

**K8SCH**



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



**Our 51st 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**

President	Gary Coffey	KB8MYC	513=382-3979	kb8myc@fuse.net
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Trustee/Licensee	Bruce Vanselow	N8BV	513=251-1555	<a href="mailto:n8bv@juno.com">n8bv@juno.com</a>

**OH-KY-IN Repeaters**

146.670 (-) Clifton 146.925 (-) Colerain Twp. 146.625 (-) Withamsville  
PL tone of 123 Hz required for access  
APRS: K8SCH-10 Edgewood WIDE, on 144.39

**Web Pages**

Club: <http://www.ohkyin.org> Section: <http://www.arrloho.org>

Division: <http://www.arrl-greatlakes.org> National: <http://www.arrl.org>

Regular monthly meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM local time at the St. Bernard Recreation Hall, 120 Washington Ave. (corner Washington & Tower Aves) in St. Bernard, just east of Vine St. Visitors are ALWAYS welcome!

**For membership information, contact**

Nathan Ciufo KA3MTT, 6323 Cinnamon Ridge Dr, Burlington KY 41005, 859=586-2435,  
<membership@ohkyin.org>. Dues are due on Jan 1 each year, last chance to renew is March 31

Permission is hereby granted to any amateur radio group to quote or reprint from this publication,  
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*The Q-FIVER* is mailed and e-mailed usually the Wednesday before the club meeting. Normal 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](mailto:n8cgm@arrl.net) or to [sscott@iglou.com](mailto:sscott@iglou.com)

This is a **long** issue!

thanks to *The Mike & Key* Nov 2009

## THE Q-FIVER

*November 2011*

*Volume 51 Number 9*



### From the President

We have made it to November. Now is when our lives begin to get busy with all of the holiday happenings.

First, let me thank Jim Weaver K8JE for his visit last month. It is always great to hear the “insider’s view” of the happenings at ARRL headquarters.

Nominations are open (for just a short time longer) for the 2012 club officer positions. If you are interesting in being an elected officer, or know someone who would be a great choice, please contact Paul Jordan, KD8JDF, at 513-921-3732. Also, a big thanks to Paul for volunteering to head up this effort.

On the topic of volunteers, we have a great number of things we can do as a club in 2012. There is one common missing thread, volunteers. We have great opportunities to do operating activities, learning activities, and club functions provided we have the help to do it. There are a lot of hams out there looking for a club, which like ours, is doing things. We have the chance to reach out to these folks and bring new members and growth to our group. What we need is assistance from you, our current members. The next time the call goes out for assistance, think about pitching in. You’ll have a great time.

Until next time, hope to see you at the club meeting and hope to hear you on the repeaters!!

73, *Gary KB8MYC*

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### Next meeting

Last time, members present voted to keep Field Day at Mitchell Memorial Forest, rather than moving it to Ross Park in St. Bernard, by a 16-6 vote.

Nominations for 2012 office will comprise at least part of the November program. Listen to the repeater announcements for more info. Members’ meetings are always the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM in the St. Bernard Municipal Building (street level, unless otherwise specified). This **will not** serve as a polling location this time, so we get to meet as usual!

73, *Brian KC8FJN*

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### Club meeting minutes for Tuesday, October 4, 2011

President Gary KB8MYC called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM @ St. Bernard Municipal Building (Senior Center) followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Approximately 25 in attendance.

Guests: Denver Little KF5EFG, Francis N8PEE

New Licenses or upgrades: None

Proceeded to self introductions.

*The Q Fiver, Oh Ky In ARS, November 2011*

*page 3*

Health and Welfare: Susie N8CGM injured her wrist.

Brag session: John KC8TPN has been named distinguished military grad. Robert AK3Q has just published his first book.

Ted NC8V thanked Robert for organizing our display and presentation at the museum center.

Meeting program(s): ARRL Night. Jim Weaver K8JE told us of the latest news from the ARRL.

Break was at 8:25 and was 10 minutes long.

Gary KB8MYC asked for corrections to the meeting minutes of the September 2011 club meeting as printed in the *Q-Fiver*. The minutes got a little jumbled while making the *Q-Fiver*. CORRECTION: Fred K9OHE (instead of Russ WB8ZCC) made a motion to table the Field Day discussion until next month to allow enough notice for all club members to have the chance to vote on their choice of Field Day Location. Ted NC8V made a motion to accept as corrected. Fred K9OHE seconded. Motion was carried.

Membership: Nathan KA3MTT was not present. Haven't heard a membership update as of tonight. Dues will be due soon...

Treasurer: Fred K9OHE gave a report.

Technical Committee: Russ WB8ZCC gave a report.

Education: Gary KB8MYC reported Fall classes are scheduled. We have a few signups already.

Fundraising: Bruce N8BV reported hats and shirts are still on sale!

Fox Hunts: Brian K4BRI reported Phil KG8AP will be the fox for the October hunt.

Old Business: Discussion ensued on the location of our Field Day event for 2012. Ballots were passed around to all club members with voting privileges. Vote tally: Ross Park picked up 6 votes. Mitchell Memorial Forest picked up 16 votes.

New Business: The October Brunch Bunch will be at Steak 'N Shake on Colerain Ave., just north of I-275 in Colerain Twp. It was first mentioned that our meeting spot would be a polling place in November. That turns out **not** to be the case. We will be meeting in the usual spot!

The October attendance prize winner was Bret Hassman KB8BJA who was not present and would have won \$25. The attendance prize will be \$30 for November 2011.

Split the pot was \$14 and won by: Eric KC8NMP

Door prizes donated by Eric KD8MEM: Brian K4BRI won the GCARA tote bag & Phil KG8AP won a 2010 ARRL Antenna Book.

Eric KC8NMP made a motion to adjourn, Jerry W1SCR seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 9:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Dale KC8HQS

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### Your Assistance Is Needed

We have **one remaining club task** in need of volunteers to help out.

We need people to serve as the 2012 Audit Committee. The purpose of this group is to meet with our treasurer and conduct a complete audit of the club's 2011 financial records.

If you have some time to donate to the club, your help on this committee will be greatly appreciated.

Please feel free to contact me via email or by phone.

Thanks!!!!

73, Gary KB8MYC

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### Hamfests &c.

### November 2011

5 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Georgetown OH Hamfest sponsored by Grant ARC at ABCAP Bldg, 406 W Plum St. 8 AM-2 PM. Dealers & vendors, fleas, handicapped access, refreshments, VE sessions 10 AM.. Talk-in: 146.73. Entry \$2.

Free tables! Info: Rodney Crawford WD8CTX, 937=446-2338, [wd8ctx@juno.com](mailto:wd8ctx@juno.com), [garcoho.net](http://garcoho.net)



19-20 IN State Convention/39<sup>th</sup> Annual Ft Wayne Hamfest & Computer Expo sponsored by Allen Co AR Technical Society at Allen Co War memorial Coliseum, 4000 Parnell Ave (corner SR 930 & Coliseum Blvd). Public Sat 9 AM-4 PM, Sun 9 AM-3 PM. 750+ dealers & vendors, fleas, handicapped access, QSL card checking, refreshments, forums & seminars, VE sessions on Saturday. Talk-in 146.88. Parking \$4, entry \$6 for both days, \$4 Sun only (at door only), children 11 & under free if accompanied by adult. Info: James Boyer KB9IH, 260=579-2196, [chairman@fortwaynehamfest.com](mailto:chairman@fortwaynehamfest.com), [www.fortwaynehamfest.com](http://www.fortwaynehamfest.com)

26 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Evansville IN Hamfest sponsored by Electronic Applications Radio Service (EARS) & The Ham Station at Vanderburgh Co 4-H Fairgrounds Auditorium, 202 E Boonville-New Harmony Rd. Dealers & vendors, fleas, handicapped access, refreshments, tailgating, VE sessions. Talk-in: 145.15 (136.5 Hz). Entry \$8. Info: Neil Rapp WB9VPG, 812=333-4116, [wb9vpg@w9ear.org](mailto:wb9vpg@w9ear.org), [w9ear.org/hamfest.htm](http://w9ear.org/hamfest.htm)

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**Radio's Plus Joe Davidson KB8SBN 11641 Colthar Drive  
Bethel OH 45106-9669 513=752-9570**

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**Club T's & hats for sale once again!** Several Large T's, a single XL, a number of baseball caps. \$10 each, available at club meetings. To reserve *yours*, contact Bruce N8BV, 513=251-1555 or e-mail <n8bv@juno.com>

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### **FCC Action Affirms BPL Rules - Oct 25, 2011**

"WASHINGTON: Broadband access from ordinary wall sockets may yet become a reality. The Federal Communications Commission today affirmed its rules for Broadband over Power Lines with minor modifications."

