

The Q-Match

The Newsletter of the Warren Amateur Radio Association

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February, 2004

Election night 2004

The WARA Annual Meeting was held on Tuesday January 20, 2004, and new officers for 2004 were elected. The evening saw an excellent turnout of members, with about 50 members present, at least 47 of whom were full voting members. The evening began with an abbreviated regular meeting, held to only important business so that we could get on to the more important annual meeting. The annual meeting was handed over to Trustee Andy Shine, N8YR, who called for reports from several standing committees, and the nominating committee to present its nominations. The election of officers was then held, and the following members were elected -- President -- Bob Maurer, KC8PVB, Vice President -- Dave Walters, KZ8T, Secretary -- Renee McCaman, KB8SVF, Treasurer -- Karl Gerlt, KF8MG, and First Year Trustee Dennis Carraher, N8IVE. One of the interesting things about this year's elections was that most positions had more than one candidate running for office. This is a very good sign because it obviously means that a number of individuals had an interest in club offices. This editor believes that this bodes well for the future of the club. As an example, three different members ran for the position of First Year Trustee, and two of those were relatively new members.

Overall the evening was a very good one, even with the snow and cold

outside.

Sunshine / sick chairman

The WARA has a new Sunshine and Sick Chairman. At a recent meeting the club's Sunshine and Sick Chairperson, Renee McCaman offered the position to anyone interested in taking it. Fortunately for the club the position was taken by one of our newer members, Sherman Davidson, KC8YHJ. Sherman has asked that the following item be printed in this edition of the *Q-Match*, so here it is --

"If you know of anyone, that is sick, in the hospital, or mourning a loved one, please let me know. You can e-mail or phone me. My email address is Nooch5@aol.com, and my home phone number is 330 372-2849. Now don't be shy, let's work together and cheer someone up."

The Sunshine and Sick Chairman is at the heart of our club, looking after those members who many of us tend to forget, those in the hospital, recuperating, or on their own. But, those who deserve congratulations are also to be remembered. So if you know of someone who is to be congratulated for some achievement or honor, let Sherman know.

Congratulations

Along the lines mentioned above, Bud Neely, KB8OMV, has lost a few inches in his midriff, but recently picked Congratulations (cont. . . .)

up a few inches in his chest size due to the arrival of his granddaughter Isabella

Lynn. Isabella was born to daughter and fellow WARA member Tresa, KB8OVC. Isabella weighed in at 8 lbs 11 oz and was 20" long. Everyone, including grandad, are doing fine. Proud aunt Amanda, KB8OYM, is also a WARA member. Congratulations to all on the arrival of another future ham YL.

Relating to another of our members, we had a bit of a worried time recently that proved to be unnecessary. George Houtz was flown up to University Hospital in Cleveland recently where he underwent a heart catheterization. But, it's hard to keep a good man down, especially when he has Shirley Van Slyke pulling him back up. George went to Cleveland one day and was present at a WARA meeting the next, selling, as usual, 50-50 tickets. Great to see you well and back with us again, George.

Editor's new email

Q-Match editor Peter Kozup, K8OUA, has recently shifted QTHs and as a result lost his old email address. So, he's switched to Yahoo, and can be reached at k8oua@yahoo.com. He asks that members change their address books to reflect his new email address.

classifieds

DO YOU KNOW HTML? WANT TO MAKE SOME EXTRA BUCKS? CALL ME!!!! Fred, N9BSO 330-898-2943

Two meter net sked

There has been some discussion at recent WARA meetings about the need to get new and additional Net Control Stations on our Wednesday night net. If you would like to try your hand at NCS why not contact Fred, N9BSO, at creacher@onecom.com and let him know. At the moment we have only four

regulars serving as NCS, and we really do need more. Here is the NCS schedule for February and March.

February 4 – Bob, KC8PVB

February 11 – Pete, K8OUA

February 18 – Andy, N8YR

February 25 – Fred, N9BSO

March 3 – Bob, KC8PVB

March 10 – Pete, K8OUA

March 17 – Andy, N8YR

March 24 – Fred, N9BSO

March 31 – Bob, KC8PVB

Now, wouldn't it be neat to see your name and call on that list? Contact Fred! Just do it!

Happy birthday

Once again we wish the following WARA members the best of wishes on their birthdays. No, there aren't many, but their day is still very important to them!

2/9 KC8LRH ~ Gail Wells

2/22 K8RBX ~ Garrett Greene

2/27 KB8IWC ~ Dale Voorhies

Here's wishing each of these members an ARL FORTY-SIX for their day.

Ohio section news

SM: Joe Phillips, K8QOE, Fairfield, (to contact me, see QST page 16); ASM-NE: Bob Winston, W2THU, Cleveland; SEC: John Chapman, WB8INY, Gahanna; 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.

