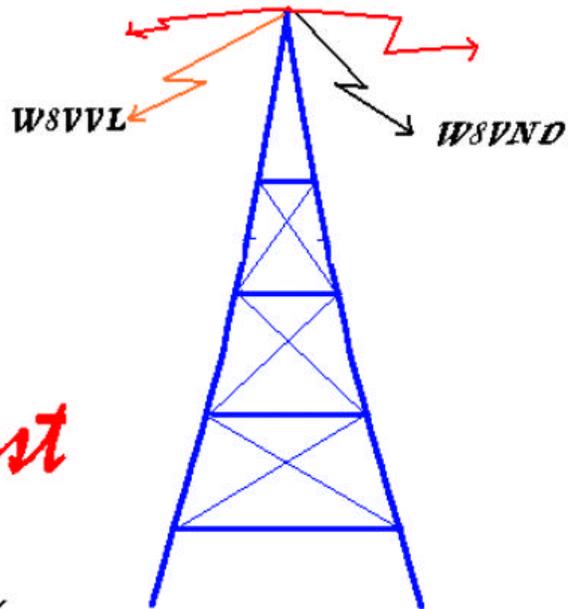


The
Listening
Post



Official Publication of the
QCEN QUEEN CITY
EMERGENCY NET

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Volume 57 - Nr. 8 - July 1998

**QCEN Family Picnic - Friday, July 17, 1998 - 6:30 p.m.
@ W8VND**

tune to 147.24 for directions

Come one, come all.... Members and their Families cordially invited

***Bring a covered dish (Salad, Dessert, or munchies) for 10
The net will provide Hot Dogs, Metts, Brats, Hamburgers, & Drinks.***

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Mark's Musings - de wb9bvv

Thanks to Chuck, K8CR, for the tour of the Airtouch facility for the June meeting. We had a reasonable attendance, but it could have been better.

Remember the July meeting will be held at W8VND. Tune in 147.24 for detailed directions. Please attend. Bring your family and a covered dish (with a salad, dessert, veggies, or other food inside for 10 people!). QCEN will provide the meat and drinks. Bring some lawn chairs, also. Dinner is at 18:30 EDT (6:30 p.m.)

Field Day 1998 was a resounding success. This year we activated W8VND, our club station, and operated Class 9E (9 simultaneous transmitters on emergency power). Preliminary results show almost 4000 points. In addition to the fun had by all, we accomplished much needed refurbishing and fixup at W8VND. New Antennae were added, some old ones were replaced or repaired. The inside of

W8VND was cleaned, vacuumed, and straightened out. Some (not all, because of the rain) of the vines along the fence have been beaten back.

Several new members participated in work parties and the Field Day activities. Michael Delaney and Nick Toth (future hams, I'm sure) participated under supervision, making more contacts than some of the older members.

We completed a good test of the station and generators (blue goose and the Onan). While next year's Field Day may be a more traditional, portable operation, we need to consider periodic use of W8VND as a test of its capabilities. We have a very good station and should put it to more use during other contests throughout the year.

Special thanks to K8CR, WA8DFD, HA8HXR, W8MRG, KB0SLY, N8TFD, KC7TN, KB8UUW, KB8VMX, N8XX, KB8ZQS, and N8ZZW for services rendered over the last few weeks. Apologies if I missed anyone, please accept my thanks, and the thanks of the net.

CU all at the picnic.

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, via e-Mail 72277.706@compuserve.com. Deadline is one week after the meeting.



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QCEN MEETING - 19 JUNE 1998

The June meeting of the Queen City Emergency Net was held at the Air-Touch Cellular building located on Central Parkway. This meeting location was arranged by **Chuck K8CR**.

President, Mark WB9BVV called the meeting to order at 2000 hours. A motion was made and seconded to dispense with the Pledge of Allegiance due to the absence of a flag. This was followed by a round of introductions.

Secretary, Dean KB8GFN distributed copies of the minutes from the May meeting. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes.

Treasurer, John WA8DFD gave the treasurer's report. It was accepted as read.

Vice President, Hank N8XX lodged an official complaint indicating that 147.240 Mhz was supposed to be the official talk-in frequency but no body was monitoring the frequency when he got lost. After several trips around the block he finally found the place.

Communication Manager, Steve N8TFD reported that the net control list for the Tuesday Ten Net was filling up nicely. There were only a couple of spots open. Steve told the group that Dean KB8GFN had secured some additional MS-150 "T" shirts for those members that worked the event. Steve said that he had a lot more to report on, but since this was to be a short meeting, he would save it for the next meeting.

Activities, Jim N8ZZW reported on the July picnic to be held at W8VND. It was decided that the picnic would start at 1830 hours with the meeting to

follow. Everyone was reminded to bring a covered dish to the picnic.

