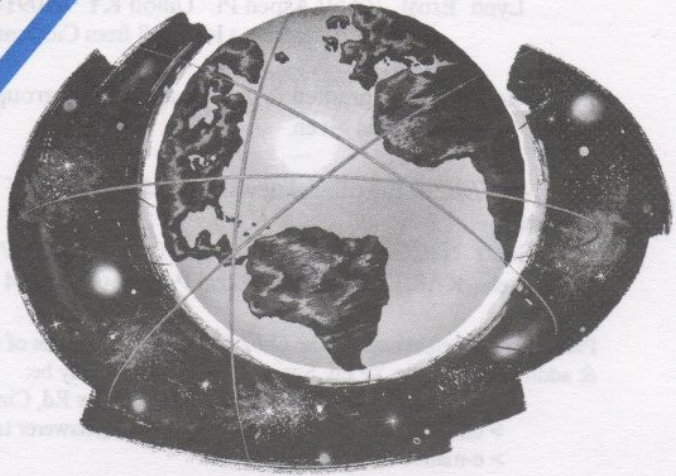


K8SCH

THE Q-FIVE



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



Our 53d 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
Vice President	Russell Hines	WB8ZCC	513=891-7403	russ@wb8zcc.com
Secretary	Fred Schneider	K9OHE	513=729-0945	fschneider@fuse.net
Treasurer	open, awaiting willing appointee --			
Directors	Paul Jordan	KD8JDF	513=921-3732	paujor@roadrunner.com
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	Bruce Vanselow	N8BV	513=251-1555	n8bv@juno.com

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.arrrl-ohio.org>
 Division: <http://www.arrrl-greatlakes.org> National: <http://www.arrrl.org>
 Club Website issues may be directed to webgeezer@ohkyin.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.
 Please come in the doors at street level, facing the high school. Visitors ALWAYS welcome!

For membership information, please 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,
 if proper source credit is given, unless permission is otherwise reserved.

The Q-FIVER is **now** mailed and e-mailed, it's hoped, **7 days 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@arrrl.net or to sscott@iglou.com

Bit **longer** this time; K8JE's column arrived *just in nick of time!* *Ye Ed*

THE Q-FIVER

January 2013 Volume 53 Number 1



HELLO 2013!!!!

Despite the panic and predictions of some, we have made it to a new year. 2012 was a very good year for our club. Our membership continued to inch upward, we remained financially stable, and our repeaters continued to be some of the best in town.

Officer elections occurred without much changer for 2013. Fred K9OHE will move to the Secretary position, Paul KD8JDF will move to Director, and Russ WB8ZCC will take the position of Vice President. Brian Fulmer KC8FJN is taking a well deserved break after serving as director and Vice President for the past 4 years. A big thanks to all who have volunteered for these positions and those who have served in the past.

For 2013 one word comes to mind, "OPPORTUNITY". We have a wide open field in front of us to grow and expand. There are activities galore that we can do as a club. However, there is one common factor in all, volunteers. As the club embarks on new nets, workshops and classes, help will always be needed. This help can come in many ways. Obviously, instructors, net controls and hands on people are always needed. If you cannot help in these areas, often simple things like making phone calls, handling scheduling and emails and things like that are needed. They can be done for your shack and are crucial to the success of your effort. When help is asked for, don't stare at the floor, raise a hand! **Please!!!**

Finally, a reminder about our January meeting. We will meet on Tuesday January 8th this month. The first Tuesday this month is the New Year's holiday. SO mark your calendars and plan to be present! Until then, stay warm and I hope to hear you on the repeaters!

73, *Gazy KB8MYC*

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Next meeting

OH-KY-IN meets at the St. Bernard Municipal Building (Rec. Hall) at 120 Washington Ave. in St. Bernard (corner of Washington & Tower), on the first Tuesday of every month at 7:30PM. Please enter through the doors that face the high school on Washington. For more information, please click [HERE](#).

Very First Program of 2013 will be *Homebrew Help*, conducted at least in part by *moi*. Visitors are ALWAYS welcome! See you there!

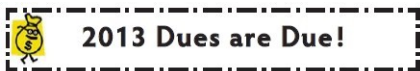
73, *Russ WB8ZCC*

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Minutes of members' meeting, Tuesday December 4, 2012

...don't seem to be easily available. Paul KD8JDF, retiring recording secretary, & Lady Wife Paula appear to be away from their landline at time to assemble this issue. Hope to have 'em for Feb issue. *-Ye Ed*

The Q Fiver, OhKyIn ARS, January 2013 page 3



rcvd 11-29-30 insert here at K9OHE's request

It is that time again - time to renew your membership in OH-KY-IN. There are some changes this year. A few membership meetings ago the membership then present passed a motion for a new dues structure recommended by the Board of Directors. Gone are the different rates that applied to renewal at different times of the year. Most of us will pay \$20 per year - or \$15 if we are seniors. The complete rate schedule is on the membership form on the club's web site.

You may renew on line for 2013. Go to the club's web site, then to the membership section. Fill out the online form, and pay by using PayPal. You do not have to be registered with PayPal - simply enter you credit card number and the amount to be paid - PayPal will take care of the rest. Be sure to submit the form before you leave the membership site.

You **cannot** renew you membership in ARRL on line. But you **can** renew your ARRL membership the old way. Fill out the form, then print it. Mail the signed and completed form to Nathan at the address on the form - and include your check. You can also renew your club membership the old way - **only one form** to renew both memberships. OHKYIN gets \$2.00 for each ARRL member who renews through the club, and \$15.00 for each **new** ARRL member who joins ARRL through the club. These amounts can add up quickly!

I'll be looking for you at club meetings and events.

