

Q-FIVER

The Official Newsletter of the OH-KY-IN Amateur Radio Society



Foxhunt Report

The June edition of the foxhunt saw 4 teams competing, and me without my driver and my best friend. There was a visitor before the hunt from Indiana who saw how we set up and some of our equipment. At the start of the hunt I had a bearing towards the East, but as I went over the hill towards I-75, it switched to a directly north bearing. I headed up 75 and as I passed the Reagan hiway, it went directly west, so I went up to Galbraith, then to Winton. After driving around a bit, I backtracked to a subdivision called Central Park, and went all the way through it and it was still on the other side—so I parked and went on foot and found Phil just across the road—first, I might add. The others found him shortly after that but it still was a good challenge. I was amazed how bad our initial bearings were. The next hunt will be July 9th—come out and see what we do, or try it!



2016 Board of Directors

President

Michael Sien KD8SOH (513) 312-0691..... Michael.sien@zoomtown.com

Vice President

Ryan Williamson W1RYN w1ryn@w1ryn.me

Secretary

Ted Morris NC8V (513) 731-3451..... nc8v@hotmail.com

Treasurer

Brian DeYoung K4BRI (859) 635-3095 k4bri@arrl.net

Directors

Bryan Hoffman KC8EGV (513) 851-0525 hoffgroup@gmail.com

Gary Coffey KB8MYC..... (513) 382-3879..... kb8myc@fuse.net

Robert Gulley AK3Q..... ak3q@ak3q.com

Trustee/Licensee

Bruce Vanselow N8BV (513) 251-1555 n8bv@juno.com

Past President

Fred Schneider K9OHE..... (513) 729-0945..... fschneider@fuse.net

OH-KY-IN Repeaters

146.670 (-) Clifton

146.625 (-) Edgewood, KY

146.925 (-) Colerain Twp

443.7625 (+5) Clifton

A CTCSS (PL) tone of 123.0 Hz is required for access to all OH-KY-IN repeaters. All repeaters also transmit a CTCSS (PL) tone of 123.0 Hz

APRS on 144.390 mHz

K8SCH-10 Edgewood WIDEn

K8SCH-9 Clifton WIDEn

Packet on 145.010 mHz

K8SCH-7 Digipeater

For membership information, please contact Nathan Ciufo KA3MTT, 6323 Cinnamon Ridge Dr, Burlington KY 41005, (859) 586-2435 or Email membership@ohkyin.org. Renewals of Club Memberships are due by the end of March. 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 & e-mailed, it's hoped, a week before the club meeting.

Normally copy deadline is the weekend before that. Please send your submissions for THE Q-FIVER (including notice of upgrades & callsign changes) to Brian K4BRI

These may be: snail-mailed to or dropped off at 6901 Backus Drive, Alexandria KY 41001 or telephoned to (859) 635-3095 any time



Oh-Ky-In Life Members

John Phelps N8JTP

Kenneth E Wolf N8WYC

John W Hughes AI4DA

Karl W Kaucher KJ4KWR

Howard Hunt NG8P

2016 Committee Chairs and Appointments

Newcomers/Elmers Net..... Robert Gulley AK3Q
Technical CommitteeBrian DeYoung, K4BRI
ARPSC Representative.....Jerry Shipp W1SCR
Volunteer ExaminersBrian DeYoung K4BRI
QCEN Representative..... Pat Maley KD8PAT
Membership Nathan Ciufo KA3MTT
Fundraising Bruce Vanselow N8BV
Education Michael Niehaus KD8ZLB
Repeater Control Ops Mgr Bruce Vanselow N8BV
PIOTed Morris NC8V
Librarian Howard Alban KD8WOY

Q-Fiver Editor Brian DeYoung, K4BRI
Field Day..... Eric Neiheisel N8YC
Historian Dale Vanselow KC8HQS
Special Publications Jo Haltermon KD4PYS
Fox Hunters Dick Arnett WB4SUV
Equipment Mgr Brian Fulmer KC8FJN
WebMaster Ryan Williamson W1RYN
Silent Key Bruce Vanselow N8BV
Tech Talk Net Mgr Bruce Vanselow N8BV
K8SCH QSL Mgr Gerry Weimer KD8ASL
TV/RFI Dick Arnett WB4SUV

The regular meeting is replaced in July with the Club Picnic—it will be on the SECOND Tuesday in July—07/12/2016 at 7PM at Ross Park in St. Bernard

