



“MARCH 18th, 2024”

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CQ CQ CQ de WB8LCD

Contesting may not be for everybody. But everybody should at least try contesting a time or two. I know some of the drawbacks of contesting are usually it requires a whole weekend. Not everybody can put all those hours together at one time. But the nice thing about contests is: you don't have to spend the whole time operating the contest. You can jump in for the time you've got and stop your participation whenever you need to. Regardless of how much time you have to dedicate to contesting, contesting can be an outstanding learning experience for any amateur radio operator.

Contesting gives you an opportunity to really put your station through its paces. To see what it's capable of and to see where you might need to make some adjustments to the hardware to have a better operating station. It's a great opportunity to verify the propagation from your antenna system. It's a great opportunity to learn about propagation on different bands at different times to different locales. Like any operation in amateur radio, learning is the best outcome from everything we do.

Most of us with modest stations are not going to be the big winners. But there are a lot of categories in which we can be winners. If not contest winners, winners in what we've learned about our station and amateur radio operations in general. Before you start any contest, you should have a goal of what you want to accomplish with your participation. If your goal is to do better than you did last year, then you need a strategy to improve your results. Forming that strategy will rely on having notes from the prior year's contest so that you can make appropriate adjustments to how you operate.

Most importantly, contests are a good excuse to put your butt in the chair and get on the air! Everyone has their favorite contests that they like to participate in, but there's not a weekend go by that there are not some contests operating, don't be afraid to try something different. They're all fun. This one popped up in my email and it might be a good one to get in on. It's short, in our time zone only four hours. And it's late on a Saturday evening, so you've got the whole day to spend with your family! If you're a new ham, it's a good opportunity to work towards accomplishing your WAS award.

ARRL Phone SS is fun. You might like this 4 hour SSB Contest on March 23

It is **Saturday evening March 23** here in **North America** starting at 8 PM EDT, 7 PM CDT, 6 PM MDT, 5 PM PDT. Which technically is **March 24, 2024 0000 - 0359 UTC**. It has some very interesting rules that make it a bit unique and exciting.

Certificates to the top scores in each state/province and/or anyone scoring over 1,200 points. And there are **Door Prizes** available for recipients who score at least 1,500 points (just takes 50 QSOs and 30 mults) !!! As well as a **SSB Sprint Worked All States T-Shirt** for those that manage to work all 50 states in the 4 hours. Which actually has been done by multiple participants in the past! And now we have just added a **SSB Sprint Worked Canada T-Shirt** for those that manage to work all 13 Canadian multipliers in the 4 hours.

Check it all out at <http://ssbsprint.com>

We want to be sure to have **every state** and **every Canadian** multiplier on the air. So, if you have a chance, please enter your planned activity at <https://ssbsprint.com/planned-activity/my-planned-activity/> We were able to have all states on the air in the past five events, but a few were more difficult. And be sure to send in your score for a chance to win a door prize! (“Score prize!”) <https://ssbsprint.com/awards-prizes/>

73 Bob KW8N & NA SSB Sprint Contest Committee

Recently the Ohio Section website has been making some changes. You’ll notice the one question survey isn’t there, but it will return along with the Handbook giveaway. I’m not a webpage guy – since becoming Section Manager Scott – N8SY – has been managing the website. Thank You Scott for this and for all you do! Moving forward, John – WG8X – will be assuming the responsibility of managing the Ohio Section website. Thanks John.

This last section is for Hams aged 25 and under. (OK – you can read it if you’re older, but you’re not the target market for this paragraph) Last year we started the Ohio Section Youth Net specifically for younger hams in the Ohio Section. It seemed like there was interest in the net at first, but that interest seems to have faded. Let me know: are you interested in continuing the net? What could be changed to make it work better for you? Are there other activities you would be more likely to participate in? Send me an email (wb8lcd@arrl.org) it’s important that we include activities and events that help YOU enjoy this great hobby!

Share the Magic of Radio, it’s how we grow the hobby!

73,

Tom Sly - WB8LCD
Ohio Section Manager
wb8lcd@arrl.org
330-554-4650



Youth Net

When: The second Sunday of every month at 7:30 PM EST

Where: The K8IV repeater located in Kent, Ohio (EchoLink node K8BF-L) RF: 146.895 Mhz with PL 118.8

Who: Any licensed amateur radio operator who wishes to participate. Priority will be given to youth stations and those located in Ohio.

The purpose of this net is to encourage youth activity in amateur radio and to help new hams get more comfortable on the air.

*** Sunday April 14, 2024 ***

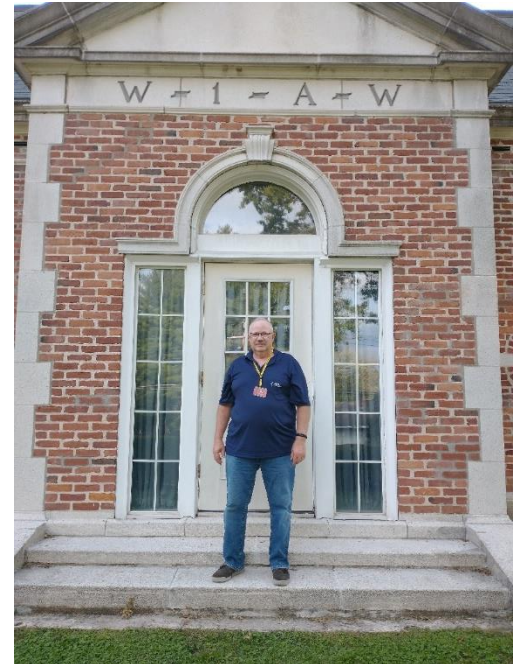
If you are a young ham, in the Ohio Section or elsewhere, please check in and say “Hello”!

Even if you’re far away from OHIO you can check in via Echo-Link. Echo-Link is a good tool to have, and it can be accessed from your laptop, tablet or cellphone. But there is a process to get validated to the Echo-link system. It’s simple to do, but you need to get it done before the day of the net! Go to [Introducing EchoLink](#) for more information on getting started. If you’re an “Old Guy” (a gender neutral term meaning not a youthful operator) and you have some kids, grandkids, nieces, nephews or even some neighborhood kids who you would like to give a chance to talk to other kids about Ham Radio, this might be an excellent opportunity to give them that small nudge that could be the start of something positive they will carry with them through life!

National News (from ARRL and other sources)

W1AW 2024 Spring/Summer Operating Schedule

From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT March 11, 2024
To all radio amateurs



ARLB006 W1AW 2024 Spring/Summer Operating Schedule

Morning Schedule:

Time	Mode	Days
1300 UTC (9 AM EDT)	CWs	Wed, Fri
1300 UTC (9 AM EDT)	CWf	Tue, Thu

Daily Visitor Operating Hours:

1400 UTC to 1945 UTC - (10 AM to 3:45 PM EDT)

Afternoon/Evening Schedule:

2000 UTC (4 PM EDT)	CWf	Mon, Wed, Fri
2000 " "	CWs	Tue, Thu
2100 " (5 PM EDT)	CWb	Daily
2200 " (6 PM EDT)	DIGITAL	Daily
2300 " (7 PM EDT)	CWs	Mon, Wed, Fri
2300 " "	CWf	Tue, Thu
0000 " (8 PM EDT)	CWb	Daily
0100 " (9 PM EDT)	DIGITAL	Daily
0145 " (9:45 PM EDT)	VOICE	Daily
0200 " (10 PM EDT)	CWf	Mon, Wed, Fri
0200 " "	CWs	Tue, Thu
0300 " (11 PM EDT)	CWb	Daily

Frequencies (MHz)

CW: 1.8025 3.5815 7.0475 14.0475 18.0975 21.0675 28.0675 50.350 147.555
DIGITAL: - 3.5975 7.095 14.095 18.1025 21.095 28.095 50.350 147.555
VOICE: 1.855 3.990 7.290 14.290 18.160 21.390 28.590 50.350 147.555

Notes:

CWs = Morse Code practice (slow) = 5, 7.5, 10, 13 and 15 WPM
CWf = Morse Code practice (fast) = 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 13 and 10 WPM
CWb = Morse Code Bulletins = 18 WPM

CW frequencies include code practices, Qualifying Runs and CW bulletins.

DIGITAL = BAUDOT (45.45 baud), BPSK31 and MFSK16 in a revolving schedule.

Code practice texts are from QST, and the source of each practice is given at the beginning of each practice and at the beginning of alternate speeds.

On Tuesdays and Fridays at 2230 UTC (6:30 PM EDT), Keplerian Elements for active amateur satellites are sent on the regular digital frequencies.

A DX bulletin replaces or is added to the regular bulletins between 0000 UTC (8 PM EDT) Thursdays and 0000 UTC (8 PM EDT) Fridays.

Audio from W1AW's CW code practices, and CW/digital/phone bulletins is available using EchoLink via the W1AW Conference Server named "W1AWBDCT." The monthly W1AW Qualifying Runs are presented here as well. The CW/digital/phone audio is sent in real-time and runs concurrently with W1AW's regular transmission schedule.

