

April 2 - IARC Meeting - Nominations for Board Position.

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May ?? - IARC Ham-of-the-Year Banquet - Details TBA  
Committee has Danny Bailey KB8STK, Bill Reese W8WER, & Rob Ruth  
KD8AZQ - Send These members your nominations for 2010

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May 14 - 16 - Dayton Hamvention - Visit www.hamvention.org

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June 4 - IARC Meeting - Plans for Field Day and other summer events  
Election of the open Board position - Last meeting till September

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June 13 - Miss Ohio Parade - Meet at the Key Bank at Maple St & Marion
Ave at 11AM

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June 19 & 20 - Mohican 100 Mile Run - Wooster ARC asks for our help  
Contact Duane Hart at [wd8bvv@aol.com](mailto:wd8bvv@aol.com) or Stan Kinney at  
[n8rnk@sssnet.com](mailto:n8rnk@sssnet.com)

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June 26 & 27 - Field Day Weekend - Details TBA

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September 10 - IARC Meeting/Picnic - Details TBA

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October 1 - IARC Meeting - "Old Timers Night"

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November 5 - IARC Meeting - Details TBA

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November 7 - Daylight savings time ends

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December 3 - IARC Meeting - Peel-n-Stick & Coney Night



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## ARRL VE Test Sessions

Information is from the ARRL website

Test sessions are all within 100 miles of Mansfield.

Sessions in **RED** require pre-registration and will **not** accept walk-ins.

Sessions in **BLUE** request pre-registration but will accept walk-ins.

Sessions in **GREEN** are open to all and no pre-registration needed with walk-ins welcome.

Although these open sessions do not require you to pre-register it is still a good idea to call ahead so they know to expect you or they can let you know if there is any changes. This

Information is from the ARRL web site and if you need more information visit [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org)

**13-Feb-2010 = TOLEDO MOBILE RADIO ASSOC == 8:15 AM (No walk-ins)**

**Contact: STEVEN L STALKER == (419)467-3734 == [KC8TVW@ARRL.NET](mailto:KC8TVW@ARRL.NET)**

**Location: MAUMEE FIRE STATION #2 450 W DUSSEL DR  
MAUMEE, OH 43537**

**13-Feb-2010 == HUBER HEIGHTS ARC == 9:00AM (Walk-ins allowed)**

**Contact: JOHN W MARTINDILL == (937)307-0793 == [AB8NV@ARRL.NET](mailto:AB8NV@ARRL.NET)**

**Location: HUBER HEIGHTS PUBLIC LIBRARY 6160 CHAMBERSBURG RD  
HUBER HEIGHTS, OH 45424**

**14-Feb-2010 == INTER CITY ARC/HAMFEST == 1:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)**

**Contact: RICHARD E FLETCHER == (419)886-2463 == [VKAFLETCH@AOL.COM](mailto:VKAFLETCH@AOL.COM)**

**Location: RICHLAND COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS ADMISSION BLDG  
750 NORTH HOME ROAD MANSFIELD, OH 44901**

