



# THE Q-FIVER

K8SCH



OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE OH-KY-IN AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY, INC.  
PUBLISHED MONTHLY AT CINCINNATI, OHIO

**OH-KY-IN Amateur Radio Society Inc.**  
Our 48<sup>th</sup> Year of Service to Cincinnati in Amateur Radio  
A Special Service Club of the American Radio Relay League  
(the national association for Amateur Radio)

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**Web Pages**

*<http://www.ohkyin.org>  
<http://www.ardfusa.com> (ARDF)*

Regular monthly meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM local time at Salem Presbyterian Church (corner Mozart & Higbee) behind the Harrison-Boudinot White Castle, in Westwood-Cheviot. Visitors are ALWAYS welcome!

**For membership information, contact**

Nathan Ciufu KA3MTT, 6323 Cinnamon Ridge Dr, Burlington KY 41005, 859=586-2435,  
[ka3mtt@arrl.net]

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

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Electronic copies: Adobe *Acrobat*

Please send submissions for The Q-FIVER (including notice of upgrades & call sign changes) to Ye Ed Susie N8CGM. These may be:

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

# THE Q-FIVER

(kyoo fye 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 2006 Volume 48 Number 4*

### **From the President...**

Spring is here, and it's chilly! Amazing we had snow on the first day of spring – have to put off all those tower climbs until it warms up a little more – hihi. Our next meeting is homebrew night – let's see what everyone has been working on all winter – I will be bringing a few things and hey – it doesn't have to be real fancy (or even work) but we would all like to see what you might have been working on.

The club project is well underway – we have had one assembly party, and we will be having another here shortly – of the 10 kits we put together, 8 are taken – so there are a few left if you might still be interested. It has been a great experience so far, and of course you always learn a few things!

Repeaters are going well for now – we are still operating without an amplifier for the 146.670 machine, and the 146.625 is not 100% - but is working a little for now. We are considering when to get that machine, .625, installed at the offered site soon this spring. For now, it continues at my house.

Dayton is approaching fast – please mark your calendars and if possible – please volunteer some time to spend at the club booth (4007-8) – you get to sit down and rest, and do the club a favor at the same time!

73 – *Brian K4BRI*

### **Next meeting**

The next club meeting of the OH-KY-IN Amateur Radio Society will "homebrew night". Bring in your homebrew equipment and show it off! A prize will be awarded to the best one. That club meeting will take place **Tuesday, April 4, 2006** (starting at 7:30 P.M.) at the Salem Presbyterian Church, located at the corner of Mozart and Higbee in Westwood.

To get to the meeting from downtown Cincinnati, go north west on Glenway Ave. to Boudinot Ave. (approximately 4 miles; at Walt Sweeney Ford on right). Turn slight right on to Boudinot. After approximately 1 1/2 miles turn left on to Mozart (before the White Castle). The church is on the right. Please enter the building through the doors beneath the front steps.

More info can be found at: <http://www.ohkyin.org>.

Visitors always welcome!

Don't forget, if you are a current club member you could win the \$95 attendance prize. Also, be sure to buy your split-the-pot ticket for just \$1.

73, Dale KC8HQS

### **Minutes of members' meeting, Tuesday, March 7, 2006 at Salem Presbyterian Church**

Brian K4BRI called the meeting to order at 7:36 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance and self-introductions. There were about 30 present, including guest John Baird, a new ham (no call yet).

No health and welfare, no brag session.

Dale KC8HQS introduced speaker John Gumm from Local 12's meteorology department, who spoke about his experiences with Hurricane Katrina.

Gumm said he always wanted to be a meteorologist, but had hoped to work for the National Weather Service rather than do television. He grew up on Cincinnati's East side and interned at Ch 19. His first actual TV weather job was in Rock Island IL where he had 5 tornadoes to deal with his first day on air. A move to New Bern NC brought 3 hurricanes, one of which hit twice (Floyd). Then he moved to New Orleans.

There are more canals in New Orleans than in Venice. Pumps at the ends of canals can only handle a very small amount. Early models for Katrina had her aimed at FL and its panhandle, by Friday evening Biloxi, by Saturday morning directly at New Orleans.

Mrs. Gumm was 9 months pregnant and almost due. By 9 PM Saturday she was in labour. A guy from Charlotte NC flew in to replace Gumm. Their first child was born early Sunday morning, about 24 hours before Katrina made landfall. Since it was not really safe to stay at the hospital, an offer of a news copter from Dallas was made to evacuate them (they declined). Gumm's sister drove from Nashville to meet them halfway in northern Alabama. Gumm did request to be released from his contract after Katrina.

About 80% of New Orleans was actually able to evacuate. There were about 1000 citizens lost. Gumm opined that rebuilding should be possible, though it may take 15-30 years. The house they bought when they settled here is on a hilltop in N Ky – no more flood plain.

Program ended at 8:40 PM. Split the pot tickets are available.

Business meeting convened at 8:52 PM. Brian K4BRI thanked Dale KC8HQS for handling hospitality.

