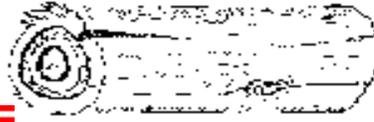




FOUNDED 1947

WEST PARK RADIOPS



LOG



Web: <http://www.westparkradiops.org>
Email: w8vm-<at>-arrrl.net

Aug. - Sept. 2009
VOL. XLIV - No. 5

Our 10m Net 28450 kHz Mondays 10 p.m. local

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K8ME, N8CX

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ARTICLES THIS TIME
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ANTENNAS
W8PN, W8IDM

CLUB AWARDS
W8IDM

CONTESTS, SATELLITES
W8IDM

DX
N8WS

8TH AREA BUREAU LETTER MGRS.
N8WS (T) & (W), AF8C (V)

EDITOR, WEBMASTER
AF8C

LABELS & ROSTERS
N8CX

WEST PARK EVENTS *

*Subject to Change

Aug. 7 - FIRST FRIDAY BUSINESS/ FIXIT NIGHT

Bring your questions or answers to the radio problems of the day/week/month.

Aug. 21 - PROGRAM NIGHT

You have heard of a beam antenna. You know about the Field Day 40m vertical beam that Hal and Don designed. We don't have a four square. But what about converting the 2 element 40m beam to a 3 element 40 m beam? Hear all about it.

Sep. 4 - FIRST FRIDAY BUSINESS/ FIXIT NIGHT

Bring your questions or answers to the radio problems of the day/week/month.

Sep. 18 - PROGRAM NIGHT

We lost power for 4 days in September 2008. We lost power for one day in June 2009, a whole 24 hours. It's about time to worry about serious weather emergencies and losing electrical power. Tonight's program is about emergency power for the home

Sep. 27 - CLEVELAND HAMFEST 8 a.m. TO 2 p.m.

The last fling of the year before the fall weather really sets in.

<u>IN THIS ISSUE</u>			
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<u>CONTESTS AND EVENTS</u>	
- de SM3CER & ARRL	
Aug 1-2	NA QSO PARTY CW
Aug 1-9	LIGHTHOUSE-LIGHTSHIP
Aug 15-16	NA QSO PARTY SSB
Aug 17	RUN FOR THE BACON QRP
Aug 22-23	OHIO QSO PARTY
Aug 28	NCCC SPRINT - CW
Sep 6-12	FISTS STRAIGHT KEY WEEK
Sep 12	OHIO STATE PARKS/AIR
Sep 12-14	SEPT VHF QSO PARTY
Sep 21	RUN FOR THE BACON QRP
Sep 26-27	CQ RTTY DX TEST
Sep 27	CLEVELAND HAMFEST

<u>SOAPBOX</u>
We again remind folks that the 160m contest antennas had better be installed real soon now, as the fall weather is going to settle in before you know it.
It's also a good time to clean out your unwanted stuff in your shack. Certain items, like old TVs, can be recycled. Don't wait until the snow flies to make your shack more comfortable.
<small>This document was created using Open Office 3.0, and a PDF creator. Usage of Microsoft products was limited to as little as possible.</small>

Prez Sezs...

Fellow West Park members,

The MemorialWell Field Day was another success this year; we managed to have an unofficial score of 5920 points despite the band conditions. I unfortunately was out of town during Field Day and would of much rather of been with the crew at Kevin's and Ken's house. Another event was the club picnic; I heard that there was a good turn out and that the people enjoyed themselves. The club picnic is a good opportunity to eat good food, relax, enjoy the outdoors, and just be with friends. Work and family commitments this year has been taking up more of my time than usual and I hope that things will go back to normal here soon so that I can participate more in the club activities.

