



President's Notes for September 2014

Well, this has certainly been an active summer for me and for the club. We worked Field Day with the LARC and made the most contacts since 2004, and we had another successful Maker Faire Detroit event, even if we did have to close down early due to thunderstorms. Two club members (K8RMM and yours truly) traveled to Connecticut for the ARRL Centennial Convention, and I got to spend 15 minutes operating as W100AW. I provided radio support and drove a SAG wagon for the Mind Over Matter bike ride on the east side in early August. And in September, many of us will be supporting the PEAC Celebration of Cycling ride, which will take place two days after our September club meeting.

Elsewhere in the newsletter is my article on the Centennial Convention, so I won't say more about it here. I will mention a few things about the Maker Faire, though. Our exhibit this year included some non-traditional aspects of amateur radio, such as the engineering model of \$50Sat (the flying model is still in orbit as of this writing), demonstrated by its builder, Mike Kirkhart, KD8QBA (a regular on the Sunday night net) and the LARC balloon payload (as well as a fragment of the balloon) that was launched in June of this year; Ryan Marrs, K8RDM, of the LARC was on hand to speak about it. Our 2-transmitter special event station N8M was active again on CW, voice and digital, although the propagation proved to be very difficult. We were told that a number of stations were trying to contact us but that we could not hear them, a frustrating situation for all involved.

Since this is the September meeting, our presentation this month will be a wrap-up of Field Day, as given by Dave, N8HKU. We still need some presentation topics for October and November. And you may want to start thinking about where we'd like to have our Christmas dinner in December.

73,
Roger, KD8CSE



Ford Amateur Radio League (AKA: The Tin Lizzy Club) **Club Meeting Minutes – June 12, 2014**

Meeting Minutes for FARL June 12th, 2014

In Attendance:

Dave Treharne - N8HKU

Bill Allen - KD8KTF

Pat Quinn - WD8JDZ

Roger Reini - KD8CSE

Rod Deyo - K8SGL

Rusty Eizen - N8RGI

Guest: James French - W8ISS

Bill Boyke - N8OZV

Guest: Sam - KD8YTR: First license 2 weeks ago, Electrician at EMDO

Meeting called to order:

By Roger at 18:33 EDT

Review of the minutes

Reviewed.

1. Rusty Motioned to accept
2. Pat seconded.
3. Minutes from last month accepted unanimously

Treasury Report:

By Pat, WD8JDZ

1. Account balance was reviewed
2. Pat to shut off land phone line
3. Check issued to Dave, N8HKU, for cell phone expenses, \$71.73
 - a. Bluetooth to phone line converter: \$49.99
 - b. Kyocera Forte Cell Phone: \$10.59
 - c. One month of 100minute cell phone coverage: May 15th-June 15: \$10.79
4. Motion to Accept Treasurer's report made by Rod, 2nd by Rusty. All approved.

Repeater Report:

By Dave- N8HKU

1. Repeaters are still working. Cellphone based shutoff now installed. Dave will autopay the bills and submit to reimbursement on a quarterly basis. The cost should be around \$10/month, give or take discounts and taxes.
2. Sunday night net still at 20:00 EDT on Sunday. Roger to add this time to the agenda line item.

Training Report:

Bill- N8OZV

1. No classes started at Ford at this time.
2. Any classes with the Yacht club will occur in the winter, during off-season. Possible start in September.

Website info:

By Dave-N8HKU: Website is up to date. Next update: Field Day items.

Old Business:

1. Landline Replacement
 - a. Cell phone installed.
 - b. Pat-WD8JDZ, to cancel the landline phone service.
2. Murray still wants to put the extra repeater hardware up at the Adoba site. Not done to date.

New Business

1. Appropriations for Field Day:
 - a. Motion made by Bill-N8OZV, to allocate up to \$300 for 2014 Field Day expenses.
 - b. Seconded by Rod-K8SGL
 - c. Approved by voice vote.
2. PEAC Ride
 - a. Saturday September 13th
 - b. Rod, Pat, Dave, Bill Boyke, Roger, all indicated they could support.
3. Meeting Start time:
 - a. Considered a change in start time to 6pm from 6:30pm.
 - b. Decided that this would hurt attendance from at least one person, and not improve attendance by anyone else.
 - c. Voted to keep meeting time at 6:30pm.
4. Maker Faire
 - a. N8M callsign reserved for use this year. This is listed with ARRL as a Special Event Station
 - b. 2 6BTV antennas will be ready to go.

