

**The Q-Fiver, newsletter of Oh-Ky-In ARS
February 2005 Volume 47 Number 2**

[Sorry, I can't crop the graphics – ads & cartoon -- don't know how yet -- Ed.]

President's message:

I would like to thank all of the members of OhKyIn for the opportunity to lead this bunch. I have always said this was the best club in the area and I am proud to help out when I can. The best club in the world is only as good as its members, and we surely do have some good ones. I will be counting on you to help me and help the club be the best that it can be! Please feel free to contact me on any issues, and know that I will be calling on you to help out and participate in the best club around!

Also, I would like to thank the current board for agreeing to serve this club! I will be calling on many of you to help out in the years to come, so please do your best! Club meetings are important, so please attend when you can. Dale is doing a great job at keeping the presentations interesting and informative.

73 - *Brian, K4BR1*

Next meeting

The next club meeting of the OH-KY-IN Amateur Radio Society will feature Bill Strangfeld to talk about the Gray History of Wireless Museum. That club meeting will take place Tuesday February 1, 2005 at the Western Hills Church of Christ, located at 5064 Sidney Rd. Also, you and your friends are welcome to attend a tour of the Voice Of America building in West Chester on February 21st, 2005 starting at 7:30 PM at the VOA building. Please check www.ohkyin.org for more info as the date nears.

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 KC8H2S*

Minutes of members' meeting, Tuesday, January 4, 2005

Brian K4 BRI called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance and self-introductions. There were no guests and about 30 present Karen KB8BZL's dad has suffered a stroke Dale KC8HQ5 introduced Tom Shoch from ARTIMIS who spoke about that system.

This is a 2-state agreement with a 511 hotline. It cost \$40 million to build. The 43 dynamic signs cost \$200,000. There are over 100 cameras which pan, tilt and zoom. They could record but do not. Reference markers have cut response time by about 30%.

There will be a tour available on Jan. 15. Program ended at 9 PM.

Business meeting began at 9:05 PM.

Brian thanked Emily K4MLE for hospitality.

Dick WB4SUV moved to approve the minutes as printed in the Q-Fiver. Boib WB8JHT seconded, motion carried.

Ken N8ASV announced there are now 82 members.

Rick KB4PYR reported a \$150 receipt from the Price Hill Thanksgiving Parade. He will request the same spaces for Dayton. Working funds are about \$600 down.

Bruce N8BV had no one for report for Silent Keys.

Brian K4BRI announced that there will be a Technical Committee meeting next Tuesday at 7. They need to fix the weak audio and lay plans for 2005.

Harry WA8LOJ will apply the new property tags when they come. The club has bought a DVD player for CW.

Ev KC8JR reported that classes are over and nearly everyone passed. Next round will be in February. A faculty meeting will be needed.

The last fox hunt was wet and way east, Bob WA6EZV reported. Dick WB4SUV will be the fox this Saturday.]


Robotics will meet in January, said Brian K4BRI and build battle bots on the 3d Monday.

Jim KC8PRY has the library open.

Bruce N8BV said Tech Talk needs queries, as always.
 Pete KC8BZM said ARPSC will meet, please be careful to park in the Education lot so as not to be towed.
 QCEN will meet on the 4th Friday and is always looking for members.]
 Dale KC8HQS has updated the website and put in the new appointments.]
 New business: for the tour on Jan 15 go to ARTIMIS for directions
 Bob WA6EZV said he will try to put EchoLink back up.
 Attendance award would have gone to Joyce N8YCI had she been there. As she was not, the sum will be \$15 next time.
 Mike KC8YOM won \$32 in split-the-pot.
 Pete KC8BZM moved to adjourn at 9:20 PM, Phil KG8AP second, motion carried.]
 Respectfully submitted, *Susie Scott N8CQM*, Recording Secretary

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John Hugentober CW Proficiency Award

We have extended the deadline for the CW award until the 28th of Feb, 2005 - if you have made at least one QSO using CW, I urge you to submit a log file to OhKyIn for the CW proficiency award - please help keep the dream alive. Also please stay tuned for any possible changes in the structure of the award itself. Please contact Brian, K4BRI, with any entries or questions.
 Thank you as always!

