergency Stations, Official Relay Stations, and all ARES® volunteers

Saturday, March 29, 2008

9:00am to 3:00pm

State of Ohio Fire Marshall Office

8895 East Main Street

Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068

Last but not least, GOBA in June. ARES® will be involved from this and surrounding counties. Hope you all can help. We will have something to do for ALL !

Thanks for volunteering your time in Coshocton Co. ARES®

AA8BN, AEC (acting EC while the EC, KE8XM is enjoying the SUN)

### **Local Events**

CCARA Meeting March 4 Coshocton County Services building, 724 S. 7th St

GOBA June 18-20 Coshocton Lake Park

Library Display September Coshocton Public Library

Club Picnic September

Foxhunt September

County Fair September 26 thru October 2 Coshocton County Fair Grounds

### **OHIO Events**

OHIO SECTION MARCH HAMFEST:

Sunday (16) TMRA HAMFEST AND COMPUTER FAIR at Toledo (Maumee). For more information visit; [www.tmrahamradio.org](http://www.tmrahamradio.org) or E-mail; [bharrington@meduohio.edu](mailto:bharrington@meduohio.edu).

At Lucas County Recreation Center (same as other years).

### **MCC MEETING**

The Multi-County Coalition of Eastern Ohio will meet on Sunday, March 30, at 2 PM at Tuscora Park in New Philadelphia. This meeting is open to all hams who wish to attend. Each county/club will be given the floor to tell about its activities over the last four months and what they have planned for the next four months.

Sometimes there is a speaker or a presentation of some kind. There are using snacks involved and lots of social time to meet and mingle with your fellow (and lady) hams. If your club needs help with a large project such as providing communications for GOBA, you can call on hams in the other clubs to help. The same would go for emergency communications as well.

Please try to attend, we would love to see you.

Lyn Alfman, N8IMW, CARA MCC Representative, PIO, and Newsletter Editor

### **GOBA**

Start preparing for the return of the 20th annual GOBA (The Great Ohio Bicycle Adventure) to Coshocton Co. About 3000 bicycles will be in the county June 18-20. Goba relies on Hams in each county for communication along the route each day. They will be arriving from Mt Vernon on the 18th. On the 19th they may, if they wish, ride to Sugar creek and Zoar and back to Coshocton. On the 20th they leave the county and head north to Orrville. Mark these dates on your calendar so you may help. Check out the web site for additional information. <http://www.goba.com/index.htm>

Also look at <http://www.gobahams.org/> for specific information for Hams. We will be having a program about GOBA at a club meeting prior to the June event. This will be a great opportunity for all to practice our communications skills. We will be providing emergency and health and welfare traffic for Goba. A Great ARES® exercise.

AA8BN

### **DAYTON HAMVENTION 2008 May 16 -18, 2008 at HARA ARENA in Dayton, OH**

Hotel Info at [www.hamvention.org](http://www.hamvention.org) or Visitors Bureau at 1-800-221-8235

### **OSSBN RETURNS NORMAL SATURDAY, MARCH 1**

The Ohio Single Side Band Net (OSSBN) will return to its normal evening session starting time and frequency Saturday, March 1. This announcement has been made by Ohio Assistant Section Manager, Connie Hamilton, N8IO, Net Manager for the OSSBN. Ohio's



traffic net of record, which meets three times daily, had changed the time and frequency for its evening sessions during the winter months due to propagation problems on 75 meters. Starting March 1, the evening session begins 6:45 p.m. on the regular OSSBN frequency of 3.9725 MHz. The early session at 10:30 a.m. and afternoon session at 4:15 p.m. were never changed.

ARRL Ohio Section

Section Manager: Joseph J. Phillips, K8QOE

[k8goe@arrl.org](mailto:k8goe@arrl.org)

## ARRL AMATEUR RADIO EXAM SESSION Coshocton, Ohio 2008

**March 22, 10 AM Coshocton Public Library, 655 Main St, Coshocton.**

Large meeting Room, WALK-IN session , arrive up to ½ hour early to sign in on roster.

