



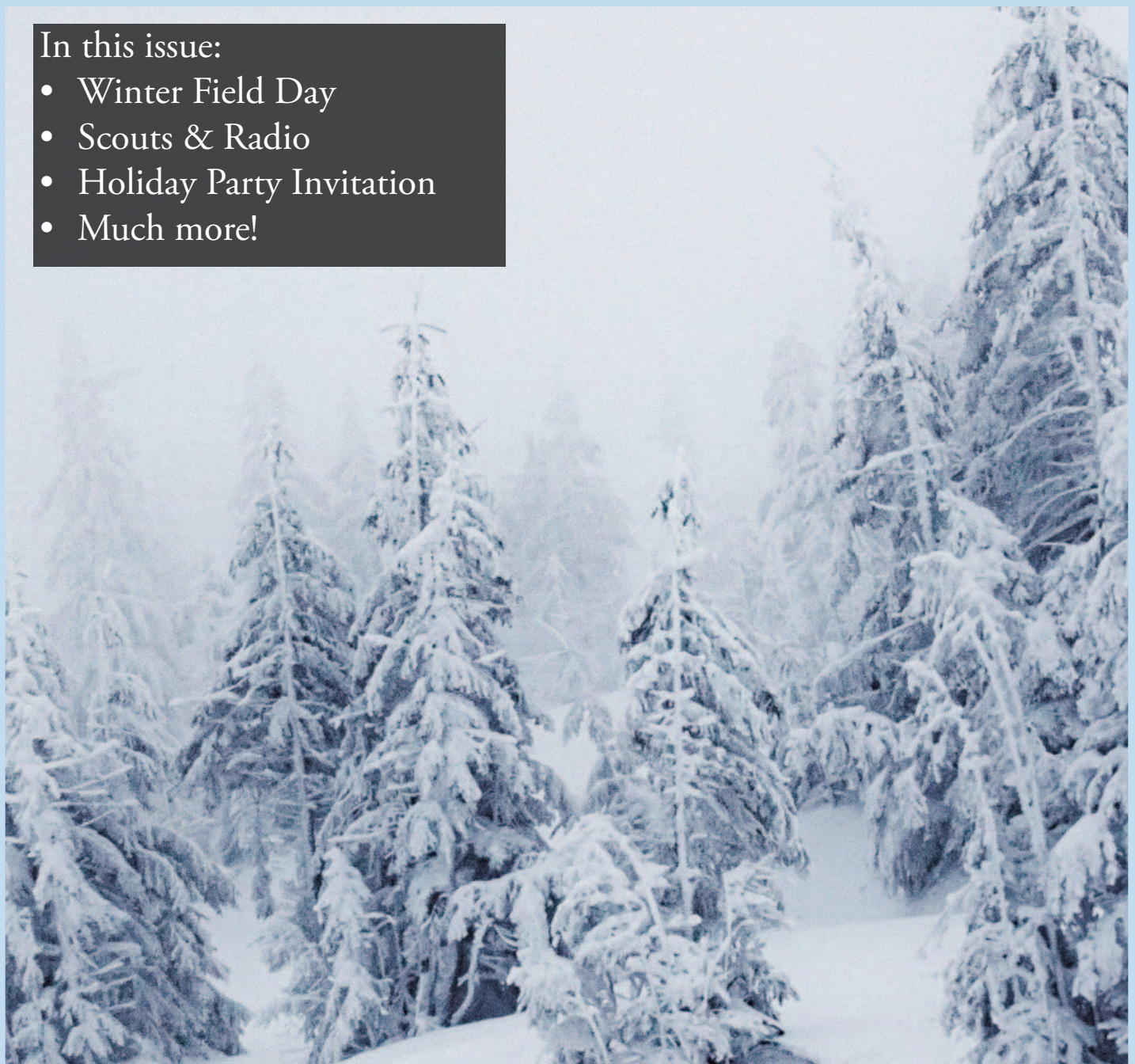
# Q-FIVER

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE OH-KY-IN AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY  
CINCINNATI, OHIO — [WWW.OHKYIN.ORG](http://WWW.OHKYIN.ORG)

VOLUME 65 ISSUE 12 — DECEMBER 2025

In this issue:

- Winter Field Day
- Scouts & Radio
- Holiday Party Invitation
- Much more!



