



Christmas Day Edition



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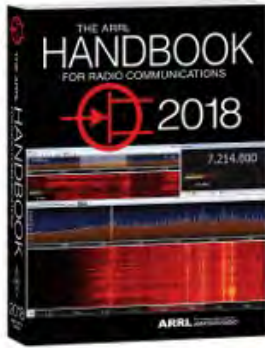
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Christmas Handbook Give Away



Hey Gang,

And the *winners* of the *Christmas Handbook Giveaway* are....

2018 ARRL softcover Handbook –

Donna Tessneer, KA8ZWD



Since we had such a great response we also gave away –
The 23rd edition **ARRL Antenna Book** to:

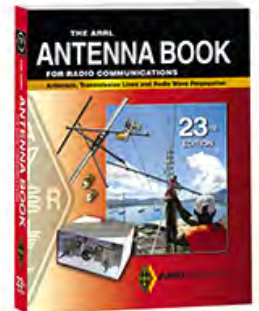
Patrick O'Rourke, N8LSH & Patrick Gibson, KD8ION

And that's still not all!! We also gave away some Ohio Section Knit Caps to:

Don Hughes, KD8BB; Paul Richardson, K2ASA and Thomas Bedocs, K8DMM

Now, we're not done with the drawings just yet...

Remember there will be another drawing at the end of the month –
and I will announce those *winner(s)* on **January 1st**.



Winners will be notified by email, so PLEASE use a valid email when completing the form.

Hey... If you've already enter this month, you're automatically entered for this next drawing too!!

If you haven't entered yet, shame on you!!! But, it's not too late! Get registered now! >> [Click Here](#) <<

So, make sure that you visit the Ohio Section website often - <http://arrlohio.org> and keep a watching for the big RED arrow on the main page of the website. You can't win if you don't enter!

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One Question Questionnaire

Hey Gang...

There's another NEW – one question – questionnaire on the Ohio Section Website! <http://arrlohio.org> I noticed that that about 46% of you are like me and do drink Eggnog over the holidays. Anyway, it's all in fun and I hope that you are enjoying answering these “ONE QUESTION” questionnaires.



Since we are on a roll with having some fun at this for Christmas, let's see how you answer this next one. Since it is coming up on New Year's let's ask this question. **“Have You Make Out A New Year's Resolution List?”**

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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The Edge of Disaster,

(Review of a book by Stephen Flynn, Sr. Fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR.org)

Published in 2007 by Random House, (Review by Larry Osterman W8JYQ - losterman@juno.com)

"**We are a Brittle Nation**", Flynn says. We need to be much more resilient to survive the next Katrina-size disaster. Why the term "brittle"? Because, most of us are exceedingly dependent on our many institutions and infrastructure, at a time when many of these show signs of breakdown. [These "challenges" tell us why we (METERS) may be needed a lot more than we realize.]



Mr. Flynn's book has some quotes worth remembering:

- a) "We seem oblivious to the fact that our infrastructure is aging, and not very gracefully." (He is referring to our highways, railroad tracks, power systems, dams, bridges, and the locks along our rivers and waterways.)
- b) "Only one quarter of state emergency operations plans, and only 10% of municipal plans are sufficient to cope with a natural disaster or terrorist attack." (New Orleans isn't the only place that has not met that challenge.)
- c) "The things we depend on (the internet and our electrical grid?) are becoming more and more interconnected and interdependent."
- d) "Global terrorist threats are going to get worse before they get better."
- e) "Our most important and largely untapped national assets are: 1) Everyday citizens and volunteers, and 2) the private sector that powers our economy."
- f) "The problem is – a deeply embedded culture within the national defense and federal law enforcement communities that embraces secrecy and prevents public disclosure of information. – We'd do well to heed Thomas Jefferson's admonition, that a nation's best defense is an educated (and informed) citizenry."
- g) Let's not delude ourselves, "Criminals and terrorists know our soft spots. They will target our vulnerabilities as long as we do nothing to address them."

We've developed six national trends that Flynn says have very troubling implications:

- a) We have allowed protective measures taken by prior generations to erode. (Levees?)
- b) Our natural environment is undergoing changes that elevate the risk. (Pollution?)
- c) We have embraced unfettered urban and coastal development that exacerbates risk.
- d) We have become unwilling to take on contingency planning to deal with a major disaster. There is growing reluctance in government at all levels to pick up the tab. We are not even repairing existing infrastructure (at a level to stay even with growth and obsolescence).
- e) There are insufficient resources to respond (adequately to the next disaster).
- f) When the dust clears (from each event), we go back to business as usual.

