

THE Q-MATCH



HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO YOU AND

YOURS 

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

Webpage – www.w8vtd.org Editors – k8oua@yahoo.com / kc8ral@hotmail.com
December, 2005

HAMFEST/FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE TO REPORT

The Hamfest / Fundraising Committee organized by President Bob Maurer KC8PVB a couple of months ago will report its views and recommendations to the club during the meeting of December 20, 2005. This committee was organized for the purpose of looking into the WARA's Hamfest and fundraising activities after a very low profit margin that resulted from the 2005 hamfest and poor attendance at the hamfest for the past several years. The committee's mission has been to investigate the club's fundraising and to make recommendations for the club to vote upon and either .accepts or not. The committee has been meeting prior to the regular club meetings and has put considerable time and effort into looking into the club's overall financial situation and making many suggestions on ways to improve it. The committee will report back to the club on December 20, the second meeting in the month. Pete Kozup K8OUA, the committee chair, wants to assure all WARA members that the committee will have a full and comprehensive report with a number of thought provoking recommendations for members to consider. YOU are urged to attend the December 20 meeting, to listen to the recommendations of the committee, to ask questions, make suggestions, vote, and generally` to take a role in deciding the future of YOUR club. We hope to see you on the 20th!!

YOUTH REPORT

It seems that another month has passed. Where did the time go? Either way, it's here now. Kids' day is on the horizon and we are planning the event trying to put it indoors where it's warm, and where kids might be. I'm trying to get in touch with the program director at the Eastwood mall to see if we could set up there. As soon as I get any information about this I will happily pass it along.

If anyone has any other ideas, Please let me know I would be glad to look into any options. Thanks for all the support in regards to the youth from all of you and a happy holiday season to all. 73.
Roger Dean (KC8VYS)

REPEATER NEWS

We have talked of eliminating the phone line to the 146.97 repeater for some time. Due to the location of the repeater we have always paid a commercial rate, and been unable to change this rate. Changing our method of controlling the repeater from the phone line to a "Control receiver." will save the club \$840 a year. The "auto patch" is very seldom used the last few years, so this need has nearly gone away.

I have installed a Yaesu FT 7800 at the repeater site to be used as a control receiver. The dual band transceiver was chosen because a digital accessory plug is available supplying an output that switches 0 to 5 volts when the squelch is opened on the receiver. Today's modern receivers are so compact and integrated it would be very difficult to go inside and pick up signals of this type.

The repeater responds to commands sent to the control receiver over the main repeater transmitter. So, we may occasionally hear a response to a command we did not hear any amateur send.

We seem to have gotten through the season for band openings. I very seldom hear stations using other repeaters getting into our repeater.

There is still an "Auto Patch" on 443.00. Control of this repeater over the air would be more difficult because we do not have access to the tower.

The weather is turning bad, so get those antennas up. With the sunspot cycle near a bottom you will need antennas for low frequencies. With the approach of winter the lack of thunder storms makes 160 meters and 80 meters good bands evenings and nights. 40 meters is good if you can work between the foreign broadcast stations. Some of these broadcast stations seem to have gone away, so there are a few spaces we can squeeze into. Daytime 40 and 20 meters are good bands. Some days 17 meters is open late mornings and afternoon. In mid afternoon check 15 meters to see if it is open. Lots of DX on these higher bands when they are open.

73,

Dave kz8t

NEW CLUB FORMED

Joe Wehner, W8KNO, has advised us that a new club in Portage County has been organized. The club is called the Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. More information on the club can be found by either going to the club's website at www.portcars.org, or by looking up the club's callsign, KD8CKP, on the QRZ website. (www.qrz.com). The club is a service oriented club and intends to become involved in contests, emergency communications, public service, etc.

SPECIAL EVENT QSL CARD

This QSL card is from a contact while doing our Packard Special Event station W8P. The contact person for our club was Gail, KC8LRH. Contact from the Nanaimo Amateur Radio Assoc. was Jack , VE7GDE, who sent us this QSL card and a Certificate. We, in return, sent them one of our W8P certificates. Location of this club is across the bay from Vancouver, BC (Canada) on the west coast of Canada.



SUNSHINE AND SICK

I would like to report that John Simons AB8GX was in the hospital to have his gall bladder and kidney stones removed. Surgery went very well and was released from the hospital on 11/27/05.

