

Vol. 2007, #8  
August 2007



NORTHERN KENTUCKY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

# The Feedline

## Paddlefest Redux

Paddlefest 2007 was a huge success for its organizers and another feather in the hat for NKARC. NKARC is listed as one of the supporters of Paddlefest and the club logo is on their promotional literature. An organization is a reflection of the quality of the mem-

Tony AI4IP, Emily K4MLE, Brian K4BRI, Don WB4QIT, Greg WG8Z, Dave KI4QH, Jim K4JRU, Joe KI4QG, Harry KI4SFR, Lynn WD8JAW, plus Don, N8LMJ who was the liaison with the USCG.



<http://tinyurl.com/2hkbmu>  
<http://tinyurl.com/2hkbmu>  
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<http://tinyurl.com/2hkbmu>

bers and the Paddlefest volunteers did a spectacular job of overseeing the safety of the in-water activities for the sponsoring organization. Paddlefest organizers estimated “more than 1,500 participants floated and raced as part of...” and it is no small feat to monitor such a large group. So a GREAT BIG NKARC THANK YOU to the following:

Here is a neat link to the Paddlefest sponsor's web site where you can view a couple videos and many still pictures showing what fun this event is. I'm taking sign ups for 2008!

<http://tinyurl.com/2hkbmu>

73, Lynn, WD8JAW

Tim AG4XM, Rick KD4PYR,

Inside this issue:

Top of the Tower	3
Editor's Soapbox	4
July Meeting Minutes	5
Weaver's Words	6
QSL Card of the Month	9

Dates to Remember:

- Aug 13 – Membership Meeting
- Sep 10 – Membership Meeting

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## Repeaters — K4CO

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

## Nets

N. KY. Amateur Club Net: Tuesdays, 7:30 PM on the 147.255 repeater

—WEB Site—

<http://www.k4co.org>

**Membership meetings** on the **2nd Monday** at 7:30 PM, Turkeyfoot Middle School, 3230 Turkeyfoot Rd in Edgewood

**Board meetings: TBA**

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Mark Volstad AI4BJ: 6098 Tosha Dr., Burlington, KY 41005 — Email: [mvolstad@fuse.net](mailto:mvolstad@fuse.net)

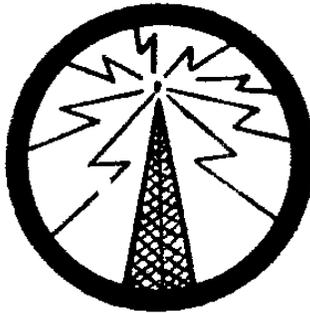
# Top of the Tower

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Fellow members, August is here. Half the year is over and our club still has plenty on its plate. Make sure you participate over the next few months in what should be some fun. Of course, there are some business items we need to take care of as well. Some of the fun things on the horizon for our club include a kit building night, antenna contest and a swap fest/flea market. This coming August 13th Mark, AI4BJ will give a presentation on a sampling of the various kits available. We'll try to decide which kit the members would like to build and plan a club meeting with a goal towards getting a good start on the kit with completion by club members at their home. Your directors have not finalized their thoughts on the kit building program, but they are working towards the club subsidizing a portion of the cost of the project.

This coming meeting we'll also hash out some guidelines and possibly form teams for the antenna building competition. Bring thoughts on specific guidelines for the competition, the number/size of the teams, and any possible prizes.

Do you have any radio stuff in your shack that you are not using? Maybe you purchased a car antenna and a few months later purchased a different one you believed would serve you better.



Is your first CW paddle your only CW paddle? Do you have more than two HT's? Lets have a swap fest/flea market! We'll pick a club meeting night and everyone will be required to bring at least one item they want to get rid of either by swapping with someone else or selling/giving to someone their excess equipment. In my years here at the club I have not seen a meeting like this and think we could have some fun trading/swapping/getting rid of some of our stuff.

