



# *September Hurricane Edition*

- [From the Technical Coordinator](#)
- [From the Affiliated Club Coordinator](#)
- [From the Section Traffic Manager](#)
- [From the Educational Outreach](#)
- [From the Official Observer Coordinator](#)
- [Handbook Give Away](#)
- [Weather Underground Stations](#)
- [From the Section Emergency Coordinator](#)
- [From the Public Information Coordinator](#)
- [Out and About](#)
- [ARES Training Update](#)
- [One Question Questionnaire](#)
- [Fun Things To Do, Classes & Hamfests Too](#)
- [Club Corner](#)
- [Final.. Final..](#)



---

## *From the Technical Coordinator*

**Jeff Kopcak – K8JTK TC**

[k8jtk@arrl.net](mailto:k8jtk@arrl.net)

Hey gang,

Most hams and shortwave listeners know what the letters WWV mean. They are the call letters for the station that broadcasts the time, all the time. If you've never listened because you don't have an HF radio or shortwave receiver, [WWV](#) is a shortwave radio station near Fort Collins, Colorado run by the U.S. National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). WWV is the oldest continuously-operating radio station in the United States. It transmits time signals and bulletins in voice and digital formats on 2.5, 5, 10, 15, and 20 MHz AM 24/7/365.



*WWV transmitter building (nist.gov)*

The time and transmitted frequency of [WWV](#) is controlled by atomic clocks which are the most accurate standards due to the use of atoms as a time keeping element. Not only is the time broadcast by WWV the most accurate but the frequency of the transmitters is also the most accurate. [WWVH](#) is the Hawaiian sister station to WWV. [WWVB](#) is co-located with WWV but broadcasts a constant time code for radio-controlled clocks on 60 kHz. This is the frequency clocks that automatically set themselves listen to. Both WWV and WWVB announce Universal Coordinated Time (UTC) each minute and broadcast other recorded announcements including GPS health reports, oceanic weather warnings, and solar activity bulletins.

Whether you use these stations to calibrate equipment and instrumentation, calibrate ham radio digital software and hardware (Slow Scan TV or Fldigi), listen to bulletins, or use it as a beacon to check propagation, [all of that is likely to end](#). NIST has proposed shutting down, by way of defunding, the WWV stations in their 2019 budget proposal. This means the 2011 NIST estimation of 50 million radio-controlled clocks and wristwatches equipped to receive WWVB will become obsolete. Not to mention it is an instrumental part in the telecommunications field and in scientific research. At first, WWVB was not listed in initial stories which made sense. Continuing to operate it would not obsolete radio-controlled clocks. But it too started to appear in later news stores.

In the ARRL report, the reason given for defunding these broadcast stations would be to “consolidate and focus” on other programs due to reductions in NIST funding. Taking the WWV stations off the air would save \$6.3 million. The NIST FY (fiscal year) 2019 budget request for efforts related to Fundamental Measurement, Quantum Science and Measurement Dissemination is \$127 million, which, the agency said, is a net decrease of \$49 million from FY 2018.



*Cesium atomic clocks (nist.gov)*



The administration's overall NIST budget request is more than \$629 million.

While I was distraught as I think most hams were, it gets more ridiculous when I started to break this down. Most people don't understand huge numbers like millions, billions, and trillions of dollars because we'll never see those numbers in our lifetimes and they're just unrealistic. Let's convert these figures into numbers most of us do understand. For comparison, I'm adding the published [2017 U.S. federal budget](#) numbers: actual total revenue was \$3.316 trillion and actual expenditures were \$3.982 trillion. Breakdown is as follows:

- 2017 U.S. budget total revenue: **\$3,316,000**
- 2017 U.S. budget total expenditures: **\$3,982,000**
- NIST 2019 proposed budget: **greater than \$629**
- NIST 2019 proposed fundamental measurement budget: **\$127**, which was reduced by **\$49**
- **Shutting down the WWV stations saves: \$6.30**

*A whopping \$6.30! \$6.3 million is almost 1% of the total proposed 2019 NIST budget or 0.00016% (rounded) of 2017 total expenditures. Yeah, it's a HUGE burden!*

I got pretty upset and there was noted [concern over the shutdown proposal](#), especially amongst hams as would be expected since we utilize the service probably more than others. I figured everyone wouldn't want their wall clocks to stop setting the time automatically. However, reality set in as [the petition started at whitehouse.gov](#) didn't gain much traction. As of this writing, with less than 3 days before it closed, it gained a little less than 19% of the needed signatures for the White House to respond. *Note: OSJ publication date will be after the petition closes.*

What happens next? I haven't heard if the dial-in phone numbers for WWV will be shut down or remain accessible: **(303) 499-7111** for WWV (Colorado), and **(808) 335-4363** for WWVH (Hawaii). Phone systems are converting to data services (VoIP) and there will be slight delays due to network switching, latency, and loss. If the phone numbers remain available, it will be better than nothing.

Canada has a similar time standard called [CHU](#) on 3.330 MHz & 14.670 MHz at 3 kW and 7.850 MHz at 10 kW. The 3 MHz station was strong into NE Ohio on one Thursday night as I'm writing this article. I'm also making the big assumption CHU will remain on the air. CHU broadcasts are AM with the lower side-band suppressed. Unfortunately, Canada doesn't have the equivalent of WWVB and they relied on the U.S. for their radio-controlled clocks. *Go U.S.!* In other parts of the world, radio-controlled clocks rely on [MSF](#) in England and [JJY](#) in Japan.

Radio-controlled clocks will switch to some sort of other technology, likely GPS, listen for a cellular signal, or piggyback on WiFi. Radio-controlled clocks I've used set themselves in the middle of the night at about 3AM. Figuring most electronic noise emitting devices (like computers) would be off and longwave reception is better at night. GPS will reduce clock setup by one step. You won't have to tell the clock in which time zone it is located. *Ooohhh, yeah – that was so much work!* I'm skeptical about using GPS. Any time I bring my car GPS into the house, it "lost satellite reception." Being internal to a steel building (like an office), I do not see how this works at all without bringing the clock to the window to resync. More skepticism comes in the form of a question: what happens when the U.S. developed GPS system is unavailable?



15 Mhz WWV transmitter (nist.gov)

It could be unavailable because of solar flares, software bug, or an act of a nation-state. If you haven't seen [Dr. Tamitha Skov – WX6SWW's solar reports](#), GPS is significantly affected by solar flares just like our HF bands, but in different ways. There are commercially available car navigation devices and smartphones that are capable of receiving both U.S. GPS and [Russian GLONASS](#). Consider other parts of the world are developing their own global navigation systems and not relying on one single system, Europe: [Galileo](#) & China: [BDS](#). Computers and other Internet connected devices are not affected by the WWV shutdown. They utilize the Network Time Protocol (NTP) from publicly available time servers for syncing time.

I hope the best for WWV, WWVH, and WWVB. Maybe a private entity will buy out and continue to operate the stations. Nothing is looking too good without outrage from the public or more support than the few that signed the online petition. I'm getting tired of forced obsolescence.

Thanks for reading and 73... de **Jeff - K8JTK**

[TOP^](#)

---

### ***From the Section Emergency Coordinator***

***Stan Broadway, N8BHL - SEC***

[broadways@standi.com](mailto:broadways@standi.com)

#### **Black Swan 2018 – Here it comes!**

Every year the ARRL sponsors a Simulated Emergency Test, to exercise ARES capabilities on a large scale. Typically, the first weekend in October, ARES units across the country grab go-box and vest and try to handle some type of emergency situation from earthquake to flood and everything in between. There is simply no better way to learn, to improve our processes, and encourage our people than to ~do~ something! Ohio has a tradition of taking advantage of SET weekend – the first weekend in October – and has mounted a respectable score in ARRL's rankings. For 2017 we were published in the third spot nationwide.



This year, we're keeping the Black Swan format, and ASEC Matt Curtin, KD8TTE, has outdone himself again writing the plans and formats for the exercise period. Black Swan 2018 is centered around a winter storm and severe weather...something that can happen any time here in Ohio! It begins with a blizzard and high wind, rolls into flooding and a bunch of trouble! We have an impressive array of agencies and organizations involved, ranging across several states. The Ohio Military Reserve is working in the exercise, and we've had inquiries from the Air and Army national guard. All the various traffic groups are in, as is OHDEN, which is a critical part of Ohio's ARES response. Given all that, the real news you can take away from this is our SET boils down to YOU, and your county!

The SET present each county EC with the overview of what's happening, and it's up to the EC to develop an exercise plan for his/her own county that would involve aspects likely to be affected. To help, we have included a cut-and-paste template on the Black Swan website: <https://sites.google.com/view/blackswan/2018>

The Sarge will be lit up during the weekend of October 6-7, handling voice traffic on 3.902, OHDEN traffic on 3585 and talking with SHARES and other FEMA stations on 60 meters (yes, we got approval.) Oh, by the way, MARS and SHARES stations have their own callsigns...PLEASE DON'T challenge them, they're legit, just not ham calls.

SET is a big deal! And it's a fun time for your county organization to put something together and practice!

### **Silent Key**

Those of us who work the Sarge are saddened to report the passing of long-time station manager Wally Giffen, W8IYE. Wally worked hard to encourage the station and staff and stayed as long as his failing health would permit. He was a credit to amateur radio.

### **ARES Connect**

Unless you live under a large rock, you've probably already heard about this ARRL event and time accounting system. Ohio was one of a few to BETA test the program, and it is now being rolled out across the country. Each county in Ohio has its own identity, and each volunteer will have an identity within that county. This system keeps track of who is a volunteer, and what events are going on. Once you've registered with the system, you can login at any time and see events that will be taking place. You can sign up for them, and you can enter how much time you spent for credit. This is the "automated" version of the monthly report, not much more. But it gives a lot more information, and the ability to go in at any time to get real-time hours and views of the different events!

Please don't wait- we need every volunteer (even if you only do a Field Day, or one event a year) to register at <https://arrl.volunteerhub.com/> We want to start using this system right now... so I hope you all will take just a minute (since you're already on the computer, right??) and register.

### **73, Stan, N8BHL**

You can view all of the SEC's monthly reports on the website.. <http://arrl-ohio.org/SEC/default.html>

[TOP ^](#)

---

### ***From the Affiliated Club Coordinator***

**Tom Sly, WB8LCD - ACC**

[tomsly29@gmail.com](mailto:tomsly29@gmail.com)

### **Ohio Clubs**

Even though I only received a total of 8 responses to my Clubs Survey, I think we can find some interesting facts. It appears that the 8 responses were from members of 8 different clubs. First off, let me say, I hoped that I would have had a bigger pool of responses on which to base my observations. But, that, in and of itself, is an affirmation to a belief I've held for quite some time now. That is, it's hard to get people to participate in things out of their normal habit. More on that later.



