



K8SCH

THE Q-FIVE



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



Our 49th Year of Service to Cincinnati in Amateur Radio
 A Special Service Club of the American Radio Relay League
 (the national association for Amateur Radio)

OFFICERS & BOARD

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OH-KY-IN Repeaters

146.670 (-) Clifton 146.925 (-) Colerain Twp. 146.625 (-) Withamsville
 APRS: K8SCH-10 Edgewood WIDE, on 144.39

Web Page

<http://www.ohkyin.org>

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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The Q-FIVER is the official newsletter of OH-KY-IN ARS, edited & published monthly by Susie Scott N8CGM 6351 Daleview Road 45247 513=385-5201 Editor

Electronic copies: Adobe Acrobat

The Q-FIVER is mailed and e-mailed usually 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)

April 2009 Volume 49 Number 4

From the President...

Well, it's another successful classes/exams period in the books. Thanks to our teachers, VEs and helpers for being there for this club event. Also, thanks to QCEN for their help!

Just a reminder, this year's club Awards Dinner will be Tuesday, April 14, 2009 at Nick & Tom's Restaurant in Green Township. We'll begin with dinner @ 7 PM and presentation of awards will follow, including the 2008 OH-KY-IN Ham Of The Year. RSVP is not necessary. See you there!

Field Day is right around the corner; Saturday, June 27 & Sunday, June 28. Setup will be Friday, June 26. Field Day is always the fourth full weekend in June. We'll need volunteers help build & tear down stations as well as to operate those stations. As in the past, we will be at Mitchell Memorial Forest in Cleves. Interested in helping? Contact Nathan KA3MTT @ [nanina@fuse.net].

See you at the April club meeting!

73, Dale KC8HZS

Next meeting

The April meeting, on Tuesday, April 7, will feature Nathan KA3MTT, doing a special program he's titled "Diary of an Unknown Ham". (This program had been scheduled for March, but had to be postponed due to the passing of Nathan's dad, Anthony KA3MTU, the night before the meeting.) Nathan will take us on a journey through the life of a ham operator in the early days of ham radio. It will be a fascinating look back in time!

Looking ahead to Tuesday, May 5, Jay Adrick K8CJY will give us an enlightening program on digital TV. You may recall Jay was scheduled to be with us in February, when snow canceled our meeting. Jay is one of the foremost authorities on DTV; please plan to attend!

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 onto Mozart (just before the White Castle). The church is on the right. Please come in the ground floor entrance, under the stairs. The meeting begins at 7:30 PM.

73, Gary KB8M4C

Minutes of General Membership meeting, Oh-Ky-In Amateur Radio Society, Tuesday, March 3, 2009

Dale KC8HQJ called the meeting to order at 7:31 PM, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

No Guests present – 26 members attending.

New / Upgrades to license – none

Proceeded to the self introductions

Health and Welfare – Don KA8JFO passed, Nathan KA3MTT's father passed

Brag session – Ted W8VNV is moving into the new shack... Sam KJ8K 32nd anniversary as club member

There was no program due to family issues

Dale thanked Gary KB8MYC for running the hospitality table.

Minutes of the last meeting, published in *Q-Fiver* by Susie N8CGM – no corrections, Tom NG8A motion to accept, Eric KC8NMP seconded

Membership - Nathan KA3MTT not present – Taking applications for 2009, current count is 73

Treasurer - Kevin KI4PJK passed financial reports, he is shopping for good CD rates

Bruce N8BV reported nothing new for the silent key committee.

Tech committee - Brian K4BRI plans to have a clean up party at the 146.67 site at the next tech meeting

Education committee – Gary KB8MYC reminded people about the one day Tech and the two day general classes, with the exam the following Saturday the 28th. Also workshops have attracted 5-6 each

Bruce N8BV reported that we have a booth again at Red, White and Blue Ash on July 4th

Tech Talk - Bruce N8BV reported we still need net controls

Liaison – Pete KC8BZM reported QCEN has a regular meeting on the 3rd Friday, and that the 147.24 repeater is back on the air. The Tuesday net will be starting up there again. WARN training is Apr 3 at the Blue Ash Red Cross building

Audit committee met, went over information and no discrepancies were found. A written report will be submitted. Thanks to Harry WA8LOJ, , Sam KJ8K and Gerry KD8ASL!

Awards committee – Banquet will be Apr 14 at 7PM at Nick and Toms

Racers – Racers will race this month, on the 31st, 7:30 PM – Come on out!

Old business - none

New business - none

The random member drawing was Duffy WB8NUT, who was not present and would have received \$15

Split the pot of \$17 was won by Harry WA8LOJ

Meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM

Respectfully submitted - *Brian K4BRI*, Recording Secretary

ARLB014 Julius Genachowski Nominated as Next FCC Chairman

On Tuesday, March 3, President Barack Obama nominated Julius Genachowski as FCC Chairman. Genachowski, 46, is a technology executive and a former classmate of Obama's from Harvard Law School. Upon Senate confirmation, Genachowski will replace Acting FCC Chairman Michael Copps; Copps took over the Commission on January 22, 2009, two days after then-Chairman Kevin Martin resigned. Genachowski has been widely praised by industry executives and consumer-activist groups -- two groups often at odds -- for his wide-ranging experience and intimate knowledge of technology issues.

