



# The QUARAE



Volume 14, Issue 2

February 2013

## President Remarks.

I hope everyone is enjoying the winter so far. Sounds like enough of the white stuff was around to get some snow shoeing and skiing in. So far it has been pretty nice here in FL. A cold front just came in so the temperatures have been great.

Should be good weather for the Orlando HamCation coming up next week. I was planning on attending but I had my left knee replaced on January 8 so the new knee is not in shape yet. Sounds like a good size group from Erie will be attending as well as some ex-Erieites. I hope they all have a great time.

Echolink had been down for quite a spell but I am happy to say that it is back up and sounding real good, so give it a try.

After the link came back on line I had not been calling the Rag Chew Net because of the new knee not wanting to bend very much. But I am now able to bend the leg enough to sit at my desk without too much pain. So if you are around at 9PM Monday thru Friday please join us on the net.

73, Doug AD4UL

## Dues are due

Radio Association of Erie 2013 Membership Dues are now due. 2013 Dues are \$15.00.

Send to: Radio Association of Erie, P.O. Box 8931, Erie Pa. 16505 or pay at meeting

**Radio Association of Erie Club Meeting –  
February 7 at 7 PM the Red Cross  
Building**



**Program is Discussion of  
Projects in January  
QuaRae**

# Trip to Dayton

I'm trying to determine if there is enough interest to rent a coach bus for a one day trip to Dayton.

Tentative schedule: Leave Erie approximately 2am Saturday May 18th, return 2am Sunday.

Price: Approximately \$120.00 per person/based on full bus of 41 people  
Price is transportation only.

If interested or questions, please email me at [kb3ppc@arrl.net](mailto:kb3ppc@arrl.net) by February 15th.

Thanks  
Merlene

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## Retail Store Frequencies?

Paul Szymczuk (KB3POY) [kb3poy@gmail.com](mailto:kb3poy@gmail.com) wants to know if anybody knows what frequencies are used by retail stores such as Target, Best Buy and Wegmans?

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## February Board Meeting Minutes

There was no February Board Meeting

Next meeting is scheduled for March.

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## Ham Radio in a Day!

The Radio Amateurs of Corry, an ARRL affiliated club, will be holding a "ham in a day" class at the Corry Higher Education Building on 221 North Center Street. (old Corian Hotel) For more information about ham radio

and to do some self-study before the class, visit the club's website at [www.w3yxe.org](http://www.w3yxe.org) for links to practice tests question pools and more.

Participants do not need their own ham radio. It will be on March 23, 2013 from 8 am to 4 pm and the test to be given at 4pm. *The cost of the class is \$25.00 includes the test fee of \$15.00 and supplies)*

The registration and payment deadline for the class is noon on March 21st. Call 814-664-9405.

Walk in exams will be given for a fee of \$15.00

Registration for the class will be done by the Corry Higher Ed Council and the \$25.00 fee must be paid at that time.

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## February Skywarn Training

The National Weather Service has set the spring training dates!

March 14 Thursday 6:30 PM at St. Brigids, 383 Arch Street, Meadville, PA 16335

March 26 Tuesday 6:30 PM at Hamot Hospital Auditorium, 201 State Street, Erie, PA 16550

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President Bush gave his first-ever presidential radio address in both English and Spanish. Reaction was mixed, however, as people were trying to figure out which one was which.  
Dennis Miller

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## **HELPFUL HINTS FOR WINTER WEATHER DRIVERS**

By Lee Williams N3APP

1) Check tire pressures, they will often drop pressure with a drop in temperature. You will not have optimum traction without proper air pressure and will be more vulnerable to a sidewall blowout.

2) Check all fluid levels, especially the windshield washer. Use a good quality deicer type fluid, avoid bargain blue stuff. Consider upgrading to a heated fluid system if you don't already have one. Also remember this new law: if your wipers are on so must your headlights be on. Daytime running lights won't cut it. I prefer to run my headlights full time, this has many benefits.

3) Winter tires, winter wiper blades are an absolute must!! All-season tires won't cut it in this climate. You should put winter tires on all four wheels, get them studded as well. An extra set of steel wheels will save time and money at changeover time. Buy quality winter wiper blades, even though they only last one season, they will make or break your visibility and resist icing. Four wheel drive vehicles still need winter tires despite being superior, you still have to stop and turn!

4) make sure you have a good snowbrush/scrapper with an extendable handle. The new law requires you to remove all snow from your vehicle including the roof, hood, trunk, windows, and lights. Never scrape any surface except your window glass, use the rubber squeegee on lights, plastic and painted surfaces.

5) Bodywork and undercarriage protection against rust should be applied before winter. A good coat of quality carnauba wax on the body and an undercoat rust preventative like Fluid Film will make your car last much longer.

6) Protect your windshield wiper motor and transmission from damage. Always turn them off before shutting your car off or they will freeze in place and try to run causing damage. This is one of the most common causes of wiper system damage and is completely avoidable.

7) Doors and door locks need special lubricants to prevent freezing and sticking. Use silicone spray on all door gaskets and a graphite lube in all lock tumblers. Silicone can also help with troublesome windows that freeze shut, spray the gaskets and swipes.