Hospital Inadequacies Identified

Mr. Flynn looks at hospital inadequacies in some detail, using the example of an event in Rhode Island a few years back where the band, The Great White, torched the night club in Warwick, RI, with pyro-techniques, resulting in 96 dead, 215 injured, including over 100 burned seriously. The many victims were sent to an array of nearby hospitals with the following results:



- a) There was poor (or no) communications between EMT's and the hospitals,
- b) Ambulances were arriving unannounced at the hospitals, which were unprepared,
- b) Ambulance EMT's were unaware of ER capacities at the hospitals,
- c) Few hospital ER's had burn unit capability due to cost. (Many units have now closed.)
- d) Hospital cost controllers have focused on reducing supply costs, even for the ER units.

With these conditions in mind, Flynn goes on to examine what the state of hospital response might be in the event of a major flu epidemic (bird flu?). History shows we have about 200,000 in the hospital during a normal flu season. Of those, 38,000 (19%) die. In the Spanish flu epidemic of 1918, 675,000 people died nationally, with the highest percentage in the age group from 21 to 35. Just under 1% (.7%) of the U.S. population died from flu that year. If we extrapolate backwards, and had anywhere near that number with bird flu, we would need 4,000,000 hospital beds just for bird flu victims. Total U.S. hospital beds in year 2005 were 970,000, and falling. (Locally, we can see this trend with the demise of Baptist Regional downtown.)

Public health position vacancies in many states are above 20%. Turnover is above 14% in some areas. Over 30% of all hospitals in 2005 were losing money. Half of ER's operated at over capacity (especially in larger cities). From 1993 to 2003, 425 ER units were closed. In December 2005, there were 118,000 nursing vacancies nationally. In 2001 60% of hospitals nationally were operating at or over capacity for long periods.

The lesson of all this is that any local emergency incident anywhere in the country that involves over 1000 serious injuries will mean inability to respond to that number of victims, by the nearby hospital system. (In other words, there is little to **no resiliency** in the system.)

Waterways

There are 12,000 miles of inland waterways in the U.S. Of the 257 lock systems on these waterways, 122 are obsolete and subject to failure. There are 50 lock systems on the Ohio River. The northeast U.S. power grid requires coal moving by barge along the Ohio. Annual coal movement on the Ohio recently was 17.4 Million tons. Failure of any of the Ohio locks for a short period would impact power throughout the northeast and the eastern half of the country. Our inland waterways carry well over 50% of our coal, chemicals, raw materials, and grains to market. Replacement and/or renovation of locks and dams on our waterways, is practically at a standstill, due to lack of funding by the Congress. Security expenditures on aviation however, were over \$20 Billion in 2006, but almost \$0 for inland waterways. A chemical laden barge blown up in the locks of any of our trafficked rivers could have catastrophic repercussions.



Quoting from a book by Jared Diamond, "Collapse, How Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed", Flynn highlights the following four observations on these societies by Mr. Diamond:

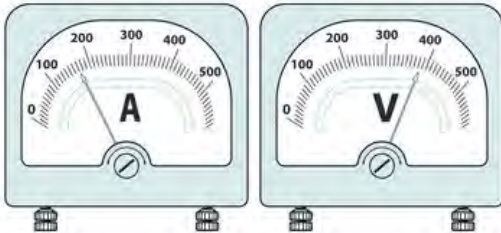
- a) They fail to anticipate problems,
- b) They fail to actually perceive the problem,
- c) They fail to fix the perceived problem, even when they see it,
- d) They fail to do the correct fix, and pay the price for doing it right.

Mr. Flynn says, "Preparing for the worst makes it far less likely to happen. Life always involves risk. We must learn to deal with it". This book suggests many programs to do that.

-73. -Larry O. W8JYQ

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Electrical Circuits Teaser



Why is an ammeter always connected in series and a voltmeter always in parallel in a circuit?

Try to figure this out on your own. But if all else fails, go to the last page and you'll find the answer there. Here's a link: [ANSWER](#)

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ARISS News Release No. 17-10

13 US Schools/Groups Move Into Phase 2 of ARISS Selections

December 18, 2017 — The ARISS-US Team (Amateur Radio on the International Space Station) is pleased to announce that 13 of the 25 schools or organizations submitting proposals have been selected to advance to the next stage of planning to host amateur radio contacts in July to December 2018. The contacts will be with International Space Station (ISS) crew members using the ARISS equipment on the ISS. A review team of educators from the new ARISS-US Education Committee selected proposals after the recent proposal window closed. The groups will go forward into Phase 2, the submitting of an amateur radio equipment plan to host a scheduled ARISS contact.



