

THE Q-MATCH

The Newsletter of the Warren Amateur Radio Association

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February 2006

Welcome To the New Year from our President

Right off I would like to thank all of those who had the confidence to elect me as President of the Warren Amateur Radio Association. It is both an honor and pleasure to have accepted this office. I also accept with it the challenges that our Club, as well as every Amateur Radio Club, has to face today. And hope that together we will have both a very successful year for the Club, as well as for each of us in the Amateur Radio community.

With that said, I decided that I would write a little about Amateur Radio Satellite communication. This topic came about from a very good discussion that I had with fellow operators on the "Open Net" that David, N8ZNE, hosts on Thursday nights at 09:00PM, on the Newbury repeater (147.015 MHz). I also wish to thank those folks who have sent me additional Satellite information since that Net. Some of which I used in this article. I will try and keep this article short and concise in the interest of space. However after reading if you desire more information than contained in this article, please contact me and I would be glad to work with you. As such this article will just concentrate on "listening" to the FM "birds".

Many amateurs do not realized that you can listen in on Amateur Satellite communication, and even the International Space Station, with just your current 2 meter home station and antenna. The only things you really need to know is: what frequency to setup to, and when to listen. You need to know the exact time the Satellite or Space Station is over your QTH because those Satellite's are all in an "elliptical" orbit. And you only have a small window of time, around 10 min. to hear them before they zoom past you.

The frequency's part is pretty easy since there are many Web Sites to be found on the Internet that can list them for you. Also note an important fact: Amateur Satellite's are like repeaters in that they have a separate "talk" frequency and "receive" frequency. And in most cases this can be two different Amateur bands. Some of the more common frequencies are as follows:

ISS (International Space Station) Worldwide Packet Uplink: 145.990 mhz

Region 1 Voice Uplink: 145.200 mhz

Region 2/3 Voice Uplink: 144.490 mhz

Worldwide Downlink: 145.800 mhz

Oscar 14: Uplink: 145.975 FM Down: 435.070 FM

AO27: Uplink:145.850 FM Down:436.795 FM

So to listen to any or these Satellites, or the Space Station, simply tune you 2 meter radio to the “Voice downlink” frequencies listed above. Additional frequency information can be found at the following websites:

<http://www.amsat.org>

<http://www.qsl.net/kg8oc>

<http://www.ne.jp/asahi/hamradio/je9pel>

Now the other item we discussed is that you need to know is when the Satellites or Space Station is over your shack. There are a number of inexpensive software packages available for purchase that you can use to show you that type of information. One that I have used is called “Nova”, and it can be found at the following web site:

<http://www.nlsa.com>. However there is a very nice “free” web site that gives you all the information you need. And that site is located at: <http://www.heavens-above.com>. You do not have to register if you do not wish to. You can access all of the information by logging on as an “**Anonymous**” user. With this site you can have a nice printout of any 24 hour period and what “birds” are passing overhead. Corrected to your local time zone.

As a side note, on February 3rd a Russian space suit named “SuitSat-1” (also called Radioskaf or Radio Sputnik in Russian”) was placed into space from the ISS. The Space Suit was a used Russian suit that was outfitted with a Kenwood HT and extra batteries. It is the first test of a unique idea of using the unneeded Orlan spacesuits, still aboard the ISS, as mini, cheap, Amateur satellites. The suit transmits a voice message, as well as telemetry, and even a SSTV image on an 8 minute cycle as it orbits earth. SuitSat-1's signal should be strong enough to hear using a VHF transceiver or scanner and a simple antenna. The three batteries powering the satellite are expected to last about a week, and then SuitSat-1 should re-enter Earth's atmosphere. This will be after several weeks of circling the globe. Those who copy the SuitSat-1 transmissions on 145.99 MHz are asked to post a real-time report on the SuitSat Web site <<http://www.suitsat.org/>>, which contains additional informational links. Initially, its orbit will approximately coincide with that of the ISS. Later, as SuitSat-1's orbit begins to decay, it may show up a few minutes earlier than the space station. The AMSAT Web site offers a listing of ISS passes and the “SuitSat” at <<http://www.amsat.org/amsat-new/tools/predict/>> and a graph showing the position of the ISS.

