

The Q-Match

The Newsletter of the Warren Amateur Radio Association

P.O. Box 809, Warren, Ohio 44482

Webpage - www.w8vtd.org Editor - pkozup@juno.com

March, 2003

A word from the prez

March Events – 3rd Annual Trumbull County QSO Party

Well it's finally stayed above 32 degrees for two days so far. That's a good sign that winter is finally over. It also hard to believe that the official day spring begins, March 20th, is less than three weeks away.

As another winter is put behind us I look forward to the different Club activities that we have. I am hoping too that this year we can have some new ones, maybe a family picnic with some working stations. But the one that really tells me that winter is behind us is the "Bill Craiger Memorial QSO Party". That is the first Club event that kicks off the New Year. I think that I enjoy it so much because I am normally a "rover" station and it gives me many opportunities to get lost, and have a good time doing it.

In the past the VHF Trumbull County Township QSO Party" has been restricted to QSOs only made between stations in Trumbull county. There were some suggestions at past meetings on finding a way to increase amateur participation by opening it up to other counties. So this year is our first attempt to do so.

I'll explain how the contest works now even though it is covered in the "General Rules" and "Contest information" found in this issue of the Q-Match, sometimes some additional explanation can help.

Basically everything stays the same as far as QSOs made within Trumbull County to stations in Trumbull County. The difference is a new category has been added named "Out Of County". A station located outside of Trumbull County that makes contact with any stations within Trumbull County falls into this category. The only difference is the points per contact are .5 per QSO, vs 1 for stations within the county. The multiplier stays the same for both the Trumbull County to Trumbull QSOs as well as the "Out Of Trumbull" (OOT) QSO's. And that multiplier is the total number of different townships worked.

Overall it should be a fun time for everyone who can participate. It would be great to hear some of the newer Hams this year on the air for the contest as it does build good radio operating skills, especially trying to make out that distant "rover" low power station on the other side of the township.

Remember, the nice thing about this contest is it's a nice relaxed contest for you to hone yours skills as an operator, and get some experience operating in a contest environment. But don't worry the "pile ups" are not too bad. HI HI

So I hope to hear and make a QSO with many of you on Saturday, March 15th. If you're out driving in Trumbull County and see a black truck with a portable antenna mast with a vertical on A word from the prez (cont. . . .) top along the side of the road, stop by and

say "hello". I'll probably even have some extra coffee.

73, Your Prez, Bob, KC8PVB

dues time

It's that time of year again, time to get your annual WARA dues paid. Dues must be paid by April 1 each year for members to maintain their current membership. So, if you're at one of the March meetings see the club Treasurer, Karl Gerlt, KF8MG, and hand him your \$5.00 for the year. If that's not possible then send your check to Karl via the club's post office box, P.O. Box 809, Warren, Ohio 44482.

Bill craiger memorial qso party

As President Bob says in his monthly epistle, this month brings our club's annual two meter contest, The Bill Craiger Memorial QSO Party. This was the idea of our former President, Bill Craiger, and has been very successful in past years. Any contest is only as successful as the people who participate in it, and it is up to our members to make the QSO Party a success by getting on the air and operating. So, get your gear ready and get on the air on Saturday March 15. Wouldn't it be great to have fixed stations set up in each of our county's 25 townships? Did you know that Trumbull County is the only perfectly square county in Ohio, and it could be the only perfectly square county in the entire country. So, how about going out and representing your township by getting on the air and making some contacts during the QSO Party. All the rules and necessary information is found in this issue of the *Q-Match*.

WEBSITE url

Thanks to those who pointed out to the editor that the URL for our website was incorrect in past issues of the *Q-Match*. The new one is now found at the top of this issue and is www.w8vtd.org. Go to that site and have a look at what the club's website looks like these days.

Happy birthday

As happens each month, we have a number of our members celebrating another year of the good life this month. So, here's wishing the following WARA members a happy birthday this month.

