



FEEDBACK

VOLUME 54 ISSUE 6

JUNE 2009

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**MRN NET Tue, Thur, & Sun
7:30 PM 3.600 MHz
CLUB REPEATERS
147.18 & 442.850 MHz**

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--- SHORT SKIP ---

Congratulations are in order for our very own Gene Beckwith, W8KXR. Gene is featured in a four page article in a recent (April) issue of Electric Radio magazine. A great magazine dedicated to " Celebrating a bygone era ", i.e., vintage ham gear. In the article Gene leads the charge on restoring Heathkit Lunch Box transceivers. Great reading (as usual for anything Gene writes). Keep up the good work Gene, we're all proud of ya Boy !

73 de WB80WM

JUNE MEETING

The meeting for the month of June will be held on June 5th, 2009 at the Massillon Senior Center at 8:00 PM. This month we will again meet on the 2nd floor as we will have an "old fashioned" Ice cream social. Please read the adjacent VP's column .



It's HERE !
Field Day begins June 27th and June 28th. Set up begins at 9:00 AM at Petros Park. All able bodied members are asked to show up to help with the arduous task of setting up antennas, towers, and HF stations so we can begin Field Day at the designated start time of 2:00 PM. We will again be running 2A as we will have two main stations plus the GOTA station. ! See you at the meeting !

JUNE PROGRAM

The meeting will begin at it's usual time. This time on the 2nd floor.

This weeks presentation will be an ICE CREAM social." You scream, I scream, well all scream for ice cream."

Just bring your favorite flavor with you favorite fixin's to share with all. If you make your own bring your favorite. If there is a brand you like bring it on, with hot fudge, carmel, strawberries whatever is your favorite.

Sugar free ice cream and fixin's is more then welcome. Bring the kids, grandkids and all the family. Let's enjoy the fellowship.

We do have a freezer on the second floor.

73's de AB8CC

MARC MINUTES

May 9th 2009

The Massillon Amateur Radio Club meeting was held at the Massillon Senior Center with 27 members and guests present (signed-in).

The Pledge of Allegiance was given and a round of introductions made.

Don W8DEF with a second by Mike KD8ENV made a motion to approve the minutes as printed in the Feedback. Motion Passed.

Joe gave the Treasure's report.

Carl gave the VP report various club newsletters, Breezeshooters tickets were given away.

Don W8DEA gave a presentation on FEMA and hurricane Ike in Marshalville TX and about the Marshalville Amateur Radio Club. This is where Don is living now.

Committees - Classes – The classes are over the test to be given next weekend.

VE – Next VE session will be May 9th at the E.O.C.

Old Business

The MS walk was a great success with over 500 walkers this year.

The club is going to create a static display for the McKinley museum summer science fund raiser on July 10th

We have 10 people committed to helping with the Akron U concession fund raiser.

Field Day reminder, get ready.

New business

Bruce KC8RKS mentioned help needed for the Tour de Cure bike race in Akron on Sunday June 14th. You can call him or use www.sumco-ares.org to signup.

Terry gave the Akron/Canton airport emergency drill report. Those that participated did very well.

Rodger, KA8FTS won the 50/50 for \$18.00.

Minutes by Dan N8DZM

... Whatever Happened to Heathkit? ...

Whenever I get the chance, I like to read newsletters from some of the other clubs in the area. The Alliance Amateur Radio Club (AARC) newsletter "Zero Beat" has in it's May issue a great story on Heathkit. I'm sure many of you remember Heathkit, the premier radio kit manufacturer of the 50's, 60's and 70's.

If you never got the chance to build a Heathkit, you missed out on a great era in Ham Radio. Many of us in the club grew up with Heathkit learning some great skills in the process. Although they were located in Michigan, they had a retail store in Cleveland for a few years and many of us would visit them on a Saturday and come home with enough kit's to keep us busy for an entire summer.

