



AIRWAVES JOURNAL

The Newsletter of the InterCity Amateur Radio Club ~ Established 1933
~~76th Year of Service to Richland County ~~
January, 2009

Upcoming Events

February 6th – IARC Meeting at the Health Dept at 7:30PM
Finalize Hamfest Details

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February 14<sup>th</sup> – Valentines Day

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February 14th – Setup for Hamfest at the Fairgrounds
11AM – Contact Rob KD8AZQ

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**February 15<sup>th</sup> – Mid-Winter Hamfest**

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March 6th – IARC Meeting at the Health Dept at 7:30PM

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March 10<sup>th</sup> – Skywarn Training Sessions  
1PM at EMA Community room – Park Ave East  
6:30PM at Lexington Sr Citizen's Ctr (depot) in Lexington

# VE Test Sessions

As always these sessions are within 100 miles of Mansfield. Please as a courtesy, call and let them know if you plan to attend one of these sessions.

Sessions in **GREEN** are open to all and allow walk-ins

Sessions in **BLUE** ask for pre-registrations but will still accept walk-ins

Sessions in **RED** will **REQUIRE** pre-registrations and **DO NOT** allow walk-ins

**17-Jan-2009 -- Sponsor: INTER-CITY ARC -- Time: 1:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)**  
**Contact: RICHARD E FLETCHER -- (419)886-2463 -- Email: [VKAFLETCH@AOL.COM](mailto:VKAFLETCH@AOL.COM)**  
**Location: RICHLAND HEALTH DEPT (LOWER LEVEL)**  
**555 LEXINGTON AVE -- MANSFIELD, OH 44907**

**17-Jan-2009 -- Sponsor: HOCKING VALLEY ARC -- Time: 10:30AM (Walk-ins allowed)**  
**Contact: TOM J ODELL -- (740)380-3577 -- Email: [TOMODELL2@MSN.COM](mailto:TOMODELL2@MSN.COM)**  
**PRE-REGISTRATION 1 WEEK AHEAD NO TEST IF NO-ONE REGISTERS!**  
**Location: HOCKING VALLEY EMER OPS CENTER-911 BLDG**  
**52 E 2ND ST -- LOGAN, OH 43138**

**20-Jan-2009 -- Sponsor: SANDUSKY RADIO EXP LEAGUE INC -- Time: 7:00 PM (No walk-ins)**  
**Contact: LUTHER T GANTZ -- (419)684-7864 -- Email: [N8HC@ARRL.NET](mailto:N8HC@ARRL.NET)**  
**Location: SANDUSKY RADIO EXP LEAGUE INC**  
**2909 W PERKINS AVE -- SANDUSKY, OH 44870**

**21-Jan-2009 -- Sponsor: DAYTON ARA -- Time: 7:00PM (Walk-ins allowed)**  
**Contact: MARK E ERBAUGH -- (740)845-1877 -- Email: [N8ME@ARRL.NET](mailto:N8ME@ARRL.NET)**  
**PRE-REG ONLY FOR SPECIAL NEEDS ALL EXAMS OFFERED**  
**Location: DARA CLUB HOUSE**  
**6619 BELLEFONTAINE RD -- HUBER HEIGHTS, OH 45424**

**24-Jan-2009 -- Sponsor: WRECS -- Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)**  
**Contact: ROBERT C GAUSS -- (330)562-3328 -- Email: [N8ZB@YAHOO.COM](mailto:N8ZB@YAHOO.COM)**  
**BASEMENT AT THE CORNER OF SOLON RD & RIVER RD**  
**Location: BENTLEYVILLE VILLAGE HALL/CHAGRIN FALLS**  
**6253 CHAGRIN RIVER RD -- BENTLEYVILLE, OH 44022**

**01-Feb-2009 -- Sponsor: MARION ARC -- Time: 2:30 PM (Walk-ins allowed)**  
**Contact: RICHARD W CAREY -- (740)528-2296 -- Email: [RWCAREY@GTE.NET](mailto:RWCAREY@GTE.NET)**  
**Location: TV 39 -- 1282 N MAIN ST -- MARION, OH 43302**

**03-Feb-2009 -- Sponsor: PIONEER AR FELLOWSHIP -- Time: 6:30 PM (Walk-ins allowed)**  
**Contact: RONALD D LIEVING -- (330)724-5981**  
**PRE-REGISTRATION PREFERRED**  
**Location: AKRON BAPTIST TEMPLE -- 2324 MANCHESTER RD -- AKRON, OH 44314**

**07-Feb-2009 -- Sponsor: PORTAGE COUNTY ARS, INC -- Time: 10:00AM (Walk-ins allowed)**  
**Contact: JAMES J AYLRWARD – (330)297-7979 -- Email: [KC8PD@PORTCARS.ORG](mailto:KC8PD@PORTCARS.ORG)**  
**Location: CENTER OF HOPE**  
**1034 W MAIN ST -- RAVENNA, OH 44266**

**07-Feb-2009 -- Sponsor: LAKE COUNTY ARA -- Time: 12 NOON (Walk-ins allowed)**  
**Contact: SCOTT FARNHAM - (440)256-0320-Email: [SCOTTFARNHAM@ROADRUNNER.COM](mailto:SCOTTFARNHAM@ROADRUNNER.COM)**  
**1.7 MI S OF I-90 -- Location: KIRTLAND LIBRARY**  
**9267 CHILLICOTHE RD (ROUTE 306) -- KIRTLAND, OH 44094**

**07-Feb-2009 -- Sponsor: RARA -- Time: 10:00AM (Walk-ins allowed)**  
**Contact: WALTER C VOGEL – (419)394-2976 -- Email: [AWVOGEL@BRIGHT.NET](mailto:AWVOGEL@BRIGHT.NET)**  
**Location: NOBLE COMMUNITY CENTER**  
**16493 RIVER ROAD -- SAINT MARYS, OH 45885**

**15-Feb-2009 -- Sponsor: INTER CITY ARC/HAMFEST -- Time: 1:00 PM (No walk-ins)**  
**Contact: RICHARD E FLETCHER – (419)886-2463 -- Email: [VKAFLETCH@AOL.COM](mailto:VKAFLETCH@AOL.COM)**  
**PRE-REGISTER -- PREFER CHECKS PAYABLE TO ARRL**  
**Location: RICHLAND COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS ADMISSION BLDG**  
**750 NORTH HOME ROAD -- MANSFIELD, OH 44906**

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## DX & IOTA Updates

This bulletin was made possible with information provided by ARRL DX News, NC1L, the OPDX Bulletin, DXNL, 425 DX News, The Daily DX, Contest Corral from QST and the ARRL Contest Calendar and WA7BNM web sites. Thanks to all.