"These rules provide an appropriate balance between the dual objectives of providing for Access BPL technology that has potential applications for broadband and Smart Grid while protecting incumbent radio services against harmful interference."

"In today's Second Report and Order, the commission said the resulting cycle of comments did not "warrant any changes to the emissions standards or the extrapolation factor," but they were making "several refinements" anyway." - *TV Technology* Oct 25, 2011 [qrz.com](http://qrz.com)

<http://www.tvtechnology.com/article/125524>

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**VE exam opportunities** pls see also **Hamfests &c.**

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

**Sat Nov 19 12 Noon** sponsored by Oh-Ky-In (ARRL exams) in St Bernard. Pls see page 8.

**2d Mon each month:** Edgewood KY, sponsored by NKARA, at Hilltop Church of Christ, 5300 Taylor Mill Rd, Taylor Mill KY 41015. Park in back, pls enter thru basement. Pre-registration preferred, walk-ins accepted as space permits. Info: Lyle Hamilton AB8SH, 513=315-4032. Talk-in 147.22

**2d Thu each month except March & December:** Milford OH, sponsored by Milford ARC at Faith Church, 5910 Price Rd. Register 6 PM. Walk-ins OK. No exam fees at Milford; they use Laurel. Info: Barb

Steward KA8AXY, 513=625-8651, [wsteward@fuse.net](mailto:wsteward@fuse.net)

**In all cases,** tests require 2 IDs (preferably at least one with photo). Bring with you the original, as well as photocopies, of current licence & CSCes. \$15 is current ARRL/VEC exam fee where applicable; exact change, check or money order appreciated.

# DY Spots - November 2011 de Nathan KA3MTT

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 <a href="#">TX3T – Tahiti thru 11-4</a>	2 AH0-Mariana Is thru 11-5  ----- 8Q7CC-Maldives thru 11-12	3 CE0Y-Easter Is thru 11-11  ----- A52-Bhutan thru 11-13	4 VK9XM-Christmas Is  	5 VK9CM-Cocos Keeling thru 11-7  
6 FG-Guadeloupe thru 11-25  	7 8P-Barbados thru 11-21  	8 ZD8-Ascension Is thru 11-22  ----- E51-North Cook Is thru 11-22	9	10 <a href="#">T2T - Tuvalu thru 12-6</a>  	11	12
13 9 <a href="#">N0MD - Nepal thru 11-25</a>  	14	15 <a href="#">5R8IC - Madagarscar thru 12-17</a>  	16	17 <a href="#">K8A - American Samoa thru 11-28</a>  ----- FS-St Martin thru 11-30	18	19 J68HZ-St Lucia thru 12-3
20 <a href="#">5Z4HW-Kenya thru 12-3</a>  	21	22 <a href="#">9L0W-Sierra Leone thru 12-4</a>	23 5X-Uganda thru 12-14  	24 PJ71-Saint Maarten thru 11-28  	25	26
27	28	29	30			

## Contests

November 2011

- 1 ARS Spartan Sprint, CW
- 4-6 ARRL November Sweepstakes, CW; SNS and NS Weekly sprints, CW; Ukraine DX Contest, SSB & CW; IPA Contest, SSB & CW; Radio Club of America QSO Party, SSB; Collegiate ARC Championship, CW; DARC 10m Digital "Corona" Contest
- 9 CWops Mini-CWT Test
- 12-13 WAE DX contest; JA International DX Contest, SSB; OK-OM DX Contest, CW; KY QSO Party; CQ Western Electric, all modes; Straight Key Weekend Sprint
- 16 Feld Hell Turkey Shoot
- 17 NAQCC Monthly QRP Sprint, CW
- 19-20 ARRL November Sweepstakes, SSB; ARRL EME contest; Collegiate ARC Championship, SSB; Homebrew and Oldtime Contest, CW; LZ DX Contest, SSB & CW; Mongolian DX contest; RSGB 1.8 MHz Contest, CW; Run for the Bacon, CW; All Austria 160 m Contest
- 23 Straight Key Sprint
- 26-27 CQ WW CW; SARL Digital Contest

Sweeps, CQ WW, and more! November is Contest month. For more information see *QST*, *CQ*, or [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org)  
73, *Dan KJ4AV*

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ARLX007 **WD2XSH Experimental Stations to Be Active on November 3** posted Oct 26

A number of the WD2XSH experimental stations will be on the air on Thursday, November 3 to mark the 105<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Berlin International Radiotelegraphic Convention. According to ARRL WD2XSH Coordinator, stations operating in the band from 495-510 kHz will call CQ on 500 kHz and then QSY to complete the QSO. Stations operating in the band from 461-478 kHz will call CQ on 474.5 kHz and then QSY. Other stations may operate beacons with special messages in the bands from 508-510 kHz and 476-478 kHz. For a complete list of stations participating in the WD2XSH experiment, as well as information on how to send your reports, please see the WD2XSH website at <http://www.500kc.com/>.

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### 9 Nov 2011, Nationwide Emergency Alert System Test

The first nationwide test of the Emergency Alert System will be at 1400 hours on Wednesday, 9 Nov. The test will run concurrently for 3 minutes on all radio and TV bands. During the test, listeners will hear a message indicating that "This is a test."

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Background: On 9 Nov 2011, FEMA, DHS and FCC will conduct the first national test of the Nationwide Emergency Alert System (EAS) test. The test kicks off at 2 PM (EST) and is nationwide, running concurrently across all time zones. This system test is the first of its kind and is designed to broadcast a nationwide message to the American public. Nothing like it has been conducted in the history of the country. There have been tests in the past but none to all parts of the Nation at the same time. The test will run concurrently on all radio and TV band and the message will run for three minutes. Most messages in the past were anywhere from 30 seconds to 1 minute.

*The 2 Fivez, Oh Ky In ARS, November 2011*

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During the test, listeners will hear a message indicating that "This is a test." Although the EAS Test may resemble the periodic, monthly EAS tests that most Americans are already familiar with, there will be some differences in what viewers will see and hear. The audio message will be the same for all EAS participants; however due to limitations in the EAS, the video test message scroll may not be the same or indicate that "this is a test."

Relevant agency information can be found at:

FEMA: [http://www.fema.gov/emergency/ipaws/eas\\_info.shtm](http://www.fema.gov/emergency/ipaws/eas_info.shtm)

FCC: [http://transition.fcc.gov/email\\_camp/media/30SEC\\_EAS\\_PSA\\_open-C1.mov](http://transition.fcc.gov/email_camp/media/30SEC_EAS_PSA_open-C1.mov)

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# **Amateur Radio Classes**

*Sponsored by the OH-KY-IN Amateur Radio Society & the Queen City Emergency Net*

## **1 Day Technician – Entry Level Class**

**Saturday, November 12 8 AM-4 PM in St. Bernard**

**Although these classes are FREE, participants will be required to obtain the current study guide**

***For more information about classes,***

***call 513=347-6396***

***or send email to [classes@ohkyin.org](mailto:classes@ohkyin.org)***

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# **Amateur Radio Exams**

**Saturday, November 19th at 12 Noon in St. Bernard**

***For more information about exams,***

***call 859=635-3095***

***or send email to [exams@ohkyin.org](mailto:exams@ohkyin.org)***

--> Morse code is not required for **any** amateur radio license! <--



Another good group of 10-12 of us got together for the **October Brunch Bunch** at Steak 'n Shake in Colerain Township.

For **November 12<sup>th</sup>**, (the 2nd Saturday of the month) we will meet at **Camp Washington Chili** located at 3005 Colerain Avenue in Camp Washington, 45225. Camp Washington Chili is located at the corner of Hopple Street and Colerain Avenue, a very short distance west off the Hopple Street exit on I-75.

