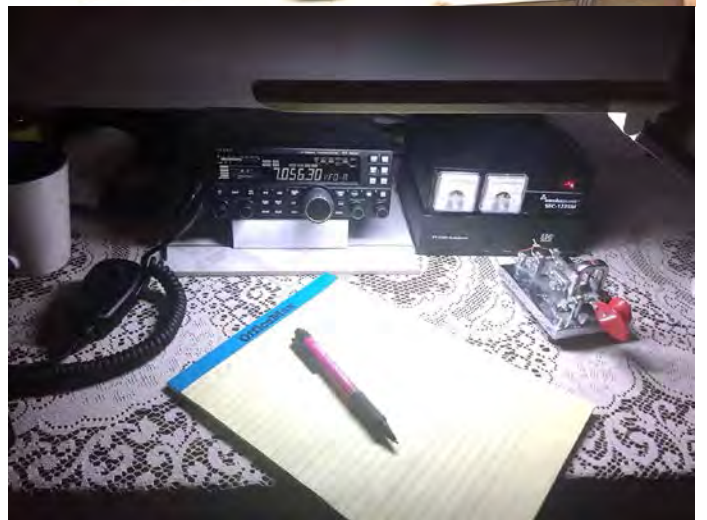




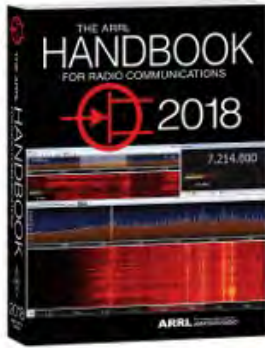
# New Year's Day Edition

- [Handbook Give Away](#)
- [ARRL International Grid Chase](#)
- [Ohio DMR Net Report](#)
- [Fun Things To Do, Classes and Hamfests Too](#)
- [One Question Questionnaire](#)
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- [Final.. Final](#)



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## New Year's Day Handbook Give Away



Hey Gang,

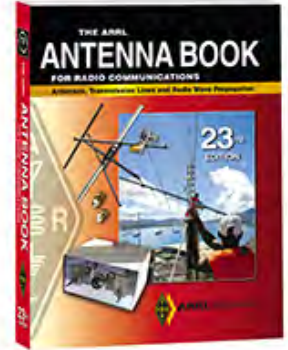
And the *winners* of the New Year's Day Handbook Giveaway are....

2018 ARRL softcover Handbook –

***Lee Sanders, KE8BHW***

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

***Jenny Taylor, N8QKE & Ralph Hoffman, W8LFR***



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

***Michael Horn, N8FRI; Pat Maley, KD8PAT  
and Fran Higgins, W8RZN***

This concludes all of the holiday drawings, but, make sure that you visit the Ohio Section website often - <http://arrloho.org> because there will be more drawings coming up! Make sure you keep a watching for the big **RED** arrow on the main page of the website. You can't win if you don't enter!

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## One Question Questionnaire

Hey Gang...

There's another NEW – one question – questionnaire on the Ohio Section Website! <http://arrloho.org> I noticed that that only about 8% of you have made out your New Year's resolutions.. Shame on you... hi.. hi.. Anyway, it's all in fun and I hope that you are enjoying answering these "ONE QUESTION" questionnaires.



Since we are on a roll with having some fun at this I want to do just one more for the season. This one is always near and dear to my heart. Let's see how many of you answer this next one like me. Since it is now New Year's Day, and we've all packed in the pounds over the holidays, let's ask this question. **“Will You Be Going On A Diet This Month?”**

The survey will only take 2 seconds for you to answer it, and you can see how your answer stacks up with others instantly. If you haven't done it yet, please do. I really want to hear from you. Hey... If you've got a question that you'd like to see on our questionnaire, please send it to me!

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## ARRL International Grid Chase Kicks Off with the New Year!

(from *arrl bulletins*)

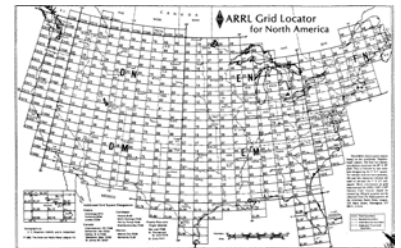


Warm up the ham shack! The [ARRL International Grid Chase 2018](#) is nearly here! The Grid Chase gets under way on January 1 UTC (New Year's Eve in US time zones). The objective of the year-long event is to work stations on *any* band (*except* 60 meters) in as many different Maidenhead grid squares as possible, and then upload your log data to ARRL's Logbook of The World ([LoTW](#)).