Coshocton Ohio Amateur Radio Volunteer Examiner Team,

sponsored by the Coshocton County Amateur Radio Association, W8CCA

If you are interested in setting up a pre registered exam session

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

All Exam elements available. The 2008 exam fee is \$14.00. Exact amount appreciated. Checks made out to ARRL/VEC accepted too.

2nd version of exam available at VE discretion, time permitting. An additional \$14.

**REQUIRED:**

**PHOTO ID (driver's license) or two forms of non-photo ID.**

Persons without photo IDs, and/or young persons must supply TWO forms of alternate identification to satisfy their ID requirements. These two items can include: Non-photo ID/driver's license; Social Security Card (as FCC now requires each applicant to supply a taxpayer ID number also known as our Social Security Number) ; Birth certificate (must have the appropriate seal); Minor's work permit or school report card; Utility bill, bank statement or other business correspondence that specifically names the person; A postmarked envelope addressed to the person indicating the same mailing address as shown on Form 605.

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

**CURRENT ORIGINAL AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE and COPY , if you already have one.**

**ORIGINAL valid CSCE(s) that apply and COPY, if you have already taken exams and have a CSCE.**

**Social Security number or FCC issued FRN (FCC Registration Number)**

(The FRN is viewable by doing a search for LICENSE at the FCC WTB ULS web page

<http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/uls>).

An FRN is a ten digit number preceded by three or four zeros then six or seven numbers)

We have NCVET 605 forms at session

Handicap accessible.

copy machine available

**Contact person:**

Colleen, AA8UA 740.622.5761

email : [aa8ua@arrl.net](mailto:aa8ua@arrl.net)

AA8BN, session mgr., good luck

### **Free Swap and Sell**

If you have anything ham radio related, you can swap it or sell it here. List your item(s) for free. Give a price and how to contact you. Send list to [n8krr@arrl.net](mailto:n8krr@arrl.net)

**THE COSHOCTON COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB WEB SITE ADDRESS IS:**

[www.w8cca.org](http://www.w8cca.org)

Your club posts news updates about amateur radio and club interest here.

Please check this site often.

TNX N8KRR your editor.

### **PROPAGATION FORECAST BULLETIN 8 ARLP008**

From Tad Cook, K7RA

Seattle, WA February 22, 2008

To all radio amateurs

SB PROP ARL ARLP008 ARLP008 Propagation de K7RA

No sunspots yet, and the Sun has been blank for seventeen days. For a week one sunspot was visible prior to the spotless period, and that followed a twenty-day spotless run. NOAA and the US Air Force have predicted daily solar flux right at 70 recently, but bumps that to 72 March 1, continuing into April. This is a minor change, but perhaps this signals that forecasters don't expect any more spots during February.

NOAA also predicts low geomagnetic activity until February 28-29, with the planetary A index at 5 through February 26, then 8, 20, 15 and 12 through March 1. Geophysical Institute Prague predicts quiet conditions February 22-26, quiet to unsettled February 27, and unsettled February 28.

The days are getting longer, so openings should be longer on the higher frequencies. For instance, from California to Japan on February 1, the 20 meter path would be open 2200-0100z. On the last day of this month the path should be open longer, 2130-0200z, but signals weaker by about 10 db. At the Vernal Equinox on March 20 that opening would stretch from 2100-0400z.

A way to check for yourself is to look at the magnetograms from the SOHO spacecraft at, [http://sohowww.nascom.nasa.gov/data/realtime/mdi\\_mag/512/](http://sohowww.nascom.nasa.gov/data/realtime/mdi_mag/512/). If you see a sunspot with black on the right side and white on the left, this is a Cycle 23 spot. A Cycle 24 spot will lead with white on the right and black on the left. You can see this by searching the archives for images from early February. Go to, [http://sohodata.nascom.nasa.gov/cgi-bin/data\\_query](http://sohodata.nascom.nasa.gov/cgi-bin/data_query) and under image type, select "MDI Magnetogram," select the "Images" option under Display, and enter 2008-02-02 for Start Date, 2008-02-04 for End

Date, then click Search. The result will be a series of images of Cycle 23 spots.

