

Coshocton County Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

W8CCA

PO BOX 501 Coshocton, OH 43812

March 2007 Newsletter

2007 Club Officers

President:

Steve Wheatcraft, AA8BN

Vice President:

Bruce Adams, KE8XM

Secretary:

Pat Tucker, KB8CRB

Treasurer:

Dan Hardy, N8VV

Coshocton County EC:

Bruce Adams, KE8XM

COARVET Manager:

Steve Wheatcraft, AA8BN

CCARA Newsletter Editor:

Ron Carns, N8KRR

NETS

Coshocton Co. ARA

Sundays 2100 hrs EST

147.045 MHz W8CCA Rptr

Coshocton Co. ARES

Mondays 2100 hrs EST

145.230 MHz KE8XM Rptr

Johnny Appleseed

Fridays 2100 hrs EST

28.450 MHz SSB

Meetings: First Tuesday Each Month, 7:00 PM

Coshocton County Services Bldg.

724 South 7th St.

[Http://www.W8CCA.org](http://www.W8CCA.org)



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

Starts: March 11, 2007 Ends: November 4, 2007

PREZ SAYS

A rare event happened with the club in February. We didn't have a meeting due to COLD temperatures and a county level 1 issued during the late afternoon, which ended up as a level 2 by evening with snow. Announcements were made on the repeaters and by phone. We also called the cancellation in on our local radio station, WTNS. We had planned an emergency communications video for the meeting and I had bought cookies and punch. Just so everyone doesn't worry, I did some taste testing and managed to take care of the snacks. We will hope for better WX at the March 6th meeting in the EOC room. The program planned this time will be the Emergency Communications video..... Hope all can attend.

At our December 2006 meeting officers elected were : Steve, AA8BN, President; Bruce, KE8XM, Vice President; Pat, KB8CRB, Secretary and Dan , N8VV, Treasurer. If you have noticed, and unfortunately some did not, our newsletter was not published last June and December. There seemed to be a lack of interest from the members, although the same certainly cannot be said of the editor at the time, Dan, N8VV. It takes a lot of time and effort to put a newsletter together. It should not be a one person show. One of the main things needed is involvement from all in the form of articles ! It is your newsletter. It is a visible first impression of our club. We wish to thank Dan for all his time and effort with the newsletter over the last few years. Good job! With that said, I think we should continue the newsletter with your help. N8KRR, Ron, has volunteered to once again be Editor. With the Feb. meeting canceled, an executive meeting of the officers was held and reinstated the newsletter for 2007 with N8KRR as editor. The newsletter will be published as before in March, June, September and December. It will be available on our club web page www.w8cca.org . It will be mailed to club members without email. Send your articles to n8krr@arrl.net .

We are also completing the incorporation process for our club which was started in 2004. In January I appointed a special incorporation committee to have our questions answered about our incorporation and to update our Constitution and By-Laws to reflect our incorporation which was in effect Jan 3, 2005. In January, Bill Reed, the attorney that had helped us in 2004 was contacted and agreed to help us again. Thank you very much Bill ! Trustees Dan, N8VV and Colleen, AA8UA and myself met with him near Steubenville, Oh. At the end of this meeting on February 3rd we came away with proposed amendment changes that reflect our incorporation status. Notification of all members as of February 6 was done via email/mail. Hopefully in the near future our Constitution and By-Laws will be up to date and reflect our Incorporation.

We also discussed at our executive meeting the Mansfield hamfest. We decided to attend. KE8XM and AA8BN manned the tables this year and sold some club items. Some equipment of KB8CRB was sold as well of which the club received 30%. This was done in memory of her parents Carl, K8CLC and Margaret, K8BZO and a donation from herself. Thank you Pat. The club realized \$241.65 after Hamfest Table/ticket expenses.

A decision was needed about our annual picnic as well, since we didn't have the Feb. meeting. A date of September 9th for shelter 9 had been requested from the Park Bd in Jan. They wanted an answer Feb.7. With no meeting Feb 6th, the executive meeting decided to hold the picnic September 9 and to confirm and pay the bill as required by the Park Bd. on Feb 7. Hope to see you all at the Club meeting and the March 22 SKYWARN class as listed in this newsletter. Also, thank you all for your 2007 CCARA membership and ARRL membership.