All users who connect to the conference server are muted. Please note that any questions or comments about this server should not be sent via the "Text" window in EchoLink. Please direct any questions or comments to w1aw@arrl.org.

In a communications emergency, monitor W1AW for special bulletins as follows: Voice on the hour, Digital at 15 minutes past the hour, and CW on the half hour.

FCC licensed amateurs may operate the station from 1400 UTC to 1945 UTC (10 AM to 3:45 PM EDT) Monday through Friday. Be sure to bring a reference copy of your current FCC amateur radio license.

The weekly W1AW and monthly West Coast Qualifying Runs are sent on the normal CW frequencies used for both code practice and bulletin transmissions. West Coast Qualifying Run stations may also use 3590 kHz.

Please note a W1AW Qualifying Run replaces a regularly scheduled code practice transmission on any particular day and time.

The complete W1AW Operating Schedule may be found on page 28 in the March 2024 issue of QST or on the web at, <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw-operating-schedule>.

ARRL Youth Licensing Grant Program

Clubs around the country sponsor VE sessions in order to help new hams get their licenses and to help existing hams upgrade. One of the changes in the last couple of years is the introduction of the \$35 FCC License Fee. The ARRL Youth Licensing Grant Program, in effect since April 19, 2022, will cover the one-time \$35 application fee for new license candidates younger than 18-years old for tests administered under the ARRL VEC program.

The \$35 FCC application fee will be reimbursed after the ARRL VEC receives the completed reimbursement form and after the new license has been issued by the FCC. The reimbursement check will be mailed to the fee payer. Also, candidates who are under the age of 18 pay a reduced exam session fee of \$5 to the ARRL VEC VE team at the time of the exam. The \$5 fee is for all candidates under the age of 18, regardless of the exam level taken. Proof of age is required at the session. Visit www.arrl.org/youth-licensing-grant-program for the program instructions and reimbursement form.

Contact [ARRL VEC](#) for assistance or for information on how your club can set up an ARRL VEC VE team and offer testing on a regular basis in your area, and how to take advantage of the reduced exam fee for youth candidates. It's extremely gratifying when a candidate passes their test and earns a license.

Clubs that already sponsor ARRL VEC exam sessions, we thank you for your service to our program!

2024 ARRL Field Day Theme: Be Radio Active

The theme for 2024 ARRL Field Day is "Be Radio Active." The event will run on June 22 - 23, and it will be one-part contest, one-part emergency communications exercise, and one-part open house -- and a great time. The theme encourages radio amateurs to take advantage of the peak of Solar Cycle 25, which we are nearing. Activity this year is likely to be extremely high thanks to favorable solar conditions. The upper HF bands, such as 15 and 10 meters, should benefit most from the Cycle's peak.

There are resources available already for clubs and individuals to make their Field Day plans. ARRL will publish more information and tools so that hams can make the most of the event as it draws near. Amateurs interested in learning more are invited to join the [Field Day Facebook](#) group to connect with others who are planning for the big weekend.

Find links to all of the resources on the ARRL Field Day web page at www.arrl.org/field-day.



Registration for [Contest University](#) (to be held May 16, 2024, at the [Hope Hotel](#) in Dayton, Ohio) is now open. Now in its 15th year, this event is held the day before the opening of the annual [Hamvention](#) and is popular enough to suggest early registration to be able to receive the day's printed handouts. Materials from previous years are available on the [Contest University website](#).

Club Corner

This is YOUR corner of the newsletter. Send me what your club is doing and I'll make sure that it gets in. Got a special event or club project that you want everyone to know about? Send it to me! Need help with a project? Send it to me.

Let me know what your club is up to. Are you going to have a special guest at your meeting or are you having a special anniversary?

Just send it to: webmaster@arrl-ohio.org

Please! Format as below:

If you want me to publish your club information, or even an article you have written, please send it in WORD format (.docx). Please use Times New Roman font size 12 for the body of the article. Any photos please include as a .jpg or .bmp – the time you save me in doing all the conversions will be greatly appreciated.



Updated Library Book Program

One of the projects that we have been working on is an update to the Library Book Program. The purpose is that a club can purchase a set of discounted books to donate to their local library or school at a reduced price. This allows the club to do outreach and place the books where hams and prospective hams have access. The details are at [Library Book Set \(arrl.org\)](#).

Thanks

Mike

Mike Walters, W8ZY

Field Services Manager

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MEDIA RELEASE

STATE OF OHIO
Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness

Mike DeWine, Governor ▪ www.weathersafety.ohio.gov

For Immediate Release: **Mar. 16, 2024**

For additional information, contact:

Sandy Mackey, Ohio Emergency Management Agency

smmackey@dps.ohio.gov

COLUMBUS, OH –Ohio Governor Mike DeWine has designated March 17-23, 2024, as Severe Weather Awareness Week and is encouraging all Ohioans to prepare themselves for spring and summer weather hazards, including thunder, lightning, tornadoes, and floods.

Severe Weather Awareness Week is held annually each March.

"As evidenced by last week's horrific tornadoes, it is so important that all Ohioans know what to do before, during, and after extreme weather events," said Governor DeWine. "While it's important to be prepared all year long, Severe Weather Awareness Week is an ideal time to review and practice emergency plans to be prepared and stay safe."

At 9:50 a.m. on Wednesday, March 20, all Ohioans can participate in a statewide tornado drill and test their emergency and sheltering plans. Ohio counties may use this time to sound and test their outdoor warning sirens and mass notification systems. Businesses, schools, and households are also encouraged to practice their tornado drills and emergency plans.

"The statewide drill offers time to establish a safe shelter location before severe weather strikes," said Ohio Emergency Management Agency Executive Director Sima Merick. "We know sheltering can save lives and encourage all Ohioans to make or review an existing emergency plan and be prepared."

Planning is the first step in preparedness. Below are safety and preparedness tips to help you stay safe during inclement weather.

Safety & Preparedness Tips

Tornado Watch - Be Prepared: When conditions are favorable for the development of tornadoes. Be ready to move to a place of safety if the watch is upgraded to a warning or if threatening weather approaches.

Tornado Warning - Take Action: When a tornado is imminent or has been sighted. Warnings indicate impending danger to life and property. [Seek safe shelter immediately.](#)

Prepare for Severe Weather and Home Emergencies: [Build a kit](#) and [make a plan](#). This includes having a severe weather kit for home and vehicle and creating an emergency plan/or updating your existing plan.

[Be Aware of Hazards in Your Area:](#) Ohio's weather hazards from early spring into summer include snowmelt and flooding, tornadoes, and thunderstorms. Visit the [OCSWA website](#) to learn more about severe weather safety and preparedness.

[Prepare for a Flood:](#) Learn and practice evacuation routes, shelter plans, and flash flood response. Gather supplies, including non-perishable foods, cleaning supplies, and water for several days, in case you must leave immediately or if services are cut off in your area.

[Flooded Roadways:](#) Never attempt to cross a flooded road on foot or in a vehicle. It only takes six inches of water to knock an adult off their feet, one foot of moving water can float a vehicle, and two feet of water can carry away most vehicles including pickup trucks and SUVs. Don't chance it, find an alternative route!

[Outdoor Warning Sirens:](#) Many Ohio counties have outdoor warning sirens that sound when severe weather is imminent. Outdoor warning sirens are designed to be heard outdoors.

[Alerts and Notifications:](#) Getting weather and emergency information from reliable sources is important. Always have multiple means of receiving communications such as a [NOAA All-Hazards Weather Radio](#) and local television media weather apps. Other great sources for communications are [Emergency Alert System \(EAS\)](#) sent over television and radio channels. [Wireless Emergency Alerts \(WEA\)](#) are free notifications delivered to mobile devices as part of a public safety system.

To download a copy of Governor DeWine's Severe Weather Proclamations, [click here](#) or visit the Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness website.

###

Follow OCSWA on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) during Spring Severe Weather Awareness Week for additional severe weather awareness safety and preparedness information.

Since 1978, the Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness (OCSWA) has been dedicated in educating Ohioans about the natural disasters that typically affect the state, and encourage Ohio

residents to plan and prepare for severe weather incidents before they happen.

“Teaching Ohioans Severe Weather Safety and Preparedness”

www.weathersafety.ohio.gov

[ARESOhio] District 10 Winlink Monday (others encouraged to participate)

As discussed at the ARES conference, we are bringing the Monday Winlink "net" back. Here is how it will work.

1) Hams are encouraged to send a winlink message to ab8m@winlink.org. The message should be via a Winlink ICS-213 form in winlink. Submissions are welcome on Monday's until 23:59 ET. In the body of the message the originator should indicate how they are submitting the message - telnet, VHF, or HF.

2) On Tuesdays, AB8M will download the messages and respond to each one with an ICS-213 reply. AB8M will also generate a communications log for KC8NZJ outlying the week's activities. (Note that this step will be delayed the first week of March due to schedule conflicts)

3) Each participating station will receive 1 entry towards a 2024 ARRL Handbook for a telnet submission and 2 entries for a VHF or HF submission.

4) Entries will count towards the prize between the dates of Monday, March 4th and Monday, May 6th. A raffle will be held by the ARES D10 leadership after that date an AB8M will donate an ARRL handbook and ship it to the address of the winner.

