

# THE FEEDLINE

THE CANTON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Visit WWW.W8AL.ORG

Nov 2009



## Bill N8PW and John W0OZZ Now Conducting Amateur Radio Classes at Crenshaw Jr HS

### OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT  
Roger Gray W8VE  
VICE PRESIDENT  
Les Myers W8JTF  
SECRETARY  
Bill Hannon N8PW  
TREASURER  
Scott Duncan KK8D

### TRUSTEES:

Ted Armstrong K8TWA  
Dale Lamm NX8J  
Gary Marks WD8ICX  
Dennis Moriarty K8AGB  
Mike Popa KC8WVC  
Jerry Shrigley N8YB

**PUBLICITY DIRECTOR:**  
Dennis Moriarty K8AGB

### WEBMASTER:

Justin Corner W8JKC

**CLUB REPEATER**  
146.790

**MEETINGS**  
EVERY 3RD WED 7:30P  
STARK COUNTY E. O. C.  
**LOWER LEVEL**  
STARK COUNTY  
SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
RT 62 EAST

**TRUSTEES MEETING**  
EVERY 3RD WED 6:15P  
STARK COUNTY E. O. C.

**"THE FEEDLINE"**  
DEADLINE NEXT ISSUE  
IS DECEMBER 1, 2009

### EDITOR

Dale Lamm NX8J

Canton ARC members Bill Hannon N8PW and John Kalafice W0OZZ are now teaching the fundamentals of amateur radio to a class of 12 at Crenshaw Jr High School. The class meets once a week on Wednesdays after school for two hours.

The "final exam" will be the FCC Technician class amateur radio license test on December 16.

Beyond the immediate goal of licensing new amateurs, Bill and John hope to establish a permanent amateur radio club at Crenshaw. A room has been allocated to contain a station, and planning is underway to construct an outside antenna system.

John's wife (a guidance counselor at Crenshaw) was very helpful in arranging this beneficial activity for the students. Rumor has it that she will also sit for the Technician class exam in December.

W0OZZ maintains multiple repeaters in the Canton area. If you should hear students operating on 145.11 FM (PL 110.9), please drop in and offer some encouragement to a young "radio explorer".

## ARRL Field Day Results Posted

*Canton ARC fared well in the 2009 ARRL Field Day event.  
These are from the December QST via Roger Gray.*

**Canton Club scored 71<sup>st</sup> out of 2,612 (all Entries)**

**Canton Club scored 18<sup>th</sup> out of 441 "2A" stations in US.**

**We were 2<sup>nd</sup> in Great Lakes section in "2A" category.**

**CARC = 8,956 points**

**Northern Ohio DX assn = 8,000 points**

**Wayne Co Club W8AV = 6,642 points**

**Massillon ARC = 3,282 points**

# Venturing Crew 73 Activities and News

Canton ARC sponsors Venturing Crew 73, which is a sub-organization within the Boy Scouts of America. On October 17, Crew 73 participated in the 52nd annual JOTA event at Camp McKinley near Lisbon Ohio.

An HF station was set up early in the morning. Operations continued till late afternoon. We used a Kenwood TS-140 and the old standby inverted-V antenna with a Drake matcher.

Many visitors came by from the camp, where a multi-troop Sandy Beaver district camporee was in progress.

VC-73 member Andy Krew was of great help this day. Our report to ARRL can be found at the URL below, along with that of other groups participating in JOTA.

Editors note: if you are reading the electronic version of FEEDLINE, simply click the URL below to open a browser window.

[http://www.arrl.org/scouts/jota/Stories/?evt\\_id=3](http://www.arrl.org/scouts/jota/Stories/?evt_id=3)

## AREA NETS

STARK CO ARES NET  
TUESDAY  
FM 7:00 PM 147.120

ALLIANCE ARC  
THURSDAY  
CW 8:00 PM 28.400  
SSB 8:30 PM 28.400  
FM 9:00 PM 145.370

MASSILLON ARC  
2ND, 3RD & 4TH  
FRIDAY  
FM 8:00 PM 147.180

CUYAHOGA FALLS ARC  
MONDAY  
FM 8:30 PM 147.270

PORTAGE COUNTY ARS  
THURSDAY  
FM 8:00 PM 146.895

LAKE ERIE ARA  
THURSDAY  
FM 8:00 PM 146.760

GOODYEAR ARC  
THURSDAY  
FM 7:30 PM 146.985

WOOSTER ARC DX GRP  
THURSDAY  
FM 8:00 PM 147.345  
(110.9 PL)

