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FCC Chairman Proposes Measures to Reduce Unwanted Robocalls - Nov. 20, 2018

For Immediate Release

FCC CHAIRMAN PROPOSES MEASURES TO REDUCE UNWANTED ROBOCALLS AND SUPPORT BLOCKING OF SPAM ROBOTEXTS



FCC Will Consider Proposed Actions at the December Open Commission Meeting --

WASHINGTON, November 20, 2018—Federal Communications Commission Chairman Ajit Pai today proposed measures to reduce unwanted robocalls and prevent spam text messaging.

First, he is calling on his fellow Commissioners to approve a reassigned number database.

This database would help legitimate callers know whether telephone numbers have been reassigned to somebody else before calling those numbers so they can direct their calls to parties who asked for them rather than individuals who have subsequently obtained those reassigned numbers. Second, he is proposing to make clear that wireless providers are authorized to take measures to stop unwanted text messaging through robotext-blocking, antispoofing measures, and other anti-spam features.

“Combatting robocalls is our top consumer protection priority, and these proposals are a significant step forward in that effort. Today, I am calling on the FCC to take additional measures to combat these calls and also to prevent a flood of spam robotexts from clogging Americans’ phones,” said Chairman Pai. “Americans rely on and trust text messaging. That’s why we need to act to prevent a deluge of spam texts and scam messages. I’m also proposing new rules to help reduce robocalls to reassigned numbers by creating a database that will help legitimate businesses stop calling those numbers. I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting these proposals and continuing our fight against unwanted robocalls and robotexts.”

The FCC will consider these items at its next Open Commission Meeting on December 12, 2018. The draft Declaratory Ruling on text messaging would formally rule that text-messaging services are information services, not telecommunications services, thus allowing carriers to continue using robotext-blocking and anti-spoofing measures to protect consumers from unwanted text messages. This Declaratory Ruling would rule on a 2015 petition from masstexting provider Twilio and a 2007 petition from Public Knowledge. The reassigned numbers proposal would establish new rules in order to launch a database of reassigned numbers. This would help prevent accidental robocalls to numbers that are no longer assigned to consumers who signed up to receive those calls.

Robotexts appear to be a growing concern for American consumers, and the FCC is working to address them. State officials also have voiced concerns about scams and spam texts, with a bipartisan group of 20 state attorneys general asking the FCC not to disturb wireless carriers’ ability to combat unwanted spam messages.

Text messaging is a heavily-relied upon communications service. For instance, 58 percent of teens with smartphones say that messaging is their primary way of keeping in touch with close friends. To ensure such texting services remain reliable and relatively spam-free, wireless messaging providers currently apply filtering to prevent large volumes of unwanted messaging traffic or to identify potentially harmful texts. As a result, the spam rate for SMS texts is estimated at 2.8 percent whereas the spam rate for email is estimated at over 50 percent. This Declaratory Ruling would maintain and strengthen the legal foundation for this consumer-friendly filtering and would empower blocking of likely spam. The reliability of text messaging can even have life-saving impacts: NENA: The 9-1-1 Association has expressed concerns about the possible impact of spam texting on consumer reliance on carrier-supported text messaging, which is used in text-to-9-1-1 services.

Calls to reassigned numbers can be a significant problem for those receiving the unwanted calls, those missing the calls they asked for, and for legitimate businesses making calls for which they have prior consent. Millions of phone numbers are reassigned each year and oftentimes consumers do not tell their contacts of the change. To prevent mistaken calls, the draft order would establish a single, comprehensive database of reassigned numbers based on information provided by phone companies that obtain North American Numbering Plan U.S. geographic numbers. After careful, deliberate consideration of the problem, it would also conclude this database would be the most efficient and cost-effective solution.

Robocalls and robotexts are limited by the Telephone Consumer Protection Act. The FCC has repeatedly established that text messages are considered a type of call under the law and thus must abide by all restrictions on robocalls to mobile phones. For information on the restrictions on robocalls and robotexts, visit www.fcc.gov/robocalls. In addition, manipulation of caller ID information – or spoofing – is limited by the Truth in Caller ID Act: <https://www.fcc.gov/spoofing>

#####

Peanut – A New and Exciting Project Coming

(from David, PA7LIM and thanks to Greg, WD9FTZ)

Working on new project called Peanut. On the Peanut you can talk with HAM amateurs around the world via an Android device or network radio. Some of the ROOMS are connected to DSTAR reflectors (REF001C, REF030C, XRF076B, XRF076F, XRF711L, XRF070C etc..). You only need an Android device to use DSTAR.

Maybe in the future I will add DMR also.

Supported hardware

- Any Android device running Android 4.x or higher.
- Inrico TM-7 <http://www.hi-radio.com/product/inrico-tm-7-wifi-gsm-wcdma-3g-sim-network-ptt-mobile-car-radio-with-touch-screen/>
- Senhaix N60 <http://www.hi-radio.com/product/senhaix-n60-android-vehicle-phone-network-radio/>

Supported OS

- Android 4.x or higher.



