



# 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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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:

- 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)

## *May 2007 Volume 47 Number 5*

### **From the President**

It was nice to see everybody at the Awards dinner on April 11<sup>th</sup>. A nice time was had by all. Congratulations to Nathan Ciufo KA3MTT, our 2006 OH-KY-IN Amateur Radio Society Ham Of The Year.

By the way, we have a new (and much needed) committee – Historian! Normally, I would go to the membership for a new committee chairperson, but I took on the role as I already had an idea on how to do this. Thanks to our longtime *Q-Fiver* editor, Susie N8CGM, I have spent the last 2 months looking through almost every single *Q-Fiver* published. OH-KY-IN has a long history (47 years and 5 months) and once I have compiled all the information, I will upload it to the website. If you have anything that could be considered a part of OH-KY-IN’s history please contact me. Also, contact me if you have a Charter Member certificate. I am scanning those in for display on the website.

Lastly, as I mentioned at our March club meeting and the April *Q-Fiver*, if anyone has any suggestions, criticisms, complaints, or comments on how anything is done in this club, you can contact anyone on the board. You can bring up your issue by email, phone or even at a meeting. If the board doesn’t know about a problem, we can’t resolve it and the board is ALWAYS looking for suggestions. Walking away should be the very *last* resort. The club leadership is elected by you, the members. Members make a club good, member participation make a good club great.

See you at the May club meeting!

73, Dale KC8H2S

### **Next meeting**

The next club meeting of the OH-KY-IN Amateur Radio Society will take place **Tuesday, May 1, 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 Artemis (Advanced Regional Transit Information Management and Interactive Service).

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 for the General Membership meeting of Oh-Ky-In Amateur Radio Society**

**Tuesday, April 3, 2007**

Dale KC8HQS called the meeting to order at 7:31 PM, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

No guests in attendance, no upgrades.

Health and Welfare – Carol WA8YL has fallen at home – she is out of the hospital and into rehab.

The brag session heard about Emily K4MLE finally receiving a medal for the Flying Pig orienteering 2006.

Meeting program started at 7:40, heard from Richard KC8RP about interfacing computers and radios.

Break from 8:38 to 8:57.

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 Ev KC8JR – motion passed.

Membership chair not present.

Treasurer – Rick KD4PYR was not present – financial reports passed around.

Bruce N8BV reported nothing new for the Silent Key committee.

Technical committee - Brian K4BRI reported that Eric N8YC tested the hardline at 146.67 and it appears to be fine. Hopefully a climb can be scheduled soon. 146.625 is running well – 146.925 has Echolink running in both directions now – we will be testing it and codes will be published once we have the issues worked out.

Awards banquet is just around the corner – a plea was made for attendees.

Equipment manager – Mike KC8YTJ and David KC8YOM have entered the paper list into the computer and we are working on verifying and labeling items.

Classes are now in session and there are 8 students.

ARDF & Foxhunting – Phil KG8AP hid in March, K4BRI won. We had a newer guy from Indiana participate. The blind ARDF hunt at Dayton was mentioned – we would like some help from the club. There is a foxhunt next week – again, Phil KG8AP has volunteered to be the fox.

Field Day – we need shelters! Discussed ideas.

Library – Jim KC8PRY reports everything is normal – and that we could use a Technician manual.

Tech Talk - Bruce N8BV reported that Emily is NCS next – she has volunteered to be the net control for the first Wednesday of the month.

Historian – Dale KC8HQS has started to go through the older *Q-Fivers*.

Liasion – Pete KC8BZM reported for ARPS and the Weather net – Also about QCEN needing people to work the Flying Pig marathon.

Dale KC8HQS reported that the web site is going well.

Old business –

Fundraising – We need ideas and volunteers.

DXpedition – the cards are finally in – the DXers will meet soon to address/label.

New business -

Dayton – we are still trying for the special club spaces. We need volunteers to take/bring the club stuff to and from Dayton, and we also need volunteers to manage and man the club booth.

The random member drawing, currently at \$45, was W8TSA Greg Lamb, who was not present.