73, ~~Fred~~ **K9OHE**, newly retired Treasurer, now Secretary

tnx W Reserve ARC *Wave Bender* for headline with graphic - ~~Ye Ed~~
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January Brunch Bunch at Price Hill Chili

The next Brunch Bunch will be held Saturday, January 12th at Price Hill Chili. Price Hill Chili is located at 4920 Glenway Avenue near the intersection of Glenway & Cleves Warsaw Avenues in Price Hill. The Brunch Bunch meets at 1PM.

Price Hill Chili has a website that has a map, their menu and much more. Please go to www.pricehillchili.com I'm always looking for suggestions on what restaurant we might visit next or into the future. Please let me know. The Brunch Bunch meets the second Saturday of every month at a location to be announced each month. Why not come out and join us in January at Price Hill Chili?

73, **Bruce N8BV** n8bv@juno.com
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Anyone want to get started using digital voice on HF?

>From the AMSAT news service bulletin: FreeDV Ham Radio Digital Voice Software
FreeDV is an application for Windows and Linux that allows any HF SSB radio to be used for digital voice mode with bandwidth of just 1.1 kHz. Speech is compressed down to 1400 bit/s then modulated onto a 1100 Hz wide QPSK signal which is sent to the Mic input of a SSB radio. On receive, the signal is received by the SSB radio, then demodulated and decoded by FreeDV.

- Features:
+ Codec 2 voice coder and FDMDV modem
+ 50 baud 14 QPSK voice data

- + 1 Center BPSK carrier with 2x power for fast and robust synchronization.
- + 1.125 kHz spectrum bandwidth (half SSB) with 75 Hz carrier spacing
- + 1400 bit/s data rate with 1375 bit/s open source Codec 2 voice coding and 25 bit/s text for call sign ID
- + No interleaving in time or FEC philosophy resulting in low latency, fast synchronization and quick recovery from fades.

+ 44.1 or 48kHz sample rate sound card compatible

FreeDV, the new HF digital audio program for Radio Amateurs:

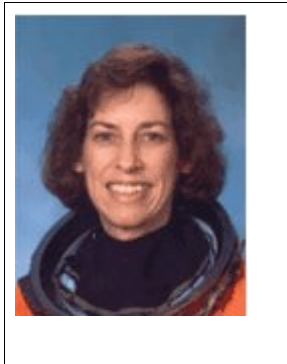
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pfyn0NEcNHs&feature=player_embedded

Watch when it's switched to analog SSB. The SSB bandwidth is about 3 times that of the digital audio. Also note the diagonal black streaks across the waterfall display. That's fading, probably from two reflections arriving out of phase. The ID on the bottom is coming in during the silent periods between words.

This software is Open Source, and uses Codec2. This Codec was presented by Bruce Robertson VE9QRP at the 2012 AMSAT Space Symposium in Orlando FL.

Please see <http://freedv.org/> relayed by *Fred Stone W8LLY*

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Astronaut **Eileen Ochoa KB5TZZ** became the 11th director of the Johnson Space Center in Houston TX at the beginning of 2013. She has been Deputy Director since 2007 and succeeds Michael Coats, who retired.

Ochoa was the first Hispanic woman to fly in space, a nine-day mission aboard the Shuttle Discovery in 1993. She subsequently made three more space flights and has held administrative posts at Johnson Space Center since 2002.

She has a doctorate in electrical engineering from Stanford University and was selected as an astronaut in 1990.

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

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Reminder of CW class beginning soon --

The Butler County Amateur Radio Association will host a CW class starting January 9. The class will meet each Wednesday for 8 weeks with a goal of teaching every student Morse code to a level of at least 5 wpm.

We will continue to help students after the class with on the air practice and mentoring.

The class is free and will be held in the Fairfield Twp. Police Department building on Walden Ponds Circle. This is just off of SR 129 about two miles east of R & L Electronics.

If you are interested in more information, please email icanlearncode@bcara.net , give a call on 147.000 (pl 123) or visit the website at www.bcara.net

Thank you and Happy New Year! 73, *Rob Lindsay W8MRL*

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Bill Pasternak WA6ITF was named 2012 Pacificon Amateur of the Year at the ARRL National Convention in October. This was a prominent story in *WorldRadioOnline* for Jan 2013. WA6ITF will turn 71 in February, *WRO* said.

DX Spots – January 2013 de Nathan KA3MTT

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
T8CW- Palau thru 1-6 ----- 8Q7MS- Maldives thru 1-3	JD1BMH- Ogasawara thru 1-4 	1 	2	3	4 VS-Namibia thru 1-18 	5 6W-Senegal thru 3-10 
6	7	8	9 T88-Palau thru 1-14	10	11	12 XV4LU- Vietnam thru 1-16 ----- ZF2PG- Cayman Is thru 1-20
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25 J5UAP- Guinea Bissau thru 3-10 	26 ZF2A-Cayman Is thru 2-2 
<p>In recent DX News bulletins -- QSL MANAGER CORRECTION. As reported in <i>DX News ARLD050</i>, the correct QSL Manager for V31NO is W3NO. The following operation is approved for DXCC credit: Mauritania 5T0SP, 2012 operation. This in <i>DX News ARLD053</i></p>						
27	28	29	30	31		
<p>ARRL's weekly DX bulletins made possible with information provided by K1GI, NC1L, <i>The Weekly DX</i>, the <i>OPDX Bulletin</i>, <i>425 DX News</i>, <i>The Daily DX</i>, DXNL, Contest Corral from <i>QST</i> and the ARRL Contest Calendar and WA7BNM web sites. Thanks to all.</p>						

CoffeeCan Radar

Want to make your own radar from "stone knives and bearskins"? The November 2012 *IEEE Spectrum* article "Coffee-Can Radar" shows how, using a laptop for the computational horsepower. A video describing the project is also available. <http://spectrum.ieee.org/geek-life/hands-on/coffeecan-radar>

