

# The Q-Match

The Newsletter of the Warren Amateur Radio Association

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## Slim gilbert, w8ann, sk

The last of the founding members of the WARA, Slim Gilbert, W8ANN, became a silent key on Sunday night, April 25. Howard, known to almost everyone as Slim, had been an amateur for 77 of his 97 years of life. Besides his radio interests Slim enjoyed traveling, hunting and fishing. Surviving him is a son, William Gilbert of Bristolville. Preceding him in death are his wife, Lucille Stout Gilbert, whom he married Feb. 25, 1928, and who died May 4, 1978, two brothers, Wayne and Richard Gilbert and one sister, Frances Gilbert.

A friendly and personable man Slim was well liked and respected by his fellow amateurs in the club. While his health was failing over the last several years of his life, his interest in his hobby and his friends never failed. He rarely failed to miss a Monday morning brunch with his friends at the Farmington Senior Center in West Farmington, and well up into the last years of his life he kept up an HF sked with his ham friends in Florida.

As one of the founding members of our club Slim is owed a lot by its members. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society, Trumbull County Unit in his memory.

## March of dimes walkathon

The annual March of Dimes Walkathon took place along the Mahoning River in Warren on Saturday April 24. As has happened in previous years, the

WARA provided communications for the event. The event had 85 adults and a number of children walking to raise money for the March of Dimes fight against birth defects. The walk, about five miles in length, took about an hour and twenty minutes from the time the first walker left the start and the last walker finished. The event ran smoothly with few, if any, problems, and a good time was had by both walkers and radio ops. The following WARA members provided communications for the day – Fred Olver, N9BSO, Bill Eckenrode, N8VOR, Frank Saffran, WB8PHH, Lisa Eckenrode, KC8VHB, Bob Maurer, KC8PVB, Richard Bell, KC8TAP, Roger Dean, KC8VYS, Don Bower, N8VCK, Sherman Davidson, KC8YHJ, Sue Wagner, KC8VHC, Gail Wells, KC8LRH, Emily Wells, KC8RAL, Mike Salcone, N8XXY, Steve Benton, and Jeannie Allen. Emily, KC8RAL, served as Net Control for the day. Well done to all those who took part and helped on this very important event.

## Sunshine and sick

I recently had the very pleasant opportunity to pay a visit to Marilu Maurer, the XYL of our club President, Bob Maurer, KC8PVB. Marilu was in the hospital, University Hospital in Cleveland, where she has been fighting off a painful and mysterious ailment. She was told that cancer cells had been found in Sunshine and sick (cont . . . .)

the fluid surrounding her lungs, but at this time doctors have not been able to

pinpoint an actual tumor. Marilu has been suffering from severe pain at times but the day I visited her she was feeling much better. She asked that I express her thanks in the *Q-Match* to the entire club for the card and flowers, and to all those who have sent her cards and greetings during her illness. She has been touched by the care shown by members.

## Happy birthday

If you recall, the *Q-Match* missed the birthdays of the April members, and did promise that those people would be remembered this month, along with the regular May birthday boys and girls. So, in light of that, here is two month's worth of birthdays to celebrate.

### April Birthdays

ASSOC. Coralyn Clisby 4/4  
 N8ZNE David Menock 4/5  
 KB8YWZ Nixon O'Neil 4/11  
 KC8LMB Sam Bickel 4/14  
 ASSOC. Eileen Gabele 4/16  
 WD8KNJ Al Johnson 4/27  
 N8XUO Kris Vadas 4/29  
 NA8Z Keith Sawyer 4/29

### May Birthdays

N8TIO Ronnie McCaman 5/4  
 WA8IWJ David White 5/4  
 W8SHR Dale Bowen 5/8  
 K8BFM Brenda McClain 5/11  
 ASSOC Jeannie Allen 5/12  
 W8SWT Steven Trimble 5/12  
 KA8LCW Reno Principi 5/15  
 N8VTI Kenneth Miller N8VTI 5/15  
 WM3R Daryl Paddock 5/15  
 KA8ZSO Ken Sanders 5/19  
 KB8ULN Rick White 5/21  
 WA4SIR Ron Parise 5/24  
 AB8GX John Simons 5/25  
 N8NVI Nick Buhhur 5/25

KC8MTZ Ada Simons 5/30  
 WB8TKU Gar Braniger 5/30  
 ASSOC. Madeline Simon 5/31  
 To all these members we wish the very heartiest of birthday greetings, and a very robust ARL FORTY-SIX.