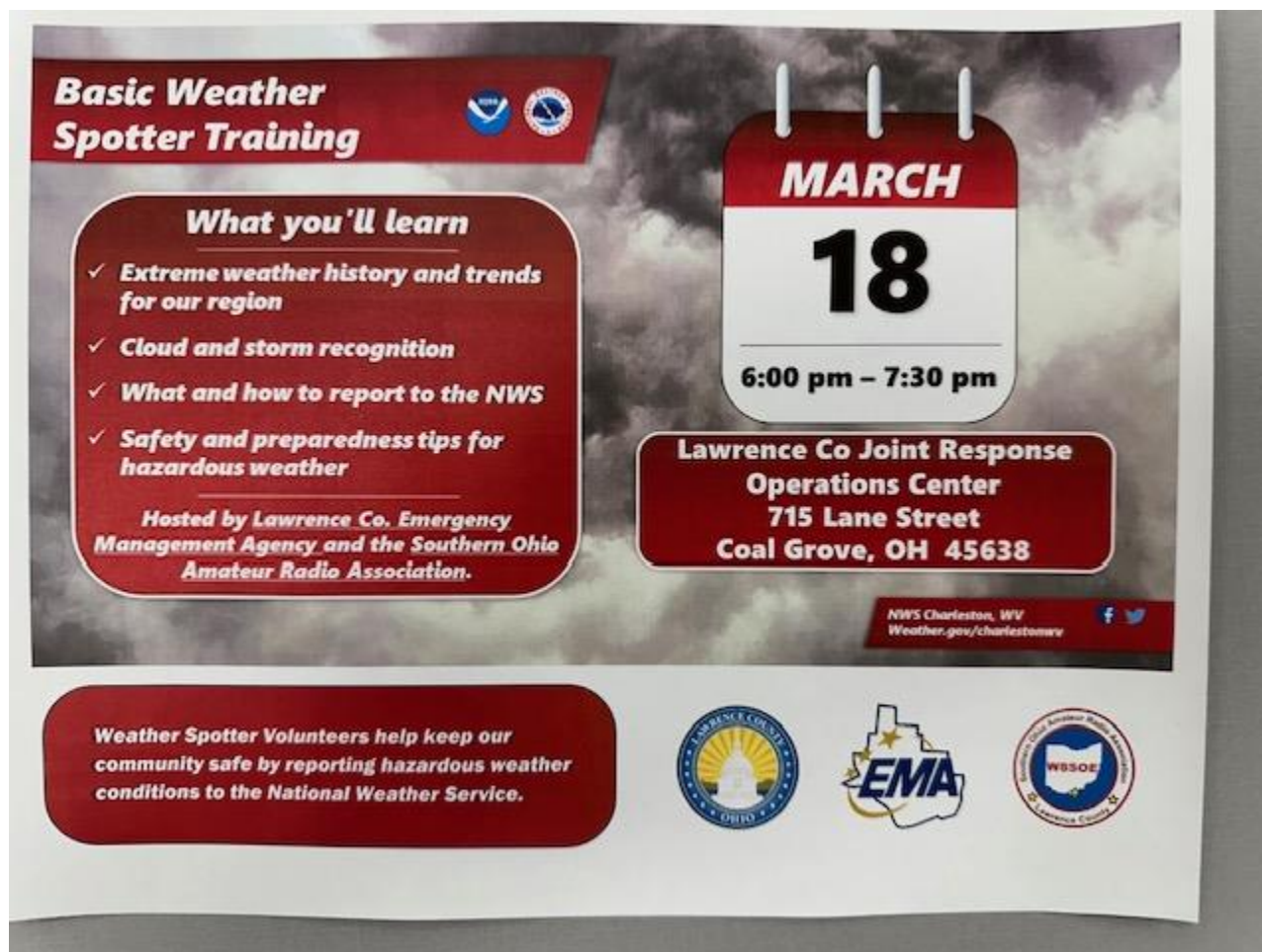
-doug
AB8M

How to Plan and Apply for an ARRL Hamfest or Convention

If your amateur radio club is planning to host a convention, hamfest, tailgate, or swapfest, please consider applying for ARRL sanctioned status for your event. To learn what it means to be an ARRL sanctioned event, and to get some ideas on how to prepare for and conduct a hamfest or convention, visit www.arrl.org/arrl-sanctioned-events.

To apply for ARRL sanctioned status for your event, go to www.arrl.org/hamfest-convention-application.

The ARRL Hamfests and Conventions Calendar can be found online at www.arrl.org/hamfests. In addition, the Convention and Hamfest Calendar that runs in *QST* each month also presents information about upcoming events.



Basic Weather Spotter Training

What you'll learn

- ✓ Extreme weather history and trends for our region
- ✓ Cloud and storm recognition
- ✓ What and how to report to the NWS
- ✓ Safety and preparedness tips for hazardous weather

Hosted by Lawrence Co. Emergency Management Agency and the Southern Ohio Amateur Radio Association.

MARCH 18
6:00 pm – 7:30 pm

Lawrence Co Joint Response Operations Center
715 Lane Street
Coal Grove, OH 45638

NWS Charleston, WV
Weather.gov/charlestonwv

Weather Spotter Volunteers help keep our community safe by reporting hazardous weather conditions to the National Weather Service.

Logos: Lawrence County, Ohio; EMA; WSSOE

VE Sessions:

The following information is for ALL exam sessions:

It is now an FCC requirement to have an FCC FRN; active email address and active phone number before taking any exam. Please bring your FCC FRN, original license, a copy of your license (if a licensed ham), a valid photo ID and \$15.00 - Cash preferred.

Effective April 19, 2022, the FCC will charge a \$35.00 application fee for amateur radio licenses. The fee will apply to new, renewal, rule waiver, and modification applications that request a new vanity call sign. License upgrades will not have a fee applied. The fee will be per application. *VE's will not collect the fees at exam sessions.*

AE8FP Amateur Radio Test Team administers ARRL-VEC testing in the Central Ohio area. Our test dates for 2024 are as follows: Januray 20, April 27, June 22, July 20, and October 19. Time and location for these dates are 10:00am at the Westerville Fire Station #111, 400 W. Main St in Westerville, Ohio. The listed dates are co-sponsored by the Central Ohio Radio Club (CORC).

Pre-Registration is required, and open the 1st of each testing month. All information is available at www.ae8fp.net <<http://www.ae8fp.net/>>

Alliance Amateur Radio Club

The Alliance Amateur Radio Club holds quarterly VE testing, at the Christ Ulnited Methodist Church in Alliance. The address is 470 E. Broadway St, Alliance, OH (<https://maps.app.goo.gl/prDyEPp6siJun2ibA>).

Upcoming Exam Dates are

Saturday, March 16th, 2024

Saturday, June 15th, 2024

Saturday, August 10th, 2024

Saturday, October 19th, 2024

We begin registration at 8 AM, with testing at 9am.

More information can be found at www.w8lky.org/licensing/ve-exams/.

All Things Amateur Radio Association (ATARA) We host testing sessions every second Tuesday of the month in Lancaster. To sign up please visit our website <https://atara-w8atr.fun> and contact us at hamexams@atara-w8atr.fun.

CARS

VE testing from CARS - Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society - at Elmwood Recreation Center, 6200 Wisnieski Parkway in Independence, Ohio 44131 Time: 9:15 AM (Walk-ins allowed) Always the 2nd Sunday of the odd month. Go to CARS www.2cars.org for detailed map of location. Call Metro W8MET 216-520-1320 for details

Clark County Amateur Radio Association (CLARA)

What:

CLARA sponsored A.R.R.L. VE Testing - Walk-ins allowed. Pre-Register via email preferred.

When: On every second Saturday of each even numbered month starting at 10:00 AM Feb 10th; Apr 13th; Jun 8th; Aug 10th; Oct 12th; and Dec 14th, 2024. Where: Springview Government Center - Emergency Operations Center; 3130 E Main St; Springfield OH 45503 This is US-40 aka "old national road". From Route 40 enter Old Columbus Road, at the fork stay left driving straight onto Ogden Rd, then immediately turn left into the parking lot behind the EMA. Walk to the door with the "Employees Only" sign. For more information contact Roland W. Ude, W8BUZ, (937) 605-4951 Email: buzz@baylorhill.com

Dayton Amateur Radio Association (DARA)

If you are interested in testing for a new or upgraded license, please come see us at the DARA Clubhouse. If you have questions about testing, please email exams.w8bi@gmail.com

The Findlay Radio Club

The Findlay Radio Club sponsors an Exam Session the second Saturday of every month except September when we have our Hamfest. The Exam Session takes place at the Findlay Radio Club, 1333 West Sandusky St., Findlay Ohio 45839. The session begins at 9 AM. Pre-registration is recommended, but not required. You can pre-register at hamstudy.org. We can also give Exams remotely on-line on your schedule if you can't make to a session.

The club has meetings on the first and third Thursdays at the clubhouse at 7:30 PM. The meetings are also available on Zoom. Contact N8ET if you would like to log in. All are welcome.

