

# Grant Amateur Radio



Issue 4

Newsletter

April, 1999

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U.S. Foxhunt Weekend

May 6th  
at 7:00pm



## 1999 GARC Officers

Pres. Hal KB8SUM  
V.P. Gordy W8YGW  
Sec Al WB8UJM  
Treas Jutta N1WJM

## Birthday Corner

Brian 4/ 6 KB8JUL  
Douglas 4/ 7 K8CMM  
Marty 4/ 9 KC8CZD  
Robert 4/14 N4VGI  
Richard 4/25 KB8YLO  
Garry 4/28 N8SVW

## April Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 7:00 with a prayer by the GARC president, Hal KB8SUM. The treasury report was read by Jutta, the GARC treasurer. N8CGO, Russ made a motion that we accept the treasury report, KB8TQU seconded

### New business

Al, WB8UJM gave Vice President Gordon, W8YGW Y2K info from CG&E, which Gordon shared with the group. Gordon discussed RACES info with the group and on a related topic suggested that a revolving light would be nice for club activities. He brought up that we might think about newsletter sponsors. Gordon mentioned that we will be getting ARES badges, and that the club should contact WB8IOW for a status report. Gordon mentioned that it is time to fire up the hamfest committee and he would have more to say later in the meeting

A short discussion over membership dues and voting rights followed. A check of the secretary's notes shows 34 members paid as of April. The group asked the general question, why has the membership dropped off? Hal, KB8SUM or Gordon, W8YGW will generate a letter to mail to past members to help regain club membership. Jeff, N1DJS mentioned that the meetings and the net need to offer something of interest before people will enthusiastically participate in them. This discussion will be taken up further at the officers meeting on April 20th

The net control chairman, Rodney WD8CTX mentioned that 4 months are still open for net control operators. Rodney, WD8CTX has the net in May, Dot, KB8TQU has it in June. WD8CTX, Rodney will generate a net roster list for the next meeting and needs volunteers.

The Hamfest committee Chairmen Gordon, W8YGW reports that the hamfest committee is just starting up. Gordon will have more in future meetings.

### Old business.

Russ, N8CGO suggested that we resolve the damn t-shirt issue. Doug, K8CMM suggested that we stop talking about it and get it done. Dot, KB8TQU mentioned that we owe the logo designer a free t-shirt if we move forward on this issue. Russ asked that we set a deadline and specify a date! Russ will take it upon himself to spearhead to the T-shirt project. Orders for the T-Shirts will be placed at the next meeting.

Jeff, N1DJS suggested that the GARC have a fox hunt on the national fox hunt weekend, 17-April-99. He also mentioned that 24-April-99 is Grants birthday. The club decided after a

## **N0UJR JOINS GARC Newsletter Staff**

Starting with this issue of the GARC newsletter, you'll notice a delightful change. N0UJR has given us permission to place his cartoons in our monthly newsletter. He sends us the following bio....

N0UJR began drawing cartoons over six years ago. They started out as doodles in his college notebooks, and his friends liked them so much, he started experimenting with the idea of intentionally drawing actual cartoons. He passed out a few samples, and before long, his cartoons began showing up on bulletin boards, and one thing led to another.

About that time, he had ham radio on the brain (sound familiar?), and he had recently been re-licensed as a ham. He found himself and his fellow hams were excellent cartoon material, so he shifted the subject matter from electronics to ham radio.

He submitted a few cartoons to the local ham radio club paper, and they ended up being published. As time went on, his cartoons started looking less and less like stick people. Eventually he began surveying his ham friends and trying to fine tune his work for more efficient "humor transfer". Now his cartoons are guaranteed pre-tested by actual hams, under "laboratory conditions"!

N0UJR's cartoons have been published in a number of quality amateur radio publications, for the past two years or so. They appear in such publications as Antennae, Amateur Radio Trader, 73 Amateur Radio Today, World radio, and FROM Online. The list of publications in which his cartoons appear, continues to grow. Thanks to the recent addition of Antennae (online), his cartoons are now seen in 146 countries.

