



# THE Q-FIVER

K8SCH



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



Our 49<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]

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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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)

## *January 2007 Volume 49 Number 1*

### **From the President**

I hope everybody had a fantastic Christmas & New Year’s!

The OH-KY-IN Amateur Radio Society is at a crossroads. We have been spinning our wheels on projects for too long.

I think this club is still the top club in the Greater Cincinnati area, but we could be doing better.

You may or may not know, but club membership has been steadily declining from year to year.

For 2007, we need to work on increasing club membership and club member participation. Come out to a monthly club meeting, help out with the Technical Committee, help set up and take down stations at Field Day, help with the Hamfest Committee. There is always stuff to do.

Get involved! Speak up! Make your voice heard! Let’s keep the OH-KY-IN Amateur Radio Society the best club in the area!

See you at the January club meeting!

73, Dale *K0872S*

### **Next meeting**

The next club meeting of the OH-KY-IN Amateur Radio Society will feature **Digital Scanners**.

That club meeting will take place **Tuesday, January 2, 2007** (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!

73, Tom *W08A*, cell # 513=919-8163

### **Minutes of members’ meeting, Tuesday, December 5, 2006**

Brian K4BRI called the meeting to order at 7:42 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance and self-introductions.

There were about 40 present, no guests.

Steve Brown KD8CUI passed his General written exam.

In Health and Welfare, Bob Kesse WB8W’s mother died the day before Thanksgiving. Joe Halpin W8JDU

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(not an Oh-Ky-In member) has become SK.

Brag: Bob WA6EZV said Emily K4MLE and others were in the new *CQ VHF*. The Sweepstakes sweep was achieved by 11 operators.

Brian K4BRI announced that nominations were closed at the last meeting. Nathan KA3MTT has the official ballots, which will be available after the candidates all speak.

Dale Vanselow KC8HQS, candidate for president, said he would like to increase membership and get more things done.

Tom McGill NG8A, one of the two candidates for vice-president, has been licensed for 23 years but was out of amateur radio for 10 years. He would like to contribute to the club and continue its operation.

Mike Hornsby KC8YOM, the other vice-presidential candidate, has been in amateur radio for 3 years. He has spent a lot of time in computers (“the dark side,” he said, tongue in cheek). He’d like to see more on antennas, computers’ relations to amateur radio and EchoLink.

Rick Haltermon KD4PYR, sole candidate for treasurer, said he’d hate to lose to “none of the above.” He implemented a budget 3 years ago and will present the 2007 proposed budget in January. He emphasized that this *will* be his final year as treasurer; 5 years is the logical maximum. He invited anyone willing to run for treasurer next year to understudy him in 2007, among other things to be introduced to the Ohio non-profit organizations form.

Phil Smith KG8AP, sole candidate for corresponding secretary, said he expects to scan the obituaries, send cards and handle any other correspondence.

Brian DeYoung K4BRI, standing for recording secretary, said none of these are lifetime positions. He hopes to encounter new ideas and some turnover.

There are 4 candidates for 3 directors’ positions.

Bruce Vanselow N8BV, incumbent, is an Extra, has been a ham and Oh-Ky-In member for 22 years. He promises to “do the best we can and what the members want.”

Brian Fulmer KC8FJN was not present; however Brian K4BRI described him as “technically competent.”

Emily DeYoung K4MLE has been a ham for 4 years and is a Technician. “Morse is hard,” she said. Emily expressed the thought that teens and kids need to be more involved in amateur radio. People should also have better ideas for door prizes.

Nathan Ciufu KA3MTT has been a ham for 23 years and has enjoyed being on the board. He is the current membership chair, and welcomes ideas and suggestions.

Break at 7:59 PM for members to get their ballots; 8:03 PM last call for completed ballots. Fred K9OHE, Lynn WD8JAW and Bob WB8JHT agreed to serve as tellers.

Regular business meeting began at 8:04 PM.

Brian K4BRI thanked Dale KC8HQS for handling hospitality.


Dick WB4SUV moved to accept the minutes of last meeting as printed in the *Q-Fiver*, Bob WA6EZV second, motion carried.

Nathan KA3MTT reported 126 members for 2006. 2007 dues are due; applications are available here or may be downloaded off the club website.

Rick KD4PYR reported for the treasury that nothing was out of the ordinary this time. Net income - \$2049.88. See him for questions.

Bruce N8BV had nothing to report for Silent Keys.

Brian K4BRI reported on recent technical committee activity. A climb ensued at .625 in Withamsville; weather was fine, tower interesting, Brian was up it for 5 hours. All seems to be going reasonably well there. That site has 2 meters run with hardline and 440 run with 9913. Repeater is not yet back from Vertex. There were 2 days of work at .625.



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.925 is down because of the power amp, but the local oscillator is working great. Bob WA6EZV got the radio there and brought it to Brian, who reworked it (27 hr on a dummy load). Brian expressed his dislike of Vertex, and desire to finally get off the technical committee. A committee meeting should be held this month. .67 is doing reasonably well.