We also meet at the club on Sunday afternoon from 2 until 5 (or later!) to talk about anything Ham Radio. The sessions are geared toward new Hams. Everyone brings their questions and equipment they would like to show off or learn how to use. This Sunday we are going to install and learn to use Flgigi, Flmsg, and Flamp. In past sessions we have built antennas, fired up new rigs, and generally had a good time!

The next meeting (Feb 15) will cover the same topic. Bring your laptop!

Geauga Amateur Radio Association (GARA)

Amateur License exam sessions are offered for all license classes (Technician, General, Extra). Walk-ins are always welcome - no prior registration is required. No fee for the exam.

The GARA schedule of exams are these Sundays at 2pm. Dates for 2024 are Jan 14, March 10, May 12, July 14, Sept 15, and Nov 17, 2024. All sessions are at 2:00PM each month

Exams are held at the Geauga County Department of Emergency Services and Emergency Operations Center, 12518 Merritt Road, Chardon, Ohio 44024. The EOC is located just south of the University Geauga Hospital and just east of the Geauga County Safety Center (Sheriff's Office), off of State Route 44 between State Route 322 and State Route 87 on Merritt Road.



Please arrive a few minutes before 14:00 to allow adequate time to process the necessary paper work and take your test. Bring your 1) photo ID, 2) email address, 3) FCC FRN, 4) a printout of your current license if taking the General or Extra exam.

Additional info may be obtained from Jackie Welch, N8JMW by email n8jmw2@gmail.com or calling at 440-228-2716. More information is available from the Geauga Amateur Radio Association website <https://geaugaara.org>

Huber Heights Amateur Radio Club

Huber heights amateur radio club does ARRL VE testing the second Saturday of each even numbered month. Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec. 9:30-11:00 For more information contact Jim Storms – AB8YK at ab8yk@hotmail.com

The Lake County Amateur Radio Association

The Lake County Amateur Radio Association is holding its **2024** Amateur Radio license exams at the **Kirtland Library**, 9267 Chillicothe Road, on the following dates:

Saturday, February 3	Saturday, August 3
Saturday, April 6	Saturday, October 5
Saturday, June 1	Saturday, December 7

This bi-monthly schedule is the first Saturday of every even-numbered month (e.g., February being the second month, etc.). They are held at the Kirtland Library, 9267 Chillicothe Road. It is 1.7 miles south of I-90 on Route 306 (Chillicothe Rd). The library is on the left, just beyond the Marathon gas station. The tests will start at **12 noon**. Please arrive a few minutes earlier.

To register, you will need a NCVEC 605 Form, which will be available at the test. If you would like to complete one ahead of time, be sure it is the Sept 2017 version or later. You can find it by Googling “NCVEC quick-form 605” and clicking on the url for a pdf of the form. Please note **the FCC requires you to provide a FRN** (FCC Registration Number). Social Security Numbers are no longer accepted. If you are new to ham radio and don’t have a FRN, Google “New FRN” and follow the fcc.gov link.

If you are currently licensed, be sure to **bring a copy of your license to the exam**. The cost of the exam itself is \$15.00, and if you wish to pay by check, it should be made out to the ARRL/VEC. Identification with your picture is also necessary, such as a driver’s license. If you have any questions, please contact Scott Farnham, KO8O, at (440) 256-0320, or scottfarnham@roadrunner.com

In addition to the \$15 test fee, the FCC now charges \$35 to add you to the Amateur Radio database. The FCC will e-mail successful candidates instructions for payment directly to them. Payment must be made within 10 days of the e-mail. This charge does not apply to upgrades.

The Lancaster and Fairfield County Amateur Radio Club (LFCARC)

hosts exam sessions at the FAIRFIELD County EMA, 240 Baldwin Dr in Lancaster Ohio, 43130, on the first Saturday each month at 10:00 am. Please visit our website at <http://www.k8qik.org> for exam dates on our calendar and navigate to our Learning Center/Taking the Exam link for information and requirements. Our experienced VE team looks forward to serving the Amateur Radio community in Central Ohio. Contact me at ve_testing@k8qik.org to register.

Lisbon Area Amateur Radio Association

LISBON AREA AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION (LAARA) 2024 SCHEDULE.

VE TESTING IS AT THE COLUMBIANA COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY AT 215 SOUTH MARKET STREET, LISBON, OH 44432.

SIGN IN AT 1 PM AND TESTING AT 1:30 PM.

VE TESTING DATES FOR 2024

JAN 13; FEB 10; MAR 9; APR 13; MAY 11;
JUN 8; AUG 10; SEP 14; OCT 12; NOV 9; DEC 14.

WE CAN ALSO GIVE THE TEST AT OUR REGULAR MEETINGS THAT ARE NORMALLY ON THE 3RD THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH. LAARA MEETINGS ARE HELD AT THE COLUMBIANA COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY AT THE SAME ADDRESS AS ABOVE. SEE THE K8GQB.COM WEB SITE FOR UPDATES. MEETING TIME IS 6:30 PM. WE HAVE ACTIVITY MEETINGS ON THE ODD MONTHS AND BUSINESS MEETINGS ON THE EVEN MONTHS.

Madison County

The Laurel testing group will offer testing on the first Thursday of January, March, May, July, September and November. Tests are held at 7:00PM at the Madison County EMA located at 271 Elm St. London, OH. No fee.

The Milford Amateur Radio Club (MARC)

VE testing is held the third Thursday of each month at 6:00 PM. Location; Miami Township Civic Center located at 6101 Meijer Drive, Milford, OH 45150.

Please pre-register at www.milfordhamradio.org

Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society (NOARS)

Six VE testing sessions in 2024. Registration is appreciated but walk-ins are welcome. Contact Elaine, KC8FOS for more information or to register. ewilkinson1951@gmail.com or 216-337-4235

Saturday, Jan 6. Fairview Park Library. 21255 Lorain Rd., Fairview Park. 10 AM.

Sunday, March 10. NOARS Hamfest. Lorain County Community College. 1005 Abbe Rd. N., Elyria. 9 AM.

Saturday, May 4. Fairview Park Library. 21255 Lorain Rd., Fairview Park. 10 AM.

Saturday, July 20. NOARSfest. Lorain County Community College. 1005 Abbe Rd. N., Elyria. 9 AM.

Saturday, September 7. Fairview Park Library. 21255 Lorain Rd., Fairview Park. 10 AM.

Saturday, November 2. Fairview Park Library. 21255 Lorain Rd., Fairview Park. 10 AM.

Portage County Amateur Radio Service (PCARS)

The first Saturday of every even numbered month -10 am – at the PCARS club site in Ravenna. Please visit the PCARS web site and check out the information about VE testing in the latest newsletter at www.portcars.org . If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact me at KB8UUZ@gmail.com

Tusco Amateur Radio Club W8ZX

VE Testing sessions are held on the second Saturday of every even numbered month at the Dover Faith Church, 420 N Wooster Ave, Dover, OH 44622. Pre-registration is not necessary. Doors open at 0830 for registration, exams begin at 0900. Cost is \$15. You are required to have an email address and a copy of your FRN or current ham radio license. For more information please go to www.w8zx.net/exam or email VETEAM@N8BAG.NET.

Silvercreek ARA (SARA)

Hold six exam sessions per year for all license classes. Pre-registration requested but not required. Exam sessions for 2024:

Saturday, February 3rd - Wayne County Justice Center (Wooster)

Saturday, April 6th - Sharon Center UMC (Wadsworth/Medina)

Saturday, June 1st - Sharon Center UMC (Wadsworth/Medina)

Saturday, August 3rd - Wayne County Justice Center (Wooster)

Saturday, October 5th - Sharon Center UMC (Wadsworth/Medina)

Saturday, December 7th - Sharon Center UMC (Wadsworth/Medina)

All sessions begin at 10:00am. For directions and test information visit <https://w8wky.org/license-exams/>. Pre-Registration to expedite paperwork is requested, but not required at <https://w8wky.org/sara-ve-registration-form/>. Sign up and if you aren't ready or can't make it, just notify the VE team lead.

West Chester Amateur Radio Association (WC8VOA) Exam sessions are held one Saturday each month at 10:00 AM-Noon at the VOA Bethany Relay Museum located at *8070 Tylersville Rd, West Chester, Ohio 45069*. For more information and links to register, please see our website: <https://wc8voa.org/licensing/>

Your Club news should be listed here!

I know you're out there doing things! Send me a write-up (MSWord please) and some photo's (.jpg please) and we'll get your club hi-lited here for the other OH Section Clubs to see! Send to WB8LCD@ARRL.ORG

ARLD011 DX news

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by The Daily DX, 425 DX News, DXNL, Contest Corral from QST and the ARRL Contest Calendar and WA7BNM web sites. Thanks to all.

BENIN, TY. Operators F5NVF, F5RAV and M0NPT are QRV as TY5C from Cotonou until March 29. Activity is on the HF bands using CW, SSB, and FT8. This includes being active on Satellite QO 100. QSL direct to F5RAV.

ST HELENA ISLAND, ZD7. ZD7GG, with op Torsten, DL9GG, is QRV with a straight key on CW until the end of this month.