So in conclusion, it really is not too difficult to work an Amateur Satellite. Receiving transmissions is a simply matter of knowing the correct frequency and time to listen. I will save the transmitting part for a later article or maybe even a presentation at a future Club meeting. In the meantime if you have any questions feel free to talk to me either in person, email, or on the air.

73's Bob M. / KC8PVB

Youth Report/ Roger Dean (KC8VYS)

It seems that time fly's by so fast. Here it is February already. Since the last Q-match we have had Kids day back on January 8th. It went pretty well considering the last minute planning that took place due to the Eastwood mall not being able to accommodate us. Kids day was held at Bob Maurer's house (KC8PVB) and had a total of 5 kids make contacts. The next Kids day will be on June 17th. Plans are already in the works with the Eastwood mall in regards to this event. I will also be looking for other ideas of places to have this event. If anybody has an idea, or would like to help with this event, please either call me at (330)207-0737 or send me an E-Mail at KC8VYS@earthlink.net and I will be happy to take anything into consideration.

On another note, I have been in contact with the Boy Scout council and my paperwork has gone through and been approved for merit badge councilor. I am now in their database, and have been invited to their leadership roundtable on February 8th to introduce our club to all local leaders. This is a big step for the youth department, and I would like to thank everybody that has supported me in this endeavor. As more information becomes available, I will pass it along. For now that is all I have in regards to youth. I wish all of you 73, and until the next time, hope you all have a wonderful month, and please stay safe in any inclement weather.



Above left: Steven Meeker, son of Robert Meeker, KC8QZR making contact with NASA in Texas. Above right: boys invited by Bob Maurer, a few older boys get a little mike shy.

Hamfest/ Jackie Williams

Happy February to everyone. The holidays are finally over so everyone can relax. On a business note... our Hamfest Committee had a discussion meeting on January 10th to discuss the Hamfest. We went over the list of ideas from the fundraising committee. Those were great ideas. Those who did come were making some suggestions to me on what they would like to see at hamfest I am taking all of them into consideration. Thank you. I still need people to sell tickets and to help with parking. I also need two people who will be willing to sit at our ticket table. I would also like to have regular monthly meetings with the Hamfest committee. These meetings will be the second Tuesday of each month at 7pm at Arby's in Champion. Those meeting will also be announces on Wednesday's

9pm net. If the location would change this is where to find out. If anyone would like to join us, please do so. We would be glad to have you. If you have any suggestions and can't make a meeting please feel free to contact me by e-mail at eeyore_princess_42683@hotmail.com

Hamfest Chinese Auction:

Happy February, everyone! Now, let's talk about Hamfest...Let's talk about the Chinese Auction...

Okay, I heard the collective whine. Like it or not, this program is here to stay for this edition of the Hamfest, and I've been thinking of a lot of things. Like ways to cut the costs of the basket fillings and things to look out for basket wise.

1. Use Clearance items, dollar store finds, even gifts you have no use for in the house. If you're crafty, fill a basket with crafts. Know a merchant in the area? Ask them for a donation and make it into an opportunity not only to fill a basket, but to give them a bit of public exposure as well. All I ask is that items be in new or like new condition. A back to school basket Bill and I made up cost us \$11 and it was all new material from a dollar store.
2. Please, please, don't put a list with prices inside the baskets. If you want me to know how much you spent give me the list.
3. Please realize that these types of auctions are not always big sellers. If you want to spend \$50 on a basket, be aware that we probably won't bring in that much. Whatever we do bring in, though, is clear profit minus a roll of tickets.
4. Anyone with usable HAM equipment that's lying around? New or second hand equipment is more than welcome in a basket, and the one time I was fortunate enough to make such a basket, it did do very well.
5. Anyone who wishes to put wine in a basket, University policy prohibits alcohol and firearms on campus. However, as a prize, it needs to be in a covered, closed basket and we will ID the winner. It can't be opened at the University.
6. Please cover your baskets before you turn them in, which is normally between the end of July and the second meeting in August. I know basket bags are available at the craft stores in the area and they were under \$2 last year. Don't worry about being fancy, just nice and neat.

