



# The Feedline

## Another Golden Age By Ward Silver, N0AX

*From The ARRL Contest Update,  
December 24, 2008*

Another golden age of what? Surely, I'm joking? The economy and solar cycle are in a race to see which can be most disappointing. Half the world seems angry with the other half. Long faces are seen on every television screen — and even that old black-and-white set we've kept forever is going dark in February. Bah, humbug...golden age, indeed! Of what?

Well, Amateur Radio. Oh, right! Tell me another! Our licensee totals are flat, code hasn't been heard in a testing room for years, and your homeowner's association board faints like goats at the very mention of antennas. Electrical shop has been expelled from the high school curriculum, vacuum tubes are surely made from moon dust for what they cost, and "they" are taking lead out of solder! Golden age...what holiday nog has the editor gotten into this time?

Not so fast, you Ebenezers of Electronics, you Scrooges of Software, let's take a moment to remember a time long ago. There was another time when things really were tough. It was called the Great Depression and if you think radio stuff was expensive now, go back and compare prices of radio stuff to wages in the 1930's! There were exactly two big contests — Sweepstakes and the ARRL DX Contest. Most hams didn't even know what sunspots were and DX meant "out of state".

Yet in many ways, that era of deprivation

and hard-scrabble ham radio is remembered as a Golden Age of Amateur Radio. It was during those cold winters and hot summers (without forced-air heating and central air conditioning) that many of the characteristics of modern amateur radio were forged. The elements that came together were technology, materials, tools, and an interest in experimentation and self-improvement.

I see many of those very same elements converging today. To be sure, technology has a much broader scope than when "Radio Was King!" but this is a technological age! The materials are vastly more sophisticated, although no one seems to have figured out how to calm an obstinate roll of Copperweld(tm) even yet, but amazing capabilities are available for a pittance. We are awash in tools, both of the hardware and software persuasion, many of which are even free!

That leaves the interest in experimentation and self-teaching element. To the skeptics out there grumbling and muttering about appliance operators and "dumbed down" stuff, have you tuned into any of the "do it yourself" movement? And that's what it is...a movement! The first spark was struck with "This Old House" on PBS and slowly the ember grew. Cable TV channels picked up local and national shows on food, crafts, and science, providing kindling to the flame. The number of channels grew, creating an insatiable demand for content. Programmers of the entertainment industry discovered that people like shows about DOING THINGS.

See "Golden Age", page 7

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### Dates to Remember:

- Mar 9 — NKARC Membership Meeting
- Mar 21 — OH-KY-IN Technician Class
- Mar 21,22—OH-KY-IN General Class
- Apr 13 — NKARC Membership Meeting

# NKARC Directory

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**Net Manager:**

Robert Kluck, N4IJS

[n4ijs@k4co.org](mailto:n4ijs@k4co.org)

**Repeaters (K4CO):** 147.255+ and 444.350+ Edgewood (PL 123.0), 147.375+ Walton, 146.895+ Highland Heights. The 147.255 repeater is a linked Echolink node, accessible via N4IJS-R.

**NKARC Net:** Tuesdays, 7:30 PM on the 147.255 repeater

**VE Testing:** Testing sessions are held by appointment only on the 2nd Monday of each month, prior to the NKARC membership meeting. Testing begins at 6:00 pm. To make an appointment, contact Lyle Hamilton at [ab8sh@arrl.net](mailto:ab8sh@arrl.net) or tel. 513-315-4032

**NKARC Web Site:** <http://www.k4co.org>

**NKARC Membership Meetings:** 2nd Monday of each month at 7:30 pm at the Hilltop Church of Christ, 5300 Taylor Mill Rd (Ky. 16), Taylor Mill, KY. Visitors are always welcome!

The Feedline is published monthly by and for the members of the Northern Kentucky Amateur Radio Club. It is distributed via direct email to current NKARC members. **If you are a member but are not receiving your copy, please notify the Feedline editor.** Permission is hereby granted to any non-profit amateur radio group to quote or reprint from this publication provided appropriate source credit is given. Submissions for the April

2009 Feedline must be received no later than April 3. Submissions, address or call changes and circulation problems may be sent to the Feedline editor:

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# Top of the Tower

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Well the year is off to a great start thanks to two very well done presentations by our local experts – a big thank you to Mark for his oscilloscope presentation, and to Robert Kluck II (and father!) for a great Echolink presentation. If you missed last month's meeting, you really missed out on some great advice for using this new Digital Mode of communication. One of the things that make Echolink so interesting is that you can use your radio, your computer, or a combination of the two to talk around the world to other hams. I have to say it was also exciting to see a young, relatively new ham give such a clear presentation. Well done, Robert!

