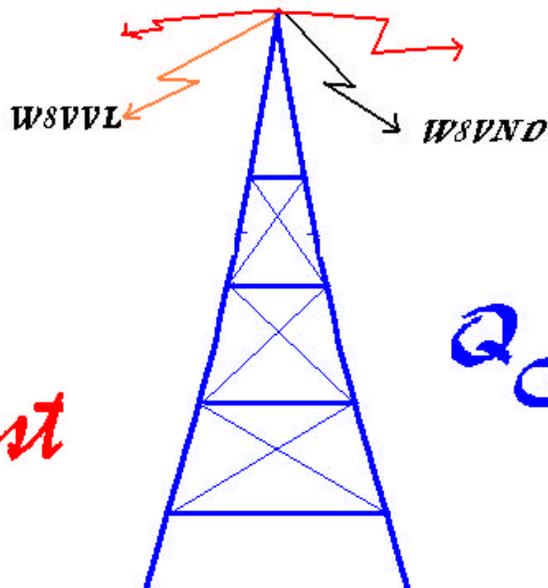


The Listening Post



Official Publication of
The Queen City Emergency Net, Inc.

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Volume 57 - Nr. 7 - June 1998

QCEN meeting - Friday, June 19, 1998 - 8:00 p.m.

Tour of Air-Touch Cellular

North of Ezzard Charles Drive on Central Parkway - tune in 147.24 for directions



Mark's Musings - de wb9bvv

Field Day is almost upon us, please make plans to attend. We are holding FD at the W8VND location this year. While there have been some comments that using this location is not in the spirit of Field Day, I would like to remind all members that FD is a test of your (our) readiness to communicate in an emergency. Most of the FD categories are designed for portable setups "in the field" however the "E" class is for permanent stations running on emergency power, which is our situation. We have an excellent location and a very good station, with a little work that is ongoing it will be an excellent station. We need to test our capabilities at this station. The last FD we tried this we had problems which were overcome and we continued to compete. the last time we tried to use the station for emergency operations we discovered a few more problems which we have been working on slowly but surely. It is time to test our station as it exists today. We will have a fun time, come on out.

Don't forget, the June meeting is at Airtouch Cellular. Hopefully directions are provided elsewhere in this issue, if not call on 147.24 on the night of the meeting.

Also, I am moving again. My new address, effective 15 June, is 7958 Sycamore, PO BOX 256, Maineville, OH 45039. Mail can go to either address. I'll provide the phone number when I get it.

73 de Mark, WB9BVV



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The Listening Post is published by the Committee for Amateur Radio for education of its' members. Articles, comments, rebuttals are invited and may be sent to Hank Greeb, N8XX, e-Mail 72277.706@compuseve.com. Deadline is one week after the meeting.



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FIELD DAY , an invitation to all

As we get ready for Field Day, I hope all the new members will try to join us for an important QCEN exercise. In disaster communications, planning is key! I have known this for a long time, but experienced it in a big way during the 1997 floods. Much of the successful work we did was due to advanced planning. Yes, there is room for a certain amount of spontaneous invention, because not everything works as you planned it. But mostly, if you have prepared, you'll do well.

This year our Field Day will not be the traditional "go find a place and set up from scratch." We will be working from our club station, W8VND, 5923½ Winton Ridge Lane, where we have fixed antennas in place. Cheating? Or being lazy? Hardly. This is another step in our disaster preparedness. We must know that every piece of equipment at W8VND works as designed, and we need operators--more than just two or three--who know the place, and know how everything works and where everything is. Think of this as a "stress test" for W8VND. We just got the generator back and working. We need to be sure that it will run over the long haul, not just for fifteen minutes. We need to know that the rotors turn the antennas--not once, but as much as needed over the Field Day weekend (or, if necessary, during the course of disaster relief.)

And speaking of being spontaneous, let's not forget our experience the last time we ran Field Day from W8VND. The big generator quit in the middle of the night. Did that stop us from running Field Day? No, because we have people who can improvise, and we found a way to continue. So, it may look easy, because we don't have to put up as many antennas, and because the trailer is air-conditioned. But this is still an important weekend. How many new operators will come out and check out the station? What new problems will we find and solve while we are there?

W8VND did not function as planned during the 1997 flood. We went on, made do, and still provided emergency communications. But I would never want that to happen again. If we need the station, I want it to work, and weekends like Field Day at W8VND will assure that it does!

Tom KC7TN



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Editorial note: The above (particularly about the need to operate "Field Day" from W8VND) is that of the author, and not necessarily that of the editor nor of the organization..

FIELD DAY Operating Preferences Survey

If you plan to operate at the QCEN 1998 Field Day, please fill out this survey.

Name: _____ - Call: _____

Please list your first and second preferences for the station/mode you would like to operate.

You may operate any or all of the stations. This is just to determine how we might keep all the stations busy.