**15-Feb-2010 == SANDUSKY RADIO EXP LEAGUE INC == 7:00 PM (No walk-ins)**

**Contact: LUTHER T GANTZ == (419)684-7864 == [N8HC@ARRL.NET](mailto:N8HC@ARRL.NET)**

**Location: SANDUSKY RADIO EXP LEAGUE INC 2909 W PERKINS AVE  
SANDUSKY, OH 44870**

**20-Feb-2010 == CAPITAL CITY REPEATER ASSOC. == 10:30AM (Walk-ins allowed)**

**Contact: WILLIAM J NEILL == (614)890-5204 == [NE1LL@YMAIL.COM](mailto:NE1LL@YMAIL.COM)**

**Location: UNIVERSAL RADIO 6830 AMERICANA PKWY  
REYNOLDSBURG, OH 43068**

**21-Feb-2010 == LORAIN COUNTY ARA RED CROSS == 1:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)**

**Contact: CHARLES HALL == (216)453-3700 == [VE@W8HF.COM](mailto:VE@W8HF.COM)**

**Location: AMERICAN RED CROSS 2929 W RIVER RD N ELYRIA, OH 44035**

**22-Feb-2010 == 20 OVER 9 ARC == 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)**

**Contact: ALLAN AVNET == [AB8AA@ARRL.NET](mailto:AB8AA@ARRL.NET)**

**Location: SALVATION ARMY 1249 N ELLSWORTH AVE  
SALEM, OH 44460**

**27-Feb-2010 == CANTON/MASSILLON ARC == 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)**

**Contact: GARY L KLINE === [WC8W@SSSNET.COM](mailto:WC8W@SSSNET.COM)**

**Location: STARK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE 4500 ATLANTIC BLVD NE  
CANTON, OH 44705**

**28-Feb-2010 == SANDUSKY VALLEY ARC === 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)**

**Contact: RONALD F WINKE == (419)332-9462 == [WB8NMK@PEOPLEPC.COM](mailto:WB8NMK@PEOPLEPC.COM)**

**Location: SANDUSKY COUNTY JAIL BASEMENT == TEST FEE \$15  
2323 COUNTRYSIDE DRIVE FREMONT, OH 43420**

**02-Mar-2010 == CUYAHOGA FALLS ARC == 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)**

**Contact: BRUCE M FERRY == (330)929-2766**

**Location: STOW-MUNROE FALLS PUBLIC LIBRARY 3512 DARROW RD  
STOW, OH 44224**

**13-Mar-2010 == CENTRAL OHIO ARES/W8LT == 9:00AM (Walk-ins allowed)**

**Contact: LAWRENCE L FETH == (614)292-1643 == [LARRY.FETH@GMAIL.COM](mailto:LARRY.FETH@GMAIL.COM)**

**Location: OHIO STATE UNIV WEST CAMPUS PRESSEY HALL, ROOM 35 \*\*  
1070 CARMACK RD COLUMBUS, OH 43210**

**\*\*PARK IN SMALL LOT WEST OF HALL**

**13-Mar-2010 == TOLEDO MOBILE RADIO ASSOC == 8:15 AM (No walk-ins)**

**Contact: STEVEN L STALKER == (419)467-3734 == [KC8TVW@ARRL.NET](mailto:KC8TVW@ARRL.NET)**

**Location: MAUMEE FIRE STATION #2 450 W DUSSEL DR  
MAUMEE, OH 43537**

**14-Mar-2010 == CUYAHOGA ARS === 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)**

**Contact: GARY S DEWEY == (216)642-8705 === [GDEWEY@EN.COM](mailto:GDEWEY@EN.COM)**

**Location: TOWN HALL 6652 BRECKSVILLE RD STATE ROUTE 21  
INDEPENDENCE, OH 44131**

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## *DX & IOTA Update*

bulletin was made possible with information provided by  
NC1L, OH2BH, QRZ DX, the OPDX Bulletin, DXNL, Contest Corral from  
QST and the ARRL Contest Calendar, ARRL DX Bulletin and WA7BNM web sites. Thanks to all.

**SENEGAL, 6W.** Peter, HA3AUI is QRV as 6W2SC until March 31 while on holiday. He spends his time at the border between here and Guinea-Bissau. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters

using mainly digital modes, with some CW and SSB if requested. QSL direct to home call.

**HUNGARY, HA.** Gyuri, HA1CW is QRV with special event station HA2010S for all of 2010 during the 30th LEN European Championship in swimming, diving and other water sports that takes place in Budapest in August. QSL via operator's instructions.

**GUINEA-BISSAU, J5.** Peter, HA3AUI is QRV as J5UAP until March 31 while on holiday. He spends his time between here and Senegal. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters using mainly digital modes, with some CW and SSB if requested. QSL direct to home call.

**NORWAY, LA.** Special event station LM50NRK is QRV during 2010 in celebration of the 50th anniversary of television in Norway. Activity is on the HF bands, including some satellite activity. QSL via LA4FPA.

**POLAND, SP.** Special event station 3Z0FCH is QRV until June 30 in commemoration of the 200th birthday of Polish composer and pianist Fryderyc Chopin. QSL via SP7PAD.

**TURKEY, TA.** In addition to two other countries, Istanbul was designated the third European Capital of Culture 2010. Members of the TC Special Wireless Activity Team are QRV with TC2010 prefixes for all of 2010. In addition, special event stations TC2010CCE, TC2010CCA and TC2010CCI are QRV until January 18. QSL via operators' instructions.

**MACAO, XX9.** Georg, DK7LX is QRV as XX9TLX from Coloane Island, [IOTA AS-075](#). He is active on 80 to 10 meters using mainly CW. His length of stay is unknown. QSL to home call.

