

The Q-Match

The Newsletter of the Warren Amateur Radio Association

P.O. Box 809, Warren, Ohio 44482

Webpage - www.w8vtd.org

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June, 2003

A word from the prez

2003 Dayton Hamvention & 802.11b

Another great Dayton Hamvention has come and gone. For those of you who attended I think you will agree that it is still a very exciting event with so much to see and do that you certainly need all three days to cover everything. I attended the event along with many others from our club on the CARS bus. Along with our group was Renee McCaman (KB8SVF). Renee and I spent most of the day at the Hamvention stopping by each of the vendor areas and inviting them personally to attend the WARA HamFest in August. Besides giving them a flyer we were also able to obtain their company's current contact information. While some vendors were too far from our location to attend we do believe we were successful in spreading the word. We also distributed over 2000 WARA HamFest flyers, and did end up signing up one vendor on the spot and received their payment in full.

Now you probably saw the odd group of numbers at the beginning of this article and wondered just what does that mean. More on that later.

I talked a little at our last meeting about a mode of Amateur operation that has now been made available to all by ICOM. If anyone noticed in their AES Summer 2003 catalog about half way through there is a one-page ad from ICOM about D-Star and the ID-1. The radio displayed looks similar to a good size mobile radio for UHF/VHF use. You

will also notice that there is no pricing information and if you call AES that is all they know, what is on that page. Basically this is the first radio you can buy that supports "Digital Audio", but more important a new ham radio mode dubbed "Hinternet" (Ham Radio Internet).

Wireless networking has been around for sometime. The 802.11b is an IEEE standard for spread spectrum transmission in the 2400-2483.5 Mhz band. Yes, we Amateurs are licensed to operate in that band also. Why these devices operate there is because they are low power wireless network devices operating under FCC Part 15 rules. Which means that they are unlicensed devices and they must not cause any interference to licensed Amateur transmissions, but we can interfere with them. The exact frequencies or channels that correspond with our band plan are as follows:

Channel 1 – 2412 Mhz.

Channel 2 – 2417 Mhz

Channel 3 – 2422 Mhz

Channel 4 – 2427 Mhz

Channel 5 – 2432 Mhz

Channel 6 – 2437 Mhz

Channels 7 through 14 cannot be used in the Amateur Service. So what does this mean to us?

A word from the prez (cont. . . .)

It means that as Amateur operators we can setup wireless networks that cover

great distance with our higher power. We could send data, voice and live video all at the same time through this type of system without being dependent on dial-up modem, DSL lines, or cable modems. Just think of the possibilities in an Emergency situation. An Amateur operator at a disaster site could be sending live video pictures and voice from their laptop and radio to another Amateur stationed at the Red Cross center. The possibilities are endless. If you wish to learn more about this concept there was a good article in the April QST starting on page 28.

Now the new ICOM's ID-1 radio actually takes this concept one step further, offering a radio that operates in this same type of mode (Digital Voice and Data) on the 1200 Mhz Amateur Radio Band. This radio can then also use the 1.2 Ghz repeaters that are available. With this radio plugged into my computer in the shack, and one at your QTH, we could send high speed ATV, voice, file transfers and share Internet connections. I could even tell my computer to print on a printer at your site. The possibilities are many. So keep an eye out for more information on the Amateur "Hinternet". If anyone would like a copy of the ICOM D-Star/ID-1 information I was able to obtain from the ICOM folks at HamVention please let me know.

73,

Your Prez Bob, KC8PVB

Field day 2003

In case you didn't know it, June is Field Day month, and Field Day 2003 is right around the corner. So, now is the time to make your plans to participate in one of the most important Amateur

Radio events of the year. As with last years Field Day, the Warren Amateur Radio Association will hold their club event on the property of Dale Bowen, W8SHR. Dale's address is 4805 McConnell-East Rd., Southington, Ohio. The McConnell-East road runs east from State Route 534 to Newton Falls-Braceville-Robinson Rd., in northern Braceville Township. The turn off of SR 534 to McConnell-East Rd. will be marked by a sign and Dale's house will have a large sign on the mailbox. Or better yet, just look for the yard that has antennas, tents, and trailers on it.