There was no fox hunt in November. Phil KG8AP will hide this month.

The K8SCH DXpedition cards were not yet done. Filling-in meeting depends on their availability.

Bruce N8BV reported that Tech Talk back on .67 seems to be working fairly well. Rick KD4PYR said there were 3 good questions last week when he was NCS.

Sort of harking back to technical, Bob WA6EZV said he hoped to have .925 up this weekend with any luck.

No liaisons report, Pete KC8BZM was not present.

Dale KC8HQS reported for the website that pictures from the .625 climb will be on there soon.

The tellers' committee returned, but results will be announced later in the meeting.

Brian K4BRI said Sweeps at his place was pretty good, with 11 operators. They worked a full 24 hours, made 425 contacts in 80 sections. Last 3 were South Carolina, North Dakota and Alaska. Nothing moves as slowly as the grey line! At that, it took 3 ops to get Alaska; they could have gone for it during a pileup on Saturday but didn't. Brian suggested the club should go for points next year. Rick KD4PYR has the info for mug or pin orders; see him or Brian to recompense when the order comes in.

Bob WA6EZV reported on the Thanksgiving parade. There was great weather, the biggest crowd ever and many last-minute adjustments. Brian commented that he thought the procedure was well done. Lynn WD8JAW said the mounted patrol was a late addition, which they put after Tom Streicher the grand marshal. Rick KD4PYR said the association that runs the parade usually sends us money every other year.

Other business:

Bruce N8BV commented that the ARRL 10 meter contest will be this weekend. Brian added that there are good contests coming up to work; sunspot cycle 23 has begun.

In DX, VU7LD Lakshadweep is on now.

Sam KJ8K said he placed an ad in both the *Q-Fiver* and *Mike & Key* for a HyGain vertical that looks like a tower. It cost \$800, will sell for \$200. A work party will be needed to take it down; it's out near Western Hills Country Club.

Election results:

President, Dale Vanselow KC8HQS

Vice-President, in a close vote, Tom McGill NG8A

Treasurer, Rick Haltermon KD4PYR

Corresponding Secretary, Phil Smith KG8AP

Recording Secretary, Brian DeYoung K4BRI

Directors: Bruce Vanselow N8BV, Emily DeYoung K4MLE, Nathan Ciufu KA3MTT

Brian thanked the candidates for running and members present for voting.

Sam KJ8K had a query about his G5RV antenna answered in "Ask the Doctor" in the November *QST*.

The .625 climb should be available in a slide show.

Jim W8IOA won an unrecorded amount in split-the-pot.

Larry Linkmeyer W9CIT would have won \$30 in the member incentive had he been present. As he was not, the amount will be \$35 next time.

Meeting adjourned by general consent at 8:25 PM for pizza.

Respectfully submitted, *Susie Scott N8CQM*, Recording Secretary

### **Tower climb**

I just wanted to pass along to the membership the great work party that we had at the 146.625 tower site this Saturday (November 25). Everyone involved did a tremendous amount of work, but hats off to Brian K4BRI who was standing on the tower at 110 feet for a little over 4 hours! Check out the pictures he took at <http://currsoft.com/ohkyin/climb>  
Great job everyone!

73, *Nathan KA3MTT*

### **ARLB030 (Dec 16, 2006) FCC to Drop Morse Testing for All Amateur License Classes**

In an historic move, the FCC has acted to drop the Morse code requirement for all Amateur Radio license classes. The Commission today adopted a Report and Order (R&O) in WT Docket 05-235. In a break from typical practice, the FCC only issued a public notice at or about the close of business and not the actual Report and Order, so some details -- including the effective date of the R&O -- remain uncertain. The public notice is located at [http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs\\_public/attachmatch/DOC-269012A1.pdf](http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-269012A1.pdf).

Also today, the FCC also adopted an Order on Reconsideration, in WT Docket 04-140 -- the "omnibus" proceeding -- agreeing to modify the Amateur Radio rules in response to an ARRL request to accommodate automatically controlled narrowband digital stations on 80 meters in the wake of rule changes that became effective today at 12:01 AM Eastern Time. The Commission said it will carve out the 3585 to 3600 kHz frequency segment for such operations. Prior to the long-awaited action on the Morse code issue, Amateur Radio applicants for General and higher class licenses had to pass a 5 WPM Morse code test to operate on HF. The Commission said today's R&O eliminates that requirement for General and Amateur Extra applicants.

"This change eliminates an unnecessary regulatory burden that may discourage current Amateur Radio operators from advancing their skills and participating more fully in the benefits of Amateur Radio," the FCC said. The ARRL had

asked the FCC to retain the 5 WPM for Amateur Extra class applicants only. The FCC proposed earlier to drop the requirement across the board, however, and it held to that decision in today's R&O.