**ROMANIA, YO.** Special event station YR5EPC is QRV from Transylvania until the end of 2010. QSL via YO6AJI.

**TANZANIA, 5H.** Igor, UA3DJY is QRV as 5I3A until March 1. Activity is on all bands. QSL via RK3AOL.

**UGANDA, 5X.** Nick, G3RWF is QRV as 5X1NH until March 21. Activity is on all bands, except 160 meters, using CW, SSB, RTTY and PSK. QSL to home call.

**GERMANY, DA.** Special event stations DR2010L, DR2010O and DR2010N are QRV throughout this year in celebration of Essen and the Ruhr area, capital of culture 2010.

**SOLOMON ISLANDS, H4.** Bernhard, DL2GAC is QRV as H44MS from Guadalcanal, [IOTA OC-047](#), until April 19. This includes activating Temotu Province in February. Activity is on 80 and 40 meters using mainly SSB. QSL to home call.

**MINAMI TORISHIMA, JD1.** Masa, JD1BMM is QRV from Marcus Island, [IOTA OC-073](#), until the end of February. QSL via bureau.

**MONGOLIA, JT.** Sank, JT1AS is QRV as JT70AS throughout the year in celebration of his 70th birthday. Activity is on the HF bands using RTTY and PSK. QSL to home call.

**BELIZE, V3.** Gerd, DJ4KW and Gisela, DK9GG are QRV as V31YN and V31GW, respectively, until February 28. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. This includes activity in several contests held during this time. QSL to home calls.

**MALAWI, 7Q.** Harry, G0JMU is QRV as 7Q7HB for the next three months. He is active on the HF bands using CW and digital modes. QSL direct via G0IAS.

**BELIZE, V3.** Robert, N7MSU will be QRV as V31SU from various locations here from February 4 to 23. Activity will be mainly on 40 and 20 meters using CW and SSB. QSL to home call.

**UGANDA, 5X.** Jack, NP2OR is QRV as 5X7JD from Masaka until May 25. He is active on 40 and 20 meters using SSB every day from 0500 to 1550z. QSL to home call.

**NAURU, C2.** Dieter, DJ2EH and Anneli, DL8NBH are QRV as C21DL and C21YL, respectively, until February 14. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters using CW and SSB. They will also operate using RTTY with callsign C21YL. QSL to home calls.

**TEMOTU PROVINCE, H40.** Siegfried, DK9FN, Hans, DG1FK and Bernhard, DL2GAC will be QRV as H40FN, H40FK and H40MS, respectively, from Ngarando Reef, Swallow Island, [IOTA OC-065](#), from February 6 to 19. Activity will be on 160 to 6 meters using CW, digital modes and SSB, respectively. QSL H40MS and H40FK to home calls and H40FN via HA8FW.

**ECUADOR, HC.** Rick, NE8Z will be QRV as HC1MD from Tumbaco, Pichincha Province, HC1MD/HC1 from Mt. Pichincha and HC1MD/HC4 from Punta Blanca, Manabi Province from February 8 to 24. Activity will be on 80 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY and PSK31. QSL via K8LJG.

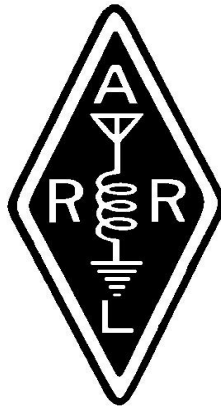
**OGASAWARA ISLAND, JD1.** Operators JM1YGG/JD1, JA2ZL/JD1, JD1BMV and JD1BNB will be QRV as Chichijima Island, [IOTA AS-031](#), from February 6 to 14. Activity will be on 80 to 12 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL JM1YGG/JD1 and JA2ZL/JD1 to home calls, JD1BMV via JK1EBA and JD1BNB via JA3MCA.

**BONAIRE, CURACAO, PJ2.** Goose, W8AV will be QRV as PJ2/home call from Curacao, [IOTA SA-006](#), from February 9 to 22. Activity will be on 160 to 10 meters using CW and RTTY. This includes a possible entry in the upcoming CQ WPX RTTY contest. QSL via operator's instructions.

**PALAU, T8.** Mike, JA6EGL and Hiro, JA6KYU will be QRV as T88SM and T88HS, respectively, from Koror Island, [IOTA OC-009](#), from February 10 to 16. Activity will be on 80 to 10 meters using CW and SSB. QSL to home calls.