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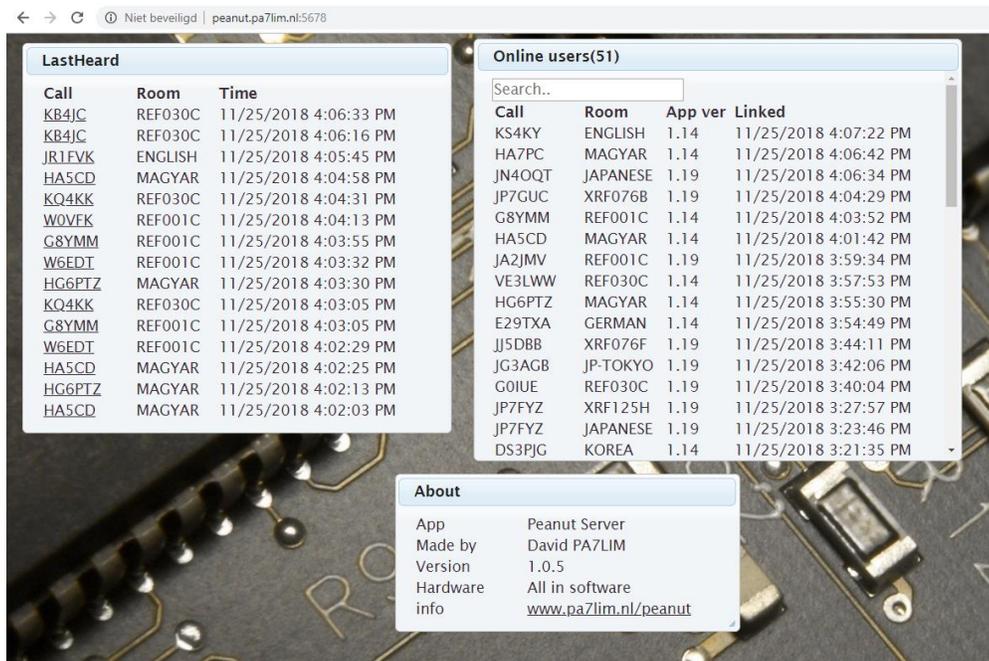
Access

The access to new users is minimized for a while. I did not expect the interest in the project.

I will see how the Peanut master is doing in the upcoming weekend. If it holds, I will continue with new codes next week. I am also designing a way to split the master geographically.

I hear some people say that this project will be commercial. That is NOT true! Peanut is free and will stay free. I hope everyone like the project! Click here to make a code request :

[peanut-request](#) David PA7LIM



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL peanut.pa7lim.nl:5678. The page displays two main panels: 'Last Heard' and 'Online users(51)'. The 'Last Heard' panel shows a list of calls with columns for Call, Room, and Time. The 'Online users(51)' panel shows a search bar and a list of online users with columns for Call, Room, App ver, and Linked. An 'About' panel is also visible, providing information about the app, its creator (David PA7LIM), version (1.0.5), and hardware (All in software).

Call	Room	Time
KB4JC	REF030C	11/25/2018 4:06:33 PM
KB4JC	REF030C	11/25/2018 4:06:16 PM
JR1EVK	ENGLISH	11/25/2018 4:05:45 PM
HA5CD	MAGYAR	11/25/2018 4:04:58 PM
KQ4KK	REF030C	11/25/2018 4:04:31 PM
W0VFK	REF001C	11/25/2018 4:04:13 PM
G8YMM	REF001C	11/25/2018 4:03:55 PM
W6EDT	REF001C	11/25/2018 4:03:32 PM
HG6PTZ	MAGYAR	11/25/2018 4:03:30 PM
KQ4KK	REF030C	11/25/2018 4:03:05 PM
G8YMM	REF001C	11/25/2018 4:03:05 PM
W6EDT	REF001C	11/25/2018 4:02:29 PM
HA5CD	MAGYAR	11/25/2018 4:02:25 PM
HG6PTZ	MAGYAR	11/25/2018 4:02:13 PM
HA5CD	MAGYAR	11/25/2018 4:02:03 PM

Call	Room	App ver	Linked
KS4KY	ENGLISH	1.14	11/25/2018 4:07:22 PM
HA7PC	MAGYAR	1.14	11/25/2018 4:06:42 PM
JN4OQT	JAPANESE	1.19	11/25/2018 4:06:34 PM
JP7GUC	XRF076B	1.19	11/25/2018 4:04:29 PM
G8YMM	REF001C	1.14	11/25/2018 4:03:52 PM
HA5CD	MAGYAR	1.14	11/25/2018 4:01:42 PM
JA2JMV	REF001C	1.19	11/25/2018 3:59:34 PM
VE3LWW	REF030C	1.14	11/25/2018 3:57:53 PM
HG6PTZ	MAGYAR	1.14	11/25/2018 3:55:30 PM
E29TXA	GERMAN	1.14	11/25/2018 3:54:49 PM
JJ5DBB	XRF076F	1.19	11/25/2018 3:44:11 PM
JG3AGB	JP-TOKYO	1.19	11/25/2018 3:42:06 PM
G0IUJ	REF030C	1.19	11/25/2018 3:40:04 PM
JP7FYZ	XRF125H	1.19	11/25/2018 3:27:57 PM
JP7FYZ	JAPANESE	1.19	11/25/2018 3:23:46 PM
DS3PJG	KOREA	1.14	11/25/2018 3:21:35 PM