- #1 Is your club too big, too small, or just the right size? 5 respondents said their club was too small. One of the comments was the club had lots of members, but it was too small because too many of the members didn't participate. 1 respondent said that his club was too big – but qualified that by saying too many of the members were “old guys” and that to stay relevant, they needed to expand their membership by reaching out to younger generations. 2 respondents said that their club was just the right size.
- #2 Is your club a Fantastic Club? A just OK Club? A mediocre Club? 2 respondents said Fantastic. 4 respondents said OK. 2 respondents said mediocre. It takes a lot of effort to have a Fantastic club. If your officers aren't doing the work – tell them what you want, and then help them! Two things are especially tough on the leadership of any type of group leaders: trying really hard to put on a really good program, and then no-one shows up / participates or is willing to help. Only hearing negative comments – yeah, from the people who wouldn't help or show up. Pretty de-motivating! The important thing here is that *everyone* in the club is responsible and has a part in making it a Fantastic club!
- #3 Are your club meetings interesting? 6 responses were yes, 2 were no. Glad to hear this. If you haven't got an interesting speaker / topic for the club meeting, why would anyone bother to show up?
- #4 Do your club meetings cover topics outside of Ham Radio? 6 responses were yes, 2 were no. Personally, I prefer meetings on topic, or at least having some relation to the topic. I would probably not attend a meeting where I know the local dog catcher was going to give the presentation. That's just personal preference, but we are talking about Amateur Radio Clubs!
- #5 How many club meetings do you attend per year? The numbers varied here, 1 response was 5-6, but he also participated in most other activities of the club. Everyone else was between 8 and 12 – but they all indicated that that was the full number of annual stated meetings for their club.
- #6 Does your club participate in Field Day? All 8 respondents indicated that their club DID participate in Field Day! Outstanding!
- #7 Does your club participate in other contests? All but 1 response was Yes!
- #8 Are you a club officer? 4 were and 4 were not. I only asked that to get a sense of who was answering the questions.
- #9 Does your club ever offer Projects or Build Days? 3 responded yes, 5 responded no. I'm surprised at this one. Hams like to build things but that seems to be an activity that faded away as technology advanced, but, it seems to be coming back! Evidence in the “Makers movement”, Makers Faires, and the resurgence of Kit equipment. Get together, get those projects started and work on them as a group! Good time to spend with your friends, and a good way to add an activity to the club's program. Maybe look at these as a Saturday morning type of activity.
- #10 Does your club use social media? 7 yes and 1 no. I know my club is in the yes column, however, I'm not convinced our club is using it effectively. Of course, that depends on what your ideas and goals are for social media. This is a whole area that we could probably use some help in being more effective at reaching out to potential new hams.
- #11 Club Activities: Way too Many? Just about Right? Wish we did More? Way too many got NO responses! Just about right got 2 responses and Wish we did more got 6 responses! Ham Radio *IS* an activity. If you're not doing activities, you are not really doing Ham Radio! (Next month will be devoted to giving you some ideas of activities to get your clubs going)
- #12 How many radio clubs do you belong to? One response was left blank. 5 said they belonged to 1 club, one response said 3 clubs and the final response said 6 clubs. I would have hoped that all of you said at least 2 clubs: Your local club, and, the ARRL. Nothing says you can't belong to more than one club! Sometimes it's hard to be active in more than one, but, sometimes different clubs satisfy different needs or interests. I would also suggest the QRP ARCI – an international club for QRP. How about a contest club? I belong to Dayton Amateur Radio Assn. – not to be an active member, but to show support for Hamvention (which I also attend every year).

- #13 Has your club assisted you in becoming a better Ham Radio Operator? 5 said yes, 3 said no. I was happy to see that. Helping you to become a better, more experienced Ham Radio Operator should be one of the main goals of a club and should be one of your main goals in joining a club! Growing as a ham is important. I know some guys who brag about having 50+ years' experience as a ham. In fact, they've only had 1 years' experience, they've repeated it many times, and sometimes they've done nothing! Being licensed does not equal experience!
- #14 Does it seem like the same people are always in charge of club programs? 7 yes and 1 no. Only comment was that it is hard to get anyone to volunteer to do this!
- #15 Is Ham Radio a Major factor in your life? Just a fun Hobby? Interesting when and if I have the time? 3 of the respondents said that ham radio was a major factor in their lives! 2 positioned it between Major and just a fun hobby, 1 said just a fun hobby and 2 said interesting when and if I have the time. I just thought it would be interesting to see how you viewed your participation in Ham Radio. One is not right or wrong – we all have different interest levels, family situations, jobs and other responsibilities.
- #16 Have you ever volunteered to do a presentation for your club? 8 said YES! Way to go – we all appreciate the effort it takes to put a presentation together. We have some really smart Hams in the OH section and I've seen some pretty awesome presentations on a wide variety of topics. Thank you to all!
- #17 Are there one or two people in your club that you really don't like? 3 said yes, 5 said no. Well, that's just life, no-one likes everyone, and if you look closely, there's probably someone out there that doesn't like you. You don't have to really like someone to work with them. You don't have to really like someone to learn something from them. We're all different people, but, we should make the effort to get along.
- #18 What do you wish your club did more of? Build Projects, Non-meeting events for topics and activities, be more active in educating and promoting Ham Radio to youth, listen to younger hams needs, community involvement, joint activities with other clubs.
- #19 What do you wish your club would do less of? Chit chat during meetings, breaking up into clics, the "older" members bitching about the younger members wanting to participate in drills and actually do something,
- #20 Have you ever encouraged someone else to join your club? 8 for 8 on this one!

### **Bonus Comments:**

I wish clubs would become more aware of the actions of the FCC, ARRL, and governing factions so they could help protect their own privileges. Club members need to support their club. Clubs need to support their section. Sections need to support the ARRL.

I like our club members, but the majority of our club members are over 70 and very fixed in their ways. They look down on younger ham operators that want to make changes in order to advance the club. Clubs are good for having another body to compete against, locally, for contests. (Comments were condensed for brevity)

Amateur Radio is a hobby. By definition, most people participate in a hobby because they thought it would be FUN! One of the main jobs of a club is to help it's members have fun with their hobby. Especially with a technical hobby like Ham Radio, the more you learn, the more fun you will be able to have. Clubs should push the idea that they can help you learn more about your hobby and therefore be set up to have more fun! That should include moving up the license line. Technician should really only be the starting point. No one should really stagnate there.



Clubs should also be a place where you can develop friendships with other likeminded hobbyists. This one goes straight to the existing club members! How open to new members, young members, or maybe just people a little different from you, who also enjoy the radio art? You're not going to have much fun if you're not made to feel welcome. That's as true on air as it is at our club meetings. It takes effort. Go out of your way to make someone feel welcome at your meetings and I promise you will have made a friend!

73, Tom, WB8LCD

[TOP ^](#)

---

### ***From the Public Information Coordinator***

***John Ross, KD8IDJ - PIC***

[john.ross3@worldnet.att.net](mailto:john.ross3@worldnet.att.net)



As we transition into Fall and get ready for Thanksgiving and Christmas one thought comes to my mind.....ONLY THREE MORE MONTHS BEFORE THE START OF THE OHIO SECTION 2019

NEWSLETTER CONTEST!!!



Really...I'm already thinking about it and know it will be another great year. Every once in a while I get to look at newsletters from other clubs and organizations and believe me...NOTHING compares to what each of our clubs have to offer. As amateurs we know what's happening in ham radio because we get good information from the newsletters.

So, crank up the typewriters, mimeograph machines and computers and get ready to submit your January newsletter in late December. Remember you'll need to send two different month's to be entered. We'll have the complete rules published here in a couple of months.

### **HURRICANE FLORENCE**

Hurricane Florence, or what's left of her will be around for a long time. By the time you read this Ohio will probably be getting rain and the folks on the east coast will still be under water and without homes and electricity.

I'm been on the hurricane net just about every day listening to the traffic and they do a remarkable job. It's situations like this that amateur radio demonstrates just how important it is to have reliable communications and how good we are at doing it. We do it for the right reason...to help. We do it because we care about the people affected by the bad weather...and we can do because we take pride in making sure we're ready when needed.

Just one more reason that it's good to be a ham radio operator.

### **WESTWARD HO!!**

Actually, the title should be EASTWARD GO! By the time you get this I'll be four wheeling it back across the Desert Southwest to Ohio. I'm flying out to Las Vegas to drive my ailing sister-in-law home.



She can't fly or go through the mountains, so we are going the southern route, snakes and all, leaving Monday September 17<sup>th</sup>.

Because I'm not sure we'll have cell phone service (sorry AT&T) I'm packing my ham radio gear for the trip. Got the magnetic mount, a small but powerful mobile 2m and 4cm radio, a 2m handheld and my DMR. transceiver. I've mapped out and loaded repeaters along the route, packed my repeater directory just in case so I should have pretty good communications just about everywhere.

I'm just glad I can do all of this and it's why amateur radio means so much to me.

Sorry to cut it short this month but I'll be back next month with instructions on how to carve your pumpkin into a QSL Card for Halloween!!



That's it for this month. Thanks for the emails and calls.

**73, John, KD8IDJ**

[TOP ^](#)

---

### ***From the Section Traffic Manager***

***David Maynard, WA3EZN – STM***

[wa3ezn@att.net](mailto:wa3ezn@att.net)

Hot! Hot! Hot! As I start to write this the outside temperature here in Columbus and most of Ohio is in the 90's with high humidity and it is stifling to be outside. Also, have you notice how much earlier it is getting dark in the evening. This indication of the changing of the seasons will mean a change in propagation conditions with the 80-meter band going long earlier in the evening. I have also been listening to some of 40 meters and have notice that there are DX stations to be worked on 40. Give it a try and have some fun.

I had some fun working the Ohio QSO Party last month and my plans to work in the Parks on the Air fell through with family commitments. I had also planned on going to the Findley Hamfest but family commitments prevented that too. The upside of all of this is I am now a Great Grandfather and got to hold my new born great granddaughter. Oh well, it is only a hobby and the family does come first, but on this occasion, it was more important to be here with the family. Besides, I had forgotten how small new born babies really are.



Are you working on your 160-meter antenna? During the OSSBN meeting we talked about the use of 1.888 MHz on 160 meters and the use of remote stations during the winter months when 75 meters goes long during the 6:45 net. I'll try to have more on this next month.

### **Ohio Section Traffic Nets SSB**

Ohio Single Sideband Net (OSSBN), 10:30 AM, 4:15 PM. and 6:45 PM daily, 3.972.50 MHz, KC8WH manager [http://ossbn.org/traffic\\_nets.html](http://ossbn.org/traffic_nets.html)

### **CW Nets**

Buckeye Net (Early), BN-E, 6:45 PM daily, 3.580 MHz, WB8YLO net manager  
Buckeye Net (Late), BN-L, 10:00 PM daily, 3.590 MHz, WB9LBI net manager  
Ohio Slow Net (OSN), 6:00 PM daily, 3.53535 MHz, KI8FV net manager

As an additional traffic handling note the OSSBN is in need of stations to receive and deliver traffic from their net into the Dayton, Chillicothe, Portsmouth, southern Ohio and several other areas. If you have HF privileges and can help please check into the OSSBN on 3972.5 at one of these net times: 10:30 AM, 4:15 PM and 6:45 PM. You will meet a great group of operators and will learn a skill that will be valuable in times of emergencies.

### **Ohio Local Nets**

Burning River Traffic Net (BRTN), 9:30 PM, KD8GXL net manager (See change notice below)  
Central Ohio Traffic Net (COTN), 7:15 PM daily, 146.970 MHz - KD8TTE manager [www.cotn.us](http://www.cotn.us)  
Miami Valley Traffic Net (MVTN), 7:00 PM Mon, Thurs, Sat, 146.640 MHz, KC8HTP manager  
Northwest Ohio ARES Net (NWOHARES), 6:40 PM, daily, 146.940 MHz, PL 103.5, N8TNV manager

The Burning River Traffic Net has changed their net schedule. The net now meets on Monday, Wednesday & Saturday. Nets will be called up on an as needed basis the remaining days of the week. They meet every Monday & Saturday at 9:30 pm on the KC8BED repeater, and every Wednesday at 9:30 pm on the N.O.A.R.S. repeater, K8KRG.

KC8BED/R 147.150 MHZ Plus offset PL 110.9 (For Remote Receive)

K8KRG /R 146.700 MHZ Minus offset PL 110.9 (every Wednesday)

### **SIMULATED EMERGENCY TEST**

Although the main ARRL SET weekend this year is October 6-7, local and section-wide exercises may be held throughout the fall season. The primary League-sponsored national emergency exercise is designed to assess the skills and preparedness of ARES® and other organizations involved with emergency and disaster response. SET guidelines and reporting forms for Emergency Coordinators and Net Managers can be found at <http://www.arrl.org/public-service-field-services-forms>

For new or experienced operators, the SET is an opportunity to learn and practice your traffic handling, net operations and emergency communications skills. Take some time and make-up some radiograms and send them through the system to your friends or family and make the SET in Ohio a success. Check into your local net and ask them what they are planning for the weekend. Be sure to prepare for emergency power operation and possible simplex operation as part of a SET scenario. To participate and practice your emergency radio skills contact your ARRL emergency coordinator or net manager. Check in with your ARES group and get involved.

