



The Feedline

We need you!

We need you!

There are many jobs that must be taken care of for the Club to operate. These jobs are filled with volunteers who give of their time, talent, and energy to help the Club continue to thrive.

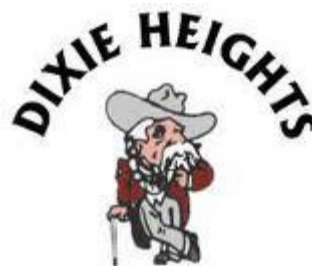


Elections are upon us again and we need any and all people we are interested in taking on a role within the Club.

If you are interested, please contact Robert Kluck, N4IJS. This does not require a tremendous amount of time. Most of the position require just a few hours each month—on your own schedule! Please consider helping out.

Dixie Heights will be testing...

A lot! There will be a Radio Technology class for each trimester at Dixie for the 2012-2013 school year. And, the school has asked for our help again with the exam sessions.



This is a great way to get more younger people into the hobby. If you are available to help during the school year, please contact Robert Kluck, N4IJS. We need as many VE's as we can get!

September Meeting

Join us at 7:30 p.m., Monday, May 14 at the Hilltop Church of Christ in Taylor Mill. The presentation will be "Contesting from A to G", by Mark Volstad, AI4BJ. Please plan on attending.

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Dates to Remember:

September 10, 2012—Club meeting and Exam session.
October 8, 2012— Club meeting and Exam session.
November 12, 2012—Club meeting and Exam session.
December 10, 2012—Annual NKARC Holiday Dinner.

NKARC Directory

President

Robert Kluck, N4IJS
n4ijs@k4co.org

Repeater Committee Chair

Tony White, AI4IP
ai4ip@arrrl.net

Club Trustee & Historian

Brian DeYoung, K4BRI
k4bri@arrrl.net

Vice-President

Lyle Hamilton, AB8SH
ab8sh@arrrl.net

Feedline Editor

—OPEN—
n4ijs@k4co.org

Webmaster

Robert Kluck, N4IJS
n4ijs@k4co.org

Director at Large

Don King, AJ4DK
kingdl19406@msn.com

Net Manager

Robert Kluck, N4IJS
n4ijs@k4co.org

Field Day Chair

Greg Lamb, W4TSA
w4tsa@yahoo.com

Treasurer

Alan Cohen, KA9GRY
magicbullet007@hotmail.com

Repeaters (K4CO): 147.255+ and 444.350+ Edgewood (PL 123.0), 147.375+ Walton, 146.895– and 145.420– (D-STAR) Highland Heights. The 147.255 repeater is a linked Echolink node, accessible via N4IJS-R.

NKARC Net: Tuesdays, 8:30 PM on the 147.255 repeater

VE Testing: Testing sessions are held by appointment only on the 2nd Monday of each month, prior to the NKARC membership meeting. Testing begins at 6:00 pm. To make an appointment, contact Lyle Hamilton at VETesting@k4co.org or tel. 513-315-4032

NKARC Web Site: <http://www.k4co.org>

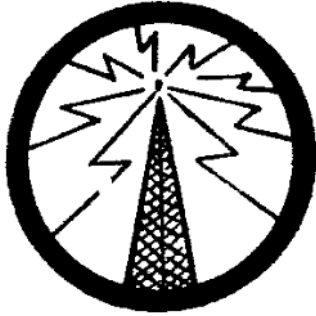
NKARC Membership Meetings: 2nd Monday of each month at 7:30 pm at the [Hilltop Church of Christ](#), 5300 Taylor Mill Rd (Ky. 16), Taylor Mill, KY. Visitors are always welcome!