Susie N8CGM stated she hoped all had a chance to read the Minutes in this month's *Q-Fiver*, by whatever means received, and entertained additions, corrections or a motion to accept as printed or corrected. Tom NG8A so moved, John KY4JD second, motion carried.

Nathan KA3MTT reported for membership that we now have 98 paid members. Updates are urged to move quickly and get into the club directory.

Treasurer Rick KD4PYR was not present and had not the chance to send a report.

Bruce N8BV report no new Silent Keys.

Brian K4BRI reported for the Technical Committee that there was a good work party at .925, which is back on the air. The lightning protection is back on. The .67 issues are improving. The power amp was lost in a big way and .67 is now running at 50w. .625 is still on at Brian's house. All repeaters are programmed identically. There will be no technical committee meeting this month.

No equipment or slow scan report in Harry WA8LOJ's absence.

The Hamfest committee is entertaining ideas for a location. Meeting Tuesday, March 21 at Carol WA8YL's.

Ev KC8JR reported that classes have produced a decent turnout; 8 in Technician, 2 in code and 1 Extra last week. 1 General and 2 more students are expected this week. Ev thanked Tom NG8A for helping out with code. Bruce N8BV asked if a General book was needed; Ev said no. The teachers are good but substitutes would be welcomed too.

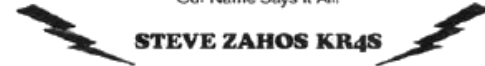
Fox Hunts; Dick WB4SUV reported that Phil KG8AP hid near Ch 64, had an 11 element beam by Xavier HS. He and Janie, and Bob WA6EZV and Tony White engaged in a foot race to the goal. The time before, Phil KG8AP hid in N Ky by Mike Fink's. Bob WA6EZV and Dennis KB8JVK won that foot race.

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The World ARDF Competition on AM keyed carrier will be in NC the second week in April. They are scrambling to build transmitters to hear for practice; have built 3 and have parts for 2 more. 2 more practice hunts are planned for next weekend. The normal April hunt needs rescheduled as they'll be in NC then. DXpedition (Deer Island ME) is now set for late Sept or early Oct. Please contact Eric N8YC or Brian K4BRI if you want to go.

Library is open. Jim KC8PRY has videos and magazines to lend, in addition to books.

A report on the Slow Scan Net in Harry WA8LOJ's absence revealed a good group of check-ins.

Bruce N8BV asked for Tech Talk if David KC8YTJ might substitute as NCS tomorrow. Dale KC8HQS needs to move his antenna.

Pete KC8BZM, liaison for the emergency groups, reported that QCEN will meet the 3d Friday at 7:30 PM but he wasn't sure what the program will be. ARPSC met the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday. National photo IDs are desired and becoming required for access to work any emergency. Weather-wise, there was a drill in N Ky today.

The repeater link may have been down. Tomorrow there's a double drill: 10 or 10:30 AM in IN, 7:30 PM on .88 March 31 is weather training at the Red Cross in Blue Ash. National Weather Service would like hams in particular to attend a training at least every other year. Back to QCEN, they are gearing up for the Flying Pig, May 7 and 8. This has grown to the 3d most important in national marathons. A huge crowd is expected; it'll be done by 1 PM. Contact Steve N8TFD or QCEN at [QCEN.org](http://QCEN.org).

Dale KC8HQS had nothing new to report for the website.

Old business: the club project is to build receivers to go with the AM transmitters. There's a big box of parts. The boards were made by a firm in Alberta. Price will be \$50 including a nice metal case. Discussion ensued re where and when to meet. Consensus was Tuesday the 15<sup>th</sup> or 22d at 7 PM at Bob WA6EZV's. 8 will come to work on these. Bruce N8BV protested that there weren't enough *Q-Fivers* for the students. Bob WA6EZV will try to print a few more by Thursday. Susie N8CGM will request a larger number next time.

New business: none.

Attendance incentive: Lynn WD8JAW would have won \$90 had he been present. As he was not, the sum will be \$95 next time.

Bruce N8BV won \$12 in split the pot.

All business being completed, Bob WA6EZV moved to adjourn at 9:20 PM, Bob WB8JHT second, motion carried.  
Respectfully submitted, *Susie Scott N8CGM*, Recording Secretary

**\* NASA honors TV journalist, anchor Walter Cronkite, KB2GSD:** NASA has honored legendary CBS TV news anchor Walter Cronkite, KB2GSD, for his coverage of the US space program. Cronkite, who has narrated two ARRL Amateur Radio videos, received the Ambassador of Exploration Award February 28. "His marathon, live coverage of the first moon landing brought the excitement and impact of the historic event into the homes of millions of Americans and observers around the world," NASA said in announcing the award. NASA is presenting the Ambassador of Exploration Award to the 38 astronauts and other key individuals who participated in the Mercury, Gemini, and Apollo space programs for realizing America's vision of space exploration from 1961 to 1972. Cronkite is the first non-astronaut and only NASA outsider to receive the award, which consists of a small, encased sample of lunar material mounted for public display. Cronkite is the best-remembered journalist for his commentary and enthusiastic coverage of the historic progression of missions from the early Mercury launches, through the ground-breaking Gemini missions, to the Apollo 11 and subsequent moon landings.