**OPERATIONS APPROVED FOR DXCC CREDIT.** The following operations are approved for DXCC credit: Cape Verde, D44TXP, D44TXO, D44TXS, D44TXI, D44TXF, D44TXQ and D44TXR. If you had one of these operations rejected on a recent application please send a note to [dxcc\(at\)arrl.org](mailto:dxcc(at)arrl.org) to have your record updated.

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***JARC 'S ARRL League Night Dinner  
February 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:00PM  
at the Golden Corral Buffet  
At Lexington Springmill Rd & Stumbo Rd***

Dinner is open to all amateurs and will be a good place to meet the ARRL leadership. We will have a short talk time for each of the league officials to let you know some of the current issues.

Guests include;

Frank Piper KI8GW ~ Ohio Section Manager

Jack Sovik KB8WPZ ~ Ohio Section Emergency Coordinator

Scott Yonally N8SY ~ ASM Webmaster

Rick Swain KK8O ~ Official Observer Coordinator

Henry Koenig WD8Q ~ Ohio Slow Net Coordinator

Connie Hamilton N8IO ~ ASM

Steve Katz N8WL ~ ASM

Cost for dinners average about \$12.00 and is all you can eat.  
We have the banquet room for this program till 9PM or so  
No reservations needed!

Jim Weaver K8JE the Great Lakes Director will not be able to attend  
as his wife is very ill. We wish her a speedy recovery.

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**From Times Past**  
**A look back at some past IARC newsletters**  
**By original editor Edwin Fensch W8SOU**  
**& current editor Jay Bookwalter KG8GNL**

This month we will cover the issues from April & May 1972. This time frame had the club called Inter-City Radio Club or IRC for short. The club President at the time was Gordon Sponsellor W8BZR. The Vice President was Oscar Frederickson K8ADX. Secretary was Terry Welch K8ZBI, and the Treasurer was J Pyles WB8CEI.

**April, 1972**

Plans were set for the annual "Home Brew" contest on April 7<sup>th</sup>, 1972. Ed Shaw W8FQY was the chairman of this event and urged any member to bring in their latest handmade gear to that meeting. Items made in the past included Linears, Antenna couplers, & electronic keyers.  
*(Anyone interested in bringing this event back? If so let Danny Bailey know at the meeting)*

The Nominating Committee was named and included Egon Loeckel W8TAJ, Richard Fisher WA8MXQ, & Gary Yonally WA8BIW. They were to bring the slate of officers running for office to the May meeting. It was also mentioned that the May Meeting was the last one till September.

Lacey Schawver WA8FMW mentioned his novice class had 22 people and that they were up to 11 words per minute with the CW portion of the class.

It was mentioned that Chuck Bookwalter W8QJF was back from Florida and that Egon Loeckel was leaving for Florida. Also mentioned was Cliff Odsen W8YGX and his wife were leaving for Puerto Rico.

Pre-planning for the Field day was to be held at both the April Meeting and the May meeting.

Milton Reed W8NP mentioned that the club station when it was moved to the new location in the Community Services Building (*Red Cross*) that the club would need to change the license address with the FCC and that new QSL cards would be needed too.

A special article was in this issue regarding the first club station in Mansfield on Vennum Ave. This is the reprint of this article as it was in the newsletter.

#### Old Timers Started in Shack on Vennum Ave

Sometime early in the 1920's, a group of radio amateurs built a club shack south of Mansfield General Hospital on what is now Vennum Ave. The section where the shack was constructed was in the "country", a long way from the heavily populated area that now covers the same ground.

In order to make certain that they would have a good ground, the club members brought in old copper wash boilers and any other copper they could find, soldered it all together and buried it in the ground by the shack.

This hard working group included Eldon Heck W8PO who in 72 was still active in the club, Corwin Endly, Harvey Fitzsimmons, Harold Umbarger, Bill Shurance, John Clark, a Mr Kaufman & Dr Copeland, W.A. McClure, Carlos Brewer, and Kenneth Kemble who was 8AFB at that time. The station call was 8HH.

The club lined the shack with copper screen to do something or other to the signals and constructed a fine antenna. The result was one of the few trans-Atlantic contacts by wireless in the United States at the time.