There are a couple of contests coming up in August and September for those that like VHF and UHF contests:

- Aug. 1-2 ARRL UHF Contest
- Sept. 12-13 ARRL VHF QSO party

One final thought is that we are in need of programs for our meetings for the rest of the year. I know it is not easy coming up with new ideas, but we need to come up with something. Maybe instead of a meeting we can just have an open discussion night where any radio topic can be discussed or maybe bring in a radio project that you need assistance with. Any ideas or suggestions can be discussed on our August business meeting.

Enjoy the rest of the summer.

73 de, Egon Fordos, President

WEST PARK PUBLIC SERVICE...

We will see if we are going to be invited to any of the fall scouting events like we were two, three, and four years ago.

RECENT DISCUSSIONS ON THE 10M NET...

On the Club's net, 28450 kHz +/-, we have discussed the Cav's lost, Jury Duty, gasoline prices, 6 meter antennas, Field Day, airplane crashes, lifetime of car batteries, Ashland's Balloon Festival, the new headlights & windshield wipers law, Christmas in July at WalMart and Sears, D104 microphones, honey bees and the Colony Collapse Disorder, how to perform self-healing in the wild, super glue, LED flashlights, the NOARS hamfest, the Dayton Hamvention and Dwaines' bus, the up-coming Ohio QSO Party on August 22, and more. Join the fun on our Monday night net, 10 p.m. Local to see what comes next.

2M NET PLANNING...

West Park is still in the planning stage for this net. We need to fit such a net into the time slots available in the evenings after or before other club nets. We might also want or need a theme for the nets. So send suggestions to the club officers.

NEW FCC MOVES ON BPL...

In *American Radio Relay League, Incorporated, v. Federal Communications Commission*, the ARRL, on behalf of licensed amateur radio operators, challenged the Commission's 2004 Access BPL decisions in the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia. Access BPL systems deliver high speed Internet and other broadband services over the utilities' medium voltage delivery power lines to homes and businesses; electric utility companies also use Access BPL devices to monitor and manage various elements of their electric power distribution operations.

"In its petition for judicial review, ARRL challenged the Commission's rules on four grounds, contending that (1) the Commission ignored long-standing precedent by authorizing the operation of unlicensed devices that could interfere with licensed devices and by no longer requiring that operators cease using the unlicensed devices if they actually cause interference; (2) the Commission violated the Administrative Procedure Act (APA) by failing to disclose in unredacted form certain technical studies prepared by the Commission's engineers that were relied upon in adopting the rules; (3) the empirical evidence does not support the Commission's decision to retain the existing 40 dB per decade extrapolation factor to measure Access BPL radiated emissions at frequencies below 30 MHz, which contain several bands used by amateur licensees; and (4) the Commission did not adequately consider an alternative proposal for reducing harmful interference that would have limited Access BPL systems to the frequency band between 30 MHz and 50 MHz, rather than between 1.7 MHz and 80 MHz." [July 17, 2009 FCC Request for Further Comment and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (FNPRM)]

In *ARRL v. FCC*, the court remanded the BPL Order to the Commission for further consideration and explanation of certain aspects of its decision. Specifically, the court directed the Commission to provide a reasonable opportunity for public comment on unredacted staff technical studies on which it relied to promulgate the rules, to make the studies part of the rulemaking record, and to provide a reasoned explanation of the choice of an extrapolation factor for use in measurement of emissions from Access BPL systems.

Comments may be filed electronically using the Internet by accessing the electronic comment filing system at this link here: <http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs/> -or here- http://fjallfoss.fcc.gov/cgi-bin/web...proc_id=03-104 . Enter proceeding # 03-104 and/or # 04-37. [TNX Charles - KC8VWM and www.qrz.com .]

Digital TV BOOST...

(from www.dtv.gov)

Many consumers already know about the need to run the “scan” function on their digital converter boxes or digital TV sets periodically following the June 12 digital TV transition. Scanning searches for and “remembers” the available digital broadcast channels.

But in some cases where stations moved their digital frequencies on June 12, simple scanning may not be enough. There is a procedure – sometimes called “double rescanning” – that can clear your box’s memory of saved channels. These earlier scans may have saved channel information that is now incorrect.