"I can think of no one better than Julius Genachowski to serve as chairman of the Federal Communications Commission," said President Obama. "He will bring to the job diverse and unparalleled experience in communications and technology, with two decades of accomplishment in the private sector and public service. I know him as the son of immigrants who carries a deep appreciation for this country and the American dream; and as the proud father of three children working with his wife Rachel to be responsible parents in this digital age."

The Q-Fiver, Oh-Ky-In ARS, April 2009 page 4

According to the *Wall Street Journal*, speculation has been rife as to why President Obama had not put forth Genachowski's name before now, saying that "his nomination has centered on the administration's efforts to find at least one more nominee – more likely two -- to fill other open spots on the FCC's five-person board. Agency nominations tend to move through the Senate more quickly if a Democratic nominee is paired with a Republican nominee."

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Applications are still being accepted for **new and alternate Tech Talk net controls**. Frankly, some of the NCSes have been in place for years and could use a break, even a short-term one. If you can help out on one or several Wednesday nights, please advise Bruce N8BV – at 513=251-1555 or [n8bv@juno.com].

Radio's Plus

Joe Davidson KB8SBN
11641 Colthar Dr
Bethel OH 45106-9669
513=752-9570

2009 Club Dues Now Overdue!!

If you haven't yet paid your Oh-Ky-In dues for 2009, you're in **trouble!** Dues were due on Tue, March 31. Please see the membership form on the club web page; then mail form & dues to Nathan KA3MTT, 6323 Cinnamon Ridge Dr, Burlington KY 41005

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Hamfests &c.

April 2009

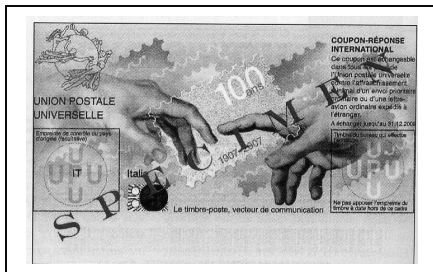
- 11 Jackson OH Hamfest, sponsored by Jackson Co ARC at Jackson Co YMCA, 594 E. Main St. 9 AM-1 PM. Vendors, fleas, handicap access, refreshments, tailgating, VE exams 10 AM. Talk-in: 146.79 (167.9 Hz). \$5. Info: Jim Dennett K8ZUA, 740=286-5454, [k8zua@jacksoncountyar.org], www.Jacksoncountyar.org
- 19 4th Annual North Central IN Hamfest, co-sponsored by Cass Co, Grant Co, Miami Co, Blackford & Kokomo ARCs at Miami Co 4-H Fairgrounds, Co Rd 200 N, Peru IN. 7 AM-2 PM. VE exams 8-10 AM. Anyone who obtains a license or a upgrade at our testing session will be admitted FREE to the Hamfest! Talk-in: 147.345. \$5, 17 and under free, free parking, handicapped parking available. Info: Robbie Robinson W9RSR, 765=985-2811, [w9rsr@comcast.net], www.nci-hamfest.com
- 55th Annual Cuyahoga Falls OH Hamfest, sponsored by Cuyahoga Falls ARC at Emidio & Sons Party Ctr, 48 E. Bath Rd. 8 AM-1:30 PM. Hamfest, Electronics & Computer Show. Talk-in: 147.27. \$5 advance, \$6 door. Info: Ted Sarah W8TTS, 330=688-2013, [w8tts@w8tts.com], www.cfarc.org/hamfest2009.html
- 25 2009 RCARA Spring Tailgate, Ashland KY, sponsored by River Cities ARA at Ntl City Bank parking lot, 1000 Carter Ave (location of old Ashland train depot from years back). 8 AM-3 PM. Talk-in: 146.94. FREE! Tailgating, VE exams at Info: Matt Tinker AA4XA, 606=834-9177, [aa4xa@arrl.net], www.rcara.org
- May 2 Louisa KY Hamfest, sponsored by Big Sandy ARC at Sr Citizen Ctr, 101 W Pike St. 8 AM-2 PM ES & QCWA meetings, VE exams start at 10 AM. Talk-in: 147.39 (127.3 Hz), www.bsarc.org

