



Q-FIVER

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE OH-KY-IN AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
CINCINNATI, OHIO – WWW.OHKYIN.ORG
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- Article from K4PKM
- ...and lots more!

The Reading & Radio Ranch: Notes from the Library

by Justin Patrick Moore, KE8COY

October and fall are settling in. To me this is always a time to begin turning inwards towards a more contemplative and reflective mode of being. Reading and continuing to learn are of course a big part of that. For those who want to continue to learn about radio we have received a batch of books that belonged to the late Mike Wolford, KG4DSG, SK. Our deepest sympathies go out to his family, who donated the books to OH-KY-IN.

Here is a partial list of what we got. To save space I have not included “dups” or duplicate copies of books we already have in the collection (though these will remain as part of the library) or the 20+ year old repeater directories. Mike seems to have been very into Packet Radio and Satellite Communications as reflected in the number of titles from TAPR and AMSAT.

- The ARRL's FCC Rule Book: Your Complete Guide to the Amateur Radio Regulations, 12th Ed.
- Complete FCC U.S. Amateur Part 97 Rules and Regulations
- Shortwave Listening Guidebook by Harry L. Helms
- Packet Radio: What? Why? How? Articles and Information on General Packet Radio Topics, TAPR
- Spread Spectrum Update: Tales from the Rebel Alliance, TAPR
- ARES Public Service Communications Manual
- 32nd - 38th ARRL and TAPR Digital Communications Conference Books. From 2013-2019.
- Getting Started With Amateur Satellites by G. Gould Smith, WA4SXM and Friends. (2014 and 2016 editions.)

In addition to these titles, there is a whole box of The AMSAT Journal, several years' worth. I'm tempted to make Cesi take this box home with him so we'll be prepared for our next group effort at satellite operation.

Until next month, keep on practicing you're three R's: Reading, Radio and Reflection! Reflection can include reflected signals, too.

And always remember: Keep Your Batteries Charged & Your Aerials Up!

You can reach your club librarian via email at: justinpatrickdreamer@gmail.com



Photo by Skylar Kang / pixels.com

Dennis McGrath KD8ILY, OH-KY-IN Director, SK

We learned that Dennis McGrath KD8ILY, one of OH-KY-IN's Directors, passed away on September 29th around noon after a long, hard fight with Crohn's disease. Dennis was a very active member of OH-KY-IN, often lending a hand in various ways. Some of the memories members shared via e-mail include his key role in our hamfests at Aiken High School, helping with fundraiser events, seeing he and his wife at Brunch Bunch, assisting with ARRL Field Day setup and his general positive attitude. We extend condolences to his son, Rocky KE8DZS and all of Dennis' family. He will be missed by many.



Brunch Bunch

by Bruce Vanselow N8BV

The next Brunch Bunch will be held Saturday, October 14th, at 1pm. The location for September is Price Hill Chili Family Restaurant in, of course, Price Hill. Price Hill Chili is located at 4920 Glenway Avenue, 45238. It is near the intersections of Glenway Avenue, Cleves Warsaw Pike and Guerley Road.

“Price Hill Chili is a traditional stopping place for generations of families on the west side of Cincinnati. Our restaurant is also well known to, and frequented by, people from all over the Greater Cincinnati, Northern Kentucky and Southeast Indiana area.”

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

OH-KY-IN Needs You!

It is once again time to prepare for our annual officer elections. That means that we urgently need to appoint a three member nomination committee, in order to submit a slate of candidates for this year's election. We hold elections at the December meeting each year, with nominations being closed at the November meeting. All members in good standing are eligible to serve on both the nominating committee as well as to run for an office. With Dennis KD8ILY becoming a silent key, we will definitely have at least one vacancy to fill, but most positions are up for re-election. Positions up for election this year include President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary (all one year terms) and one of our three Director seats (a three year term). Please consider stepping up!

See the October, 2020 Q-Fiver for a description of each officer role (available at <http://qfiver.ohkyin.org/>)



Harvest Home Fair Big 6 Booth

by Bruce Vanselow N8BV

Now that the event is behind us, I want to take the time to thank those who helped by working at the booth this year. Without their help, your club would not be able to collect the commission funds that we have.

A BIG Thank You goes out to the following;

Mike KD8TMO	Mike KD8ZLB	Drew KE8JTL
Mike AC4XS	Rocky KE8DZS	Carl AD8HM
Ryan AC8UJ	Mark KD8ZLD	Cesi KD8OOB
Andy K3CAQ	Bruce N8BV	

On Friday evening, the first day of the event, we were given the surprise of Steve Raleigh, the WCPO Weather Man, stopping by our booth. On TV, he placed a bet that unfortunately didn't win, and then went on to do the weather forecast with our Big 6 booth in the background. This was live on the air at 7pm that evening.