Perhaps more important, the FCC's action in WT Docket 05-235 appears to put all Technician licensees on an equal footing: Once the R&O goes into effect, holders of Technician class licenses will have equivalent HF privileges, whether or not they've passed the 5 WPM Element 1 Morse examination. The FCC said the R&O in the Morse code docket would eliminate a disparity in the operating privileges for the Technician and Technician Plus class licensees. Technician licensees without Element 1 credit (*ie*, Tech Plus licensees) currently have operating privileges on all amateur frequencies above 30 MHz.

"With today's elimination of the Morse code exam requirements, the FCC concluded that the disparity between the operating privileges of Technician Class licensees and Technician Plus Class licensees should not be retained," the FCC said in its public notice. "Therefore, the FCC, in today's action, afforded Technician and Technician Plus licensees identical operating privileges."

The wholesale elimination of a Morse code requirement for all license classes ends a longstanding national and international regulatory tradition in the requirements to gain access to Amateur Radio frequencies below 30 MHz. The first no-code license in the US was the Technician ticket, instituted in 1991. The question of whether or not to drop the Morse requirement altogether has been the subject of often-heated debate over the past several years, but the handwriting has been on the wall. A number of countries, including Canada, no longer require applicants for an Amateur Radio license to pass a Morse code test to gain HF operating privileges. The list has been increasing regularly. The FCC said today's R&O in WT Docket 05-235 comports with revisions to the international Radio Regulations resulting from the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 (WRC-03). At that gathering, delegates agreed to authorize each country to determine whether or not to require that applicants demonstrate Morse code proficiency in order to qualify for an Amateur Radio license with privileges on frequencies below 30 MHz.

Typically, the effective date of an FCC Order is 30 days after it appears in the *Federal Register*. That would mean the Morse requirement and the revised 80-meter segment for automatically controlled digital stations would likely not go into effect until late January 2007.

The ARRL will provide any additional information on these important Part 97 rule revisions as it becomes available.

### **DX Plans from *The ARRL Letter* v25 #47, Dec 1, 2006**

Meanwhile, a second Lakshadweep foray has returned to its original plans to commence in mid-January instead of December, thus avoiding the potential for on-air conflict. The second VU7 DXpedition <<http://www.vu7.in/>>, under the auspices of the National Institute for Amateur Radio (NIAR), will kick off with a three-day hamfest January 15, and the DXpedition will continue for approximately 10 days. The NIAR DXpedition plans to operate as VU7RG, in honor of the late Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, VU2RG.

NIAR says "well-known, experienced operators" staffing three operating sites will "work closely together to avoid multiple stations on the air using overlapping frequencies."

Concerns arose within the DX community in October after NIAR had rescheduled its event from January to December, and it appeared the two DXpeditions would have multiple stations on the air at the same time during early December. (Lakshadweep is *not* indexed in the Ntl Geographic World Atlas. - *Ye Ed*)

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From: Howard S Bacon [mailto:howardbacon1@juno.com]

Sent: Tuesday, December 19, 2006 7:06 PM

To: [k8sch@arrl.net] Subject: Extra Help

Hello:)

Well I made it to General, and now I am working on EXTRA Class. I would like to know if there is anyone who will be willing to donate some time for me to learn the Math equations needed to pass the extra class, someone who has passed the extra class and could recommend a brand of calculator and be a study buddy on the math here in the Cincinnati area.

Persons interested please contact: Howard Bacon KC4CIQ 513=761-0358 Thanks If you can help Howard, please email him direct or call him at the number above 73 and Merry Christmas! Dale KC8H2S

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## Contests

January 2007

1 ARRL Straight Key Night; New Year's Snowball Contest (Belarus); SARTG New Year RTTY Contest; AGCW Happy New Year Contest, CW

6-7 ARRL RTTY Roundup; Kid's Day, Phone; DARC 10 Meter Contest, CW & SSB; EUCW 160 Meter Contest, CW

13-18 NA QSO Party, CW; NAQCC Monthly Straight Key Sprint; Winter Field Day, all modes; Midwinter Contest, CW & SSB; Hunting Lions in the Air, CW & Phone; 070 PSKFest, Penn-Ohio DX Society (PODXS)

20-22 ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes; NA QSO Party, Phone; HA DX Contest, CW; LZ Open Championship; International United Teenager Contest, CW & SSB; UK DX RTTY Contest

27-28 CQ WW 160 Meter Contest, CW; BARTG RTTY Sprint; REF French Contest, CW; UBA Contest, Phone; Classic Exchange, AM & SSB

How better to keep warm in the cold winter months than a few contests? For more information see *QST*, *CQ*, or <http://www.arrl.org/contests/>

73, *Dan K7AAU*

## Ohio Section January 2007 NEWS

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2007!! After all the hustle and bustle of getting ready for the BIG DAY I suppose most of us would just like to relax and remember all the memories 2006 brought to us (good and bad) and hope that 2007 will treat us BETTER! And I suppose most of us will do just that. For those of us that will take that moment or moments to look back on 2006, remember, 2007 brings us more hopes and dreams and we have the chance to start all over again into the new year. And doing so remember to make time for Amateur Radio and the ARRL and most of all, your local club.

