

# The Central Ohio Radio Club Newsletter

January 2002

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Laura Perone  
KA8IWB

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Editor  
Joe Hahn  
W8NBA

Membership  
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W8MAP

#### Repeaters

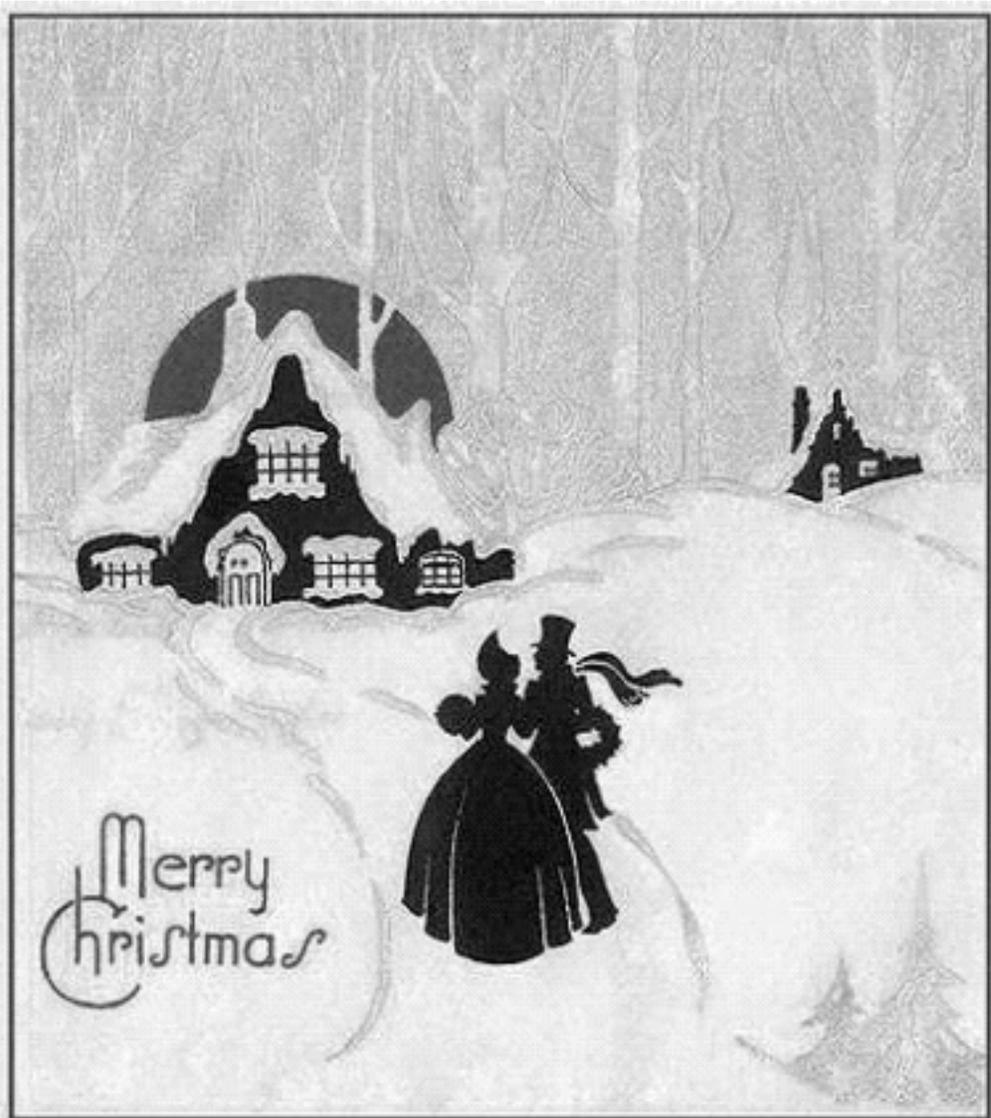
146.16 / .76  
W8RXX

146.37 / .97  
W8RRJ

147.93 / .33  
W8NBA

442.200  
449.200  
W8RXX

Associate  
145.49 / 4.89  
442.8/447.8  
K8NIO



Seasons Greetings from:  
The Central Ohio Radio Club, Inc.

# MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

by Jim Gifreda, W8MAP  
Membership Chairman/Treasurer

Membership is now at a total of 208 full-pay members as of December 11, 2001. Also, there are 57 family members who are sponsored by one of the 208 dues paying members. Additionally, there are 9 Associate Members.

The Board of Directors welcomes the following new CORC members:

KC8KYP Barb Wooldridge  
KC8SOL Kevin Troutner

Please welcome them to our ranks when you hear them on the air!

CORC members and other individuals continue to donate time, talent and personal treasure (\$) to assist the club with its operating expenses. The following individuals have donated since the last newsletter was printed in October. The Board would like to thank those who were able to assist with this additional effort.

