



Special Interest Articles:

Field Day 2013

WJ0G (SK) Tim Samaras

K8TKA Repeater getting upgraded.

20/9 Hamfest league approved.

Skywarn Spotter Safety

Emergency Antenna Platform System

Upcoming Events

Field Day
June 22nd-23rd

July 3rd Fireworks Austintown
Picnic Corn Roast

20/9 Hamfest
September 7th

Upcoming Meetings

Officers Meeting:
Tuesday July 2nd
Denny's Austintown

Club Meeting
July No Meeting- Vacation
Month

All Meetings are at 7:00PM

Contact us at:
www.20over9.org

330.651.8420

k8tkanews@hotmail.com

20/9 ARC
4939 East Radio Rd.
Austintown, OH 44515

Field Day is almost here!

June brings the warm weather and the most popular amateur radio operating event of the year Field Day.

We are back at the same location we were in 2011 at the Paul Pogany Pavillion on the West side of the Austintown Township Park. We had a heck of a turnout last year between participants and guests, and we hope to build on those numbers this year as well. We even placed first in Ohio in our division. From all the excitement it seems we may venture in to 8A territory. There is plenty of space to camp out and to

operate. The pavilion is fantastic with a west wall to block some of the wind and a built in fireplace for the evenings, plenty of seating. Anyone have a VHF/UHF beam to possibly work the FM birds for a nice slice of points? Also showing others how fairly simple it is with an HT to work them. Here's a project that's fairly cheap and can be used for several uses, working birds, have a hidden transmitter antenna and also a dual band yagi for EmComm work, and to experiment with on a hill top.

www.work-sat.com/Work-Sat/Antennas_files/W6NBC-Beam.pdf

We will also have an NVIS

setup for EmComm practice with the local nets along with working stations in the Ohio valley and the EOC in Columbus.

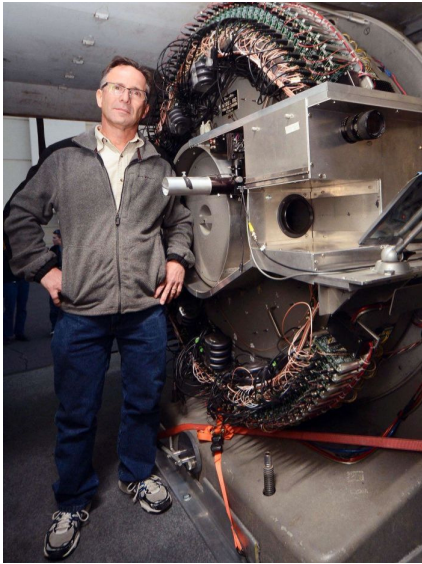
If you're bringing a trailer out please bring 2x6's or wider panels of wood for under the wheels in case of rain so you don't sink in the grass. We do also have a couple club tents that can be used if you'd like to setup and operate or if you'd like to spend the night they can be used for that as well they're simple dome style ones for up to 4 people. Please bring garbage bags for trash, and air tight containers to keep the wildlife out of the food.

In the VP's Words

Well Summer is Here...or at least we all hope. Field day is just around the corner and we have some GREAT things planned for the whole weekend. Please plan to make some time to come out and join us. Remember there is always room for camping if you would like. RV, Tent or just sleeping under the stars... we got it all. As always a staple of any 20/9 event... GREAT FOOD!! This year Cathy Mellott has volunteered to take on the rains of our Food Coordinator. We have a Saturday lunch, Dinner and Sunday Breakfast Planned. For those coming out on Saturday evening for dinner we are asking everyone to bring something to share. The last name ending with

letters A-H bring a Salad or cold dish and a dessert, letters I-Z bring a hot dish and a dessert to share. The Mahoning County Commissioners have declared June 16th through the 23rd Amateur Radio Week in Mahoning County on behalf of the 20/9 Amateur Radio Club. WOW We are planning on having one of the Commissioners come to Field Day to present the Resolution to us! We have also been asked to assist with several upcoming events this summer. On July 3rd from 430PM till 1030PM we have been asked to provide communications for Fireworks in the Park at Austintown Township Park. There is a committee who are bringing the fireworks back to Austintown. We