ARRL Contest Update, 12-19-12

The Q Fivez, OhKyIn ARS, January 2013 page 6

Contests

January 2013

- 1 ARRL Straight-Key Night; New Year's Snowball Contest, SSB & CW; SARTG New Year
- 2 RTTY Contest; AGCW Happy New Year Contest, CW
- 4-5 ARRL RTTY Roundup; QRP Pet Rock Sprint, CW; 070 PSKFest; NS and SNS Weekly Sprints; Kid's Day, SSB
- 7 OK1WC Memorial Contest, SSB & CW
- 8 ARS Spartan Sprint, CW
- 9 CWops Mini-CWT Test
- 12-13 DARC 10 Meter Contest, SSB & CW; North American QSO Party; WW Peace Messenger Cities, SSB & CW; EUCW 160 Meter Contest; UK DX RTTY Contest; MI QRP Club January QRP Contest, CW
- 16 Linc Cundall Memorial CW Contest
- 17 NAQCC Monthly QRP Sprint, CW; Locust QSO Party, CW
- 19-21 International United Teenager Contest, SSB & CW; North American QSO Party, SSB; HA DX Contest, SSB & CW; Feld-Hell Gridloc Sprint, RTTY; LZ Open Contest, CW; YLISSB QSO Party; ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes; HA DX Contest, SSB & CW; Run for the Bacon, CW
- 25-27 CQ WW 160 Meter Contest, CW; NAQCC Special 160m Sprint; REF French Contest, CW; UBA Contest, SSB; BARTG RTTY Sprint; Winter Field Day, all modes; WAB Top Band Phone Contest; Classic Exchange, CW; QRP Winter Fireside SSB Sprint

Hot contests in the cold winter. For more information see *QST*, *CQ*, or www.arrl.org
73, *Dan K74AV*

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IARU Welcomes Two New Member Societies

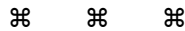
Earlier this year, the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) notified its Member Societies that two new national Amateur Radio organizations wished to join the IARU and would need to be voted in: the Federation of Radio Sport of Azerbaijan (FRSA) and the St Vincent and the Grenadines Amateur Radio Club (SVGARC). Ballots from all the Member Societies that responded were counted on November 1.

Based in Baku, Azerbaijan, the FRSA was formally organized on December 30, 2001. There are 50 licensed members of the FRSA out of a total amateur population of approximately 50 in Azerbaijan. The SVGARC is based in St Vincent, St Vincent and the Grenadines and was formally organized in 1951. There are 21 licensed members of the SVGARC, out of a total amateur population of approximately 134 in the country. Both organizations have confirmed to the IARU that they have the ability to meet financial obligations as a member of the IARU, are legally able to act in the furtherance of IARU objectives within their respective countries and will adhere to the Constitutions of both the IARU and its respective Regional Organization.

In order for a new national organization to gain IARU membership, there must be 53 affirmative votes from current IARU Member Societies. The Federation of Radio Sport of Azerbaijan received 60 affirmative votes and the St Vincent and the Grenadines Amateur Radio Club received 61. All Member Societies



that voted did so in favor of admitting these national organizations to the IARU. There are now more than 160 IARU Member Societies. *ARRL Letter 12-13-12*



OH Section News from Dec 22, 2012, edited. Entire issue at <http://www.arrl-ohio.org>

- Notes from the Section Traffic Manager
- Affiliated Club News
- Inside the Web (pls read at Section website)
- Special Event Stations in Ohio
 - From the Desk of the Section Manager
- Statehouse Happenings
- Public Information Coordinator Notes
- News from the Technical Coordinator
- Ohio Hamfest Calendar moved to **Hamfests &c**

Notes from the Section Traffic Manager – Is this the end of Ham Radio?

Over the last few months I have received several “end of the world” emails. The one claim is that the world will end on December 21st as this is the day one of the three Mayan calendars ends. This end of the world prediction has been around for a number of years. Will this also be the end of ham radio? I just can’t seem to believe this rumor as it does not seem logical to me that the Mayans knew when the world would come to an end, but I could be wrong. One event station will “celebrate” this literally as a once in a lifetime event. Special Event Station N0D (that’s November Zero Delta or Now Zero Days as they put it) will be active for three days during and possibly after the end of the world. They state that they will be on the air as long as possible for the three days and that December 22nd is a little iffy right now. Their website <http://www.nowzeroday.com/index.html> (*was still up as Ye Ed pasted up*) does not give any specific frequency that they will be on but does show the proposed QSL card available for an SASE to the address in QRZ. This might be worth checking out if this goes to print before then. If this goes to print after December 21st and you are reading this, than we can pretty well have this myth debunked.

The Special Event Station website claims that “Amateur radio stations around the crumbling globe are invited to contact N0D, which will be operating from a secret undisclosed location. If Doomsday actually does happen, they regret that sending a QSL will not be possible so hold on to your SASE until the 22nd at least. You can celebrate Doomsday by contacting N0D directly on the air. Amateurs can also become an official Doomsday station by registering on their website. You will be given a registration number and the authority to identify yourself as an Official Doomsday Station followed by your Doomsday number.”

The other “end of the world as we know it event” rumor has a similar time frame. This rumored event is that their will be a mega-solar storm that will be so strong that it will put out pulses called EMP pulses (Electro-Magnetic-Pulse). An Electro-Magnetic-Pulse is a sudden burst of radiation that produces a damaging voltage surge. EMPs can come from a nuclear detonation high in our atmosphere or even from our own Sun! These pulses are supposed to be so strong as to fry the electrical grid and anything that is electronic.