About

App	Peanut Server
Made by	David PA7LIM
Version	1.0.5
Hardware	All in software
info	www.pa7lim.nl/peanut

Supported radio's

- eh.. The Inrico TM-7 is running Android and looks like a radio
- Who is going to make the first analog hotspot?

Rooms

- There are local rooms like SPANISH, DUTCH, ENGLISH, JAPANESE, KOREAN etc. These rooms are in HD quality.
- The ROOMS like REF030C, XRF076C, XRF070C etc are linked to DSTAR. You can make a QSO with your phone/network radio to these reflectors. The rooms are transcoded with AMBE3000 chips located around the world.

Software

<https://play.google.com/apps/testing/peanut.peanut>

Dashboard

You can see who is online via the reflector dashboard : <http://peanut.pa7lim.nl:5678>

Transcoding

The DSTAR transcoding between peanut and DSTAR is done via DVSI AMBE3000 chips. I received during my development in BlueDV some free AMBE3000 device. Many thanks to:

Complete solution:

XLX reflector club : <https://reflectorloversclub.jimdofree.com/>

Solution that need AMBEServer on Raspberry PI:

DVMEGA : <http://www.dvmega.nl/dvstick30/>

NWDR : <http://nwdigitalradio.com/products/>

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Things to know

- You do not have to disconnect to change a room! Just select a room and wait 1 second.
- You do not need an AMBE3000 for peanut to do DSTAR. I am transcoding it for you.
- Is translated in Japanese and Korean
- Runs very nice on a TM-7
- You can also use Peanut on Windows with an DVAP. (use an analog radio)
- If you want to connect more reflectors, you can always use BlueDV Android with an AMBE3000.
- You can provide me a remote AMBEServer to link Peanut to your DSTAR reflector. (limited available)

Thanks to Yoshi JH1TWX and Andre PD1AEU. Both spend a lot of time testing during my development.

Keep in mind.. It is experimental! I am writing this software for fun and have no commercial intentions.

Have fun experimenting!

David PA7LIM

The Handbook Give Away

Hey Gang,

We had another fantastic response this month, but I'm sure you're more interested in knowing just who won the Handbook this month... And the winner is....

Patrick Gilfillen, N8EWH!

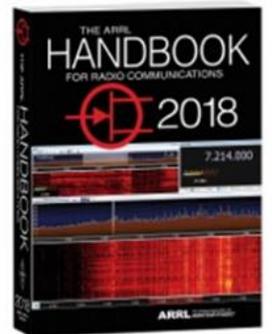
Since we've had another month of great response with the Giveaway, and it's getting a lot colder outside, I added a really neat new gift to the list. I added an official "Ohio Section Logo Sweat-Shirt" !! AND.... that winner is... ***Thaddeus Mather, W8TKM!***

AND..... if you didn't see it in last week's edition I had a special Handbook Give Away just for Thanksgiving Day! And... ***James Neal, WD8JLP*** of Etna was the winner!

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>



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 you 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



#####

Amateur Radio Operators Help out with General Elections

Ten NOARS/LCARA ham radio operators provided communications between various Lorain County voting collection points and the Lorain County Emergency Management Agency in Elyria on November 6, 2018. Under the direction of LCEMA, Tim, KC8OS, coordinated the efforts for the evening. NOARS members participating were Matt, KD8VTX, and Tom, W8KYZ.

#####

Elections for Officers/Directors was held for the Geauga Amateur Radio Association

Elections were held at the November meeting and the following persons were elected.

President Dave KD8TWG
Secretary Linda KD8SUN
Director of Operations Megan WB8IXZ
Director of Education Matt W8DEC



#####

Portage County Amateur Radio Service Elects Officers/Directors



Congratulations to the PCARS elected Officers for 2019. At the November meeting the elections were held - Congratulations goes out to the elected PCARS officers for 2019.

President - Jim Wilson, AC8NT
Vice President - Nick Wagner, AC8QG
Treasurer - Paul Hyland, KE8EGF
3-Year Trustee - Terry Morris, KB8AMZ

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With the November elections, the 2018 3-year Trustee moves to the 2-year Trustee position and the 2-year Trustee moves to the 1-year Trustee position. Rick, K8CAV remains as Immediate Past President. The new board members commence their duties on January 1, 2019.

