

Q-FIVER

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



OHKYIN – The Year in Review

We had a busy year. 2017 has marked some unique changes to ham radio. The importance of radio came to national attention with the devastation caused by 3 hurricanes within a two month period. The special deployments to Puerto Rico especially highlighted our value. Our beloved Hamvention faced its own challenges having to move after so many years.

Our own club kept busy. Meetings, contests, charitable activities, fundraisers, social engagements, we have done it all. Before looking forward to 2018, it's best to take a few minutes to reflect on everything we did in 2017.

Meetings

We had some great program topics at our Meetings this year. We had a great night of sharing our antenna projects and ideas, great discussion on the future of our club and a budding tradition, share your current project night. We also had some great guests. Dave Core, K8WDA, gave a great presentation on Baluns and how to best apply them. Scott Yonally N8SY, ARRL Ohio Section Manager stopped by to give us an update and to answer questions in March.

Fundraising

As any ham can tell you, this hobby can rely on money! To continue to operate with the excellence we've all come to expect, our club relies on its members to step up and work to keep us running smooth.



Our volunteers worked their frigid fingers to the bone working a beer booth at Red, White and Blue Ash. They stood for hours manning the gates at the Harvest Home festival in Cheviot, sometimes taking additional shifts when required. Our Hamfest Committee worked diligently to secure vendors and a great location to

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2017 Board of Directors

President

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

Vice President

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

Secretary

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

Treasurer

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

Directors

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

Eric Neiheisel N8YC..... Neiheisel@fuse.net

Bob Frey WA6EZV

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

146.925 *(-) Colerain

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

** Fusion Repeater*

APRS on 144.390 mHz

K8SCH-10 Edgewood 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 R Kaucher KK4KRK

Howard Hunt NG8P

Fred Schneider K9OHE

2017 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 Ciufu KA3MTT
 Fundraising Bruce Vanselow N8BV
 Education Michael Niehaus KD8ZLB
 Repeater Control Ops Mgr Bruce Vanselow N8BV
 PIOTed Morris NC8V
 LibrarianHoward 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 MgrFred Schneider K9OHE
 WebMaster George Gardei N3VQW
 Silent KeyBruce Vanselow N8BV
 Tech Talk Net MgrBruce Vanselow N8BV
 K8SCH QSL Mgr Bob Frey WA6EZV
 TV/RFI Dick Arnett WB4SUV
 HamFest Gary Coffey KB8MYC

December Calendar

- Sun Dec 3 6:30 PM Newcomers/Elmers Net, 146.67,
 Topic: **Getting What YOU Want for Christmas!!**
- Tue Dec 5 7:30 PM Club Meeting in St Bernard—Topic: **Christmas Party! Pizza!!!**
- Wed Dec 6 9:00 PM Tech Talk, NCS Robert AK3Q
- Sat Dec 9 10:00 AM Monthly Mobile Foxhunt—starting at Mt. Storm in Clifton
 1:00 PM Brunch Bunch at **Steak n Shake at 3835 Race Road**
- Sun Dec 10 6:30 PM Newcomers/Elmers Net, 146.67,
 Topic: **Of dBs, Meters, Filters and More!**
- Wed Dec 13 9:00 PM Tech Talk, NCS Eric N8YC
- Sun Dec 17 6:30 PM Newcomers/Elmers Net, 146.67,
 Topic: **Microphones and Amateur Radio**
- Wed Dec 20 9:00 PM Tech Talk, NCS Dale, KC8HQS
- Sun Dec 24 6:30 PM Newcomers/Elmers Net, 146.67,
 Topic: **Christmas Eve, Informal Net (No Topic)**
- Tue Dec 26 7:00 PM Board of Directors meeting at My Neighbor’s place –3150 Harrison Ave.
- Wed Dec 27 9:00 PM Tech Talk, NCS George N3VQW
- Sun Dec 31 6:30 PM Newcomers/Elmers Net, 146.67,
 Topic: **Finding Interesting Nets on the Air**

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host an amazing Hamfest. All of which went a long way to fill OHKYIN's coffers. And boy, were we going to need it!

