

OH-KY-IN Amateur Radio Society Inc.
Our 47th Year of Service to Cincinnati in Amateur Radio
A Special Service Club of the American Radio Relay League

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Web Pages

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Regular monthly meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM local time at the Western Hills Church of Christ, 5064 Sidney Rd (corner of Sidney & Covedale) in Western Hills, Cincinnati. Visitors are ALWAYS welcome!

For membership information contact

Ken Croll N8ASV 9998 Dick Rd. Harrison OH 45030 513=202-1208
n8asv@arrl.net

Permission is hereby granted to any amateur radio group to quote or reprint from this publication, provided proper source credit is given.

The Q-FIVER is the official newsletter of OH-KY-IN ARS, edited & published monthly by the following amateurs:

Susie Scott N8CGM 6351 Daleview Rd. 45247 513=385-5201 Editor
Jack Koch KA8JFE 2135 Cental Pkwy. 45214 513=721-1203 Publisher, Keystone Printing Co.

Please send submissions for the Q-FIVER (including notice of upgrades and call changes) as well as circulation problems & address changes to Ye Ed. Susie N8CGM. These may be:

- > mailed to or dropped off at 6351 Daleview Rd, Cinti OH 45247
- > telephoned at 513=385-5201 any time (answerer takes up to 4 min. dictation)
- > e-mailed to n8cgm@arrl.net

THE Q-FIVER

(kyoo fi ver) Q: A scale of amateur radio signal readability progressing from 1 (unreadable) to 5 (perfectly readable). "You're Q5" = (Your signal is perfectly readable." (ARRL Handbook, 52d ed. 1975)

April 2005 Volume 47 Number 4

From the President

Don't Panic! Please bear with us during this switchover period, giving you this publication electronically for the first time. We will all do our best to make sure you get this as easily as possible. Any feedback would be greatly appreciated.

Thanks to all for attending the meetings – attendance has been good! April looks to have another fine, relevant topic. Our thanks to Dale for continuing the great job with the programs. Please remember to participate in all of the meetings and activities when possible – our club needs the help of all of its members. With the warmer weather coming, remember club functions and ways to help out your fellow hams. Dayton is coming and our club booth always needs volunteers!

The repeaters are coming along nicely, but still a lot of things to be done. Please – use them!

See you all at the meetings!

73, *Brian K4BRI*

Next meeting

The next club meeting of the OH-KY-IN Amateur Radio Society will feature Tim Hedrick from Local12 WKRC to talk about Meteorology, weather permitting. That club meeting will take place **Tuesday, April 5, 2005** at 7:30 PM at the Western Hills Church of Christ, located at 5064 Sidney Rd.

To get to the meeting from downtown Cincinnati, go North West on Glenway Ave. to Sidney Road (at the Frisch's Restaurant). Turn left on Sidney and turn right into the parking lot at the next light. Please enter the building through the rear door.

73, *Dale K08725*

Minutes of members' meeting, Tuesday, March 1, 2005

Brian K4BRI called the meeting to order at 7:38 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance and self-introductions. There were about 30 present.

Dale KC8HQS introduced Clyde Haehnle, who spoke on the history of WLW Radio. WLW received its frequency of 700 kHz in 1927. Mr. Haehnle showed a quantity of slides and had a number of flat photos. He invited the club out to the transmitting site near VOA for a tour. Program concluded at 8:09 PM.

Business meeting started at 8:25 PM.

Brian K4BRI thanked Emily K4MLE for hospitality.

John KC8VQU moved to accept the minutes as printed in the *Q-Fiver*, Bob WB8JHT second, motion carried.

The *Q-Fiver* will be PDFed and put on the web site and notices sent to those members who have e-mail. Some hard copies will be sent, but a greatly reduced number.

Ken N8ASV reported 119 members to date. Brian K4BRI said directories will be here next month.

Rick KD4PYR distributed copies of the treasurer's report. There was a rent payment of \$240 to the church. Income is -\$95.24.

Bruce N8BV had nothing to report for Silent Keys.

Brian K4BRI reported that the last technical committee meeting sorted out a number of issues. There is a crystal filter for paging interference, receive is better at .67. Cabling to the cavities was dealt with. The south remote is back and hears well, the CW ID is loud but it's on. North should be on by the end of the weekend. Brian asked to be advised of any dead spots. .625 is ready to go back on. Bruce N8BV has arranged for a site in Withamsville; when Nextel goes up next month we'll be right under them. EchoLink is up on .925, still looking for a place for .775. Next technical meeting will be at Brian's place of work on US 27, next Tuesday at 7:30 and will involve bench work.

