

BMHA Newsletter

BICYCLE MOBILE HAMS OF AMERICA



Volume 18, Number 1

April 2009

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Dayton Hamvention 2009 BMHA

Forum

Date: May 17, 2009

Time: 9:15

Room: Room 4

The 19th annual BMHA forum is set for Sunday, May 19th at 9:15 am in Room 4. Mike Nickolaus, NF0N, is our forum moderator this year.

Our main theme this year is “Display your Bicycle Setup” and we are encouraging everyone to bring their setup and display at the Forum. We will set aside at least ½ of the forum time for attendees to roam the room and ask questions, take pictures and learn about how others have setup their bikes with VHF/HF gear and antenna systems. If anyone would like to present pictures or audio, we will have the necessary viewing equipment available. Bring your CD/DVD or presentations on removable media. Computer equipment will be supplied.

There will be a short BMHA business meeting and a presentation of some very interesting antenna design for both bicycle and pedestrian mobiles along with audio of some long distance bicycle and pedestrian QSO's. This is from one of our international bicycle/pedestrian friends, G4AKC, and I will try to present as best I can his information.

Our web newsletter editor, Norm, N9ZKS, will present some of his ideas for the upcoming newsletters along with his special bicycle setup.

Arnie, KA0NCR, will review the Hamvention Bike ride from Saturday. Renewal of the Dayton BMHA bicycle ride is planned, see details elsewhere in this issue for details. We are hoping for good cycling weather and to meet many of you on the ride. Arnie, KA0NCR, has volunteered to coordinate the BMHA ride.

If you would like to volunteer as a speaker at our BMHA forum, please contact me at nf0n@arrl.net

Other program details are still developing, for any last minute details or changes, see our web site at:

www.BMHA-Hams.org

or BMHA at Yahoo Groups.

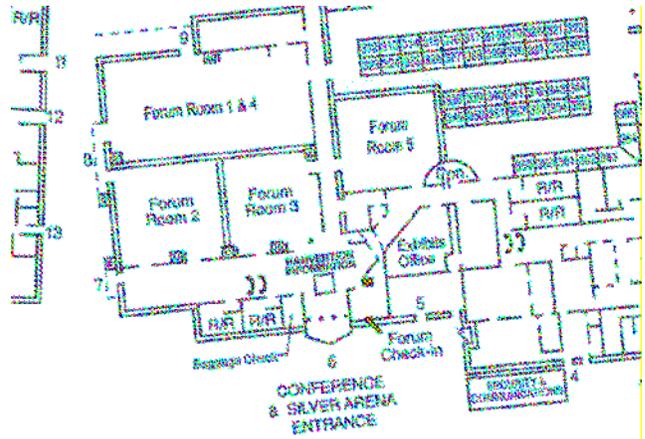
Room details are shown on the Hara Arena map below.

The Dayton Hamvention website is located at:

<http://www.hamvention.org>.

Mike Nickolaus, NF0N

BMHA Forum Moderator



Dayton Hara Arena Forum Map

BMHA NEWSLETTER

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BMHA is an affiliated Club with Adventure Cycling Association.

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Dayton Hamvention - BMHA - Bike Ride 2009

Date: Saturday May 16, 2009

Time: 4 PM

Place: Wolf Creek Trail

By Arnie - KA0NCR

In past years, the BMHA group has organized a bike road ride over the Dayton Hamvention weekend for anyone interested in bikes and ham radio. The past several years this has fallen by the wayside as it seemed like it would always be raining on the Hamvention weekend, or it was just too cold and miserable outside to think about riding.

Well, after having a couple of nice Hamvention weekends, several of the people on the BMHA E-mail reflector and Yahoo E-group were exchanging E-mail's and brought forth the idea that it would be nice to try to have another BMHA bike ride. So, since no one jumped up to spearhead the organization of the ride, I took the job of organizing something for the ride.

After checking on the roads and trails in the area, it was decided that a bike trail ride would appeal to more riders as it would have a good surface and would not have us riding in traffic, although you will have to cross some roads. Out of all the trails, it looked like the best one for us would be the Wolf Creek trail. The trail has very gentle grades, and is 12 foot wide asphalt so road bikes need not fear gravel trails.