## *A Note from Our Membership Chair*

Well, here we are – Thanksgiving already! I hope everyone had a great fall, and we are staring at Christmas right around the corner. It seems as if we just completed Field Day! I don't know about everyone else, but it seems the older I get, the faster time flies.

With the new year, comes the time for all of us to renew our membership for the year 2026, if you have not already done so. I have already received many renewals – thank you!

Joining and/or renewing is quite simple.

The easiest way to send payment is by using ANY major credit/debit card or PayPal using this secure link:  
<http://renew.ohkyin.org/>

You can also choose to mail your payment with a printable form at the following address:  
<http://www.ohkyin.org/docs/Applications/Membership%20App.pdf>

As always, if anyone has any questions on joining or renewing your membership, please contact me at KA3MTT@YAHOO.COM. You can also call or text me at the following number: 859.760.9262

I wish all of you and your families a wonderful holiday season.

73,

Nathan Ciufo, KA3MTT

OH-KY-IN ARS Membership Chairman



## *Brunch Bunch*

*by George Gardei, N3VQW*

The December Brunch Bunch will be held at Cracker Barrel Old Country Store at 7399 Turfway Rd., Florence, KY 41042 (right off exit 182 on 71/75) on Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM.

<https://www.crackerbarrel.com/menu>

Remember that the Brunch Bunch always meets the second Saturday of every month at 1pm at a location to be announced each month. If you can't join us this month, maybe you'll be available to join us in the months ahead. If you have any suggestions on what restaurant you think might be a good place for the Brunch Bunch to visit in the future, please let me know.

George N3VQW



# *You're Invited!*

*Tuesday, December 2nd*

*at 7:30 pm*

Everyone is invited to join us for our annual party! LaRosa's pizza and soft drinks will be provided by the club. You are welcome to bring something to share if you wish, but it is not required. We will have an abbreviated business meeting where we will hold our officer elections, give out some awards and conduct any other required business.

Of course we will also have prizes to give away! We've got some good ones as usual, including a \$100 DX Engineering gift certificate (thanks to DX Engineering for donating this!), a \$75 DX Engineering gift card and some additional surprises! Remember that most of our prizes are awarded by drawing from the split the pot tickets collected throughout the year, but we will have at least one door prize as well (and yes, if you join via Zoom, you will be eligible).

## Hope to see you all there!

Arlington Heights Town Hall

601 Elliott Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45215

Thank you to DX Engineering for once again donating a \$100 gift certificate!

[www.dxengineering.com](http://www.dxengineering.com)



## *Are You Out There?*

*by Bruce Vanselow, N8BV*

We know that you are listening! What am I talking about? The TechTalk Net, that's what I'm talking about. Have you checked in lately?

Maybe you are just listening for the AB4WS Radio Show or the Amateur Radio Newsline report. Or are you hoping to hear if someone happens to have a technical, procedural or operational question for the net participants to answer. Why are you not letting the Net Control Station know that you are there?

It only takes just a moment to pick up that microphone and check in. Let the net know that you are out there listening by taking just a few seconds to tell them that you are there. All you need to say is your call, your name and where you are located. It really does make the Net Control Station feel like they have done a better service if there is a good number of checkins and participation!

Come on now, you know that you've always wondered why this or that does or doesn't work. How do I measure my antenna's SWR? Does someone out there on the net have an SWR meter that I could borrow? I bought this new radio, but I can't figure out how to program the memory channels. I can't figure out where to mount my new radio in the car. What antenna should I build or buy? Is this the only repeater in the area? You get the idea. Check in, if you have a question, ask. If you have any announcements to share, be sure to bring those to TechTalk as well.

Since you are already listening, you don't need me to remind you that the TechTalk Net meets every Wednesday evening at 9pm on the 146.670 (-) PL123 repeater, but there just might be some newly licensed people out there reading this who haven't already heard about the net.

