



PostScript
Ohio
Section

October 9th Edition

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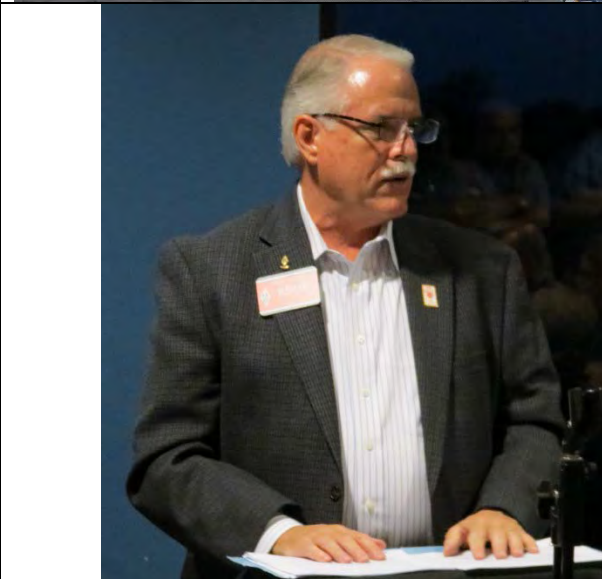
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Patience In Checking Into Nets

(from Daryl Stout, WX1DER)

Patience is a virtue, but sometimes, I think that this is rare in amateur radio...especially in regard to checking into nets. I have been doing nets ever since I got into amateur radio over 26 years ago...so I have more than enough experience as a Net Control Operator...with regular traffic nets, special format nets, and even with severe weather emergency nets.



Yet, there is seemingly ALWAYS a pile-up or rush to check-in -- whether on HF, VHF, UHF, Echolink, Packet, D-Star, D-Rats, etc.; as if certain ham radio operators feel that "It's the UNPARDONABLE SIN that will send them to Hell". There is such a sin, but missing checking into a net, not checking in early, or not in the first group of check-ins, is NOT that sin!!



Ham Radio is a HOBBY -- it should NEVER take priority over church, family, health, job, or honey-do's -- in the latter case, you could LOSE that nice new rig that you have your eye on for Christmas...especially if your spouse or significant other has already said "What part of YOU ARE NOT GETTING A NEW HAM RADIO do you not understand??!" (hi hi).

Not all nets do "pre-net" or "early check-ins". Some will do them 15 to 30 minutes before the net begins...and sometimes as much as 45 minutes beforehand. It is RARE to have a net start check-ins an hour or more before the net commences. Remember, the Net Control Station is devoting 1 to 3 hours of their time before, during, and after the net...so that everything is in order, for traffic, and logging. And, some Net

Controls (like myself) are involved with nets on a nightly basis...either running them, or checking into them.

Note that if the check-ins are PAUSED at a certain point during the net, stations need to abide by those instructions from Net Control...such as if an Emergency Traffic situation develops during the net (and I've been in those situations more than once as Net Control). If the check-ins are paused as the net starts, if you wait right up until that moment to check-in, your check-in has to WAIT, until the check-ins are resumed. In the cases of Emergency or Priority Traffic, the regular net schedule, format, etc. goes by the boards, until the Emergency Situation is resolved...and that could last a few minutes to several hours.



Awhile back, a local club's regular traffic net was pre-empted by a Skywarn Severe Weather Net, and one ham "went ballistic"...thinking that "rag chewing and net comments took priority over severe weather"!! I suspect that he was always interfering with me when I got on the air, and that's one reason why I'm NOT a member of ANY Arkansas Ham Radio Club. Except for conducting selected area license exam sessions, all of my ham radio nets, involvement, etc. are OUTSIDE of Arkansas.

Emergency or Priority Traffic can break into the net at any time...and these are LIFE OR DEATH URGENCY to those individuals involved, such as severe weather warnings...or for "significant weather advisories". Also, if and when Net Control is asking for announcements, this is for items such as ham radio license classes, exam sessions, hamfests, demos, special event stations, question pool updates, etc. The Emergency or Priority Traffic, or Announcements, does NOT include details on how your day went, and to invite others to nets. On some nets, you WILL be called down by Net Control, if you violate this...and may be banned from the net itself!!