Come out and join us, I bet you'll enjoy it! See you November 12<sup>th</sup> at 1 PM at Camp Washington Chili. Looking into the future, do you have an idea of where we might go next, maybe your favorite restaurant? If so, please get with me by phone or email, 513-251-1555 or <n8bv@juno.com>

73 ..... *Bruce N8BV*



Photographer was the waitress, which may explain the slight de-focus.

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### **Weaver's words-- Autumn Leaves are Falling**

(Reply to k8je@arrl.org)

- How ARRL Operates - Personal Note - Busy Times
- Sanctioned Hamfests and Tentative Activity and Travel Schedule

+++ How ARRL Operates: Thanks to our Three Great Section Managers +++

The way in which ARRL operates seems to continue to be a mystery to many members. It doesn't need to be this way. I'll try to explain who does what in a manner that will help most people understand the principles better.

First, let me say that the confusion probably comes from the fact that many members assume ARRL is organized and operates the same way as their local club. It doesn't. Somewhat like the US Government, ARRL has three branches of its organization. These are the Board of Directors, the Field Organization and the HQ Staff.

To define this a little further, the Board of Directors is headed by the ARRL president who along with the other officers of the Board is elected by the Directors. The Field Organization is headed in each Section by the Section manager and the Staff is headed by our Chief Executive Officer. The CEO is hired by the Board and reports to the Board.

Directors (and Vice Directors) are elected by members of the Divisions they represent. In the case of the Great Lakes Division, these members are from Kentucky, Michigan and Ohio.

Section Managers (SMs) are elected by members of the Sections they represent. In the case of the GLD, the Sections each consist of entire states -- Kentucky Section, Michigan Section and Ohio Section.

It is the 15 Directors who vote to establish policy for ARRL. Section Managers head activities in their Sections to put League policy into effect at the field level. The CEO is responsible for putting Board policy into action at headquarters and, through the services HQ performs, for the members.

Even though many members believe their SM reports to their Director, this is incorrect. Dale Williams WA8EFK (MI), Jim Brooks KY4Z (KY) and Frank Piper KI8GW (OH) do not report to me. They report at this time to Dave Patton, NN1N at HQ. Dave heads the ARRL membership services department which covers the Field Organization. The SMs are responsible for several Field operations in their Sections. These include the Section Emergency

Coordinator (Amateur Radio Emergency Service<sup>tm</sup> -- ARES<sup>tm</sup>), the Official Observer Coordinator, the Affiliated Club Coordinator, the Public Information Coordinator, the State Government Liaison, the Section Traffic Manager and possibly additional department heads who in turn oversee additional activities.

Of these substantial activities, the most gargantuan effort is required by the ARES. Coordinating the activities of this single branch of ARRL in each Section involves hundreds of people, at a minimum.

Being an effective SM means a person must be willing to dedicate great effort to the job and must be an excellent, skilled leader.

The three Sections in the Great Lakes Division are extremely fortunate to have members who care enough for Amateur Radio and the ARRL to be willing to devote the extensive amount of time and effort to doing the job and, finally, who have the skills and knowledge to be successful, top-notch SMs.

It is obvious from their successes that Dale (WA8EFK), Jim (KY4Z) and Frank (KI8GW) have all of the characteristics needed to be the excellent SMs they are. Their past successes are indisputable evidence that they have everything needed to do the job. We in the GLD are indeed fortunate to have quality SMs leading our Sections. An expanded discussion of the operations of the Board and Staff will be presented in following issues.

#### +++ **Personal Note** +++

Some of you have commented they have not heard me on the air for quite a while. The last of the reasons for this will be corrected within the coming few weeks.

Initially, I was QRT as the result of my wife's long illness. Then at the end of February my tower and associated antennas came down in a strong windstorm. A bracket at the top of the tower had broken. I now am the proud father of a new, 70 ft, Rohn 45G tower with new M2 5X 6 M beam and new Hy-Gain TH-11 5-band beam. The Carolina Windom will go back up very soon as well.

The antennas still need to be connected to my rigs. This will require an additional couple of weeks to accomplish because I have decided to move the shack from the "club" level of the house into a first floor bedroom. Wiring changes are needed to accommodate this move.

I am looking forward to getting back on the air to talk with many of you, and to join in state QSO parties and other on-air activities.

#### +++ **Busy Times** +++

I apologize for being late with this issue of WORDS as well as for it being so brief. Brevity is a blessing in many cases, of course, so the shortness of this issue may not be bad. I've been extremely busy with personal items the past several weeks. Look for the return of the familiar, verbose person you've become accustomed to by the December issue, if not before.

#### +++ **Sanctioned Hamfests, Tentative Activity and Travel Schedule** +++

As of press time, hamfests in the following list have received ARRL sanctioning. Hamfests and other events for which a Great Lakes Division representative is scheduled to attend are identified with the representative's name.

For information on sponsoring and sanctioning a hamfest or convention, go to [www.arrl.org/arrl-sanctioned-events](http://www.arrl.org/arrl-sanctioned-events).

To have your hamfest sanctioned, go to <http://www.arrl.org/hamfest-convention-application>

<<http://www.arrl.org/hamfest-convention-application>> to apply on line. Please be sure to read the requirements for having an event sanctioned before submitting a request.

Please remember to order free brochures from ARRL for your hamfest. These brochures are to be displayed on the table you provide for ARRL use per your agreement to become a sanctioned hamfest. The procedure for obtaining these free goodies is described in the letter you received along with the free prize certificates sent from HQ. There is no shipping charge for the freebies provided the simple procedure for ordering them is followed.

5 Nov: Grant ARC Hamfest, Georgetown, OH - Jim

4 Dec: L'Anse Creuse ARC Swap/Hamfest, L'Anse Creuse, MI

73, *Jim Weaver K8JE*, Director, Great Lakes Division

5065 Bethany Rd. Mason, OH 45040 Tel. 513=459-1661; e-mail K8JE@arrl.org

ARRL: The reason Amateur Radio Is Members: The reason ARRL is

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## **Ohio Section Notes for November, 2011 sent out Oct 17**

In this issue:

- |   |                                      |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| - Section Emergency Coordinator Notes   | - Have You Got the Power for EmComm? |
| - Training Updates                      | - Affiliated Club News               |
| - Public Information Coordinator Report | - Technical Coordinator Report       |
| - Statehouse Happenings                 | - Right in the Middle of Ohio        |
| - Northeast Ohio Activity               | - Out and About in Southeast Ohio    |
| - Southwest Ohio Report                 | -From the Desk of the Section Mgr    |

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### **Section Emergency Coordinator Report**

Hello,

If you attended the Ohio ARES Management Meeting last spring in Mansfield, one thing rang LOUD and CLEAR, and that was training. After discussions with the Section Manager and our new ASM/Training John Frederick N8GOU, it was decided that before we establish training on a local/county level, ARES leadership will need to step up and fulfill some training minimums.

Effective December 31 2011, to be considered for appointment in the Ohio Section for the positions of District Emergency Coordinator, Assistant District Emergency Coordinator, or County Emergency Coordinator, the applicant must have taken and passed FEMA Courses IS-100, 200, 700 and 800.

Effective January 1, 2013 all holders of the positions of District Emergency Coordinator, Assistant District Emergency Coordinator, or County Emergency Coordinator the applicant must have taken and passed FEMA Courses IS-100, 200, 700 and 800.

In my discussions around the Section, most of you, if not all have completed all or the majority of the above requirements, or will soon.

Many DEC's and EC's have mentioned that many of the County EMA offices ask IS-100, 200, 700, and 800 before they are issued credentials, or allowed into emergency facilities during an emergency. Remember these are MINIMUMS ONLY. There are many of the FEMA IS courses available on line at <http://training.fema.gov/IS/>. Also remember that the ARRL offers the EMCOMM classes, and you can view that catalog at <http://www.arrl.org/online-course-catalog>.

So PLEASE take advantage of the educational resources available to you, and I am sure programs will become available as our new ASM John Fredrick N8GOU talks to other ARES Leadership across the Section.

If you have any questions on the topics above, please contact me.

73, *Jack Sovik KB8WP2* Ohio Section Emergency Coordinator

**New DEC for OH ARES District 3** posted 10-26-2011

I am pleased to announce that Allen Stone KB8RPO of Dayton is the new District Emergency Coordinator for Ohio ARES District 3, replacing Ron Moorefield W8ILC who is retiring as DEC. Ron has held the DEC appointment for 27 years, with a total of 50+ holding other appointments in the ARES program.