will be providing communications both at the park and at Emmanuel Community Church. If you can help us out for any portion of the evening please give me a call. Other events coming up this summer are the Senior Fair, Canfield Fair, our Tailgate/Hamfest, and the Awesometown Festival in October. We hope you can join us for a one or all of them. Don't forget our 20/9 Family Cornroast/picnic on August 11th at Boardman Park from 11A-4P and eat at 1230P. Reminder there is no regular club meeting in July. July was voted as a month off for all vacationers. There WILL be an officer's meeting though on July 2nd. Enjoy the summer and see you soon!



TWISTEX founder and ham Tim Samaras WJ0G (SK)

Tim Samaras WJ0G, his son Paul, and his colleague Carl Young were killed near El Reno, OK May 31st when the widest recorded tornado made a sudden shift to the north east and the chasers were caught with nowhere to go in the rural areas of Oklahoma were the next intersection can be miles away. Tim best known for his appearances on National Geographic and the Storm Chaser series on the Discovery Channel has been a ham since he was 12 years old, he took what he could and made them do what he wanted. He has built several tools that have been used to gather data at ground level to help engineer's better design structures to resist the stresses exerted by tornados and make them

more survivable. He also built a camera using old cold war technology and refitted it with modern equipment to better document the process of a lighting strike. Below is a link to a presentation he did with National Instruments who's business is about creating instruments and software for collecting data for various disciplines. <http://youtu.be/Yqxa58su9SY>

While Tim's team was foremost about safety they also were about getting close to set instrument packages in the path of tornados that and combining the influx of "chasers" crowding the roads over the past decade may have lead to their death.

Spotter Safety:

Always be aware of your surroundings at all times.

Night time spotting is nearly impossible and very dangerous.

Always keep large distances from the storm. Most features of interest can be viewed from a southerly position as the cell moves east or north east.

Be aware of what lies behind the current cells being observed.

Do not drive through the cell as visibility is low and if there is a tornado it would be hard to see and too late to escape.

K8TKA Repeater Tower

I had hoped to get the final big project done before June but that did not happen. John KB8JVW dug the hole and poured the base now the rest of us need to get together get the tower cleaned and more aesthetically pleasing color along with guying it to handle the added height of the new antenna being set atop the tower. We have been using over the past 10 months is the Diamond X-50 dual band antenna weighs about 3 lbs. and about 4ft tall with about a 2.4dBd gain

replacing it will be the Andrews DB-224-E 4 bay folded dipole with 6 dBd gain, 23ft tall and weighing in at 38 Lbs. so securing the tower is paramount to using this beast. If you can please contact myself or John and let us know if you're available weekdays or evenings before Field Day so we can get this done. With adjusting for gains and losses with feed line and antenna we could potentially have a perceived output of over 100 watts output.

This will greatly improve our coverage to the outlying areas around the valley including Trumbull, Portage, Columbiana, and Mercer County. As you can see by the images size does matter. Once this is done I'd like to get a roster of people willing to be net control operators.

73's KC8RJS



Radiosport listings

ARRL June VHF Contest:
1800Z, Jun 8 to 0259Z, Jun 10

NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint: 0030Z-0230Z, Jun 12

CWops Mini-CWT Test:
1300Z-1400Z, Jun 12 and
1900Z-2000Z, Jun 12 and
0300Z-0400Z, Jun 13

NCCC RTTY Sprint: 0130Z-
0200Z, Jun 14

NCCC Sprint Ladder: 0230Z-
0300Z, Jun 14

West Virginia QSO Party:
1600Z, Jun 15 to 0200Z, Jun
16

Kid's Day Contest: 1800Z-
2359Z, Jun 15

ARRL Field Day: 1800Z, Jun
22 to 2100Z, Jun 23

CWops Mini-CWT Test:
1300Z-1400Z, Jun 26 and
1900Z-2000Z, Jun 26 and
0300Z-0400Z, Jun 27

www.contesting.com

Social gatherings

The 1st Saturday of the month
20/9 Club Breakfast at the
Korner Restaurant in North
Jackson at 9:00 AM