**\* DXCC Desk approves operation for DXCC credit:** The ARRL DXCC Desk has approved this operation for DXCC credit: YI/OM2DX, Iraq, operation commencing June 9, 2003. For more information, visit the DXCC Web page <<http://www.arrl.org/awards/dxcc/>>. "DXCC Frequently Asked Questions" can answer most questions about the DXCC program. ARRL DX bulletins are available on the W1AW DX Bulletins page <<http://www.arrl.org/w1aw/dx/>>.  
-- *The ARRL Letter*, Vol 25 #11, March 17, 2006

## DX Extras

## April 2006

Things have really quieted down this month. But as always there is some county that one of you need on the air. Here are a few offering for your consideration.

**VU4 – Andaman:** Need this one? Your best chance will be during the Andaman Hamfest in April. Check <http://www.nair.org/hamfest/participants.htm> for details. Note: April 18 to 24

**YX0A – Aves Island:** If you missed the last operation you have another chance in April. Tentative arrival date is April 19.

**8Q7BO – Maldives:** Simon, M0BOX, will be active from Kuredu Island from April 8-20. QSL to his call.

Planned:

**5T6BT – Mauritania** Apr 7 to 16                      **S01R – W. Sahara** April 11 to 16

**JT – Mongolia** April 19 to May 8                      **VK9 – Lord Howe** May 5 to 13

**AH8 – Am. Samoa** May 15 to 21

Here is just a partial reprint from ARRL. Check this weekly for updates on anticipated operations.  
*From ARRL Headquarters Newington CT March 16, 2006 ARLD011 DX news*

**MAURITIUS, 3B8.** Jose, ON4LAC is QRV as 3B8/ON4LAC until May 13. Activity is on 80 to 10 meters using SSB, RTTY and PSK31. QSL to home call.

**SINGAPORE, 9V.** Selva, 9V1UV will be QRV in the BARTG RTTY contest using the Singapore Amateur Radio Transmitting Society's special contest callsign S65X. QSL via PA0KHS.

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**MOZAMBIQUE, C9.** Vlad, UA4WHX is QRV as C91VB. He has been active on 30 and 17 meters using CW at various times. His length of stay is unknown. QSL to home call.

**ALAND ISLAND, OH0.** Look for OH1JT, OH1RX, OH5DX and OH9MM to be QRV as OH0Z in the Russian DX contest as either a Multi/Single or Multi/2 entry. QSL via W0MM. Meanwhile, Toni, OH2UA and Marko, OH4JFN will be QRV as OH0B in the Russian DX contest as a Multi/Single entry. QSL via OH2BH.

Till next Month GUD DX,

73, Bob WA6EZV

“From that point on the term ‘Slim’ was used to tag a bogus or suspect operation....There is a persistent but yet to be confirmed rumor that when the Norwegians on the operations from Bouvet and Peter I Island landed, they encountered signs saying ‘Slim Was Here.’”

-- Hugh Cassidy WA6AUD in Martti Laine OH2BH's book Where Do We Go Next?

## Contests

April 2006

1 BPL Roundup, no, not Brass Pounders League but Broadcast over Powerlines. Score is states heard times QSOs drowned out.

1-2 MO QSO Party, CW & SSB; Low Power Spring Sprint, CW; 50th Annual QCWA Spring QSO Party, CW, Digital & SSB; EA RTTY Contest; SP DX Contest, CW & SSB; Kids Roundup, Phone

4-9 DX YL to North American YL Contest, CW; MT QSO Party , Phone, CW & Digital; QRP ARCI Spring QSO Party, CW; EU Spring Sprints, CW, Apr 8; Japan International DX Contest (JIDX), CW; GA QSO Party, CW & SSB; Yuri Gagarin DX Contest, CW

12-16 DX YL to North American YL Contest, Phone; YU DX Contest, CW; MI QSO Party, CW & SSB; ONT (VE) QSO Party, CW & Phone; TARA Skirmish, Digital Prefix Contest; Holyland DX Contest, CW & SSB; Lighthouse Spring Lites QSO Party, all modes; ES Open HF Championship, CW & SSB; EU EME Contest , CW & SSB; EU Spring Sprint, SSB; EA QRP Contest, CW; EEEK Mouse Contest??

