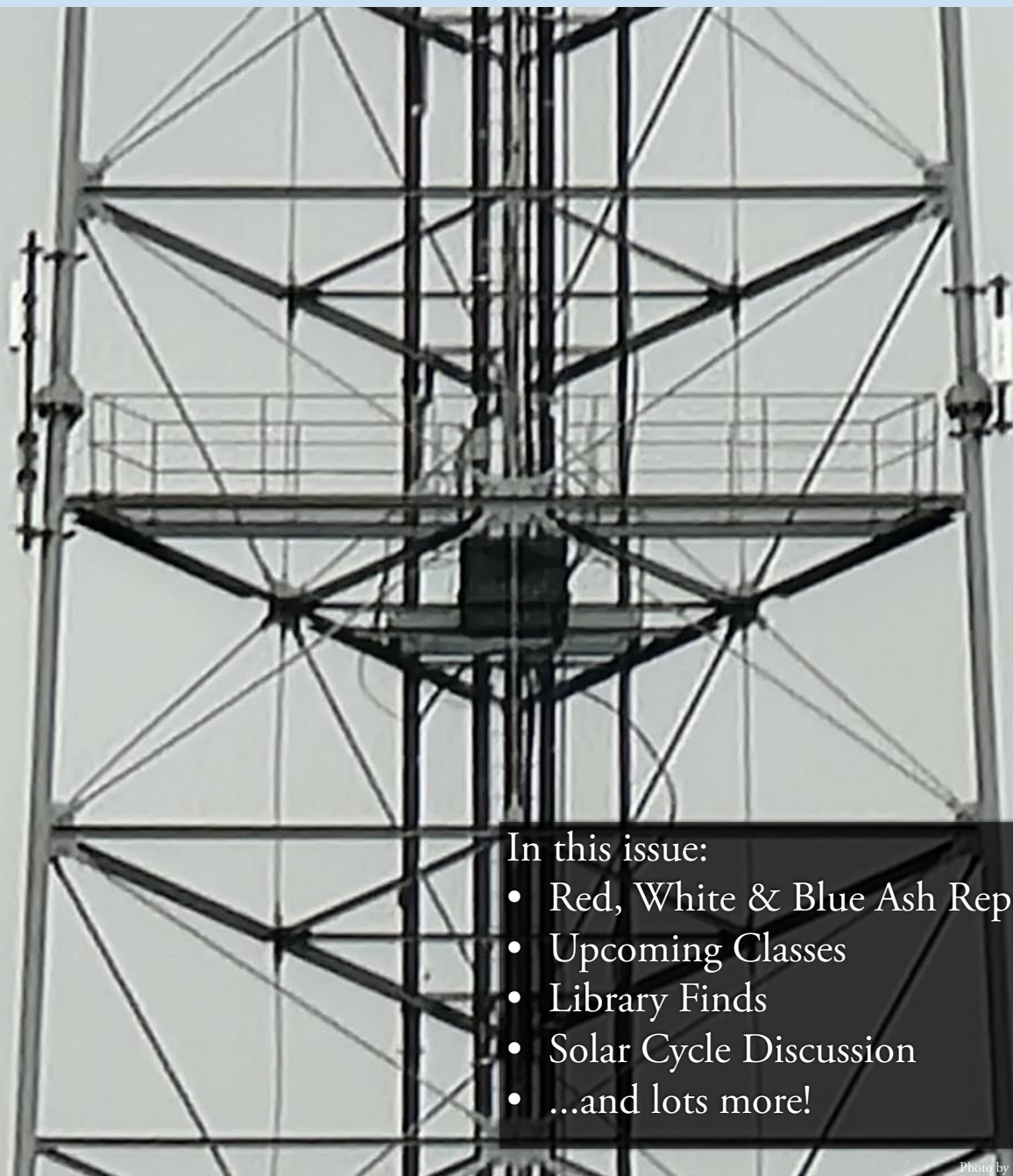




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THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE OH-KY-IN AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
CINCINNATI, OHIO – WWW.OHKYIN.ORG
VOLUME 63 ISSUE 8 – AUGUST, 2023



In this issue:

- Red, White & Blue Ash Report
- Upcoming Classes
- Library Finds
- Solar Cycle Discussion
- ...and lots more!