- 3/3 WB8JCS ~ Dick Brem
- 3/4 W6VIF ~ Wendell Chapman
- 3/5 KB8WGJ ~ Miranda Walker
- 3/7 KC8LMC ~ Dennis Alexander
- 3/7 KZ8W ~ Roger Phillips
- 3/8 W8PKC ~ Clarence Teter
- 3/9 KA9WMF ~ Mike Yakopec
- 3/10 KB8PXP ~ George Syrko
- 3/12 KB8NNA ~ Kenny List
- 3/12 N8XXY ~ Mike Salcone
- 3/15 K8TF ~ Tom Finta
- 3/15 WD8NUS ~ James A. Werner
- 3/16 KB8ULL ~ Alicia White
- 3/17 KC8NLR ~ Chris Walker
- 3/18 N8MGT ~ Don Gadd Sr.
- 3/19 KD8JJ ~ David Metzendorf
- 3/21 Assoc. ~ Tom Fish
- 3/26 W8TWO ~ Richard Alexander
- 3/28 KB8OMO ~ Nancy Leeper
- 3/29 WD8JRC ~ Lee Right
- 3/30 Assoc. ~ Ann Gerlt

To each of these we send ARL FORTY SIX! Also, remember, if the editor has your birthday wrong, or has accidentally left it out, just send him an email and he'll correct it for next year.

Ohio section news – bicentennial edition

For the regular March issue of the Ohio Section News go to last month's *Q-Match*. The following is a special edition for Ohio's Bicentennial celebrations.

OHIO SECTION NEWS SPECIAL BICENTENNIAL EDITION

STATE OF OHIO REGISTERED AMATEUR RADIO BICENTENNIAL PARTICIPATION

On March 1, 1803, Ohio joined the United States as its 17th state entry. To honor that event, Ohio is throwing itself a year-long party: The Ohio Bicentennial. The following amateur radio events have announced plans to the Ohio Section.

The Ohio Section policy on the Bicentennial is to promote all local activities of ham radio operators we can find. I am well aware there are more such events planned in Ohio. If you know of any other amateur radio Bicentennial events, please forward that information to me at w2thu@arri.net It will be added to this list. Full participation by all Ohio Amateur Radio Operators is our goal. Here is the list; alphabetical by county. Assistant Section Manager Bob Winston, W2THU, Cleveland.

BELMONT County:

Eastern Ohio Wireless Radio Association Special Event Station (plans for special call sign) March 2003. Contact: Russ Landers, WB4ZKO:

wb4zko@attbi.com

CUYAHOGA County:

Greater Cleveland Amateur Radio Committee Special Event Station K8ZOO and K8CRF located at the Cleveland Rain Forest Operates

throughout 2003 on all bands. Contact: Bob Winston, W2THU: w2thu@arri.net
GUERNSEY County:

Cambridge Amateur Radio Association Special Event Station to coincide with the Ohio Hills Folk Festival in Quaker City 9-12 July 2003. Contact: Lyn Alfman, N8IMW:

GEOALFMAN@aol.com

FRANKLIN County:

Central Ohio ARES

(1) Special Event Station No.1 at the State Capitol 4 July 2003

(2) Special Event Station No. 2 at the Ohio Historical Society June through August 2003

(3) Special Event Station No. 3 combined with the SET-COARES October 2003. Contact: Skip Howell, KC8HIN: smhowell@earthlink.net

LAKE County:

Lake County Amateur Radio Association, N8BC Special Event Station 28 June at 1800 to 29 June at 2100, 2003. Operating on 7.235, 14.310, 21.310, 28.410 Mhz. Contact: Don Kocsis, WA8TWM:

dkocsis@ameritech.net

LUCAS County:

Toledo Mobile Radio Association Special Event Station under discussion as reported in the TMRA Amateur Radio Beacon newsletter. Contact President Tom Swartz, KB8PAI.

MARION County:

Marion Amateur Radio Club, W8GVD Special Event Station 1 March 2003 from 1500-2300 local time operating on 7.26, 14.26 and 28.26MHz. Contact Richard Carey: rwcarey@gte.net

STATEWIDE:

(1) Buckeye Belles events still in the planning stage. Contact Nancy Rabal Hall : kc4iyd@yahoo.com

Ohio section news—bicentennial edition (cont . . .)

(2)Mad River Radio Club. Ohio QSO Party coordination with Bicentennial. Last weekend in August. Contact: Jim Stahl, K8MR: Jimk8mr@aol.com

(3)Northeast Ohio Bicentennial Amateur Radio Club KO8HIO Special Event Station. Contact Anthony A. Luscre: aluscre@neo.rr.com Website:

<http://www.qsl.net/k8zt/ko8hio.html>

Compiled by Bob Winston W2THU, Cleveland, w2thu@arrl.net
Updated: 20 February 2003

Two meter net

The following is the March / April NCS Schedule for the WARA's Two Meter Net which meets each Wednesday night at 9.00 PM on the 146.97 MHz repeater.

