

The Central Ohio Radio Club, Inc.

The Central Ohio Radio Club Newsletter is the Official Journal of The Central Ohio Radio Club, Inc. and is published three (3) to 4 times a year as needed. It is mailed or e-mailed to all Full Members. All copy or advertising must be received at least four weeks prior to publication. Articles may be reproduced for other publications as long as prior permission is obtained and source acknowledged. While the Editor makes all reasonable effort to assure the information within is correct, we do not guarantee its contents and disclaim all liability. We reserve the right to edit or reject submitted items for publication. Mail all copy to: Joe Hahn (W8NBA), P.O. Box 166, Sunbury, Ohio 43074-0166. Items can also be e-mailed to newsletter@corc.us.

Place Label Here

Web Page at <http://www.corc.us>

Over 50 Years of
Service to the
Amateur community!



Editor, The CORC Repeater Newsletter
Joe Hahn (W8NBA)
P.O. Box 166
Sunbury, OH 43074-0166

The Central Ohio Radio Club
September 2026 Newsletter



ARRL Special
Services Club

The Central Ohio Radio Club Newsletter

September 2026

President

Anthony Fabro
N8RRB

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WA3UOO

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AE8FP

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Newsletter

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Joe Hahn
W8NBA

Membership

Chair

John Perone
W8RXX

FM Repeaters

53.70 /
52.94 / 52.70
51.70 /
W8AIC

146.16 / 146.76
W8AIC

146.37 / 146.97
W8RRJ

147.93 / 147.33

W8NBA
IRLP Node 8094

449.20 / 444.20
W8AIC

447.80 / 442.80
K8NIO

D-Star Repeater

G3 Gateways

144.89 / 145.49
449.00 / 444.00
W8CMH

CORC President's Message

Anthony "Tony" Fabro N8RRB

I hope everyone has had a great summer and been able to participate in one or more of our country's 250th anniversary celebrations. One such event was the Union Pacific Big Boy Steam Engine display in Fostoria, Ohio on July 14. I was one of the lucky ones to get into the site to see the display. It was estimated that 45,000 people saw the display, however thousands more were turned away. The town probably never had an event that large in its history!

It has been a hot and stormy summer, however for the most part, the CORC system has been resilient (knock on wood) and withstood most of what Mother Nature has thrown our way (knock on wood again). This in part illustrates the need to equip our sites with commercial grade equipment to withstand the pounding by nature. Yes, it costs the club more, but it pays off in the end. Thank you to everyone who has supported CORC with your time, talent, and treasure.

The CORC Tech Net will be starting again on October 4 at 1930 on the 146.760 repeater. The net needs ideas and Subject Matter Experts to present material. If you have an idea for a topic, please reach out to us at technet@corc.us. The Tech Net team can help you create your presentation! You can also send technical questions to the Tech Net team at technet@corc.us.

Finally, the next CORC Potluck is on **Sunday October 11, 2026. Please note our start time will be 5 p.m.** We will have representatives from Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security on hand to provide a presentation about their operations and how they interact with other agencies and groups including amateur radio. Please bring a covered dish to share if you will be eating at the event (main dishes are usually what we need the most). Come have an eyeball QSO with your fellow hams. Members and prospective members are welcome!

As always, if you would like to help with club activities or have questions, feel free to reach out to me at president@corc.us.

73,

Tony N8RRB

From your CORC Membership chairman...

John / W8RXX

The Central Ohio Radio Club (CORC) has had the following new members join since the last newsletter. Please welcome them when you hear them on the air...

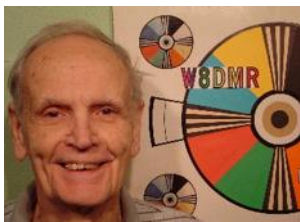
KE8BBT – Scott	KF8CAJ – Bill	KF8GJN – Sherry	N8CWU – Larry
KF8EBQ – Michael	KF8GMV – Tom	KF8HBI – Jerry	KF0OU – John

CORC has had the following that donate either financially or by their time and labor helping to keep the club going. We want to thank each and every one of you! If we missed someone, please let us know, Thanks!

