

# The Q-Match

The Newsletter of the Warren Amateur Radio Association  
P.O. Box 809, Warren, Ohio 44482  
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February 2005

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## Club Elections

The Annual Meeting of the WARA was held on January 18, 2005. The meeting was well attended and was preceded by the regular meeting. At the regular meeting, chaired by Vice-President Dave Walters, KZ8T, Karl Gerlt, KF8MG, told the group that he had received word that President Bob Maurer's wife Marilu was in serious condition at her home. Peter Kozup, K8OUA, advised that he had been at President Bob's home that evening and confirmed Karl's description of Marilu's condition. The meeting held a minute of silent prayer for Marilu. The regular meeting was ended early so that the club could hold the Annual Meeting.

The Annual Meeting was presided over by third year Trustee, Don Bower, N8VCK. Prior to the elections a series of committee reports were presented and accepted by the meeting. The Nomination Committee, chaired by Richard Bell, KC8TAP, nominated those who had had their names given to the committee before the meeting. Additional nominations were also taken from the floor. The following were the members who were nominated with the winner indicated. President – Richard Bell, KC8TAP, Ken Williams, KC8TML, Bob Maurer, KC8PVB. Elected was Bob Maurer, KC8PVB. Vice-President – Gail Wells, KC8LRH ran unopposed and was elected by acclamation. Secretary – Emily Wells, KC8RAL and Renee McCaman, KB8SVF. Elected was Renee McCaman, KB8SVF. Treasurer -- Karl Gerlt, KF8MG, ran unopposed and was elected by acclamation. First year Trustee (3 year term) – Lisa Eckenrode, KC8VHB, Nick Buhhur, N8NVI, and Gary Grimes, KB8GAB. Elected was Lisa Eckenrode, KC8VHB.

In summary, the new officers for the Warren Amateur Radio Association for 2005 are President – Bob Maurer, KC8PVB, Vice-President – Gail Wells, KC8LRH, Secretary – Renee McCaman, KB8SVF, Treasurer – Karl Gerlt, KF8MG, First year Trustee – Lisa Eckenrode, KC8VHB. Congratulations to all those who were elected as well as to those who were willing to run for office.

## Format

You may notice that the format for this month's *Q-Match* is a little different in several respects from previous months. The reason for this is that the editor has obtained a new computer – his daughter offered him a great deal. If he would go halves in helping her to purchase a new laptop, she would let him have her old computer that he had purchased for her last year!! Realizing, as most fathers do, that this was too good a deal to pass up, he took up her offer. Unfortunately, dad's new computer has a version of Office that seems to have a lot of quirks in it. Therefore, he has been forced to present this month's *Q-Match* in a bit different format. Hopefully next month's issue will be more familiar to you.

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Qahdoh Iidahdohdit Iididoh Iah Iit Iidahdit

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 !!!

## Silent Keys

MARILU MAURER -- It is with great sorrow that we advise of the passing of Marilu Maurer, the wife of President Bob Maurer, KC8PVB. Marilu passed away on January 19, 2005, after a long illness. She and Bob had been married for 13 years. Marilu had been employed with Harley-Davidson as General Manager of the company's information systems, for over 18 years until she retired in 2001. She is survived by her husband Bob, her mother Jean DePolis and seven brothers and sisters. Those of us who knew Marilu knew her as a smiling and friendly person, pleasant and easy to talk with. Our condolences go out to President Bob and his extended family.

RICHARD SWEET, KB8VWB – Richard, a former member of the WARA, passed away on January 23, 2005, following a heart attack. He was 59 years old. Richard is survived by his son Richard, Jr., daughter Lorraine Harris, and eight grandchildren. Our sincere condolences go out to Richard's family.

## Net news

The WARA nets, the ten meter net on 28.375 MHz and the two meter net on 146.97 MHz, continue to relay news about ham radio and club affairs. Ken, KC8TML, one of the NCSs of the ten meter net pointed out at a recent club meeting that we can always use additional check ins to the net. If you have ten meter capability why not fire up the rig on Wednesday night and join in on the ten meter net. You'll be more than welcome, and often there are stations from quite afar checking in. The ten meter net meets at 8.00 PM local time with either Ken or Fred, N9BSO, as net control.

The two meter net also continues to thrive. The net control schedule for February and March are as follows –

Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup> – Bob, KC8PVB

Feb. 9<sup>th</sup> – Lisa, KC8VHB

Feb. 16<sup>th</sup> – Sherman, KC8YHJ

Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup> – Andy, N8YR

March 2<sup>nd</sup> – Emily, KC8RAL

March 9<sup>th</sup> – Bob, KC8PVB

March 16<sup>th</sup> – Lisa, KC8VHB

March 23<sup>rd</sup> – Sherman, KC8YHJ

March 30 – Andy, N8YR

We hope to see YOU on the two meter net. Check in, find out a bit about what's happening with ham radio in the area, and perhaps meet up with a few new calls that you hadn't known before.