Speaking of Local Clubs! The time is NOW to check your Club records and make sure you have filed that ANNUAL REPORT FORM! EVEN if nothing has changed within your club Officers, you must file that annual report form yearly, changes or no changes! AND if your club plans to have a Hamfest..notify New-ington and get your Hamfest ARRL approved so that you can receive all the benefits an ARRL sanctioned hamfest event can receive. AND one of the most heard complaints last year about hamfests was I didn't know when it was!!!!!! So the word to the wise is ADVERTISE, ADVERTISE, **ADVERTISE!!**

Make every effort to put your hamfest date and information out front! Remember to invite League Officials. The Ohio Cabinet has many officials who will attend your event ... just ask!! There is a lot of good information on the ARRL Web about all of this...visit it NOW!

Because of the Holidays, there is no particular Spotlight Club of the Month for January! So, I would like to Spotlight ALL OHIO AFFILIATED CLUBS! More Clubs brought their annual information up-to-date than in previous years. Keep it up! Keep current! ARRL Affiliated Clubs actually keeps The ARRL on the move. It is so important, NOW, more than ever to support the ARRL! And the Ohio Section!

I would like to THANK all of the Ohio Affiliated Clubs that participated in the Spotlight Club of the Month program!

If your Club would like to participate just inform me, send me the information, and we can Spot-light Your Club!

Thanks for another exciting year in the Ohio Section! Thanks for all your support to Amateur Radio, your Club, other

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clubs, and most of all the ARRL. I feel “we” have accomplished a lot here “accomplishments” that Clubs have experienced, much more than I could ever mention in this column, but this reminds each and every one of us that the new year 2007 will be even more of a challenge to us as Ohio Affiliated Clubs!

Keep your Club records up to date. If you are a Special Service Club, make sure you do not let your status lapse. It is important for you as a Club to keep this most important status!

We all owe Ron Griffin N8AEH, ASM, a big hand for another year of the *Ohio Section Journal*. And I especially “thank” the Findlay Radio Club for all their assistance in getting the Ohio Section Affiliated Club news out in a timely manner through the *OSJ*. We owe PIC Scott Yonally N8SY for the Ohio Section Web Site, which is a great service to all members of the Ohio Section..make sure you make use of the link to area club newsletters.

THE OHIO SECTION IS ON THE MOVE!!! My objective is to get as many “clubs” publicity as I can possibly achieve this year 2007! Please inform me of any “events” your club will be sponsoring and any Club News you would like me to highlight in the Ohio Section News. The information has to reach me by the 12th of the month to get published in the next month’s news.

The ARRL announced a new monthly newsletter available via e-mail at no charge to ARRL Members. This newsletter is designed to “invigorate” Amateur Radio Clubs and their activities. If you would like to sub-scribe to the newsletter you must first be registered on the Members Only Web site <http://www.arrl.org/members/> You will have an opportunity during registration to sign up for e-mail delivery of the *ARRL Club News*. (just follow the links).

I was happy to receive a copy of the *Pioneer Radiator* last month. This newsletter is the newsletter of the Pioneer Amateur Radio Fellowship Club. This club holds its meetings at the Akron Baptist Temple on Manchester Road in Akron, Ohio. A couple activities of this club were the Harvest Food Drive, their Christmas dinner at the Hartville Kitchen, and the members were planning a great Holiday Season! Joy Spencer KA8TDF keeps this club on its “toes” . Joy is the club treasurer.

The Sandusky Valley ARC reports their club has completed all the club projects for 2006. They have elected new officers for 2007 and are in the process of preparing 2007 events and projects!

The Massillon ARC assisted with the 52nd Annual Massillon Holiday Parade. It is reported that this parade brought to a close the MARC public service season. This parade is the oldest public service event that is handled by the club.

Over 40 years and counting, Santa arrived in the city in no small part “thanks” to the MARC!

These are just a few of the Ohio Section ARRL Affiliated Clubs that keep me on their mailing lists for their newsletter. If I am not on your newsletter mailing list, place me on it NOW! This way I can receive all the information about your club activities, etc. You can mail me, E-mail me, whatever...just get me your newsletter. And if you have any information about your club that you want to inform the Ohio Section about, do not hesitate to inform me BY THE 12TH OF THE MONTH PRIOR TO YOUR EVENT! If you would like your Club to be Spotlight Club of the Month, inform me ASAP.

I would like to take this opportunity to “THANK” The Head Gadinza, Joe Phillips K8QOE, also known as the Ohio Section Manager, for all his “support” to me as Affiliated Club Coordinator during the last year and into this year 2007! It is with his “guidance” and “support” that I can successfully call the year 2006 a successful year as ACC Ohio. And, I look forward to this year 2007 as an equally successful as ACC OHIO!!