VANUATU, YJ. Chris, VK2YUS will be QRV as YJ0CA from Port Vila until March 21. Activity will be on 40 to 10 meters using SSB. QSL to home call.

LESOTHO, 7P. A multi national team of DJ9RR, EI2II, EI2JD, EI3ISB, EI3IXB, EI4HH, EI5GM, EI5GSB, EI6FR, EI8KN, EI9HQ, EI9FBB and PA3EWP, will be operating as 7P8EI from March 19 to 30. The group plans to set up 8 rigs for HF. QSL via M0OXO OQRS.

CURACAO, PJ2. Andreas, DK5ON will be QRV as PJ2/DK5ON from March 11 to 27. Activity will be on 80 to 6 meters, and possibly 160 meters, using CW, SSB, FT8, and FT4. This includes being active on various Satellites. QSL to home call.

EAST KIRIBATI, T32. A group of operators will be QRV as T32EU from Kiritimati Island, IOTA OC 024, from March 12 to 27. Activity will be with three stations on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY, and FT8. QSL via DL2AWG.

GALAPAGOS ISLANDS, HC8. Rick, HC1MD (NE8Z), and Maria, HC1MM will be QRV as HD8MD and HD8MM respectfully, from March 20 to 29. Listen for HD8MM on SSB on 40 through 10 meters and HD8MD on CW, SSB, FT4 and FT8 (sometimes MSHV) on 40 through 6 meters (Grid Locator EI59ec). QSL via LoTW or to the W8 QSL Bureau (via K8LJG or NE8Z).

SINT MAARTEN, PJ7. Ken, KJ9B will be active from March 30 to April 6. He'll be operating as PJ7/KJ9B, mostly on FT modes.

GREENLAND, OX. Bo, OZ1DJJ is operating as OX3LX until March 22. He will be on the HF bands and satellite QO-100. QSL via OZ0J.

TURKEY, TA. TC18M will be on the air from March 15 to 22 to remember the Naval Victory of 1915. They will be in the Russian DX Contest that weekend, manned by young ops from TCSWAT and GITRAD. QSL through LoTW.

REUNION ISLAND, TO7. Giovanni, IZ2DPX will be QRV from April 7 to 18 as TO7PX. Look for him using SSB and FT8 on 40, 30, 20, 17, 15, 12, 10 and 6 Meters. QSL via IK2DUW.

TIMOR LESTE, 4W. Satoshi, JH2EUV is QRV as 4W/JH2EUV from Dili until March 19. Activity is on 80 to 10 meters using FT8. QSL to home call.

TANZANIA, 5H. Nobby, G0VJF is QRV as 5H3VJG from Zanzibar Island, IOTA AF 032, until March 20. Activity is on the HF bands. This includes being an entry in the RSGB Commonwealth contest. QSL via M0OXO.

WEST MALAYSIA, 9M2. Jacek, SP5APW will be QRV as 9W2/SP5APW from Langkawi Island, IOTA AS 058, until March 17. Activity will be on 20 to 6 meters, with an emphasis on 6 meters. QSL to home call.

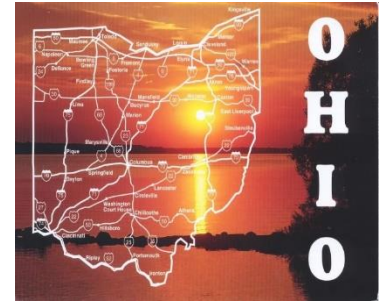
MOROCCO, CN. Yannick, F6FYD will be QRV as CN2YD from Marrakesh until March 23. This includes being active as CN2YD/p on a short visit to Mogador Island, IOTA AF 065. QSL to home call.

GRENADA, J3. Operators ON4HIL, ON4MA, ON5RA, ON5TN, ON6CC and ON7RU are QRV as J38R until March 16. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, and FT8, with RTTY on 20 meters. QSL via M0URX.

MARIANA ISLANDS, KH0. JA6VQA, as WH0B, along with JA6REX and JH6HZH will be QRV from April 25 to 30, using mainly FT8 and FT4 with some CW and SSB, on 160 to 6 meters. Listen for them as WH0B, KH0/JA6REX and KH0/W6HZH, respectively. QSL WH0B via LoTW, eQSL and direct to JA6VQA. QSL KH0/JA6REX and KH0/W6HZH via LoTW, eQSL and Club Log.

Please see March QST, page 78, and the ARRL and WA7BNM contest websites for details.

Upcoming *Hamfests*



Ohio Hamfests

2024

04/13/2024 - [Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club 68th Hamfest](#)

Location: Cuyahoga Falls, OH
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
Website: <http://www.w8vpv.org/hamfest>
[Learn More](#)

04/13/2024 - [Mid-Ohio Valley Amateur Radio Club](#)

Location: Bidwell, OH
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: Mid-Ohio Valley Amateur Radio Club
[Learn More](#)

04/27/2024 - [Tusco Amateur Radio Club Hamfest, Electronics, and Computer Show](#)

Location: Dover, OH
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: Tusco Amateur Radio Club W8ZX
Website: <http://www.w8zx.net/hamfest>
[Learn More](#)

04/28/2024 - [Athens Hamfest](#)

Location: Athens, OH
Sponsor: Athens County Amateur Radio Association
Website: <https://www.ac-ara.org/>
[Learn More](#)

05/05/2024 - [Lucas County ARES Trunk Sale & Swap Meet](#)

Location: Toledo, OH
Sponsor: Lucas County ARES
Website: <http://lucasares.org>
[Learn More](#)

05/11/2024 - 05/16/2024 [RV Radio Network](#)

Location: Millersburg, OH
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: Rv Radio Network
[Learn More](#)

<p>05/16/2024 - 05/19/2024 <u>Four Days In May</u> Location: Fairborn, OH Type: ARRL Convention Sponsor: QRP Amateur Radio Club International Website: http://qrparci.org/fdim Learn More</p>	<p>05/17/2024 - 05/19/2024 <u>Dayton Hamvention, ARRL National Convention</u> Location: Xenia, OH Type: ARRL Convention Sponsor: Dayton Amateur Radio Association Website: https://hamvention.org Learn More</p>
<p>07/06/2024 - <u>Mansfield Mid Summer Trunkfest</u> Location: Mansfield, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Intercity Amateur Radio Club Website: http://W8WE.ORG Learn More</p>	<p>07/21/2024 - <u>Van Wert Hamfest</u> Location: Van Wert, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Van Wert Amateur Radio Club Website: http://w8fy.org Learn More</p>
<p>08/03/2024 - <u>2024 Columbus Hamfest</u> Location: Grove City, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Aladdin Shrine Audio Unit Website: http://www.columbushamfest.com Learn More</p>	<p>08/10/2024 - <u>Cincinnati Hamfest</u> Location: Owensville, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Milford ARC Website: https://CincinnatiHamfest.org Learn More</p>
<p>08/18/2024 - <u>Warren Hamfest</u> Location: Cortland, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Warren Amateur Radio Association Website: https://www.w8vtd.com/ Learn More</p>	<p>09/08/2024 - <u>Findlay Hamfest</u> Location: Findlay, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Findlay Radio Club Website: http://w8ft.org Learn More</p>
<p>10/05/2024 - <u>Northwest Ohio Amateur Radio Club (NWOARC) Hamfest</u> Location: Lima, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Northwest Ohio Amateur Radio Club, Inc. Website: http://www.nwoarc.com Learn More</p>	<p>10/27/2024 - <u>2024 MARC Hamfest at MAPS</u> Location: N. Canton, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Massillon Amateur Radio Club Website: https://www.w8np.net Learn More</p>

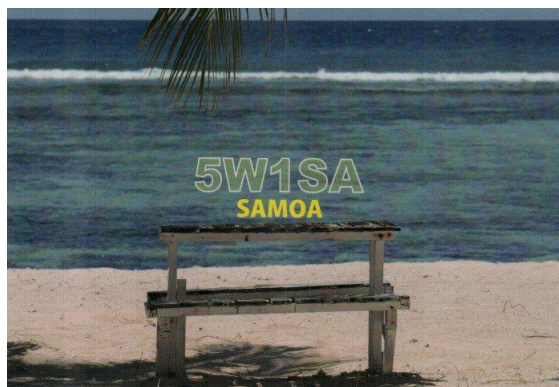
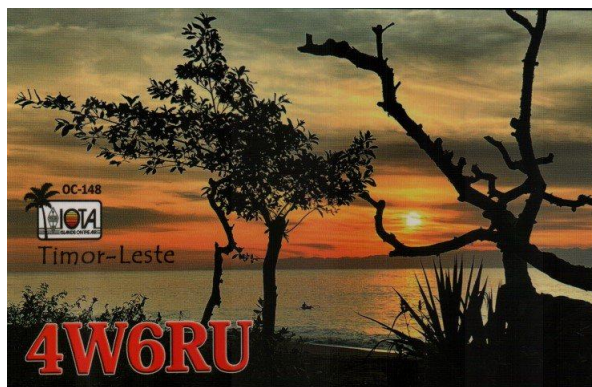
Plenty of Ohio Section Hamfests on tap for 2024! If you haven't got yours submitted to ARRL as of yet – go back up a couple pages to the top of the “Clubs” section for complete instructions on how to get your fest ARRL Sanctioned! As you can see, I've left a couple open slots here for your Ohio Section Hamfest! (I've got a couple more that will hit the list next week!)

