

History of the Coshocton County Amateru Radio Association

On April 22, 1957, at 7:30 pm a group of amateurs interested in forming a radio club met at WTNS radio station in Coshocton, Ohio. Bill Felver W8HEL acted as the temporary chairman. The group adopted a Constitution and Bylaws, adopted the name Coshocton County Amateur Radio Association, and elected the following officers: Pres. Forrest Hothem W8OVJ; V Pres. Russell Higgs W8W NJ; and Sec./Treas. Bill Felver W8HEL. Tellers for the election were: Fred Bontrager K8BEN; Herman Philabaum WA8LLW and Denver Little W8CSP. The group voted to meet on the third Thurs. of the month at 8:00 pm. Those present were: Fred Bontrager K8BEN; Bob Bryant W8JNS; Bill Felver W8HEL; Russell Higgs W8W NJ; Jim Norman W8RYW; Forrest Hothem W8OVJ; Herman Philabaum WA8LLW, chief engineer of WTNS; Carl Tucker K8CLC; Margaret Tucker KN8BZO; Verlie Wilson W8QDC; Dan Parks W8CUT and Denver Little W8CSP. The yearly dues were set at \$5.00 in 1958. There was one dollor dues for the remainder of the 1957 year.

The listing of the Presidents and Vice Presents for years 1957 to 1971 included:

	President		Vice President	
1957-1958	Forrest Hothem	W8OVJ	Russell Higgs	W8W NJ
1959	Carl (AL) Drake	W8MPW	Fred Abbot	W8CBC
1960	Gale Ecenbarger	K8NSE	Fred Bontrager	W8BEN
1961	Dan Parks	W8CUT	Bill Coffman	
1962	Bill Coffman		John Dunlevy	K8NSH
1963	Bill Felver	W8HEL	Carl Tucker	K8CLC
1964	Carl Tucker	K8CLC	John Hess	
1965	Irvil Leisure	K8SNH	John Dunlevy	K8NSH
1966	John Dunlevy	K8NSH	Draper Varnes	K8NSG
1967	Draper Varnes	K8NSG	William Fields	WA8KZC
1968	William Fields	W8KZC	Dennis Moriarty	K8AGB
1969	Dan Parks	W8CUT	Irvil Leisure	K8SNH
1970	Herman Philabaum	WA8LLW	Roy Sees	WA8CYW
1971	John Dunlevy	K8NSG	Denver Little	W8CSP

1967

The officers were: Pres. Draper Varnes K8NSG; V Pres. Bill Fields WA8 KZC; and Sec./Treas. Dennis Moriarty K8AGB.

In April of 1967, a Johnny Appleseed contact was made with VQ9EF Wes Fleurdelys on Seychelles Island in the Indian Ocean. This was on 6 meters.

In July of 1967, the club got a club call K8IKP.

In October of 1967, the first class of radio students was organized. Ray Dillon KA8BQA/AA8BX was the instructor. The class was held in Coshocton High School. There were eight weeks of classes which consisted of a half hour code session and one hour of theory each class. The Morse code was taught by William Morris of Ohio Bell. Twelve students were in attendance. Of the twelve, six took the code test and five passed.

The treasury at year end was \$104.03

1968

The officers were: Pres. Bill Fields WA8KZC; V Pres. Dennis Moriarty K8AGB; and Sec./Treas. Herman Philabaum WA8LLW.

There was the first mention of having a field day to be held on June 22-23.

The year end treasury balance was \$114.38.

1969

The officers were: Pres. Dan Parks W8CUT; V Pres. Irvil Leisure K8SNH and Sec./Treas Dan Brushwood WA8QZE. Meetings were held in the Conference Room of EdMont-Wilson at this time.

The large amount of Spring rain caused caused severe flooding in the county. There is not any knowledge of any amateurs who provided assistance in this disaster.

In May, there was a request from the Post Office for an updated list of the hams in the county. This was a Civil Defense request from the government for emergency purposes. The list showed 29 amateurs in the county and 32 out of county amateurs.

In July, there was mention of a 6 meter Black Bear net. This was run by Denver Little W8CSP and Bill Fields WA8KZC. This was not a formal net, but a rag chew net which met on Wed. evenings at 9:30 on the frequency of 50.64 MHZ. The purpose of the net was to train operators in the handling of traffic in case of emergency. There was a certificate available.

Field Day was held at the home of Draper Varnes K8NSG. Those participating planned to work the 6 meter through the 80 meter bands.

