



"Welcome to NOARS Country."

NOARS LOG

K 8 K R G

Club repeaters / sponserships

VHF: 145.150- MHz, 146.700- MHz
UHF: 444.800+ MHz

145.150 home of "BART" the DX Alert
Amateur Radio Home of the **USS COD**
Barf-80 Bulletin Board: (440) 237-8208 300-28800 Baud
NOARS WWW Homepage: <http://www.apk.net/noars>

NETS

NOARS Net: John WD8IQJ/KC8AOX
146.700 Wednesday at 9:00PM
NOARS Tech Net: Sandy W8KYS
146.700 Thursday at 7:00PM

---NOARS Nets also on 444.800---

October 1998

VOLUME 34

ISSUE 10

1998 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

President: Clark Beckman N8PZD
Vice President: John Schaaf KC8AOX
Treasurer: Tom Porter W8KYZ
Secretary: Mike Willemin W8EU

STANDING COMMITTEES:

ARRL/VE: Ola Slone WD8MOU
ARRL/VE: Dave Willemin N8DW
DXAC Member: Tedd Mirgliotta KB8NW
Membership: John Schaaf KC8AOX
Newsletter: Mike Willemin W8EU
Repeater: Glen Thome N8AKS
Sunshine: Mike Willemin W8EU
USS Cod: Bob Goff KA8YDS
Banquet: Gary Gargus N8DIU

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Amateur Radio
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COMING AT NEXT MEETING...

Nominations

September Meeting Update

The September Meeting of the Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society was started at 8 pm by President Clark N8PZD with the roll call of 24 members and guests present. We had no secretary's report as the previous meeting was our picnic. Tom W8KYZ was not available for the treasurer's report. Mike W8EU reported that all is going well with the newsletter, thanks to Mike KB8VKF for redesigning the newsletter layout. Larry KB9KSR reported that he did not receive his newsletter. John WD8IQJ reported that both the Tuesday and Wednesday evening nets are running very well. Field Day - Thanks to all who came out and setup antennas, operated the radios and helped tear down. It was enjoyed by all who attended. Rosemary KD8SC reminded the membership the the Christmas banquet is on December 12th. Raffle tickets were sent to the membership and that she has seen a good return on sales. She also reminded those members attending to bring a small gift to be given away as a door prize. Winterfest will be held the 1st Sunday in February of 1999. Fliers are being made by John KC8AOX and will be distributed to clubs and hamfests. Jim N8MPC reported that Chick W8QXF was recently hospitalized for knee surgery. Repeater Maintenance - Clark received a letter of resignation from Glenn N8AKS. He cited reasons. He recently started a new job and this took up alot of his time. Their was also much discussion abt the performance of the 146.70 repeater. It was also reported that the 145.15 repeater has been a little off frequency and that it will be taken out of service and maintenance will be performed and it will be put back at 175 feet from 250 feet. Their was no Old Business. New Business - Rich KG8VU reminded the

members about the October 3rd Simulated Emergency Test (SET). Clark N8PZD also appointed a nominating committee. This consists of Ned WD8CSP, Ted WD8CRJ, Larry KB9KSR
Meeting adjourned at 9:15pm

NEXT MEETING WILL BE OCTOBER 19TH 1998.

Present at September meeting.

Clark N8PZD
Larry KB9KSR
Ken KC8BQO
Paul KC8JEK
Jim W8PEV *
Pete W8DUO
John KC8AOX
John WD8IQJ
Dee Dee KA8VTS
Fred W8ADW
Bob KA8YDS
Frank KB8IOM
Bob WA8OBA
Mike W8EU
Rich KG8VU
Rosemary KD8SC
Ned WD8CSP
Ted WD8CRJ
Jim N8SIU**
Jim N8MPC
Bill KB8USZ
Jean KB8YHN
Rick KC8KJB*
Dan N8OSM

* **New Member**

** **Guest**

Word of Thanks

I would like to thank the following people for helping out with the Volunteer Examinations at the recent Cleveland Hamfest. Some are members some are not, but as always hams stand ready to assist. The following people took time out of their Sunday afternoon to help. It is appreciated.

Mike W8EU Chris NU8R Jeff KG8XU Scott N8OND Wayne KG8QC Lenny N8LWG Larry N8MGU Sheri N8LZA and Dave N8DW for doing the paper work and sending it into the League.

Rules of Radio (alt.part 97)

1) There shall be no talking by the family during a QSO.

2) The XYL shall assist with antenna construction when and only when required.

3) The shack budget will take precedence over all other incidental items such as mortgages, food, echoes, etc.