For more information concerning radio propagation, see the ARRL Technical Information Service web page at,

<http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/propagation.html>. For a detailed explanation of the numbers used in this bulletin see,

<http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/k9la-prop.html>. An archive of past propagation bulletins is at <http://www.arrl.org/wlaw/prop/>. Monthly propagation charts between four USA regions and twelve overseas locations are at <http://www.arrl.org/qst/propcharts/>.

Sunspot numbers for February 14 through 20 were 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0 and 0 with a mean of 0. 10.7 cm flux was 70.6, 69.7, 70.3, 71.1, 71.2, 71.7, and 70.9 with a mean of 70.8. Estimated planetary A indices were 15, 10, 9, 5, 12, 12 and 7 with a mean of 10. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 10, 8, 8, 3, 9, 10 and 5, with a mean of 7.6.

NNNN/EX



## **2008 Spring SKYWARN™ Schedule**

conducted by Rich Kane our WCM (Warning Coordination Meteorologist)

Thursday, 1 May Guernsey County, OH Emergency Management Office

6:00 PM

627 Wheeling Ave, Cambridge, OH

Please call the Emergency Management Office at 740-432-9292 if you are planning to attend. **EDITORS NOTE:** check out the complete list of Skywarn classes at:

<http://www.erh.noaa.gov/pbz/skymeeet.htm>

## **Free E-Newsletters for ARRL Members**

Ham radio news and more! Select from a variety of free newsletters delivered to your inbox. Sign up at:

[www.arrl.org/members-only](http://www.arrl.org/members-only)

## **Continuing Education for Hams**

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

## **THUNDER SNOW in Coshocton County Ohio**

During the evening of Feb.18 in Coshocton County just before the ARES net on 145.23 thunder was heard and bluish lightning, plus SNOW and observed by several Amateur Radio Operators in the county. Heavy snow showers and strong winds, gusting to 35mph existed. 1/2 to 1 inch of snow in a short while came down. A call for other reports on the ARES repeater was initiated. Hearing no other reports Coshocton County Skywarn spotter observations from AA8UA in Coshocton and AA8BN 4 miles SE of Coshocton were called into the NWS Pittsburgh soon after the Thunder Snow was heard. This is a reportable weather event needed by the NWS. (Thundersnow also known as a Winter Thunderstorm or a Thunder Snowstorm is a particularly rare meteorological phenomenon that includes the typical behavior of a thunderstorm, but with snow falling as the primary precipitation instead of rain....Wikipedia) The result of this and possible other calls to the NWS was a Special Weather Statement issued by NWS Pittsburgh at 8:58 pm on Feb. 18. The weather statement issued follows:

Special Weather Statement

SPECIAL WEATHER STATEMENT

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE PITTSBURGH PA

858 PM EST MON FEB 18 2008

(Various OH.PA.WV. counties within the Pittsburgh coverage area to the East and S.E. of Coshocton Co. were included in the statement, including Coshocton. ed. note)

...THUNDER SNOW POSSIBLE EARLY TONIGHT...

A BAND OF SNOW SHOWERS WITH EMBEDDED THUNDER WILL MOVE ACROSS SOUTHEAST OHO INTO WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA...NORTHERN WEST VIRGINIA AND GARRETT COUNTY MARYLAND THROUGH MIDNIGHT. SPOTTERS IN COSHOCTON COUNTY OHIO REPORTED THUNDER SNOW JUST BEFORE 9 PM THIS EVENING. AS THIS BAND OF SNOW SHOWERS MOVES EAST ANOTHER QUICK HALF INCH OF SNOW CAN BE EXPECTED WITH VISIBILITY BELOW ONE MILE. WINDS WITH THE BAND OF SNOW WILL GUST TO 35 MPH. USE EXTRA CAUTION WHILE TRAVELING AS UNTREATED ROADS WILL BE SLICK AND HAZARDOUS.

## **NOAA All Hazards Weather Radio**

NOAA Weather Radio (NWR) is a nationwide network of radio stations broadcasting continuous weather information direct from a nearby National Weather Service office. NWR broadcasts National Weather Service warnings, watches, forecasts and other hazard information 24 hours a day.

Working with the Federal Communication Commission's (FCC) Emergency Alert System (EAS), NWR is an "all hazards" radio network, making it your single source for comprehensive weather and emergency information.