- c. Bill, N8OZV, will have a printer set up for the QSL cards this year.
 - i. Wants all contacts logged electronically in ADIF format for easy conversion to the automatic printing
- d. Tents are available
- 5. LARC Balloon Launch
 - a. Roger asked if anyone else had heard it.
 - i. Bill- KD8KTF, participated in the event and heard it.
 - 1. Late launch due to loss of first balloon, the need to get more Helium, and payload initially too heavy
 - 2. Payload was in the air 4-5 hours
 - b. Potential balloon launch again next year. Materials cost is currently high for helium in particular.
 - c. Recovered payload requested to be displayed at Maker Faire. Bill-KD8KTF to request it.
- 6. Field Day : Dave-N8HKU
 - a. Site plans reviewed
 - i. Request made for SSB2 G5RV Jr antenna to be moved so people are less likely to walk underneath. Bill-KD8KTF, will try, yet also keep antenna pattern to provide good E-W coverage
 - b. Bill_KD8KTF, took the FARL G5RV to install on Friday
 - c. Confirmed equipment and set up time for Saturday at 9am.
 - d. Confirmed LARC has enough generator capacity
 - e. Confirmed 4A operation
 - f. Confirmed FARL will provide Breakfast. Dave- N8HKU, will coordinate breakfast.
 - g. FARL Participants:
 - i. Dave-N8HKU: Saturday morn-Sunday pm
 - ii. Bill-N8OZV: Saturday night
 - iii. Roger- KD8CSE: Sat-Sun
 - iv. Pat- WD8JDZ: Sat set up and Sunday tear down certain.
 - v. Rusty- N8RGI: Will attend, time uncertain.
 - vi. James- W8ISS: Saturday night
 - vii. Bill-KD8KTF: Sat-Sun

Adjourned:

By Roger at 19:45 EDT



Report from the ARRL Centennial Convention - Roger Reini, KD8CSE

As you all know, this is the ARRL's centennial year, and among the activities planned for celebrating the occasion was the Centennial Convention in Hartford this July. Shortly after the plans were announced, I knew I wanted to attend. I could not attend Dayton this year because my nieces were graduating from their colleges around that time. The Centennial Convention would make a fine substitute, and it would be a unique experience. I'm positive I won't be around for the Bicentennial Convention!



Roger Reini, KD8CSE, operating as W100AW during the ARRL Centennial Convention

were DX University, Contest University, Public Service Communications Academy, Introduction to Amateur Satellites, and Amateur Radio Legal Seminar. Seminar attendees received lunch and the chance to hear ARRL First Vice President Rick Roderick, K5UR, speak.

Now how did the convention compare to Dayton? It was much smaller in scale, with the exhibit hall being similar in size to the ones in Fort Wayne or Toledo. The booths for Yaesu, Kenwood, Icom, etc., were much smaller than their Hamvention equivalents (the ARRL Expo section was around the same size, though). There was a very small flea market area inside; there was nothing like the Hara Arena parking lot flea market. The forums were organized somewhat differently than Dayton, with each session lasting

I attended the convention with my uncle Bill, K8WA. We each attended one of the training track seminars scheduled for Thursday. I attended the leadership tools seminar Leadership and Training Tools for Amateur Radio and got a few ideas for the club. I also wanted to attend the RFI 101 seminar, but you could only take one track, so my uncle went to that one. The other training tracks



ARRL president Kay Craigie at the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between the ARRL and FEMA

for an hour. Several of the sessions focused on the history of our hobby; I attended sessions on the early history of radio, how the amateur bands came into being, and the history of Field Day. I would have liked to have attended a forum on hams and World War I, but I was doing a volunteer shift at the time. None of the sessions would have been out of place at Dayton. The only other club member I saw there was Rich, K8RMM, who was attending with his son. Friday night's activities ran very late with the convocation of the Royal Order of the Wouff Hong. Over 700 hams attended that session, and I think it will go down in history as legendary. I did have some involvement in that ceremony, but if you're not a member of the order, I can't be more specific than that.