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*"Gentlemen... Tonight we will begin the Malicious interference net with a round of anonymous whistling, followed by freestyle profanity. Remember...no call signs please!"*

## **Tornado safety rules...**

The NEWS is sues a TORNADO WATCH to give you ad vance no tice that tor na does are pos- si ble in your area. This gives you time to make pre lim i nary plans for mov ing to a safe lo ca tion if a tor nado warn ing is is sued.

The TORNADO WARNING is an ur gent an nounce ment that a tor nado has been re ported or is im mi nent and warns you to take cover.

Move quickly; sec onds save lives.

In the home, the best ha ven from tor nado winds is a base ment be low ground level. If pos si ble, get un der a sturdy ta ble or work bench. Oth er wise, take cover in an in te rior closet, hall way, or bath room on the low est floor of the house.

Be sure to stay clear of any threat of fly ing glass and get to a place of safety be fore a tor nado strikes.

If you live in a mo bile home, be sure you have a plan of safe ac tion should the weather be come threat en ing. Mo bile homes pro vide no shel ter in a tor nado re gard less of how well tied, and should be aban doned for a storm shel ter.

If no shel ter is avail able, lie flat in a ditch or de pres sion in the ground.

**Where the law is. Town, Address and Phone Numbers....**

**Georgetown Police Department**

108 State At Main St,  
Georgetown, OH 45121  
(937) 378-6400

**Brown County Sheriff**

750 Mount Orab Pike,  
Georgetown, OH 45121  
(937) 378-4155

**Highway Patrol**

717 E State St,  
Georgetown, OH 45121  
(937) 378-6191

**Hamersville Police Department**

Bank,  
Hamersville, OH 45130  
(937) 379-1745

**Augusta Police Department**

Main St,  
Augusta, KY 41002  
(606) 756-3296

**Augusta Police Department**

W Second St,  
Augusta, KY 41002  
(606) 756-3296

**Sardinia Village Police Department**

Sardinia, OH 45171  
(937) 446-2640

**Felicity Police Department**

415 W Walnut,  
Felicity, OH 45120  
(513) 876-2621

**Mt Orab Police Department**

100 S High St,  
Mt Orab, OH 45154  
(937) 444-2281

**Russellville Police Department**

South,  
Russellville, OH 45168  
(937) 377-5595

**Bethel Village Police Department**

235 W Plane St,  
Bethel, OH 45106  
(513) 734-2256

**Winchester Police Department**

24 W Washington St,  
Winchester, OH 45697  
(937) 695-5502

**Mowrystown Police Department**

50 Maple,  
Mowrystown, OH 45155  
(937) 442-3815

**Williamsburg Village Police**

120 S Front St,  
Williamsburg, OH 45176  
(513) 724-2261

**Brooksville Police Department**

Miami St,  
Brooksville, KY 41004  
(606) 735-3553

**Bracken County Sheriff Office**

Locust St,  
Brooksville, KY 41004  
(606) 735-3233

**Aberdeen Police Department**

850 Us Hwy 52,  
Aberdeen, OH 45101  
(937) 795-2214

**Mason County Sheriff**

25 W 3rd St,  
Maysville, KY 41056  
(606) 564-3309

**Maysville Police Department**

215 E 3rd St,  
Maysville, KY 41056  
(606) 564-9411

**Moscow Police Department**

79 Elizabeth,  
Moscow, OH 45153  
(513) 553-4230

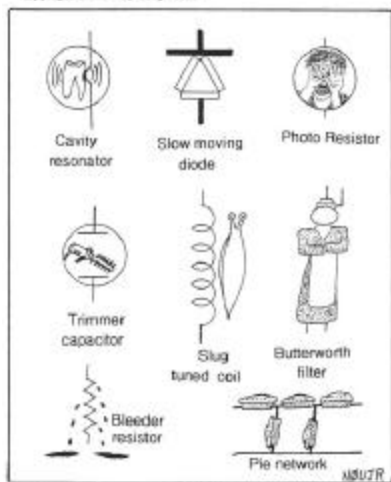
**Clermont County Sheriff's Department**

4470 State Rte 222,  
Batavia, OH 45103  
(513) 732-7500

**Highway Patrol**

1000 Hospital Dr,  
Batavia, OH 45103  
(513) 732-1510

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Little known standard electronic symbols.

