

Government Shutdown?

In my opinion...
A letter to QST

I was reading today's ARRL members' newsletter, (January 4, 2019), where the top story was: "FCC Outlines Impact on its Operations of Potential Funding Lapse"

After being on air for almost 50 years I wonder just where the FCC has been? 75-80 meters has become a no-man's-land as an almost wild-west attitude of operations now rules the day. Operators belligerently take over frequencies alongside established QSOs and nets and the resulting donnybrook of throwing carriers and, yes, cursing, curdles one's ears. And where is the FCC?

160 meters, between 1.800 and 1.900 MHz, the so-called "Gentlemen's Band," is slowly deteriorating due to the same type of operators causing much the same problem. This problem has also filtered down to 20 and 40 meters too. And where is the FCC?

I understand, from earlier reports, that the Official Observer positions, the watchdogs of our operating frequencies, have been phased out. And now with the FCC in shutdown mode, (but where were they when they were open?) it is open season across our amateur spectrum for "lids" and other disruptors to cause grief.

72chew.net



The "Chew"

SEVENTY-TWO



"Where
Choosy
People

Choose
to
CHEW!"

NEWSLETTER February 2019

QST may, from time to time, publish a shard of a story showing how the FCC triumphed against hams who really deserved to have their heads handed to them. Those stories are few and far between. Maybe we have to resurrect an active pool of Official Observers and hopefully, with their notices they send out to offenders, as well as kudos for good operating practice, will bring things back into line.

Robert W. Lobenstein — WA2AXZ
Member-ARRL



Volunteers Wanted!

If you would like to be one of our Net Control Stations on a regular schedule or as an emergency fill-in, please contact our net scheduler, Ken-W3XAF

More Voice of America photos from Mark-KC8SGO

Mark sends us another series of photos from the Voice of America site and museum in Cincinnati, Ohio. Crosley was the major supplier of high quality transmitters and associated radio equipment to not only VoA, but radio and television stations across the globe.



Crosley not only manufactured electronics but also produced a great number of other products. Take for example the Crosley car. You have seen these and other Crosley (later Nash) cars driven by Lois Lane and others on the original Superman TV show. These 1,000 lb. convertibles had reliable four cylinder engines starting with a



whopping 25 hp. After a long drive, under the sun with the top down, it is great to get home, open your Crosley refrigerator and reach for a cold one. Life was good in the 40s and 50s! The Cold War raged on from the

end of World War II, 1945, until the fall of the Soviet Union in the 1991. President Harry Truman called for the expansion of VoA transmissions into countries blocked by the iron curtain. The home transmitters in the United States were effective bringing the message of freedom though the Soviets did their best to jam the signals.

VoA-Continued:

To counter the jamming, RCA installed powerful broadcast - AM 150kW transmitters in ships. These were used to relay programming directly from the stateside Bethany station.



These, along with a pair of 35kW Collins short-wave units, were anchored off the coasts of certain communist states. Large helium barrage balloons hoisted long wire antennas and VoA was successfully heard in these countries over jamming interference.



With thanks to Mark-KC8SGO

Viewing HamNation

by: John Davis-WA8YXM



Here is the link for HAMNATION <https://twit.tv/shows/hamnation>

Once you connect to that link, any time of the day or

night, you can click on the episodes you want to view and then watch (stream), immediately, or click on the download options and download it for later viewing.

On Wednesday evenings, 9pm Eastern / 8pm Central time, you can click on the Live tab and watch the live show. There is a "chat" link as well to send your comments in live. I run two computers. While one streams the live show and the other displays the chat room when the I watch live show.



Directly after the show, (and on Thursday's too), the link below is posted for participants to enter a prize drawing. <http://icomamerica.com/en/hamnation/default.aspx>

George Thomas from AmateurLogic.TV, hosts the Smoke and Solder segment on HamNation. He will end the segment with a question. If you answer the question correctly, you are entered into another weekly drawing. I've won that a few times too. A Heil microphone, a MFG plug in 120 volt voltage monitor with pass through filter. An antenna and coax along with a tote bag. or two. Now if only I could have that kind of luck with Publishers Clearing House !