73,

Sherman KC8YHJ

NOVEMBER WARA MEETING SUMMARIES

<p>November 1, 2005 No treasures report</p> <p>By-laws say we are to have a Hamfest chairperson and report by the annual meeting.</p> <p>JOTA 2006 will be held at Trail Blazers in Madison</p> <p>50/50 Brenda McClain \$29.00</p> <p>* Thanks to KB8SVF for the minutes.</p>	<p>November 15, 2005 Carl KF8MG: Treasurer:\$6895.53 balance \$18,992.96</p> <p>Guest: Pauline Meeker , Robert Meeker's wife</p> <p>Q-Match : new deadline starting in Dec.2005 , third Saturday of each month</p> <p>Activities: Dec 3rd Christmas Party, Grace Baptist Church 5 pm</p> <p>50/50 David White \$13.00</p>
--	--

NET NEWS

As most of us know, the WARA sponsors two nets, both meeting on Wednesday night. The first is the ARES/RACES ten meter net which meets at 8.00 PM local time on 28.375 MHz. This net is usually controlled by Kenneth Williams, KC8TML, or Richard Bell, KC8TAP; however because of work schedules they are looking for additional operators.. So, if you're interested in trying your hand at NCS of a HF net please give Ken a call at 330 399-9628 or contact him by email at kc8tml@neo.rr.com. The second club sponsored net is the W8VTD two meter net which meets at 9.00 PM every Wednesday night on 146.97 MHz, the WARA repeater.

Following is the Net Control schedule for December and January.

December 7	Andy N8YR	January 4	Sherman KC8YHJ
December 14	Emily KC8RAL	January 11	Andy N8YR
December 21	Bob KC8PVB	January 18	Emily KC8RAL
December 28	Lisa KC8VHB	January 25	Bob KC8PVB

Check in to either one of the WARA nets and find out what's happening with amateur radio in our area.

OHIO SECTION NEWS

The Ohio Section Cabinet (all listed at the end of this column) want to wish everyone a happy holiday season and a prosperous 2006. Ham Radio had a very eventful year in 2005 - most notably due to our heroic and dedicated responses to human tragedies from the Asian Tsunami to the Katrina/Rita hurricanes. For a review of these activities and the latest edition of the Ohio Section Journal, please visit the Ohio Section web site at www.iarc.ws/ohio. You can have the Ohio Section Journal, now published in electronic form, sent to your E-mail address. Check out the web site to find out how.

Joe Phillips, K8QOE, Ohio Section Manager

DECEMBER Section News Edition by Ohio ACC, Joanne Solak, KJ30 - Ohio Clubs remain "on the move" as we enter the final month of 2005. More Clubs are seeking ARRL Affiliation and some clubs are now re-affiliating themselves with the ARRL. Certainly, in Ohio, Amateur Radio Clubs are aware of all the benefits of League affiliation. We have several new Special Service Clubs this year and some in the application stages. This is real proof that Ohio Clubs are on the move!

Congratulations! To the Seneca Club of Tiffin. They have earned a 50 year affiliation certificate. The Central Ohio Severe Weather Network, Inc. has earned SSC renewal. Congratulations! Western Reserve Emergency Communications Service has earned SSC status and I will be presenting the SSC certificate ..such an honor!

The InterCity ARC has earned SSC renewal..this group has really gone that extra mile for Amateur Radio.

We also congratulate the Secena Radio Club (Tiffin) for renewal of their SSC status. The Lake County Amateur Radio Assoc. also made the news, their renewal came through in fine colors.

These are just a few of the many renewals received on my desk just this last month. Just think how many have made the list during the year.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OHIO CLUBS! MEMBERS AND OFFICERS DESERVE A ROUND OF APPLAUSE FOR THEIR COMMITMENT TO AMATEUR RADIO!

Well, it has been a very "busy" year for me as ACC. I am humbled by the way I was welcomed back on the Ohio Section Cabinet and by all Club Members throughout the Section. Quite honestly, it seems like I never "took-a-break". As we enter the Holiday Season, remember to include amateur radio in your plans. The ARRL memberships are great gifts, and help further amateur radio and the ARRL.QST is a plus with membership. The ARRL offers great reading material for the beginners through the old timers..something for everyone.