WEST STARK INFO NET  
THURSDAY  
FM 8:00 PM 147.180

MASSILLON RADIO NET  
SUN, TUE, THU  
CW 7:30 PM 3599.5  
8:30 PM DURING EDT

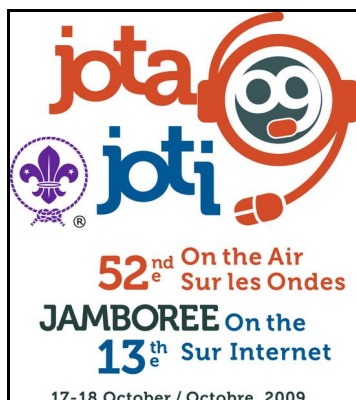
HOMELAND SECURITY NET  
LAST TUE OF MONTH  
FM 8:00 PM 147.51  
(SIMPLEX)



Andy taking a break from working the bands



Pretty simple setup, 100 watts and a wire...



Sausages on the grill take away the chill!

Have a NET you would like to see publicized here?

Please send details to Feedline editor at:

[dal@i-amm.org](mailto:dal@i-amm.org)

# Letter from the President

## Roger Gray W8VE

**From the President's Shack "Ham Radio from an education perspective."**

### Is ham radio of any educational value for high school students?

In March of this year, I judged at Science Fair for northeast Ohio schools. As a judge, I was allowed to ask the student presenters questions about their exhibit.

The first exhibit was robot fighting vehicle. That was remote controlled by an FM transmitter; I asked the students what FM stood for? The students did not know.

The next exhibit had a model of the wind-mill powered generator. They pointed out a bridge rectifier to convert the AC output to DC. I asked them how much of power they the windmill to generate and if 2 bridge rectifiers would handle the current? The student could not answer the question. Then, I asked them what they were going to use for lightning protection for windmill in case of nearby lightning strikes. Again they had no answer.

The next team had designed a tower to hold the windmill called the "Tower of Power". The students presented a model windmill tower which they plan to build at Auburn Career Center next year. I asked them about any zoning restrictions on tower height and asked them if their tower design was adequate to handle the wind load of the windmill blade. They had no knowledge of wind loading or zoning restrictions. I told them to get on the Rohn Tower website to learn about wind loads. I advised them to find some local hams to give them advice erecting a tower.

***I was able to ask these questions because I am a ham radio operator.*** If any of these students or instructors were hams they would be well versed on windmill tower design. The ARRL sponsors seminars for junior high and high school teachers to get their ham license. From my experience at the science fairs, I appreciate what ham radio can teach instructors as well as students.

Roger Gray W8VE

*From John Myers KD8MQ comes this late news about the USA Radio Direction Finding championship....*

*The location of the 2010 USARDF Championships has been announced.*

*It will be in Cincinnati, and the dates are May 21-23rd, the weekend after Dayton.*

*Here's the URL <http://www.usardf2010.com>*

### SWAP COLUMN

Kenwood TS-440  
Power Supply  
Antenna Tuner  
Microphone & Misc

Tom Kiehl  
330-494-0107  
Stuber Drive near Lake  
Cable

**SELLING? WANT TO BUY?**  
Please send details to  
Dale NX8J, editor at:  
daleamm@ieee.org

# CARC Jacket Order Form

Jackets are still available! Please fill in the grid squares below, one row for each jacket needed. Sizes are XS through 6XL. Calculate your own tax and the total for each row. Payment must be made in advance, check made out to Canton ARC. Mail to Canton ARC, POB 8673, Canton OH 44711-8673.

	STYLE	COLOR	LADIES SIZE	MENS SIZE	CALL SIGN	NAME	PRICE	TAX	TOTAL COST
1.	764 LEGACY	STONE DK NAVY							
2.	764 LEGACY	STONE DK NAVY							
3.	764 LEGACY	STONE DK NAVY							

NAME	
ADDRESS 1	
ADDRESS 2	
CITY	
STATE	
ZIP+4	
PHONE	
EMAIL	



*Classy logo applied over left breast pocket*

MENS SIZE	JACKET INCL LOGO & CALL	6% TAX	TOTAL
XS-XL	\$57.00	\$3.42	\$60.42
2X	\$59.00	\$3.54	\$62.54
3X	\$63.00	\$3.78	\$66.78
4X	\$65.00	\$3.90	\$68.90
5X	\$69.00	\$4.14	\$73.14
6X	\$71.00	\$4.26	\$75.26