If disaster struck your home town right now, would you know what to do? If an inattentive backhoe operator cut the telephone trunk lines to your local hospital, could you be of service? You and other hams will have to go to the places where communications are needed. You will probably need to bring your own radio gear.

Is all the equipment that you would need ready to go right now? Are your batteries charged? Could you get on the air quickly and effectively from a disaster site or a damaged facility? What agencies and institutions will you be able to help? What will they expect of you? With whom will these agencies want to communicate? What radio paths will you use to contact or send messages to the people that they need to reach?

Simply put, if you haven't put some serious thought and effort into answering questions like this in advance, then you are not yet ready to be an emergency communicator. You might become one of the scores of hams who will get on the air to talk to each other about the disaster, but you won't provide any real support to the citizens of your community unless you are prepared. You won't be that vital resource, you'll be a wasted resource.

On Saturday, October 6th, Amateur radio operators across our region, state, and nation will participate in an annual training exercise known as SET (Simulated Emergency Test). SET, the largest nationwide exercise in emergency communications, provides Amateur radio operators the unique opportunity to focus on strengths and weaknesses, in order to and enhance overall emergency communications capabilities within each community. This exercise attempts to "overload" the network and provides a real-life scenario type "hands-on" training opportunity for the less experienced members. This year's exercise includes scenarios ranging from severe weather events to threats to homeland security will be extremely fast paced in nature. The dynamic nature of these drills will provide an extremely accurate feel of what communications in an 'actual' emergency would consist of.

So, what will Ohio's 2018 SET scenario be? Simple answer is BLACK SWAN 2018. Matt KD8TTE Ohio Assistant SEC is the director of BLACK SWAN 18 which for the upcoming Simulated Emergency Test (SET) is set to take place in October. Matt has been working hard on developing a scenario for SET.

In Matt's own words the BLACK SWAN 18 Communications Exercise (COMEX) purpose is to test the ability for volunteer and government agencies to communicate across services in emergency conditions through amateur radio. The exercise will serve as the annual Simulated Emergency Test (SET) for the Ohio Section of the American Radio Relay League. Controllers will remain active for the first fifteen days of October, allowing any ARES or traffic organization to operate in the period of "intense activity" of October 7-8, or during any other 48-hour period convenient for the organization.

BLACK SWAN18 is a multi-state radio communications exercise to test the ability for volunteer, non-government organization, and government agencies to communicate across services in emergency conditions through amateur radio. The Ohio Section of ARRL is coordinating the exercise and will use it as the Ohio Section SET for the year 2018, providing background and superstructure for more complete exercise play, coordinated across county, district, and section boundaries. The Ohio Section will publish templates for participating organizations, including an Exercise Plan (EXPLAN) that implements local operations as part of the larger exercise.

The exercise scenario calls for a group of winter storms that bring severe weather through an area of the U.S. ranging from Iowa to Ohio. Shifts in temperature cause freezing, thawing, flooding, snowfall, and related damage that both overwhelm local responders and impede response efforts.

Response will necessarily include the use of secondary and tertiary forces, typically trained and configured for a particular type of response and to communicate with other members of their own forces. Without reliable phone or Internet service in the affected area, the public and responders lack the usual communication capabilities. What circuits are available are overwhelmed and unreliable, leaving only simplex and operation from field-expedient infrastructure erected during the exercise. Field-expedient antennas and batteries are frustrated by freezing temperatures and conditions.

#### EXERCISE PARTICIPANTS.

Ohio Military Reserve.

C.M. CURTIN, CPL (OH), OHMR.

[charles.curtin@ohmr.ohio.gov](mailto:charles.curtin@ohmr.ohio.gov), 614-398-0045.

2. ARRL Ohio Section.

STAN BROADWAY, SEC, OHIO ARRL

[broadways@standi.com](mailto:broadways@standi.com), 614-562-3130.

3. Ohio Single Sideband Net.

4. Ohio HF Emergency Net.

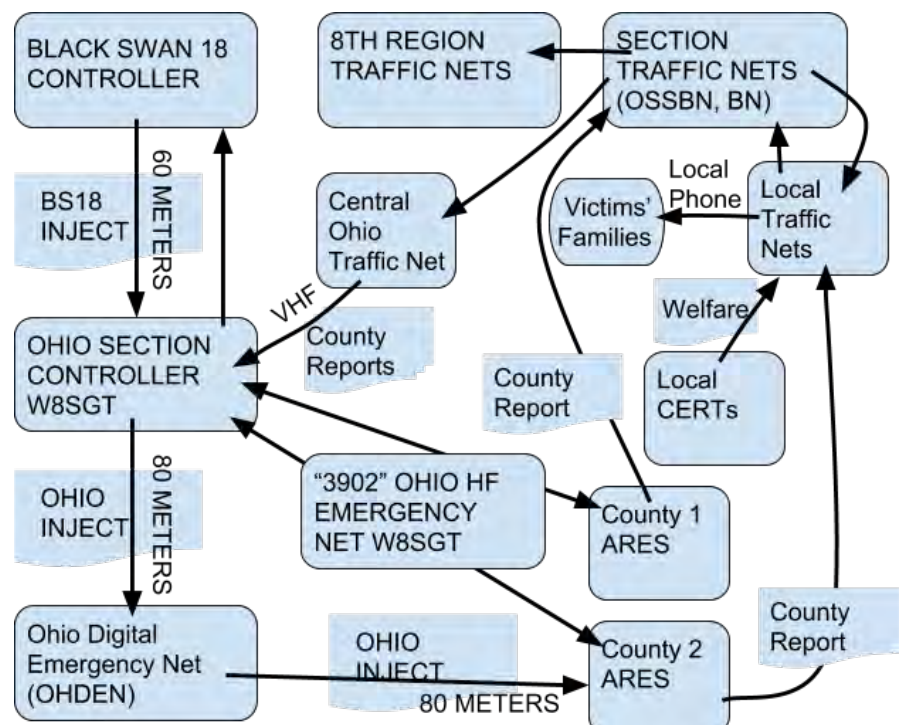
5. Ohio Digital Emergency Net.

6. [Reserved for local use: name any organization with which you maintain local liaison, e.g., local ARES and VHF Traffic net; local ARES to CERT; etc. Include out-of-band contact information where appropriate.]

Matt has provided a template that organizations participating in BLACK SWAN 18 should use to create a Concept of Operations document for distribution to the members. This is not an exercise plan: it is a document to tell participants generally who the other participants are, what roles they will see people playing, and how what you are doing at the local level fits into the broader picture. This accompanied the BLACK SWAN 18 Prep Checklist with further instructions on how to make your own CONOPS from this template.

Direct questions about how to use this template via email to [charles.curtin@ohmr.ohio.gov](mailto:charles.curtin@ohmr.ohio.gov) or via phone to +1 614 398 0045.

THIS IS THE TEMPLATE:





If you are a net manager or served agency not getting the Black Swan 18 updates, contact Matt KD8TTE and join the exercise.

## 73, David, WA3EZN

You can view the STM's monthly report on the website.. <http://arri-ohio.org/stm/stm.html>

[TOP ^](#)

---

### *Out and About*

*Lyn Alfman, N8IMW - ASM*

[lynalfman@aol.com](mailto:lynalfman@aol.com)

August was a busy month. I attend the following meetings: Guernsey County ARES (GCARES), Cambridge Amateur Radio Association (CARA), Zanesville Amateur Radio Club (ZARC), and American Legion Post 641 of Belle Valley Amateur Radio Club. I also helped CARA with an amateur radio display booth “show and tell” at the Salt Fork Arts & Crafts Festival for three days. I participated in the Covered Bridges on the Air event in Southeast Ohio from the Armstrong Covered Bridge from the Cambridge City Park, and the Ohio QSO Party from the Waller-McMunn Museum building in Cambridge. I was also invited to attend the Morgan (County) Amateur Radio Club and the Coshocton County ARA meetings, but I was unable to attend.



In September, I participated in the Ohio State Parks on the Air (OSPOTA) from Blue Rock, and the Special Event Station Crash of the USS Shenandoah Airship Disaster from Noble County. CARA had an amateur radio display in the Crossroads Branch of the Guernsey County Library for the month.

With cooler weather approaching, CARA members will be working on the Waller-McMunn Museum. The plan on getting the exterior into shape before winter weather hits.

I noticed that more Basic and Advanced First Aid, CRP, AED training, and other training such as “Stop the Bleed” are being offered. These courses can be very helpful in an emergency and probably should be listed in your ARES Connect profile or at least with your Emergency Coordinator. Most accidents happen within a 25-mile radius of home. My Field Day accident was within that radius!

On another subject . . . Just like your furnace and car, your “antenna farm” needs to be winterized by checking for needed repairs before winter gets here. Are your antenna connections taped and well-sealed? The freezing / thawing / freezing cycle in the winter drive moisture into poorly sealed connections, causing high SWR and premature failure of your feedline. My favorite sealants are [Scotch Super 88 electrical tape](#) and Sally Hanson's Hard As Nails nail polish. This high-quality vinyl tape doesn't get brittle in low temperatures, and this [polish seals very well and lasts a long time.

Next check your guide ropes for frays and/or consider replacing your existing guide ropes. Are the support lines you use UV resistant? Sunlight and friction against the trees can cause rope to weaken and fray. After a few years of this abuse, all it takes is a storm with a few good gusts to take the whole line down. Check your support ropes and make sure they are still up to spec.

Then check your tower bolts and antenna mounts. Wind load vibrations can loosen bolts and connections. The last thing you want to do in the middle of January is to climb a tower to replace a broken mount.

These moves could save you some heartache as well as numb fingers should these ropes break during cold and/or snowy weather.

So ... be careful and have fun, but above all remember to be "Radio Active!"

**'73 de Lyn**

[TOP^](#)

---

### ***From the Educational Outreach – ASM***

**Anthony Luscre, K8ZT**

[k8zt@arrl.net](mailto:k8zt@arrl.net)

#### **School Radio Club Activities for Upcoming Year**

Recently I was helping put together a list of possible activities for a Middle School Radio Club for this school year. As I was getting ready for this month's Ohio Section Journal article I thought that it might be a good idea to share this list. It could be a good start for planning a school club's activities and many of the ideas would even work for your local radio so here is the list:



#### **Distributing Materials and Information**

- Club Website
- [Google Classroom](#) for Club
- Twitter, Facebook and/or other Social Media

#### **Contesting/Operating Events**

- [ARRL School Roundup Contest](#)
  - Fall Term: October 15-19, 2018
  - Winter Term: February 12-16, 2018
- [ARRL Sweepstakes \(School Division\)](#)
  - CW: First full weekend in November (November 3-5, 2018).
  - Phone: Third full weekend in November (November 17-19, 2018).
- [ARRL Kids Day](#)
- [ARRL Field Day](#)- June



- A Field Day Type portable setup for the club, but on a more convenient weekend and special event station for the club (or tie in with a local community event/festival)
- [Youth Nets](#)
- Local/State
  - [OHQP](#) (Ohio QSO Party)- August
  - [OSPOTA](#) (Ohio State Parks On The Air)- September
  - [FM Squares 2 Meter Simplex Contest](#) - April

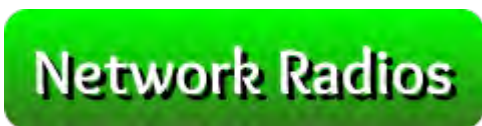
### License Classes

- Weekly Classes
- Summer Vacation License Camp (One week-long)
- Partner with a Local Amateur Radio Club
- Self Paced
  - Provide Self Study Resources
  - Provide periodic lessons on topics included in licensing
- [Materials and Resources](#)

### Operating Principles

- Training
  - Making Contacts- [link for sample doc](#)
  - License Restrictions
  - Logging (we use free [Log4OM](#))
  - Contest Logging (we use [N1MM+](#))
- Practice
  - Simulated
    - [The QSL Card Station Contest Game](#) (see below)
    - Network Radio/Zello
  - On-Air
- Operating Aids
  - Written Scripts
  - Wall Charts & Maps
  - Create and or Collect Youtube How To's
- SDR- [link](#)
- Quick Start-[link](#)

