



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)

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OH-KY-IN Repeaters

146.670 (-) Clifton 146.925 (-) Colerain Twp. 146.625 (-) Withamsville
 APRS: K8SCH-10 Edgewood, K8SCH-9 Clifton, both WIDE, on 144.39

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

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)

January 2008 Volume 49 Number 1

From the President...

Well, the holidays are over. I hope your stockings were filled with the latest in ham radio items. Thanks to everybody who attended the 2008 Christmas Party/December meeting. The pizza was great as always. Thanks to Bruce N8BV for coordinating! Thanks to Sam KJ8K, Harry WA8LOJ & Gerry KD8ASL for volunteering for the Audit Committee this year. I am still looking for volunteers for the Awards committee, though. Interested? Please contact me at my email address on the mast page. Don't forget your club dues. As always, we appreciate your support of the club. I look forward to a great 2009! Club applications can be had by going to <http://membership-app.ohkyin.org>. See you at the January club meeting!

73, *Dale KC8HQS*

Next meeting

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 in the ground floor entrance, under the stairs. For the January meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 6, Rick KD4PYR will do a program on vhf/uhf radios and related equipment. It's somewhat geared towards those newer in the hobby, but us old timers will learn something too!

More info can be found at: <http://www.ohkyin.org>. Visitors always welcome!

73, *Gary KB8MJC*

Minutes

General Membership meeting, Oh-Ky-In Amateur Radio Society, Tuesday, December 2, 2008

President Dale KC8HQS called the meeting to order at 7:34 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

No guests were present, but 2 new members were: Louise Crouch KD8JRQ and Bob Crouch KD8JRR.

The Crouches are also new licensees. Mick KD8IOQ upgraded to General. Self-introductions followed; there were 28 present.

Health and welfare: Lloyd Bohnenkamper WD8NNG, a long-time Oh-Ky-In member, died Nov. 23 at

The Q-Fiver, Oh-Ky-In ARS, January 2009 page 3

age 86. Former ARRL President George Wilson W4OYI died Nov. 26. In good news, Mike AC4XS has married.

Nothing for the brag session.

Dale thanked Gary KB8MYC for staffing the hospitality table.

Ev KC8JR moved to accept the minutes of last meeting as printed in the *Q-Fiver*, Harry WA8LOJ second; motion carried.

Nathan KA3MTT reported 103 members for 2008. He has received many renewals, and has those forms with him. Forms are on line at join.ohkyin.org and renew.ohkyin.org. He reminded those present that they can join or renew with ARRL via Oh-Ky-In.

Treasurer Kevin KI4PJK was not present, but e-mailed a treasurer's report to Dale, who distributed a few copies for review. The CD will mature in February and be discussed at the January board meeting.

Usual expenses were listed in the report. Dale thanked Kevin *in absentia* for his report.

Silent Keys: Bruce N8BV has spoken to Dottie, Otto AA8KK's widow. She has completed forms to cancel Otto's license and have him listed under SKs in *QST*. Their licensed son will take Otto's gear.

She needs a crew to take down Otto's antennas. Either Bruce or Phil KG8AP will send a letter to Lloyd WD8NNG's family, but needs an address.

Brian K4BRI, who just arrived, reported for the Technical Committee that he just came from .67 where he dealt with issues and equipment. He also visited .625 and replaced the transmitter that popped its finals. .925 is OK, with DX coming in. All 3 repeaters are on the air. No December committee meeting is planned, he has no idea yet re a January meeting.

Education: Gary KB8MYC reported that the 1-day technician class at Red Cross in Blue Ash went well, with 14 students. The newly-licensed Crouches attended that class. Exam had 100% pass, 6 Technicians and 3 General upgrades. The new licenses hit the ULS at FCC on the Thursday after exams. Gary's been developing goals for the Education Committee in the new year. Tuition was \$10 per student, \$120 was taken in; Oh-Ky-In kept \$60 and gave \$60 to QCEN who co-sponsored the class.

Much PR came from the Red Cross.

Fund raising: Bruce N8BV had nothing new to report. He expects information for Red White & Blue Ash in January.

Tech Talk: Bruce N8BV continued by giving Brian K4BRI Christmas Eve off. Rick KD4PYR agreed to NCS both Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve, with his slightly modified preamble. Members were urged to check in on those evenings especially. There have been 20+ checkins lately.