22-23 FL QSO Party; NE QSO Party, CW, SSB & Digital; DXColombia International Contest, Phone & CW; SP DX RTTY Contest

29-30 Helvettia Contest, CW, SSB & Digita; AL QSO Party, CW & Phone

Many, many contests. something for everyone. Have fun. For more information see *QST*, *CQ*, or <http://www.arrl.org/contests/>

73, Dan KF4AV

## VE exam opportunities

**1<sup>st</sup> Saturday each month:** Cincinnati (Hartwell), CRA, at Hartwell Presbyterian Church. Registration 8:30 AM; walk-in only please! All licence classes. Contact: Dale Pritchett KC8HJL, 513=769-0789

**2d Saturday odd months except July:** Hamilton (Butler Co), Butler Co VHF Assn at Joint Vocational School Communications Ctr, 3603 Hamilton-Middletown Rd (Rt 4). Registration 8:30 AM; walk-ins OK. All licence classes. Contact: Ted Wilson K8TCR, 513=868-7012. Talk-in 146.97

**2d Monday each month:** Kentucky (Edgewood), NKARA, at Turkeyfoot Middle School, 3230 Turkey- foot Rd. Registration 6 PM. Follow the signs. Pre-registration preferred, walk-ins accepted. Contact: Lyle Hamilton AB8SH, 513=315-4032. Talk-in 147.255

**3d Wednesday even months except June:** DIAL Radio Club at Rm 13, Johnston Hall, Miami U Middletown. Register 6 PM, exam 7 PM. Walk-ins on space-available basis. Map to exam site and/or NCVEC Form 605 available from [k8cm@arrl.net] for SASE.

Advance registration consists of completed NCVEC Form 605, copies of current licence if any and valid CSCEs and \$14 check payable to DIAL Radio Club. Please include note stating class of licence you wish to attempt. Mail advance registrations to: David Williamson KD8W, 5766 Trenton-Franklin Rd, Middletown OH 45042. Pre-registration must arrive at least 2 days before exam. Please include your telephone number on your check. Special exam accommodations must be requested 2 weeks prior to test date. More info: David Williamson KD8W, 513=424-5819.

**In all cases**, tests require 2 IDs (preferably one with photo). Bring with you the original, as well as photocopy of current licence and CSCEs. \$14 is current ARRL/VEC exam fee, exact currency appreciated.

## APRIL OHIO SECTION NEWS

By Affiliated Clubs Coordinator, *Joanne Solak, KJ3O*

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THE YEAR 2006 has really been a busy one so far and I think it will continue to be so as the Ohio Clubs are on the MOVE as always. My calendar has been filled with dates for upcoming club events and speaking dates at Clubs in various cities and towns across Ohio.

The Mount Vernon Amateur Radio Club is among the many Clubs sponsoring SKYWARN sessions throughout the Ohio Section. If your club is not involved with the SKYWARN sessions find one in your area that is SPONSORING SKYWARN and attend. We can always use updated training sessions so we stay ready for the disasters that could need our ARES groups. and YOU!

I read an article in the Mt Vernon ARC Newsletter by Jim Brooks, KY4Z, Kentucky Section PIC, all about EchoLink. I really enjoyed that article and realized just how far amateur radio and the PC has come. I hope to one of these days, when I find the time, to try EchoLink!

## SPOTLIGHT CLUB OF THE MONTH

### THE NORTHERN OHIO AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY N.O.A.R.S. IS THE APRIL CLUB OF THE MONTH - K8KRG

NOARS offers the radio community as a whole an unequalled range of amateur radio activities.

Welcome to NOARS Country. "The NOARS Log" Newsletter is not just a reprint of articles you can find anywhere. Informative and real-time articles as well as technical articles make "The Log" a great resource for all.

NOARS REPEATERS are open to the amateur public. Feel free to enjoy wide area coverage on six meters thru UHF on NOARS repeaters. Two Meters..146.70 Elyria, OH This repeater is home to the NOARS nets. This repeater is "backup" for the Lorain Co. SKYWARN nets. 145.15 Strongsville, OH heard throughout Ohio, this is a real asset to the VHF community 444.8 - Elyria, OH UHF coverage for most of the Northeast Ohio linkable to the VHF repeaters makes this a solid communications system. Included in

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this package is "BART" the DXALERT . Check this one for your DX info. 53.13 Medina, OH SIX METERS NOARS is proud to support (in partnership with the M2M Medina Group) this popular repeater which offers wide coverage and reliability.

The NOARS August meeting is their PICNIC. The NOARS December banquet is the ham radio social event of the year! Relaxed dining and Music provides a pleasant evening that is hard to beat.

HAMFESTS TWO OF THEM!! The Winter Hamfest in February at Gargus Hall, and the major event, NOARSFEST in July. Both are ARRL approved!

NOARS FIELD DAY has been a specialty for over 30 years fielding national Champions in 1987 and 1989..featuring "run what you bring" attitude has yielded ham radio innovations that will be enjoyed for years to come. BUT beyond the scoring, the keyword at NOARS Field Day is FUN!

NOARS SPECIAL EVENTS USS COD WW II SUBMARINE The Granddaddy of Warship special event stations. K8KRG has logged over 5000 QSOs. The CLUB STATION is on the ship for all members to operate. This unique and original special event station right aboard a WW11 submarine is the first honoring a US war relic and museum. The over 5000 QSOs have been made right from the original radio room where a modern state of the art ham radio station has been installed by and for NOARS members to use.

NOARS supports group contests activities for its members.