The check for our participation in this years event arrived in the amount of \$2,065.91. That is \$53 more than we earned last year. Here's looking forward to doing it all over again next year!

73, Bruce N8BV



There's Always Something on the Air

by Robert K4PKM

There is always something on worth listening to on the radio, at least in my experience, whatever the propagation forecasts show. Looking at my Solar Data widget this evening all the bands are listed in red as being closed or in poor condition right now due to a mild geomagnetic storm. The K Index is 5, and the solar winds are a bit active, coming close to 500. If this propagation forecaster is correct, there will not be much more than static on the air. Fortunately for me I still decided to turn on my radio(s) and was pleasantly surprised by what I found. This is not the first time I have ignored poor reports...

Where to Listen?

I first tuned in with a small portable, a Tecsun PL-380, but there wasn't much coming through with the stock antenna indoors. I thought it might be a good test of the reception capabilities in tough conditions. Tuning through the lower end of the HF spectrum did not produce many signals, and the strongest stations on this radio were pretty weak. Based on propagation conditions, that sounded about right. Still, I wondered...

Next, I fired up an old standard, the FRG-7. As I start tuning around, I checked some typical powerhouses to see how they sound. Around 6 MHz Radio Havana Cuba is coming in strong. A little further down the band a Radio China International station is on, and a bit further still several religious powerhouses are undaunted by the space storm.

Moving up the bands I check 7, 8, and 9 MHz with varying success, but at 10 MHz WWV in Ft. Collins is coming in just fine. As I tune up 10 MHz just a bit, I start hearing data bursts, no more than 1-2 seconds in length, with some occasional voice. It takes a while to zero in on the frequency because the transmissions are short and I realize I have to switch from AM to USB. The transmissions are around 10.51 MHz, not a common frequency for anything I am aware of, but of course that does not mean it is not part of some country's band plan.

The conversation sounded like Spanish, so I might have run across commercial or maritime transmissions, or just two friends talking and sending data to one another. Too bad I did not have my digital mode software running or at least a recorder nearby. It is amazing what the digital mode software can do even from a recording off one's phone! Just pipe it in through a .wav file and most digital software can treat it like a regular transmission.

I then spent some time back down the band around 5-6 MHz and listened to an economic report from Radio Havana Cuba which was pointing out its boost in tourism, as well as resorts, attractions, and reserved areas for vacationing.

This was followed shortly thereafter by a report highlighting "this day in history" and referencing the United States' "war of aggression" in Vietnam. While Radio Havana Cuba is certainly slanted against the U.S. it is nevertheless an interesting station for various programming, and even the news can be informative if listened to with an understanding of the anti-American bias.

While my opportunity to listen was fairly short, I heard some interesting things even when the bands were supposed to be "poor" and of course, this is the point. Amateur activity was low, either due to the storm or to worries about the storm leading folks to turn off their radios. It is a bit like the chicken-or-the-egg scenario: is the band dead because propagation is bad or is no one on because they have seen the bad propagation reports?

Regardless, if the ham bands are dead the same radio being used (unless it is quite old!) will also pick up shortwave radio, and there are always powerhouse stations that will get through. This is also a good test of true propagation conditions, because often things are not as bad as they seem.

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Alternatives

There are numerous listening alternatives in the radio hobby, and the equipment requirements do not have to be stringent to enjoy them. I mention this only because we can often get locked into advertising hype which tells us we need such and such antenna, this or that radio, and a whole host of accessories if we are to really enjoy the hobby.

I think there are a lot of people who get focused on one or two aspects of the radio hobby such that they miss out on the many opportunities to enjoy what is out there. I realize we do not all have the same interests in radio, but I would suggest there is probably more out there of interest than not. Real radio hobbyists do not tend to be people who only listen to near-perfect FM clarity stations, and so a little exploration can turn up a lot of intriguing things. Why not try a home-built magnetic loop antenna just for fun, and if so inclined, try it in the car as Mr. Simpson did. I bet there will be at least a few grins and a lot of fun involved in the process!

Wrap-up

One of the real joys of the radio hobby to me is that no matter how much or how little time I have (and it is always too little!) I can find something to listen to any time of day. The best way to accomplish this is to have a listening plan, either written down or stored in your head, which offers alternatives based on band conditions at any given time. Developing this ability may seem daunting, particularly in terms of carrying it around in one's brain, but with time it will become second nature. Until then, a cheat sheet near the radio is perfectly fine.

The main thing to remember is: There is always something on worth listening to!

September, 2023 Meeting Minutes

OH-KY-IN Amateur Radio Society

Minutes of September 5th, 2023, Member Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:31 PM by Ryan AC8UJ with the Pledge of Allegiance. The club held a hybrid meeting at the Lockland Church of the Nazarene and via Zoom.