In August, there was an adult amateur radio class with Roy Sees WA8CYW in charge. It was suggested that the students be required to build a transmitter and a receiver by the time the class was completed.

In September, there was mention of a fair booth for the first time. The club was to be in the education building near the entrance of the fairgrounds. There was no charge. It was decided to allow a budget of \$50.00 for the fair display. The club was going to relay messages via 6 meters.

In October, the club discussed the fair event. There were 140 messages relayed. A list of thirty-six new students for a class was obtained.

In December, there was an attempt to organize a Tri - County Emergency Radio Network (TCERN) . An emergency set up was located in all counties except Coshocton, Holmes and Knox counties. The first EC, or emergency coordinator, for Coshocton county was Dan Parks W8CUT.

The year end Treasurer report showed a balance of \$87.16.

1970

The officers were: Pres. Herman Philabaum WA8LLW; V Pres. Roy Sees

WA8CYW and Sec./Treas. Bob Hafner WA8JEW.

In January, the club got the first keyer for a handicapped ham, Jerry Levensgood.

The first EC meeting was held in Danville. Attending were EC Dan Parks W8CUT and Roy Sees WA8CYW.

There was a field day held at Draper Varnes' K8NSG farm in June.

In June, a 6 meter antenna was placed at the hospital.

In November, there was a discussion on assignments in event of emergency situations. Locations included: the Red Cross and the Hospital, members to relay information to out of county amateurs, mobile operators and stand by operators.

The year end Treasurer report showed a balance of \$87.16.

1971

The officers were: Pres. John Donlevy K8NSH; V Pres. Denver Little W8CSP and Sec./Treas. Bob Hafner WA8JEW.

In January, there was the first mention of a simulated emergency test.

There was a field day held in June at Lew Allan's country place.

In August, there was a discussion of the possibility of giving up the fair booth because of lack of interest by the group.

1972

The officers for the year were: Pres. Draper Varnes K8NSG ; V Pres. Bob Hafner WA8JEW; and Sec./Treas. Bill Fields WA8KZC.

The club did not participate in the SET at this time.

1972 - 1986

From 1972 to 1986 the group was inactive. There were several hams using 6 meters and a couple on two meters.

1986

In 1986, it was decided to reestablish the club and get more interest in amateur radio in the county. The group set up a net on Monday nights at 9 pm on the W8EBO repeater frequency of 145.340 MGH. This was the first repeater in the county and was owned by Bob Hague W8EBO. There were only about 14 or 15 hams in the county at this time.

The first CoCo net was on March 3, 1986 on 145.230 MGH. Net Control was Bob Manson WB8RWP. Those who checked in were: Bud Bower NI8Q; * Margaret Tucker K8BZO; *Carl Tucker K8CLC; Mike Casey N8GXQ; Bob Bryant W8JNS; *Carl Drake W8MPW; *Draper Varnes K8NSG; *Arden Marlett K8PER; Welsch

Sprague KA8PMV; *Verlie Wilson W8QDC; *Charles Smith W8SYZ; Greg WA8IRG; Dave Lomady; WD8CKK (Dover); John Callahan KA8UYM (Clark); *Dale Bigler N8BSV; Arnold Pittman KA8UDA (New Philadelphia); Don Sprague KA8CLE; Howard Blind KD8KF (Roswell); Harry Packard W8JAZ; Monroe Yoder WD8NWQ; Bob WD8NUF (Roswell); Kelly Heinbach K8YDR/W8MO (Millersburg); Ray Lindimore K8ZJG (New Philadelphia); and *Merf Rinard WA8QYW (Loudonville). Those indicated by * are silent keys (deceased). The net was called the CoCo net (Coshocton County). The name was suggested by Bob Manson WB8RWP. It was said that if you were on the CoCo net you were a CoCo nut.

On March 27, 1986, the first meeting of CCRA in thirteen years was held at the County Services Building.

On June 24, 1986, some of the local hams set up equipment at the Court House gazebo for Field Day activities. Some of those who participated were: Bob Manson WB8RWP; Bob Bryant W8JNS; Carl Tucker K8CLC; Verlie Wilson W8QDC; Carl Drake W8MPW; Irvil Leisure K8SNH; Draper Varnes K8SNG, Jeff Thomas KA8TKC and Forrest Hothem W8OVJ. It was a chilly day at the gazebo.