#####

Amateur Radio Club makes waves in first year at Bolich Middle School

By April Helms Reporter (MyTown NEO)

Posted Nov 29, 2018 at 12:01 AM

CUYAHOGA FALLS — It was Nov. 14 at 2:30 p.m. at Bolich Middle School. Most of the building's students had left for the day, but around 20 students remained in the building to participate in a fox hunt.

No, they weren't searching for a small, pointy-eared canine, but using homemade antennas to track down radio transmitters hidden in various locations around the school. With help from the Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club, the middle school students learned how to adjust the antenna to help track down a fox, which gave a burst of signal every couple of minutes. These students are part of the school's inaugural Amateur Radio Club.



There are several purposes to the fox hunt, said Anthony Luscre, the section youth coordinator for the American Radio Relay League. "Say you have someone who is lost and can't identify where they are," Luscre said. "You may be able to use radio signals to track them." Luscre said the antenna the students used was inexpensive to assemble and included leftover PVC pipe and tape measures. "It cost about \$5 to make," he said.



The students learned their lessons well. One group went out to try to find one of the foxes, which had been hidden underneath some cardboard boxes, but one of the school custodians had taken the boxes to the dumpster.

The students still found the fox. Another purpose is to find possible items that are interfering with a radio signal, Luscre added.

"They are just a fun group of kids," said Principal Ryan Huch, whose own love for radio and technology fueled the start of the fledgling club. "They are here because they are creative and curious."

Huch said the concept for the group started last year with a few activities, and officially started this year. "We talk about the real-world applications in science," Huch said.

While some groups of students are out on the fox hunt, other students remain in the library. Some of them toss playing cards into the air, making them fly. Huch used this as an opportunity to have the students research how and why their cards can sail through the air. "They are hanging out here instead of home," Huch said. "That's a good sign."

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In October, the club participated in a contest where middle school, high school and college amateur radio clubs try to make contact with as many other groups as possible, Luscre said. Clubs earn points for every group contacted, with multipliers for contacting another school group or an out-of-state contact. Eleven-year-olds said they really enjoy the club activities. “It was really fun,” said sixth-grader Madi Davis. “We have contacted people from all the way to Portugal. It’s been a really neat experience.”

“It was really cool,” said sixth-grader Nolan Bolser. “Everyone got a turn on the radio.” Huch said there will be another School Roundup Contest in February.

Sixth-grader MJ Jaber, said his love of technology prompted him to join the club. “I hope to learn how to get my license,” MJ said.



Cuyahoga Falls resident Frank Thompkins, a member of the Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club, said he went to school at Bolich. He said the new club was a way to teach students the many applications of radio and the numerous forms of communication.

“There is so much to learn,” Thompkins said. “Kids don’t understand how information has evolved. Information used to be as fast as your feet. Then you had wires which could transmit information. And then there was wireless.”

With wireless, the possibilities have become enormous, Thompkins said. “Ham radio is still very active,” Thompkins said. “But when I mention ham radio, they say ‘Oh, that’s still around?’”

Huch said that in the future, he would like to see Bolich’s club form a partnership with Case Western Reserve’s Amateur Radio Club.

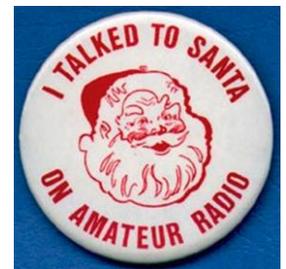
Some of the things the students are taught are the phonetic alphabet and Morse code, Huch said. During the day’s club meeting, a Morse code message came through on the radio set in the school. By using a translator found on the internet, the students could decipher it. The message had come from someone named Mike, who was probably from upstate New York. “We once made a Morse code contact from someone all the way from Montenegro,” Huch said. Higher technology such as the internet is not needed for amateur radio, Huch said. “We may use it for research, but if it goes kaput, we can still communicate,” he said.

#####

Kids Talk To Santa

If you are interested in helping your area kids talk to Santa via Amateur Radio, here’s a great link for you... <http://www.hdscs.org/npn/npn01arrl.html>

#####



QCWA Chapter 117, Appleseed (OH)

Submitted by: Harry, K8HF, President

On the 27th of September, the Appleseed Chapter 117 toured the 179th Air National Guard Facilities at Mansfield Lamb Airport after lunch at the Dawson Ridge Golf Course and Pub. Thanks to CMSgt David Krutsch, KD8MSZ, for setting this tour at the Air Guard.



The 179th is home to eight C-130 cargo planes. We started by touring the big bird inside and out. Then we toured the prop and engine maintenance department where they train, repair and rebuilt the C-130 engines and propellers. Next, we toured the machine and welding shop, they can make and install repair parts for the C-130s.