Lastly, some business items coming up include club elections and club trustee transition. I've been your club president for two years now. You deserve some fresh/different ideas. I'm not going anywhere, but I cannot be your club president next year. Consider being a member of the club's leadership team. Harold W4YWH has been our club trustee for a number of years now. He would like to transition away from the day to day duties of trustee. Harold is not going anywhere either, he is just letting others step up to the plate. Thanks Harold.

See you August 13th, the usual place and time.

73, Tony AI4IP

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## July Net Report

DATE	NCS	CHECKINS	TIME (MINS)	TRAFFIC
7/03/07	KI4QFL (Frank)	6	15	1
7/10/07	KB4VKS (Mike)	7	23	0
7/17/07	N4IJS (Robert)	10	27	0
7/24/07	KG4SBG (Dennis)	9	36	1
7/31/07	KI4QFL (Frank)	8	20	3
TOTALS		40	121	5

# Editor's Soapbox

## Summer Reading Treat

I have a keen interest in history, so when I can combine history with amateur radio, I'm in hog heaven. Such was the case when I received a copy of Crosley from my wife Lylah last Christmas. I've lived in the Cincinnati area for almost twenty years now, but had only the sketchiest of an idea of who/what Crosley was. Having read the book, I've now filled a large gap in my knowledge of local and American history — and a fascinating piece of history it is!

Powell Crosley Jr., born in 1886, became obsessed with automobiles as a young man, but failed in several attempts to manufacture one himself. He enrolled in an engineering course at UC, but flunked out. In 1916 he finally found success making parts and accessories for the Ford Model T. Powell was the dreamer and marketer, while his younger brother Lewis was stuck with the task of converting Powell's dreams into commercially viable products.

In 1921, Powell walked into a store in Cincinnati to buy a wireless set for his son, but left empty handed when he found that he would have to pay one hundred and thirty dollars for a one-tube set, and that did not include the battery, headphones or antenna! He went home and fumed about this, and decided that he would build a radio "for the masses, not the classes". The rest, as they say, is history. Their first radio went on sale seven months later. It was a crystal set, dubbed "The Harko", and it sold for seven dollars. They advertised the radio in QST. Within three years, Crosley Radio Manufacturing was the largest radio manufacturer in the world.

In 1921 there was no regular radio programming. There were a handful of commercial stations in the country which all broadcast on one of two frequencies. Amateurs also did their share of

haphazard broadcasting. The idea that you could make money from broadcasting had not occurred to anybody yet, so most commercial broadcasting was done by the radio manufacturers themselves, in order to help sell more radio sets.

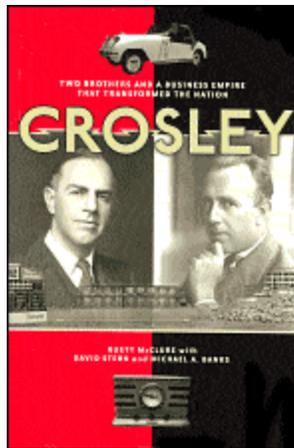
Powell soon had a four-tube, 20-watt transmitter set up in his living room, from where he broadcast under the amateur call sign 8XAA. He was on the air three nights a week, initially playing phonograph music but eventually adding live music as well. By the end of 1921, amateur

broadcasting was banned, so Powell applied for a commercial license. A few months later, Crosley Manufacturing was granted the call sign WLW, authorized to broadcast at 50 watts on 360 meters (833 kHz). They had to time-share the frequency with WMH, which was operated by a competitor of Crosley in Cincinnati. They eventually bought out this competitor, gaining exclusive use of the frequency, at least in Cincinnati. By 1934, WLW was broadcasting with 500,000 watts, and occasionally 700,000 watts, making it the most powerful radio station in the world. In fact, its signal could be heard from many parts of the world.

