



FOUNDED 1947

WEST PARK RADIOPS



LOG



Web: <http://www.westparkradiops.org>

Email: w8vm-<at>-arrl.net

Feb. - Mar. 2011
VOL. XLVI - No. 2

Our Nets 28.450/147.36 Mondays 9 p.m. local

2011 CLUB OFFICERS

<u>President</u>	
Al Moriarty	N8CX
(216)-221-3682	
<u>Vice President</u>	
Don Pearson	W8IDM
(440) 235-4787	
<u>Secretary</u>	
Glenn Williams	AF8C
(440) 835-4897	
<u>Treasurer</u>	
Kevin Brandstetter	K8VUS
(440) 734-5532	
<u>Trustee</u>	
Egon Fordos	AB8HY
(216)-712-4378	

COMMITTEES

FIELD EVENTS
W8IDM, W8PN

PUBLIC SERVICE

WAS & VUCC CHECKERS
K8ME, N8CX

ARRL VE'S
AF8C, N8CX, K8TTL

ARTICLES THIS TIME
N8CX

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
N8CX

WEST PARK EVENTS *

* Subject to Change

Feb. 4 - FIRST FRIDAY BUSINESS/ FIXIT NIGHT

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

Feb. 18 - ANTENNAS AND TRANSMISSION LINE THEORY – Part 1

The club members were interested in having this program. It's a two part DVD video series on antenna and transmission line matching theory. The DVD is hosted by Al, N8CX. Part 1 only is for tonight.

Mar. 4 - FIRST FRIDAY BUSINESS/ FIXIT NIGHT

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

Mar. 18 - ANTENNAS AND TRANSMISSION LINE THEORY – Part 2

Tonight will be part 2 of the DVD presentation on live working antenna theory hosted by Al, N8CX.

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Classic Morse Key

CONTESTS AND EVENTS

- de WA7BNM & ARRL

Feb 5-6 10-10 INT. WINTER SSB
 Feb 12-13 CQ WW RTTY WPX
 Feb 19-20 ARRL INT. DX CW
 Feb 25-27 CQ 160M SSB

Mar 5-6 ARRL INT. DX SSB
 Mar 13 NA SPRINT RTTY
 Mar 19-21 BARTG HF RTTY
 Mar 26-27 CQ WW WPX SSB

SOAPBOX

This is when we start to look forward to ARRL Field Day and so we need some thinking about whether we do anything novel this year to have more fun with that activity.

We have been opening our Monday night nets to check-ins from out-of-state using Skype. Listen or check in. Join the fun.

This document was created using Open Office 3.2.1, and a PDF creator. Usage of Microsoft products was limited to as little as possible.

Prez Sezs...

Hi All,

Well, here it is 2011 and another year of Ham Radio operating and fun activities. I just want to say that I am happy to be your president again. We seem to rotate every few years. This year I hope will be filled with many activities that everyone will be able to participate in.

We will, of course, have more outdoor "fun days" and I hope to introduce new ideas. In the meantime, please make your ideas for the club itself and activities known.

We all benefit from member input. as always,
Best 73s to u es urs,
Al, N8CX

WEST PARK PUBLIC SERVICE...

The next LCAC delivery will occur in the spring. In 2010 we helped LCAC with food deliveries in November and December. Previously in June we supported the North Olmsted Scout troops in North Olmsted Park in early June.

In 2011 we already have another invitation to support the North Olmsted Scouts during their All Scouts Weekend on the first Saturday in June. Come on summer!

RECENT NETS & TALK...

For the Club's nets, 28450 kHz +/- and 147.36+, lots of discussions have been summarized in our almost weekly net reports. In the latest news, we have the ability to support club old-timers and club vacationers with net check-ins through Skype over the Internet.

LOTW NOW SUPPORTS VUCC...

Just go to the "Awards" tab in LOTW and click "Create New VUCC Award Account". There are options for adding QSO rule sets for different VUCCs for different grid squares, etc.

ARRL Legislative Agenda for the 112th Congress...

At its annual meeting in January 2011, the ARRL Board of Directors unanimously adopted the following legislative objectives for the 112th Congress:

Objective #1: The ARRL seeks legislation to extend the requirement for "reasonable accommodation" of Amateur Radio station antennas and antenna support structures (requirement that now applies to state and local regulations) to all forms of land use regulation.