**DENMARK, OZ.** In celebration of the 350th anniversary of the Treaty of Roskilde, special event station OZ1658ROS is active until the end of 2009. QSL via OZ9EDR.

**SWEDEN, SM.** In celebration of the 350th anniversary of the Treaty of Roskilde, special event stations SH1658DK, SH1658OZ, SC1658OZ, SK1658OZ, SK1658DK and SB1658OZ are active until the end of 2009 Halland, Skane and Blekinge. QSL via operators' instructions.

**CROZET ISLAND, FT/W.** **IOTA AF-008** Florentin, F4DYW is QRV as FT5WO for one year while on work assignment. Activity will be in his spare time. QSL to home call.

**WEST MALAYSIA, 9M2.** Dani, EA4ATI is QRV as 9M2TI from Kuala Lumpur and is here for about one year. Activity is on 40, 20, 15 and 10 meters using CW and SSB. This includes entries in the upcoming main international contests. QSL to home call.

**ENGLAND, G.** Terry, GM3WUX will be QRV with special event callsign GB2HLB from December 26 to January 22 in commemoration of the birth of Louis Braille, the inventor of the embossed printing

used by the blind. QSL via operator's instructions.

**CHAD, TT.** Sylvain, F6CIS is QRV as TT8SK and may be here from six months to three years. Activity is on all bands during his spare time. QSL via F5OZF.

**COTE d'IVOIRE, TU.** Phil, F4EGS is QRV as TU8/homecall from Abidjan until the end of February 2009 while on work assignment. Activity is mostly on 160 and 80 meters but he will also try the other HF bands using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL to home call.

**TUNISIA, 3V.** Members of the Provins ARC will be QRV as TS7C from Kerkennah Island, [IOTA AF-073](#), from January 8 to 19. Activity will be on all HF bands using CW, SSB, RTTY, FM, SSTV and PSK with six or seven stations. QSL via F4EGD.

**SWITZERLAND, HB.** In celebration of the 80th anniversary of the Union of Swiss HF Amateurs, or USKA, Swiss amateurs are allowed to use the special prefixes HE8 and HB8 during the year 2009.

**MARSHALL ISLANDS, V7.** Neil, WD8CRT will be QRV as V73NS from Kwajalein atoll, [IOTA OC-028](#), beginning January 5. He will be here for the next two years. Activity will be on 160 to 6 meters using mostly CW. QSL to home call.

**CANADA, VE.** In remembrance of the work of Italian physicist, mathematician and astronomer Galileo Galilei, Canadian amateurs may use the prefixes CF, CG, CH and CI from January 1 to February 28.

**CAMBODIA, XU.** Peter, NO2R is QRV as XU7ACY from Sihanoukville until the end of January. He is active primarily on 160 and 80 meters as propagation permits. He may also try to be active from Bamboo Island, [IOTA AS-133](#). QSL via W2EN.



# *Conspiratorial Comments*



**Bob Rightsell, AE4FA**

**Editorial by the SPAR Board of Directors.**

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## **What Are They Smoking?**

From the beginning, amateur radio operators have provided communications, both in times of emergency and times of celebration. A ham, for instance first issued the news that Charles Lindbergh had landed in Paris after his non-stop trans-Atlantic flight. Amateurs, completely without formal organization, would quickly organize traffic nets to all points from the scenes of natural or other disasters. This went on for some time before the concept of a formal Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES)<sup>TM</sup> was formed and subsequently implemented. This was seen as progress toward more standardized emergency communications, in that it added some regimentation. However, amateur radio remained completely free of any need for infrastructure in order to successfully maintain communications under less than ideal conditions.

Later came the development of Memorandums Of Understanding (MOUs) between the amateur community and various agencies that from seek our assistance. So, multiple contractual obligations were then in play. Then, certain of those agencies decided that they needed to require a completely separate and distinct credentialing system for those whose expertise they wished to employ for free. One, especially, was not well received in that amateur radio operators who wished to volunteer were required to sign a form agreeing to complete background checks – not just criminal records, but also their credit histories and so called ‘lifestyle’ checks. And best of all, that data was to be collected and used by a small business in California that nobody ever heard of.

Meanwhile, some ‘leaders’ in the amateur community began promoting the use of technologies that require infrastructure in order to work. The stated motive was that ‘served officials’ are used to receiving all their information via e-mail. This leads me to ask if they are ‘used to’ dealing with disasters like Katrina. I remember quite distinctly listening to a live NPR interview with Michael Chertoff (head of Homeland Security) during which he disputed that there were any refugees at the New Orleans convention center.

The interviewer told Mr. Chertoff that he was watching live TV coverage of the scene at that moment. He was told it was impossible, that he had no such reports via e-mail. Meanwhile, virtually every American and many in other nations knew he was wrong. Days had passed before Mr. Chertoff finally got a clue and turned on a TV. When he did, he found that TV crews were live on the scene while FEMA/DHS personnel were nowhere to be found.

A few moments later, the interviewer reported that Mr. Chertoff had called back to say that, indeed, there were refugees there. So much for 'used to getting all information via e-mail.' Chalk that up, hopefully, as lessons learned.

Does anyone really believe that, in an emergency, officials in charge of response will ignore on-scene information from those who don't have the 'proper credentials,' have not been officially checked into the scene, and provide critical information via any method other than e-mail? If that is indeed the case, we are deep, very deep trouble.

All this bureaucratic Bull Sausage will slow our response time, and with it the flow of information, require not just a rig, dipole and battery, but also a computer, proprietary modem and – probably – an amplifier along with a sufficient power source. And this is viewed as 'progress?'

' The point of all this is that I am forced to ask this question of those 'leaders' who are driving a switch to infrastructure dependence: **WHAT ARE YOU SMOKING???** Amateur radio should, and really must, remain able to provide emergency communications without any external infrastructure. Plainly put, anything else is pie in the sky, sure to line someone's pockets while simultaneously failing to get the job done.

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### ***SPAR Information***

The Society for the Preservation of Amateur Radio is a non-partisan group of concerned amateur radio operators working together to ensure the vitality of the Amateur Radio Service by encouraging technical advancement and preserving long standing traditions. Membership in SPAR is open to all interested amateurs who agree with the Statement of Principles, regardless of nationality or license class. For the complete Statement of Principles, the SPAR Charter and additional information, please see the SPAR web site at [www.spar-hams.org](http://www.spar-hams.org).

