



# THE Q-FIVER

K8SCH



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



Our 47<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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Please send submissions for *The Q-FIVER* (including notice of upgrades & call sign changes) to Ye Ed Susie N8CGM. These may be:

- snail-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 2007 Volume 47 Number 4*

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

Spring classes have started and we have a decent number attending. If you referred somebody to our classes, we appreciate it. After this session of classes, OH-KY-IN will host an exam session on May 12<sup>th</sup> at Salem Presbyterian Church, so stay tuned!

In case you are not aware, the 146.925 repeater has access to Echolink. Right now, only internet users are able to initiate an Echolink connection to our repeater. In the future, club members will be able to initiate an Echolink connection through the 146.925 repeater to connect to nodes on Echolink. Listen to 146.925 and if you hear the repeater say a station is connected, say "Hi". I've had some enjoyable conversations so far and it gives us an excellent chance to talk up the club.

On a final note, I want to thank Tom NG8A for our exciting programs so far. He's doing a great job. If you haven't attended a meeting yet this year, please stop by!

73,

*Dale KC8H2S*

## **Next meeting**

The next club meeting of the OH-KY-IN Amateur Radio Society will take place **Tuesday, April 3, 2007** (starting at 7:30 PM) at the Salem Presbyterian Church, located at the corner of Mozart and Higbee in Westwood. The program will be computer interfacing to radios by Richard Pestinger KC8RP, current president of GCARA.

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!

73, *Tom NG8A*

## **Minutes, General Membership Meeting, Tuesday, March 6, 2007**

Dale KC8HQS called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Two guests in attendance, Jeff, KC8QCH and Dave KD8ECG. 39 members attending. Three upgrades to

general – John W9JRV, Dave KD8ECG, and KD8MYC.

Health and Welfare – Margie KA8MRL is getting better from her stroke – good news!

The brag session heard about Emily K4MLE for first place at the Georgia Navigator cup in her category, and John thanked Dale for giving him a discone that gets out much better.

Meeting program started at 7:41, first had Rick KD4PYR explaining the band changes, and gave handouts.

Next we had Eric N8YC and others talk about the Oh-Ky-In 2006 DXpedition to Deer Isle, Maine.

Break from 8:35 to 8:47

Dale thanked Tom NG8A for running the hospitality table.

A motion was made to accept the printed minutes from January by Dick WB4SUV, seconded by Bob WA6EZV – motion passed.

Membership chair not present, Dale will accept dues for 2007.

Treasurer – Rick KD4PYR announced that the audit committee met, and went thru last year's books. He has paid the church for meetings, classes and exams. Updated ARRL club info, also the SSC info. Rick has also completed the Ohio Charitable required report. Postcard mailing has been done. We are trying to get the new club spaces at Dayton.

Bruce N8BV reported nothing new for the silent key committee.

Technical committee - Brian K4BRI reported that all the club repeaters are on the air, as well as the APRS Wide. There will be a meeting of the Technical committee, discussing plans for 146.670 and other issues.

Equipment manager – Mike KC8YTJ and David KC8YOM have agreed to assume this position – Thanks!

Hamfest committee – Phil KG8AP has reported that after serious lack of interest and lack of cooperation by the school that he must resign as chair. No one else volunteered to take this position.

ARDF & Foxhunting – there was no hunt in February. Phil will be the fox this month. There will be a forum at Dayton, and the blind ARDF hunt as well – more info to follow.

Library – Jim KC8PRY reports everything is normal

Tech Talk - Bruce N8BV reported that a net control is needed for the first Wednesday of the month.

Dale KC8HQS reported that the web site is going well.

Jeff KC8QCH reported that the next ARPSC meeting will be April 6

Old business –

Exam session was busy but went well – thanks to all!

Awards committee will be Eric N8YC, Brian K4BRI, Emily K4MLE.

New business -

The Audit committee (Bruce N8BV, Gene N8KOJ, Harry WA8LOJ) reported records in balance.

One issue needs clarification on the club project.

Concern expressed on management of club funds. A person needs to be appointed to research investment options for better return.

Field Day is June 23-24 – please remember

Fund raising – we need someone to step forward and head this up – no one volunteered.

Some fund raising options were discussed.


The random member drawing, currently at \$40, was KA8CXG, George Horning, who was not present.

Split the pot of \$25 was won by John KC8VQU.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by John KC8VQU – seconded by John W9JRV.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:21 PM.

Respectfully submitted - *Brian K4BRI*



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**Field Day 2007**

With spring staring us in the face soon (hopefully), it's time to start talking about Field Day 2007. I've begun a lot of planning, and I'll be calling on a lot of you to take part in some of the tasks. The question is, will we be lucky enough to have weather like last year? Let's hope.