Please join me in congratulating Ron for his years of service, and welcome Allen to his new responsibilities!

## Have you got the power for EmComm?

In a major disaster the power will fail. In turn the communications infrastructure will crash. There will be no am/fm radio, television or cell phone use. Only people with radios which are capable of or are running on emergency power will be able to communicate. As an emergency communication (Emcomm) amateur radio operator, you need to have at least two sources of emergency power. Three sources are even better.

Whichever emergency power sources you pick, you need to know the limitations and problems of those sources.

For some hams, their emergency plan is that they will respond to the call from the amateur radio emergency communication organization. They intend on letting the organization worry about emergency power. What if there is an emergency and no call received or no call up?

Some hams' emergency plan is limited to only the battery power left in the existing charge of their hand-held transceiver. Their ability to respond is very limited and their hours of operating will be even more limited. It is not that hard to have a back-up battery plan for your HT. It does not necessarily have to be a duplicate of the HT battery. Most larger hamfests have good used batteries for a few bucks that will extend the use of your HT for emergency communication.

Some hams have older handheld radios and are not in a financial position to afford something newer. Older radios may have more current drain. Also older handhelds nicad batteries fail. There are hams who have handhelds who bought extra nicad battery packs but over the years as those packs were rebuilt they reached their rebuilding limit, of one or two times and they may be down to one nicad pack for a twenty year old handheld that has been out of production for 15 years. Some of these older handheld radios do not have the necessary CTCSS tones to access the repeaters and many organizations will not open up the repeater when necessary for those radios to work.

These hams should not feel guilty over being financially challenged in an economy as volatile as the pre-sent one.

Nor should hams who have emergency communication manage responsibilities give them a hard time. Managing hams should in fact be aware of the fact some hams cannot afford to go out and spend several hundreds of dollars on new equipment.

Some hams have an emergency power plan of using their and whatever car batteries they can get their hands on in an emergency. These hams are advised to have jumper cables made up before hand in case they drain their batteries.

Some hams store charged car batteries as their battery backup. This can be dangerous for they out gas hydrogen gases which are very explosive. Car batteries must be kept in a well ventilated place. If hams live in a condominium or in rental housing they should confer with their CC&Rs or rental agreements. Most CC&Rs prohibit storing car batteries.

Other hams have gone and bought their own generators. It is commendable that these hams have gone to this expense. When using a generator it must be kept in the open so carbon monoxide fumes may safely dissipate.

Running a generator in an apartment's balcony or courtyard is unsafe. Never run a gasoline generator inside a house, building or garage unless it is properly and professionally installed as the fumes are deadly. Never connect the generator to the house electrical system as this could cause damage when the electricity comes back on or it could back feed into the power grid and cause death or injury to an electric company employee fixing the power lines.

The gas powered generator presents a gasoline storage problem. Again, hams in condos or rental may be prohibited from storing gasoline. There may even be municipal ordinances in some jurisdictions outlawing residents from storing gasoline. Gas is highly explosive. It is a bomb even in small quantities. Terrorists and criminals use small containers of gas to make Molotov cocktail bombs. Even leaving gasoline in the generator in between uses is a problem - a spark may cause a fire or explosion in some cases. Now with the E10 and E15 gasoline the generator can be damaged if you leave gasoline with ethanol in the generator tank. There are propane gas generators that use the propane tanks like you use on you grill but these are hard to find and very expensive. Some generators are specifically made to run on natural gas and can be professionally installed in a permanent location; some may even have automatic start system attached.

Solar panels are a clean energy source. They offer low power output. The problem with solar power is its usefulness is diminished when the sun is not out or it is an overcast day. Another disadvantage of solar power is you have to have storage (batteries) and a charging regulator. Solar panels are per watt an expensive solution.

That is enough for now. Until next time find a local or state traffic net to check into and learn how to handle formal written traffic.

73 (and 88 if appropriate), *David Maynard WA3EZN* Ohio Section Traffic Manager

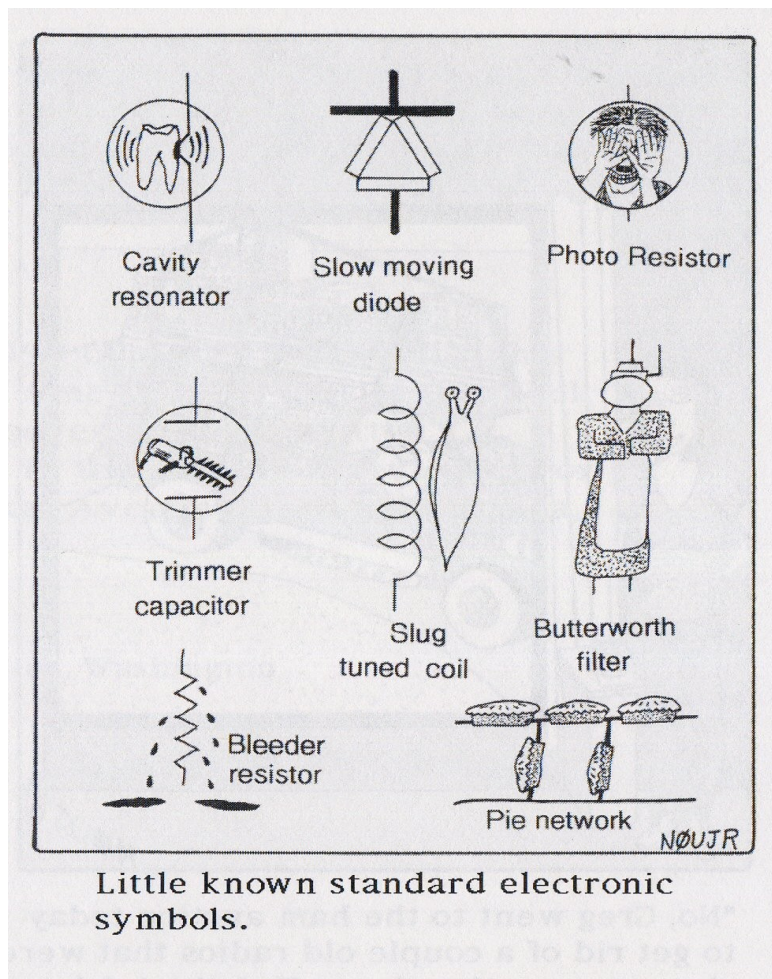
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## Training Updates

Hello All

page 12

*The Q Fivez, Oh Ky In ARS, November 2011*



### *Bonus Cartoon page 12.5*

I queried Greg Trook NØUJR if I might reprint, with due credit of course, in the newsltrs I edit when I bought the book this appears on pg 4 of, *NØUJR and His Friends*.

Not like that other guy in the 9<sup>th</sup> district!

--Ye Ed



By now all of the section ECs and DEC's have received the letter from Jack Sovik KB8WPZ, explaining the Section Training requirements for ECs and DEC's. This is where I hope to be of assistance to the section. Last month I talked about Train-the-Trainer sessions for EC100, EC200 & EC700. I will also plan to provide a session for EC800. The goal is to get the districts as self-sufficient as possible. Now please give me some time to put the first session together. I am targeting February for the EC 100 & EC 200 sessions and April for adding EC700 & EC800. The intent of these sessions is to provide trainers for teaching this material to other HAMS preparing them for testing on-line and earning the FEMA Course Certificate. I am thinking each of these sessions will be an all-day affair, but once I have developed my TTT Courses I'll provide more details.

Since we are on the topic of training I think it is very important to understand [my perception] appropriate training levels. Now please be kind with your responses; these are my opinions and they are not etched in stone, but my observations based on my Military EM experience.

- All of the required FEMA Training Courses are geared toward individuals who would be working in the EOC (Emergency Operations Center). Remember your support teams and responding hams that are not working within the EOC do not need these courses. It certainly helps if they understand NIMS, but they need to be task-trained for their role; a good Net Controller, Field Communicator, etc. Don't discourage participation because of these requirements!
- The courses Jack & I selected as requirements for our ECs & DEC's give an individual insight into the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and perform their role within the EOC. Remember our mission is to be communicators and manage communications for the EM, nothing more nothing less.