There are five simple steps to a double rescan for a converter box or digital TV, which are as follows:

1. Disconnect the antenna from the box or digital TV.
2. Rescan the box or digital TV without the antenna connected. As with any scan follow the on-screen instructions or owner’s manual for your device.
3. Unplug the box or digital TV from the electrical outlet for at least one minute.
4. Reconnect the antenna to the box or digital TV and plug the unit into the electrical outlet.
5. Rescan the box or digital TV one more time.

How about this one? Do you want to know where all the local stations are, and if your “digital” TV antenna can reach far enough to pick these stations up?

On the site <http://www.fcc.gov/mb/engineering/maps/> put in your zipcode, location, or city. When the screen shows all the regional TV stations on the left panels, you can click on a station call sign and get some relative power data. Then click on the "Gain/Loss Map" to see where they think the TV station will reach to. You can also check a topographic map of your area, courtesy of a link to Google's maps.

BUYING A NEW TV ANTENNA?

The world of home television has fragmented since digital TV transitioned into our lives. After all the discussions about actual TV sets, there is even a line or two about the antennas. Many folks who ran with rabbit ears before are now finding out they either need a fancier outdoor antenna or they have to sign up for satellite TV or radio.

Some good internet sites for selecting antennas are:

<http://www.winegard.com/>

<http://www.starkelectronic.com/cminex.htm#MORE>

http://www.antennasdirect.com/MR_tv_antennas.html

AMATEUR TELEGRAPHERS HAD CLUBS TOO...

It's hard to believe, but we amateur radio operators didn't invent clubs for hobby enthusiasts in telegraphic communications to get together for eyeball QSOs. In fact, before the advent of amateur radio, there were amateur telegraphers who organized into clubs, bought equipment and met to discuss their new hobby. I think of it something like ghost clubs: they were there way before our father's were born, and now there seems to be no trace of their activities ever happening. Some amateur experimenters linked together with each other by stringing private telegraph lines throughout their neighborhood or town. They even were ready and willing to provide help in emergencies. For example, in *Electrical Review*, August 6, 1892, page 308:

“It would be interesting to see some statistics of the little amateur telegraph organizations now in operation all over the country, says the *New York Evening Post*. No one knows how many of these there are, but it is said that nearly every State has several. Out in the village of Cranford, N. J. are a couple [of clubs] proposing to consolidate, after the manner of all telegraphs. If they do, they will have no fewer than 30 stations and a total of 3½ miles of circuit. The lines are governed by an executive committee, which gets the supplies and transacts routine business, and there is a complete code of fire, burglar and emergency signals. Evidently the young people, with a little training, could make such a service of great convenience in our stragglng villages and suburbs; and by and by, when the telephone is common property, it is not too much to expect that these amateur bodies will increase rapidly in number and usefulness. The same idea carried out in farming regions would go far to overcome the monotony and isolation of farm life, and to offset the drawbacks of bad roads. The expense of an outfit is trivial.”



BATTERY TECH...

(from college textbooks and the Web)

Electrical batteries as we know them are based on chemical reactions, so-called electrolysis reactions. Batteries (named by Benjamin Franklin) consist of two half cells in series through an electrolyte or combination of electrolytes. Each half cell can develop a chemical equilibrium reaction between the electrode and the electrolyte. Because of the of electron “shell” structures of the chemical elements involved, all chemical reactions that can be used as electrical half-cell structures are limited to between approximately +3 volts and -3 volts.

With the two half-cells in series, the resulting voltage difference can be measured at the two different electrodes. Full cell potentials can range between 0 to 6 volts. Batteries containing water in the electrolyte are limited to approximately 2.5 volts because the corrosive chemicals involved in the electrolyte react with the water above that voltage.

Batteries come in two types: rechargeable (secondary) and non-rechargeable (primary) cells. Common dry-cell batteries are primary cells, including the common “alkaline” batteries. Therefore it is effectively impossible to charge alkaline cells, in spite of the stores that sell alkaline cell rechargers.