ARISS's primary goal is to engage young people in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) activities, and involve them in activities related to space exploration, amateur radio, communications, and areas of associated study and career possibilities.

ARISS anticipates that NASA will be able to provide scheduling opportunities for these US host organizations during the second half of 2018. These candidates must now complete an equipment plan that demonstrates their ability to execute the ham radio contact. Once their equipment plan is approved by the ARISS technical team, the final selected schools / organizations will be scheduled as their availability and flexibility match up with the scheduling opportunities.

The schools and organizations are:

Allen Park Elementary School, Lee County School District
Ashford School
Bishop O'Connell High School
Delcastle Technical High School

Ft. Myers FL
Ashford CT
Arlington VA
Wilmington DE

Hudson Memorial School
 Kopernik Observatory & Science Center
 Mendez Fundamental Intermediate School
 Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School
 Pearl Technology STEM Academy
 Pell Elementary School
 St. Catherine of Bologna School
Tallmadge Community Learning Center
 Valley High School

Hudson NH
 Vestal NY
 Santa Ana CA
 Palmer MA
 Peoria Heights IL
 Newport RI
 Ringwood NJ
Lancaster OH
 Albuquerque NM

ABOUT ARISS

Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) is a cooperative venture of international amateur radio societies and the space agencies that support the International Space Station (ISS). In the United States, sponsors are the Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation (AMSAT), the American Radio Relay League (ARRL), the Center for the Advancement of Science in Space (CASIS) and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). The primary goal of ARISS is to promote exploration of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) topics by organizing scheduled contacts via amateur radio between crew members aboard the ISS and students in classrooms or informal education venues. With the help of experienced amateur radio volunteers, ISS crews speak directly with large audiences in a variety of public forums. Before and during these radio contacts, students, teachers, parents, and communities learn about space, space technologies, and amateur radio. For more information, see www.ariss.org, www.amsat.org, and www.arrl.org.

Find more information at www.ariss.org, and also www.amsat.org and www.arrl.org.

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OHIO DMR NET REPORT

December 20 DMR Net

District 1 – 7	District 5 – 4	District 9 – 2	QNI: 84
District 2 – 3	District 6 – 13	District 10 – 6	
District 3 – 9	District 7 – 11		Time: 56 minutes
District 4 – 11	District 8 – 9	Out of Ohio – 9 CA; MN; AU; MI; MT; CN; KY	NCS: N8SY

It seems that **District 6** won the prize for the night with 13 check-ins. There were several net announcements given after all the check-ins were established.

Thanks to Greg, WD9FTZ for the following information. As of Sunday, December 17th, the DMR Marc database surpassed the 80,000 registrations. That number has now swelled to 80,211.

Ohio now has 1,819 ID's issued. This is not the total number of people having an ID since multiple ID's are issued to individuals and/or groups.

California leads the pack with 3,510, followed by Florida (2,444), Texas (1,961), North Carolina (1,939), and Ohio. The United States has 35,715 ID's issued. Ohio has 5.09 percent of the total ID's in the U.S.

Worldwide, Germany comes in second, behind the U.S., with 7,874, followed by the United Kingdom (6,445), Italy (4,476), Spain (2,656), and Canada (2,357).

[All information was obtained from the DMR-Marc database – www.dmr-marc.net]

Merry Christmas. Greg, WD9FTZ

The reason for conducting this net every week is to make sure that all of our connections to the now 75 repeaters throughout the state are working as we want them to be. Sometimes things don't always work as we expect them to, and testing this system, and ourselves each week gives us the ability to better understand what can happen during any emergency situation, and a better understand of how to work around any discrepancies that may occur before the emergency happens. Come join in on the fun every Wednesday evening at 8:30pm local on the DMR - 3139 talk group!

You can find a ton of information about DMR and the most popular DMR Nets on the website:

<http://arrl-ohio.org/digital/digital.html>

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Fun Things To Do & Hamfest Too

(from various newsletters and sources)

January 1 Hosts Events for Legacy Keys

Every day is a good day to send CW, but **January 1** is reserved for Straight Key Night ([SKN](#)), sponsored by ARRL. Enjoy CW as it has been sent and enjoyed since the earliest days of Amateur Radio. The 24-hour event **begins at 0000 UTC on January 1** (New Year's Eve in US time zones) is not a contest but a day dedicated to celebrating Amateur Radio's Morse heritage. Participants are encouraged to get on the air and enjoy conversational CW contacts, preferably while using a straight key or a semi-automatic key ("bug"). No points -- everyone's a winner.

[Submit](#) your votes for best fist and most interesting QSO.