KE8FUR KE8JRT WA8RR AD8MW KF8FRJ AC8YE K8NIO N0OGS KA8RLC W8RXX WA8KKN
KE8BVO KF8FXE WA3UOO WD8JKX W8WJH W8REH N8RRB W8NBA AE8FP KD8IDJ
KB2RRQ N8EM

Winners from June 6th Potluck:

50/50 – K8NIO	ARRL Handbook – KE8LZB	Gift Cards – W8SJQ and Suzy (W8NBA XYL)
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Bill Parker W8DMR SK 1926-2026

Born in Carnegie, PA on October 8, 1926, to Edward S and Ellen (Nelson) Parker. Bill's father worked for the railroad, and the family moved around a bit, settling in Columbus, Ohio in the 1930's. As a teen, he used his paper route money to buy his first ham radio receiver, a Hallicrafters Sky Buddy from a man on his route. He made payments and purchased the radio outright, starting a lifetime love of electronics.

Other jobs during the great depression: Bussing tables at a restaurant for 30 cents an hour. He also caddied at a golf course and later lived on a converted golf course in the Berwick subdivision in a house he designed.

Bill attended Central High school (now home of COSI), graduating class of 1944. He enlisted in US Navy where they waited for his 18th birthday to induct him. He was the youngest in his recruit group but scored the highest on his entrance skill assessment. He was assigned to work in radar systems and trained other sailors in electronics at a Texas naval base. He had only accumulated 1 hour of flight time in a Navy Catalina flying boat when the war ended. (Note, a few years ago he was interviewed by an author writing a book on early radar)

On completing his enlistment, he attended The Ohio State University, studying Electrical Engineering until 1949. While there, he attended a demonstration of the first transistor. Bill was not impressed with the transistor's audio quality and didn't think it had much of a future!

He married Patty (Mountz) in 1953. She also got her ham license! N8LEP. To this union were born Ed and Doug.

He received his ham license in 1949 with his callsign W8DMR. You can use this call sign to search the internet for the many amateur radio magazine articles he has written over the years, and an LED lecture on YouTube. He had a number of magazine covers featuring his articles framed and hung in his workshop; some of these articles can be found at archive.org. He was also a frequent speaker at ham club meetings and the Dayton Hamvention, the world's largest amateur radio gathering.

Bill's radio tower has many antennas covering many frequencies. He was a Amateur Television pioneer of Fast Scan Television (FSTV). He built his own specialized equipment for this purpose. He stopped climbing his tower by his 90's, stating that he told his wife he stopped ascending it in his 70's, and had to time it for when she wasn't home.

As a high school student, Bill worked as a Radio station engineer for WHKC, now WTVN. After OSU, he worked for Bell Sound Systems. In the evenings he taught at Radio Electronic Training School, RETS. He later hired on at North American Rockwell from which he retired in 1984.

Bill spent his retirement years engineering things. He repaired things for family, friends and neighbors. He loved light emitting diodes (LEDs) and how they used little power and had much better service life than incandescent bulbs. He updated hundreds of thrift shop flashlights to LED, with a much lighter and longer lasting battery pack. He found LED-illuminated outlets at the hardware store and installed them in his house. He then contacted the manufacturer with a design for lighted switches. They adopted and marketed the design and paid Bill for his work!

Another retirement invention was a furnace UV light treatment system to sterilize the circulating air. This was at the time of Covid. A neighbor came to him with the idea, Bill came up with a working design.

He built transmitters and receivers from scratch of his own design. He repaired ham gear, radios, TV's, anything electrical, and some things mechanical. He loved working on vacuum tube electronics almost as much as LEDs. Many old tube radios have been restored to working condition with everlasting LED lighting. These radios should be good for another 50-100 years.