Liaisons: Pete KC8BZM reported that there is a newish group, TriState Medical Reserve Corps which needs volunteers, especially hams, for Points of Distribution (PODs) in case of necessary mass inoculations to be done. The sheer volume of communications needed for a medical emergency is expected to swamp all normal communications routes. There are 33 PODs, so far they have only 30 hams. A volunteer need only be licensed at the Technician level. A 3-4 hour orientation is needed; may occur at Green Twp periodically. The ideal is to work close to one's home. This is a matter of when, not if. An incentive is that volunteers and their families get into the POD to be inoculated first. There **is** a need for volunteers!

Racers: Dale KC8HQS said the next meeting is set for December 30, but they may go to a Saturday.

Old business: Bruce N8BV has shopped liability insurance and found a provider \$133 less than before.

Nominating committee: As acting chair of the nominating committee, Dale reported that he's talked to the current board and all have agreed to run again. All candidates are unopposed. Dale instructed the acting recording secretary to enter a unanimous ballot to elect the slate for 2009. (Copied and done - N8CGM)

New business: Dale KC8HQS asked for volunteers for an Audit Committee. Harry WA8LOJ, Sam KJ8K and Gerry KD8ASL complied.

Dale then asked for volunteers for an Awards Committee, to choose a site, plan the awards dinner and choose Ham of the Year (and other awards). No response tonight.

Attendance award of \$5 would have gone to Scott KD8IMX had he been present. As he was not, the amount next time will be \$10.

Before winners of Split the Pot were drawn, there was a pause for more sales. Ev KC8JR won the first split of \$23, Eric KC8NMP won the second split of \$25.

Motion to adjourn made at 8:10 PM by Gerry KD8ASL, second by Ted WB8VNV, carried in anticipation of pizza arrival by 8:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted, *Susie Scott W8CQM*, Acting Recording Secretary

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Radio's Plus

Joe Davidson KB8SBN

11641 Colthar Dr

Bethel OH 45106-9669

513=752-9570

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This is just a reminder to everyone that **dues for 2009 for OH-KY-IN Membership are now due**. You can download and print the application at: <http://join.ohkyin.org> or

<http://renew.ohkyin.org>

Please contact me with any questions you may have (pls see mast page for phone and e-drs). I look forward to a successful 2009 for OH-KY-IN.

73, *Nathan K3MTT*

OH-KY-IN Amateur Radio Society Membership Chair

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Ohio Section January 09 news

(Hamfests in Ohio and Ohio Cabinet listing is at the end of this issue)

By Affiliated Clubs Coordinator Joanne Solak KJ3O

Greetings of the season! from the Ohio Section

As I write this Ohio Section News, it is still December and Christmas is just a few days away. That is how it goes, we write the Section news in the month prior to the month due, (if you know what I am trying to say)? Anyway, things around the Section are moving along quite well considering the really cold weather and all the activities scheduled.

The Ohio Section had a very full year 2008 and it looks as if the year 2009 is proceeding along those same lines. My calendar for January has quite a few messages on the dates already. There will be a lot of changes coming in the Section also. So keep watch for those.

As we start the New Year, remember to pay your Club Membership Dues. If you have Club Officer elections, remember to file the ANNUAL REPORT FORM. Yes, I am going to remind you of this over and over again this year as usual. It is very important that your Club Secretary file the form as early as possible so that ARRL Headquarters has your Club updates and other information on file in case your club needs to be contacted for any reason.

Do you have VE Exams scheduled for 2009? If so contact Bob Johnson K3RC who compiles and edits the Amateur Radio Exams in Ohio. You can get all his contact information in the latest *Ohio Section Journal*.



DX Spots - January 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesd	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 E44M- Palestine thru Jan 11 VQ9JC- Chagos thru Apr 18	2	3
4	5 V73NS- Marshall Isl. Thru Jan 31	6	7	8 TS7C-Tunisia thru Jan 19	9 C56KR- Gambia thru Jan 14	10 H44MS- Solomon Isl thru Apr 28
11 8Q7AK- Maldives thru Jan 27	12 ZD8N- Ascension Isl thru Jan 27	13	14	15	16 T8-Palau thru Jan 18 6W-Senegal thru Jan 29	17 KP2-Virgin Isl thru Jan 22 VP8 Falkland Isl thru Jan 31
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



OPERA TIONS APPROVED FOR DXCC CREDIT.