I have lost count over the years trying to remember just how many kits I build, everything from radio kits to test equipment plus a few others. Every now and then a rare original "never assembled" Heathkit shows up at Dayton Hamvention with a hefty price tag to go with it. One of these days, I'm going to bring one home with me. One year I picked up a book on Heathkit. It's called Heathkit, A Guide to the Amateur Radio Products, and covers their extensive line of ham radio product complete with pictures and short description of the kit. Published by CQ Communications, it's a great way to relive the past now and then.

Take a minute to read the AARC article on the May edition of Zero Beat, it's a great short story. Hit me up sometime and I'll show you the few Heathkits I have left. Maybe this would make a great "show and tell" club program sometime, I'm sure I'm not the only one who still has a few Heathkits laying around !

Stark ARES Assists With Airport Drill



Scattered passengers lay injured just north of the taxiway. Medics rushed to their care as flames rose from a severed wing of a downed Boeing 747.

It's a scenario that has been seen on the news numerous times across the country in recent years but fortunately this time, it was just a drill.

Last Wednesday, April 29th, responders from the Stark County

ARES along with nearly 450 emergency personnel from throughout Stark and Summit counties, including 120 volunteer victims, participated in a drill simulating an airplane col-

lision over the skies at the Akron-Canton Airport. The drill was part of a federal requirement that airports conduct such disaster drills every three years.

Warning sirens at approximately 10:30 AM marked the beginning of the drill involving more than 50 safety service agencies throughout the region.

As part of ham radio's quick response capabilities, Stark County ARES was given only one day's notice to assemble volunteers to assist with drill coordinators in logistics support and victim transport for the drill. Working at the request of the Stark County Emergency Management Agency, ARES quickly assembled a response team led by Emergency Coordinator David Beltz, WD8AYE assisting with several aspects of the drill that included shadowing the official observers rating the drill and tracking the over 120 victims that were transported by area ambulance crews to over seven hospitals in Summit County.

Amateurs were also given permission to observe the activities at the scene of the drill to better understand the coordination needed to respond to this type of incident. This valuable training will help prepare our own response capabilities for future events and provide better support to the area's public safety agencies.

EC David Beltz stood by at the quickly assembled Command Post at the Green Fire Station which in an actual emergency would become the Southern Summit County EOC. Ham radio was used to coordinate victim movement to the hospitals and back to staging, while providing continuous reports to the EMA Officials and Incident Commanders monitoring the drill from the Green EOC. Additionally our operators were ready to provide additional support communications for the event should it be needed.

Thanks to an extensive UHF Repeater System in Summit Co that utilizes multiple inputs, we had nearly solid communications throughout the event using mostly hand held radio's. The system is operated by SUMCO, the Summit Co ARES who quickly provided use of the repeater when primary operations on two meters could not provide coverage in the area.

Additional operators staffed check points and the bus transportation used to shuttle victims to the airport disaster site and back from the hospitals taking part of this exercise.

Stark County EMA Director Tim Warstler along with Deputy Director Richard Webber deeply appreciated our quick response for support with very little advance warning. "Stark County ARES has always come through for us," said Richard, "and your performance during this drill continues to show your commitment to our office and the community."

A special thanks to the following operators who changed difficult work schedules to assist with the Airport Drill. Communications Coordinators Dave Beltz and Terry Russ, N8ATZ appreciate your service during this drill. Additional operators were Don Finley - W8DEF, Mike Palmer - KD8ENV,

(continued on page 5)



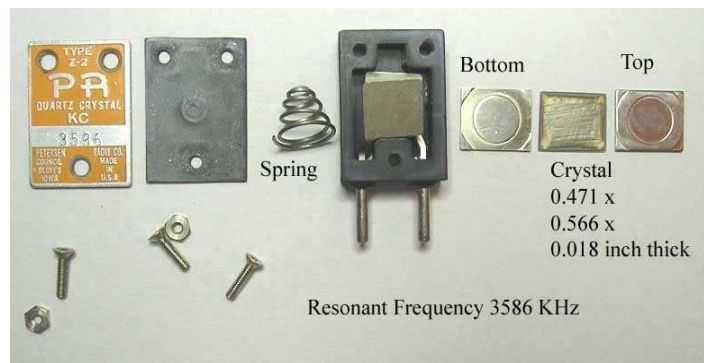
Is New Again

The local Hamfest auction may contain a box of treasures called crystals.