NOARS PUBLIC SERVICE Many NOARS members are found on local and national traffic nets helping deliver the "bread and butter" messages of the NTS FROM PUMPKIN PATROL to SPECIAL OLYMPICS, NOARS members are hard at work (or is it play) lending a hand in dealing with all important communications for these events.

NOARS has two NETS...Wednesday Nights finds this informal rag-chew net at 9:PM on 146.700/100 and is one of the longest running nets of its type in Ohio. Thursday nights 8:PM on 146.700/100 is the Tech Net. You don't have to be a technogeek to enjoy this one. A friendly and informative group meets here and discusses ham radio with a slant on how it works. Projects, hints, and kinks, new tools and procedures.

NOARS Website..... [www.noars.net](http://www.noars.net)

NOARS MEETINGS.. The regular business meeting is normally held on the third Monday of the month (no business meetings in August and December).. at Gargus Catering Hall, 1965 Northridge Rd. Sheffield Township. All are welcome, Bring a friend, Coffee and Donuts , Hall opens at 7:pm, Meeting at 7:30 pm, friendly and informal meetings.

NOARS offers an affordable and attractive membership package for everyone--DUES are \$10.00 a Year. With special incentives for new first time members. Family memberships and associate membership. As well as Life Membership for the Senior members. A win-win situation!

I "THANK" John K. McKenna, WD8IQJ, for his assistance in getting this "information" about the N.O.A.R.S. CLUB presented as the first SPOTLIGHT CLUB OF THE MONTH!!

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL N.O.A.R.S. OFFICERS (and MEMBERS) for supporting such a GREAT ORGANIZATION!! The OHIO SECTION and the ARRL wish you many years of success!

Spotlight Club of the Month will be a monthly feature of the Ohio Section News. One of these days I will be calling you informing you that I have chosen your club to be the next SPOTLIGHT Club of the Month. Until then I hope you have enjoyed this month's Ohio Section News . Keep those Newsletters coming my way and keep supporting your CLUB events and ARES group training sessions and events. Always remember sometime, somewhere, when you least expect it, I will be seeing you. Until then Happy Spring and Best 73, *Joanne Solak, KJ3O ACC Ohio*

OHIO SECTION CABINET LISTING:

SM: Joe Phillips, K8QOE, Fairfield, (to contact me, see *QST* page 16 or on the Web at <[www.iarc.ws/ohio](http://www.iarc.ws/ohio)>; ASM-  
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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: Joanne Solak, KJ3O, Mantua; TC: Tom Holmes, N8ZM, Tipp City; PIC: Scott Yonally, N8SY, Mansfield; OOC: Rick Swain, KK8O, Galion; SGL: Norm Pittner, WB8TMF, West Jefferson.

## **WQRZ-LP Katrina Radio, Hancock County, Mississippi.**

### **Part Two – Mission accomplished, or so I thought....**

By Sara T Allen KI4KMI

WQRZ-LP was on the air. It was Thursday evening, September 15<sup>th</sup> and I was making plans to return to Tampa. Tools were put away and the studio was organized and ready for use. I overheard someone in the Public Information Office mention a press release requesting assistance to operate WQRZ-LP.

I had assumed that Brice and Christine would take over the broadcast duties immediately, and then I realized that at least, they would need some help. Temporary FEMA housing had not yet begun to arrive in Hancock County. Brice and Christine were still sheltered at the old EOC in Bay St. Louis. They'd lost their home and most of their belongings. I made the decision to stay on for a few more days to give Brice and Christine some time to execute their personal disaster recovery.

I had plenty of on-air experience while working at KTAO-FM in Taos, NM. I had an air shift for many years and worked several emergency situations including the Los Alamos evacuation and the March 2000 New Mexico blackout.

So it began.

"You're listening to WQRZ-LP 103.5 FM - The Voice of Bay St. Louis, Waveland, Diamondhead and the Kiln – Broadcasting live from the Hancock County Emergency Operations Center – Your Source for Information"

I reported for duty Friday morning and went about developing a program strategy and update frequency with the Public Information Office. I used whatever program material I had with me and from what Brice had available. The first day was a bit loose. I played music and broadcast news and information updates as frequently as the PIO made them available.

I overheard some talk that the Secretary of Homeland Security, Michael Chertoff, would be visiting the EOC on Saturday. I asked the PIO about the possibility of having him as a guest on the radio station and was told that that was unlikely.

On Saturday, I was passing by the FEMA office and noticed that the Secretary was there. I went to get my camera and as the Secretary passed by he offered his hand which I shook, and then the broadcaster in me took over, I didn't let go of his hand and followed it back to him and said "Sir, I would like to put you on the radio station to address the people of Hancock County."

He agreed and became the first of many VIP guests on WQRZ-LP. I hadn't realized at the time that I was bucking protocol and I was informed later that day that I was lucky that I hadn't been "secured" by the Secret Service. I did, however, gain the notoriety and respect of the EOC leadership which led to ongoing access to VIP interviews which included a Congressional Delegation, Vice Admiral Thad Allen USCG, Undersecretary Thomas Dorr USDA and many other locals and volunteers who shared their stories with the WQRZ-LP listeners.

