



THE Q-FIVER

K8SCH



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



Our 48th Year of Service to Cincinnati in Amateur Radio
 A Special Service Club of the American Radio Relay League
 (the national association for Amateur Radio)

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Web Pages

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

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

For membership information, contact

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

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The Q-FIVER is mailed and e-mailed the Wednesday before the club meeting. Copy deadline is the weekend before that. 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)

March 2008 Volume 48 Number 3

From the President...

Hey.

I've got a couple of new items to share.

#1 – The 2008 OH-KY-IN Awards Dinner will be held at Nick & Tom's in Green Township on Tuesday, April 8th at 7 PM. Nick & Tom's is located on Bridgetown Road. We will hand out awards including the Annual OH-KY-IN Ham of The Year. Great door prizes will also be given away. Check out www.nickandtoms.com to see the menu. No reservations are necessary. We will be able to order anything off the menu. Please attend this special event!

#2 – Information on classes is nearly complete. Please stay tuned as more information will be available soon.

Also, if you haven't already, **don't forget to renew your club membership for 2008.** OH-KY-IN is nothing without its loyal members. Thanks!

See you at the March club meeting!

73, Dale KC8HQS

Next meeting

March's topic will be **Be Red Cross Ready**. The speaker will be Tom Peterson from the Red Cross.

To get to the meeting from downtown Cincinnati, go northwest 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 come *upstairs* to the meeting, as our usual meeting room is also a polling place on election days.

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

Visitors always welcome!

73, Gary KB8MJC

Remember Dale KC8HQS's program on **on-line licence renewal**?

Well, Brad WD9HDZ received on Jan 24 one of those mailings that promise to help him renew his licence (not due til mid-May). As Dale said, you can do it yourself for a cost of \$.41 maximum (if not free), so don't pay them to do it for you! He also received a reminder packet from the ARRL a few weeks later (a courtesy the ARRL provides at no extra charge). – *Ye Ed*

Minutes for the General Membership meeting, Oh-Ky-In Amateur Radio Society

February 5, 2008

Dale KC8HQ5 called the meeting to order at 7:34 PM, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Guests included Jerry Roberts, no call yet - 20 members attending.

Health and Welfare – heard that Dale visited Carol WA8YL at Drake on Saturday – she is about the same and alert – we all hope she continues to improve.

Brag session heard that this is Sam KJ8K's 31st anniversary as an OhKyIn member – way to go Sam! Also heard about the ARDF article published in *QST* written by Bob WA6EZV – nice!

The program was headed by Nathan KA3MTT. We went thru member input night and heard some wonderful stories about individuals' starts into ham radio, and ideas for the future. Lively discussion ensued.

Break from 8:25 PM to 8:35 PM

Dale thanked Gary KB8MYC for running the hospitality table.

A correction to the printed minutes from January stated that Gary KB8MYC wants to HEAD the education committee. Motion was made to accept the corrected printed minutes by John W9JRB, seconded by Sam KJ8K – motion passed.

Membership - Nathan KA3MTT reported we are currently at 64 members for 2008, he has applications and ARRL apps.

Treasurer - Kevin KI4PJK was not present, reports were passed around.

Bruce N8BV reported nothing new for the silent key committee.

Brian K4BRI reported nothing new for the tech committee – no meeting scheduled.

Mike KC8YOM and David KC8YTJ not here for equipment managers

Classes and Exams – Gary KB8MYC would like to partner with QCEN/WARN to offer classes – maybe a one day class for technician. Meeting will be on February 21 at 7:30 at the church.

Bruce N8BV reported that the Fundraising committee still has hats and shirts – Also asked if there was interest in staffing a vendor booth at some events and the club taking a percentage. 5 people interested.

Bruce N8BV reported nothing new for Tech Talk

The Audit committee has not met yet.

The Awards committee asked for interest in 3 places – Nick and Tom's, Golden Corral, and Maury's Tiny Cove. There was a show of hands and Dale KC8HQ5 will also ask for input via email.

Pete KC8BZM reported for liaisons – nothing new

Old business - None

New business - None

The random member drawing was Dennis KB8ROA – not present – would have been \$45

Split the pot of \$15 was won by Gerry KB8ASL. Also given was a Yaesu hat, won by Pete KC8BZM

Meeting was adjourned at 9:07 PM

Respectfully submitted – *Brian DeYoung K4BR9*, Recording Secretary

Please don't lose your temper. No one else wants it.

Hamfests &c.