The First-Class CW Operators' Club sponsors a concurrent event, [FOC Bug Day](#). FOC asks participants to send a description of the bug or bugs used, a list of stations worked, and a vote for best bug fist heard, to FOC Bug Day Manager [Benny Owens, K5KV](#).

[AMSAT](#) will sponsor its second-annual satellite CW Activity Day on January 1. This year's event is dedicated to the memory of Pat Gowen, G3IOR. No rules -- just have fun. Operate CW through any ham radio satellite. The use of straight keys and bugs is encouraged, but not required. -- *Thanks to Ray Soifer, W2RS, and Benny Owen, K5KV*



Kids Day

Saturday, January 6 from 1800 UTC through 2359 UTC

Twice a year, ARRL offers an event designed to promote Amateur Radio to our youth. Share the excitement with your kids or grandkids, a Scout troop, a church or the general public!

Kids Day is designed to give on-the-air experience to young people and hopefully foster interest in getting a license of their own. It is also intended to give older hams a chance to share their station and love for Amateur Radio with their children.





**Ohio ARES VHF Simplex Contest
January 13 – 10AM through 4PM EDT**

Bands - All bands from 50 MHz up

See website for additional information <http://arrl-ohio.org/SEC/simplex-day.html>



Seneca Amateur Radio Club Classes

Amateur Radio Technician License Class 2018, a free training course with the only cost being materials and test fee. The Seneca Radio Club (W8ID) is presenting the course which will be held at the Public Safety Building at the Seneca County Fairgrounds.

The start date is January 10, 2018 from 6:30pm to 9:30pm and will meet one night each week for 12 weeks. An application for the course can be found on the W8ID website at www.W8ID.org

Just Ahead in Radiosport

(from arrl letter)

- December 26 -- DARC Christmas Contest (CW, phone)
- December 27 -- SKCC Sprint (CW)
- December 30 -- RAC Winter Contest (CW, phone)
- December 30-31 -- Stew Perry Topband Challenge (CW)
- December 31 -- Bogor Old and New Contest (Phone)
- January 1 -- AGB New Year Snowball Contest (CW, phone, digital)
- January 1 -- SARTG New Year RTTY Contest
- January 1 -- AGCW Happy New Year Contest (CW)

- January 1 -- AGCW VHF/UHF Contest (CW)
- January 1 -- QRP ARCI New Year's Day Sprint (CW)
- January 1-7 -- All IQRP Quarterly Marathon (CW, phone, digital)
- January 2 -- ARS Spartan Sprint (CW)
- January 3 -- UKEICC 80-Meter Contest (Phone)
- January 3-7 -- Linc Cundall Memorial CW Contest
- January 4 -- NRAU 10-Meter Activity Contest (CW, phone, digital)

See the [ARRL Contest Calendar](#) for more information. For in-depth reporting on Amateur Radio contesting, subscribe to [The ARRL Contest Update](#) via your ARRL member profile e-mail preferences.

01/14/2018 | SCARF's 22nd Annual Hamfest

Location: Nelsonville, OH
 Sponsor: Sunday Creek Amateur Radio Federation
 Website: <http://www.qrz.com/db/kc8aav>



01/28/2018 | Tusco ARC Hamfest, Electronics & Computer Show

Location: Strasburg, OH
 Sponsor: Tusco Amateur Radio Club
 Website: <http://tuscoarc.org>

You can find all the Ohio Hamfests at: <http://arrl-ohio.org/hamfests.html>

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Final.. Final..



Merry Christmas to ALL...!!!

Wow, do you realize that it's just exactly 1 week to the day that it will be New Years! I can't believe that 2017 is almost over already. Have you got your New Year's Resolutions list ready yet?

It's been a very busy year for me and the Section Cabinet for sure! We've all been crisscrossing the state visiting with you at your club functions and hamfests this year. I am working on my annual "Year in Review" and will be getting that out to everyone very soon.

Hey Gang... 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 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...

-sk-

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Answer to the Teaser Question on page 5

The ammeter measures value of current flowing in circuit, so current should flow inside the ammeter to give a proper result. And it has very low resistance to ensure the correct measurement of current in the circuit. If it is connected in parallel across any load then all current in circuit will choose lower resistive path (i.e ammeter) to cause its circuit to be damaged. Hence it is used in series.

A voltmeter has very high resistance to ensure that its connection do not alter flow of current in the circuit. Now, if it is connected in series then no current will be there in the circuit due to its high resistance. Hence it is connected in parallel to the load across which potential difference is to be measured.

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PostScript is produced as a weekly supplement to the Ohio Section Journal (OSJ). I sincerely hope that you have enjoyed this edition of PostScript, and will encourage your friends to join with you in receiving the latest news and information about the Ohio Section, and from around the world!