July Calendar

Sun Jul 3	7:00 PM	Newcomers/Elmers Net, 146.67, Topic: Apartment/Restricted Space Antennas —NCS Robert AK3Q
Wed Jul 6	9:00 PM	Tech Talk, NCS Robert AK3Q
Sat Jul 9	10:00 AM	Mobile Foxhunt, starting at Mt. Storm park in Clifton—talk in on 146.670
	1:00 PM	Brunch Bunch at Cabana on the River—7445 Forbes Rd
Sun Jul 10	7:00 PM	Newcomers/Elmers Net, 146.67, Topic: The Art of the QSL —NCS Robert AK3Q
Tue Jul 12	7:00 PM	Club Meeting (picnic) at Ross Park in St Bernard
Wed Jul 13	9:00 PM	Tech Talk, NCS Brian K4BRI
Sun Jul 17	7:00 PM	Newcomers/Elmers Net, 146.67, Topic: Science and Amateur Radio —NCS Robert AK3Q
Wed Jul 20	9:00 PM	Tech Talk, NCS Dale, KC8HQS
Sun Jul 24	7:00 PM	Newcomers/Elmers Net, 146.67, Topic: Contesting Clues for Beginners —NCS Robert AK3Q
Tue Jul 26	7:00 PM	Board of Directors meeting
Wed Jul 27	9:00 PM	Tech Talk Net, NCS George N3VQW
Sun Jul 24	7:00 PM	Newcomers/Elmers Net, 146.67, Topic: "Mistakes I Have Made as an Amateur" —NCS Robert AK3Q

Equipment and Asset Inventory

The Club's Equipment and Asset Inventory is more out of date than the Board of Directors knew. I was appointment Equipment Manager and given the job of updating the Inventory. Then we discovered that we were supposed to be filing annual reports with the Ohio Attorney General's Office. Our President made an effort to have the need for these reports undone, but this proved unsuccessful.

So there is now a dual purpose for updating the Inventory. I will be updating the Inventory year by year, including the value of our equipment and other assets, beginning with 2010. So I will be contacting members who are known to have equipment and those who are or have been in charge of equipment, asking for specific information. IF you have any club equipment, or if you have had club equipment in the past six years, please let me know. I will have some questions for you about that equipment. I will be working with the Technical Committee Chair as to repeater equipment, including things stored at repeater sites.

The 2010 Report needs to be filed soon. Information from the Inventory will be included in preparing that Report and each succeeding report. The final step will be a current Inventory with values for all equipment. Other Assets are under the control of the Treasurer, who will be working with me. Periodically I will update you on our progress.

73, Fred Schneider, Board Member and Equipment Manager

Brunch Bunch

The next Brunch Bunch will be held Saturday, July 9th at 1pm. The location for July is the Cabana on the River. Cabana on the River is located at 7445 Forbes Road, a very short distance off River Road (US 50) in Sayler Park. The Brunch Bunch has been going to the Cabana every summer for several years. We always get a very good turn out at this place. If you enjoy eating outdoors in a casual, fun, friendly atmosphere, The Cabana on the River is the place for you. Once a local secret, it has become a westside hotspot.

For a map as well as directions and a look at the menu, go to:
www.cabanaontheriver.com

Remember that the Brunch Bunch always meets the second Saturday of every month at 1pm at a location to be announced each month. If you can't join us this month, maybe you'll be available to join us in the months ahead.



I'm always looking for suggestions on what restaurant you think might be a good place for the Brunch Bunch to visit soon.

73,Bruce, N8BV





The Elmers Corner: Emergency Preparedness Part 1 **By Robert Gulley AK3Q**

This column, in conjunction next month's column, deals with being prepared to help during an emergency which, unfortunately, is happening all too frequently now. While training for such emergencies is essential, it is best handled through ARES, SKYWARN, CERT and others. What I can offer here are recommendations for equipment preparedness, including radios and alternative power options for those radios.

Power Considerations

During an emergency often the first thing to go is the power upon which we have all come to rely. Depending on the size and duration of the emergency, you may find yourself without power for an extended period of time. This means your method(s) of backup power need to be flexible so that you have the best chance of keeping something on the air when needed.

The most obvious backup power source is the alkaline battery. Depending on the radio and the power requirements, alkaline batteries can last a long time. They are plentiful, easily obtainable, and easily stored. I have a number of radios including HTs, scanners, marine and standard AM/FM radios capable of running on AA batteries.

Unfortunately something which seems to be rearing its ugly head once again is battery leakage. I do not recommend keeping alkaline batteries in packs for any length of time as I have had several name brand batteries leak after even just a few months. Hopefully this is something quickly resolved by the manufacturers. For many years the batteries were almost leak-proof.

