

The Listening Post

Holiday Party



QCEN's December meeting is always our holiday party, and this year is no different. We'll start around 6 p.m. on Thursday, December 12th, at the Red Cross building, 2111 Dana Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45207. Bring the family! Visitors are welcome, and members of several local radio clubs have been invited. We look forward to seeing everyone!

There will *not* be a Zoom link for the December meeting.

Notes from the VP:

Party Details:

Our annual holiday party will be this Thursday, December 12, starting at around 6 pm. We will have a potluck supper which will begin at 6:30. If you haven't received the survey that was sent out to gather information about what people will bring, let Em (N8MCR 513-238-8636) know and she can send it to you.

10 m Contest!

On Saturday, December 14 at the Red Cross starting at noon, we will open the radio room so that folks can participate in this fun contest! Come for a short while or stay for a long time. We will stay until 4 pm or longer if there is interest. Remember, there will be Generals and Extras who are willing to take responsibility so that Techs can operate on the HF bands. We are planning to have 2 stations on 10 m but other bands can be used on the other radios, just for fun.

When you get to the Red Cross, call on the repeater to be let in or call the radio room phone at 513-579-3936.



Coming Events:

- Dec 14 Operating Day at W8VVL
- Dec 14 & 15 ARRL Ten Meter Contest
- Jan 4 Kid's Day
- Jan 4 & 5 RTTY Roundup
- Jan 9 QCEN Annual Meeting and Election of Officers
- Jan 11 & 12 N. Amer. QSO Party —CW
- Jan 18 & 10 N. Amer. QSO Party —SSB
- Jan 25 & 26 Winter Field Day

Contest Corner

By Bob Bross, W8NFM

As 2024 comes to a close, many of us have realized personal amateur radio goals: some in getting their first license (or upgrade); others in enhancing their communication capabilities; and, a few reaching WAS and/or DXCC milestones. Having said that: there is still time to get a few more contacts before 2025 rolls around!

The W8VVL station at the Red Cross will hold two events in the upcoming weeks: the ARRL 10 Meter Contest on December 16th (that's THIS coming Saturday) from noon until "whenever." The other is a bit longer: Winter Field Day, from 1400 Saturday January 25th to 1400 Sunday January 26th. Overnight die-hards are particularly welcome; however, we want as many people as possible to participate. Details will be available at our January meeting.

Here's hoping Santa brings you something "special" under the tree for your Amateur Radio enjoyment.

12/14-12/15	ARRL 10 Meter Contest	CW Ph	www.arrl.org/10-meter
12/28-12/28	RAC Winter Contest	CW Ph	www.rac.ca
01/11-01/11	YB DX Contest (Indonesia)	Ph	www.ybdxcontest.com
01/11-01/12	North American QSO Party CW	CW	www.ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf
01/18-01/19	North American QSO Party Ph	Ph	www.ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf
01/25-01/26	Australia Day Contest	CW Ph Dig	www.wia.org.au/
01/25-01/26	Winter Field Day	CW Ph Dig	www.winterfieldday.com

The *Listening Post* is a publication of The Queen City Emergency Net, 2111 Dana Ave. Cincinnati, OH 45207
 Editor: Tom Delaney W8WTD

QCEN is an ARRL-affiliated club.

QCEN Officers for 2024
President: Scott Tengen, W8GXR
Vice President: Em Rhodes, N8MCR
Treasurer: Bob Bross, W8NFM
Secretary: Rob Blocher, N8JMV
Communications Manager: Steve Lewis, N8TFD
Director: Francis Smith, N8PEE
Director: Vacant

Hamvention 2025 - Planning starts NOW

By Bob Gross, W8NFM

Hamvention 2025 is in five months. Why bring this up now? We have to get through winter and spring first! You may not be thinking this far ahead (yet); however, we will need some “special planning” for the upcoming year.

QCEN has had a flea market booth for a number of years now. Our presence there serves two purposes: providing the opportunity to sell equipment (for members and QCEN), and a convenient spot for us to meet and temporarily store personal purchases. We have always been able to cover our Hamvention expenses AND make a profit for QCEN (sometimes small, other times a bit larger.) Even though the Hamvention runs from Friday through Sunday, we have traditionally operated only the first two days; things are VERY slow on Sunday, and it is not worth the effort to have the booth then.

For the past few years, Bob Garfield W8MRG and I have handled the logistics of getting sale equipment ahead of time to the Hamvention; I will do so again this time, but Bob will be on vacation (I know - poor planning on his part; one must know the priorities in life!) We both have SUVs; usually, one vehicle was left overnight on Thursday and Friday nights (containing tables, chairs, canopies, and some of the sale equipment) and the other brought us back (filled with the rest of the gear.)

