PRIORITY TRAFFIC

The Listening Post
Monthly Newsletter of
February, 2005

QCEN QUEEN CITY EMERGENCY NET
Amateur Radio Affiliate of the American Red Cross, Cincinnati Area Chapter

Visit the QCEN Website at http://www.qcen.net

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Friday, February 18; 7:30 pm
  Monthly Meeting — Chapter House
- Friday — Sunday, March 4 — 6
  ARRL DX Contest, W8VND
- Friday, March 18; 7:30 pm
  Monthly Meeting — Chapter House
- Friday, April 15; 7:30 pm
  Monthly Meeting — Chapter House
- Friday & Saturday, April 29-30
  Flying Pig Expo
  Northern KY Convention Center
- Saturday, April 30; 6 am — 11 am
  Flying Pig 5K & 10K Runs
- Sunday, May 1; 5 am — 1 pm
  Flying Pig Marathon
- Saturday, May 7; 7 am — 1 pm
  MS Walk
- Friday, May 13; 7:30 pm
  Monthly Meeting — Chapter House
- Sunday, June 12
  Ride For The Red
- Friday, June 17; 7:30 pm
  Monthly Meeting — W8VND
- Saturday & Sunday, June 25-26
  Field Day
- Saturday & Sunday, July 9-10
  MS150 Bike Ride
- Saturday, July 16; 12 pm
  Annual Picnic
  McDonald Commons — Madeira

For more calendar items, please visit the QCEN website: www.qcen.net

From the President
Bob Garfield, W8MRG

Starting with the February QCEN monthly meeting, the meeting start time will be 7:30 pm., as discussed at previous meetings. The club recently changed the By-Laws to reflect this matter.

The meeting format will change too. We will start each monthly meeting with the evenings "program" first followed by our business meeting. This will allow our guests and others to join us for our program and not have to wait and sit through the business meeting first.

With the help of some club members, I have also prepared a calendar of events for the upcoming year. The calendar is posted on the website. It will be updated as needed. There are numerous QCEN events planned for 2005 including:

- Public Service Events
- Special Event Station, in May for the Flying Pig Marathon
- Ham Radio Events, both during the week and weekends.
- "Trailer Night at W8VND"

"Trailer Night" will be the 1st Tuesday of each month starting with March and going through November. This will be an evening at W8VND where members and guest are invited to attend. Plans will vary and scheduled activities planned as requested by the participants. Our start time will be 7:00 pm and run as long as we need. The activities might be a ham radio operation event, work party, sit and talk, or maybe just get together and have food and fun. I hope everyone will join us when they are available.

February Program
By Pete Feichtner, KC8BZM

Ashley Young, Director of Communications for the Cincinnati Chapter of the American Red Cross, will be our speaker for the February 18th meeting. Ashley has served in the position of Director of Communications for over 6 years.

You may recall that Ashley spoke to our group a year or so ago. This presentation, however, contains new material. Ashley will instruct how, as communicators, QCEN members best communicate with the news media in both disaster and non-disaster situations.

Please mark your calendars. The program will start at 7:30 pm. Our monthly business meeting will follow Ashley's presentation.

QCEN is an ARRL Affiliated Club

QCEN Officers For 2005

President
Bob Garfield, W8MRG

Vice President
Pete Feichtner, KC8BZM

Secretary
Dean Winkelman, KB8GFN

Treasurer
Jim Walsh, N8ZZW

Communications Manager
Steve Lewis, N8TFD

Executive Committee
KC Angel, W8ZFR
Tom Delaney, W8WTD
Chuck DeSantis K8CR
John Frank KC8SIL
Dick Leffler, W8RLL
Mark Reising, WM8R
Francis Smith, N8PEE
Dave Vest K8DV

Newsletter Editor
KC Angel, W8ZFR

From January, 2005

QCEN Meeting Minutes From the Annual Meeting of January 21, 2005

The regular monthly meeting of the Queen City Emergency Net was called to order by ***President*, Mark Reising WM8R** at 8:05pm. Mark and Steve searched for a stand for the flag but found none. **Steve N8TFD** agreed to hold the flag while Mark WM8R led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

***President*, Mark Reising WM8R** welcomed everyone and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

Mark WM8R told the group that most of the committee annual reports were published in the LP. **Mark WM8R** asked for a motion to accept the minutes as published in the LP. Motion passed.

Mark WM8R announced that an audit committee consisting of **Pete KC8BZM**, **Andrew N8MDH**, and **Jim N8ZZW** had been appointed. **Pete KC8BZM** reported for the committee, that the books were in order.

***Communications Manager*, Steve N8TFD** circulated a signup sheet for Tuesday Ten Net net control stations. Steve reported that the Flying Pigs Marathon would be held on May 1st and passed around a signup sheet. Some discussion followed about the benefits of participating in the Flying Pigs Expo to be held on April 29th and 30th. Steve reported that we are not charged for a table at this event. Some members don't believe that this event benefits our organization since this is geared towards the runners. It was suggested that we could put a bucket on the table for donations. **Pete KC8BZM** reported being sick last year and not being able to help with this event but he thinks that it furthers awareness of Ham Radio. **Dick W8RLL** asked if other club members could help us staff the expo. **Stu KC8HQT** indicated that he would staff the expo on Friday. **KC W8ZFR** asked about putting up a dipole. **Kitty WB8TDA** reported that 2 meters did not work inside of the building last year. Steve asked all those interested in QCEN participating in the expo to raise their hands. The majority indicated that we should continue to participate in the expo.

Tom W8WTD indicated that his annual report is short and he would submit it to the secretary. **Mark WM8R** asked Tom to read his report.

Jim W8OUU reported that he has processed the renewal of our non-profit status.