*Men's style. See previous issue of FEEDLINE for lady's jacket details*

LADIES SIZE	JACKET INCL LOGO & CALL	6% TAX	TOTAL
XS-XL	\$56.00	\$3.36	\$59.36
2X	\$58.00	\$3.48	\$61.48
PLUS 1 X	\$62.00	\$3.72	\$65.72
PLUS 2 X	\$64.00	\$3.84	\$67.84

*Add \$3.00 if you want your name or nickname added to the right side. Ham call already included under logo on left breast pocket.*

**AMATEUR RADIO  
WEB SITE  
DIRECTORY**

**CANTON ARC WEB SITE**  
www.w8al.org

**MASSILLON ARC WEB SITE**  
www.marcradio.org

**ALLIANCE ARC WEB SITE**  
www.w8lky.org

**STARK COUNTY ARES**  
www.wd8aye.org

**TUSCO ARC**  
tuscoarc.org

**PORTAGE COUNTY ARS**  
www.portcars.org

**LAKE ERIE ARA**  
www.leara.org

**USA NOAA RADAR**  
radar.weather.gov

**ARRL**  
www.arrl.org

**ARRL OHIO SECTION**  
www.iarc.ws

**QCWA CHAPTER 21**  
www.cmh.net/~jpvsvr

**DX-SUMMIT**  
<http://www.dxsummit.fi>  
[ Note NEW address ]

**INTL MORSE PRESERVATION  
SOCIETY**  
www.fistts.org

**CQ MAGAZINE**  
www.cq-amateur-radio.com

**CONTEST CALENDAR**  
www.hornucopia.com/contestcal

**WEB SITE  
OF THE BI-MONTH**

[http://www.youtube.com/  
user/goathiker](http://www.youtube.com/user/goathiker)

Your editor has spent hours watching well produced ham radio videos by Steve, WGOAT. Look at one, I'll bet you can't stop till you've seen them all!

# The Elmer Speaks

*Scott Duncan KK8D has generously shared wisdom he obtained during the summer of 2008 while solving an antenna problem.*

*Here now are Scott's words and pictures.*

July 4th (2008) weekend I decided to fire up the rig and work some of that rare DX K8LN was bragging about. After turning the power supplies on I noticed the rotator (AlfaSpid) control box did not power up. I checked the fuse and saw that it was blown. I replaced the fuse powered up again and WHAM, another fuse blown.

When I popped the lid on the controller I saw several components had been blown apart and some had even vaporized. I then swapped the controller from my 15/20 tower, powered up, but the rotor would not turn. Ok, let's at least tune up on 40 and work some DX anyway.

Wow!! No signals on 40 and the SWR was 15:1 all the way across the band. RATS!!!

Looks like lightning had taken out the rotor – rotor controller and 40M beam. I checked the coax across the connector and saw that the circuit was open. Then went out to the tower and checked at the bottom of the tower and still open. RATS again. I then checked the coax up the tower and as far out the boom as possible and saw nothing suspicious.

Monday morning I called Alfa Spid and told them I was sending the controller back for repairs and told them about the rotor. They advised me to check a resistor located in the rotor. So a trip up the tower and the rotor was dropped (very carefully) down to ground level. Sure enough the resistor was blown. With the resistor replaced and rotor given a good inspection, back up the tower it went. Total time for removal, repair, inspection and replacement was just 1.5 hours. AlfaSpid called with the bad news. The controller was D.O.A. but, they did have a demo unit which I bought at a very good price.

But now to tackle 40M beam problem. As a starting point I figured it was either the connection at the hairpin coil or the balun. Either way I had to make a trip up to the driven element, which was not reachable from the tower. So a call was made to Don, K8OMO for the use of his crane and man basket. In the mean time I decided to make my own bead balun. I also made a coaxial balun as a backup.



*Blown BALUN beside parts used in new BALUN*



*Coaxial BALUN (not used)*



## *The Elmer Speaks*

Don was able to make the trip on a nice warm November day. So up in the air I went. I had less fear jumping off the 764ft Macau tower (off the coast of Hong Kong ) last year then I did riding that basket up to the beam.