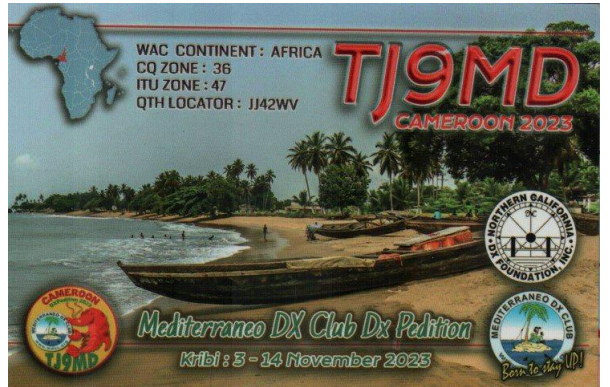
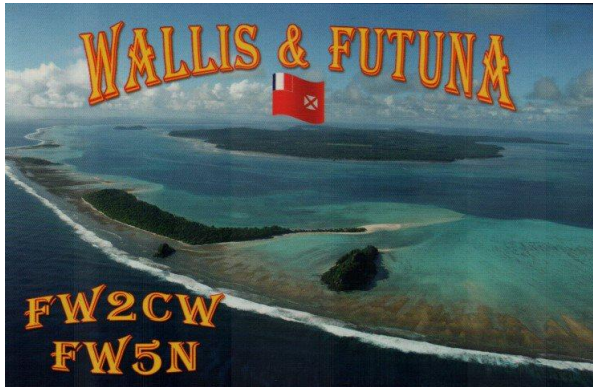
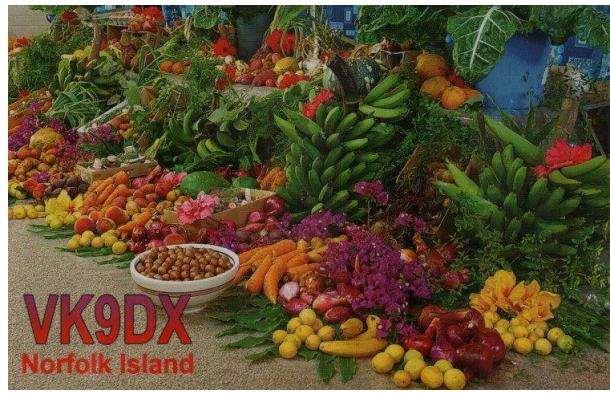
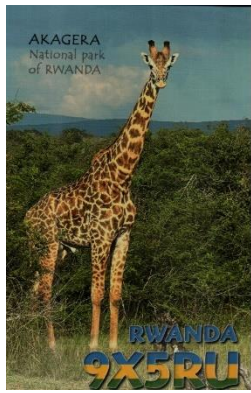
DX This Week – Zones 32 & 33

Bill - AJ8B (thedxmentor@gmail.com / www.aj8b.com)

Hope you had a good week. I know that the bands have been busy and many hams are taking advantage of the propagation well into the night. Please continue to let me know how you are doing.

I received some cards over the past couple of weeks. They are shown below. The first is 4W6RU, the Russian DXpedition to Timor-Leste, next is 5W1SA, Atsuo on Samoa, then 9X5RU, the Russian DXpedition to Rwanda, VK9DX, Nick on Norfolk Island, FW5N, Jackie (one of the best CWops that I have ever worked) on Wallis & Futuna Island, and TJ9MD, the Mediterranean DX Club DXpedition to Cameroon. What did you receive?





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This week we will continue our investigation of the various CQ Zones. This week we will review Zones 32 & 33.

Zone 32. New Zealand Zone: **A3** (Tonga), **E5** (North and South Cook Is.) **FK** New Caledonia but NOT Chesterfield Is.), **FO** (French Polynesia and Austral Is. but NOT Marquesas and Clipperton), **FW** (Wallis Is.), **H40**(Temotu), **KH8** (American Samoa), **KH8S** (Swains), **VK9N** (Norfolk Is.), **VP6** (Pitcairn and Ducie), **YJ** (Vanuatu), **ZK2** (Niue Is.), **ZL** (New Zealand, **ZL7** (Chatham Is.), **ZL8** (Kermadec Is.), **ZL9** (Auckland and Campbell Is.), **3D2** (Fiji, Rotu ma, and Conway Reef), **5W** (Western Samoa) and some Antarctic stations.

Zone 33. Northwestern Zone of Africa: **CN** – (Morocco), **CT3** (Madeira Is), **EA8** (Canary Is.), **EA9** (Ceuta and/or Melilla), **IG9** (Pelagic Is.), **IH9 IG9** (Pantelleria Is. or Pelagic Islands), **S0** (Western Sahara), **3V** (Tunisia), and **7X** (Algeria).

You may notice the two entries in Zone 33; IG9 (Pelagic Is.), IH9 or IG9 (Pantelleria Is. or Pelagic Islands). These are one the CQWW Entities list but not on the ARRL DXCC list. More on that in a few weeks.

Good Hunting in these Zones!

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Here is an update from Bernie, W3UR, of the DailyDX and the WeeklyDX, and the How's DX Column in QST. The DailyDX the best source for real-time DX information.

<http://www.dailydx.com/> . Bernie has this to report:

Here is more information on the **Jarvis Islands** DXpedition.

As reported last week, the Dateline DX Association has received permission from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) for a DXpedition to Jarvis Island National Wildlife Reserve this August. It appears that this endeavor will begin around August 1 and last 13 days; the exact dates are weather- dependent. The team of four consists of AA7JV, George; N1DG, Don; HA7RY, Tomi; and KN4EEI, Mike, will install six RIB stations on Jarvis Island, operating on 160-6M CW, SSB, and FT8. The on-island team will be augmented by 25 remote operators from Asia, Europe, and North America, running CW and FT8 (F/H).

The organizers note that August is not the best for low-band activity, but the team is grateful that they have permission to operate at all. In any event, they say that “top band” will be challenging, and near impossible, for Europe, with no common darkness, but they plan to erect a good receive antenna.

The transmit antenna will be a 45-foot-tall vertical with no top loading; “wires can hurt birds.” While this is a compromise antenna, it will be set in salt water at most tides and should put out a decent signal. The team expects that European stations will have better odds on 80M, “albeit still small.”

They will put in the time and effort at both local sunrises and sunsets and say, “You never know with top band.” The 6M station will have a six-element Yagi.

Six German operators are QRV from **T32EU** from **Kiritimati Island** (OC-024) now until March 27. They plan to run three stations 24 hours per day on 160-10M (but not 60M) CW, SSB, and RTTY, and “perhaps FT8.” Their band plan, equipment, antennas, and QSL information are on their QRZ.com page. Kiritimati is a Pacific Ocean atoll in the northern Line Islands. It is part of East Kiribati, which is #116 on the Club Log DXCC Most Wanted List.

WE have an Update on **3YØK, Bouvet Island**. LA7GIA, Ken, reported on March 9 that planning continues apace for the 3YØK DXpedition to Bouvet Island in January 2025. He says, however, that “fundraising has been a bit bumpy, and this has impacted the Bouvet DXpedition negatively.” The team has cut its budget to \$400,000 from \$450,000, postponed their vessel inspection and deposit and all other purchases until May, and canceled their plans to support remote operation.

The team also plans a DXpedition to Peter I Island during 2026, but these plans are contingent on Bouvet being funded and executed. Ken reported yesterday that as a result of reports in the “DX media,” they have received an additional \$4,000. Donations are being accepted on their website and can also be sent via PayPal. The Daily DX is supporting the Bouvet Island DXpedition and hopes that its subscribers will do the same.

The Northern California DX Foundation to support **A8OK** DXpedition to **Liberia**.

As reported last week, eight members of the Czech DXpedition team are heading to Liberia April 5-19.

The Northern California DX Foundation announced on March 8 that following a complete review of the team’s plans and finances, it will provide USD\$2,000 in financial support. “We believe that they will do an outstanding job of making a lot of QSOs and getting you in the log.”

NCDXF’s mission is to provide necessary financial support for well-organized DXpeditions to desirable DXCC entities and to support advances in DXpeditioning skills, technology, and infrastructure. Those funds come from the contributions of supporters in the DX community. You may support NCDXF at their website.

ZC4 - UK Sovereign Bases on Cyprus - On March 26th G0KOM, Adrian, is flying to Cyprus where he will stay for a week and has plans to activate his ZC4MK callsign for the first time in 30 years. He'll be operating from Melanda Beach in Avdimou and plans to operate single band 10 meters in the CQ WPX SSB Contest. He is not sure if he will be able to operate on 6 meters, outside the contest. Adrian also plans to be in ZC4 in late October for 10 days.

J38R, DXpedition to Grenada Update. The pile-ups continue to be enormous on all bands! There is a high demand for 80m and especially 160m, and we are aware of that. We will be QRV tonight at sunset (local time). For 60m, we have an issue with the transceiver that cannot transmit on that frequency without a modification. So, we may have to sacrifice an SSB or CW station with an amplifier to be QRV on this band. We will explore whether we can perform the necessary modification. We notice that some stations are working us multiple times even though they are already in the log and also in the Clublog. Please, give other operators a chance to get in the log... thank you!