### Network Radio & Zello



## Fox Hunting

- Build Tape Measure Yagis
- Borrow Fox Boxes for hunt
- Build an Arduino Controlled Fox Box for Club
- Outdoor Hunt
- Indoor Hunt



## Antenna Raising

- Setup temporary Antennas
  - Vertical and Radials
  - Dipole with Army surplus poles
    - As an Inverted V with center support
    - As a two-ended supported dipole

## Morse Code

- Build [Clothespin Keys](#)
- Build Code Oscillators (see Soldering)
- Learn Morse
  - [Computer programs](#)
  - Phone Apps
  - Practice Nets on VHF

## Assemble a [uBitx Radio Kit](#)

- Assemble controls and wiring
- Create 3D printed case
- Assemble into case

## Soldering

- YouTube Videos on Soldering. These are two pretty good ones - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oqV2xU1fee8> & <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qps9woUGkvI>, but there are many other good ones. Watch at least three!
- Setup 3 [soldering stations](#)
- Cheap [Desoldering Irons](#) to generate practice parts from scrap circuit boards
- Scavenge old electronics to cannibalize
  - From members homes
  - Trash
  - Garage Sales
- Cheap eBay items for projects
  - Amplified Speakers \$1.19-  
[https://www.ebay.com/sch/i.html? from=R40& trksid=m570.11313& nkw=LM386+Super+MI NI+Amplifier+Board& \\_sacat=0](https://www.ebay.com/sch/i.html?from=R40&trksid=m570.11313&nkw=LM386+Super+MI+NI+Amplifier+Board&_sacat=0)



- LM358-Electronic-Breath-Light-Training-LED-DIY-Kit-Soldering-Practice-Production- \$0.99  
[https://www.ebay.com/itm/LM358-Electronic-Breath-Light-Training-LED-DIY-Kit-Soldering-Practice-Production/223039892814?hash=item33ee36ad4e%3Am%3Amu8QRFk-zy-cXQ3b0\\_BGjw&var=521852206012](https://www.ebay.com/itm/LM358-Electronic-Breath-Light-Training-LED-DIY-Kit-Soldering-Practice-Production/223039892814?hash=item33ee36ad4e%3Am%3Amu8QRFk-zy-cXQ3b0_BGjw&var=521852206012)
- Digital Electronic Clock Part Module Production Kit \$3.16- <https://www.ebay.com/itm/DS3231-AT89C2051-Digital-4-6Bits-Electronic-Clock-Part-Module-Production-Kit-ASS/263885756573?hash=item3d70d1189d%3Am%3Am1hwCCI7rgEcgnvB3GBVug&var=563281666813>
- Doorbell Suite DIY Kit NE555 \$0.99- <https://www.ebay.com/itm/Perfect-Doorbell-Suite-Electronic-Production-Doorbell-Suite-DIY-Kit-NE555-GL/123151392807?hash=item1cac652027:g:LcAAOSwCXJbBnE8>
- NE555 Oscillator Buzzer Kit 8R 0.25W Speaker (good code practice oscillator)-\$0.99-  
<https://www.ebay.com/itm/NE555-Oscillator-Buzzer-Electronic-DIY-Tone-Generator-LED-Kit-8R-0-25W-Speaker/113171615899?hash=item1a598dd09b:g:fzoAAOSwZnlbWtwP>
- Mini FM Wireless Microphone DIY Kit radio \$3.58- <https://www.ebay.com/itm/Mini-FM-Wireless-Microphone-DIY-Kit-radio-Transmitter-Electronic-Circuit-500M/323328617263?hash=item4b47e32b2f%3Am%3Am0CvJzrGHfMDdKf7PMxCeRQ&var=512393605552>
- 40M CW RADIO Shortwave Transmitter/Receiver QRP Pixie Kit \$2.98-  
<https://www.ebay.com/itm/40M-CW-RADIO-Shortwave-Transmitter-QRP-Pixie-Kit-Receiver-7-023-7-026MHz-E5J5/173333275180?epid=25008036679&hash=item285b77e22c:g:JTYAAOSws9BbBrAX>
- 40M CW Kit-DC9-13-8V-S-PIXIE-CW-QRP-Shortwave-Radio-Transceiver with Case\$5.29-  
<https://www.ebay.com/itm/DIY-Kit-DC9-13-8V-S-PIXIE-CW-QRP-Shortwave-Radio-Transceiver-7-023Mhz-With-Ca-B3/123229450988?epid=889266685&hash=item1cb10c32ec:g:HZkAAOSwNDZbPEuJ>

## Field Trips

- Visit HS Radio Broadcast Station
- Visit Commercial Radio Broadcast Station
- Local Hamfest
- Local Ham Shacks
- Local High-Tech Companies

## Movie Night

- Frequency
- Contact
- Independence Day
- Phenomenon
- [Transistorized! \(1999\)](#)
- ARRL Promo Videos
- [List with more Amateur Radio in Pop Cult](#)

## Library

- Technical & Operating
  - License Manuals
  - [ARRL](#) Operating Manual (plus one shack copy)
  - ARRL Handbook (solicit used copy donation(s) from a local Amateur(s))
  - [ARRL Library Book Set](#) (solicit donation from a local Amateur Radio Club)



- Fiction
  - [Zack & Max Comic Book Series](#) from Icom
  - [Ada Lace, Take Me to Your Leader](#) ([www.thespacegal.com/books/](http://www.thespacegal.com/books/))
  - [Radio Rescue](#) by Lynne Baras
  - Cynthia Wall
    - [Night Signals](#)
    - Easy Target
    - Hostage in the Woods
    - Disappearing Act
    - A Spark to the Past
  - Walker A. Tompkins
    - [Murder by QRM \(Radio Amateur's Library\)](#)
    - [Death Valley QTH](#)
    - [SOS at Midnight](#)
    - [Grand Canyon QSO](#)
    - [DX Brings Danger](#)
  - [The Road Home](#) by Andrew Baze
  - [Ghost Radio: A Novel](#) by Leopoldo Gout
- Nonfiction/Bio
  - [Contact Sport: A Story of Champions, Airwaves, and a One-Day Race around the World](#)
  - [Nikola Tesla: Imagination and the Man That Invented the 20th Century](#)



## Badging

- Similar to Scouting Merit Badges
- Virtual or Physical Badges are awarded for successfully completing tasks or training
- Examples
  - Phonetic Alphabet
  - Learning CW
  - Soldering
  - On Air QSO
  - Building an Antenna
  - WAS
- Mechanisms
  - [Class Dojo](#)
  - [Edmodo](#)
  - [Mozilla Open Badges](#)
  - Classroom Posters
  - Button Maker
  - Printed Stickers

## Work with Other School Clubs, Projects & Classes

- Robotics Club
- 3D Printer Project
- Digital Video Project

- Yearbook
- Speech & Debate
- Band

## PR

- Send Press Releases to local Newspaper, TV and Radio Stations (Include lots of photos)
- Do presentations for:
  - PTA
  - Board of Education Meeting
  - Feeder Schools (Elementary or Middle Schools that feed students into our school next year)
- Take part in community festival or event
- Setup Speaker Bureau to do presentation for community groups, clubs, etc.
- Scouting Groups

\*\*\*\*\*

## Licensing Materials and Resources

- Books
  - [\*KB6NU-The No-Nonsense Technician-Class License Study Guide \(free pdf version available\)\*](#)
  - [\*Gordon West Technician Class Manual\*](#)
  - [\*ARRL Ham Radio License Manual\*](#)
  - [\*Ham Radio Study Guide!\*](#)
- Online
  - [The Ham Whisperer's Technician Class License Course](#) (also available as videos on YouTube)
  - [Ham Test Prep - Android Apps on Google Play](#)
  - [HamTestOnline](#)
  - [KB9OKB Introduction to Ham Radio and Technician Training Class Youtube](#)
  - ["Kid Friendly" Technician License Exam \(2018-2022\) Self-Study Program](#)
  - Variety of Youtube "classes" (this are some good samples, but beware there is also a lot of "junk" out there)
    - Dave Casler- [link](#)
    - Hoshnasi- [link](#)
    - Ham Radio 2.0- [link](#)
    - KB9OKB- [link](#)
- Practice Exams Online (*a great place to start to give you an idea of what you need to know*)
  - [Practice Tests - Free Amateur Radio Test Preparation - The Fastest](#)
  - [HamExam.org Amateur Radio Practice Exams](#)
  - [eHam.net Ham Radio Practice Exams](#)
  - [Practice Amateur Radio Exams by QRZ Ham Radio](#)
  - Ham Study.org - [link](#)
- Finding a Class in Your Area
  - ARRL can help you find an Amateur Radio license preparation class in your community- [link](#)
  - W5YI Instructor Program- [link](#)

\*\*\*\*\*

## The QSL Card Station Contest Game

- Materials
  - Number of DX QSL Cards equal to number of participants
  - Envelopes
  - Pencils or Pens (one per participant)
  - Log pages (one per participant)
  - Clipboard or something to write on (one per participant)
- Preparations
  - Select a number of DX QSL cards with interesting Callsigns
  - Make a list of all callsigns being distributed for moderator(s)
  - Put each card in an envelope
  - Randomly distribute envelopes, ask participants to not show their card to anyone else
- Rules
  - Using only their voices (or if this is a CW contest, their code oscillators) each contestant tries to make contacts with as many other stations as possible
  - They should use standard radio calling techniques (CQ, QRZ, etc.)
  - For a valid contact both stations must exchange their QSL's Callsign and Exchange (CQ Zone, State, Name, or other designated exchange) and write them legibility into their log
  - Contestants can move around the room
  - After designate time has ended logs are turned in and scored

\*\*\*\*\*

Hopefully you might find some ideas for your group. If you have any ideas to add, please feel free to drop me an email ([k8zt@arrl.net](mailto:k8zt@arrl.net)).

73,

**Anthony, K8ZT**

---

### ***ARES Training Update***

***Jim Yoder, W8ERW – ARES Data Manager***

[w8erw@arrl.net](mailto:w8erw@arrl.net)

#### ARES Training Update

I don't know about the rest of you, but I've had enough wet weather for a while. On the upside, my grass is looking pretty good lately although, I'm mowing often. It doesn't look like we are going to get much relief from the frequent showers with hurricane season being off to a wild start. Florence is threatening the East coast with up to 40 inches of rain. That along with the storm surge will present a serious threat to personal safety and property throughout the area. For those of you who have taken advantage of Hamshack Hotline and gotten you free VOIP connection, there is a direct connection using Bridge Port #313 to the Hurricane Watch Net.





So, what is Hamshack Hotline? HH is a group of fellow Amateurs who have set up a free VOIP phone service with the intent of connecting any Ham to the network with a VOIP telephone number.



The basic free service is a 4-digit station of the network, mine is 4161. The service requires an internet connection and either one of several models of CISCO VOIP telephones or a CISCO SPA-112 VOIP adaptor and an analog telephone. With this, you will be able to directly dial any other Ham who has established service on the system. Optionally, for \$5 monthly you can have a full featured VOIP telephone line.

Here in ARES District 1, I have setup both the Seneca and Sandusky County EMA office with Hamshack Hotline service. In addition, several local Amateurs have gotten their own HH number. We also have established a Conference Bridge number for ARES District 1. Hamshack Hotline also works very well with the AREDN Mesh Network.

Additional information can be found on the Hamshack Hotline web page, <https://hamshackhotline.com/>. There is a phone directory listing all of the current numbers for Amateurs who have set up the service. The directory also lists all of the conference bridge numbers. This is a great service that any Ham can take advantage of for minimal cost. The CISCO SPA-112 telephone adaptor can be had for less than \$35

from several sources including Amazon.com and of course, eBay. Any analog phone telephone can be employed with this device including portable and wired units. In addition, if your needs dictate, one of the VOIP switches, CISCO, Grandstream, Raspberry Pi with VOIP packages and others can also be setup to further enhance your capabilities. If you are really into this, Hamshack Hotline also has an experimental service where you can obtain VOIP trunks to configure whatever you interest may be. Have a look at Hamshack Hotline. This service has a huge potential for connecting ARES members and activities in support of our served agencies.