In the fall of 1986, a class for new amateurs was organized and taught by Jim Norman W8RYW. There were six in the class. Those who passed the class and got their new licenses were Pat Tucker KB8CRB; Clee Streets KB8CRC; Dane Hursey KB8CRD; Warren Hall KB8CRE/KE8YL and Harold Miller KB8CQR who became a silent key shortly after obtaining his license and never had a chance to get on the air. This group could really confuse the net control on Monday nights at times!

The club had their first booth at the fair this year. It was located under the grandstand. The antennas were on top of the grandstand.

1987

The officers were: Pres. Jim Norman W8RYW; V Pres. Verlie Wilson W8QDC and Sec./Treas. Carl Tucker K8CLC.

Bob Manson WB8RWP suggested that the club give Bob Hague W8EBO a life membership for all he has done for the club and also for the use of his repeater facilities.

Bob Manson became the EC and set the first ARES net on the 145.230 repeater. He was assisted by Verlie Wilson W8QDC. At this time there were about 30 amateurs in the county. About 20 of them had capability to work on 2 meters.

Bob Manson WB8RWP explained to the club that the 145.230 repeater is off the air due to storm damage. It was hit by lightning which also hit a TV and computer at his home. This storm happened while Bob had a meeting of the net controls, sheriff and others to demonstrate the repeater.

Bob Hague W8EBO has decided to liquidate some of his equipment due to illness. Bob Manson WB8RWP purchased the cavities of the EBO repeater

Jean Honabarger was contacted to consider joining with the Disaster Services for space under the grandstand at the fair.

Carl Drake W8MPW showed a video of a trip he had made to visit some amateur friends in India.

It was decided not to set up a fair booth this year, but some of the members agreed to assist Jean with the Disaster booth.

A picnic was enjoyed by those attending on Aug 23.

1988

The officers were: Pres. Jim Norman W8RYW; V Pres. Pat Tucker KB8CRB; Sec./Treas. Carl Tucker K8CLC.

In May, it was decided to hold meetings every other month and to start the meetings at 7:00 pm.

The club participated in the Warsaw Memorial Day Parade. Ray Edmondson WB8AJ; Verlie Wilson W8QDC; Carl Tucker K8CLC and Pat Tucker KB8CRB represented the club .

Waren Hall KE8YL suggested that the club donate to the Reconstruction Program at W1AW at the ARRL headquarters. A donation of \$100.00 was sent. The club received a certificate of acknowledgment of their contribution.

Don Sprague KA8CLE gave an interesting program on using 6 meter radio in the mission field. He also showed slides of the assembly of the 1600 foot TV tower in Mansfield. This tower has since been taken down.

Larry WD8MVP and Joann KJ3O Solac, district managers for ARRL presented a program on the facets of ARRL in Oct. Guests came from other area clubs.

Other programs during the year were on packet and use of phone patches.

Bob Manson WB8RWP had a new tower erected with the help of Bud Hathaway and a huge crane. It was noted that Bud donated his services and his equipment for this project.

The group received a plaque for donating to Christmas Seals.

The group decided not to have a picnic this year.

1989

The officers were: Pres. Pat Tucker KB8CRB; V Pres. Waren Hall KE8YL; Sec./Treas. Carl Tucker K8CLC .

Bob Manson suggested the group present a plaque to Bud Hathaway for his assistance in erecting the tower. This honor also included a life membership.

In October, the group decided to hold monthly meetings since there was a large time lapse between meetings. They also decided to divide the Sec./Treas. position into two offices - that of Secretary and Treasurer.

The Johnny Appleseed award was reestablished as a 10 meter net award since there was more activity on 10 meters than on 6 meters at this time. New guidelines were implemented also in order to receive a certificate. The first certificate was awarded to Floyd Markley N8KRS on December 24, 1989.

In February, there was a suggestion that the club nominate Bob Manson WB8RWP for the ARRL Achievement Award for all he has done for the Coshocton club. The group was in favor of this idea. The nomination was submitted.

The club helped at the Boy Scout Field Day. Several boys had an opportunity to see amateur radio in action. It was a muddy day at the Boy Scout Camp - just ask CRB. The club also helped the Roscoe JC's in a walkathon during the summer.

1990

The officers were: Pres. Cathy Butler N8KJI; V Pres. John Allen WR8V; Sec. Tom Cordes KB8HEA and Treas. Pat Tucker KB8CRB.

Meetings were held at the JVS at this time.