March 2008

- 1 Sullivan IN Hamfest at Co 4-H Fairgrounds, E Washington St, sponsored by Dugger ARC. 8 AM “until the last person leaves!” Electronics, fleas, tailgating, 3960 meeting, ARRL forum, VE sessions (9 AM), refreshments. \$5 admission includes 1 inside table, under 12 free. Talk-in: 146.775 (136.5 Hz). Info: Tony Hudson W9PDQ, 618=586-5015, [w9pdq@arrl.net], www.kc9ak.org/hamfest.html

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1 32d Annual Cave City KY Hamfest at Cave City Convention Ctr, 502 Mammoth Cave St, sponsored by Mammoth Cave ARC. From 7:30 AM CST. Tailgating, 3960 meeting, ARRL forum, VE sessions (9 AM CST), free coffee before VE sessions. \$6 admission. Talk-in: 146.94. Info: Larry Brumett KN4IV, 270=651-2363, [lbrumett@glasgow-ky.com], www.geocities.com/ky4x2000

8 Terre Haute IN Hamfest sponsored by Wabash Valley ARA at Vigo Co Fairgrounds, 3901 S US 41. 8 AM-1 PM. Tailgating, forums, VE sessions, refreshments. Talk-in 146.685 ((151.4 Hz). \$5 gate. Info: Kevin Berlen K9HX, 812=239-9140, [k9hx@arrl.net], w9uuu.org

16 53d Toledo OH Hamfest/Computer Fair sponsored by Toledo Mobile Radio Assn at Lucas Co Recreation Ctr, 2901 Key St. New & used radio & computer gear & supplies, major ham gear vendors. Talk-in 146.27. \$6 gate. Info: Brian Harrington WD8MXR, 419=385-5624, [bharrington@meduohio.edu], www.tmrahamradio.org

29 Columbus IN 25th Annual Hamfest sponsored by Columbus ARC at 4H Fairgrounds Community Bldg, 750 W 200 S (SR 11). VE sessions at 11 AM. Talk-in 146.79 (100 Hz). Advance \$4.50, door \$5. Info: Marion Winterberg WD9HTN, 812=342-4670, [carc_in@yahoo.com}, www.qsl.net/carc

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Radio's Plus
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Bethel OH 45106-9669
513=752-9570
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March 2008 DX Spots – de Nathan KA3MTT

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3A- Monaco Thru Mar 3 ----- V31MN- Belize thru Mar 9	5X1NH- Uganda thru Mar 22 ----- PJ7-St Maarten thru Mar 23	SV9-Crete thru Mar 15 ----- VP8- Falkland Isl thru Mar 15	5Z4HW- Kenya thru Mar 11 ----- H7- Nicaragua thru Mar 11			1 V8-Brunei Thru Mar 15
	3 FR- Reunion Thru Mar 31 ----- V4-St Kitts Thru Mar 10	4	5	6 CT3- Madeira thru Mar 20	7 TX5C- Clipperton thru Mar 17	8
9	10	11 V25- Antigua thru Mar 17	12	13 FJ-St Barthelem y thru Mar 22	14	15 HQ8R- Honduras thru Mar 23
16 9X0R- Rwanda thru Mar 27 ----- 6W- Senegal Thru Mar 27	17 	18 CE0Z- Juan Fernandez thru Mar Apr 7	19 MD-Isle of Man thru Mar 21	20 MJ-Jersey thru Mar 26 ----- 3W3M- Vietnam thru Apr 2	21	22 9M0- Spratly Thru Mar 30
23 	24	25	26	27 7P8FC- Lesotho thru Apr 1	28	29
30 5R8HT- Madagascar Thru Apr 17	31					

**New prefix for
BosniaHerzegovina**
confirmed by World
Radiocommunications
Conference on
11/17/07 as **E7A-
E7Z**

**Operations
approved for
DXCC credit:**
Palestine E4/
OM2DX, 2007
operation --
ARLD007, Feb 7

Willis Island
VK9WWI, 2007
operation;
Iraq YI9PT, current
operation;
Guinea-Bissau J5C,
2008 operation --
ARLD008, Feb 14

Bouvet Island
3Y0E, Dec 2007 to
Feb 2008 operation
-- *ARLD009*,
Feb 21

DXers! Is *DX Spots*
easier for you to
read right-way-up
on the page like this,
rather than side-
ways? Pls advise
either KA3MTT or
Ye Ed as to which
you prefer.

