

HAPPY 2003 to ALL

The Q-Match

The Newsletter of the Warren Amateur Radio Association

P.O. Box 809, Warren, Ohio 44482

Webpage -- www.onecom.net/wara

Editor - pkozup@juno.com

January, 2003

A word from the prez

WARA And The New Year

Well, it is hard to believe but the new year is here already. Happy New Year 2003 to all and I wish you and yours a healthy and prosperous year!

Looking back at our Club's activities and events during the past year, I would have to say we had a pretty good year. We gained some new members and had a very successful HamFest, both important to the ongoing health of an Amateur Radio Club. We also had many great events and radio outings, including field day, JOTA, the Trumbull County Fair, and the Packard special event station, just to name a few. These activities were a great opportunity to get everyone involved in Amateur Radio and fellowship with other Club members.

This new year promises to be even more exciting. The new WARA website is up and running which should make it easier to insure every Amateur knows what our Club is doing and can join in on the fun if they wish. We hope to be able to have more speakers and Amateur Radio demonstrations at our meetings this year. So if there is something special you would like to see or discuss at a meeting be sure to bring it up.

Our Nominating Committee was formed in December to select members to run for club office in the elections to be held in January. Members of the committee are KA8FUP – Chuck Simpkins, N8YR – Andy Shine, N8HRZ – Ray Solinger, and WB8PHH – Frank Safran. If you know of someone who would be a good club officer let one of these members know. I hope you will attend the club's Annual Meeting in January to help elect our club officers for 2003.

We need to also keep in mind the year 2003 will not be without its challenges. Throughout the year we will need to continue to spread the word of Amateur Radio, recruit new WARA members, and hold classes to help others earn their Amateur License. I know that I can count on each of you to help us work on these tasks. Amateur Radio has a lot of competition in the world for peoples' time, but it continues to be the only communication service that time and time again shines through in the event of a disaster or general communications breakdown.

In summary, let's all work together to make 2003 a banner year for Amateur Radio and the Warren Amateur Radio Association. Make sure to attend our meetings, participate in our events, and a word from the prez (cont. . .) continue to support your Club. I look

forward to continuing to enjoy Amateur Radio with all of you in the coming year.

73,

Your Prez, Bob, KC8PVB

Annual meeting

One of the club's most important meetings of the year is the Annual Meeting which is held on the third Tuesday of January. This year that meeting date is Tuesday January 21, 2003. The Annual Meeting will take place before the regular meeting on that night, and during the meeting officers will be elected. As part of the election process a nominating committee has been formed to make sure that at least one candidate for each position is nominated. Members of that committee include Chuck Simpkins, KA8FUP, Andy Shine, N8YR, Ray Solinger, N8HRZ, and Frank Safran, WB8PHH. Of course, nominations can be made on the night, and nomination by the nominating committee is not the same as being elected to the position! So, if you are interested in being elected to a position, or know of a member who would make a good officer, either contact one of the members of the nominating committee or nominate the person during the meeting (you can nominate yourself if you wish). I find it interesting that we always used to criticize the Communists around the world for having only one nominee per position in their elections, but are more than happy to do the same thing in our club elections. It's your club and the officers that are elected are your officers, so participate!

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New look webpage

Thanks mainly to the work of President Bob the WARA's webpage has a new look as well as a new URL (internet address). Bob, with some help from Frank, KC8PUZ, has revamped the page and made it more attractive and usable. To find the WARA's new look webpage go to www.w8vtd.org. Note the new domain name, and be sure to use org and not com! You'll find a lot of new things on the WARA webpage, including the *Q-Match* going back two years as well as news from the Ohio Section of ARRL and other ARRL information.

Blimp frequencies

Ever wonder what the guys in the blimps found above virtually every American event say to one another? Well, thanks to Gail, KC8LRH, we have the blimp frequencies for you to check out.