DX Spots – April 2009 de KA3MTT

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5N00CH- Nigeria thru 7- 24 ----- FG- Guadelope thru 4-11	HH4-Haiti thru 4-3 ----- VK9LI-Lord Howe Isl thru 4-3 ----- YJ0AAC- Vanuatu thru 4-1	J6-St Lucia thru 4-2 ----- C91TX- Mozambique thru 4-5 ----- VK9GMW- Mellis Reef thru 4-10	1 E5-South Cook Isl thru 4-4 ----- GT4BRS-Isle of Man thru 4-4 ----- 5Z4 thru 4-12	2 6W-Senegal thru 4-9 ----- 8P6DR- Barbados thru 4-24	3 KH0-Mariana Isl thru 4-7	4 VK9N-Norfolk Isl ----- VK9XGI- Christmas Is thru 4-11
5	6	7 FJ-St Barthelemy thru 4-12	8 KG4CN- Guantanamo Bay thru 4-21	9 OH0-Aland Isl thru 4-14 ----- C91FC- Mozambique thru 4-13 ----- 3B8-Mauritius thru 4-17	10	11
12 S04R- Western Sahara thru 4-17	13	14	15	16	17 TI7-Costa Rica thru 4-20	18
19 5C2A- Morocco thru 4-25 ----- JW-Svalbard thru 4-25	20	21 ZF2ZB- Cayman Is thru 5-6	22 5W-Samoa ----- KH8- American Samoa thru 4-24	23	24	25 3D2-Fiji
26	27 T30-West Kiribati thru 4-29	28	29 JD1BLK- Ogasawara thru 5-5	30		

OPERATION APPROVED FOR DXCC CREDIT. The following operation is approved for DXCC credit: Desecheo Island, K5D, 2009 operation. – DX Bulletin 10, Mar 12

Time to start thinking about dumping your IRCs



DXers and QSL Managers alike need to be aware that the “Beijing model No 2” International Reply Coupons (IRC), with the Michelangelo “two fingers about to touch, framed in a postage stamp” must be exchanged for postage by December 31, 2009. DXers need to use them up as soon as possible in order to allow QSL managers ample time to turn them in by the end of this year. I would suggest the DXers not use the Beijing model No 2 IRC after September and that QSL managers will want to turn them in to their post offices by early December. As of press

time the new IRCs are not available but probably will be this summer. Don’t get caught (in this Ponzi scheme) with a bunch of worthless IRCs!

--*Bernie McCleeny W5UR* in “How’s DX?”, pp 89-90.

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Shown is one of 2 current Beijing model No 2 IRCs with the Michelangelo “two fingers about to touch, framed in a postage stamp”. This is the Universal Postal Union’s 100th anniversary issue. Both it and the original (without *100 ans* and *1907-2007* in light block behind the fingers) are good through December 31, 2009.

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Contests

April 2009

- 1 LIDS of America CW Contest, all QSOs must be under 3 wpm. Bonus for operating on a DX net frequency.
 - 4-6 MT QSO Party; MO QSO Party; QCWA Spring QSO Party; EU EME contest; EA RTTY Contest; LZ 40 M CW Contest; QRPI ARCI Spring QSO Party, CW; VHF Spring Sprints, 144 MHz
 - 9-19 Lighthouse Spring Lites contest
 - 11-12 GA QSO Party; EU Spring Sprints, CW; URE 60th Anniversary Contest, all modes; JA International DX Contest, CW; PSK 31 Flavors Contest; Yuri Gagarin DX Contest
 - 13 Low Power Spring Sprint
 - 14 VHF Spring Sprints 222 MHz
 - 18-19 EU Spring Sprints, SSB; ONT QSO Party; MI QSO Party; TARA Skirmish Digital Prefix Contest; Holyland DX Contest; EA QRP Contest CW; YU DX Contest
 - 22 VHF Spring Sprints 432 MHz
 - 25-26 FL QSO Party; NE QSO Party; SP DX RTTY Contest; Helvetia Contest; QRP to the field
- Many good contests, no foolin’ (well maybe a little) for more see *QST*, *CQ*, or

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

73, *Dan K744U*

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Ohio Section News April 09

By Affiliated Clubs Coordinator Joanne Solak KJ30

GREETINGS OF THE SPRING! FROM THE OHIO SECTION.

FINALLY Spring has sprung. And the Easter Season is just ahead. Many Clubs are busy planning their many public service events they will participate in this year. *The 2-Fiver, Oh-Ky-In ARS, April 2009 page 7*

SKYWARN is really popular with the many Counties in the Ohio Section. There is nothing like being prepared for severe weather. Did you remember to check into your local ARES/SKYWARN NET during the Spring Severe Weather Awareness week? The statewide Tornado drill was scheduled for March 25 at 9:50 AM.

Now speaking of SKYWARN, this column goofed in the March edition. The SKYWARN of Mahoning County (Youngstown) is NOT affiliated with any club. The March editon associated it with one of Mahoning County's two active ham radio clubs. Both clubs are active in support of SKYWARN. Thanks to Dean DeMain W8YSU of Boardman for getting to us promptly with the correct information.

CHECK WITH YOUR CLUB SECRETARY to see if your Club's ANNUAL REPORT form has been filed this year. There are some clubs scheduled for the "inactive list" if you do not file that form NOW! If you need to file it..go on line to HYPERLINK <http://www.arrl.org/clubs> <http://www.arrl.org/clubs> then follow the prompts to the Annual Report form, make the updates and submit. That's all there is to it and you can remain on the "active list" with all the ARRL benefits.