The following operations are approved for DXCC credit

Wake Island, WA2YUN/
KH9,
operations commencing 2007;
Willis Island, VK9DWX, 2008 operation;
and Andaman and Nicobar Island, VU4RG, 2008 operation.
--DX Bulletin 50, Dec 4, 2008



normally conducted by Nathan KA3MTT

Contests

January 2009

- 1 ARRL Straight Key Night, CW !!; New Years Snowball Contest, CW & SSB; SARTG New Year RTTY contest; AGCW Happy New Year contest, CW
- 3-5 ARRL RTTY roundup; EUCW 160 m Contest, CW; Kid's Day, Phone
- 10-11 070 PSKFEST; Hunting Lions on the Air, all modes; MI QRP Club Jan Contest, CW; Midwinter Contest, CW & SSB; NA QSO Party, CW; DARC 10 m Contest, CW & SSB
- 17-19 Feld-Hell WAS Sprint, Digital; International United Teenagers Contest, CW & SSB; NA QSO Party, SSB; ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes
- 22 NAQCC Monthly Straight Key Sprint, CW
- 23-25 CQ WW 160 m Contest, CW; YLISSB QSO Party, SSB; REF French contest, CW; BARTG RTTY Sprint; Winter Field Day, all modes; UBA contest, SSB
- 25-26 Classic Exchange, CW
- 31 WAB Top Band Contest, CW

Lots of CW for those cold nights, but a few for the other modes too! For more information see *QST*, *CQ*, or www.arrl.org

73, Dan K744U

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(More Oh Section News)

If you have a Hamfest to schedule, contact ARRL HQ and get it ARRL approved as soon as possible.

HYPERLINK <mailto:hamfests@arrl.org> hamfests@arrl.org gets you started.

Remember I, as the Ohio Section Affiliated Clubs Coordinator (ACC) provide support services to your Club. If you ever need to contact me at anytime, my information is on the back page of the *Ohio Section Journal*. Any of the Ohio Section Cabinet members' information is there for your convenience.

The FCC is asking Clubs to provide information about the DTV conversion in your area. Let our Section Manager, Joe Phillips K8QOE, know if your Club is willing to help during the month of January and February 2009. Remember "Hams" should not make house calls, sell any equipment, or install any equipment, just offer the information about the conversion. Contact Joe if your Club wishes to participate. Joyce Judy KD8HB will retire the first of January as Net Manager of the CW Traffic Net.

The ARRL has just introduced a new Membership Benefit. With just a click or two of a mouse, ARRL members can now access the online *QST* magazine archive. This new benefit provides PDF copies of all *QST* articles from December 1915 through December 2004, enabling members to view and print their favorite article, project and more. New Year's Eve and Straight Key Night! The speed is down from the typical CW contest speed and very easy to copy. Give it a try!

I wish to THANK all the many Club Newsletter Editors that have continued to send me their Club Newsletters. Please continue to do so. I read them all. Spotlight Club of the Month is still alive and well. If you wish to have your Club in the Spotlight, send me the club information (when founded, by whom, how many members, your objectives, etc) by the 10th of the month. And I will get it in the *Ohio Section News*.

Remember to support your local Clubs. You do not have to be a member of any particular club to support it. Go to the meetings, go to events sponsored by the Clubs and enjoy Amateur Radio, it is a FUN Hobby. Make up your amateur radio plans early in the year. Check out the many Ohio Section Hamfests, Club events, Contests etc. sponsored by Ohio Section Clubs and plan to attend or volunteer your assistance; you will be glad you did.

Well, that's it for this month. I hope you are enjoying a very Happy Holiday Season. Happy New Year and remember, sometime, somewhere, when you least expect it, I will be seeing **you**.

VERY BEST 73

Joanne Solak KJ3O, ACC Ohio Section

Ohio January Hamfests

(10) Saturday - 23d Annual Digital Symposium. No flea market! At Miami University Middletown. For more information, call Jay Slough K4ZLE, 513=934-0235 or visit; www.swohdigi.org.

(18) Sunday - Sunday Creek ARF; at Nelsonville; for more information, call Jeramy Duncan KC8QDQ, 740=767-2554 or E-mail [duncan10847@embarq.com].