I have some great news this month on ARES training numbers. This week we have passed the 7,000 mark on total course registrations. We currently have 949 active members who have submitted training documents including 738 who have completed all four of the required NIMS courses for Level 2 attainment. Many have also secured Level 3 by submitting the required course certificates. And the list is growing daily adding to all of those numbers. Our Section Manager Scott Yonally, N8SY has been reviewing the registrations on ARES Connect and comparing them to the training records. We are seeing some disparity and you may get an email requesting copies of your certificates when they are not reflected on the Roster that I regularly provide to Scott. There have also been some questions on how the Levels are obtained, particularly the FEMA courses required. Each level requires all of the courses listed at the top for that level. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask. Also, the revisions to the ARES structure have not been formally finalized. As we work through this Beta phase, some things could change. When the Beta is finalized, we will be able to more clearly define a lot of the parameters for you and hopefully making all of this easier to follow.



When you submit your training certificates, please don't forget to include your Call. I do use QRZ.com often to pick up all your details.

However, I find QRZ doesn't always get it correct. I recommend that everyone have a look at your QRZ data to ensure that it is accurate. Quite often I see the county listed incorrectly and even addresses can be wrong. If you don't include this information with your course and certificate submission, I have to give it my best guess. Be sure to copy your local EC as well. I also often see someone who lives in one county while serving with another ARES group in an adjoining county. When you submit your certificates and only include your name, I have a lot of assumptions to make with only QRZ to give me what I don't have. So, please include your Call, your email address, the county you reside in and if different, the county you are serving with. I also keep telephone numbers in the database. If you are comfortable with that, please let me know your numbers, both home and cell.

I am also happy to provide you with a list of what I have on record for you. This can also be provided to any EC or DEC who would like a list of their people and/or the courses that I have on file. Most of the certificates we have are in pdf format, which is ideal, and it saves quite a bit of storage space. If you don't have the .pdf file that FEMA provided, you can scan the certificate and, in most cases, save it to a pdf file. To be sure though, send what you can or what you have.

Again, please be sure to copy your local EC. Submissions can be sent directly to me [w8erw@arrl.net](mailto:w8erw@arrl.net), SM Scott Yonally N8SY [n8sy@n8sy.com](mailto:n8sy@n8sy.com) or SEC Stan Broadway N8BHL [broadways@standi.com](mailto:broadways@standi.com). Ideally, send to all three of us. Each of us endeavors to get your information updated as soon as possible and to have it on the ARRL-Ohio.org web page in a timely manner. When you submit your certificates directly to me, I will confirm that I have received them and entered them into the database.

My thanks to everyone for your support of ARES and the great success we are having with this effort to have all of our ARES members trained. It is truly great to be an Ohio Ham.

Thanks again,

73, **Jim, W8ERW**

[TOP^](#)

---

### *From the Official Observer Coordinator*

*John Perone, W8RXX - OOC*

[w8rxx@arrl.net](mailto:w8rxx@arrl.net)

The Ohio OO's monitored a total of 766 hours during August and sent 2 OO cards.

73, **John, W8RXX**



---

## One Question Questionnaire



Hey Gang

Wow... I'm glad to see that 86% of you do have an HF antenna that is currently operational. I'm sure most of you will want to help out in sending RadioGrams to and from the affected areas of Florence.

OK... Here's the next question for you to answer, and this one is really important.

### **“Have you gotten signed up on ARES Connect yet??”**

You'll find the “One Question” questionnaire on the Ohio Section Website! <http://arrlohio.org> It's all in fun and it's not a scientific survey in any way, but we are learning some things that we didn't know from these questions. I hope that you are enjoying answering these “ONE QUESTION” questionnaires.

---

## The Handbook Give Away

Hey Gang,

Have you registered for the “Handbook Giveaway” drawing for this month yet? If you haven't, go to: <http://arrl-ohio.org/handbook.html> and get registered.

What's the catch? I want to get everyone checking in to the Ohio Section website as often as possible, and in order to register each month, you have to visit the website often! There's nothing else to it. I pay all expenses, and from time to time, I Give Away more than just a Handbook.



And, you'll never know just what months will be those special times that I will have more than just a Handbook to Give Away!!



Many of you ask me just how do I know when the drawing is on? Well, that's easy all you need to do is check in on the Ohio Section Website on a regular basis and watch for the big **RED** Arrow that will appear on the left side of the page. This is the sign that the drawing is on and you need to get registered. So, keep a sharp eye out on the website and check in often! <http://arrl-ohio.org>

[TOP^](#)

---

## Weather Underground and Ham Weather Stations

Hey Gang,

Have you visited the webpage to see all the Weather Underground stations yet? Here's a link to it... <http://arrl-ohio.org/wus.html>



We're starting to get a really good collection of stations all over. I know that there is a lot more than what we have listed. How's about sharing your weather information with all of us!

All that you need to do is send me your Weather Underground ID and your call sign and I'll take it from there. Sent it to: [n8sy@n8sy.com](mailto:n8sy@n8sy.com) I think this will be a lot of fun for sure!

---

## ***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 sent it to:  
[n8sy@n8sy.com](mailto:n8sy@n8sy.com)



\*\*\*\*\*

## ***Help Wanted***

Eagle Joint Fire District Emergency Drill - **September 27<sup>th</sup>**. Time ~ 9:00am to noon. Live drill. Our part is to track victims departing Triage and arriving at area hospitals. Sign up is through ARES Connect. Click [here](#) to go to ARES Connect. You can also contact [mahoning.ares@gmail.com](mailto:mahoning.ares@gmail.com)

\*\*\*\*\*

## ***Help Wanted***

“The Sycamore Hospital of the Kettering Health Network along with the Franklin Emergency Department will be conducting a practice emergency exercise Wednesday morning the **September 19<sup>th</sup>** between 0800 and 1200.

The Mound Amateur Radio Association has been invited to participate and will be providing operators at various facilities during the exercise. MARA was founded in 1962 by employees at the Mound Atomic Energy facility in Miamisburg, OH. It now has a shack at the Mound Historical Park in Miamisburg.” For more information contact Jack, KM8N at: [triton48@woh.rr.com](mailto:triton48@woh.rr.com)

\*\*\*\*\*

## ***Help Wanted***

Summit County ARES is looking for volunteers to assist with the Akron Marathon **September 29<sup>th</sup>**. This is one of our largest events spanning 26 miles through the city and surrounding neighborhoods in the Akron area.

A minimum of at least 15 volunteers would helpful to man watering stations, medical stations along the route, SAG, Med transport and milepost locations...

Anyone interested can sign up at [www.summitares.org](http://www.summitares.org)

\*\*\*\*\*



## ***Help Wanted***

The Huntsburg Pumpkin Festival is Saturday, **October 6th and Sunday October 7th.**

I am seeking volunteers to come help staff the Geauga Amateur Radio Association table, assist with traffic control for both parades and at the infamous cross walk.

Volunteers who come on Saturday or Sunday will receive a delicious pancake, waffle, and sausage breakfast in the morning. Those who volunteer for both days will receive a yummy turkey dinner with all the trimmings Saturday evening.

Sign up couldn't be easier. Just send me an email and tell me your availability [w8dec2@gmail.com](mailto:w8dec2@gmail.com)

\*\*\*\*\*

## ***First Aid, CPR and AED Classes Forming***

There will be a First Aid, CPR, and AED class on **Saturday, October 27th from 9:00 am till about 3:00 pm.** If you want a card or certificate the cost will be \$25.00. The class will be instructed by Lawrence County EMS personnel and is certified by the American Heart Association. We have checked around and this is the best price we can find for a complete class. **Please register on ARES Connect under Lawrence County Events.**

\*\*\*\*\*

## ***Programming Classes to be given at Silvercreek Amateur Radio Association***

SARA is holding a programming clinic for any licensed amateur on **Saturday, October 20<sup>th</sup>.** The clinic will be held 10 am to 12 noon at the Wadsworth Public Library, 132 Broad St. in Wadsworth Ohio. Experienced hams will lead a presentation and discussion on the following topics:

- Basic FM radio operations
- Basic antenna information including fixed, mobile, and H/T considerations
- Basic repeater operations covering how repeaters work, offsets/splits, CTCSS/PL, Digital Coded Squelch (DCS), Allstar, and Echolink
- Basic concepts in radio programming
- How to program radios from the keypad
- How to program radios using the Chirp software

Following the presentation, experienced hams will be on hand to program radios with a stock list of area repeaters or to help people program their radios with their own equipment. SARA's website has more information at <https://w8wky.org/clinic>.

If you know anyone who would like a flyer to pass out, we have a downloadable one at <https://w8wky.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/Programming-Clinic-Flyer.pdf>

\*\*\*\*\*

[TOP^](#)

## ***Highland ARA Announces Field Day Winner***

*(from John Levo, W8KIW)*

In an attempt to introduce new hams in Highland and Clinton Counties to the world of HF and contest operating, Hillsboro's Highland Amateur Radio Association announced a contest would be held during June's joint Clinton County ARA and Highland ARA W8O Field Day operation.

According to HARA Information Officer John Levo, W8KIW, a HARA member donated a DX Engineering gift certificate won at the Portsmouth Radio Club's hamfest to be used as an incentive to get more people on the air during Field Day. Levo stated two books written for "newbies" were purchased. They were "Ham Radio For Dummies" and the recently QST reviewed "Ham Radio Is Alive and Well". The contest winner would have their choice of either book with the remaining book awarded at the annual HARA Christmas Dinner Meeting.

In order to be eligible for a chance to win a book one had to be a newly licensed ham without either HF privileges or a home HF station. Additionally, they had to sign on to the Field Day logging program and make at least three HF or six-meter contacts.



During the August Highland ARA meeting 19 call signs went into the hat with David Chesney, KE8GII, drawn as the winner. Since David is a member of the Clinton County ARA it was appropriate to make the presentation in front of his fellow members at that club's September meeting. Past HARA President Lee Bishop, N8YHU, presented Chesney his "Ham Radio Is Alive and Well" selection during last week's Wilmington meeting. Chesney thanked HARA for the contest and stated, "I chose this one because I already have the "Dummies" book!"

#####

---

## ***Fun Things To Do, Classes & Hamfests Too***

*(from various newsletters and sources)*

Class Instructors - Don't forget to register your classes with the ARRL. It's easy to do. Make sure that you send me that information too! Just think of all of the extra publicity that you'll get for your classes!



\*\*\*\*\*

[TOP^](#)

### ***Technician Classes forming***

A free Technician License class is being offered by the Dayton Amateur Radio Association (DARA). The entry level Technician License requires no previous technical knowledge and is open to all ages.

The class will be held at the DARA clubhouse located at 6619 Bellefontaine Road. in Huber Heights. Classes will meet from **7 to 9 p.m. Wednesday evenings starting Oct. 3 and running through Nov. 28**. A companion text will be available for the discounted price of \$25 at the class. The text is also available from the publisher by visiting <https://www.arrl.org/shop/ARRL-Ham-Radio-License-Manual-4th-Edition-Softcover>.

A free license exam is scheduled for 7 p.m. Wednesday Dec. 5 at the DARA clubhouse. The exam is open to anyone regardless of participation in the class.

For more information about the class, please contact Chris Jebens KZ8XU by email at [kz8xu@yahoo.com](mailto:kz8xu@yahoo.com) or by phone (9 a.m. to 9 p.m.) at 937-474-2971 and leave a message if no answer.

\*\*\*\*\*

### ***Technician Classes forming***

Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club will be holding a Technician Level Licensing Class **September 30 through November 4th** at the Akron-Summit County Public Library, 60 S High St, Akron, OH 44326. The last class will be a VEC session. More details at: <http://www.cfarc.org/education/TechClass2018.pdf>

\*\*\*\*\*

### ***Technician Classes forming***

The TMRA Education Committee has released the schedule for the Fall Technicians Class. The class schedule will follow our traditional style. Two classes held two weeks apart and a V.E. Testing Session after the final class. The Class is FREE, you will have to provide your own book, or one can be purchased from the TMRA (\$25.00). The testing session will cost \$15.00 which is the standard fee set by the ARRL.