In February, there was a review of the Constitution and Bylaws. Those who worked on this committee were: Ray Dillon KA8BQA/AA8BX; Cathy Butler N8KJI and Carl Tucker K8CLC. Larry Smith N8LXX and Welch Sprague KA8PMV were added to the committee. The changes were recommended to update the Constitution and Bylaws.

In March, there was a 2 meter station installed at the Sheriff's office.

In May, the club gave a donation for the construction of a new Jr. Fair building at the fairgrounds. The club name was put on a plaque of Silver Contributors. The club received a certificate in recognition of the contribution.

The Red Cross purchased a radio and antenna to be installed at the JVS/CCCC for the purpose of amateur use during emergency situations. The JVS gave permission for the antenna to be put on their roof.

A station was to be set up in the Emergency Management office at the County Services Building.

Bob Manson WB8RWP was the EC. Warren Peiter KC8WX and Glen Mitchell KC8YV were his assistant EC.

In June the group participated in Field Day activities. Those participating met at the Keene repeater site to set up their equipment.

In July, the idea of a club repeater was presented and discussed.

In August, the frequency of 147.045 was established for the club repeater.

In October, the frequency of 147.045 was set for the club repeater which was to be located at the old Keene Squad House.

The club repeater went on the air on Nov. 29, 1990.

This year a total of 18 Johnny Appleseed certificates were given to mostly local amateurs.

1991

The officers were: Pres. John Allen WR8V; V Pres. Warren Hall; Sec. Tom Cordes KB8HEA and Treas. Dan Lyons KB8KEV.

Ron Leesberg N8LPB suggested the club use the acronym CCARA for Coshocton County Amateur Radio Association.

The first club net was on the club repeater in February on Sunday evening at 9:00pm.

In April, the group discussed starting a local VE (volunteer examiner) program to

give exams for those wanting to become hams or for upgrading of a license.

There was no Field Day participation because of lack of interest among the club.

Carl Tucker K8CLC gave the club the use of a post office box (501) for the remainder of the year. At that time the club was to take over the ownership of the box.

A total of 17 Johnny Appleseed certificates were awarded this year. The first out of the country certificate went to Clint Maile VK2KMZ in Australia.

1992

The officers were: Pres. John Allen WR8V; V Pres. Ray Dillon AA8BX; Sec. Tom Cordes and Treas. Dan Lyons KB8KEV.

On June 23, 24, and 25, the group helped GOBA (Great Ohio Bicycle Adventure) bicycle riders while they were in the county during their week bicycle tour. It was something to see: about 3,000 bicycle riders, and the large amount of tents put up at Lake Park baseball fields where they slept. We helped with communications. A base station and map for the net control was set up at a Lake Park shelter. Mobile units were placed at positions along the bike route to assist the bikers by relaying messages back to Lake Park. Amateurs were also placed in the two ambulances provided for the bikers. Several of the bikers were amateurs. All visitors were very friendly and appreciative of the assistance local amateurs gave to them.

Only three Johnny Appleseed certificates were awarded this year. At this time a total of thirty eight certificates had been issued.

1993

The officers were: Pres. John Allen WR8V; V Pres. Bruce Adams KE8XM; Sec. Tom Cordes KB8HEA and Treas. Dan Lyons KB8KEV.

The forming of a local VE team was discussed. Bob Manson WB8RWP and Steve Wheatcraft AA8BN were put in charge of the team. The first COARVET exams were given on June 3, 1993, in the Coshocton County Services building.

Bob Manson WB8RWP proposed that the club give any newly licensed amateurs, tested through our local VE (volunteer examiner) team, a free one year membership in our local club. The club thought this was a nice idea and approved it.

The club assisted the Civil Air Patrol at their practice drill held at the Fair Grounds. This was requested by Cathy Butler N8KJI.

Only four Johnny Appleseed certificates were given this year.

1994

The officers were: Pres. Bruce Adams KE8XM ; V Pres. Jon Mosier KB8QVY; Sec. Tom Cordes KB8HEA and Treas. Dan Lyons KB8KEV.

The club had a Field Day event at the Keene Repeater site.

There were 42 Johnny Appleseed certificates given this year. At this time, the total number of certificates given was 81.

1995

The officers were: Pres. Bruce Adams KE8XM; V Pres. Jon Mosier KB8QVY; Sec. Tom Cordes KB8HEA and Treas. Dan Lyons KB8KEV.

After John Allen moved from the area, Tom Cordes KB8HEA took over the Trustee duties of the club repeater.