(25) Sunday - TUSCO Hamfest. at Strasburg. For more information, call Kyle Quillen KD8HDJ at 330=331-6269 or E-mail [hamfest@tuscoarc.org].

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 -- Ho, Ho, Ho

- Former Division Director, ARRL President W4OYI SK
- Gary Johnston KI4LA re-elected Vice Director
- Holy and Happy Holidays
- FCC requests help from hams
- Remake of ARRL Internet facilities in progress
- Triple Play season to open
- Cal Darula K0DXC: Special Assistant to survey youth programs
- ARRL Loyalty awards
- SW Ohio Digital Symposium - correction
- ARRL Strategic Plan - Member input requested
- Tentative schedule

+++ Former Division Director, ARRL President W4OYI SK +++

It is with great sadness that I report the death of George Wilson III W4OYI. George was a resident of Owensboro, KY. A long-time amateur, George previously held numerous ARRL appointments. He was elected Kentucky Section Manager, Vice Director and subsequently Director of the Great Lakes Division. He eventually became the first and only person from the Great Lakes Division to be elected ARRL President by the Board of Directors.

The George S. Wilson III W4OYI Award is given biannually at GLD Division conventions in honor of George's service to Amateur Radio. The award recognizes an amateur in this Division for lifetime achievement in Amateur Radio.

George served as ARRL President from January 1992 to July 1995. It was during a trip to Washington DC on behalf of ARRL that George suffered a near-fatal stroke. A true fighter, he survived the stroke, but was left totally paralyzed on his left side. Although he was unable to maintain an active public life, he was fully alert and kept his great interest in Amateur Radio. He was active in the Owensboro Amateur Radio Club, Owensboro, KY. George died November 25.

Those who knew George knew him as an excellent person and an outstanding ham. I knew him also as a sharing and knowledgeable friend and advisor. He will be missed greatly.

George is survived by Marian, his wife of 51 years, by his children Berry and Jennifer, and by two grandchildren.

+++ **Gary Johnston KI4LA re-elected Vice Director** +++

Current Great Lakes Division Vice Director Gary Johnston KI4LA was re-elected to the Vice Director chair for another three years in a term that will begin at noon, January 1. Gary won a highly-contested race over Michigan Official Club Coordinator Dan Romanchik KB6NU and Division Legislative Action Chairman John Meyers NB4K. Meyers is also former Kentucky SM. Gary edged Dan by a 13-vote margin and John by 63 votes in an election that saw 3578 votes cast. Gary served as Vice Director to former Director George Race WB8BGY. Gary served as director for six months after George resigned.

+++ **Holy and Happy Holidays** +++

Whether you celebrate Christmas or Chanukah or another holy or holiday period, the Director and Vice Director wish you and your families the very best. May you also have a very Happy New Year throughout 2009.

+++ **FCC requests help from hams** +++

By this time, most ARRL members have heard that the FCC asked the League to help in the coming conversion of analog TV (ATV) to digital TV (DTV). The Commission is concerned there will be problems during this switchover because a number of people may not understand how to connect the converter box or deal with some other aspect of the change.

A number of such problems occurred when a trial switch to DTV occurred.

I will not discuss the rights or wrongs, if any, of the coming switchover. It is going to happen. I won't even discuss whether it was right or wrong of FCC to request help through ARRL. This, too, is a done-deal -- they've already asked. What I will discuss is watch-outs I suggest us who lending a hand may want to take to avoid the likelihood Amateur Radio ends up in hot water.

Many of us older hands remember public relations problems that occurred in the 1960s and 1970s when we tried to help with television interference (TVI) that was blamed on amateur transmissions. The answer to the TVI typically was to put a simple filter on the TV set in much the same way the DTV converter will be hooked up. A number of hams went to the length of obtaining these filters and installing them on neighbors' TV sets, trying to be good neighbors.

The problem was that a number of TV sets "went out" soon after filters were installed. Many owners of these sets blamed the hams for these failures -- never mind that the set was quite old and destined to fail soon.

A lesson from this situation soon became apparent. This is, "**Thou shalt keep thy hands off thy neighbor's TV set.**" Give them the filter, but have them install it themselves or let them have a TV technician do it.

The same could happen if we attach DTV converters to TVs. With a high percent of the sets that need converters being a few years old, we should not be surprised if a number of them fail shortly after a converter is attached.