73 - *Brian, K4BRI*

Tech committee

I would like to bring you up to to date on the status of the repeaters, and the work being done on each. 146.670 - the main site is doing ok but we need an weather-tight enclosure to help with the corrosion problems we seem to be having. We have been promised two wx-tolerant enclosures to help with this issue. The north remote has recently died and we have no working spares to replace it with. We will do whatever we can to keep the sites up and operational. We have just had a very successful work party at the south

remote site and got a lot accomplished. The 146.625 repeater has also been placed back in service at this site, for the time being. We will replace this unit with the Vertex repeater and CAT controller which should be there. Also, the 146.925 repeater is doing well at the north site, as well as Echolink (thanks for Bob and Rick for getting that going). There will be a tech committee meeting at the 146.670 site in Clifton in February - please attend if you would like to know more or would like to help out!

73 - *Brian, K4BR1*

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Thank you as always!

73 - *Brian, K4BR1*

DX Extras

February 2005

Wow! Is it 2005 already?. Let's hope there are some good opportunities this year despite the poor propagation. Speaking of poor propagation, I hope someone in the 8th call area heard the VU4 operators before they switched to emergency operations after the tsunami disaster. With luck their efforts will help pave the way for future operations.

DXCC some interesting facts:

1. There are currently 335 entities listed as DXCC countries.
2. In 2004 there were an estimated 287 countries on the air.
3. In order to have worked all the countries you would have started 15 years ago, the last time VU7, the Lakshadweep Islands, were QRV.

Scheduled Operations:

3Y0X - Peter One Island - Scheduled for early February, this long anticipated operation has been postponed for four to six weeks as a result of transportation problems. For more details check <http://www.peterone.com>.

VK0MT, Macquarie - Currently QRV, This station should be active until the end of March. Watch 14185 around 0900Z.

ZK2MI, Niue - Look for Murray, VE7HA, for the next two months. He plans to operate both ends of the ARRL DX contest.

VP8DIF, South Georgia - look for Lars, DL9LB, from now till Feb 18th.

In the coming months:

FT/X, Kerguelen - March 15th to April 2

A3, Tonga - Two YLs, VE7YL and VE3DYL, will be active between May 23 to June 7.

FR/G, Glorioso - Scheduled for May.

Till next time, good DX.

73, *Bob WA6EZY*

Contests

February 2005

5-8 North American Sprint, SSB
Spartan Sprint, CW
School Club Roundup
MN QSO Party, CW & Phone
NNY QSO Party, all modes
NH QSO Party, Phone CW Digital
Ten-Ten International Winter Phone QSO Party
XE International RTTY Contest
DE QSO Party, CW Phone Digital RTTY
VT QSO Party, CW Phone Digital
YL International QSO Party, CW SSB
QRP ARCI Winter Fireside SSB Sprint
FYBO (Freeze Your Butt Off) Winter QRP Field Day, CW,

12-14 North American Sprint, CW
LA QSO Party, CW Phone
British Columbia QSO Challenge, CW SSB Digital
RSGB 1.8 MHz Contest, CW
Asia-Pacific Sprint, CW
FISTS CW Winter Sprint, CW
50th Anniversary Dutch PACC Contest, CW SSB,
OMISS QSO Party, SSB, (Old Man International Sideband Society)
CQ World Wide RTTY WPX Contest
Classic Exchange, CW Phone,

19-20 ARRL International DX Contest, CW
CQC Winter QSO Party, CW Phone (Colorado QRP Club)

26-28 CQ WW 160-meter SSB Contest
UBA Contest, CW
REF French Contest, Phone
MS
NC QSO Party, CW Phone
High Speed CW Contest
North American QSO Party, RTTY
1st Annual US Virgin Islands QSO Party, CW SSB PSK RTTY, dedicated to the memory of Bob
Denniston, W0DX VP2VI,
AM QSO Party (Antique Wireless Association)

Lots of good contests to warm us up in blustery February. For more info see *QST*, *CQ*, or
<http://www.arrl.org/contests/months/feb.html>
73, *Dan K7AAU*