Radios and broadcasting are just one facet of the Crosley story. They manufactured a wide range of products, including refrigerators, children's strollers, aircraft and eventually, the Crosley automobile. They also had a strong interest in professional baseball, as every longtime Reds fan will know.

Written by Rusty McClure, grandson of Lewis, and the last remaining direct descendent of the Crosley brothers, the book is a very entertaining and informative read. Your local library will certainly have a copy, or better yet, buy a copy for yourself, as it makes a great reference book.

73, Mark, AI4BJ



# July Meeting Minutes

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The meeting was called to order by Tony White at 7:32 p.m. at the Turkey Foot Middle School. Lynn Ernst led us in the pledge to the flag. Self introductions followed. There were 18 names on the sign in sheet.

Tony congratulated Jonathan Jennings on upgrading to General tonight, and welcomed guest Dave Core.

There was no Treasurer's report. The minutes of the June 2007 meeting were approved as they appeared in the Feedline. John Foltz made the motion and Lynn Benjamin seconded.

There was a good deal of discussion about whether or not the location of our repeaters should be made know to the public as well as other concerns about the repeaters.

Lynn Ernst reported that twelve members logged 70.5 volunteer hours at Paddlefest. Overall the

event went well. Mark you calendars for the Saturday after July 4, 2008, to volunteer next year.

Tony White led a discussion about the good, the bad, and the ugly of this year's Field Day. Thirty people showed up and we earned about 2,600 points.

There was some discussion on where some of the club's equipment is located.

Robert Kluck won Split the Pot.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 p.m. John Foltz made the motion. Lynn Benjamin seconded.

Respectfully submitted

Bob Burns, AB4BK

*Mark Volstad, AI4BJ, will present a survey of inexpensive, commercially available kits at the August NKARC meeting. Please join us Monday, August 13th!*

# Weaver's Words

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**Jim Weaver, K8JE**  
**Great Lakes Division Director, ARRL**  
**E-mail: [k8je@arrl.org](mailto:k8je@arrl.org); Tel.: 513-459-0142**

## We're Gone

As listed on the Tentative Travel Schedule, below, Vice Director Gary Johnston, KI4LA and I are in Newington for the Board of Directors meeting on Friday and Saturday of this week. In addition to the Board meeting, I had a committee meeting on Thursday. We will probably have access to e-mail, but may have little much time to work through this.

If you have anything in particular for either of us before we leave, shoot it to us promptly. Incidentally, Gary is representing "the Division" at the Michigan Family Outing this weekend. Thanks, Gary.

## Who says we don't have clout?

I occasionally hear members say Amateur Radio doesn't carry clout with Federal agencies. Don't you believe it! The following is a quote of Michael Gallagher, former head of the US NTIA. The article from which this quote came was published July 10 and was written by Scott Hollis in an electronic gaming magazine.

"Gamers could help protect their past-time from hostile lawmakers by emulating another group of passionate hobbyists: amateur radio operators who have zealously defended their right to use a slice of public airwaves, Gallagher said.

"They are passionate, they are heard and they are accommodated. If there is one group to look at and say: 'It can be done', simply look at the amateur radio community,' Gallagher told Reuters in an interview."

## More Proof of Clout

If you want more proof that Amateur Radio and you have clout, you need look only as far as Michigan's 1st Congressional District. Most of you do not know that I sent a special request to members in this District to double their effort in asking Rep. Bart Stupak to co-sponsor HR 462. They did . . . and he did.

Thanks to the combined, splendid effort of ARRL members in the 1st District and our Congressional lobbyist in Washington, Mr. Stupak has signed on to co-sponsor the bill.

Unknown to most of you, I also sent a request to members who lived in Rep. Dennis Kucinich's District in Ohio to let me know if they had special acquaintance with the Congressman. One member stepped forward, offered to write and followed through. In doing this, he fulfilled a request from Mr. Kucinich's aide in DC for one letter from a constituent asking him to initiate hearings on FCC's rules regarding BPL -- most importantly the rule that gives Part 15 devices priority over licensed radio services when it come to interference.