The first rule I suggest anyone who helps out with the ATV to DTV project is to stay away from your neighbor's or a stranger's TV.

The second rule I suggest is to be certain that the instructions provided for connecting converters clearly indicates they come from the Federal Communications Commission of the US Government. These are not our instructions. We are relaying them at the request of the Federal Communications Commission of the US Government. Notice I did not merely say "the FCC." Too many people have no idea what the FCC is.

In addition, many may not understand even what the Federal Communications Commission is, but "US Government" should be understood.

What we can take credit for is that we are taking the time and effort to help our fellow citizens. A few ways we can do this are to set up stands in shopping centers and stores where high volumes of people shop, give demos to church, civic and fraternal groups, or operate phone banks in conjunction with TV and radio stations to spread the FCC's instructions. TV stations having much to stake in the changeover and are taking the lead in publicizing "how to's" related to it, local clubs might find them willing allies in helping set up and publicizing demonstrations.

I understand the FCC will provide instructions to distribute to consumers and scripts for use over the telephone. These should clearly indicate the source of the information is the Commission. They merely ask us to volunteer time and in a way serve as parrots to distribute the information.

Provided we amateurs do not fall into the trap of being overly helpful or decide to show first hand how technically elegant we are, there should be very little chance this project will haunt us. Let the glory and problems (if any) go to the FCC.

Let us be fully satisfied to be known as good citizens who help our fellow citizens and our government when this is needed. So, feel free to put up signs stating who you are. Feel free too to talk to people about Amateur Radio and the technical advances we are making ourselves in digital and other communications, but stay away from taking credit for the service you are forwarding from the FCC.

This is my thinking about the project. If you choose to help with it, thanks. If you decide you cannot help, thanks for thinking about it.

+++ Remake of ARRL Internet facilities in progress +++

Some of you may have noticed that the Board of Directors approved a total remake of the League's Internet presence at our last meeting. As we approach the end of this year, the project is coming along nicely. Some improvements are visible. Others remain in the implementation stage and still others are in their relative infancy. We have contracted with Fathom for the project. Fathom provides web engineering for a number of major corporations, including their customer interface.

We expect the project will continue throughout 2009. Progress is going fairly well even though the last hurricane season necessitated Fathom to redirect much of its staff to repairing damage done to major clients in the stricken areas. When completed, the ARRL will be able to provide a number of new and exciting services to members and affiliated clubs.

+++ Triple Play season to open +++

It has nothing to do with the "hot stove league" or "fantasy baseball" or even "Tinker to Evers to Chance," but it should prove to be a lot of fun. What is it? It is the new Triple Play WAS Award that has just been unveiled by the ARRL. It refers to a new form of Worked All States (WAS) that begins January 1 and requires working three new WASs -- one each on phone, CW and RTTY/digital. QSOs for the Triple Play award must be submitted through Logbook of the World (LoTW) to receive credit. Paper QSLs are not accepted for this award.

QSOs for the award must be dated no earlier than January 1, 2009. Three sets of confirmed QSOs with each of the 50 US states must be presented via LoTW for the award. All bands available to US amateurs may be used for the Triple Play with the exception of 60 M.

Further details on the new award may be found at

<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2008/12/05/10490/?nc=1/>

One added major point is that US applicants for the Triple Play award **must** be members of ARRL.

Happy hunting!

(Tinkers to Evers to Chance? This was a phenomenal triple-play combination for the Chicago Cubs way back when! I'm showing my age even though I didn't know what baseball was while they were still

playing!)

+++ **Cal Darula: Special Assistant to record youth programs** +++

Your director has appointed Calvin Darula K0DXC Special Assistant to record youth programs in the Great Lakes Division. Cal moved to Southern Ohio from Minnesota where he was Assistant Section Manager for Youth. He lives in Jackson, OH where he attends school.

The task Cal has accepted is to contact as many leaders as possible of youth programs in this Division during coming weeks. He will prepare a report on the activities the many clubs or schools offer to attract, educate and encourage young people to become active Amateur Radio operators. Section Managers Joe Phillips K8QOE (Ohio), Dale Williams WA8EFK (Michigan) and Jim Brooks KY4Z (Kentucky) have agreed to facilitate Cal's efforts to contact the club officials.