REMEMBER If there is anyone in your club who is not an ARRL member or has not been a member during the past two years, have them join now and a portion of their membership dues will benefit your club. To join or re-join make the check payable to your club and your club will keep \$15.00 for the Club treasury. (The amount due the ARRL will depend on what membership they desire. Regardless, the Club keeps the \$15.00 and sends the balance to Headquarters. \$39.00 is the regular membership)

The Dayton Hamvention^R is scheduled for May 15 through May 17. The Dayton Hamvention^R Committee, including DARA members and supporters, is very busy planning the largest event in the Ohio Section. There have been many hours spent creating an online registration application for their fellow amateurs to register for this event. Carl Rose K8CPR, Dayton Hamvention^R General Chairman 2009, says they will be able to better service their customer base and improve their service to them with this online registration application once it is totally developed.

The latest edition of the *Ohio Section Journal* is available on the Ohio Section Web site. The Ohio Section Web site has lots of information about activities in the Ohio Section. It is kept up to date by Web Master Jeff Slattery N8SUZ.

The 20/9 Club is in the middle of planning the ARRL Annual Field Day scheduled for June 27 and 28. Steve Fabry KC8SOY is setting up this event for the Club. August is the Club's annual Corn Roast, and George Bennett is in charge of this event.

Central Ohio Amateur Radio Emergency Service finds their event schedule getting more active than they thought it would be. The group does the "Aladdin Shrine Circus", "Arnold Sports Festival", The OSU Spring Football game, the annual Tour of the Scioto River Valley and the event list goes on and on. This is a very busy group, to say the least.

The Milford Amateur Radio Club celebrated its 35th anniversary March 14. Their annual hamfest is scheduled for June 20. They have been active with several events including their VE sessions.

Many Clubs are sponsoring Amateur Radio Classes and Exams. Make sure your VE Exam sessions are advertised well ahead of time by registering them with K3RC Bob Johnson. You can obtain all Bob's information in the latest edition of the *OSJ*.

The Spotlight Club of the month is still alive and well. Send me your Club information by the 12th of the month to get it published in the Ohio Section Monthly News.

The Buckeye Belles annual meeting this year will be held on Saturday, May 2 at the Der Dutchman in Plain City, Ohio. The Belles are looking for YLs to run for office! So if one of you Belles are interested in a Belles position, please contact Nancy Rabel Hall KC4IYD. (Nancy is President of the Buckeye Belles)

The Salem Club is busy getting their event calendar up to date. They do lots of Public Service Events

during the year such as the Memorial Day Parade and the Super NATS for starters.

The Massillon ARC Members will again this year provide communications support for the April MS Walk, Saturday, April 25 .

2009 Club Membership dues are now due and some past due for many clubs. Support your local Club and pay your membership dues NOW! With the economic conditions as they are, Clubs will need to count on their membership support to pay Club expenses. Plus, volunteer your time and expertise to your club. Any event sponsored by your club NEEDS volunteers to make Club events and activities a success.

Keep the Newsletters coming. Keep me informed as to what your club is involved with so I can highlight your Club events in the Ohio Section News. If I don't know what your Club is doing, I can't share your information with other Clubs. I can only report what you tell me. So, keep it coming! If the information you want in the Ohio Section News isn't in your newsletter, you can e-mail me with the info before the 12th of the month.

Some final thoughts before I say 73, ----File the Annual Report Form --Support your local club--, Join the ARRL if you are not already a member, --renew your membership in your local Club and ARRL, --Volunteer to help out with your Club's activities and events, --Become a Club Officer in your local Club. Most of all, ENJOY AMATEUR RADIO!!

Well that's it for this time around. THINK SPRING! It has arrived. And most of all remember this; Sometime, Somewhere, when you least expect it, I will be seeing YOU! Until then, enjoy the beautiful Spring-time Season.

Best 73, *Joanne Solak KJ3O*, ACC OHIO SECTION

OHIO APRIL HAMFESTS

(19) Sunday, Cuyahoga Falls ARC; For more info, write w8tts@w8tts.com: located at 48 E. Bath Road, Cuyahoga Falls.

(26) Sunday, Athens County ARA, For more info, write: mcdanied@ohiou.edu: located at 701 E. State Street, Athens.

OHIO SECTION CABINET LISTING:

SM: Joe Phillips K8QOE, Fairfield, (to contact me, see *QST* page 16 or on the Web at <www.arrloho.org>; ASM-NE: Bob Winston W2THU, Cleveland; ASM-NW: Ron Griffin N8AEH, Findlay; ASM-Central: Bill Carpenter AA8EY, Westerville; ASM-SW: Dave Coons WT8W, New Carlisle; ASM-SE: Connie Hamilton N8IO, Marietta; SEC: Jack Sovik KB8WPZ, Austintown; ACC: Joanne Solak KJ3O, Mantua; TC: Tom Holmes N8ZM, Tipp City; PIC: Emily Wells KC8RAL, Warren; OOC: Rick Swain KK8O, Galion; SGL: Nick Pittner K8NAP, West Jefferson; STM: John Tipka W8UL, Reynoldsburg.