It’s alarming to think about but an EMP could disrupt everything. In a flash, electronics in everything we use in life would stop working. **Snip8<**

Many believe an EMP attack is the number one threat to the American infrastructure and way of life. Even our personal safety would be compromised. If there are droves of people without anything, all hell could break lose. Imagine what the highways would look like when millions of cars and trucks came to an instant and permanent stop. Many families would be separated with no way to get home. For most people, there would be no communications or method of getting accurate news updates. You will not know where your family and loved ones are and have no way of contacting them. **Snip8<**

Do these rumors have any merit? Well I don’t know if any of this is possible or if these dates are just made up. But all is not lost because even NASA has taken notice of these threats and has plenty to say.

The Q Fivez, OhKyIn ARS, January 2013 page 8

According to NASA, it won't happen. NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory has just put out a new video, *Just Another Day*, (found by *Ye Ed*) to address some of the rumors going around about the Mayan Apocalypse. According to NASA, 2012 Doomsday is just a myth. Don Yeomans, head of the Near-Earth Objects Program Office at NASA/JPL, addresses many apocalyptic rumors in this new video. For one, he states that the Mayan calendar doesn't actually end in December 2012.

According to Yeomans, the Mayans calendar functions just like ours. Our calendar ends in December but starts again in January. Yeomans said: "(The Mayan calendar) does not end on December 21, 2012; it's just the end of the cycle and the beginning of a new one. It's just like on December 31, our calendar comes to an end, but a new calendar begins on January 1."

Yeomans also said that the planet Nibiru, which is rumored to be on a crash course with earth, doesn't exist. Yeomans said: "This enormous planet is supposed to be coming toward Earth, but if it were, we would have seen it long ago. And if it were invisible somehow, we would have seen the [gravitational] effects of this planet on neighboring planets. Thousands of astronomers who scan the sky on a daily basis have not seen this."

But what about a giant cover-up by NASA? Prosperous, says Yeomans.

"Can you imagine thousands of astronomers who observe the skies on a daily basis keeping the same secret from the public for several years?"

Yeomans also addresses the issue of solar flares (the earth's magnetosphere shields us from radiation), planetary alignments that could cause massive tidal waves (there are no planetary alignments in December of 2012), and a shift in the earth's axis (can't happen because the moon stabilizes the earth).

Yeomans said: "Extraordinary claims require extraordinary evidence.

Since the beginning of time there have been literally hundreds of thousands of predictions for the end of the world, and we're still here." Find more from NASA here:

<http://www.scientificamerican.com/article.cfm?id=nasa-crushes-2012-mayan-apocalypse-claims>

Well, that about covers the month of December and the possible end of the earth as we know it. It also indicates that ham radio will be around for a while, or will it. You can do your own research and form your own opinions but now you at least know about the end of the world rumors.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Type at you again next month, or will I?

73, *David Maynard WA3EZN* Ohio Section Traffic Manager wa3ezn@arrl.net

Statehouse happenings – A Christmas present for Ohio hams

Okay, so H.B. 158 wasn't exactly delivered on Dec. 25, but it does represent a large benefit for Ohio amateurs and marks the culmination of nearly five years of legislative effort. H.B. 158 is Ohio's antenna bill, giving radio amateur antenna requests a strong preference in local zoning decisions. While it doesn't solve all of our problems, such as deed restrictions or neighborhood and condo agreements, it goes a long way toward helping those who would otherwise be limited by city, county or township zoning ordinances.

The Bill became law in Ohio on August 15 and with it Ohio joins 26 other states that have passed state laws similar to the FCC regulations designated as PRB-1, regulations which prohibit state and local governments from imposing unreasonable limitations on amateur antennas.

Of course our legislative Santa had some help in this effort and now is a good time to once again thank the "elves" who helped make Ohio's antenna law a reality. First on the list, of course is the "chief elf", our Section Manager Frank Piper KI8GW. Frank was there whenever needed – and he was needed a lot, both as a legislative witness and an advisor. Right behind Frank was Terri Kovalchik N8TLK whose research and organizational skills made the effort possible. In addition to attending hearings and keeping us organized, Terri did a review and summary of existing legislation in every state that had passed "PRB-1 like" legislation that provided impressive background information for our legislative sponsors.

In addition to Frank and Terri, our effort was supported with an impressive array of amateur radio background and experience as evidenced by our legislative witnesses who gave their personal time and effort to help often-confused legislative committee members understand why radio transmissions require antennas. That group of dedicated "elves" included Rick Swain KK8O (also, often called upon for help), Bill Carpenter AA8EY, Steve Katz N8WL, Don Kovalchik W8DPK, Dr. Bob Lewis N8GU, and John Tipka W8UL. A special thanks also goes to Capital University law professor Jeff Ferriell K8ZDA for his help in addressing the Home Rule issues that seemed to trouble some of the legislators. Numerous others, too many in numbers to list here, also helped with guidance, suggestions, calls and emails. Thanks to all of you. Your efforts have made Ohio a better place to be a radio amateur and a safer place for all Ohioans in times of emergency.

As we would with any new piece of radio gear, it's time to take our legislative present out of the box (read the instructions later, if ever) and give it a try. Some Ohio hams have already seen the benefits of the new legislation as their antenna applications received swift approval. Others may still be pending. So, how can we best use our new-found antenna authority? Obviously, putting up antennas is a good place to begin. But, what about helping our local radio clubs become true resource centers for new hams? Getting new hams on the air is essential to the continued life of our hobby, and antennas are an essential part of that equation. Or, should we use our success to try to springboard other ham-friendly legislation in Ohio, or perhaps try to help other states with their own antenna bills? The possibilities are endless and as the New Year approaches it's certainly time to consider some of those options and plan for our efforts next year.

Your thoughts are most welcome, so please feel free to share.