## Great cooks

The WARA has some great cooks as demonstrated by the cooking at the club's Christmas party back in December. At that dinner members were encouraged to vote for the dish they enjoyed the most. The editor of the *Q-Match* inadvertently left that vote out of the last issue, and has agreed to publish it this month. So, for posterity, let it

be known that in a very very close vote Sue Wagoner's (KC8VHC) dish, a wonderful pudding dessert, edged out all others as the best dish served at the WARA Christmas party in 2004. Well done Sue, and my apologies for the delay in getting the information to you.

## Hamfest Meeting

The club's hamfest chairman, Richard Bell, KC8TAP, wants ideas!! He wants ideas to help him improve the hamfest and is inviting any members who wish to to let him know what you think can be done to improve the hamfest for next year and hopefully, draw in additional hams to enjoy our hamfest. So, if YOU have ideas to make our hamfest a better one, either phone or email Richard – phone him on 330 898-6539, email him at [KC8TAP@NEO.RR.COM](mailto:KC8TAP@NEO.RR.COM). Or, a better idea might be to join him at the next hamfest committee meeting which will be held at 10.00 AM on Saturday February 12, 2005, at the Wayside Inn in Champion. When the hamfest is over it's too late to complain about what we should have done to make it better!! The time to do that is NOW, while we still have time to put your ideas into effect. So, make the meeting if you can, or at least let Richard know what you think would be a good idea to make the hamfest a better one.

## Ohio Section News

SM: Joe Phillips, K8QOE, Fairfield, (to contact me, see QST page 16 or on the Web at [www.iarc.ws](http://www.iarc.ws)); ASM-NE: Bob Winston, W2THU, Cleveland; SEC: John Chapman, WB8INY, Gahanna; ACC: APPOINTMENT PENDING; TC: Tom Holmes, N8ZM, Tipp City; PIC: Scott Yonally, N8SY, Mansfield; OOC: Rick Swain, KK8O, Galion; SGL: Reuben Meeks, W8GUC, Vandalia.

FEBRUARY SECTION NEWS - By now everyone should be aware that late-December/January was a most active month for our ARES program in the Section. SEC John Chapman, WB8INY, acting on reports from the nine District Emergency Coordinators (DECs) said from December 22 when the snow and freezing rain hit; Ohio residents were served by most county ARES organizations in closed roads, downed power lines (some power was off six days in Central Ohio) and flooding. Some 57 (of 88) Ohio counties were declared disaster areas for some weather related problem in the past five weeks. For comparison purposes, normal flooding affects 15 to 20 counties and not until mid-March. Reports are still coming in, but agencies served include EMA, Red Cross, Salvation Army and others. The Red Cross opened over forty shelters during the period. Thanks to all who assisted!

RILEY COMING HERE - March 19 in Toledo for the Great Lakes Division March Convention. Riley, K4ZDH, our chief enforcer at the FCC will not only be the evening banquet speaker but will conduct an hour long FCC Seminar in the afternoon sessions. And it is the Seminars which are the hallmark of a Division Convention. Quality

Seminars which will be scheduled allow you to attend four of the seven offered. Beside the FCC conducted by Riley, this year's lineup includes (1) DX Seminar by Wayne Mills, N7NG/1; (2) High Speed Multi-Media (HSMM) by John Champa, K8OCL; (3) Setting up Your HF Mobile Station by Darrell Pace, N8NTS; (4) WinLink 2000 by Ohio SEC John Chapman, WB8INY; (5) PSK-31 by Ed Triplett, KT8U and (6) Ham Radio Clubs conference organized by Michigan ACC Dan Romanchik, KB6NU. Remember your Convention ticket is a free pass to the Toledo Hamfest next day

OHIO SECTION CLUB NEWS - ACC Mark Rising, WM8R, Mainville, has resigned for personal reasons. The SM hopes to fill the position by March. Thank you Mark for your service to the Section - as we all must remember, family comes first. Anyone who wishes to become a candidate, please contact SM Joe Phillips, K8QOE, ([k8qoe@arrl.org](mailto:k8qoe@arrl.org)) by February 14. (Editor's note - Joanne Solak, KJ3O, of Ravenna and former ACC, has agreed to take the position again. Well done Joanne.)

Milford ARC has offered the winter issue of the Ohio Section Journal on its club web site. Good idea. For other clubs with web sites, the OSJ can be downloaded from [www.iarc.ws](http://www.iarc.ws). Or E-mail Ohio PIC Scott Yonally, N8SY, [n8sy@iarc.ws](mailto:n8sy@iarc.ws).

