

Quarter Century Wireless Association Southwest Ohio Chapter 9

April / May 2014

2014 Officers

President Gerd Schrick WB8IFM 937-253-3993	Director Carey Alexander K8DOT 937-426-3614
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Regular Meetings are on the SECOND Tuesday with Lunch at 11:30 AM
at the MCL Cafeteria 4485 Far Hills Av. in Kettering

Apr. 8 Q+A Antennas/Station and more
May 13 Q+A Hamvention

Happy Birthday to the following

4/7/38	W8LLY	5/7/29	KA8GYV	6/4/21	W8RVH
4/9/31	WT8W	5/12/19	W8WTL	6/7/21	W8MK
4/12/24	W8GFA	5/14/38	KA8RIO	6/10/33	WB8KMX
4/24/37	W8ILC	5/31/47	N8KPJ		

President's Comments

This sure was a long and strange winter for us with lots of snow and extremely cold temperatures. But wait till you read what William Falk in an editorial in the "Week" tells us about the rest of the planet: "Blizzards buried Birmingham, Ala. and Tokyo, while it hit 62 degrees in Alaska in January. California suffered through its worst drought in more than a century, while the wettest winter since 1766 submerged much of England in a biblical flood. Australia was so hot- 110 degrees- for days at a time- that 1,000 bats fell out of the trees, dead of heart stroke. But yesterday I did see our resident Easter bunny! Easter is coming up and Hamvention is getting close, so things are looking up! We just might have a marvelous summer.

As you know, we've had very low attendance recently and, of course, the weather sure had something to do with it. But there are other factors at work as well and we'd like to pin point these and maybe turn the tide. More and more clubs have similar

experiences, magazines as well find it more difficult to obtain contributions for publication. So what gives?

John, K8DSR, our secretary has plotted our last years attendance and found that we have a small but steady group of "regulars" that show up. And then there are a few that come on occasion. But the majority stays away. Of course, our members are from a wide area(SW Ohio,Dayton/Cincinnati) and we have some members, ex Ohioans, in other states, actually one even in Canada. So many can be excused on account of distance. However, even where driving would be possible, it is not what it used to be. And older drivers easily get discouraged.

At the upcoming meetings we will discuss the situation, maybe a solution like the planned QCWA Eyeball Party, in place of the formal Banquet at the Hamvention. Since we are meeting for lunch, it should be easy to find a smaller place.

Band conditions sure are quite acceptable, it looks like we are having a second peak of the sunspot cycle. This peak, like the first one, is moderate compared to other sunspot cycle, so 10m is not always open but quite often. Signals are not outstanding but usable!

Contests are "in" today. I have always thought of hams being their own type, with a great variety of interests. But now it appears to me that most tend to be contest types. Just talking about the US, of course. I hope soon we find a better balance. I remember the first page of the handbook contained that sentence: A ham is **balanced!**
Cu at the meetings. Gerd.

QCWA Chapter 9 / Dayton /Cincinnati

Membership is \$ 5.-- per year.
Apply to Treasurer,
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