In the early days of ham radio, the place-on-the-dial was determined by a crystal “ground” to a specific frequency. Before the 1970’s, the Novice Class License did not allow a transmit variable frequency oscillator. A crystal, sometimes referred to as a “rock”, was the only choice. A trip to the amateur radio supplier, also known as “the candy store”, or mail order supply was necessary to purchase a crystal with a frequency of your choice within the Novice Band.



Inside of a typical FT243 crystal reveals hardware and a quartz crystal. The crystal shown is manufactured to resonate at 3586 KC (the old term for 3586 KHz). The crystal dimensions are given in inches.



Quartz crystal thickness determines the resonate frequency. The crystal is sandwiched between two metal holders which are inserted between the 2 metal plates within the holder. The spring puts the correct amount of pressure between the cover and the crystal. An interesting note is that the crystal shown has some pencil lead marks, a technique used to lower the frequency a few KHz. Special grinding would raise the frequency.

The crystal works by using a small output of signal from an amplifier fed back to the crystal. This mechanically warps the crystal. The crystal then returns back to normal, producing an electrical signal which is then amplified and fed back to the crystal which continues the oscillation.

The New

Older crystals are shown along with a variety of sockets. Notice the “New Oscillator”. This familiar package contains a much smaller quartz crystal along with electronics to produce the desired signal. This package and the HC6 or HC18 crystals are found in a variety of circuit cards such as computers, meters, frequency counters, and more.



73 DE MIKE WA8MKH

Jim Farriss - WA8GXM, Matt Kraner - K8MAT, Ted Faix - KB8PRK and Rick Smith - KC8SUI. In all, eight volunteer operators assisted providing a total of 66 hours of volunteer community service.

.. Volunteers Needed For Tour de Cure ..

The Summit County ARES is currently seeking volunteers to provide communications support for the annual Tour de Cure Ride which will be held on Saturday, June 14th. Approximately 50 volunteers are needed for the event. Assembly will be at 6:30 AM and most positions will need to be covered until about 2:00 PM. This is a great way to keep your skills sharp for the July Hall of Fame activities. Complete details are provided on the Summit Co AREA website at www.sumco-ares.org

That's it for this month, see you at the meeting
!
De Terry – N8ATZ

ARRL NEWS SPECIAL “CALL TO ACTION”

**From Great Lakes Division Director Jim Weaver
 K8JE dated 05/21/2009**

From: “ARRL GL Division” <memberlist@www.arrl.org>

Subject: SPECIAL: CALL TO ACTION

Date: Thursday, May 21, 2009 4:11 AM

[Reply to k8je@arrl.org]

H.R. 2160

US House of Representatives bill HR 2160 is the first step toward the Board of Directors' goal of neutralizing anti-ham radio Codes, Covenants and Restrictions (CC&Rs) in private land usage contracts. The CC&Rs in question prevent amateurs from installing Amateur Radio antennas. The FCC has chosen not to extend its PRB-1 rule to cover CC&Rs.

If passed, HR 2160 would instruct the Department of Homeland Security to perform a study that would identify impediments to effective Amateur Radio communication during disasters, using the ARRL as a resource. The study would be due to be completed within 180 days and its results reported to Congress for review and possible action.

What is needed at this time is to encourage as many US Representatives as possible to co-sponsor and to support HR 2160. This is where you come in.

We gathered a good number of letters at the ARRL Convention area of the Hamvention(r) this past weekend, but we need many more of these letters. The more letters, the greater the likelihood we will be successful.

Please use the following draft letter as a guide for your own letter. Personalize it with the name and address of your US Representative and your name, call sign and address, make any additional personalizing comments you feel appropriate and sign it.

Mail your letter — not directly to the Representative — to John Chwat, Chwat & Co., 625 Slaters Ln., Suite 103, Alexandria, VA 22314 (or FAX to 703-684-7594). Mr. Chwat heads the company that serves as the ARRL liaison with Congress. He will gather the letters he receives and deliver these personally to each Representative's office to add emphasis to the message contained in them.

