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The Central Ohio Radio Club April 2004 Newsletter

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The Central Ohio Radio Club, Inc.

The Central Ohio Radio Club Newsletter

April 2004

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KA8IWB

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Phil Carter
WD8QWR

Secretary

Tony Fabro
N8RRB

Treasurer

Steve Robeano
WD8J KX

Newsletter

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Joe Hahn
W8NBA

Membership

Chairman

Joe Hahn
W8NBA

Repeaters

146.16 / .76
W8RXX

146.37 / .97
W8RRJ

147.93 / .33
W8NBA

444.200

449.200

W8RXX

Associate

145.49 / 4.89

442.8/447.8

W8CMH

CORC Annual Meeting Announced!

The Annual Meeting of the Central Ohio Radio Club, Inc. will be held on Sunday, May 2, 2004. As usual it will be held at the Genoa Township Hall on Old 3-C Highway, just north of Westerville. The Pot Luck Dinner will start at 6 pm. A flier is enclosed with this newsletter. The club will provide the soft drinks and coffee, paper plates and plastic ware. Please bring a covered dish and serving utensils.

Craig Miller, W8CR, will give an informational presentation on Hybrid Solar/Wind power generation for the Ham Shack and Home.

Election of directors, whose terms are expiring, will take place as well as an overview of the last year's operations. Those directors are: K8VKA, Edwin Schleppe, N8RRB, Tony Fabro, and KA8IWB, Laura Perone.

Anyone wishing to nominate a member for a board position should contact John Perone, W8RXX, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, in writing, at least ten days prior to the meeting. Letters of Intent can be mailed to: John Perone, W8RXX, 3744 Africa Rd., Galena, OH 43021. or can be e-mailed to John, at: w8rxx@juno.com. Any member can nominate or be nominated for a board position. Be sure to have the nominee present a letter of consent with your nomination.

For your information, and according to the by-laws, printed below is Article V, Section 10 "Election of the Board" from the CORC Constitution.

The election of Directors to replace those whose term has expired shall take place at the Annual Meeting of the Members, or at a special meeting called and held for that purpose. At least twenty (20) days prior to the date of which such an election is held, the Board of Directors shall appoint a Nominating Committee consisting of three (3) persons who may but need not be directors. Such committee shall prepare a list of candidates to fill the Board of Directors and nominate such candidates at the meeting. Other nominations may be made from the general membership; however, any candidate's name so placed in nomination must be submitted in writing and accompanied by written consent of the nominee to the Nominating Committee and least ten (10) days prior to the meeting. A director's failure to attend two (2) consecutive meetings may result in declaration, by simple majority of the directors, the position vacant...

Membership Update

By Joe Hahn, W8NBA
Membership Chairman/ Newsletter Editor

CORC now has a total of 207 full pay members and 6 associate members. In addition, there are 46 family members and 9 life members. Since the last newsletter was printed, the following persons have joined CORC.

Michael Riser	KC8YPH	Daniel James	KC8DIJ
Jeffery Bowman	KC8YPL	Billie Ford	KC8IUG
Tony Baker	KC8PZU	Frank Howard	KF6PEG
Kenneth Robinson	KC8VWP	Martha Gifreda	KN8ITR
Lynn Durham	W8LAD	Robert Gunderman	W8INO
Bert Doddroe	N8QCM	Kathleen Doddroe	N8QCJ
Rich Jordan	AA8DN	Don Jefferies	KC8WMF
Marilyn Poe	KC8TJV		

Please welcome them when you hear them on the air!

CORC members and other individuals continue to donate time, talent and extra money to assist the club with its operating expenses. The following individuals have donated since the last newsletter was printed in January.