- There are additional week long courses conducted by FEMA, but these are designed for individuals who take a leadership role within the EOC. Again based on my experience; I don't believe that any HAM would be asked to manage within an EOC who is not a Fire Fighter, Police Officer, or some other government official. Again there is always one exception to this thought, but this would be the norm. If you have the opportunity and get the EM's blessing take the advanced courses, but remember you could be stepping out of the communicator role.

- Focus training on specific taskings by the organizations that have asked for your organization's help. Don't commit to helping an organization that cannot tell you what your organization's specific role is during an incident. Showing up during an incident and not understanding your place on the team leads to failure. Train for the tasking! Show up understanding what you are to do and be prepared to do it!

- The most common tasking HAMS are asked to do is move Health & Welfare messages from an incident. Understanding the NTS format and procedures for messages will move that traffic efficiently. Encourage participation in NTS Nets; both Local and Regional. Use your meeting for training on the NTS format and procedures. Find a really good

traffic handler to talk about the NTS. Traffic handlers love to move traffic; generate messages to other section organizations to practice these skills. The NTS and Emergency Communications are partners in the public service arena. Another project I am working on is creating a database for the section on who has completed what training. The idea is; Section Leadership could get a request for help; Frank could use this database to recruit the right assistance to provide. By knowing who has accomplished what it makes those decisions easier. So if you wish to be included within the database, forward your training certificates to me and I will enter your information. DEC's and EC's need to send me this information due to the new training requirements. You can forward your certificates by snail mail, use the QRZ address, or scan them and e-mail them to me.

Again as always, send any comments to <N8GOU@arrl.org>.

73. *John Frederick N8GOU* ASM Training

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### **Affiliated Club News**

By the time you read this, I will have been the Ohio Section ACC for one year.

So, with your indulgence, I intend to diverge from my typical "what's happening around the state" and address the health of Ohio's clubs.

I have been to meetings and Hamfests and other events all over this great state, the past year. I also read every newsletter that comes through my email and more that I can find on the web.

This past month was especially interesting in that I was able to make club visits to Ohio's newest affiliated club and to our oldest affiliated club.

I visited the Central Ohio Radio Club during their annual fall festival. (The football cake was to die for!) Now this club

*The Q Fivez, Oh Ky In ARS, November 2011*

was actually formed in 1947; they were just very diligent by taking only 61 years to decide to affiliate with the ARRL. 120 of their 135 members are ARRL members. It was a great visit and I hope to get back. I gave my "Things Every Club Should Do/Try/Have" speech. I genuinely felt well received.

Then on the 13<sup>th</sup> I was fortunate enough to represent the League and the Section at the Mahoning Valley Amateur Radio Association, along with MVARA member and SEC Jack Sovik KB8WPZ and Assistant SM-NE: Bob Winston W2THU. This club, of over 100 members, 90%+ who are ARRL members! They have been affiliated since 1925 and an organized club since 1919, continuing to meet during the war when they weren't allowed to use their radios. They do an event every year called The Santa Claus Net, where they have children talk to Santa Claus over Ham Radio. The net is open to anyone but the hams specifically go a local children's hospital to help the kids to get on the air. What a great event. What a great way to introduce our youth to Amateur Radio.

I recently saw this list of "concerns" about the state of amateur radio in general and thought I would address my "State of Ohio Clubs" from this perspective.

1) Getting young and new people involved.

Wow, it's exciting to see how different clubs are getting kids involved. I'll begin with Mount Vernon's out-reach to the W8CBF "the nearly all kids" club which produced the Great Lakes District Young Ham of the Year in Zack Beougher KD8KSN. Then there is Mahoning Valley's outreach to kids with their Santa Claus net I just mentioned. How about the Multi-County/Club response to the Boy Scouts "It's a Disaster Drill" in Eastern Ohio. Many clubs have supplied radios to schools to listen to ARISSat or have some kind of youth outreach. The Oh-Ky-In club took the time to introduce a lot of young folk and their parents to Amateur Radio at the Cincinnati Museum Center September 24<sup>th</sup>.

2) Assault on Amateur Radio spectrum.

In response to House Bill 607, Clubs around the state (and nation) had petition signing activities at their meetings. Individually the ARRL collected thousands of letters at the Dayton Hamvention. I have heard Frank KI8GW, Bob W2THU, Nick K8NAP, and others on the Ohio Cabinet make innumerable pleas to support that initiative.

3) Antenna Restrictions.

This is a topic that comes up frequently at meetings, and one that gets addressed more by the State Manager and Assistant SMs than me. However I know many clubs pay close attention to what going at the state and federal level. There are currently two PB1 bills making their way through Ohio's Senate and House. Our leadership has actively supported and testified to move these along. Both have been passed by their representative legislatures and are in committee for tweaking the difference before going back for final approval. Thanks to our Section Manager, our State Government Liaison Nick Pittner K8NAP, the State SEC Jack Sovik KB8WPZ, and Assistant SMs like Bob Winston W2THU, for pushing for this so hard.

4) Training and training opportunities or lack thereof.

Training comes in many forms. There is formal training like the EmComm Courses offered by ARRL and ICS classes offered by the Federal Government. But where clubs excel is in the informal training that goes on at events and meetings every week. It's nice to have the background and understanding of the formal courses and I encourage everyone to

consider them, but our real worth, on the ground, is knowing how to use our radios, how to create and string antennas, how to set up quickly and efficiently. Our clubs do this all the time. They have all kinds of programs on soldering, building, and operating. Most of Ohio's repeaters are club sponsored and many use them to train, creatively, like LEARA's Skywarn Practice Nets and their SSTV nets. Demos on satellite, DX, logging programs etc. Our clubs are doing! One example is the Alliance Club which sponsors a Homebrew Night at their November meeting. With Frank's recent appointment of a Section Cabinet level Technical Coordinator in Jim Yoder W8ERW and Training ASM John A. Frederick N8GOU it's only going to get better.

5) Club participation and membership in decline.

Time for MYTHBUSTERS!!! Club participation and membership is NOT in decline. In fact it is up everywhere I go. Western Reserve ARC has doubled in size since they chartered a year ago. PCARS (Portage County Amateur Radio Service) sponsors a variety of Special Interest Groups (SIGs) which are well attended. These are in addition to regular club meetings. More people are participating in weekly local nets and meetings and events than ever before. There is more interest in Special Service Club status new and renewal because clubs are doing more and growing. It is beginning to dawn on many clubs how much they actually get accomplished, because membership is up. ARRL membership is up as well.

6) Appearance of dumbing down of the question pool and dropping of Morse Code requirements. This includes a division of factions on each side of the topic.

The question pool gets us started toward a ticket. What clubs do, is bridge the gap. All over the state clubs are sponsoring multi day/week classes for tech, general and extra licenses. Massillon is one such club that is just finishing up such a class. Western Reserve has 10 in their Technician class and started their Extra class October 24. Many clubs have mentorship or elmer programs to pair up newbies with an old pro. And every club I have visited takes great pride in their classes. LCARA holds bi monthly Exams the next December 3, Delaware just tested 13+ at the county EMA October 15. These are just two of many clubs who have regularly sponsored opportunities to get or upgrade a license. Isn't it interesting that there is **a surge of interest in CW** since the requirement was eliminated? I predicted this in a column I wrote for my club newsletter right before the elimination of the requirement. More people venture in because **they don't have to fear the embarrassment of failing the test**. In true ham spirit, most are patient with the new guys and they are helpful. So, don't blame the pool.

7) Decline of the general public's perception of Amateur Radio.

Another MYTHBUSTERS moment. We have a rising positive perception about Ham Radio in Ohio. Clubs are the center of our public perception. EMAs are opening their doors. CERT and other Citizen Groups are approaching their local radio clubs. What clubs do best is get into their communities and give back part of the hobby, and they are noticed.

There are many PIO tools and support mechanisms available through ARRL which helps promote our image. PIC Scott Yonally N8SY continues recruiting and supporting PIOs state wide and guiding them in how to use these tools. Look at SAARA activities just since June: Lions 5K run, Salem Grand Parade, Steel Valley Super Nationals support, Car Cruise in, Motorcycle Parade. What about Delaware's recent support of the unique All Horse Parade? Most clubs have a web presence and the Ohio Section maintains a page at ARRL-Ohio.org.