## GARC Foxhunt 17-April

The GARC in co-operation with CQ magazine will host a foxhunt in Brown County on 146.46 Mhz April 17th starting at noon, which is one of the days of the National Foxhunt weekend. (Ed. See related article elsewhere in this newsletter)

Hams across the nation will be out and about locating a hidden transmitter in and around their area.

The GARC fox will be hidden somewhere in Brown County and will transmit for 1 minute every 10 minutes until he is found or until everyone gives up, whichever comes first. The first person finding the fox will receive notoriety in the GARC newsletter, a certificate suitable for framing, and a twenty-five dollar gift certificate at R&L electronics.

### Did you know?

- Large doses of coffee can be lethal. Ten grams, or 100 cups over 4 hours can kill the average human.
- In 1995, KFC sold 11 pieces of chicken for every man, woman and child in the U.S.

## Caps, Jackets, and Shirts

Thanks to Rus, N8CGO the attempt at some GARC club clothing is moving forward. Attend the next meeting or send a representative to place your order for a club jacket, hat or shirt. This will be your only chance to order. The exact design and style was approved at the last club meeting and can be read about in the April meeting minutes found elsewhere in this newsletter. The basic style will be a yellow article of clothing on which the GARC logo will be embroidered. More information is available on the Sunday evening net or by contacting N8CGO. --N1DJS

### GARC List server now in operation

The Grant Amateur Radio Club list server is now up and running and waiting for you to subscribe. So what is a List server you ask?

Well list servers make interactive discussion possible for special interest groups, user groups, customer service forums, etc. using Internet email. Messages sent to the List server are forwarded to all subscribers of that List server. Subscribers can subscribe or unsubscribe themselves automatically to a List server via email or forms on a WWW page.

So how does one subscribe to the Grant Amateur Radio club list server?

It is as easy as one, two, three ..... Just go to the GARC web page and do the following:

1. Click on the Subscribe link,
2. Select GARC from the Select list choice box,
3. Type in your email address in the E-Mail box,
4. Click in the subscribe check box
5. Click on the Submit Request button

Or send an email message...

TO: majordomo@qth.net

SUBJECT: BODY: subscribe GARC

To post information/questions to the list send an email message:

### GARC Web page updated

The GARC home page has gone through a change or two recently. The page now has links to Brown County law enforcement, Brown County Weather, including watches and warnings, and Brown County News. It's also possible to search the World Wide Web for items related to Brown County. See it all on the GARC web page at [www.qsl.net/~n1djs](http://www.qsl.net/~n1djs)

## Are You Ready for a Tor nado?

Here's what you can do to pre pare for such an emergency.

- Pre pare a Home Tor nado Plan  
Pick a place where fam ily mem bers could gather if a tor nado is headed your way. It could be your base ment or, if there is no base ment, a cen ter hall way, bath room, or closet on the low est floor. Keep this place un clut tered.  
If you are in a high-rise build ing, you may not have enough time to go to the low est floor. Pick a place in a hall way in the cen ter of the build ing.
- As sem ble a Di sas ter Sup plies Kit  
Con tain ing--  
First aid kit and es sen tial med i ca tions.  
Canned food and can opener.  
At least three gal lons of wa ter per person.  
Pro tec tive cloth ing, bed ding, or sleep ing bags.  
Bat tery-powered ra dio, flash light, and ex tra bat teries.  
Spe cial items for in fant, el derly, or dis abled fam ily mem bers.  
Writ ten in struc tions on how to turn off elec tric ity, gas, and wa ter if au thor i ties ad vise you to do so.  
(Re mem ber, you'll need a pro fes sional to turn nat u ral gas ser vice back on.)
- Stay Tuned for Storm Warn ings  
Lis ten to your lo cal ra dio and TV sta tions for up dated storm in for ma tion
- Know what a tor nado WATCH and WARNING means:  
A tor nado WATCH means a tor nado is pos si ble in your area.  
A tor nado WARNING means a tor nado has been sighted and may be headed for your area. Go to safety im me di ately.  
Tor nado WATCHES and WARNINGS are is sued by county or par ish.