It is believed that developing the report and sharing it throughout the Division may provide valuable insights that will increase still further the results of our work to recruit and develop young amateurs. I encourage Division members to welcome Cal and to assist him in this important project.

After being off-the-air for several weeks because of his move to Ohio, Cal is up and running with a full station. In addition to general operating, he is active in the ARRL, World Wide Young Contesters, FIST, NAQCC and SKCC.

+++ **ARRL Loyalty Awards** +++

The ARRL appreciates all of its members. Consequently, many years ago it set up a program to give special recognition to members who have shown particular loyalty to the League by maintaining continuous membership for specific lengths of time.

Very nice award certificates are sent automatically to members who have had continuous membership for 50, 60, 70, 80 or 90 years. There is no charge for the certificates.

Members who wish to have a more elegant award may request a very nice plaque. Unfortunately the current state of economics dictates that these plaques must be obtained at ARRL's cost to have them made plus the cost of shipping. The cost to ARRL for the plaques is \$51.95. This price is pretty good when one considers that I recently paid nearly \$35 to have a printed certificate covered with Plexiglas and tacked onto a not-extravagant wooden mounting board.

If anyone has held continuous membership for one of the 10-year intervals listed above, please contact Mary Hobart K1MMH – [k1mmh@arrl.org] -- or me – [k8je@arrl.org] -- to check on your award. Please note that membership must not be interrupted by lapses if one is to be eligible for these awards.

+++ **SW Ohio Digital Symposium - correction** ++

I appear to have attempted to move the location of the SW Ohio Digital Symposium in my last e-letter. The correct location for it is Thesken Hall on the Miami University Middletown Campus, Middletown, OH as usual. The date is January 10, 2009. Thesken Hall is the first major building to the right of the drive into the campus. A parking lot is across the drive.

The agenda of very interesting presentations at the Symposium has been set; however, anyone wishing to set up a demonstration in the exhibit area or to publish have a paper included in its published proceedings (a CD) is invited to contact Jay Slough K4ZLE at [gungho@embarqmail.com].

A sampling of what was presented last year is at <http://www.swohdigi.org>. Please send your ideas and suggestions to K4ZLE, [gungho@embarqmail.com].

+++ **ARRL Strategic Plan: Member input requested** +++

How many of you have heard -- even said -- that the ARRL leadership does not ask for the opinions and wishes of League members? Whether you have believed these earlier charges -- or not -- the ARRL Board of Directors wants your help as it develops a revised Strategic Plan to cover the coming several years. Yes,

Uncle Hiram wants your input. back when! I'm showing my age even though I didn't know what baseball was while they were still playing!

The Board of Directors developed the current Strategic Plan of ARRL goals and objectives in special session in St. Louis several years ago. It was revised in 2006. It is time to revise this plan again to consider changes in society and technology that have occurred since the 2006 revision. It is intended that day two (Saturday) of the July 2009 Board will be devoted to working on the new revision. The ARRL Executive Committee will tackle drafting revisions beginning in early 2009.

All members are requested to contribute thinking to the coming revision. The mechanics of doing this are very simple. All one needs to do is to go to <http://www.arrl.org/members-only/stratplan/>. To read the current Plan, click on the link "The ARRL Strategic Plan" that is just below the opening paragraph on this site. Type your comments into the space provided here.

The Strategic Plan is used by the Board and staff to maintain focus when establishing and pursuing policy and projects.

Tentative Schedule:

2009

1 Jan: (Noon) New terms of Director and Vice Director begin.

10 Jan: SW Ohio Digital & Technical Symposium, Thesken Hall, Miami U.-Middletown, Middletown, OH
- Gary, Jim.

15 Jan: A&F Committee, Newington, CT - Jim.

16-17 Jan: Board of Directors meeting, Newington - Gary, Jim.

A more complete schedule will appear in the next issue of Words. If you wish to have a member of the Division cabinet attend a club meeting or hamfest/swap this year, please contact me at [k8je@arrl.org].

73, *Jim K8JE*

ARRL Great Lakes Division Director: James Weaver K8JE [k8je@arrl.org]

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I would like to congratulate the following players in the **2008 OH-KY-IN Fantasy Football League:**

Paul Jordan KD8JDF -- our First Place Winner!

Russ Hines WB8ZCC -- our Second Place Winner!

Dale Vanselow KC8HQS -- our Third Place Winner!

Great job guys! And Paul, I think you were sandbagging us the whole time!