Well, that’s it for this time around. All Best Wishes to You and Yours from Me and Mine for a Happy, Healthy, and Prosperous New Year 2007!

Until next time, remember when you least expect it, I could be seeing YOU!

Best 73, *Joanne Solak KJ30*. ACC Ohio

**OHIO SECTION JANUARY HAMFESTS;** see page 13

**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-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: Frank Piper KI8GW, Pickerington; ACC: Joanne Solak KJ30, Mantua; TC: Tom Holmes N8ZM, Tipp City; PIC: Scott Yonally N8SY, Mansfield; OOC: Rick Swain KK8O, Galion; SGL: Nick Pittner WB8TMF, West Jefferson.

**OHIO SECTION NOVEMBER TRAFFIC REPORTS:** if you really want these, please go to [www.iarc.ws/ohio](http://www.iarc.ws/ohio)

### **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:** 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

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

### **Ohio ARES districts realigned; 9-district map included effective 1.1.07**

The realignment of the Ohio ARES map, which has been discussed the past year, has been finalized. The changes are effective January 1, 2007. A realignment proposal was first introduced by former SEC John Chapman WB8INY during the 2006 Ohio Section ARES conference. This new plan aligned the Ohio ARES districts with those of the Ohio Citizen Corps Lead Volunteer Center Districts, which coincided with Homeland Security districts.

But any hams commented that there was little to input asked for by the hams of the section, and there were many questions left unanswered, such as the large size of a few districts (one being 18 counties), compared to one small district (5 counties). Plus I found there was no evidence that the previous SEC had taken into account any effect this new mapping would have on existing structures such as SKYWARN, Red Cross districts, local EMA plans, etc. So, in very short time of taking over as SEC on June 1, I made a statement that no redistricting would be done without further study. A few weeks later, I made another statement that NO redistricting would happen in 2006, so I would have time to study the plan with my DECs, and the Ohio Citizen Corps.

I was on a mission to not implement a plan for implementation's sake, but to develop a plan that would work within the Ohio section that would have the most benefit for all served agencies, and have "buy-in" from the ARES volunteers who would have to work within the plan.

An Internet chat group was set up for myself and the DECs to share files and have open discussions. Places I visited to give talks (Madison County ARC (London), Voice Of Aladdin Hamfest (Columbus), Northwest Area SKYWARN (Norwalk), Clark County ARES (Springfield), and Portage County Hamfest) always included a discussion on the proposed plans, and requested feedback. Much feedback was given by the DECs, several county EMA directors, and even the office of the Cleveland National Weather Service.

The final plan came to my mind after input from all the meetings I visited, and the discussions with the DECs on the chat group. It was apparent that several of the larger sections could not get away from being covered by multiple DECs. But, if we had left things the way they were, several of the Ohio Citizen Corps districts would have been overlapped by up to 3 DECs! With this new plan, many of the larger districts will be covered by no more than 2 DECs, making it easier for coordination of events within those Ohio Citizen Corps districts.

**The new ARES district map** (actual map wouldn't reproduce well here -- *Ye Ed.*)

The new Ohio map of ARES districts is available on the Ohio Section Web Site >[www.iarc.ws/ohio](http://www.iarc.ws/ohio)>. It shows that we are changing the district boundaries to align with the Lead Volunteer Centers of the Ohio Citizen Corps and the Regional Medical Response System, while still supporting existing SKYWARN re-reporting plans. This new plan also falls in agreement with the National Incident Management System, main-taining 8 to 11 counties per District Emergency Coordinator.

The new district plans, with county listings, are as follows:

**District 1--WB8HHZ/DEC:** Cuyahoga-Erie-Hancock-Huron-Lorain-Lucas-Ottawa-Sandusky-Seneca-Wood

**District 2--N8WBD/DEC:** Allen-Auglaize-Defiance-Fulton-Henry-Mercer-Paulding-Putnam-Van Wert--Williams

**District 2--N8WBD/DEC:** Allen-Auglaize-Defiance-Fulton-Henry-Mercer-Paulding-Putnam-Van Wert--Williams

**District 3--W8ILC/DEC:** Champaign-Clark-Darke-Greene-Miami-Montgomery-Preble-Shelby

**District 4--N8TVU/DEC:** Adams-Brown-Butler-Clermont-Clinton-Hamilton-Highland-Warren

**District 5--KB8WPZ/DEC:** Ashtabula-Carroll-Columbiana-Geauga-Lake-Mahoning-Portage-Stark-Summit-Trumbull-Tuscarawas

**District 6--KC8GNL/DEC:** Ashland-Crawford-Holmes-Knox-Marion-Medina-Morrow-Richland-Wayne-Wyandot

**District 7--W8UL/DEC:** Delaware-Fairfield-Fayette-Franklin-Hardin-Licking-Logan-Madison-Pickaway-Union

**District 8--N8SUZ/DEC:** Athens-Gallia-Hocking-Jackson-Lawrence-Meigs-Perry-Pike-Ross-Scioto-Vinton

**District 9--W8FHF/DEC:** Belmont-Coshocton-Guernsey-Harrison-Jefferson-Monroe-Morgan-Muskingum-Noble-Washington

This new district plan will take effect beginning **January 1, 2007**. I am asking all DEC's to work together to make the transition smooth, and to have all affected counties information transferred prior to the January

1 date to the best of their ability.