Who is your Representative? If you are registered to use the Members Only page at www.arrl.org, go to it. When Members Only opens, the name and address of your US Representative will be there, on the left side of the page. If you have not signed up to use Members Only, you can do this easily. You will need to have your membership number (from the QST mailing label). You can also find your Representative by going to <https://writerep.house.gov/writerep/welcome.shtml>. Enter your state and ZIP code to find your Representative. In many cases, you will need to know your ZIP+4.

At this time, please write only to your US Representative. Do not write to your US Senator or to your State Legislators. Please remember to mail or FAX your letter to John Chwat at Chwat & Co. Please also send an e-mail copy of your letter to Division Legislative Action Coordinator John Meyers, NB4K at nb4k@arrl.org.

Thanks very much for your help. If you have questions or comments, please contact John or me.

Jim

The draft letter follows:

The Honorable [Representative's Name]
 United States House of Representatives
 _____ House Office Building
 Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman [Name]:

As a voter in your district and as one of the nearly 700,000 licensees across the nation, I ask for your support of H.R. 2160, the “Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Enhancement Act of 2009.”

H.R. 2160 instructs the Secretary of Homeland Security to undertake a study, and report its findings to Congress within 180 days, on the uses and capabilities of Amateur Radio communications in emergencies and disaster relief. This study should:

- Include recommendations for enhancements in the voluntary deployment of Amateur Radio licensees in disaster and emergency communications and disaster relief efforts;
- Include recommendations for improved integration of Amateur Radio operators in planning and in furtherance of the Department of Homeland Security initiatives;
- Identify unreasonable or unnecessary impediments to enhanced Amateur Radio communications, such as the effects of private land use regulations on residential antenna installations, and make recommendations regarding such impediments;
- Include an evaluation of section 207 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-104, 110 Stat. 56 (1996)); and recommend whether section 207 should be modified to prevent unreasonable private land use restrictions that impair the ability of amateurs to conduct, or prepare to conduct, emergency communications.

Amateur Radio operators across the US repeatedly demonstrate our commitment to public service and emergency communications. Through our work with Homeland Security activities, state and local Emergency Management offices, and with numerous private agencies, Amateur Radio operators make a difference. We need your support to help address the challenges facing us as we seek to improve our capabilities to serve.

Please consider becoming a cosponsor for H.R. 2160 and please support the bill as it works its way through committee and the House of Representatives.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]
[Federal Communications Commission Licensee XXXXX]
(Your Address)

ARRL Great Lakes Division
Director: James Weaver, K8JE
k8je@arrl.org

FCC Looks to Raise Vanity Call Sign Fees for Second Consecutive Year

ZCZC AG22
QST de W1AW
ARRL Bulletin 22 ARLB022
From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT May 19, 2009
To all radio amateurs

The FCC released a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Order (NPRM) on May 14 seeking to raise fees for Amateur Radio vanity call signs. Currently, a vanity call sign costs \$12.30 and is good for 10 years; the new fee, if the FCC plan goes through, will go up to \$13.40 for 10 years, an increase of \$1.10.

The FCC is authorized by the Communications Act of 1934 (as amended) to collect vanity call sign fees to recover the costs associated with that program. The vanity call sign regulatory fee is payable not only when applying for a new vanity call sign, but also upon renewing a vanity call sign for a new term. Instructions on how to comment on this NPRM are available on the FCC Web site.

The vanity call sign fee has fluctuated over the 12 years of the current program — from a low of \$11.70 in 2007 to a high of \$70 (as first proposed in the FCC's 1994 Report and Order). In 2007, the Commission lowered the fee from \$20.80 to \$11.70. The FCC said it anticipates some 15,000 Amateur Radio vanity call sign "payment units" or applications during the next fiscal year, collecting \$201,000 in fees from the program.

The vanity call sign regulatory fee is payable not only when applying for a new vanity call sign, but also upon renewing a vanity call sign for a new term. The first vanity call sign licenses issued under the current Amateur Radio vanity call sign program that began in 1996 came up for renewal three years ago.