Harry vWA8LOJ reported no new gear, tho Brian says there is some Harry doesn't know about yet.

Hamfest tickets are printed. Phil KG8AP announced the next Hamfest meeting April 19 at Carol WA8YL's.

Ev KC8JR reported that classes will start March 17 at Salem Presbyterian Church and conclude with exams on May 26. Need students, have faculty for all 3 classes.

Brian K4BRI reported no fox hunt last month, Bob WA6EZV has been working 12-hour days. It's hoped things will be back to normal next month.

DXpedition: Eric N8YC said there are still plans to go to Pensacola Beach in May, but a definite date is needed.

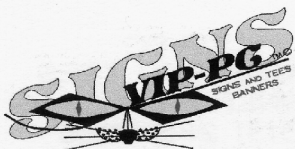
Jim KC8PRY announced that the library is open.

Bruce N8BV urged check-ins and queries for Tech Talk. Queries by e-mail will be accepted, to techtalk@oh-ky-in.org. They will go to WA8YL who will relay them to the week's NCS if it happens not to be her.

No one was present to report for ARPSC, WARN or QCEN.

Web site: pictures from VOA are up, Dale KC8HQS reported a good hit count.

Old business: E-mail list for *Q-Fiver* distribution. Dale KC8HQS asked about questionnaires, Ken N8ASV got exactly 2 back.



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Cropping should be permitted by Paint Shop Pro 8; says it's possible but it's not. I tried, & it won't. Crushes ad into itty-bitty space.

Ads were supposed to go here on page 5

New business: Brian K4BRI reported a try to hold classes here was too pricey, rent for meetings has been raised significantly (\$400/yr). John KC8VQU's Masonic lodge at Eastern and Linwood has space available and would certainly be less. Tony AB8LV suggested a public school. Anyone withn ideas, please call Brian K4BRI. Bob WB8JHT said his daughter's Scout troop meets at a school.

Attendance award would have gone to Bob WB8W had he been present. Late health and welfare, his mother has had a stroke and he's been taking care of her, reported Harry WA8LOJ.

Split the pot of \$17 was won by John KC8VQU.

Ev KC7JR moved to adjourn at 8:49 PM, John KC8VQU second, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted, *Susie Scott N8CGM*, Recording Secretary

Technical Committee

We had a great work party in March. Thanks to all who attended and helped. The receive sensitivity at the main site is much better with some replacement of cables and installation of short runs of hardline. That is both good news and bad news – we are now also battling some fierce intermod problems, both at the main site and the south remote – which is working great! Next month we will meet at the south site to work on filters, the 146.625 repeater and other general items there. We will meet Tuesday, April 12 at 7:30 PM. Call on 146.67 if you need help getting there.

73, Brian K4BR1

Contests

April 2005

1 BPL DX Contest. Log as many BPL signals, from as great a distance as possible, without touching your antenna to the power lines. Bonus points for embarrassing Emails intercepted. Multiplier: number of complaints to FCC that are ignored.

2-3 MO QSO Party, CW & SSB

MT QSO Party, all mode

QCWA Spring QSO Party, CW, Digital & SSB

EA RTTY Contest (Spain)

SP DX Contest, CW & SSB

Kids Roundup, Phone

6-11 DX YL to North American YL Contest, CW, YLRL

QRP ARCI Spring QSO Party, CW

EU Spring Sprints, SSB

Japan International DX Contest (JIDX), CW

GA QSO Party, CW & SSB

13-17 DX YL to North American YL Contest, Phone, YLRL

YU DX Contest, CW & SSB

MIQSO Party, CW & SSB,

TARA Skirmish, Digital Prefix Contest

Holyland DX Contest, CW & SSB

ES Open HF Championship, (Estonian) CW & SSB

ONT QSO Party, CW & Phone

EU EME Contest, any mode

EU Spring Sprint, CW,

EA QRP Contest, CW

23-24 FL QSO Party

NE QSO Party, all mode

Helvetia Contest, all mode

DX Colombia International Contest, Phone & CW

FISTS/EUCW CW QRS Contest

30-May 1 2 GHz and Up World Wide Club Contest

Spring into April contesting. For more information see *QST*, *CQ*, or www.arrl.org.