As battery technology has improved we have been able to adopt lithium-ion technology and obtain computer laptop batteries that can run a laptop for up to 8 hours (Apple). And we have tiny watch batteries that can operate an inexpensive digital watch for years.

The lithium iron phosphate (LiFePO₄) battery (also designated “LFP”) is a type of rechargeable battery, specifically a lithium ion battery, which uses LiFePO₄ as a cathode material.

LiFePO₄ was discovered at the University of Texas in 1996 as a cathode material for rechargeable lithium batteries. Because of its low cost, non-toxicity, the availability of iron, excellent thermal stability, safety characteristics, good electrochemical stability, and high specific capacity it gained some market acceptance.

Most lithium-ion batteries (Li-ion) used in consumer electronics products are lithium cobalt oxide batteries (LiCoO₂). Other varieties of lithium-ion batteries include lithium-manganese oxide (LiMn₂O₄) and lithium-nickel oxide (LiNiO₂). The batteries are named after the material used for their cathodes; the anodes are generally made of carbon and a wide variety of electrolytes are used.

LFP batteries were featured on the November 5, 2008 episode of *Prototype This!*. They were used as the power source for a hexapod (walking) vehicle. Lithium Technology Corp. announced in May 2007, that they had large enough for use in hybrid cars. While they may be large enough for such uses, there remain limitations to these cells. “Thundersky”

LiFePO₄ batteries have become the most popular lithium-ion batteries used in hobbyist electric vehicle (EV) conversions since they are relatively inexpensive and easily obtainable from retail sources. This battery is used in the electric cars made by Aptera and QUICC. It is this battery technology is used on the One Laptop per Child (OLPC) project.

Electric bicycle conversion kits distributed by E-BikeKit.com include lithium iron phosphate battery technology. “Killacycle”, the worlds fastest electric motorcycle, uses lithium iron phosphate batteries. “Segway Personal Transporters” advanced from a 10 mile range to a 24 mile range with advanced Lithium Phosphate technology.

1928 YAGI ANTENNA DESIGNS & INTERNET WIRELESS...

The commonly used amateur radio “beam” antenna is based on the Yagi-Uda array invented in Japan by Shintaro Uda in 1926. However, Hidetugu Yagi translated Uda's work into English and published much of it in English-language publications and thus “Yagi” has become the standard name for the design.

The Yagi-Uda array ironically became popular during World War II for use in certain radar applications and the Japanese military engineers learned of the antenna design during fighting with the U.S. Navy. By that time the Germans had also begun widespread use of the antenna design on fighter aircraft.

Except for amateur radio development of the design, other development stagnated until only during the last few years when the antennas have become popular for reception of digital TV and for certain uses in wireless Internet technology.

Recently, with the aid of Yagi antennas, activity has sprung up in using the Yagi directionality in searching for wireless Internet routers in neighborhoods and shopping malls.

Thus the Pringles Cantenna, a yagi beam antenna built into a Pringles Potato Chip(TM) can, is widely described on the Internet. *Time* magazine even published an article on this design. “Wardriving” is a technique where Yagi antennas are used with sensitive receivers in mobile vehicles (with variants in bicycling and walking) while driving around “sniffing” for wireless radiation in 802.11g frequency domains.



QRP QUARTERLY...

Summer 2009 issue is in the mail by G4GXL

The latest issue of QRP Quarterly magazine has been published by the QRP Amateur Radio Club International (QRP ARCI). 64 pages of construction articles, reviews, operating techniques, contests and awards. Full details and a sample issue for download at www.qrparci.org or

< <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=snkwsU98QIQ&feature=related> >

IN HISTORY...

(picking years that end in "9", since it's 2009, from web searches)

Oct 29th, 529 BC - The international day of Cyrus the Great, king of Persia, who declared the first charter of human rights in the world also known as Cyrus Cylinder.

August 29, 29 - John the Baptist was beheaded.