GOODYEAR BLIMP FREQUENCIES

By John (Topol) Johnson KWV8BP
Source: Monitoring Times. Here are a few frequencies you might want to monitor if you ever see one of the Goodyear Blimps fly overhead. A couple quick notes first, there are three Blimps in operation in North America, and a fourth is operated in Europe. The American blimps are stationed at three locations, one on each coast and one in-between. The Enterprise, tail number N1A, is based in Pompano Beach, Florida; the America, tail number N3A, is based near Houston, Texas; and the Columbia, tail number N4A, is based in Los Angeles. Each blimp is accompanied by a three vehicle ground fleet consisting of a van, a tractor-trailer, and a Greyhound like bus. The communications between the blimp and ground crew are normally held on

Blimp frequencies (cont. . . .)
 151.625 Mhz. The blimp also uses VHF aircraft band, communications can be monitored here at 132.00 Mhz. AM. Below is a list of other frequencies used by the blimp.

123.050 MHz Common Blimp port frequency

123.250 MHz Suffield (Ohio) Wingfoot Lake Facility

132.000 MHz Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company channel

151.625 MHz Blimp Operations NBFM

465.9125 MHz Blimp Operations NBFM - Low Power

465.9375 MHz Blimp Operations NBFM - Low Power

465.9625 MHz Blimp Operations NBFM - Low Power

The America blimp is no longer based in Houston. It was moved north several years ago. Possibly it is now based in the Ohio area.

Thanks again to Gail, KC8LRH for this information.

Happy birthday

January is a great month! After all, appearing naked in the world on some of the coldest days of the year builds fortitude, and is probably one of the reasons that so many fine people started their lives in January. To the following we extend best wishes on their special day.

Jan. 1 Josephine Wingrove -- N8SYI

Jan. 1 Keith Shaner -- KC8KAY

Jan. 11 Dennis Gregory -- WM3H

Jan. 12 Pete Kozup -- K8OUA

Jan. 13 Donna Craiger -- Associate

Jan. 17 Don Bowers -- N8VCK

Jan. 22 Emily "Emmy" Wells -- KC8RAL
 ARL FORTY SIX to each of these WARA members on their special day.

Also, remember that if we miss your birthday in the *Q-Match* it's because we have the wrong information, or perhaps no information at all. Contact the editor if our information about your birthday is not correct.

Members around the traps

I stopped in to see Lee Right, WD8JRC, just before Christmas. Lee is still in Autumn Hills Nursing Home, and it is very doubtful that he'll get out. He was not able to speak much, though he did appear to recognize me. It would be great if some of Lee's old friends could stop in and pay him a short visit.

Anne Gerlt, the XYL of Karl Gerlt, KF8MG, was seen sporting a covering over one of her eyes. While Karl took a lot of ribbing about his right hook, the fact is that Anne underwent eye surgery. We hope to see you without the patch soon, Anne, and we hope that the surgery was successful.

Kathleen Kozup, XYL of Pete, K8OUA, underwent a heart catheterization recently. Fortunately she was given a clean bill of health by her cardiologist.

Linda Fitzhugh, XYL of Frank, KD8KJ, also was in for tests which showed only minor problems. Good to hear!

Do you know of any members or relatives of members who have been ill or who are on the mend, or to whom something important has happened? If you do why not let the editor of the *Q-Match* know about it so that the rest of the club's members can know about it too.

Kudos

Some guys set about quietly to make things work, and Ron McCaman, N8TIO is one of those guys. Ron, tends to be much quieter and seems to enjoy

Kudos (cont. . .)

working behind the scenes more than his YL Renee, KB8SVF, who is the club's Secretary and Hamfest Chairperson. And yet, Ron is a very active ham. You can often hear him on the WARA repeater on his way to and from work and he has one of the more active packet stations in the area. Ron is one of the club's webmasters, helping to look after the WARA webpage. And, he's done an excellent job on the webpage. You can have a look at his handiwork at www.w8vtd.org. Most importantly, though, Ron can be found at most WARA activities, helping do whatever needs to be done. It is even rumored that Renee would smile a lot less and would be even grumpier than she normally is without Ron's calming influence to keep her happy. The fact that he and Renee have two teenage daughters at home and he is still able to maintain his cool speaks volumes. Kudos to Ron McCaman, N8TIO for his steady contribution to the WARA.