March 5 – Bob, KC8PVB

March 12 – Frank, KC8PUZ

March 19 – Pete, K8OUA

March 26 – Andy, N8YR

April 2 – Fred, N9BSO

April 9 – Bob, KC8PVB

April 16 – Frank, KC8PUZ

April 23 – Pete, K8OUA

April 30 – Andy, N8YR

As usual, if you can't make your night, let Fred, N9BSO, know. Also, if you'd like to try your hand at taking an NCS spot, let Fred know. Fred can be reached by email at creacher@onecom.com.

Members around the traps

This editor received a very pleasant and welcome phone call this month. The call was from a fellow ham who is still in the area, but whom I haven't heard from for quite awhile. The call was from

Chuck Schwartz, N8HKA, of Liberty. Many may recall that Chuck was the Trumbull County Emergency Officer several years ago. Interestingly, Chuck was contacted on EchoLink by one of our members Charles Greeson, KG8ZK, currently living in Washington state. As they spoke Charles reminded Chuck of how they had met at my home many years ago. Good to hear that both are well and I'm looking forward to hearing more from each of them.

Arri news

The FCC has canceled the license of a Michigan Amateur Radio operator and told him he may not apply for another ham ticket until 2007. The Commission took the action against Thomas A. Brothers, ex-KI8BE, of Berkley, because he'd been the operator of an unlicensed FM "pirate" radio station. The FCC has again begun to punish those who go against the rules.

Combining music, athletics and Amateur Radio to raise funds and awareness for cancer research, Martin Berkofsky, KC3RE, is set to run from Tulsa, Oklahoma, to Arlington Heights, Illinois, this spring and summer. An internationally known concert pianist and music scholar, Berkofsky plans to celebrate his 60th birthday and his recovery from cancer with the 700-mile "Celebrate Life Run." Along the way, he hopes to contact as many hams as possible on VHF and UHF as he navigates the back roads of the Midwest.

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WARREN AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

THIRD ANNUAL BILL CRAIGER MEMORIAL TWO METER VHF TRUMBULL COUNTY TOWNSHIP QSO PARTY

GENERAL RULES:

1. Individuals and stations are limited to one entry per contest.
2. A transmitter, receiver, or antenna used to contact one or more stations may not subsequently be used under any other call during the contest period.
3. Stations may be worked for credit only once per band from any given township. This does not prohibit working a station from more than one township with the same call sign (such as a Rover).
4. Retransmitting either or both stations, or use of repeater frequencies is not permitted. 5. This prohibits use of all repeater frequencies.
6. Contest entrants may not transmit on repeaters or repeater frequencies for the purpose of soliciting contacts.
7. Use of the national simplex frequency, 146.52 MHz, or immediately adjacent guard frequencies is prohibited.
8. Contest entrants may not transmit on 146.52 MHz for the purpose of making or soliciting QSO's.
9. Only recognized simplex frequencies may be used, such as 144.90 to 145.00; 146.49, .55 and .58 and 147.42.45 .48, .51, .54 and .57 MHz on the 2 meter band.
10. A station located precisely on a dividing line between townships must select only one as the location for exchange purposes.
11. Rover: One' or two operators of a single station that moves among two or more townships during the course of the contest. A rover vehicle may transport only one station using a single call sign. Rovers sign "rover" on phone contacts.
- 12: Out of County: Any base station or rover outside of Trumbull County, but making contacts with stations in townships within Trumbull County.

CONTEST:

1. Object: To work as many amateur stations in as many different townships in Trumbull County as possible using authorized frequencies in the 144.00 to 148.00 MHz band.
2. Date and contest period: The afternoon of Saturday March 15, 2003. Begins at 02:00 PM and ends at 08:00 PM EST.
3. Entry categories: Low power 5 watts or less. Medium power 6 watts through 24 watts. High power 25 watts or more. Rover: any power. Out of County: any power
4. Exchange: Call, name, township. Rovers sign "rover" with exchange.
5. Scoring: QSO points count 1 point for each complete contact made with a station within Trumbull County. Multiplier: The total number of townships in Trumbull County worked. QSO points for stations within Trumbull County making contacts with stations outside of Trumbull County is .5. Final score: Multiply the number of QSO points by the total number of Multipliers for Final score.
6. Miscellaneous: Stations may be worked for credit from more than one township with the same call sign (such as rover).
7. Awards: Certificates will be awarded for the top scorer in the following categories. Low power, medium power, high power, rover and out of county.
8. Submission: All submissions must be turned over to KB8SVF, Renee McCaman, club secretary, no later than Saturday March 22, 2003. All entries must include a properly completed summary sheet.