Split the pot of \$16 was won by Jim W8IOA.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Eric N8YC – seconded by Pete KC8BZM. Meeting was adjourned at 9:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted – *Brian DeYoung KR4RI*, Recording Secretary



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### **Oh-Ky-In Awards Dinner, April 11, 2007**

Held at The Farm, Delhi Twp, featuring the customary buffet with fried chicken, vegetables and sliced wurst. A partly-cut round of roast beef was also offered.

25 certificates for service in the past year were given out; they are probably more to be distributed at club meetings.

Plaques for foxhunting in all of 2006 went to Dick WB4SUV and Janie.



*The Clock*



*Carol WA8YL and The Clock*



*Nathan KA3MTT*

Meritorious Service plaques went to Phil KG8AP and Rick KD4PYR

See photos please for the Lifetime Achievement Award clock “from the grateful members of Oh-Ky-In” for Carol WA8YL, still laid up with a broken leg. Another 8-10 weeks’ bed rest is foreseen, then rehabilitation for 6 weeks. Dale KC8HQS and possibly others were to go present the clock.

And – drum roll please – 2006 Oh-Ky-In Ham of the Year (see other photo) is Nathan KA3MTT. Nathan has served as Field Day chair for the last couple of years and is the current membership chair. He said, “Oh-Ky-In is a club of a caliber that many folks don’t realize. An organization is only as strong as its weakest link – there are NO weak links in Oh-Ky-In.”

A wide assortment of door prizes was drawn for, many of which could be used in amateur radio or electronics.

**ARDF Update: Trophies Await at USA's First Blind ARDF Championships**

By Joe Moell K0OV, ARRL Amateur Radio Direction Finding Coordinator, Contributing Editor

April 13, 2007 *Reprint permission granted by author*

A very special transmitter hunting event takes place during the 2007 Dayton Hamvention in May. Spread the word!



Although totally blind, Dennis Schwendtner WB6OBB has participated in mobile and on-foot transmitter hunts for three decades. Here he is during an on-foot hunt at the ARRL Southwestern Division convention in 1995. At that event, rules allowed him to have an assistant (Linda Reagan, now KF6MOB) to help him avoid obstacles. [Joe Moell K0OV, photo]



Frank Shannon KR6AL teaches the basics of VHF direction finding to Carol Blake KF6LQQ, a sight-impaired attendee at a Courage Handi-Ham Radio Camp in Malibu, California. [Pat Tice WA0TDA, photo]



Bob Frey WA6EZV, Dick Arnett WB4SUV, and Matthew Robbins AA9YH, of OH-KY-IN Amateur Radio Club are three presenters of the First USA Blind ARDF Championships. [Matthew Robbins AA9YH, photo]



Two examples of 80-meter ARDF receiver/antenna sets from Europe. At left is a loop antenna model from Ukraine. The ferrite rod antenna unit at right is from Germany. [Joe Moell K0OV, photo]

"I love the ham radio! It opens me to the world!" Those were the excited words of a patient in the rehabilitation unit of a hospital where my wife April WA6OPS, held weekly Rehab Radio sessions for over 15 years. To us, there is no doubt that the activities of our hobby can be especially stimulating and motivating to persons with physical limitations.

The therapeutic benefits of ham radio aren't limited to ham shacks. Outdoor sessions of Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF) can also be a boon to the disabled. With some adaptive gear and an "extender", handicapped hams and non-hams have experienced on-foot radio foxhunting alongside the fully able at conventions and other events in southern California and at Handi-Ham Radio Camps.

Foxhunting for the disabled will be taken to the next level when the First USA Blind ARDF Championships take place in Dayton, Ohio on the last day of Hamfest 2007. The welcome mat is out. No experience is necessary. Extenders will not be needed this time.

#### **Croatia Leads the Way**

Like formal ARDF for the sighted, ARDF for the blind is a European innovation. No country has more of it than Croatia, where the first such special foxhunts began in 1995 and have been well attended. The Louis Braille Radio Club for the Blind, part of the Blind Association in Zagreb, sponsors annual events complete with trophies and a banquet afterwards.

Rules and procedures for USA's first national ARDF event for the blind will be adopted from the Croatian's rules, which were originally written by Zeljko Ulip 9A2EY. There are some similarities to championship ARDF rules for the sighted, such as the frequency bands and the division of competitors into age/gender categories. Scoring is first by number of transmitters found and second by elapsed time.