Hank N8XX told the group that 147.240 Mhz would be the official talk in frequency for the picnic.

Education, Ed KF4UTO reported that the club would be holding a no code tech class beginning on September 1st. and would run for ten weeks.

Engineering, Chuck K8CR welcomed the group to the Air Touch facility and indicated that the club was the first group to get a tour of the building. Chuck reported on the plans for Field Day and told the group that there was a lot of work to be completed at W8VND. There would be work parties on June 23, 24, 25 and 26.

Publications, Hank N8XX requested that Dean KB8GFN check the MS-150 photos on the internet and attempt to identify one of the first aid people. Hank also told the group that he was going out of town and needed items for the July LP real soon.

Goodwill, John WA8DFD reported on the death of **Charles Southern W8PNK**.

Security, John WA8DFD told the group that he had found the air conditioning at W8VND set at 60 degrees. He explained that setting the thermostat real high or real low would not speed up the cooling or heating process. It only runs up the electric bill. John advised

the group that if he found the air conditioning set at 60 or the heat set at 80 he would seek out the guilty party and take away their key.

At 2035 hours **KC8EGW, KC8EGY and KC8EZI** arrived.

Disaster, Tom KC7TN suggested setting up a station at the Red Cross picnic to show other volunteers what we do. Tom also reported that the roof at W8VVL was still not finished but once the repairs were completed the club has a lot of work to do.

Ed KF4UTO reported on a slight modification to the new logo.

Hank N8XX made a motion to adjourn. A vote was taken and the meeting was adjourned at 2040 hours.

After a short break **Chuck K8CR** took the group on a very interesting tour of the Air Touch building.

Respectfully Submitted

Dean Winkelman, KB8GFN, Secretary

Remember - OH-KY-IN Hamfest - July 25 - Diamond Oaks - Harrison Ave



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QCEN - CALENDAR OF EVENTS - 1998

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

Jul 2 - Maderia Independence Day Celebration

Jul 4-5 - CN-DX Contest,

Jul 5 - Lisbon (OH) Hamfest

Jul 7 - N8XX Birthday

Jul 11 - Indianapolis (IN) Hamfest

Jul 11-12 - IARU HF World Championship.

Jul 11-12 - QRP ARCI Summer Homebrew Sprint

Jul 11-12 - CQ WW VHF Contest

Jul 12 - Bowling Green (OH) Hamfest

Jul 17 - QCEN Family Picnic

Jul 18-19 - North American QSO Party, RTTY,

Jul 18-19 - SEANET Contest, CW

Jul 19 - Van Wert Hamfest

Jul 25 - OHKYIN (Cincinnati) Hamfest

Jul 25 - Huntington (IN) Hamfest

Jul 25-26 - RSGB Islands on the Air Contest

Aug 1-2 - North American QSO Party, CW

Aug 1-2 - QRP ARCI Summer Daze SSB Sprint

Aug 1-2 - Ten-Ten Summer Phone Contest

Aug 1-2 - YO DX Contes

Aug 2 - Angola (IN) Hamfest

Aug 7 - LP Deadline

Aug 8 - Huntington (WV) Hamfest

Aug 8-9 - Maryland-DC QSO Party

Aug 8-9 - Worked All Europe Contest, CW

Aug 9 - Frankfort (KY) Hamfest

Aug 15-16 - New Jersey QSO Party

Aug 15-16 - North American QSO Party, Phone

Aug 15-16 - KCJ Contest

Aug 15-16 - SARTG RTTY Contest

Aug 15-16 - SEANET Contest, phone

Aug 16 - Warren (OH) Hamfest

Jul 26 - Paulding (OH) Hamfest

Aug 21 - QCEN Meeting

Aug 1 - Columbus (OH) Hamfest

Aug 29 - West Virginia State Convention

Aug 1-2 - ARRL UHF Contest

Sep 20 - GCARA (Cincinnati) Hamfest

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

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Olde Englyshe - de n8xx

Apologies to all members who temporarily got lost on the way to the meeting in June. We were promised a talk-in station, yet none was provided.

Congrats to Steve, N8TFD, & Chuck, K8CR, for spearheading the operation during Field Day. They along with several others, figured out how to place 8 transmitters within the trailer at W8VND. This was a good test of our facility, much needed.

We learned

1. The Onan generator can run for 24+ hours without a hitch.
2. The blue goose can run for 6 or 7 hours.
3. Rotators can rotate the beam antennae.
4. Portable vertical antenna we have for emergency operation can radiate RF.
5. The TS-440's worked like a charm.
6. Computers are useful for logging and preventing dupes
7. When we set our minds to it, we can make contacts -more contacts than any time since about 1972.
8. Jim, N8ZZW, is an excellent cook - he kept the grill hot and tummies were never hungry for long.
9. Operating can be fun!
10. 13 or 14 SSB operators, using 8 stations, beam antennae, etc., can beat (slightly) the number of points generated by two semi-skilled CW operators at one station using a modest wire antenna.
11. The air conditioning is insufficient at W8VND when we have about 3000 watts being generated by rigs, the sun beating down, and lots of power being radiated by 15 to 18 warm bodies operating the rigs.