Support Headquarters and your local Amateur Radio Club. Make plans to up-grade your amateur radio license in the coming year. The ARRL offers lots of learning material. Always keep in mind that the American Radio Relay League is a noncommercial association of radio amateurs, organized for the promotion of interest in Amateur Radio communication and experimentation. Of, by, and for the Radio Amateur..where else can you find such a bargain in Amateur Radio. The Ohio Section stands with Headquarters and echoes the many efforts put forth by League Officials Nationwide.

Be thankful you are a part of the Ohio Section, a growing Section with many Clubs realizing Amateur Radio is still Alive and Well! FCC license renewals are being sent out to members about 90 days before license expiration and there has been an incredible reaction to this League Service..QSL service in Ohio has brightened in the past few months, check out the QSL service, you will like what you see!

If you need educational materials for a meeting or event, just contact League Headquarters. Books, Software and Operating Resources. Make your Christmas gift list, and check it twice, make sure Amateur Radio shines this Holiday Season for you!

Well that's about it for this time around. Continue to keep OHIO CLUBS ON THE MOVE as we slip out of 2005 and enter 2006. Keep me informed about your events, changes in officers, renew your affiliation and SSC status. Those clubs that are not affiliated, file that application, you won't be sorry. Become a part of OHIO Section Clubs on the move. Make sure I am on your Newsletter mailing list. I am as close as your computer and your telephone, not to mention the US mail. Contact me anytime. So, as I close this issue of the Section News, I sincerely wish all of you a Very Blessed Holiday Season! AND sometime, somewhere when you least expect it, I will be seein' you! From me and mine to you and yours HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Until then Best 73, Joanne Solak, KJ3O, ACC Ohio

OHIO SECTION DECEMBER HAMFESTS: There are no hamfests scheduled on the ARRL Web Site in Ohio for December. Remember if you have any hamfest in 2006, please make sure you are listed by the ARRL - whether or not it is an ARRL sanctioned hamfests, it is to your advantage to have it on the League's hamfest schedule. We notice that many hamfests of long standing are still not on the hamfest calendar for 2006. Our suggestion - the day after your hamfest occurs, send in the paperwork for the next year.

THE OHIO SECTION CABINET: SM: Joe Phillips, K8QOE, Fairfield, (to contact me, see QST page 16 or on the Web at www.iarc.ws; ASM-NE: Bob Winston, W2THU, Cleveland; ASM-NW: Ron Griffin, N8AEH, Findlay; ASM-Central: Bill Carpenter, AA8EY, Westerville; ASM-SW: John Haungs, W8STX, Cincinnati; ASM-SE: Connie Hamilton, N8IO, Marietta; SEC: John Chapman, WB8INY, Gahanna; ACC:

Joanne Solak, KJ3O, Mantua; TC: Tom Holmes, N8ZM, Tipp City; PIC: Scott Yonally, N8SY, Mansfield; OOC: Rick Swain, KK8O, Galion; SGL: (appointment pending).
Now for the October Traffic Reports.

OHIO SECTION NETS:

	QNI	QTC	QTR	SESSIONS	FREQ	NM
BN (E)	132	53	260	31	3.577	WA8ZGL
BN (L)	132	32	199	31	3.577	NY8V
OSN	198	30	655	31	3.708	WD8Q
OSSBN	1918	715	2810	93	3.9725	N8IO

OHIO SECTION LOCAL NET REPORTS - OCT. 2005

NET	QNI	QTC	QTR	SESS	N/M
BRTN	186,	61,	291,	31,	N8IXF
CETN	16,	5,	78,	5,	N8RAK
MVTN	11,	6,	45,	5,	KC8HTP
NWARES	419,	80,	672,	31,	N8TNV
TATN	316,	158,	692,	31,	WG8Z
TCTTN	180,	44,	304,	14,	KI8U

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Here's wishing the best of birthday to these happy December birthday members.

12/1 Fred Olver N9BSO	12/16 Renee McCaman KB8SVF
12/2 Larry Taylor Assoc.	12/17 Frank Fitzhugh KD8KJ
12/3 Bob Schweinfurth KB8RHH	12/17 Sherman Davidson KC8YHJ
12/3 Bob Maurer KC8PVB	12/20 Fred Swartz WD8OPI
12/10 Chuck Simpkins KA8FUP	12/25 Deb Murphy KC8NLX
12/10 Charles Greeson KG8ZK	12/29 Oran Telford KC8AWS
12/16 Ray Solinger N8HRZ	

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..