Those holding vanity call signs issued prior to 1996 are exempt from having to pay the vanity call sign regulatory fee at renewal, however. That's because Congress did not authorize the FCC to collect regulatory fees until 1993. Such "heritage" vanity call sign holders do not appear as vanity licensees in the FCC Amateur Radio database.

Amateur Radio licensees may file for renewal only within 90 days of their license expiration date. All radio amateurs must have an FCC Registration Number (FRN) before filing any application with the Commission. Applicants can obtain an FRN by going to the ULS and clicking on the "New Users Register" link. You must supply your Social Security Number to obtain an FRN.

The ARRL VEC will process license renewals for vanity call sign holders for a modest fee. The service is available to ARRL members and nonmembers, although League members pay less. Routine, non-vanity renewals continue to be free for ARRL members. Trustees of club stations with vanity call signs may renew either via the ULS or through a Club Station Call Sign Administrator, such as ARRL VEC.

League members should visit the "ARRL Member Instructions for License Renewals or Changes" page, while the "Instructions for License Renewals or Changes" page covers general renewal procedures for nonmembers. There is additional information on the ARRL VEC's "FCC License Renewals and ARRL License Expiration Notices" page.

License application and renewal information and links to the required forms are available on the ARRL Amateur Application Filing FAQ Web page. The FCC's forms page also offers the required forms.

The links to the above-mentioned websites can be found at <http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2009/05/18/10825/?nc=1>

NNNN
/EX

A Tale of Two Tubes By Dan Romnanchik, KB6NU

A couple of weeks ago, I worked N4QR on 40m CW. I could tell by the tone of his signal that he was operating a homebrew transmitter. There wasn't any 60 Hz on his signal, and it didn't chirp exactly, but I could tell it wasn't the pure tone you get out of today's radios.

I asked him about his rig, and he told me that it was a one-tube transmitter made with a 6L6. I forgot to ask him where he got the schematic, but a quick Internet search turned up the following:

* The May 2005 issue of the K9YA Telegraph (<http://www.k9ya.org>) has an article written by N4QR titled, "The Wonderful One-Tuber," that contains the schematic for the transmitter. The K9YA folks don't make issues of The Telegraph available on their website, but I was able to get a copy of the issue by e-mailing them.

* A 6L6 Classic (<http://www.io.com/~nielw/6l6/6L6.htm>)

* WB2MIC 6L6 Transmitter Project (http://www.metaphoria.us/hamradio/6L6_transmitter_schematic.htm)

The 6L6 is a pentode that, according to Wikipedia (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/6L6>), was introduced by the Radio Corporation of America (RCA) in July 1936. Apparently, it was used quite a bit in public address systems.

After the tube became successful, tube manufacturers introduced a number of variations, including the venerable 807. The original 6L6 was capable of delivering 19 W; the latest variation, the 6L6GC is rated for 30 W. The 6L6GC is still

used in guitar amps, and is still manufactured in Russia, China, and by Groove Tubes (www.groovetubes.com) in the U.S. They sell a number of different 6L6 variants; the cheapest is \$16, the most expensive \$180!!

Tube #2 One of the reasons I was interested in the 6L6 is because about a year ago I came across a schematic for a transmitter using 6A6 dual triode. I had just come into possession of a couple hundred tubes, and while I didn't have a 6A6 (at least I haven't found one yet), I do have a couple of 6J6 dual triodes. They're not quite as high power as the 6A6, but I'm still thinking about building a little transmitter with one. As you might expect, there's a bunch of information on the Internet about this tube:

* The Jones Push-Pull Transmitter (http://wv7g.home.mindspring.com/jones_6j6.html) was built with a 6J6 instead of a 6A6.

* Another schematic can be found on the AK0B website (<http://www.qsl.net/ak0b/>).