## Two meter net

If you recall, last month we notified you that the position of Net Coordinator had come open as the previous Net Coordinator Fred, N9BSO, had had enough for awhile and wanted to give someone else a turn. Well, we now have a new Net Coordinator, sort of, it is Fred, N9BSO, come out of early retirement to take it on again. Fred had only been out of the position for a few days and missed it enough to call President Bob and agree to take it on again. The Net Control Stations for the months of May and June follow.

May 5<sup>th</sup> – Pete, K8OUA  
 May 12<sup>th</sup> – Andy, N8YR  
 May 19<sup>th</sup> – Fred, N9BSO  
 May 26<sup>th</sup> – Bob, KC8PVB  
 June 2<sup>nd</sup> – Pete, K8OUA  
 June 9<sup>th</sup> – Andy, N8YR  
 June 16<sup>th</sup> – Fred, N9BSO  
 June 23<sup>rd</sup> – Bob, KC8PVB  
 June 30<sup>th</sup> – Pete, K8OUA

If you haven't checked into the Wednesday night net for awhile, why not try it out. You'll find it an active and informative net, and a good way to get in contact with hams in the area.

## Ten meter net

Fred Olver, N9BSO, our Net Coordinator, has begun a ten meter net that precedes the two meter net on Wednesday nights. Beginning at 8.00 PM local time on 28.375 MHz, it has been on air  
 Ten meter net (cont. . . .)

for the past couple of weeks. Normally the NCS is Fred, though others such as Ken, KC8TML, have taken over the reigns. While the number of check-ins to the net has not been large yet, it is still very early days and the number of check-ins should rise as word of the net gets out. So, if you have ten meter privileges and a ten meter rig, why not get on and join the fun.

## Ve testing results

A VE testing session was conducted on April 10 with Dennis, N8IVE, as the organizer. A total of eight individuals took the test, including three young men from near Sharon, Pennsylvania. The results of the session were that we now have one new Technician licensed (one of the young fellows from PA), a new General class licensee, and two with a new Extra Class license. These last two were from the WARA, Richard Bell, KC8TAP, and Nick Buhhur, N8NVI. Congratulations to both. VEs in attendance included Dennis Carraher, N8IVE, Delbert Shafer, WD8KXD, Leland Greuter, KA8TGX, and Pete Kozup, K8OUA. Thanks to those who helped out on the 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: Mark Reising, WM8R, Mainville; TC: Tom Holmes, N8ZM, Tipp City; PIC: Scott Yonally, N8SY, Mansfield; OOC: Alan Cook, N7CEU, Newark; SGL: Reuben Meeks, W8GUC, Vandalia.

MAY SECTION NEWS - Lets simplify Ham Radio Restructuring proposals. (A) The FCC is now seeking comments by

June 30th: (B) The numbers are RN 10867 - 68 - 69 - 70: and (C) This is YOUR chance to help structure amateur radios future. The four NPRMs essentially are the ARRL proposals as announced by the ARRL Board of Directors in January.

It is Dayton Hamvention time. Check with your local club quickly. Many throughout Ohio offer bus trip specials. Great idea and good fellowship is thrown in at no extra charge. For Hamvention ticket and other information, see <[www.hamvention.org](http://www.hamvention.org)>.