Field Day is coming up faster than you might think, and so we want to get down to business with organizing and planning a great event. This can't happen, however, without you!

The location has been secured and plans have been made to set up several stations designed for "walk-ins" – people who want to come by and operate for a while and then turn the radio over to someone else. No doubt we will also have some of our regulars

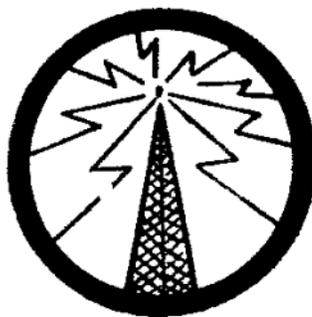
who operate almost non-stop on their own rigs, as well as giving non-hams an opportunity to see what Amateur Radio is all about through supervised hands-on work.

Field Day was designed to test (and demonstrate) our ability to get on the air under difficult conditions. With the spate of ice and rain and wind we have had locally in the last year, more people than ever are aware of the need for communication links to be available when traditional modes are down. What a great opportunity we have with Field Day to say to the world "We're here to help!" I hope each one of you will find a way to get involved, and in the meantime, stay tuned for further developments!

Finally, make plans to attend this month's meeting to see Greg May's (W2ORO) presentation on building your own PIC controller and the life cycle of an electronics project. Greg is one of our tech gurus, so the evening promises to be both informative and useful!

Until next time,

Robert Gulley AK3Q



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## February Net Report

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DATE	NCS	CHECKINS	TIME (MINS)	TRAFFIC
2/3/09	KB4VKS (Mike)	8	19	0
2/10/09	KB4VKS (Mike)	7	22	0
2/17/09	N4IJS (Robert)	6	28	0
2/24/09	KG4SBG (Dennis)	7	26	0
<b>TOTALS:</b>		<b>28</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>0</b>

# February Meeting Minutes

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## MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 9, 2009 MEETING OF THE NORTHERN KENTUCKY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Treasurer's Report: Dues Income: \$266.76

\$8.98 repeater costs (less than normal)

\$30.14 pizza and drinks for January Meeting

\$2407.52 club balance

– monies collected for pop and pizza are usually ½ or less than actual cost

– Dann suggested money collected in one month be used to fund next month, thereby not becoming a drain on club balance; this would mean that food/snacks purchased would be directly related to the support given from the previous month by attending members

– Larger issue if monies are slowly dwindling each year, primarily due to lower membership

– Club will begin looking at ways to raise funds to offset lower funds

– Volunteers sought for annual treasury review; Lynn has once again volunteered; 1 more needed

– Motion to accept Treasury report presented, seconded, passed

– Motion to accept Minutes as appearing in Feedline presented, seconded, passed

Old Business: previous/past member mailings completed

– Field Day Location looks to be all but secured based on Dann's contact with Park

– Membership Directory sent out as attachment with January Feedline (a big thanks to Mark for his hard work!); suggestion made to make sure directory is limited only to current members and given only in such a way as to ensure privacy of member's email address and phone number; also suggestion to make hard copies available upon request; Mark V. agreed with these suggestions

New Business: fund raising ideas proposed, including possible shopper's card at Kroger; LaRosa's Pizza Buddy Card; "Share the Pot"

– try to develop a means to distribute information on Silent Keys in a timely manner

– wish list suggested for equipment and club needs so that if needed/desired items become available through sales or donations, members could know which specific items are of interest

– QSL card for club, possibly one for special events; designs needed! More than one design could be used; Robert Kluck Jr. Has agreed to work up some design ideas; printing could be accomplished on an as-needed basis or in small batches

– Field Day committee chair sought; also need for open stations/station availability so that those visiting would have a place

to operate (in addition to those stations run by operators who desire to operate non-stop throughout event)

– Suggestion made to have an antenna building project sometime before field day to have plenty of antennas to use

Motion made, Seconded, and Accepted to close the business portion of the meeting 8:10pm

Presentation following short break on Echolink by Robert Kluck Jr., and Sr.