* 6J6 data sheet (<http://www.gargnas.net:3000/tubedata/6J6.pdf>) from the GE data book. One interesting fact about the 6J6 is that IBM used it in the 604 computer. Unfortunately, they found it to be not as reliable as they wanted it to be, but at first none of the tube manufacturers were interested in making a more robust version. This led IBM to set up a tube-making laboratory where they could experiment with designs. They developed a more reliable version of the 6J6 and finally convinced RCA to manufacture the tube. According to the author of the history of the 604 (<http://ed-thelen.org/comp-hist/IBM-604.html#new>), part of the concern is that IBM would decide to get into the tube business. So, the next time you hear a signal that doesn't sound so perfect, remember that there just might be a story behind it. Ask the op about his transmitter, and listen to what he or she has to say.

—————When not pondering the mysteries of vacuum tube part numbers, KB6NU teaches ham classes, works CW on the HF bands, and blogs about ham radio at <http://www.kb6nu.com>.



MASSILLON MEMORIAL DAY PARADE Pictured above are Perry, W8AU & Jim, WA8GXM taking part in the Parade in full military dress. Thanks to Don W8DEF for the photo.

THE PREZ SEZ

Hey folks, it is the end of May and Summer is here. Feels like it anyway, nice.

"Field Day" is fast approaching, June 27 - 28, setup at 9:00 AM or so on Saturday at Petro's Park on Perry Road SW just North of Faircrest.

The "Safety Break" is the weekend before, June 19 - 21, North Bound Side. There are still many shifts open and the Club does need the money. It would be a shame to close the trailer down for a shift and lose any possible monies. After all, it is "Father's Day" weekend. Should be a lot busier weekend for traffic. Please check out the signup sheet at the meeting for a possible shift and thank you in advance.

KC8ZWG is scheduled for carpal tunnel surgery in June and that will mean "double duty" for yours truly. So much for cycle riding or camping this Summer, hi hi.

Hope to see U all at the meeting on June 5th, 8:00 PM Massillon Senior Center.

73's de KA8FTS >(ô¿ô)<

MARC MEMBERS UPCOMING PUBLIC SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday June 14th Tour de Cure Bike Race See Bruce KC8RKS

Friday, Saturday & Sunday June 19, 20, & 21st MARC Safety Break !! Please contact Rodger, KA8FTS to volunteer 330/484-5293 ASAP ! MANY SPOTS STILL OPEN !!!

June 27 & 28th FIELD DAY !!! PETROS PARK Set up begins at 9:00 AM.

Saturday August 8th Hall Of Fame Grand Parade We Still Need Ham Radio Operators for Saturday Aug 8th to work the HOF Grand Parade I need you to sign up here in the next week, so we can get you signed up for the Appreciation Dinner by June 12th. The Appreciation Dinner is on July 22nd. Please contact Wade, WD8MIU (330/484-4496) or Terry, N8ATZ (330/837-3091).

Everyone Can Use An Elmer

When we hear the term Elmer used in Amateur radio circles most of us will conjure up a scene reminiscent of a Norman Rockwell painting where a grandfatherly character patiently offers guidance to a youngster at a workbench.

Chances are that if your club has a membership who came from the era when we dipped the plate and monitored grid current then chances are that there are many opportunities for Elmering when it comes to the digital aspects of modern Amateur Radio.

No longer are radio controls right out in front. Extensive menus and multi-function controls are used to access the multitude of features and enhancements of modern transceivers.

Other standard features in the ham shack today include computer software for logging, awards tracking, rig control and, of course, Logbook of The World. All are areas in which many of us could use a tutorial to enhance the enjoyment of an already great hobby.

Perhaps at your next club meeting the emphasis can be on mentoring the not-so-new ham as well as the newer folks. Demonstrate popular software programs used in ham shacks today by using a laptop computer and a projector. If you are fortunate enough to have an internet connection at your meeting hall then you can have a live demonstration of ARRL's Logbook of The World. The next best thing to a live LoTW demo is to use the PowerPoint slideshow "LoTW Overview" which is available free along with many other programs from the ARRL

Multimedia Library < www.arrl.org/multimedia >

THANKS TO:

The ARRL CLUB NEWS is published on the first Wednesday of each month by the American Radio Relay League—The National Association For Amateur Radio—225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111; tel 860-594-0200; fax 860-594-0259; www.arrl.org. Joel Harrison, W5ZN, President.

June 2009

W8NP Monthly Planner

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