Happy New Year and 73. *Nick Pittnez K8NAP* Ohio State Government Liaison k8nap@arrl.net

Affiliated club news

As we close out 2012 we currently have 95 clubs that are considered active in Ohio. An active club is an ARRL affiliated club who has filed an annual report sometime in the past four years. The national club database indicates that there are 101 inactive clubs (clubs not filing an annual report for 5 or more years). Many of these no longer exist, but when reviewing this list some clubs appear in both active and inactive lists and in some instances are on the inactive list due to club consolidations or club name changes. I do contact the contact people in these clubs on occasion to see if I get a response. I seldom do.

Of the 95 clubs that are considered active, 25 have updated their annual reports in the past two years and another 44 have filed an annual report since Dec 2011. Ohio boasts 16 clubs with current up to date Special Service status and two more whose SSC status expired in 2012 that I am hopeful will reapply. SSC terms are limited and need to be renewed every two years. Thirteen of the current SSC clubs will need to reapply in 2013 to stay current. (Apply sooner than later!) How do we compare with other the other Great Lake District Sections?

Michigan currently shows 84 active ARRL Affiliated clubs with 37 of those filing annual reports in the past year. Michigan has 9 Special Service Clubs. Kentucky shows 32 ARRL Affiliated active clubs with 16 filing an annual report in the past year and has no current Special Service Clubs.

What about club membership? The average club membership is 59 people per club. The average ARRL membership of members in clubs is 41 members per club. The median club membership is 41. The median ARRL membership is only 29. This is an area we can improve. The active club listing the most members on its annual report is The Greater Cincinnati ARA who lists 455 members. The smallest club is the Stark DX Assn. who boasts 4 members. (Note that the Dayton ARA has not filed an annual report since 2006 when they listed 700 members.)

The total club membership for the Ohio Section includes 5,434 of which 3,759 are ARRL members. However, these figures may be a bit inflated due to the fact that many people belong to more than one club.

The Q Fivez, OhKyIn ARS, January 2013 page 10

Within the annual report, clubs are asked what activities their club judges as their Specialties. The following stats indicate what Ohio's clubs' specialties are.

Specialty: Number of Clubs (% of OH Clubs)

General Interest: 83 (87.3%) Public Service / Emergency: 80 (84.2%)

VHF/UHF: 74 (77.9%) Repeaters: 73 (76.8%)

Digital Modes: 59 (62.1%) Contests: 58 (61.1%)

DX: 51 (53.6%) School and Youth: 27 (28.4%)

Does anyone see an area where should be finding ways to improve our expertise?

Another question presented on the annual report is what services does a club offer?

For the Ohio Section 75 clubs publish a newsletter, 74 maintain a repeater or repeaters, 67 offer Technician Class lessons or classes, 67 also offer exam sessions to acquire a license, 51 clubs have a mentor or Elmer program, 48 clubs offer General Class or higher lessons or classes, 37 transmit some sort of on-the-air bulletin, 28 clubs have a Hamfest, 25 clubs maintain a Packet Radio BBS and 17 clubs have a TVI/RFI committee. 83 clubs also list a URL for a club website.

Ohio has a long, storied and interesting history when it comes to its clubs. 29 of our clubs have exceeded 50 years of affiliation with the ARRL another 31 have celebrated 25 years of ARRL affiliation. Our oldest two affiliates are Mahoning Valley ARA who affiliated on 2/6/1925 and the Findlay Radio Club who affiliated 6/4/1925. But they may not be the oldest clubs in Ohio, as the Cambridge ARA who didn't file for affiliation until 1947 was chartered in 1913!

They celebrate their 100th anniversary as a club this coming year. I understand that the Mahoning Valley group wasn't too far behind them when forming. Our newest affiliates are the Central Ohio Radio Club who affiliated 7/27/2011 preceded by the Butler County ARA who affiliated 4/27/2011.

It has been a fantastic experience traveling around Ohio the past two years visiting club meetings, Hamfests, field days and special events.

Our clubs and our members are doing a great job of promoting Amateur Radio. They are active in their communities. They also have fun doing what they do. I am very proud of all they do and all the service they offer our communities. Let's make next year even better.

Until next month, "Build something with your kids or grandchildren this Christmas!"

73, *E. Mike McCordel KC8YLD* Ohio Section Affiliated Club Coordinator kc8yld@arrl.net

Public Information Coordinator report

As a cabinet member I was asked by Section Manager Frank Piper KI8GW to put in this column what I thought was my biggest accomplishment as PIC in 2012. I must preface this by saying that this accomplishment was through nothing that I have done.

When recruiting the judges for the newsletter competition for this year I was really concerned that the 3 judges, who happen to work in various functions here at the *Youngstown Vindicator*, would have just thrown up their hands and would say "too technical", or worse, "I can't read this, I am not an engineer". I was pleasantly surprised that that was not the case. They were all found to be very interesting and good reading. I was told there was a good mix of technical and human-interest articles that created "a good read". I must tell you that that is a great accomplishment. It can be easy to forget that many of our readers do not read only for the technical articles. They may not even be "hams", reading our newsletters on the Internet, or even second hand. You should all be very proud, as you know your readers and cater to them, technically or not. Great Job!

In closing, keep me on your email list. Please keep me informed on your projects and press releases. I will be happy to pass them on.

Finally, to you and your families, from mine, have a Merry Christmas, and the happiest of New Years.

73, *Jack Sovik KB8WPZ* Ohio Section Public Information Coordinator kb8wpz@arrl.net

Snip8<

News from the Technical Coordinator

By the time you read this, 2012 will have been completed and 2013 off to a fantastic start. Looking back on an excellent year, much has been accomplished within our Ohio Section. We are a remarkable group here in Ohio and our many Hamfests, active local clubs, ARES activities and of course a very well presented state wide convention this year attest to the interest and dedication of Ohio Hams.