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Weaver's words -- A Convention in your Future? (Reply only to k8je@arrl.org.)

- Call for Papers -- 2009 GL Division Convention
- Is a Repeater a Repeater?
- ARRL Legislative Agenda
- KYSAT-1
- DTV Presentation Available
- A Survey is on the Division web site
- Michigan QSO Party
- Incoming 8th Area QSL Bureau Factoids
- Triple Play Certificate
- Travel Schedule

Division Conference 8< big snip

As in the past, Division Awards for special service to Amateur Radio will be available. These are the George S. Wilson III Lifetime Achievement Award; Amateur of the Year; DX Achievement Award, Technical Achievement Award and Newsletter of the Year. Vice Director Gary Johnston KI4LA chairs a committee to develop the criteria for a new, young amateur achievement award.

Please read the Call for Papers, immediately below.

+++ **Call for Papers -- 2009 GL Division Convention** +++

The Great Lakes Division Convention will be in Findlay, Ohio on Sept. 12, 2009, the day before the Findlay Hamfest. The Convention is being organized and sponsored by the Findlay Radio Club.

When the opportunity to have the Convention in Findlay came up, the Club decided to sponsor it, but to try a few things different than in the past.

We know that hams are thrifty, so we decided to keep the cost of admission low. In fact, we decided we would pick up the cost of the convention so the admission charge will be \$0.00. (Ed. This is correct -- nada, nothing, free!)

We also decided that we would not have a standard convention banquet. There will not be a \$30 per person sit down dinner banquet at the end of the day. Instead, we are looking into doing a chicken barbecue at the fairgrounds. Tickets for the barbecue would be available for purchase at the Convention or at the barbecue. For lunch we will take orders for box lunches that will be brought in, or you can eat at a local restaurant of your choice. The Findlay Radio Club cannot take credit for any of these ideas. We are modeling the convention format after the very successful SW Ohio Digital Conference and a picnic meal the day before the Lake Placid NY Hamfest!

Our "theme" for the Convention will be attracting new hams through "Elmering-like" activities and re-interested existing amateurs through ground-up discussions of newer technologies. We would like to provide seminars and demonstrations to help a new ham get on the air (especially on HF) and also show new and old hams alike some of the hobbies within ham radio like homebrewing, satellite, digital, ATV, ballooning, APRS, etc. In addition, we plan to showcase methods people have found that work well introducing people to our hobby. Obviously there is not enough time to really cover everything in detail, but we hope to spark interest in these areas for new and old hams alike. Attendees will learn where they can go to get detailed information and more help to get started.

We intend that the Convention will expand your horizon. Perhaps that should be the theme of the Convention - "Expanding your Ham Radio Horizon".

We need speakers. K8JE has arranged for a top notch main speaker - former astronaut Tony England W00RE - and is arranging for a quality speaker from ARRL. All I have to do is get a dozen or so speakers to talk on topics like:

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| 1 Getting On HF -- Your First Station | 2 Getting On HF -- Your First Antenna |
| 3 Homebrew -- It Is Still Being Done | 4 Contesting -- Getting Started |
| 5 The Digital Modes -- An Introduction | 6 Getting on the Air with Satellites |
| 7 The QSL Bureau -- What Is It, and How Do I Use It? | |
| 8 Emergency Communications -- What Can I Do to Help, And How Do I Start? | |
| 9 Amateur Radio in the Local Schools | |
| 10 Getting New Hams Through the Boy Scouts, Using Radio Merit Badge | |
| 11 Mobile Operation | 12 VHF/UHF/Microwave Operation |
| 13 Triple Play Award | 14 Echolink/ILRP |
| 15 Winlink | 16 PSKmail |
| 17 Other | |

(Please tell us the numbers of your top four favorite ideas for seminars through the survey described below. If you click on 17 on the survey, please go to the Forum area to add your suggestions for topics as well as for speakers.)

You get the idea. If you can speak at the Convention on any of these topics or something similar to these, please contact me [n8et@arrl.net]. We have a good internet connection at the Convention site, so if you can do a talk remotely, let me know and we will see what we can work out.

Our tentative plans are to start the talks at 9 AM, and go to 5 with an hour for lunch. Sessions will start on the hour, with the initial 5 minutes for speaker set up, and the last 10 minutes of the hour as a break between sessions. We have the room to do two concurrent tracks, so we should be able to get 10 or 12 speakers. If you have a topic that needs more than an hour (for example, a panel discussion on attracting new hams or building club membership), we can combine sessions and make a two or even three hour session. There is a **huge** parking lot at the Convention site. If the weather is good we can do demos in the parking

lot at lunch, like erecting and trimming a dipole or working a satellite, and there is room in the hall for displays if you have something you would like to display.

Feel free to contact me if you have an idea that you think would fit in the 2009 Convention. We want to make this new, different, and the best convention ever!

Hope to hear from a lot of you soon!

73 -- *Bill N8E7*, Convention Chairman [n8et@arrl.net]

+++ **A Survey is on the Division web site** +++

There is a survey on the Great Lakes Division web site. It requests your input about the coming Division Convention. Your initial views and opinions will be very helpful in our planning for the convention. To take the simple survey, please go to www.greatlakes.arrl.org/. At the web site, click on the Survey/Feedback link to go to the survey.