No information has been found as to what happened to the gear or the club shack. Eldon Heck reported that his and Clark's gear had been destroyed by a fire.

The IRC News Bulletin invited information about old-timers for articles in the Bulletin. We understand that there are pictures in homes of these old club sites and activities that would be worth saving as a historical record of the activities that preceded the establishment of the IRC. Much of the above information about the first radio shack in Mansfield was reported by Eldon Heck W8PO who also reported that he was 8VK at that time. During that period there were no "W's" in the calls and licenses were obtained by the Department of Commerce of the United States.

It was customary at that time to build a "shack" in the back yard to house the radio gear, hence the location of the club shack in the fields south of Mansfield. There was little juvenile delinquency reported in those days, so the gear and the shack were safe.

#### **May, 1972**

The results from the Home-brew contest were given and the winners that year included; 1<sup>st</sup> prize – Randy Shaull for his construction of a novice transmitter. (no call sign given) Shaull was a SWL.

2<sup>nd</sup> prize – Lacey Shawver III, another SWL, for his construction of a listening device.  
3<sup>rd</sup> prize – Dave Hanning WB8BYG for a linear amplifier for 10 through 80 meters.  
Judges were Chuck Bookwalter W8QJF, Dick Delong W8EMK, & Eldon Heck W8PO. Ed Shaw W8FQY was the chairman of the contest. (*the article did not list what the prizes were*)

Dick Schrilla WB8HTM & Dave Hanning WB8BYG were appointed to head up the Field day program. Location and other info was to be given at the upcoming May meeting.

Jim Kovchik WB8AZP announced that he had made considerable progress in establishing a club station at the Mansfield Technical School, located on the Mansfield OSU campus on Rt39. He announced that donations of transmitter tubes would be welcome to help put the new club station on the air.

The new club station location was officially ready at the Community Services Building (Red Cross) which was moved there from the then Red Cross Chapter house that was on Park Ave West. Dick Delong W8EMK stated that much of the club equipment had been moved on April 8<sup>th</sup>, 1972.

Milton Reed W8NP mentioned he had sent the change of address to the FCC so the club station would be able to operate. Milt, who was an extra class licensee, had been appointed trustee of the club station and would be responsible for the operation of this transmitter at the new location.

Tom Dewitt W8AMZ was back with the club after being in the Shelby Hospital with a heart attack.

*Thats it for this month. Next issue we will cover the issues for September, October, & November 1972. I do not have the December 1972 issue so it will be skipped.*



**SKYWARN**

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**SKYWARN** ®

By Jay Bookwalter KC8GNL  
Richland County Skywarn Coordinator

February is here and we are one month closer to storm season already. Time sure flies by these days! Anyways this month I have a few things to mention in regards to our local program. First of all since I have resigned as the DEC I have talked with Danny Bailey KB8STK the ARES EC and have officially come back as Skywarn Coordinator. I hope to get the program

back where we were when I left to become DEC. It has kind of fallen into disarray over the last few years. I also hope all of you will work with me to make our program one of the best in the Cleveland forecast area. I know we can do it if we all give it our best.

Next is a big fact is something we all should keep in mind as it sometimes gets forgotten. That is the fact that a whole lot of private citizens, & businesses listen in during our operations. We are considered a very reliable source as to what is going on and where it is happening. So when giving reports remember this fact that “*scannerland*” is listening. So Is your report reliable and correct? 99% are correct however there are a few reports that we can do without. The biggest is reports of lightning or non-severe weather conditions. You will hear that Lightning is not considered a reportable occurrence since lightning occurs in all thunderstorms severe or non-severe. The **ONLY** exception here is if lightning has struck a person or started a fire in a structure. That is the only time the NWS wants to know anything about lightning Sunshine or light rain etc are also forms of non-reportable occurrences so if you are not asked for current conditions and you do not have anything severe occurring please do not report it.

Some of us have weather stations. If you do please make sure it is calibrated. I had some wind reports over the years that if they occurred damage would have rivaled Katrina!! As Gary Garnet has said it is easy to over estimate winds when we are under storm conditions. We expect this and will check for other close by stations to verify the report to be sure. But when a report comes in for 90+ Miles per hour winds and there is no damage reports to back the report up, Neither the NWS or ourselves tend to not believe it. Plus how do you think the general public thinks of our program??