73 , Steve, AA8BN Prez

SkyWarn Workshop

Thursday, March 22, 2007 at 6:30 p.m. Coshocton County Services Building, 724 S. 7th Street, Room B-100 Lower level

Richard Kane, from the Pittsburgh office of the National Weather Service, will be the speaker for the evening. The nationwide program is a volunteer program for training individuals so that they can observe and provide accurate weather reports to the Pittsburgh office when sever weather occurs. These reports help the weather forecasters to improve the accuracy of future weather forecasts as storm fronts move across the state.

Individuals who attend the workshop become certified and then can report their observations directly to the Pittsburgh weather office . Certified observers must attend refresher training sessions periodically to maintain their current observer status.

To register to attend this workshop, call the EMA office at 740-622-1984. Class size will be limited.

<http://coshoctonema.com/ema.htm>

ARRL Club Commission Membership Recruitment Program

ARRL Affiliated Clubs receive a commission for every new ARRL membership and renewal they submit to ARRL Headquarters. Under the ARRL Club Commission Membership Recruitment Program, clubs retain \$15 for each new member and \$2 for each renewal submitted (regular and senior memberships only). A NEW MEMBER is defined as any individual who has never been a member of ARRL or any individual who has not retained a membership for two or more calendar years prior to the application submission. A RENEWING MEMBER can renew at any time, even before their current membership term expires. This program may not be combined with any other promotion or special offer. So, if you're thinking about a new ARRL membership or renewal, contact the Coshocton County Amateur Radio Association, Inc., an ARRL affiliated club. Meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month at 7pm at the Coshocton Co. Services Building, 724 S. 7th St., Coshocton, OH

League Rolls out Emergency Radio Public Relations Campaign, Web Site

NEWINGTON, CT, Jan. 30, 2007 -- "Ham Radio . . . Getting the message through for your family and community " is the theme of the League's 2007 public relations campaign. The "[Emergency Radio](http://www.emergency-radio.org/)" Web site debuted this week. ARRL Media and Public Relations Manager Allen Pitts, WIAGP, says the 2007 emergency communications initiative picks up the momentum public information officers started during the just-ended "Hello campaign.....

<http://www.emergency-radio.org/>

{copied from the ARRL web site January 31, 2007}

New Outgoing QSL Service Rates in Effect

A new rate structure for the Outgoing QSL Service took effect January 1, 2007. The new basic rate is \$5 per half-pound (8 ounces --- or approximately 75 cards) or any portion of a half-pound. That's a change from the current rate of \$4 per half-pound or any portion.

The new rates are in response to a major postal rate increase and price restructuring in early 2006, after which our postage costs nearly doubled. One pound will now cost \$10, and larger packages will be assessed \$5 for each additional half-pound (or portion thereof).

For example, a package containing 1.5 pounds of cards will cost \$15, while a package containing 1.75 pounds of cards will cost \$20. For smaller packages, the new fee is only \$1.50 for 10 or fewer cards, \$2.50 for 11 to 20 cards and \$3.75 for 21 to 30 cards. The new rate structure will help to cover increased postage and basic handling costs for smaller packages while continuing to offer a price break to moderate-volume users submitting less than a half pound of cards, the ARRL Outgoing QSL Service is available to ARRL members. The last rate revision went into effect in March 2001. *{from QST issue February 2007}*



OHIO SECTION NEWSLETTER

To view club newsletters from other Amateur Radio Clubs go to the Ohio Section Page at: www.iarc.ws/ohio/newsletters.html



ARRL AMATEUR RADIO EXAM SESSIONS

COSHOCTON, OHIO

2007

Coshocton Ohio Amateur Radio Volunteer Examiner Team, sponsored by the
Coshocton County Amateur Radio Association, Inc. W8CCA

PRE REGISTERED and WALK-IN SESSIONS

If you are interested in setting up a pre registered exam session

Contact us for dates and times to set up a session for you !