By the end of the first week I had developed programming with regularly scheduled in-depth updates at 8, noon and 5. The PIO developed a daily newsletter which I read in its entirety. Whenever information was updated I was able to immediately go on the air with the new, accurate information.

Then Hurricane Rita arrived. I was awakened early in the AM by the EOC as there was a new round of flooding in Hancock County and the EAS was alerting people to move to higher ground. The winds came up and we lost power at the EOC and scrambled to get a generator on line for the WQRZ-LP studio. Brice had the generator at the transmitter site relocated to higher ground the day before Rita arrived. His foresight saved the day as the flood waters came within inches of the generator. The base of the transmitter



Sara T Allen KI4KMI takes a break from engineering to work on-air @ WQRZ-LP



Brice on WQRZ-LP tower

tower was 3 feet underwater but we were still on the air.

Hurricane Rita affected us in many ways. It put a strain on already compromised systems and the EOC lost grid power. A damaged air handler motor caused a fire alarm in the building just as a Tornado Warning was being broadcast by the EAS. Brice was on the air and not about to be evacuated by fire safety personnel while he was broadcasting the warning which included the EOC in the tornados' path.

WQRZ-LP was off the air. Flood waters prevented easy access to the transmitter site and logistics was unable to refuel the generator. Brice decided to take matters into his own hands and floated 10 gallons of diesel fuel wading several hundred yards through the Mississippi muddy, dirty, stinking, polluted flood waters to make sure the citizens of Hancock County had access to important EOC and EAS information. Thanks to his efforts WQRZ-LP was back on the air.

Brice came down with bronchitis and pneumonia and I stayed at the controls of the radio station for another week while he recuperated.

Things got back to "normal" after Rita. I continued to do thrice daily in-depth informational updates. The radio station slowly took on more functionality as Brice brought his automation system back on line. I set up a production studio in an adjacent room so that PSA and repetitive information could be pre-recorded.

Toward the end of the third week I started to lose my voice. Brice was still very ill and not yet ready to return full time to the station. I insisted that he take the time to recover so that he wouldn't relapse and I could go home. I made several phone calls and e-mail solicitations for assistance from various Broadcaster Associations but no one stepped up to the plate. Brice took my advice and rested until he had recovered and he was able to once again take over the controls at WQRZ-LP. We worked together on the air as a team for the last few days until my departure from the Hancock County EOC on Oct. 8<sup>th</sup>. Brice continues to bring the residents of Hancock County essential news and information directly from the EOC and will continue to do so as long as necessary.

There is so much more to this story. So many things happened. There were laughter and tears, stories of survival and loss. One of the hardest things that I had to do as a broadcaster was to read a list of those missing since Hurricane Katrina made landfall. The scope of the tragedy really hit home as I read one name after the other.

I lived and worked at the Hancock County EOC for 28 days. Bay St. Louis, Waveland, Diamondhead and the Kill will no longer be just a place on the map but for me a place that I called home.

After Hurricane Katrina hit the Central Gulf Coast Aug 29, 2005, the Society of Broadcast Engineers initiated an effort to put people & companies who could offer assistance together with SBE members who were severely affected by the storm. One of several matches included a request for assistance for WQRZ-LP in Bay St Louis MS & an offer of help from SBR+E member Sara Allen of Bradenton FL. "Part One—How it all began" ran in last month's *Q-Fiver* by permission of K14KMI & told the story of her volunteer efforts to help WQRZ-LP get back on the air in order to broadcast emergency information to the area. The entire story ran in the Mar-Apr Buckeye Belles *Burr* as well.

## Hamfests &c.

## April 2006

1 Elizabethtown KY Hamfest sponsored by Lincoln Trail ARC at Pritchard Community Ctr, 404 S Mulberry St, 8 AM-2 PM. Exit off I-65 to Hwy 62 W. New & used gear vendors, VE sessions, forums, refreshments, free coffee. Talk-in: 146.98. Advance \$4, door \$5. Info: Archie Mack AF4EB, 270=351-6159, [amack1@bbtel.com], [www.qsl.net/ltarc/index.html](http://www.qsl.net/ltarc/index.html)

2 Peru IN Hamfest sponsored by Blackford, Grant, Kokomo & Miami Co ARCs at Miami Co 4-H Fairgrounds. 7 AM-1 PM. Corner County Rd 200N & Mexico Rd. From the N take US 31S toward Peru, turn L onto Miami Co Rd 200N, go approx 2 mi to Fairgrounds on the R. From the W take US 24E to US 31N, R to Miami Co Rd 200N, go approx 2 mi to Fairgrounds on the R. VE sessions. Talk-in: 147.345. Gate \$5. Info: L.B. Nickerson K9NQW, 765=668-4814, [k9nqw@arrl.net], [www.ncihamfest.com](http://www.ncihamfest.com)