KC8KYP	Barb Wooldridge	W8NBA	Joe Hahn
N8MFE	Kempton Hewitt	N8RRB	Tony Fabro
N8OIT	Fawn Hewitt	W8RRJ	John Hull
W8QWE	Max Hart	K8NIO	Trigg Tabor
KC8FRJ	Christopher Cox	KA8IWB	Laura Perone
N8IGW	Arnold Plummer	WD8QWR	Phil Carter
K8CMI	Jerry Steele	W8MAP	Jim Gifreda
KD8OK	Mike Murphy	K8VKA	Ed Schleppe
WA8UHB	Roy Hook	W8RXX	John Perone



# Were you prepared? I wasn't!

by: Tony Fabro N8RRB

The horrible events, which occurred on September 11, 2001 were a wake up call for me. Besides the obvious that now our country was no longer "innocent" to terrorism, etc., for me I truly realized how unprepared I was as a ham operator to be in position to help in an emergency. I am embarrassed to even mention this, but hopefully others out there can learn from my mistakes and be more prepared as well.

I was at work in a training class when the news came out about the attacks. After I comprehended what was going on and the seriousness of it, I realized that as a ham operator I might be called to work somewhere temporarily. I had volunteered for the Y2K event and had been given a Franklin County EMA badge. I figured that if I was called out that I would need my credentials. Another possibility was that if things got real bad we would have to activate the Central Ohio Traffic Net (COTN) to pass traffic. Since I am net manager I have to make sure we have people ready to run a net if necessary.

My first thought was to contact Bill Carpenter AA8EY who is the Franklin County Emergency Coordinator. I wanted to let him know where I was and my availability. I thought to myself, "Bill's phone number is... um... ah..." Ouch! I could not remember his phone number and I did not have any card or "emergency contact" list with me. This was embarrassing! I knew what street he lived on so I looked up his number in the phone book and called. His wife Mary N8OAM took down my information.

I then called Denny Allemang WA8EYQ who is active in COTN. I asked him to listen to the radio in case we had to activate the net. He said that he would when he could but that he had an appointment and would not be home for a while. It was then I realized I did not know any other active COTN members' phone number. Fortunately we did not have to be activated but if we were I would not have been able to call anyone from work since I didn't have anyone's number!

After work I went home and checked my radio situation. I have four batteries for my Kenwood HT. I checked all four batteries and realized that only one had a charge, and that battery had been on the radio for over a week. So much for me having portable communications available! Of course at that time I began to charge up a battery, but in order for it to be charged it has to be connected to the radio. In other words, the radio is useless while the battery is charging. Another strike against me!

Over the next few days it became clear that I probably was not going to be called to assist in any emergency communications. For this I was very lucky because I was woefully unprepared to help. About the only thing I had ready were my COARES and FCEMA badges. But they didn't mean a thing unless I had an operating radio as well.

## Post Mortem

Needless to say I was caught off guard and not prepared for an emergency. Since that time I've taken steps to become more prepared. I always have at least two batteries

charged at any one time, and I have put together an emergency contact card and put it in my wallet. This by no means makes me completely ready for all emergencies. No one can be completely ready for all emergencies.

This is where participation in groups such as ARES can help. Their knowledge and expertise can help you be more prepared. Assisting in events helps polish your communication skills. The National Traffic System is the "traffic arm" of ARES. Learning how to pass formal message traffic

is a must for all amateurs. Finally, the ARRL now offers Emergency Communications Courses online. Check out their web page for more information. Several local hams have completed level one of the three level course.

So, were you prepared on September 11, 2001 to assist in emergency communications?

Have a safe day.

## Jan Williams, W8RNC, SK

Jan Williams, W8RNC, became a silent key Friday, November 30. Jan was the Fiancé of Trigg Tabor, K8NIO. Jan's Obituary appeared in Sunday Dec 2, 2001 issue of the Columbus Dispatch, and also appeared in the Monday Dec 3<sup>rd</sup> paper. The text follows:

**WILLIAMS** Jan Williams, age 52, of Columbus, died Friday, November 30, 2001 at Riverside Hospital after a long battle with cancer. Veteran U.S. Air Force. A registered nurse for the State of Ohio, she worked throughout the state for EMS medical programs. Amateur radio operator W8RNC. Jan enjoyed many collecting hobbies and volunteered for many community activities including the Association for Battered Women and Children and the Boy Scouts. She is preceded in death by her mother Pauline Fort. She is survived by her father, George Fort of Tarzana, Ca.; sons, Steven M. (Rebecca) Williams of Potomac Falls, Va. and Robert C. Williams of Columbus,

fiancé, William "Trigg" Tabor of Columbus; grandchildren, Elizabeth and Wesley Williams of Columbus. Jan was a member of St. Peter Catholic Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus, Oh. 43235 where a Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday, December 5, 2001. Monsignor John Johnson, Celebrant. Burial will be later. Friends may call from 2-4 & 7-9 p.m. Tuesday at RUTHERFORD-CORBIN FUNERAL HOME, WORTHINGTON CHAPEL, 515 High St., Worthington, Oh. (614)885-4006. Donations may be made in Jan's memory to: Ohio Cancer Research Associates, Attn: Dennis Zack, 50 W. Broad St., Columbus, Oh. 43215.