Two meter net schedule

Following is the schedule for Net Control Stations for the WARA's W8VTD Wednesday night two meter net. The net meets at 9.00 PM every Wednesday night on 146.97 MHz. NCSs who are not able to make the net on their scheduled night should contact Fred Olver, N9BSO.

January 1 – Frank, KC8PUZ
 January 8 – Pete, K8OUA
 January 15 – Andy, N8YR
 January 22 – Fred, N9BSO
 January 29 – Bob, KC8PVB
 February 5 – Frank, KC8PUZ
 February 12 – Pete, K8OUA
 February 19 – Andy, N8YR

February 26 – Fred, N9BSO.

As usual, we need Net Control Stations for the weekly net, and welcome anyone who would like to give it a try. If you'd like your chance to run the net just contact Fred Olver, Net Coordinator.

Ohio section news

QST no longer prints the Section News as it used to. The "Ohio Section News," which contains information about the Ohio Section can now be found on the ARRL webpage. It is also sent out by the Section Manager, Joe Phillips, K8QOE, and he has asked that it be included in club newsletters. Following is the January Ohio Section News. I have left out a few less important sections, but a summary follows.

Section News (Ohio Section) for January, 2003

For Ohio Newsletter Editors

For Ohio Section Web Sites

SM: Joe Phillips, K8QOE, Fairfield, (to contact me, see QST page 12); ASM-NE: Bob Winston, W2THU, Cleveland; SEC: Larry Rain, WD8IHP, Mansfield; STM: Jack Wagoner, WB8FSV, Hilliard; ACC: Brenda Krukowski, KB8IUP, Toledo; TC: Tom Holmes. N8ZM, Tipp City; PIC: Scott Yonally, N8SY, Mansfield; OOC: Alan Cook, N7CEU, Newark; SGL: Reuben Meeks, W8GUC, Vandalia.

Happy Birthday Ohio and our 200th year as a state. The Ohio Section wants to promote local activities. Please register these with ASM Bob Winston, W2THU, Cleveland (w2thu@arrl.net).

Obviously as we start a New Year it means new officers and dues are due for most of our Ham Radio clubs. Join your local club, participate and make

Ohio Ham Radio stronger in the process.

Just a reminder for clubs to check your Special Service Club status and Affiliation status and keep it up to date. Any new officers? Any news about your club? Contact Brenda Krukowski, KB8IUP, The Ohio ACC kb8iup@arrl.net.

There are a number of important dates with statewide implications in 2003. I would just ask you to mark your calendars --

SATURDAY, Feb 8 the Mansfield Hamfest Banquet at 6 p.m. (Hamfest is the next day.)

SATURDAY April 26, ARES Conference in Columbus at 10 a.m. (usually held in August).

THREE days, May 16-18, the Dayton Hamvention.

SATURDAY, June 28, Field Day begins at 2 p.m.

SATURDAY, September 6, Division Convention (Michigan, Kentucky, Ohio) begins at noon in Findlay (Findlay Hamfest is next day).

I must call attention to the Ohio ARRL Cabinet members all listed above. This is the leadership of the Ohio Section - a solid rock group which makes possible all the success we have running ARRL programs here. The Ohio Section Journal, annual Section Conference, Newsletter contest, emergency services, and all the rest. They do it and all I get to do is thank them for you.