While on the topic of special requests, it has been a busy time for our Legislative Action folks. I also sent a special letter to our Kentucky members asking them to write to Sen. Mitch McConnell to support S. 1629. This is the bill in the US Senate that is very similar to HR 462 in the US House. Mr. McConnell is on a critical committee in the Senate that is studying the bill. We want his support in moving S. 1629 from Committee to the Floor of the Senate.

You are looking good, folks. Thanks for your help.

## Ohio Member Nominated to AMSAT Board

Gunther Meisse, W8GSM of Mansfield, OH is one of five hams who nominated to fill four positions



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on the AMSAT Board of Directors. Ballots in the AMSAT election must be received by the close of business on September 15. GL Gunther.

### Diamond Terrace Dedicated

There was a very party at ARRL HQ at 3 PM, July 19 to open the new Diamond Terrace. After a brief opening ceremony, refreshments were served. The words "short" and "brief" are accurate. This was by intent, and necessitated by the weather. The dedication started promptly at 3 PM and ended at 3:17 when the heavens opened. Fortunately, Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, Chief Development Officer Mary Hobart, N1MMH and ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, anticipated the coming deluge and kept their remarks short and to-the-point. We all made it inside HQ before the rain began in earnest.

What is the Diamond Terrace? This is a remake and expansion of the area around the front entrance to ARRL HQ. Diamond Club members are donating engraved paving bricks for the patio as well as granite benches to sit on. These are a very nice way to remember a special member of your club, your former Elmer or just a great friend . . . Or show your personal thanks to ARRL for everything it has done for Amateur Radio through the years.

FYI, I placed three bricks in the terrace. These are for my former Elmer, Jan "Dib" Dibble, K9HLG (SK), of Cincinnati and Kokomo, IN, for a tremendous amateur from Greater Cincinnati, John C. Dine, WA8DFD (SK) and for me. I'm not particularly noteworthy, but I wanted to show my great appreciation of ARRL for the considerable pleasure I've had over the past 43+ years in Amateur Radio - all made possible by the League.

Bricks and benches are still available if you choose to donate them. You may contact Mary Hobart, N1MMH ([n1mmh@arrl.org](mailto:n1mmh@arrl.org)) for information on these.

### Who's on First?

Question: Who runs ARRL? Answer this question (to yourself) before you read further.



I'll bet many of you said it is HQ or Dave Sumner, K1ZZ who runs the League. If you'd have bet money or a rig on this answer, you'd have lost. ARRL is run by the Board of Directors. It is the Board of Directors that develops all policy for ARRL. Our HQ staff implements policies the Board develops. The day-to-day operation of ARRL is managed by staff under the direction of Chief Executive Officer Dave Sumner, K1ZZ. Dave reports to the Board of 15 Directors through the Board President, Joel Harrison, W5ZN.

The fact that many members believe that the tail (HQ) wags the dog (the Board) was particularly apparent from several comments I received relative to the last survey.

When you have a question about the operation of an established program (e.g. DXCC, Field Day, etc.) operates, contact HQ. When you have a question about ARRL policy (e.g. whether there should be DXCC, Field Day, etc.) or what I am doing as Director, ask me.

One additional point is that your Section Manager also plays heavily in the picture. SMs report to HQ, not to the Director. They are responsible for managing many ARRL programs in the field -- their Section. If you have a question concerning, for example, how ARES or the OO Corps operates in your Section, contact the Section Manager.

### Know of a Great Elmer?

ARRL sponsors an award to recognize a special Elmer in your club. If you or your club would like to recognize someone for their mentoring accomplishments send your request for an Elmer Award to [clubs@arrl.org](mailto:clubs@arrl.org). Please include:

1. The name and call of the person who will receive the award
2. The name and call of person or club presenting the award
3. The address where the award is to be sent.