Meeting Concluded approximately 9:30

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by Robert Gulley AK3Q, Vice President

## ATTENDEES

Dann Fox KJ4AVO

Robert Kluck N4IJS

Robert Kluck II, W4XBX

Don King AJ4DK

Fred Eastabrooks KE4ESN

Robert Westbrook KJ4FZS

Mark Volstad AI4BJ

Judy May W1ORO

Greg May W2ORO

Tony White AI4IP

Dave Core K8WDA

Rob Ziegler KI4YWJ

Rod Villari KJ4IAM

Lynn Ernst WD8JAW

Robert Gulley AK3Q

Dave Schmidt KI4QH

Lou Schweitzer

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Robert Kluck II, W4XBX, and his dad Robert Kluck, N4IJS, presented an informative program on EchoLink, at the February NKARC meeting.



# Mark's Mutterings

## Calling all NKARC Members!

It's hard to believe that I am already into my third year of editing the Feedline. My biggest challenge each month is finding content to fill the 10-12 pages. I am grateful to those of you who have taken the time to write articles for the Feedline, and I encourage more of you to do the same!

What kind of articles am I looking for? Well, just about anything that's remotely related to Amateur Radio will be fine. If you want to submit a technical article, great, but I am just as interested in non-technical articles.

How about some of you old-timers writing a short history of the club? I'm always interested in hearing how other hams got into the hobby. What was your first rig? What was your most memorable contact? Do you have any old photographs of yourself at your station? Maybe we could start a monthly "Guess who this is?" contest!

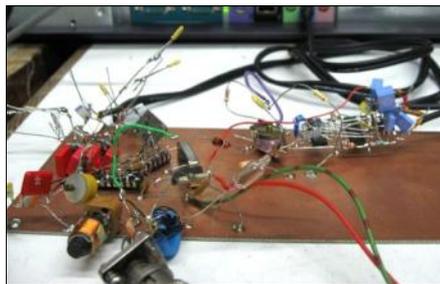
If you can submit your article in electronic format, great, but I'll gladly take articles written on the back of a napkin if necessary!

## SDR on the Web

If you've ever wanted to see what all the fuss about Software-Defined Radio is, without having to invest any money, I've found just the web site for you! The Amateur Radio club at the University of Twente in The Netherlands has built a 3-band SDR and put it online where it can be used by multiple users simultaneously (receive only). It uses Java software, which will download automatically the first time you visit the web site.

The tuning controls, which include waterfall displays for 80, 40 and 20M, are found near the middle of this page: <http://websdr.ewi.utwente.nl:8901/>

Don't forget to turn up the volume on your PC sound card! Details about the radio can be found on [this page](#). There is an amazing photo of the radio it-



self, which brings new meaning to the term "ugly construction"!

Keep in mind that The Nether-

lands is six hours ahead of us, so you should choose your listening times accordingly for the band you are interested in. And of course, you're just as likely to hear German, Italian, French or Dutch as you are English. Still, it's a lot of fun to play around with!

73,

Mark, AI4BJ

## Upcoming Programs

How do you build an electronic device that you have never even seen before? **Greg May, W2ORO**, will give a presentation during the **March** NKARC meeting on his latest endeavor: building a digital electronic circuit from scratch using a **PIC microcontroller**. The aim is to show how an idea for a new electronic device can be taken from concept into existence using knowledge that can be gleaned from library books and magazines. Show-cased will be the finished product: the gift he gave to his wife, Judy, **W1ORO**, for Christmas. He says it turned out to be his most ambitious project thus far!

In **April**, **Robert Gulley, AK3Q**, will talk about a **20M Delta Loop** antenna he built, and **Mark Volstad, AI4BJ**, will provide an introduction to **modeling antenna systems** on the PC. Learn how to take the guesswork out of antenna design!

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**"Golden Age", cont'd  
from Cover**

The Web fanned the flames with the sudden realization that everyone can be content.

