



# Q-FIVER

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

- Time to Renew
- Bouvet Contact Experience
- Scout news
- ...and more!

## *A Note from Our Membership Chair*

I don't know about you, but I'm super excited that it's Spring time. While reflecting on this past winter, it didn't FEEL very long, which I am thankful for. I have already cut my grass twice!

All that being said, if you haven't already done so, please take a moment to join or renew your membership with OH-KY-IN Amateur Radio Society.

All of us put a lot of time and effort not only into getting our licenses, but also assembling a shack, putting up antennas, etc. Your membership in our great organization is an investment into the hobby.

We have always had a grace period of allowing members up to April 1<sup>st</sup> to renew their membership. After that date, only current members will have access to our Groups.io site, as well as receive club communications from the reflector.

Thanks to the efforts of Ryan, AC8UJ, the organization has made it very simple to join and/or renew in a secure fashion with two options.

First and easiest, use the following link: <http://renew.ohkyin.org/>

You can use ANY credit card, debit card, or PayPal account securely. On the same site there is a video that Ryan, AC8UJ, created that demonstrates the secure system used for checkout.

Second, you can use the following link: <http://www.ohkyin.org/docs/Applications/Membership%20App.pdf>

This link will provide you with a PDF file that you can print and mail in your payment to my address at the bottom.

If you have ANY question at all regarding joining and/or renewing your membership, please let me know.

Happy Spring, and I look forward to processing renewals, new memberships, and answering questions.

Best 73,

Nathan Ciufo, KA3MTT  
Membership Chairman, OH-KY-IN Amateur Radio Society  
KA3MTT@OHKYIN.ORG  
859.760.9262

*Please support OH-KY-IN by  
renewing your membership  
for 2026!*

## *May Meeting — Online Only*

Due to our May meeting coinciding with election day, we will meet only via Zoom in May. Our normal meeting location is unavailable due to being a polling location. Please help spread the word.

The April meeting will be held as usual, both in person and on Zoom.

### *Brunch Bunch*

*by George Gardei, N3VQW*

The April Brunch Bunch will be at Jim & Jack's at 3456 River Rd., Cincinnati, OH 45204, Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM.

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



◆ March gathering

### *My Bouvet Adventure*

*by Steve Weeks, AA8SW*

Bouvet Island is considered one of the most remote in the world, being located in the Antarctic region 1,600 miles from any inhabited area (the southern end of South Africa) and largely covered with glaciers. It has traditionally been considered second only to North Korea in ham radio difficulty. In 2023, DXers were thrilled that the most expensive DXpedition in history was launched. The crew returned home safely but the results from an amateur radio standpoint were abysmal. Most of the team never made it onto the island and they logged only about 7,000 contacts, a tiny fraction of what a typical expedition accomplishes. When they were unable to unload all of their gear and personnel onto the island, the partial operation was haphazard — for example, computers running FT8 had no GPS time sync hardware and as a result, few digital contacts were made.

This year, a similar team geared up for an even more expensive attempt, using a helicopter to overcome the difficulties in getting people and gear onto the island.

I was very doubtful that I would get Bouvet. I have a good radio but I live in an urban high-noise area and due to HOA restrictions, I have only random wire antennas for HF. When the expedition started, my apprehension seemed to be justified as I followed many spots but rarely received workable signals — and in those cases, there were overwhelming pileups — and deliberate QRM. For unknown reasons, the expedition leadership chose to operate digital on .090 frequencies



◆ Glacier on Bouvet Island's west coast

Photo by François Guerraz (CCA-SA 3.0)

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on most bands. I have no proof, but it seems to me that the RTTY Mafia took that as a taunt and operated an unprecedented jamming operation.

I am also dismayed that the most expensive expedition in history didn't have a livestream or any other publicized current information on its operations (as a result, I saw successful callers going back for multiple backup contacts, QRMIing those who were still trying for the first one). The promised Facebook "current updates" were a joke. So I followed what they were doing on DXlite and looked at PSKreporter to see if they were actually making it into the Eastern U.S.