Pick things up a bit at a time between now and July. Fill and cover your basket for turn in when you have enough things to fill and set it aside, then turn it in in July.

I realize that there are some people in the club who have their problems with this part of the Hamfest. If you have a problem with it, I understand if you don't participate. Nor does anyone have to spend a lot of money on these baskets. I'll probably have this

article republished from time to time until July. Should there be any questions, I can be contacted at LuccaMichael@Yahoo.com, or by phone at 330-872-5045.

Paper Chase / "Sports"

I am writing this in the middle of January when the only sport you hear about is football and the Super Bowl. But did you know that during February; Torino, Italy will host the Winter Olympics? I did not know this fact until after working IO1FRE. In looking up the call sign, I became aware that the Associazione Radioamatori Italiani had been running

Special event stations for the Olympics since October 10th. The stations were:

IO1ALP Alpine Skiing
 IO1BIA Biathlon
 IO1BOB Bobsleigh
 IO1CRO Cross Country
 IO1CUR Curling
 IO1FRE Freestyle Skiing
 IO1FSK Figure Skating
 IO1HOC Hockey
 IO1JUM Ski Jumping
 IO1LUG Luge
 IO1NOR Nordic Combined
 IO1SHO Short Track Speed Skating
 IO1SKE Skeleton
 IO1SNO Snowboard
 IO1SPE Speed Skating



Picture of Torino

All of these stations are presently active and will remain so through the 9th of February. During the Olympics, IO1ARI and II1OWG will be active. All contacts will be confirmed via the bureau. If you are lucky enough to work three of these special event stations and seven of the countries that held the last ten Winter Olympics you are entitled to a certificate costing ten dollars. The application can be downloaded from www.ari-rl.it/torino2006. The countries that had the last ten winter games are: Austria (OE), Bosnia-Herzegovina (T9), Canada (VE), France (F), Germany (DL), Italy (I), Japan (JA), Norway (LA), Switzerland (HB9) and the United States. If you do not work all the stations, at least enjoy watching the Olympics on TV. I will be listening for you in the pile-ups!

Joe - W8KNO

Sunshine & Sick / Sherman KC8YHJ

Ada had arthroscopic knee surgery, and is doing fine. She is on crutches, but they are hard to get use too. And if you have ever been on crutches, you know what she means. It has been decided,

If anyone in the wants too sign a get well card for Randell McCloy, the surviving miner from West Virginia, should see Sherman at the next meeting. He will have a card for anyone wishing to sign, before he sends it to him.

WIFE OF MEMBER PASSES AWAY

Ann Chopko, who was related to several WARA members passed away on January 5, 2006, after a long battle with cancer. Ann was the wife of Ed Chopko, Sr., K8KAE, the mother of Ed Chopko, Jr., K8KBB, the aunt of Peter Kozup, K8OUA, and the great aunt of Sara Kozup, KB8RHG. One of her grandsons, Greg Chopko, N8IJD, was a former WARA member. A lifelong resident of Newton Falls, Ann was a very warm person, devoted to her family. Besides her husband and son she is survived by four grandchildren and four great grandchildren. The club extends its condolences to the entire family.

Recipe:

Here is the recipe for the snack that Sue KC8VHC brings to the meetings that is a big hit.

Snacki ng Crackers

- 1 bag oyster crackers
- 1 small pkg. ranch dressing mix (dry)
- 3 T. dill weed
- 1 T. garlic powder(opt.)
- 1/2 cup vegetable oil

In a bowl pour oyster crackers and dry ranch dressing mix. Mix well. Add the dill weed, garlic powder if desired and vegetable oil, mix thoroughly until well incorporated.

Add lid to bowl and shake a little, let set for several hours so the oil will soak into the crackers.

This recipe can be doubled. I only use 3/4 cup oil not 1 cup.