73, Dan, *K744U*

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VE Exam opportunities

Sat Apr 2 at Hartwell Presbyterian Church, Parkway & Woodbine Aves. Sponsored by CRA. Registration 8:30 AM. Walk-ins only! Info: Herb Blasberg WA8PBW, 513=891-7556.
Sat Apr 9 at Butler Co VHF Communications Ctr in D Russel Lee Vocational School, 3603 Hamilton-Middletown Rd (Rt 4), suburban Hamilton sponsored by Butler Co VHF Assn. To reach school, take I-75 to SR 129, follow 129 to Bypass 4 to Rt 4 .2 mi on right., 1st drive. 4-way stop & yield, beyond which is newish building with lots of glass, your goal. Info: Ted Wilson K8TCR, 513=868-7012. Talk-in: 146.97
Mon Apr 11 at Turkeyfoot Middle School, 3230 Turkeyfoot Rd, Edgewood KY, sponsored by NKARC. 6-8 PM. Pre-registration encouraged, but walk-ins accepted. No photocopying on site; please bring everything you need! Info: 859=472-6690 or 859=356-5460
Pre-registration encouraged where available (ask info source where to send, enclose SASE for confirmation & NCVET 605)
\$14 is present ARRL/VEC exam fee, exact currency appreciated.

TALLY HO!

This month, Le Fox provided an assortment of interesting facts and jokes to keep our hounds amused and confused in their jaunt over hill and dale in locating him. Besides the diversion of really bad jokes, our fox also made several adjustments to the output power levels to send our hounds off to a hill west of French Park where he was enjoying the beautiful morning view and other local wildlife scenes.

Starting from Mt. Storm Park, here are the stats to corner this month's fox:

Dick, WB4SUV & Janie	13.6 miles	30:01 minutes
Brian, K4BRI & Emily, K4MLE	15.1 miles	35:55 minutes
Ernie, W8EH & Elaine, KC8WOF	17.4 miles	50:32 minutes

The foxhunters' monthly exercise is a fun and exciting way to learn and sharpen your RDFing skills. We would be delighted to welcome all who are interested to join us. Hope to see you in our next foray.

73,

Phil KG8AP, Le Fox

Hamfests &c.

April 2005

17 Hamfest & Electronics/Computer Show (51st Annual) in Cuyahoga Falls OH sponsored by Cuyahoga Falls ARC. Emidio & Sons Party Ctr, 48 E Bath Rd at corner of State Rd; SR 8N to Graham Rd exit, 1.2 mi W on Graham Rd, R to E Bath Rd, W for 1 mi. Public 8 AM-2 PM. Vendors, free parking. Talk-in: 147.27. \$5 gate. Info: Ted Sarah W8TTS, 330=688-2013; w8tts@w8tts.com; www.cfarc.org

24 Athens OH Hamfest sponsored by Athens Co ARA at Athens Community Rec Ctr, 665 E State St; US 33 or US 50 to E State St exit, E on E State St for ¼ mi, entrance marked with signs. Large indoor/outdoor flea market, vendors, VE sessions, refreshments. Talk-in: 145.15. \$5 gate, nonham spouses free. Info: Drew McDaniel W8MHV, 740=592-2106; dmcDaniell@ohiou.edu; www.ac-ara.org

==>PRESIDENT TAPS COMMISSIONER KEVIN J. MARTIN TO HEAD FCC

President George W. Bush this week announced his intention to designate Commissioner Kevin J. Martin to chair the FCC. He'll replace Michael K. Powell, who stepped down this month. Martin, 38, a North Carolina attorney with close White House ties, has served on the FCC since 2001. In congratulating Martin on his appointment, ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, also took the opportunity to refresh Martin's memory regarding Amateur Radio's stake in the broadband over power line (BPL) issue. Last July, Sumner and ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, met with Martin and aide Sam Feder to discuss their fears about radio interference from BPL systems. When the FCC unanimously adopted new BPL rules last October, Martin acknowledged Amateur Radio's concerns, said he would take them seriously, and expressed confidence that the Commission would take the necessary steps to address interference.

"Unfortunately, I must advise you that the Commission's record of addressing BPL interference has proved to be woefully inadequate," Sumner continued, citing continued BPL interference complaints. "To date the Commission has not ordered a single BPL system to be shut down, despite the failure of BPL system operators to resolve interference," Sumner pointed out.