52d Annual Cuyahoga Falls OH Hamfest sponsored by Cuyahoga Falls ARC. Public 8 AM-2 PM. Emidio & Sons Party Ctr, 48 E Bath Rd at corner of State Rd. SR8N to Graham Rd exit, travel 1.2 mi W on Graham Rd, turn R onto E Bath Rd, go W 1 mi. Hamfest & Electronics/Computer Show, vendors, free parking. Talk-in: 147.27. Advance \$5, door \$6. Info: Ted Sarah W8TTS, 330=688-2013, [w8tts@w8tts.com], [www.cfarc.org/hamfest2006.htm](http://www.cfarc.org/hamfest2006.htm)

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8 Coalton OH Hamfest sponsored by Jackson Co ARC. 8 AM-1 PM at James A Rhodes Community Ctr, SR 93. From US 32 take Wellston Exit, go N 1 mi to Wellston, turn L at 1st traffic light, go N on SR 93 4 mi to Coalton. Facility is on L as you enter town. All indoors on ground level. VE sessions, handicapped accessible. Talk-in: 146.79. Door \$5. Info: Edgar Dempsey KD8XL, 740=286-3239, [kd8xl@verizon.net]

30 Athens OH Hamfest sponsored by Athens Co ARA. Public 8 AM-1 PM. Athens Community Rec Ctr, 665 E State St. US 33 or US 50 to E State St exit, travel E on E State St for ¼ mi, hamfest entrance is at 3d light. Large indoor/outdoor ham & computer flea market, vendors, exhibits, VE sessions, acres of parking, handicapped accessible, refreshments. Talk-in: 145.15. Door \$5, non-ham spouses free. Info: Drew McDaniel W8MHV, 740=592-2106, fax 740=593-9184, [mcdanied@ohiou.edu], [www.ac-ara.org](http://www.ac-ara.org)

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## **Join the ARRL through Oh-Ky-In!**

Any OH-KY-IN member that would like to join or renew their ARRL membership through our club, may do so. They just need to fill out the ARRL application and give me a check payable to OH-KY-IN ARS, and I will forward their application along with a check from OH-KY-IN to cover the membership.

The advantage for our club is that OH-KY-IN keeps a commission for each new or renewed membership.

The following is from the ARRL website:

### Commission Terms

ARRL Affiliated Clubs receive a commission for every new ARRL membership and renewal they submit to ARRL Headquarters.

a.. Clubs retain a portion of the dues for each regular or senior membership submitted to ARRL

Headquarters:

a.. Clubs retain \$15 for each new membership OR lapsed membership (of two years or more). A NEW MEMBER is defined as any individual who has never been a member of ARRL or any individual who has not retained a membership for two or more calendar years prior to the application submission.

b.. Clubs retain \$2 for each renewal. A RENEWING MEMBER can renew at anytime, even before their current membership term expires.

b.. Family, Blind or 21-and-under discounted memberships are not applicable for any discount.

c.. May not be combined with any other promotion or special offer.

73, *Rick KD4PYR*

AMSAT News Service Bulletin 085.01 From AMSAT HQ SILVER SPRING, MD. March 26, 2006

To All RADIO AMATEURS BID: \$ANS-085.01

## **Interference to satellite operation on two meters**

Recently, we had the wonderful happening of "Suitsat" that spurred the interest of many young minds. The frequency of 145.990 is in the OSCAR sub band (145.800-146.000) as indicated by the ARRL in their well publicized band plan. Many interlopers find their way into this clear portion of 2 meters unknowingly using these sub bands, causing headaches to those that were straining to hear this event. Even using nearby Freqs cause problems when the super ears are listening for the birds.

Also, 145.800 the ISS downlink, is in this same sub band and is being used in many metro areas for chit-chat and other experiments. We must remind each other that the band plan was put in place to assist us in utilizing the spectrum effectively. Those that just hear nothing and start a QSO should be reminded about how wide their signal is and that they are causing many well intentioned hams trying to make contact with these satellites and happenings unintentional interference. There may not be a satellite signal every minute of the day in these sub bands but when they are there, terrestrial stations are not listening with big enough ears as someone with an OSCAR caliber setup.

Point these sub bands out to all at your next club meeting or get together.

73, *Ernie W8EH*

## **Dayton Hamvention announces 2006 winners**

On March 10, the Dayton Hamvention announced the winners of its 2006 Amateur of the Year, Special Achievement and Technical Excellence awards.

Gordon West WB6NOA was named Amateur of the Year for his efforts in recruiting and training many new amateurs, in addition to his nearly lifelong involvement in ham radio. Starting in the late 1950s "Gordo", as he is known, worked for some of the big names in the field helping to develop several inno-

vative pieces of equipment.

Riley Hollingsworth K4ZDH, Special Counsel in the FCC Enforcement Bureau at the FCC's Gettysburg PA office, will receive Hamvention's Special Achievement Award for his efforts in resurrecting the FCC's Amateur Radio Enforcement effort and helping to eliminate an increasing number of enforcement problems plaguing the ham bands. Hollingsworth's efforts, begun in 1998, reversed more than a decade of FCC apathy in amateur enforcement. Radio amateurs across the US credit Hollingsworth with reducing malicious interference and other problem behavior on the air.