Our Repeaters

The thing that sets us apart as a premier ham radio club is our repeaters. Specifically, our 67 repeater. Set up upon one of the highest locations available, the 67 repeater is the crown jewel of OHKYIN's presence in the region.

But our crown jewel needed a good polish and our Tech Committee was up to the challenge. With considerable resources from the club, the Tech Committee contracted a tower climber and purchased a new antenna to replace our aging hardware. It was an overall success. Once again our signal is loud and clear.

There was another challenge we faced. Our 925 repeater needed a new home. Its current location in Colerain was being removed. We had no choice but to take it down, or lose the equipment. Our Tech Committee swooped in and rescued it and less than 4 months later, we have it back on air in its new location in Delhi.

Field Days

If there's one thing OHKYIN members love, it's making contacts. If there's two things, making contacts and food. Our Field Days met them both. This year we did very well in all three contests we participated in. Winter Field Day, NVIS day and of course, Field Day.

Our Field Day results were particularly great. We had a total score of 7,956 with over 2,200 contacts! This was high enough to score us 1st in our section, 2nd in our division of 41 and 87# of all field days, beating out 97%.



Of course, our Field Day runs on more than gasoline for our generators. We run on food, and Chef John delivered. Going well beyond the simple request for "beans and cookies," John came through with hearty breakfasts, our amazing Saturday picnic, and outstanding sides for our midnight Steak Out.

Brunch Bunch

Speaking of food, we had very well attended Brunch Bunch gatherings at some amazing locations. For those who have never attended, the second Saturday of the month, our Brunch Bunch gather at a local restaurant to socialize, and just have a good time.

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This year we had some great food from local eateries including Drew's on the River, Camp Washington Chili, RiverWatch Floating Restaurant & Bar, Giovanni's Family Italian Restaurant, Ron's Roost and of course, Chili Time.

ARDF Championships



Our monthly fox hunts usually occur the mornings before our Brunch Bunch, but our foxhunting members had to take a break for most of the year. They had a greater task to tackle. OHKYIN took on the mammoth task of Hosting the The 17th USA and 9th IARU Region II ARDF Championships.

Six parks, seven days of practice and eight events were made ready for the 100+ participants who traveled from all over the world. If it wasn't for the hours of hard work by the event organizers and the dozens of members who volunteered to work the events, it would not have been such a resounding success.

Service

Besides all the fun, OHKYIN is a service organization. As with everything we do, we do it with style. Many OHKYIN members continue to provide time and resources for ARES and RACES, work. We have helped on many parades and community events.

Our members were pivotal in the October Cystic Fibrosis Ride, even missing Hamfest to serve! Our members and Repeater were critical in the successful execution of Cincinnati's Flying Pig Marathon weekend events. Look forward to next year's opportunities and sign up to help! You will be glad you Did!

Looking to Next Year

2017 was a great year for our club. We faced obstacles, took on new challenges, and served the community exciting ways. We did it all with a sense of style and fun, and executed with excellence. We should be proud of what we did in 2017 and look forward to new opportunities in 2018 to once again prove that, no matter the amateur radio interest, OHKYIN members are involved.

Dennis 'Rocky' McGrath

November 7th Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by the President, Gary, KB8MYC, at 7:36 PM, with the Pledge of Allegiance. 45 persons gave self-introductions.

Brag Session – Robert, WA6EZV, told about working a newer digital mode, FT8, a working Reunion Island with 40 watts, and other contacts. A guest thanked the Club for teaching the Technician Class class. She said that she now understood electronics and radio concepts she never understood before and passed the test. [After the meeting I received a note from April Vanlanden of Centerville, IN, close to Richmond, IN expressing the same thoughts.] Tom, W8WTD, Vice-Director of the ARRL's Great Lakes Division, reported that the ARRL had sent trained amateur radio communicators to Puerto Rico to enhance communications there.

Minutes of October Meeting. After a brief time for corrections, it was moved and seconded to approve the Minutes as published. The motion carried.