Rotation is another thing that needs to be **carefully** looked at before reporting. Low hanging clouds called Scud Clouds are always prevalent in stronger storms and while looking like a possible tornado are NOT rotating!! If you are not sure of what rotation looks like visit This website [www.tornadovideos.net](http://www.tornadovideos.net) This is the storm chaser from Discovery Channel's show, Reed Timmer. Lots of interesting videos are on this site which shows lots of rotation that can help you see first hand what it really looks like!! With this in mind remember a few things, one being almost all tornadoes form in the southwest **end** of a storm and very very rarely at the front of a storm. Scud clouds being at low levels will move differently from upper level clouds which make them appear to rotate but in closer inspection they are moving in only **one direction**. So again look carefully for rotation before reporting!! If you are not sure do not be afraid to say so and we will try and get a second opinion if possible.

Another problem with reports is giving incomplete information then disappearing from the net. How this happens is still a mystery to some of us running the nets. Please whenever you give a report standby for a few extra minutes in case we need further information. The following is what we will ask for but do not always receive from spotters as it is what the NWS will ask the Net Control when we relay the information to them. Please try and remember these but don't worry if you miss something as we can remind you when needed. Perhaps print this section and keep it near your stations for reference.

**1) Wind 40 MPH** +-- speed, - is it measured or estimated – Time of occurrence (*see below*)

- 2) **Hail 1”+**---Size using coins as a size reference unless larger such as Golf ball, Baseball etc. The size for severe weather criteria is increased this year from the former 3/4” diameter so make note of this.  
Also needed is duration and accumulation if seen and time of occurrence
- 3) **Clouds** --- **True** Rotation seen in – wall cloud – funnel – tornado – is a debris cloud visible - **LOCATION** – **TIME** of occurrence. - Direction of travel – estimated speed – any damage visible -
- 4) **Rainfall** – Estimated or measured amount – Time frame of measurement - Flooding depth - is flooding in a normally flooding area.
- 5) **Tree Damage** – Type of tree – is it live, diseased, or dead. - Diameter. - is it a branch or whole tree. - Is it uprooted, snapped, or twisted.
- 6) **Structure damage** – Type of building, - Brick, metal, or wood construction, Amount of damage to structure.- Has damage occurred to neighboring structures -
- 7) **Vehicle Damage** – Type Vehicle – type damage done – has damage occurred to other nearby vehicles.
- 8) **ALL REPORTS** – Location – (*use state routes and or distances from towns*) – time of occurrence if known -- Locations and times are very important to the NWS and are needed with ALL reports.

So as you can see there are questions we need to ask of spotters and these are important to the NWS. What occurs here helps the forecasters with decisions on future warnings for other areas. Time of occurrence is also important. If you have a report that is **less than 10 minutes** from the time something occurred it becomes a “**PRIORITY**” type message. This is because it is more current and can help decide the release of future warnings downline from our area. If it is **over 15 minutes** from occurrence it is more of a “**ROUTINE**” message as chances are the storm has moved on and is already effecting another area. This does not mean it is important as it CAN still make a difference it just that storms life cycle is probably (*but not always*) in the dissipating stages. This is explained at the skywarn training which is why we all need to attend these sessions!!

**Any reports of tornadic activity are 'EMERGENCY’ traffic and should be labeled as such!** If this occurs the net changes operations to handle ***ONLY*** tornadic activity reports. All else is on hold or pushed to a secondary frequency (*usually the 147.360 repeater*) which the NCS will mention if it will be used. ***Make sure if you are passing tornadic reports that you stay with the net so if further info is requested from the NWS we can contact you direct!*** Tornadic activity is a major life threat and is critical. That is why the net become extra strict when this happens and why it is very important that you stay with the net in case of questions.

Another topic is the weather radar. This is something the net control operator may give information on so spotters know where a storm is heading. Please if you are not the net control operator do not discuss radar as this takes up sometimes valuable time for other reports coming in. If you wish to discuss radar move to another frequency. Also if a net control operator asks for someone to give a radar update for them we do not need to hear that storms are outside of our area unless it is going to effect our area directly. I heard one person mention the only storms were way off in Union county which is outside of our area by about 75 miles to our

southwest and the storm was moving southeast!! WeatherTap has a radar tutorial that was free to anyone on their website at [www.weatherTap.com](http://www.weatherTap.com) Take a look at this if you want to understand what weather radar is all about and what it shows.