The Sandusky Radio Experimental League (W8LBZ) officers for 2005 are: President; Luther Gantz N8HC; Veep; Gene Schumacher, W8VMW, Sec/tres. Don Ohlemacher, K8RPU; and Transmitter Trustee Tom Troike, WA8VOE.

OHIO SECTION REMEMBERS - District Emergency Coordinator (Dist. 5) Jim Miller, K8EIO, (SK) who also served as EC of Summit County (Akron). Jim died in late December. His outstanding service will always be remembered.

OHIO SECTION SUGGESTS - More ARES groups and/or local ham radio clubs copy a recent report by the Stark County ARES (Canton/Massillon) under the leadership of Emergency Coordinator David Beltz, WD8AYE. The group made public a complete local manpower report - all the stats. These stats have to be collected for monthly reports. But the final numbers are often reported to the SEC but are unknown throughout the ham community. Making public these stats only reinforces the worth of ham radio but also encourages everyone to increase the numbers (ARES participation).

OHIO SECTION NET NEWS - Henry Koenig, WD8Q, invites all who wish to practice CW operation to the Ohio Slow Net (OSN) each night at 6:10 p.m. (1810) on 3.708 MHz. Speeds generally range 10 to 12 WPM but will slow down for those who need the practice. This is a traffic net as well.

OHIO SECTION FEBRUARY HAMFESTS (6, SUNDAY) NOARS Winterfest by the Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society. Official web site is <[www.geocities.com/k8krg/winterfe.htm](http://www.geocities.com/k8krg/winterfe.htm)>. Other info, contact: Tom Porter, W8KYZ, 161 Herrmann Drive, Avon Lake, OH 44012, phone: 440-930-9115. And (13, SUNDAY) Mid\*Winter Hamfest and Computer Show by the InterCity ARC. Official web site <<http://www.iarc.ws>>. For more information, contact: Deane Wrasse, KB8MG, 1094 Beal Road, Mansfield, OH 44905, Phone: 419-522-9893 or E-mail <[deanwrasse@yahoo.com](mailto:deanwrasse@yahoo.com)>.

De Joe Phillips, K8QOE, Ohio Section Manager

Now for the December, 2004 traffic reports

#### OHIO SECTION NETS:

	QNI	QTC	QTR	SESSIONS	FREQ	NM
BN (E)	174	111	349	31	3.577	WA8ZGL
BN (L)	181	41	252	31	3.577	NY8V
OSN	181	32	660	31	3.708	WD8Q
OSSBN	2025	424	2442	93	3.9725	N8IO

#### OHIO SECTION PSHR REPORTS - DEC. 2004

N8IO 40, 40, 30, 25, 0, 0, TOTAL = 135  
 WA8SSI 40, 40, 20, 0, 0, 0, TOTAL = 100  
 WG8Z 40, 40, 0, 35, 0, 0, TORAL = 95  
 AB8SK 35, 39, 20, 0, 0, 0, TOTAL = 94  
 N8DD 40, 40, 10, 0, 0, 0, TOTAL = 90  
 WD8Q 40, 40, 10, 0, 0, 0, TOTAL = 90  
 KA8WQL 40, 23, 10, 0, 0, 0, TOTAL = 73

#### OHIO SECTION LOCAL NETS, REPORTS - DEC. 2004

NET	QNI	QTC	QTR	SESS	N/M
BRTN	240,	70,	392,	30,	N8IXF
CCETN	21,	16,	57,	4,	N8RAK
COTN	267,	68,	434,	31,	KC8RXL
MIAMI VAL	32,	9,	93,	12,	KC8HTP

NCCARES	51,	10,	163,	5,	N8GOB
NWOH ARES	422,	119,	737,	31.	N8TNV
TATN	297,	155,	593,	31,	KA8CZG
TCTTN	141,	26,	188,	13,	KI8U

## Protecting yourself against bpl

Ohio ham radio operators are asking "What can I do about Broadband Over Powerlines (BPL)?" Well, here is a quick suggestion - conduct your own baseline measurements .

Kirk Swallow, W8QID, team leader of the Cincinnati BPL/LIC committee, suggests every Ohio ham facing a BPL installation in their area, first get baseline measurements of the local spectrum noise floor. Get these measurements recorded and documented so you will have an accurate comparison to the day you may suspect BPL interference.

Here is a quick, "cookbook" approach to making such measurements now before BPL arrives:

Use any good radio receiver having 4-20 Mhz HF receiving capabilities (your transceiver will do just fine but any good short-wave radio will do). Follow these instructions:

(1) Set up your receiver for AM reception, with the AGC set for "Fast" and Noise

**B**lanker turned off;

(2) Several times a day or as often as you can, record your s-meter noise readings. Take tape recordings of these readings as well.