This week, the League renewed its complaint of ongoing BPL interference in Briarcliff Manor, New York, and filed a complaint with the Enforcement Bureau and the Office of Engineering and Technology outlining an ongoing BPL interference case in Irving, Texas (see below).

"The ARRL and the nation's radio amateurs are anxious for a sign that we can expect this sorry situation to be corrected under your leadership," Sumner concluded. Since he already sits on the FCC, Martin's appointment will not require US Senate confirmation.

Considered the front-runner for the job, Martin said he was "deeply honored" to be tapped as the next FCC chairman. While Martin and Powell reportedly clashed over telephone deregulation and media ownership issues, they essentially were on the same page regarding the promotion of BPL. News accounts say that Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy, a Republican and a BPL booster, is also planning to leave the FCC. Abernathy's now-notorious "broadband Nirvana" remarks about BPL drew sharp opposition from the amateur community.

BPL manufacturer Ambient Corporation promptly issued a news release hailing the appointment of Martin as "a vocal proponent" of BPL systems and citing segments of Martin's laudatory comments about the technology following the FCC's October 14, 2004, adoption of new BPL rules.

Sumner pointed out to Ambient, however, that its news release ignored some of Martin's other comments in his statement last fall, in which the commissioner acknowledged Amateur Radio operators' and broadcasters' interference worries and concluded, "I am confident that the Commission will continue to monitor these concerns and will take steps, where needed, to address interference problems going forward."

Sumner reminded Ambient that the League "already has called on Commissioner Martin to do exactly that." Attending his 90th FCC meeting and his last as chairman, Powell said good-bye to his Commission colleagues March 10. "I've loved it! Every single day of it," he proclaimed, his voice beginning to crack. "It will be the greatest memory of my life."

==>AMATEUR RADIO IS "POSTER CHILD" OF HOMELAND SECURITY GRANTEES GATHERING

Amateur Radio earned high marks and frequent praise this month during a gathering of Corporation for National & Community Service (CNCS) homeland security grant recipients. ARRL Chief Development Officer Mary Hobart, K1MMH, and Field and Educational Services Manager Rosalie White, K1STO, represented the League at the series of meetings March 2-5 in Washington. ARRL--a special volunteer program--received a 2002 CNCS grant to subsidize Amateur Radio emergency communications courses, now available on three levels. The League was among 29 CNCS homeland security grantees attending. "I wish that every ham--whether or not public service is their primary interest--could have been at these meetings to celebrate this grant and the reputation ham radio enjoys among these volunteer service organizations," Hobart said. "It really validated Amateur Radio's contribution. There is new and rekindled appreciation for the sustained public service that Amateur Radio operators are able to provide nationwide." Indeed, at the opening session, USA Freedom Corps Director Desiree T. Sayle used Amateur Radio and the success of the League's CNCS training grant as a prime example of a successful program. White says she was amazed to hear Sayle recite the exact number of ARRL emergency communications course graduates and talk about their continuing work in disaster preparation and response.

Noting that the CNCS grant tuition subsidies--now in their third and final year--will expire in June, Hobart strongly urged anyone considering taking the ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Communications courses to sign up now. In that vein, White noted the comments of CNCS Executive Director David Eisner, who told the CNCS grantees: "Jump aboard a moving train, rather than find fuel for a new train that hasn't left yet."

Hobart and White said that during the various conference sessions, it was not unusual to see attendees nodding in assent whenever the discussion turned to Amateur Radio's positive role in their communities. As White recounted, "it was roundly acknowledged that Amateur Radio operators are always needed--for assisting in the wake of blackouts, floods, earthquakes, fires and other emergencies."

Hobart said that in every session were representatives of volunteer organizations who are working with Amateur Radio and recognize it an integral component of what they do.

White says there are several steps hams can take to keep the momentum going. "If you are a Section Manager, Section Emergency Coordinator or District Emergency Coordinator, make sure your state and local emergency management teams know who you are," she said. "If you are a club president or ARES team leader, please encourage your members to enroll in the grant-funded emergency communications course before it's too late." To date, more than 4000 radio amateurs have taken advantage of the grant-subsidized ARRL emergency communications courses.

Hobart also noted that two of the volunteer programs represented at the CNCS meeting expressed interest in the ARRL Education and Technology Program. "The reception Amateur Radio received at this meeting was like a welcome for a good friend," she summed up.