A friend had success getting other DX at 4 a.m. and that got me thinking about possible advantages of trying for Bouvet in the middle of the night. Local noise should be lower, pileups should be slimmer, and maybe even the jammers would be catching up on their rest. It wasn't prime time for propagation but VOACAP predicted decent conditions, at least on the middle bands 17 through 40 meters.

So on my birthday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, I didn't go to bed at the usual time and was monitoring from around midnight. For a long time, it seemed that this was going to be more wasted effort but then at 2 a.m., DXlite showed that 3Y0K was starting FT8 on 18095. I went there and was thrilled to see 3 streams decoding consistently. I beat the crowd and got the all-time new one (ATNO) in 5 minutes! Happy Birthday to me! I alerted Robert K4PKM and 17 meters had faded by the time he got on, but the middle of the night strategy worked for him too, as he soon got the ATNO on another band.

After that, I went back to usual spot-checking for several days during "normal hours" and got nowhere, so I decided to try the late-night strategy again one more time before QRT. On March 12, around 2:20 a.m., I found Bouvet on the atypical frequency of 7070 FT8 and got the contact in about 10 minutes. There was no jamming seen on 7070 but I never saw them on that frequency again as they seemed to have gone back to 7090.

So my expectations of failure were disproven and I got 2 bands. Another mode would have been nice but I checked many CW spots and could never get a workable signal with my limited station. That's DXCC 285 (out of 340) for me, which is certainly unimpressive by serious DXing standards but decent, I think, given my setup and having operated only 8 years.

73, Steve AA8SW



◆ A view of the west coast of Bouvet Island

Photo by François Guerraz (CCA-SA 3.0)

## *Dan Beard Council Radio Scouting Committee*

### *Troop 674 Radio Demo Day - March 3, 2026*

On the evening of March 3, 2026, the Dan Beard Council Radio Scouting Committee (RSC) rolled into Montgomery's Troop 674 with antennas, radios, and a lot of enthusiasm. About 30 Scouts and 6 adult leaders gathered at the Church of the Savior in Cincinnati for what started as a regular troop meeting and turned into a STEM night on the radio. Running under the Scouts on the Air and call sign K2BSA/8, the RSC team set up three radio stations and spent the next hour getting every Scout on the air - talking to people across the region, across the city, and right across the gym.

The format was simple and it worked well. Scouts rotated through three stations every fifteen minutes, each one showing off a different side of amateur radio. The gear alone turned heads - military-style hard cases popped open to reveal HF rigs running off portable battery packs, handheld VHF radios crackled with local traffic, and FRS walkie-talkies got passed around for a tactical challenge game that had the whole campus buzzing.

One of the real highlights of the night was how many people from the ham radio community "showed up" to support the event. The Queen City Emergency Net (QCEN) jumped in at the last-minute and allowed the scouts to use their club repeater and they had operators checking in all evening. Robert Overstreet and the Milford Amateur Radio Club (MARC) were supporters as well. On the HF station, Scouts made real contacts with W8TDA (Kitty Hevener), KE8TDE (Ben), W8NFM (Bob), KB9ORF (Roy), K9CVO (Ken), KB7PKD (Mark), N8JMV (Rob), Scott Harshman, Ken Castille, Jay Wysong, John Christopher, and Adam Stone - all volunteers who parked on frequency just to talk to a Scout. Bill Stearns (NE4RD) from K2BSA and Kirk Musselman (K9MSG) from Scouts on the Air were also key in making the whole thing happen. And in a pretty special moment, Michael (N2HTE) shared that he was an alumni of Troop 674 - although his Troop 674 was in West Seneca NY.

Troop 674 was a great host and a great group to work with. The energy from the Scouts and their leaders made the whole night click. For the RSC, this is exactly what the committee was built to do - get radios in the hands of young people and show them that amateur radio is alive, relevant, and a lot of fun. Next up, the team is already looking at tightening up the format - smaller patrol groups, a real-time contact map, and a more polished frequency plan.

Is your pack or troop interested in hosting a radio demo? The Dan Beard Council Radio Scouting Committee is actively looking to bring this experience to more Scout units across the Dan Beard Council. We'll bring the gear, the operators, and the fun - you just bring the Scouts. Reach out to us on Facebook at [facebook.com/profile.php?id=61585942053513](https://facebook.com/profile.php?id=61585942053513) or drop us an email at [ke8bbc@arrl.net](mailto:ke8bbc@arrl.net) and let's get your unit on the air!