Membership – We are at about 120 members. Dues for 2018 are due.

Treasurer's Report – 3 month's worth of reports were distributed. Time was given to review the reports.

Technical Committee – 3 repeaters are on the air. 146.625 is working well for where it is located. 146.670 is working well with its new antenna; it hears very well but transmits not quite as far. There was a work party at the 146.925 site and much was accomplished.; the repeater is operating at very low power. The 440 repeater is off the air; there are issues with both the Yaesu repeater and the Arcom controller.

Education – Classes are finished for the fall. 5 were tested, 1 who did not take our class. 2 upgraded to General Class. Pat Malley, KD8PAT, handed the Secretary a note from a person who lives in Centerville, IN and who took the Technician class; she was more than satisfied with the class.

Nets – There will be a review of the General Class License material on the Newcomers and Elmers Net this coming Sunday. Eric, N8YL will be net control on the Tech Talk net the second Wednesday of each month.

Fox Hunt – for the last fox hunt starting times were staggered for every three minutes. Brian won. Beginning immediately, on the odd numbered months of the year the fox hunt will be held of foot in different locations, beginning this month in Sharon Woods Park, meeting in front of the Nature Building.'

Old Business – George, N3VQW, spoke of Q-Fiver needs.

New Business – The Nominating Committee, Michael WD8SOH Chair, Eric N8YL and George N3QVW members, reported their Nominations.

For 1 year terms:

President, Robert AK3Q

Vice President no nominee
Secretary, Cesi KD8OOB
Treasurer, Brian K4BRI

For Director 3 year term, 1 to be elected:
Dennis, KD8ILY
Mike, KD8ZLB
Fred, K9OHE

Nominations from the floor were called for each position and none were made. It was moved and seconded to close nominations. The President declared nominations closed. The Secretary was directed to prepare ballots and bring them to the December meeting.

Brunch Bunch this month will be at Ron's Roost.

Tom, W8WTD, reported that additional hams were needed for the Price Hill Thanksgiving Parade.

Rocky, KE8DZS, did a short review of the web site.

The Treasure's Report was filed for audit.

The President recessed the meeting at 8:08.

The Meeting reconvened at 8:25.

The Program was present your own projects for this year.

Robert, AK3Q, showed his antenna analyzer built from a kit from India.

Tom, W8WTD, reported his efforts to build a remote control for QCEN to control a transceiver located near the Star 64 tower.

George, N3QVW, reported on projects for Raspberry PI and Arduinio computers.

Brian, K4BRI, reported on a spectrum monitor build around a minimal Arudino computer that will decode digital modes, a 2 meter transmitter and a SoftRock SDR receiver.

Bob, WA6EZV. Reported on an ARDF 80 meter receiver and a frequency monitor that he had built.

A raffle of mini computer equipment was won by KC8RPT, NA8R and KD8PAT and AD8SWE.

Split-the- pot received \$242 and Jerry, W1SCR won \$121.

The meeting adjourned at 8:58 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Fred Schneider K9OHE Secretary

Sometimes We Make Things Difficult!

The recent commissioning of the AO-91 satellite got me wanting to see if I could hear it, and possibly work it. As luck would have it, a pass was coming over within a few minutes of when I looked it up on amsat.org.

So, instead of having my Arrow antenna connected up to my dual-band handheld along with recorder and ear buds, I just had enough time to punch in the downlink frequency on my HT and get out into the back yard before the pass would be over.

I was using a slightly better antenna than a 2-meter rubber duckie, but not significantly better. As I recall it is a 22" telescoping antenna, with enough coil to come close to an electrical 1/2-wavelength antenna. Hardly a satellite hunter antenna!

Still, as I searched around the sky from my tiny lot, I caught the bird in flight sending out clear signals. I heard multiple contacts being made, almost like a DXpedition. These were signals coming from space!! That never ceases to thrill me!

Just hearing folks making contacts was exciting to me, and I caught myself thinking, "I would have missed this if I had not kept things simple." Sometimes we make things too complicated and we miss out. Yes, a Yagi antenna would have heard signals better, and a tripod would have allowed for steadier tracing of the signal, but I would have missed out on the pass because all of that setup takes more time than I had.