FEBRUARY SECTION NEWS - By now you have heard the American Radio Relay League Board of Directors at the Ohio section news (cont. . . .)

January meeting has proposed streamlining Amateur Radio Licensing.

They also proposed a new Novice license with limited HF privileges. Read the proposal, complete with proposed new band plans, added at the end of this edition of Section News (following the traffic reports) for your convenience. BUT REMEMBER THIS IS ONLY A PROPOSAL TO THE FCC. An NPRM will be assigned and I'm sure there will be plenty of comments to improve these proposals before any final FCC determination.

OHIO NET NEWS - Ohio Single Side Band Net has a new Net Manager. Ron West, N8OD, of Lagrange, had to resign for health reasons and William Baker, KC8OKJ, of Sebina, will finish out Ron's term. The semiannual meeting of the OSSBN will be at the 11 a.m. forum, Feb. 8 at the Mansfield Hamfest. OHIO CLUB NEWS - Affiliated Clubs Coordinator Brenda Krukowski, KB8IUP, of Monclova, has been appointed Emergency Coordinator for Lucas County (Toledo) effective immediately. Due to the extra duties as EC (along with her running the Toledo Hamfest at Maumee in March), she is asking the ACC position be reappointed. Brenda said she will remain as ACC until a successor is named. If you wish to be considered, please write the Section Manager (<k8qoe@arrl.org>).

New officers for the Grant Amateur Radio Club are: Pres. Jerry Silman, Sr., KB8PVY, VP: Gordon Neal, W8YGW, Secretary: Carolyn Donner, N8ST and Treas.: Dorothy Silman, KB8TQU.

The 20/9 ARC Newsletter (Mahoning County) attaches photos of its officers and committee chairpersons next to written columns in each months edition. Helps people recognize its leadership. In Ohio about 20 per cent of club

membership attend meetings regularly. These photos make the newsletter more useful to the 80 per cent who only occasionally drop into meetings. OHIO SECTION REMINDER - Check your amateur radio license. About to be expired? Time to update with the FCC. Also check your ham call automobile plates. Are these expired also? OHIO SECT CONGRATS (A) To Jim Foote, K8KSN as the recipient of the 2003 TUSCO Member of the Year award, (B) To Lucas Vega, N8VL as Mahoning Valley ARC Ham of the Year for 2003, (C) To Earnest Howard, Sr., N8EH (formerly WD8DEZ), retiring as Monroe Chief of Police after 42 year career in law enforcement including long time Assistant Chief of Middletown Police Department, (D) To Kevin Halloran, W8PKH, for story in the Kenton Times and his work in informing local civil officials about the benefits of ham radio.

OHIO SECTION FEBRUARY HAMFESTS... (1) Northern Ohio ARS Web Site

<<http://www.apk.net/noars/winterfe.htm>> or contact: Clark Beckman, N8PZD, <Email: electro7@apk.net> AND (8) Inter-City ARC. Web Site <<http://www.maser.org>> or contact Jack Weeks, K8RT, at Email: <bigdogg@richnet.net>.

Now for the December 2003 traffic reports.....

MEMBER TRAFFIC REPORTS: DEC. 2003

N8IXF-494, W8QIW-309, KD8HB-287, KC8UTL-247, W8PBX-245, KX8B-240, N8BV-228, AB8NI-175, N8CW-136, Ohio section news (cont. . . .) W8STX-135, KA8CXG-134, N8TNV-126, N8IVR-84, WA8EYR-78, WA8SSI-

76, KA8FCC-74, KA8WQL-53, N8IO-52, N8OD-52, NS8C-51, KC4IYD-46, WB8HHZ-45, KB8SBK-44, N8DD-43. KI8IM-36, NY8V-32, WB8PMG-23, K3RC-22, KC8VPA-22, KC8TKB-20, N8YWX-19, N8GOB-18, WB8SIQ-16, K8PJ-12, KC8HTP-11. W8RG-11, N8WLE-11, K8QX-10, KB8DUX-7, KC8KYP-7, WB8SRN-7, KF8LE-5, N8EFB-4, K8DST-2, K8QIP-1, K8WC-1,

	QNI	QTC	QTR	SESSIONS	TIME
BN (E)	192	109	385	31	1845
BN (L)	145	57	249	31	2200
OSN	17	63	647	31	1810
OSSBN	2048	659	2581	93	1030, 1615, 1845

OHIO SECTION PSHR REPORTS: DEC. 2003

N8IO 40, 40, 20, 20, 0, 0, TOTAL = 120
 W8MMN 40, 5, 0, 60, 5, 0, TOTAL= 110
 WA8SSI 40, 40, 20, 0, 0, 0, TOTAL = 100
 N8DD 40, 40, 10, 0, 0, 0, TOTAL = 90
 KC8UTL 40, 40, 10, 0, 0, 0, TOTAL = 90
 N8OD 24, 40, 20, 0, 0, 0, TOTAL = 84