The Feedline is published monthly by and for the members of the Northern Kentucky Amateur Radio Club. It is distributed via direct email to current NKARC members. **If you are a member in good standing but are not receiving your copy, please notify the Feedline editor.** Permission is hereby granted to any non-profit amateur radio group to quote or reprint from this publication

provided appropriate source credit is given. Submissions, address or call changes and circulation problems may be sent to the Feedline editor:

Robert Kluck, N4IJS
3869 Tracy Jean Lane, Erlanger, KY 41018
Email: n4ijs@k4co.org
Tel: 513-919-6672

Top of the Tower



**Joe Stolz
KA8SXQ**

NKARC has received word that Joe Stolz, KA8SXQ, passed away in January of this year. His wife, Mary, has

reached out to the Club to see if we can help dismantle his shack and put his equipment to good use.

Once we have an inventory of what equipment is available, Mary stated that she would like to see the equipment be donated to the Club to help Hams who may not be able to afford equipment.

If you are interested in helping dismantle the equipment or may be interested in obtaining some of it, please contact me.

73, Robert, N4IJS

August Meeting Minutes

**NKARC Meeting
Hilltop Church of Christ
August 13, 2012**

VP Lyle, AB8SH, opened the meeting at 7:35 PM with introductions (12 attendees).

Treasurer's report not available.

Minutes of July meeting not available.

Old Business:

AI4IP reported the D-Star repeater is operational. Reflector has been changed.
UPS being considered.
Brian and Harold have repaired the 375 repeater.

New

The candidate scheduled for testing cancelled at last minute.

Joe, KI4QG, asked about ham classes in KY - none known.
OHKYIN has fall classes - check their web site.
Also consider on-line courses.

Lyle listed programs for the rest of the year:
September - 'Contesting' Mark
October - 'MARS' Don
November - Greg W2ORO
December - Dinner

AI4IP: Candidtaes of Officers needed for 2013.
Need VE coordinator in January (Lyle, AB8SH, will resign at the end of this year).
Feedline Editor needed now.

AI4IP presented split-the-pot.

Motion to adjourn by KI4QH. Second KJ4VKV.
Business meeting adjourned at 8:06 PM.

Lyle gave an interesting presentation on NiCD batteries vs NiMH.

Respectfully Submitted by:
Don, AJ4DK

July/August NKARC Net Report

By Robert Kluck, N4IJS

Date	Operator Name	Net Control	Checkins	Minutes	Traffic
3-Jul-12	Tyson	KJ4VKV	8	17	0
10-Jul-	<i>N/A</i>	<i>NOT REPORTED</i>	0	0	0
17-Jul-	Tyson	KJ4VKV	11	20	0
24-Jul-	<i>N/A</i>	<i>NOT REPORTED</i>	0	0	0
31-Jul-	Tyson	KJ4VKV	11	22	0
TOTAL			30	59	0

Date	Operator Name	Net Control	Checkins	Minutes	Traffic
7-Aug-12	Tyson	KJ4VKV	7	18	0
14-Aug-	<i>N/A</i>	<i>NOT REPORTED</i>	0	0	0
21-Aug-	Tyson	KJ4VKV	9	30	0
28-Aug-	<i>N/A</i>	<i>NOT REPORTED</i>	0	0	0
TOTAL			16	48	0

Weaver's Words

Dayton is Coming

- Worth Repeating Regarding Antenna Structures
- FCC Raises Vanity Call Fee
- Ohio State Parks on the Air
- Congratulations, KI8GW
- My Nickels Worth
- Scheduled Hamfests and Travel

+++ Worth Repeating Regarding Antenna Structures +++

The following was copied from a mailing to the Ohio Section by Ohio State Government Liaison (SGL) Nick Pittner, K8NAP. Nick is the person who headed the recent drive to enact an Ohio "PRB-like" bill into state law. Although his words are specifically related to the new Ohio law, they contain information that is highly relevant to how any amateur should interface with neighbors and government authorities when asking permission to erect an antenna support structure. It is for this reason that I am quoting Nick, below. If I may take the liberty, I will summarize Nick's article by emphasizing that obtaining permission to put up an antenna structure cannot be approached with a cavalier viewpoint even when there is a law on the books that supports putting it up. It is imperative that one attempts to maintain good personal relations with neighbors and government officials throughout the process.