A site for Croatian-style blind ARDF must be flat and open, perhaps a large lawn, with no obstacles such as holes or tree stumps. This frees the participants to walk or run as fast as they are able without fear of tripping over something hazardous. Sinclair Park in Dayton is ideal.

Standard ARDF under international rules has five unattended automatic "foxes" on a course of about 5 kilometers, with power up to 3 watts. Foxes transmit one at a time on the same frequency for 60 seconds each in rotating sequence. Competitors can find them in any order. Participants are started at five-minute intervals, at the moment #1 goes on the air. At the World Championships, there may be several hundred on the course at the same time.

By comparison, blind ARDF courses have three to five transmitters of about 100 milliwatts, with attendants. Course length is less than a half kilometer. Only one competitor is on the course at a time, attempting to find foxes one at a time in numbered order. As he or she leaves the starting point, #1 is on the air and it stays on until it is found. An official silently runs or walks alongside, speaking only to warn if the participant is about to go out of the competition boundary.

As soon as the runner steps inside the 5-meter circle of chalk or tape surrounding the antenna of fox #1, the official shouts "stop," the attendant at #1 turns it off and the attendant at #2 turns that one on. The competitor immediately takes off after #2 and so on, until timing is stopped when the last fox is found. Members of the OH-KY-IN Amateur Radio Club are sponsoring this pioneering event. Co-chairs of the organizing committee are Dick Arnett WB4SUV and Bob Frey WA6EZV, who also put on the USA ARDF Championships in 2003. Participants need not be licensed Amateur Radio operators, but they must be blind or sight-impaired. They must also be capable of walking or running without assistance. For fairness, those who are not totally blind will be asked to wear opaque goggles on the course.

This transmitter hunt will be on 80 meters in the CW segment. Participants are encouraged to bring their favorite on-foot RDF equipment for this range. For those who don't have any, there will be a variety of loaner sets to choose from, including a Ukrainian loop-antenna model and a German set with ferrite rod antenna. With either, it's easy to determine bearings by signal loudness in the headphones; no S-meter is needed. There will be a practice session to familiarize participants with the RDF gear before the competition begins.

The fun gets under way at 9 AM on Sunday, May 20, 2007, weather permitting, at Sinclair Park, which is about two miles southwest of the Hamvention headquarters at Hara Arena. After everyone has had a chance to test out the equipment he or she will use, the competition will begin.

More information on this event is at the OH-KY-IN ARDF Web site. The organizers want to get a good head count ahead of time for planning, so please visit this site, then register or contact them. Please pass the word to organizations for the blind in your area.

#### **In Other News...**

WB4SUV, WA6EZV and friends are also putting on the annual Hamvention Foxhunt Forum in Room 5 of Hara Arena at 1145 hours on Saturday. This 75-minute session always has a variety of speakers to present the newest equipment, techniques and event information about both on-foot and vehicular transmitter hunting. Take time out from the exhibit hall and flea market to attend.

As the weather warms up, it's time for your club to start planning for the outdoor foxhunting season. A good time for your first event would be the CQ Worldwide Foxhunting Weekend, May 12-13. Details are in my article, "Take the Foxhunting Challenge," in the April 2007 issue of *CQ Magazine*.

Encourage the best on-foot foxhunters in your club to set aside the weekend of September 14 - 16 for USA's national Championships of ARDF, combined with the biennial ARDF Championships of IARU Region 2 (North and South America). This year's site is in the forests near Lake Tahoe on the California-Nevada border. Watch for details in an ARDF Update when registration opens. Meanwhile, you can read about past and future USA Championships and many other ARDF topics at my "Homing In" Web site.

Links: Rehab Radio <http://www.qsl.net/wa6ops.rehab.html>

Extender <http://members.aol.com/joek0ov/extender>

Handi-Hams <http://www.handiham.org>



## DX Extras

May 2007

I would not feel right if I failed to mention the passing of long time OH-KY-IN member, Dana Laurie WA8M. Dana participated in our first Expedition and was a long time CW Field Day operator. He will be missed by many.

On the DX front, April was busy with the Swain Island N8S operation. At last count the group had over 102,000 QSOs in the log. I know for sure that at least five belong to OH-KY-IN members. Nathan's 17 meter contact using a loop is well worth mentioning.

Next is the long awaited Scarborough Reef operation. Expect this one to cause big, big, pileups. An exact date is still not available. Late April is the only time frame being posted as of this writing.