It's as if some stations feel that "it's an Emergency if they don't get Priority to pass their traffic first". To me, if you are trying to check in early, just to see how many nets that you can check into in an evening (admittedly, several do meet at the same time)...or trying to see how many prizes, bonuses, awards, certificates that you can get for doing such, you are doing it for your ego, and are in ham radio for the wrong reason!! While SOME nets do offer such a certificate, that is more the EXCEPTION than the rule.

I am NOT going to make an exception for these (thankfully few) impatient amateur radio operators...it's as if trying to butt in line to a sporting event. Try that, and you could be seriously injured or killed by the anger of others. All of the other check-ins patiently wait their turn to pass traffic, make comments, etc. -- and to these, I say a hearty THANK YOU!!

If I personally can NOT run a net...be it for weather, health, internet, family, or other issues...I try to get a replacement. However, if that net is just "one where I check-in and make comments", if I have to miss that net for whatever reason, to me, IT'S NO BIG DEAL!! I'll just try again the next week.

So, please be patient on checking into a net...wait for the announcement from Net Control, no matter what band or mode...on the check-ins. If you cannot be patient in this regard...then you can either go to a net more to your liking...quit checking into nets entirely...or maybe you should sell your gear, turn in your license and find a new hobby. Again, there is far more to life than amateur radio, and checking into nets.

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Great Lakes HamCon Wrap-up

Hey Gang,

Just wanted to let you all know that if you didn't go to the Great Lakes HamCon you really missed out on a great first year hamfest. The estimates for attendance are still preliminary, but my guess is well over 1,100 that were there.

Oh yeah, we also had the Great Lakes Division Convention too, and it was really fantastic having Rick Roderick, K5UR as our main speaker. You can view the pictures that I took of the 2-day fest at:

http://arrl-greatlakes.org/convention_files/HamCon17/

We had fantastic weather and we even did a Wouff Hong Ceremony after the awards banquet Saturday night! It was a blast.

Now if you didn't know, we also had some Divisional Awards to give out. Here's the Pomp and Circumstance on that part of the evening.



For the **Young Radio Amateur of the Year** – Chis Brault, KD8YVJ – Liberty Township, OH

For **Technical Achievement** – Bob Dixon, W8ERD – Delaware, OH

For the **Great Lakes Division Amateur of the Year** – Stan Broadway, N8BHL – Delaware, OH

For the **Joesph J. Phillips, K8QOE Newsletter Award** – Radiogram from the Portage County Amateur Radio Society (PCARS) Ohio

And last, but certainly not least, the **George S. Wilson III, W4OYI Lifetime Achievement Award** – to none other than Jim Weaver, K8JE – Mason, OH – our past Great Lakes Director!

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One Question Questionnaire

Hey Gang...

There's another NEW – one question – questionnaire on the Ohio Section Website! <http://arrloho.org>

I was very pleased to see that over 72% of you stated on the last poll that you do volunteer to help out to make your club meetings FUN!

Now... There's a new question up there, and I would once again like you hear from you.

Will you be upgrading your license in 2018? Now I realize that those of you who already have an Extra Class License won't be able to upgrade any further, but did you know that the bulk of licenses in the Ohio Section are that of Technician Class? It's true, we have over 12,000 Technicians! So, you see there's lots of folks who could upgrade if they were encouraged!

The survey will only take 2 seconds for you to answer it, and you can see how your answer stacks up with others instantly. If you haven't done it yet, please do. I really want to hear from you.

Hey.. If you've got a question that you'd like to see on our questionnaire, please send it to me!

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Fun Things To Do

(from various newsletters and sources)



Ham Radio Class Now Forming November 4 and 18

The Toledo Mobile Radio Association will be holding a 2-day course where you will learn everything you need to earn your entry level FCC Amateur Radio license, and begin to talk on the radio with other hams in the area. .

Text books are \$25 (available on 1st day or prior to the class) - ARRL *Ham Radio License Manual* 3rd Ed. The test is \$15 due at time of test on the second day.

TMRA does not charge for the class. **Class Dates: November 4 & 18, 2017 (8:00 am to 5:00 pm)**

Lucas County EMS Training Center - 2127 Jefferson St Toledo OH 43624 Registration is required. For more information please contact: Steve Stalker KC8TVW 419-467-3734 kc8tvw@arrl.net

October 16-20 [School Club Roundup](#)

Objective: To exchange QSO information with club stations that are part of an elementary, middle, high school or college. Non-school clubs and individuals are encouraged to participate.