W8RRJ	John Hull	K8NIO	Trigg Tabor
KA8IWB	Laura Perone	WD8QWR	Phil Carter
W8MAP	Jim Gifreda	K8VKA	Ed Schleppe
WD8JKX	Steve Robeano	W8NBA	Joe Hahn
N8RRB	Tony Fabro	W8RXX	John Perone
K8VKA	Edwin Schleppe	AA8EY	Bill Carpenter
KC8OBZ	Dick Reichenbach	W8INO	Robert Gunderman
W8WTB	Fred Hull	KB8QPB	Richard Ferko
K8XYZ	Jeff Bauer	KC8PZU	Tony Baker
N8POV	Bill Blinn	KC8DIJ	Daniel James



Don't forget the CORC Annual Meeting and Pot Luck on Sunday May 2, 2004 at The Genoa Township Hall. See the fridge flier attached to this newsletter. Craig Miller, W8CR will be speaking on Hybrid Power Systems, Solar/Wind Power Generation for your home or Ham Shack.

Another date to remember is the Groundhog Hibernation Bash on Sunday November 7th. This is at a new location!!! It is at the Harlem Township Firehouse Community Room. A flier and map will be in the next newsletter. Time will be 6 EGT (Eastern Groundhog Time).

Central Ohio Severe Weather Network Extra moisture could spell severe storms...

By John Montgomery – N8PVC

According to Wilmington, Ohio National Weather Service Meteorologist-In-Charge, Ken Haydu, “Moisture in the area now will play a big part in the type of severe weather that comes our way later in the season.”

Ken recently met with amateur radio Skywarn section representatives for more than 2 hours discussing the weather outlook for the season and warning statistics for 2003. Each spring the NWS hosts a meeting with spotter representatives to discuss the upcoming severe weather season. “If we don’t lose some of the moisture we have laying around between now and May we have a good possibility of severe storms that will linger. On the other hand if we end up with dryer conditions severe storms will be more of the pulsing type which develop in a few minutes and are gone a few minutes later.”

Haydu likes to emphasize three key components of an effective warning system, the Weather Service, Amateur Radio and the media. These groups, working together, help the Weather Service get warnings out with sufficient lead-time so the public can take cover if necessary.

He also asked for some additional help from spotters. “We want to know that the storm is ramping up before it meets severe criteria. Hail covering the ground no matter what size or winds measured at 50 miles per hour are key indicators.”

Based on his request, the Central Ohio Severe Weather Network may be on the air gathering weather conditions well before warnings are issued.

He heaped praise on amateur radio spotters for the job they did last season and knows that he can depend on them this year. Haydu stated, “RADAR technology is great but it can’t tell us what is happening on the ground where people live.”

Shifting topics to the new repeater controller on 146.760 W8RXX..

The Weather Net is getting familiar with the new controller and is working with John Perone, W8RXX, to understand its operation with respect to the retired controller.

You may hear some differences when the controller is switched to weather mode but for the most part it should operate as in the past. A key point to remember is that high profile receivers on the system require a PL of 123 Hz. before they will pass your signal to the transmitter. Be sure you’re encoding or transmitting a PL of 123 Hz. so that the “big ears” can send your signal to the transmitter.

To learn more about differences or changes in weather net operation tune in and check in each Tuesday at 7:30 PM on 146.760 Mhz., W8RXX, The Home of The Weather Net.

It All Happened One Nite...

By Phil Carter, WD8QWR

...Or should I say day? I was sitting in the office reading my email when a familiar phone number popped up on the caller ID. Gee, I wonder what Jim wants?

Low and behold it wasn't Jim, but his wife with a lot of questions about becoming a ham. We talked for a few minutes and she revealed that she wanted to get her license but didn't want her husband to know anything about it. She also said that she had been studying online for her technician test and was doing fairly well.

"When and where can I take the test?" she asked. I replied that there was a test session coming up in October, gave her directions to the testing site, and told her what she had to have with her in order to be tested. "No problem", she said, "but I don't want Jim to know about it until the Ground Hog Day potluck in February". I explained to her the testing system and how and why it works the way it does. I reminded her to be sure to clear her Internet browser history file so that he wouldn't accidentally find the study site. I wished her good luck and hung up.