May operations include: 3B6, Agalega; 3D2R, Rotuma; HL1/F5AHO, S. Korea; 9N, Nepal, and 9H, Malta.

July: A2-- Botswana. Expected for July 6-20. They plan for 160, 80, 40 meter operations.

September: 3B7C – St. Brandon

October: ZL7 – Chatham

Join the ARRL DX News list. That way you would have known that:

OGASAWARA ISLAND, JD1. Skip JE2HCJ was QRV as JD1/JE2HCJ until April 25.

FRANZ JOSEF LAND, R1FJ. Victor is QRV as R1FJM and has been active on 40 meters around 1530z.

HONG KONG, VR2. Charlie VR2XMT has been active using RTTY on 20 meters around 1300z and SSB around 1140 and 0100z.

LAOS, XW. Larry has been QRV as XW1A and has been active on 20 meters between 0000 and 0100z. QSL via E21EIC.

Good Hunting until next month.

73, *Bob WA6EZU*

## Contests

May 2007

5-7 NA High Speed Meteor Scatter Contest; MARAC CW Contest; 10-10 International Spring Contest, CW & Digital; Microwave Spring Sprint; IN QSO Party, CW & SSB; ARI International DX Contest, CW & SSB & RTTY; New England QSO Party, CW & Phone; 7th Area QSO Party, CW & SSB; IPA Contest, CW & SSB; Radio Club of America QSO Party, Phone; Portuguese Navy Day, CW & SSB & PSK31

12-13 Armed Forces Amateur & Military Crossband Communications Test; Mid-Atlantic QSO Party, SSB & FM & CW; CQ-M International DX Contest, CW & SSB; 2 GHz and Up World Wide Club Contest; FISTS Spring Sprint, CW; Alessandro Volta RTTY DX Contest; 50 MHz Spring Sprint; NV QSO Party, CW & SSB & RTTY

19-20 40th Annual Baltic Contest, CW & SSB EU PSK DX Contest; His Majesty King of

Spain Contest, CW; US Counties QSO Party, SSB; All America Contest, CW; EU EME Contest, all modes

26-27 *CQ* WW WPX Contest, C; QRP ARCI Hoot Owl Sprint, CW; MI QRP Memorial Day CW Sprint

May we contest? Try out those new antennas and your spouse's patience. Have fun. For more information see QST, *CQ*, or [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org).

73, *Dan K744U*

### **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 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.

**Saturday, May 12:** Oh-Ky-In ARS at Salem Presbyterian Church, Mozart & Higbee, Westwood-Cheviot, 12 noon. Walk-ins OK. Talk-in: 146.67.

**Exams at Dayton Hamvention<sup>R</sup>:** Friday, May 18, 2:30 PM; Saturday, May 19, 9:30 AM & 1:30 PM. Pre-registration is recommended; walk-ins accommodated only as space & materials permit. To pre-register send an e-mail to [exams@hamvention.org], specifying your preferred session. Laurel VEC does not accept VE fees, so the exams are free. If you come only for the exam & do not wish to attend the rest of Hamvention<sup>R</sup>, advise security & an escort will be found for you. Exam room is in the SE corner of the main building.

**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 (except at Dayton), exact currency appreciated.

### **Hamfests &c.**

### **May 2007**

18-20 Dayton Hamvention<sup>R</sup> at Hara Arena Complex, Dayton OH. (As if there was any other hamfest in Ohio in May!)

Friday 8 AM-6 PM, Saturday 8 AM-5 PM, Sunday 8 AM-1 PM

Sponsor: Dayton ARA. Theme: "Local Clubs: The Heart of Ham Radio". Exhibitors, vendors, more fleas

