

The Central Ohio Radio Club Newsletter

October 2003

President

Laura Perone
KA8IWB

Vice-Pres

Phil Carter
WD8QWR

Secretary

Tony Fabro
N8RRB

Treasurer

Steve Robeano
WD8J KX

Newsletter

Editor

Joe Hahn
W8NBA

Membership

Chairman

Joe Hahn
W8NBA

Repeaters

146.16 / .76
W8RXX

146.37 / .97
W8RRJ

147.93 / .33
W8NBA

442.200

449.200

W8RXX

Associate

145.49 / 4.89
442.8/447.8
W8CMH

146.76 To Get New Controller

Hey!, Somethin's Wrong!

Good Morning, Folks. I'm Dr. Phil, vice president of the Central Ohio Radio Club, and holder of the well renowned club call sign, W8AIC. As you may have heard, our beloved Corcy Kontroller, Sr. suffered a mild stroke last month and has been in the hospital ever since.

I have spent many hours with Sir Corcy in the last few weeks, and he ask me to relate to you what is happening.

... ..

[Dr. Phil] "Hello, Sir Corcy. How are you feeling today?"

[Sir Corcy] "Good Morning Dave" in a HAL 9000 voice. "I don't know. And where I am... (WR8XX8R patch Complete...)"

[Dr. Phil] "You're in the hospital and I'm not Dave. You have been here for a few weeks.. Corcy, It sounds like you have had a bad time of it. What do you remember? Can you tell me?"

[Corcy] "I think so, Dave. I remember a big storm. I was doing just fine. There was a weather net going on and I was just (2,3,4,5,S, P) taking notes. Then it hit."

[Dr.] "What hit?, and I'm still not Dave!"

[Corcy] " I don't remember, Dave. I think I shook for a while... (This is the WRRXJ repeater...) and then I went blank. I was still breathing but there must have been a problem. The lights went on, mom (KA8IWB) came over to help me, but I couldn't talk. She tapped me on the shoulder (pushed reset) and asked if I was alright. I couldn't answer!"

[Dr.] "Wow!"

[Corcy] "Yeah! I was scared!". "Ouch! That (37 degrees at clock not set) smarts!" The next thing I remember, I woke up here.

Continued

[Dr.] "Well, Corcy, I think you had a stroke. At first it appeared to be mild, but with further tests, it looked much more serious".

[Corcy] "Will I be alright, Dave? Who will take care of my repeater?... (patch complete please identify Columbus police...)"

[Dr.] "It's OK, Corcy. Your youngest son (a CAT 300) is helping out. He is young and not too experienced in running such a large operation as you are, but we want to have you get well so you can go back to work."

[Corcy] "But he's so young, Dave. He doesn't know how to run a patch net or anything yet."

[Dr.] "Don't worry about it. We will try to teach him."

[Corcy] "But what if it is just too much for him...what will happen then?"

[Dr.] "I guess we will just have to find another to help fill your shoes."

[Corcy] "I understand, Dave ". "I'll get back on my feet soon and help out as much as I can".

[Dr] "No, Corcy, I think that I should tell you that I am recommending to the Board that you take a medical leave of absence and rest for a while. If you are feeling better in a while I will consider letting you return to work."

[Corcy] "Dave, do I have enough time in service to retire"?

[Dr.] "Well, let's see...Yes, you have been working since 1987, that's 16 years. 15 years is all that is required to take full retirement. Is that what you want, Corcy?"

[Corcy] "Yes, I think that it is time for 146 point 76 and me to pass the touch tone pad on to my successor."

[Dr.] "OK, Corcy, if that is what you want.

[Corcy] "Dave, can I talk it over with mom?"

[Dr.] "Of course, and for the last time I AM NOT DAVE!!!"

... ..

Well, that's the last time Sir Corcy and I talked. Sir Corcy became somewhat unstable soon after and the Board family decided that they should honor the last wishes of Sir Corcy. He officially retired September 15, 2003; three years to the day that he participated in the 'great debate of 2000', and 16 years since he took over control of the 146.76 repeater.