Each new grid square contact confirmed through LoTW will count toward your [monthly total](#). Many hams are familiar with grid squares from the VHF/UHF and satellite realms, and everyone lives in one. An [online calculator](#) by David Levine, K2DSL, can

determine your grid square. Enter a postal address, ZIP code, or a call sign, and the calculator will return the grid square for that location.

**Any** contact you make in 2018 can count for your Chase score; as long as the other operators participate in LoTW, you'll get credit automatically when they upload their logs. This means that your contest contacts will count, as will contacts with special event stations, or other on-air activity that uses LoTW to confirm contacts.



Except for 60 meters, there are no restrictions on modes or bands, as long as they are legal. Satellite contacts are valid for the Chase too. The event is open to *all* radio amateurs.

Complete details of the ARRL International Grid Chase 2018 appeared in the December 2017 issue of *QST*. For more information, [contact](#) the ARRL Contest Branch.

Hey Gang... Want to find your exact Grid Square? Thanks to Greg, WD9FTZ for finding this, all you have to do is click on the link <http://qthlocator.free.fr> and move to your location. It starts in France, so you'll need to move west first thing. Simply scroll the map west (left) to Ohio and click on the area you want. The map gives you your grid square (Maidenhead Locator System) plus the latitude and longitude in two formats. This is a Grid Square Map with the aid of Google Maps!

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### Electrical Circuits Teaser



In home electrical wiring, does stranded



copper wire have any advantage over solid core wire?

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

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## A VHF/UHF Directional Dual-band Antenna Project for Winter

(by: Gregory Drezdson, WD9FTZ)

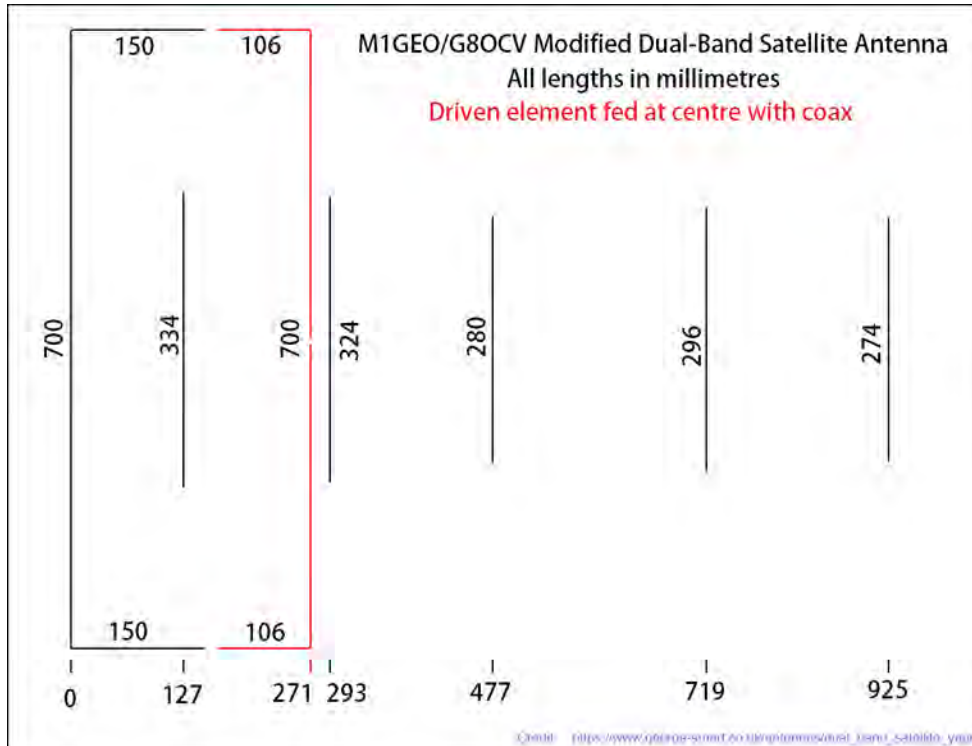
It is 2018 and it is cold outside. The daylight is sparse but instead of looking out the window and waiting for spring, less than 80 days away, how about building a VHF/UHF dual-band, directional antenna?