To join SPAR, simply go to the web site, choose the Forum link and register using your call sign as your user name. SPAR invites all members to contribute articles for publication in The Roundtable. Comments on this newsletter should be sent via email to [roundtable@spar-hams.org](mailto:roundtable@spar-hams.org).

This article was sent to me from Mike Stevens W8EMT. Thanks Mike.



# SKYWARN

By Jay Bookwalter KC8GNL

Well a new year is here. Time sure does fly faster and faster these days. Winter is here for a few more months but it is not too early to begin our review of how the local Skywarn program is supposed to work. First and very important is the annual training sessions. These are required every 3 years in order to be considered as a trained and active spotter. Our session as we have mentioned at meetings and in the "Upcoming Events" column in this newsletter will be March 10<sup>th</sup> with 2 sessions. The 1PM session will hopefully be at the Madison Twp Hall (*former meeting place for IARC*) and the evening session is set for 6:30PM at the Lexington Sr Citizen's Center in Lexington. This is the Depot like building along the bike trail. If you are new to the group or if you have not attended a session in the last 3 years PLEASE try and make one of the classes.

The second item of importance is which frequencies we use. This one has had it's problems at times so this is why we review it. The **main frequency** is the **146.940** (K8RT) repeater. It has courtesy tones which will let you know what status we are working under at the time. These are as follows; Watch mode – Severe Thunderstorm Warning - & Tornado Warning. I will review these later. Now here is where confusion occurs at times. If for some reason the 94 repeater drops off the air we will then go to the **147.360** (K8HF) repeater. If when you notice the 94 is not working this is the first place to check. Now if for some reason the 36 repeater is down then check the **145.330** (W8NDB) repeater. We usually try and have someone on the output frequency try and let people know we had to move to another repeater but due to stations locations or power you may or may not always hear this so please remember the order of frequencies. ( 146.940 – to – 147.360 – to – 145.330 – all with 71.9pl) If for some really bad events where we lose all 3 repeaters we will go to a **SIMPLEX frequency of 146.520.**

The above is also true for any ARES operations where a repeater may fail which can happen with little or no warning. Some of you might remember some of the Wednesday night nets where the repeater was not working well. It can & has happened during storm events too so be prepared to make a change in case something goes wrong.

The **3 net status alerts** you may hear during skywarn events also for some reason cause confusion at times. The first one is the **Weather Watch mode**. When you hear this it means we are under a watch and that a net may go active at any time. We may or may not be taking check-ins so just because you hear this mode does not mean we are active. Just be aware that we may go active ***IF*** something comes up or is getting close. In this you also should allow gaps in your communications with others in case a net control operator needs to get things going.

Also listen for stations outside of Richland County. We are a district net for a 5 county area which include Marion, Morrow, Crawford, Knox, & Richland. Since we are the ones that can reach the "Backbone Net" on 6-meters, we will at times receive calls from these other counties where storms may be occurring. If you hear someone from these counties and there is no net control person ACTIVE at the time, please take the call then let them know that we have not activated yet. If storms are in our district we usually will have someone with 6-meters

monitoring which will answer these calls, but again if you know for a fact we do not have anyone, please let the calling station know then get ahold of Danny, Mark, or myself as soon as possible. (*we are still looking for someone to become the coordinator so if interested contact Danny or myself*) This is considered a PRIORITY so please hold all traffic until one of us is contacted.

The next mode is for **Thunderstorm Warnings**. This is pretty much self explanatory as far as what it means. One thing to remember is once this mode is active the repeater is considered closed to normal operations and **ALL traffic goes thru net control** (NCS). You will get a reminder if you bypass the net operator with making contact with someone. The NCS will tell you to make your contact then move to another frequency and may mention to go thru net control in the future. Do not get upset if it happens as we are used to this occurring, just try and remember that if the weather is bad the repeater may be in net mode. Remember in learning to get your licence they mention "Listening"? This is a good reason why.

The next and most important mode is for Tornado Warnings. Here is where we will be **VERY STRICT** in the operation of the net. If and when this mode is up we will **only accept calls regarding tornadic activity**. Hold all other info unless it is related to a tornado. We also may if manpower allows have a second net for routine reports on either the 36 or 33 repeater. Again though if we have a tornado warning that usually means something has been seen and due to life and property dangers we consider this as an emergency net. Also keep ALL reports short and to the point as time is critical with these situations and lives may depend on information getting thru in a timely fashion.

I know that some think that because this is a voluntary operation that it is not important to follow the rules. Sadly this is the wrong thing to believe. Skywarn is probably where amateur radio shines the most and the job we do is extremely important not only to the NWS but to our local neighbors who might just get a warning in time to protect themselves because we passed the report to the NWS so they could get the information out to the public. Keep this in mind as you can be proud to be part of a very successful program.

I will review a few more things next month plus there will be a list of spotters with the dates of their last training session. So if you are not sure when your last time was you will be able to look it up. Till then keep safe and warm, it's still winter for a while longer.



# SKYWARN POSITION OPEN

We need a *dedicated* person to become the Richland County Skywarn Coordinator.

Contact Danny Bailey KB8STK at [kb8stk@hotmail.com](mailto:kb8stk@hotmail.com) or contact Jay KC8GNL at [kc8gnl@embarqmail.com](mailto:kc8gnl@embarqmail.com)

It would be nice to have someone in this position by the training sessions so if you would like to do this let us know soon.

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## "IARC REPEATER'S – PART 3"

by David Spain (KC8GNU)

The IARC's [443.225](#) (70 centimeter) repeater is located in a shed/building at the Hi-Stat Manufacturing Complex on Mill Street in Lexington, Ohio, a village southwest of Mansfield. Henry Koenig is the IARC Trustee for the repeater, so it has his call sign, "WD8Q".

According to Henry, the unofficial "control operators" for the .225 machine are Bill Reece (W8WER) and Rob Ruth (KD8AZQ), and it was put in service some ten years or so ago to cover a "dead spot" in the Lexington area for the Club's 2-meter [146.940](#) repeater. The two repeaters can be "linked" together if necessary, and power output for the [443.225](#) repeater is 20 watts.

Bill Reece stated that he replaced John Young (N8JY), who worked at Hi-Stat, and has since relocated to Youngstown, as the maintenance person for the 20repeater. "I worked on it once a couple of years ago", Bill said, "and it has been a reliable repeater system, although it has been hit by lightning a couple of times. I think that was the one time I worked on it". Bill added that he now has a key to the shed/building, which will make maintenance on the repeater a lot easier to accomplish.