A FAREWELL WITH COMMENTS

We've received word recently that one of our members will be leaving us soon. Fred Olver, N9BSO, has accepted a job with Rehab Services with the state of Missouri, and will be departing for St. Louis early in the New Year. Fred has been an active club member, serving as Net Coordinator and participating in many club activities. His operating proficiency would be impressive for any ham, but for an unsighted ham, as Fred is, it is exemplary. Fred has never let club members wonder how he feels about issues, and many of the things we do today are as a result of Fred's poking and prodding. We'll miss you Fred, and we all wish you, Margret, all the very best wherever you are. I'm sure that we'll see Fred on the air from just west of the Mississippi soon.

THE WAY WE DO THE THINGS WE DO

Fred would not leave us without some words of explanation and advice to the club. The following is an article for this issue of the *Q-Match* that Fred has asked us to print.

THE WAY WE DO THE THINGS WE DO!

Greetings, fellow hams,

As the year near's its end, and as I have some little time on my hands, I thought I would sit down and compose a final article for the Q-Match.

The reasons this article is entitled as it is are as follows.

1. I couldn't think of a better title.
2. It reminds me of a song I used to hear, I think by either Marvin Gayor Smoky Robinson.
3. And the third reason is that I thought, being somewhat of a teacher that each of you as club members could benefit from an explanation as to why the net preamble is set up the way it is.

"CALLING ALL RADIO AMATEURS, CALLING ALL RADIO AMATEURS." This might also be stated as "qst", "qst", The idea here is to call attention to the following information which is to follow. In other words, these are key-words for amateurs to stay tuned to this frequency for specific information. For our purposes, it might also alert one to turn up the radio, or to let them know that a net is about to start.

When the location of the meeting is given, such as 5418 Mahoning, as opposed to across the street from St. Williams Church, this means that if an out-of-towner wanted to attend the meeting they would know exactly where it is, and perhaps be able to make use of their GPS system. I think you would agree, it's pretty hard to load in an address of "across the street".

Where one is asked to give their call sign phonetically, this means just what it says. It does not mean to call the net control station or to just give your call sign as n5dgz but to give it in the manner it is asked for, phonetically. This way, the net control station has little if any chance of missing your call sign.

As part of the net preamble, it is suggested that "we will go through the list and give each station an opportunity to make comments to the net. What this means is that net control stations should refrain from asking questions of the check-ins and merely acknowledge their call sign perhaps say good evening and move on. It is *n_o__t_* necessary to profusely thank each station three or four times for checking in to the net, each station is thanked at the end of the net for checking in and is urged to check in next week.

I have, in setting up the preamble set up a method or avenue to accept check-ins for the net. Of course, each individual may vary from that protocol, however if each control station uses the same protocol in accepting check-ins then those expecting to check in to the net will know each week what to expect. If each net control station has a different method for accepting check-ins then stations will not know what to expect. In this case, same is better.

The same might also be said while accepting check-ins. If the net control station asks for check-ins who's suffix begins with the letters A through J, then accepts only one check-in, then truly they are accepting and acknowledging stations one at a time. Most net control stations will listen for at least two to three check-ins before acknowledging the ones who have checked in. This allows the net to move more smoothly, because the net control station is not constantly transmitting over top of stations trying to check in.

A couple reasons I bring this to your attention are these.

First of all, there seems to be a lot of variation in the way the WARA nets are being run, sometimes the nets are sloppy, stations can't check in because the net control station insists on acknowledging each station before allowing another to check in. Sometimes the net control station can barely be heard because they are not talking in their normal voice. You have a radio, get on it, that's why you got your license isn't it?

And lastly, I am writing this because it has been my privilege to function as net coordinator for most of the last four years, and by the end of the year I will be re-locating to St. Louis Missouri and a new job. I thank you for allowing me to function in my capacity as net coordinator and have enjoyed it very much.

73, Fred Olver n9bso creacher@onecom.com

BREAKFAST AT THE WAYSIDE

One thing our club members are good at is enjoying a good meal with one another. We meet at several local eateries during the month, and on different days of the week. Here are a few of our members enjoying a good breakfast at the Wayside Inn in Champion. Check this month's calendar for other times and places that you can enjoy a good meal and camaraderie with your fellow amateurs.