Some have heard of a Moxon antenna that was introduced in 1973, but only recently has this little antenna been making a comeback. The original Moxon was only a two-element antenna offering more gain than a dipole.

The performance of this Moxon directional antenna yields medium forward gain, sporting a 15-20 dB or more front to back ratio that makes this antenna a perfect winter project.

Over the years, through experimentation, the Moxon was transformed in dual-band configurations. This compact, directional antenna can be mounted in a vertical or horizontal configuration depending on the mode of operation. [FM or digital FM – vertical, and horizontal if working weak signal SSB or CW.]

The Moxon can be scaled up or down depending on what frequencies or bands you wish to operate on, too.



**Gain:** The antenna boasts a forward gain of 3.95 dBd on VHF, and 8.06 dBd on UHF.

**Directivity:** The front to back ratio is 14.53 dB on VHF, and reported 38.58 dB on UHF.

**Construction:** All measurements are in millimeters so precise measuring is critical. The elements can be 10 or 12 AWG wire and the feed point can be a short piece of coax – your choice. All of this can be mounted on a 1 meter non-metallic boom using a 1x1 piece of wood, 1-inch PCV or even a broomstick or broken snow shovel handle. The imagination is the limit.

There is no need for two coaxial cable feeds or a duplexer since the UHF portion of the antenna uses parasitic coupling.

**Uses:** In addition to using this antenna for amateur radio satellites, the antenna could be scaled down a few millimeters or so, and it could be used for digital TV, too.

Many of the larger TV markets in Ohio still have channels on VHF-Hi (174-205 MHz) so this antenna could aid in better over the air reception. [The loss of using 75-ohm coax due to the 50-ohm impedance is negligible for reception.]

The antenna can be used for scanner monitoring with acceptable performance on the 700 and 800 MHz, although not tuned for this segment of frequencies.

So, if you want some excitement on these cold winter days, give the dual band Moxon a try. At a minimal cost, a station's performance can be enhanced, and the Moxon makes for a good club assignment.

More information can be found at:

[https://www.george-smart.co.uk/antennas/dual\\_band\\_satellite\\_yagi/](https://www.george-smart.co.uk/antennas/dual_band_satellite_yagi/)

<http://www.moxonantennaproject.com/sm5jab/sm5jab.htm>

Moxon dimension online calculator:

[http://w4.vp9kf.com/moxon\\_design.htm](http://w4.vp9kf.com/moxon_design.htm)

<http://tippete.net/cgi-bin/moxgen.pl>

*Gregory Drezdzone is an award-winning news photographer. He has worked as team photographer for the Cleveland Browns, the Cleveland Indians, and for almost a decade as staff photographer for The Wichita Eagle (Kansas). Drezdzone also holds B.Sc. in Journalism, and is a FAA Commercial Pilot and Certificated Flight Instructor-Instrument.*

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## OHIO DMR NET REPORT

### December 27 DMR Net

District 1 – 7	District 5 – 4	District 9 – 5	QNI: 70
District 2 – 3	<b>District 6 – 13</b>	District 10 – 2	
District 3 – 3	<b>District 7 – 13</b>		Time: 44 minutes
District 4 – 6	District 8 – 6	Out of Ohio – 8 CA; MN; SC; MI; ME; KY; TX; MS	NCS: AB8SI

It seems that **District 6 & 7** won the prize for the night with 13 check-ins each. There were several net announcements given after all the check-ins were established.

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

You can find a ton of information about DMR and the most popular DMR Nets (*just freshly updated this past weekend – thanks to Greg, WD9FTZ for providing the information*) on the website:

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

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## Ohio ARES Tier I Membership Certificate

Hey Gang,

I've gotten a lot questions from all of you about our Tiered system and those that have completed your 4 NIMS courses (IS 100, 200, 700 & 800). There is a certificate for getting these courses in and completed and entered into our statewide database! Go to <http://arrl-ohio.org/SEC/Tier-I-Form.html> and fill in your name and call sign and I'll email you back a really neat looking certificate that shows you are an Ohio ARES TIER I member. It's frameable and, since it will come to you electronically, if you have a smartphone you can download it into your smartphone and keep it with you wherever you go.



Now I do want to tell you all that this is for the **Tier I membership only**. Your application for the certificate will be checked against the statewide database. I hope that this will help entice all of you Tier II members to start getting those courses completed and the certificates to me and to your Emergency Coordinator.