The existence of the .225 machine leads back to Jim Hire (W8ZET) and his brother John Hire (W8ZES), the founder of Hi-Stat Manufacturing, and Mike Thompson (WB8ERJ), who worked at Hi-Stat. According to everybody I've talked to, John Hire paid for the

entire setup of the .225 machine, either personally or through the company, including the repeater itself, the tower and the concrete for its base, and the 3" coax and backup battery for the system. Both Jim and John are now SK's (silent keys), but Jim's wife, Janeen, has his call sign.

Mike Thompson says that he mentioned a need for the repeater to Jim Hire, who then approached John Hire, who worked closely with John Young on the project, and the rest is history. A contingent of ham operator's, led by Bob Miller (K8RFM), a Lexington resident with a background in "marketing and public relations", had to attend a meeting or two of the Lexington Village Council, and the village's Zoning Commission, to eventually get the permission from the Council to erect the repeater's approximately 140' tower.

"John Young knew my background, and asked me to speak for amateur radio at the Zoning and Council meetings", Bob explained, "and we had two main issues to contend with, safety if the tower fell, and security to keep people other than ham radio operators, and other legitimate maintenance guys, from climbing on it. Once we favorably got by the Zoning Commission, we were able to reach an accord with the Council. It all took about thirty days".

Bob, who was the ham radio Emergency Co-ordinator for Richland County for eight years, added that one of the provisions for Council approval was, in an "emergency" that affected area communications, the .225 repeater is to be used solely for the Village of Lexington.

According to Mike Thompson, , the operators who helped on the .225 machine's construction project were himself, Jack and Jim Hire, John T. Young (N8JY), who was in charge at the site, Jim Odson (WB8TBG), Ken Schonauer (KC8JTX), Bob Miller, Bruce Van Hesteren (N8KJS), John W. Young (N8RJI), Norm Nelson, Jr. (WB8WRS), Craig Sloey (KB8RWN), Dave Weigold (N8DPW), John Ness (WB8SFV/K8NJ), Rick Crowl (KC8DLE), and Jim Crowl (KC8SLK). Two other fellows, who weren't operators, Larry Layman and John Setser, also lent a helping hand.

According to information on Mike's website, "WB8ERJ.com", the repeater itse If is a Yaesu Vertex VXR-5000, and the Controller is a CAT1000. There are some really interesting pictures of the repeater construction project on the website, just scroll down to his "Index of Stuff" section on the main page, then down to item #8, "Lexington, Ohio's 70cm Repeater". It's worth the time to do it.

"7-3" David Spain KC8GNU

Editor's Note: *This article conclude's David Spain's year-long series of articles related*

*to the 75th anniversary of our radio club (IARC). David thanks everyone for their help in getting information for the articles, he enjoyed writing them, and he realizes that seventy-five years is indeed a long time, so there could have been many, many more interesting and informative topics.*

*Jay Bookwalter (KC8GNL)*

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## THE EXTRA CLASS EXAM HINT

By John Neibarger K8OBE

Those of you that are studying for the Extra Class, there are **four** questions on the new Extra Class exam **E5A14-E5A17** that will require some calculations involving the resonant frequency formula. You will need to memorize the equation “Frequency (f) = 1 divided by 2 Pi times the square root of the product of L and C”. Where the constant Pi is 3.14 times 2 = 6.28. The resultant frequency (f) will be in Hertz, (what us old timers use to call cycles) and L in henrys and C in farads. You can disregard the value of R as it plays no part in determining the resonant frequency. Since the test question values given for L and C are in microhenrys and picofarads knowledge of the use of scientific notation will be required to use this formula.

Scientific notation is a simpler way of writing very large numbers and very small numbers by using powers of 10 with less chance of making a mistake. This is done by multiplying the L and C value each by 10 to a power -n. This will allow you to convert microhenrys and picofarads to henrys and farads to use in the above equation. Also all the correct answers are in Mhz, which means the final results from the formula above must be multiplied by 10 to a power of -6 to get the correct answer.

I have changed the above equation to allow the direct use of the value of L in microhenrys and the value of C in picofarads with the resultant frequency in Mhz with a little less effort then working through the above formula using scientific notation. I have already incorporated the powers of 10 into the equation to get the formula “Frequency (f) in Mhz = 159.2 divided by the square root of the product of L in microhenrys and C in picofarads”.

John  
K8OBE

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## TIME; FREQ CHANGES FOR OSN

The Ohio Slow Net, where Morse Code is always the mode of choice, has announced immediate frequency and time changes due to seasonal band conditions. These changes were announced by OSN Net Manager Henry Koenig, ND8Q, of Richland County.

The OSN will start at 6 p.m. local time and be located at 3.535.5 MHz in the future. The starting time is 10 minutes earlier than before. The old frequency was 3.705 MHz. NM Koenig said these changes will remain in effect until further notice.

For those who may not know about the OSN - it is a traffic net whose sole purpose is to practice CW skills. The code speeds are usually from 10 to 12 WPM, but will slow down for someone who needs it. NM Koenig says OSN will pass traffic and give some instruction or direct folks to instructional nets, such as the Maryland Slow Net. New check ins are always welcome, and, again, we will match sender's speed, he added.

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## All I Want for Christmas Is....

By Dan Romanchik KB6NU

When I was a kid, we had an album (remember records on vinyl?) that had a bunch of Christmas songs for kids. The song I remember most goes:

All I want for Christmas is my two front teeth,  
My two front teeth, my two front teeth.  
Gee, if I could only have my two front teeth,  
Then I could wish you Merry Chrith-math (sang with a lisp).

Seeing as how I've had my two front teeth for nearly 50 years now, and I pretty much have everything I want, I got to thinking about what I want for ham radio for Christmas this year. Here's what I've come up with so far. In no particular order, I want:

- MORE SUNSPOTS!
- the median age for ham radio operators to actually decrease this year. This means not only recruiting kids, but also younger adults.
- the pessimists who are continually talking down ham radio to find new joy in the hobby and begin working to make it great.
- the FCC to appoint someone as effective as Riley Hollingsworth to take over as the enforcer of the amateur radio service regulations.

- the FCC to pay a little more attention to amateur radio regulations and not treat them as an afterthought.

- the silliness on 75m phone and 14.275 MHz to go QRT.

- the ARRL to work harder on making itself truly the "national association for amateur radio" and on increasing the percentage of licensed hams that are ARRL members.

- to be able to brag about all of ham radio's "purposes," not only providing emergency and public service communications. According to Part 97, these are:

- \* advancing the state of the radio art;
- \* improving our technical and operating skills;
- \* expanding the number of trained operators, technicians, and electronics experts; and
- \* enhancing international goodwill.

- ham radio clubs to grow and thrive even in these tough economic times.