And then the "Mythbusters" phenomenon exploded! Jamie and Adam took stuff apart! They wired, they drilled, they welded, and they measured things! And they blew stuff up! And laughed like hyenas as the fragments pinwheeled and beams shattered and frozen chickens blasted through windscreens! And no-nonsense Jamie fixed the viewer with a steely gaze from under his cap and said, "Don't try this at home." Well, what more encouragement do you want? It is now officially desirable to be able to tinker, to build, to design, to think, boys and girls.

This groundswell of interest did not go un-noticed by the media and now there are literally dozens of magazines, books, Web sites, television shows, blogs, and whatever media was invented this week, all dedicated to some aspect of doing-it-yourself. There is even a [Do-It-Yourself Network](#) - check it out! [Make Magazine](#) hosts an event called Makerfaire that in four events has attracted around 200,000 people, each paying \$25 to get in and see people...that's right...doing stuff. The Web site [Instructables](#) is crammed full of individually-contributed projects from people beating down the door to contribute! These three examples are but a ripple on the pond.

Who are these do-it-yourselfers? They're people just like you and me with one important difference. They don't know about ham radio yet...or maybe they know the wrong things about ham radio. These are our people! If they can just find the door to ham radio, they'll find an amazing hobby in which you can be an inventor, a collector, an emergency worker, an athlete, an engineer, a radio show host, a scaler of heights, a teacher and mentor, an astronomer, and a geophysicist. All at the same time.

Whatever it is that they are doing now--robotics, hang-gliding, geocaching, hiking, bike racing, programming — has some facet that can link up with a complementary facet of ham radio. These people love the smell of solder in the morning, the thrill of competition, the feel of a well-cut thread, the sound of a well-modulated signal, the satisfaction of watching a network spring to life. They're our people! They just don't know we're here. Why? Because we're afraid to tell them.

The Ebenezers are shifting uncomfortably, worried that these newcomers won't do things just like us, they'll want to change ham radio, I won't like it! Oh, fiddle-dee-dee...the exact same worries bedeviled ham radio as the transition was made from the old spark to the new CW. And again when hams started using phone. And then when SSB displaced AM. And when we started using FM. And when we started

using computers. You'd think ham radio had died a dozen times to read the letters in old QSTs about rotten this and rotten that. But we're still here.

Those flat licensing numbers are hiding something, dear readers. There's a quiet change afoot as new hams are signing up, masked by natural attrition and the whittling away of dead wood in the ranks. Below the surface of that still water, powerful tides are flowing. More and more new faces are joining us every day. They're finding out what ham radio is really all about--the original open-source technology, the 'net before the 'net, where hands-on lives on. Just as seventy-five years ago, ham radio can be a melting pot of many good things, creating something even better out of the resulting alloy. If we let it and if we let them.

That's a good thing to ponder as we prepare to turn the page on another year, hoping that 2009 will bring us a sunspot or two. Golden Ages look a lot different coming than going. They're new, they're challenging, they're risky, they're scary. It is said that it's not a Real Adventure if you enjoy it while you're having it, but that's no reason not to have an adventure. Or have we forgotten the exciting possibilities that pulled us up to the tower top and down to the workbench and onto the bands in the first place? I don't know what's coming, but I'm feeling those tides of change. And it's going to be golden.

73, Ward N0AX

# Weaver's Words

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**Jim Weaver, K8JE**  
Great Lakes Division Director, ARRL  
E-mail: [k8je@arrl.org](mailto:k8je@arrl.org); Tel.: 513-459-0142

## Library Section Dedicated to Memory of W4OYI

The Owensboro (Kentucky) Amateur Radio Club in cooperation with ARRL and the Daviess County Kentucky Public Library has dedicated a section of Amateur Radio books to the memory of former Great Lakes Division Director and ARRL President George Wilson, III (W4OYI, SK). The dedication was made on February 17. Wilson was a highly respected resident of Owensboro.

George Wilson is the only member of the Great Lakes Division to have become president of the ARRL. Division Legislative Action Chairman and former Kentucky SM John Meyers, NB4K and I were privileged to represent the League and the Division at the dedication.