During the past year, I've fielded several requests for assistance with RFI issues. Some were more of a common variety than the others and required a little verification of the facts and procedures already implemented. Sometimes the fix remains elusive due to limitations that are present within the situation we find ourselves in. Workarounds can sometimes be effective when we can't go after the problem directly.

Power line Interference issues were also on the list this year and they can be quite vexing. We are fortunate however, to have Technical Specialists onboard with industry experience who can provide excellent support and guidance when power line noise becomes a problem. Overall, what I see is that most of us know the nature of the issues we have to deal with and have worked what can be done. When that fails to resolve the problem, we see a request for assistance and a referral to one of our qualified Technical Specialists who may escalate the problem as necessary all the way to Newington for additional help.

Another element of our responsibility as the Technical resource within the Ohio Section requires that we promote and assist with technology.

Here again, we are fortunate to have a wealth of knowledge and experience among our Technical Specialists. Several of our TS staff has been out and about making visits and presentations at local club meetings etc. One of the best ways that each of us can promote Amateur Radio is with our own active participation in club activities, assisting other amateurs in various ways and by providing learning opportunities for Hams and perspective new Hams.

2012 has been quite a learning experience for me. Our Ohio Section has been very busy with activity all over the state providing many opportunities to learn and to assist others with their quest for knowledge. As we usher in the new year, I hope to engage as many of our members as I can so that we might better represent the interests of Ohio Hams. Your ideas and your thoughts are always welcome and I would enjoy hearing from each of you. Let's all be visible within our communities and make sure our ARES and other support activities are known. While we are doing so, let's also put on the recruiting hat and invite those who are interested to study and become licensed. We've done well this year and have made many significant accomplishments. We have momentum, let's push onward and be recognized when we represent Amateur Radio and our communities.

73 & Best wishes for a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Jim Yodetz W8ERW Ohio Section Technical Coordinator w8erw@arrl.net

Upcoming Special Event station in the OH Section

01/26/2013 | Commemoration of Ohio Blizzard of '78 Jan 26, 1700Z-2359Z, W8VP, Cambridge, OH. Cambridge Amateur Radio Association. 14.260 7.135. Certificate & QSL. Cambridge Amateur Radio Association, W8VP, P O Box 1804, Cambridge, OH 43725. Commemoration of Ohio's worst blizzard.

1st Special Event of CARA's year-long 100th Birthday Celebration. QSL card. Certificate available for anyone who works ALL 12 of the 2013 monthly Special Events. www.w8vp.org

Snip8<

From the Section Manager's (it's beginning to look a lot like Christmas on my) desk ...

As the year winds down, I'm taking care of the remaining 2012 details for the Ohio Section, and getting things ready for a great 2013! The Section Cabinet and I are getting our travel plans together for Hamfests

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and club meetings. If you want one of us to attend your meeting, please give me a shout!

All of the ARRL Field Service Organization programs are running well in the Ohio Section. The two fastest growing programs in 2012 were the ARES and the Official Observer programs. Both of these programs witnessed an increase of volunteers joining their ranks.

A new program will be added in 2013, "Educational Outreach." This program is still in development. A new Assistant Section Manager will be announced after the first of the year, who will head up this program. The main mission of the program will be to make contact with each and every school in the Ohio Section, to make them aware of the benefits of Amateur Radio in their curriculum, and to also present all of the resources the ARRL makes available to Teachers and School Clubs.

I am very excited about this new direction we are taking, and being a part of a continued growth of youth in our ranks. In closing, I, Jackie (KC8ESO), and Hanna (still studying her Tech books), wish each and every one of you a Blessed and Safe Christmas and a Happy New Year!

73, *Frank Pipez KJ8GJW* ARRL Ohio Section Manager ki8gw@arrl.org

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Hamfests &c.

January-February 2013

20 17th Annual Nelsonville OH Hamfest, sponsored by Sunday Creek AR Federation at Tri-County Vocational School, 15676 SR 691. 8AM-3PM. Fleas, handicapped access, refreshments, tailgating, VE sessions. \$6. Talk-in: 147.150. Info: Jeramy Duncan KC8QDQ, 740=767-2554, duncan10847@embarqmail.com

27 23d Annual Strasburg OH Hamfest, sponsored by Tusco ARC at Wallick Auction Ctr, 965 N Wooster Ave. Public from 8AM. Dealers, handicapped access, refreshments, free parking. \$5. Talk-in: 146.73 (71.9 Hz). Info: Janice Green KB8YDK, 740=922-4454, k8wfn@tusco.net, www.tuscoarc.org

3 Elyria OH Hamfest sponsored by N OH ARS at VFW Post 1079 (new location), 500 S Abbe Rd. 9AM-1PM. Dealers, fleas, handicapped access, refreshments. Free pancake breakfast with \$6 admission. Talk-in: 146.7. Info: Darlene Ohman KA8TVS, 216=398-8858, dohman@roadrunner.com, www.NOARS.net

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ARRL Foundation Scholarship application period closes Feb 1

70 scholarships worth more than \$82,000 will be awarded in the spring of 2013. If you are a young radio amateur pursuing higher education, this is your chance to apply for a scholarship to help pay for it. Info about all the awards, including selection criteria, application instructions & forms, can be found at www.arrl.org/scholarship-program. Applicants are urged to review the scholarship descriptions & apply only for those awards for which they qualify. The application process is now completely electronic; paper applications are **not** accepted. Applicants must also submit a complete & current electronic transcript, which can be attached to the application.