Remember, we know you are there! Please check in.

73, ..... Bruce N8BV



## *Winter Field Day 2026*

The last weekend of January will be here before we know it and that means Winter Field Day time! We've had a great event for several years now, using the barn at Harvest Home Park in Cheviot as our operating location for this fun operation. By using the unheated, uninsulated barn, we qualify as an outdoor operation. The walls provide a decent wind break and the roof (mostly) keeps any precipitation off of us, but if you spend very much time there, you will definitely agree we are "outdoors" for this one.

The primary purpose is to encourage hams to practice field deployment in winter conditions. While the ARRL Field Day event in June encourages practicing field setup, not all disasters and emergencies happen in the warm summer months. Winter conditions can add different challenges not experienced in June. WFD gives us a chance to practice winter operating. Our focus is fun, learning and experimentation, with plenty of social engagement.

Although the event expanded the operating period to 30 hours, we still target the original 24 hour window. We will begin setup very approximately at 11 AM on Saturday, January 24<sup>th</sup>, start operating as soon as we are ready, then start cleanup **no later** than 2 PM on Sunday, January 25<sup>th</sup>. We particularly need volunteers to cover the overnight hours. Even if don't wish to operate, we need at least two people there throughout the night to guard the equipment. Please sign up at <https://grasshoppersignup.com/s/wtfytp> for times you are willing to help.

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## ***Call for Help Tower Move***

*Henry Rosche N5AWB*

Bill Gant (W8GNT) put out a groups.io message about the tower of a silent key. I responded to the new owner of the tower and we worked out a deal. I put out a call on groups.io (OHKYIN, Milford, VOA, NKARC) and got my responses from OHKYIN only. Lance, a new Tech, KF8EEM and his step-dad Bob, Mark WA6LZO visiting from Oregon, and I took the tower apart and down. No hard work, just fighting lots of rusted nuts and bolts. We had fun, got to visit, and were able to load the Rohn BX 48 tower, the 35 feet of Rohn 25G and rooftop tripod in the back of the pickup truck and it is now in my driveway.

We were very lucky with the lowering as the original 1/8 inch steel cable was rusted and parted dropping the tower and antennas 2 inches on top the ladder. This way the antennas were above the ground and able to be taken off the mast by standing on the back of the truck. We then raised it with my cable on the winch and lowered it to the ground to take the sections apart and free the rotator and thrust bearing.

The new land owner cut off the layover piece from the concrete base and I will reuse it and he gets a nice fire pit base for his yard.

The plan is to clean it, check it, then prime and paint the sections (alternatively red/white) and replace the old hardware with new. The new hardware arrived yesterday. A hole for the base needs to be dug and then filled with Quikcrete (45 bags). Going to get the base ready with prime and paint and weld on the new rebar so that it can layover our pool and concrete deck. My XYL is happy that it is self supporting as she did not want guy wires. I am not going to mention a doublet to her at this point.

On my YouTube channel 'Roscoe1024' there is a 'Radio Tower' playlist with videos of the takedown, survey, and particular parts featured. Stay tuned for more.

Thanks OHKYIN for all the help. This means a lot to me, and I am looking forward to getting up on the air on the tower.

Stay tuned!

HENRY



## ***DBC Radio Scouting Committee Opportunity***

*by Shawn Grubb KE8BBC*

The Dan Beard Council of Scouting America has launched a new initiative to establish a Radio Scouting Committee. Organizers are currently reaching out to the Scouting and ham radio communities for volunteers to help bring this vision to life. This is an open invitation for anyone excited about connecting scouts and radio to get involved from the very beginning.

Organizers are looking for Scouts, leaders, parents, and amateur radio operators willing to share their passion, technical expertise, and community spirit. Whether you have years of experience as a ham, are interested in helping Scouts earn the Radio Merit Badge, or simply want to assist with planning and outreach, your support is needed to shape the future of this new group.

“This is a fantastic opportunity for both the Scouting and ham radio communities to work together and build something meaningful for our youth,” shared a leader helping organize the effort. “We hope to gather a core group of enthusiastic volunteers who can guide the committee’s early planning, create engaging first events, and offer mentorship as things get started.” By coming together at this formative stage, volunteers will play a foundational role in bringing radio adventures to Scouts in the area.