Bill had a Nissan Leaf with personalized plate "GAS LESS" He calculated his cost per mile and found it to be much less than that for a gasoline vehicle. He loved the simplicity of maintenance; no oil to change, no radiator, no transmission fluid to change or check.

As Bill would put it, he lived to be 99.75. Predeceased by his parents, and brother Bob. Survived by wife Patty, and sons Ed (Andrea) and Doug Parker

A celebration of Bill's life and 100th birthday will be held in October 11, 2026 at Gatsby's, 151 N Hamilton Avenue, Gahanna, OH from 2-4 PM. "

Technical Committee Report

September 2026 (WA8KKN)

It has been a busy summer for the technical committee. Summer heat, lack of air conditioning at a few of our sites, and bad weather, make us feel like firefighters.

Heat

The lack of air conditioning is hard on our aging equipment. The lack of AC affects the frequency stability and component longevity in some of our equipment. This necessitated changing out transmitters and receivers, fans, providing new air vents/air flow routing for better cooling and ventilation.

Weather

On August 11, 2026, near downtown, winds were measured at 100 MPH at street level. Rooftop winds may have been much more. The 146.760 MHz transmit antenna mounting pipe was bent due to the winds. The antenna itself was not damaged. The antenna-mounting pipe was bent placing the antenna off vertical by approximately 15°. It still radiated but with a severe mechanical tilt to the vertical antenna radiation pattern.

Since our usual tower climber retired, the hunt was on for a tower crew. This took a month including numerous logistic telephone calls. Luckily, we found an excellent crew on the second try. On September 11, 2026, the tower work was completed. Special thanks goes to KB2RRQ for his help. More details and pictures will be at Fall Potluck meeting.

147.330 MHZ and 6 Meter Repeater

The link antennas for both the 147.330 MHz (W8NBA) and 6 Meter (W8RRJ) will require a tower crew to determine what is faulty. If necessary, CORC's current spare link antennas and/or feedline will be used. A local tower crew will perform the work.

The 6 meter UHF link to downtown at Jersey has a faulty antenna system. Likewise, for the 147.330 MHZ UHF links between W8NBA's QTH and Jersey.

Getting Good Results When Using Your Handheld Radio

Rick Tressler WA3UOO

Introduction

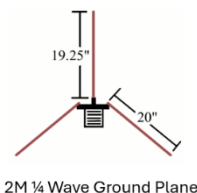
One of the first purchases a new ham makes is a handheld radio. The "HT" to which they are commonly referred, are plentiful, affordable and offer a wide range of features and settings to satisfy just about anyone's needs. You can spend a little or a lot. Of course, quality varies and in general, they work for the most part. This article will help new and not so new ops alike understand the limitation of this type of radio and where improvements can be made should the operator elect to pursue them.

Range

Everyone wants to be heard well. The holy grail is to be received "S9" aka "full quieting". This occurs when using FM and the receiving station does not hear any background noise or static from the transmitting station. The simplex (radio-to-radio) talk range between two HT's equipped using factory supplied antennas over flat ground with no obstructions and 5 watts of power is about one to three miles. As the distance increases, signal strength falls off and the operator at the receiving station notices a drop in the quieting. Hearing the station eventually will become more difficult to the point that there is too much noise and the signal is no longer useful.

To improve range, there are several things that will provide positive results. First, increasing antenna height above ground, by even modest amount, can be effective. Increasing antenna height is a more common fix and can be as simple as moving to a higher floor in a multistory building and relocating to a window!

Second, using a simple $\frac{1}{4}$ wave ground plane antenna outdoors or, in an attic, will improve range even with 5 watts from the HT. A quarter wave ground plane antenna can be easily constructed for very little money.

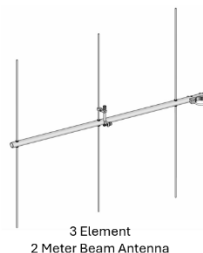


Third, increase RF power to the antenna. This requires more equipment such as a power amplifier and a 12-volt power supply. You don't need a high-power amplifier if you're in central Ohio and want to work most of the repeaters. Increasing the power from 5 to 10 or 20 watts will likely work well if you are trying to get a better signal into a repeater. Using both will make communications even more effective.

