



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 48th 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

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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:

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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)

March 2006 Volume 48 Number 3

From the President...

We have had a number of excellent presentations recently at our regular membership meetings - if you have not been to a meeting lately, come on down! We always enjoy our meetings and would love to see you there. - the power amplifier at the 146.670 repeater has died so that repeater is down slightly, but continues to operate well. The 146.925 repeater is back up -- thanks guys -- as well as work continuing on the north remote. 146.625 is also back up and operating with a controller as well -- the location is not real high-profile, but it seems to work ok for now. Our repeaters are there for a reason!! Please use them.

The club project of assembling a 2-meter AM receiver designed for ARDF and foxhunting is ready to go. All of the parts are together and the board are made. We will decide on the date for the assembly party (-ies?) and go from there -- but it will definitely be in the month of March. Total cost was down from the original estimate of \$75 -- 10 people confirmed and I need to know if you are one of them, or you might want to participate at the next meeting.

73, *Brian K4BRI*

Next meeting

The next club meeting of the OH-KY-IN Amateur Radio Society will feature John Gumm, Meteorologist from WKRC Local 12. That club meeting will take place **Tuesday, March 7, 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>.

Minutes of members' meeting, Tuesday, February 7, 2005

Brian K4BRI called the meeting to order at 7:32 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance and self-introductions. There were about 25 present, with 2 guests: Les Holtgrueh and Steve Brown (newly licenced, no call yet).

Health and welfare: Jim Keely KC8PRY is having heart problems.

Brag: Mike and David Hornsby, KC8YOM and KCF8YTJ, demonstrated EchoLink for 70-80 students at a festival at St Antoninus (3 hops to Hawaii).

Dale KC8HQS then introduced Tim Schoch, Incident Management Coordinator at ARTIMIS. Tim showed a 10-minute video first

Tim said Ohio pays 75% of ARTIMIS, Kentucky 25%. ARTIMIS receives 24 million hits per month; the 105 cameras update every 2-5 seconds.

The \$40 million to build ARTIMIS and run it for 4 years came from the Clean Air Fund. After that, the state had to pick up.

ARTIMIS is not law enforcement! There is a "wizard" in the Lytle Tunnel that continuously broadcasts on CB Ch 19, after all the accidents there.

Pager or e-mail alerts can be subscribed for. There are several hundred registered "mobile pro" traffic informants, but only 15-20 of them are serious about it. Transmit 457.9, receive 452.9, CTCSS (tone squelch) 157.9.

Dale KC8HQS has another ARTIMIS tour set up for later.

Feedback can be planted by dialing 511.

Program concluded at 8:45 PM.

Dale KC8HQS announced that there will be a tour of the Hamilton Co Communications Ctr at 2:15 PM on Saturday, February 18. Tour will last about 2 hours.

Split-the-pot tickets and sign-up sheets are available.

Business meeting convened at 8:55 PM.

Brian K4BRI thanked Dale KC8HQS for handling hospitality.

Susie N8CGM said she hoped everyone had a chance to read the minutes in this month's *Q-Fiver* and requested additions or corrections, or a motion to approve as printed. Tom NG8A so moved, Pete KC8BZM second.

Bob WA6EZV announced that there are 80 paid members for 2006 to date, also that Nathan KA3MTT has agreed to take on the membership chair (applause). He received 4 phone calls from people who had paid about the postcard reminder. Dale KC8HQS said the wrong address was given for the church on the card. Treasurer Rick KD4PYR was not present, but print-outs of the treasurer's report were. Net income since the first of the year is \$6.38. Brian K4BRI announced that the books have been closed for 2005 and that an audit committee is needed. He appointed Gene N8KOJ and Harry WA8LOJ; Nathan KA3MTT volunteered.

Bruce N8BV had nothing to report for Silent Keys. Pete KC8BZM said John Dine WA8DFD died 2-3 weeks ago upstate.

Technical committee: Brian K4BRI has been working at .67, where there is still RF. The COS line is keyed up. .925 has been fixed but now there are receiver problems. Bob WA6EZV announced that the cables are ready. Brian said .625 is back on the air at his place, without a controller. He pulled all the boards, went over all the solders, fixed the intermittent problems. Technical committee will meet next Tuesday at 7:30 PM at the North remote, talk-in on 146.67.