Known as the "Voice of NOAA's National Weather Service", NWR is provided as a public service by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), part of the Department of Commerce. NWR includes 950 transmitters, covering all 50 states, adjacent coastal waters, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the U.S. Pacific Territories.

The seven frequencies in the VHF band (MHz) that NOAA Weather Radio broadcasts on are: 162.400, 162.425, 162.450, 162.475, 162.500, 162.525, 162.555

The National Weather Service in Pittsburgh operates 9 different NOAA Weather Radio transmitters in our CWA (county warning area). Two of these radio stations have Coshocton Co. within their broadcast service area. {For Coshocton County Ohio use WXJ-47, 162.475 MHz, which transmits from High Hill, Oh. and WinG-735, 162.425 MHz, which transmits from near New Philadelphia, Oh. ed note}

<http://www.erh.noaa.gov/pbz/radio.htm>

National Weather Service  
Weather Forecast Office Pittsburgh  
192 Shafer Road  
Moon Township, PA 15108

## **Dues Are Due**

You can renew your 2008 club membership by contacting your club treasurer N8VV  
TNX

## **FROM The ARRL Letter Vol. 27, No. 7 February 22, 2008**

### **KOSOVO AND DXCC**

Kosovo declared its independence from Serbia on February 17, setting off new speculations on what this means to Amateur Radio and specifically, to the DXCC program. ARRL DXCC Manager Bill Moore, NC1L, said he understands that there are many questions about the DXCC status of Kosovo, especially concerning whether or not the new state will be added to the DXCC list.

Moore said the DXCC rules, modified in 2000 to better handle inclusion to DXCC, are clear on how additions can be made: "For inclusion in the DXCC List, certain conditions must be met. Gaining entry on the DXCC List is not contingent upon whether operation has occurred or will occur, but only upon the qualifications of the Entity."

According to Moore, adding Kosovo to the DXCC List would be considered under the "Political Entity" DXCC guidelines. The DXCC rules state that "Political Entities are those areas which are separated by reason of government or political division. They generally contain an indigenous population which is not predominantly composed of military or scientific personnel."

Kosovo, according to the DXCC rules, would then be added to the DXCC List as a Political Entity if it meets one or more of the following criteria:

\* The entity is a UN Member State.

\* The entity has been assigned a call sign prefix block by the ITU. (The exceptions to this rule are international organizations, such as the UN and ICAO. These Entities are classified under Special Areas, 3.a; and Ineligible Areas, 4.b.) A provisional prefix bloc assignment may be made by the Secretary General of ITU. Should such provisional assignments not be ratified later by the full ITU, the Entity will be removed from the DXCC List.

\* The Entity contains a permanent population, is administered by a local government and is located at least 800 km

from its parent. To satisfy the "permanent population" and "administered by a local government" criteria of this subsection, an Entity must be listed on either (a) the US Department of State's list of "Dependencies and Areas of Special Sovereignty" as having a local "Administrative Center," or (b) the United Nations list of "Non-Self-Governing Territories."

"New Entities satisfying one or more of the conditions above will be added to the DXCC List by administrative action as of their 'Event Date.' Kosovo will be added to the DXCC list if it becomes a member of the UN, or if it receives a prefix bloc from the ITU. The third condition does not apply," Moore said. "The 'Event Date' will be either the date Kosovo became a UN member or it receives its prefix from the ITU. Contacts made before the Event Date will be counted as Serbia."

\* 2008 Field Day Web Page Good to Go: The official 2008 ARRL Field Day Web page <<http://www.arrl.org/FieldDay>> is up and running. The page includes a summary of available resources, with links to Field Day forms and rules, logos and reference links. There is also a link for ordering commemorative Field Day T-shirts, pins and other supplies. ARRL Sales and Marketing Manager Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R, said supplies will begin shipping in early March, but it's not too early to place a pre-order now. Radio clubs are encouraged to order early.

### **CCARA Club Patch**

W8CCA CCARA patches are available, \$2.50 each OR two for \$5. To buy patches see the club Treasurer.