The Ohio Section Journal, a 12 - page journal published four times each year, is available for free download on the Web. The URL is <[http://www.iarc.ws/OhioSection/Section\\_journal.htm](http://www.iarc.ws/OhioSection/Section_journal.htm)>. The spring, 2004 issue is now available for downloading. It contains news about the section (New ACC, ARES upcoming annual conference, club news, 13th annual newsletter contest rules, happenings in Ohio). The OSJ, edited by ASM Ron Griffin, N8AEH, now in his 19th year, is unique in the country. It is mailed to all Ohio Section field appointments, clubs and affiliated schools. PIC Scott Yonally, N8SY, of Mansfield, is in charge of making the OSJ available on the Web.

OHIO SECTION CLUB NEWS - New ACC Mark Reising, WM8R, reports that he has, Attended the Toledo Hamfest and the GCARA and QCEN plus the meetings of WARN, OHKYIN, Cincinnati FM Club and the Milford Amateur Radio Club. I have reviewed and approved SSC renewals for Salem Area ARC and the Portage ARC. I have also participated at VE sessions conducted by GCARA and CRA. My comments to

Ohio section news (cont. . . .)  
 the two SSCs that I met with (OHKYIN and Milford) included thanks for their being very active clubs. Clubs keep in touch with Mark and keep him posted on your officers and activities.

OHIO SECTION SUGGESTS -Â if you are into DX activities and/or seeking QSL cards, check with <http://home.fuse.net/jslough/w8buro.html>. This is the official home of the 8th Call area QSL bureau. Jay Slough, K4ZLE, is in his second year of managing the bureau and updating its procedures. If you need cards, go there and find out where they are and how to receive them.

OHIO SECTION CONGRATS TO (A) To Charlie Stinger, W8GFA, for acting surprised April 10 when fellow Cincinnati area hams and coworker broadcast engineers from Voice of America, Bethany Relay Station gave him a "surprise" 80th birthday party. The old VOA relay station is now decommissioned and in the planning stages of becoming a radio museum: and (B) TO Gary Kline, WC8W, Massillon, for a most comprehensive view of Ham Radio restructuring (see the top of this message) writing in the newsletter, Feedback. See it at <http://www.marcradio.org>.

OHIO SECTION REMEMBERS - Alvino Rey, W6UK (SK), guitarist with the Horace Heidt in the 60s and made the pedal steel guitar famous on television. He grew up and began his musical career in Cleveland.

OHIO SECTION MAY HAMVENTION (Friday - Sunday - 14-16) The Dayton Hamvention. Like we said before, for

more information, see [www.hamvention.org](http://www.hamvention.org).

## skywarn training session

A very successful evening of Skywarn training was held on April 20 at the Kent State University Trumbull Campus. The training session was conducted by Gary Garnet from the Cleveland office of the National Weather Service. Gary used some excellent audio-visual displays to augment his interesting talk on Skywarn and the need for different kinds of spotters during bad weather. It is estimated that close to 120 people were in attendance, including a large number of hams. Kudos to Ernie Kiser, KB8QDX, our Trumbull County Emergency Coordinator for organizing and publicizing the evening.

## Bill craiger memorial test

Results are not in yet for the Bill Craiger Memorial two meter QSO Party which was held last month (April 17). However, judging from the activity on 146.55 MHz, it would appear that activity was up this year over last year. Certainly there were more people operating during the contest this year, and that's a good sign. If you haven't sent in your results yet, get them in to Renee McCaman, KB8SVF, as soon as possible, and, who knows, you might get a certificate as a prize winner.

## Fcc proposed rulemaking

The FCC has released an "omnibus" *Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM)* that seeks comments on a wide range of proposed Amateur Service (Part 97) rules changes. The *NPRM* is *not* related to the three amateur licensing restructuring petitions—

Fcc proposed rulemaking (cont....) including one from ARRL--for which the comment period ended April 23. The proposed rules changes are too complex to list here, but can be found on the ARRL website – [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org). If you are interested in the future of the amateur service it might be an idea to have a look at these proposed changes, and if you feel strongly about them, make your comment to the FCC.