When I asked this question on Twitter, I got a couple of answers that were versions of a couple of wishes above, but I also got a few more:

- WORMT wants "all of us to get on the air more and act as good ambassadors for the hobby," and

- NT7S wants the hearts of ham grinchies to grow a couple of sizes.

- N!WBV wants redesigns for most ham radio websites.

I pretty much agree with all three. Happy New Year!

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When not waiting for Santa to decide if he's been naughty or nice, Dan, KB6NU, teaches ham classes and blogs about ham radio ([www.kb6nu.com](http://www.kb6nu.com))

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## No VHF SWR Meter? No Problem.

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

*This article was supposed to be in November but did not get sent out till late in the month. Since it was interesting I added it to this month's newsletter - editor*

I subscribe to a lot of amateur radio mailing lists. One of the most interesting is the HamRadioHelpGroup mailing list

(<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/HamRadioHelpGroup>). Recently, a ham asked:

***Will a CB SWR meter work on a 2 meter ham radio??***

Mark, K5LXP, replied:

"Yes and no. I use a CB SWR meter to check 2M antennas all the time. There is a trick to it however."

"If all you want to do is check SWR on your 2M antenna, you don't necessarily have to buy a dedicated VHF/UHF SWR meter. What I keep in my tool bag for that is a cheapie \$5 hamfest special CB SWR meter. They really don't work well on 2M but there's a trick you can do that will net a reasonably accurate SWR reading on 2M with one of these meters. What you do is connect up the meter as usual, key the rig with the switch in the forward power position, set the adjustment for full scale. Now, without touching anything, swap the coax connections so that the rig is connected to the ANT' side of the meter, and the antenna is connected to the 'XCVR' side. The reading you see on the meter will be very close to your real SWR. The closer to 1:1 your SWR is, the more accurate it will be. It would be more convenient to have a real SWR meter or antenna analyzer if you do a lot of testing, but for a quick antenna check after a mobile install or whatever, the \$5 CB meters work OK."

"The theory is relatively simple."

"A basic SWR bridge is comprised of two couplers, each of which consist of a stripline or a pickup loop, and a detector diode. One coupler is used to detect forward power, the other reflected."

"At 27 MHz, the precision of the components required isn't too stringent. Just about any diode will work, and minor imperfections in the stripline or pickup coils won't impact the accuracy that much."

"But at 2M suddenly minor differences between the striplines, stray capacitance, and type of diode starts to matter. By using just one of the couplers for both the forward and reverse readings any error that exists in that coupler is the same for both readings and thus cancels out. It's unlikely it'll work at 440 however, it's just too much to ask to expect a true 50 ohm network and zero bias or hot carrier diode in a cheap CB meter."

"The absolute reading on 2M may still be somewhat inaccurate, especially at high SWR but odds are you don't care about that. All you're interested in is 1:1 or as close to it as you can get, and for that the \$5 meters will be good enough."

When I asked his permission to use this, Mark said, "I don't get the credit, I picked it up from an old-timer years ago." Well, Mark, you might not get the credit for thinking this up, but you certainly get the credit for passing it on. Thanks!

When not reading his e-mail, Dan likes to work CW on the HF bands. You can catch him around 7030 kHz or 3530 kHz. He blogs about ham radio at [www.kb6nu.com](http://www.kb6nu.com).



## PRESS RELEASE: New Ham Radio Book

### **Hogwash for Hamsters**

A Light-hearted Look at the  
Hobby of Amateur Radio



**Jerry Spring, VE6CNU**

Over two years in the making, Jerry Spring takes a look at the more humorous aspects of ham radio. Check out the stories, riddles, one liners, limericks, jokes, nursery rhymes and more. Find out what's for dinner at Elmer's Diner and why the ham operator refused to buy the used triband beam. Got some tough technical questions? Then ask "Dear Liddy" for straight answers. This book definitely proves that Jerry had too much time on his hands in order to come up with this kind of stuff. If you're among the group that thinks hams take themselves too seriously, then get a copy of Hogwash for Hamsters and spread the fun.

For more information, and to order your copy, go to:  
[www.trafford.com/08-1259](http://www.trafford.com/08-1259)

*This advertisement was sent in by Harry Frietchen K8HF - Thanks*

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# DHS ANNOUNCES REVISED NATIONAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

*If you have taken the NIMS courses from the FEMA training program this will be of interest as the NIMS program has been updated.*

WASHINGTON--The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) today released a revised National Incident Management System (NIMS)—the national standard for incident management. NIMS establishes standardized incident management processes, protocols, and procedures that all federal, state, tribal and local responders will use to coordinate and conduct response actions.

NIMS expands on the original version released in March 2004 by clarifying existing NIMS concepts, better incorporating preparedness and planning and improving the overall readability of the document. The revised document also differentiates between the purposes of NIMS and the National Response Framework (NRF) by identifying how NIMS provides the action template for the management of incidents, while the NRF provides the policy structure and mechanisms for national-level policy for incident management.

"The National Incident Management System has been the single most significant improvement in incident management since the Department of Homeland Security was formed in 2003," FEMA Administrator David Paulison said. "It has enhanced interoperability among emergency responders at all levels of government and is the product of a collaborative effort involving hundreds of emergency personnel from across the nation. We incorporated lessons learned from Hurricane Katrina, clarified incident command system concepts, increased emphasis on planning and mutual aid, expanded the intelligence/investigation function, and better aligned the NIMS document with the National Response Framework," said Paulison.

With the oversight of FEMA, the newly released NIMS followed an extensive revision involving over 100 partners from all levels of government, private sector, nongovernmental organizations (NGO), and subject matter experts representing a broad spectrum of emergency management and incident response disciplines. Throughout three official nationwide comment periods, FEMA reviewed nearly 6,000 comments from more than 280 individuals and organizations, including extensive review and recommendations made by the National Advisory Council (NAC).

The basic tenets of NIMS remain the same. There have been several improvements to the revised NIMS document which will aid in readability and usefulness of preparing, preventing, and responding to incidents. For example, the revised document places greater emphasis on the role of preparedness and has reorganized its components to mirror the progression of an incident. Recognizing the importance of private sector partners and NGOs in incident response, FEMA has ensured that those entities have been more fully integrated throughout NIMS. The new document is consistent with the NRF, and together they provide a single, comprehensive approach to incident management.

Further information on preparedness programs is available at [www.dhs.gov](http://www.dhs.gov) and [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov).