I am looking for someone who can help out in Bob’s place; if not an SUV, we can use a smaller vehicle with fold down rear seats and leave my Explorer there with the bulkier items. Please keep this in mind as time approaches; we don’t want to leave sale items back in Cincinnati. More on this as the date approaches.

If you haven’t already done so, mark your calendars now for May 16th-18th; start looking for sale items now; and, prepare to be amazed at Hamvention 2025. If you’ve never been there, we will tell you what your experience can be; for those of us who have been there “a time or two” (51 in a row so far) it will still be the learning and opportunity experience it always proves to be!



FCC License

A Special “Thank You” to our License Instructors

By Bob Brass, W8NFM

Congratulations to those who have earned their first Amateur Radio license, or have upgraded to a higher level; your studying - and some hands-on experience has paid off.

Many of you attended classes at the Red Cross, where we were fortunate to have some excellent teachers. Thank you to the following: Tom Delaney, W8WTD; Bob Garfield, W8MRG; Kitty Hevener, W8TDA; Michael Brun, KE8PLM, Stephen Gallagher, KE8TEY, Gary Coffey, KB8MYC, and Steve Weeks, AA8SW. . We also extend appreciation to the various VECs who administered the license tests; please keep in mind that ALL of these people volunteer their time and talent.

2025 Dues and ARRL Membership/Renewal

By Bob Brass, W8NFM



Thank you to all who have submitted their 2025 QCEN dues; if you haven't done so yet, they can be paid at a meeting or mailed to our Treasurer Bob, W8NFM (email him at w8nfm@arrl.net and he will send you the address.) \$15.00 for renewal; \$20.00 for “sustaining” (the extra \$5.00 helps with expenses.)



For those who are renewing their ARRL membership, you can do so through QCEN. Current renewal is \$59.00 (includes electronic version of QST magazine; add \$25.00 if you want the hard copy version.) If you renew through QCEN, we will receive \$5.00 of that amount; NEW members to ARRL will result in QCEN receiving \$15.00 Make checks out to QCEN - we will submit the form for you. Email our treasurer for the form or pick one up at the meeting.

QCEN Meeting November 14, 2024

Called to order at 7:35pm, with Pledge to the Flag and self-introductions Pres.. Scott T., W8GXR welcomed all at Red Cross and on Zoom.

QCEN Holiday Party/Meeting to be December 12th at 6pm. A survey to go out on email and on website, who is coming with what.

ARRL 10m Contest 12-14-24 will be at W8VVL Noon - 4pm.

Program: Tim Duffy K3LR, DX Engineering He did a slide-show on Grounding and Bonding of Radio and Antenna. Suggested ARRL book, lots of Q and A.

New Member: KB8EGE Scott G., introduced & voted in to club.

- Secretary's report of October meeting accepted as posted in L.P. online.
- Vice Pres. N8MCR Operating day at Red Cross 12-14-24, 10M Contest. Em is taking QCEN T-shirt orders, contact her to order yours. V.P. and others went to W8VND Site & checked for Shed replacement and to fix fence, cost approx. \$2,500., more on this later.
- Treasurer reported that all bills are paid, member dues received, Rec'd Check from Queen Bee, you can pay ARRL dues thru QCEN.
- Comm Mgr. N8TFD - Queen Bee done, Honor Run done. Flying Pig First weekend in May, Bike MS in July probably to be the last one. Winter Field Day to be at Red Cross W8VVL January 25 & 26, 2025.
- Net Coordinator - KB8UCJ - doing Price Hill Thanksgiving Day Parade.

Our Jr Director - W8SCI stepped down due to health reasons. We need a replacement appointed as soon as possible.

- Pres. Scott talked on WinLink & maybe a Special Event Station.

QCEN 2025 Nominations for Officers:

Pres.-N8MCR,
Vice Pres.-KB8UCJ,
Secretary-N8JMV,
Treasurer-W8NFM,
Comm. Manager-N8TFD,
Director-W8TDA.

Nominations can also be made at the December meeting. Voting will be at the January 9th meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10pm, we had 19 people. Next regular meeting at Red Cross is Thursday December 12 at 6pm. This is QCEN Holiday Dinner / Meeting. It is a Family affair.

73, Q.C.E.N. Secretary, Robert Blocher, N8JMV

QCEN MEMBER DUES DUE IN JANUARY EACH YEAR
WWW.QCEN.ORG , go to Membership to pay thru Paypal
or at any club meeting or by mail to club treasurer.