Contests

March 2008

- 1-2 DARC Digital "Corona" Contest; Ukraine RTTY Championship
- 8-9 RSGB Commonwealth Contest, CW; AGCW QRP Contest, CW; EA PSK31 Contest; NA RTTY Sprint; ID QSO Party; OK QSO Party; WI QSO Party
- 11,15 CLARA Family HF Contest
- 15-16 Russian DX Contest, all mode; 10-10 Mobile QSO Party; EU EME Contest; VA QSO Party; QRPI ARCI HF Grid Square Sprint; 9KCC Contest
- 20-30 Lighthouse Spring Lites QSO Party, all mode
- 22-24 BARTG Spring RTTY Contest
- 29-30 CQ WPX SSB contest

Good hunting. Remember, the worse the weather the day of installation, the better the antenna performance! (See also March *QST*, *The Antenna Issue*. *Ye Ed*) For more see *QST*, *CQ* or

<http://www.arrl.org/contests/>

73, *Dan K74AV*

OSSBN returns to normal Saturday, March 1

The Ohio Single Side Band Net (OSSBN) will return to its normal evening session starting time and frequency Saturday, March 1. This announcement has been made by Ohio Assistant Section Manager, Connie Hamilton N8IO, Net Manager for the OSSBN.

Ohio's traffic net of record, which meets three times daily, had changed the time and frequency for its evening sessions during the winter months due to propagation problems on 75 meters.

Starting March 1, the evening session begins 6:45 p.m. on the regular OSSBN frequency of 3.9725 MHz.

The early session at 10:30 AM and afternoon session at 4:15 PM were never changed. – *OH Section release*

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One huge event that occurs annually in Hamilton County is the **Cincinnati Flying Pig Marathon**. Many ARES members have helped out in past years with this event.

This year Hamilton County ARPSC/ARES has signed up as a volunteer group to assist with providing communications support for the event.

If you would like to sign up to help out, go to the Flying Pigs website, look for the Volunteer tab, click on Amateur Radio Net and fill out the form. In the comment section make sure you put in there ARES to let them know you're signing up with the Hamilton Co ARPSC/ARES group. You may want to send Don N8LMJ an E-mail so he can keep track of the number of ARES members that will be assisting at:

[n8lmj@cinci.rr.com]. -- *Feb ARES report* under District 4: (N8TVU/DEC)

Ohio ARES conference on March 29

Don't forget that the Ohio ARES Conference will be held on March 29 in Reynoldsburg. See the Ohio ARES Website www.ohioares.org for information.

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==> Kosovo and DXCC

Kosovo declared its independence from Serbia on February 17, setting off new speculations on what this means to Amateur Radio and specifically, to the DXCC program. ARRL DXCC Manager Bill Moore NC1L said he understands that there are many questions about the DXCC status of Kosovo, especially concerning whether or not the new state will be added to the DXCC list.

Moore said the DXCC rules, modified in 2000 to better handle inclusion to DXCC, are clear on how

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additions can be made: "For inclusion in the DXCC List, certain conditions must be met. Gaining entry on the DXCC List is not contingent upon whether operation has occurred or will occur, but only upon the qualifications of the Entity."

According to Moore, adding Kosovo to the DXCC List would be considered under the "Political Entity" DXCC guidelines. The DXCC rules state that "Political Entities are those areas which are separated by reason of government or political division. They generally contain an indigenous population which is not predominantly composed of military or scientific personnel."

Kosovo, according to the DXCC rules, would then be added to the DXCC List as a Political Entity if it meets one or more of the following criteria:

- * The entity is a UN Member State.

- * The entity has been assigned a call sign prefix block by the ITU. (The exceptions to this rule are international organizations, such as the UN and ICAO. These Entities are classified under Special Areas, 3.a; and Ineligible Areas, 4.b.) A provisional prefix bloc assignment may be made by the Secretary General of ITU. Should such provisional assignments not be ratified later by the full ITU, the Entity will be removed from the DXCC List.

- * The Entity contains a permanent population, is administered by a local government and is located at least 800 km from its parent. To satisfy the "permanent population" and "administered by a local government" criteria of this sub-section, an Entity must be listed on either (a) the US Department of State's list of "Dependencies and Areas of Special Sovereignty" as having a local "Administrative Center," or (b) the United Nations list of "Non-Self-Governing Territories."

"New Entities satisfying one or more of the conditions above will be added to the DXCC List by administrative action as of their 'Event Date.' Kosovo will be added to the DXCC list if it becomes a member of the UN, or if it receives a prefix bloc from the ITU. The third condition does not apply," Moore said. "The 'Event Date' will be either the date Kosovo became a UN member or it receives its prefix from the ITU. Contacts made before the Event Date will be counted as Serbia."