Red, White & Blue Ash 2023

by Bruce Vanselow N8BV

The OH-KY-IN Amateur Radio Society has now operated a beer booth at Red White & Blue Ash for 16 years.

The crowd really seemed to be way down this year for some reason. Some think that it was due to the weather, it was rather hot and humid. But we always have this kind of weather for this event. Maybe it was the entertainment, I've never heard of either band. Whatever the reason, the fact remains the same, we just didn't have the sales that we are used to.

We had plenty of help at the booth this year. In fact, due to slow sales, we had too many. We were prepared to be busy. A few workers went home early but most of us stuck it out until the end of sales at 10pm.

Although sales were down, we did real good on tips received. We took in \$394. Add that to the check received in the amount of \$670.54 and the total income for the club from the event is \$1,064.54

A big Thank You goes to those who helped at the booth:

KE8JTL	Drew	AC4XS	Mike	KD8TMO	Mike
AD8HM	Carl	KE8KUV	Bruce	KE8MYA	Edwin
K8UYM	Russ	KD8ZLB	Mike	KD8OOB	Cesi
KD8ZLD	Mark	KE8BNZ	Eric & Wife Robin		
K8NW	Joe	N8BV	Bruce		

Your help is much appreciated! You can bet that I'll be in touch with you again next year.

73, Bruce N8BV!!





Brunch Bunch

by Bruce Vanselow N8BV

The next Brunch Bunch will be held Saturday, August 12th, at 1pm. The location for August is Dewey's Pizza located at 5649 Harrison Avenue, in the Harrison Greene Shopping Plaza in Green Township, 45248. Dewey's is a short distance west of the intersection of Harrison Avenue and Westwood Northern Boulevard, in Dent.

“Dewey's Pizza has been serving handmade pizzas, calzones and salads, along with local craft beers, in your neighborhoods since 1998. We pride ourselves on bringing together warm, caring people who love to serve and grow to help us take our pizza and service to the next level.”

For a look at the menu, as well as a map, go to: www.deweyspizza.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.

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

73, Bruce N8BV

Education News

Tom W8WTD, our education chair, reports that we have tentative plans for our next series of ham radio instruction/tutorials. We are planning for three in-person meetings and two or three online sessions, starting the Monday after Labor Day, September 11th. and running for five or six weeks, with a tentative exam near the end of October. Levels of instruction offered will be based on interest from prospective participants, but we are expecting to offer at least General and Amateur Extra instruction.

July, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Due to the Independence Day holiday, there was no club meeting in July.



Congratulations to Jim Corbin KE8TEZ, who shared that he upgraded from Tech to General in June.

Yeay Dsgn/stock.adobe.com



Photo by Pixabay on pexels.com

The Reading & Radio Ranch: Notes from the Library

by Justin Patrick Moore, KE8COY

The August heatwave is upon us and it is time for the library to go into invisibility mode. One of the many cool things about radio is how clandestine it can be. This month's selections from the club library showcase the search for secret signals.

The "*Top Secret*" *Registry of U.S. Government Radio Frequencies* by Tom Kneitel, K2AES. "This unique guide contains the largest amount of federal frequency information ever assembled in a single book. Over the years, it has earned the reputation of being the standard reference source for federal agency communication data. As such, it is relied upon by law enforcement agencies, private security interests, the news media, the communications industry, and scanner monitors."

Use this book to monitor the monitors and listen to things that otherwise might not want to be heard. ...because who knows, if we listen long enough, we might even pick up the sounds of a UFO...

Yet, it's not just the government that uses frequencies on the down low. Those involved in the pirate radio scene do like their signals to be heard but prefer their transmitting location to be kept secret. Whether operating on the margins of the FM broadcast band, or in otherwise unused portions of the HF part of the spectrum (try listening to the 6000 – 7000 kHz range around a major holiday — like this upcoming Labor Day weekend) these pirate transmissions are totally legal to listen to and can add a bit of fun to the radio hobby.

The book *40 Watts from Nowhere* by Sue Carpenter details her exploits as a radio pirate. "It's 1998. You've got an illegal 40-Watt transmitter in your bedroom and a copper pipe antenna on your roof. You've been running a pirate radio station out of your closet for two and a half years. If the government ever catches you, you're on the hook for \$100,000 in FCC fines and ten years in prison. A steep price to pay because you hate the Spice Girls. 40 WATTS FROM NOWHERE puts you in the shoes of 90s counterculture icon Sue Carpenter who found herself leading a double life: magazine writer by day, pirate radio host by night. With her illegal station KBLT, Sue captured the attention of misfit music lovers from every walk of life ... and the authorities."