### What's coming in April

Sat 2 Daylight Savings Time begins

Tue 4 7:30 PM Club meeting at Salem Presbyterian Church, corner Mozart & Higbee behind Harrison-Boudinot White Castle  
Program: Homebrew Night

Wed 5 8:00 PM Slow Scan ATV Net, Harry WA8LOJ NCS, 146.67  
9:00 PM Tech Talk, Carol WA8YL NCS, 146.67

Thu 6 7:00 PM Code & theory classes, Salem Presbyterian Church, corner Mozart & Higbee behind Harrison-Boudinot White Castle

Fri 7 7:30 PM Amateur Radio Public Svc Corps, Hamilton Co Communications  
Ofc Conference Rm, 2377 Civic Ctr Dr – park in Bd of Educ lot

Sat 8 Normal day for monthly fox hunt; to be re-scheduled

Mon 10 7:30 PM Robotics group at Brian K4BRI's – may be rescheduled

Tue 11 7:30 PM Technical Committee meeting if needed, location TBA

Wed 12 9:00 PM Tech Talk, Dale KC8HQS NCS, 146.67

Thu 13 7:00 PM Code & theory classes, Salem Presbyterian Church, corner Mozart & Higbee behind Harrison-Boudinot White Castle

Wed 19 9:00 PM Tech Talk, Dennis KB8ROA NCS, 146.67

Thu 20 7:00 PM Code & theory classes, Salem Presbyterian Church, corner Mozart & Higbee behind Harrison-Boudinot White Castle

Fri 21 7:30 PM Queen City Emergency Net, Red Cross HQ, 820 Sycamore downtown

Tue 25 7:30 PM Board meeting at Carol WA8YL's

Wed 26 9:00 PM Tech Talk, Brian K4BRI NCS, 146.67

Thu 27 7:00 PM Final code & theory classes, Salem Presbyterian Church, corner Mozart & Higbee behind Harrison-Boudinot White Castle

Sat 29 12 noon VE exams at Salem Presbyterian Church, corner Mozart & Higbee behind Harrison-Boudinot White Castle

Tue 2 7:30 PM Club meeting at Salem Presbyterian Church, corner Mozart & Higbee behind Harrison-Boudinot White Castle  
Program: Propagation by Jay Slough K4ZLE

## OH-KY-IN 2006 Committee Appointments

Technical Committee Brian DeYoung K4BRI, Chair  
Volunteer Examiners Brian DeYoung K4BRI, Chair  
Membership Nathan Ciufo KA3MTT, Chair  
Education Chair Ev Giglio KC8JR  
PIO Bruce Vanselow N8BV  
*Q-Fiver* Susie Scott N8CGM, Editor

Special Publications Jo Haltermon KD4PYS  
John M Hugentober Sr Memorial CW Proficiency Award  
Brian DeYoung K4BRI, Chair  
WebMeister Dale Vanselow KC8HQS  
Equipment Mgr Harry Davis WA8LOJ  
TVI/RFI Dick Arnett WB4SUV, Chair  
Tech Talk Net Mgr Bruce Vanselow N8BV  
Silent Key Bruce Vanselow N8BV, Chair  
ARPSC Representative Peter J Feichtner III KC8BZM

QCEN Representative Peter J Feichtner III KC8BZM  
WARN Representative Peter J Feichtner III KC8BZM  
Repeater Control Ops Mgr Bruce Vanselow N8BV  
Librarian James E. Keely KC8PRY  
Field Day Nathan Ciufo KA3MTT, Chair  
Hamfest Coordinator Phil Smith KG8AP  
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

### *more Dayton Awards*

Richard "Dick" Illman AH6EZ was picked to receive the 2006 Technical Excellence Award for his work as principal staff engineer at Motorola in developing a broadband over powerline (BPL) system for his company that essentially eliminates HF interference. The nominating committee cited Illman's technical knowledge and his willingness to help tackle and overcome BPL's thorny interference issues, influencing Motorola to deliver his patent-pending solution, Powerline LV.

-- ARRL story in *Dayton Hamvention website*

### **Ready for a package winter vacation with ham radio?**

7 nights on the Caribbean Princess, Dec 3-10 2006 out of Ft Lauderdale

For more information go to: <http://www.hamradiocruise2006.com> for display ad

(Appearance of this announcement does not constitute endorsement – *Ye Ed*)

### **News of members & students in recent classes**

Currently we have 100 paid members in the club. I would like to welcome the following NEW members into Oh-Ky-In:

Steve Brown, KD8CUI            Toni Kluck, KI4NRG            Robert Kluck, N4IJS

Michael Tarter, KB8X            Tony White, AI4IP

I look forward to participating in our various events with these new members.

73, *Nathan KA3MTT*

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Save the Earth. It's the only planet with chocolate!

-- pinched from *20/9 Radio Club News*, April 2006

***Copy deadline for May Q-Fiver is Friday, April 14***

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