--*The ARRL Letter*, Vol 27 #7, Feb 22, 2008

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Ohio Section News for March '08 by Joanne Solak KJ3O, Ohio Affiliation Clubs Coordinator

It has been several weeks since the Groundhog saw his shadow. I sure hope these 6 weeks go by fast! The rain I don't mind, even the snow can be "put up with" in small accumulations, but it is the ice I don't like. Ice means I stay put!

Larry WD8MPV and I attended the NOARS Hamfest (Winterfest) in February. It was well attended and we kept busy at the ARRL table all morning. It was nice seeing so many "hams" we hadn't seen in a while.

Lots of "handouts" disappeared. I think this means some contesters are preparing to get busy with WAS, WAC, DXCC, etc.

You know, one of the most exciting things I find about amateur radio is the many awards available. Aside from the fun of operating itself, awards chasing is also a good way to get maximum performance from your station. Become familiar with propagation, and even learn a whole lot about geography. The League sponsors some of the most popular operating awards available. (You must be a full-fledged League Member to participate)

I wonder just how many of you know you can get a new version of the Extra Class License Certificate? The membership department Awards Branch has introduced a new version of the Extra Class License Certificate. This newly designed certificate acknowledges the achievements of recent Extra Class operators as well as those who made the grade long ago. The size is 8.5 x 11 inches and is suitable for framing. The cost is only \$7.50 for ARRL members and \$10.00 for non-members. Be sure to tell them the date your Extra

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Class license was issued.

Speaking of ARRL (League) sponsored awards, events etc. leads me to Field Day. Field Day is a very popular event with many of the Ohio Section Clubs. Field Day is one of the most popular events each year that can earn your club lots of PR. Field Day is always held the fourth full weekend in June each year. This gives all of you Field Day planners time to get your Committees set up so that when the FD date rolls around you are ready! PLAN AHEAD! PLAN NOW! Media publicity can get you 100 bonus points. All you have to do is obtain publicity from the local media. A press release, newspaper article, etc., must be submitted to claim the points. But this bonus is available to all classes. Choose a public place for your event. Locate your Field Day operation in a public park, shopping center, school campus, etc. This also gets you 100 bonus points. So get your Field Day committees up and running right now, plan ahead for a successful Field Day. June is just around the corner! Get busy NOW! You can find all the NEW 2008 Field Day Rules and more information about the many Bonus Points your club can achieve plus the complete Field Day Information Package, go to www.arrl.org/contests/forms and /or e-mail [fdinfo@arrl.org].
8< snip ... *Ham of Year at banquet. We do that, have for years! -- Ye Ed*

The annual ARES Conference for the Ohio Section will be held on Saturday, March 29, 2008. The location will once again be the Ohio Fire Academy, 8895 East Main Street in Reynoldsburg. This is where the meeting was held last year. The conference will start at 9 AM and conclude by 3 PM. The agenda is in early development stages right now, so if you have a suggestion for a topic, or guest speaker, please forward it to Frank Piper KI8GW.

Tornado and Severe Weather Spotter Seminars will be held all over the Ohio Section. As we all know, severe weather can strike with little warning, sometimes with deadly results. Just read all about the disasters all over the country. Watch your local TV stations lately and see the reports of the many tornados causing damage all over the southern states as I write this column. The key is knowing what's important to look and listen for. By showing you some of the "look-a-likes" the National weather service representative will help you understand when to act and when to relax. Plan to attend a Spotter training seminar near you if your club does not sponsor a session.

The Central Ohio Amateur Radio Emergency Service has their Spotter training session planned for March 15, at the Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security office at 5300 Strawberry Farms Blvd. Columbus, Ohio. 9 AM until Noon!

The 20/9 ARC has their Skywarn Training set up for March 26 at the Austintown Fitch High School. Falcon Blvd, Austintown. Check in time is 5:30 PM

The Massillon ARC is planning their Skywarn training session for March 19 at the Stark State College of Technology. Complete details for this session will be posted on the Stark County ARES and MARC websites as soon as they receive confirmation of the date from Cleveland NWS.

CONGRATULATIONS!

TO The Lake County Amateur Radio Association. They have received their SSC renewal for 2008. Great Job!

TO The Milford ARC . They have received their SSC renewal for 2008. Great Job!

TO The Massillon Amateur Radio Club. They have received their SSC renewal for 2008. Great Job!

ALL THE ABOVE have been reviewed and approved as Special Service Clubs. They have taken that extra step forward and demonstrated their dedication to amateur radio here in the Ohio Section!