**We're on the
Web!**

See us at:

www.20over9.org

20/9 Tailgate fest September 7th 2013

It has been nearly ten years since our last hamfest with Don Stoddard KI8SS (SK) (N8LNE). We have an opportunity to bring it back to the valley with less risk as it had been in the past, with April weather and the high costs of previous locations. We have recently received ARRL approval and are now League Sanctioned. This is on a Saturday so this should be more

convenient than Sundays for everyone. 8AM-2PM Admission is free, tailgate spaces are \$5 and indoor tables are \$25 with electricity or \$20 if you bring your own table. Prize tickets will be for HAM Only prizes, 50/50 drawings, and a Silent Auction. Concessions will be available from the Austintown Senior Center whose prices are far more reasonable than fair prices.

For more information go to: www.20over.org or call 330.651.8420

Austintown Senior Center
112 Westchester Drive is
the location.

The Tailgate area will be on the parking lot which is completely blacktopped, easy and accessible for all.

Entire event is Handicap Accessible.

FCC to Reassess RF Exposure Limits

c/o CQ Amateur Radio

The FCC has issued a *Notice of Inquiry* seeking input on possible changes to its rules regarding exposure to RF radiation. Specifically mentioned for additional review is the current provision in the amateur radio rules which consider an amateur's home to fall under less-restrictive "occupational/controlled" exposure limits, while areas outside the amateur's property are subject to the stricter "general population/uncontrolled" limits. For specifics, see ET Dockets 13-84 and 03-137, on the FCC website, <www.fcc.gov>.

FCC Seeks Small Vanity Call Sign Fee Increase

c/o ARRL

The FCC released a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking ([NPRM](#)) on May 23, seeking to raise the fee for Amateur Radio vanity call signs by 20 cents. Currently, a vanity call sign costs \$15 and is good for 10 years; the new fee, if approved, will go up to \$15.20 for 10 years. The FCC is authorized by the Communications Act of 1934, as amended to collect vanity call sign fees to recover the costs associated with that program.

The vanity call sign fee has fluctuated over the 15 years of the current program -- from a low of \$11.70 in 2007 to a high of \$70 (as first proposed in the FCC's 1994 Report and Order). The FCC said it anticipates some 14,300 Amateur Radio vanity call sign "payment units," or applications, during the next fiscal year, collecting \$217,360 in fees from the program.

The vanity call sign regulatory fee is payable not only when applying for a new vanity call sign, but also upon renewing a vanity call sign. Those holding vanity call signs issued prior to 1993 are exempt from having to pay the vanity call sign regulatory fee at renewal, as Congress did not authorize the FCC to collect regulatory fees until 1996. Such "heritage" vanity call sign holders do not appear as vanity licensees in the FCC Amateur Radio database.

Amateur Radio licensees may file for renewal only within 90 days of their license expiration date. All radio amateurs must have an FCC [Registration](#) Number (FRN) before filing any application with the Commission. Applicants can obtain an FRN by going to the Universal Licensing System ([ULS](#)) and clicking on the "New Users: Register" link. You must supply your Social Security Number to obtain an FRN.



Skywarn Frequencies
In order of usage
146.745- W8QLY PL110.9
146.910- W8IZC
147.000+ KB8N
147.570 Simplex

Check for updates on:
www.Mahoningskywarn.org

Net 1st Wed. 8:30 PM 146.745

"Once a net is in progress, before you transmit your info, take a moment to think what you are going to say before you key up."



Skywarn® <http://www.mahoningskywarn.org>

Please remember when there is a Severe Weather Net on the W8QLY 146.745 repeater to listen before transmitting. If there is not a warning issued yet for Mahoning County but there is for neighboring ones, then the repeater will probably be in a loose net mode. This means transmissions are not being directed to net control, but if you're having a conversation try to keep it short and leave long pauses in case someone needs to bring up the net or someone has emergency traffic from one of the borders. Make sure to listen before speaking, because if there is a net in progress you do not want to interrupt. Also, if there is a question posed; let the net control operator handle all the traffic. This cuts down on unnecessary radio communications on the frequency during a need. Once a net is in progress, before you transmit your info, take a moment to think what you are going to say before you key up.