Enjoy

Sue KC8VHC

Decembers Meetings Summaries

<p>January 3, 2006</p> <p>Karl [KF8MG] treasurer: Checking balance ,6163.87 Total worth , 18,262.16</p> <p>Pete, [K8OUA] resigned from editor of the Q-match, Bob [KC8PVB] appointed Emily [KC8RAL] new editor.</p> <p>New member : Jim Popovich [WB8CPG]</p> <p>50/50 drawing \$33.00 club / \$33.00 Sue Fredenburg [KD8AGA]</p>	<p>January 17, 2005 ANNUAL MEETING</p> <p>New officers elected; 2006 Officers</p> <p>President ; Bob Maurer KC8PVB Vice President; Gail Wells KC8LRH Secretary Emily Wells KC8RAL Treasurer Karl Gerlt KF8MG 3 Yr Trustee Kenneth Williams KC8TML</p>
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Columbiana County Happenings

TColumbiana County Races training Feb. 9th 7PM 2 Col. Co. old EMA
 ST. Rt. 45 North of Lisbon. Next Col Co. Health Dept.

Col. Co. Sky warn Training, Feb. 28th, 6PM Registration 6:30 training Col. Co. Career Center, St.Rt. 45 South of Lisbon
 across from OSP POST 15

Dave N8gob

If need or want more information about the above events you can contact Dave N8GOB on the W.A.R.A Wen. Night net at 9pm on 146.970 repeater.

Ares/Races/Skywarn/ Richard Bell, KC8TAP

The Trumbull County Ares/ Races needs radio operators for a 10 k running race on Feb. 11, 2006 in Cortland, anyone wishing to help please contact Richard Bell at kc8tap@neo.rr.com or 330-898-6538. Hopefully the weather will cooperate and be nice and warm for us.

Skywarn training will be held at Kent State Trumbull Branch, Techonology Building, March 7th at 6:30 pm. All are welcome to come and enjoy the program.

Net News

If you are interested in helping out and trying your hand at being a net operator please give me a call at 330-393-4795 or drop me an e-mail at kc8ral@hotmail.com. The Trumbull County Areas/ Races 10 meter net is still in need of some Wednesday night operators. So please think about maybe trying to help Kenny, KC8TML and Richard, KC8TAP, out. . Kenny can be reached at 330 399-9628 or contact him by email at kc8tml@neo.rr.com. Check in to either one of the WARA nets and find out what's happening with amateur radio in our area.

February 1	Emily	KC8RAI	March 1	Bob ,	KC8PVB
February 8	Andy	N8YR	March 8	Emily	KC8RAL
February 15	Sherman	KC8YHJ	March 15	Andy	N8YR
February 22	Lisa	KC8VHB	March 22	Sherman	KC8YHJ
			March 29	Lisa	KC8VHB

Ohio Section News

Starting with the APRIL SECTION NEWS, I am going to SPOTLIGHT one of the Ohio Section Affiliated Clubs each month. All the more reason to keep me on your mailing list. I will be reviewing my records about my clubs here in the Ohio Section and deciding which CLUB I will choose this forum to SPOTLIGHT! If I choose your Club I will be contacting your contact person for information you would like to share with the Ohio Section. I have been considering this option since last year and after speaking with our Ohio Section Manager, Joe Phillips, K8QOE, we have decided it is a GO! So, one of these days your Club could be the one in the SPOTLIGHT!

INDIAN HILLS RADIO CLUB had a very busy year 2005. At the last QCWA Chapter One Meeting, member Jeff, WA8SAJ, received the 2005 Presidents Award for his contributions to Amateur Radio and Chapter One. Also Editor of the Smoke Signals newsletter of the club, Dee Logan, W1HEO was presented the 2005 Amateur of the year award.

MOUNT VERNON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB IN Mt Vernon Ohio, holds their meetings the second Monday of the month at the Red Cross Annex Building at 300 N Mulberry St. in Mt Vernon. If you live in or around this area contact Club Secy. Jeff Butz, N8SMT for more information.

The MASSILLON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, HAS A NEW LOOK to their Newsletter FEEDBACK. Good Job! I personally like the change! Editor, Gary Kline, WC8W, does a good job with the Newsletter. Congratulations to all the Club Officers elected for 2006. This club remains an active club with many projects on the table for 2006.

The MAHONING VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION remains active this year with their VE exam schedule, the MVARA repeater, ARES/RACES training, with their

SKYWARN training scheduled for march 21

The PIONEER AMATEUR RADIO FELLOWSHIP is planning their activities already. They will participate in Field Day and are planning their strategy for a successful event.