Also, we have a Pick-em league in which you try to pick the winners of every game each week. The standings so far:

Brad N8QQ

Kevin KI4PJK

Russ WB8ZCC

Nicole (my XYL)

Nathan KA3MTT

Gary KB8MYC (I don't think he knew he was in this league), hi hi.

73, *Nathan KA3MTT*

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Frequency Change for Canadian Time Transmission Station CHU

After 70 years of broadcasting Canada's official time, the National Research Council's shortwave station CHU will move the transmission frequency for the 7335 kHz transmitter to 7850 kHz. The change goes into effect at 0000 UTC on January 1, 2009.>8 HUGE snip

-- Posted to Oh-Ky-In reflector Dec 17 by Bruce N8BV

From the Education Chair

Below is an email I received from a recent student from our extra class. He successfully upgraded! Perhaps the email could be spliced into the *Q-Fiver*, with a few good words about Brian, Fred and John KY4JD, for teaching our classes!

Gary,

Thank you and thank all of those in your club that make the courses available. Maybe it was the instructor (Fred is great!) and the freedom he gave me to ask questions. I probably could have passed the exam without your help but, the understanding would not have been there. Some of my questions were outright embarrassing.

As with everything in this life, I feel I owe in return for that which I took. Feel free to call on me if the occasion ever arises where I can do something for you and Amateur Radio to further the hobby or assist those in need

David Ventker W8DDR

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Some items from *ARRL Contest Update for Dec 24, 2008*

Operating Tip

"We attack at dawn!" Those classic movie words also work on the low bands. If you're a low-power operator, picking the time of day that favors your location pays big dividends on 80 and 160 meters. The famed "dawn enhancement" can raise your signal level to the west by a lot--enough to make it through to a far-off station. Sometimes the enhancement only lasts a few minutes, so be prepared!

New HF operators - things to do

If you're just learning the code, don't forget [Straight Key Night](#). (use link for details). It's not really a contest--more of an activity night--but everyone will be fishing out that straight key and "pounding brass". You don't have to go fast...just go!

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One of the hottest events at the Dayton HamVention will be [Contest University 2009](#). (use links for details) CTU is held on Thursday (May 14) before the main HamVention. Registration for this rave-review-program is now open! Last year's instructor team mustered more than 300 years of experience and the CTU staff is gearing up for another great set of seminars. CTU President, Tim K3LR, thanks flagship sponsor, Icom America, for their support again in 2009 along with CQ Magazine, DX Engineering, Comtek Systems, Dave W9ZRX, SuperBertha, and QTH.com. Flash - CTU crosses the pond! Held in October, the [UK version of CTU](#) was a big hit and more. European CTU dates will be announced soon!

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Hamfests & c.

January 2009

10 23d annual SW Ohio Digital Symposium, to be held from approximately 8 AM to approximately 4:30 PM EST, Saturday, January 10, 2009 in Thesken Hall, on the Middletown Campus of Miami University, Middletown, Ohio. We are now soliciting papers and ideas for subjects to be presented. If you have a particular subject of interest which you'd like to present, or know of someone who is qualified to present, please contact Jay Slough K4ZLE k4zle at [gungho@embarqmail.com].

- 18 13th Annual Nelsonville OH Hamfest, sponsored by Sunday Creek AR Federation at Tri-County Career Ctr, 15676 SR 691. 8 AM-2 PM. Amateur radio & electronics equipment. VE session at . Talk-in: 147-15. \$6 gate. Info: Jeramy Duncan KC8QDQ, 740=767-2554, [duncan10847@embarq.com].

25 19th Annual Strasburg OH Hamfest, sponsored by Tusco ARC at Wallick Auction House, 965 N Wooster Ave. Set-up 6 AM; public 8 AM-2 PM. Dealers, fleas. Talk-in: 146.73. \$5 gate. Info: Kyle Quillen KD8HDJ, 330=231-6269; [hamfest@tuscoarc..org], noard.com/tuscoarc.htm

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Could be easier to be green than you think

[Editor's note to Siegfried Gates KG4UCM's letter in *Correspondence* on pg 24, December 2008 *QST*: All Home Depot stores will accept unbroken CFLs (fluorescent light bulbs) for recycling. CFLs do contain a minute amount of mercury & should be handled with care to ensure they do not break.] Reprinted with *QST*'s permission

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What's coming in January 2009

Wed Dec 31 9:00 PM Tech Talk on 146.925, NCS Rick KD4PYR (special holiday preamble, don't miss it!)