Objective #2: The ARRL opposes legislation that would lead to the reallocation of amateur spectrum or to sharing arrangements that reduce the utility of existing allocations.

Objective #3: The ARRL opposes legislation that diminishes the rights of federal licensees in favor of unlicensed emitters or encourages the deployment of spectrum- polluting technologies.

Objective #4: The ARRL seeks recognition of the unique resources, capabilities and expertise of the Amateur Radio Service in any legislation addressing communications issues related to emergencies, disasters, or homeland security.

Objective #5: The ARRL supports the complementary legislative objectives of other radiocommunication services, particularly the public safety and scientific services that require spectrum access and protection from interference for noncommercial purposes that benefit the public.

Objective #6: The ARRL opposes "distracted driving" legislation that does not clearly exempt two-way mobile radio transmitters or receivers used by licensees of the Federal Communications Commission in the Amateur Radio Service.

Objective #7: The ARRL supports The FCC Commissioners' Technical Resources Enhancement Act to ensure that Commissioners have adequate access to technical expertise when making decisions."

Over the next months, ARRL members will be kept informed about our plan of action for moving this agenda forward. You will at times be asked to send letters to key members of Congress and the Senate to help them gauge the wishes of their constituents (that is YOU) on various pieces of legislation. When we ask you to act, we encourage you to do so promptly, as time is of the essence as we try to coordinate our response with the various timetables when pieces of legislation are being considered.

To keep the legislative interests of Amateurs moving, remember the most important piece of this puzzle is YOU! With maximum member participation, we can make this happen! Get Involved!

NORTHERN OHIO DIGITAL GROUP LAUNCHES D-STAR NET ...

(found on QRZ.COM)

Lorain County Ohio – In an effort to further amateur radio and the exciting mode of D-STAR the Northern Ohio Digital Interconnect Group along with amateurs in Greater Cleveland, Akron, Columbus, Cincinnati and Michigan have joined forces to form the Ohio Wide Area D-STAR Net. on the newly formed Reflector 38 Alpha (REF038A), along with several planned sites, to form a reliable network of communication to be used for training in the operation of D-STAR. It will also allow for a platform to test communication links in the event of an emergency or natural disaster within the state or surrounding areas.

D-STAR technology offers the unique ability for amateurs all over the state to educate each other and build friendships while testing equipment. This infrastructure could be used to provide a valuable service to the community. Whether it is communication for a multi-county marathon, friends chatting from Akron to Cincinnati, or relaying tornado damage from a stricken town across the state, D-STAR has something for everyone.

Connection via repeater, dongle or DVAP can be made directly to reflector REF038A. All amateurs regardless of location or affiliation are encouraged to join in.

- de Jeff , KB8ZUN

DAYTON BUS MAY 2011...

Dwaine, K8ME, is arranging on behalf of CARS a Saturday bus to the Dayton Hamvention, for \$40.00 per person. Contact Dwaine at 440-582-3462.



60TH ANNIVERSARY OF MOONBOUNCE...

(from NASA history pages)

Forty years before "E.T. Phone home", the U.S. Army Signal Corps ran an experiment to see if a radio signal could be bounced off the Moon. The experiment, named Project Diana, occurred Jan. 10, 1946 and was the first time the United States intentionally sent anything into space.

That experiment was performed with Signal Corps equipment at the Corps' Evans Signal Laboratory, near Belmar, New Jersey, under the direction of John H. DeWitt, Jr., Laboratory Director. Intrigued by Karl Jansky's discovery of "cosmic noise," DeWitt built a radio telescope and searched for radio signals from the Milky Way.

In 1940, DeWitt attempted to bounce radio signals off the Moon in order to study the Earth's atmosphere. He wrote in his notebook: "It occurred to me that it might be possible to reflect ultrashort waves from the moon. If this could be done it would open up wide possibilities for the study of the upper atmosphere. On the night of 20 May 1940, using the receiver and 80-watt transmitter configured for radio station WSM, DeWitt tried to reflect 138-MHz (2-meter) radio waves off the Moon, but he failed because of insufficient receiver sensitivity.