Section News (Ohio Section) for FEBRUARY, 2005

SM: Joe Phillips, K8QOE, Fairfield, (to contact me, see QST page 16 or on the Web at <www.iarc.ws>); ASM-NE: Bob Winston, W2THU, Cleveland; ASM-NW: Ron Griffin, N8AEH, Findlay; ASM-Central: Bill Carpenter, AA8EY, Westerville; ASM-SW: John Haungs, W8STX, Cincinnati; ASM-SE: Connie Hamilton, N8IO, Marietta; SEC: John Chapman, WB8INY, Gahanna; ACC: APPOINTMENT PENDING; TC: Tom Holmes, N8ZM, Tipp City; PIC: Scott Yonally, N8SY, Mansfield; OOC: Rick Swain, KK8O, Galion; SGL: Reuben Meeks, W8GUC, Vandalia.

FEBRUARY SECTION NEWS - By now everyone should be aware that late-December/January was a most active month for our ARES program in the Section. SEC John Chapman, WB8INY, acting on reports from the nine District Emergency Coordinators (DECs) said from December 22 when the show and freezing rain hit; Ohio residents were served by most county ARES organizations in closed roads, downed power lines (some power was off six days in Central Ohio) and flooding. Some 57 (of 88) Ohio counties were

declared disaster areas for some weather related problem in the past five weeks. For comparison purposes, normal flooding affects 15 to 20 counties and not until mid-March. Reports are still coming in, but agencies served include EMA, Red Cross, Salvation Army and others. The Red Cross opened over forty shelters during the period. Thanks to all who assisted!

RILEY COMING HERE - March 19 in Toledo for the Great Lakes Division March Convention. Riley, K4ZDH, our chief enforcer at the FCC will not only be the evening banquet speaker but will conduct an hour long FCC Seminar in the afternoon sessions. And it is the Seminars which are the hallmark of a Division Convention. Quality Seminars which will be scheduled allow you to attend four of the seven offered. Beside the FCC conducted by Riley, this year's lineup includes (1) DX Seminar by Wayne Mills, N7NG/1; (2) High Speed Multi-Media (HSMM) by John Champa, K8OCL; (3) Setting up Your HF Mobile Station by Darrell Pace, N8NTS; (4) WinLink 2000 by Ohio SEC John Chapman, WB8INY; (5) PSK-31 by Ed Triplett, KT8U and (6) Ham Radio Clubs conference organized by Michigan ACC Dan Romanchik, KB6NU. Remember your Convention ticket is a free pass to the Toledo Hamfest next day

OHIO SECTION CLUB NEWS - ACC Mark Rising, WM8R, Mainville, has resigned for personal reasons. The SM hopes to fill the position by March. Thank you Mark for your service to the Section - as we all must remember, family comes first. Anyone who wishes to become a candidate, please contact SM Joe Phillips, K8QOE, (k8qoe@arrl.org) by February 14.

Milford ARC has offered the winter issue of the *Ohio Section Journal* on its club web site. Good idea. For other clubs with web sites, the OSJ can be downloaded from www.iarc.ws. Or E-mail Ohio PIC Scott Yonally, N8SY, n8sy@iarc.ws.

The Sandusky Radio Experimental League (W8LBZ) officers for 2005 are:

President; Luther Gantz N8HC; Veep; Gene Schumacher, W8VMW, Sec/tres. Don Ohlemacher, K8RPU; and Transmitter Trustee Tom Troike, WA8VOE.

OHIO SECTION REMEMBERS - District Emergency Coordinator (Dist. 5) Jim Miller, K8EIO, (SK) who also served as EC of Summit County (Akron). Jim died in late December. His outstanding service will always be remembered.

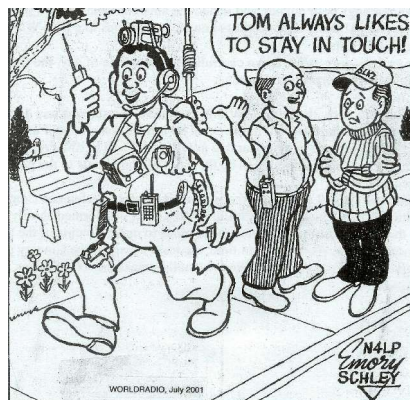
OHIO SECTION SUGGESTS - More ARES groups and/or local ham radio clubs copy a recent report by the Stark County ARES (Canton/Massillon) under the leadership of Emergency Coordinator David Beltz, WD8AYE. The group made public a complete local manpower report - all the stats. These stats have to be collected for monthly reports. But the final numbers are often reported to the SEC but are unknown throughout the ham community. Making public these stats only reinforces the worth of ham radio but also encourages everyone to increase the numbers (ARES participation).