Nick's message follows:

"August 15 was the 'effective date' for H.B. 158, the day it became law in Ohio. Some of you have had antenna projects on hold, waiting for the new law to become effective. Before you start digging the foundation for that new tower, let's review the basics. First, H.B. 158 (the Bill) does not affect other types of land use restrictions, such as those imposed by deed restrictions, condominium agreements and

neighborhood agreements. Those types of restrictions arose by agreement when you purchased your home. Second, the Bill does not exempt you from the local application and approval process if it would otherwise have applied to your antenna project. In short, if a construction permit would have been necessary before the Bill, it is still necessary. If a zoning variance would have been necessary before the Bill, it is still necessary, and you are still required to go through the application and approval process.

"What has changed is the degree of deference that you, as an amateur radio operator, are entitled to receive when your application is



considered by the local zoning authorities. The Bill states, in part, that the local zoning authority "... shall not restrict the height or location of amateur station antenna structures in such a way as to prevent effective amateur radio service communications" Other provisions similarly require that local authorities provide "reasonable accommodation" to applications for antenna structures.

"With that in mind, here are ten things to consider as you begin using the new legislation:

- "1. Good relations with your neighbors, including their support for your antenna application, is the best asset you can have,
- "2. Make sure that your paperwork included all of the requested information, is in the proper format and filed properly – don't provide an excuse to reject your application,
- "3. Evidence that your tower is designed to withstand the most likely weather events and that it will be properly erected is very important,

"4. Structure your plan to observe setback lines and existing zoning restrictions to the greatest extent possible. We may be allowed to have antennas, but not in the front yard,

"5. If you can legitimately do so, note in your application that one of the reasons you need the tower is to permit your station to participate in emergency communications if the need arises,

"6. Locate your tower as far away from adjacent houses as reasonably possible,

"7. Don't accept the notion that a "fall-down" limit applies to you. A "fall-down" limit is a provision that requires that no structure can be so high that it could fall onto the adjacent property. Keep in mind that a well-constructed tower will still be standing long after all of the nearby trees have fallen over.

"8. The 'antennas are ugly' objection is not, in most cases, a proper zoning consideration,

"9. If your application is rejected and you plan to appeal to the board of zoning appeals or similar agency, keep in mind that there are precise time limits for doing so, and failure to appeal within those time limits will bar your appeal,

"10. Don't ask for more than you really need!" (K8JE note: And, stay within the limits of any approval that was given. For example, permission to erect one structure means one structure; permission to erect a 60 ft. structure is not a license to go higher.)

Nick, thanks to you and your team for the great work you did with Ohio H.B. 158.

As a final comment, Michigan Section Manager Larry Camp, WB8R has begun the effort to have a PRB-1-like law enacted in Michigan. I am

sure he will appreciate having anyone with experience in the Michigan legislative arena contact him (wb8r@larrl.org).

+++ FCC Raises Vanity Call Fee +++

The FCC has increased the fee to obtain an Amateur Radio vanity call sign from \$14.20 to \$15. The new fee became effective September 4, 2012.

+++ OHIO STATE PARKS ON THE AIR +++

The Ohio QSO Party is over and its time to think about another fund, operating activity that is centered in the Great Lakes Division (GLD).

This is the Ohio State Parks On the Air (OSPOTA) contest.

This contest will be held on Saturday, September 8 during the 8-hour period of

1600z-2400z. It is open to all amateurs. Worth Repeating Regarding Antenna Structures

This will be the fifth year for OSPOTA. It is sponsored by the Portage County (Ohio) ARS (PCARS). Although PCARS developed the state parks contest, they have been copied by other clubs in the US. The fun in working state parks in this contest has truly been recognized.