### When a Tor nado WATCH Is Is sued...

- Listen to local radio and TV stations for further updates.  
Be alert to changing weather conditions. Blowing debris or the sound of an approaching tornado may alert you. Many people say it sounds like a freight train.

### When a Tor nado WARNING Is Is sued...

- If you are inside, go to the safe place you picked to protect yourself from glass and other flying objects.  
The tornado may be approaching your area.  
If you are outside, hurry to the basement of a nearby sturdy building or lie flat in a ditch or low-lying area.  
If you are in a car or mobile home, get out immediately and head for safety (as above).

### After the Tor nado Passes...

- Watch out for fallen power lines and stay out of the damaged area.  
Listen to the radio for information and instructions.  
Use a flashlight to inspect your home for damage.  
Do not use candles at any time.



## PICK A REPEATER

Brown County has been blessed with several repeaters around the area. Here is a partial list as gleaned from the files of the Ohio Repeater Council....

Repeater	Trustee	City	County	Club	Options
146.7300	K8YGV	Georgetown	BROWN	K8YGV	
444.5125	KC8FBG	Sardinia	BROWN	KC8FBG	
224.1800	WB8UJM	Mt. Orab	BROWN	WB8UJM	
147.0000	K8GE	Cherry Fork	ADAMS	DeForest ARC	PL 94.8
45.1700	KJ8I	Peebles	ADAMS	KJ8I & N8JSZ	
442.6750	KJ8I	Peebles	ADAMS	KJ8I+N8JSZ	
147.1800	N8XGP	Wrightsville	ADAMS	N8XGP	
147.2100	K8HO	Hillsboro	HIGHLAND	Highland ARA	PL 100.0
441.1000	W8NTX	New Vienna	HIGHLAND	W8NTX	
146.7450	WA8KFB	Hillsboro	HIGHLAND	Hillsboro ARC	
444.6750	WA8KFB	Hillsboro	HIGHLAND	Hillsboro ARC	
147.225	K8ARE	Bethel	Clermont	Bethel ARC	

## Roster to be published

The GARC intends to publish the club roster quarterly, complete with address and phone numbers of all GARC members. This is intended to make the membership easier to contact in the event of an emergency.

If you would like to remain anonymous, either address or phone number, please let a club officer know on or before the GARC May meeting.  
--N1DJS

## Cordless Phone Inventor Silent Key

Cordless phone inventor, N9LC, SK: George H. Sweigert, N9LC, of Fort Wayne, Indiana, died February 23. He was 79. First licensed as W8ZIS, Sweigert was a World War II veteran. Sweigert received a patent for the invention of the cordless telephone in 1969. He was employed at Magnavox Electronics, IIT Technical Institute and the Indiana Vocational Technical College. He was also active in Air Force MARS. His wife, Katherine "Kay" Sweigert, two daughters, and four sons are among his survivors.--Kay Sweigert

## PICOSATELLITE PROJECT

Hank Heidt, N4AFL, reports that a one pound (4 inch x 3 inch x 1 inch) Amateur Radio Picosatellite is under construction by a team in the Washington DC area for Stanford University's OPAL launch in September 1999. Designers need to deliver the flight ready picosat by April 1 so they are under a very tight schedule, but hope to get every thing integrated and tested in time.

The picosatellite will be called "Stensat", and is intended for use by amateur radio operators world wide and will operate as a single channel Mode "J" FM voice repeater. The earth-to-space uplink frequency will be

145.840 MHz and the space-to-earth downlink will be 436.625 Mhz.

Stensat will periodically transmit 1200 baud AX.25 for broadcasting the following telemetry: temperature, bus current, bus voltage, receiver RSSI and 3 digital "0/1" sun sensors. Additionally, amateur radio operators will be able to "PING" the satellite causing the satellite to broadcast a telemetry packet by transmitting a six digit DTMF command to the receiver uplink.