One of the first actions I had taken upon accepting the SEC position was a promise to the Amateur Radio operators of the Ohio Section, that I would not implement a plan without getting buy-in from the DEC's and

EC's of the Ohio Section. I'm proud to say that the teamwork within the Section allowed all of us to come up with a "Win-Win" solution, which will allow the Ohio Section ARES to better serve all of the served agencies within Ohio.

By *Frank Piper K9SGW*, Ohio Section Emergency Coordinator

### **Weaver's words -- sleighbells ring**

ARRL Membership Up Slightly      It's Your Turn -- A Poll -- For GLD ARRL Members, Only

BPL, an Observation & the Reason    The Making of the ARRL Budget, Follow-up

Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukah & Happy New Year      Tentative Travel Schedule

#### **ARRL Membership Up Slightly**

The membership in ARRL for the Great Lakes Division was up slightly in August. There are 12,119 members in the Division. This is the good part. The not so good part is that membership over the past year has decreased in spite of the August growth. What does this mean to you as a member?

The decrease during the past year means little . . . for now. If this continues it will mean a lot.

I'm not a pessimist. I see greater interest in ARRL and Amateur Radio among members during recent years.

Ultimately, this greater interest will translate into greater membership -- if we can maintain and expand the interest.

Frankly, we need more members . . . and more hams . . . if we are to keep ARRL and Amateur Radio strong. We need more members if we are to be able to develop a strong voice with Congress, the FCC, the NTIA, the agencies we serve . . . and, of course . . . our local and state governments. We need more members if we are to be able to maintain the many services ARRL provides to us, the members. We need more members if we are to be able to keep Amateur Radio alive.

As is true also for any membership organization, members are critical in getting new members. You name a membership organization and I'll prove it relies upon current members in large part to get new members.

For ARRL and most member organizations, this means that you, our current members, need to be advertising agents on our behalf.

I wouldn't expect any of you to take out full-page ads in your local newspaper to promote ARRL, but I hope each of you recognize that it is to your own benefit to guide new hams as well as non-member older hams to join ARRL. If you recognize this benefit, I hope you will actively share information on ARRL, what ARRL does to safeguard Amateur Radio and therefore the reasons amateurs should want to belong to the League with new or older amateurs who do not belong.

**It's your turn -- a poll**      --- For Great Lakes Division ARRL Members, Only ---

I realize I am about to cause a lot of work for myself, but I want your help. If you've read my newsletters with any degree of care, you know I am on the ARRL Administration & Finance Committee. This standing committee of the

Board of Directors monitors how the ARRL staff at HQ runs the day-to-day operation of the League and how they spend our (your and my) dues money and donations. A&F has been working hard for years to make certain you and I

get our money's worth, and that we get increasingly more bang for our buck each year.

Because we seek perfection (but who among us can achieve this?), I would like your views about how you believe ARRL should use your (and my) dues and donations dollars. What I ask you to do is to give me your answers to the following three questions:

1. What are the things ARRL does now that you want it to continue to do? Don't know what all we do? Go to *arrl.org* and check this out.
2. What are the things ARRL does now that you want it to discontinue doing?
3. What are the things ARRL is not doing now that you want us to begin doing?

In short, I'm looking for input on how you want ARRL to spend your and my dues and donation money. For example, should we continue to sponsor the awards program (e.g., DXCC, WAS and their variations)? The ARES program? Equipment reviews? Sanctioning and publicizing conventions, hamfests/swaps and meetings? Promote licensing classes and exam sessions? NTS? The Public Information (Public Relations) program? Maintain the Affiliated Clubs program and distribute information to support clubs? Develop, print and distribute comic books (at no charge) to recruit youngsters into Amateur Radio? Pay for Amateur Radio public announcements on national TV? I believe you understand what I am after.

When you answer the three questions, please keep the following in mind:

1. **The best interest of all of Amateur Radio.** Please don't focus only on your favorite or least favorite operating practices.
2. **Be brief in stating your answers.** I need the answers to be brief so I can tabulate them and understand the sense of the Division members before the mid-January Board of Directors meeting. If I need a better understanding of the reasoning behind answers, I'll ask for it.
3. **Sign your suggestion with your name and call sign.** At this moment, this request is limited, only to ARRL members and only in the Great Lakes Division which is the only Division I represent.