OHIO SECTION NET NEWS - Henry Koenig, WD8Q, invites all who wish to practice CW operation to the Ohio Slow Net (OSN) each night at 6:10 p.m. (1810) on 3.708 MHz. Speeds generally range 10 to 12 WPM but will slow down for those who need the practice. This is a traffic net as well.

OHIO SECTION FEBRUARY HAMFESTS (6, SUNDAY) NOARS Winterfest by the Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society. Official web site is www.geocities.com/k8krq/winterfe.htm. Other info, contact: Tom Porter, W8KYZ, 161 Herrmann Drive, Avon Lake, OH 44012, phone: 440-930-9115.

And (13, SUNDAY) Mid*Winter Hamfest and Computer Show by the InterCity ARC. Official web site <http://www.iarc.ws>. For more information, contact: Deane Wrasse, KB8MG, 1094 Beal Road, Mansfield, OH 44905, Phone: 419-522-9893 or E-mail deanwrasse@yahoo.com.

De Joe Phillips, K82OE, Ohio Section Manager



==>FCC CHAIRMAN MICHAEL K. POWELL ANNOUNCES HIS RESIGNATION

FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell announced today that he'll step down, effective "sometime in March." Powell's resignation comes just one day after President George W. Bush's inauguration for a second term in the White House. Nominated by former President Bill Clinton, Powell—whose father is Secretary of State Colin Powell—joined the FCC in 1997. He became its chairman two days after President Bush was sworn in for his first term in 2001. ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, called Powell's performance "a deep disappointment" after some initial optimism. While the League is not unhappy about Powell's departure—especially given his unabashed cheerleading on behalf of the FCC's broadband over power line (BPL) initiative—there's also concern about whom President Bush might call upon to replace him.

"It's no secret that we thought Chairman Powell was going entirely in the wrong direction on BPL and dragging the other commissioners and FCC staff along—willing or not—because he was, after all, the chairman," Sumner said. "A new chairman might be a chance for a fresh start."

Last October when the FCC adopted new Part 15 rules for BPL, Powell called it "a banner day." While conceding that BPL will affect some spectrum users, including "all those wonderful Amateur Radio operators out there," the chairman implied that the FCC must balance the benefits of BPL against the relative value of other licensed services.

Powell listed the Commission's adoption of BPL rules among the "policy highlights" of his tenure.

"Broadband to power plugs would lower prices, expand deployment," the chairman's list of accomplishments asserts.

Possibilities to replace Powell include the other Republican members of the five-member FCC—Kathleen Q. Abernathy, a staunch BPL supporter, and Kevin J. Martin. Speculation also has been raised about various candidates outside the commissioners. "We look forward to the opportunity to work with the new chairman, whoever that may be," Sumner said.

Powell, in his announcement, said it was "with a mixture of pride and regret" that he informed the president of his decision to step down.

"Having completed a bold and aggressive agenda, it is time for me to pursue other opportunities and let someone else take the reins of the agency," he said. "During my tenure, we worked to get the law right in order to stimulate innovative technology that puts more power in the hands of the American people, giving them greater choices that enrich their lives."

The chairman said the seeds of the Commission's policies under his leadership "are taking firm root in the marketplace and are starting to blossom." He cited the increased use of cell phones, digital TV and other digital technology "increasingly connected anytime, anywhere by a wide variety of broadband networks." "Our children will inherit this exciting future," Powell proclaimed, adding that he looks forward to spending some time with his wife and two sons "before taking up my next challenge."

As FCC chairman, Powell also has been in the forefront of enforcing the Commission's rules on indecency, largely through imposing huge fines on violators. He also supported changes in media ownership rules that permitted even greater concentration in the ownership of broadcasting outlets.

Powell's formal resignation announcement followed widespread reports in the media that he would be leaving. *Communications Daily* said the chairman's last day would be March 10.