We're going to try out a different logging program this year, which I will train everyone on it's use during the June membership meeting. We will also network all of our logging computers so we will have a centralized log, as well as the ability to chat amongst the stations. For example, "It's time for SUPPER !!", hi hi.

One of the biggest things we need to secure is shelters for the stations. We are ideally looking for 4 shelters. One for the CW and SSB stations, one for the 6 meter station, and one for the GOTA station. I have spoken with Otto AA8KK, whose son bought a new trailer. There is a chance we will not be able to use this trailer, as it is much larger than the previous trailer. He's checking to see if he will be able to get it into the park.

If you are able to help out with a shelter, please let me know.

I also wanted to see if anyone is interested in being the "GOTA Station Coach" for Field Day this year. You need to be a relatively seasoned operator, and interested in helping out newcomers to the hobby. We can also double our bonus points by having one, so it's kind of like having our cake and eating it, too!

73, *Nathan Ciufo KA3MTT* 859.760.9262 [KA3MTT@OHKYIN.ORG]

The 2007 Oh-Ky-In ARS Awards Committee is proud to announce the **2007 Awards Dinner**, Wednesday, 11 April. You are hereby invited to attend this annual event at 'The Farm' at Anderson Ferry and Whitmore in Delhi. With the great success of last year, we kept everything the same including the menu. The time is

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6:30, dinner at 7:00 with a price per person at \$17.00. Please join us for one of the only Oh-Ky-In social events of the year and usher in the new induc-tees for the year 2006 including the coveted 'Ham of the Year'.

For info, here is the menu:

**Cold Items for Sandwiches:** Smoked Ham, Roast Beef, Swiss Cheese, American Cheese, Bread (Rye, White, Wheat)

**Hot Items:** Fried Chicken, bite-size Mettwurst, French Fries, Au Gratin Green Beans

**Salads & Relishes:** Cottage Cheese, Macaroni Salad, Tropical Fruit Salad, Cranberry Sauce, Onions, Olives, Dill Pickle Spears, various condiments.

For reservations, please e-mail me [neiheisel@fuse.net] or call at 513=598-1659.

Thanks, *Eric N8YC*

### **STM post returns after 3 years, DEC John Tipka W8UL appointed**

Ohio Section Manager Joe Phillips, K8QOE, has reinstated the Ohio Cabinet Level post of Section Traffic Manager (STM) and appointed John Tipka, W8UL, to the post. John, 69, of Reynoldsburg, was ARES District Emergency Coordinator (DEC) for District Seven. Mr. Phillips reinstated the Cabinet post, which had been retired in 2004, because a new generation of digital nets is emerging in Ohio and "Ohio needs a STM to structure and give identity to these new nets."

The new STM will lend support, not control, these nets. However as new digital nets emerge in Ohio, these standing nets will have additional options for passing traffic within Ohio, Mr. Phillips said.

The reinstating of the STM post for digital nets is Ohio responding to the National Emergency Response Plan Committee (NERPC) which was adopted by the ARRL Board of Directors, SM Phillips added.

First licensed 50 years ago, Mr. Tipka holds an extra class license. He retired after 26 years in the US Army and again after 19 years as Director of Management Systems for The Ohio State University. He holds BS and MBA degrees from OSU. During his professional military career, John held US Embassy post in South Korea and South Vietnam.

The announcement of reinstating the STM post was made at the OSSBN meeting at the Mansfield Hamfest. Four Ohio Section members applied for the post.

### **==>Amateur Radio activity shut down in Iraq**

Iraq Amateur Radio Society (IARS) President Diya Sayah YI1DZ has informed ARRL that all Amateur Radio activity in Iraq has been suspended until the security situation there improves. The ham radio blackout began this week (*ARRL Letter*, Mar 16, 2007)

Sayah says the suspension affects both Iraqi citizens as well as any foreigners, including military personnel and contractors -- who have been on the air from Iraq identifying with YI9-prefix call signs. It does not affect the operation of Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) stations, however, since they operate on military frequencies, not amateur frequencies. The IARS is informing its member to stay off the air, although some Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) modes like IRLP and EchoLink still are okay to use, as long as they don't involve transmitting a signal over the air.

**8< snip**

Sayah said the government also wanted radio amateurs in Iraq to send all ham radio equipment to the IARS until the security situation improved, but he's advising hams in Iraq to hang onto their gear. "Because we had the security plan going, no one can carry his equipment, and all checkpoints belongs to the Ministry of

Defense," he said. "Besides, the location of our Society is not safe to keep members' equipment in one place."

Sayah also has reached out to the worldwide Amateur Radio community to use its influence to reverse the Iraqi government policy.