GOBA RETURNS!! GOBA returned to the area June 22 , 23 and 24. Again the club took the challenge of helping about 3,000 bikers as they traveled through out the county. A base station again was located at a shelter at Lake Park and mobile units were located along the bike route to assist with communications. Members who had helped in 1992 encouraged newer members to join in the fun. The response from the bikers was friendly and appreciative of our being there for them.

Also the Fox Hunt this year was very unique. On July 9,1995, Bob Manson WB8RWP and Steve Wheatcraft AA8BN hid the "fox" transmitter in a fake tombstone in the Halifax Cemetary in Crawford township between Steve's grandparents graves. While they watched and laughed from another hill as they taped the hunt, those hunting the "fox" ran around the area at times going right past the stone. Identification of the "fox" was made by telling the date on the stone or the name (Ray D O) (the so called deceased person. Winners were: Rose Emick N8RQ - a handheld transceiver, Jason Yanes -a five year club membership and Charlie Emick KB8PXM. Bob WB8RWP contacted the ARRL and reported the event. The ARRL wrote an article and put in QST, the ARRL publication. So our fox hunt was read about around the world!!

Field Day activities were held June 26 - 27 at the Keene repeater site.

Greg N8MOA and Cheryl Ryle and their three sons: Benjamin, Jerimiah and Matthew went to live in Mali, Africa for an eight year service with Missionary Maintenance. Now in 2003, they are living in Haiti and continuing their work in the missionary field.

The most Johnny Appleseed certificates were awarded this year 50. Certificates went to Canada and Puerto Rico.

Dale Wiggins W9CWG, a former local resident was in the area and presented a program on antenna. Guests from other neighboring clubs attended his program.

In December, the club decided to read the poem " 'Twas the Night Before Christmas" on Christmas Eve over the 145.230 repeater. Frank Cichon KB8FBN was the first to start this annual tradition.

1996

The officers were: Pres. Bruce Adams KE8XM; V Pres. Colleen Wheatcraft

AA8UA; Sec. Tom Cordes KB8HEA and Treas. Dan Lyons KB8KEV.

Bruce KE8XM took over as Emergency Coordinator and Warren Peiter was his Assistant Coordinator.

Field Day activities were held at the Keene repeater site June 22 -23.

The Fox Hunt was on Sept. 15. Bruce Adams KE8XM and Steve Jones KC8CBR were in charge of putting the fox in place. The fox was located in an ice chest along the Walhonding River at Lake Park. The hunters started from the fairgrounds. Identification was made by commenting about the picture of a young fox on the lid. Steve's stepson was fishing nearby to guard the fox. The winners were Diane Emick KB8YUL, Pat Tucker KB8CRB and Rose Emick N8RQ.

The VE team had to find a new location for testing. They went to the VFW at the corner of Second and Chestnut Streets. Later the testing site was moved to the Senior Center on Brown's Lane and presently the testing site is the Public Library.

This year Dan Lyons KB8KEV read the poem since it was enjoyed by many amateurs and scanner listeners in the community.

There were 45 Johnny Appleseed certificates issued this year. Three went to Canada.

1997

The officers were: Pres. Bruce Adams KE8XM; V Pres. Colleen Wheatcraft AA8UA; Sec. Pat Tucker KB8CRB and Treas. Dan Lyons KB8KEV.

The club voted to give Randy Benson KB8LZW, a handiham, a life membership to the club. This was suggested by Bruce Adams KE8XM. The group approved the idea.

In November, we had Randy KL7RF and Wendy KL7ICU Fisher and their son Carl attend their first meeting after moving here from Alaska. Carl took his exam and got the call KC8KOT. Another son Tim also took an exam and got the call KB8NFC,

The group participated in an SET - a crash at the airport. Amateurs were located at the site, hospital and the Emergency Management office.

There was a Fox Hunt in the fall on Oct. 19, with Bruce Adams KE8XM, Jim Baker KB8RJR and Steve Jones KC8CBR were in charge. The fox was hidden in a corn shock out on SR541. The group of "fearless hunters" started from the fairgrounds in search of the fox. Identification was made by describing the surroundings. Winners this year were: David Best KC8IDK, Dan Lyons KB8KEV and Pat Tucker KB8CRB.

Field Day activities were held on June 25 and 26 at the Keene repeater site. The group used Steve's call AA8BN for the event.