While I have nothing against rechargeable batteries like Ni-Cad or the like, recharging them takes more power, and in an emergency I would rather conserve as much power as possible. An exception to this would be a solar power station for recharging batteries. These units are becoming plentiful and reasonably priced, so it is worth considering such a unit just for this purpose.

How you power your radio in an emergency really depends on your needs. There are numerous options, some of which may seem obvious, while others may not.

12v Battery

This is the most obvious choice because it is the most common. A car battery, a marine deep cycle battery, or an AGM battery make good short/long term options depending on how they are used. With low power TX a fully charged Marine deep cycle battery (my preferred choice) will last a long time.

Obviously your car battery will work quite well, but you may not want to use it so as to make sure the car is readily available. Alternatively, the car can offer a means of recharging either battery, provided you have a good amount of gas, but this is a relatively short-term option if gas may not be available.

Twelve volts (+) can be achieved a number of ways; the real limitation is in how long you can operate before exhausting your power source. I like having a number of options, mostly designed for low power consumption. Some of these include:

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

- lantern batteries in series
- automobile jump-start batteries
- DVD/Laptop extended operation batteries which output 12v (beware – some laptop chargers go as high as 19-20v and this will fry your radio
- 12v rechargeable power tool batteries
- UPS units which have been modified to output 12-14 volts
- Anything designed to provide power at 12 volts; as long as you can reach the terminals in some way, it can be used!

I have several sizes of alligator clips in my odds and ends case to connect wires to posts/terminals as needed, along with ring terminals, Anderson power poles, and power splitters. Obviously you can't carry everything with you in a to-go kit, but around the house I try to have as many connection options as possible.

Odds and Ends

Keep in mind things like lights and cell phone chargers/batteries etc. An inverter is a good investment for taking DC current to AC for recharging cell phones, tablets, laptops etc. LEDs use much less power and can be used to light your radio area when needed. And don't forget to have an emergency weather radio that can be operated on AC/DC or cranking a small generator to recharge itself and small devices. A number of companies make them, and they are good options in an emergency. While some folks complain about their limited coverage, they will easily get local stations during the day and distant ones at night to keep you abreast of what's happening.

I do not want to get too far afield here since my main purpose is to discuss power and radios, but planning ahead to cover as many options as you can for various needs is always a good thing. Never forget that your cell phone is actually a radio in disguise, and even when voice modes are down or overcrowded, texts can and do often get through.

Receiving

If you are a radio enthusiast you are more likely to have several radios (and the knowledge of how best to use them) compared to the average person. Many folks in the U.S., if not most, do not have a shortwave radio anymore, and many do not have an emergency weather radio.

If you have a modern scanner, amateur radio HT or mobile radio, chances are good you have weather capability built in. Hopefully you have one of the radios like I mentioned above which can operate on battery, solar, or cranking power and can even charge your cell phone. Having just this capability could allow you not only to help yourself in an emergency, but you could also help neighbors who were not as well prepared.

While the United States and many other countries have gone to digital TV signals and old TV bands no longer work, there are a number of small digital TVs capable of receiving digital signals which can work off of battery power, and I would recommend one of these as well. They allow you keep abreast of local news which may help you and others get assistance. While they usually have built in antennas, you may need to have something better than a telescopic whip, depending on your location. Digital TV signals are subject to the same line-of-sight limitations as any other VHF/UHF signal, but by the nature of digital signals they must be fairly strong to produce an image.

As an aside, if you have police scanning capability you may want to see if your local TV stations have a frequency upon which they broadcast. Several of our stations do here, and while it is odd to hear voiceovers giving directions for playing commercials or adjusting camera angles, it is nice to have an analog option for reception!

Speaking of scanners, they are of course a great way to get some idea of how widespread an area is being affected by a local emergency. While in really difficulty emergencies actually antennas may be down or transmitters destroyed, most

(Continued on page 7)

emergency services have backup plans and can remain on the air for an extended time. Monitoring these frequencies can give you an idea of conditions and relief progress, which may be very helpful to family and neighbors.

Wrap-up

We have looked at some of the many power options, and truly there are many, so keep on the lookout for inexpensive options as they show up sometimes in the most unlikely places. Next time around we will look at radio options and perhaps some useful antennas. Until then, let's start getting prepared! -- 73, Robert AK3Q

The Music of Radio: The Wireless Organ

By Justin Patrick Moore, KE8COY

The Music of Radio is a history series showcasing the relationships between radio and electronic music. This episode tunes in to sounds created by the sparks of a "wireless organ" designed by the Canadian amateur, early broadcaster and reverend Georges Désilets.