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What's coming in January 2013

Wed Jan 2 9:00PM Tech Talk on 146.67 repeater, NCS Robert AK3Q
Begin January *Q-Fiver* distribution

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

Tue Jan 8 7:30PM Club meeting at St Bernard Recr Hall, 120 E Washington, StBernard
Program: Homebrew Help with Russ WB8ZCC

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Wed Jan 9 9:00PM Tech Talk on 146.67 repeater, NCS Brian K4BRI
 Sat Jan 12 10:00AM Monthly Oh-Ky-In fox hunt, hounds gather at Mt Storm Park; talk-in to start on 146.67
 rpt
 1:00PM Oh-Ky-In Brunch Bunch at Price Hill Chili, 4920 Glenway Avenue
 Tue Jan 15 7:00PM Technical Committee meeting if needed, location TBD
 Wed Jan 16 9:00PM Tech Talk on 146.67 repeater, Dennis KB8ROA
 Fri Jan 18 8:00PM Queen City Emergency Net, Red Cross HQ, 2111 Dana Av, Evanston
 Tue Jan 22 7:30 PM Board of Directors Meeting, location TBD
Reply comments due to FCC on proposed changes to licensing, below!
 Wed Jan 23 9:00PM Tech Talk on 146.67 repeater, NCS Brian KC8FJN
 February *Q-Fiver* copy deadline
 Wed Jan 30 9:00PM Tech Talk on 146.67 repeater, NCS Rick KD4PYR
 Fri Feb 1 8:00PM Amateur Radio Public Svc Corps, Hamilton Co Communications Ofc
 Conference Rm, 2377 Civic Ctr Dr – pls park in Bd of Educ lot
 Tue Feb 5 7:30PM Club meeting at St Bernard Recr Hall, 120 E Washington, StBernard
 Program: TBD

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ARLB024 FCC Seeks Comments on Proposed Changes to Amateur Licensing Rules, Emission Types appeared in Nov & Dec *Q-Fivers* **Reply Comments Now Urgently Needed!!! big 8<snip... Comments had to be filed on or before December 24, 2012** (60 days after publication in the *Federal Register*); **reply comments must be filed on or before January 22, 2013** (90 days after publication in the *Federal Register*). Instructions on how to file comments are listed beginning on pg 12 of NPRM.

NPRM can be found on the web in PDF format at <http://www.fcc.gov>. Into Search, pls paste in WT Docket No. 12-283, which should take you to ECFS (Electronic Comment Filing System) page. It's *hoped* docket will appear by now; it didn't earlier for *Ye Ed*.

Please check your licence expiration date!!!

At the present moment, if you're **within 2 years after license expiration**, it appears that you may still renew tho you may not operate. NPRM above proposes to reduce this period to 6 months.

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VE exam opportunities

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

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, pen & at least 1 pencil. \$15 remains ARRL/VEC exam fee for 2013 where applicable; exact change, check or money order appreciated.

If you are applying for your *very first* licence, please go to <https://fjallfoss.fcc.gov/coresWeb/publicHome.do> to obtain an FRN (Federal Registration Number). This website is self-explanatory & the FRN is free.

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ARRL Files Petition for Rulemaking with FCC to Create New MF Band at 472-479 kHz

At the 2012 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-12), delegates approved Agenda Item 1.23: a 7-kilohertz-wide secondary allocation between 472-479 kHz for the Amateur Radio Service, with a power limit of 5 W EIRP (or 1 W EIRP, depending on location). Before this portion of spectrum is made available to radio amateurs in the US, the FCC must first approve its use and amend its rules to reflect the change. As

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such, the ARRL filed a Petition for Rulemaking on November 29, asking the FCC to amend Sections 2 and 97 of its rules and create a domestic Amateur Radio allocation at 472-479 kHz, conforming to the allocation status and limitations set forth in the international Radio Regulations. >8 **huge** snip, article in *ARRL Letter* 12-13-12

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Weaver's Words - Ring in the New Year received *just in time* for this issue! *Ye Ed*

[Reply only to k8je@arrl.org unless noted otherwise.]

- Dale's Tales for January
- December, a Rather Hectic Month for K8JE
- Scheduled Hamfests and Travel

+++ **Happy New Year** +++

May you, your family and your friends have the most year ever in 2013.

+++**Dale's Tales for January** +++

Good Wishes for 2013, and may it be the best for you and your family.

As many of you are aware, Director Weaver and I will attend the Annual ARRL Board Meeting this month. Jim carries our issues to the meeting for discussion while your Vice Director bites his nails and observes from the back row. OK that is a bit of exaggeration perhaps, but the meeting consists of a very full agenda and runs the gamut of what is happening in ham radio. All of our fifteen Divisions are represented by their respective Directors and Vice-Directors. Check out the minutes of recent meetings at the ARRL Web site: <http://www.arrl.org/board-meetings>. I have been quite impressed with the activities of our Board and the very professional manner in which business is conducted. As we serve as your elected representatives, you should feel free to let either of us know where your concerns about the future of amateur radio lie. That is one important step to help us all guide the future of the World's Greatest Hobby.

73, *Dale WA8EJK*, Vice Director, Great Lakes Division

+++ **December, a Rather Hectic Month for K8JE** +++

As it developed, December was rather hectic for me. This is no surprise. December is typically hectic for many people. Even so, it caught me short. An extra bit of travel may have been the culprit for me -- the proverbial straw that broke the camel's back. Partly as a consequence, my comments this month will be brief. (In the distance, I can hear a lot of cheering over this announcement!)

December as well as November appears to have been somewhat hectic for a number of amateurs. I say this because

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there appear to have been a few established hamfests that have gone without applying to be sanctioned by ARRL until the last minute. But, one may ask, so what? Certainly, a hamfest/swap can be held without having it sanctioned by the League. What is the big whoop over becoming an ARRL-sanctioned event?

Sanctioning brings a few nice things to a hamfest. Hamfest sponsors receive a few nice prizes to award to hamfest-goers as well as a few free handouts that are of interest to many amateurs. The hamfest is also publicized by being listed in *QST* and on the ARRL web site (and in **Weaver's Words**). Sanctioned hamfests demonstrate their common interest with ARRL in the welfare of Amateur Radio by putting the ARRL Diamond logo on promotional material. It may sound a bit old fashioned to say these days, but sanctioning a hamfest shows solidarity with ARRL in defending and promoting the best that is Amateur Radio. The same is true of club affiliation and other actions taken by amateurs.