Press Release #2 – from **TX7W – the Austral Islands.**

Preparations are progressing nicely for our operation from TX7W - Austral Islands. Hardcopy license has been received. Accommodations and airline reservations have been completed and paid. Radios, amplifiers, and computers have been acquired and software configured. Gear and antennas are being tested. We plan to have 4 stations on the air when possible, with a nice compliment of antennas. Austral is currently #59 on the Club Log Most Wanted List. Many thanks to our corporate, club, and individual supporters. Your donations are appreciated! CU soon from TX7W... 73 de Jeff - K5WE & Craig - W5CCP. For more info go to: <https://k5we.com/tx7w/> .

The Rebel DX Group announces some 2024 Plans - The Rebel DX Group have announced their plans for this year. This will include **5N5N** from **Nigeria** and an operation from **5U - Niger**, callsign yet to be assigned. They will put a priority on FT8 with CW and "little SSB". As usual the dates are being kept quiet for the time being.

The Rebel DX Group are also planning to go to **Conway Reef (3D2CR)** again, with four ops. 3D2AJT will be a 3-week operation to remember the late JH1AJT, Zorro. T33T from Banaba with three ops. An 11-day three man operation from Kanton Island as T31TT and possibly one more island. Again, no dates given.

The Rebels also still plan to go to **Bouvet**. They will not release the callsign until 30 days prior to the operation. Also, two South Atlantic islands (VP8?) are being worked on.

XW – Laos - XW0LP, Simon's March update, he has just moved back to his QTH of four years ago, directly opposite the Luang Prabang Peninsula, 100 meters from the confluence of the Nam Kham and Mekong Rivers. He is putting his antennas back up, as before. The 160M antenna will be put up later in the year. A half-wave vertical dipole is now up for 10M FT8 and SSTV and a 20M antenna is up, a "Par End Fedz," for which he has ordered matching boxes. Also, on order are 10M spiderbeam masts. When they arrive, he will add single band antennas for 40, 17, 15 and 12.

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CONTEST CORNER

Below is a list of upcoming contests in the “Contest Corner”. I think this is important for someone who is trying to move up the DXCC ladder since entities that are on the rarer side and easiest to work in contests. Some of my best “catches” have been on the Sunday afternoon of a contest when the rarer entities are begging for QSOs. Of course, the gamble is that if you wait until Sunday, conditions may change, or they simply won’t be workable. However, it is not a bad gamble. Of course, why not work the contest and have some fun!

Check out the WA7BNM Contest Calendar page (<https://www.contestcalendar.com/>) for more contests or more details.

The contests in **red** are those that I plan to spend some significant participation time on. PLEASE let me know if you are working contests and how you fared.

Contest	Start Date	End Date
CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB	3/30/2024	3/31/2024
SP DX Contest	4/6/2024	4/7/2024
Louisiana QSOP	4/6/2024	4/7/2024
Missouri QSOP	4/6/2024	4/7/2024

Georgia QSOP	4/13/2024	4/14/2024
New Mexico QSOP	4/13/2024	4/14/2024
Holyland DX Contest	4/19/2024	4/20/2024
Michigan QSOP	4/20/2024	4/21/2024
Ontario QSOP	4/20/2024	4/21/2024
SP DX RTTY	4/27/2024	4/28/2024
10-10 Intl. Spring Contest, Digital	4/27/2024	4/28/2024
Florida QSOP	4/27/2024	4/28/2024
10-10 Intl. Spring Contest, CW	5/4/2024	5/5/2024
Arizona QSOP	5/4/2024	5/5/2024
Connecticut QSOP	5/4/2024	5/5/2024
Delaware QSOP	5/4/2024	5/5/2024
Idaho QSOP	5/4/2024	5/5/2024
Indiana QSOP	5/4/2024	5/5/2024
Maine QSOP	5/4/2024	5/5/2024
Massachusetts QSOP	5/4/2024	5/5/2024
Montana QSOP	5/4/2024	5/5/2024
Nevada QSOP	5/4/2024	5/5/2024
New Hampshire QSOP	5/4/2024	5/5/2024
Oregon QSOP	5/4/2024	5/5/2024
Rhode Island QSOP	5/4/2024	5/5/2024
Utah QSOP	5/4/2024	5/5/2024
Vermont QSOP	5/4/2024	5/5/2024
Washington QSOP	5/4/2024	5/5/2024
Wyoming QSOP	5/4/2024	5/5/2024
SWODXA DXDINNER	5/17/2024	
SWODXA DXForum	5/18/2024	
Arkansas QSOP	5/18/2024	5/19/2024
CQ WW WPX Contest, CW	5/25/2024	5/26/2024

Thanks!

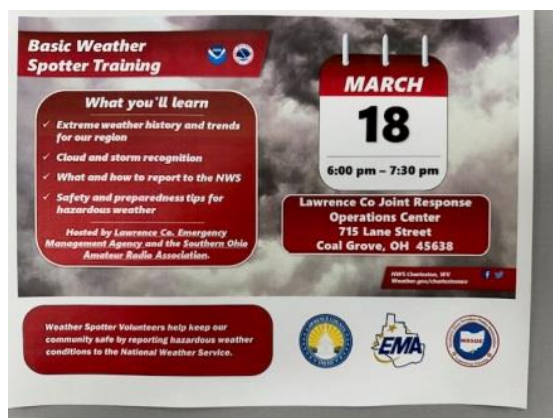
OHIO'S



On March 23 the **Clinton County ARA** and **Highland ARA** will each hold a Laurel test session. The CCARA session is at the Boyd Cancer Center in Wilmington and the HARA one is at Highland County EMA Office in Hillsboro. The CCARA one concludes a successful license class. All test elements will be given at these test sessions. Registration at each begins at 10 AM but early arrivals are appreciated. Neither club charges a test fee because they are Laurel sessions. Also remember the FCC \$35 fee for a new license does apply for any new license issued, but it is not collected at the time of testing and is paid directly to the FCC. Any questions for the CCARA session should be directed to Mike Boyle, WF8B at and to Tom Mongold, Jr., KD8LDS at 937-272-4207 for the HARA one.

Speaking of test sessions, the **Fayette ARA** recently held a VE session in Washington Court House. Coordinator Jim Scott, N8ORJ, reports five individuals set for tests and everyone went home happy. Two Leesburg hams, Jerry Lucas-KE8YZA and Don Seitz-KE8YZB traded in their Technician licenses for Generals. Washington CH's Rebecca Krupla became KF8AJJ and in Jackson Julie Angle now is KF8AJK. After traveling from Marysville Chad Garvin wasn't happy heading home with just a Technician license under his belt, so he sat for the General and passed it. He is now KF8AJL. Ted Jacobson, W8KVK, lets us know we need to pass some more "atta boys" along. Jackson County gained another amateur when Robert Mar Hoover became KF8AJF. New Richmond has a new ham with Mark Roberto whose Technician ticket bears the KF8AJH call sign and Dwight Day of Batavia is now KF8AKH. Congrats and Welcome to each. Now it's up to the amateurs in those local communities to give assistance to these new folks, get them on the air and talk with them.

The Wilmington NWS Office announces that in person storm spotter training classes are under way. Classes in Adams, Brown and Clermont Counties have already been held as well as a virtual one. March 18 finds training at the Valley Fire Department near Lucasville for Scioto County. The new Clinton County Administration



Building near the Airpark and NWS building at Wilmington hosts the Clinton County training on March 20. The 21st sees the training move to neighboring Highland County and the County Administration Building conference room in downtown Hillsboro. Then on March 28 the Fayette County training site will be the Opportunity Center in Washington, CH. On April 28 a joint session for Fairfield and Pickaway Counties will be presented at the Liberty Center in Lancaster.

For further information on starting times, exact location addresses and other information check the NWS site at www.weather.gov/iln. Mike Love, WA8YDS, tells us the **Southern Ohio ARA** will be a co-sponsor for the Charleston WV NWS Office in-person training session on March 18 at the Lawrence County Joint Response Center at Coal Grove. Then on March 21 the Charleston Office will hold virtual training at 6:30. For more information, contact Tony.Edwards@noaa.gov. The Pittsburgh Office will have training on May 13 at the Belmont County Library in Martins Ferry.

As a part of their ‘Introduction to ham radio’ presentation to the local scouts, the **Southern Ohio ARA** has made the upcoming March 18 Storm Spotter training a part of the program. This allows the scouts to see how ham radio plays an important part in the Storm Spotter program.

South 40 Region hams should be aware of upcoming National Weather Service Tornado Safety Drills. Ohio and West Virginia will each conduct theirs on March 21. Ohio will conduct theirs at 9:50 AM EDT that morning and West Virginia will hold theirs at 11:00 AM EDT.