==>ARRL VOLUNTEERS, PRB-1 HELP MIDWESTERN AMATEURS GET TOWER PERMITS

Two Midwestern radio amateurs have succeeded in their efforts to be allowed to erect antenna support structures on their residential properties. Both cases hinged largely on the requirement of the limited federal preemption known as PRB-1 that localities "reasonably accommodate" Amateur Radio communication with "minimum practicable regulation." As a result, city officials in Wheaton, Illinois, have granted John Siepmann, N9NA, a permit to build a 42-foot tower in his back yard. And in Ohio, Brian "Tim" McGraw, W8BTM, got the okay from the Colerain Township Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) to erect a 48-foot tower on his property.

"It all started with Hank Greeb, N8XX, who organized the ham radio community, researched the applicable laws and fully utilized all ARRL resources all toward achieving this victory," Ohio Section Manager Joe Phillips, K8QOE, said of the W8BTM case. "More than anything else, it was Hank's single commitment to see this through that made this a win for ham radio." Greeb serves as an ARRL Volunteer Consulting Engineer in the Great Lakes Division.

More than two dozen neighbors had signed a petition and presented their opposition at the hearing in early

December. Thirty radio amateurs showed up for the session, and many spoke in support of McGraw's application, however. In addition, ARRL Great Lakes Division Director Jim Weaver, K8JE, supplied applicable case law for the hearing, while Ohio Assistant SM Bob Winston, W2THU, offered legal advice. Professional engineer Herb Nichols, W8HRN, twice testified to the technical aspects of McGraw's plans, Phillips said. The BZA's December 15 decision was unanimous.

Greeb said the township's lawyer advised that the BZA was not the proper forum to consider McGraw's application and that guidance must come instead from the trustees. He suggested that the trustees need to develop guidelines regarding permissible structure heights for future applications. None exist in the Rural Zoning Commission's regulations, which provide the basis for Colerain Township's zoning regulations. "While it is a bit unclear as to how the township will proceed," Greeb commented, "we look forward to working with its elected officials and its designees to set guidance in the new zoning regulations, which are currently under consideration by the township."

8<snip

VE Exam opportunities

Sat Feb 5 at Hartwell Presbyterian Church, Parkway & Woodbine Avs. Sponsored by CRA. Registration 8:30 AM. Walk-ins only! Info: Herb Blasberg WA8PBW, 513=891-7556.

Sat Feb 12 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 Feb 14 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.

HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF BEFORE BPL COMES

Ohio ham radio operators are asking is "What can I do about Broadband Over Powerlines (BPL)?" Well, here is a quick suggestion - conduct your own baseline measurements.

Kirk Swallow, W8QID, team leader of the Cincinnati BPL/LIC committee, suggests every Ohio ham facing a BPL installation in their area, first get baseline measurements of the local spectrum noise floor. Get these measurements recorded and documented so you will have an accurate comparison to the day you may suspect BPL interference.

Here is a quick, "cookbook" approach to making such measurements now before BPL arrives:

Use any good radio receiver having 4-20 Mhz HF receiving capabilities (your transceiver will do just fine but any good short-wave radio will do). Follow these instructions:

(1) Set up your receiver for AM reception, with the AGC set for 'Fast' and Noise Blanker turned off:

(2) Several times a day or as often as you can, record your s-meter noise readings. Take tape recordings of these readings as well.

(3) Take readings both outside and inside the amateur band limits (your favorite freqs). Outside the ham radio bands, Kirk suggests known frequencies like near WWV and/or near well known foreign broadcasts.

(4) For each reading, write down carefully the date, time of day, the frequency, and the s-meter reading. Be sure there are no signals present, only noise.

Of course, said Kirk, the purpose of this exercise is to establish and document a baseline for noise at your particular location. In the event BPL does come to your area and introduces additional noise/interference in a measurable amount, you will be able to provide a before and after comparison. Such comparisons can be the basis of complaints to the power company or to the FCC, if necessary.

