



# Hamvention 2024

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# When, Where, What



- May 17-19, 2024
- Green County Fairgrounds, Xenia, Ohio (39.702 N – 83.9420 W)
- Record setting attendance – 35,877



# Why Would You Want to Attend?



- See the latest product releases and innovations
- Meet old and new friends and interesting people with whom you have lots in common – Face-to-Face QSOs
  - Many international attendees
- Learning opportunities
  - You learn about stuff that you didn't even know was a thing!
- Buy stuff
  - New – You really need that new HF rig or solid-state amp!
  - Some people's junk is someone's treasure! If you're looking for obscure parts for that boat anchor refurb this is the place.

# Hamvention Basics



Parking Lot (before the Friday morning rain!)



Central Plaza – Food Trucks

# Forum Topics (not a complete list)



- Contesting
- Digital Modes/OpenDV
- Ballooning
- Emergency Ops
- Youth Outreach
- Satellite Ops
- SOTA/POTA
- Radiosport
- Remote Stations
- Antennas
- Fox Hunting
- HamSCI
- The Law and Amateur Radio
- Node-RED
- Linux
- Circuit Analysis
- Clean Signal Initiative
- Morse Code
- Lightning, Grounding, & RFI

# Forums



- 4 forums going simultaneously from start of Hamvention on Friday to closing on Sunday
- Technical presentations and panel discussions, many by well-known Hams
- Opportunity to meet the speakers and ask questions following presentation

# The "Bob" Table at Nick's



WØTLM members plus Jim/KCØRPS



Bob taking Picture of Bob

# Meet People You Feel Like You Already Know (or Should Know)!



ICQ Podcast Crew (from UK and US)