4) Christmas stocking stuffers for the OM must include at least two items for the shack (total value of not less than \$300).

5) Flea markets, hamfests, and field days over-rule family holidays.

6) Furry pets are not allowed near the rig (except for testing purposes).

7) TVI never occurs within the home, or if it does, is negligible and does not count.

8) All trees around QTH shall be considered antenna supports, and not "greenery", "landscaping", or other such nonsense. Corollary: Any tree may be cut down, pruned, poisoned, dug up, or otherwise removed should

it be in the way of wire.

9) The last postage stamp and envelope in the home shall be reserved for direct QSL mailings, and not for personal letters, bills, or mail orders (unless orders are for shack).

10) Any number of holes may be drilled in the family car to accommodate mobile whips. Corollary: Coax may droop across the steering column occasionally.

11) Never herewith shall insurance coverage of shack items be less than triple the replacement value, not withstanding acts of God.

12) Burger King must never allow the holy whopper oven to cool.

13) Newly licensed hams must honour, praise, look up to, ask easy questions of, and purchase coffee for, old guys.

14) The XYL shall anticipate good band propagation conditions at all times, and whenever rare DX flows in, she shall without fail;

a) keep log when requested;

b) hold all phone calls - except those from other hams;

c) call the OM's work QTH the next morning and cover his absence with a good excuse;

d) appear very excited;

e) change all her plans to suit;

f) provide steaming coffee at 45 minute intervals;

g) cancel all household chores, and in particular, cancel vacuuming.

15) All materials owned by the work QTH can and will be used for ham projects.

16) These rules may be modified at any time, without notice, to continuously be in the OM's best interest.

17) The most recent licensee must bear the brunt of our collective teasing until the next new licensee fills his humiliated shoes.

18) All members of all radio clubs must support, in unsurpassed vigor and cooperation, whatever the resident "contest man" suggest-ith.

19) Whence OM bears unrelentless fright of tower height, others must climb said structure unflinchingly upon request.

20) Refer long standing rule #15. Verily, if you cannot convince work QTH to donate items for thine shack, thou shalt quit said dispicable workplace without notice. Simply QRT-eth hastily-eth.

21) Coax cables may be routed to achieve the lowest loss, regardless of whether they cause doors, windows, etc. to be blocked or otherwise not to function. And if the house appears to be trapped in a sort of rubber "spider's web," that's a plus rather than a minus."

Christmas Banquet Update

The Christmas Banquet Committee would like to say many, many thanks to all of you who have been so good about sending your money and ticket stubs back. We have really been impressed with the returns so far, and hope that we can continue getting such a good response. We are working very hard and hope we can make this banquet really special and a lot of fun. Please mark the date on your calendar—Dec.12— and plan on joining us for a friendly, fun filled time. It just won't be the same if you're not there. Again, thank you and in the meantime, Happy Halloween!

Letter from ARRL President

A number of members have asked why the ARRL Board of Directors, at its July 1998 meeting, decided to propose changes to the amateur radio licensing structure. Let me see if I can shed some light on some of the reasons for the proposed changes.

I am certain that some hams will find change itself to be very disconcerting. It is our nature to like things the way they are and the way they were. We're generally comfortable with that and not comfortable with change. In many instances, we would like to return to "the good old days" of ham radio. However, there are some very real reasons why amateur radio has to make some changes if it is to be around in the 21st century.

As amateur radio operators, we're slipping farther and farther behind on the technology power curve, and people take note of that. Take a look at the primary modes of communication we use: SSB, FM, CW, etc. Each of those modes of operation have been around 50, 60, 70 years or more.

I was traveling by airplane not long ago and the person sitting next to me was a retired electrical engineer. As we chatted I told him about my involvement with amateur radio. He had a ham license about 45 years ago. He was amazed hams still use SSB, let alone CW. He wondered why the hams didn't use some of the more "modern" modes of communications. This is a typical reaction.

We have to change people's perception of ham radio being a pursuit involving 70 year old

communication techniques. One of the ways to help change that perception is to modernize our approach to CW. We're not eliminating it, we're simply trying to put it in its proper perspective as we move into a new century. CW will be around for a very long time as one of the modes of communication for amateurs.

There are still many people who use CW to communicate. However, as an examination element, it carries much more weight than it should at the present time. I believe the League proposal will put CW into a more proper perspective in the examination context as we try to bring amateur radio into the current technological environment. I don't think there are many people who see CW as the future of amateur radio. If they do, in my opinion, they are looking backwards and not to the future of ham radio. And, as I mentioned, we're not eliminating CW. There will be plenty of people operating CW just as they have for years.