By the way, George won an award at the Dayton Hamvention a few years back for his work on AmateurLogic.TV I learned a bit about Hamvention Awards. The wording on the award is almost exactly the wording written on the nomination. How do I know the wording on the nomination? I wrote it. I figured I'd pay him back for all the prizes (hihi) AmateurLogic.TV also gives away prizes but generally not that often. They give away a full station at least once a year, radio, coax, antenna, power supply and everything you need, except for the desk. In addition, Gigaparts runs a sweepstakes and gives away nice prizes. Check out www.gigaparts.net/sweepstakes/. I invite our friends in 7.272 Ragchew net to stop by, participate, learn something new to help out at your station and maybe, be pleasantly surprised by winning a nice prize.

Many Thanks to Charles-WD4CLT for his kind and generous donation.



There is a lot going on behind the scenes in your "organization without organization" requiring a few "shekles" to keep things going. Your contribution is appreciated so please,

send yours to me, Loby, today!
Robert W. Lobenstein-WA2AXZ
1958 East 36 Street Brooklyn, NY 11234

Orlando Fl. Hamcation

Saturday February 9, 2019

Randy-KB3IFH, along with his QSL card business, will be in Orlando, sharing a booth with WB2JKJ, "The Classroom Net". (Also known as the 7.238 Radio Club of Jr High School 22 in NYC.) They will be in the Commercial Building, booth #1, at noon that Saturday. If anyone from our net is going, please stop by his booth. Randy says feel free to give him a call on his cell phone for directions. 410-440-0282.

Goods and Services:

NEED QSLs OR EYEBALL CARDS ???



KB3IFH QSL Cards
www.kb3ifh.homestead.com

72chew.net

DAYTON-XENIA 2019

Looking at the snow outside of my window, only allows me to daydream of green grass, warm breezes and, of course, the annual trek to the Dayton-Xenia Hamvention.



Even though it is February, it is definitely time for everyone to finalize their plans to meet at the ham radio Mecca. Our 7.272 Ragchew members have been meeting there for fifteen years while other friends from the 160m 1721 Group have been attending for over 17 years. No matter what other associated group wwwwwyou speak with, feel free to tell them about our activities during Hamvention.



First of all, tickets for the event can be obtained in advance on the "DARA Dayton-Hamvention" website, <https://hamvention.org/> Tickets ordered from the website will be

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delivered directly to your QTH without the inconvenience of waiting on a long ticket line to purchase one at an increased cost.



This Hamvention website has been expanded to not only allow the purchase of tickets but to click on various tabs for special services too.

For those requiring an electric scooter to tool around the fair grounds, one may be obtained via the Web at: <http://locations.scootaround.com/DaytonHamvention>

The telephone number to reserve a "Scootaround" electric scooter is: 1-888-441-7575 For email contacts use this address below: info@scootaround.com

All pertinent information regarding parking, handicapped parking, maps and directions can also be found on the new website. So stop by and give it a try.

To whet your appetite even more, here are a few photos of our annual gathering at Rob's Restaurant .



We traditionally hold a Thursday evening gathering at Rob's Restaurant . For 2019 the date has been set for Thursday, May 16, beginning at 5:30 pm. The buffet style food is fantastic and the atmosphere is great with no QRM or QRN allowed. So plan on attending. Unwind from your long trip to Ohio and get ready for the Hamvention opening the next morning.

On Friday evening around 5:30 pm we hold our annual barbeque at the Dayton KOA (Kampgrounds of America). On May 17, here too we open the doors welcoming everyone in for a great evening of food, conversation and



fun. At night we sit around the campfire and trade stories through the evening. Interested yet? Come join us!