Anyone interested in helping is encouraged to reach out and express their interest, whether you’re a Scout, a ham radio enthusiast, or someone who values youth education and hands-on learning opportunities. With enough community support and enthusiasm, the Radio Scouting Committee can become a thriving part of local Scouting — and it all begins with the volunteers who answer the call.

Follow this link to register for the team: <https://tinyurl.com/37pdcfnf>

Or contact Shawn at [ke8bbc@arri.net](mailto:ke8bbc@arri.net)



**Be a Founding member:**  
**DBC Radio Scouting Committee**  
*Call for Volunteers!*





Sign up: <https://tinyurl.com/37pdcfnf>  
For more info, email: [ke8bbc@arri.net](mailto:ke8bbc@arri.net)

## *November, 2025 Meeting Minutes*

OH-KY-IN Amateur Radio Society

Minutes of November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025, Member Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Ryan AC8UJ with the Pledge of Allegiance. The club meeting was held in person and via Zoom.

Guests: Douglas Rose KD8YRN, David KF8EXG

New Licenses or Upgrades: Rick K8DOJ upgraded to Amateur Extra

Attendance: 19 in person; 9 via Zoom

Health and Welfare: George N3VQW has now lost 114 pounds; Kitty W8TDA shares that Rob K8CO is in Western Hills Rehab due to various problems.

Awards & Achievements: Kitty W8TDA worked 39 states including Hawaii for CW Sweeps; Rick K8DOJ worked 23 countries for CQ Worldwide.

Program: Member Project "Show and Tell" Night

Prior Meeting Minutes: George N3VQW made the motion, and Drew KE8JTL seconded accepting the meeting minutes for October 2025 as published in the Q-Fiver. Motion passed.

Membership: Not present. 131 have renewed for the year out of 157 from last year. Please renew at <http://renew.ohkyin.org/>.

Treasurer: Kevin W8SM, Treasurer's report read and filed for audit.

Silent Key: N/A

Classes and Exams: 8 Students in the Tech class. Gary KB8MYC still needs VE's to register.

QCEN: Meetings are held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month at 7:30PM at the Red Cross building.

ARES: Meetings are held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month at the ROC at 7PM.

Brunch Bunch: On November 8<sup>th</sup> at 1:00PM at Bob Evans on North Bend Road.

Events:

- 11/15-11/16 November Phone Sweeps - may not have a club event this year
- 1/24-1/25 Winter Field Day @ Harvest Home Park Barn - need volunteers, especially for overnight hours

Old Business:

- Cesi KD8OOB: Satellite station grant update. No updates.
- Ryan AC8UJ: Remote participation in split-the-pot - one participant.
- Rocky KE8DZS Harvest Home volunteer prize drawing will happen at the December meeting.

New Business:

- Nominating Committee: Drew KE8JTL reports that all current officers are willing to run again. No additional nominations were received. Mike KD8ZLB motioned to accept the committee report. W8TDA

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seconded. Motion passed. The club thanks Andy K3CAQ, Stephen KE8TEY and Drew KE8JTL for their service.

- December will be our annual holiday party. We have received at least one gift donation from DX Engineering.
- Future of fundraising: Ryan AC8UJ solicited input regarding how the members wish to fund the club ongoing. We've had challenges getting volunteers for our two major annual fundraiser events. Send thoughts to Ryan AC8UJ.
- The August open forum night was popular. We will continue such nights next year in February and August.