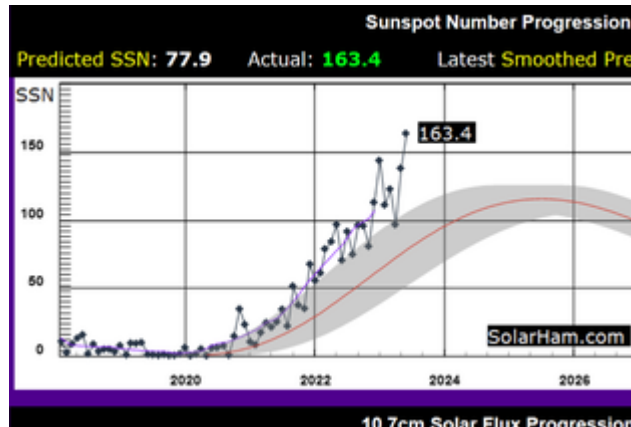
For those who like the idea of running a pirate station but don't want to do it illegally, a part-15 compliant hobby station might be your answer. If this is of interest to you, you can do no better than check out the resources at the website hobbybroadcaster.net.

Your club librarian and library will not be at the club meeting this month, but I can be reached via email here justinpatrickdreamer@gmail.com Consider your checked out books renewed for another month, and bring them back to be checked in September. You can always reach me if you need a book and I will do my best to get it to you. Until next time, Keep Your Batteries Charged & Your Aerials Up!

Tech Talk Follow-up: Solar Cycle Discussion

By Steve Weeks, AA8SW

This is a little more information for those who were listening to the discussion last night, and others who might be interested.

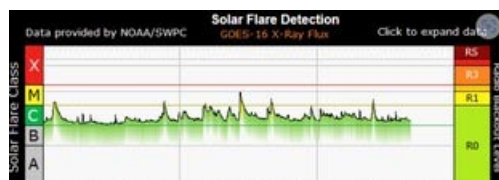


Solar intensity, which is the major factor affecting HF signal propagation, varies in a cycle of approximately 11 years. The previous minimum occurred in 2019-2020, and NOAA predicts the next maximum to happen in 2025, as shown on the above chart. The red line is the government prediction of sunspot activity issued at the beginning of the Cycle, with the grey band representing what was considered to be the likely margin of uncertainty.

However, almost from the beginning, solar activity in Cycle 25 has far exceeded predictions. The current sunspot index of 163 is more than double the government prediction of 78 at this point in the cycle.

This should be great news for HF ham radio and upper bands like 10 meters should be buzzing with worldwide activity – and they were, much of last winter, but this summer, 10 meter conditions have been marginal to poor most of the time. The question asked last night was, Why?

Of course no one knows for sure, but the most likely explanation is “too much of a good thing”. Some sunspots and other visible features on the surface of the Sun emit fast solar wind and many solar flares, which are disruptive to HF communications. It appears that whatever is causing so many sunspots so early in the solar cycle is also causing many of them to become active solar flare originators, resulting in almost daily M-class flares and multiple daily C-class eruptions, with occasional larger events such as Earth-directed coronal mass ejections. While an M-class flare is not large enough to cause a notable radio blackout on Earth (below the red line on the chart below), it can keep the ionosphere agitated and operating at sub-optimal levels for high band propagation (an R1-level “blackout” as shown on the chart).



73, Steve AA8SW

U.S. Government public domain data; graphics from solarham.net, an excellent source of space weather information



2023 Harvest Home Fair — Big 6 Booth

by Bruce Vanselow N8BV

The Harvest Home Fair is just around the corner and the OH-KY-IN Amateur Radio Society will once again operate the Big 6 booth. The Fair is scheduled for Friday, September 8th, Saturday, September 9th and Sunday, September 10th. The booth must be open all hours that the Fair is in operation. That's 5pm – 11pm on Friday, 12pm – 11pm on Saturday and 12pm – 8pm on Sunday.

The Harvest Home Fair is located in Harvest Home Park at 3961 North Bend Road in Cheviot. It is a short distance from the intersection of North Bend Road and Westwood Northern Boulevard.