Radio's Plus
Joe Davidson KB8SBN
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Equipment: Harry WA8LOJ had a late minutes correction, Sam KJ8K had the TS130S back at his place. Phil KG8AP announced that our Hamfest is now an ARRL sanctioned event, but may not be at Diamond Oaks due to cafeteria construction. Susie N8CGM will call the ticket printer to get him to hold for corrections.

Ev KC8JR announced that classes begin Thursday, March 2 and run for 8 weeks with exams on Saturday, April 29. Teachers are needed, but not necessarily for the entire 8 weeks. Students are needed badly.

Fox hunt: Bob WA6EZV said one is scheduled for this Saturday. Phil KG8AP will hide. There needs to be a conference about extra transmitters.

Brian K4BRI announced that the DXpedition will be in late September or early October to NA055, Deer Island, Maine. Four are going so far, more are desired. Brian commented that if the decision is to camp, it will be in an RV. Those interested in going should contact Eric N8YC, Phil KG8AP, Pete KC8BZM or Brian K4BRI.

No report from the library in Jim KC8PRY's absence.

Harry WA8LOJ reported for Slow Scan that a couple of people checked in the first Wednesday in January. He tried again the next week and got more. Clocks were the subject this month (last week). MMSSTV is the program being used. Net meets the first Wednesday at 8 PM, before Tech Talk.

Speaking of Tech Talk, Bruce N8BV urged those listening to check in and bring queries.

Liaisons: Pete KC8BZM said QCEN will meet Friday the 17th. Next APRSC meeting will be Friday, March 3. March 31 is SKWARN training at the Blue Ash Red Cross. In order to go out for emergency communications, a radio operator needs to get certified and credentialed with a photo ID. Consider QCEN or ARPSC for that.

Dale KC8HQS said he has put a PDA page on the website, *pda.ohkyin.org*. It includes a summary of materials on the regular website. Hits are up: 11,000 this past year. That averages to 220 per month depending on the pages.

Old business: the club project of the kits. Brian K4BRI has the board layouts and hopes to have them in by next meeting. He's now doing IO and needs a real list. The price will be \$50 rather than \$75. He's not sure about the enclosures. They will be needed by April. Bob WA6EZV and Dick WB4SUV are each doing a 1-watt transmitter. Matt AA9YH is also working on the project. They do need IDers (not necessary in UK where the rigs were designed). Brian rewrote the code to ID. The international competition will use AM keyed transceivers.

New business: none.

Attendance incentive of \$85 would have been won by Bill KI4QJ, who was not present and hasn't been for some time. Amount will be \$90 next time; only those who have paid their 2006 dues are now eligible.

Ev KC8JR won \$12 in split-the-pot.

Pete KC8BZM moved to adjourn at 9:25 PM, Bob WB8JHT second, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted, *Susie Scott N8CGM*, Recording Secretary

DX Extras

March 2006

As of this writing the Peter One Group has been operating for ten days and have logged over 82,000 QSLs. I hope you has a chance to work this operation as you might not see Peter One active for another decade. There is an extensive web site with lots of information, logs, videos etc. Check <http://www.peterone.com/>. I saw KA3MTT and K4BRI in the logs. Way to go guys. Did I miss you?

Seems like a big letdown after this operation. In March watch for a few less needed countries including: 3D2/R - Rotuma, Ty - Benin, 3D2 - Fiji, and P29K - Papua New Guinea.

Need a call sign, DX spot information, QSL info etc. There is a long list of web sites available for just this purpose. Here are just a few:

DXCC Web Site <http://www.arrl.org/awards/dxcc>

IOTA Web Site <http://www.g3kma.dsl.pipex.com>

The DX Notebook <http://www.dxer.org>

DXSpotter <http://uu0jc.kiev.ua>

QRZ <http://www.qrz.com>

Humor (Author Unknown) Reprinted from *QRX DX*. Wish I was there.

Hi All:

I just got back from Rome (Italy). We stayed less than two miles from the Vatican (HV) which I have not worked or confirmed. I saw the Log Periodic for the HV station (they have no permanent Ops there anymore, just visitors.) We then went to SM) Malta (1A) but was not allowed in. I have not worked 1A either. 1A land is about 300 acres in size and they do not allow visitors. We were allowed to look through the keyhole of the large wooden (locked) gates going into 1A land. When I looked through the keyhole I saw a garden path with large hedges on either side like a gun barrel. Way down at the end, framed like a picture, was the dome of St. Peter's, the other one I
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don't have. God does have a strange sense of humor!