Split the Pot: \$67.00 Split will be \$34.00 to Mike KD8ZLB

Motion to adjourn made by George N3VQW, seconded by Rick K8DOJ. Meeting adjourned at 9:12PM

Respectfully submitted, Ryan Owens AC8UJ, President



Photo by Adam Chang on Unsplash

# DX Spots - December 2025

## DE KA3MTT

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
A52AA - Bhutan Thru 12-5  	1 8Q7HT - Maldives Thru 12-10  	2	3	4	5	6
7 TG - Guatemala Thru 1-5  	8	9	10 T88AC - Palau thru 12-17  	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 9Y9DX - Trinidad & Tobago thru 12-29  	18	19	20
21 PZ5OZ - Surinam Thru 1-2  	22	23	24  	25  	26 4K - Azerbaijan thru 1-3  	27
28	29	30 KH0 - Mariana Is Thru 1-3  	31  			

*Prepared by Nathan Ciufu, KA3MTT*

## *Calendar of Upcoming Events*

Tuesday	December 2 @ 7:30 PM	Club Meeting (Zoom & Arlington Heights Town Hall)
Wednesday	December 3 @ 9:00 PM	Tech Talk Net (146.670 Repeater)
Tuesday	December 9 @ 7:30 PM	Board of Directors Meeting (same Zoom info as club meeting)
Wednesday	December 10 @ 9:00 PM	Tech Talk Net (146.670 Repeater)
Wednesday	December 17 @ 9:00 PM	Tech Talk Net (146.670 Repeater)
Wednesday	December 24 @ 9:00 PM	Tech Talk Net (146.670 Repeater)
Wednesday	December 31 @ 9:00 PM	Tech Talk Net (146.670 Repeater)
Tuesday	January 6 @ 7:30 PM	Club Meeting (Zoom & Arlington Heights Town Hall)
Wednesday	January 7 @ 9:00 PM	Tech Talk Net (146.670 Repeater)
Tuesday	January 13 @ 7:30 PM	Board of Directors Meeting (same Zoom info as club meeting)
Wednesday	January 14 @ 9:00 PM	Tech Talk Net (146.670 Repeater)
Wednesday	January 21 @ 9:00 PM	Tech Talk Net (146.670 Repeater)
Sat & Sun	January 24 & 25	Winter Field Day @ Harvest Home Park
Wednesday	January 28 @ 9:00 PM	Tech Talk Net (146.670 Repeater)

## *Meeting Information*

Our monthly club meetings are typically held at the Village of Arlington Heights Town Hall (601 Elliott Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45215). Enter using the exterior elevator to the second floor at the rear of the building. We typically also offer Zoom video conferencing as an option. Please join us at 7:30 PM Eastern time each first Tuesday of the month. The Zoom call will open at about 7:20 PM for you to join. The passcode is 146670.

<https://zoom.us/j/996062859>

If you are unable to join online, you may join by telephone at (301) 715-8592 with a meeting code of 996 062 859 and passcode of 146670. Long distance rates will apply.

### **OH-KY-IN Repeaters**

146.670 (-) Clifton

146.625 (-) Edgewood (Fusion & analog WIRES-X)

146.925 (-) Delhi (Fusion & digital WIRES-X)

All repeaters require a 123.0 Hz CTCSS (PL) tone.

### **Life Members**

John Phelps	N8JTP
Kenneth E Wolf	N8WYC
John W Hughes	AI4DA
Karl R Kaucher	KK4KRK
Fred Schneider	K9OHE
Dan Curtin	KF4AV
Steve Weeks	AA8SW
Kelly Hoffman	K8KAH
Mick Cook	KD8IOQ
Steve Crase	N8PUP
Joe Felix	K8NW

## *Support OH-KY-IN by Shopping*

Of course we appreciate your membership dues and all of the ways you give time and energy to the club, but did you know you can also support OH-KY-IN just by doing things you already do?

Kroger Community Rewards is a great source of income for the club and requires no effort! Visit <http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com/> and set us as your charity. We are organization **QY352**.

Contact Bruce N8BV for details about the program.



PANDA/stock.adobe.com

## *Newsletter Submissions*

Please send any submissions you would like included in upcoming newsletters to Ryan, AC8UJ. All content is welcome! You can e-mail content to him at his callsign at [arrrl.net](mailto:arrrl.net). Please send all content either as plain e-mail text (attach any photos or graphics) or as a PDF file. Depending on the spacing needs of the particular issue, Ryan may reformat your content and adjust the layout. Because of this, if you send a PDF, please also include any graphics used as attachments.