The gratitude and goodwill cut both ways. The ARRL delegation expressed the League's thanks to Eisner and CNCS for "taking a chance on a non-traditional organization" in awarding the 2002 training grant. Hobart and White assured Eisner that radio amateurs are proud of the program's success and "have voiced the renewed commitment of Amateur Radio to provide emergency communication whenever and wherever needed."

The ARRL Letter, Vol. 24 #11, March 18, 2005

ARRL Membership

If you are not an ARRL member or haven't been a member during the past 2 years, join the ARRL and a portion of your membership will benefit Oh-Ky-In. To join, send your \$39 check (payable to Oh-Ky-In ARS) and forms to KD4PYR. Our club will get \$15 if we recruit a new ARRL member or bring back one who has let his/her membership lapse more than 2 years. Your membership includes a subscription to *QST* Magazine.

What's coming in April

- Thu Mar 31 7 PM Code & theory class at Salem Presbyterian Church, corner Mozart & Higbee
- Tue Apr 5 7:30 PM Club meeting at WESTERN HILLS CHURCH OF CHRIST, 5064 Sidney Rd
Program: Tim Hedrick, Local12 WKRC on Meteorology
- Wed Apr 6 9 PM Tech Talk, NCS Carol WA8YL
- Thu Apr 7 7 PM Code & theory class at Salem Presbyterian Church, corner Mozart & Higbee
- Sat Apr 9 10 AM Monthly fox hunt, hounds start from Mt Storm Park; talk-in to start 146.67
- Tue Apr 12 7:30 PM Technical Committee at South Remote
- Wed Apr 13 9 PM Tech Talk, NCS Dale KC8HQS
- Thu Apr 14 7 PM Code & theory class at Salem Presbyterian Church, corner Mozart & Higbee
- Mon Apr 18 7:30 PM Robotics Group at Brian K4BRI's
- Tue Apr 19 7:30 PM Hamfest Committee at Carol WA8YL's
- Wed Apr 20 9 PM Tech Talk, NCS Dennis KB8ROA
- Thu Apr 21 7 PM Code & theory class at Salem Presbyterian Church, corner Mozart & Higbee
- Tue Apr 26 7:30 PM Board of Directors at Carol WA8YL's
- Wed Apr 27 9 PM Tech Talk, NCS Brian K4BRI
- Thu Apr 28 7 PM Code & theory class at Salem Presbyterian Church, corner Mozart & Higbee
- Tue May 3 7:30 PM Club meeting at WESTERN HILLS CHURCH OF CHRIST, 5064 Sidney Rd
Program: Jay Slough K4ZLE, 8th District QSL Bureau

OH-KY-IN 2005 Committee Appointments

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Silent Key Bruce Vanselow N8BV, Chair
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WARN Representative – open
Volunteer Examiners Brian DeYoung K4BRI, Chair
Repeater Cfontrol Ops Mgr Bruce Vanselow N8BV
Librarian James E. Keeley KC8PRY
Field Day Nathan Ciufu KA3MTT, Chair
Hamfest Phil Smith KG8AQP, coordinator
Slow Scan TV Net Mgr Harry Davis WA8LOJ
Fox Hunters Co-Chairs Dick Arnett WB4SUV
Bob Frey WA6EZV
Robotics Chair Dana Laurie WA8M
DXpedition Coordinator Eric Neiheisel N8YC
n8yc@arrl.net 513=598-1659

Life Members Kenneth E. Wolf N8WYC
John W. Hughes AI4DA

News of members and students in recent classes

Nathan KA3MTT and his wife Nicole are the proud parents of Isabel, a beautiful bright eyed little girl. She was born the first part of March. Mom and baby are home and doing well.

Tech Talk queries now accepted by e-mail

If for some reason you cannot check into Tech Talk (non-ham parent of a student member, or the time is inconvenient), queries may go by e-mail to TechTalk@oh-ky-in.org. This will be received by Carol WA8YL who will pass the query along to the evening's NCS if it's not her.

Search committee being formed

The price of rent on our meeting place will force us to find another place to meet by the end of the year. If you know of a location that will accommodate up to 75 people and is not up or down a long flight of stairs, please advise Ye Pres Brian K4BRI. Price is a major factor, should not exceed \$20/night, less is better.

33/73, Ye Ed.

Copy deadline for May issue is Friday, April 15

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