## Contests

### April 2007

Mar 31-Apr 1 QCWA Spring QSO Party, CW & Digital, & SSB

1 Lids Roundup, SSB in CW subbands, call "CQ FCC" exchange recipes.

3-9.1 SP DX Contest, CW & SSB; MO QSO Party, CW & SSB; QRP ARCI Spring QSO Party, CW; Lighthouse Spring Lites QSO Party, all modes; Low Power Spring Sprint, CW; DX YL to North American YL Contest, CW; EA RTTY Contest

10-15 MT QSO Party, Phone, CW & Digital; GA QSO Party, CW & SSB; EU Spring Sprints, CW; DX YL to North American YL Contest, Phone; PSK31 Flavors Contest, PSK31 and Variants; Japan International DX Contest (JIDX), CW; Radio Maritime Day, CW

21-22 YU DX Contest, CW; MI QSO Party, CW & SSB; Motorola QSO Party, CW & SSB; Kids Roundup, Phone; ES Open HF Championship, CW & SSB; EU EME Contest, CW & SSB; EU Spring Sprint, SSB; EA QRP Contest, CW; TARA Skirmish, Digital Prefix Contest

28-29 FL QSO Party; NE QSO Party, CW, SSB & Digital; Helvetia Contest, CW, SSB & Digital; SP DX RTTY Contest; Old-Old-Timers Club QSO Party, CW & SSB; DX Colombia International Contest, Phone & CW

Lots of contests, especially for CW hounds. Have fun. For more information see *QST*, *CQ*, or <http://www.arrl.org/contests/>

73, *Dan K744U*

*This is a great post from another reflector, has great information in it.*

73, *Nathan KASMT7*

There is sure to be a lot of new HF activity with the new regulations in effect since February 23. Please remember that operators are required to keep their entire transmitted signal within the band limits. This means that if you are operating SSB mode, your signal is typically 2.8 kHz wide so a rule of thumb is to stay 3 kHz from the edge of the band. For example if a Technician class operator wants to operate SSB on the 10 meter band, then the operator should not operate any lower than 28.303 MHz or any higher than 28.497 MHz in order to stay within the band limits.

Band edges also need to be observed when operating CW, RTTY, Data and all modes permitted in the Amateur service.

Overdriving a SSB transmitter make your signal unreadable and will cause splatter that can be outside of the band. It is not just good amateur practice to produce clean transmitted signals--it's also the law, part 97.307.

ARRL Regulatory Information Branch (RIB) issues reminders regarding new rules (Mar 2, 2007) -- The ARRL Regulatory Information Branch advises all Technician and Novice licensees that they may not operate FM mode on 10 meters (or anywhere else below 30 MHz). Novices and Technicians may operate

CW and data on the segment 28.1 to 28.3 MHz, and CW and SSB phone on the segment 28.3 to 28.5 MHz. Novice and Technicians must limit their output power to 200 W PEP on these 10-meter segments and on any HF bands where they have privileges (*ie*, CW on 80, 40 and 15 meters). Amateur Radio FM emissions are not permitted below 29.0 MHz. The RIB also notes that a valid Certificate of Successful Completion of Examination (CSCE) for element credit issued prior to February 23, 2007, does not automatically convey operating privileges under the new rules. The holder must first redeem the CSCE by applying at an examination session and paying any application fee.

If the Volunteer Examiner (VE) team accepts the CSCE for element credit, it will issue a CSCE for upgrade credit. Only then may upgraders operate under their new privileges, identifying as /AG (if upgrading to General) or /AE (if upgrading to Amateur Extra) until the FCC Universal Licensing System (<<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>>ULS) database reflects their new license class. A CSCE is only valid for 365 days from the date of issuance, no exceptions.

## Hamfests & c.

**April 2007**

Apr 14, Coalton OH hamfest sponsored by Jackson Co ARA. 9 AM-1 PM at James A, Rhodes Community Ctr, SR 93. Hamfest, fleas, VE sessions, handicapped accessible, refreshments. Talk-in: 146.79. \$5 gate. Info: Edgar Dempsey KD8XL, 740=286-3239, [kd8xl@verizon.net]

Apr 15, North Central IN Hamfest, Peru IN. 8 AM-2 PM. Sponsored by Grant, Miami, Blackford Cos. & Kokomo ARCs at Miami Co 4H Fairgrounds, corner Mexico Rd & County Rd 200 N. Fleas, VE sessions. Talk-in: 147.345. \$5 gate. Info: L B Nickerson K9NQW, 765=517-1581, [k9nqw@arrl.net]

Apr 15, 52d Annual Cuyahoga Falls OH Hamfest sponsored by Cuyahoga Falls ARC. 8 AM-1:30 PM at Emidio & Sons Patry Ctr, 48 E Bath Rd. Fleas. Talk-in: 147.27. \$5 advance, \$6 door. Info: Ted Sarah W8TTS, 330=688-2013, [hamfest2007@cfarc.org], [www.cfarc.org/hamfest2007.htm](http://www.cfarc.org/hamfest2007.htm)

Apr 29, Athens OH Hamfest sponsored by Athens Co ARA. Set-up 7 AM, public 8 AM-1 PM at Athens Community Ctr, 701 E State St. Large indoor sales area & free flea market, vendors, exhibits, VE sessions, acres of parking, handicapped accessible, refreshments. Talk-in: 145.15. \$5 gate, non-ham spouses free. Info: Drew McDaniel W8MHV, 740=592-2106, fax 740-593-1837, [mcdanied@ohiou.edu], [www.ac-ara.org](http://www.ac-ara.org)

## 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 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

**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

**3d Wednesday Feb and April:** DIAL Radio Club at Rm 110, 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

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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.