*The 2-Fiver, Oh-Ky-In ARS, May 2007 page 10*

than you can count, and FORUMS! Also visit the ARRL Expo 2007 area for exhibits & booths, live presentations on the ARRL Stage, meet ARRL staff & volunteers, get your DXCC cards checked, other ARRL services & programs (see [www.arrl.org/expo](http://www.arrl.org/expo)). VE sessions, reservations highly recommended (e-mail [exams@hamvention.org]. Special Events Station. Talk-in: 146.94, 146.91, 223.94, 442.1. Tickets: \$20 advance for all 3 days at Debc Electronics, Cincinnati & R&L Electronics, Hamilton; cash only please, no checks or credit cards. Or by mail (checks recommended here) Dayton Hamvention, Box 964, Dayton OH 45401-6934. Students & under 12 free. If you wait til you get there, it's \$25 at the gate. Info: [www.hamvention.org](http://www.hamvention.org) or Jim Nies WX8F, 937=276-6931. Most commonly needed e-mail links for quicker response to queries: [exhibits@hamvention.org], [fleamarket@hamvention.org], [tickets@hamvention.org]

Where the Oh-Ky-In spaces will be is still unknown. Hamfest announced they were doing space assignments differently this year.

"I'm not spoiled – I deserve all my Stuff!" after day at Dayton. Rabbit by Jim Benson for



Bradford Checks

### **ARLB012 FCC poised to lower vanity call sign fee**

The FCC has proposed reducing the regulatory fee to obtain or retain an Amateur Radio vanity call sign by more than 40 percent starting later this year. In a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) released April 18, "Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 2007," in MD Docket 07-81, the Commission is proposing to cut the fee from its current \$20.80 to \$11.70. If ultimately adopted, that would mark the lowest fee in the history of the current vanity call sign program. The FCC proposed to collect nearly \$290.3 million in FY 2007 regulatory fees.

"These fees are mandated by Congress and are collected to recover the regulatory costs associated with the Commission's enforcement, policy and rulemaking, user information, and international activities," the FCC said. "Consistent with our established practice, we intend to collect these regulatory fees in the August-September 2007 time frame in order to collect the required amount by the end of the fiscal year." Comments on MD Docket 07-81 are due May 3. Reply comments are due May 11.

The vanity call sign fee has fluctuated over the 11 years of the current vanity call sign program, from a low of \$12 to a high of \$50. The FCC says it anticipates some 14,700 Amateur Radio vanity call sign "payment units" or applications during the next fiscal year.

The vanity call sign regulatory fee is payable not only when applying for a new vanity call sign but upon renewing a vanity call sign for a new term. The first vanity call sign licenses issued under the current Amateur Radio vanity call sign program that began in 1996 came up for renewal last year.

Those holding vanity call signs issued prior to 1996 are exempt from having to pay the vanity call sign regulatory fee at renewal, however. That's because Congress did not authorize the FCC to collect regulatory fees until 1993. Such "heritage" vanity call sign holders do not appear as vanity licensees in the FCC Amateur Radio database.

Amateur Radio licensees may file for renewal only within 90 days of their license expiration date. All radio amateurs must have an FCC Registration Number (FRN) before filing any application with the Commission. Applicants can obtain an FRN by going to the FCC Universal Licensing System (ULS) at, <http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>, and clicking on the "New Users Register" link. You must supply your Social Security Number to obtain an FRN.

## QSL

We have added a new Power Point program to the ARRL multi media library. [www.arrl.org/multimedia](http://www.arrl.org/multimedia)  
The QSL card has traditionally been called the final courtesy of the contact. "QSL Cards -- Sending and Receiving Paper Gems" shows the operator the ins and outs of exchanging QSL cards. Some of the topics covered in this program include using the outgoing and incoming QSL bureaus, working with QSL managers and basic information required for a valid QSL card. We have even included some tips from the experts for QSLing those elusive DX cards. The program also includes handout material that will serve as a handy reference.

All of the programs in the multi media library are free to download and make excellent meeting programs.  
--from *ARRL Club News* for April 2007

Speaking of QSL cards, here's the one from the last K8SCH DXpedition to Deer Isle ME, Sept 25-29, 2006. IOTA Designation: NA-055, Main State East (Knox to Washington County) group



**Weaver's words: Hamvention<sup>R</sup>'s coming** with 8<snips  
== HR 462 ==

In January, Arkansas US Rep Mike Ross, WD5DVR introduced the Emergency Amateur Radio Interference Protection Act of 2007 into the House. This bill has been referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce. If enacted into law, the bill will require the FCC to conduct a comprehensive study on BPL. The bill is intended to lead to improved rules to prevent interference from BPL and similar devices. So should everyone rush to send letters to their US Representative and Senators? The answer to this is a clear "No; definitely no." Now is not the time to do this.