Sponsored by the ARRL, its Hudson Division Education Task Force and and the Long Island Mobile Amateur Radio Club (LIMARC) to foster contacts with and among school radio clubs.

Award certificates will be issued for the following US and DX categories:

For more information <http://www.arrl.org/school-club-roundup>

G775 EOC Management and Operations, Ohio EMA: October 16-17, 2017 at Stark County

This **free training** is a 2-day course that explores the role, design and functions of emergency operations centers (EOCs) and their relationships as components of a multiagency coordination system. The course contains disaster-related examples, activities, and case studies that relate to EOCs and multiagency coordination systems at the federal, state, and local levels of government.

11/01/2017 | 100th Anniversary of Red Cross of Southeastern Ohio

Nov 1-Nov 16, 0000Z-0000Z, K8R, Athens, OH. Athens County Red Cross Amateur Radio Service. 21.275 14.215 7.215 3.800. QSL. Samuel J (Jeff) Slattery, 45 Carol Lane, Athens, OH 45701. SASE please. www.ac-ara.org/wordpress/k8r

The American Legion Takes To The Airwaves With A Salute To Veterans

Grab your calendar and make note that on **Saturday, Nov. 11, 2017**, The American Legion will honor fellow veterans in a special on-the-air amateur radio tribute.

Members of The American Legion Amateur Radio Club (TALARC) will operate Special Event stations using the American Radio Relay League-authorized radio call sign N9V – November-Niner-Veteran. Any ham radio operators who contact the stations are eligible to receive a QSL card and a commemorative certificate to document their participation. Ham radio operators wishing to contact Special Event Station N9V should tune to 40m, 7.225 MHz (+/- 5 KHz) LSB; or to 20m, 14.275 MHz (+/- 5 KHz) USB; or to the 2m K9DC 147.315 Repeater at Indianapolis; or IRLP Node 9735; or to EchoLink *CROSSRDS* Conference node. All operations will be conducted on Saturday, Nov. 11, between 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.

The purpose of this Special Event is to underscore the importance of Veterans Day via the amateur radio community and acknowledge the honorable nature of military service. It's an opportunity to salute the men and women who have served our country admirably in uniform. And it's a time to remember the contributions of so many military personnel who served as radio technicians, engineers and members of MARS (Military Affiliate Radio System), who in the non-digital age phone-patched soldiers' and sailors' messages from war zones, at sea and from other overseas locations to loved ones back home.

N9V communications on 40 meters, IRLP, 2 meters and EchoLink will be coordinated by TALARC members operating from the Legion's National Headquarters in Indianapolis. The 20 meter communications will be coordinated by N9V/KI0CW in Dell Rapids, S.D., and by N9V/WA3DVO in Palmer Park, Md.

With band conditions being whatever they might be and signal strength varying, often by the hour, HF stations calling in to any of the three locations in Indiana, South Dakota or Maryland may be in need of relay help. Anyone in a position to provide that help, please feel free to offer your assistance to the respective control stations.

To receive a QSL card and certificate after working N9V, send your name, address, call sign and a 9x12-inch self-addressed stamped envelope to The American Legion Amateur Radio Club, c/o The American Legion, 700 N. Pennsylvania Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204.

I'm looking forward to hearing your call to N9V on Saturday, Nov. 11, for this year's salute to America's veterans.

Marty Justis, W9WMJ – President, The American Legion Amateur Radio Club
Indianapolis, Indiana

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C.Q. C.Q.. 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 me an email n8sy@n8sy.com and I'll get them added to the Ohio Section Emailing list. I urge all of you to make sure that everyone, regardless of whether they are a League member or not, gets signed up to receive these Newsletters. You can always "[Opt-Out](#)" at any time if you feel this is not what you were expecting.

Got questions, concerns or would just like to sit and chat awhile? Heck, I'll even buy the coffee!! Give me a call at (419) 512-4445 or email me at: n8sy@n8sy.com

73, for now.. I will catch you on down the log for sure.

Scott, N8SY..

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