Fourth, you can install a multi-element for a beam antenna. Beams mount on the desired receiving station to provide downside, beams receive best from This is not the case from the side and antennas for VHF and UHF are small, lightweight you can build unless you would rather buy one. To avoid going outside you can easily install a small lightweight rotator. They are available at hamfests, online etc.



directive array. That's just a fancy term a vertical mast and must be pointed to its focused RF energy. On the the direction to which they are pointed. to the rear of the antenna. Beam



Improved Range is a Two-Way Street

When you improve your transmit range you will also improve the receive range. That is good but you'll have to deal with the bad, so to speak. You'll hear more stations and more stations will hear you! The possibility of adjacent station interference exists!

Intermodulation

If you live in a metropolitan area like Columbus, your radio may experience intermodulation distortion in the receiver. You may have heard the term, or your radio starts squawking with no input from you. Radios can be the victim of intermod even if not located in a city.

So, what is intermod? Intermodulation aka IM, in FM radio frequency (RF) communications is the generation of unwanted spurious frequencies caused by the interaction of two or more strong signals inside a non-linear device. How does it occur? When two or more radio signals (like f_1 and f_2) enter a non-linear component—such as an overdriven amplifier, a receiver front-end mixer, or even a rusty outdoor metal joint (Passive Intermodulation or PIM)—they mix together. New frequencies are generated. This mixing creates new, unauthorized signals called intermodulation products. These fall on frequencies calculated by mathematical sums and differences of the original signals (e.g., $f_1 + f_2$, $2f_1 - f_2$).

Depending on the brand and model of a particular radio, the antenna in use, where the radio is located at the time and the operating frequency of your radio it can be particularly unsusceptible to intermod. Many radios don't work well in high intermod areas while others rarely, if ever, hear anything other than what the radio is tuned to.

Tone Code Access and CORC Repeaters

Also called "PL", tone access, and CTCSS (continuous tone coded squelch system) the key advantage is that a repeater so equipped on both transmit and receive, the repeater receiver rejects random noise. Repeaters sit high up and hear lots of static, intermodulation, or stray radio energy. A PL tone ensures the repeater ignores this background noise and only keys up for real users.

Systems or user groups use the exact same radio frequency in overlapping geographic areas without constantly keying over or triggering each other.

When a user programs their own radio to receive the PL tone (tone squelch), their speaker stays muted until the matching repeater output tone arrives, cutting down on annoying squelch tails or background crashes when no one is talking.

If you're not transmitting the required PL tone, you will not bring up the repeater. PL is always ON.

Send your questions and comments to Rick at wa3uoo@gmail.com

FREE LIVE ONLINE CLASS TO GET YOUR AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE

LEARN • CONNECT • GET ON THE AIR!

The Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club (www.cfarc.org) & Mahoning Valley Amateur Radio Association (www.mvara.org) will be conducting live online classes to get your Technician and/or General Class Licenses.

CLASS DATES: **OCTOBER 4TH TO NOVEMBER 22ND**

YOU'LL LEARN:

- ✓ Radio Basics
- ✓ Operating Practices
- ✓ Tools & Equipment
- ✓ How to Communicate
- ✓ And Much More!

FREE CLASSES HELD VIA ZOOM

EARN YOUR TECHNICIAN AND/OR GENERAL CLASS LICENSE!

SCAN TO LEARN MORE AND SIGN UP!

tiny.cc/beaham

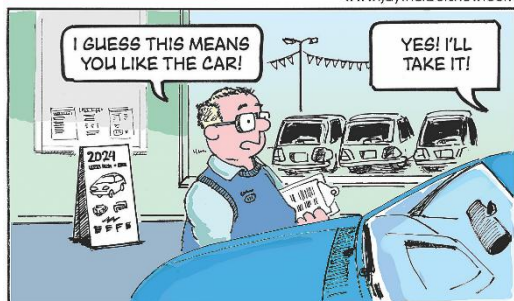
JOIN US AND TAKE THE FIRST STEP!