Like many clubs the Ohio Section maintains a Facebook presence as well. And NOTE, Not all who visit these are hams. Clubs are making new alliances with non-ham hobby groups like makers groups, R/C clubs Astronomy clubs etc.

8) Lack of local support through clubs and local Elmers.

Where do these Myths come from? There are any number of tools and information available through ARRL and other resources. Our State cabinet has been pushed by Frank this year to make more club visits to be seen and to engage with clubs and I think the results have been very positive. I have visited a dozen Ohio Hamfests and attended 13 club meetings this year. Others on the Cabinet have made similar commitments. More than ever the State Cabinet has made themselves available as a support and resource entity to its members, especially clubs. In fact when I was interviewed for the ACC position, it was explicitly stated that I was to make myself available statewide. The Ohio Section cabinet is especially approachable. Visit [http://www.arrl-ohio.org/sm/OH\\_Section\\_Cabinet.htm](http://www.arrl-ohio.org/sm/OH_Section_Cabinet.htm) for complete contact information and invite them to your meeting or event.

9) Fear of and actual cases of interference including Broad Band over Power lines (BPL).

There is no real fear and no real interference from BPL because we (ARRL) have already beaten this one down. Furthermore, clubs around Ohio have addressed many other types of interference through a collective effort. These types of responses start with conversation like, "Hey have you noticed the RFI over on Such and Such road?" at a meeting or over a local net. The next thing you know a group of club members is out investigating and reporting. This also goes back to training and club activity programs, where members are taught how to use their tools, meters, radios, signal hunting skills. We have been educated and made ourselves knowledgeable. Knowledge and preparedness removes fears.

10) Divisions in Amateur Radio and a general feeling by new licensees of not being welcome.

Another Myth. At club meeting, after club meeting, after club meeting I see newbies and "want to Bes" being greeted and welcomed warmly and enthusiastically. Division comes from someone judging they aren't getting their way and choosing not to participate in a meaningful, civil manner to make change.

I advocate, at every meeting I attend, that every club should "agree to disagree" and for every member of a club to have the right and privilege to air their opinion and state their support or conflicting opinion on any topic brought up. I stress that good citizenship requires us to participate and consider all opinions and diversities. When making decisions, club members should take a close look at all sides of an issue, compare what's on the table to their club's mission statement and act accordingly. We need to be allowed to have our say and have a choice. It doesn't mean we get our way. I half

expect to get some dissent or questions when I speak these words at a meeting, but I never do. I think the fact, here, is that most clubs function well using exactly this method.

All in all, I am very proud to represent and advocate for Ohio's clubs and to advocate to the clubs on behalf of ARRL. As members of the ARRL, we **are** the ARRL. We are a dynamic, creative, hard working and cohesive group. Clubs are the face of Ham Radio. We have clubs because of what we have in common.

I encourage everyone to be a good citizen, celebrate our differences and most of all Get Out Of Meeting Mode -- HAVE FUN!

73, *E. Mike McCordel KC8YLD* ARRL Ohio Section Affiliated Club Coordinator

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### **Public Information Coordinator**

Hi Gang,

Welp, it's another month has come and gone and I'm on the road again (sounds like that old song from the Partridge Family). I'm in Baltimore. Yup, home of the Ravens.. booooo. It's also home to a lot of good seafood, and since I love to see... food, it's a good great place for me to be. Hi.. Hi... I only wish I could say the same about the Ravens. Oh well, that's another story all together.

Now, on to business at hand.. I have something that I'd like you to do for me. It's been brought to my attention that we may have some links that may not point to good websites anymore. I decided to take a look at all the links on the website as a whole. It's a huge undertaking, as that there are over 2,000 links attached to the website as it stands today. I feel that most do point to where they are supposed to, but because links are something that can come and go depending on the needs of the masses and where the information is located on the internet, they may not now. Since there are so many links, and they change quite often, I've decided to employ all of you to help me out in making sure that we have the most current links activated. Please, if you know of a link that isn't working or is pointing to something that it shouldn't be, let me know right away. I will get it fixed as soon as I know about it. Don't let a bad or broken link become an argument point. All I need you to do is let me know that something isn't working right. I'll take it from there.

After reviewing the stats from the website this evening, I'd say that there are a lot of you that are using the site every day. That's great!! That's what it's there for. We have well over a million hits on our site for the year and we're still growing. Funny how one individual thinks that the Section Cabinet isn't working for the masses.. Oh well, that's his opinion and the stats from the website seem to be showing that he's just not in tune with what this Section is all about.

Now speaking of growing, have you noticed that we have instituted a survey on the site? This survey will be on-going with a variety of questions being asked. I won't take credit for this idea, it actually came from the League. They've been doing this for some time now with their little "mini" surveys. The survey will only be around 3 – 5 questions at a time and will only take about 2 minutes to fill out. The survey will change fairly quickly (around a week or so) and I will always leave an input block at the bottom so that you can give your input to the questions at hand, or if it has sparked some ideas that you'd like to talk to us about, you can, just type them in. The results will be posted for these surveys when the survey itself ends.

Now.. moving the VFO down the band a bit.. PIOs, make sure that you are in good standing with your local clubs / ARES groups. Your involvement with them is essential to make sure that you have the latest information. I would strongly suggest that you also become good friends with your newsletter editor as well. Remember, he/she has a lot of contacts all around the area for news. Now if your club or ARES organization has a website, are you familiar with it? You should be.

This will be one of the first things for the news media to go to when they want to find out something about the local organization. It would be great if you, as the PIO, had a little area just for news releases as well as for contact information about you and the club. Staying in good communication with your club leadership is also essential. This way you can talk intelligently to the media during special events and be passing the correct information to them.

I want to encourage all of you PIOs to take the PR-101 course if you haven't already. Yes, it's some reading and you even need to take a test afterward, but let me tell you, I've been in the news reporting field for a lot of years and this course even taught me some things that I hadn't even thought about. It's fun, it's informative and you will get a lot of good information from it. I strongly encourage all of you, whether PIOs or not, to take this little course. Oh, I guess I should mention this as an incentive, it's also FREE..!!

Interested? Here's the link: <http://www.arrl.org/pr-courses> Oh, just one more tid-bit.. I am among the first 100 to graduate from this course.

Now.. moving the VFO down the band even a bit further, but still keeping it in band-plan.. (I say it that way to make sure that Rick KK8O doesn't have a coronary) are you aware that the Ohio Section has a "Speakers Bureau" that is available for your next club meeting? There is. Just let Frank KI8GW, our Section Manager know what event you need us for and we'll do our best to have someone there.

Have you noticed a common theme in my message this month? I've tried to convey to all of you that 2-way communication is vitally important to all of us. Please, if you would like to talk to any of the Section Cabinet just write us an email, snail-mail letter or even call us on the phone, and we'll all do what we can to make sure your voice is heard. Your Section Cabinet is here for you to talk to. Let us know what's on your mind. We're here to serve you.

Now, switching bands.. **I want to start a new section on the website. This one will be nothing but links..** Yes, that's why I need your help. This site will be nothing but club links I not only need your club link, but if you know the link to any Amateur Radio club anywhere I want it, it doesn't have to be in the Ohio Section. I think it will be fantastic to have a page filled with links to clubs all over the world! Because of the mass undertaking this will be I won't be able to post the club's logo, but what the heck, a common page with links to all of the clubs will be a very large page for you to load anyway. Also.. I want the links to any of the Amateur Radio related stores and service centers.

Now.. after all of this I do need to go QRT for the night. It's been a week of adventure, and a lot of work.

73, *Scott Yonally N8SY* Ohio Section Public Information Coordinator

PS>> Yes, unfortunately there is a Post Script to this article. On my way home I blew my knee cap out. It's pretty sure that I have torn up my ACL. I am only glad that it happened on the way home so that it didn't dampen my activities in Baltimore. I had some very good eats there. I also got in a little work too.

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### **Technical Coordinator Report**

What can we do for you?

As your Technical Coordinator and like the other members of the Ohio Section leadership team, I'm here to help you achieve your goals, support your interests and to assist where ever I can as we work to promote Amateur Radio throughout Ohio.