A retirement party is planned, in conjunction with the Ground Hog Day hibernation party. Come and celebrate with Sir Corcy! If you would like to contribute to Sir Corcy's retirement gift, I am sure that everyone on the repeater would appreciate it. Make your contribution payable to

CORC, and mark it "Corcy retirement" in the memo section so we know what you want us to do with it. I'm sure that Sir Corcy and the repeater users that have worked with him in the last 16 years appreciate your good wishes.

Dr. Phil

e TRAVELI N' TONY'S TI METABLES

by: Tony Fabro N8RRB
afabro@sprynet.com

Greetings from your new club Secretary. I have taken over for Phil WD8QWR who held the position for many years. Phil and I essentially swapped positions as he now has my old job of Vice President. So with me being in a new position I feel I should reintroduce myself to the club membership.

I have had my license since January 1992 and originally started as a no code Technician. My cousin Joe N5USR, and friends Andy KB8ER and Joe W8IEN/SK all had a hand in me getting my license. A few years later I passed the five words per minute Morse code test. In November 2001 I took advantage of the new class structure and upgraded to General class. To all those Technicians out there, get out and upgrade your license! Five words per minute is easy, and the General exam is not that difficult!

I am very much an "appliance operator", meaning I take the radio out of the box and turn it on without knowing exactly how or why it works. I simply just use it. I've never been a tinkerer or one to make home-brew electronic equipment, though I have made a variety of messes while attempting to create something.

My involvement with the club goes back a few years. I've been Control Operator Coordinator since 1994, and a Director of CORC since 1998 (when we were called Trustees). I was Vice President from May 2001 to May 2003 and as mentioned earlier am now the club's Secretary. I am also a member of CCRA, COARES, and am active on the Central Ohio Traffic Net (COTN).

Aside from my ham radio interest, those of you who read the newsletter on a regular basis know that I'm a big rail fan. I have written it before and will write it again, if I have a choice between a day of wall to wall trains or a day at the big hamfest in Dayton with perfect weather, trains win out every time. There are lots of us out there who have this sickness, er, hobby of watching trains. Mine fortunately has not spread to where I have to spend lots of money on model trains. Taking photos and reading about operations suits me just fine.

CORC's past is rich in history and accomplishments. It is truly amazing to hear of the things the club has done in the past. There's enough history to write a book (or at least a newsletter article - hint, hint). The techno-wizards were making things that others only dreamt of. Many of those same individuals are still involved in the club in one-way or another (come meet them at the potlucks!).

I feel honored to be a Director of the club with such a rich history. As Secretary and Director it is my job that I continue to move the club forward to ensure that it will be around for many more years. I welcome all feedback, good and bad, with respect to the club. Feel free to e-mail me at the address listed above.

Have a safe day!

Membership Update

By Joe Hahn, W8NBA
Membership Chairman/ Newsletter Editor

CORC now has a total of 215 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:

N8PAI	Martin Litzinger	KN8AW	Thomas Klusty
KC8FPU	John Mand	KC8LWR	Sylvia Mand
KC8WIE	Keith Singleton	K8MTR	Mark Regan
WA8JCU	Wayne Gleim	KB8TPK	Donald Cox
KC8MQO	Dan Clay	K8MTR	Mark Regan
KC8WIF	James Singleton	N8XE	Jason Hissong
KC8YAG	Steven Mette	N8ZCT	William Braun Jr.
KC8YEG	Trent Stepp	KC8YED	Stephen Dick
KC8TWA	Steven Kapetansky	N4GXP	Bob Lewis
KC8WSY	Scott Warmbier	KC8WFB	Adam Bryan

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 April.

W8RRJ	John Hull	K8NIO	Trig Tabor
KA8IWB	Laura Perone	WD8QWR	Phil Carter
W8MAP	Jim Gifreda	K8VKA	Ed Schleppe
WD8JKX	Steve Robeano	W8NBA	Joe Hahn
WD8CZG	Gordon Lashley	KC8LUV	Terry Cooper
N8RRB	Tony Fabro	W8RED	Tom Power
N8TRM	John Drake	K8MTR	Mark Regan
KC8TJX	Jim Clark	KC8SXE	John Snowden
K8XYZ	Jeff Bauer	KC8QL	Carl Gibbs
KC8EVR	Lester Brodie	W8RXX	John Perone
K8VKA	Edwin Schleppe	N8TRM	John Drake
W8RED	Thomas Power	K8MTR	Mark Regan
KC8YAG	Stephen Mette	KC8WSY	Scott Warmbier
N8WLT	James Neymeyer	W8PRG	Phillip Greeland
KA8TRI	Michael Strautz	N8VJF	Mark Fergus

We would like to thank these members for the additional support. As Phil mentioned earlier, CORC will be purchasing a new controller (CAT 1000) in the next few months to replace the RC-850 that was damaged by lightning last summer. If you would like to contribute to the Controller Fund, please mail contributions to: CORC Controller Fund, PO Box 398, Pataskala, OH 43062-0398. If your dues are getting close to being due, send those along also too. It will save you mailing them later next year. And again thanks!!!