Do you have a photo you think would look good on the cover? Send it! Cover photos must comply with a few requirements. Most importantly, like all content included in this publication, we must be able to clearly determine that we are allowed to reprint it. This can be proven in one of two ways. Method one is if it is original artwork you personally created and you can attest to it being your property, created by you. Method two is for you to provide clear evidence of where you obtained the artwork along with a reference showing that we are free to reproduce it (e.g. a link to the license terms for the artwork, written permission from the creator, etc.). Cover photos/art must also be composed in such a way that the masthead at the top of the cover page will not cover the main subject of the photo/art and space exists for the "In this issue" box. Images that relate in some way to radio are preferred but other pieces will be considered as well.

# Please renew your membership, if you haven't already

## Committee Chairs & Appointments

Technical Operations . . . . . Gary Coffey KB8MYC  
 ARPSA Representative . . . . . (open)  
 Volunteer Examiners . . . . . Gary Coffey KB8MYC  
 QCEN Representative . . . . . Tom Delaney W8WTD  
 Membership . . . . . Nathan Ciufo KA3MTT  
 Fundraising . . . . . Bruce Vanselow N8BV  
 Education . . . . . Tom Delaney W8WTD  
 Repeater Control Ops Mgr. . . Bruce Vanselow N8BV  
 PIO . . . . . Steve Crase N8PUP  
 SSTV Net Mgr . . . . . Steve Crase N8PUP  
 Librarian . . . . . Justin Moore KE8COY  
 Q-Fiver Editor . . . . . Ryan Owens AC8UJ (interim)  
 ARRL Field Day . . . . . Eric Neiheisel N8YC  
 Historian . . . . . Dale Vanselow KC8HQS  
 Fox Hunters . . . . . Dick Arnett WB4SUV  
 Equipment Manager . . . . . (open)  
 Webmaster . . . . . Rocky McGrath KE8DZS  
 Silent Key . . . . . Bryan Hoffman KC8EGV  
 Tech Talk Net Manager . . . . Bruce Vanselow N8BV  
 K8SCH Paper QSL Mgr . . . . . Bob Frey WA6EZV  
 K8SCH Elec. QSL Mgr . . Rick Haltermmon KD4PYR  
 TV/RFI . . . . . Dick Arnett WB8SUV

## OH-KY-IN Officers

President . . . . . Ryan Owens AC8UJ  
 Vice President . . . . . Cesi DiBenedetto KD8OOB  
 Secretary . . . . . Steve Crase N8PUP  
 Treasurer . . . . . Kevin Tribbe W8SM  
 Director . . . . . Drew MacDonald KE8JTL  
 Director . . . . . Bruce Vanselow N8BV  
 Director . . . . . Mike Niehaus KD8ZLB  
 Trustee . . . . . Bruce Vanselow N8BV

## Consider a Donation to OH-KY-IN

Did you know that OH-KY-IN ARS has been recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization? That means anyone who itemizes on their Federal return can take a charitable deduction for a contribution to OH-KY-IN, as long as it qualifies under the general rules applicable to all other charitable contributions (for example, the contribution must be in cash, or other property which the organization has agreed to accept; the value of volunteered services is not deductible). Membership dues, such as the cost of a life membership, may even be deductible; consult your own tax advisor for details if considering that. Posthumous donations by Will or by naming the organization as beneficiary of a financial account are also welcome.

**Special Note for Seniors:** Anyone who is over 70½ can make a donation to OH-KY-IN from their IRA and enjoy a tax benefit even if they don't itemize deductions, using what is called a QCD. Simply direct your IRA custodian to make the donation directly to OH-KY-IN (not payable to you) and the distribution will not result in any taxable income to you, even without itemizing deductions on your return. Contact your IRA custodian for the proper form to use.

Please remember to **renew** your membership!

We need all of you to keep OH-KY-IN going strong!



OH-KY-IN Amateur Radio Society has been a leading amateur radio organization in the Cincinnati, Ohio area for more than 65 years. We are a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to the advancement of all things radio. No matter the amateur radio interest, OH-KY-IN members are involved.