For more info, check out the trail website at:

<http://www.miamivalleytrails.org/wolf.htm>

I felt that the best time would be Saturday afternoon with a start time of 4 PM local time. This should give people a fair amount of time all day Friday and Saturday morning and part of the afternoon to check out the Hamvention, while still giving time to get to the trail head.

The ride length and speed will be left up to the individual rider's preference. You can even just set up your bike at the trail head and operate and not ride if you desire, or if the weather looks threatening just hang around and have a few "Eye-ball" QSO's

The trail should provide about 25+ miles of travel for those of you who wish to ride to each end. We plan to start at the trail head at the intersection of Arlington Rd and Upper Lewisburg Salem Rd, which is just off I-70 exit 21 at Brookville. This trail head has parking, and several places to eat near by. It is just across the street from Rob's Restaurant and from what I am told it is great and that it is frequented by the local bike club on their Saturday morning rides.. so that sounds like a great endorsement to me! We can plan to chow down at Rob's after the ride.

The easiest way to get to the trail head from the Hamvention is to go west a few blocks from the Arena to Salem Ave. and then head north to I-70. Proceed west on I-70 to Exit - 21. Take the off ramp, go south over the Interstate and proceed 1 block south to the trail head at Golden Gate park. The trail head will be on the east side of the road just before you cross the Upper Lewisburg/Salem road way.

See the map below:



I hope that we can have a period of time for 'show and tell' of everyone's 'rolling ham shack' and to get on the air for a QSO before adjourning to eat Dinner.

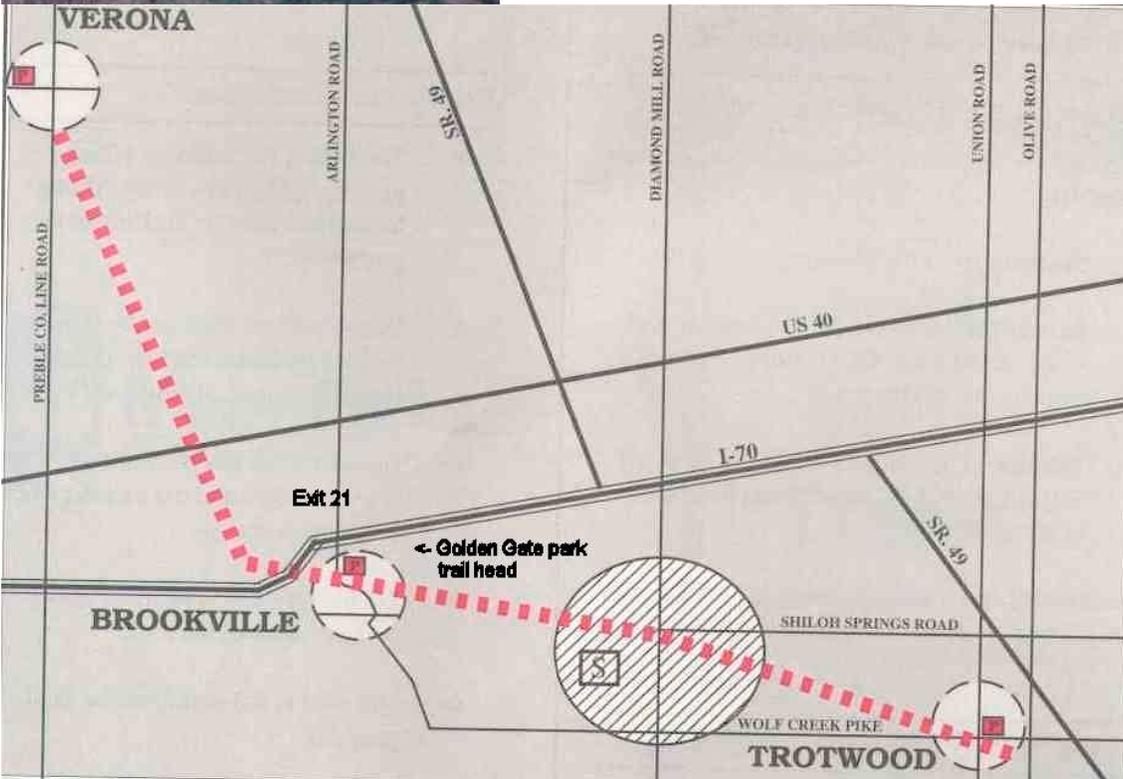
It looks like a very easy ride on paved surface with a few street crossings but no riding 'with' traffic. There are some places to stop for food and drink along the trail too. Restrooms are on the other side of the park.