All members and others in the service area of the following clubs are invited to attend and experience a fun filled morning with your ham radio friends. The “Knights of the Round Table” (aka the **Marietta ARA**) will gather on Tuesday morning, March 26 at the Bob Evans Restaurant in Marietta at 9. And the monthly “Last Saturday” **Clinton County ARA** breakfast will happen at Sam’s Meats and Deli in Wilmington on March 30 at 8:30.

Don’t fail to mark your calendar for a couple of upcoming local club hamfests occurring in the South 40 during April. On April 13 the **Mid-Ohio Valley ARC** will hold their annual hamfest at the Fellowship of Faith Church in Bidwell. Then on Sunday the 28th, the **Athens County ARA** will hold their hamfest at the recreation center in Athens. Both are great warm up events to get everyone in the mood for the biggie-HamVention-in May. Each are also good events for a new ham to attend in order to gain an idea what hamfests are all about. Your attendance also supports the efforts of local clubs to maintain repeaters, provide programs and pay the bills to keep the club and its equipment functioning. For many clubs, this is their largest source of income to keep the treasury in the black. They are also a great place to put faces with the voices and call signs of those you hear on the air as well as get a great price on some nice equipment.

Springtime brings a number of different activities. And a popular one is the restart of races and marathons. The **Athens County ARA** has issued the call for volunteers to assist with two such events happening in April. On April 6 the Club will provide communications for the annual Iron Furnace Trail Run at Lake Hope. Then on April 14 the Athens Marathon/Half Marathon will take place on the bikeway between Athens and Nelsonville. The Club needs at least 6 operators to staff the Lake Hope event and at least 10 for the Athens one. If you can assist, please contact Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, at 740-541-0972.

The **Highland ARA**'s tradition of visiting other clubs started for 2024 with nine HARA members in attendance at the recent **Clinton County ARA** meeting where they learned the CCARA is currently holding a unique fund raiser. They are raffling a \$550 package of meat that some lucky person will be enjoying. Tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20 and are available from club members or at the upcoming 'Last Saturday Brunch'. Only 500 tickets are being sold. The prize drawing will be April 27 (or sooner should all tickets sell quickly) at Sam's Meats in Wilmington. Contact any CCARA member for tickets or more info.

The **OH-KY-IN ARS** observed its 13th anniversary of their Brunch Bunch during the February gathering of the group in Western Hills. Bruce Vanselow, N8BV, says the first gathering of the group occurred in 2011 and further states "I would never thought we'd be doing this 13 years later. Although our group has gotten smaller over the years, we continue to have a good meal, great friendship and interesting discussions".

We are informed that John Fick, KD8EEK, of Pleasantville has become a silent key. He was a member of the **Hocking Valley ARA**. Our condolences to his family and friends.

Vancouver, Washington's **Clark County ARA** has advised the **Highland ARA** they have been selected to be the second Ohio club authorized to represent Ohio in the upcoming June Lewis and Clark Trail on the Air special event activity. The objective of the event is to contact one of the 20+ authorized club stations in each of the 16 states the Lewis and Clark Trail or Eastern Legacy passes through. More information will be forthcoming and available on the www.lctota.org website. As a side note the **Clark County ARA** was the 2017 Dayton Hamvention Club of the Year and HARA had the honor in 2022.

The **Southwest Ohio DX Association** reminds us that tickets for their DX Banquet during Hamvention are now on sale. The banquet will be on May 17 at the Dayton Marriott. It starts with a cash bar at 5:30 with the program and awards presentation beginning at 7. Tickets usually go fast for the event so it's advised to go on line at www.swodxa.org and order them ASAP. Dozens of great prizes are already committed to be awarded during the evening.

There will be an ARRL test session on Monday evening, March 18 at the Red Cross Building in Athens. The test is sponsored by the **Athens County ARC**. Contact Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, for the details and the time. 740-541-0972

Marshall University's **Thundering Herd ARC** was the subject of an article concerning the recent founding of the club and amateur radio in general. The article appeared in a recent edition of the student newspaper "The Parthenon" that serves the students at the Huntington, WV university.

Yours truly has officially started his hamfest attendance for the year with my bride, N8ZNR, and me attending the **Mammoth Cave ARA**'s annual fest at Cave City, KY. If this is an indication of how this years hamfests are going to be, it should be an interesting year. An estimated 600 attended and there appeared to be a good amount of action. Although there was a good mix of reasonably priced equipment, I don't know that a lot of rigs were finding new homes; however smaller items, accessories and parts were moving. But a major part of a hamfest is the socialization and there was a lot of that happening.

I like to end my columns on a happy note. And due to a last moment email from W8KVK I'm able to do just that. According to Ted, there are now three new hams in the South 40 coverage area with Ross, Hocking and Morgan Counties each gaining one. Gary Damron of Chillicothe is now KF8AMT; Clay Hatzler of Logan is KF8ANF and Barry Fous of McConnelsville is KF8ANG. Let's be sure to give each a big welcome and assist them getting signals on the air in any way you can.

Here's hoping each of you observe St. Patrick's day in some manner even if you're not Irish.

So until next time, 73.

John Levo, W8KIW

jlevo@cinci.rr.com or highlandara@gmail.com or 937-393-4951 (landline-leave a message)

Print an Official or Unofficial Copy of Your Amateur Radio License

(By Anthony Luscre, K8ZT)

As of February 17, 2015, the **FCC no longer routinely issues paper documents** to Amateur Radio applicants and licensees. The Commission has maintained for some time now that the official Radio license authorization is the electronic record that exists in its Licensing System (ULS). The FCC will continue to provide paper documents to all licensees who notify the Commission that they prefer one.

Licensees also will be able to print out an official authorization — as unofficial “reference copy” — from the ULS License Manager. I've set of instructions on how you can request an **“official” printed copy license***



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[Click here to download the instructions](#)

Ohio Section Cabinet

Section Manager – Tom Sly, WB8LCD	Section Traffic Manager – David Maynard, WA3EZN
Section Emergency Coordinator – Bret Stemen KD8SCL	Section Youth Coordinator – Anthony Luscre, K8ZT
Technical Coordinator – Jeff Kopcak, K8JTK	Affiliated Clubs Coordinator – Amanda Farone – KC3GFU
State Government Liaison – Bob Winston, W2THU	Public Information Coordinator – Elizabeth Klinc - KE8FMJ



Hey Gang,

Have you taken a look at the **Swap & Shop** page on the Ohio Section webpage yet?? Here's a link that will take you there... <http://arrl-ohio.org/sm/s-s.html>

Do you have equipment that you just don't need or want anymore? Here's a great venue to advertise it, and it's FREE!! Is your club doing a fund raiser to help raise money? After a lot of thought, it was decided that the Swap & Shop webpage could also contain these types of items as well. The same rules will apply as do for the For Sales and Give-A-Ways and will only be posted for a month at a time. Please see the Terms & Conditions on the webpage.

If your club is doing a fund raiser and wants more exposure, please forward the information to me and I'll advertise it on the Swap & Shop webpage for you.

Now, I still want to remind you that it won't be listed in this newsletter because it would take up way too much space, so your ad will only appear on the website. It is there for any individual to post equipment Wanted / For Sale or Give-Away as well as for Club Fund Raisers. You might want to list your location so that prospective buyers know where you're at. No licensed vehicles/trailers or business advertising will be posted. Postings are text only (no pictures or graphics) will be posted for a maximum of 1 month from date posting and require a contact phone number or email within the posting. Send your Wanted / For Sale or Give-Away post to: swap@arrlohio.org

Back Issues of the PostScript and Ohio Section Journal

Hey, did you know that PostScript and Ohio Section Journal (OSJ) are archived on the website? You can go back and look at any edition simply by clicking: <http://arrl-ohio.org/news/index.html>



Want to Share your Club Newsletter With Others?

We have a webpage where you can download and read all of the newsletters that I get from around the state and even other sections!

Here's the link to the page.... http://arrrl-ohio.org/club_news/index.html

Please, if you don't see your club newsletter posted, it's because I'm not receiving it. Just have your newsletter editor contact me and I'll get your club's newsletter listed on the site!!

We all learn and steal (I mean, share) from each other's work. So, get me your newsletter!!! Send it to: webmaster@arrrl-ohio.org



Chit – Chat, and All That!

Do you know someone that's not getting these Newsletters? Please, forward a copy of this Newsletter over to them and have them “[Opt-In](#)” to start receiving them. Heck, just have them send an email to: webmaster@arrrl-ohio.org and we'll get them added to the Ohio Section Emailing list.



We now have many thousands of readers receiving these newsletters weekly. Quite impressive, I'd say! I urge all of you to make sure that everyone, regardless of whether they are a League member or not, get signed up to receive these weekly Newsletters.



You can always “Opt-Out” at any time if you feel this is not what you were expecting. It's fun and very informative. All of your favorite past newsletters are now archived too. You can go back at any time and read them.

Just go to: <http://arrrl-ohio.org/news/>

PostScript is produced as a weekly newsletter. I want to thank everyone that has contributed articles and ideas to make this an even better news source. I sincerely hope that you have enjoyed this edition and will encourage your friends to join with you in receiving the latest news and information about the Ohio Section, and news and events happening around the world! Occasionally you may find an error or two in this newsletter – be assured, they were put there on purpose to make sure you're reading the newsletter carefully!