Like most of our forms that you fill out, you will get a copy of the form emailed back to you as a receipt that it did get into the system, so PLEASE make sure that you type your email correctly so that it won't go to cyberspace!

Oh, just one more thing, I know that we set 625 as the next goal, and we are getting real close to that mark. So, if you haven't given me your certificates yet, you could be that person that receives the ARRL ARES Vest!!

Are you sure that you are on the list? Make sure, here's the link to the listing:

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

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## Reminder: W1AW Begins Scheduled Transmissions on 6 Meters on January 2

*(from arrl bulletins)*



Beginning with the 1400 UTC fast code practice transmission on Tuesday, January 2, 2018, W1AW will add 6 meters — specifically 50.350 MHz — to its regular CW code practice, and CW, digital and phone bulletin transmission schedule. In addition to providing regularly scheduled transmissions on 6 meters, another goal is to act as a beacon on 6 meters, especially from the Northeast US.

Signal reports will be welcome. A web page that will allow listeners to provide signal reports will be made available after the start date. Reports may also be [e-mailed](#) to W1AW.

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## Fun Things To Do, Classes & Hamfests Too

(from various newsletters and sources)

### January 1 Hosts Events for Legacy Keys

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

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



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

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

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### Kids Day

**Saturday, January 6 from 1800 UTC through 2359 UTC**

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

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



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

Bands - All bands from 50 MHz up

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

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**Seneca Amateur Radio Club Classes**

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

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

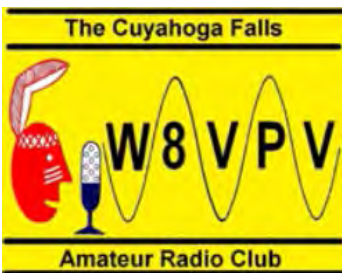
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**The Mount Vernon ARC** will be conducting a Technician Class starting with a registration night on January 18<sup>th</sup>, with classes starting on January 25<sup>th</sup> from 7:00pm – 9:30pm and continue each Thursday evening through March 1<sup>st</sup>. Exams will be held on Saturday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00am



For more information about the classes, contact Don Russell, W8PEN – [w8pen@arrl.net](mailto:w8pen@arrl.net) or Frank Counts, KC8EVS – [fcoungs@gmail.com](mailto:fcoungs@gmail.com)

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**Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club.** We are offering a five-week General Class Licensing class starting in mid-February. The sixth week will be a VE session.

The class meets between 1:15 PM and 4:45 PM at the Akron-Summit County Public Library Main Branch at 60 South High Street, Akron OH 44326.

For more information about the class, contact Jim Grover, N8PZL - [grizgrover@gmail.com](mailto:grizgrover@gmail.com)

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The Union County Amateur Radio Club is putting on an Amateur Radio Technician License Class starting February 7<sup>th</sup>.

This 6-week long class will be Wednesday evenings from 7pm to 9pm. The class will begin February 7<sup>th</sup> at the Union County Services Building, [940 London Ave. Marysville, Ohio 43040](http://www.ohiohams.net/sites/ohiohams.net/files/W8PEN%20Tech%20Study%20Guide%20Ver%202.0.pdf)

The class, testing session, and study guide are free. The class will be using the W8PEN Tech Study Guide, which is available as a PDF from the link below.



<http://www.ohiohams.net/sites/ohiohams.net/files/W8PEN%20Tech%20Study%20Guide%20Ver%202.0.pdf>  
Please email [techclass@ohiohams.net](mailto:techclass@ohiohams.net) to register for the class or request additional information about the class.

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**The Westerville Public Library** is offering a Technician Class Licensing class on 4 consecutive Saturdays from 3-5PM starting on Feb. 10, 2018. The exam for it is being offered on Mar. 10 from 3-5PM. The class is free but I don't know about the charge for taking the test. The class is being taught by Dr. Lawrence Feth, K8HTC, faculty advisor for the OSU Amateur Radio Club.

For more information about the class, visit: <http://www.westervillelibrary.org/events> .