For more information about the Harvest Home Fair, go to: www.harvesthomefair.com

If you are not familiar with how the Big 6 booth works, no worries, it's not hard and I can show you how it works in just a few minutes. Please consider helping your club treasury by volunteering to work at the Big 6 booth.

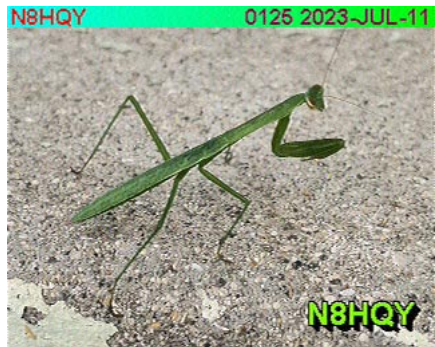
We'll need quite a few workers to keep up with the players so tell your friends and other club members. Even if you can only work for a few hours that would certainly be helpful! The more players we can get to play the game results in more money for our treasury. In the last couple of years, we received more than \$2,000 each year for our efforts!!

I look forward to hearing from you at 513-251-1555, you can call me on the 146.670 repeater or email me at N8BVbruce@gmail.com

73, Bruce N8BV

OH-KY-IN SSTV Net Samples

Here's a sample of the images you could be receiving if you tuned into the weekly SSTV net on the 146.670 repeater. The net meets every Monday night at 9:00 PM Eastern time. No special equipment is required. If you have a 2 meter receiver and a computer or smart phone, you can receive images. If you don't know how, check in to the weekly Tech Talk net Wednesdays at 9:00 PM Eastern and ask for help. Hope to hear you all on the nets!



DX Spots - August 2023

DE KA3MTT

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
TG4 - Guatemala Thru 8-4 	TF - Iceland thru 8-17 	1 VP5 - Turks & Caicos thru 8-14 	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20 9Q2WX - DR Congo thru 9-9 	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 V47JA - St Kitts & Nevis thru 9-12 	29	30	31 KH0 - Mariana Is Thru 9-14 		

Prepared by Nathan Ciufu, KA3MTT

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Monday	July 31 @ 9:00 PM	SSTV Net (146.670 Repeater)
Tuesday	August 1 @ 7:30 PM	Club Meeting (Zoom & Lockland Church of the Nazarene)
Wednesday	August 2 @ 9:00 PM	Tech Talk Net (146.670 Repeater)
Monday	August 7 @ 9:00 PM	SSTV Net (146.670 Repeater)
Tuesday	August 8 @ 7:30 PM	Board of Directors Meeting (same Zoom info as club meeting)
Wednesday	August 9 @ 9:00 PM	Tech Talk Net (146.670 Repeater)
Monday	August 14 @ 9:00 PM	SSTV Net (146.670 Repeater)
Wednesday	August 16 @ 9:00 PM	Tech Talk Net (146.670 Repeater)
Monday	August 21 @ 9:00 PM	SSTV Net (146.670 Repeater)
Wednesday	August 23 @ 9:00 PM	Tech Talk Net (146.670 Repeater)
Monday	August 28 @ 9:00 PM	SSTV Net (146.670 Repeater)
Wednesday	August 30 @ 9:00 PM	Tech Talk Net (146.670 Repeater)
Monday	September 4 @ 9:00 PM	SSTV Net (146.670 Repeater)
Tuesday	September 5 @ 7:30 PM	Club Meeting (Zoom & Lockland Church of the Nazarene)

Meeting Information

Our monthly club meeting will be held at Lockland Church of the Nazarene (335 W. Wyoming Ave.). We will continue to offer Zoom video conferencing as an option. Please join us at 7:30 PM Eastern time each first Tuesday of the month. The Zoom call will open at about 7:20 PM for you to join. The passcode is 146670

<https://zoom.us/j/996062859>

If you are unable to join online, you may join by telephone at (301) 715-8592 with a meeting code of 996 062 859 and passcode of 146670. Long distance rates will apply.

OH-KY-IN Repeaters

146.670 (-) Clifton

146.625 (-) Edgewood (Fusion & analog WIRES-X)

146.925 (-) Delhi (Fusion & digital WIRES-X)

All repeaters require a 123.0 Hz CTCSS (PL) tone.