Mark WM8R told everyone that the Foundation for Amateur Radio is accepting applications for their scholarship.

***President*, Mark Reising WM8R** reported that it was time for the election of officers to take place. **Dean KB8GFN** distributed ballets to everyone. Mark asked the nominating committee to collect the ballets and count them. **Dean KB8GFN** handed the committee the absentee ballets.

Membership, Bob W8MRG reported that he has a membership application from **Jeff Galaway KC8FDU**. Bob indicated that Jeff has handed over $15.00 in cash for membership. A vote was taken and Jeff is a new member. Jeff stood and introduced himself and indicated that he has some questions about several radios.

Jim W8OUU told everyone that the Mike and Key has been mailed out.

Chuck K8CR told everyone that **Steve N8TFD** had an announcement.

Steve N8TFD announced that the WARN spotter training class would be held on Friday April 1 at the Blue Ash office of the Red Cross on Kenwood Road.

Dick W8RLL reported having digital badges for sale at a cost of $40.00.

At 8:50pm the nominating committee returned and **Tom W8WTD** reported the election results as follows:

- President Bob Garfield W8MRG
- Vice Pres. Pete Feichtner KC8BZM
- Secretary Dean Winkelman KB8GFN
- Comm-Mgr Steve Lewis N8TFD
- Treasurer Jim Walsh N8ZZW

Hank N8XX made a motion to shred the ballets.

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***President Elect*, Bob Garfield W8MRG** came to the front of the room, accepted the gavel from out going ***President,* Mark WM8R.**

Chuck K8CR queried Bob as to when the inaugural ball would be held. Bob took the ball bat away from Chuck.

***President,* Bob W8MRG** announced his plans to keep the existing Executive Committee in place. There are several positions available and anyone interested should contact Bob.

Bob W8MRG announced that the meetings will ALL BEGIN at 7:30pm from now on. The format will change to allow for the program to be first on the agenda.

Kitty WB8TDA asked if people would come for the program and leave before the meeting.

Bob W8MRG told everyone that the calendar of events is published on the web site. Bob summarized the major events.

Hank N8XX asked if there was a VHF contest in September. Bob stated that he was not aware of any.

Hank N8XX told the group that on February 2nd the Cincinnati FM Club would have a presentation about communications on the 2.4 GHz.802.11b protocol.

Bob W8MRG announced a new program called "Trailer Night" which will be held on the first Tuesday of each month beginning in March. The purpose of this is to allow members to come to the trailer and use the radio equipment.

Rob N8JMV asked about **John WA8DFD**. **Kitty WB8TDA** reported talking to John recently and he sounds ok.

Hank N8XX made a motion to adjourn at 9:10pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dean Winkelman, KB8GFN
Secretary

May Meeting Announcement
by Pete Feichtner, KC8BZM

The May meeting will occur one week early than normal due to the Dayton Hamvention. The meeting will be on Friday May 13th at 7:30 PM. CINERGY will present a very active demonstration on power line and electrical safety. This program is a must see for Ham operators who are working with antennas as well as Red Cross volunteers who may have need to enter disaster areas were power lines could be down. It is a safety show that is educational and very energetic and full of sparks and shockers. Plan to attend. This program will help you avoid electrical hazards and stay safe.

Do You Have Spare Computer Parts?

QCEN is starting to upgrade the computers at W8VND and W8VVL. We are replacing our old pre-Pentium and Pentium class computers with machines that run a minimum of a Pentium II processor.

The plan is to accomplish this without using funds from the treasury. A couple of computers have already been donated but we are looking for more. Do you have an old Pentium II or better computer that you would like to donate? In addition to complete systems, we can also use components — memory, video cards, CD-ROM drives, hard drives and the such.

If you have equipment or parts for donation or questions, please contact Bob Garfield, W8MRG. Check with your tax professional as your contributions may be tax-deductible.

Tuesday Net Control Schedule

02/08/05 — Available
02/15/05 — Available
02/22/05 — Available
03/01/05 — KC8FDU
03/08/05 — N8XX

- Have you ever been net control? When was the last time? Don't you think it makes sense to know how or practice? Will you be ready when you are needed?
- The Tuesday Net is a great place to get your feet wet. Run the net, submit a check-in list and you could win a $25 gift certificate from R&L Electronics.
- Contact N8TFD to volunteer as net control.

Do you have an idea for the Newsletter?
Articles and member news are always welcome!
Email: newsletter@qcen.net

Queen City Emergency Net
720 Sycamore Street
Cincinnati, OH 45202

Amateur Radio Affiliate of the American Red Cross,
Cincinnati Area Chapter

Membership categories are:

- Regular - $15.00 per year
- Sustaining - $20.00 or more per year
- Student $3.50 per year
- Non-Resident - $5.00 per year
- Family members pay 1/2 price

Dues for 2005-2006 may be paid now!

Please note any changes of address, etc on the form below, and give or send to W8MRG, at the address listed below.

Also, talk up QCEN! We've got a great group, and others may be interested in joining!

QUEEN CITY EMERGENCY NET, INC.
Application for Membership-Renewal

(PLEASE CHECK) NEW _____ RENEWAL _____ MEMBERSHIP TYPE _____

NAME _____ CALL _____ DATE _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ WORK PHONE _____ LICENSE CLASS _____

PAGER _____ CELL-PHONE _____ OTHER PHONE _____

E-MAIL_____ MEMBER OF ARRL?_____

PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT _____ OTHER FCC LICENSES _____

QCEN MEMBER RECOMMENDING YOU _____

Mail to: Bob Garfield, W8MRG, 13038 Coopermeadow Lane, Cincinnati, OH 45242 Phone (513) 652-6300