VISIT WWW.CFARC.ORG OR WWW.MVARA.ORG FOR DETAILS AND TO SIGN UP!

Pass this along to friends that want to get their license!!

spurious signals

By Jason Togyer W3MCK
www.jaythurburnshow.com



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CORC Fall Meeting

October
11th 2026

SUNDAY

Starting
at 5PM

**Speakers: Representatives from Franklin County
EMA and Homeland Security will be on hand to
provide a presentation about their operations and
how they interact with other agencies and groups
including amateur radio.**

Please bring a covered dish and serving utensils.

CORC will Provide: Soft Drinks

Coffee/Tea

High Quality Plastic Ware

Cups and Plates

Friendly Faces

Genoa Township Hall

5111 S Old 3C Rd,

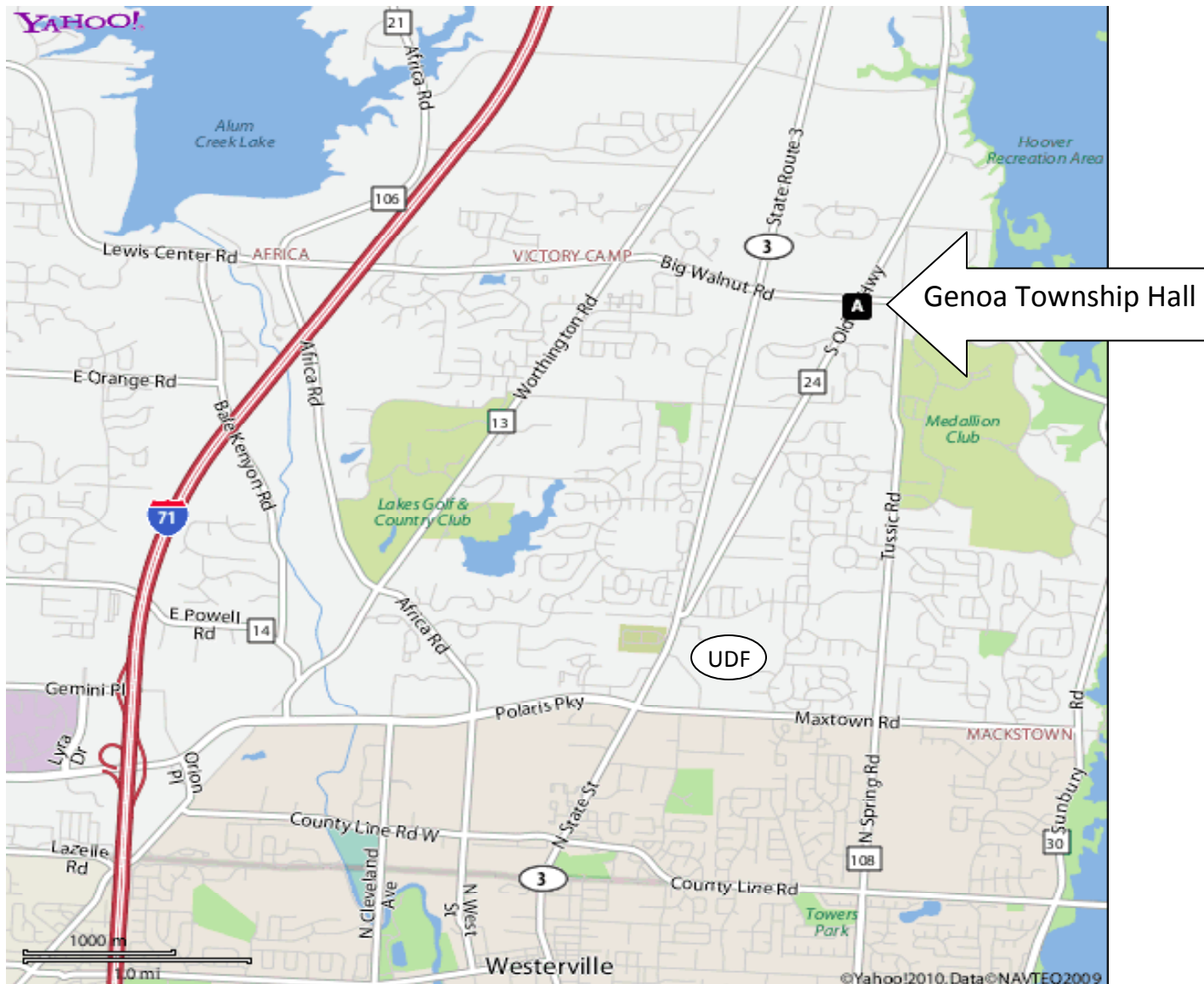
Westerville, OH 43082

(see included map)



And now that you know about it...

Here is how you get there!



From 71 take Polaris Pkwy to State Route 3 and turn on Old 3C Highway and go North to The Genoa Township Hall.

From 270 exit on State Route 3/ Westerville Road and go north to Old 3C Highway.

Genoa Township Hall is on the corner of Big Walnut and Old 3C Highway.

Membership application

Central Ohio Radio Club, Inc. (CORC)

Operating Amateur Repeaters Since 1970

CORC operates repeaters with outputs of 52.70, 146.76, 146.97, 147.33, 442.800, 444.200
145.49 D-STAR & 444.000 D-STAR

Some of the features include:

Worldwide linking on our IRLP & D-STAR Repeaters.
Repeaters are used by the Central Ohio Weather Net and Central Ohio Traffic Net.
Multiple receiver sites located in Franklin, Licking, Delaware, Pickaway and Logan Counties
To ensure you excellent coverage throughout Central Ohio.