OHIO SECT CONGRATS (a) To Jim Weaver, K8JE, Cincinnati, for his election as Great Lakes Division Director; (b) To new officers of Lancaster and Fairfield County ARC: Pres., James Gaffney, N8JEG; VEOP Tom Moore, KB8USK; Treas. Edward

Campbell, WD8PGO; Sec'y. John Larabee, KC8RUI; and Activities, Chuck Snoke, N8KZW; (c) To Jim Stahl, K8MR, and the gang at the Mad River Radio Club for making the annual Ohio QSO party one of our big state events; (D) To Mark Riesing, W8MR, Cincinnati, for all his work introducing ham radio to Boy Scout troops; and (e) To Gerd Schrick, WB8IFM, Xenia, for ongoing efforts to promote AMSAT.

JANUARY OHIO HAMFESTS

1/11 Southwest Ohio Digital Symposium, Middletown (n8xx@arrl.net)

1/19 Sunday Creek AR Federation at Nelsonville (n8mwk@frognet.net)

1/26 Tusco ARC at New Philadelphia (kb8wfn@tusco.net)

NOVEMBER TRAFFIC REPORTS:

BUCKEYE NET (E): QNI 133, QTC 50, QTR 269, SESSIONS 30, TIME 1845, FREQ 3.577, NM WD8KFN;

BUCKEYE NET (L): QNI --, QTC --, QTR --, SESSIONS --, TIME 2200, FREQ 3.577, NM NY8V;

OHIO SLOW NET: QNI 109, QTC 36, QTR 408, SESSIONS 30, TIME 1810, FREQ 3.708, NM WB8KQJ;

OHIO SINGLE SIDEBAND NET: QNI 1881, QTC 791, QTR 3901, SESSIONS 91, TIME 1030 - 1615 -- 1845, FREQ 3.9725, NM N8IO

73, Joe, K8QOE, Section Manager

arrl notes

Have an interest in CW, RTTY, APRS, Packet Radio, AMTOR, or any other form of digital modes? Then the Digital Symposium at Miami University - Middletown should be in your plans next month. The Seventeenth Annual Southwest Ohio Digital Symposium will be Saturday, January 11, 2003; 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. The location is

Arrl notes (cont. . . .)

Thesken Hall, on the Middletown Campus, Miami University, Middletown (OH) and the admission and parking are free. The schedule is full of forum speakers, practical demonstrations and audience participation as all these digital modes are explored. Sponsored by The Center for Chemistry Education, Miami University-Middletown, DIAL Radio Club and The Ohio Packet Council and is affiliated with The American Radio Relay League. Program chairman for the Year-2003 event is Hank Greeb, N8XX, Cincinnati, who can be reached at n8xx@arrl.net. For more details and directions see www.swohdigi.org/.

Monthly calendar

1/1 2 mtr net W8VTD 146.97 MHz 9 PM
 1/ 4 Breakfast Wayside Inn 9 AM
 1/6 Brunch Farmington Sr Ctr 11 AM
 1/7 WARA mtg TCTC 7.30 PM
 1/8 2 mtr net W8VTD 146.97 MHz 9 PM

1/10-12 N. Am. QSO Party CW see Jan QST pg 97
 1/11 Middletown OH Hamfest see Jan QST pg 94
 1/13 Brunch Farmington Sr Ctr 11 AM
 1/15 2mtr net W8VTD 146.97 MHz 9 PM
 1/18 Breakfast Wayside Inn 9 AM
 1/18-20 N. Am. QSO Party Phone see Jan QST pg 97
 1/18-20 070 PSKFest see Jan QST pg 97
 1/20 Brunch Farmington Sr Ctr 11 AM
 1/21 WARA Annual Mtg Election of Officers TCTC 7.30 PM
 1/22 2mtr net W8VTD 146.97 MHz 9 PM
 1/25 Lunch Covered Bridge Rest Newton Falls 12 N
 1/25-26 CQ 160 mtr contest see QST pg 97
 1/26 New Philadelphia OH Hamfest see Jan QST pg 94
 1/27 Brunch Farmington Sr Ctr 11 AM
 1/29 2mtr net W8VTD 146.97 MHz 9 PM