All connections looked good so I replaced the balun. With the help of Scott W8JT we were able to check the SWR and bandwidth of the 40M beam. After a few adjustments of the hairpin coil, I was on my way back down.



Scott KK8D in the "man basket"

All worked well for 4 days then once again the SWR went to 5:1 all the way across the band. So another call was made to Don K8OMO and back up I went. After checking the connections and with the help of Bill N8PW the problem was traced to a bad coax connector. (bad ground connection).


Looking back I should have replaced all the coax down the tower on the first trip up, but the coax had only been up there for 2 years. So with coax supplied by Bill, all the coax on the tower was replaced.

Once again all was working well.

### **Lessons learned...**

1. Always make sure that coax and rotor cables are disconnected and grounded when not in use. ( I had disconnected cables in March, but I did remember plugging the rotor cable back in to swing beam during a storm. Oopps forgot to unplug.)
2. Replace coax when going to trouble of needing a crane to repair antenna problems.
3. Make sure all coax connectors are properly soldered, especially the ground. I am going to switch over to the K3LR method of soldering coax connectors. See URL <http://www.k3lr.com/engineering/pl259>

Did you renew your Canton Amateur Radio Club membership for 2009? Glad if you did! In case you know any others who would like to join, we are reprinting the "official" Canton ARC membership application below. Please fill out and return to Canton ARC, PO Box 8673, Canton OH 44711 with payment.



# W8AL

## CANTON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

\*\*\* PLEASE FILL OUT COMPLETELY, EVEN IF  
NO INFORMATION HAS CHANGED \*\*\*

### 2009 Membership Application Form

RENEWAL                       NEW

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Call: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

ARRL Member?     YES                       NO

License Class:     Novice                       Technician                       Tech-Plus                       General

Advanced                       Amateur Extra                       None

Expiration: \_\_\_\_\_ First Licensed: \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

**TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP**

\_\_\_\_\_ SUSTAINING @ \$20.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ FULL/FAMILY @ \$15.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

SEND TO:

CANTON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
P.O. BOX 8673  
CANTON, OHIO 44711

Make checks payable to:  
**CANTON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**

YEARLY DUES ARE PAYABLE BY JANUARY 21, 2009

**New Puzzle for CARC Members!**

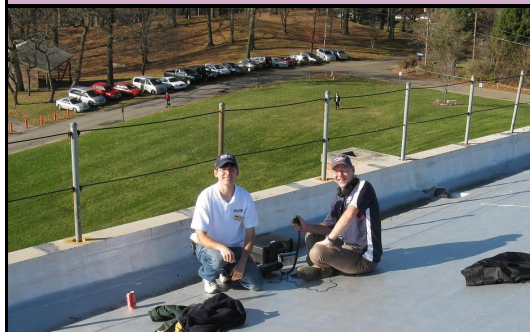
Below are two genuine operating locations.

Can you name the exact locations?

Extra credit if you can give the calls of the involved amateurs.

Winner to be judged by FEEDLINE editor.

Results announced next issue.



**Hints**

Picture above was taken November 14. Operators contacted Hawaii on 15 meters using 10 watts SSB and a 60 foot "top fed" vertical.

Picture below was taken on a CARC member's recent vacation trip



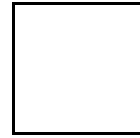
It's important to introduce ham radio to kids at an early age. Op is Alex.



Late news! Come to the Canton ARC meeting December 16 for an evening of fellowship and food. This is our customary December holiday celebration meeting. The usual time.

# *THE FEEDLINE*

CANTON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
P.O. BOX 8673  
CANTON, OHIO 44711



Mailing  
Address  
Goes Here

---

THE FEEDLINE

## **IMPORTANT CLUB DATES FOR 2010**

Jan 20 - Wednesday meeting at Stark EOC, 7:30 PM  
Feb 17 - Wednesday meeting at Stark EOC, 7:30 PM  
Mar 17 - Wednesday meeting at Stark EOC, 7:30 PM  
Apr 21 - Wednesday meeting at Stark EOC, 7:30 PM  
May 19 - Wednesday meeting at Stark EOC, 7:30 PM  
Jun 16 - Wednesday meeting at Stark EOC, 7:30 PM  
June 26-27 - ARRL Field Day (setup Friday June 25)  
Jul 21 - Wednesday meeting at Stark EOC, 7:30 PM  
Aug 18 - Wednesday meeting at Stark EOC, 7:30 PM