8) Be prepared, always carry a survival kit, blankets, flashlight, candy, meds, firstaid kit. Also a car kit with flares, jumper cables, tow strap, kitty litter, tool kit, tire inflator, and tire plugging kit and a fire extinguisher. Every driver should have a cellphone, never use while driving! Also make sure you have updated insurance card and valid registration card, pen and paper. I also carry a digital camera; instant pictures at an accident scene are priceless!

9) Ready yourself, review driving skills, increase space between vehicles, allow more time to reach your destination. Test traction control and antilock braking systems, learn how to read the road conditions to adjust your driving. Black ice is a killer!



Meet Richard Quinn KB3ZVH the newest Amateur Radio Operator. Richard passed his Technician Test at the Wattsburg VE session

## The Ripley Hamfest

A couple of weeks ago I had the pleasure of hitching a ride with Bob Fuller N3LBI and attended the Lockport Hamfest, in Lockport, NY just east of Buffalo. The roads in Pennsylvania were snow covered, but the New York Thruway was dry and smooth sailing. The Hamfest was already underway when we arrived. It was crowded; definitely a seller's market. Bob had purchased a table to sell stuff, so after perusing all the merchandise and getting a couple of bargains I was able to set down with him and talk about the Ripley Hamfest.

You would think because there is a Ripley Hamfest, there is a Ripley Ham Club. You would be wrong. Years ago a group of hams including Bob Fuller N3LBI, Fred Krause N2LXD, Joe Lis N3MLX, Rick Cutter WA3MKT, Ivan Wilkerson (sk), Charlie Goodspeed KA3ZWR (sk), Lee Hemis K3VLQ, and Brian Hemis K3USC, and others used to meet at the Harvest Inn. When the Harvest Inn closed, they moved to Meekers Restaurant in Ripley NY. Once a month they would hold a "Trunk-A-Junk" swap meet after breakfast. They would open trunks and dicker on equipment they had brought. The Ripley

hamfest came into being about 10 years ago. It is held the first Sunday in May providing that is not Mother's Day. Then is it held of the second Sunday in May. Now days it is pretty much run by Bob N3LBI, and Fred N2LXD. Bob does the advertising tickets at the door, and Fred is the liaison between the Ripley Fire Department and the Boy Scouts. The Fireman's Auxiliary runs the kitchen and the profits are donated to a children's charity. Fred and Bob keep just enough money for expenses and seed money for the following year and the rest goes to the firehall.

We left Lockport about 11:30 AM. No we didn't win the main prize, a compact HF mobile rig, but we did stop at Meekers Restaurant in Ripley and had a pleasant lunch. The food was good, inexpensive and the waitresses were friendly.

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When chemists die, they barium.

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From left to right, Bill Trabold WA3UCR, Bruce Sawtelle W3NJ (WA3PUI at the time picture was taken) LaRue Shick W3MMI (sk) Steve Miller WA3JJT  
This was taken at Warren Radio years ago.  
Courtesy of Steve Miller

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Satisfied Celebrants at Christmas Party

## Ham Radio Calendar

February 5<sup>th</sup> Corry Ham Club meeting

February 7<sup>th</sup> Radio Association of Erie Club meeting

February 9<sup>th</sup> Louisiana QSO Party. See [laqso.w5yl.org](http://laqso.w5yl.org)

February 9<sup>th</sup> New Hampshire QSO Party. See [www.w1wqm.org](http://www.w1wqm.org)

February 9<sup>th</sup> AM QSO Party. See [www.antiquewireless.org](http://www.antiquewireless.org)

February 11<sup>th</sup> School Club Roundup. See [www.arrl.org/school-club-roundup](http://www.arrl.org/school-club-roundup)

February 12<sup>th</sup> Wattsburg Club Meeting

February 14<sup>th</sup> Union City Wireless Club meeting

February 14<sup>th</sup> Valentine's Day. Buy your sweetheart a HT.

February 16<sup>th</sup> ARRL International CW DX Contest. SEE [www.arrl.org/contests](http://www.arrl.org/contests)

February 16<sup>th</sup> 1500Z 2100Z 8th Annual Freeze Your Acorns Off (FYAO). K8BF/various, Kent,

OH. Portage County Amateur Radio Service. general portion 10 - 80 m all modes EchoLink on K8IV repeater. Certificate. Send QSL, information to, [wb8lcd@portcars.org](mailto:wb8lcd@portcars.org). Club members will operate from both club station and home stations. [www.portcars.org](http://www.portcars.org)

February 16<sup>th</sup> VE Exams. Wattsburg Club 9 AM

February 18<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> Antarctic Activity Week Worldwide Antarctic Program. 28.450 21.350 14.250 7.150. Certificate & QSL. This is an all bands, all modes worldwide event celebrating the international scientific work in Antarctica. Certificates may be obtained from the WAP, and QSLs from the WAP-Referenced Numbered stations worked. See WAP website for details, or in US you may e-mail questions to [kb0mzf@arrl.net](mailto:kb0mzf@arrl.net). See [waponline.it](http://waponline.it)

February 18<sup>th</sup> Presidents Day

February 23<sup>rd</sup> Mississippi QSO Party. See [www.arrlmiss.org](http://www.arrlmiss.org)

February 24<sup>th</sup> North Carolina QSO Party. See [www.ncqsoparty.org](http://www.ncqsoparty.org)

February 24<sup>th</sup> WashFest 2013  
Location: Castle Shannon, PA  
Sponsor: Wireless Association of South Hills  
Website: <http://n3sh.org/>