If you have questions about how to reach the site call Dale Bowen, W8SHR (330-898-8215), Tom Roscoe, K8CX (330-448-0306), or Pete Kozup, K8OUA (330-847-0975) and they will help you out.

Everyone, including the public, is invited to our Field Day event, as part of the purpose is to increase the public's awareness of what we do as hams to serve our community. So bring along the whole family. There will be plenty to see and do and always a good supply of food and drink to keep us going. You are welcome to bring your own radio if you would like, or come along and operate one of the member's radios that will be there. We can always use more operators.

The theme of this years ARRL Field Day emphasizes the role we play in event of an Emergency. The Field Day logo says it all with the phrase "When all else fails . . .". That slogan fits right in with the original idea of Field Day when it was started in 1933. The idea field day (cont. . . .)

then, and it holds even more true today, is that Field Day is a way to test a club's emergency preparedness. When we, as members of the WARA, work Field Day together, as we set up temporary stations and antennas, we hone our emergency skills and develop teamwork. This way we will be better able to handle a disaster or emergency if called to do so by our community. So I hope to see all of you there! Field Day is always the fourth full weekend in June, so mark your calendars now!!

73, Bob

classifieds

FOR SALE -- ICOM 706MIIG.
HF/VHF/UHF ALL MODE mobile rig.

Includes following accessories:

1. ICOM 706MIIG with DSP
2. ICOM MB62 mobile mounting bracket
3. ICOM MB63 faceplate mounting bracket (for radio head unit)
4. ICOM OPC581 separation cable (20 feet)
5. ICOM CARRY STRAP (strap that mounts on to radio for carrying)
6. HEIL single ear headset / mike

Original cost was over \$1,200.00.

Asking \$700.00 for everything

Includes all the original boxes, paperwork, receipts, etc. Also, available is 6 foot version of the OUTBACKER HF mobile antenna

Pictures of the rig at www.qrz.com under profile of W2AJV. Email to w2ajv@comcast.net

FOR SALE -- 35 pounds of assorted wire & cable, includes twin-lead, coax and rotator line. \$10.

Dick Eilers, K8JLK, 330-399-6237

Trumbull county fair

July is Fair month for Trumbull County and the WARA will be setting up as we

have in the past. The Fair coordinator this year is Gary Grimes, KB8GAB, and he can be reached at 330 872-7158 or 330 717-8971, or by email at kb8gab@aol.com. Gary is looking for club members to work the fair display. The dates of the Fair are July 7 – July 13, with a work day for setting up the displays, antennas, etc. on Saturday July 5, following the regular breakfast at the Wayside Inn. Gary will have a sign up sheet at the next three WARA meetings, and members will have the opportunity to sign up then. Gary asks those who can not make at least one meeting but who wish to work the fair to contact him at the above phone numbers. You can sign up for as little as one hour or as many as you can fit in. This has been a fun event at which we have the chance to talk about, display, and demonstrate our great hobby to thousands of people who come to the fair. So, sign up at a meeting or just contact Gary at the numbers above. Gary is also looking for any photographs or info about past club activities and events so they can be included in the display. Editor's note – you might contact Greg Kovach, WB8WUA, the club historian for info like that, Gary.

Happy birthday

June is not the biggest month in terms of WARA birthdays, but that just makes each of those members birthdays extra special. So, we wish a very happy birthday to the following members who celebrate their special day in June –

6/3 KB8GAB ~ Gary Grimes

6/4 W8KCE ~ John Gabele

happy birthday (cont. . . .)

6/5 KB8OYM ~ Amanda Neely

6/11 WB9WUA ~ Gregory Kovach

6/12 W8ANN ~ Howard "Slim" Gilbert

6/24 K8EIH ~ Ernest "Ernie" Britton

6/24 Assoc. ~ Dale Scott

6/27 KA8TGX ~ Leland Greuter

To each of these members we extend a hearty ARL FORTY SIX!!