Georges was born to farming parents in 1866 in Nicolet, Quebec. As a young adult he joined the seminary. By the age of 27 in July of 1893 he was ordained into the ministry. As part of the work of his spiritual vocation he began to teach astronomy, chemistry and physics at the seminary. Later he focused his instructional efforts on music and natural history. Around this time it was very common for those in the clergy to be involved in scientific and technological pursuits as hobbyists. Supported by a church or parish these men were often set up in well appointed homes, had access to books, and the prime resource of any hobbyist: free time to tinker.

Somewhere around the year 1908 he became the Bishop of Nicolet. At this time Georges became active in working with a library, as well as monitoring installations of electrical apparatus and photography works. During this time period his keen and active mind turned to the field of radio-telegraphy. His amateur radio laboratory was assembled in the turret of the Bishopric. What ham wouldn't like to have a shack in a turret with an antenna on top?

From the turret he created the 9-AB broadcast radio station that transmitted an hour long orchestral and religious music program performed by musicians from the seminary once a week. Désilets was in need of an organ to accompany the choir and he began experimenting with the use of electronic sparks to create musical tones. This experimenting led to his invention of the Wireless Organ, and later a number of other patents in the field of radio communications. In doing so he joined the ranks of other reverends who had made contributions to science and the humanities including Rev. Edmund Cartwright, inventor of the power loom; Rev. George Garrett creator of the submarine; and Rev. John Michell who helped to discover the planet Uranus, among many others.

After the outbreak of WWI all non-government stations were closed down in Canada and his organ and station fell into the dread state of radio silence. Yet he continued to be active in the radio community, penning articles, and now doubt working in his radio lab. In the September 1916 issue of Wireless Age he wrote of his instrument:

"Those who have heard it agree that it is real music. Chords are produced by pressing two or three keys, and if the feeding transformer can supply the necessary power we have surprising results and pleasant effects. ... Unhappily my station was closed last year on account of the war, and my organ is now silent. I hope to resume my experiments later on; meanwhile, I wish I could, for a time, live on the free soil of the United States, paradise of the wireless amateur."

(Continued on page 8)

(Continued from page 7)

His set up used the standard pre-tube method of a spark-gap alternator and a number of studded 'spark-gap' disks attached to a rotating cone drum. The ratio interval between studs caused waveforms to be created in a series of prefixed pitches and was only able to be heard over wireless transmission, as there were still no instruments of amplification yet available. The first version only had a range of 1 1/2 octaves. After the war he lost no time in getting back on the air and continued his work, attaching a keyboard from an organ and a larger spark-drum that gave him a four octave range. He got the idea to use a rheostat attached to a footswitch for controlling volume and expression. In his improved device he also fitted a home-brewed oscillation transformer capable of delivering "10,000 volts at an impest potential of 110 volts, 30 cycles A.C."

Georges story shows how curiosity, coupled with need, determination, the will to tinker and a bit of free time can unleash creative potentials. While the spurious emissions caused by spark-gaps may be frowned upon for the 21st century amateur it need not stop us from sitting at the workbench, the mixing board of a music studio, or at the controls of a transceiver where imaginative sparks are allowed to fly and signals of inspiration can be received.

Sources:

<http://120years.net/the-desilets-wireless-organ-georges-desilets-canada-1914/>

<https://archivesseminairenicolet.wordpress.com/2013/05/09/fonds-georges-desilets/>