After joining the staff of Bell Telephone Laboratories in Whippany, New Jersey, in 1942, where he worked exclusively on the design of a radar antenna for the Navy, DeWitt was commissioned in the Signal Corps and was assigned to serve as Executive Officer, later as Director, of Evans Signal Laboratory at Ft. Monmouth, NJ.

On 10 August 1945, the day after the United States unleashed a second atomic bomb on Japan, military hostilities between the two countries ceased. DeWitt was not demobilized immediately, and he began to plan his pet project, the reflection of radio waves off the Moon. He dubbed the scheme Project Diana after the Roman mythological goddess of the Moon, partly because "the Greek [sic] mythology books said that she had never been cracked."

Two antennas from SCR-271 stationary radars were positioned side by side to form a 32-dipole array aerial and were mounted on a 30m tower. The Signal Corps tried several times, but without success. "The equipment was very haywire," recalled DeWitt. Finally, at moonrise, 11:48 A.M., on 10 January 1946, his team aimed the antenna at the horizon and began transmitting. The first signals were detected at 11:58 A.M., and the experiment was concluded at 12:09 P.M., when the Moon moved out of the radar's range. The radio waves had taken about 2.5 seconds to travel from New Jersey to the Moon and back, a distance of over 800,000 km. The experiment was repeated daily over the next three days and on eight more days later that month. The War Department withheld announcement of the success until the 24 January 1946.

LEAKY WEAKS...

January 25, 2011, Butler SD -- Budler Leicht reporting.

Scientists from Butler's local college have developed new technology for solving the radio amateurs problem of what to do with those huge antenna arrays that raise the hackles of the neighbors because of all that ugly steel sticking up in the air, held up with shiny guy wires and holding funny aluminum "fishbones". Why would anyone in their right minds put their clothes hanger rods so high up?

What the new technology, called cloaking device, does is to hide anything metallic so it is invisible. Readers can check this by clicking on

< http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cloaking_device >

to see how it works. But now the whole entire antenna array can be made to disappear!

I talked to local radio amateur Rod Reel, W0000, what it's like now to be able to load up on his huge Yagi array on 40 meters and know that his neighbors don't have a clue where all the TVI is coming from. As all those low frequency photons come flying out to disappear into the airwaves, he can now work the DX from the countries all over the world, such as Desroches and Sarawak which are currently at the top of the Most Wanted List (no, not the one at the police department!).

After I left his radio shack, I noticed one thing, however. Apparently "cloaking" only works on metallic items, but not on insulators. So even with the guy wires making sure his tower can't even wiggle, the coax lines and rotor cables are still there, all the way up to 132 feet above the ground. And so maybe the city fathers of Butler will now have to deal with neighbors complaining about the ugly black cables mysteriously poking up into the air with no visible means of support.

Colophonia Radio Allowance Program...

Hams in Colophonia can now rest easy that their radio equipment won't become obsolete. The Colophonian parliament has voted to provide the equivalent of \$1000 U.S. for the purpose of annually bailing out the poorest ham stations which will now be funded for new rigs and antennas every year.

I spoke with the president of the Colophon Radio Users Dialcord team, Roberta Tarp, and her sense of excitement could be felt all the way across the phone booth. She even had to put down her bottle of Grape Nehi to talk about how the folks there will soon be

switching to new 807's and making contacts on the spread spectrum bands. She said that the team will setting up a special event station for operating a full 24 hours on all bands on February 29, 2011. Stay tuned.

BBC WORLD SERVICE CUTS BACK...

(found on QRZ.COM)

While the BBC and the government traded blows over who was to blame for the cuts outlined at the BBC World Service last week, the global impact of the biggest single change in the broadcaster's 79-year history was only just beginning to sink in.

The axing of five foreign language services and wholesale retreat from shortwave radio – including the end of broadcasts to India, Russia and China – will lead to the loss of more than 30 million listeners, a sixth of the World Service's global audience of 180 million, the BBC estimates. The five language services being shut down – Portuguese for Africa, Caribbean English, Macedonian, Serbian and Albanian – have a combined audience of 3.4 million.