The most logical sequence of activities we can expect to take on this bill will begin at the top of the ARRL Legislative Action Program when the Directors and Division Legislative Action Chairs receive the "go" signal from HQ.

This "go" signal is likely to request Legislative Action Assistants (LAAs) who are assigned to members of the House Committee on Energy and Commerce to call on these Representatives or their aides in their home offices. These visits will promote favorable action by the Committee. Depending on the precise manner in which things develop, the next step is likely to be to ask all LAAs to call on the local offices of each Representative. Finally, every member will probably be asked to write their Representative to encourage them to vote for the bill.

One major risk exists if we jump the gun in our zeal to get this bill passed. This is that we can inadvertently ruin the chances of its passage. Effective lobbying requires that we work in a coordinated manner. Lack

of coordination can prove disruptive to the effort and cause us to throw away our chances of a legislative victory.

**== IT'S MY TURN ==**

I'm going to gripe. What about? Single-purpose members, this is what. You know, the kind of folks who refuse to take ice cream unless they can have chocolate and chocolate, only, even if the refrigerator is crammed full with nothing but vanilla, strawberry, butter pecan, black cherry, butterscotch and peppermint. Each member of the Board of Directors, including me, receives complaints and requests for change. This is a good thing. Frankly, I want to hear when there are things that need to be improved and changed in ARRL as well as in government regulatory arenas. So, what is it that disturbs me?

I'm disturbed by members who complain about a single aspect of all of the services provided by ARRL and threaten to drop their membership if this one, single thing is not changed. This attitude strikes me as being like a little boy who demands the rules of the pick-up baseball game be changed to meet his wishes. "Give me 5 strikes or I won't play and I'll take my ball and go home so you can't play, either," he demands. Please hold tight and take no action until the right time comes and you are asked to take action. Be part of the team. Your help is needed and it will be requested . . . at the right time.

I'm sure I've already made a few folks unhappy, but please understand I am not referring to members who complain or ask about situations and keep everything in perspective. But, stop and think about it a little. With 150,000 ARRL members, what are the chances that every one of these will agree with everything ARRL does? If you have any concept of human nature, you know the chances are high that well less than a 2/3 majority will agree with everything. This means that few people, including me, are totally satisfied with everything we do.

Think about it even a little more. Suppose you are a DXer as I am. Even though we DXers often seem to act like we are the only people in ham radio, we represent a minority of amateurs. Why should we expect the ARRL Board to kowtow to our needs to the exclusion of everyone else? We shouldn't.

Or, suppose you are a CW op, as I am. We are in the minority here, also. It would be unrealistic for us to think Amateur Radio should be run as though we are the sole reason it still exists. We aren't.

What about SSBers and FMers? I don't have the figures, but let's suppose one of these groups represents the majority of hams. Should even slightly over 51% of amateurs expect to run the show for all others? I don't think so.

Data operators? NTSers? ATVers? Name still more special interest groups, and they are most likely in the minority. Come to think of it (some of you better sit down and hold on for this one), not one of us are the sole reason Amateur Radio exists!

Taking a different view, suppose you are a contester or whatever you wish to name, and ARRL has a rule for contesting that you don't like. Some folks have said, "This rule is stupid. Unless you change it right away, you don't represent my interests. Change it or I won't renew my membership when it comes due!" The fact is that ARRL first and foremost primarily exists to promote the good of all of Amateur Radio -- not just some small niche of interest. As much fun as each of the many aspects of Amateur Radio is, no single one is the sole reason ARRL exists.

My hope is that even when a member becomes aggravated, he or she put things into perspective. Become aggravated; certainly. I do, but please remember that ARRL is attempting to help thousands of people fulfill their Amateur Radio dreams in scores of different specialty interest groups. It is important that we all, individually and collectively, respect the legitimate differences we pursue in hamming as well as the fact that not every aspect of our many favorite operating niches must coexist within a relatively confined electronic space.

Be an individual . . . fight for your individuality . . . but do this in a dignified, courteous manner knowing we cannot all have everything we want.