The severe winter weather caused ice to form on the Walhonding River near Warsaw. Amateurs assisted at the base station at the Warsaw fire station and along the river to watch for flooding.

This year Frank KB8FBN read the poem at Christmas. He and Dan continued to take turns depending on their work schedules. Everyone seems to enjoy this little addition to their holiday activities.

There were 28 Johnny Appleseed certificates issued this year. Three went to

Canada.

1998

The officers were: Pres. Bruce Adams KE8XM; V Pres. Colleen Wheatcraft AAUA; Sec. Pat Tucker KB8CRB and Treas. Dan Lyons KB8KEV.

It was announced that there have been 201 Johnny Appleseed awards given since 1987 when the award was reestablished. There were 14 Johnny Appleseed certificates issued this year.

Field Day was June 21 and 22 at Jim KB8RJR and Tina KB8TAL Bakers home . The group used Dan's call KB8KEV for the event. What do I say! Where is the Ark? Field Day was summed up in one word rain. The group learned to tear down equipment - fast. Tina and Colleen had spent much time preparing the food for those brave souls who ventured to the site.

The Fox Hunt was August 18. Bruce Adams KE9XM, Jim Baker KB8RJR and Steve Jones KC8CBR put the illusive fox near the swimming pool at Colonial Swim Club. This time those entering the fox hunt started from Lake Park. Identification was again made by describing the surroundings. Winners were: Charlie Emick KB8PXM, Colleen Wheatcraft AA8UA and Dan Lyons KB8KEV.

Ron Carns N8KRR took over as newsletter publisher. He was assisted by Colleen AA8UA, Steve AA8BN and Tom KB8HEA and the many amateurs who contributed articles.

Programs during the year included: Dxing, Duane WD8BVV and Mary WD8BVQ Hart from Wooster discussed Methamphetamine labs, Dan Lyons KB8KEV presented a program of pictures from Tony Bilello KC5SDI, who worked on an oil rig in the Gulf of Mexico and was one of our Johnny Appleseed certificate holders.

1999

The officers were: Pres. Colleen Wheatcraft AA8UA; V Pres. Ron Carns N8KRR; Sec. Pat Tucker KB8CRB and Treas. Steve Wheatcraft AA8BN.

Jean Honabarger KB8BGH and Warren Peiter KC8WX gave a program preparing us for the change of the century (Y2K).

In April, Gene Poland KB8RAK and Colleen Wheatcraft AA8UA provided a program on Dxing and how to get those rare stations.

Field Day was again held at Jim KB8RJR and Tina KB8TAL's place on June 26 and 26. The group used Dan Lyon's call KB8KEV for the event. Tina and Colleen again fixed a lot of good food for those participating.

GOBA AGAIN!! On June 22, 23, and 24 GOBA returned to the area for the third time. We will need all members available to help said Pres. Colleen. Remember the fun before!! We had our part pretty well organized by now. So we knew just what to do: locate a base station at a shelter at Lake Park and place mobile units along the route.

Again the group of bikers were friendly and appreciative of our assistance.

A discussion followed the event at the next meeting and some suggestions for changes were made to improve the event the next time the 3000 bikers invade the county.

Bob Bryant W8JNS and Mike Porcher WD8CHR showed QRP equipment as a program. Other programs included: working DX, a show and tell of awards members had received. And Jeff K8ZDA from GOBA.

The group had a picnic in September at Lake Park with lots of good food brought in by those who came. Bruce KE8XM grilled hamburgers and hot dogs for the group.

The Fox Hunt was held on Oct. 24 with Bruce Adams KE8XM and Steve Jones KC8CBR in charge. At Steve's suggestion, they hid the fox along the new walking trail across SR83 at Lake Park. The hunters started from the fairgrounds. The trail was slippery - ask Bruce why his head was dirty! Winners were: Colleen Wheatcraft AA8UA, Dan Lyons KB8KEV and Pat Tucker KB8CRB.

One of our more fascinating programs was in October when Steve and Colleen showed videos and pictures of their wedding and honeymoon. What a trip to Jamaica!!

During the year the club repeater was struck by lightning and had to be repaired.

Twenty-nine Johnny Appleseed certificates were issued this year. One went to Australia. A total of 242 certificates have been given out to date.

December 31, 1999! What will happen at midnight? The group helped with Y2K (entering the millennium). Amateurs were placed at the Sheriff's Office, hospital, AEP power plant and Frontier Power and check-ins. This was to provide assistance in communications in the event of disaster or power failure as the new century entered.