*FEMA coordinates the federal government's role in preparing for, preventing, mitigating the effects of, responding to, and recovering from all domestic disasters, whether natural or man-made, including acts of terror.*

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# ***"IARC Club Traditions"***

***by Jay Bookwalter (KC8GNL)***

*Traditions, as we all know, are things we do on an annual basis. IARC has had a few of these over the years, and I thought I would list some of them:*

1. Field Day, the event that has us set up in a simulation of field communications using alternate power sources. David Spain (KC8GNU) recently wrote a nice "AIRWAVES" article in his IARC 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary series about this yearly event, and, by all accounts, our Club may have participated in the first one ever held.
2. Another tradition is Ham Of The Year. This is a relatively new event, since it began in 1968 with the award going to Egon Loeckel (W8TAJ/N8EL), now an SK. The idea of this award was to recognize members that have gone above and beyond the normal in doing things for the betterment of both the IARC and the hobby itself. One year we had two recipients, as both ladies were most deserving for all the hard work they had done for Hamfests over the years. A lot of good people have received this award, and a list of them was posted in an earlier "AIRWAVES" article.
3. An award that was handed out at the banquets, which added some humor to the event, was the "Purple Rock". This tradition has faded away, and hopefully it will return. The award was given to someone that made a mistake during the year that they could not live down. Again, always something with a humorous side though.
4. One of everyone's favorite traditions has been the "Peel-n-Stick" night, with the treat of "Coneys" after the task was done. Jack Ewers (KB8TLN), now an SK, always had a great batch of them ready for the group. Cathy Swank-Green (KC8SNP) and Jim Smith (KA8WSE) have done a good job of carrying on this tradition since Jack's passing.
5. Do you remember the "Chili Night"? I have heard this was also something the club did years ago, but I have not been able to find any more details. From what I did find, Jack Ewers also cooked the chili, and it was only held in October, but just for a couple of years or so.
6. The Miss Ohio Parade has become another of our traditions by helping with the communications. There were a few years where we did not have this event, as it had moved to Cedar Point. But it has since returned, and, as always, our group has had a lot of fun working this event.
7. Other traditions, while some may not consider them as such, are our service groups such as ARES®, RACES, NTS, and SKYWARN. The IARC has always supported these vital community services over the years, as they are, according to Articles of Incorporation, one of the main purposes of the club. RACES was, of course, the first of

the emergency groups which came about thru CivilDefense, and, while not used as much in the early days, is still holding a few people in the program, just in case the President of the USA invokes the war powers act, which would put a hold on most amateur radio activities as we know them today. ARES®, which is a service organization of the ARRL, has taken over most emergency duties that were formerly RACES operations. ARES® is a more easy going service, that does not have to follow the strict rules and requirements set down for the RACES program. Skywarn is probably our club's biggest operation, since severe weather always comes around every year. Remember when we used to work out of the weather office at Lahm Airport. Anyone remember Marla or Dewey? Still hear some good stories about Marla and the station at the airport.

8. The Hamfest or more properly called the "Mid-Winter Hamfest" has been going for quite a few years too. This is our club's biggest fund raiser project that we do. Originally it was held as an Auction of old equipment, then, as years progressed, it went to the flea market style we know today. The early hamfests were held at the Naval Reserve Training Center, which was on Ashland Rd next to the current National Guard Armory. As the event grew it was then moved to the current location at the Richland County Fairgrounds.
9. We tried a few years at having what we called an "ARRL League Night Dinner" which was a dinner with some of the ARRL Ohio Section Leadership and Great Lakes Division staff. This was a great way to get to talk with ARRL people about issues in amateur radio. We have had an unofficial night the last few years at the Fire Mountain Restaurant with a few of the league leadership. It has always been the night before the Hamfest, since the officials get in town the night before. We have had some fun with this event, Just ask Joe Phillips (K8QOE) about his timer for talking!!
10. The IARC has also been a "special service club" for a number of years. The ARRL is especially proud of our affiliated clubs that excel in their activities. Clubs that go the extra mile to provide on-going training and support for the benefit of their community, fall into our Special Service Club category. These extraordinary groups actively pursue all aspects of Amateur Radio: New Ham Development and Training; Public Relations; Emergency Communications; School Club Support; Technical Advancement; Operating Activities; Annual Reports, and more.

*NOTE: I had a call from John Lehman (WA8HMO) in regards to the request for reader contributions for this article. John is a wealth of information on club history. Below is what he gave me, and I certainly appreciate his help:*

11. The club auction, forerunner to the IARC Hamfest, was more than just an auction sale as for one, the admission of \$1.00 included a ham sandwich, Jones chips, and hot cider or coffee. This was put together by Chuck Bookwalter (W8QJF) and his XYL Ruby. Another part of the festivities was special contests which were held throughout the day. Some of these included a QLF (sending morse code with your left foot), a morse code copy contest, and a sending contest with speeds up to 35 WPM! Special certificates went

to anyone who could send or copy 35 WPM. Might be fun to bring these back to the hamfest to add some fun and interest.

12. Early days in emergency communications with the IARC included a group called "CIRCE", which stood for "Communications In Richland County Emergencies". John was the EC for CIRCE, with Dr Barnes (W8DVN), Dick Fisher (WA8MXQ), and Gordon Sponsellor (N8BZ, then N8BZR), as the Assistant ECs. Also, because this was one of the pioneering groups for EMCOMM they were asked to give a presentation for the ARRL at the Dayton Hamvention in regards to Mobile Emergency Communications.
13. John and his crew also started the first 2-meter net on AM (we use FM now days) using good old Heath Kit "Lunch Box" transceivers, which were horizontally polarized. John said that, since Gordon and he lived on some of the higher terrain at the time, they covered the area quite well. And "yes", this was before repeaters.
14. Another project for a few years was working with, what was known as, the Eye Bank here in the area. John and Gordon were highly involved with this program, and did receive loads of publicity for the club.
15. An early newsletter was done by Doc Finch (W8SOU), which kept the club updated on current happenings with equipment and the membership. Of course the newsletter as we all know it today has continued to bring news of both local and league interest to our members. Scott Yonally N8SY was the editor for many years before turning it over to Myself (Jay Bookwalter KC8GNL) a few years ago. Members used to send in articles such as scanner news by Larry Roop N8RGO, and trivia type columns by Pat Roberts N8JOZ, to name a few. And yes we still accept articles from all our membership anytime someone wants to do one!!
16. John remembered some early field days which were just what the name said, "Field!". "Yes", he said, we used to have a member who had a farm on East Hanley Road, where the club would set up way out in the fields of the farm for the event.
17. Regarding club meetings, John said we used to have a tradition of doing a "Show & Tell" time, in which members would bring in new "state of the art" equipment to show, or perhaps a homebrew piece of equipment to discuss. This too might be something to bring back as it sounds interesting and fun. John also said that the club would occasionally have field trips, or visits, to see special stations, or other unique setups, of interest to the club.