Which Bands/modes would you prefer to operate			Time preference	
Voice		CW/Digital		
	75/80/40 m		2 p.m.-6 p.m.	
	20 m		6 p.m.-10 p.m.	
	15/10 m		10 p.m.-2 a.m.	

	6 m		2 a.m. - 6 a.m.	
	2 m		6 a.m.- 10 a.m.	
	1 ¼ - ¾ m		10 a.m.- 2 p.m.	
	2 m packet			
	HF Packet/Pactor, etc.			

Bring this form with you to the June QCEN meeting, or send info to Chuck DeSantis, K8CR: k8cr@juno.com

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QCEN - CALENDAR OF EVENTS - 1998

EVERY TUESDAY at 10:00 P.M. - Tuesday 10 Net 147.84/24

Jun 14 - Nky Ham-o-rama	Jul 2 - Maderia Independence Day Celebration
Jun 19 - QCEN Meeting	Jul 7 - N8XX Birthday
Jun 27 - 28 – Field Day	Jul 17 - QCEN Meeting
Jun 29 - LP Deadline	Jul 25 - OHKYIN Hamfest

VISIT QCEN on the World Wide Web @ <http://w3.one.net/~rkuns/qcen.html>

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Officers, Queen City Emergency Net, 1998

		CALL
President	Mark Reising	WB9BVV
Vice-President	Henry Greeb	N8XX
Secretary	Dean Winkelman	KB8GFN
Treasurer	John Dine	WA8DFD
Communications Manager	Steve Lewis	N8TFD

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Exams - June 27

The GCARA VE team will give Ham radio exams (all classes) beginning at 1 PM on Saturday, June 27. The exam location is the 11100 Springfield Pike building of Maple Knoll Village (the building with FM station WMKV in it). From I-275 in northern Hamilton County exit to Springfield Pike (Ohio S.R. 4). Go south past Kemper Rd. and Northland Boulevard (4-lane divided street) to the first traffic light. Turn left at this light onto Maple Trace Ct. From Sharon Rd. go north to the first traffic light. Turn right onto Maple Trace Ct. 11100 is the second building on the right. Follow the signs to the exam room. Contact Scott Henninger, W8GS, 683-7373; gshennin76@aol.com for requirements and to register. Walk-ins accepted.



Steve's suppositions - de N8TFD

Just came into the "inbox" - since there's short time we'd like to get input on whether to make this an official net function. Please respond via the Tuesday 10 net or e-mail lewse@email.uc.edu

This is an official request from me and the City of Madeira for QCEN's assistance in providing communications to coordinate the Madeira Independence Day festivities. The festivities consist of a 1 mile run, a parade, a party in the park and finally fireworks.

The event takes place on the evening of JULY 2nd. (not July 4th.) Communicators will be needed to shadow event coordinators and need to be on site around 5:30pm. The event will be done exclusively by HT's since everyone will be on foot.

I will be your contact person for the event. It looks like we will need about 8 or 9 people. Most positions will be completed by about 7:30pm however everyone is invited to stay for the party in the park and the fireworks.

Dean, KB8GFN

Also, too late for the paper page, but we'll squeeze it in here on the web....

I'm sure it's been said many times, and in many ways...but please, PLEASE come check out Field Day 1998. It's about emergency communications, and good food and good friends. Bring thouse spouses, parents, and children along--show 'em what it is that makes ham radio fun (C-What?)

With plenty of HF-licensed folks hanging around, it's your chance to try out the low bands if you never have. I find a great deal of pleasure in pulling AH8A (American Samoa) out of the 20-meter static every year...something just a little different than what you might be used to.

Red Cross communications is about more than 2-meter FM...remember that it wasn't too long ago that 6-meter communications were primary...and for a good reason. A good 6-m SSB signal beats a 2-m FM signal any day. And as we found out last March, HF sideband is essential for communications between Cincinnati and some of our most remote areas...(look for places like Blue Creek, Sinking Spring, Maysville, Corinth, and Carrollton on a map some time...you will understand.)

There will be ample opportunities for everyone that shows up to take a turn at the keyboard, microphone or paddles (or bug?)...so do stop by, do try something new and different from your routine...and discover the joy of being able to do something that you couldn't or didn't before.

I hope to see you there...anybody gonna volunteer to do the after-midnight to sunrise shift with me? Hope so!

-73- de n8tfid, steve



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Olde Englyshe - de n8xx

Gee, this is a somewhat skimpy Listening Post. The deadline seemed earlier than usual because the meeting last month was on the fourth instead of the third Friday. I did give a few folks some slack, but NOW is the time for the LP.. Next time this happens I may jump up and down and make real waves.

Lettuce all go out and have a good time operating W8VND on the day where most folks are having a field day. We'll have no excuse (except lack of will and lack operating skills) to not make beaucoup contacts, with all the gear, nice fixed antennae, air conditioning, etc., at the site.

73 de n8xx hg