## Swedish Amateurs become more Accessible

QSOs with Swedish amateurs should become more frequent beginning 1 April when Sweden expands its 40 meter band to 7.0 to 7.2 MHz. This change follows the opening earlier this year of 6M (50-52 MHz) to normal amateur use. Swedish amateurs can use up to 200 w. output power on 6. The change in 6M operation in Sweden means amateurs there will no longer need to obtain a special license at extra cost for this band.

The addition of the 100 kHz segment to the 40M band brings Sweden into line with International Telecommunications Union (ITU) action in 2003. At this time, ITU delegations approved moving all international broadcasting out of the 7.1-7.2 MHz segment and to allocate 7.0-7.2 MHz only to Amateur Radio use. Expansion of the international 40M band by the ITU was in response to work by the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU).

The ITU action; however, does not require any country to give additional privileges to amateurs. The decision to give more frequencies on 40 M to its amateurs is up to each country.

## Should It be "Our Way or No Way"?

In this country we have generally been raised with the thought that we should be independent thinkers. "Think out of the box," is a very popular admonition given to us. This is just another way of saying, "Don't follow one another like a flock of geese walking from one location to another."

Individualism is great. Pushing the sides of the envelope to see what we can accomplish by developing a new "paradigm" offers many benefits.

Without individual thinking, we would not have electricity, the light bulb, telecommunications and so many other inventions that were developed by Edison, the Maxims and many others who were not tied to the world of their "today."

However, there are times when following the leader is the best way to go. Fighting this truism is a sign of impracticality. There are times when letting go of the detail we have learned is good and accepting different differing detail is preferable under the circumstances.

For example, we who matured our message handling skills using National Traffic System (NTS) procedures might think this is the only way to handle traffic. This isn't true. The military, government and other emergency support agencies have their own message handling systems. Although the NTS way is good, it isn't the only way. Depending upon the total situation, it might not even be the best way. (If you are still reading this, you know I haven't been struck by lightning . . .yet!)

As it says in the Bible, 'Render unto Cesar that which is Cesar's and unto God that which is God's.' Applying this wisdom to message traffic, we might say, "Put into Emergency Management Agency format the traffic which is EMA's and into ARRL NTS format the traffic which is NTS's."

The bottom line is that when we provide communications service to a served agency (EMA, Salvation Army, Red Cross), we should follow their requests provided they are



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legal, ethical and moral. The discipline and skill we gained through learning to use the NTS message system will provide the discipline and skill we need to communicate using any procedures preferred by EMA, SA, RC or other agency.

We need to avoid offering our service only to place irrelevant restrictions on the manner in which we will provide the service.

### **Triple Play Award and Logbook**

First, let me correct an error in my comment last month about the early winners of the Triple Play Award. The call sign given for Jeffrey Wheeler, winner of the second Award earned, was incorrect. His correct call is W7JW, not W7JIO. Sorry, Jeffrey.

My Triple Play comment brought a question. To summarize, the question is, "Why has ARRL initiated the new, Triple Play Award (ed., Available only through Logbook of the World.) but still requires paper QSL cards to be submitted for the VHF/UHF Century Club Award?"

This is a good question. On the surface, initiating a new award that requires confirmation only by LoTW, but not allowing LoTW to be used for VUCC doesn't make sense - on the surface, this is.

Below the surface, the answer and the logic are quite simple. Resolving the issue is more complex. It involves programming. LoTW simply was not set up to service VHF/UHF Century Club.

For the Triple Play, the only thing that was needed was to tweak the existing WAS portion of Logbook to add the new award. In the case of VUCC, the programming hurdle is much greater.

Marrying VUCC with LoTW is a definite objective of the ARRL officers, senior staff and each of us 15 Directors. The fact, though, is that the project to complete the redo of the ARRL web site has much more precedence. The VUCC-LoTW project must wait for now.

### **Wouff Hong at the National Convention-Hamvention**

Michigan Section Manager Dale Williams, WA8EFK was

quick to provide a little history lesson on The Royal Order of the Wouff Hong. I noted last month that the script SM Phillips uses for the Wouff Hong was first used at the second annual ARRL Michigan State Convention in Flint on February 11, 1923. I added, "This probably wasn't the first exemplification of the Wouff Hong, but it had to be among the earlier ones."