Most non-hams think of ham radio as a hobby. And as a matter of fact, most hams think of amateur radio as a hobby. Sure, the League tries to stress the emergency communications and the public service aspects of amateur radio to those that are unaware of that role and people outside of ham radio do have some understanding of that role of amateur radio. It is certainly one of the first things I tell people about amateur radio if they have no acquaintance with the amateur service. However, the bottom line is we're viewed as a hobby.

The point is, we have some very valuable spectrum that is available to us for hobby purposes, and yes, even for our public service activities. It has become more and

more difficult in recent years to justify retaining and defending our spectrum from commercial interests who make some very good arguments as to why they should be allowed to use our spectrum for endeavors that will generate jobs, used

advanced telecommunications techniques and put the spectrum to use for commercial purposes, not just for hobby purposes. Even considering the perception that what we do is a "hobby," we can counter some of that perception that we're "a dying breed" clinging to old technologies when we can show that amateur radio is a vital, growing activity.

One only has to look at the statistics in the last few years to find that to be untrue. In recent years the average age of an active ham has crept up to nearly 60 years old. The growth rate of new hams coming into the service is at a very low rate of less than 2%. That doesn't even keep up with the "loss rate" of people who die or simply leave amateur radio for various reasons. The argument that we need to retain spectrum for the growth of amateur radio in the face of such dwindling numbers is an unconvincing one to anyone, such as the FCC and commercial interests, who take a moment to look at the numbers.

Taking these factors into consideration, the perception of ham radio is one of an aging group of hobbyists who use "less than state-of-the-art" communication techniques. We may not like that perception but that is what it is in many circles of the communications industry. And of course the communications industry is where we have to compete for our spectrum. The changes proposed by the League are not the total solution to the problem. We still

have to make an effort to move into more advanced communication techniques in the near future. We need to take advantage of some of the more cutting edge modes of digital communication to allow for more efficient use of the spectrum. The Board of Directors is aware that merely restructuring license classes and modernizing the CW testing requirements is not the whole answer. The League is going to have to take the lead in promoting technological advances within amateur radio even if it is just stressing the idea that amateurs put to use in amateur radio some of the techniques used by the commercial services. Hopefully, we'll be able to rise to that challenge. And it's not just the League that needs a different mindset to get us into the next century with a vital amateur radio.

For example, we might persuade repeater coordinators to give priority to sanctioning repeaters that are going to be using advanced digital modes rather than the 50 year old narrow band FM mode. We might even persuade radio manufacturers to market HF radios that use other modes than CW and SSB as the primary modes of communication below 30 MHz. There are digital techniques that can be applied to the amateur service that would make more efficient use of the spectrum and minimize the interference potential between stations. I suppose the bottom line is we in amateur radio have to start thinking about the future and where we want amateur radio to be in the future.

Changes within ham radio have been suggested for quite a number of years. The pressure for change has been building. The FCC has had a continuing stream of proposals from individual amateurs

to make significant changes over the last ten years or so. The League, for various reasons, has resisted such change, myself included. However, I think the proposal the League recently adopted will move us as amateurs in the direction we need to be going. I have resisted engaging in any debate about the pros and cons of CW and how it is or is not a filter for "quality" amateurs getting on the HF bands. There are plenty of people who will spend hours and hours debating that subject. I don't. Not only that, it misses the whole point of why the Board suggested the changes it did. If you have an urge to do that, I can suggest some internet newsgroups where that debate has been raging for years and with no satisfactory conclusion I might add.

Any comments you have regarding the specific provisions of the proposal can be addressed by filing comments with the FCC now that the matter is released for public comment. I also have to make a comment about the "motives" of the members of the Board in making such a proposal. Some hams who are not in favor of the changes have said the Board made the move to make sure more radios were sold. Some have said it was to attract more members to the League.

I can state without any hesitation that the Board acted in the best interests of amateur radio and for no other reason. Most all of the members of the Board have been amateurs for 35 years or so and some even much longer. These are not people who want to see amateur radio be hurt in any way.

They don't spend 30 or 40 hours a week working on amateur radio matters for anything other than the benefit of amateur radio.

I don't think there is anyone on the Board who cares how many radios Yaesu, Icom or Kenwood sell. Those companies are involved in other commercial activities and the amateur radio segment of their business is not large in the context of their entire commercial enterprise. If one or more of those companies should leave the amateur radio market, some other company will fill the void and market amateur radios.