Approved for DXCC Credit: YI9VCQ, Iraq from Nov. 30th, 2004 through Nov. 5, 2005 has been approved.

Till next month. Gud DX – 73, Bob WA6EZV

DX footnotes from *The ARRL Letter*, Vol 25 #8, Feb 24, 2006

* **3Y0X DXpedition logs more than 87,000 contacts:** This month's 3Y0X DXpedition to Peter I Island managed to put 87,034 contacts into its logbook during two weeks of operation before it shut down February 19 at 1813 UTC.

The lucky last contact was with K8LTG. The 3Y0X DXpedition surpassed the 82,000 QSOs achieved by A52A (Bhutan), but it fell a bit short of the 96,000 contacts logged by K1B (Baker Island). The 22-member



3Y0X team, headed by led by Ralph Fedor, K0IR, and Bob Allphin, K4UEE, now is safely aboard its ship, the DAP Mares and plans a stop in the South Shetlands on the way home. Because of its remote location in the Bellinghausen Sea near Antarctica and the severe weather conditions, Peter I has been activated but rarely and remains one of the most-wanted DXCC entities. For additional information, visit the Peter I DXpedition Web site <<http://www.peterone.com/>>. Logo lifted from *QST*

* **DXCC Desk approves operation for DXCC credit:** The ARRL DXCC Desk has approved this operation for DXCC credit: K3LP/KP5 and N3KS/KP5, Desecheo Island, December 16-17, 2005. 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/>>.

Contests

March 2006

4-5 ARRL International DX Contest, Phone; DARC 10-Meter Digital "Corona" Contest, all Digital modes; Open Ukraine RTTY Championship; Spartan Sprint, CW

11-13 RSGB Commonwealth Contest, CW; EU EME Contest, CW & SSB; WI QSO Party, Phone & CW; OK QSO Party, Phone, CW, & Digital; ID QSO Party, CW, Phone & Digital; NA RTTY Sprint (NCJ); EA PSK31 Contest; AGCW QRP Contest, CW

18-20 Russian DX Contest, CW, & SSB; VA QSO Party, Phone, CW & Digital; 10-10 Mobile Contest, all modes; CLARA and Family HF Contest, Phone & CW; 9KCC (Kuwait) Contest, CW & SSB; BARTG Spring RTTY Contest

25-27 CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB; Spring QRP Homebrewer Sprint, CW & PSK31

Spring, and a young ham's fancy turns to.... contests! For more information see *QST*, *CQ*, or <http://www.arrl.org/contests/> 73, Dan KF4AV

AMATEUR RADIO CLASSES

The **Oh-Ky-In Amateur Radio Society** will offer ham radio license classes in the Cincinnati, Ohio area scheduled to begin on Thursday evening, March 2, 2006 at 7 PM.

Classes are now being formed for all levels of amateur radio licenses, Technician through Extra, as well as Morse code at 5 words per minute. Classes will be held every Thursday evening for eight weeks at the Salem Presbyterian Church located at the corner of Mozart and Higbee in Western Hills (behind the White Castle Restaurant at Harrison and Boudinot). At the conclusion of the eight week course, participants will be given an FCC license examination on Saturday, April 29, 2006, at the same location.

Classes are open to persons of any age, and no prior experience is necessary. To register, or for additional information contact Carol Hugentober WA8YL at 513=661-5323. E-mail inquiries to [wa8yl@juno.com]. Or visit the OH-KY-IN Amateur Radio Society on the World Wide Web at: www.ohkyin.org.

Next **DIAL Amateur Radio** class (General) will begin at 6 PM Wednesday, March 22, in 110 Johnston Hall, Miami University-Middletown. More info, Carl Morgan [k8cm@qsl.net]. Carl's phone is 1-513=422-9384.

VE exam opportunities

1st 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

2^d 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

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

3^d 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.

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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.

Distinguished Ohio attorney is newest ARRL SGL

His work on Ohio education legislation was so valuable it led Nick Pittner being named Ohioan of the Year (2000) by *The Cleveland Plain Dealer* -- Ohio's largest newspaper.

Now Nick, WB8TMF, will use that legislative talent to work for Ohio ham radio as the Ohio Section State Government Liaison (SGL). This includes a drive to pass an Ohio PRB-1 type of antenna - tower protection legislation in the General Assembly.