The Quality Control and inspection department checks the parts for cracks and tests parts. The hydraulic department tests and certifies aircraft hydraulic parts and systems either in the lab or on the aircraft. -



Pictured from left to right are: Al Fischer, K8CW; CMSgt David Krutsch, KD8MSZ; Harry Frietchen, K8HF; Henry Koenig, WD8Q; Kim Fletcher; Dick Fletcher, N8CJS; John Fraifogl; Paul Picking, WD8OJL; Robert Paul, KD8CTE; John Ness, K8NJ. Dick, N8CJS, and Paul, WD8OJL, are both retired from the 179th ANG.

#####

Southern Ohio Amateur Radio Association (SOARA) helps out in Christmas Parade

Mike Love, WB8YKS SOARA / ARES Ohio Section PIO

The Christmas song classic by Dean Martin, “Baby, It’s Cold Outside” sums up the weather at the Ironton Lions Club Christmas parade, November 26, 2018.

The folks attending the parade experienced wind gusts up to 30 mph, freezing rain, sleet, snow showers with a wind child in the 20’s. Yes, it was cold outside!



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However, the 10 members of the Southern Ohio Amateur Radio Association and Lawrence County Amateur Radio Emergency Service were prepared for

the inclement weather. It also provided a great opportunity to test equipment in the colder temperatures and break out the winter clothing that may be required during an emergency later this year.

The SOARA Ironton downtown repeater 444.625 performed seamlessly and provided excellent coverage for the required handheld point to point communication.

Everyone enjoyed the parade especially the kids talking with Santa and receiving candy from the participants on

the various floats. It's always a good time for the community to come together for a fun and safe event. The parade provided an excellent kick off for this Christmas Season.

Amateurs participating in the parade:

Jim Rowe, N8TVO; Keith Brooks, N8DKB; Mike Love, WB8YKS; Tim Nicely, AC8VQ; Ed Jenkins, N8URU; Jerry Lockhart, W8HIC; Dave Bruce, KD8NYN; Randy Franz, KD8VKB; Annabelle Jenkins, KB8TGI; Don Kemper, KN4KSS

#####

Stark County ARES Holding ICS Training

The **Stark County ARES** in conjunction with the **Stark County EMA Office** will again be sponsoring FEMA ICS Training. The training will be on **December 19th** and we'll start at **5:30 PM** and hopefully finish by **7:30**.

Training this month will be for the ICS-700 certification, "An Introduction to the National Incident Management System". There are no prerequisites. The location is at the County EMA office on Route 62 lower level. There is no cost for the training. Bring your FEMA student ID number so you can take the exam at completion. Laptops will be available, or you may use a smartphone to take the test.

Please reply to this notice if you are planning to attend the December 19 ICS-700 class, or email dlamm@whbc.com Steve would like a headcount beforehand.

#####

MVARA Holds Talk To Santa Night

The Mahoning Valley Amateur Radio Assn. in conjunction with Akron Children's Hospital, Boardman Campus will be hosting the annual Santa Claus Net on Wednesday **December 19th** at 7:00 PM on the 146.745 repeater. For those who are new, MVARA members take 2-meter radios into Akron Children's Hospital and let the kids talk to Santa over the air.



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We need operators for this event, but you must register with the Hospital & complete an online training program.

Please contact me at: w8ysu@arrl.net and I will put you in touch with the Hospital contact person. We would love to have you, your children, grandchildren, neighbors or anybody that wants to talk to Santa also check-in.

#####

SWODXA W8DXCC ANNOUNCEMENT

Bill Salyers – AJ8B@arrl.net

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



The SouthWest Ohio DX Association (SWODXA) and the Milford Amateur Radio Club are pleased to announce that they will sponsor the inaugural W8DXCC convention to be held in conjunction with the 2019 Milford Hamfest. This ARRL affiliated event will be held on Saturday, June 15th, 2019, at the Clermont County Fairgrounds, 1000 Locust St., Owensville, OH

The Hamfest will run from 7 AM to 1 PM and feature Vendor setups, large flea market space, VE Exams (Walk-ins Welcome with ID), ARRL Card Checking for DXCC, WAS, WAC and VUCC, and CQ Card Checking. Food will also be available.

There will also be hourly prizes drawn during the morning session and a grand prize at the end of the Hamfest!

The W8DXCC convention will run from 1 PM to 6 PM with a special event station, programs and networking opportunities! The purpose of the convention is to further the amount of DX activity in the region. The program and the topics have been aligned to this stated purpose! K3LR, Tim Duffy of DXEngineering will be the keynote speaker. There will also be a discussion on “DX with 100 watts and a Wire”, “QSLing”, “FT8” and “Propagation”.

The convention area is fully enclosed and air conditioned. Tickets are \$5 for the Milford Amateur Radio Hamfest or \$10 for both! Seating is limited for the W8DXCC Convention.

We have started collecting information via the website! Details can be found on the W8DXCC website, www.w8dxcc.com.