ARRL HQ and the W1AW building

One big advantage the Centennial Convention had over Dayton was the chance to visit ARRL headquarters in Newington and operate as W100AW. Operators had to reserve a slot when they arrived at HQ, and the slots were only 15 minutes long. I chose to operate on 20 meter phone, and

having had recent operating experience at Field Day sure helped, although the pileup I attracted was far more substantial than any of ours at Field Day. Guess that's what operating as W100AW will do for you! I didn't work any DX (though if they were in the pileup, I couldn't hear them), but I was getting great signal reports from California, western Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, one of the Carolinas, etc. The station was jam packed with hams wanting to operate and others who wanted to observe. Everyone who visited or operated received a special certificate. As for working W100AW, I was able to do that as well; I did so on FM simplex from across the parking lot, perhaps the easiest way to contact W100AW ever (no pileup there).



The 1964 Collins Communications van, a Ford Econoline

The ARRL Centennial Convention was a unique experience and, when coupled with the other activities of ours (among them a trip to Gettysburg), made for a great vacation. I'm glad I was able to be a part of it.



Club Repeater Information

The Ford Amateur Radio League operates 3 club repeaters under the club K8UTT license. All the repeaters are located in the Dearborn, MI area near the Southfield Freeway. All repeaters are open for members and guests to operate.

Repeater	Output Freq	Input Freq	Tone
2 M Repeater	145.270	-600 KHz	100 Hz PL
1 1/4 M Repeater	224.520	-1.6 MHz	100 Hz PL
70 cm Repeater	443.425	+5 MHz	107.2 PL

Club Net: 8pm on Sunday, 2 and 1-1/4 Meter Repeaters!



Classes and Exams

The following amateur radio clubs conduct license exams throughout the year. Many clubs allow walk-ins but pre-registration will insure an exam is available for you when you attend.

Club Name	Contact Person	Phone	Email
Ford Amateur Radio League	Bill Boyke	313-805-8877	wboyke@ford.com
South Lyon ARC	Christian Anderson	248-437-3088	K8VJ@arr.net
Motor City ARC	Don Novak	734-281-7030	K8THU@arrl.net
Hazel Park ARC	Jerry Begel	248-543-2284	w9npi@comcast.net
USECA ARC	Joseph Kennedy	586-977-7222	N8OZ@arrl.net
ARROW Assn	Roger Place	734-663-4625	merrogplace@aol.com

Some of the above clubs also conduct license classes. Please contact them for additional information.



2013-2014 Club Officers

Please contact any of the officers for information regarding the Ford Amateur Radio League, or go to the club website at www.k8utt.org for current events and activities.

President	Roger Reini	KD8CSE	734-728-1509
Vice President	Dave Treharne	N8HKU	734-476-1666
Treasurer	Pat Quinn	WD8JDZ	734-729-1993
Secretary	John Turowski	N8NWA	313-258-1996
Repeater Chair	Murray Scott	KE8UM	248-743-1704
K8UTT Trustee	Dave Treharne	N8HKU	734-476-1666
Activity Chair	Bill Boyke	N80ZV	313-805-8877
Bolt Editor	Rajiv Paul	KD8LHF	313-405-2573



Club Meetings

The Ford Amateur Radio Club meets on the second Thursday of each month, except for Christmas and the summer months July and August. The meetings are held at 6:30 PM at the Ford Engine Manufacturing & Development Offices (EMDO) building. EMDO (located at 17000 Southfield Rd, Allen Park, MI) is south of I-94 on the east side of Southfield just north of the Allen Park Municipal offices. Park in the front of the building and come into the main lobby at the side. Knock on the inside door on the right if no one is standing there to let you in.



Next Club Meeting: September 11, 2014 at 6:30PM

Topic: Field Day in Review

The Ford Amateur Radio League
PO Box 2711
Dearborn, MI 48123