### **From The Editor**

This is your newsletter. Please let me know the type of info you would like to see in your newsletter. If you have a ham radio related article you would like to submit please e-mail to the editor at : [n8krr@arrl.net](mailto:n8krr@arrl.net)

### **A.R.E.S.**

#### **OHIO SEC MONTHLY REPORT OF ARES IN THIS SECTION**

By Frank J. Piper, K18GW, Ohio Section Emergency Coordinator

Well, we have about one month to go in this winter season. It's been a crazy one, with tornadoes, thunderstorms, and heavy snows, all within days of each other. Let's hope things settle down soon, and Mother Earth decides on a season, and sticks with it!

Here's the January numbers, sent to the ARRL:

Total number of ARES members: Approx. 2536

# of DECs/ECs reporting this month: 11

Calls of DECs/ECs reporting:

K8ARL/DEC (District 1); K8FRS/DEC(District 2); W8ILC/DEC (District 3);N8TVU/DEC (District 4),  
KB8WPZ/DEC (District 5); KC8GNL/DEC (District 6); N8WL/DEC (District 7);N8SUZ/DEC (District 8);  
AA8BN/AEC (Coshocton – District 9); N8MGW/EC (Jefferson -- District 9);KC8PWW/EC (Harrison -- District 9)

Number of drills, tests and training sessions this month: 567 Person hours 5081

Number of public service events this month: 22 Person hours 197

Number of emergency operations this month: 10 Person hours 197

Total number of ARES operations this month: 599 Total Person hours: 5475

IF YOU MISSED THE DIGITAL SYMPOSIUM HERE IS A CHANCE TO SEE WHAT YOU MISSED

A complete story about the January '08 Southwest Ohio Digital and Technical Symposium is currently on the Ohio Section Web Site. Visit <[www.iarc.ws/ohio](http://www.iarc.ws/ohio)>. The 22nd edition of the Symposium at Miami University-Middletown (held January 12th) contained the same high quality technical sessions as in the past. This annual session, sponsored by local groups and the ARRL, is one of the treasures which the Ohio Section offers to the hobby. And it continues to be free. Go to the web site and see for yourself.

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[from the editor...the previous is not the report in its entirety ]

### **AMSAT-OSCAR 16 (AO-16)**

SB SPACE @ ARL \$ARLS002  
ARLS002 AO-16 Satellite Serves as Voice Repeater

ZCZC AS02  
QST de W1AW  
Space Bulletin 002 ARLS002 From ARRL Headquarters Newington, CT January 23, 2008  
To all radio amateurs

SB SPACE ARL ARLS002  
ARLS002 AO-16 Satellite Serves as Voice Repeater

Launched in January 1990, AMSAT-OSCAR 16 (AO-16) -- a digital satellite -- has been unavailable for use while the command team dealt with a serious computer problem. The satellite has since been recovered, and is now a voice repeater, at least for an unspecified "test period" using FM voice on the uplink, but SSB voice on the downlink.

Since AO-16 was recovered approximately six months ago, the command team -- Bruce Rahn, WB9ANQ, Jim White, WD0E, and Mark Hammond, N8MH -- attempted to reload the satellite software almost a dozen times without success. The team performed a series of memory tests that pointed toward a hardware failure that prevented the spacecraft software from restarting successfully.

AMSAT Vice President of Operations Drew Glasbrenner, KO4MA, said, "After concluding that the spacecraft computer system was damaged, and as discussions about decommissioning were taking place, Jim recalled a series of low-level commands that Tom Clark, K3IO, included in the spacecraft design during construction. One of these

commands allows an uplink receiver to be directly tied to a downlink transmitter. The twist is that the uplink is regular FM, but the downlink via the BPSK transmitter is DSB (Double Sideband). Mark placed the satellite in this mode early this week and did some testing."

Glasbrenner also said the satellite hears very well; the reduced bandwidth by using either USB or LSB on the ground station receiver "allows for a very robust downlink. Tuning the downlink is just like on a linear transponder, meaning it is tight and with fast Doppler. Uplink tuning is not required, just as with the FM mode V/U satellites. My personal observations include being able to access and hear the satellite within one degree of the horizon, much lower than any other current bird for my location [in Florida]. This should be an easy satellite with omni antennas and a 70 cm preamp."