Thu Jan 1 New Year's Day

Fri Jan 2 8:00 PM Hamilton Co Amateur Radio Public Svc Corps at Hamilton Co Communications Ofc Conference Rm, 2377 Civic Ctr Dr – park in Bd of Educ lot

Tue Jan 6 7:30 PM Club meeting at Salem Presbyterian Church, Mozart & Higbee in Westwood behind Harrison-Boudinot White Castle
Program: Rick KD4PYR will do a program on VHF/UHF radios and related equipment

Wed Jan 7 9:00 PM Tech Talk on 146.925, NCS Dale KC8HQS

Sat Jan 10 10:00 AM Monthly Oh-Ky-In Fox Hunt, hounds gather at Mt Storm Park; talk-in to start on 146.67
8 AM-4:30 PM 23d SW OH Digital Symposium at Thesken Hall, Miami U Middletown

Tue Jan 13 7:30 PM Technical Committee meeting if needed, location TBA

Wed Jan 14 9:00 PM Tech Talk on 146.925, NCS Brian K4BRI

Fri Jan 16 8:00 PM Queen City Emergency Net, Red Cross HQ, 820 Sycamore St downtown

Mon Jan 19 Martin Luther King Jr Birthday, observed

Tue Jan 20 Inauguration Day

Wed Jan 21 9:00 PM Tech Talk on 146.925, NCS Dennis KB8ROA

Tue Jan 27 7:30 PM Board of Directors' Meeting, location varies

Wed Jan 28 9:00 PM Tech Talk on 146.925, NCS Brian K4BRI

Tue Feb 3 7:30 PM Club meeting at Salem Presbyterian Church, Mozart & Higbee in Westwood behind Harrison-Boudinot White Castle
Program: Jay Adick K8CJY on digital television

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.

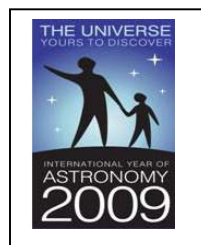
OH-KY-IN 2008 Committee Appointments

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
 DXpedition Coordinator Eric Neiheisel N8YC
 WebMeister Dale Vanselow KC8HQS
 Tech Talk Net Mgr Bruce Vanselow N8BV
 Fundraising Chair Bruce Vanselow N8BV
 TVI/RFI Chair Dick Arnett WB4SUV

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 Mgr Brian Fulmer KC8FJN
 [n8yc@arrl.net] 513=598-1659
 Silent Key Chair Bruce Vanselow N8BV
 K8SCH QSL Mgr Gerry Weimer KD8ASL
 Life Members Kenneth E. Wolf N8WYC
 John W. Hughes AI4DA

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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 to be \$15 (*ARRL Letter*, Vol 27 #44, Nov 7).



News of members, former members and students in recent classes

New Technicians from recent classes and exams

Rod Villari KJ4IAM Bert Cream KD8JRN Louise Crouch KD8JRQ
 Mitchell Jones KD8JRS Eric Frey KD8JRF Bob Crouch KD8JRR

New Generals

Mick Cook KD8IOQ Scott Uhler KD8IMX Neal Berter N8QFZ

Another SK and other passings

Lloyd Bohnenkamper WD8NNG, age 86, a long-time Oh-Ky-In member but not lately, died November 23. His call sign was not in the newspaper obit, nor could Ye Ed find him in *qrz.com* (tho Bruce N8BV could), so it didn't make the December issue.

Jared M. Frey, 15, died unexpectedly December 2. Jared was the son of Eric KD8JRF and Christine Frey, grandson of Robert WA6EZV and Patricia Frey. Oh-Ky-In extends its condolences.

Olivia Lillian Bergheger, 76, wife of Dick Bergheger WD8JAV, died December 9. Dick himself has been ailing for quite some time.

Bill Zapf N8WRZ's father died December 19. Bill the elder was famous for many Christmas lights on his house, generating stories in the *Cincinnati Enquirer*, and for playing Santa. Oh-Ky-In's condolences to the entire family.

*Copy deadline for the February 2009 issue is Wednesday, January 21
 (short run to members' meeting on Feb 3)*