The COSHOCTON COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION. Is also planning and scheduling their 2006 activities and events. The year 2005 was a very active year for them and it looks like 2006 just might be even more active!

And I must add The PORTAGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB remains very active with many projects and events already scheduled for 2006. SKYWARN training is planned for the 26th of April with Portage County EMA participating with invitation to all County Officials and Offices and First Responders. The Portage Hamfair 2006 plans right on schedule with VE Exams planned with the Hamfair as usual.

Well, that's it for this time around; keep me informed of your Club/s activities so that I can feature your activities in this column. AND remember starting with the April column, I will be SPOTLIGHTING an Affiliated Club. It could be yours?

Until next time, when you least expect it, I will be seeing YOU! Best 73, Joanne Solak, KJ3O, ACC OHIO

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

It's time to wish our February folks a very best of birthday wishes. There's not many, but a rare group so here's wishing you a very, very happy Birthday..

Feb. 9	KC8LRH	Gail Wells
Feb. 22	KB8RBX	Garrett Green
Feb. 27	KB8IWC	Dale Voorhies



Here's wishing a hearty ARL FORTY-SIX to all of our December birthdays – May your day be sunny and may this be one of many many more. If I am missing anyone please let me know your information.

SuitSat :

SuitSat Readies for Operation on 145.990 MHz

Now is the time to begin preparing your amateur radio station to receive signals from SuitSat, the most unusual Amateur Radio satellite ever orbited. SuitSat amateur radio equipment will be installed inside a surplus Russian Orlan spacesuit. It will become an independently orbiting satellite once it is deployed by the crew of the International Space Station during an extravehicular activity, tentatively planned around December 8, 2005. Running only on internal batteries within the spacesuit,

SuitSat will have a limited, but interesting lifetime beaming down special messages and an SSTV image as it floats in space. Having no external thrust to adjust its orbit after it is

hand-deployed during the EVA, SuitSat will be in a free-floating, but decaying orbit around Earth. It is expected to remain in orbit up to 6 weeks after being deployed.

The project--called Radioskaf or Radio Sputnik was led by project manager A. P. Alexandrov and Deputy Project Manager A. Poleshuk from RSC Energia. On the US side, AMSAT Board member Lou McFadin, W5DID headed up the hardware project development. The SuitSat electronics were built and tested in Phoenix, AZ by a team lead by Steve Bible, N7HPR. SuitSat's transmissions will include special international voice messages, spacesuit telemetry, and a pre-programmed SSTV picture on its 145.990 MHz FM downlink. If you have already received the packet station or heard the ISS crew on 2-meter voice, then you already have most of what you need. Amateur radio signals from the ISS can be received with a 2 meter vertical antenna so an elaborate tracking system is not necessary. The SSTV signal can be decoded with personal computer SSTV software after you connect your computer to the speaker output of your radio.



The image to the left shows SuitSat in it's flight configuration. You can see the electronics control panel on the top of the helmet along with the SuitSat antenna. A new handle has been added around the midsection of the suit (black stripes). The handle is an important addition that will allow the astro/cosmonaut launching the suit to move it safely. Frank Bauer, KA3HDO, AMSAT Vice President of Human Spaceflight, and ARISS Chairman, says SuitSat's payload will also include a CD containing hundreds of school pictures, artwork, poems, and student signatures from schools all over the world--Japan/Asia, Europe, Russia, Canada, US, South America and Africa. Frank continues, "Two identical CDs were flown into space. One will go in the suit, and the other will be for the crew to review. Using the crew CD, we hope to downlink these images using the SSTV system that will be located inside the Zvezda Service Module aboard the ISS once

it is operational." Direct SSTV operation from the ISS will commence once the computer arrives in a future cargo delivery. AMSAT Video News features Frank, KA3HDO, in a SuitSat presentation. See:

<http://www.amsat.org/amsat-new/information/videoNews.php>

When will SuitSat orbit over your home town?