## Upcoming events

Summer is always a busy time for our club, and there are a number of activities that occur during the summer months. While the dates of some of these events are uncertain at this time, you should keep a look out to find out when they do occur.

May 14-16 – Dayton Hamvention

June 19 – Kids Day

June 26-27 – Field Day

July 5-11 (???) – Trumbull Co. Fair

July 23-25 – Packard Auto Show

August 15 – WARA Hamfest

## Arri urges no support for bpl proposal

The ARRL has appealed to President George W. Bush to withdraw his support for broadband over power line (BPL) technology and focus his administration's attention on "more suitable technologies" such as wireless broadband access. The League also has issued a call for members to support its request. Bush, in an April 26 speech at the Minneapolis convention of the American Association of Community Colleges, advocated changing technical standards to encourage BPL deployment in the US. Speaking on behalf of ARRL's membership, President Jim

Haynie, W5JBP, told Bush that while the League supports universal and affordable broadband access, BPL is the wrong direction to take.

"Power lines were designed to transmit energy," Haynie said in a [fax](#) to the White House. "They were not designed to transmit broadband signals, which are, in fact, radio frequency signals. The broadband signals radiate from power lines and cause severe interference to radio reception."

Haynie said test sites throughout the US and elsewhere have amply demonstrated BPL's potential to interfere. "You may have been told otherwise; if so, you were misinformed," Haynie said, directing the president's attention to the [BPL page](#) on the ARRL Web site.

Bush, in his speech, told the community colleges gathering that there need to be technical standards to enable new broadband technologies such as high-speed communication over power lines. "Power lines were for electricity; power lines can be used for broadband technology," Bush said. "So the technical standards need to be changed to encourage that."

The president's comments reflect the current [White House technology agenda](#). The policy, spelled out in "A New Generation of American Innovation," includes a reference to the Phase 1 BPL study conducted by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration ([NTIA](#)), an agency of the US Department of Commerce. The NTIA released its detailed BPL study, [NTIA Report 04-413](#), this week.

For more information on this topic see the ARRL website at [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org).

## May calendar

5/1 Breakfast Wayside Inn 9 AM  
 5/3 Brunch Farmington Sr Ctr 11 AM  
 5/4 WARA mtg Grace Bptst Ch 7.30 PM  
 5/5 W8VTD nets 28.375 MHz 8 PM;  
 146.97 MHz 9 PM  
 5/8-9 Sp Ev Stn W8SP Fairmont WV  
 Mothers Day Shrine  
 5/10 Brunch Farmington Sr Ctr 11 AM  
 5/12 W8VTD nets 28.375 MHz 8 PM;  
 146.97 MHz 9 PM  
 5/14-16 Dayton Hamvention  
 5/14-16 Sp Ev Stn Lewis & Clark ARS;  
 K9L 200<sup>th</sup> anniv beginning Lewis &  
 Clark Expedition  
 5/15 Breakfast Wayside Inn 9 AM  
 5/15 Sp Ev Stn W9DUP Armed Forces  
 Day

5/16 KB8RHG graduation from CWRU  
 5/17 Brunch Farmington Sr Ctr 11 AM  
 5/17 K8OUA's boat launched  
 5/18 WARA mtg Grace Bptst Ch 7.30PM  
 5/19 W8VTD nets 28.375 MHz 8 PM;  
 146.97 MHz 9 PM  
 5/24 Brunch Farmington Sr Ctr 11 AM  
 5/26 W8VTD nets 28.375 MHz 8 PM;  
 146.97 MHz 9 PM  
 5/29 Lunch Covered Bridge Restaurant  
 Newton Falls 12 N  
 5/30 Memorial Day  
 5/31 Sp Ev Stn KB1HGK Radio Ops for  
 Missing Children. Op from USS  
 Massachusetts  
 5/31 Sp Ev Stn N2UL Robt Grant ARA  
 Memorial Day