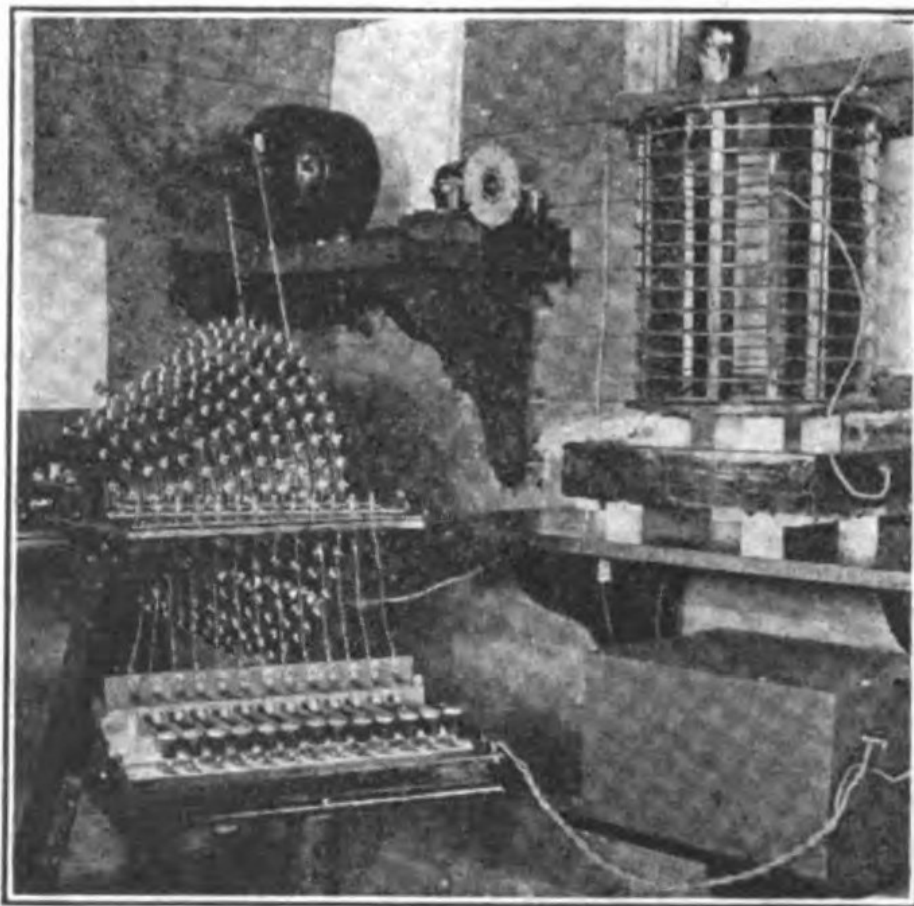







Fig. 2—First Model of the Original Radio Organ Constructed by the Inventor in 1916.

July 2016 DX Spots de KA3MTT

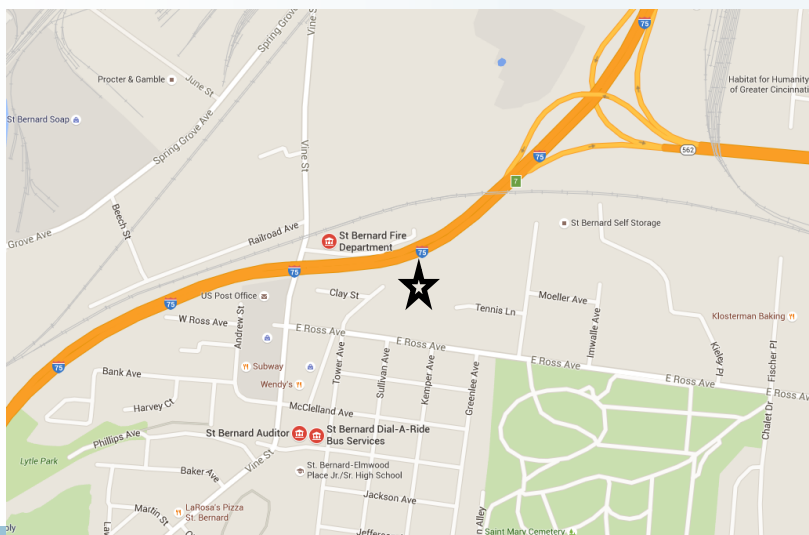
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 S79V-Seychelles Thru 7-10 ----- CP1XRM - Bolivia Thru 8-3	2 SV9 - Crete thru 7-7 
3	4 J8 - St Vincent Thru 7-10 	5 OX3 - Greenland Thru 7-15 ----- P40W-Aruba thru 7-12	6 T88MZ - Palau thru 7-8	7	8 YJ0GA - Vanuatu Thru 7-14	9 V84SHQ-Brunei Thru 7-10 
10	11 8P6 - Barbados thru 7-16 	12	13	14	15	16 EG9LH - Ceuta & Melilla thru 7-17 
17	18 3DA0AY-Swaziland Thru 7-25 	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 VC2Q - Canada thru 8-1 	26	27	28	29	30
31						

OH-KY-IN Amateur Radio Society

Regular monthly meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30PM local time at the St Bernard Recreation Hall, 120 Washington Avenue (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 are ALWAYS welcome!

The next meeting of the Oh-Ky-In Amateur Radio Society will be Tuesday, July 12th at 7:00 PM

Picnic! The club meeting will be the annual picnic at Ross Park in St. Bernard.



OH-KY-IN Amateur Radio Society

Q-FIVER Editor
Brian DeYoung, K4BRI
6901 Backus Drive
Alexandria, KY 41001

Phone: (859) 635-3095
Web: www.ohkyin.org
E-mail: k4bri@arrl.net

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