**Weaver's words -- they are playing baseball!** (posted Mon, 12 Mar 2007)

8< snip Amount of copy required some snips and reduction of type size. Magnify, please! *-Ye Ed.*

**-- Elmering Newcomers --**

Elmering newcomers should come in many forms. Recently, I've seen one form that builds on the high-interest of younger people in computer technology -- the Internet.

I encourage the editors who put club news and activities into club Internet and print bulletins work with other members in the club to develop a series of short how-to-do-its or watch-outs to be included in these bulletins. A recent brief discussion I saw came via a local BB and local club bulletin. This discussion addressed how hams are required by FCC to "protect" our band edges. As nearly all of us established hams know, it isn't merely important where the "carrier frequency" is centered if the sideband lies outside the legal band edge. Many of our newer hams may not know this, so a simple-to-understand explanation might be in order. But this topic is merely one of many that a newbie might need to learn. How about the time between IDing, listening for more than a split second before transmitting and many, many more tidbits of information the rest of us take for granted?

Before anyone begins to rail against "ignorant, new amateurs," keep in mind that many of us who came into the Service by way of the Novice license didn't know everything at the time, either. I admit I didn't really understand what "protecting the band edge" fully meant until my Elmer explained it to me just after I re-ceived the Novice license. This is the reason there is an introductory license. It is a "license to learn." The Tech license is the current introductory license.

One purpose for an introductory license is to allow the new ham to learn. Let's help them learn just as so many of us were assisted during the learning process by other hams.

**-- AD for the Advancement of Digital Radio --**

I am pleased to announce that John Champa K8OCL of Howell, Michigan has accepted appointment as Assistant Director for the Advancement of Digital Radio! John earned the ARRL 2003 Microwave Development Award for his work in chairing the League's High Speed Multi-Media Working Group and for his work in developing practical IEEE 802.11 Wi-Fi technology for Amateur Radio. John is an RF Systems Engineer with Rockwell-Collins.

**-- Legislative Action Progress --**

Since my latest plea for assistance with the new ARRL Legislative Action Program, several additional volunteers have stepped forward to become Legislative Action Assistants (LAAs). These are the people who meet occasionally with their US Congressman or aides back in the home Districts. This has been an encouraging turn of events as more members have recognized the importance of developing this "grass-roots" effort. I thank each new volunteer for coming forward to serve the best interests of Amateur Radio and ARRL.

We still need quite a number of additional LAAs. If you believe you are capable of meeting about three times a year at a local Congressman's office to talk let him know you support or oppose a piece of legislation that effects Amateur Radio, contact your state Legislative Action Coordinator to find out how the LAA task works. In Michigan, contact Bob "Scotty" Wright KB8APS at [kb8aps@arrl.net]. In Ohio it is Brent Stover WD8PBZ, [wd8pnz@arrl.net], and in Kentucky contact Vice Director Gary Johnston KI4LA at [ki4l@arrl.org].

Incidentally, legislation of importance to Amateur Radio has been introduced into the US House of Representatives. Before much longer, it will be important that our LAAs contact their Representatives. To do this successfully, we need LAAs in each Congressional District in the Great Lakes Division.

**-- FCC: No Habla Espanol --**

The FCC rejected a petition by the Puerto Rico Amateur Radio League (PEARL) to require Amateur Radio exams to be printed in Spanish for Spanish speaking license applicants. If the PEARL petition had been adopted, all VE sessions would have been required to maintain supplies of Spanish-language exams for all license levels.

**-- Who Says Morse Is Dead --**

Mark Spencer WA8SME, who heads the ARRL Amateur Radio Education & Technology Program, has been doing research related to review the "Big Project" and schools that are signed up for this. One interesting comment in his most recent report on the subject is: "I spent a day working with a 6th grader who was on school vacation. I tried out some curriculum materials on the young man. Morse code is the content area that seemed to capture his interest the most (the old mode maintains its relevance)."

Who says youngsters are not interested in Morse code? Maybe we need to get to "them" at a younger age than we previously thought. Admittedly, this "poll" is far from being statistically significant, but it provides a bit of interesting insight.