ARRL offers the Elmer Award mounted on a beautiful walnut plaque. Please call 860-594-0230 for details and cost of this service.

The Affiliated Club Coordinator in your Section can also provide information on this award.

### **A Coincidence**

Fact 1: At last count, there are 1,629 amateurs in South Dakota.

Fact 2: The number assigned the "Amateur Radio protection act" in the US Senate is S. 1629.

### **Automatic Survey Ends**

The automatic survey many of you took has ended as announced. I will look the figures over seriously after I return home. At this time I can tell you 1004 members of the Great Lakes Division are recorded as having taken it! This is outstanding! Thanks.

One fact I had not anticipated is that 51.8% of the 2,453 total number of hams who took the survey work some form of digital. The most commonly used form of digital used was PSK-31 (43.8% of the users of digital). Winlink 2000, the newest of digital modes draws 15.2% of digital users with 76.2% of WL 2K operators using it for emergency Communication.

Of the 2453 respondents, 54.5% use CW. SSB is used by 99.5% of 2050 respondents and 17.4% operate AM.

The FCC's re0farming of phone frequencies affected 16.9% of users with 38.4% of these users having to move to a different frequency as a result.

Of 2453 respondents, 54.5% operate from 1-5 hours a week with 15.1% operating 6-10 hours and 15.0%

hours per week. Thirteen (0.5%) operate more than 80 hours per week.

More details next month.

### **Division Convention**

I have never seen a harder working bunch of convention or hamfest workers than we have for the 2007 Great Lakes Division Convention. The program they've assembled, coupled with the tremendous speakers, the banquet and even the DX card checking — especially the card checkers — are unprecedented. In this latter feature, ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN and I will even check 160 M cards which ordinarily can be checked only at HQ.

Take a few minutes to check the many features, speakers and other quality assets the Cleveland sponsors have arranged for September 22. The web site is: <http://www.2007glcdc.org/>. What you will find is a lotta bang for your buck.

### **Tentative Travel Schedule**

I've been trying to reach an officer with the UP Hamfest in Escanaba with little success. If someone involved with the hamfest sees this request, please get in touch with me by e-mail, soon. Please include your telephone number in the e-mail. Tnx.

- Jul 28: UP Hamfest, Escanaba, MI - Jim
- Aug 1: Cincinnati FM Club, Cincinnati, OH - Jim
- Sep 8: GRAHamfest, Grand Rapids, MI - Jim
- Sep 9: Findlay Hamfest, Findlay, OH - Jim
- Sep 22: Great Lakes Division Convention, Cleveland, OH - Gary & Jim
- Sep 23: Cleveland Hamfest, Cleveland, OH - Jim
- Oct 2: OH-KY-IN ARRL Night, Cincinnati, OH - Jim
- Oct 8: Portage County ARS, Kent, OH - Jim
- Oct 16: Branch Co. ARC, Coldwater, MI - Jim
- Nov 14: Hazel Park ARC, Hazel Park, MI - Jim
- Nov 19: Southern Ohio ARA Christmas Dinner, Russell, KY - Jim
- Dec 1: Motor City RC 75th Ann., Wyandotte, MI - Jim

