

Central Ohio Radio Club, Inc.

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Web Page at <http://www.corc.us>

Over 50 Years of
Service to the
Amateur community!



Editor, The CORC Repeater Newsletter
Joe Hahn (W8NBA)
P.O. Box 166
Sunbury, OH 43074-0166

The Central Ohio Radio Club
January 2022 Newsletter



ARRL Special
Services Club

Central Ohio Radio Club, Inc. (CORC)

Operating Amateur Repeaters Since 1970

Membership application

CORC operates repeaters with outputs of 52.70, 146.76, 146.97, 147.33, 442.800, 444.200
145.49 D-STAR & 444.000 D-STAR

Some of the features include:

Worldwide linking on our IRLP & D-STAR Repeaters.
Repeaters are used by the Central Ohio Weather Net and Central Ohio Traffic Net.
Multiple receiver sites located in Franklin, Licking, Delaware, Pickaway and Logan Counties
To ensure you excellent coverage throughout Central Ohio.

Membership allows full use of the CORC facilities, Operating Manual, subscription to the CORC Newsletter,
and a vote at the annual meeting of the corporation.

Family member amateurs at the same address are NO additional charge, (No Vote at annual meeting)

See Other side for dues schedule Dues Enclosed \$ _____
Optional Donation - CORC is a 501(c)(3) corporation \$ _____
Total \$ _____

Please mark one: New Application Renewal Application

Call Sign _____ Name _____ e-mail _____

Call Sign _____ Name _____ e-mail _____

Call Sign _____ Name _____ e-mail _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone () _____ Alternate () _____

How many of above are ARRL Members _____ (CORC is an ARRL affiliated club)

Check to Request Newsletter by e-mail (this saves the club mailing cost) _____

Please make check payable to CORC and mail application and check to:

Central Ohio Radio Club, PO Box 166, Sunbury, Ohio 43074-0166

For questions call membership chairman John, W8RXX @ 614-579-0522
or visit the CORC website at www.corc.us

Thank You for your Membership and Support!

Rev 1-20

The Central Ohio Radio Club Newsletter

January 2022

President

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KA8IWB

Vice-Pres.

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W8WJH

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N8RRB

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Newsletter

Editor

Joe Hahn
W8NBA

Membership

Chair

John Perone
W8RXX

FM Repeaters

53.70 /

52.94 / 52.70

51.70 /

W8RRJ

146.16 / 146.76

W8AIC

146.37 / 146.97

W8RRJ

147.93 / 147.33

W8NBA

IRLP Node 8094

449.20 / 444.20

W8AIC

447.80 / 442.80

K8NIO

D-Star Repeater

G3 Gateways

144.89 / 145.49

449.00 / 444.00

W8CMH



President KA8IWB back wearing her Covid-19 Mask!

Happy New Year from your President

Unfortunately I must let you know that CORC must postpone its Annual Meeting again this February. Our By-laws require us to let you know of the upcoming Annual Meeting by mail 30 days in advance. With the spread of Covid-19 and its variants, planning for a meeting six to eight weeks out is not easy. I hope we can find a date sometime this spring. We will let you know.

Last November we had our 2021 Annual Meeting. Joe W8NBA, John W8RXX, and Rick WA3UOO were re-elected. Randy K8RAP was our guest speaker. He certainly enjoys building J-pole antennas. He showed how to make your own and explained how they operate on different bands. At the end of his presentation he even gave away a J-pole antenna. If you have any questions about J-poles he certainly will try to answer them.

John KD8IDJ headed up our Veterans Day net. Randy K8RAP, Chuck WA8KKN, and Rick WA3UOO helped with check-ins. It was interesting to hear the stories the check-ins shared. I am looking forward to this event again next November. Perhaps we can keep it going for years to come.

Our TechNet which meets twice a month on Sunday evenings is yet another way to connect to the hobby. I hope you have checked in, if not plan to check it out soon The date and time is always on the front page of the Web Site at www.corc.us . Also, any document associated with the net is on the TechNet page, on the website.

This March, the Weather Net starts up again on a weekly basis on Tuesday evenings at 7:30. Checking in is a wonderful way to hone your skills as to what information is needed in a weather emergency. (Please, NO sunshine reports) As we continue to witness more and more severe storms the weather emergency can happen most anytime.

Nightly on the 146.97 repeater the Traffic Net meets at 7:15. This group sends formal messages to stay in practice for a real emergency.

CORC also sponsors ARRL VE testing a few times a year. Listen for announcements, check our web page, study and upgrade your license. This year test are being held at the Westerville Fire House. I want to thank Frank KI8GW for his work organizing the VE test sessions. The link with all the testing info is at www.hamtestco.org ..

There are many facets to ham radio and these are just a few that you can join in using the repeaters and meeting other hams.

One positive note, it looks like both the Dayton (Xenia) and Columbus ham fests are taking place this year. (We hope nothing changes)

I want to thank you for your continued support of CORC and its repeaters. With cell phones the use of repeaters isn't what it used to be. However, we never know when we will be needed and must continue to stay in practice so we don't forget how to use our radios.