"73's" from Jay Bookwalter (KC8GNL), Editor, "AIRWAVES", and special "thanks" to David Spain (KC8GNU) for his help with this article.

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## NEW YEAR; SAME OBJECTIVE

From the Ohio Section of the ARRL, Happy New Year to all Ohio ham radio operators. The work to put National PRB-1 antenna and tower language into Ohio law continues. It has been a couple of months since the last update because the election of a new Ohio General Assembly needed to be evaluated.

A new project manager for the Ohio effort was appointed - Steve Katz, N8WL, of Granville. Steve, Ohio State Government Liaison, Nick Pittner, K8NAP, and the Ohio Section Manager, will be meeting throughout January in doing this evaluating.

The old bill - House Bill 563 - will be reintroduced with possibly a new number. As soon as it hits the legislative hopper, we will announce the number. Many of you wrote about information in 2008 and these letters are on file. When plans are formulated on proceeding in 2009, you will be contacted by the Project Manager or the SGL. Thank you for your patience.

When we started this in 2006, we knew it would take a few years. Making changes in the law and working through the political system always takes time and patience.

Happy New Year and everyone have a safe and prosperous 2009.  
Joe Phillips, K8QOE  
Ohio Section Manager

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### From the VEC By Pat Harris N8EBK

Happy New Year To All,

We have a ARRL/VEC test session coming up Jan.17, 2009. Which will held at the Health Dept. lower level in back of 555 Lexington Ave. We will start the testing at 1:00 pm but would like to have you all there a little early so we can go over all the paper work. Fees are now \$15.00 We do take in walk-in and would also prefer checks but except cash also If you have any question or directions contact:Dick Fletcher N8CJS [vkafletch@aol.com](mailto:vkafletch@aol.com) or [419-886-2463](tel:419-886-2463). Sorry for the new ve's, I don't have you in my address book as of yet. If you are planning on being at this test session then I will get the info from you then. Congrats to you and see you at the session.

73, Patty N8EBK

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## January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2009 IARC General Meeting notes.

After a round of introductions of those present, president Rob Ruth, kd8azq called the meeting to order.

**Treasurers Report:** Dean, kb8mg said that as of this meeting we have. Savings: \$1,115.74. Dues: \$207.83. Repeater Fund: \$2724.25 plus \$180.00 which Bill, w8wer gave to Dean at the start of the meeting. Checking: \$936.88.

**Membership:** Mike, w8emt said that as of this meeting he estimates that we have a total of 87 paid members.

**Tech Committee:** Bill, w8wer said that the new antenna for the .94 repeater has come in. But, the weather has not been conducive to have VASU install it. They need the weather to be at least 50 degrees and sunny in order for someone to climb the tower. He also said that he is still working on the .36 repeater. It is now in his basement where it is much easier to work on. Bill asked those present what their thoughts of having an APRS Didgipeater station installed for 2 meters at the .7 repeater site would be? However, this would mean that the remote base would have to be uninstalled. Don, kb8rya has volunteered a TNC eliminating any cost for this project to the club. Bill did not want any answers at this time, he was only offering it as a project for later down the road if we would like it.

**ARES:** Danny, kb8stk said that a meeting will be held this coming Thursday, January 8 at 7:00PM at MedCentral Mansfield Hospital to go over a Memorandum of Understanding which has been reached between our ARES members wishing to participate in the Angels With 4WD's program and Med Central. Anyone wishing to attend should contact Danny by the information given on our club's web page. Next he said that he would like to have an ARES meeting at both Med Central Mansfield and Med Central Shelby later this spring to show everyone where the radio equipment is at both locations. He said that another Fox Hunt will take place later on this spring when the weather is more friendly. He said that two classes for the Skywarn training will take place on March 10<sup>th</sup> 2009. The location of the early afternoon class will be at the Community room at the EMA Office at 1:00PM and the evening session will be at the Lexington Senior Citizens Center at 6:30 PM. Information about the exact location of the afternoon class will be placed on our club's website when it becomes available.

**Website:** Philip, kd8fgv said that in the month of December we had a total of 152,486 hits to the website. This resulted in 4,234 sessions with a total of 914 MB of data transferred. The amount of time the average user spent on our site was 2 minutes and 20 seconds. Our club's Airwaves NEWSLETTER was downloaded 540 times for the month. He said that we have a total of 56 e-mail addresses. If anyone would like an e-mail address, they should contact him by the info given on the page and he will set them Up.

**Education:** John, wb9jbr said that he has some dates for the Technician and General cram session. The first Technician cram session will take place over the weekend of March 6-8<sup>th</sup>. The second Technician training cram session will be held over the weekend of September 25-27<sup>th</sup>. The Technician course requires a study manual which can be purchased at the Barnes and Noble store in Ontario and through the ARRL. It is recommended to purchase this study material at least one month in advance. The General cram session will be held over two weekends as there is considerably more information to go over. This course will be held over the weekends of November 6-8<sup>th</sup> and November 13-15<sup>th</sup>. This

course requires a study book which can only be purchased through the ARRL. Editorial studying for the General course is strongly encouraged. Two Operations Procedures classes will be offered to anyone wishing to participate. They will be held on Saturday March 21 and Saturday Oct 10 at 10:00AM at the Richland County, Mansfield City Health Department where we have our meetings. John also said that we should expect to see an educational page to soon be added to our club's web page. This will tell a bit about each of the classes, when they will be held and any other important information relating to them. He said that if anyone is interested in becoming a part of the educational team they should either contact him or Rob, kd8azq and they can begin working with you.

**Special Events:** Rob, kd8azq said that he is working on putting together this coming seasons schedule of special events. At this time, our busiest month appears to be June as usual. Danny, kb8stk said that if anyone is interested, Huron County would appreciate any help they can get from us as they have GOBA "Greater Ohio Bike Adventure" coming through their area this summer. Rob, kd8azq asked those present what they would like to do with Field Day? Do we have it at Therm O. Disc park another year or do we try a new location. Renee, n8iop suggested that we look at a location located off of ST.RT. 603. This is where the Steam Thrashers group have there show every fall. She said that they have a picnic pavilion and house along with refrigerator on site. Rob said that they would check it out. Danny, kb8stk suggested the old Richland Mall Cinema, He can get access to it. Rob, kd8azq said that location would also be considered.