Nick, of West Jefferson (Madison County), has been appointed SGL by Section Manager Joe Phillips, K8QOE, effective immediately. He succeeds former SGL Reuben Meeks, W8GUC, who resigned for health reasons last October.

Mr. Pittner was lead attorney for one of Ohio's most famous Ohio Supreme Court cases -- *DeRolph v. Ohio*. The case in 1997 declared Ohio's public education funding to be unconstitutional. He has been working on Ohio public education legislation since 1984.

Nick is a graduate of Ohio State University (1964), and Capital University School of Law (1970, and 2001 with an honorary Doctor of Laws). He is a partner of the prestigious law firm of Bricker & Eckler which has offices in Cleveland, Cincinnati and Columbus -- most notably the Columbus office is across the street from the Ohio General Assembly.

As SGL, Nick will monitor proposed state legislation as it affects amateur radio -- seeking out proposals which could limit our privileges and proposing legislation to assist hams across the Buckeye State. This includes a possible state version of PRB-1 antenna and tower protection legislation which Nick personally believes the General Assembly is ready to pass.

"I will do my best not only to monitor legislation that affects amateur radio in Ohio but also advance ideas that will promote the cause of ham radio wherever possible," Nick said on accepting the appointment. He was first licensed an amateur radio operator in 1973 (WN8LCT) and currently holds an Extra Class license. He has served in every office for the Columbus Amateur Radio Association and is currently PIO of his home ham club -- Madison County ARC. Nick enjoys SSB on all bands and PSK-31.

MARCH OHIO SECTION NEWS

By Affiliated Clubs Coordinator, *Joanne Solak KJ3O*

HAPPY SPRING, ALMOST!! Really, facts are, Spring is not that far away by the time you receive this Section News article now is it?

Remember, it is a new year and time to remind all Club Secretaries to file your club's annual report form. I know you are tired of hearing about filing this annual report form...BUT...that is the only way we can keep your Club's records updated.

It certainly "looks" like Hamfests are doing much better this year. Everyone involved in hamfests have

reported vendor bookings are UP and attendance is UP. I received some reports people were buying and others said they weren't buying, so I think it is one of those things that if you have what they want, they buy. It is the Market thing!

By the way, if you wish to have some amateur radio fun, support your own Club events and those of other Clubs. We have to support each others' efforts. This is a new year and it brings new amateur radio contests, new hamfests, new public service events, and there is a whole lot going on with ARES since Homeland Security has taken a handle on improving communications. Work with your local EC. Make sure you are informed of all ARES drills within your County and volunteer.

There are a lot of Weather Spotter Trainings scheduled within the next few months. Some ARES groups have already held their Spotter Training and it proved very productive, and other ARES groups are still in the process of planning for the training. If your County plans this training, make sure you get the word out so all amateurs in your Club have this chance for excellent training. This Spotter training in most cases is held hand in hand with the Emergency Management and Homeland Security offices and the local ARES groups.

Severe Weather Awareness week in Ohio is March 26th through April 1, with the Statewide Tornado Test to be held Wednesday, March 29th at 9:50 AM.

You probably notice that I haven't mentioned any individual Club this time around. Starting next month I will be highlighting a Club/Group here in the Ohio Section. Make sure you place me on your mailing list so I can keep updated with all your club activities. I will be contacting one of the OHIO SECTION CLUBS this month to be the SPOTLIGHT of the Sections News for April.

I will continue to list various clubs and their events in the Monthly along with the Spotlitged Club which will receive "top billing" of the Section News. SO, keep me informed about all your club's events. Each month I will select a Club to be in the Ohio Section News SPOTLIGHT!

If you do not have me on your newsletter mailing list, please do so now. For all of you who have kept me informed as to your club happenings, "THANK YOU!"

It was great "seeing" so many of you at the Mansfield Hamfest...thanks for taking the time to say "hello!"

Public Service events are filling Club calendars. All Club members, support your Club's efforts.
VOLUNTEER!

BE EXPECTING A NOTICE FROM ME THAT YOU WILL BE IN THE SPOTLIGHT !