Central Ohio Severe Weather Network

Fall 2003

By John Montgomery, N8PVC

The official 2003 severe weather season is now closed. This year has been feast or famine with weather patterns hanging around for several days at a time or staying away for several weeks. That makes it a challenge to maintain interest and recruit new weather spotters.

A greater challenge for all of us is getting additional people interested in amateur radio as a hobby and a community service activity. New people bring new ideas and fresh perspective. These same people are needed as radio communicators during emergencies, as weather spotters during severe weather and as ambassadors of the hobby. They are a priceless resource every amateur radio organization covets.

Have you listened to a repeater lately? They are very quiet. People are finding other ways to spend their time and other ways to communicate. How many drivers do you see cradling a cell phone between their head and shoulder? Holding a microphone in your hand seems more natural and less distracting.

Cell phones do have their place. Let me challenge you to make an effort to use amateur radio a few times each week. Auto patches are available on several area repeaters and the audio quality in many cases is better than what digital cell phones can provide. Check in to one of the regular nets even if you think you have nothing to contribute.

Now back to the topic I should be writing about, there is a second shorter severe weather season that occurs in October and November. As I write this column, central Ohio is under a tornado watch until 6 AM tomorrow morning reinforcing the fact that severe weather can strike at any time.

Be sure to listen to 146.760 during the off-season. The National Weather Service may activate our net to gather information if flooding or a winter storm threatens. Now is the time to make preparations for winter storms.

The Weather Net wants to thank each of you for your support and assistance this past season.

Last Minute This-n-Thats

Besides the controller on 76 taking a lighting hit, the towers at W8RRJ's Westerville QTH came down in a July storm. A guy wire broke on the large tower taking the small one with it. Luckily, the small tower came down in one piece and wasn't bent. (That says a lot about an aluminum tower.) With the assistance of N8RRB, W8WTB, W8NBA, W8RXX, KA8IWB, W8VET, and others we were able to get the tower back up and new feedlines installed within a week of its fall. This meant 146.97 was only off the air for a week... John's large tower is another story and will need replaced. It has been a bad year for damage.... Pictures of the resurrection can be viewed at CORCs album at: <http://www.fototime.com/inv/CF8FD3A7AD0F6EE>.

In other news, Edwin Schleppe, K8VKA has been asked by the State Fire Marshall's office to help provide volunteers to assist in the operation of a mobile disaster unit. If interested please contact K8VKA at 614-207-6526.

Try to remember the Groundhog Hibernation Bash next month on the 2nd. This is on a Sunday evening starting at 6PM. A Fridge Flyer is attached to this newsletter.

Lastly, CORC is looking into IRLP, which stands for Internet Radio Linking Project. The aim of this project is to reliably and inexpensively link amateur radio systems without the use of RF links, leased lines, or satellites. The IRLP uses Voice-Over-IP (VoIP) custom software and hardware. Coupled with the power of the Internet, IRLP will link your radio site to the world in a simple and cost effective way. IRLP operates a network of dedicated servers and nodes offering very stable worldwide voice communications between hundreds of towns and cities. All this with unsurpassed uptimes and the full dynamic range of telephone quality audio. You can check this out at <http://www.irlp.net/> More on this as it becomes available.



9th Annual Groundhog Hibernation Bash

November 2, 2002 (Sunday)
6 PM EGT (Eastern Groundhog Time)
Genoa Township Hall (See Map)
Bring Covered Dish (With Spoon)

CORC WILL PROVIDE

Soft Drinks

Coffee/Tea

Plastic Ware

Cups, Plates

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

Grabbags and Other Surprises

Put this notice on your
refrigerator as a reminder!