Now the big problem was how to get her to the test site without her ham-husband finding out. Well, it so happens that my wife is a ham (Mary KB8PZA) and the two ladies have some common interests... Shopping at fabric stores. That will work. In a series of clandestine phone calls when Jim was out, plans were made so that they could go shopping; but that's not where they went. Moral support in order, off to the test session they went.

I was called to work that testing session. She was there with confidence that she could do it. She was scoring in the low 90s on the online practice tests.

All the examiners that were there recognized her name and were immediately sworn to secrecy. Testing went well. She even tried the General!

The following Thursday the license had been posted (and Monday was a holiday). I called my wife with the good news, not even saying hello first, I just said the new call. I didn't need to say any more. Then knowing that Jim was mobile, I telephoned her. OK that's done. Now to somehow intercept the mailman. This part should be easy.

KC8YPB. I liked the call. There are all kinds of good phonetics for it. But could she get a vanity call? Sure. She had another call in mind, but this is done online, with a credit card. Remember, it's only October. Internet searches come to the rescue. The call is available. The application is filed.

Trouble brews. Jim is back and is showing one of the out-of-town relatives how a search on the FCC website works. He types in his last name... "Jim, come quick!" Someone says. Gee, the computer died...(I'm sure it had help).

The vanity call comes in. It's still months away from the Groundhog Day party. Talk about wanting to get on the air...Glad I didn't have to wait that long!

The night of GHD is here. The Mansfield hamfest was that day. I thought about getting her a name badge, but what style? We'll just fake it.

That night as the introductions began, she briefly left the room. She changed nametags and reentered just as they were getting to her turn to announce herself.

"...And I'm Martha Gifreda, KN8ITR". You should have seen Jim's face when he heard that! Remember only 3 other uninvolved people knew anything about it, including Laura, until that night.

For those of you that may have been at Jim and Martha's wedding many years ago, there was a HT in the hand of one of the little figures on top of the cake. It was a replica of the handheld SHE won at one of the amateur radio related functions they attended before they were married. You see, you CAN get your license...it just takes planning.

These are just a few of the testing sites and dates to take amateur exams in the area. A full list can be found at <http://www.wcnet.org/~johnson> . Good Luck!!

04/03/04 Reynoldsburg	Robert Stampfli	KD8WK	614-864-9377
04/18/04 Lancaster	Allen Sellers	KB8JLG	740-654-8167
05/02/04 Marion	Steve Eckard	WS8S	614-499-3565
06/05/04 Cincinnati	Herbert C Blasberg	WA8PBW	513-891-7556
06/10/04 Mansfield	Richard Fletcher	N8CJS	419-886-2463
06/20/04 Lancaster	Allen Sellers	KB8JLG	740-654-8167

Message From The President

By Laura Perone, KA8IWB

The annual meeting will be Sunday, May 2 at Genoa Twp Hall at 6 PM. Please see the attached Fridge Flier for details and a map. We hope you can make the annual business meeting. This year our speaker will be Craig Miller, W8CR. He will speak on electrical power generation using a hybrid wind / solar power system. Craig has been using this in the ham station for quite some time. This should prove to be an interesting light hearted talk, knowing Craig.

For those of you that made the Ground Hog Dinner in February you witnessed a shocked W8MAP. He learned during introductions that Martha, his wife, had secretly passed her Ham test and had a vanity call in hand. Keeping this secret since November took a lot of work on Martha's part. Jim did not believe it until he got home and was able to check it out on the Internet. Congratulations Martha, KN8ITR!

CORC ANNUAL MEETING and Pot Luck

SUNDAY

MAY 2, 2004

6:00 PM

GENOA TOWNSHIP HALL

CORC WILL PROVIDE

Soft Drinks

Coffee/Tea

Plastic Ware

Cups, Plates

\$\$ 50-50 Drawing \$\$

Grabbags and Other Surprises

Guest Speaker: Craig Miller, W8RC on
Solar or Wind Power Generation for
your Ham Shack and Home