Class one will be held on **Saturday October 27<sup>th</sup>** from 08:00 TILL 17:00. Class two will be held on **Saturday November 10<sup>th</sup>** from 08:00 TILL 17:00 (This includes the V.E.Session) Both classes will be held at Lucas County EMS Training Center - 2127 Jefferson Avenue, Toledo.

To Enroll in the Class, or for more Information please contact Steve Stalker, KC8TVW at 419-467-3734 or [kc8tvw@arrl.net](mailto:kc8tvw@arrl.net)

\*\*\*\*\*

### ***Amateur Radio Technician Course***

The Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS) is sponsoring an Amateur Radio Technician course that will enable you to obtain your FCC Technician license.

When: **Wednesday evenings 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.** Starting: **September 19, 2018 through November 7, 2018** - 8 weeks. Official Amateur Radio License testing will be held at the end of the course (Nov 7th).

Where: At the PCARS Club Site Radio Room located in the Dietrich Building 705 Oakwood St. in Ravenna

Registration: First night of class Cost: **\$25.00** Registration fee. (No Registration Fee for PCARS Members)  
\$30 Text – “Ham Radio License Manual” (text may be purchased first night of class)

For more information: Contact Jim Wilson, AC8NT at: [jawilson@j3solutions.com](mailto:jawilson@j3solutions.com) or phone: 330-342-8149

\*\*\*\*\*

### ***NEW HAMS SEMINAR (I GOT MY LICENSE, NOW WHAT?)***

Congratulations, you have studied and passed your element and received your first Amateur Radio License. NOW WHAT?

What Radio should I buy? Should I buy new or used Equipment? What Aspects of Ham Radio should I get involved in? What Activities should I get involved in? What Club should I join, or should I join one at all? And many other Questions.

Welcome to The HUGE world of Ham Radio, this hobby has so many aspects that the new Ham can explore. This 4-hour Seminar is designed to help you gain clarity and hopefully answer some of the questions new Hams have. We hold this Seminar two times a year, within a few weeks of the completion of our Spring and Fall Tech Class. Everyone is welcome to attend. This is a **FREE** Seminar. There will be Equipment and experienced Hams on-site. Come on out and meet the Club Members and get a look at some of the radios and bring your questions. We will get them answered and help get you on the road to the world of Amateur Radio.

The Fall New Ham Seminar - **Saturday November 17<sup>th</sup>** at Maumee Fire Station 2 - 450 west Dussel Drive, Maumee. Look for the Big Blue Water Tower, parking in the rear

\*\*\*\*\*

### ***Incident Command System (ICS) Training Schedule***

All current trainings are listed on the Ohio EMA training calendar located at:  
<https://webeoctraining.dps.ohio.gov/TrainingAndExercise/courselist.aspx>

Please pay particular attention to these courses listed above, as that there's a lot of ICS 300 & 400 classes listed that are very useful for all Amateurs to have under their belts. I will also state that G775 is also a very good course to take as well. These 3 courses are multiple day in class courses, so please be prepared to spend some time taking them.

I would like to remind any of you that are going to take any of the in-class training sessions that you dress appropriately. Please don't go into these classes with attire that doesn't represent you, and Amateur Radio in the best of light. I'm not setting a dress code, but if you wouldn't take your wife out to a nice restaurant in these clothes, you may want to reconsider what you are wearing. Remember, you will be in class with fire / police chiefs, mayors, township trustees and a whole host of other government and civil officials that will remember how you represented Amateur Radio while you were in these classes together.

Most, if not all of these courses are **free**, but please pay close attention when signing up. There will be a statement of fees if there are any at that time.



We do recognize that IS-300/400 requires multiple days of actual classroom training that is not easily obtained. So, if you just can't find the time to fit these class room courses in, we do have an alternative method for getting you to Level 3. Completing the following “**FREE**” and “**ONLINE**” courses will act as substitute for you FEMA Leadership Development Course requirements. You absolutely will need to complete all 7 of these courses to get your ICS 300/400 credit. Here are the courses that you need to take: **IS-120, 230, 240, 241, 242, 244 & 288.**

\*\*\*\*\*

### **V.E. Test Sessions**

*(from arrl)*

**09/18/2018 | [Sandusky OH 44870-1926](#)**

**Sponsor:** Sandusky, Ohio VE Team

**Location:** Sandusky Radio Club

**Time:** 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

[Learn More](#)

**09/19/2018 | [Stow OH 44224-4097](#)**

**Sponsor:**

**Location:** Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library

**Time:** 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

[Learn More](#)

**09/23/2018 | [Berea OH 44017](#)**

**Sponsor:** Cleveland Hamfest

**Location:** Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds, Cleveland  
Hamfest Bldg 29

**Time:** 12:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

[Learn More](#)

**09/23/2018 | [Cortland OH 44410-1473](#)**

**Sponsor:** NE Ohio ARC

**Location:** Ohio State Extension Office

**Time:** 6:30 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

[Learn More](#)

**09/26/2018 | [Dayton OH 45424-3304](#)**

**Sponsor:** Dayton ARA

**Location:** DARA Clubhouse

**Time:** 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

[Learn More](#)

**09/26/2018 | [Middletown OH 45042](#)**

**Sponsor:** Dial Radio Club

**Location:** Miami University-Middletown

**Time:** 6:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

[Learn More](#)

**09/29/2018 | [Lisbon OH 44432-1233](#)**

**Sponsor:** Lisbon Area Amt Radio Assoc

**Location:** Columbiana County Emergency  
Management

**Time:** 1:30 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

[Learn More](#)

**09/30/2018 | [Westerville OH 43082-9033](#)**

**Sponsor:** Central Ohio Radio Club CORC

**Location:** Genoa Township Hall

**Time:** 1:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

[Learn More](#)

**10/06/2018 | [Bryan OH 43506-8410](#)**

**Sponsor:** Williams County ARC

**Location:** Williams County 911/EMA

**Time:** 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

[Learn More](#)

**10/06/2018 | [Chillicothe OH 45601-9999](#)**

**Sponsor:** SVARC Hamfest

**Location:** Lion Club House

**Time:** 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

[Learn More](#)

\*\*\*\*\*

[TOP^](#)

## Special Events

- **09/22/2018 | VOA Anniversary**

**Sep 22, 1300Z-2100Z, WC8VOA**, West Chester, OH. West Chester Amateur Radio Association. 14.270. QSL. Mike Braun, 8070 Tylersville Rd., West Chester, OH 45069. [voamuseum.org](http://voamuseum.org)

- **10/19/2018 | Commemorating 79th. Anniversary of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary**

**Oct 19-Oct 21, 1402Z-1402Z, W8E**, Loveland, OH. United States Coast Guard Auxiliary District 8ER. 21.336 7.234. QSL. David Stroup, 6138 Misty Creek Dr., Loveland, OH 45140. [cgaux8@yahoo.com](mailto:cgaux8@yahoo.com)

\*\*\*\*\*

## ARRL Contest Corner



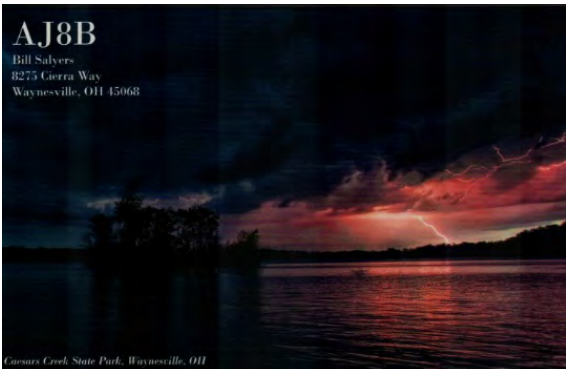
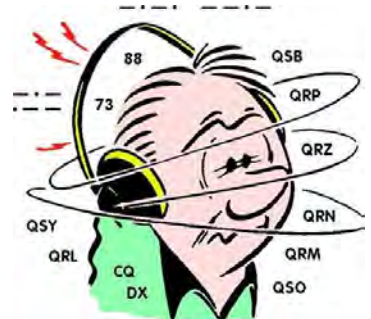
Want to know about ARRL contests? >> [Click Here](#) << for the latest information from ARRL about contests. A generic ARRL contest calendar is also provided there that gives the weekends for all our events, to assist with long-term planning of your contest operations. The Contest Corral files include non-ARRL events.

\*\*\*\*\*

## DX This Week

Received a note from my DX Mentor, “Uncle Frank.” Uncle Frank took my challenge to see how many DX Entities could be worked on a “bad” day. (Low Sunspot activity, A & K numbers off – more on that later) On Sunday, while watching his beloved Patriots, Uncle Frank worked 20 entities including ZD7 – Saint Helena Island, SV5 – Dodecanese, and VK – Australia.

Take the challenge – How many entities can you work in a four-hour period? Any band, any mode – Just drop me a line and let me know – [aj8b@arrrl.net](mailto:aj8b@arrrl.net)



**DX Topic of the Week: QSL Cards.** Before the official launch of Logbook of the World, a physical QSL card was the only confirmation that you could submit that would show that you had worked one of the DXCC entities. Your QSL cards (100+) would have to be shipped to the DXCC desk at ARRL HQ in Newington, CT and the DXCC desk would review your cards to determine whether they were official. This could take 8 to 10 weeks or more and you were always concerned about getting them back! In addition to using LoTW to speed up processing, the DXCC program instituted DX Field Card Checkers.

A list of certified checkers can be found at <http://www.arrl.org/dxcc-card-checker-master-list> . These dedicated volunteers review your cards to verify accuracy. When they are finished, you get the cards back while you wait.

I LOVE exchanging QSL cards with the stations I work. In fact, I post all cards I receive on Twitter as well as on my website. Logging software can be used to track your QSL cards, print QSL labels, print mailing labels, print your return labels, and even print your QSL card with the QSO on it!

Years ago, there was a QSL printer in Texas known as the "Little Print Shop." One of the things that they would do was to send you QSL card samples that would arrive BEFORE your official FCC license arrived. For many of us, it was the first notification that we had passed the test.

If you use surface mail to receive a QSL card from a DX entity, I might suggest using the services of William Plum. ([plumdx@msn.com](mailto:plumdx@msn.com)) He sells DX Stamps, air mail envelopes, and other DX supplies to increase the odds that you will receive a card.

"QSO Today" is a podcast by 4Z1UG, Eric Guth. Daily DX Editor/publisher W3UR, Bernie McClenny, was recently interviewed, covering how he got into ham radio and how he and his dad caught "the DX bug." <https://www.qsotoday.com/> W3UR has been the QST face of DX for a long time and this podcast is very interesting.

Finally, Bernie, W3UR, supplies us with a few items of planned activity:

- VK9X – Christmas Island will be activated on September 29<sup>th</sup> to October 6<sup>th</sup>.
- FR – Reunion Island will be activated October 9<sup>th</sup> to October 27<sup>th</sup>.
- FH – Mayotte will be activated by the same folks that activated Reunion starting on October 29th and continuing until November 6<sup>th</sup>.

More details can be found at [www.dailydx.com](http://www.dailydx.com) Let me know what you are hearing, working and what QSLs you have received! I am also looking for questions, issues, or topics of the week to be featured – [aj8b@arrl.net](mailto:aj8b@arrl.net)

More info can be found at [www.swodxa.org](http://www.swodxa.org) or [www.aj8b.com](http://www.aj8b.com) Good Hunting!

\*\*\*\*\*

### ***You've Got Cards – Waiting***

Hey Gang, here's a new department for you to keep an eye on. Yes, it's about QSL Cards without owners. Why without owners? The card sorters have the cards waiting, but they don't have a way to get these cards to their owners.

Now, if your call sign is listed here, or you know how to contact any of the folks listed, please let them know that they have QSL cards waiting for them, and that they will need to contact the appropriate card sorter to find out how to get their cards sent to them. Don't send anything to them until you've had a chance to contact them first and find out just what you need to do.