All Exam elements available. The 2007 exam fee is \$14.00. Exact amount appreciated. Checks made out to ARRL/VEC accepted too.

2nd version of exam available at VE discretion, time permitting. An additional \$14.

REQUIRED:

PHOTO ID (driver's license) or two forms of non-photo ID.

Persons without photo IDs, and/or young persons must supply TWO forms of alternate identification to satisfy their ID requirements. These two items can include: Non-photo ID/driver's license; Your Social Security Card (as FCC presently requires each applicant to supply a taxpayer ID number also know as our Social Security Number) Your Birth certificate (must have the appropriate seal); Minor's work permit or school report card; Utility bill, bank statement or other business correspondence that specifically names the person; A postmarked envelope addressed to the person indicating the same mailing address as shown on Form 605; or an employment ID.

CURRENT ORIGINAL AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE and COPY

ORIGINAL valid CSCE(s) that apply and COPY

Social Security number or FCC issued FRN (FCC Registration Number)

(The FRN is viewable by doing a search for LICENSE at the FCC WTB ULS web page (<http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/uls>). An FRN is a ten digit number preceded by three or four zeros then six or seven numbers)

We have NCVEC 605 forms at session. Handicap accessible. Copy machine available

Contact person: Colleen, AA8UA 740.622.5761 email : aa8ua@arrl.net

AA8BN, session mgr., good luck

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH

March 4	ARRL International DX Contest-Phone
March 11	Daylight Saving Time Begins
March 11	North American RTTY Sprint
March 24-25	CQ WW WPX SSB Contest
March 25-31	Spring Severe Weather Awareness Week
March 28	Statewide Tornado Drill at 9:50 a.m.

APRIL

April 18	World Amateur Radio Day
April 21	Lyrids Meteor Shower
April 28	ARRL VEC Amateur Exam Day
April 29	ARRL VEC Amateur Exam Day

MAY

May 4-6	EmComm West
May 18-19-20	Dayton Hamvention®
May 19	Armed Forces Day
May 21	Hurricane Awareness Week
May 25	McGan Award Nominations due
May 26-27	CQ WW WPX CW Contest

2007 Dayton Hamvention®

The Greatest Amateur Radio Convention in the World!

May 18, 19 & 20, 2007

Hara Arena

Trotwood, Ohio

Welcome!

On behalf of the Dayton Amateur Radio Association and all the Hamvention® volunteers, I would like to welcome you to the 2007 Dayton Hamvention® website and invite you to join us for our 56th show on May 18,19 & 20 at Hara Arena.

The 2007 staff is hard at work planning to make your visit to Hamvention® as interesting and friendly as possible. We thank those of you who have been here before. Your support has helped us continue to put on the World's largest amateur radio gathering.

If you haven't been to Hamvention®, we hope you will join us this year. We are working to make it easier for you to find the information you need to plan your visit.

Our theme this year is : Local Clubs: The Heart of Ham Radio. We want to acknowledge the support that local ham radio clubs around the world provide to their communities and to amateur radio. We have some plans for clubs at Hamvention® so be watching for developments.

Again, thank you for supporting our show. We hope to see you in May. We'll try to make you glad you came.

The future is bright for the 2007 Dayton Hamvention®, your one MUST SEE event .

73's,

Jim Nies, WX8F General Chairman

{copied from the Dayton Hamvention web site: }

N8LPB, Ron Reporting from Florida

We were very pleased to find everything just as we left it last summer when we arrived here in mid December. Both Mom and brother Ken are doing fairly well. Ken bought an adult tricycle so we can ride together when the weather (and his health) permit.

We bought Mom her own wheelchair and she has found it to be more comfortable than the one supplied by our nursing home. We try to get her out around the park as often as we can. She enjoys "shopping" at the supermarket across the street. We finally talked her into new hearing aids. Her old analog unit would squeal when its volume was turned up but would no longer amplify any sound.