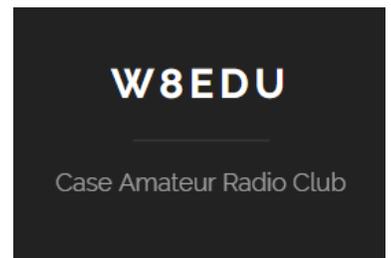
Program details and a list of the prizes will be on the website as they become available and updates will be sent out regularly via Twitter. Follow us on Twitter - @DXCCW8

#####

Case Amateur Radio Club Sponsoring 2019 HamSCI

(from [Dale's Tales](#))

David AD8Y, the Faculty Advisor of The Case Amateur Radio Club, reports that CARC will be sponsoring the 2019 HamSCI (Ham Radio Science Citizen Investigation) conference in March.



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It will be on the campus of Case Western Reserve University and will include tours of the CARC station, W8EDU, and the CWRU ThinkBox public-access shop. There will also be an exam session.

More material will be available as the date approaches. This fits well with the ARRL's new incentive for Lifelong Learning and you will hear more about that over the next few months. keep an eye on <http://www.hamsci.com> for news and updates.

#####

The Case Amateur Radio Club of Case Western Reserve University has two [COLEMs](#) examiners who can provide commercial testing. We are licensed with Electronics Technicians Association International, eta-i.org. We strive to provide all commercial exam elements including Morse Elements I and II.

Upcoming Hamfests

There are none left in Ohio for 2018. So, with that said we are now listing the hamfests for 2019.

We had an absolutely fantastic year and ended it with a grand total of 32 Ohio hamfests! Wow... This just might be a record setting year as that I don't remember ever having this many hamfests to attend in a year. Now, just how many of these did you attend?



2019

01/20/2019 | [S.C.A.R.F. Hamfest](#)
 Location: Nelsonville , OH
 Sponsor: Sunday Creek Amateur Radio Federation
 Website: <http://www.qrz.com/db/kc8aav>

01/27/2019 | TUSCO ARC Hamfest, Electronics & Computer Show
 Location: Strasburg, OH
 Sponsor: Tusco Amateur Radio Club
 Website: <http://tuscoarc.org>

02/17/2019 | InterCity ARC Hamfest
 Location: Mansfield, OH
 Sponsor: InterCity Amateur Radio Club
 Website: <http://www.w8we.org>

03/03/2019 | WINTER HAMFEST
 Location: Elyria, OH
 Sponsor: Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society
 Website: <http://www.noars.net/hamfests/noarsfest>

V.E. Test Sessions

(from arrl)

12/05/2018 | [Cincinnati OH 45242-5614](#)

Sponsor: Greater Cincinnati ARA

Location: Blue Ash Recreation Center

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

[Learn More](#)

12/08/2018 | [Findlay OH 45840](#)

Sponsor: Findlay Radio Club

Location: Findlay Radio Clubhouse

Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

[Learn More](#)

12/08/2018 | [Huber Heights OH 45424-4143](#)

Sponsor: Huber Heights Amateur Radio Cl

Location: The Forge

Time: 9:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

[Learn More](#)

12/08/2018 | [Maumee OH 43537-1628](#)

Sponsor: Toledo Mobile Radio Assoc

Location: Maumee Fire Station #2

Time: 8:15 AM (No Walk-ins / Call ahead)

[Learn More](#)

12/11/2018 | [Lancaster OH 43130-3014](#)

Sponsor: Lancaster & Fairfield Cnty ARC

Location: American Red Cross

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

[Learn More](#)

12/15/2018 | [East Liverpool OH 43920-9486](#)

Sponsor: Triangle ARC

Location: Glenmoore Volunteer Fire Station

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

[Learn More](#)

12/15/2018 | [Springfield OH 45506-1607](#)

Sponsor: CLARA

Location: Main Branch

Time: 11:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

[Learn More](#)

12/16/2018 | [Elyria OH 44035-1343](#)

Sponsor: American Red Cross

Location: American Red Cross

Time: 12:50 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

[Learn More](#)

12/18/2018 | [Sandusky OH 44870-1926](#)

Sponsor: Sandusky, Ohio VE Team

Location: Sandusky Radio Club

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

[Learn More](#)

12/31/2018 | [Dayton OH 45434-6416](#)

Sponsor: DARA

Location: Beavercreek High School

Time: 5:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

[Learn More](#)

01/08/2019 | [Lancaster OH 43130-3014](#)

Sponsor: Lancaster & Fairfield Cnty ARC

Location: American Red Cross

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

[Learn More](#)

01/10/2019 | [Milford OH 45150-1427](#)

Sponsor: Milford ARC

Location: Faith Church

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

[Learn More](#)

Special Events

- **12/08/2018 | 105th Anniversary of Founding of Cambridge Amateur Radio Association**
Dec 8, 1600Z-2200Z, W8VP, Cambridge, OH. Cambridge Amateur Radio Association. 14.245 7.235. QSL.
CARA, P.O. Box 1804, Cambridge, OH 43725. www.w8vp.org

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ARRL Contest Corner

An expanded, downloadable version of *QST*'s [Contest Corral](#) is available as a PDF. Check the sponsor's Web site for information on operating time restrictions and other instructions.