Please understand it is not helpful simply to say we should cut the budget ... without suggesting, seriously, how you believe we could do this.

Because I expect many answers to this request, I very possibly will not be able to send a reply to each of them as I usually do. Even so, I promise I will read every answer I receive. Long answers will most likely be put at the bottom of the stack and read only after all concise answers have been read, but they will be read.

#### **BPL, an observation & the reason**

I thought you'd be interested to know that more power companies have dropped plans for developing BPL systems than are announcing plans for new systems. I am aware of the following companies that have terminated on-going operations or cancelled plans to develop systems: PPL Electric, United Illuminating, Southern Maryland Electric, Idaho Power and Rochester Power.

Why, then, is ARRL pursuing a court battle to force FCC to justify its recent ruling on BPL? Isn't BPL going to die a natural death as it is?

The answer to the last question is yes. BPL can be expected to fade away from most locations, at least, because it offers very little to consumers and to providers. The only people who really benefit from it are the ones who sell the equipment to power companies. So, why spend thousands upon thousands of dollars to continue to fight it?

The reason is that the FCC ruling does more than affect BPL. Said in only a little overly simplistic manner, this ruling sets the precedent that non-licensed systems that merely unintentionally radiate radio waves take precedence over services that are licensed to function by intentionally radiating radio waves. This means that any future system that comes along and "incidentally" radiates and causes interference to any licensed service has the upper hand over the licensed service with which it interferes.

As a result, the bad FCC ruling that was made with BPL as the cause behind the ruling will continue to exist to haunt us and other licensed services long after BPL disappears.

#### **The making of the ARRL budget, follow-up**

To fill you in further on how the ARRL budget is developed, the next-to-last step has just been taken. The budget as it was developed by HQ staff was first presented to the Administration & Finance (A&F) Committee of the Board of Directors in mid-November at a Committee meeting in Newington. During this meeting it was cussed and discussed

for about 8 hours. The Committee, it is the fiscal watch-dog for the Board, requested changes and justification. After the meeting, Chief Financial Officer Barry Shelley N1VXY led the HQ crew in developing the final proposal. I received this final proposal this morning (Dec 11). Along with the other members of the Committee I will review it thoroughly before going to Newington in mid-January. The final budget proposal will be discussed, against at another A&F meeting the day before the Board meeting begins. With or without additional changes, a final budget proposal will be approved by the Committee. This approved proposal will be presented to the Board the following day for final adoption. A lot of time, effort, thought and changing goes into the making of annual ARRL budgets.

### **Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukah, Happy New Year**

I wish each of you a very merry and holy Christmas and Hanukah. May the blessings of the season be with you and your families throughout the year. For members who observe Ramadan, I apologize for failing to send my greetings for this holy month. I admit to being relatively poorly educated as to the timing of Ramadan from year to year. I hope you, too, had a very peaceful and holy season. The best of everything to everyone in the coming year.

### **Tentative travel schedule for K8JE**

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Jan. 9: 20/9 Meeting, Canfield, OH.               | Apr 26: SUMCO ARES, Stow, OH.                   |
| Jan. 13: SW OH Digital Symposium, Middletown, OH. | May 18-20: Dayton Hamvention, Dayton, OH.       |
| Jan. 18: A&F Meeting, Newington, CT.              | Jul 18-19: Bd of Directors Mtg, Newington, CT.  |
| Jan 19-20: Bd of Directors Mtg, Newington, CT.    | Aug 17-18: ARRL Ntl Convention, Huntsville, AL. |
| Feb 11: Mansfield Hamfest, Mansfield, OH.         | Sep 9: Findlay Hamfest, Findlay, OH.            |
| Apr 14: QCWA Meeting, Cleveland, OH.              | Sep 22: Gt Lakes Div Convention, Cleveland, OH. |
| Apr 20: KY Colonel ARC, Bowling Green, KY.        | Sep 23: Cleveland Hamfest, Cleveland, OH.       |

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

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## **Hamfests &c.**

## **January 2007**

Jan 13 21<sup>st</sup> SW OH Digital & Technical Symposium, Middletown OH  
Symposium will be from 9 AM to approximately 4:30 PM EST, Saturday, January 13, 2007 in Thesken Hall, on the Middletown Campus of Miami University, Middletown, Ohio.  
This year's program is still in the works, so please consider what you'd like to see as a presentation. If you have a favorite which you would like to present, please let us know by contacting [k4zle@arrl.net].