Of course, that assumes there is an amateur radio service. The League would obviously like to have more of the amateurs as members. I certainly don't dispute that. But that doesn't mean it will benefit any person on the Board if the League has additional members because we are volunteers to begin with. We don't get paid and we certainly don't get any bonuses if additional members join the organization. It actually means the League can provide more in the way of services to the members more than anything else. I would hope that you would consider these factors in assessing the need for and the effect of the League's proposal.

There's no reason the changes are being suggested other than they are needed. Other changes along the lines that I mentioned are also needed for the amateur service to continue to be a growing, valuable service.

Dear NOARS Members,

The coming of fall not only brings on the holiday season, but also the excitement of our annual Christmas Banquet and benefit raffle. Last years banquet was a success thanks to all of you who attended. Therefore, we are again offering tickets at the same price, but this means that we all must support our club and this function as we have in the past.

The committee will be sending tickets for the annual raffle. It is our hope that each and everyone of you will try your hardest to sell these and possibly ask either Rosemary Shook KD8SC or Gary Gargus N8DIU for additional tickets to sell.

The prizes will appeal to hams and non-hams as well. The money and ticket stubs can be turned in at either the meetings or before the banquet begins.

Your help is appreciated and we are looking forward to seeing all of you at the banquet.

73 and many thanks.

Rosemary Shook, KD8SC
Gary Gargus, N8DIU

Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society Christmas Banquet

The NOARS Annual Christmas Banquet has become the largest amateur activity of its type in Northern Ohio. It is open to the entire ham community and their guests. Our banquet has developed a reputation of having great food, great entertainment and lots of FUN. NOARS will provide the entertainment, dinner, and prizes, soft drinks, 807's and wash for your BYOB.

MUSIC BY: THE BEAT

Admission is 18.00 dollars per person

Advanced ticket sales only. The deadline for tickets is December 1st 1998. Send your check or money order to one of the following people. Tickets may also be obtained at the meeting from Rosemary or Gary. You can also help support club activities by purchasing extra raffle tickets at the cost of \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00.

NOARS Banquet
P.O. Box 432
Elyria, Ohio 44036

Gary Gargus,
1965 North Ridge Road
Phone (440) 277-6171

Rosemary Shook
148 Elma Drive
Elyria, Ohio 44035

December 12, 1998

Gargus Hall, Lorain, Ohio

Cocktails...6:00-7:00

Dinner..... 7:00-8:00

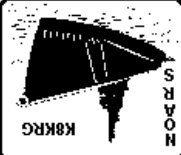
Dancing.. 8:00-12:00

Menu includes: Carved Steamship Round of Beef, Pork Chops, Pasta Rolli, Potatoes Au Gratin, Buttered Corn, Green Beans with Mushroom Sauce, Tossed Salad, Rolls and Butter, 2 jellos and 3 desserts, coffee, tea and milk.



Amateur Radio Home of the U.S.S. Cod

Elyria, OH 44036-0432
P.O. Box 432
NORTHERN OHIO AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY



The **NORTHERN OHIO AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY** is a public service organization, with the purpose of education and furtherance of Amateur Radio.

Meetings are held on the third Monday of each month except December at Gargus Hall, 1969 N. Ridge Rd., Lorain, Ohio at 7:30pm. The NOARS general information net is held on the 146.70- repeater located in Elyria, Ohio atop the E.S.T. Bank. at 9pm each Wednesday. The NOARS technical discussion net is held each Thursday at 7pm on 146.70-. Both nets are also available on the NOARS UHF repeater, 444.80+. NOARS also sponsors a BBS (BARF-80) which is 100% devoted to ham radio information and news. Full open access to all users (440) 237-8208 24 hrs. 300-28800 baud. The NOARS WWW home page is <http://www.apk.net/noars>.

NOARS operates and maintains a club station aboard the WW II Submarine, U.S.S. COD in the port of Cleveland. The station is open to all members and their guests daily from 11am until 5pm between Memorial Day and Labor Day.

Membership is open to any person interested in communications, whether a licensed amateur or not. Membership dues are 10 dollars per year for a licensed amateur (Full Membership), 5 dollars for a non-licensed (Associate Member), and 2 dollar per family member (whether licensed or not). Checks are to be made payable to NOARS and mailed along with the following form to Noars Membership P.O. Box 432, Elyria, Ohio 44036-0432.

NOARS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please Indicate NEW RENEWAL CHANGES

Name _____ CALLSIGN _____ CLASS _____ ARRL? YES ___ NO ___

Address _____ CITY _____ ST _____ ZIP _____ PH(____) _____