Life Members

John Phelps	N8JTP
Kenneth E Wolf	N8WYC
John W Hughes	AI4DA
Karl R Kaucher	KK4KRK
Fred Schneider	K9OHE
Dan Curtin	KF4AV
Steve Weeks	AA8SW
Kelly Hoffman	K8KAH
Jerry Shipp	W1SCR
Mick Cook	KD8IOQ
Steve Crase	N8PUP
Joe Felix	K8NW

Support OH-KY-IN by Shopping

Of course we appreciate your membership dues and all of the ways you give time and energy to the club, but did you know you can also support OH-KY-IN just by doing things you already do?

Kroger Community Rewards is a great source of income for the club and requires no effort! Visit <http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com/> and set us as your charity. We are organization **QY352**.

Contact Bruce N8BV for details about the program.



PANDA/stock.adobe.com

Meeting Location

The board has decided that we will continue meeting indefinitely at Lockland Church of the Nazarene, located at 335 West Wyoming Avenue in Lockland. It's right off I-75 at exit 12 (the Reading/Lockland exit southbound and the Davis St./Lockland/Reading exit northbound). Enter through the glass door by the mailbox under the awning. Be aware that there are about 5 steps down into the meeting room. Thanks to Steve N8PUP for making this facility available to the club for our meeting! We will also continue to offer Zoom for those wishing to join us online. If you have any symptoms of illness, please join us online to protect other club members.

Newsletter Submissions

Please send any submissions you would like included in upcoming newsletters to Ryan, AC8UJ. All content is welcome! You can e-mail content to him at his callsign at arrl.net. Please send all content either as plain e-mail text (attach any photos or graphics) or as a PDF file. Depending on the spacing needs of the particular issue, Ryan may reformat your content and adjust the layout. Because of this, if you send a PDF, please also include any graphics used as attachments.

Please renew your membership, if you haven't already



Committee Chairs & Appointments

Technical Operations Gary Coffey KB8MYC
 ARPSC Representative Jerry Shipp W1SCR
 Volunteer Examiners (open)
 QCEN Representative Pat Maley KD8PAT
 Membership Nathan Ciufo KA3MTT
 Fundraising Bruce Vanselow N8BV
 Education Tom Delaney W8WTD
 Repeater Control Ops Mgr. . . Bruce Vanselow N8BV
 PIO Devin Spielman KE8PEQ
 SSTV Net Mgr Steve Crase N8PUP
 Librarian Justin Moore KE8COY
 Q-Fiver Editor Ryan Owens AC8UJ (interim)
 ARRL Field Day Eric Neiheisel N8YC
 Historian Dale Vanselow KC8HQS
 Fox Hunters Dick Arnett WB4SUV
 Equipment Manager (open)
 Webmaster Rocky McGrath KE8DZS
 Silent Key Bryan Hoffman KC8EGV
 Tech Talk Net Manager Bruce Vanselow N8BV
 K8SCH QSL Manager Bob Frey WA6EZV
 TV/RFI Dick Arnett WB8SUV

OH-KY-IN Officers

President Ryan Owens, AC8UJ
 Vice President Cesi DiBenedetto, KD8OOB
 Secretary Steve Crase N8PUP
 Treasurer Brad Hast KE8JTM
 Director Drew MacDonald KE8JTL
 Director Bruce Vanselow, N8BV
 Director Dennis McGrath, KD8ILY
 Trustee Bruce Vanselow, N8BV

Consider a Donation to OH-KY-IN

Did you know that OH-KY-IN ARS has been recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization? That means anyone who itemizes on their Federal return can take a charitable deduction for a contribution to OH-KY-IN, as long as it qualifies under the general rules applicable to all other charitable contributions (for example, the contribution must be in cash, or other property which the organization has agreed to accept; the value of volunteered services is not deductible). Membership dues, such as the cost of a life membership, may even be deductible; consult your own tax advisor for details if considering that. Posthumous donations by Will or by naming the organization as beneficiary of a financial account are also welcome.

Please remember to **renew** your membership!

We need all of you to keep OH-KY-IN going strong!



OH-KY-IN Amateur Radio Society is one of the leading amateur radio organizations in the Cincinnati, Ohio area and has been for most of its 50-plus year history. We are a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to the advancement of all things radio.

No matter the amateur radio interest, OH-KY-IN members are involved.