HF CONTESTS

December 5

- [QRP Fox Hunt](#)
- [Phone Fray](#)
- [CWops Mini-CWT Test](#)

December 7

- [NCCC RTTY Sprint](#)
- [QRP Fox Hunt](#)
- [NCCC Sprint](#)

December 9

- [QRP ARCI Holiday Spirits Homebrew Sprint](#)
- [CQC Great Colorado Snowshoe Run](#)

December 12

- [NAQCC CW Sprint](#)
- [QRP Fox Hunt](#)
- [Phone Fray](#)
- [CWops Mini-CWT Test](#)

December 6

- [CWops Mini-CWT Test](#)
- [QRP ARCI Topband Sprint](#)
- [NRAU 10m Activity Contest](#)
- [SKCC Sprint Europe](#)

December 8

- [PODXS 070 Club Triple Play Low Band Sprint](#)
- [ARRL 10-Meter Contest](#)
- [TRC Digi Contest](#)
- [SKCC Weekend Sprintathon](#)
- [International Naval Contest](#)

December 10

- [4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint](#)

#####

December is Youngsters on the Air (YOTA) Month

December is Youngsters on the Air Month ([YOTA Month](#)). Listen for stations on the air with YOTA as the call sign suffix.

“The idea for this is to show the Amateur Radio hobby to young people and to encourage youngsters to be active on the amateur bands,” said Tomi Varro, HA9T.



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“This is a great moment to show Amateur Radio to the world and to invite newcomers.” YOTA is primarily an International Amateur Radio Union ([IARU](#)) Region 1 (Europe and Africa) activity, but youngsters from the US in Region 2 (the Americas) have attended YOTA summer camps, which are held in a different country each year. Varro said both licensed and unlicensed youth will be making contacts. “Be helpful on the bands — maybe these young operators are just making their first ever contacts,” he advised.

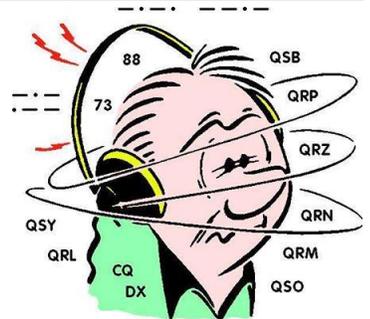
YOTA stations are, in general, operated by individuals 25 or younger. The operating event takes place for the entire month of December UTC. As part of YOTA month, Bob Johnson, W9XY, and Ken Claerbout, K4ZW, will travel to Ethiopia to team up with the club at the Addis Ababa University, Institute of Technology and club station ET3AA. For more updates, visit YOTA’s [Facebook page](#).

DX This Week – DX CW

Bill AJ8B (aj8b@arrl.net, @AJ8B, www.aj8b.com or www.swodxa.org)

DX This Week – CW Shorthand – Cut Numbers, Prosigns, and abbreviations

If you spent any time on the CW bands, or, more specifically, on the air during the recent CQWW CW DX Contest, you may have heard some unfamiliar CW characters, or questioned the usage of characters that you knew. More than likely, you heard an experienced operator using a “Cut” number, a “Prosign”, or an abbreviation. For instance, you may have worked someone who said that your signal was 5NN. You probably guess that they were sending 599 to you, however, they were using a Cut number, or an agreed upon shorthand for the number 9.



Cut Numbers – You may think that cutting the number 9 from “- - - .” to “-.” is not a big deal, and you would be correct if you were just working a couple of folks. However, a DX station who may work 200 or more hams during an on the air session may disagree. Propagation doesn’t always stay open and is shifting all the time. If the DX station can save a bit of work per QSO, it adds up! Cut Numbers are used most during a contest where the DX station is focused on rate more than saving time. The stations who are trying to work him are not going to hang around for minutes and the more QSOs he can squeeze into a small timeframe, the better.

In addition to using Cut Numbers for RST, they are also common to use for the stations zone designation or power output. For instance, I worked OM2VL (Slovak Republic) in CQ Zone 15 during the recent contest. The exchange from Vegh was AJ8B TU 5NN AE K which combines Cut Numbers and abbreviations. Vegh sent my call, (AJ8B), Thanks (TU), my signal report – 599 (5NN), his CQ Zone 15 (AE) and the K to terminate the data sent. Then he would go on to the next station. Vegh has almost 300,000 QSOs to his credit, so, I am sure that he leans heavily on these concepts. You need to be careful when and where you use a cut number. The person copying you should be expecting a number, or they will treat what you send as a letter and will get confused.

That is why Vegh sent the 5 in the 5NN sequence instead of the Cut Number equivalent. A table of cut numbers is below:

Number	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0
Cut Number	A	U	V	4	E	6	G	D	N	T

Prosigns: are symbols formed by running together two characters into one without the intercharacter space to make an abbreviation for the most common procedural signals. Prosigns are usually written with a BAR over the characters. For instance, I use BT frequently during a QSO. I use it as a pause to gather my thoughts or to switch to another topic. It would be sent as -...-, not -... -. (Dah DIT DIT DIT Dah not Dah DIT DIT DIT <Space> Dah) 1 character instead of two.