Membership allows full use of the *CORC* facilities, Operating Manual, subscription to the *CORC* Newsletter,
and a vote at the annual meeting of the corporation.

Family member amateurs at the same address are NO additional charge, (No Vote at annual meeting)

\$18 / 1 year - \$32 / 2 years - \$45 / 3 years Dues Enclosed \$ _____
Optional Donation – CORC is a 501(c)(3) corporation \$ _____
Total \$ _____

Please mark one: ☐ New Application ☐ Renewal Application

Call Sign _____ Name _____ e-mail _____

Call Sign _____ Name _____ e-mail _____

Call Sign _____ Name _____ e-mail _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone () _____ Alternate () _____

How many of above are ARRL Members _____ (CORC is an ARRL affiliated club)

Check to Request Newsletter by e-mail (this saves the club mailing cost) _____

Please make check payable to *CORC* and mail application and check to:

Central Ohio Radio Club, PO Box 166, Sunbury, Ohio 43074-0166

For questions call membership chairman John, W8RXX @ 614-579-0522
or visit the *CORC* website at www.corc.us

Thank You for your Membership and Support!

Rev 1/26

CORC DUES 2026 SCHEDULE

THIS TABLE SHOWS DUES FOR MEMBERSHIP BASED ON MONTH YOU JOIN

Month you Join	Selecting \$18 One Year Plan		Selecting \$32 Two Year Plan		Selecting \$45 Three Year Plan	
	Pay	Expires on Dec 31	Pay	Expires on Dec 31	Pay	Expires on Dec 31
JAN FEB MAR	\$18.00	2026	\$32.00	2027	\$45.00	2028
APR MAY JUN	\$13.50		\$28.00		\$41.00	
JUL AUG SEP	\$9.00		\$24.00		\$37.00	
OCT NOV DEC	\$18.00	2027	\$32.00	2028	\$45.00	2029

Since 1970 CORC Membership still is only \$18.00 for 1 yr - \$32.00 for 2 years - \$45.00 for 3 years

THANKS for becoming a member!