REMEMBER, sometime when you least expect it, I will be seeing YOU! Until then enjoy amateur radio.
Best 73, *Joanne KJ3O*, ACC OHIO

OHIO SECTION MARCH HAMFESTS

Sunday (19) TMRA Hamfest and Computer Show - For more info see: <http://www.tmrahamradio.org> or contact Brian J. Harrington, WD8MXR at phone: 419-535-6594 or Email: bharrington@meduohio.edu; Hamfest location: Lucas County Recreation Center Sunday (26) Lake County Amateur Radio Association. For more info, see: <http://www.lcara.org> or contact Rocky, KB8WFD at phone: 440-209-8953 or Email: rocky@lcara.org. Hamfest location: Madison High School

Weaver's words – anyone for DX?

- H.Res. 230 Update - Youth Survey Study - SPEAKING OF DX
- DIVISION Member a YI - A&F Meetings
- Travel to Swaps/Hamfests/Clubs/etc.

H.RES. 230 UPDATE

If you haven't written to your member of the US House of Representatives to encourage him/her to support H.Res. 230, it is time to do this. So far, GLD members have written about 500 of these letters. Our lobbyist in DC began making visits to Representatives on Capitol Hill this week and is taking the copies of letters you sent me. These copies give vivid proof to the Representatives and their aides that you who have written are interested in the Resolution and want it passed.

Thanks to you who took on the responsibility of supporting Amateur Radio through your letters. I most fervently encourage you who haven't written to do this, now. Our ability to defend our frequencies against overpowering interference may totally depend on whether H.Res. 230 is adopted.

When you write, please be sure to send me a copy of your letter with the name and address of your Representative and yourself included. If you need the information for writing and to whom to send the letter, let me know.

You'll be pleased with yourself for taking the initiative of helping defend Amateur Radio.

Please note that H.Res. 230 is not H.R. 230. H.Res. stands for a Resolution and H.R. stands for a law.

Neither is it of interest to US Senators (don't write to them on this) or to our State Legislators (don't write to them on this, either).

YOUTH SURVEY STUDY

About a month ago, I asked for volunteers who could develop a survey to learn where the "hooks" exist in young people that can interest them in Amateur Radio. The idea is that buried inside of each young person there is interest in something that Amateur Radio offers. The individual may not even know there is a match between his/her interest and hamming, but it is there. The challenge is to learn just what it is that young people like that equates to Amateur Radio. What we need for this task is one or more people who understand consumer survey taking and how to develop it.

Three or four members responded, but so far, no firm ideas have been presented. I feel positive that there is at least one amateur in the Division who meets our needs. If you are this person or one of these people, or if you have a friend who is, please get in touch with me.

Frankly, we have people at HQ who say that conducting just such a survey is an impossible task. I don't buy this thought. I know that before I retired, my former employer could find and accurately interpret nearly any attitude consumers had. What we need is someone who understands this work and is willing to apply it on a voluntary basis to Amateur Radio.

DIVISION MEMBER IN YI-land

Neil Schwanits, WD8CRT, until recently V73NS is now YI/WD8CRT. Look for him in the morning, Eastern time. I worked Neil as V73NS a couple of times and hope to catch him from YI. He runs QRP.

SPEAKING OF DX

How many of you snagged 3Y0X from Peter I Island? It was a great operation and they made into my log on six or maybe even seven bands. I won't bet too much on getting them on 10M (they're in my log, but

I'm not on their web list), but it was certainly fun to work them for a "new one."

A&F MEETING

Just so you'll know, the ARRL Board of Directors has a number of standing as well as ad hoc committees. These committees do a lot of the leg work the Board acts on at its semiannual (January and July) meetings. This year I have been reassigned to the Administration & Finance (A&F) Committee. This Committee rides herd over the budget and the administration of our staff.

In these days of tight budgeting, being on A&F is very demanding. I am a History Channel fan, and the budget-balancing act A&F goes through reminds me of the budget-balancing act Gen. Curtis LeMay (I forget his Amateur Radio call sign, but Curt is the guy who championed SSB for the Army Air Corps during WW 2) went through in choosing whether to build cutting-edge bombers or fighters. It was the budget that forced the choice and Curt chose cutting-edge bombers over cutting-edge fighters.

For example, I would love to have us spend as much as IRS rules allow us to spend as a 501.c.3 organization on Grassroots lobbying activity. Along with this, it would be great to have all ARRL publications made available to the sight impaired as talking books in Radio Reading Service style. Bringing back an updated Archie-style comic book could help recruit young people. How about a slick video that depicts the several intriguing aspects of Amateur Radio? Or, maybe we should hire a couple of additional, quality people in our PR Department to work with Allen Pitts, our fine PR manager. Or, how about making the programs offered by ARRL totally free to members? Or, what would your choice be?