I recently purchased a new PC after losing my old and trusted machine when my basement filled with water and ruined my shack with all of its contents. I found a suitable machine at the local Staples store and while talking to the associate there, he mentioned that HP normally\ brings out new products after several months to incorporate the latest in technology and performance. I felt embarrassed to tell him I was replacing a machine that was nearly ten years old already. It's often difficult to appreciate change until you take the leap forward and have a look into the future. And so it goes with Amateur Radio.

I'd never suggest that anyone abandon their most prized rig to acquire a newer one with all the latest improvements. Personally, I have a hard time letting loose of gear that I have enjoyed so much over the years. There is as much to be said about the older equipment as there is the new. However, technology does march on and there are many ways to take the plunge while holding on to the past that we love. Perhaps this is one of the elements of our hobby that attracts us to it.

Many of you are experimenting with digital modes and are perhaps involved with supporting local ARES activities that now require a higher level of technology. Our served agencies are keenly interested in what we can bring to the table, enhancing and supporting the need to be ready for any disaster. Often issues arise that involve interoperability and coordination between what are disparate systems that were not designed to work together. Just as often, difficult problems with interference become evident as we attempt to bring new systems and equipment into operation. Just as important as supporting ARES and our mission there is the need to also provide assistance to individual members who face the same or similar problems in their own radio room. The contribution of the individual and insuring that each member has the resource available to succeed is a great part of what your Ohio Section is about.

One of the many benefits of ARRL membership is the team of ARRL Ohio Section officials and the services we can deploy to assist you. We have several Technical Specialists who may assist you when you encounter these problems. All of us who serve under the skillful leadership of SM Frank Piper are committed to being a resource that you can depend on as needed. Our desire is to represent you to the League in Newington as well.

As many of you already know, Ohio is the largest of the ARRL Sections. The geography that we must cover and the number of ARRL members constitute an impressive and very significant statistic. Each of you as individual members play an important role in making the Ohio section what is and will be. We are very well represented and our contribution



to the body of Amateur Radio is always in the forefront as our members contribute by authoring many fine articles for publication in League journals and supporting the latest in technology throughout the Ohio Section. Please feel free to contact me or any member of the Ohio Section cabinet whenever you have concerns or require assistance with a project that you are working on. Your ARRL membership is greatly appreciated and it is our desire is to serve your needs.

73, *Jim Yoder W8ERW* Ohio Section Technical Coordinator

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### **Statehouse Happenings**

The Ohio Section has successfully obtained passage of two very similar pieces of amateur radio antenna legislation in the Ohio General Assembly. The House of Representatives, on June 9, 2011, passed H.B. 158 and forwarded that bill to the Ohio Senate. Last year, during a previous legislative session, the Ohio Senate passed amateur radio antenna legislation identical to a Bill presently pending in the Ohio Senate, S.B. 93. Each of these bills incorporates the federal (FCC PRB-1) prohibitions on unreasonable restriction of amateur antennas into Ohio law, and makes observance of those restrictions mandatory for municipal, county and township zoning authorities in Ohio. The differences between the two relate to the conditions that would permit a local zoning authority to rebut the presumption that a tower height of seventy-five feet is reasonable and some minor language differences between the two bills.

At the present time, both of these bills are pending before the Senate State and Local Government and Veterans Affairs Committee chaired by Sen. Kris Jordan. No hearings are presently scheduled before the Senate Committee and much of our effort has been directed at getting our legislation scheduled for hearing. We are now approaching the elections season, and there is very little scheduled legislative activity between now and the end of the year.

You may recall that last December at our request many of you wrote letters and made calls to legislators seeking to obtain passage of our legislation before the end of the year, as that marked the end of the biennial legislative session and bills not passed simply went out of existence. That's not the case this year. The end of 2011 will mark the end of the first year of the current session, and our bills will remain active for the balance of 2012. However, we must continue the effort to obtain passage in the Ohio Senate as soon as possible and another letter writing campaign may well become necessary.

The Ohio Section, under the leadership of Section Manager Frank Piper, has taken the lead in advancing this important work, and the progress we have made is due to the efforts that Frank, other Cabinet members and interested volunteers have made. Countless hours of committee hearings, preparation for and delivery of legislative testimony and calls and visits to individual legislators have consumed much of Frank's time, and we are all grateful for his efforts. Those who

would believe that amateur radio is held in low esteem should listen to the many complimentary remarks made by legislators who are very aware of the many contributions that radio amateurs make to the welfare of our state.

*Nick Pittnez K8NAP* State Government Liaison, Ohio Section

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### **Life in the Center of Ohio**

Hi All,

Well this is not the center of the universe but, it is the center of the Ohio Section. Since my last report I have attended the Great Lakes Convention, spent a day with E. Mike McCardel KC8YLD at Universal Radio in Reynoldsburg, and personally I am trying to get the antenna farm ready for winter, winter Yuk.

It's been several years since I last attended the Findlay Hamfest. Admittedly I spent most of the day in the ARRL building but, I did manage to browse both the exhibit buildings and the flea market. I was impressed with the number of vendors in both venues. I have not seen the attendance tally, however I was surprised at the number of folks attending the forums, especially the ARRL and ARES / NTS forums. The latter was standing room only, I know. I am looking forward to next year.

My next adventure was attending a daylong seminar for new hams sponsored by the Central Ohio LAUREL Volunteer Examiner Team (COLVET), organized by Bill Neill (NE1LL), and hosted by Universal Radio in Reynoldsburg, Ohio. I was the first presenter discussing the history of amateur radio and the forming of the ARRL, followed by E. Mike McCardel KC8YLD, Ohio Section Affiliated Club Coordinator, who discussed the advantages and benefits of joining a club. Many others topics were presented covering virtually every aspect of the hobby including but not limited to buying your first rig, ARES, APRS, Traffic Handling, Satellites, Packet, and more. This was a great opportunity for new hams to have questions answered.

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I would be amiss if I did not thank Universal for providing such a great facility and for providing everyone with lunch. Sometimes locals don't realize or appreciate what they have in the Columbus area by having "the candy store" nearby.

Well, I am warm and dry inside the shack as I peck away at the keyboard. However, outside it is cool and damp; almost time for antenna work so until the next time

73 from the center, *Fritz Zender WD8E* Assistant Section Manager- Central Ohio

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### **Northeast Ohio Activity**

It has been quite a while since I reported the news from northeast Ohio. Certainly there have been a lot of ham related activities going on here, but I have been remiss in keeping up with the section journal. Most recently, I was honored to fill in for our section manager during ARRL Night at the Mahoning Valley Amateur Radio Association. Not only did I get to meet a great bunch of hams, but I was able to add another county to my list of clubs that have invited me to talk. Did you know that the MVARA was founded in 1919? This was only 5 years after the formation of the ARRL! It

won't be long before they celebrate their 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. Also attending from our section leadership were Mike McCardel KC8YLD, Affiliated Club Coordinator and Jack Sovik KB8WPZ, Section Emergency Coordinator. Of course, this is Jack's hometown club.

Last month I attended the Findlay Hamfest in order to participate in the Great Lakes Division Convention. Only the Dayton Hamvention and the Division Convention in Toledo a few years back have gotten me to leave the northeast Ohio cocoon. I was very impressed with this hamfest. It was one of the larger hamfests in Ohio, with plenty of vendors and flea market participants. ARRL Media and Public Relations Manager Allen Pitts W1AGP came all the way from Newington to address our group. His topic was amateur radio since 9/11 and he was emphasizing our EMCOMM

role with a warning to not be a ham radio cop. It was very interesting, amusing and right on point.

I want to recognize the fine work, devotion and time commitment of our Section Manager, Frank Piper KI8GW who has been doing an excellent job running this section.

73, *Bob Winston W2ZHU* Assistant Section Manager - Northeast Ohio

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### **Out and About In Southeast Ohio**

I was at the Findlay Hamfest. The forums and OSSBN meeting were well attended, but I did think there was too much conflict with what I wanted to attend. I'm on the Advisory Board of OSSBN as well as Assistant Section Manager for District 3 in SE OH.

No other Ham events were going on during the rest of the month of September in this part of the state.