The Cincinnati BPL/LIC committee is a special Local Interference Committee that was formed by

Ohio Section Manager Joe Phillips, K8QOE. It was formed shortly after Cinergy Corporation, the local power utility, announced plans to make Cincinnati the biggest buildout of BPL in the United States. At the present time, the team monitors the Cinergy progress. The amount of buildout in Cincinnati has been too small to make any conclusions, it has been regularly reported.

==>ISS COMMANDER RETURNS TO HIS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL VIA AMATEUR RADIO

International Space Station Expedition 10 Commander Leroy Chiao, KE5BRW, visited via Amateur Radio January 13 with fourth and fifth graders at John Baldwin Elementary School in Danville, California. That's the same school Chiao attended more than 30 years ago when he was growing up.

"We just looked him up in the yearbook and found his picture, and there he was, smiling away," said John Baldwin fourth-grade teacher Starr Dawson, who coordinated the contact at the school. Dawson said 17 pupils who proposed questions to ask the ISS commander were chosen to participate in the event, which was arranged by the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) program. Chiao answered 11 of them. Responding to one youngster's inquiry, he said the Apollo missions inspired him to become an astronaut.

"I first really knew I wanted to become an astronaut when I was eight years old attending John Baldwin School there and watching the first Apollo moon landings," he recalled, "and from that point on, I knew that that was what I wanted to do." Of all his space missions, his current tour aboard the ISS has been his "most unforgettable."

Replying to another question, Chiao allowed for the possibility of life forms other than human elsewhere in the universe.

"I believe, personally, that there is other life in the universe, and I think that it's just that we haven't found it yet--or they haven't found us," Chiao told the youngsters. "You know, we haven't had any confirmed life on other planets, but some of the results coming back from the Mars probes is showing some promise that there was water, and of course if it looks like there was water on the surface of Mars in the past that opens up the possibility that there may have been life there."

Chiao also said that he and crewmate Salizhan Sharipov were working on an ultrasound "Telemed" experiment. It's aimed at coming up with a system that would permit physicians on Earth to diagnose health problems space travelers may experience during long-duration space flights, such as those required to journey to Mars and beyond, he explained.

Handling Earth station duties for the event was ARISS veteran Tony Hutchison, VK5ZAI, in Australia, who contacted NAISS directly. An MCI-donated teleconference link handled two-way audio between Australia and the school. Audio of the contact also was distributed via EchoLink and IRLP. The QSO with John Baldwin Elementary School marked the 160th ARISS school group contact.

ARISS is an educational outreach program with US participation by ARRL, AMSAT and NASA.

==>INDUSTRY CANADA REPORTS "OVERWHELMING AGREEMENT" TO DROP MORSE

Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) reports that an Industry Canada (IC) analysis has found "overwhelming agreement" that Canada should move away from retaining a Morse code requirement as "the sole means of gaining access" to the HF amateur bands. IC has posted a summary of comments from the amateur community to RAC's Recommendations from Radio Amateurs of Canada to Industry Canada concerning Morse Code and Related Matters.

"Amateurs should note that while the responses heavily favored deletion of the Morse Qualification as a requirement for access to the HF bands, Industry Canada still has to make and announce a decision on Morse retention or deletion," RAC emphasized. IC reported 123 comments in favor of relaxing the code requirement in Canada and only 19 "clearly opposed." Another six comments were inconclusive. The regulatory agency also has attempted to gauge the level of support for each of RAC's 12 license restructuring recommendations. IC said it would formulate a plan to implement changes emerging from the consultation process.

RAC notes that until IC announces a decision to delete Morse, Canadian amateurs not holding the Morse Qualification may not operate on the HF bands.

The Industry Canada comment summary is on IC's Web site <<http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/epic/internet/insmt-gst.nsf/en/sf08280e.html>>

Here in the US, the FCC has made no recommendation or decision regarding the future of the current 5 WPM (Element 1) Morse requirement for HF access. It's also reviewing several petitions, including one from the ARRL, that propose further Amateur Radio license restructuring.

==>ARRL PRESIDENT CONGRATULATES CENTENARIAN LIFE MEMBER W3DHL

ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, has congratulated ARRL Life Member Zeke Dorsey, W3DHL, of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, who turned 100 January 15. Writing on behalf of the League's Board of Directors, officers and staff, Haynie wished Dorsey "the very best on reaching this milestone." The ARRL President also thanked W3DHL for his loyal support of the League as a Life Member and Volunteer Examiner as well as for being an AMSAT supporter.