Instead of focusing on what I couldn't do (which I do too often!!), I grabbed a radio and an antenna and out to the back yard I went. Yes, my neighbors' houses are in the way, and the splotch of sky I can see is fairly small, but I heard signals from space all the same!

Will I find a good hill in the area and try to work other amateurs on that bird as soon as I can? You bet! But I am also glad to have had that tiny little serendipitous adventure pop up in the middle of the day. It certainly brought a smile to my face, and I bet it would do the same to most of us! A handheld and an antenna—it doesn't get any simpler than that!

73, Robert AK3Q

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If so you can help OH-KY-IN earn money from your purchases.

The OH-KY-IN Amateur Radio Society is an eligible organization to receive .05% from most of the purchases you make from Amazon.

How does this work?

Go to www.smile.amazon.com and all of the information about how this works is there.

On that page you can make your selection of what eligible organization you want the rewards from your purchases to be sent to.

Type OH-KY-IN Amateur Radio Society into the box it will locate our club.

Make that your selection and then you are done.

Once you have that set you can then start making purchases and our club will reap the benefits. The only thing that is different is that when you make purchases from Amazon, you'll need to go to www.smile.amazon.com rather than just amazon.com. Nothing else will be different than what it was previously with your purchases and/or your account with amazon. This is explained on the webpage where you made your selection. And you can change your charitable organization selection at any time if you should decide not to have rewards from your purchases go to OH-KY-IN any longer (we sure hope that doesn't happen!).

So once you've selected OH-KY-IN Amateur Radio Society as your charitable organization of choice, when you make purchases from Amazon you just need to remember to go to www.smile.amazon.com and make your purchases from there. It's that easy!

Cincinnati Sound Chorus presents

Christmas time
Is Here

an afternoon of holiday harmony

Sunday, December 10, 2017 at 3:00PM

Mayerson JCC, 8485 Ridge Road, Cincinnati OH 45236

\$20 adults, \$10 kids 10 & under

Brunch Bunch

The Brunch Bunch is a group of amateur radio operators, friends, and family from the area that for more than 6 years have been meeting on the second Saturday of every month for lunch. We meet at 1pm at a location to be announced each month. Even if you've never joined us before, you're more than welcome to come hang out with us! You'll make some new friends, and you'll be sure to have a great lunch!

It's back to Bridgetown in December for the Brunch Bunch

The next Brunch Bunch will be held Saturday, December 9th, at 1pm. The location for December is Steak n Shake in Bridgetown. Steak n Shake is located at 3835 Race Road, 45211, next to Ron's Roost.

After 80 years, we are continuing Steak n Shakes tradition of serving the country's best, freshest, and tastiest burgers and shakes.

For a look at the Steak n Shake menu as well as a map and directions go to:

www.steaknshake.com

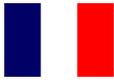
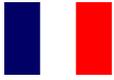
Remember that the Brunch Bunch always meets the second Saturday of every month at 1pm at a location to be announced each month. If you can't join us this month, maybe you'll be available to join us in the months ahead.

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



December 2017 DX Spots de KA3MTT

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3B9HA - Rodrigues I Thru 12-12	FY - French Guiana thru 12-7 	HC8LU - Galapagos Thru 12-7	FS - St Martin thru 12-8 		1	2
3 XW4ZW - Laos thru 12-8 	4 V85 - Brunei thru 12-18 	5 A31NM - Tonga thru 12-7 	6 ZC4MK - Cyprus thru 12-12 	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15 6V1A - Senegal thru 12-17 Then as 6W 12-25 thru 1-12-2018	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 	26	27	28	29	30
31 						Slow Month for DX!!! 73 and best of everything For a Happy and Healthy 2018 from OH-KY-IN ARS!

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, December 5th at 7:30 PM

Program: Christmas Party

Pizza! Prizes! Elections!

OH-KY-IN Amateur Radio Society

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