Remember to support your local amateur radio club! If you are a member make sure you PAY YOUR DUES! AND support your local hamfest!

FILE THE ANNUAL REPORT FORM! Here it is March already. Have you made sure your Club has filed

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the annual report form? Keep your club information up to date with the ARRL and Ohio Section Officials by filing the annual report form as soon as possible if you have not filed it as yet! If you **have** filed the annual report form, Congratulations! We know how to contact you if the need arises. You won't miss any important news the League wants you to know about, because we have your contact information!

Remember, if you would like to have your Club be included in the Spotlight Club of the Month, get the information to me by the 10th of the month. If you would like some information about your club in this Monthly news, send it to me by the 10th of the month.

To all of you, let's THINK SPRING!

Well that's it for this time around with the Ohio Section Monthly News. Keep the Newsletters coming my way and sometime, somewhere, when you least expect it, I will be seeing you!

Best 73, *Joanne Solak KJ3O*, ACC Ohio

Ohio Section cabinet listing:

SM: Joe Phillips K8QOE, Fairfield, (to contact me, see *QST* page 16 or on the Web at www.iarc.ws/ohio;
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 KJ3O, Mantua; TC: Tom Holmes N8ZM, Tipp City; PIC: Emily Wells KC8RAL, Warren; OOC: Rick Swain KK8O, Galion; SGL: Nick Pittner WB8TMF, West Jefferson; STM: John Tipka W8UL, Reynoldsburg.

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Weaver's words, posted Feb 5, 2008

[NOTE: Reply only to k8je@arrl.org.]

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|---|--|
| - ARRL v. FCC | - Senior dues discount -- more |
| - All-risk, all-gear insurance | - Who is KI8JE? |
| - Complete minutes of January meeting | - Conduct of ARRL Board meetings |
| - 8th Region Incoming QSL Bureau – 2007 | - What to do when someone becomes a SK |
| - Members Only choices | - Tentative schedule |

+++ **ARRL v. FCC** +++

I received a question after the last issue of *Words* concerning the status of ARRL's suit against the FCC.

The situation is that we are on hold. Arguments in the case were heard late last year. This is a "bench" trial -- *i.e.* there is no jury. The judge will rule on the case.

It often takes several months before a ruling is handed down in cases such as ours. The ruling could come at any time, but don't be surprised if it is not released for a couple of more months.

+++ **Senior dues discount** -- more +++

A point I neglected to make regarding the future of the ARRL Senior Citizen dues discount is that Seniors may renew their memberships using the discount for as many as five years if this is done by the end of 2008. If the details of this multi-year extension have not been announced by the time your renewal comes due, feel free to call toll free at 1-888-277-5289.

+++ **All-risk, all-gear insurance** +++

My guess is that most of us have insurance of some form on our radio equipment. It may be everything that we want. On the other hand, it may be a little lacking.

You may not know that ARRL has had "all-risk" and "all-gear" insurance available to ARRL members for many years. This is the type of insurance that will cover every piece of ham equipment, your computer(s) and the programs used with your ham activities . . . and give you the full replacement value of any insured item that is lost through any accidental occurrence. Yes, I said replacement value. I should also add that people I know who have benefited from this insurance say collecting on it is fully no-hassle.

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You can check into this insurance "from the comfort of your own home" by going to www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/insurance/equipment.html. Whether you decide to buy this insurance, it is still a good deal.

+++ **Who is KI8JE?** +++

For our DXers as well as others in the know, KI8JE could be referred to as a "pirate." In reality, he is a typo. I suspect most of you realize that KI8JE is to whom I said replies to the last *Words* should be directed. I hope it was obvious that this should have read K8JE.

If you noticed I referred to KI8JE as a pirate and not as a "slim." You who know me, know I could not consider myself a slim!

Oh, yes . . . as of the end of January, there is no KI8JE.

+++ **Complete minutes of January meeting** +++

If you would like to read the complete minutes of the January Board of Directors Meeting, they are posted on the ARRL web site. Simply go to <http://www.arrl.org/announce/board-0801/>. If you have any questions after reading these, let me know.

+++ **Conduct of ARRL Board meetings** +++

I doubt if many readers have looked through the ARRL Constitution, Bylaws and Standing Orders to see how we conduct Board of Directors meetings. With the exception of rules of specific procedure contained in these ARRL documents, meetings are conducted following *Roberts' Rules of Order*. The difference seen in Board meetings vs. most local club meetings is that the Board has a Parliamentarian who is very knowledgeable in parliamentary procedure. He keeps us on the straight and narrow.