The fact is that we cannot do this. We need to live within our budget. We certainly can't even do what we currently do and live within our dues income and the profits off our publishing business. This is the reason Mary Hobart, our fine Development manager and the campaigns she wages for donations are so crucial to ARRL's success.

This is where A&F comes in. It is with A&F that the proverbial rubber meets the road for ARRL. A&F is the group that makes some very stomach-wrenching recommendations to the Board concerning the annual budgets. These recommendations determine to a great extent just which new programs are funded, which existing programs are slimmed down, which existing programs will survive, and which existing programs are left to die gracefully or that are killed outright.

Because of the critical nature of its decisions, A&F meets in person at ARRL HQ four times a year -- once the day before each of our two annual Board meetings and midway between these meetings. It also meets as needed by teleconference and E-mail between these in-person meetings.

TRAVEL TO SWAPS/HAMFESTS/CLUBS/etc.

I have a ball talking with Division members at swaps/hamfests and meetings this year. So far this year, the swaps and hamfests have been at Mansfield, OH and Livonia, MI, and the meetings have been limited to the Milford (OH) ARC. Yet to come for me include:

March 3 -- Hamfest, Cave City, KY

March 8 - SW OH DX Assoc., Centerville, OH

March 18 -- Swap, Marshall, MI

March 19 -- Hamfest, Toledo, OH

March 22 -- Portage (Co.) ARC, OH

March 23 -- Summit Co. ARS, OH

April 1 -- Hamfest, Elizabethtown, KY

April 8 - QCWA, Cleveland, OH

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April 22 -- Ohio ARES Conference, Columbus, OH

April 28-30 -- Administration & Finance Committee Meeting, Newington, CT

May 18 -- ARRL Major Donor Reception, Dayton, OH

May 19-21 -- Hamvention®, Dayton, OH

If you particularly want Vice Director Gary Johnston, KI4LA or me to visit your swap/hamfest, club meeting or other event, let us know.

GL, 73, *Jim Weaver, K8JE*

Director, ARRL Great Lakes Division Chairman, ARRL Legislative Action Committee

5065 Bethany Rd., Mason, OH 45040 E-mail: k8je@arrl.org; Tel: 513-459-0142

ARRL, the Reason Amateur Radio is! Members, the Reason ARRL is!

Hamfests & c.

March 2006

March 4 30th Annual Cave City KY Hamfest at Cave City Convention Ctr, Mammoth Cave St (Hwy 70), I-65 Exit 53, go to first light & turn left onto Mammoth Cave St, Convention Ctr is approx 1 mi on left. Sponsored by Mammoth Cave ARC, from 6 AM. 3960 meeting, ARRL forum, VE sessions. Talk-in: 146.94. \$6 gate. Info: Larry Brumett KN4IV, 270=651-2363, [lbrumett@glasgow-ky.com], www.geocities.com/ky4x2000

March 11 Terre Haute IN, set-up 7 AM, public 8 AM-1 PM, Spr Wabash Valley ARA, Ryves Youth Ctr, Etling Hall, 1356 Locust St; take I-70 exit 7, 3d St/US 41 N, go approx 3 mi Non 3d St to stop light at Locust St, turn E onto Locust, go E to 14th St. Park in lot on SW corner of 14th & Locust. Indoor event (rain or shine), vendors, forums, QCWA and YLRL meetings after the event, VE sessions at 9 AM, bkfst & lunch available. Talk-in: 146.685 (151.4 Hz), 444.35. \$4 door, under 13 free. Info: Kevin Berten K9HX, [k9hx@arrl.net], www.w9uuu.org

March 19 51st Toledo Hamfest/Computer Fair sponsored by Toledo Mobile Radio Assn at Lucas Co Rec Ctr, 2901 Key St; S of Heatherdowns Blvd at Key St; Exit 6 off I-475/US 31. Public 8 AM-2 PM. All indoors, major vendors, computers, new & used equipment & items of interest, handicapped accessible, free parking (incl overnight), refreshments. Talk-in: 147.27. \$6 door. Info: Brian Harrington WD8MXR, 419=535-6594, [bharrington@meduohio.edu], www.tmrahamradio.org