**-- WIAW Transmits On Required Frequencies --**

A few members asked for the reference to the FCC rule that requires WIAW to broadcast code practice, code trial runs, bulletins and the like on pre-announced frequencies and times, and therefore, prevents the station from QSYing at the last moment to avoid stations that have come on a pre-announced frequency. This rule is as follows:

"Code of Federal Regulations 97.113(d).

"(d) The control operator of a club station may accept compensation for the periods of time when the station is transmitting telegraphy practice or information bulletins, provided that the station transmits such telegraphy practice and bulletins for at least 40 hours per week; schedules operations on at least six amateur service MF and HF bands using reasonable measures to maximize coverage; where the schedule of normal operating times and frequencies is published at least 30 days in advance of the actual transmissions; and where the control operator does not accept any direct or indirect compensation for any other service as a control operator."

**-- Progress Toward ARES Response Capability Upgrade --**

One item highlighted in the National Emergency Response Preparedness Committee report in January re-lates to developing a database of amateurs who are willing to roll out in the event of a major, area wide disaster. This database would list trained ARES volunteers from throughout the US. The database has been developed and tested at HQ in a pilot study. The study disclosed areas in which improvements are needed. These improvements are being made at this time. Developing the database will follow.

8< snip

**-- What'd They Say??? --**

(The following comments are not intended to advise any of you what action to take regarding the Red Cross' required background checks for its volunteers. What you do regarding the requirement is your business, not mine. All I am trying to do is to disclose the facts of the situation . . . and kick in a bit of sarcasm! Read on, if you will.) Type size reduced still more, deliberately – *Susie W8CGM, Ye Ed*

In the last issue I commented that the American National Red Cross announced it would change the requirements for volunteers to have a background checks performed. The change has now been made. As before, I have no intent to tell anyone if they should or should not agree to the RC background check; however, the following information may help you decide.

Disclosure supplied on *MyBackgroundcheck.com*: "American Red Cross (&quot;RED CROSS&quot;) will procure a consumer report and/or investigative consumer report on you for the limited purpose of evaluating you for a position with RED CROSS.

MyBackgroundCheck.com, LLC (&quot;MBC&quot;) an affil-iate of Pre-employ.com, or any agent of MBC, will obtain the report for RED CROSS. MyBackgroundCheck.com is located at 2301 Balls Ferry Road, Anderson, California 96007 and can be reached at 800=300-1821."

Sound good? Maybe not. Let's look deeper into this. The important "spanner in the works" may just be the required agreement to an "investigative consumer report."

Investigative consumer report? On its web site, the US Federal Trade Commission defines investigative consumer report as: "(e) The term "investigative consumer report" means a consumer report or portion thereof in which infor-mation on a consumer's character, general reputation, personal characteristics, or mode of living (ed note: read the last three words again) is obtained through personal interviews with neighbors, friends, or associates of the consumer reported on or with others with whom he is acquainted or who may have knowledge concerning any such items of information. However, such information shall not include specific factual information

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on a consumer's credit record obtained directly from a creditor of the consumer or from a consumer reporting agency when such information was obtained directly from a creditor of the consumer or from the consumer."

In other words, instead of calling the search a Manner of Living search, an Investigative Consumer Report that does the same thing and more than a manner of living report is now required. And by the way, an investigative consumer report can include doing a credit check unless the credit information has already been obtained from the person submitting to the check or from this person's creditor.

OK, so RC says it has changed its background checking for volunteers so that it no longer requires agreement to having credit and manner of living checks done. Instead, it says, it will only do consumer checks and investigative consumer checks which can include credit and manner of living checks. Is this another case of the more things change, the more they stay the same?

Who says politicians are the only people in Washington, DC who talk in circles and always say the same thing or nothing? Or am I the only person confused by this diffuse logic?

#### -- Hamvention(R) Designates --

Our friends at the Dayton Hamvention(R) have designated two ARRL luminaries for honors at this year's Hamvention. ARRL Past President Jim Haynie W5JBP has been named Amateur of the Year for his ser-vice to Amateur Radio before and during his 3-year term as head of the League. Also tapped from ARRL was ARRL Laboratory Manager Ed Hare W1RFI. Ed has been named to receive the Special Achievement Award for his long fight against radiofrequency interference. Most notable among his recent work, Ed tirelessly led the technical fight against BPL. The fact that faulty BPL systems are not rapidly spreading interference throughout the US is in large part due to his relentless battle. Knowing Jim and Ed personally, I especially applaud the Hamvention Committee for its outstanding selections. They fully deserve the respective honors.

#### -- Division Convention --

In planning for the Great Lakes Division Convention this September 22, its Cleveland area organizers polled area amateurs to see what they would like to have by way of seminars. To see what the results were, go to [www.2007glde.com/](http://www.2007glde.com/) to see a complete list of seminars, speakers, features, sponsors and biographies.