As you see it takes many people to make CORC an active organization. I look forward to meeting you at our next club meeting to enjoy fellowship.

73,

Laura, KA8IWB

Taking Care of Your Batteries during the Winter Months

By Rick Tressler
WA3UOO

Okay, so the summer is now behind us and we're already waiting for spring to show up. For the most part, portable operations like camping, field day and outdoor events requiring amateur radio support are something most of us aren't really thinking about. March seems to be the first indication we may need to be pressed into service once again in the form of severe weather reporting as the atmosphere goes into change mode once again.

So, what are you doing with your batteries over 4 to 5 months or so they're not being used as much? Leaving them on the shelf until spring, perhaps? Or, do you charge them up periodically? What about that maintenance free lead-acid battery (or two) you have hanging out in the basement or garage?

All batteries have a characteristic of partial loss of charge over time during periods of non-use. This is called self-discharge, also known "local action". The exception is when our HT's or lead-acid batteries are being used frequently, being recharged on a fairly frequent basis. In the latter case we don't really have to be concerned with self-discharge. To counteract this, however, batteries should be periodically recharged or "freshen charged". Then they can sit on the shelf until it's time to use them again or, in the case of extended storage, be recharged again.

Nickel Cadmium (NiCad) batteries will lose about 10% of their charge per month at normal room temperature. So, after 4 months they've lost 40% charge. NiCad batteries can be stored in a low state of charge without problems however; they should not be allowed to discharge to zero volts. When you reach for them, there's good chance they're going to let you down through no fault of their own. Nickel Metal Hydride (NiMH) batteries have a self-discharge rate of about 15% per month. This is a tradeoff with the higher energy density of NiMH batteries. As storage temperature increases for both chemistries, their self-discharge rate increases considerably. You're not doing the battery any favors with respect to service life. It stands to reason batteries should be stored in a cool location, absent of condensing moisture. The recommendation here is simply to put your packs on a suitable charger every 4 to 6 weeks throughout the winter. They'll be ready when needed.

What about lead-acid batteries? Whether maintenance free or wet-cell types, they are popular for QRP HF operations and other uses. Such a battery is great when extended capacity is needed for much longer times when there's no utility power to recharge. Lead-acid batteries cannot be stored for extended periods without running into sulfation issues in addition to self-discharge. Lead-acid batteries lose about 5% state of charge per month at normal room temperature. It goes up with temperature. Here, unlike NiCads and NiMH packs which should not be kept on a charger continuously, the lead-acid battery can be maintained in a full state of charge with a small purpose-built charge known by many as a battery tender, which is actually a brand name device. There are many manufacturers of this charge maintainer. It will NOT recharge a dead battery. It's only function is to maintain a fully charged battery in that condition.

Lithium Ion (LiION) batteries are last on the list. This battery has been standard issue on hand held radios for some time now. The Lilon 12 volt replacements are great, but dig deep. A 12V 10AH one will set your back about \$100. This battery requires a special charger so don't think about using any other charger. Good news though! This type of battery can be stored for a considerably long time. Self-discharge is <3% per month. If you currently own or are thinking of buying one, follow the user instructions. Keep this and all batteries out of direct exposure to sunlight and high temperature.

I will be talking about Nickel and Lithium-based batteries Sunday, January 16th on the next CORC TechNet. The on-air meeting is held on the 146.76 repeater at 1930 local. A PDF slide presentation will be available for download at the club website at www.corc.us prior to the meeting. Click on the Tech Net button at the top of the home page.

Central Ohio Traffic Net

By Christopher Daniels KV8Z

Traffic handling is an activity enjoyed by hams worldwide. It involves the passing of messages, called Radiograms, to one another, to other operators, and even to non-hams. These messages can be a simple birthday greeting, a welcoming to the hobby, or even letting family know that you are okay after a tornado. Radiograms are sent by several different methods. One popular method is known as a traffic net. A ham can check into the local traffic net in order to have another ham copy the message down and deliver it to start it on its way to its destination. Similar to the Post Office, the ham taking the message (called a liaison station) will deliver it to the next net up. For example, let's say you were trying to send a message to your friend in Michigan. You would check in to the traffic net with traffic. You would read the message to the assigned station. That station would then take the message to the section net for someone to take to the regional. The regional net would then get the message to someone to take to Michigan, where it would be sent to the recipient's local net. The recipient would be able to take it if they checked in, or someone in the area would be able to take it and deliver it to the recipient.

Here in central Ohio, our local net is called the **Central Ohio Traffic Net**. This net meets every evening at 7:15pm local time. We normally meet on the 146.97 repeater, which is run by our club. Feel free to give a listen, or even to check in. The net is a training net, and we have several experienced operators who can answer any questions you may have regarding the handling of messages, the radiograms themselves, or even how to send a radiogram for practice. The Central Ohio Traffic Net is always looking for hams to help with passing messages. Listen in on a couple of our nightly nets, and then feel free to join when you are ready. The net is directed, so you will want to wait until the Net Control Operator gives the go-ahead to check in. Looking forward to hearing from you on the net!