The structure of Board meetings is similar to that of the US House and Senate. Much of the work done by the Board is assigned to standing committees or ad hoc committees. These committees generally work throughout the year to reach recommendations that are made in reports to the Board at each Board meeting. The Board accepts, rejects or modifies committee reports; thereby, adopting or rejecting the provisions contained in them.

The two standing committees of the Board are the Administration & Finance Committee (*K8JE was named to this committee at the Jan. board mtg – Ye Ed*) and the Programs & Services Committee. *Ad hoc* and Advisory Committees come and go; however, the standing committees remain in one form or another over the years.

ARRL Board meetings are set for January and July. The rules typically require them to be held in the vicinity of Newington, CT. They can be moved around the country at the discretion of the Board. This was done for our meeting in January which was held in Houston. Incidentally, the reason for the move to Houston was severe weather that hit Newington the past two years. Weather forced a couple of Board members to miss the meeting completely and caused several directors to stay an extra day for the airport to open for their trip home. I was one of the latter Directors.

Housing, and meeting and dining facilities are at a local hotel. When we meet in Newington, committees meet at our HQ building. Rooms at HQ are far too small to host Board sessions or dining.

Before we decided to meet in Houston, the Board set a requirement that the total cost of the meeting there must be essentially the same or less than the cost we would have incurred in Newington.

Standing committees and miscellaneous other meetings take place on Thursday before the Board meeting.

The sequence of events related to actual Board meetings typically begin on Thursday evening with dinner.

After dinner, we get together in an informal discussion of one or more topics that are expected to come before the Board on Friday and Saturday. The Board meeting itself begins on Friday morning and includes the adoption of an agenda. You can see the agenda for this past meeting by reviewing the minutes for it.

In most instances, the meeting ends mid-to-late Saturday afternoon.

+++ **8th Region Incoming QSL Bureau - 2007** +++

8th Region Incoming QSL bureau Manager Jay Slough K4ZLE has summarized the activity of this Bureau for 2007. He and the Letter Sorters in 8-land received and redistributed approximately 89,028 overseas QSL cards over the year. This figure compares with 111,734 in 2006, 110,905 in 2005, 138,236 in 2004 and 154,054 handled in 2003. The effect of the bottom of the sun cycle is evident.

Regardless of the lower number of cards processed this past year, the gang at the 8th Region Bureau did a splendid job. This job will start to become larger for the next several years as the new cycle begins to show itself and grows in strength.

I want to thank Jay for his excellent leadership of the Bureau, and for the great work of the letter sorters who have supported him and the Bureau.

Incidentally, the 8th Region Bureau serves only the amateurs who have 8s in their call signs. At one time, of course, this was amateurs in Michigan, Ohio and West Virginia. Now, an amateur's incoming Bureau is the one that has the same number in its name as the amateur's call sign, regardless of where the amateur lives.

Following this format, 4-land amateurs use the 4th Region Bureau.

+++ **What to do when someone becomes a SK** +++

It is not necessary ". . . to mail the physical license (ed. to the FCC) but the next of kin should contact the FCC with either a death certificate or obituary and letter asking the license be cancelled." Among other reasons for this, it prevents a pirate from stealing the call and using it with impunity until the term of the call expires.

The second action to take is to notify the ARRL Silent Key Administrator [sk@arrl.org]. This notification should include a copy of the obituary or other means to establish the accuracy of the report and the call sign.

Why the need to confirm the report? I think it was W. C. Fields who one time said, "The report of my death has been greatly exaggerated." The fact is that none of us wishes to be involved in reporting the death of a friend or acquaintance when they have not died!

In the case of ARRL members, their loved ones are eligible to receive *QST* and other ARRL periodicals, if they wish, that had been going to the SK.

+++ **Members only choices** +++

This is just a reminder that there are a number of e-publications and forms of messages that are available to ARRL members. Essentially all of these are opt-in or opt-out depending on one's preference. Go to Members Only at *arrl.org* to make your selections -- in or out. I certainly hope you continue to opt-in on receiving these messages from me as well as from your Section Manager.

Of particular noteworthiness is the fact that HQ on fairly rare occasion partners with outside companies that provide services of value to amateurs. When this happens, you are likely to receive an e-mail from HQ that promotes the partnership. You can opt-in or opt-out of receiving these messages.