The survey is in a click-on-the-answer format. If you wish to leave comments about the survey, the convention or anything else, mark the statement at the bottom of the survey, then click on the Enter My Forum icon and add your comments.

Thanks for your help with this survey.

+++ **Is a Repeater a Repeater?** +++

FCC needed 15 months to decide the thorny question, but it has concluded that a repeater is a repeater. The question that was posed to the Commission was whether digital repeaters are repeaters as analog repeaters are repeaters. The issue was that there is a brief delay in digital repeaters from the time they receive the input signal until they transmit the output signal.

Technically, of course, there is a very slight delay between receipt and retransmission of a signal for analog repeaters as well. The delay in analog repeaters is generally slightly less than with current digital repeaters. The result of the FCC clarification of the definition of a repeater means that digital repeaters need to operate in the subbands designated for repeater operation. Some amateurs had argued the delay in relaying signals by digital repeaters qualified them for use outside of these subbands.

+++ **Michigan QSO Party** +++

The Michigan QSO Party (MiQP) will be held on Saturday, April 18 from 1200 EDST to 2400 EDST (1600Z Saturday until 0400Z Sunday UTC). Stations may operate the full twelve hours. The general objective of the MiQP is for amateurs outside of Michigan to operate

The objective of the Party for stations outside of Michigan is to work Michigan stations, only. For Michiganers, it is to work anyone. The objective for everyone is to have fun.

Rules are at <http://www.miqp.org/Rules/htm>. These include a description of operating categories, bands to use and multiplier factors.

+++ **ARRL Legislative Agenda** +++

There is an old saying that goes, "The Lord helps those that help themselves." This cannot be more true when it comes to the Legislative Agenda the ARRL Board of Directors adopted for the current, 111th Congress. Great Lakes Division Legislative Action Chair John Meyers NB4K offers the following poignant comments related to what will be needed to move the agenda forward:

"With the changes in Congress and the House of Representatives we have our job cut out for us no matter how you look at it. With the changes in seat holders this means that a number of our Legislative Action Assistants (LAAs) will need to establish relations with the freshman Representatives or Senators or their aides who have taken over the offices. This will need to be done as soon as possible. The time is now to start making contact with these freshman Legislators and Congressman or their aides.

"Incidentally, you are not expected to travel to Washington to perform your duties. Instead, the following discussion assumes your visits with Congressmen or their aides will occur 'back home' in a local office.

"Be aware that we often are unable to meet directly with a Congressman. Instead, we may meet with one of his/her aides. This is fine. The fact that you met and the legislative position you supported during your meeting will be forwarded to the Congressman. The support you show during your meeting will provide much assistance to the ARRL Legislative Advocate in Washington, DC. Your meeting will prove to the Congressman that voters back home are interested in the legislation.

"If you have the opportunity to drop in to meet your Congressman's aide in a local office, consider introducing yourself. Tell them that later on you will doubtlessly contact them to make an appointment to visit the Congressman while he/she is at home, or to visit him (the aide) to discuss legislation that relates to Amateur Radio. Leave your Legislative Action business card and, if possible, a brief introduction to what Amateur Radio is and how it benefits the public."

By *John Meyers WB4K*, Division Legislative Action Chair

+++ ARRL Legislative Agenda Booth +++

Stop by the ARRL Legislative Agenda Booth at its national convention at the Hamvention^R. You will be able to discuss the ARRL legislative agenda and learn how easy it can be to promote the actions the League intends to initiate during the current, 111th, US Congress. The booth will be in the ARRL convention area at HARA.

+++ Incoming 8th Area Bureau QSL Factoids +++

Jay Slough K4ZLE, the very competent Manager of the very effective 8th Area Incoming QSL Bureau, reported the following activity for the bureau for the years 2003 through 2008. The year and the number of incoming QSLs handled during it follow:

2008 -- 80,248 QSL cards	2007 -- 89,028 cards	2006 -- 111,734 cards
2005 -- 110,905 cards	2004 -- 138,236 cards	2003 -- 154,054 cards

Does anyone want to take a guess where we are in the current sunspot cycle?

+++ KYSAT-1 +++

Kentucky's first orbiting satellite - developed in part by students at Western Kentucky University - has been selected by NASA to take flight in mid-2009. Students at WKU teamed with students at other Kentucky universities to design and build KySat-1.

The satellite has Amateur Radio capabilities along with a camera and cell phone. Students in K-12 across Kentucky will be able to use the features of KySat-1 to take photos, see the temperature and check the status of status of satellite components. The intent is to interest youngsters in mathematics and the sciences. The satellite project cost about \$850,000. It is expected to remain in orbit for 18 to 24 months. KySat-1 is said to be unique because it was developed in conjunction with several universities and is NASA's first launch of a university-built satellite.

