

Inverted-V

Lawrence County Amateur Radio Club Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 4

July - August 2004

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NEXT L.C.A.R.C. MEETING:

PLACE: LAWRENCE COUNTY COURTHOUSE

TIME: AUGUST 2ND 2004 19:00 HOURS

AT THIS MEETING WE WILL HAVE A TRAFFIC HANDLING CLASS.

HUNTSVILLE ALABAMA HAMFEST:

PLACE: HUNTSVILLE'S VON BRAUN CENTER, 700 MONROE ST. SW.

TIME: AUGUST 21ST AND 22ND

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT [HTTP://WWW.HAMFEST.ORG](http://www.hamfest.org).

LAWRENCE COUNTY A.R.C. INFORMATION AND WEATHER NETS:

PLACE: 147.045 +

TIME: 8 PM ON AUGUST 10TH AND 24TH

SEPTEMBER 6TH L.C.A.R.C. MEETING:

PLACE: LAWRENCE COUNTY COURTHOUSE

TIME: 7PM

BROADBAND PROVIDER TO DROP BPL IN NEW YORK TRIAL COMMUNITY

The broadband provider that's been testing BPL in the Village of Penn Yan, New York, reportedly plans to "move away" from that technology. The Western New York community of some 5000 residents has been considering various proposals with Data Ventures (DVI) to offer broadband service. A BPL trial has been underway in Penn Yan for several months. The village reportedly would get 10 percent of the generated revenue. According to an article in the July 28 edition of the Finger Lakes Times Online, DVI now is proposing to employ wireless mesh "WiFi" technology instead of BPL. ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, congratulated Penn Yan Mayor Douglas G. Marchionda Jr and DVI for going with wireless broadband instead of BPL.

"Not only will your citizens receive better service, but a serious radio spectrum pollution problem has been averted as well," Sumner said in a fax to Marchionda and to DVI CEO Marc Burling. "We hope that other communities will be able to profit from your experience." Sumner raised the issue of interference complaints from the Penn Yan BPL trial with Marchionda last April.

The Finger Lakes Times report quotes Burling as saying that his company didn't feel BPL was "commercially deployable." He also cited issues with the BPL trial including security concerns and interference--which will not be an issue with the wireless system.

Burling told ARRL that the Penn Yan BPL system remains on line but would be shut down once DVI starts deploying its wireless system. As for BPL, "We are going to sit back and wait for an official ruling from the FCC and go from there," Burling added.

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New Officers Elected at June Meeting

Elections were held at the June LCARC meeting, the following is a list of the new officer that started their term in July 2004 and will end June 2005 when our next elections will be held.

President: Carl Richardson KB5FJX

Vice President: Dale Stratton K5ZXH

2nd Vice President: Joe Floyd K5BMD

Secretary/Treasurer: Gayla Warden N5VUV

Public Relations Officer: Brenda Stratton KC5ZFW

July meeting recap

At our July meeting we talked about some possible ideas for the club to pursue in the coming year, below is a list of possible ideas:

- 1 - Holding an upgrade class in the area such as at the Black River Technical Institute.
- 2 - Setting up a club booth or special event station at some of the Area County Fairs or Festivals, this would help promote Amateur radio in the area and possible interest others in becoming Amateur Radio operators.
- 3- Printing and mailing out courtesy Club Meeting reminder cards to some of the area hams that have not been to any of our recent meetings.
- 4 - We also talked about doing some work on our repeater building, the door needs replacing and the corner post also need to be replaced. We are currently seeing if we can possibly get this donated or maybe at reduced rate.

Traffic Handling Class at August Meeting

We will be having an NTS Traffic Handling class at our August 2nd Meeting. Anyone that has had questions or just wants to get a refresher on the art of passing traffic is welcome to attend this meeting.



Penn Yan already has rejected two DVI proposals to bring high-speed Internet service to the community, the newspaper said. Village officials reportedly met again with DVI representatives this week. DVI is partnering with Nortel to offer the wireless service.

In a March 23 article "In This Power Play, High-Wire Act Riles Ham-Radio Fans," Wall Street Journal reporter Ken Brown described a "firestorm" of protest from amateurs when Penn Yan approved the BPL test plan.

ARRL also has learned that Energy East--a cooperative of New York State Electric & Gas and Rochester Gas & Electric--decided against deploying BPL in their Western New York service area. Energy East based its decision in large part on the high levels of radio frequency interference an engineer and company officials observed during a visit to the Penn Yan field trial.

On July 29, Grand Haven, Michigan, announced that it had become the first community in the US to deploy a WiFi network <<http://www.ottawawireless.net/about-us/press-room.html>> that blankets the city and up to 15 miles off shore in Lake Michigan with broadband Internet access.

For more information on BPL, visit the "Broadband Over Power Line (BPL) and Amateur Radio" <<http://www.arrl.org/bpl/>> page on the ARRL Web site.



BPL would employ frequencies in the HF range to distribute broadband and Internet services via low and medium-voltage power lines.