Our heartfelt condolences go out to Trigg and Jan's family.

# Meet Your Directors



Joe Hahn, W8NBA  
Member, Board of Directors  
Trustee 147.33 Repeater  
CORC Newsletter Editor

I have been after some of the other directors to do their bios for many years, so I thought I had better do mine before I start picking on them again. This way they have no excuse and can't tell me to do mine first.

My name is Joe Hahn, W8NBA. I am employed by the City of Columbus as a truck mechanic. I have been married to Carol, KA8VOV, for 29 years. I have two sons, Joe, 23 and Jason, 20. I have been a member of CORC since 1978 and have been Membership Chairman and still am the Newsletter Editor. I am the trustee of the 147.33 repeater. Our family lives out east in Pataskala.

I was first licensed back in 1978 and was issued the call WD8NBA. A few years ago, I applied for and received the vanity call of W8NBA. A few long gone but not forgotten hams got me started many years ago. Actually my first remembrances of ham radio started when I was about ten years old and hung out at my grade school friend Dick Malone. His father was Joe Malone, WA8HVY. His ham shack was in a large closet with sliding double doors. I was in awe of the dials, knobs and tubes. He mostly worked HF and had a large antenna array at their house in Berwick. I rode my bicycle to his house almost every day to get a chance to watch his dad talk to someone on the radio, or better yet, him let me talk to someone.

Years went by and I graduated from high school and started my journey through the workforce. I was working at the largest GMC dealers in the state and was assigned to the motor home shop. One of their customers was John Bohannan, W8AKP. John and I hit it off and I was going through my CB craze when he offered to buy me my first "Tune in the World" ARRL book. John also took me to Universal Radio on Third St., where I bought some other goodies on my own. I visited his shack many times and was amazed by all the Collins gear he had.

Another one of my early mentors was Chuck Mooney, K8EWK. Chuck was a real character, with a bark that was much worse than his bite. Whenever he came into the shop, he would quiz me on my CW speed. From there I enrolled in classes at COSI and next thing I knew I was licensed.

Over the years I have had many helping hands. While writing this, I cheated and got out a CORC roster from 1977 to help me remember some of the calls. I spent a few minutes looking over the calls and got a little melancholy as I read over the names of guys that meant so much to me and the ham community, but have long since gone to their just rewards. If it weren't for them, I probably wouldn't be writing this today.

# The Presidential Message

By Laura Perone, KA8IWB  
CORC President

Season's Greetings

Not much new to report from here in the presidential tower.

I was reading the October issue of QST. I was glad I didn't see any of your shacks in the messiest shack photos. I understand that there are some contenders in our area.

The next potluck for the CORC repeater system is coming up in February. We would love to see you there. I personally think it is nice to put a face with a call. It is also a nice place to visit with other hams other than the hamfest where it can be cold or wet. The food is always delicious.

Have a safe and happy holiday season.

Laura Perone  
KA8IWB

## CORC's Cleanest Shack Contest

By the Newsletter Editing Team

After reading Laura's message above, I am sure that there are some CORC Members that are proud of their "den of pleasures", "abode away from all" and a place sometimes called the "dog house". But rather than feature the messiest shack, why not reward those that have taken the time and effort to spruce up the place and take a nice picture of it. So we are having the CLEANEST SHACK CONTEST. To enter, all you have to do is send in a picture and a short description of your shack. The type of **Ham** equipment doesn't matter, but the more buttons, bells and whistles, the better. It must be a shack belonging to an individual and not a club or group shack. I will get a team of trained professionals to judge these photos and print the winner and two runners-up in both the newsletter and on the CORC Web Page.

You can present the picture on either a QSL card, a 4x6 print or in digital form attached to an e-mail. The winners will be announced at the General Meeting in May, so you have plenty of time to enter and clean-up. The deadline will be midnight on April 15<sup>th</sup>, and submission can be mailed or sent via e-mail. Please send them to me, Joe Hahn W8NBA to the addresses on the front cover. I will try to get a prize of some sort, but the real prize is having your shack featured in an issue of the newsletter and on the Web Page.