

# The Listening Post

## January Meeting

The January meeting of the Queen City Emergency Net will take place on Thursday, January 8th, at 7:30 p.m. in the Red Cross building, 2111 Dana Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45207. Of note, this will be the “annual meeting” as described in the Constitution. Election of Officers will take place, as will the reading of certain annual reports. Members should make every effort to attend this important meeting.

The *program* will be a series of videos from the Rohde and Schwarz Learning Center. Topics covered will include HF propagation and more about NVIS antennas. There will time for discussion and questions after each video.

**Winter Field Day**—Bob, W8NFM, reminds everyone of this fine activity to take place on January 24th and 25th. “This is an opportunity to get hands-on experience with the various rigs, hone your operating and logging skills, and demonstrate what we are capable of in times of local and large-scale disasters. For those of you who are new to amateur radio - and may be a bit hesitant to get on the air - fear not; experienced members will be on hand to guide you, assist you as needed, and then let you spread your wings in, er - on the air. “

We’ll have more information about operating hours, and sign-up sheets at the meeting.



### Coming Events:

Jan 8th QCEN Meeting  
and election of  
officers

Jan 10 & 11—No. American  
QSO Party, CW

Jan 17 & 18 —No. American  
QSO Party, SSB

Jan 24 & 25 Winter Field  
Day

## Contest Corner

By Bob Bross, W8NFM

As we begin a new year, the annual "Contest Cycle" also resets. So - in case you missed out on some of the larger ones, you have opportunities anew in 2026!

In the next few weeks, we have US State/Canadian Province QSO parties, North American QSO parties, an entire continent (Australia), band-specific contests, and of course - Winter Field Day.

01/10 - 01/11	North American QSO Party	CW	<a href="http://www.ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf">www.ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf</a>
01/17 - 01/18	North American QSP Party	Ph	<a href="http://www.ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf">www.ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf</a>
01/23 - 01/25	CQ 160-Meter Contest	CW	<a href="http://www.cq160.com/rules.htm">www.cq160.com/rules.htm</a>
01/24 - 01/25	Winter Field Day	CW Ph Dig	<a href="http://www.winterfieldday.com">www.winterfieldday.com</a>
01/25 - 01/26	Australia Day Contest	CW Ph Dig	<a href="http://www.wia.org.au">www.wia.org.au</a>
01/31 - 02/01	UPA DX Contest	Ph	<a href="http://www.uba/be">www.uba/be</a>
02/07 - 02/07	Minnesota QSO Party	CW Ph	<a href="http://www.w0aa.org">www.w0aa.org</a>
02/07 - 02/08	Vermont QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	<a href="http://www.ranv.org/vtqso.html">www.ranv.org/vtqso.html</a>
02/07 - 02/08	British Columbia QSO Party	CW Ph	<a href="http://www.orcadxcc.org/bcqp_rules.html">www.orcadxcc.org/bcqp_rules.html</a>
02/07 - 02/08	10-10 Intl Winter Contest	Ph	<a href="http://www.ten-ten.org/qso-party-rules/">www.ten-ten.org/qso-party-rules/</a>
02/07 - 02/08	European Union DX Contest	CW Ph	<a href="http://www.eudx-contest.com/rules/">www.eudx-contest.com/rules/</a>

More information (and more contests) can be found on [www.contestcalendar.com](http://www.contestcalendar.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 2025**  
*President:* Em Rhodes, N8MCR  
*Vice President:* Jim Craycroft, KB8UCJ  
*Treasurer:* Bob Bross, W8NFM  
*Secretary:* Rob Blocher, N8JMV  
*Communications Manager:* Steve Lewis, N8TFD  
*Director:* Bob Garfield, W8MRG  
*Director:* Kitty Hevener, W8TDA

## Scouting and Amateur radio ready for 2026!

The new Radio Scouting Committee has officially launched within the Dan Beard Council, bringing together Scout leaders and amateur radio operators to strengthen youth engagement with the amateur radio hobby. The committee held its first meeting virtually on December 16, 2025, drawing a diverse group of volunteers from local troops and clubs, many of whom are long-time hams and former scouts. The shared objective was clear: build a sustainable program that introduces Scouts to ham radio, supports merit badge advancement, and connects the Scouting and amateur radio communities in meaningful, long-term partnership.



Attendees included hams involved in emergency communications, Jamboree-on-the-Air operations, Radio Merit Badge instruction, ARISS contact events, youth nets, and large council events such as Peterloon and Summer Camp, and Camporees. Amateur radio clubs represented included QCEN, BCARA, WC8VOA, W8BLV, OHKYIN, CFMC, DeForest ARC, and K7JEP (?).

The committee discussed its initial work plan, which includes mapping out a calendar of possible events, continuing outreach to local radio clubs, and beginning direct outreach to districts, troops, and packs. Early ideas included supporting Merit Badge Challenge events, Winter Field Day, AdventureCon, council summer camps, Peterloon, Jamboree-on-the-Air, and other annual opportunities where Scouts can get on the air and learn radio skills. The group also highlighted the need to improve communication tools—exploring options such as forums, email groups, and social media—to coordinate volunteers, share resources, and keep leaders informed about upcoming activities and new requirements for the Radio Merit Badge starting in 2026.

Looking ahead, the Radio Scouting Committee plans to meet monthly, mostly virtually, with periodic in-person meetings. Volunteers are now being sought from both the Scouting and amateur radio communities to help with planning, event staffing, on-the-air activities, instruction, and behind-the-scenes coordination.

Anyone interested in supporting youth, sharing a love of radio, or helping build this new program from the ground up is invited to join the committee. The next meeting will be virtual on January 14th at 7pm.

Follow this link to register, <https://tinyurl.com/37pdcfnf> or contact Shawn at [ke8bbc@arrl.net](mailto:ke8bbc@arrl.net)



*KF8EKW presents plans for the Radio Scouting Committee to QCEN, with his dad, KE8BBC, looking on.*

## QCEN Meeting December 11, 2025

People arrived between 5-6pm for socializing and getting food prep.

Boy Scout Adam KF8EKW (9 yrs old and an Extra class) & his dad Shawn KE8BBC did talk about having scouts involved in Ham Radio.

Red Cross - Ken Robinson talked about working with QCEN.

V.P. Jim KB8UCJ - Welcomed all, time for dinner at 6:15, lots of food, then we did Self-Introductions & Pledge to the Flag and prize drawings.

W8VND Site - Francis N8PEE has finished the fence repairs.

- Secretary report of November meeting accepted as listed in L.P. online.
- Treasurer report - Bob B., W8NFM - all bills are paid, dues received..
- QCEN 2026 Officers -

Pres.-N8MCR,  
V.P.- KB8UCJ,  
Secretary-N8JMV,  
Treasurer-W8NFM,  
Comm. Mgr.-N8TFD,  
Jr Director-N8PEE.

No nominations from the floor, voting at the January 8, 2026 meeting.

Winter Field Day will be January 24 & 25 in radio room at Red Cross.

As always a good time was had by all. Happy New Year.

Meeting adjourned 7:46pm We had 40 people present.

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.