So far the proposed topics are:

- D-Star Introduction, Mark Thompson WB9QZB
- WinLink 2K in SW Ohio, Greg Zach WG8Z
- A PSK-31 Audio Beacon Project, Jim Everly K8IKE
- Using a Wide Band Noise Generator, Jay Slough K4ZLE
- The SoftRock Software Defined Radio Project, Tony Parks KB9YIG
- AMSAT update, Gerd Schrick WB8IFM, and Steve Coy K8UD
- 10 GHz EME project at VOA Museum, Mike Murphy KA8ABR
- ARRL news and views by Ohio SM, Joe Phillips K8QOE, and Great Lakes Division Director, Jim Weaver K8JE

Other potential presentations are in the wings, such as an AMSAT update, a microwave communications demonstration and more. As you can see, this year's program should be very informative with topics that are state of the art and have immediate real world application. Come meet the folks who are making things happen technically in our hobby, both locally and nationally. There is no charge for attending the symposium. A box lunch will be available on site.

Updates to the program will be posted here on the website, [www.swohdigi.org](http://www.swohdigi.org), so please check in from time to time.

For further information please contact Jay Slough [K4ZLE@arrl.net], 513=779-1747

Jan 14 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Nelsonville OH Hamfest, sponsored by Sunday Creek AR Federation at Tri-County Career Ctr, 15676 SR 691. Public 8 AM-2 PM. Amateur Radio & electronics equipment, vendors, VE sessions, special guest ARRL ASM Connie Hamilton N8IO, refreshments. Talk-in 147.15. \$6 gate. Info: Jermamy Duncan KC8QDQ, 740=593-3451, [kc8qdq@hughes.net], [www.scarfclub.org](http://www.scarfclub.org)

Jan 28 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Tusco ARC Hamfest, Wallick Auction House, 965 N Wooster Ave, Strasburg OH. Public 8 AM. Dealers, free parking. Talk-in 146.73 (71.9 Hz). \$5 gate. Info: Gary Green K8WFN, 740=922-4454, [tuscofest07@hotmail.com], [noard.com/tuscoarc.htm](http://noard.com/tuscoarc.htm)

Hamfest listings mostly courtesy of ARRL & QST

### What's coming in January

- Mon Jan 1 New Year's Day
- Tue Jan 2 7:30 PM Club meeting at Salem Presbyterian Church, Mozart & Higbee in Westwood-Cheviot behind the Harrison-Boudinot White Castle  
Program: Digital scanners
- Wed Jan 3 9:00 PM Tech Talk, 146.67, NCS Carol WA8YL
- Fri Jan 5 7:30 PM Amateur Radio Public Svc Corps, Hamilton Co Communications Ofc Conference Rm, 2377 Civic Ctr Dr – park in Bd of Educ lot
- Tue Jan 9 7:00 PM Technical Cmte meeting if needed, location to be announced
- Wed Jan 10 9:00 PM Tech Talk, 146.67, NCS Dale KC8HQS
- Thu Jan 10 7:30 PM Hamfest Cmte meeting at Carol WA8YL's
- Sat Jan 13 10:00 AM Oh-Ky-In Monthly Fox Hunt, hounds start at Mt Storm Park; talk-in to start on 146.67
- Mon Jan 15 Martin Luther King Day (legal holiday)
- Wed Jan 17 9:00 PM Tech Talk, 146.67, NCS Dennis KB8ROA
- Fri Jan 19 7:30 PM Queen City Emergency Net at Red Cross HQ, 820 Sycamore St downtown
- Tue Jan 23 7:30 PM Board of Directors' meeting, location to be announced
- Wed Jan 24 9:00 PM Tech Talk, 146.67, NCS Brian K4BRI
- Wed Jan 31 9:00 PM Tech Talk, 146.67, NCS Rick KD4PYR
- Fri Feb 2 7:30 PM Amateur Radio Public Svc Corps, Hamilton Co Communications Ofc Conference Rm, 2377 Civic Ctr Dr – park in Bd of Educ lot
- Tue Feb 6 7:30 PM Club meeting at Salem Presbyterian Church, Mozart & Higbee in Westwood-Cheviot behind the Harrison-Boudinot White Castle  
Program: to be announced



## 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

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Greetings! I hope everyone had a great Christmas and New Year this year and nobody had too much indigestion by the end of the night! I just wanted to remind everyone that dues for 2007 can be mailed to me at my home address (which conveniently appears on the membership application), or you can bring them to the January club meeting. The current application can be downloaded and printed at: [www.ohkyin.org/ohkyin-app-2007.pdf](http://www.ohkyin.org/ohkyin-app-2007.pdf)

Dues ARE due the first of the year, please!

73, *Nathan KA3MTT*

## News of members and students in recent classes

### Our sincere condolences to

Bob Kesse WB8W, whose mother died the day before Thanksgiving

### On the mend:

Nathan KA3MTT diagnosed on Dec 19 with double pneumonia

**The final numbers for Sweeps:** 424 QSOs, 67,840 points.

73, *Brian K4BR1*

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I found this website for **finding repeaters in your area**. Just wanted to pass it along to everyone.

<http://www.usrepeaters.com/index.php>

73, *Nathan KA3MTT*

Thu, 30 Nov 2006

*Copy deadline for the February 2007 2-Fiver is Friday, January 19*