Two big events coming later this year, be sure to mark your calendar for Summer Field Day on June 26-27 and Jamboree on the Air, the largest scouting jamboree in the world on October 16-18.

#### **The Three Stations**

##### **Station 1: HF - Talking Across the Region (40 Meters SSB)**

The HF station was the centerpiece of the night. Jocelyn (KD8VRX) ran it under K2BSA/8 on 40 meters SSB, and Scouts took turns at the mic making real contacts with operators across the region - some hundreds of miles away. Scouts spoke with operators as far away as Texas and Georgia, and plenty of hams here in Ohio. They spoke to former scout masters, a Taekwondo instructor and even an Eagle Scout.

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### **Station 2: VHF - Connecting Across Cincinnati (2 Meters FM)**

Kurt (AD8ML) ran the VHF station connected to the local QCEN 2-meter repeater (located at the Cincinnati Red Cross building), where Scouts spoke with hams across Cincinnati who had tuned in to say hello. If HF is the big show, VHF is where you realize just how much radio activity is already happening all around you. Scouts got a quick lesson on how repeaters work and why that matters.

### **Station 3: FRS/GMRS - Tactical Radio Challenge Game**

Michael (N2HTE), Lance (KF8EEM), and Adam (KF8EKW) ran the FRS/GMRS station, and this one was loud in the best way. Each mini patrol got a tactical call sign, radios went in hands, and the Radio Roulette challenge kicked off - net control issuing movement orders, teams responding and relaying across the church. It was competitive, it was chaotic in stretches, and the Scouts loved it. It's also a natural bridge to Option E of the newly updated 2026 Radio Merit Badge requirements, which now formally recognizes FRS/GMRS as a valid path into radio communications for Scouts.

### **Thank You to Our Supporters**

Big thanks to everyone who made Tuesday night happen - you made a real difference for these Scouts: QCEN, K2BSA and SCOUTS On the Air.

And of course, all the hams:

W8TDA Kitty, KE8TDE Ben, W8NFM Bob, KB9ORF Roy, K9CVO Ken, KB7PKD Mark, N8JMV Rob, Scott Harshman, Ken Castille, Jay Wysong, John Christopher, Adam Stone, and all the stations we missed!

### **Organizations & Key Individuals**

- Queen City Emergency Net (QCEN) - [qcenorg.wordpress.com](http://qcenorg.wordpress.com)
- Milford Amateur Radio Club <https://milfordhamradio.org/>
- K2BSA - Bill Stearns (NE4RD) - [k2bsa.net](http://k2bsa.net)
- Scouts on the Air - Kirk Musselman (K9MSG) [amateurradioevents.com/scoutsontheair](http://amateurradioevents.com/scoutsontheair)
- Troop 674 host venue - Church of the Savior - [cos-umc.org](http://cos-umc.org)
- Troop 674 Scoutmaster - Ernie Wallace

Special thanks to on-site amateur radio operators of the DBC Radio Scouting Committee: Jocelyn KD8VRX, Adam KF8EKW, Kurt AD8ML, Shawn KE8BBC, Lance KF8EEM and Michael N2HTE.



◆ Troop 674 Scouts and RSC team at the close of the event.

Provided

## *March, 2026 Meeting Minutes*

OH-KY-IN Amateur Radio Society  
Minutes of March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026, 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: Navid KN6CHO (new member); Brian KC8FJM

New Licenses or Upgrades: None

Attendance: 18 in person; 13 via Zoom

Health and Welfare: N/A

Awards & Achievements: N/A

Program: NVIS Operating by Cesi KD8OOB

Prior Meeting Minutes: Justin KE8COY made the motion, and Edwin KE8MYA seconded accepting the meeting minutes for February 2026 as published in the Q-Fiver. Motion passed.

Membership: Not present. 89 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.

Classes/Exams: Tom W8WTD reports that a single day tech class is planned for the end of March.

Library: Justin KE8COY received one of the new books ordered for the club library, with more on the way.