As our fearless leader said in his musings, we need to exercise our club station much more frequently. One test every three to five years is insufficient to ensure that it will be available during a real emergency. There are numerous contests (designed for home and club station operation), special event operations, and other activities in which we could and should participate.

*As I've said many times over the years, a ham community's ability to respond is at its peak about a year after the last emergency. We've proved that we **now** could respond to an emergency like happened in March 1997. I trust we'll be equally prepared in March 2017 or whenever the next big emergency hits our area. It is easy to get complacent - difficult to maintain preparedness.*

73 de n8xx hg

Remember - OHKYIN Hamfest - July 25

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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

Remember - OHKYIN Hamfest - July 25



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Preliminary FD Results - de N8TFD

Well, I hope everyone has recovered from Field Day '98. For most of the 19 participants, Field Day was lots of CW'ing and talking...with very little sleep in between. The tentative numbers look like this:

Band	Digital	CW	Phone	Sections	States
80m	0	0	13	6	5
40m	0	270	486	60	39
20m	9	192	270	69	48
15m	0	0	211	53	35
10m	0	0	95	27	23
6m	0	0	63	18	16
2m	0	0	34	3	3
1 1/4 m	0	0	1	1	1
70cm	0	0	10	1	1
Total	9	462	1183	72	48

Thanks to the following people who operated over the weekend...wouldn't have been a success without them.

Mark Reising	WB9BVV	Jim Benson	W8OUU	Rob Lunsford	KB8UEY
Chuck DeSantis	K8CR	Dave Stuart	KBØSLY	Mike Gray	KB8UUW
Evan Rohrkemper	KC8EGW	Matt Reising	KB8TCN	Mike Nie	KB8VMX
Bob Boehm	N8EXF	Steve Lewis	N8TFD	Hank Greeb	N8XX
Dave Zitt	KC8FKW	Tom Delaney	KC7TN	Jim Walsh	N8ZZW

Richard Turner	KA8HXR	Michael Delaney	Tony Dacres	AA8EI
Rick Powell	WB6JBM	Nick Toth	Mary Dacres	KB8BAX

1) W8VND hasn't been up to standards for a long time. Thanks to all who attended the 5 last-minute work parties, it is now. Please check it out during the picnic. I think you will be proud. Having a specific goal (to have the thing ready by a particular date) drove us to get a lot of work done. Field Day was a success if for no other reason than that (but there are more reasons...) Everyone should thank K8CR for his hard work on this.

2) The Net was able to exercise radios, antennas, coax, portable mast, and of course, the generator...we probably loaded the generator even more than we would during a major disaster...because we had so many things going on. Another success.

3) Several operators who aren't intimately familiar with HF got plenty of time to try it out. One Net member says that this was enough reason for him to try for his 5wpm (at least). I won't name names....but, hey Dave! The pressure is on! And while this person is quite familiar with HF, a certain Engineering Chairperson (who will remain anonymous) was described as almost "giddy" over the opportunity to "play radio" for the better part of 24 hours. That's what Field Day is about (among other things).

4) Several Net members were shown how to operate Net radios, rotors, and the like...and how to watch for problems with the generator. That might sound minor...but when was the last time we even had the opportunity?

5) The camaraderie (and food) of Field Day can't be matched. It is hard to describe the good feelings between hams that are doing something they enjoy...with no pressure--because it's a TEAM effort.

6) The weather was great...but warm enough to show that a lot of people and radios in so little space can really tax our A/C.

7) HF verticals work quite nicely. We will look at ways to deploy them a little more intelligently. (Hey N8APQ...the Butternut worked great! All of the 10m and most of the 15m contacts were made using it.)

8) We need to have things like coax "pigtailed" and other trinkets in abundance...you can never have enough. (Especially when running 9 transmitters!)

9) Again, if you haven't heard, we appear to have the highest all-time score for class 9E. This was due to round-the-clock use of 20 and 40 meters...and 10/15 openings till 2am/3am (no joke!)

10) And yes...any guesses you have as to the origin of the callsign NU5DE are correct.

See you at the picnic. Please check out all of the improvements to W8VND...and I hope to get 20 or more folks to operate Field Day next year!

-73- de n8tfd, Steve



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This page composed and edited by Hank Greeb, N8XX, 5 July 98 comments to n8xx@qsl.net

Thanks to [Richard Kuns, KC8TW](#), for hosting the QCEN Web Pages