8< **huge snip .. - What does ARRL do for Me?** hope to print next month! *Ye Ed*

+++ Triple Play Certificate +++

A long-time friend and member in southwest Ohio wrote me saying he thought the quality of the TPA certificate he earned was subpar. I forwarded the comment to HQ. Staff noted the certificate looked fine in proof copies and that a respected commercial printer had printed them. On checking through the standard run of certificates, they too found it to be below League standards. A new run of the certificates was made and replaced the original batch.

Everyone who received one of the earlier, off-quality certificates will automatically receive a replacement from the new run.

Communications from members do receive attention.

+++ **DTV Presentation Available** +++With the switch from analog TV (ATV) to digital TV (DTV) having been delayed from its initial February deadline, an offer by Frank Sanor WA8WHP of the Alliance

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(OH) ARC remains very viable. Club members developed a presentation that includes a PowerPoint show based on FCC DTV pages.

If you would like to receive a copy of the PP presentation for possible use with the pending switch to DTV, please contact Frank at [wa8whp@arrl.net]. Alliance ARC members who made and have given the presentation are Tom Steele KD8JRK, John Myers KD8MQ and Frank. John developed the power point from the FCC web site.

Congratulations to all clubs that helped educate the public on the switch to DTV. With the deadline for switching to DTV delayed until June, there is still time to help educate the technologically-deficient members of the public.

+++ **Travel Schedule** +++

The following is the schedule of travel by Division staff for the coming weeks. In addition to Vice Director Gary Johnson KI4LA, Division Legislative Action Chair John Meyers NB4K and 8th Area QSL Bureau Manager Jay Slough K4ZLE will visit the events shown below.

Date.....Event.....Division Representative(s)

SCHEDULE

19 Apr: Cuyahoga Falls, OH; Cuyahoga Falls ARC 'fest -- Gary, Jim

26 Apr: Athens, OH; Athens Co. ARA 'fest -- Gary

15-17 May: Hamvention^R/ARRL National Conv. -- Gary, John, Jim

6 Jun: Grand Rapids, MI; Indpndnt Rptr Assoc. 'fest -- John, Jim

7 Jun: Chelsea, MI; Chelsea ARC 'fest -- John, Jim

20 Jun: Midland, MI; Midland ARC 'fest -- Jay, Jim

21 Jun: Monroe, MI; Monroe Co. RCA 'fest-- Jay, Jim

9 Jul: Mahoning Valley ARA Meeting -- Jim

16 Jul: A&F Committee meeting, Newington -- Jim

17-18 Jul: ARRL Board meeting, Newington -- Gary, Jim

26 Jul: Randolph, OH -- Portage ARC 'fest -- John, Jim

12 Sep: Findlay, OH -- GLD Convention -- All

13 Sep: Findlay, OH -- Findlay ARC 'fest -- All

19 Sep: Reynoldsburg, OH -- Ohio Section Conference -- Jim

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

16 Aug: Cortland, OH -- Warren ARA 'fest -- John, Jim

20 Sep: Cincinnati, OH -- Gr. Cin. ARA 'fest -- Gary, Jim

17 Oct: Holland, MI -- Holland ARC 'fest -- Gary, Jay

18 Oct: Kalamazoo, MI -- K'zoo ARC/SMART 'fest-- Gary, Jay

NOTE: Please apply to have your hamfest/swap sanctioned well in advance of the date it will be held. The sooner it is sanctioned as an ARRL event, the sooner it will appear on the listing of hamfests and conventions on the ARRL web site. This will provide more publicity for the event.

73, *Jim*

Jim Weaver K8JE, Director ARRL Great Lakes Division

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

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Classes / Workshops

The Education committee has been busy this spring. First, we held our spring classes. We had a good number of students for both our One Day Tech and also for our first ever Weekend General class. A big

thank you goes out to our partners at QCEN for their assistance with the tech class and to Brian K4BRI for teaching the general class.

Our evening workshops have also been going well. We have held workshops on repeater use, antenna options, and also vhf antenna building. We will be continuing to build vhf antennas and will also begin doing some hf antennas in the near future. Please plan to attend a future workshop. Our thanks go out to Bruce N8BV and Fred K9OHE for their work in these, we could not have done it without them! Also, if you have something you would like help with, let us know, we can set up an evening and get some hams together to work on it!