+++ **Tentative Schedule** +++

2008

Mar 5: Miami Valley ARA Meeting

Mar 15: Bellbrook ARC Dinner

Apr 2: Lake County ARC, Painesville, OH - Jim

Apr 14: PCARS (OH) Meeting - Jim

Apr 22: Quarterly Division Cabinet Teleconference, 9 PM

May 16-18: Dayton Hamvention(TM) - Gary & Jim

Jun 21: Milford, OH, Hamfest - Jim

Jul QST 'til noon Aug 8: Nominations for Director/Vice Director open. *The 2-Fiver, March 2008, page 12*

Jul 10: Mahoning Valley ARA, Youngstown, OH - Jim
Jul 17-20: Board of Directors Meeting, Newington, CT - Jim & Gary
Jul 22: Quarterly Division Cabinet Teleconference, 9 PM.
Sep 21: Cincinnati Hamfest, Cincinnati, OH - Jim.
Sep 23-Oct 1: Ballots mailed for Director/Vice Director election.
Oct 28: Quarterly Division Cabinet Teleconference, 9 PM.
Nov 21, noon: Deadline for return of ballots. Ballots counted.
Nov 22 by end of day: Candidates notified of election results.

2009

Jan 1, noon: Current terms end for GLD Director/Vice Director. Newly elected/re-elected Director/Vice Director terms begin.

73, *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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- **2008 Field Day Web Page Good to Go:** The official 2008 ARRL Field Day Web page <http://www.arrl.org/FieldDay> is up and running. The page includes a summary of available resources, with links to Field Day forms and rules, logos and reference links. There is also a link for ordering commemorative Field Day T-shirts, pins and other supplies. ARRL Sales and Marketing Manager Bob Inderbitzen NQ1R said supplies will begin shipping in early March, but it's not too early to place a pre-order now. Radio clubs are encouraged to order early. -- *The ARRL Letter*, Vol 27 #7, Feb 22, 2008

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==> **New ARRL Volunteer Examiner Manual now online**

The 9th edition of the ARRL VEC/VE Manual [http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/vemannual/](http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/vemmanual/) is now online on the ARRL Web site. The manual, the most complete source on the Amateur Radio Volunteer Examiner Program, has everything you need to know in order to be an ARRL Volunteer Examiner.

"We're really excited about the new Manual," said ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma AB1FM. "We've put a lot of work into it, taking suggestions from Volunteer Examiners all over the United States. It's very comprehensive, yet easy to understand." Somma said the manual is full of new and timely information, taking into account the licensing rule changes that went into effect last year.

"One of the biggest changes to the 9th edition is the deletion of all the procedures having to do with Morse code testing," Somma said. As of February 23, 2007, the FCC no longer requires those upgrading their license to be tested on Morse code. Somma said that more than 80 percent of the Manual's content has been revised.

The Manual, written to help guide amateurs through the VEC program, is also a guide for those aspiring to be Volunteer Examiners. "Any General, Advanced or Amateur Extra class license holder is eligible to be a Volunteer Examiner," Somma said. "It's a simple process to become a VE -- just complete the ARRL VE application form and pass a 40-question 'open book' test and you're set! If you're an active ham radio operator, you probably enjoy giving back to the Amateur Radio community, be it through public service or as a Volunteer Examiner. Many hams fondly remember their first license examination experience."

Information in the Manual includes how to become an accredited Volunteer Examiner and how to participate in the Amateur Radio examination process, as well as real-life experiences from current Volunteer

Examiners. "It's really a reference manual with tons of details. The real-life experiences in the Manual will help current and future Volunteer Examiners know how to deal with those pesky situations that sometimes pop up," Somma said.

For more information on the ARRL Volunteer Examiner Program, please see the ARRL VE Web site <http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/index.html>. -- *The ARRL Letter*, Vol 27 #6, Feb 15, 2008

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What's coming in March 2008

- Tue, Mar 4 Primary Election Day in OH – vote before club mtg pls!
7:30 PM Club meeting at Salem Presbyterian Church, Mozart & Higbee in Westwood-Cheviot behind Harrison-Boudinot White Castle
Program: Be Red Cross Ready! with Tom Peterson from Red Cross
- Wed, Mar 5 9:00 PM Tech Talk, NCS Emily K4MLE, 146.925
- Fri, Mar 7 8:00 PM Amateur Radio Public Svc Corps, Hamilton Co Communications Ofc Conference Rm, 2377 Civic Ctr Dr – park in Bd of Educ lot
- Sat, Mar 8 10:00 AM Oh-Ky-In monthly fox hunt, hounds start from Mt Storm Park (talk-in to start on 146.67)
- Wed, Mar 12 9:00 PM Tech Talk, NCS Dennis KB8ROA, 146.925
- Sun, Mar 16 Palm Sunday
- Mon, Mar 17 St Patrick's Day
- Wed, Mar 19 9:00 PM Tech Talk, NCS Brian K4BRI, 146.925
- Thu, Mar 20 Vernal equinox
- Fri, Mar 21 Good Friday
- 7:30 PM Queen City Emergency Net at Red Cross HQ, 820 Sycamore St
- Sun, Mar 23 Easter Sunday
- Wed, Mar 26 9:00 PM Tech Talk, NCS Rick KD4PYR, 146.925
- Tue, Apr 1 7:30 PM Club meeting at Salem Presbyterian Church, Mozart & Higbee in Westwood-Cheviot behind Harrison-Boudinot White Castle
Program: To be determined