"We deeply appreciate your keen interest in radio electronics and your service to welcoming new hams into Amateur Radio as a Volunteer Examiner," Haynie said. "You have seen decades of progress and change in our service and added your personal achievements to the pride we all feel in our service. Thank you for your years of dedication."

Friend Brian Roberts, K9VKY, alerted the League to Dorsey's 100th birthday. He tells ARRL that Dorsey's life has been--and continues to be--a full one. Dorsey got his start in Amateur Radio while still a teenager attending Duquesne University in 1921, Roberts recounts. "Zeke has seen a lot of things come and go over the years," he says. According to Roberts, Dorsey--a Sewickley, Pennsylvania, native--cobbled together his first spark gap transmitter from a Ford spark coil, powering it from homemade glass jar batteries. A galena detector was his receiving set. He subsequently upgraded to a 1 kW rotary spark transmitter and a regenerative receiver, and, not incidentally, got his license, 8DHL, in 1922. Owing to regulatory changes, he later became W3DHL.

"Zeke's interest in Amateur Radio flourished along with radio development in the 1920s," Roberts says. Dorsey also developed an interest in aviation and got his pilot's license. When World War II broke out, he enlisted in the US Army Air Corps "at the rather advanced age of 37," Roberts notes.

"Because of his specialized knowledge in aviation and radio, Uncle Sam waived Zeke's basic training and immediately sent him overseas to India to set up radio navigation aids and homing devices in the China-Burma-India theater of operations," he says. "As the war progressed, Zeke later served in the Pacific theater, setting up and servicing radio beacons for the air forces."

Over time, Dorsey let his Amateur Radio license lapse. When he wanted to return to his Amateur Radio roots, however, he discovered that his original W8DHL and later W3DHL call signs had been reissued and no longer were available. But when W3DHL became available again, he was able to reclaim it, thanks to help from the Quarter Century Wireless Association (QCWA) and a 1920s callbook.

Roberts says Dorsey remains quite energetic, still driving his own car, mowing the lawn, shoveling snow and maintaining an electronics repair shop. The Amateur Extra-class licensee also is still on the air.

"Zeke continues to enjoy Amateur Radio and keeps a weekly schedule with longtime friend Bob Ross, KA3AVB," reports Roberts. "Zeke Dorsey is a true gentleman, who passes a remarkable milestone in personal achievement as well as 80-plus years in Amateur Radio." *ARRL Letter* Vol 24 #03

What's coming in February

- | | | |
|------------|---------|--|
| Tue Feb 1 | 7:30 PM | Club meeting at WESTERN HILLS CHURCH OF CHRIST, 5064 Sidney Rd
Program: Gray Museum of Wireless History |
| Wed Feb 2 | 9 PM | Tech Talk, NCS Carol WA8YL |
| Fri Feb 4 | 8 PM | Hamilton Co Amateur Radio Public Svc Corps at Hamilton Co Communications Ofc Conference Rm, 2377 Civic Ctr Dr; park in Bd of Education lot, N side of Civic Ctr Dr |
| Tue Feb 8 | 7 PM | Technical committee meeting, location TBA |
| Wed Feb 9 | 9 PM | Tech Talk, NCS Dale KC8HQS |
| Sat Feb 12 | 10 AM | Monthly fox hunt, hounds start from Mt Storm Park; talk-in to start 146.67 |
| Wed Feb 16 | 9 PM | Tech Talk, NCS Dennis KB8ROA |
| Fri Feb 18 | 8 PM | Queen City Emergency Net at Red Cross HQ, 820 Sycamore |
| Mon Feb 21 | 7:30 PM | Tour of Voice of America, West Chester |
| Tue Feb 22 | 7:30 PM | Board of Directors' meeting at Carol WA8YL's |
| Wed Feb 23 | 9 PM | Tech Talk, NCS Brian K4BRI |

Tue Mar 1 7:30 PM Club meeting at WESTERN HILLS CHURCH OF CHRIST,
5064 Sidney Rd
Program: WLW, speaker Clyde Haehnle

Copy deadline for March issue Friday, February 12

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