March 25 23d Annual Columbus IN Hamfest sponsored by Columbus ARC at 4H Fairgrounds Community Bldg, SR 11; Exit 68 off -65 to SR 46E, turn R on SR 11 to Fairgrounds. Fleas all indoors, vendors, VE sessions (11 AM), free parking, refreshments. Talk-in: 146.79 (100 Hz). \$4.50 advance, \$5 door. Info: Marion Winterberg WD9HTN, 812=342-4670, [carc_in@yahoo.com], www.qsl.net/carc

March 25 Michigan City IN Hamfest sponsored by Michigan City ARC at Diamond Cove, 716 US 212; E side of US 212, ½ mi N of airport, access from I-94 (exit 40B) to US 20W to US 212. VE sessions 8 AM, registration closes 9 AM. Bkfst & lunch. \$5 gate. Info: Ron Stahoviak N9TPC, 219=325-9089, [hamfest@w9ly.org], www.w9ly.org/hamfest.htm

March 26 28th Annual Madison OH Hamfest/Computerfest, sponsored by Lake Co ARA at Madison HS, 3100 Burns Rd; take I-90 to exit 212, go N on Rte 528 to Main St, turn R on Main then L on Lake St, go to Middle Ridge Rd, turn L on Burns Rd, follow signs to HS. Public 8 AM-2 PM. Large flea market, vendors, new & used Amateur Radio equipment, computer & assorted electronic equipment, VE sessions, free paved parking, refreshments. Talk-in: 147.21. \$6 gate. Info: Rocky KB8WFD, 440=209-8953 or 255-0933, [rocky@lcara.org], www.lcara.org

What's coming in March

Wed Mar 1	8:00 PM	Slow Scan TV Net, NCS Harry WA8LOJ, 146.67
	9:00 PM	Tech Talk, NCS Carol WA8YL, 146.67
Thu Mar 2	7:00 PM	Code & theory classes begin at Salem Presbyterian Church, corner Mozart & Higbee behind Harrison-Boudinot White Castle
Fri Mar 3	8:00 PM	Hamilton Co Amateur Radio Public Svc Corps, Hamilton Co Communications Ofc Conference Rm, 2377 Civic Ctr Dr Park in Bd of Education lot
Tue Mar 7	7:30 PM	Club meeting at Salem Presbyterian Church, corner Mozart & Higbee behind Harrison-Boudinot White Castle Program: John Gumm, Meteorologist from WKRC Local 12
Wed Mar 8	9:00 PM	Tech Talk, NCS Dale KC8HQ5, 146.67
Thu Mar 9	7:00 PM	Code & theory classes at Salem Presbyterian Church, corner Mozart & Higbee behind Harrison-Boudinot White Castle
Sat Mar 11	10:00 AM	Monthly fox hunt, hounds start from Mt Storm Park; talk-in to start on 146.67
Mon Mar 13	7:30 PM	Robotics Group at Brian K4BRI's
Tue Mar 14	7:30 PM	Technical Committee meeting if needed, location TBA
Wed Mar 15	9:00 PM	Tech Talk, NCS Dennis KB8ROA, 146.67
Thu Mar 16	7:00 PM	Code & theory classes at Salem Presbyterian Church, corner Mozart & Higbee behind Harrison-Boudinot White Castle
Fri Mar 17	7:30 PM	Queen City Emergency Net, Red Cross HQ, 820 Sycamore St
Tue Mar 21	7:30 PM	Hamfest Committee meeting at Carol WA8YL's
Wed Mar 22	9:00 PM	Tech Talk, NCS Brian K4BRI, 146.67
Thu Mar 23	7:00 PM	Code & theory classes at Salem Presbyterian Church, corner Mozart & Higbee behind Harrison-Boudinot White Castle
Tue Mar 28	7:30 PM	Board Meeting at Carol WA8YL's
Wed Mar 29	9:00 PM	Tech Talk, NCS Rick KD4PYR, 146.67
Thu Mar 30	7:00 PM	Code & theory classes at Salem Presbyterian Church, corner Mozart & Higbee behind Harrison-Boudinot White Castle
Tue Apr 4	7:30 PM	Club meeting at Salem Presbyterian Church, corner Mozart & Higbee behind Harrison-Boudinot White Castle Program: Update on old Voice of America site (Tentatively)

Part 2 of *WQRZ-LP* by Sara Allen KI4KMI coming next month

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OH-KY-IN 2006 Committee Appointments