I hope that the information will be kept in mind for this season. It is not meant to offend or scare anyone from the program but again we need to do a good job as many people do depend on our reports. For 99.9% of the time you all do a great job, just do your best is all we ask and if in doubt let us know on the net as we can get other spotters to help verify something if you are not sure of what you might be seeing.

Lastly please check the list on the website for training dates. This list will have all members of the club that live in Richland County that need training. The names listed in red are those who have not had training or have not been to a session in over 5 years! These people are not on the list in Cleveland as active spotters. Names in Black are those where it has been from 3 to 5 years and are due to be updated. The names in Blue will be those who have been to training in the last 2 or less years. Again the NWS wants us to have the training every 3 years and they will drop names from their list after 5 years. I did run a list last month but this one will show all members of the IARC that are no longer on the NWS list so again please check it out.

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## **WHERE ARE THE HAM RADIO HACKERS?**

### **BY DAN ROMANCHIK, KB6NU**

On the Ten-Tec Omni VII Yahoo Group (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Ten-Tec-Omni-VII/>), one ham wrote:

"If I was 17 years-old I would be hacking I-phones and other items like George Hotz, the 17 year-old from New Jersey who was able to unlock the Apple I-phone so that it could be used on other cell service networks".

"When I was his age, I was hacking dial telephones. Then one day the phone company showed up at my house. My parents were not impressed with my technical abilities".

"This morning there is a story that George has just hacked the 'un-hackable' Sony 3 Play Station. He says the hack was 95% software and 5% hardware".

"A quick check of the modifications site run by that guy over in Denmark, shows that there are NO MODS for the O7...interesting. I just wonder how many strange and wonderful things can be done with those 36 buttons/switches on the front panel. Can the O7 be made even better?"

In my reply, I asked, "Why stop at pressing some buttons on the front panel? Why doesn't someone really hack the Omni VII and develop a completely new software package for it?" Rigs like the Omni VII and the Elecraft K3 would seem to be perfect candidates for this kind of hacking.

Sure, there is an order of magnitude difference between a \$300 iPod and a \$3,000 radio, but we're big boys, aren't we? Besides, aside from overdriving the finals, what real damage can you do to the radio? It seems to me that even if you manage to screw up the software in the rig, you can get back to square one by simply re-loading the manufacturer's software.

Ham radio operators have a long history of modifying their radios. Page through any stack of QSTs or CQ Magazines from the 1950s, 60s, and 70s, and you'll find many articles describing modifications to the popular radios of the day. About the only thing hams do to their rigs today is to clip a diode to allow it to operate out-of-band.

What does it say about the technical capabilities of today's hams that we haven't yet done with our gear what some 17-year-old kid has done with the iPhone and the PlayStation? Why don't we have any third-party software for Omni VII or the K3? I think if a manufacturer actually encouraged third-party software development, they'd quickly gain a following and make their brand even stronger, don't you?

Dan Romanchik, KB6NU, blogs about ham radio at [www.kb6nu.com](http://www.kb6nu.com), teaches the infamous One-Day Tech Class, and operates a lot of 40m CW. E-mail him your comments and questions at [cwgeek@kb6nu.com](mailto:cwgeek@kb6nu.com)

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## **ARTICLES NEEDED**

**By Jay Bookwalter - KC8GNL - Editor**

Our newsletter is getting hard to write by myself and I am again asking for members to please send in an article once and a while. Do not be afraid to give it a try as I will go over it for any mistakes if there are any. The newsletter is for the members of our club and for some reason few ever want to submit articles.

Ideas for articles that could be done are:

- 1) Special event stories – Let us know what you thought of an event where amateur radio was used either local or perhaps in another county.
- 2) Review of a new radio you might have bought or any other new equipment. If you like something why not share what you think of the product.
- 3) Trivia – We used to have this one for a few years.
- 4) Scanner info – Again something that used to be part of our newsletters.
- 5) DX stories or travels – Anyone take a trip and have some good amateur radio stories to go with them? Work a bunch of DX and want to tell about it?
- 6) XYLs – For our ladies Meli & Jennine could use help with the XYL column as they are busy and do not always have the time to get an article done.

Plenty of ideas with the only missing thing being someone to write about them. So please give it a try. Send them to me at [kc8gnl@gmail.com](mailto:kc8gnl@gmail.com) or [kc8gnl@embarqmail.com](mailto:kc8gnl@embarqmail.com)