# QSL Card of the Month

## Submitted by:

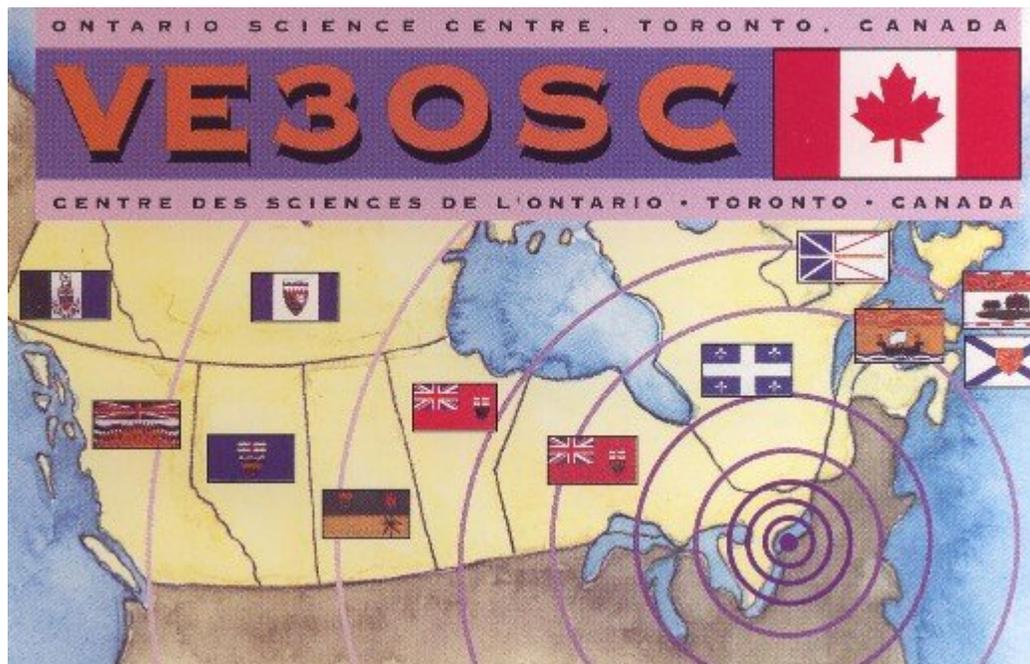
Mark Volstad, AI4BJ

## Comments:

As a boy growing up on the outskirts of Toronto, one of my favorite places to visit was the Ontario Science Center. Unlike traditional museums, the OSC was loaded with hands-on exhibits. You could try your hand at landing a mock-up of the Lunar Excursion Module on the Moon, watch a chemical laser burn a hole through fire brick, and play Tic-Tac-Toe

against a computer — all pretty heady stuff for a 10 year old boy in the late 60s! I also vividly remember seeing a well-equipped working amateur radio shack staffed by volunteer hams. One wall of the shack was covered with QSL cards from around the world.

Fast-forward 35 years to 2004: I was a 45-year-old newly-minted ham,



now living in Kentucky. While scanning 20 meters one afternoon, I ran across a small pile-up of stations wanting to work VE3OSC, the ham radio station from my childhood memories! It didn't take me long to add him to my log, and I had a nice chat with the fellow who was operating on that day.

Serendipitously, I am now working

for the company that supplied the PDP-8 computer that I played Tic-Tac-Toe with those many years ago!

<http://www.ontariosciencecentre.ca/>

*If you have a special QSL card you would like to share, submit it to the Feedline editor, along with any comments you would like included.*

## ARISS Update

### From the ARRL Letter, Vol. 26, No.30

ARRL Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) Coordinator Rosalie White, K1STO, said that the ARISS program is moving along splendidly. On Tuesday, July 17, long-term hospitalized children at the Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children in Orlando, Florida, spoke with astronaut Clay Anderson, KD5PLA, aboard the ISS. Anderson answered the children's 33 questions. The Challenger Learning Center of Lucas County, in Oregon, Ohio has been scheduled for an ARISS contact on Wednesday, July 25 at 1148 UTC. The center has a

science lab that is used for the summer camp programs, and schools from northwest Ohio and southeast Michigan participate in the programs which reach approximately 3000 students each year. An ARISS contact has also been planned for the 21st World Scout Jamboree in Chelmsford, England. Special Event Station GB100J will operate at the Jamboree from July 27-August 8, 2007. Approximately 40,000 scouts from 200 countries are expected to attend this event. The contact will take place on Saturday, August 4 at 2110 UTC. There have been 306 ARISS International Space Station-to-Earth school contacts to date.

Return to:  
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