VETERANS DAY CHECK IN THANK YOU

Thanks to everyone who made our 2021 Veterans Day Check In a great success.

We had over 50 hams check in. Many were Veterans and shared their stories about their service. The non-Veterans shared stories about their family and friends...overall a remarkable group of folks and some very interesting stories.

The QSL cards a bit delayed. Just as soon as they arrive I'll get them out.

Just FYI...I talked to some folks at the ARRL this week and told them about the check in. Their eyes got big, heads were nodding, and lots of smiles! I'll take that as a "tacit approval" and not an indication it was time for lunch!!!

Thanks, again, to everyone who made it happen 73, John E. Ross

From your CORC Membership chairman...

By John Perone / W8RXX

We would like to thank everyone that have either joined or paid their dues since our last newsletter. We realize last year some became unemployed and may not have had extra money to spend on hobbies. Please let me know if you are unable to pay your dues at this time & CORC will extend your membership thru 2022.

New Members... We have them!

The following have joined CORC since the last newsletter was printed. Please thank them for joining the club when you hear them on the air. Members and donations all help keep the club financially sound!

KE8LZB – WILLIAM	AD8GU – GLEN	N8FXU – TODD	W8DIC – TED	N8RFY – CALVIN
KE8SFO – DAVID	W8SGM – MICHAEL	W8WSE – BILL	WB2AOL – JIM	KC8HAV – JUDY
KE8SGB – JEFFREY	K8RAP – RANDY	KB8KTC – LEONARD	KE8MVL – BRETT	KE8PIV – JON
KE8PWR – SCOTT	KE8SAV – SCOTT	KE8STS – HOWARD	KE8SVT – BRADLEY	
KA2HEM – MICHAEL	KD8YUA – JEFFREY	N8ART – ART	KE8BZW - MARK	

A reminder... CORC has NOT had a dues increase since 1970. (Gosh... That's over 50 years, more years than many of our members are old) Even with our cost continually on the rise by minding our spending, having great volunteers, additional donations from you, and keeping members this has been possible. If you hear an amateur on our repeaters that is not on the roster invite them to take a look at the club web site www.corc.us and consider joining. I have just made everyone a volunteer on the membership committee, thank you in advance. This will help keep the dues hopefully low for many years.

Many thanks to those who have donated their time, talent, money, printing, etc. since the last newsletter. They all help keep CORC financially sound.

W8RRJ	W8NBA	N8RRB	WA3UOO	KN8ITR	AD8GU	K8RAP
KB8KTC	KB8CIQ	WD8JKX	W8REH	W8WJH	WA8KKN	KA8IWB
W8RXX	KE8PIU	KE8MVL	W8PRR	KE8PWR	AC8YE	KE8SAU
KE8SVT	AC8TZ	N8ART	KD8KBX	AA8EY	AD8CM	KROGER

Travelin' Tony's Timetables

by: Anthony "Tony" Fabro N8RRB

Years ago the retailer Radio Shack had the slogan, "You have questions, we have answers." It was a catchy phrase intended to get people in the store to talk to their knowledgeable staff about electronics and hopefully entice you to make a purchase while you were there. Most hams of a certain age likely spent nice chunks of change there at some point!

Today thanks to internet search engines and other "smart" devices we talk to, we can get answers to just about anything in a matter of seconds. However sometimes the answers lead to more questions and we put ourselves in what seems like an endless pursuit for answers to our questions.

In these situations there is no substitute for actual human interaction where two or more people actually talk to each other about a topic (what a novel idea!). Fortunately hams like to talk so getting someone to discuss a problem isn't usually an issue. In place of in person interaction, other options are available.

Your Central Ohio Radio Club offers several resources to assist with your ham radio questions. The Tech Net, which meets October through April, periodically has open forum round table discussions where you can ask your fellow hams questions about ham radio, computers, and other electronics devices. Our next open forum is scheduled for Sunday January 30th at 7:30 p.m. on the 146.760 repeater. If you can't make it to a net, the Tech Net Team can field your questions anytime at technet@corc.us.

Our Technical Committee is another great resource for answering technical ham radio questions. The team has experience in both amateur and commercial radio installations including cellular. Chances are if you have a question about it, they can answer it! The Technical Committee can be reached at technical@corc.us.

The Ohio Section of the ARRL also offers technical assistance to hams. The Ohio ARRL Technical Coordinator is Jeff Kopcak, K8JTK who can be reached at k8jtk@arrl.net.

Speaking of the ARRL, the League also offers the Technical Information Service for its members, and as a one-time service for non-members. Check out <http://www.arrl.org/technical-information-service> for more information about this service.

Ham radio is a great hobby with so many areas to explore. Don't let your questions keep you from finding new roads within the hobby. Help is just an e-mail or a few clicks away!

Have a safe day.

Shop Kroger?

If you have a Kroger Plus Card and don't have a 501(c) (3) organization specified to receive a donation from Kroger for purchases would you please consider listing CORC? Every little bit helps the club... This program does NOT take away from your fuel points. If you need information on how to register please let us know. There is information also on our web site.