TWO METER NET

The following is the schedule for Net Control of the W8VTD Wednesday night two meter net. The net is our club's most up to date method of relaying information about club and amateur radio activities, so if you haven't checked in lately, why not mark your calendar for next Wednesday night – 146.97 MHz at 9.00 PM local time.

June 4 – Andy, N8YR

June 11 – Fred, N9BSO

June 18 – Bob, KC8PVB

June 25 – Frank, KC8PUZ

July 2 – Pete, K8OUA

July 9 – Andy, N8YR

July 16 – Fred, N9BSO

July 23 – Bob, KC8PVB

July 30 – Frank, KC8PUZ

Remember, if you can't meet your scheduled time, try to let Fred know so that other arrangements for handling the net can be made. And, if you'd like to take a turn at running the net, why not let Fred know – he can be contacted at creacher@onecom.com.

What do you do now?

This is an article submitted by Fred Olver, N9BSO. Many thanks for your thoughts, Fred.

So, you have your technician license, what do you do now?

Maybe you were a scanner person, maybe you were on the Citizen's Band and heard about how easy it was to get your ham license. So, you studied the

questions, took the test, oddly enough, you passed and now you have your license, what do you do with it?

As most of you know, the technician license authorizes you to operate on 50 megahertz and above. For most people this means the 2-meter band since most areas have 2-meter repeaters. You get a cheap HT, or a mobile rig and you're off and running. You may have friends who operate on the band as well, so you find out where they operate and go to that frequency, or perhaps your husband goaded you in to getting your license, just to keep in touch when he's on the road or you get the ticket just to keep him from making a fuss. Whatever the reason, now that you have that ticket what are you going to do with it.

Boy scouts, retirees, house wives, high school students doctors, almost any type of person is apt to possess a ham ticket. But what do they do with them? A good place to start is the ARRL website. <http://www.arrl.org> is the mainstay for amateurs throughout the United States because of the never-ending stream of information which is presented there. Want to know when the next DX expedition is? Go to the ARRL website. Looking to participate in the next VHF contest? Go to the ARRL website.

Not only does the ARRL website present tons of information for you to make use of, it also offers a magazine, QST, devoted to the concerns, interests and activities of radio amateurs all over the world. In one issue one might read about putting together a qrp station for less than \$20. In another issue you

What do you do now? (cont. . . .)
might learn about the advantages of a low-band quad over a beam antenna,

and in a third you might read about working stations in Australia from Japan via satellite.

In each case, amateurs have decided on a specific area of interest and used meters, operating skills or just plain know how to make it possible to learn new and different uses, possibilities or just plain information for use by other amateurs.

Besides offering information on their website, the ARRL offers a number of publications including operating manuals, antenna books, net directories and repeater directories for use by ham radio operators. I have yet to pick up a publication from the ARRL and not find something interesting to read or learn from.

The myriad of possibilities with regard to operating is as close as your book store or computer. Maybe you are an XYL. Wouldn't it be fun to qso with other XYLs? Well, if you had your General ticket you could participate in the YL System net which meets on 20 meters. Have you ever looked at a net directory to see what nets are on the air in your area? Maybe you're an RV person, so you might want to check in to the RV nets on 15 or 20 meters. Maybe you collect old equipment -- there are nets for those folks as well. Maybe you are a Yaesu or Kenwood fanatic, wanting to know each and every modification for that radio you just traded for, or the one you are thinking about getting. There are nets for those folks as well.

Participation in nets, or even just listening can dramatically improve your operating skills. You may even find that you pick up enough information to allow

you to pass the theoretical part of your next examination, mostly by listening on the HF bands. You may even find that by listening to slow speed CW your Morse Code skills will improve to the point that you consider yourself ready to take the 5-word-per-minute test. Practicing CW and using it will again, significantly improve your operating skills. You may even start keeping a log of contacts, or decide you want to work toward getting your (WAS) Worked All States award on one band or 2 or 3 or even five.