As time went by, the group began to occasionally have meetings after the meetings. Several hams would go to McDonalds or some other local eatery and enjoy a bit of socializing and rag chew while enjoying some refreshments

2000

The Millennium

The officers were: Pres. Colleen Wheatcraft AA8UA; V Pres. Ron Carns N8KRR; Sec. Pat Tucker KB8CRB and Treas. Steve Wheatcraft AA8BN.

The year started at 12:00 am on January 1 by the club welcoming in the New Year on alert for any Y2K problems. Fortunately nothing unusual occurred and the year 2000 entered as normal. There was much hype about disasters which might occur as the year began. Some people had shelters set up and extra supplies of food and water stored in the event of any major disaster. But, as we watched the year enter in Australia first with no problems, it seemed the US would welcome 2000 with no unusual events.

Bruce KE8XM thanked everyone who helped for the Y2K net at midnight on Dec. 31, 1999. There were 28 check ins.

It was decided to veto participating in the Balloon Festival in June at the present time because a fee was being made for having a space.

The July meeting date was changed because of the July 4 holiday. It was also

decided to cancel the October meeting because of the fair.

Field Day was June 24 -25. The group decided to use the Keene repeater site. Bruce's call KE8XM was used for the event. Food was provided by folks bringing in cover dishes.

The group assisted Ed Webber KC8NRY at a community emergency preparedness program at his church, the Morman Church in Roscoe.

The newsletter received an Honorable Mention Certificate in the Ohio Section newsletter contest. Thanks to Ron Carns K8KRR, editor, and all who helped with their articles during the year.

It was decided to combine the picnic and fox hunt this year. Everyone had a good time on September 16. There was plenty of good food for a delicious dinner and nice time rag chewing. This group can cook!! Ed Webber KC8NRY and Bruce Adams KE8XM were in charge of grilling the hamburgers and hot dogs for the group.

Bruce Adams KE8XM and Steve Jones KC8CBR were again in charge of the fox. This year they located it along the Muskingum River near the Three Rivers Bridge. The hunters started from the shelter at Lake Park. Again identification of the fox was made by describing the surroundings. Winners were: Charlie Emick Jr. KC8LHF, Pat Tucker KB8CRB and Diane Emick KC8YUL.

This year eighteen Johnny Appleseed certificates were awarded. One went to Canada.

Dan Lyons KB8KEV read the poem on Christmas Eve.

Some of the programs during the year were: a video on interesting people in Ham Radio, a visit to the repeater sites and a discussion on how repeaters work.

The year came to a close with elections of officers for 2001. The election results were: Pres. Colleen Wheatcraft AA8UA; V Pres. Bruce Mitchell; Sec. Pat Tucker KB8CRB; Treas. Steve Wheatcraft AA8BN.

2001

The officers were: Pres. Colleen AA8UA; V Pres.(acting) Pat KB8CRB, Sec. Pat KB8CRB; and Treas. Steve AA8BN.

There was a problem at the December election of officers: a non ham, non member can not hold office. Colleen appointed Pat KB8CRB as acting V Pres. until such time as the situation is rectified by Bruce Mitchell obtaining his license.

As a result of this confusion, it was decided to review the Constitution and Bylaws. A committee was developed for this purpose. In January the committee of: Nan Leesberg KC8NJT, chair; Colleen AA8UA; Steve AA8BN; Pat KB8CRB; Jim WA8NBP, Ed KC8NRY; Mike WD8CHR met to begin the review. In March, the committee presented the proposed changes to the club. In April, these changes were voted on and unanimously adopted by the club. Many of the changes were simply for clarification.

The Field Day event was held at the Keene repeater site on June 23, 24. It was decided to use Jim's call WA8NBP for the event.. There were 102 contacts made. All attending had a good time and good food of covered dishes brought to eat.

The group collected a donation of \$41.98 at the picnic to give to the Red Cross to assist the 911 Disaster Relief. The money went to aid families affected by the attack on the New York City World Trade Towers and the Pentagon attack by terrorists hijacking

airlines. A moment of silence for those lives lost was taken as a remembrance.

The picnic and fox hunt were combined again this year on September. The faithful fox hiders: Bruce Adams KE8XM and Steve Jones KC8CBR were at it again. This time the fox was located in a tree near the basketball court at Coshocton High School. Those going on the fox hunt started from the shelter at Lake Park after a delicious meal. Identification of the fox was again made by describing some of the surroundings. The winners were: Steve AA8BN, Colleen AA8UA and Diane Emick. Diane and Colleen had a "race to the finish" to get to the fox first. Steve cheered Colleen on as she beat Diane, but not by much.