VE exam opportunities

1st Sat each month: Cincinnati-Hartwell, sponsored by GCARA, at Hartwell Presbyterian Church. Register 8:30 AM; walk-ins only! All licence classes. Info: Dale Pritchett KC8HJL, 513=769-0789.

2d Mon each month: Edgewood KY, sponsored by NKARA, at Turkeyfoot Middle School, 3230 Turkeyfoot Rd. Register 6 PM. Follow the signs. Pre-registration preferred, walk-ins accepted. Info: Lyle Hamilton AB8SH, 513=315-4032. Talk-in 147.255.

In all cases exams require 2 IDs (preferably one with photo). Bring original as well as photocopy of current licence, any CSCE, pen or pencil. Current exam fee is \$14.

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ARRL staffers help raise more than \$16,000 for Public Television

On December 31, ARRL staffers and members of the Newington Amateur Radio League came out to support Connecticut Public Television (CPTV) by working the phones during the University of Connecticut's women's basketball game against Army. More than \$16,000 was raised in pledges to help support CPTV. ARRL Chief Development Officer Mary Hobart K1MMH, the face of UCONN women's basketball on CPTV since 1994, promotes women's basketball about 10 times a year on CPTV. "The

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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 Gary Coffey KB8MYC, Chair
PIO Bruce Vanselow N8BV
Q-Fiver Editor Susie Scott N8CGM
Historian Dale Vanselow KC8HQS
Fox Hunters Chair Dick Arnett WB4SUV
John M Hugentober Sr Memorial CW Proficiency Award
Brian DeYoung K4BRI, Chair
WebMeister Dale Vanselow KC8HQS
Tech Talk Net Mgr Bruce Vanselow N8BV
Fundraising Chair Bruce Vanselow N8BV
TVI/RFI Chair Dick Arnett WB4SUV
Silent Key Chair Bruce Vanselow N8BV

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 Chair Nathan Ciufo KA3MTT
Special Publications Jo Haltermon KD4PYS
Equipment Mgrs Mike Hornsby KC8YOM
David Hornsby KC8YTJ
DXpedition Coordinator Eric Neiheisel N8YC
[n8yc@arrl.net] 513=598-1659
K8SCH QSL Mgr Gerry Weimer KD8ASL
Life Members Kenneth E. Wolf N8WYC
John W. Hughes AI4DA

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basketball on CPTV since 1994, promotes women's basketball about 10 times a year on CPTV. "The Amateur Radio volunteers filled the studio and demonstrated that the best volunteers are Amateur Radio volunteers, the world's best communicators! The afternoon presented a wonderful opportunity to introduce ham radio to all of southeastern New England, and I encourage other Amateur Radio clubs, ARES groups and other organizations to contact their local public television and radio stations for opportunities like this. It's great promotion – and it's great fun!" she said.

In Brief, QST, March 2008

News of members and students in recent classes

Rick KD4PYR (past club President & Treasurer) had eye surgery in early February to repair a detached retina & fix some tears.

He was home & doing all right by that weekend.

--Dale KC8H2S

Time to pay dues is running short!

As our President reminded you in his column on page 3, **if you've not yet paid your 2008 Oh-Ky-In dues, there's no time like the present!** This is supposed to be the LAST Q-FIVER for those who have not yet paid up.

Back in prehistoric times before postage costs escalated so much and we had to change over to mostly electronic copies, there was a rubber stamp made that said on it, LAST Q-FIVER. This was stamped in red, so it couldn't be overlooked, on the address page of the appropriate copies once address labels were affixed by the circulation committee (when that was more than just N8CGM and WD9HDZ). Ye Ed isn't using that this time.

Application form can be had at the club website, www.ohkyin.org, or at the members' meeting.

73, *Nathan KA3MTT*, Membership Chair

Copy deadline for April issue is Friday, March 21 (Good Friday)

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