Personally, my #1 Grandson is at least half way thru his 2<sup>nd</sup> tour of duty in Afghanistan. He is a Surgeon in the Army stationed in Herat in the upper NE area of the country just below Turkmenistan and just west of Iran. He should be coming home in December; but it is rumored it might be a little earlier, I hope! Please keep him and all of our Service men and women in your prayers.

The Massillon Hamfest is coming up the end of October 30, 2011, Georgetown November 5, 2011, the TUSCO Hamfest will be 1/29/12 in Strasburg but I do not see the Mansfield Midwinter Hamfest listed as yet on the ARRL website. Keep tuned to see if it will be listed in the next issue!

73/88 and Teddy Bear Hugs! *Connie Hamilton N8JO* Assistant Section Manager - Southeast Ohio

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### **Southwest Ohio Report**

I have three big events to report from Southwest Ohio:

#### **Kids Discover Amateur Radio and a Lot More! At Cincinnati Museum**

Members of the OH-KY-IN Amateur Radio Society had an opportunity to introduce a lot of young folks (and their parents!) to the wonders of amateur radio at the Cincinnati Museum Center on Saturday, September 24. Kids got to see amateur radio in action by talking on 2-meter rigs, hearing their names using Morse code, and exploring amateur radio's connection to satellites.

In addition to the various radio stations which were set up, there were displays of radio tubes, QSL card collections, police/fire scanners, and even amateur radio cartoon books which the kids were able to take home with them. OH-KY-IN also had a PowerPoint presentation which showed in the museum's original Scripps Theater, where long ago folks used to come to watch newsreels during WWII.

*The 2 Fives, Oh Ky In ARS, November 2011*

*page 19*

The Museum Center event director, Kent Jones (KC8ZPS), contacted the OH-KY-IN group to participate in something he hopes will become an annual event. The museum wanted to have a “Business Partners” day where companies who are affiliated with the museum could bring their families in to enjoy all that the museum has to offer.

Kent offers kids the opportunity to experience Morse code several times throughout the year, but wanted to use this opportunity to expand their amateur radio experiences. Kent refers to the museum as an “interpretive” museum, meaning that visitors have an opportunity not only to view displays, but also to have them explained by numerous volunteer guides.

Kent sought to tie in both radio history and amateur radio’s long history of emergency operations into something folks could see up close and personal. While most of the kids were enchanted with the radio demonstrations, the adults seemed most interested in the disaster relief side of radio, no doubt heavily influenced by the many recent destructive weather events.

Needless to say, the OH-KY-IN folks were excited to be a part of this event, and really enjoyed the interaction with the kids and parents alike. While a number of members participated on site, others monitored one of OH-KY-IN’s local repeaters to talk with kids who were brave enough to get on the air. Since the event was such a success, both groups are looking for more opportunities in the coming year to work with the museum to show folks what amateur radio is all about!

For more information, please contact Robert Gulley <AK3Q@ak3q.com> or visit the website at OH-KY-IN [www.ohkyin.org](http://www.ohkyin.org)

### **Cincinnati Hamfest**

The 2011 Greater Cincinnati ARA HAMFEST is now in the record book. GCARA President Neal Berter N8QFZ reports that about 300 people attended the event held at the Diamond Oaks Career Development Center on Saturday 19 September. Weather held out for most of the day. Two forums were presented including the ARRL Forum by ARRL Great Lake Division Director Jim Weaver K8JE, and another excellent presentation on various configurations of wire antennas, with construction tips, by Jay Adrick K8CJY.

Neal feels that large Hamfests may be a thing of the past but expressed, “each year I am amazed that we have a great bunch of Hams gather to meet and re-meet.” Planning already has started for the 2012 GCARA Hamfest. Neal encourages everyone to come back again next year for another successful event.

### **U.S. Air Force Marathon**

Although the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual USAF Marathons can be reported as a public service and ARES activity, it is noteworthy to also include here in the Ohio Section News. The USAF Marathon is a world class event that has had the support of Greater Dayton Area hams since the first one in 1997. This year, 51 hams supported the event with a total of over 420 “man-hours” including pre-planning meetings and set-up. 13,000 runners registered for the event which included a Full Marathon (26.2 miles), a Half Marathon and a 10K Marathon on the grounds of Wright Patterson Air Force Base including the National Museum of the United States Air Force and some “spillover” through the Wright State University campus.

Two ham repeaters, a primary and a backup, were used for tactical traffic between the Hydration Stations and Medical Stations along the course and the Command Post. Three ham simplex frequencies were active with traffic for Race Officials, Emergency Services and MC Shadow/Chute Spotters.

All ham personnel and equipment performed well and the amateur radio support is recognized by Base Officials as being a critical element in the success of the Marathon operation. A BIG thank you to David Crawford KF4KWW, who was the ham radio liaison with Air Force officials who organized and coordinated the amateur radio support operations, and to all the other participating hams who contributed to making this another very successful operation. Until next month,

73! *Fred Stone W8LLY* Assistant Section Manager – Southwest Ohio

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**Hamfests in Ohio:** Oct 30 Massillon covered in Oct *Q-Fiver*, Nov 5 Georgetown covered in this issue

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### **From the Desk of the Section Manager**

I’m sitting here in my office/shack, looking out the window of a bright and crisp fall Sunday. Downstairs I’m hearing my daughter Hanna practicing her Viola for 6<sup>th</sup> grade Orchestra. To many the sounds of a string instrument being played by a beginning student might make the hair on one’s neck stand, make the family cat run for cover, and

the neighbors wonder who is being tortured in the lower part of my house. To Jackie and me, it's the sound of a young girl who has found a new love of a hobby that will follow all through her life, if she so chooses it to be. It made me sit and think of all the hobbies I have had in my life, from model building to computers to Amateur Radio. My model building days are over, my computer hobby turned in my career (try to avoid that one if you can), which leaves Amateur Radio as my main pastime.

I love this hobby. It's the only hobby where I still learn something each and every time I operate, build skills that can help my community, and make new friends wherever I tune and operate. I have made many friends around the world, and many, many friends in the Ohio Section. Where, at one time I would come home from Hamfests with purchases for

the shack, I now come home with a hand tired from handshakes, and lots of stories from each of you that I get to speak with. I think I come home with more valuable items now than ever before.

These past two weeks we witnessed the passing of the "Thomas Edison" of our time, and that is Steve Jobs from Apple. (Section News rcvd by *Ye Ed* on Oct 17) This is a man who I never met, but feel like I have lost a friend. This man influenced technology so much in the past 40 years, that some wonder how we will continue to grow after his passing. While Steve never built the iPod, iPhone, or iPad himself, he instilled a vision to those around him to think different, be different, and to try things that may fail, and if they do, then just go off another direction to find the next success.

We all need to follow this model of thinking. Until next month....

73, *Frank K18GW* Ohio Section Manager <ki8gw@arrl.org>

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**Happy birthday to the legendary Parkes radio telescope antenna** -- thanks for [50 years of service](#) as of 31 October! Seen in the movie, "The Dish" (*highly recommended - Ed.*), the antenna was a crucial element in the early years of the United States' manned space program. 64 meters across, the facility is located in New South Wales, Australia, not far from its namesake town.

*ARRL Contest Update* Oct 12 2011

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### What's coming in November 2011

Tue Nov 1 7:30 PM Club meeting at St Bernard Recr Hall, 120 E Washington, St Bernard  
Program: Nominations of officers & Board for 2012, maybe more



Elections in OH, KY & IN, but **not** at our mtg place! Pls don't forget to  
Wed Nov 2 9:00 PM Tech Talk on 146.67 repeater, NCS Robert AK3Q

Fri Nov 4 7:30 PM SSTV Net on 146.925

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

Tue Nov 8 7:00 PM Technical Committee meeting if needed, location TBD

Wed Nov 9 2:00 PM EST Nationwide Emergency Alert pls see story begins page 7

9:00 PM Tech Talk on 146.67 repeater, NCS Brian K4BRI



Fri Nov 11 **Veterans' Day US** Remembrance Day Canada

Sat Nov 12 8AM-4PM 1-Day Technician Class in St Bernard (pls see page 8)

10:00 AM Monthly Oh-Ky-In fox hunt, hounds gather at Mt Storm Park; talk-in to  
start on 146.67 rpt

1:00 PM Oh-Ky-In Brunch Bunch, Camp Washington Chili, 3005 Colerain Ave

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