Picture on the left is the Brookville train station trail head, a couple of miles south of where we start, and on the right Golden Gate park ball field which is next to the trail head parking where we are going to start..

I hope that we have good weather and a great turn out. I am looking forward to seeing a lot of nice bicycle mobile stations!

Here are a few pictures gathered from the trail website, and another map:



For updates or changes to the ride, please keep in touch via the BMHA forum on Yahoo Groups or the BMHA website.

Arnie, KA0NCR
BMHA 2009 Hamvention Ride Coordinator

The second issue of the BMHA Newsletter was in January of 1990 and it was another great one. Here is the first page of that second issue.

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* **BMHA Newsletter** *
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* **BICYCLE MOBILE HAMS OF AMERICA** *
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Volume II Number 1  *January 1990*

Welcome to the second issue of the BMHA NewsLetter. I'm still putting this out the hard way...with just a Model 100. I hope that by the July issue I'll have a PC and the other desk-top pub stuff and be able to put out a nicer-looking product.

I'd like to again extend an invitation to all you bikie-hams to send in your writings about your rigs, your home-brewings, your adventures, your experiences while bicycle-mobile. And your pix (color or B/W) or QSL's about BM.

To those who missed their DEADLINES, please buckle down and get your stuff in for the April issue. The deadline is Feb 20.

WE MUST TALK ABOUT MONEY.

47 people have sent in \$355. Those 47 are picking up the tab for the rest of you! Expenses to date, for preparing and mailing the first two issues, are \$237.82. That leaves a balance of only \$117.18.

To put it plainly: If you want to continue to receive the BMHA Newsletter you must indicate your support by sending in a check, if you haven't already done so.

----NAOA, Editor

ABOUT BMHA

Bicycle Mobile Hams of America got its start when a "Stray" in the June '89 issue of QST asked to "get in touch with hams who operate bicycle-mobile, or in any other human-powered conveyance", signed by Hartley Alley, NAOA.

25 hams responded, filled out questionnaires, and received a summary of the collected info.

Then in April of '90 we had our own BMHA Forum at the Dayton Hamvention. We played to a packed house, overflowing the tiny room assigned to us.

Since September 15th our mailing list has grown from 85 to 115, and paid membership has grown from 30 to 47.

BMHA NET...ON 20

TO ALL BMHA'ers!!

Many of you have expressed interest in a BMHA net on HF. I have volunteered to be the net control. After carefully tuning across the HF bands, it seems that 20 meters is the best all-around choice. (Also because I can fire up my linear on that band and not cause TVI, BCI, VCRFI, etc.!)

The net will meet twice a month, which seems to be an appropriate number of get-togethers for us to chat about bike-mobiling, hints and kinks, etc. and exchange info about our plans for the upcoming biking season.

Here is the planned schedule:

Frequency ----- 14.255 Khz
Time ----- 2330 UTC
Day ----- 1st and 3rd Sunday
 of each month
Starting day--- January 6, 1991

I will call the net to order and ask for an assistant on either the east or west coast. After check-ins I'll open it up for announcements, general discussion, and anything you want to talk about.

I will try to keep it loose but brief. Let's try to limit the net to no more than 45 minutes in length. If anyone wants to continue discussion after that, we can close the net and go on an informal basis.

I also plan to advertise the net across the packet network so you may see this come across your Packet BBS. Maybe we can encourage others to join BMHA. Those of you who are on packet, feel free to give me feedback or advice about the net. My Packet address is NFON @ NFON.NE.

73...and hope to meet you on the BMHA net on January 6th, and the ensuing 1st and 3rd Sundays.

Mike Nickolaus NFON

2008 Dayton Hamvention Forum Report

The 18th annual BMHA forum was held on Sunday, May 18th from 9:30-11:15 am in Room 5. The turnout was again fantastic. Room 5 is larger than we usually have and much of the room was filled. The room size also allowed our forum speakers to easily display their bicycles with associated equipment. Mike Nickolaus, NF0N, was again the forum moderator.