Thomas Witherspoon, K4SWL



Mark "Smitty Halibut" Smith, N6MTS



Bill Stearns, NE4RD  
Linux in the Ham Shack



Mike Walker, VA3MW

Ham Radio Workbench Crew

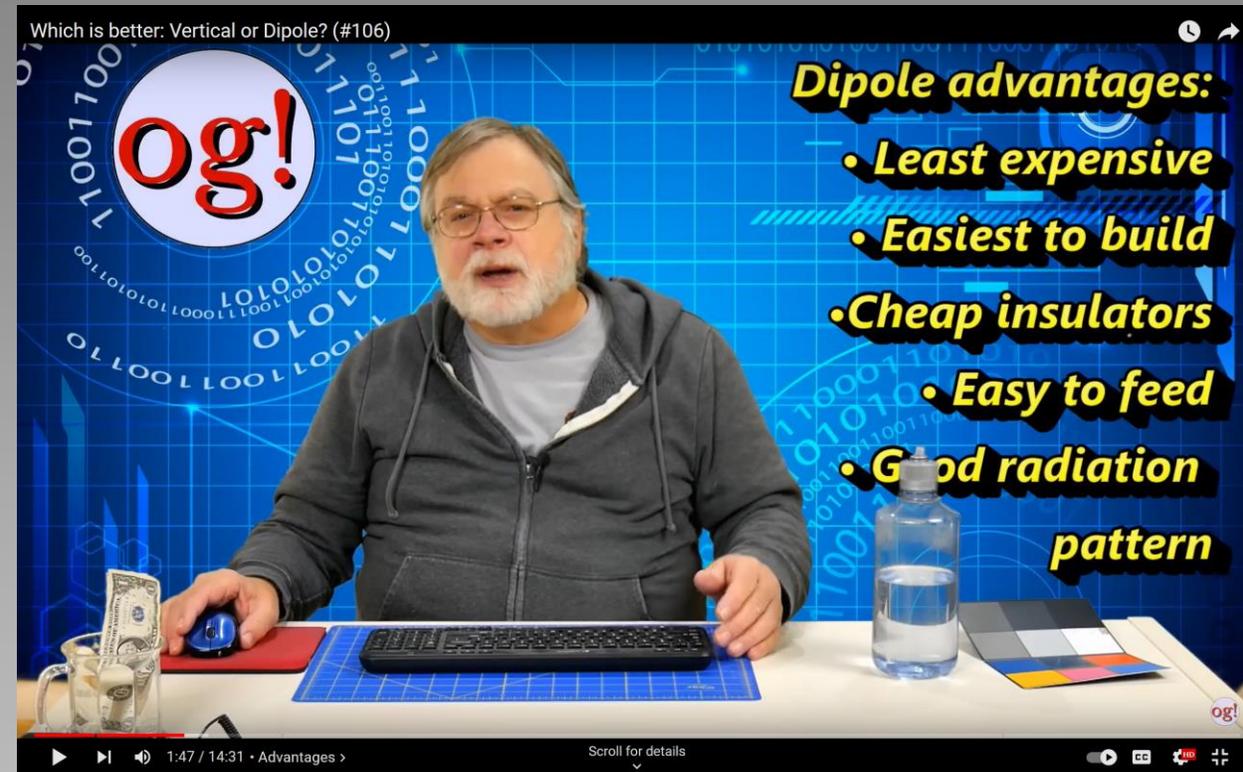


Jason Johnston, KC5HWB (Ham Radio 2.0)



Joe Walsh, WB6ACU

# YouTubers Michael Martens & Dave Casler





Shel Radin, KFØUR - QRPWorks



Ham Radio School  
Stu WØSTU, Liz KTØLIZ, Bob KØNR, Joyce KØJJW

# These People are Smarter than They Look!



# All antennas are a compromise





7/15/2024



Hazmvention 2024

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# Suggestion If Thinking of or Planning to Attend



- Make a plan
  - Look at the list of booth registrants (vendors, manufacturers, special interest groups, clubs, ....)
  - Look at the list of forums
  - Define your mission
    - Learn about a new technology (e.g., FreeDV)
    - Get info on operations (e.g., contesting, POTA, satellite)
    - Talk to experts about new equipment
    - Seek out possible presenters for club meeting
    - Find a deal on a boat anchor you'd like to refurbish
    - Find an obscure part for a home brew project

# Suggestions, Cont'd



- Lay out a schedule based on forum timing
- List vendors/attendees related to your interest and note their location
- Be flexible. If you've got a question for Farhan (sBITX) or Hans Summers (QRP Labs) plan on visiting their booth more than once to check to see if there are less than 10 people in line to talk to them.
- Try to make your decision to go early
  - Hotel reservation
  - Restaurant reservations

# Observations



- Not surprisingly, Hams are generally very interested to tell you what they're doing, how something works, a recent contact, .... You may spend a lot more time than you realize in a face-to-face QSO (at risk of being late to a forum session)!
- There were more young people around than I had expected to see. I had lunch with a newly licensed 12-year-old Tech/General attending with his grandfather.
- The food selection and quality was far better than expected. Plan on lunch early or late or plan to spend 30 minutes or more in line.
- Yaseu rep told me that he wished the company would quit providing programming software with their handhelds and just refer everyone to RT-Systems.



# Other Activities

- License exams offered
- Contest University
  - Wednesday night and all-day Thursday
- Four Days in May (FDIM)
  - QRP Amateur Radio Club International (QRPARCI)
  - Seminars, demos, homebrew contest, vendor tables
- After hours get-togethers
- Things to do in Dayton area
  - Museum of the Air Force!

# KEØHz's Hamvention Mission



- Talk to some technical experts
  - Linux in the Ham Shack
  - SatNOGS
  - Talk with Halibut Electronics about EggNOG (egg-beater antenna for SatNOGs)
  - HamSCI & TAPR about personal space weather station equipment
  - Look at some new test equipment (UNI-T oscilloscopes)
  - Try to understand how an antenna in a ~2 gallon bucket could possibly radiate efficiently (call me skeptical)
- Identify some potential presenters for our club meetings
- Visit with the manufacturer of the HexBeam I purchased last year
- Buy a radio with attendee discount for a club member
- Drool over some old Collins S-Line equipment (if you want to talk to some seriously old-times this was the place)
- Drop jaw over prices of solid-state amps



# KEØHz's Goals Following Hamvention



- Assemble antenna system for satellite telemetry using SatNOGS software (eggbeater with LNA)
- Commence movement of Ham shack off Windows to Linux
- It may be time to start assembling personal space weather station
- Start making plans to attend Hamvention again instead of waiting 55 years to attend first one





It's not too soon to start planning!