Dale nicely pointed out that records prove the 1923 presentation of the Wouff Hong was the first time it was offered anywhere.

This original script will be presented at the ARRL National Convention-Dayton Hamvention(r) on Saturday night at 11.

### **International Amateur Radio Union happenings**

On 10 February 2009 the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) counted ballots in its regular election for new officers and on accepting two additional national societies into membership. When the counting was finished, IARU had elected new officers and accepted two new national societies into membership.

Timothy S. Ellam, VE6SH/G4HUA of Canada was elected the new president. He succeeds Larry Price, W4RA who retired from the position. Ole Garpestad, LA2RR, was chosen Vice President. Terms of office for IARU President and Vice President in the IARU are five years.

The election involved voting by 73 member societies. The societies cast votes (aye or nay) or abstentions in each of the four ballots. Fifty seven affirmative votes were required for adoption. Each proposal was approved without dissent.

Upon being elected IARU President, Mr. Ellam said: "I am very honoured to have been elected as President of IARU and look forward to working with all three Regions and the Member-Societies during my term in office. We no doubt will face many issues in the run up to the 2011 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-11), but I look forward to working as a team to meet the challenges ahead. (Courtesy IARU.)"

While ranking officer of the Radio Amateurs of Canada, Ellam was a guest at ARRL Board meetings. He is a very knowledgeable amateur.

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## The ARRL A-1 Operator Club

One of the relatively unheralded awards given by ARRL is the A-1 Operator Award. This Award recognizes good personal operating and good equipment operation. It is an award each of us who take Amateur Radio reasonably seriously should want to achieve.

Before I get jumped on by someone who has the mistaken idea this award is for CW ops only, let me say this is not correct. It is open for ops using any mode available and on any band assigned to amateur use.

One unique feature of the A-1 Operator Award is that the recipient must be nominated by two amateurs who already hold it. In most instances, the recipient of the award does not even know they have been nominated. A-1 Operators are eligible to receive a nice lapel pin that identifies them as members of the club.

Information about the A-1 Operator Club is available at [www.arrl.org/awards/a1-op/](http://www.arrl.org/awards/a1-op/). Members of the Club are listed at [www.arrl.org/awards/a1-op/roster](http://www.arrl.org/awards/a1-op/roster). Rules the procedure for nominating amateurs to the club are at [www.arrl.org/awards/a1-op/a1v11.html#who](http://www.arrl.org/awards/a1-op/a1v11.html#who).

As of January 30, 2009, there are 5,252 members of the A-1 Operator Club. Why not double check your operating procedure against Club requirements. One never knows when two Club members will hear or work you and nominate you to join the Club.

## More Triple Play Winners

Additions to the Triple Play Award roster since my last e-letter are Ernest S. Jurusik, W8DCH, Columbus, OH; James F. Tullis, W8CZN, Hudson, OH; Robert A. Daniels, K8KWT, Kentwood, MI; James D. Main, N8FV, Muskegon, MI; John S. Comella, N8AA, Hamilton, OH; Daniel N. Hardy, N8VV Newcomerstown, OH; Eric Kindig, W8EJK, Sidney, OH; Mad River Radio Club, W8MAD, Mad River Radio Club, c/o Dave Pruet, K8CC, Ypsilanti, MI; D. Douglas Friend, WB8TLI, Troy, OH; John A. Wulf, K4FT, Crab Orchard, KY. 2/20/09

## W1AW CW Transmission on 160 M changes Frequency

Beginning March 9, ARRL's W1AW will shift its CW transmission on 160 M to 1802.5 KHz. This move is to help avoid interference with increasing activity that is developing near the 1817.5 kHz frequency previously.

And, in Miami the Winner is . . .

Ohio SM Joe Phillips, K8QOE is a theatre aficionado and well he should be. He taught theatre at Princeton High School in Springdale, OH for many years. This was a very good program.

Since retiring from his teaching duties, he has continued his love affair with the stage by following movies and the legitimate stage whenever his schedule permits. Included in his activities is putting together his best estimate of the winners at the annual Academy Awards. He has just issued his list for 2009.

Anyone who follows the Academy Awards to any degree might wish to make a note of Joe's selections and compare them with the actual winners. Why? If he is pretty well on target, one could congratulate him for his great insight. If he is well off target, a good razzing might be in order.