Jim Devenport, W5AOX, our keynote speaker, demonstrated his bicycle APRS setup along with pictures and displays of all the work he has done on his bicycle and hints and tips that were invaluable. Jim has some real results and has not broken the bank to achieve these results.

Norm, N9ZKS, our newsletter editor, displayed one of his specialized bicycles, a true Track Bike. Norm also talked about the BMHA newsletter creation and the need to receive more articles from members.

Mike, NF0N and Arn, KA0NCR had a powerpoint of their upcoming ride across Nebraska and plans to setup along the route and run portable PSK31. Arn, the owner of the NUE PSK unit showed how they planned to incorporate PSK with their QRP radios on their tricycle and trailer.

One of our members, John, VE3JC, has sent some pictures of the forum which are shown below.

Mike Nickolaus, NF0N, Forum Moderator

Pictures:



8915 – Mike, NF0N, Moderator



8910 – Jim, N5AOX bike with APRS



8909 – Jim, N5AOX, up close with radio and GPS



8922 – Jim, N5AOX



8935 – Arn, KA0NCR with NUE-PSK Unit



8929 – Norm, N9ZKS, track bike



8916 – Some of our audience



8927 – Norm, N9ZKS



8913 – Some of our members

BMHA's Official Logo

The next time you need to order new QSL cards, don't forget to include the BMHA logo in your design. Here's the official logo, as designed by Russ Dwarshuis, KB8U.



How to Tell if You Are a True Cyclist

from Ken Kifer's Bike Pages
<http://www.kenkifer.com/>

Printed from a collection written for cycling newsletters

Copyright 2001 Ken Kifer

To understand this better, see the parent article at <http://www.kenkifer.com/bikepages/lifestyle/trucycle.htm>

For those who are unsure if they really qualify as True Cyclists, the following test has been devised. Add up your points. A True Cyclist should score at least 100 points.

1. Give yourself two points for each item of visible cycling clothing

that you wear when OFF OF your bike. Give yourself one point for each item which is NOT visible (socks, underwear, keychains, etc.).

2. Give yourself the following points:

For a dark tan in back with no tan in front: 1 point

For an oval tanned spot on the back of the hand: 3 points

For a frayed right shoelace with the other normal: 3 points

For a chain mark on right inside leg: 5 points

3. When you eat --

Do you eat more than anyone else? 2 points

Do people take turns passing you food? 4 points

Do people forget about eating to watch you? 6 points

4. When you drink at a fountain--

Do you make loud slurping sounds? 1 point

Do you drink all the cold water? 2 points

How much do you drink at one stop from cans or bottles?

A pint or half liter: 1 point

A quart or liter: 2 points

Two quarts or liters: 4 points

5. When giving directions to a motorist --

Do you mention only back streets and roads? 5 points

When told something is five minutes away --

Do you ask, "How far is it?" 5 points

6. Does your motor vehicle have a bike carrier? 2 points

Is your bike worth more than your car? 6 points

Do you not own a car at all? 10 points

7. For EACH quickstop or small food store you know in your area--

Give yourself 1 point.

If you know the owner's name, give yourself 1 more point.

If you have used the rest room, give yourself 1 more point.

8. In your office, for each inconspicuous cycling object--

Give yourself 1 point.

For each conspicuous cycling object--

Give yourself 2 points.

If your bike is in your office--

Give yourself 5 points.

9. In your home--

For each bike decoration, 1 point

For each bike in the bathroom, 3 points

For each bike in your bedroom, 4 points

For each bike in your living room, 5 points

For each bike elsewhere in the living quarters, 1 point

Also, count bike trailers the same as bikes!

10. For your children last year--

For each that rode 10 miles, 1 point

For each that rode 25 miles, 3 points

For each that rode 50 miles or more, 6 points

Note: Children or pets in trailers and baby seats count too!

Perhaps we ought to add a section:

11. For your amateur radio use—

For each VHF/UHF contact made last year from your bike, 1 point

For each SSB HF contact made last year from your bike, 2 points

For each CW contact made last year from your bike, 3 points

Note: Double points if you were actually moving during QSO!

12. For those who use a Burley trailer—

To haul the batteries, 2 points

The linear amplifier, 5 points