QCEN Representative Peter J Feichtner III KC8BZM
WARN Representative Peter J Feichtner III KC8BZM

Technical Committee Brian DeYoung K4BRI, Chair	Volunteer Examiners Brian DeYoung K4BRI, Chair
Membership Nathan Ciufo KA3MTT, Chair	Repeater Control Ops Mgr Bruce Vanselow N8BV
Education Chair Ev Giglio KC8JR	Librarian James E. Keely KC8PRY
Field Day Nathan Ciufo KA3MTT, Chair	
PIO Bruce Vanselow N8BV	Hamfest Coordinator Phil Smith KG8AP
<i>Q-Fiver</i> Susie Scott N8CGM, Editor	Slow Scan TV Net Mgr Harry Davis WA8LOJ
Special Publications Jo Haltermon KD4PYS	Fox Hunters Co-Chairs Dick Arnett WB4SUV
John M Hugentober Sr Memorial CW Proficiency Award	Bob Frey WA6EZV
Brian DeYoung K4BRI, Chair	Robotics Chair Dana Laurie WA8M
WebMeister Dale Vanselow KC8HQS	DXpedition Coordinator Eric Neiheisel N8YC
Equipment Mgr Harry Davis WA8LOJ	[n8yc@arrl.net] 513=598-1659
TVI/RFI Dick Arnett WB4SUV, Chair	
Tech Talk Net Mgr Bruce Vanselow N8BV	Life Members Kenneth E Wolf N8WYC
Silent Key Bruce Vanselow N8BV, Chair	John W Hughes AI4DA
ARPSC Representative Peter J Feichtner III KC8BZM	

News of members and students in recent classes

According to "Good Things Happening" in *The Enquirer*, Dana Laurie WA8M has given 12 gallons of blood to Hoxworth Blood Center. No vampire jokes, please ...

New member with a new licence

Steve Brown KD8CUI

==>ARISS MAKES IT OFFICIAL: "TREMENDOUSLY SUCCESSFUL" SUITSAT-1 IS SK

SuitSat-1 is now a confirmed "Silent Key." So says its sponsor, the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) program. In operation for more than two weeks, SuitSat-1--designated AO-54--easily outlasted initial predictions that it would transmit for about one week. ARISS International Chairman Frank Bauer, KA3HDO, says the mission captured imaginations around the world, despite a much-lower-than-expected signal strength.

"The outreach, press requests and visibility of SuitSat were absolutely amazing and appear to be unprecedented for a ham radio event," Bauer said. "While the press requests are just now starting to wane, we expect that you will continue to see SuitSat status reports and pictures in magazines, Web sites and other literature over the next few months." The more than 9 million hits at the SuitSat Web site attest to the level of interest in the SuitSat-1 experiment, Bauer noted, calling the tally "quite impressive indeed!"

Bob King, VE6BLD, in Alberta posted the last confirmed reception of SuitSat-1's voice audio, Saturday, February 18, at 0332 UTC. Richard Crow, N2SPI, in New York received the last confirmed telemetry, which indicated the battery voltage dropping precipitously to a low of 18.3 V before the novel satellite ceased to transmit.

Hearing SuitSat-1's puny signal strength generally required gain antennas, but Bauer says he heard SuitSat with a 3-element Arrow antenna and a handheld radio. Bauer's daughter Michelle recorded the English-language voice identification. Another challenge to signal reception, he said, was the very deep fading due to the suit's rotation in orbit. "One great positive that came from these issues is that it challenged the ham radio community worldwide to improve their station receive capabilities so that they could pull every bit of signal from SuitSat," Bauer remarked. >8 snip

...The AMSAT/ARISS team already is looking forward to a SuitSat-2. "Correcting the signal strength issue would be a top priority for this flight," Bauer said. "So would be a longer-term power generation device, like solar arrays."

Although no longer transmitting, SuitSat-1 could continue orbiting Earth for another 70 to 120 days, depending on atmospheric drag, Bauer said.

More information on the SuitSat-1 project, including QSL information, is available on the AMSAT Web site <<http://www.amsat.org/>> and on the SuitSat Web site <<http://www.suitsat.org/>>. -*The ARRL Letter*, Vol 25 #8, Feb 24, 2006

Copy deadline for April issue is Friday, March 17—St Patrick's Day!

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