Tnx. 73, *Jim K8JE* Jim Weaver K8JE, Director ARRL Great Lakes Division

### What's coming in May

Tue 1 7:30 PM Club meeting at Salem Presbyterian Church, Mozart & Higbee in Westwood-Cheviot behind the Harrison-Boudinot White Castle  
Program: Artemis

Wed 2 9:00 PM Tech Talk, 146.67 – NCS Emily K4MLE

Thu 3 7:00 PM Theory classes, Salem Presbyterian Church

Fri 4 8:00 PM Amateur Radio Public Svc Corps, Hamilton Co Communications Ofc  
Conference Rm, 2377 Civic Ctr Dr – park in Bd of Educ lot

Sun 6 from 6 AM Flying Pig Marathon

Tue 8 7:30 PM Technical Committee meeting likely, location TBA

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

Thu 10 7:00 PM Last theory classes, Salem Presbyterian Church

Fri 11 7:30 PM Queen City Emergency Net at Red Cross HQ, 820 Sycamore St downtown

Sat 12 10:00 AM Oh-Ky-In Monthly Fox Hunt, hounds start at Mt Storm Park; talk-in to start on 146.67 (might be rescheduled because of exams)

12:00 N Exams at Salem Presbyterian Church, Mozart & Higbee in Westwood-Cheviot behind the Harrison-Boudinot White Castle

Sun 13 Mother's Day

Wed 16 9:00 PM Tech Talk, NCS Dennis KB8ROA, 146.67

Fri 18- 8:00 AM Dayton Hamvention<sup>R</sup>, Hara Arena, Dayton OH

Sun 20 1:00 PM

Wed 23 9:00 PM Tech Talk, NCS Brian K4BRI, 146.67

Mon 28 Memorial Day observed

Wed 30 9:00 PM Tech Talk, NCS Rick KD4PYR, 146.67

Fri Jun 1 8:00 PM Amateur Radio Public Svc Corps, Hamilton Co Communications Ofc  
Conference Rm, 2377 Civic Ctr Dr – park in Bd of Educ lot

Tue 5 7:30 PM Club meeting at Salem Presbyterian Church, Mozart & Higbee in Westwood-Cheviot behind the Harrison-Boudinot White Castle  
Program: Field Day with Nathan KA3MTT

*OH Section News* for May was not on the website at the time of final assembly. – *Ye Ed*

\* **The Daily DX debuts public search engine:** *The Daily DX* editor Bernie McClenny W3UR says his paid subscription DX newsletter's Web site now offers a Google-powered search engine. Open to all, the search engine scours back issues of *The Daily DX* <<http://www.dailydx.com>>. McClenny says when he's done uploading, the search engine will make available up to the last six or eight weeks of back issues. Issues of *The Weekly DX* are not included.

The "Google Custom Search" box is in the middle of *The Daily DX* home page. McClenny advises users to include as many key words as they can when initiating a search. He also suggests starting with one search word then adding more words to narrow down the subject. Subscription information:

<<http://www.dailydx.com/order.htm>>. – *The ARRL Letter*, Vol 26 #14, April 6, 2007

*The 2-Fiver, Oh-Ky-In ARS, May 2007 page 14*

## 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  
Historian Dale Vanselow KC8HQS  
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 open  
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



WA8M, 1948-2007

### Our sincere condolences to

Karen Blackburn Laurie, widow of **Dana Laurie WA8M**, who died Friday, April 13; also to other relatives and host of friends. Dana was President for 5 years in the early 1990s, the longest term of any Oh-Ky-In President, chaired the first Oh-Ky-In Hamfest, was one of the club's first Volunteer Examiners and served as club robotics chair at the time of his passing.

It was said by Procter & Gamble colleagues that Dana could explain anything to anybody, in such a fashion that they'd understand. Bob Frey WA6EZV was one of the 15 asked to say a few words of remembrance. The visitation and service in Spring Grove's Norman Chapel were absolutely packed, and the eulogies lasted for more than 90 minutes. WA8M will be **greatly** missed!

### On a happier note, such as C#:

**Susie Scott N8CGM**'s new chorus, Cincinnati Sound (formed at year's end when Queen City and 7 Hills merged), won its first contest at the recent Region 4 Chorus Competition in Covington. The chorus has qualified to represent Region 4 (southern 2/3 of Ohio and Indiana, much of Kentucky, most of West Virginia) in the 2008 Sweet Adelines International Contest in Honolulu, Hawaii.

*Copy deadline for June issue is Friday, May 25*