Here are several folks from the letter **"J"** that have cards waiting...

**W8JGU and W8JI**

And, here's one from the letter **"D"** also waiting **KC8DIX**



Don't know who to contact for your cards? Here's a link... [http://arrl-greatlakes.org/8th\\_bureau.htm](http://arrl-greatlakes.org/8th_bureau.htm)  
Remember, it goes by your first letter of your suffix call sign.

The card sorters would also like me to remind everyone that this is the "Incoming" QSL Card Bureau. ALL "Outgoing" cards (cards that you send) go to the main card sorting area at ARRL Headquarters. Here's a link for the details on how to do that... <http://www.arrl.org/outgoing-qsl-service>

\*\*\*\*\*

### ***Ohio/Penn DX Bulletin #1381***

*(from Tedd Mirgliotta, KB8NW / OPDX / BARF80)*

**3B8**, MAURITIUS (Reminder). Hans, PA3HGT, is now active as 3B8/PA3HGT from Mauritius (AF-049) until September 24th. Activity will be holiday style on 40/20/10 meters using mostly SSB, and possibly some Digital modes. Equipment will be an Icom IC7100 into an End-Fed antenna. QSL via his home callsign, direct or by the Bureau. No LOTW or eQSL; he prefers a real card!

**3DA0**, KINGDOM OF ESWATINI (Swaziland) [Two Edited Press Releases, dated September 12th and 15th].  
3DA0AO Kingdom of eSwatini (Swaziland), by HA5AO.

\* September 12th -- On Thursday Sept. 13, 2018, Pista, HA5AO, will leave Budapest for the Kingdom of eSwatini (Swaziland) and arrive on the 14th, late afternoon. He will set up the station on Saturday Sept. 15th. He plans to enter the: Africa All Mode International DX Contest, Single-Operator, All-Band, High-Power CW only category, which is held this weekend (September 15-16th). The contest rules can be found at:  
<http://www.sarl.org.za/Web3/Members/DoDocDownload.aspx?X=201712180812348XdiUz5yFy.PDF>

**3Y0Z** BOUVET ISLAND DXPEDITION NEWS (From Bob, K4UEE, dated September 10th).

[edited] To the DX Community.... We are happy to announce that our 3Y0Z Bouvet sea container is on its way home. It should arrive in Chicago on September 26th, then be moved to K9CT's QTH shortly thereafter. All associated costs have been paid. Craig, K9CT, says he will get all the loaned items/equipment back to our sponsors quickly and those shipping costs will then be paid.

**5H**, TANZANIA. Maurizio, IK2GZU, will once again return to the "Mission Ilembula" to do some work at the new hospital and orphanage between October 24th and November 28th. He plans to be active during his spare time as 5H3MB on various HF bands. Maurizio will use his FT-100 and the mission's TS-850 into a tri-band 3 element beam (20/15/10m) fixed on Europe and a vertical or dipole for the other bands. QSL via IK2GZU, direct or by the Bureau. Also, QSL via LoTW (after his return home) and eQSL. For more details, updates and an online log, visit his Web pages at:

<http://www.buffoli-pm.it/5h/Tanzania%202011.htm>

<http://www.buffoli-pm.it/5h/qsl%20request.htm>

**7P**, LESOTHO. Rune, LA7THA, Rune, announced that he is currently building a team for a DXpedition to Lesotho (7P8) to be active during the first part of March 2019. Activity will be approximately 10 days with a focus on the low bands. License application has already been received and the QTH selected. Rune is currently waiting for confirmation, but everything so far looks positive. A Web site will be announced later. He plans to use M0OXO's new online/direct upload. QSL via M0OXO.



**7Q, MALAWI** (Reminder). Alex, IW5ELA, will be active as 7Q7ELA from three different lodges in Malawi between September 17-26th. Operations will be from Game Have Lodge (September 17-20th), Mvuu Camp (September 20-23rd) and Makokola Retreat (September 23-26th). This will be a suitcase operation using a Yaesu FT-857 transceiver into vertical antenna. Activity will be on various HF bands using mainly CW. QSLs will be sent automatically by the Bureau. For direct, send an E-mail request to: [iw5ela@gmail.com](mailto:iw5ela@gmail.com)

**8Q, MALDIVES**. Shinji, JF2SDR, will be active as 8Q7SD from Halaveli Island, Alifu Alifu Atoll, Maldives Islands (AS-013) between September 20-25th. Activity will be holiday style on 30-10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via his home callsign.

**EA6, BALEARIC ISLANDS**. Andrew, G8GNI, is now active as EA6/G8GNI from Mallorca Island (EU-004) until September 21st. Activity will be holiday style on various HF bands using mostly Digital modes (RTTY, PSK, Olivia and FT8). QSL via his home callsign, direct, LoTW, eQSL or ClubLog.

**EA8, CANARY ISLANDS**. Operators Kari/OH2BP, VÄINÖ/OH9GIT, Ewe/SM7BHM and possibly Vilnis/YL2KF will be active as EA8DED from Puerto de la Cruz, Tenerife Island (AF-004, DIE S-012, WLOTA 1276, EAA TF) during the CQWW DX RTTY Contest (September 29-30th) as a Multi-Single/Low-Power entry. QSL via OH2BP only direct. After the contest look for them on the WARC bands using CW, SSB and PSK31.

**GR150, ENGLAND** (Special Event). Look for special event station run by Terry Robinson, GM3WUX, to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Royal National Institute of Blind People (RNIB). The station will be active mainly on CW with some SSB between October 1-28th, using all bands 160-4 meters, excluding 60 meters which is not permitted by the licence. A special QSL will be available. There will be a log search and OQRS facilities at <[www.g3swh.org.uk/gr150nib.html](http://www.g3swh.org.uk/gr150nib.html)> and all logs will be uploaded to both LoTW and ClubLog in due course.

**H8, PANAMA**. Operators Nicola/I0SNY, Elvira/IV3FSG, Hans/HB9BXE, Alexandru/ Y08SS and Florian/OE3FTA will be active as H88X from Playa Farallon Provincia Cocle', Panama, between September 24th and October 9th. Activity will be on 160-6 meters using CW, SSB and the Digital modes. QSL via I0SNY direct or by the Bureau to 9A5URI.

**HB0, LIECHTENSTEIN** (Update). Members of the NB-DX Team report that they will be "on the road again" as HB0/ON4ANN from Triesenberg between September 24-28th. Operators are Willy/ON2BDJ, Erik/ON4ANN, Erik/ON4CCV, Cedric/ ON4CKM, Paul/ON5PDV, Rudi/ON6MI and Etienne. The operators may also do some WWFF activity as HB0/ON4CCV/P and HB0/ON4CKM/P. Activity will be on various HF bands (usually) with special attention on 160/80/40/30 meters using CW, SSB the Digital modes. Equipment will be a TS590SG, TS480HX and Expert 1kfa amp into a Spiderbeams, Verticals, Inverted-L for 160m and RX antennas. QSL via M0URX's OQRS or LoTW. Link to their pictures (during their Expedition) will be at: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/nKyjuewsy4Kw9feg7> Link for their Facebook page is: <http://www.facebook.com/NBDX-Team-Liechtenstein-DXpedition-740378969649880>

**KG4, GUANTANAMO BAY**. Several sources are reporting that operators Bill/W4WV and Al/W6HGF will be active as KG4WV and KG4HF, respectively, from Club Gitmo between October 10-24th. Activity will be on various HF bands but with some focus on 160/80m, and using mainly SSB and FT8, with some operations on CW, PSK and RTTY. QSL via their home callsigns. They will also make nightly uploads to ClubLog.

**NH7, HAWAII.** Operators Albert/NH7A/F5VHJ, will be active as NH7A from Keaau during the CQWW DX SSB Contest (October 27-28th) as a Single-Op/ All-Band entry. QSL via F5VHJ, ClubLog's OQRS or LoTW. REF Bureau cards to to F5VHJ. USA cards via WA6WPG.

**OJ0, MARKET REEF.** A German team is now active from here as OJ0DX for about a week. Some of the operators mentioned are Dietmar/DL3DXX, Thomas/ DL5LYM and Dan/DL5SE. Activity will be focused on 160/80/60 meters. QSL via DL3DXX or ClubLog.

**OT4/ON5, BELGIUM** (Parks & Belgian Lighthouses). Operators Danny/ON4VT/OT4V and SWA/ON5SWA are planning to activate some ONFF parks and Belgian Light- houses on Wednesday, September 15th. Stay tuned on the DXCluster for correct REF info. All activated lighthouses are valid for the Belgian Lighthouse Award (see <https://belgianlighthouses.wordpress.com> ).

**OY, FAROE ISLANDS.** Carsten, OY1CT, is active almost daily from Streymoy Island in the Faroe Islands (EU-018) around/about 14033 kHz after 1500z. QSL via OY1CT direct or ClubLog.

\*\*\*\*\*

## ***Scouting's Jamboree-On-The-Air (JOTA) coming in October***

### **Jamboree-on-the-Air**

Jamboree-on-the-Air, or JOTA, is the largest Scouting event in the world. It is held annually the third full weekend in October. JOTA uses amateur radio to link Scouts and hams around the world, around the nation, and in your own community. This jamboree requires no travel, other than to a nearby amateur radio operator's ham shack. Many times you can find the hams will come to you by setting up a station at your Scout camporee, at the park down the block, or perhaps at a ham shack already set up at your council's camp.



### **Tell Me More**



Scouts of any age can participate, from Cub Scouts to Boy Scouts and Venturers, including girls. Once at the ham radio station, the communication typically involves talking on a microphone and listening on the station speakers. However, many forms of specialized communication may also be taking place, such as video communication, digital communication (much like sending a message on your smartphone but transmitted by radio), or communication through a satellite relay or an earth-based relay (called a

repeater).

The exchanges include such information as name, location (called QTH in ham speak), Scout rank, age, and hobbies. The stations you'll be communicating with can be across town, across the country, or even around the world! The World Scout Bureau reported that the 2017 JOTA-JOTI had over 1.5 million Scout participants from more than 160 countries.

## When Is It?

Jamboree-on-the-Air is held the third weekend in October. This year that is: **October 20 – 21 to be exact.** There are no official hours, so you have the whole weekend to make JOTA contacts. The event officially starts Friday evening during the JOTA Jump Start and runs through Sunday evening.

## How Can I Participate as a Scout?

Contact your local Scout council and see what may already be planned in your area. You can also contact a local ham radio operator or a local amateur radio club. You can find a searchable database of clubs at [www.arrl.org/find-a-club](http://www.arrl.org/find-a-club). This website is operated by the American Radio Relay League, the national association for amateur radio, which is cooperating closely with the BSA on JOTA and many other activities.

Your local club may be able to direct you to its planned JOTA activities. These can include ham stations set up at camporees or other events. Or, if there are no planned activities, you can either work with them to get something set up or arrange to visit a local radio operator's ham shack at a scheduled time to participate in JOTA.

## How Can I Participate as an Amateur Radio Operator?

Contact your local Scout council and see what may already be planned in your area and how you can help. You can find your council using [the Council locator](#).