K8QOE's Academy Award predictions for 2009 are:

Best pix: Slumdog Millionaire  
Best actor: Mickey Rourke for The Wrestler  
Best actress: Kate Winslet for The Reader  
Best supporting actress: Marisa Tomei for The Wrestler  
Best supporting actor: Heath Ledger for The Dark Knight  
Best director: Danny Boyle for Slumdog Millionaire  
Best original screen play: Dustin Lance Black for Milk  
Best adapted screen play: Simon Beaufoy for Slumdog Millionaire  
(adapted from the book Q&A)  
Best cinematography: Anthony Dod Mantle for Slumdog Millionaire  
Best foreign film: Israel for Waltz With Besir

## Division Travel Philosophy

The past two years generally saw Vice Director Gary



Johnston, KI4LA and I travel together to most hamfests/swaps and other events in the Division. This was logical. Because of the way we did this, the two of us were able to travel nearly as inexpensively as if only one of us had made the individual trips.

The disadvantage of following the general plan of traveling together is that time constraints on each of us made it impractical to visit several areas of the Division that we could have visited by travelling separately.

This year we are changing our plan for travel. Gary and I will typically go to different hamfests and, much of the time, we will have another member of the Division Cabinet join us. We believe this will allow us bring more ARRL representatives to more areas of the Division while enabling us to live within the Division budget.

The two cabinet members who most often can be expected to join Gary and me are Jay Slough, K4ZLE and John Meyers, NB4K. Jay will be able to discuss the operation of the 8th Region Incoming QSL Bureau that he manages. John, as Division Legislative Action Chairman, will be able to share the operation of the ARRL Legislative Action Program directly with members.

### **Tentative Travel Schedule**

The tentative travel schedule (through June) for Great Lakes Division officers and chairpersons is shown below. This schedule will be expanded to additional months in future issues of Words. In addition to Vice Director Gary Johnston, KI4LA and I, Division Legislative Action Chairman John Meyers, NB4K and 8th Area ARRL Incoming QSL Bureau Manager Jay Slough, K4ZLE will join in some of our trips to discuss the programs they head.

This year, we are working especially hard to optimize the value members receive from our travel. Gary and I may not appear together at a number of hamfests. In addition, instead of being at the "same old" hamfests as in the past, we may visit hamfests in parts of the Division that have not been covered during recent years.

If you would like any of us to consider visiting your hamfest/swap, meeting or event, please contact me at [k8je@arrl.org](mailto:k8je@arrl.org).

Date.....Event.....Division Representative(s)

- 7 Mar: Cave City, KY; Mammoth Cave ARC -- Gary. John(?)
- 14 Mar: Marshall, MI; SMARS & Marshall HS club -- Jim & John
- 15 Mar: Toledo, OH; Toledo Mobile AR -- Jim & John
- 10 Mar: Waynesville, OH, Bellbrook ARC dinner -- Jim
- 28 Mar: Reynoldsburg, OH; Section ARES Conference -- Gary. Jim(?)
- 19 Apr: Cuyahoga Falls, OH; Cuyahoga Falls ARC -- Jim & Gary
- 26 Apr: Athens, OH; Athens Co. ARA -- Jim & Gary
- 15-17 May: Dayton Hamvention(r) -- Jim, Gary & John
- 6 Jun: Olive Hill, KY; Little Sandy RC -- Gary
- 6 Jun: Grand Rapids, MI; Independent Repeater Assoc. -- Jim & John
- 7 Jun: Chelsea, MI; Chelsea ARC -- Jim & John
- 20 Jun: Midland, MI; Midland ARC -- Jim and Jay
- 21 Jun: Monroe, MI; Monroe Co. RCA -- Jim and Jay
- 26 Jul: Randolph, OH -- Portage ARC -- Jim

NOTE: Please apply to have your hamfest/swap sanctioned well in advance of the date it will be held. The sooner it is sanctioned as an ARRL event, the sooner it will appear on the listing of hamfests and conventions on the ARRL web site. This will provide more publicity for the event.

73,  
Jim

Return to:  
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P.O. Box 1062  
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**NKARC Feedline March 2009  
Volume 2009 Issue 3**