Web pages describing the project may be found at the following URLs:

<http://www.erols.com/hheidt>  
<http://ssdl.stanford.edu/opal/index.html>

--ARRL Newsline

*Continued from Meeting minutes page 1*

short discussion to host a foxhunt. The details are to be written in the newsletter that will be mailed to be received by all members on or before the foxhunt. The foxhunt will commence at 12:00pm and the winner will receive a certificate from the club, mention in the club's newsletter and web site, and a \$25.00 gift certificate from R&L electronics. The GARC 1st annual fox hunt will be held on 146.46 Mhz

At this point Hal discussed some ideas to stimulate club interest. Some of those ideas included:

- 1) Video teleconference with some one at the ARRL
- 2) Bus Tour of GE production or Middletown

## **April Hamfest Calendar**

### **April 25**

Athens County ARA, Athens, OH  
Drew McDaniel, W8MHV  
61 Briarwood Dr., Athens, OH 45701  
740-592-2106  
E-mail: dmcDaniell@ohiou.edu  
<http://www.seorf.ohiou.edu/~xx017/hamfest.html>

### **April 25**

Twenty Over Nine RC, Canfield, OH  
Don Stoddard, N8LNE  
55 South Whitney Ave., Youngstown, OH 44509  
330-793-7072

Steel

- 3) Special meeting held in conjunction with the Maysville or Adams county club
- 4) Field Day

Hal, KB8SUM asked that all members let their interest be known by the next meeting

Russ, N8CGO asked the question "do we want to participate in a joint picnic between other clubs?" Hal will draft a letter or email to solicit other clubs in put for a picnic. Hal suggests that we go to other clubs meetings. Hal will also contact WB8UJM, AI for a storage place of club items. Gordon, W8YGW will investigate the purchase of green magnetic lights or strobes.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:22

### **May 14-16**

Dayton ARA, Dayton, OH  
Dick Miller, N8CBU  
PO Box 964, Dayton, OH 45401-0964  
937-427-3109  
E-mail: chair@hamvention.org  
<http://www.hamvention.org>

### **May 30**

Franklin County Hamfest, Hilliard, OH  
Chris Lind, KC8BUO  
PO Box 14281, Columbus, OH 43214  
614-267-7779  
Fax: 614-263-7934  
E-mail: FKLN-CNTY-HFST@prodigy.com

## **2nd ANNUAL CQ VHF NATIONAL FOXHUNTING WEEKEND**

CQ VHF magazine has announced the second annual National Foxhunting Weekend, April 17-18. The magazine is encouraging radio clubs and other groups to conduct "foxhunts" during that weekend--or another convenient weekend in April--and to report their results.

"There are no mandatory time periods, no universal rules and no log sheets," writes event coordinator and foxhunting veteran Joe Moell, K0OV in the April issue of CQ VHF. "It's just a weekend to set aside for your club, school or Scout group to try this exciting aspect of ham radio." Moell points out that foxhunters don't even have to have a ham ticket "since they will be receiving, not transmitting."

Foxhunting may be done by car or on foot, and the magazine is encouraging ham groups to use either one or both during the National Foxhunting Weekend. "Foxhunting is certainly fun and a competitive challenge," says CQ VHF Editor Rich Moseson, W2VU, "but it also teaches important direction-finding skills that may be called upon in searching for a downed airplane or lost hiker using an Emergency Locator Transmitter, or for tracking down sources of interference."

Groups participating in the CQ VHF National Foxhunting Weekend are encouraged to send reports of their activity directly to Joe Moell, K0OV, at PO Box 2508, Fullerton, CA 92837, or via e-mail to foxhunt@cq-vhf.com.  
--CQ Vhf

**Grant Amateur Radio Club**  
Post Office Box 192  
Georgetown, OH 45121-1410

Mail to:

# The Grant Amateur Radio Club Newsletter for April