#### -- Tentative Travel Schedule for KI4LA and K8JE --

2007

Mar 18: Toledo Hamfest, Toledo - Jim

Mar 20: Owensboro ARC Dinner Meeting, Owensboro, KY - Jim

Mar 31: Elizabethtown (KY) Hamfest - Jim

Apr 14: QCWA Meeting, Cleveland, OH - Jim

Apr 21: Programs & Services Committee Meeting, Newington, CT - Jim

Apr 26: SUMCO ARES, Stow, OH - Jim

May 10: LARK, Howell, MI - Jim

May 18-20: Dayton Hamvention, Dayton, OH. - Gary & Jim

Jul 12: Mahoning Valley ARA, Youngstown, OH - Gary

Jun 17: Monroe Hamfest, Monroe, MI - Jim

Jul 19: Programs & Services Committee Meeting, Newington, CT - Jim

Jul 20-21: Board of Directors Meeting, Newington, CT - Gary & Jim

Jul 28: UP Hamfest, Escanaba, MI - Jim

*Rest of 2007 schedule next time --*

Do you want Vice Director Johnston KI4LA or me to attend a club function? **Let us know.** If we are available, we will attempt to accommodate you. Gary is at [ki4la@arrl.org]. I am at [k8je@arrl.org].

73, *Jim K8JE*

Jim Weaver K8JE, Director ARRL Great Lakes Division

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

#### **Ohio Section news** by Affiliated Clubs Coordinator Joanne Solak KJ30 (keep magnifier on!)

Whew! What a "rocky winter." Just like a roller-coaster. Warm, Cold, Warmer, Colder! Now as I write this column, it is snowing outside and an "unknown" amount of snow will be on the ground by morning! Where is Spring? I am told it is just around the corner. I ask, What corner? Well, I guess I just have to learn patience!

First off at this time I will say to you "Thank You" all for the input about the Existing Clubs splintering off into new groups. This topic has been an ever popular topic. After considering all the e-mails and letters, I have come to the

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conclusion the answer to this “all over” problem is COMMUNICATE--COMMUNICATE! If there is a problem within a Club, some members are “unhappy” with the “way” things are going, then communicate with the Club Leaders and try to come to a happy medium. Most Clubs have Trustees. These Trustees are, in most cases, the “referees” when there is a “problem” within a Club. Club Officers are just that... Club officers. They make sure the Club is “moving” in the direction that the majority of the membership wishes it to move. If there are “unhappy” members in the Club and they do not “like” the direction the club is moving, they can Communicate. Speak up, say what they are “unhappy” about and get together with Trustees and other Club Officers. Not doing this can cause “bad feelings” when these “unhappy” members move out on their own and start a group of their own. The cycle will then begin later on within THAT group and on and on. Isn't it ironic—the very thing we amateur radio operators are trained in, communications, sometimes can cause a lot of problems when we fail to Communicate! So that is MY WORDS on this problem. Learn to Communicate, express your wishes at Club meetings, especially election time. Remember, if you continue to put your faith in Club Leaders you are “unhappy” with, and constantly “vote” them into office to “lead” the Club but fail to Communicate and support them, then, if there are problems within the Club, and you are “unhappy” with the way things are “moving,” don't blame them, BLAME YOURSELF! Again, “thank you” for the input and I have summed it all up with My Words!

Skywarn Spotter Training is scheduled all over the Ohio Section. I encourage all amateur radio operators to attend the “training” in your area. Skywarn Training is not necessary every year, but you can use it as a refresher course.

8< snip

NOW..time for the Ohio Section SPOTLIGHT CLUB OF THE MONTH!

This month, the Spotlight shines on the WEST PARK RADIOPS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB!

West Park Radiops Amateur Radio Club formed in the fall of 1947 after a meeting was held at a site near West 130th and Bellaire. The club's name was taken from the West Park area of Cleveland which encompassed the general locale from where members were drawn. We believe Ralph Folkman, W8AF and Mike Bakos, W8LY (both police CW operators for the Cleveland Police Dept) were the original instigators for the formation of the club. We meet on the first and third Fridays of every month, in North Olmsted, at Ascension Lutheran Church at 8 p.m. Our interests cover just about every aspect of amateur radio EXCEPT repeaters. This is pretty much the same rule since the club was first formed. What we have done recently is to arrange the meetings so that the first Friday is the monthly business meeting, followed by any unannounced items of interest. On the third Friday we have an organized program. Our web page is <http://www.westparkradiops.org> where our information is, and also leads to our contest results page (managed by W8PN) and newsletter page. We also offer a club awards page with different kinds of awards (managed by W8IDM) for various ways of contacting our club on the radio, open to the world. We also list nearly all the club members ever known, for old timer searches, etc.

Our club call W8VM became our call after Ray Deemer W8VM passed away many years ago. Former ARRL directors Al Severson AB8P (SK) and Dick Egbert W8ETU (SK) came from our membership.