Guests: Kent, Mark Nix KE8WAN

New Licenses or Upgrades: None

Attendance:

- 24 in person
- 9 via zoom

Health and Welfare:

- Dennis KD8ILY is still in the hospital but feeling better.
- Ted NC8V is home from the hospital and doing good.

Awards & Achievements:

- Bob WA6EZV received his 13 Colonies Certificate
- David Deavy KQ4AUD received his 13 Colonies Certificate and also had his first POTA activation at East Fork State Park.

Prior Meeting Minutes: George N3VQW made the motion, and Drew KE8JTL seconded accepting the meeting minutes for August as corrected during the meeting. Motion passed.

Membership: Not present. 156 have renewed for the year out of 155 from last year. Please renew at <http://renew.ohkyin.org/>.

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Treasurer: Brad KE8JTM. Treasures report read for August and filed for audit.

Silent Key: None

Tech Committee: All the repeaters are working, just need people to use them.

Classes and Exams: Tom W8WTD. Starting September 11th for four weeks, we will be offering classes on all license classes.

Fox Hunts: Bob WA6EZV. Nothing to report.

Library: Contact Justin KE8COY if you would like to check out items from the library.

Nets: Nothing to report.

Website: Nothing to report.

QCEN: There will be no August meeting for QCEN. The next meeting will be September 15th 7:30PM at the Red Cross building and Zoom.

ARES: The next meeting is September 19th at 7:00PM

SSTV: Every Monday night at 9PM. We have a small group of regulars. Would love to have some more check ins. If you need help, please reach out to Steve N8PUP.

WINLINK: None

Brunch Bunch: Saturday September 9th at 1PM at Moe's Southwest Grill.

Events:

- Harvest Home Fair September 7th-10th
- September 9th Ohio State Parks on the Air.
- Amateur Radio Classes Start September 11th
- Winter Field Day January 27th & 28th

Old Business:

- By-laws Updates: Still on hold
- Portable Satellite Ground Station Grant: Cesi KD8OOB. No updates

New Business:

- Need to appoint a nominating committee. So far, no volunteers. We will need to have this in place by the October meeting.

Program: 3D Printing in the Ham Shack George Gardei N3VQW

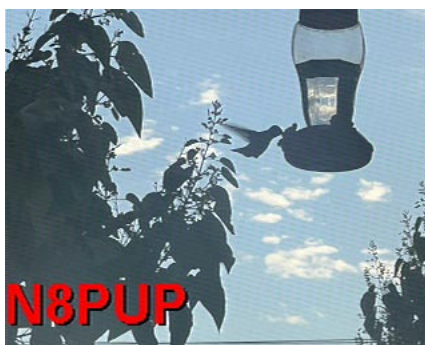
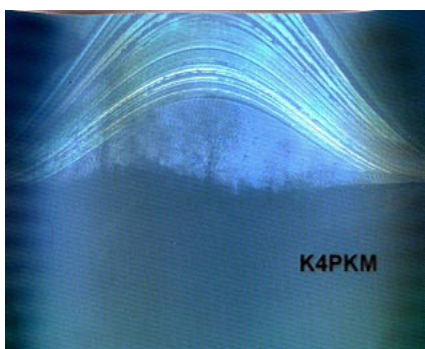
Split the Pot: \$73.00. The winner will receive \$37.00. The winner this month is Gary KB8MYC

Motion to adjourn made by Drew KE8JTL Seconded by Cesi KD8OOB. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 9:11PM.

Respectfully submitted, Steve Crase N8PUP, Secretary

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 Calendar
will return to this space
next month

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Monday	October 2 @ 9:00 PM	SSTV Net (146.670 Repeater)
Tuesday	October 3 @ 7:30 PM	Club Meeting (Zoom & Lockland Church of the Nazarene)
Wednesday	October 4 @ 9:00 PM	Tech Talk Net (146.670 Repeater)
Monday	October 9 @ 9:00 PM	SSTV Net (146.670 Repeater)
Tuesday	October 10 @ 7:30 PM	Board of Directors Meeting (same Zoom info as club meeting)
Wednesday	October 11 @ 9:00 PM	Tech Talk Net (146.670 Repeater)
Monday	October 16 @ 9:00 PM	SSTV Net (146.670 Repeater)
Wednesday	October 18 @ 9:00 PM	Tech Talk Net (146.670 Repeater)
Monday	October 23 @ 9:00 PM	SSTV Net (146.670 Repeater)
Wednesday	October 25 @ 9:00 PM	Tech Talk Net (146.670 Repeater)
Monday	October 30 @ 9:00 PM	SSTV Net (146.670 Repeater)
Wednesday	November 1 @ 9:00 PM	Tech Talk Net (146.670 Repeater)
Monday	November 6 @ 9:00 PM	SSTV Net (146.670 Repeater)
Tuesday	November 7 @ 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 Gary Coffey KB8MYC
 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 Steve Crase N8PUP
 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 (Vacant)
 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.