(3) Take readings both outside and inside the amateur band limits (your favorite freqs). Outside the ham radio bands, Kirk suggests known frequencies like near WWV and/or near well known foreign broadcasts.

(4) For each reading, write down carefully the date, time of day, the frequency, and the s-meter reading. Be sure there are no signals present, only noise.

Of course, said Kirk, the purpose of this exercise is to establish and document a baseline for noise at your particular location. In the event BPL does come to your area and introduces additional noise/interference in a measurable amount, you will be able to provide a before and after comparison. Such comparisons can be the basis of complaints to the power company or to the FCC, if necessary.

## From the Director – Weaver's Words

From the Great Lakes Division Director, Jim Weaver, K8JE –

The next steps that will be made with the proposal to regulate signals on our ham bands by bandwidth and no longer by mode) are as follow:

- The Board will devote several hours the night before the meeting officially begins to discussions of the changes that were proposed by the members. These suggestions have already been reviewed and digested by the Executive Committee. I've already reviewed input from members in the GLD. Many hours have been invested in these reviews, already.

And, some of you believe no one pays attention to what you thought. Well, folks, guess again.

- The Board will have further discussions beginning Friday concerning the disposition of the proposal -- modify it, submit it as is or as modified as a petition to FCC, kill the idea, keep working on it, etc.

How will I vote? I don't want to prejudge facts and arguments that will arise next week, so I don't yet know how I will vote. As I've said in these newsletters many times before, my decision as to which way to vote is dependent upon several factors. These include: 1. Domestic and international regulatory issues, 2. Input I receive from members, 3. Input from experts in the areas being considered, 4. Historic perspective and 5. Anything else I can learn about the issue from other sources.

My final vote depends upon how each of these mix together to form my final judgment. This, as SM Joe Phillips, K8QOE often says, "is the reason I make the big bucks!" (I hope you all realize the frame I have hanging on the wall to hold the very first dollar I make from being a Director is still empty. It'll remain empty throughout the rest of my years.

#### HAMFEST AND SPEAKING APPEARANCES

Spring and Summer may not be that near, but it is time to begin thinking of the hamfest, club meetings, dinners, etc. that Vice Director Dick Mondro and I will attend to represent ARRL. Please contact whichever of us you'd like to visit your event, give us the details of it and invite us to attend if you would like. Dick can be contacted at [w8fqt@arrl.org](mailto:w8fqt@arrl.org) and you can reach me at [k8je@arrl.org](mailto:k8je@arrl.org).

Tnx, 73 for now,

Jim

Jim Weaver, K8JE

Director, Great Lakes Division ARRL; <http://www.arrl.org/>

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## Happy Birthday

It's time to wish our February folks the very best of birthday wishes on their special day this month. There aren't many of them, they're a rare group! So, to each of the following members we sing "Happy birthday to you" – may your special day be a great one, and the first of many more.

2/9 Gail Wells, KC8LRH

2/22 Garrett Greene, K8RBX

2/27 Dale Voorhies, KB8IWC

And that's it folks, at least as far as February birthdays are concerned. We wish each of you an ARL FORTY-SIX!!

## February Calendar

2/1 WARA mtg Grace Bptst Ch 7.30 PM

2/2 10 & 2 mtr nets 8 PM & 9 PM

2/5 Breakfast Wayside Inn 9 AM

2/5-8 About 14 Contests of all types See Feb QST p 102 including:

2/5 FYBO (Freeze your Butt Off) QRP Field Day

2/5-6 YL International QSO Party SSB/CW

2/6 N. Am. Sprint SSB

2/7 Brunch Farmington Sr Ctr 11 AM

2/9 10 & 2 mtr nets 8 PM & 9 PM

2/12 Hamfest C'tee mtg Wayside Inn 10AM

2/13 Mansfield Hamfest see Feb QST p100

2/14 Happy Valentine's Day

2/14 Brunch Farmington Sr Ctr 11 AM

2/15 WARA mtg Grace Bptst Ch 7.30 PM

2/16 10 & 2 mtr nets 8 PM & 9 PM

2/19-20 ARRL Int'l DX Contest see Feb QST p102

2/19-20 Sp Ev Stn VE3TMG 40<sup>th</sup> anniv Canadian Flag see Feb QST p101

2/21 President's Day – K8OUA day off work

2/21 Brunch Farmington Sr Ctr 11 AM

2/23 10 & 2 mtr nets 8 PM & 9 PM

2/28 Brunch Farmington Sr Ctr 11 AM



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