So, now you have your license, go out and do something with it, expand your mind, try something new or different. Who knows, the guy or gal you talk to next will be the one who leads you down a path you might have never dreamed of taking before you got that ham operator's license.

Fred Olver, N9BSO

Ohio section news

Joe Phillips, K8QOE, Ohio Section Manager

Section News (Ohio Section) for June, 2003 edition for Ohio Section Newsletters and Web Sites

SM: Joe Phillips, K8QOE, Fairfield, (to contact me, see QST page 16); ASM-NE: Bob Winston, W2THU, Cleveland; SEC: Larry Rain, WD8IHP, Mansfield; STM: Jack Wagoner, WB8FSV, Hilliard; ACC: Brenda Krukowski, KB8IUP, Toledo; TC: Tom Holmes, N8ZM, Tipp City; PIC: Scott Yonally, N8SY, Lexington; OOC: Alan

Ohio section news (cont. . . .)

Cook, N7CEU, Newark; SGL: Reuben Meeks, W8GUC, Vandalia.

JUNE SECTION NEWS: Before we begin, all this month the World Radio Conference is meeting in Geneva (June 9-July 4). Yes, redesigning 40 meters is very much on the table. Check for news daily at the ARRL Web Page <www.arrl.org>.

Field Day month (28-29) and the 2003 theme is "When All Else Fails. . ." Yes, have fun, get caught up in a high score, eat well and get new hams excited with the GOTA station, But the theme should remind us the first objective is to practice our message handling skills and put these skills on public display.

The 8th Call QSL Bureau, for years headquartered in Columbus, had an address change last month. Division Director Jim Weaver, K8JE, has appointed Jay Slough, K4ZLE, of West Chester, as the 8th District QSL Bureau chief succeeding Ed Gassman, N8HTT, of Baltimore (near Columbus) who retired after many years of service. Jay has moved the bulk sorter equipment to the Cincinnati area. The new address of the bureau is Post Office 307, West Chester, Ohio, 45071-0307.

Many of you have seen other states pass their version of PRB-1 with its antenna protections. I was aware of many opponents in the Ohio General Assembly and had been explaining that when I was speaking to clubs and ARES groups. But most of you have said "forget the opponents; get busy on an Ohio PRB-1 version". So Assistant Section Manager, Bob Winston, W2THU, Cleveland, who is an attorney specializing in antenna problems, will serve as the point person. Ideas? Contact Bob at <w2thu@arrl.net>.

To avoid any confusion, our friends at the Mad River ARC remind me that the exact date of the Ohio QSO party this year is August 23. (There are five Saturdays in August this year).

The ARES Annual Conference in April drew 107 hams representing 38 counties. Excellent conference and the pizza was good as well. Congrats to SEC Larry Rain, WD8IHP, for pulling it off.

OHIO CLUB NEWS: If any clubs have information about any activities your clubs are doing for the 2003 Ohio Bicentennial contact Bob Winston, W2THU at 300 Standard Bldg., 1370 Ontario St., Cleveland, OH 44113 or <w2thu@arrl.net>; ...Remember that your annual report for ARRL needs to be done each year and if you are a Special Service Club check your date of when you received your status. This needs to be renewed every two years. You can do both of these on the ARRL web site.

OHIO SECT CONGRATS: (A) To Ohio ARES program for at least six HAZMAT drills reported by various counties across Ohio. Good to see this aspect of emergency planning is not forgotten; (B) To Jesse Wall, KA8YYZ, editor of Pioneer Radiator newsletter of Pioneer ARF, for including the crossword puzzle in the April edition and not giving the answers until the next issue; (C) To Ken Massie, WN8F, editor of Hello Radio newsletter of Lawrence County ARC for printing complete bios of the club's seven new members (with pictures); not just name and call. Idea other clubs should copy; (D) To new Ohio section news (cont. . . .) officers of Huber Heights ARC: Gary

Walker N8OI, President: Cindy Ebner
K8CJE, Vice-President: Rusty Baldwin,
KC8LNO Secretary and Al Nellis,
KA8IPO Treasurer.