As a final thought, why not attend at least one sanctioned hamfest/swap this year? You might find a real bargain that you can't pass up, you might bump into a friend you haven't seen for many years, you might learn something new. You most certainly will meet some interesting fellow amateurs if you give yourself the chance.

+++ Scheduled Hamfests and Travel +++

The following is a schedule of travel planned by the Director, Vice Director and Section Managers in the Great Lakes Division. These trips represent an excellent opportunity to discuss ARRL and what it is doing to support Amateur Radio.

Hamfest chairmen, it is **never too early** to apply to have your hamfest sanctioned. You are encouraged to apply for sanctioning six months before your event. The following is the tentative schedule by ARRL Division and Section officials to attend hamfests/swaps as indicated.

Especially now that DXCC submission can be made online, it would be a good idea to invite a QSL Field Checker to your hamfest and publicize he will be there. This invitation will cost only an admission ticket and the use of one table. A listing of Card Checkers is available at www.arrl.org/dxcc-card-checker-search. Obviously, Card Checkers are available consistent with the timing of the hamfest and the distance they would need to travel. I will be happy to note on the listing of hamfests which of these will be hosting a Card Checker if I am given the information.

Please send any corrections to the following list to k8je@arrl.org.

2013:

Jan 1 - Happy New Year
Jan 17 - PSC Meeting, New Orleans, LA - K8JE
Jan 18-19 - ARRL Board meeting, New Orleans, LA - K8JE, WA8EFK
Jan 20 - Hazel Park ARC 47th Annual Hamfest, Hazel Park, MI -- WB8R - ****(QSL CHECKING)****
Jan 20 - SCARF 17th Annual Hamfest, Nelsonville, OH
Jan 27 - TUSCO ARC Hamfest, Strasburg, OH
Feb 2 - HARA Swap and Shop, Negaunee, MI - WB8R
Feb 3 - Winter Hamfest, Elyria, OH
Feb 3 - NOARS Hamfest, Lorain, WA8EFK, KI8GW, OH Cabinet
Feb 9 - 39th Annual Swap & Shop, Traverse City, MI
Feb 17 - Mansfield Winter Hamfest, Mansfield, OH -- WA8EFK, OH Cabinet - ****(QSL CHECKING)****
Feb 17 - Livonia 42nd Annual Swap & Shop, Livonia, MI -- WB8R
Mar 2 - Cave City Hamfest, Cave City, KY - KY4Z
Mar 16 - 2013 Crossroads Hamfest, Marshall, MI -- WB8R
Mar 17 - TMRA Radio/Computer/Electronics Hamfest, Perrysburg, OH
Mar 23 - MOVARC Ham Fest, Gallipolis, OH - OH Cabinet

Apr 6 - ITARC Ham-Fest, Elizabethtown, KY - KY4Z
 Apr 13 - Cuyahoga Falls Hamfest, Cuyahoga Falls, OH
 Apr 28 - Athens Hamfest, Athens, OH - K8JE, KI8GW
 Jul 27 - CMARC Trunk Sales, Lansing, MI - WB8R
 Jul 28 - Portage Hamfair, Randolph, OH - WA8EFK, KI8GW
 Sep 8 - Findlay Hamfest, Findlay, OH - WA8EFK, KI8GW
 Sep 21 - Central KY Hamfest, Richmond, KY - KY4Z
 Oct 5 - Straits Area Hamfest, Petoskey, MI
 Oct 5 - Vette City Hamfest, Bowling Green, KY - KY4Z - ***(QSL CHECKING)
 Oct 19 - Muskegon Color Tour Hamfest, Muskegon, MI - K8JE, WB8R
 Oct 20 - Kalamazoo Hamfest, Kalamazoo, MI - K8JE, WB8R
 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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USPS rates increase later this month, yet again!

The cost of sending a 1-ounce letter in the US will rise a penny, to 46 cents, as of Jan. 27. Postcard stamps also go up one cent, to 33 cents. Rates also increase for Priority Mail & other services (including cost of mailing magazines), subject to final approval by the Postal Regulatory Commission.

USPS will also introduce a Forever Stamp for international postage, at a new standard rate of \$1.10/ounce for all overseas destinations. More info at <http://pc.usps.com>. This via the CQ Newsroom (*Ye Ed* had but forgot).

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News of members & students in recent classes, also of one long-ago member

Hello all, I have a **new call sign**. It is **AC8NB**. Whoever is responsible for updating it within the club, I would appreciate it. Thanks and Merry Christmas,

73, *Richard Meyer* who was **KD8QZJ** before; sent to club reflector 12-16-2012

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Rich McCane K8IG now SK

Rich was president of Oh-Ky-In in 1984, just about a lifetime ago. He was also a dispatcher at the Hamilton County Communications Center while living in Cincinnati.

His friend for 30-odd years, Tim Grogan KC8UFJ, sent word by e-mail of Rich's illness, then his passing on Dec 22 from cancer at a hospice in Portsmouth OH. This took place in the arms of wife Jill, with their children at his side. "In Jan 2012 he got a new job with Lawrence Co EMS as a full time medic, his dream job. I have known Rich for over 30 years now (Tim e-mailed while Rich still lived). We both got into the fire/EMS service about the same time."

Tim promised to relay word of a memorial service. Sympathy cards may be sent to Jill McCane & family, 530 North St, West Union OH 45693. *Ye Ed* who recalled Rich from Back In The Day has already done so.

Copy for February QFivez due

Wednesday, Jan 23 please

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=30= at long last