Arri files new proposal

League Files "A Plan for the Next Decade" with FCC (Jan 28, 2004) -- The ARRL has filed a *Petition for Rule Making* asking the FCC to amend its Part 97 rules to complete the Amateur Service restructuring the Commission began in 1999 but left unfinished. The League wants the FCC to create a new entry-level license, reduce the number of actual license classes to three and drop the Morse code testing requirement for all classes except for Amateur Extra (see ["ARRL to Propose New Entry-Level License, Code-Free HF Access"](#)). The ARRL says its petition follows in the footsteps of changes in Article 25 of the international *Radio Regulations* adopted at World Radiocommunication Conference 2003.

Among those changes, WRC-03 deleted the Morse testing requirement for amateur applicants seeking HF privileges and left it up to individual countries to determine whether or not they want to mandate Morse testing. While several countries -- including Germany, the UK and Australia -- already have dropped their Morse testing requirements, the ARRL emphasized in its petition that Morse code is not the primary issue at hand. Changes in Morse telegraphy are one aspect of the proposal, and it would be insufficient for the Commission to address those issues in a vacuum," the League said, calling its licensing proposal "a plan for the next decade." The ARRL said that plan's overall intention is "to encourage newcomers to the Amateur Service and to encourage those who enter its ranks to proceed further on a course of technical self-training and exposure to all aspects of the avocation."

While just dropping the Element 1 (5 WPM) Morse requirement may seem to be a "simple plan," the ARRL said, it fails to address the critical need for an entry-level ticket other than the Technician. The Technician license, the League said, "is for too many a 'dead end' to what might otherwise be an active, progressive interest in Amateur Radio, technical self-training and incentive-based educational progress in the many facets of the avocation."

The ARRL said its proposed entry-level license--being called "Novice" for now--would establish "a portfolio of operating privileges consistent with an Arri files new proposal (cont. . . .) examination that would not include material that is inappropriate or

irrelevant at the entry level." It would require passing a 25-question written examination--but no code test--and offer limited HF phone, image, CW and data privileges.

[A copy of the ARRL's Petition for Rule Making](#) is available on the ARRL Web site. The FCC has requested that individuals refrain from contacting or attempting to comment to the FCC on the ARRL's restructuring proposal before the FCC issues a Rule Making (RM) number for the ARRL petition and invites public comments on it. Until that happens, it is premature to comment to the FCC.

Mansfield hamfest

The main hamfest in our general area during the winter months is the Mansfield Hamfest which takes place this month, on February 8, 2004. Sponsored by the Inter-City ARC, this hamfest is quite a large one that takes place in the fairgrounds just outside of Mansfield. The website to consult for information is at www.maser.org, or email to bigdogg@richnet.net. The individual to contact is Jack Weeks, K8RT, and his phone number is 419 756-5301. So, if you're sick of winter and want to enjoy a good hamfest, head on over to Mansfield on the second Sunday in February.

Homebrewing contest

Sometimes you find things that are both interesting and thought provoking. I was browsing the qrz.com website recently and came across a homebrewing contest for hams to build their own radio equipment and submit it in a competition. Turns out the competition is in India, VU-land. But, it appears that any hams anywhere are eligible to enter this contest, though submitting your equipment might cost a bit to get it there. You must first submit your plans

and schematics via the internet, then, if your plans are amongst those considered suitable and worthwhile, you would need to submit the finished item. For information on this contest either go to www.qrz.com and check it out, or go direct to www.hamradioindia.org. Check it out, the winners will be published on the internet and this might be your chance to get the recognition your deserve.

New satellite

Would you like to have your name in orbit? Well, you can do this by contributing to the launching of the latest Amsat amateur radio satellite, the Echo satellite. An integration and testing team, led by Jim White (WD0E) and Mike Kingery (KE4AZN), was assembled in December 2003 at SpaceQuest in Fairfax, VA. During this initial integration session, 90% of Echo's hardware was successfully tested and most of the telemetry calibration was accomplished. Even the new experimental L-band receiver and S-band transmitter functioned well during their first tests.

The launch window opens in late March, so the satellite is coming together on plan.

There is still time for you to have your name placed in orbit. The names of all contributors will be placed inside the ECHO satellite. AMSAT-NA has not yet reached its fund raising goal of \$110,000 to pay for the ECHO launch. Visit www.amsat.org to link to pictures of ECHO during integration, and to make a contribution. Join AMSAT! Call Martha at the AMSAT office for information at (301) 589-6062.

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