Seated from left: Mary, Bob KC8PVB, Gail KC8LRH, Emily KC8RAL, and Henry KC8UVY

WEAVER'S WORDS – A SUMMARY

Jim Weaver, K8JE, the Director of the ARRL Great Lakes Division (MI, OH, KY) puts out a letter each month, but it is too long to include in this issue. It can be found on the Great Lakes Division website at www.greatlakes.arrl.org/ and clicking on "Weaver's Words" under the photo of our esteemed Division Director. This month's article contains a "Thank You" to those who re-elected Jim as Division Director in the recent ARRL election, congratulations to Gary Johnston KI4LA for being elected as Vice Director, information on Scholarships available to young hams who are or will be attending university, the appointment of Neil Sablatzky, K8IT, as Vice-Director Recruiting Development to try to develop ways to bring more young hams into the fold, notes about and upcoming ARRL Board of Directors meeting and ways to let Jim know of anything that you think should be brought up at that meeting. There are a number of other items, and if you would like more information about them you should feel free to go to the Great Lakes Division website and look them up. Not everyone is a member of or agrees with the ARRL's actions, but the fact is that that organization is the voice of amateur radio in this country and, to a large extent, around the world. If you care about the future of the service you should at least know what ham radio lobbyists are saying about your hobby. Check out the arrl website (www.arrl.org) and what your elected leaders in the organization are saying and doing. If you don't agree with them, or even if you do, let them know.

DAHDAH DIDAH DAHDIDAHAH DIDIDAH DIDAH DAHDIT DAHDIDIT
 DIDIDAH DIDAH DIT DIDIDIT DIDIDIT DIDAH DIDIDDAH DIT DIDAH
 DIDIDIT DIDAH DIDAHAHDIT DIDAHAHDIT DAHDIDAHAH
 DIDIDIT DAHAHAHAH DIDAH DIT DAHDIT DIDAH DAHDIDAHAH
 DAHDIT DIT DAHDIDAH DAHAHAHDIT DAHAHAH DIDIDAH DIDAH
 DAHDIDAH DAHDIDAHDIT DAHAHAHDIT DIDAHDIT DIDAH DIDAH DIT

NEW HAMFEST CHAIRPERSONS APPOINTED

At the last club meeting Richard Bell, KC8TAP, resigned as Hamfest Chairman due to work commitments. In light of that a new chair has been appointed consisting of four members. These are Bob Maurer, KC8PVB, Mark Cassidy, KD8BIC, Jackie Williams, and Pete Kozup, K8OUA. These have already begun to meet to plan next year's hamfest. They would like it noted that others will be called upon to serve on a hamfest committee with the four chairpersons.

DECEMBER CALENDAR

<p>12/2-4 ARRL 160M contest Dec QST pg 86 12/3 Breakfast Wayside Inn 9 AM 12/3 Club Christmas Party , Grace Baptist Church 5pm 12/3 Dinner Perkins Elm Rd 7 PM 12/5 Brunch Farmington Sr. Center 11AM 12/6 WARA Meeting Grace Baptist Church 7:30PM 12/7 WARA Nets 10 M & 2 M 8PM / 9P 12/7 Sp Ev Stn W5KID Pearl Harbor Day Dec ARRL 12/9-17 Sp Ev Stn W8ZQ Winter Festival of Lights Oglebay Park WV Dec QST pg 87 12/10 Dinner Perkins Elm Rd 7 PM 12/10-11 Sp Ev Stn WX3MAS Nazareth PA Dec QST pg 87 12/10-18 ARRL 10M contest Dec QST pg 86 12/12 Brunch Farmington Sr Center 11 AM 12/14 WARA Nets 10 M & 2 M 8PM / 9PM</p>	<p>12/17 Breakfast Wayside Inn 9 AM 12/17 Dinner Perkins Elm Rd 7 PM 12/19 Brunch Farmington Sr. Center 11 AM 12/20 WARA Meeting Grace Baptist Church 7.30PM 12/21 WARA Nets 10M & 2M 8PM/9PM 12/21 First day of Winter 12/24 Lunch Covered Bridge Rest 12 N 12/24-1/1 Lighthouse Christmas Lights QSO Party Dec QST pg 86 12/25 Christmas Day 12/26 Brunch Farmington Sr. Center 11AM 12/26 Boxing Day / Hanukkah 12/28 WARA Nets 10M & 2M 8PM/9PM 12/31 Lunch Covered Bridge Rest 12 N 12/31-1/1 Straight Key Night Dec QST pg 86</p>
--	---