We are planning a Valentine luncheon at CiCi's and a "walk" along the path on the shore of Kissimmee's Lake Toho.

The Sunday before last, when Lizzy, our church organist, was about to finish the last service's recessional, the organ quit! We jiggled the console switch and got it going again.

Our organ is possibly the only pipe organ in the county and is quite spectacular with its floor shaking, 32' diapasons. I began working on the switch (after spending two hours tracing wiring - no schematics!) the following Monday, to no avail. I'm convinced that the blower motor's contactor (relay) is failing to engage the 220 VAC motor supply. A licensed electrician is supposed to look at it this Wednesday so we're hoping for the best. (We had no organ last Sunday!)

If all else fails, I'll probably rig a deep well relay if I can find one that will handle the needed current.

Both Nan and I sing in the choir and Nan is now reading at two elementary schools through her screen actor's guild's BookPal program. I'm also presenting a solar astronomy program to elementary school kids. (see attachment) The large white 'scope has a "white light" filter to view the Sun's photosphere's sunspots while the small gold 'scope views the Sun's chromosphere's prominences. I'm also the Avenue Astronomer at Give Kids The World (www.gktw.org) on Friday evenings. Unfortunately, due to the near-by theme parks, the night sky is too light polluted to see anything but the Moon and the five visible planets. Although last Friday we did managed to see the Great Orion Nebula (M42).

The big news is that Nan is freezing near Clare, Michigan. She is consoling her sister, Carol, on the death of her husband. (She was planning to go anyway to help when Greg came home from the hospital but he only lived two days after he came home.) I expect her to return here on the 21st.

The "powers that be" are messing with daylight savings time (DST) again. Since 1966, DST began on the first Sunday in April and ended on the last Sunday in October. Not so this year! It will begin on the second Sunday in March and end on the first Sunday in November. You can download a "fix" for your computer from our Radio Observatory site:

<http://argus.naapo.org/~rchilders/tzedit.exe>

Russ says this should work on any Windows platform.

Finally, last weekend I attended Orlando's annual "Hamcation", this year's site of the ARRL's Southeastern Division Convention.

Lots of "Oh, My's" (computer operated HF rigs, etc.) but not too much for us ordinary mortals. The flea market was not very impressive, at least for me, since I was looking for a small solid state HF rig that would remain here during the summer season. I found a TS-120 for \$200 but it looked pretty beat up and had no manual and there was no way to test it. Although the price was right, I was afraid to take a chance.

I did accidently stumble on to an interesting concept, however. Frank McGinley WB4NWV has created a motorized inverted "V" dipole that reminded me of the first HF antenna that we used (and I still have, somewhere!) during my first extracurricular amateur radio club back when I was teaching high school in Lakewood - a double tape measure antenna. (see the last two attachments) I felt sorry for him because he was stuck out in a field next to the weekly domestic flea market, far away from the ham activity. For more information, his web site is: www.Tune-A-Tenna.com.

<< I'm still in the market, if anyone at home has an older unit in good shape!! >>

[[cont. on page 7](#)]

[N8LPB cont. from page 6]

Now for some "amateur radio stuff":

The "shack" is located in our rear bedroom. On top is a Kenwood communications receiver, an "atomic" clock and a weather radio in front of a backup gel cell. Below is the 2 m. Watt meter,



2 m Yeasu transceiver and a Radio Shack 10 m. transceiver. Below that is my power supply, an MFJ CW reader/keyer and a 10 m. antenna tuner. The small box with two knobs at the bottom left is a home-made 2 m. antenna tuner. If you enlarge this image you can plainly see the tuner (More about the tuner in a future article.)

The CW reader/keyer is to be used with the 10 m. transceiver operating as a beacon. (Another future article?) I became interested in this project now that sunspot cycle #23 has (hopefully!) "turned the corner" to cycle #24.

That's it for now so - I'll send more the next time

73,

Ron N8LPB

From the EDITOR

Articles for the June newsletter are to be e-mailed to: www.n8krr@arrl.net or received by me (N8KRR) by May 16th, 2007.
TNX