Former SCMs/SMs from our ranks include W8AJW Jack Siringier (SK) and N8AUH David Kersten. Dave was also the former editor of our newsletter, but there have been others including Norvell W8EIC, John K8DZR, Don W8IDM, George Hinds N8CIX (SK), Karl WA8NVW, and Glenn AF8C. I believe George was one of the founders of the Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association which runs the .88 and .76 repeaters in the area. John Huetter K8DZR was President and Editor for the QRP Club International when QRP was defined as 100 Watts input.

8<big snip

Public Service

West Park Radiops is a co-founder of the Cleveland Bicentennial Amateur Radio Committee that Bob W2THU started before 1996. Until recently disbanding, that group started and supported special event stations at the RainForest (K8ZOO) and the William G. Mather Museum (W8WGM).

We were the first club to use the APRS software in a Public Service Event in the Cleveland area, assisting the Lake Erie Wheelers Bicycle Club in their Four County Metric ride in July of 1994. Dave Freeman, KA8YQL, coordinated that event. We supported them for several summer rides with 2 meter mobile communications until they shut down their annual event. Some of our members, including Al N8CX, have also supported Pedal to the Point. In the late 1980s and early 1990s Glenn AF8C supported with radio communications in the annual Westlake Soccer tournaments.

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For many years we have supported the North Olmsted ALL SCOUTS WEEKEND by setting up and operating stations in the North Olmsted, Ohio, City Park on the first or second weekend of every June. A few scouts have become new hams after seeing our station in operation there. For four years we have also supported Bay Village scouting by putting up a radio station at their campout at Firelands Campgrounds in Lorain County in late October. In recent years West Park Radiops has provided people three times a year to support delivering food baskets to the poor in western Cleveland suburbs for the Lakewood Charitable Assistance Corporation. West Park members in the 1980s supported public service activity for the old Cleveland REVCO (now CVS) Marathon. Member AC8E, John Bostwick, helped to support emergency radio communications in the cleanup activities after the famous Johnstown (PA) flood of July 19, 1977.

8<snip

Contesting

We have won first place in many early day Field Day contests. In current contests, you will find that our club has more per capita contest entrants than most other Ohio clubs. We were recently honored by CQ Contest magazine by being named one of the top five contest clubs in the U.S. 8th district. Our member Don W8IDM holds position number 15 in K5TR's all time contest QSOs totals list on *kkn.net*.

VE Exams and Classes

We held free amateur radio classes for beginning amateurs in 1960s up to early 1980s. Marty Meade K8RKF was the "Elmer" to numerous young hams and he taught the classes in his basement. The club established the "Meade Award" given annually to hams who taught radio classes and helped newcomers get started in the hobby. This award was given in the mid 60's until mid 70's when we ran out of candidates because schools started charging rent for use of their rooms and so there were no more classes. Several West Park members have served as elmers and instructors. Anyone watching or listening to the Cleveland Indians baseball games has probably heard the drummer. He is one of our former students who passed his Novice exam from our training.

We conducted the first VE-coordinated amateur radio exams in Cuyahoga County, back in July, 1985. Liaison for those exams was Glenn AF8C. Jim Russell, W8BU (SK), was also one of the VEs.

CONGRATULATIONS to the West Park Radiops Amateur Radio Club! SPOTLIGHT Club of the Month! And my "special thanks" to Glenn Williams AF8C for his "help" in obtaining the Club Info.

If you would like to see your Club as Spotlight Club of the Month, just contact me and we will arrange to have your Club in the Spotlight.

Remember to FILE the ANNUAL REPORT FORM. If you haven't filed it yet, do it NOW!

If you have information for the Ohio Section Monthly news, get it to me by the tenth (10th) of the Month. Is your Club doing something "special"? One of your Club Members "do something exciting" and you want to share it with the Ohio Section? Get it to me ASAP.

Support your local amateur radio club. Pay your club membership dues as part of your support. Volunteer when volunteers are asked to participate in club events. You will be glad you did!

Congratulations to all the clubs filing the annual report form. Congratulations to all the new "amateurs" and all the license upgrades. Thank You VE Examiners in the Ohio Section for volunteering your time to support amateur radio through the VE system. To all of you who are the Club Leaders. Support the ARRL at every meeting. Welcome aboard to all the new ARRL affiliated Clubs. Remember the word "participate." Amateur radio is all about communications..whether it be, hamfests, VE Exams, swap and shops, nets, ARES, club meetings, club events such as Field Day, Public Service events etc. etc. volunteer, participate, support!