Those helping at the fair booth this year had a good time. Dan Lyons KB8KEV was the winner of the QSL card drawing. He got a book on emergency preparedness.

Ron N8LPB and Nan KC8NJT Leesberg told of their misadventure with a hurrocane and their mobile home while living in Florida during the winter. It pays to be prepared! They showed pictures of their mobile home and the surrounding area as one of our programs this year. Other programs included: a video on antennas, and a hands on make it directional antenna for the fox hunt.

In the spring, some amateurs put on a demonstration at Coshocton High School for a Carreer Day in the gym. Steve Wheatcraft AA8BN and Bruce Adams KE8XM set up the radios. Cory Chapman KC8NKN, Charlott Chapman KC8NKQ and Sara Woodall KC8KNP helped at the site. Jim WA8NBP, Pat KB8CRB, and Colleen AA8UA checked in with them to help with the demonstration.

This year 25 Johnny Appleseed certificates were issued. The first QRP (low power) certificate was awarded to KA5Y Paul Herson from Texas. The first New Zealand certificate was sent to Steve Mangin ZL2BLQ. As the end of this year, 284 certificates have been awarded.

2002

The officers were: Pres. Colleen Wheatcraft AA8UA; V Pres. Randy Fisher KL7RF; Sec. Pat Tucker KB8CRB and Treas. Dan Hardy N8VV.

Bruce Adams KE8XM suggested that we get tables at the Tucso Hamfest and sell some of the club owned items to help the treasury. This was a profitable venture thanks to Bruce Adams KE8XM, Mike Porcher WD8CHR and David Best KC8IDK.

The VE team also gave an exam session at the Tusco Hamfest. This too was a good idea. The response was very good.

Again many amateurs helped at the fair booth. Dan KB8KEV won the QSL card drawing from the fair. The prize this year was a gift certificate from Wal Mart.

Field Day was June 22 and 23. The group set up radios at the Keene repeater site. It was decided to use Mike's call WD8CHR. More good food as the covered dishes came to provide the extra energy for the task at hand.

It was suggested that the club look into getting its own club call. The group decided to follow through on this idea. We did get a club call W8CCA, after checking on available vanity calls.

Those who were ARES members were sworn in by Jean Honabarger KB8PGH and

provided with identification tags to use at emergency situations or at ARES related events such as the fair booth. Jean also provided 25 ARES vests for the group to use for identification purposes at emergency situations.

Jean also said we were able to use the former HazMat vehicle for emergency purposes since they got a new van. It was decided to go to the Canal Day Parade, if the van could be ready in time. Thanks to several diligent members it was ready and the first public appearance of the ARES vehicle was in the Canal Day Parade in August. Those who were in the parade were: Bruce KE8XM, Ron N8LPB, Nan KC8NJT, Randy KL7RF, Sandy KC8STS, Charlotte Chapman KC8 NKQ, Cory Chapman KC8NKN, Dan Hardy N8VV, Tom Elson KB8 HHO and two of the Leesberg's grandchildren and designated photographer Pat Tucker KB8CRB and Steve Wheatcraft AA8BN and Colleen Wheatcraft AA8UA were along the parade route.

On October 13, we hosted the Multi County Coalition meeting. We held it at the Salvation Army and the attendance was very good. There were about 50 people representing several surrounding counties attending including our own members.

One of the more interesting programs was a show and tell of our Go Bags that we had prepared to be used in emergency situations. Other programs included: a video on a Dexpedition to Kingman Reef provided by Jim Rehard WA8NBP, Highlights of the Dayton Hamfest by those who went, discussion of the SET and also discussion of the task of equipping the van for use.

The Picnic/Fox Hunt were on September 22. More good food to enjoy!!

Bruce Adams KE8XM and Steve Jones KC8CBR were again in charge of the Fox Hunt.. They hid the fox in a fake rudder at the land locked canal boat at Roscoe Basin. The group left from the shelter to go on the hunt. To identify the fox when sighted, the hunter had to describe the surroundings. Winners were: Charlie Emick KB8PXM, Wilma Griffith KC8URE, and Charlie Emick JR. KC8LHF.

There were 18 Johnny Appleseed certificates issued this year. As of 2002, there have been 303 certificates awarded.