---

### *Upcoming Hamfests*

#### **09/22/2018 | OH-KY-IN ARS Hamfest**

Location: Cincinnati, OH

Sponsor: OH-KY-IN Amateur Radio Society

Website: <http://www.ohkyin.org>



#### **09/23/2018 | Cleveland Hamfest and Computer Show**

Location: Berea, OH

Sponsor: Hamfest Association of Cleveland

Website: <http://www.hac.org>

#### **10/11-14/2018 | Microwave Update 2018 Convention**

Location: Fairborn, OH

Sponsor: Midwest VHF/UHF Society

Website: <http://www.microwaveupdate.org>

#### **10/13/2018 | Northwest Ohio ARC Hamfest**

Location: Lima, OH

Sponsor: Northwest Ohio ARC

Website: <http://nwoarc.com>

#### **10/13/2018 | Parkersburg/Wood County Hamfest**

Location: Mineral Wells, WV

Sponsor: Wood County Emergency Communications

Website: <http://www.wc8ec.org>

#### **10/28/2018 | Massillon Hamfest**

Location: Massillon, OH

Sponsor: Massillon Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.w8np.org>

#### **11/03/2018 | GARC HAMFEST**

Location: Georgetown, OH

Sponsor: Grant Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://garcoho.net>

Find all the Ohio Hamfests in one location? Go to: <http://arrrl-ohio.org/hamfests.html>

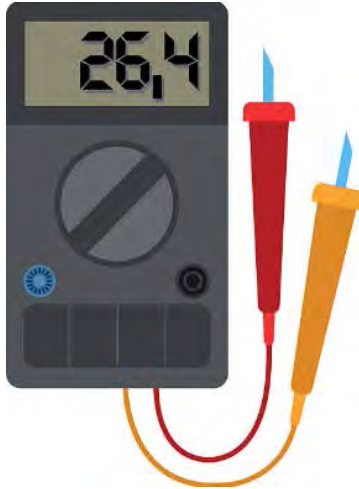
[TOP^](#)

---

## Electrical Test Equipment Question

*What are the effects of adding a meter to a circuit under test and the effect on the measurement accuracy when the circuit resistance changes relative to the meter resistance?*

This is an excellent question! Going back to the late 50's and early 60's, your concern was a major problem. For those of us who were just high school students, we bought what was called a 1000 ohm/volt multimeter. Which means that the 10 scale had a resistance of 10,000 ohms. So, if you were measuring the voltage across a 10K resistor, you effectively changed the resistance of the circuit from 10K to 5K with two 10K resistors in parallel.



Depending on the rest of the circuit you may lose half the voltage. This was called meter loading.

Then along came meters with 20,000 ohms/volt and everyone who could afford it, bought this much better meter with a whole lot less meter loading. Again, using the 10K example: you now changed the resistance to 9.52K which changed the voltage measurement very little with the 10K resistor now in parallel with a 200K resistor.

Then came along meters with 20Meg ohm resistance and was not dependent on the range. So now meter loading is not a major concern, as it once was, but still if you are measuring the voltage drop of a 20 Meg resistor, you will still have significant meter loading. But most of us now days seldom, if ever measure across a resistance that high, but if you do, expect an error due to meter loading.

[TOP^](#)

---

## Weather Underground and Ham Weather Stations

Have you visited the webpage to see all the Weather Underground stations yet? I've just added several more reporting stations to the listing. This is really great we are growing every week.! Here's a link to it... <http://arrl-ohio.org/wus.html>



We're starting to get a really good collection of stations all over. I know that there is a lot more than what we have listed. How's about sharing your weather information with all of us! All that you need to do is send me your Weather Underground ID and your call sign and I'll take it from there. Sent it to: [n8sy@n8sy.com](mailto:n8sy@n8sy.com) I think this will be a lot of fun for sure!

#####



I want to let you in on something brand spanking new to the National Weather Service. Here in Northern Ohio the NWS is introducing a "Spring" and "Fall" Skywarn training session. As proposed, it's gonna' be really useful, and from the information that I've gotten on this new fall class, it will also deal with some of our winter time issues in Northern Ohio. You know, Lake Effect snow and some other unusual occurrence that happen only in our area!



Now here is how the classes are proposed to be scheduled, keep in mind, just because it is being introduced in Northern Ohio doesn't mean you folks from the southern end of the state can't join in as well. You are invited too, it's just gonna' be a lot further drive home for you. I think this idea is great! You'll now have the advantage to take both if you want.

This year Fall talks will be in the following counties:

- |             |            |                |
|-------------|------------|----------------|
| • Wood      | • Marion   | • Crawford, OH |
| • Seneca    | • Ottawa   | • Huron        |
| • Knox      | • Ashland  | • Medina       |
| • Cuyahoga  | • Stark    | • Geauga       |
| • Ashtabula | • Mahoning | • Erie, PA     |

The Spring 2019 talks will be held in the following counties:

- |            |            |               |
|------------|------------|---------------|
| • Lucas    | • Hancock  | • Wyandot     |
| • Sandusky | • Morrow   | • Richland    |
| • Erie OH  | • Holmes   | • Wayne       |
| • Lorain   | • Summit   | • Lake        |
| • Portage  | • Trumbull | • Crawford PA |

--

Christine Riley - Warning Coordination Meteorologist - National Weather Service - Cleveland, Ohio

---

***Final.. Final..***

**Scott Yonally, N8SY - SM**

[n8sy@n8sy.com](mailto:n8sy@n8sy.com)

Hey Gang...

Like most weeks it's once again been a busy one for me! I've had fun visiting with all of you at club meetings and various other functions, the latest has been ARES Connect classes. Stan and I are very active in getting out there and doing classes to not only show you how to get registered, but for those E.C.'s and D.E.C.'s that need to know how to setup events and such, we are getting them training on how all of this system functions. It's a labor of love for sure! Do you have a group of folks that could benefit from Stan or I coming and doing a class with them? Don't hesitate to ask Stan or me. We'd be happy to fit you in to the schedule for sure.



Now, while I'm talking about this subject... It's time for you to get registered in the new ARES Connect system, if you haven't already. I did an audit the other day and found some errors that I would like to let you know about. First and most importantly, we want you to be honest when answering the questions about your training. Please, don't just hurry through the questions, read them carefully and if you don't understand something, ask! I'm here to answer your questions.

We know that you mean well by answering that you have the needed courses in, but we are checking to make sure that you are in our statewide database when we are completing your registration. If you're not there, you won't get credit for the courses and you'll most likely get an email from your E.C. or me wanting to know where they are. You see, he needs them too. Now, this is actually a double-edged sword. Some of you have taken these courses and just haven't gotten copies of your certificates to us or your EC to enter into our Statewide database. Shame on you! As you can now see, it's going to be extremely important for you to be in our database if you want any of your volunteer time to count! So, how can you find out if you are there? Easy, here's a link to our database...

<http://arrl-ohio.org/SEC/special/ICS%20Complete%20by%20County%20and%20Name.pdf>

It's listed by county, so you'll need to look there first, or you can simply do a "FIND" and use your call sign or name. Either way, if you are there, great, no problems, if you aren't, you need to get to work and get those all-important copies of those certificates to us.

On this same subject, some of you noticed that you can acquire your Level 3 by substituting your ICS 300/400 with the following NIMS courses. Completing the following "FREE" and "ONLINE" courses will act as a substitute for you FEMA Leadership Development Course requirements.

You absolutely will need to complete all 7 of these courses to get your ICS 300/400 credit. Here are the courses that you need to take: **IS-120, 230, 240, 241, 242, 244 & 288.**

Now, don't forget that your ICS certificates aren't the only things we're looking for either, Basic or Advanced First Aid, CPR or AED training and Damage Assessment is also very valuable in the field as well. And, don't forget about the newest training out there, "**Stop the Bleed...**" This one is really good, and it's something that you can use no matter where you are. These courses are not only useful for you in the field, but you'd be surprised how they can help you around the house as well. Remember, most accidents happen within 25 miles of you home! And YES, my accident last year happened within that 25-mile radius. You need to be prepared! Oh yes, keep those NIMS courses coming... We now have 738 folks with their required NIMS courses in. Let's see just how fast we can get to **750** persons with all 4 of their NIMS courses.

Now, Jim, W8ERW and I talk most every day with updates and such. Today Jim sent me this statistic that just really impresses the heck out of me.. Here's the message from Jim...

*"I thought I would take a look at the data knowing there are a few who have sent in large numbers of certificates. Below are the 12 who have over 50 course certificates on file. Many more have significantly more than the required courses on file. K8RJH - 128; N8QHV - 115; NE1LL - 114; WJ8Y - 84; KE8JJX - 84; N8XMI - 73; KD8JRC - 72; W8BSI - 68; N8PIB - 67; N8JMW - 59; W8DEA - 56 and W8ZAR - 54"*

Ok, now on to the upcoming S.E.T. Don't forget that the traditional date for the Simulated Emergency Test is the first full weekend in October. This year it is October 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>. Are you going to participate?

For those who want to send me Radiograms please send them through the Ohio Single Side-Band Net. The details for that net are listed in the [Section Traffic Manager's](#) notes above. They will make sure that your Radiogram gets to me. Oh, here's one for ya'.. This might be a great time for you to take a look at form ICS-213. It's like a Radiogram, but not. That's the governments radiogram and we do need to practice using it. You can find this and many of the more popular ICS forms here:

<http://arrl-ohio.org/SEC/forms-reference-materials.html>

This next weekend we have 2 hamfests in the state. Saturday kicks off the OH-KY-IN Hamfest in the Cincinnati area. The following morning will be the Cleveland Hamfest. I'll be attending both hamfests, so be sure to stop by and say "Hey"..

This past week we have once again seen the devastation that a hurricane can do. I have received a number of emails and phone calls from some really good Samaritans out there. They wanted to know just how they could be deployed to help. This is a very generous offer for anyone to make, but before you volunteer for this kind of activity, please be aware that it's not going to be a picnic for you. It's long hours and deployment usually is for 2 – 3 weeks at a time. That's a lot of vacation time used up for those of you who work, but I know that there are a few that would do that, and I thank you for that. But, we "NEVER" self-deploy so we need to wait patiently and see if our help is needed or wanted. Trust me, our counterparts in North and South Carolina know how to reach out to Stan and I if we are needed.

I hope that those of you who have your OpenSpots/DVMM and similar devices that are operating on frequencies that are not designated for such devices got the hint these past several weeks. Yes, there are some who don't seem to understand that even a signal as weak as a few hundred milliwatts can interfere with other devices that ARE designated for use in that frequency range. It's not only good operating practice, but good sense to make sure that you have your equipment operating where it won't interfere with others.

That's going to do it for this time around. Stay safe, and most of all... have FUN!!

*Scott, N8SY*

---

### ***YL / XYL's - Who Has Been Licensed The Longest?***

Hey YL's / XYL's I did hear from one YL this past week... It's Pam Deeds, KA8JQP. She's been licensed since May 27, 1980. Anyone else want to step forward?

Now don't be shy about this ladies, I promise that I won't ask you your age, just how long have you been licensed. Send me the information [n8sy@n8sy.com](mailto:n8sy@n8sy.com)



*I do want to give John Levo, W8KIW, from the Monday Morning Memo a great big thanks for coming up with this wonderful idea! Thanks, so much John.*

---

### ***Murphy's Law***

- All Warranties will expire upon payment of invoice
- Friends come and go, but enemies accumulate
- You will always find something in the last place you look
- The chance of a piece of bread falling with the buttered side down is directly proportional to the cost of the carpet
- Anything you try to fix will take longer and cost more than you thought
- If you fool around with a thing for very long, you will screw it up
- Any tool dropped while repairing a car will roll underneath to the exact center
- The repairman would have never seen a model quite like yours before
- When a broken appliance is demonstrated for the repairman, it will work perfectly





## *Odds and Ends*



On September 14<sup>th</sup> members of the **Cuyahoga County ARES** provided assistance for a Mass Casualty Drill at Hopkins Airport.



#####

### **The Dresden Elementary Amateur Radio Station club 2018-2019**

The new herd at KD8NOM is here and ready to work your station on HF VHF and UHF !





---

## ***Back Issues of the PostScript and Ohio Section Journal (OSJ)***

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://arrrl-ohio.org/news/index.html>



---

## ***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 me an email [n8sy@n8sy.com](mailto:n8sy@n8sy.com) and I'll get them added to the Ohio Section Emailing list. We now have over 6,000 folks 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.

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://arrrl-ohio.org/news/index.html>

The pictures throughout this newsletter are from various sources. Take a good look at them, you just might be in one of those pictures! "SMILE...!!!!!"

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](mailto:n8sy@n8sy.com)



[TOP^](#)

---

*The Ohio Section Journal (OSJ) is produced as a comprehensive look at all the programs within the Ohio Section. I sincerely hope that you have enjoyed this edition of the OSJ, 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!*