Well, that's it for this month. Until next time, remember, sometime, somewhere, when you least expect it, I will be seein' you! Until then, Best 73, *Joanne Solak KJ30*, ACC Ohio Section

**EVERY MORNING IS THE DAWN OF A NEW ERROR.** -- AFN Funny e-mail list, recently

## What's coming in April

Sun Apr 1 April Fool's Day, Palm Sunday  
Mon 2 First seder of Passover  
Tue 3 7:30 PM Club meeting at Salem Presbyterian Church, Mozart & Higbee in West-wood-Cheviot behind the Harrison-Boudinot White Castle  
Program: computer interfacing to radios by Richard Pestinger KC8RP  
Wed 4 9:00 PM Tech Talk, 146.67 – NCS needed!  
Thu 5 7:00 PM Theory classes, Salem Presbyterian Church  
Fri 6 8:00 PM Good Friday  
Amateur Radio Public Svc Corps, Hamilton Co Communications Ofc  
Conference Rm, 2377 Civic Ctr Dr – park in Bd of Educ lot  
Sun 8 Easter Sunday  
Tue 10 7:30 PM Technical Committee meeting likely, location TBA  
Wed 11 6:30 PM Oh-Ky-In Awards Dinner, The Farm, Anderson Ferry & Whitmore, Delhi  
9:00 PM Tech Talk, NCS Dale KC8HQS, 146.67  
Thu 12 7:00 PM Theory classes, Salem Presbyterian Church  
Sat 14 10:00 AM Oh-Ky-In Monthly Fox Hunt, hounds start at Mt Storm Park; talk-in to start on 146.67  
Wed 18 9:00 PM Tech Talk, NCS Dennis KB8ROA, 146.67  
Thu 19 7:00 PM Theory classes, Salem Presbyterian Church  
Fri 20 7:30 PM Queen City Emergency Net at Red Cross HQ, 820 Sycamore St downtown  
Wed 25 9:00 PM Tech Talk, NCS Brian K4BRI, 146.67  
Thu 26 7:00 PM Theory classes, Salem Presbyterian Church  
Tue May 1 7:30 PM Club meeting at Salem Presbyterian Church, Mozart & Higbee in West-wood-Cheviot behind the Harrison-Boudinot White Castle  
Program: Artimis

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I just want to let everyone know that **anyone can make a suggestion** on anything we do in this club. I don't care what it is. Field Day, classes, repeaters, anything. If you don't agree with the way something is being done, you talk to somebody on the board or bring it up at a meeting and it will be looked into. Just because you make a suggestion on something doesn't necessarily mean you have to take over that job or responsibility. That's what leaders are for and not everybody is a leader. If you don't agree with the way something is done and you leave the club, the club leadership may not know why. But if you bring it to our attention, at least we will have a chance to resolve the matter and make the club better for its members.

73,

*Dale KC8H2S*

Some historical research has revealed that Oh-Ky-In actually began in January 1960. Volume numbers and years of service have been inaccurately stated in varying degrees over the years. It's hoped that this is now fixed once for all, by making 2007 the 47<sup>th</sup> year of service on the mast page and Volume 47 on page 3.

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## OH-KY-IN 2007 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 Mgrs Mike Hornsby KC8YOM  
David Hornsby KC8YTJ  
TVI/RFI Dick Arnett WB4SUV, Chair  
Tech Talk Net Mgr Bruce Vanselow N8BV  
Silent Key Bruce Vanselow N8BV, Chair  
ARPS Representative Peter J Feichtner III KC8BZM  
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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 --presently open--  
Slow Scan TV Net Mgr Harry Davis WA8LOJ  
Fox Hunters Co-Chairs Dick Arnett WB4SUV  
Bob Frey WA6EZV  
Robotics Chair Dana Laurie WA8M  
DXpedition Coordinator Eric Neiheisel N8YC  
[n8yc@arrl.net] 513=598-1659  
Life Members Kenneth E Wolf N8WYC  
John W Hughes AI4DA

## News of members and students in recent classes

### Exams

Last exams were on March 24, the day after the last rules change. Of the 25 exams given by Oh-Ky-In, 21 passed (see below and Minutes). Paper upgrades were anticipated, but more tests were given than expected. 73, *Brian K4BR1*

### Upgrades

John Baird W9JRB Technician+ to General

### On the mend

Margie Kreimer KA8MRL after a stroke in January (!)

Pete Feichtner KC8BZM after eye surgery

Carol Hugentober WA8YL in rehab with a broken leg (nothing further at print deadline)

### Members on the move

Robert J Krupp Sr W8RJK from Price Hill to Delhi

Kenneth E Wolf N8WYC from Oregonia to Mt Lookout, administratively at least

### 10 Meters for newcomers

Just thought I would make everyone aware, there is a local 10 meter net held every Sunday at 8 PM, on 28.335 -- we welcome any and all checkins and we are just a local discussion net. Bill NM4A is the net control station -- please spread the word!

73, *Brian K4BR1*

*Copy deadline for May issue is Monday, April 16, 2007 (mtg is May 1)*