The changes mean the World Service is likely to be overtaken by the Voice of America, established in 1942 and funded by the US government, as the world's leading global news broadcaster. The World Service's former managing director, Sir John Tusa, said its rival had "always been regarded as a vastly inferior international broadcaster".

The scaling back follows a 16% cut in the World Service's funding by the Foreign Office, with the BBC looking to make £46m of savings a year by 2014. Some 650 jobs will go out of a World Service staff of 2,400.

The axing of Portuguese for Africa will be a major setback to people living under repressive regimes, experts say. "This is a big blow to democracy, the right to information and freedom of the press," said Elias Isaac, country director of the Open Society Institute Angola. Portuguese for Africa was launched in 1939. It broadcasts 11 hours a week to an estimated 1.5 million people in the former Portuguese colonies of Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique and São Tomé and Príncipe. Radio is very influential in parts of Africa where television and internet access are scarce.

The loss of the transmissions will also be felt in Mozambique. The BBC transmissions provide the only independent outside media.

OVERLAND TELEGRAPH...

(from Internet Sources)

2011 - 150th Anniversary of US Transcontinental Telegraph Lines

The Pacific Telegraph Act of 1860 called for the facilitation of communication between the east and west coasts of the United States of America. Hiram Sibley of the Western Union Telegraph Company won the contract. In 1861, Benjamin Franklin Ficklin joined Hiram Sibley in helping to form the Pacific Telegraph Company of Nebraska. At the same time, Jephtha Wade was asked by Hiram Sibley to encourage the consolidation of telegraph companies in California, a process that had been underway there anyway, most notably involving the merger of the two largest intrastate companies following a lawsuit between them, the Alta Telegraph Company and the California State Telegraph Company. The Overland Telegraph Company of California was thus formed with Horace W. Carpentier of the California State Telegraph Company serving as its president, and it began building east from Carson City, Nevada while its eastern counterpart, the Pacific Telegraph Company began building west from Omaha, Nebraska. Upon their connection in Salt Lake City, Utah on October 24, 1861, the final link between the east and west coast of the United States of America was made. The First Transcontinental Telegraph led to the immediate demise of the Pony Express. The Pacific Telegraph Company of Nebraska and the Overland Telegraph Company of California were eventually absorbed into the Western Union Telegraph Company.

(from QRZ.COM by W9GB)

On June 16, 1860, about ten weeks after the Pony Express began operations, the United States Congress authorized a bill instructing the Secretary of the Treasury to subsidize the building of a transcontinental telegraph line to connect the Missouri River and the Pacific Coast.

The passage of this US Congressional bill resulted in the incorporation of the Overland Telegraph Company of California and the Pacific Telegraph Company of Nebraska. On July 4, 1861, Edward Creighton began building the Nebraska company's line westward from Julesburg, Colorado, toward Salt Lake City. Twelve hundred miles to the west on the same day at Fort

Churchill in Nevada, James Gamble set the first pole in the Overland Telegraph Company's line.

While the lines were under construction the Pony Express operated as usual. Letters and newspapers were carried the entire length of the line from St. Joseph, MO to Sacramento, CA -- but telegrams were carried only between the rapidly advancing wire ends.

On October 20, 1861, Edward Creighton won the race to Salt Lake City. Four days later James Gamble's crew arrived. On October 26 the wires were joined, and San Francisco was in direct contact with New York City -- completing the US transcontinental telegraph line. On that same day, the Pony Express was officially terminated, but it was not until November that the last letters completed their journey over the route.

GLOBALTUNERS EXCEEDS 33,000 USERS...

If you haven't tried Globaltuners, give it a shot. Dozens of tuners are available from all over the world and you can check prop, your own audio, etc. I listen while at work, while traveling or just when I feel like connecting w/my PC. It's a great way to promote ham radio and many new hams exist today because of it. Signed-up users will exceed 33,000 today and is quite a milestone as the site is totally free. Sign-up takes less than a minute.

< www.globaltuners.com >

Regards, Tom / W1TXT

MORSE CODE KEY...

The Dinger – made in Cleveland 105 years ago

< www.w1tp.com/enigma >



WEST PARK RADIOPS

LOG

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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 Monday night nets on 28450 kHz and 147.36 MHz Mondays at 9:00 p.m. local time.

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