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

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

Brunch Bunch: 2nd Saturday of the month at 1:00pm. March will be 3/14 at Sugar 'n Spice

Events:

- 4/25 - Ohio NVIS Day
- 6/27 & 6/28 - ARRL Field Day

Old Business:

- Ryan AC8UJ: Presented a Meritorious Service award to Tom W8WTD recognizing the many ways he supports OH-KY-IN, including planning classes, assisting with meeting video, organizing and supporting outreach events and more.
- Cesi KD8OOB: Satellite station grant update. No Update.
- Financial Audit Committee report was delivered. Everything was found to be in order. Andy K3CAQ motioned to accept the 2025 Treasurer reports on behalf of the audit committee, seconded by Dan KF4AV. Motion passed.
- Ryan AC8UJ: Remote participation in split-the-pot. N/A

New Business:

- Ryan AC8UJ: There is a location conflict for the May meeting. The board will discuss and announce a plan, so watch for updates.

Split the Pot: \$47.00 Split \$24.00 Dan KF4AV, donated back to club

Motion to adjourn made by Dan KF4AV, seconded by David KQ4AUD. Meeting adjourned at 8:36PM

Respectfully submitted, Ryan Owens AC8UJ, President

# DX Spots - April 2026

## DE KA3MTT

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
PJ7KB - Saint Maarten thru 4-4  	CE0Y - Easter I thru 4-11  	EA8 - Canary Is thru 4-6  	1 P5-P9 North Korea Thru 4-1  	2  	3 3B9N - Rodrigues Is thru 5-20  	4  
5  	6  	7  	8 JW - Svalbard thru 4-8  	9  	10  	11 V47EM - St Kitts & Nevis thru 5-1  
12  	13  	14  	15  	16 VP9KF - Bermuda Thru 4-30  	17 3D2JK - Fiji thru 4-22  	18  
19 TX9W - Marquesas Thru 4-30  	20  	21  	22  	23 7P8WR - Lesotho Thru 5-1  	24  	25 C5 - Gambia thru 5-8  
26  	27  	28  	29  	30  		

*Prepared by Nathan Ciufu, KA3MTT*

## *Calendar of Upcoming Events*

Tuesday	April 7 @ 7:30 PM	Club Meeting (Zoom & Arlington Heights Town Hall)
Wednesday	April 8 @ 9:00 PM	Tech Talk Net (146.670 Repeater)
Tuesday	April 14 @ 7:30 PM	Board of Directors Meeting (same Zoom info as club meeting)
Wednesday	April 15 @ 9:00 PM	Tech Talk Net (146.670 Repeater)
Wednesday	April 22 @ 9:00 PM	Tech Talk Net (146.670 Repeater)
Wednesday	April 29 @ 9:00 PM	Tech Talk Net (146.670 Repeater)
Tuesday	May 5 @ 7:30 PM	Club Meeting ( <b>Zoom only</b> )
Wednesday	May 6 @ 9:00 PM	Tech Talk Net (146.670 Repeater)
Tuesday	May 12 @ 7:30 PM	Board of Directors Meeting (same Zoom info as club meeting)
Wednesday	May 13 @ 9:00 PM	Tech Talk Net (146.670 Repeater)
Wednesday	May 20 @ 9:00 PM	Tech Talk Net (146.670 Repeater)
Wednesday	May 27 @ 9:00 PM	Tech Talk Net (146.670 Repeater)
Tuesday	June 2 @ 7:30 PM	Club Meeting (Zoom & Arlington Heights Town Hall)
Wednesday	June 3 @ 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 [qfiver@ohkyin.org](mailto:qfiver@ohkyin.org). 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
ARPSC Representative . . . . .	(open)
Volunteer Examiners . . . . .	Gary Coffey KB8MYC
QCEN Representative . . . . .	Tom Delaney W8WTD
Membership . . . . .	Nathan Ciufu KA3MTT
Fundraising . . . . .	Bruce Vanselow N8BV
Education . . . . .	Tom Delaney W8WTD
Repeater Control Ops Mgr. . . . .	Bruce Vanselow N8BV
PIO . . . . .	Steve Crase N8PUP
Librarian . . . . .	Justin Moore KE8COY
Q-Fiver Editor . . . . .	Ryan Owens AC8UJ
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 Haltermon 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.