Use Science@NASA's [J-Pass](#) utility to find out. The online program will ask for your zip code—that's all. Then it will tell you when the ISS is going to orbit over your area. (Be

sure to click the "options" button and select "all passes.") Because the ISS and SuitSat share similar orbits, predictions for one will serve for the other. Observers in the United States will find that SuitSat passes overhead once or twice a day—usually between midnight and 4 o'clock in the morning. At that time of day, SuitSat and the ISS will be in Earth's shadow and, thus, too dark to see with the naked eye. You'll need a radio to detect them.

"Point your antenna to the sky during the 5-to-10 minute flyby," advises Bauer, and this is what you'll hear:

SuitSat transmits for 30 seconds, pauses for 30 seconds, and then repeats. "This is SuitSat-1, RS0RS," the transmission begins, followed by a prerecorded greeting in five languages. The greeting contains "special words" in English, French, Japanese, Russian, German and Spanish for students to record and decipher. (Awards will be given to students who do this. Scroll to the "more information" area at the end of this story for details.)

Next comes telemetry: temperature, battery power, mission elapsed time. "The telemetry is stated in plain language—in English," says Bauer. Everyone will be privy to SuitSat's condition. Bauer adds, "Suitsat 'talks' using a voice synthesizer. It's pretty amazing."

For more information and photos you can log on to this web site www.amsat.org/amsat-new/articles/SuitSat/

February Calendar;

02/01 WARA Nets 10M & 2M 8/9 pm	02/14 Valentines Day
02/04 Breakfast Wayside Inn 9 am	02/15 WARA Nets 10 M & 2 M 8PM / 9P
02/04 Dinner Perkins Elm Rd 7 PM	02/18 Dinner Perkins , Elm Rd 7PM
02/06 Brunch Farmington Sr. Center 11am	02/20 Brunch Farmington Sr Center 11 AM
02/07 WARA Meeting Grace Baptist Church 7:30 pm	02/21 WARA Meeting Grace Baptist Church 7:30Pm
02/08 WARA Nets 10M & 2 M 8/9 pm	02/22 WARA Nets 10 M & 2 M 8PM / 9PM
02/11 Dinner Perkins Elm Rd 7 PM	02/25 Dinner Perkins, Elm Rd 7pm
02/13 Brunch Farmington Sr. center 11 am	02/27 Brunch Farmington Sr Center 11 AM

A Member Gets Published on the .net

Lisa Eckenrode, KC8VHB, recently had two characters published by 12 Comics Universe, an online original comic company run by Mark Hair, aka Sunblayde. Lt. Alexis McKinnae, aka Prophet, appears in the three issue story arc "The Great Weapons". McKinnae is the communications officer for the Justice Legion X-treme and its resident

telepath. Lynne Michael Bates, aka Caravan, has just been published in a mini novel detailing the ballet star and one of his adventures with Team Marvel. Bates is skilled in telepathy and telekinesis and is slated to appear in the next story arc set to be published in February. Both characters are submitted under the name Lucca Eckenrode.

WWW.TwelveComics.com is the site. Free pages of the first two issues are available, and the each comic can be purchased online for \$2. As for the mini novels, they are available for 50 cents each and three are currently available to choose from. The Twelve Comics site is an interactive comic service, providing the opportunity for artists, writers, and roleplayers to get involved and create their own works.

Ohio amateurs go to Antarctica

There is a team of 22 people on a rare dxpedition to Peter One Island. The team will be arriving on the island about Feb. 6th, the call sign is 3YOX.

A trip of this magnitude requires individuals eager for this kind of adventure. No hotels on Peter I! As well as being excellent radio operators, qualifications for this trip include the ability to be gone from home for up to five weeks and physical conditioning suitable to building a "city" on a glacier and living and working in tents in below freezing temperatures. Not surprisingly, not everyone wanted to go!

Among the team are two Ohio Amateurs, Don DuBon, N6JKL from Dayton, Oh who has been an active ham since 1963. The second is W8MV, Mel Vye, who holds an extra class since 1966, who is from the Akron area. It is the team's objective to be at Peter I for a minimum of two weeks with the actual operating time to be determined by weather and set-up time. Because of the likelihood of it being a very long time before Peter I will be activated again, we have set some very high QSO goals. Nine stations will be established on the island and QRV on all bands 160-10m, on the most common communications modes. For more information check out their web-site at www.peterone.com