Aug 24th, 79 - Mt Vesuvius erupts, buries Pompeii & Herculaneum, 15,000 die

Jul 26th, 1309 - Henry VII is recognized King of the Romans by Pope Clement V.

Jun 15th, 1389 - Battle of Kosovo; Turks defeat Serbs, Bosnians

Aug 8th, 1709 - 1st known ascent in hot-air balloon, Bartolomeu de Gusmao (indoors)

Jul 31st, 1809 - 1st practical US railroad track (wooden, for horse-drawn cars), Philadelphia

Aug 22nd, 1849 - The first air raid in history. Austria launches pilotless balloons against the Italian city of Venice.

Aug 11th, 1909 - Liner "Arapahoe" is 1st ship to use SOS distress call

Aug 29th, 1909 - World's 1st air race held in Rheims France. Glenn Curtiss (USA) wins

Oct 8th, 1909 - Chicago Cubs beat NY Giants 4-2 in a playoff to win NL pennant

Aug 6th, 1939 - 1st broadcast of "Dinah Shore Show" on NBC-radio

Happy 85th birthday to my father, Stan

[found on Google News no less!]

Posted by Rick Haase -- Correspondent
July 23, 2009 19:57PM Parma Sun Post (abridged)

Someone very special in my life celebrated a milestone birthday this week. My father, Stan Haase, turned 85 yesterday. As I reflected on the significance of the event, I came to realize that his life has been a series of milestones that belong to another generation -- 50-plus-year marriages, a lifetime spent in the same occupation, stability, devotion to one life partner.

All remnants of a simpler time. Take a look back with me now . . .

Recycling may be in vogue, but it's not new. In July of 1924 when my father was born, money was tight. Everything in the very German Haase household was recycled. Stan Haase was the eldest of two sons of Adolph Carl and Anna Caroline Haase. He was born in a small house at the top of a steep hill at 133 Cedar St. in Kitchener, Ontario, (a suburb of Toronto). Stan, who just turned 85, and his late wife, Katherine Haase, were married for 53 years.

Among his many hobbies is being a licensed amateur radio or "ham radio" operator. Through the years, he has spoken to people in 321 different countries in this world, and has amassed quite a collection of certificates and honors important in the amateur radio world, as well as postcards from those with whom he has made contact.

At 85, my dad is also a computer enthusiast, having built and programmed several of his own home computers. In 2009, he is far and away more tech-savvy than I, and with most people his own age. He listens daily to the 250 songs I had downloaded onto the iPod Shuffle I gave him for his last birthday.

As I get older, I realize that my father has accomplished many things in his life, not the least of which is adapting to a changing world. He had a successful and happy marriage for over a half-century that produced three children. He had a long and successful professional career.

The love of his life, Katherine Schell, became his wife on July 7, 1950, and they spent the next 53 years together. On their honeymoon, they immigrated to Detroit, where my father knew opportunities for a much better paying job were plentiful. Several years -- and lots of hard work later -- they became naturalized American citizens.

My dad could fix absolutely anything. Cars, plumbing, electrical. Anything electronic. Any household task was right up his alley. He's very mechanically oriented.

The last few years have been hard on my dad. Despite all the difficulties -- and let's face it, who wants to be in a nursing home -- he maintains a wonderful sense of humor.

[What a great tribute to Stan Haase, K8VI. – de AF8C]

WEST PARK RADIOPS

LOG

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A NON-PROFIT SCIENTIFIC AND EDUCATIONAL CORPORATION, FAIRVIEW PARK, OHIO.
MEETINGS: WEST PARK RADIOPS ARC meets the FIRST and THIRD Friday evenings each month at
Ascension Lutheran Church, 28081 Lorain Road, North Olmsted, OH (across from North Olmsted Park) at 8 PM sharp.
Dues \$12/yr. We welcome anyone interested in amateur radio to our meetings.
We operate a 10m net on 28450 kHz Monday at 10:00 p.m. local time.

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W8VM