Glasbrenner said that he would like to open the satellite to general use for a test period. The uplink is 145.920 MHz FM, and the downlink is 437.026 MHz SSB +/- Doppler shift. He asks that users restrict their uplink power to a reasonable power level, and do not transmit without being able to hear the downlink; all

general single-channel guidelines apply. Please submit reports via e-mail at, [ao16@amsat.org](mailto:ao16@amsat.org). "Enjoy this bird's new life!" Glasbrenner said.

NNNN

/EX

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**=ARRL OHIO INFO**

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**DX NEWS**

SB DX ARL ARLD009

ARLD009 DX news

**MONACO, 3A.**

Carlos, EA1DVY will be QRV as 3A/EA1DVY from February 23 to March 3. Activity will be mainly on 160 meters using SSB. He also plans to participate in the CQ 160 Meter SSB contest and the upcoming ARRL DX contest. QSL to home call.

**UGANDA, 5X.**

Nick, G3RWF will be QRV as 5X1NH from February 23 to March 22. Activity will be holiday style on 80 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY and PSK. QSL to home call.

**BAHAMAS, C6.**

Tom, N1GN, Bill, NE1B and Karney, W2AFC will be QRV as C6ANM in the CQ 160 Meter SSB contest as a Multi/Single entry. N1GN and NE1B will also be active as C6ANM in the upcoming ARRL DX contest as a Multi/Single entry. QSL via operators' instructions.

**MOROCCO, CN.**

Operators IK2QEI, IK2SGC and CN8WW will be QRV as CN3A in the CQ 160 Meter SSB contest as a Multi/Single entry.

**REUNION ISLAND, FR**

Jean Mary, F8CHM is QRV as FR5EZ from IOTA AF-016 until March 21. QSL to home call.

**ITALY, I.**

Look for IH9/W1NA to be QRV in the CQ 160 Meter SSB contest as a Single Op/High Power entry. QSL to home call.

**LUXEMBOURG, LX.**

LX7A will be QRV as LX2I in the CQ 160 Meter SSB contest.

**LITHUANIA, LY.**

There are 11 special event stations QRV until March 16 with the prefix LY90 to celebrate the 90th anniversary of independence in the Lithuanian Republic. QSL via operators' instructions.

**ST. MAARTEN, SABA, ST. EUSTATIUS, PJ5**

Bill, W8EB and Dorothy, W8DVC will be QRV as PJ7/homecalls from February 24 to March 23. Activity will be on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY and PSK. W8EB will also be active as PJ7B in the upcoming ARRL DX contest. QSL all calls via W8EB.

**CRETE, SV9.**

Willi, SV9/DJ7RJ will be QRV from February 25 to March 15. Activity will be on 160 to 10 meters using CW and SSB. QSL to home call.

**KAZAKHSTAN, UN.**

Rashad, UN/4J9M is active from here until April 23. QSL via DL7EDH.

**BELIZE, V3**

Michael, DF8AN will be QRV as V31MN from Caye Caulker and then Ambergris Caye, both IOTA NA-073, from February 23 to March 9. Activity is on the HF bands using mainly CW. QSL to home call.

## PORTABLE WORKBENCH

I wish I could claim this as original, but I based my workbench on an article I found in a modeling magazine.

The author used a much larger WorkMate with a full sized door as a bench top. I made my first one in Florida and liked it so much that I built another one here in Ohio.

Since we live in a mobile home during the winter and my “office” here is very small, I needed a sturdy workbench that would take very little space when folded for storage.

I found a nice piece of wood measuring 48” x 20” x 1” while prowling around in Cleveland. I also acquired a 48” x 2” x 1” piece to use as a “spine”, as well as a Black & Decker WorkMate (WM125) to use as its base.



I selected the “bad” side of the board and centered the spine. I then screwed and glued the spine to the table top.



Next I assembled the WorkMate vise.



After the glue had set, I rounded the corners of the workbench. Since I usually work in rather small spaces and have a tendency to bump into things; I have learned to eliminate sharp corners where ever possible.





Then I clamped the spine workbench into the jaws of the WorkMate and had a finished portable workbench.



As you can see, the dissembled workbench takes up very little space and can be stored almost anywhere.



See you next issue.  
Ron N8LPB