73, Gary KB8MJC

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What's coming in April 2009

- Wed Apr 1 April Fool's Day!
9:00 PM Tech Talk on 146.925, NCS Dale KC8HQ
- Fri Apr 3 7:00 PM WARN Weather Training, Red Cross, 10870 Kenwood Rd, Blue Ash
- Sun Apr 5 Palm Sunday
- Tue Apr 7 7:30 PM Club meeting at Salem Presbyterian Church, Mozart & Higbee in West-wood behind Harrison-Boudinot White Castle
Program: Club member Nathan Ciufu KA3MTT, "Biography of an Unknown Ham"
- Wed Apr 8 9:00 PM Tech Talk on 146.925, NCS Brian K4BRI
- Thu Apr 9 Passover begins at sunset
- Fri Apr 10 Good Friday
- Sat Apr 11 10:00 AM Monthly Oh-Ky-In Fox Hunt, hounds gather at Mt Storm Park; talk-in to start on 146.67
- Sun Apr 12 Easter
- Tue Apr 14 7:00 PM Technical Committee meeting if needed, location TBA
- Wed Apr 15 9:00 PM Tech Talk on 146.925, NCS Dennis KB8ROA
Income tax returns due!
- Fri Apr 17 8:00 PM Queen City Emergency Net, Red Cross HQ, 820 Sycamore St
- Sat Apr 18 World Amateur Radio Day (Global SET, 84th Anniv of IARU)
- Wed Apr 22 9:00 PM Tech Talk 146.925, NCS Brian K4BRI
- Tue Apr 28 7:30 PM Board of Directors' meeting, location varies
- Wed Apr 29 9:00 PM Tech Talk 146.925, NCS Rock KD4PYR
- Fri May 1 8:00 PM Hamilton Co Amateur Radio Public Svc Corps at Hamilton Co Commu-nications Ofc Conference Rm, 2377 Civic Ctr Dr – park in BdOfEduc lot
- Sun May 3 0:Dark:30 11th Flying Pig Marathon
- Tue May 5 7:30 PM Club meeting at Salem Presbyterian Church, Mozart & Higbee in West-wood behind Harrison-Boudinot White Castle
Program: Jay Adrick K8CJY on digital TV (snowed out in Feb)

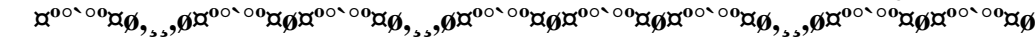
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VE exam opportunities

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.

OH-KY-IN 2009 Committee Appointments

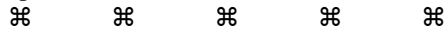
Technical Committee Brian DeYoung K4BRI, Chair	ARPSC Representative Peter J Feichtner III KC8BZM
Volunteer Examiners Brian DeYoung K4BRI, Chair	QCEN Representative Peter J Feichtner III KC8BZM
Membership Nathan Ciufu KA3MTT, Chair	WARN Representative Peter J Feichtner III KC8BZM
Education Gary Coffey KB8MYC, Chair	Repeater Control Ops Mgr Bruce Vanselow N8BV
PIO Bruce Vanselow N8BV	Librarian James E. Keely KC8PRY
<i>Q-Fiver</i> Editor Susie Scott N8CGM	Field Day Chair Nathan Ciufu KA3MTT
Historian Dale Vanselow KC8HQS	Special Publications Jo Haltermon KD4PYS
Fox Hunters Chair Dick Arnett WB4SUV	Equipment Mgr Brian Fulmer KC8FJN
DXpedition Coordinator Eric Neiheisel N8YC	[n8yc@arrl.net] 513=598-1659
WebMeister Dale Vanselow KC8HQS	Silent Key Chair Bruce Vanselow N8BV
Tech Talk Net Mgr Bruce Vanselow N8BV	K8SCH QSL Mgr Gerry Weimer KD8ASL
Fundraising Chair Bruce Vanselow N8BV	Life Members Kenneth E. Wolf N8WYC
TVI/RFI Chair Dick Arnett WB4SUV	John W. Hughes AI4DA



2d Mon each month: Edgewood KY, sponsored by NKARA, at Turkeyfoot Middle School, 3230 Turkey-foot Rd. Register 6 PM. Follow the signs. Pre-registration preferred, walk-ins accepted. Info: Lyle Hamilton AB8SH, 513=315-4032. [ab8sh@fuse.net]. Talk-in 147.255.

2d Thursday each month except December: Milford OH, sponsored by Milford ARC, at Faith Church, 5910 Price Rd. Register 6 PM. Walk-ins accepted. Info: Lyle Hamilton AB8SH, 513=315-4032, [ab8sh@fuse.net].

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. 2009 exam fee is \$15.



News of members and students in recent classes

Our sincere condolences to Nathan Ciufu KA3MTT and family. Nathan's father Anthony Ciufu KA3MTU died on March 2 in Pittsburgh.

March 28 VE exams, which 14 people sat for, after classes Mar 21 and 21-22:

Passing were:

Robert Miller	Bobby Gorman	Slawomir Bucki	Arron McKnight
Oleg Shirayayev	James Bushong	Todd Rogers	C Robert Crouch (upgr!)
Karl Kaucher	G Patrick Olvey	Kevin Neil	Veronica McGill

73, *Brian K4BR1*

ARLB016 FCC Denies Petition to Increase Size of Amateur Radio Question Pools

(posted March 20, 2009)

In April 2008, Michael Mancuso KI4NGN, of Raleigh, North Carolina, filed a petition with the FCC, seeking to increase the size of the question pools that make up the Amateur Radio licensing exams. Mancuso sought to increase the question pool from 10 times the number of questions on an exam to 50 times more questions. On March 19, 2009, the Commission notified Mancuso that it was denying his petition. 8< great big snip

Final copy deadline for May 2-Fiver is Friday, May 24, 2009

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