OHIO SECTION JUNE HAMFESTS:
(8) Goodyear ARC at Suffield (near
Akron). For more info: contact
richjkuster@aol.com; (8) Fulton County
ARC at Wauseon (west of Toledo).
More info; <www.fcarc.8m.com>; (21)
Milford ARC at Milford (near Cincinnati).
For more info, contact
<kb8snh@cs.com>.
de k8qoe@arrl.org.

Now for the APRIL Traffic Reports.
N8IO-529, KD8HB-317, WD8KFN-235,
N8IXFÂ -226, N8OD-198, N8BV-181,
N8IBR-128, W8QIW-128, KE8B-116,
W8PBX-101, N8TNV-88, WA8SSI-79,
KA8FCC-74, WB8SIQ-77, WB8HHZ-
73, KA8CXG-62, N8GOB-59, N8DD-58,
NS8C-52, W8RG-50, KC4IYD-42,
KD9K-40, KB8SBK-37, KC8TKB-37,
KC8HTP-34, N8CW-29, NY8V-29,
KI8IM-27, N8WLE-18, W8RPS-15,
KC8KYP-9, N8RAT-5, K8QIP-3, K8WC-
1

Section Traffic Net Reports

	QNI	QTC	QTR	SESSIONS
TIME	FREQ	NM		
BN (E)	135	82	403	30
1845	3.577	WD8KFN		
BN (L)	193	86	286	30
2200	3.577	NY8V		
OSN	107	27	357	28
1810	3.708	WB8KQJ		
OSSBN	1855	1012	3180	90
1030, 1615, 1845	3.9725	N8IO		

Dave Menoch, N8ZNE, has been trying to lead a Handi-Hams net on the WARA repeater each Thursday night without much success. Handi-Hams is an organization for disabled hams which helps them overcome their disability, earn their license, get on the air, and eventually upgrade. This editor feels that Dave's idea may have some merit. A regularly scheduled net designed to meet the needs of disabled hams might fill a need and help recruit new hams. What do you think? I have agreed to use *The Q-Match* to gauge the opinions of local hams, and have a short survey that I'd like interested hams, both disabled and not disabled, to respond to. I will then give the results to Dave for him to decide whether or not to continue his net. You can either email me or send me your responses by snail mail. Send your responses to pkozup@juno.com or by snail mail to Peter Kozup, 5115 N. Park Ave. Ext., Warren OH 44481. If you wish to remain anonymous do not sign your response, and I will keep all responses confidential.

--Are you a disabled ham? Use your own definition of "disabled" – if you consider yourself disabled, you are!

--What sorts of things could occur on a regularly scheduled net that is aimed at hams with disabilities that would make it worthwhile for you?

--If the net was organized to include such items would you check in on a regular basis?

--Please add any other comments or suggestions you feel are relevant.

handi-hams net

Calendar

6/2 Brunch Farmington Sr Ctr 11 AM
6/3 WARA mtg TCTC 7.30 PM
6/4 W8VTD 2 mtr net 146.97 MHz 9 PM
6/7 Breakfast Wayside Inn 9 AM
6/8 Goodyear ARC hamfest contact
richjkuster@aol.com
6/9 Brunch Farmington Sr Ctr 11 AM
6/11 W8VTD 2 mtr net 146.97MHz 9 PM
6/12 K8OUA bgns summer break 4 PM
6/16 Brunch Farmington Sr Ctr 11 AM
6/17 WARA mtg TCTC 7.30 PM
6/18 W8VTD 2 mtr net 146.97MHz 9 PM
6/21 Breakfast Wayside Inn 9 AM
6/23 Brunch Farmington Sr Ctr 11 AM
6/25 W8VTD 2 mtr net 146.97MHz 9 PM
6/27 Field Day set up QTH of W8SHR
6/28-29 Field Day at QTH of W8SHR
6/30 Brunch Farmington Sr Ctr 11 AM