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## **Just Ahead in Radiosport**

*(from arrl letter)*

- January 1 -- AGB New Year Snowball Contest (CW, phone, digital)
- January 1 -- SARTG New Year RTTY Contest
- January 1 -- AGCW Happy New Year Contest (CW)
- January 1 -- AGCW VHF/UHF Contest (CW)
- January 1 -- QRP ARCI New Year's Day Sprint (CW)
- January 1-7 -- All IQRP Quarterly Marathon (CW, phone, digital)
- January 2 -- ARS Spartan Sprint (CW)
- January 3 -- UKEICC 80-Meter Contest (Phone)
- January 3-7 -- Linc Cundall Memorial CW Contest
- January 4 -- NRAU 10-Meter Activity Contest (CW, phone, digital)
  - January 6-7 -- RTTY Roundup
  - January 20-22 -- January VHF

See the [ARRL Contest Calendar](#) for more information. For in-depth reporting on Amateur Radio contesting.

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

Location: Nelsonville, OH

Sponsor: Sunday Creek Amateur Radio Federation

Website: <http://www.qrz.com/db/kc8aav>

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

Location: Strasburg, OH

Sponsor: Tusco Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://tuscoarc.org>

### **02/18/2018 | InterCity ARC Hamfest**

Location: Mansfield, OH

Sponsor: InterCity Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.w8we.org>



Did you know that you can find all the Ohio Hamfests in one location? You can, go to:

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

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**Final.. Final..**



## **Happy New Year to ALL...!!!**

Wow, It's a New Year! Are you planning on getting those NIMS courses completed this year? We still have many that just haven't seen the light yet, but I'm here to tell ya' that the time is coming very soon that THIS training will be absolutely necessary for you to have if you want to be involved in most of Ohio's ARES functions.

Please understand that this isn't something that you want to just brush off either. These NIMS courses are being required of everyone that has a part in almost every situation now, from simple bicycle races to major disaster events! Yes, everyone is being told that they need this training, including your local mayors, council members, Red Cross Volunteers, Salvation Army Volunteers, CERT and even the National Guard! Let's

face it, these courses are the only thing that gives you the right to say that you are a **TRAINED** Volunteer!

The Ohio ARES Program rolled out a two-tiered system this past year and I pushed really hard to at least start your training and get at least the 4 basic NIMS (IS 100, 200, 700 & 800) courses completed. Those that completed them are now "Tier I" members and will be able to fully participate in any situation that can arise here in Ohio, or around the world.

In 2018, you will see and hear an even bigger push from the Ohio ARES Leadership to get those of you who are still Tier II (haven't completed your NIMS courses) up to the Tier I level! Our goal in Ohio is to have every ARES member in Ohio be a Tier I Member and take advantage of all of all the perks that we offer, and most importantly, be able to fully assist our served agencies.

Not sure if you've got all 4 of your NIMS courses completed and into our statewide database? Well, here's a link to find out... <http://arrl-ohio.org/SEC/special/ICS%20Complete%20by%20County%20and%20Name.pdf>

You can look up your name or callsign anytime and see if you are listed. If you are listed, you qualify for a certificate that shows you are a "Tier I" member. Here's a link to get your certificate...  
<http://arrl-ohio.org/SEC/Tier-I-Form.html>

Here's the numbers in our database as of 12-31

Members in database: **840**

Active Members: **809**

Members NIMS complete: **620**

Total Training completed: **5,734** & courses taken in 2017: **682**

Hey Gang... Do you know someone that's not getting these Newsletters? Please, forward a copy of this Newsletter over to them and have them "Opt-In" to start receiving them. Heck, just have them send me an email [n8sy@n8sy.com](mailto:n8sy@n8sy.com) and I'll get them added to the Ohio Section Emailing list.



I urge all of you to make sure that everyone, regardless of whether they are a League member or not, gets signed up to receive these Newsletters. You can always “[Opt-Out](#)” at any time if you feel this is not what you were expecting.

Did you know that all of the newsletters are archived so that you can go back and read past issues anytime you want? They are, just go to: <http://arrl-ohio.org/news/>

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)

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

Scott, N8SY...

-sk-

*Have a very Happy  
and Blessed New Year!!*

[TOP^](#)



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### **Answer to the Electrical Circuits Teaser Question**

Inside the walls, solid wire is used because there is no flexing of the wiring once it is in place. It is cheaper to make, easier to bend and keep under a screw connection, and corrosion can only happen on the outside of the wire.

Stranded wire is used where-ever the attached item must be moved or is subject to vibration or motion. So, your washing machine, dryer, stove, refrigerator, etc. use stranded wire. It is often connected by insertion into heavy duty crimp connectors that completely trap the wires, then that is screwed onto another connection.

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