The only reports that they will want are:

1. **Tornado, funnel cloud, or wall cloud** (location and direction of travel)
2. **Hail of any size, severe size is 1 inch** and up so quarter size, please reference hail size with pocket change, if you can't do an actual measurement.
3. **Actual wind damage**, trees downs (what size, healthy or dead), measured winds 45 MPH or more.
4. **Flooding** more than 1 foot of standing water or flowing water which might lead to flash flooding.
5. **Death or serious injury from the weather.**

There may be occasions where they may ask for other reports for the National Weather Service.

Keep an eye to the sky. All help is appreciated!

Here are some useful links to review from the NWS in Norman, OK. Online basic training, won't replace live training but it will familiarize you to the basics. While watching the presentation online keep in mind this is for Norman, OK area and not NE Ohio.

<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/oun/?n=onlinespottertraining>

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/ocs/brochures/SGJune6-11.pdf>

<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/oun/?n=spotter>

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/nwrbro.htm>

Emergency Antenna Platform System www.WC2FD.com

Emergency Antenna Platform System (E-APS) is a tool for amateur radio operators (ARES, RACES) as well as First Responder organizations to turn any parking lot lamp post into an instant antenna tower. I talked with the members of the 721st Mechanized Contest Battalion from New Jersey and they said the idea came in part after Hurricane Sandy when the need to get antennas higher since several communication towers were damaged or destroyed this system

allows the use of a mobile antenna and still have provisions for hoisting up a light wire antenna. While this was still a development prototype its load limit was not so much as to handle a heavy HF wire system with traps or fan dipole. The drive motor was a simple DC direct drive so raising and lowering was simply reversing polarity. They're looking into the future of a stepper motor setup which would deliver more torque and allow more control. This certainly has a place

in areas where hurricanes and tornados dominate the regions. This also has a place for Field Day and other contests where several of these could hoist a wire beam or other large scale HF loops or curtain antennas for a very interesting setup. The use of 8020 material allowed a lot of options and quick assembly, other materials could be used. Video of it in use, shown at ARRI Youth Forum. <http://youtu.be/9L6TWJuRC7I>
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Ham Radio classes and VE Exam Sessions

We are beginning to schedule the next set of classes, and in looking at many different approaches from other clubs and past attendance, I am willing to give Hamcram a chance for the Technician test. There are positives and negatives to this method but the results are hard to argue with. The big key is we, as a club, need to continue to work with newly licensed people to help them with better understanding and proper use. We lead by example. A long time ham described the technician test best, he called it a license to learn. I like to think of it as your white belt in Amateur Radio. It's very possible to

memorize every question and do little tricks to remember the answers, but immersion in the hobby makes understanding far easier. Sadly some groups that do the Hamcram sessions let newly licensed people loose without follow up. I will take responsibility on how well it works. I reviewed the material and it looks logical and easier to follow. Contact me if you know someone interested in this class method. We may even do this with General testing as well, the initial requirement would be different, requiring the student to have reviewed

the material prior to starting the session. Then we would be able to begin the Hamcram, answer questions, and then have the test. This may be broken in to two days which may be more practical.

Testing will still be conducted by John KB8JVW with help from our pool of Volunteer Examiners. If you are ready to take a test, and it is before or after we've had a scheduled test session, please contact John and allow at least one week of notice so he can gather enough VE's to test with.

73. Dotti KC8SYF

Membership Dues

Dues still remain the same \$15 for an individual and \$20 for family. We will be adding a PayPal link to the website soon for membership as well until then you can come to a club meeting at the Austintown Senior Center or send a check to:

20/9 ARC K8TKA
 4939 East Radio Rd.
 Austintown, OH 44515

73, KB8YHC Rich Hamacker

Member Birthdays

Becky Albrecht	KD8SCF	June 16 th
Tom Henshaw	KD8SPC	June
Richard Galgozy	N8FAL	June 23 rd



Please send updates to the roster if we missed your date.

Continued...Emergency Antenna Platform System WC2FD