Full information on OSPOTA can be found at <http://parks.portcars.org>.

+++ Congratulations, KI8GW +++

Congratulations to Ohio SM Frank Piper, KI8GW and his committee for the excellent Ohio State Convention. The Convention touted several fine forums as well as an opportunity for attendees to hear, meet and speak with ARRL President Kay Craigie, N3KN. It was held in conjunction with the Columbus (Ohio) Hamfest.

+++ My Nickels Worth +++

I am pleased to say that rules for appointing DX Card Checkers were modified at the July meeting of the Program & Services Committee (PSC) of the ARRL Board of Directors. The modification increased the number of Checkers a director can appoint. This means that I am able to appoint two additional Checkers in the Great Lakes Division. The purpose of the rule change is to increase the convenience to members of having QSL cards checked for ARRL awards. It also can ensure adequate coverage of divisions in meeting the objectives of the new, online DXCC QSL entry program. This program benefits members by making it easier to have cards checked and by decreasing the effort (i.e. the amount of person-time) required of staff to process DXCC applications.

To date, I have appointed one new Checker to cover the north-east part of Ohio. The appointment is being processed at HQ and should become effective soon. The second of my new appointments is under discussion.

The prime objective in increasing the number of Card Checkers is to make it more practical for hamfest committees to schedule (and promote) the attendance of a Checker. Publicized attendance of a Card Checker at a hamfest makes it easier for people to submit QSLs for operating awards. Using the online entry program reduces the effort required by HQ staff to process awards applications. When fully utilized, online entry can reduce the expense of overtime required to manage the annual, frustrating, end-of-year backlog of submissions.

A list of current Card Checkers is available at www.arrl.org/dxcc-card-checker-search.

+++ Scheduled Hamfests and Travel +++

The following is a schedule of travel planned by the Director, Vice

Director and Section Managers in the Great Lakes Division. These trips represent an excellent opportunity to discuss ARRL and what it is doing to support Amateur Radio.

Hamfest chairman, it is never too early to apply to have your hamfest sanctioned. The following is the tentative schedule by ARRL Division and Section officials to attend hamfests/swaps as indicated. Especially now that DXCC submission can be made online, it would be a good idea to invite a QSL Field Checker to your hamfest and publicize he will be there. This invitation will cost only an admission ticket and the use of one table. A listing of Card Checkers is available at www.arrl.org/dxcc-card-checker-search. Obviously, Card Checkers are available consistent with the timing of the hamfest and the distance that would need to travel. I will be happy to note on the listing of hamfests which of these will be hosting a Card Checker if I am given the information.

Sep 8 - GRAHamfest, Wyoming, MI - WB8R
Sep 8 - Greater Louisville Hamfest, Shepherdsville, KY, K8JE, KY4Z
Sep 9 - Findlay Hamfest, Findlay, OH - WA8EFK, KI8GW,
Sep 15 - Richmond Hamfest *(QSL CHECKING)* - Richmond, KY, KY4Z
Sep 16 - Greater Cincinnati ARA Hamfest *(QSL CHECKING)* - Cincinnati, OH, K8JE, Ohio Cabinet
Sep 16 - Adrian Hamfest, Adrian, MI - WB8R
Sep 23 - Cleveland Hamfest and Computer Show *(QSL CHECKING)* - Berea, OH, K8JE, KI8GW
Oct 6 - Vette City Hamfest *(QSL CHECKING)* - Bowling Green, KY - KY4Z
Oct 6 - Straits Area Swap & Shop, Petoskey, MI
Oct 7 - USECA 27th Annual Hamfest, Madison Heights, MI
Oct 11 - Mahoning Valley ARC, Youngstown, OH, Jim
Oct 13 - Muskegon Color Tour Hamfest, Muskegon, MI - WB8R

Return to:
Northern Ky. Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 18215
Erlanger, Ky. 41018

**FIRST
CLASS**

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



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