**Health and Welfare:** Cathy, kc8snp said that she was going to send a sympathy card to the family of Jim Tolles, ka8nkk as he is now sadly a Silent Key. He is one of the early founders of the Appleseed Net which takes place on HF.

**VE Testing:** Pat, n8ebk said that our next test session will be held on January 17<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM at the Richland County, Mansfield City Health Department located on Lexington Ave. It is asked that those wishing to attend to please be a bit early so you can fill out necessary paperwork. The cost of this years tests is: \$15.00. Walk ins are welcome. If you would like to make a reservation please get in touch with Dick, n8cjs who's contact information can be found on our club's web page. You will also be able to take a test on Sunday February 15<sup>th</sup> at our Ham Fest, however this is by preregistration only. NO walk-ins.

**New Business:** Dean, kb8mg brought up the 2009 Ham of the Year banquet. This year it will be held on Thursday May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2009. Mark, kc8mkl will be getting off of the committee this year. We will notify everyone when we will begin taking suggestions for this years recipient.

**Ham Fest:** At this time, a run down of all of the positions and who is helping with them took place. We still need a few people to help with tearing down tables Sunday afternoon. At this point a discussion was held as to which restaurant would have a small banquet room available where our ARRL officials could eat at on the Saturday evening before the Ham Fest. Jim, kd8jhb said that he would look into reserving the Denny's banquet room in Ontario.

**Miscellaneous:** Danny, kb8stk reminded us that if anyone would like supplies brought to our Ham Fest from Phil's Ham Radio Store they should order them in advance and they can be picked up at our show. If anyone would like to purchase coax cable, ladder line or any other bulk items please contact Dave, n8dpw and he will put your name on the list. At this time no further business was brought forward at the meeting. Bill, w8wer made a motion to adjourn and Mike, w8emt seconded.

Respectfully Submitted, Mark Dailey, KC8MKL

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## THE YEAR 2008 IN REVIEW AT MANSFIELD AIRPORT...

### TEMPERATURES:

AVERAGE HIGH 58.4 WHICH IS 0.2 BELOW NORMAL  
AVERAGE LOW 39.5 WHICH IS 0.6 BELOW NORMAL  
AVERAGE 49.0 WHICH IS 0.2 BELOW NORMAL

WARMEST 91 ON SEP 3RD  
COLDEST - 2 ON DEC 21ST & 22ND

RECORD HIGHS 64 ON JAN 7TH & 63 ON DEC 27TH  
RECORD LOWS NONE

**PRECIPITATION:** TOTAL **45.07** INCHES WHICH IS **1.84** INCHES **ABOVE** NORMAL

**PEAK WIND:** 66 MPH FROM THE SOUTHWEST ON SEPTEMBER 14TH.

### HIGHLIGHTS....

WETTEST FEBRUARY ON RECORD WITH 6.05 INCHES.

2ND SNOWIEST FEBRUARY ON RECORD WITH 25.0 INCHES. THE SNOWIEST FEBRUARY ON RECORD IS 25.8 INCHES IN 2007.

10TH WETTEST MARCH ON RECORD WITH 5.70 INCHES. THE WETTEST MARCH ON RECORD IS 6.88 INCHES IN 1904.

SNOWIEST MARCH ON RECORD WITH 21.4 INCHES.

3RD DRIEST AUGUST ON RECORD WITH 0.72 OF AN INCH. THE DRIEST AUGUST ON RECORD IS 0.63 OF AN INCH IN 1970.

10TH SNOWIEST NOVEMBER ON RECORD WITH 5.9 INCHES. THE SNOWIEST NOVEMBER ON RECORD IS 12.2 INCHES IN 1950.

For the year, the National Weather Service in Cleveland received **454 reports of severe weather** from thunderstorms. This is the second highest number of severe thunderstorm events ever reported! This includes reports of large hail and wind gusts as well as the area's two tornadoes. The record number of events was 470 in 1998. These numbers far exceed the 10 year average of 335 events and 2007's 294 events. A large number of the 2008 reports were due to large hail.

That near record number of events this past year fell on fewer days than usual. The region had 36 days in 2008 when severe thunderstorms occurred somewhere in the local area.. Typically, this region has near 50 days of severe thunderstorms a year. ***We never had a fall severe weather event this year.*** There was a minimum in severe weather from August 19 through December 27th when the area had no severe

thunderstorms.

The above is from the Cleveland NWS website. Definately a wild year with all sorts of extremes. For the full story visit [www.erh.noaa.gov](http://www.erh.noaa.gov) and click on "Notable Weather Events of 2008" Makes you wonder what 2009 will bring!!

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## XYL SPEAK OUT

Hi Everyone

I'm sorry but due to illness I will not be submitting an XYL column this month.

Thanks,  
Jeannine

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## Sunbird Temperature Conversion Chart

For those who go south in the winter!!

@ +70 degrees --- Texans turn on the heat and unpack the thermal underwear. People in Ohio go swimming in the Rivers.

@ +60 degrees --- North Carolinians try to turn on the heat. People in Ohio plant gardens.

@ +50 degrees ----Californians shiver uncontrollably. People in Ohio sunbathe.

@ +40 degrees ---- Italian & English cars won't start. People in Ohio drive with the windows down.

@ +32 degrees ---- Distilled water freezes. Lake Erie water gets thicker.

@ +20 degrees ---- Floridians put on coats, thermal underwear, gloves and woolly hats. People in Ohio throw on a flannel shirt.

@ +15 degrees ---- Philadelphia landlords finally turn up the heat. People in Ohio have the last cookout before it gets cold.

@ +10 degrees ---- People in Miami all die. Buckeyes lick the flagpole.

@ 0 degrees ---- Californians fly away to Mexico. People in Ohio get out their winter coats.

@ -10 degrees ---- Hollywood disintegrates. The Girl Scouts in Ohio are selling cookies door to

door.

@ -25 degrees ---- Polar bears begin to evacuate the Arctic. Ohio Boy Scouts postpone "Winter Survival" classes until it gets cold enough.

@ -30 degrees ---- Mount St. Helen's freezes. People in Ohio rent some videos.

@ -40 degrees ---- Santa Claus abandons the North Pole. Buckeyes get frustrated because they can't thaw the keg.

@ -45 degrees ---- Microbial life no longer survives on dairy products. Cows in Ohio complain about farmers with cold hands.

@ -60 degrees ---- ALL atomic motion stops (absolute zero in the Kelvin scale). People in Ohio start saying, "Cold 'nuff for ya?"

@ -100 degrees ---- Hell freezes over. The Cleveland Browns win the Super Bowl!

Author Unknown. (*Must be from Florida!!*)

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