Don't neglect to learn these by sound. Knowing what they look like on paper is of little value when you are mystified by the sound of long CW characters. Knowing the rules of context that govern the use of Prosigns is also very helpful:

AAA is the period. Use it at the end of a sentence when the following sentence will pertain to the same subject.

AR is used at the end of a transmission when calling a specific station before the two-way contact has been established. Use it in place of K or KN when answering a CQ, or calling someone for a sked.

AS means "Please stand by for a moment", usually used to let the other guy know that you have to talk to someone else in the room, answer the telephone, or fix some technical glitch and that the band didn't just fall out from under your QSO. You'll be back in just a minute.

BT is kind of like the period. Use it at the end of a sentence when the next sentence will pertain to a different topic.

DN is the slash (/). It is used to indicate mobile, QRP, or operation from a different call area than that indicated by your callsign.

IMI is the question mark.

K is used at the end of a transmission means you are listening for an answer from any station. Use it when calling CQ. Once you have established contact with a station and you do not want to be interrupted by a third party, use KN instead.

KN is used at the end of a transmission when only the other party already in the QSO is invited to respond.

MIM is the comma.

R means "Roger" or "Received". Use it at the beginning of a transmission ONLY if you copied 100% of what was just sent to you. Don't use it if anything was missed. Use BK instead, and something like "FB on UR QTH but missed UR name". You can also start a transmission with BK even if something was not missed. High speed operators often use this method instead of KN and R.

SK is used at the end of your final transmission of a QSO. If the other station has not yet sent his "final" you may follow SK with KN.

Abbreviations: Below is a table of common abbreviations used in a typical CW QSO.

Abbreviation	Meaning	Abbreviation	Meaning	Abbreviation	Meaning
73	Regards	GA	Good Afternoon	RCVR	Receiver
ABT	About	GB	God Bless	SIGS	Signals

ANT	Antenna	GE	Good Evening	SN	Soon
B4	Before	GL	Good Luck	SRI	Sorry
BCNU	Be Seeing You	GM	Good Morning	TNX	Thanks
BK	Break	Gud	Good	TU	Thank You
BN	Been	HPE	Hope	TX	Transmit
CLDY	Cloudy	HV	Have	U	You
CLR	Clear	HW	How	UR	Your
CONDX	Conditions	NR	Number	VY	Very
CPY	Copy	NW	Now	WID	Width
CU	See you	OM	Old Man	WUD	Would
CUD	Could	OP	Operator	WX	Weather
CUL	See you Later	PSE	Please	XCVR	Transceiver
ES	And	PWR	Power	XMTR	Transmitter
FB	Fine Business	R	Are	XTAL	Crystal

Did I forget any?

From our friend at the DailyDX and the WeeklyDX, (<http://www.dailydx.com/>) Bernie has this to report:

- **3Y - Bouvet** – The 3Y0I team is still in Cape Town, South Africa, taking classes on cold weather survival and rescue techniques. That should be completed today. <https://www.rebeldxgroup.com/3y0iteam-training/>. They have chosen pilot stations at home QTHs to help during the operation: <https://www.rebeldxgroup.com/3y0i-pilots>. They will not have a fulltime online log but do plan to upload to Club Log twice a day. The pilots will not help with busted calls or band or mode requests; they will be passing info on propagation openings on difficult paths. A two-week operation is still planned but the departure date still has not been announced. 160-6M CW, SSB and FT8 is expected. <https://www.rebeldxgroup.com> and <https://bouvetoya.org/3yoi-bandplan>. QSLing using Club Log is their preference or use LoTW or mail via 3Z9DX.
- **C5 - The Gambia** - Yes ON7YK, Andre, is back for a while in Bijilo and will be QRV as C5YK until March 9, 2019. He is using a KX3 and linear for up to 1 KW. Andre is using a Spiderbeam and dipoles for activity on 60 (mostly FT8 with some SSB on 5.365 MHz), 40, 20, 17, 15, 12 and 10 meters using FT8, JT65, JT9, RTTY, SSB and CW. Logs will be uploaded to LoTW and eQSL. QSL via ON7YK, with special instructions on QRZ.com. Logs are also posted at <http://www.on7yk.eu/h-logbook.php> .
- **JD1/M - Minami Torishima** - JG8NQJ/JD1, Take, arrived yesterday on Marcus Island. He will be there until mid-February 2019. QSL via JA8CJY.

More info can be found at www.swodxa.org or www.aj8b.com

ARLD049 DX Bulletin

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by SQ9FMU, The Daily DX, the OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX News, DXNL, Contest Corral from QST and the ARRL Contest Calendar and WA7BNM web sites.

Thanks to all.

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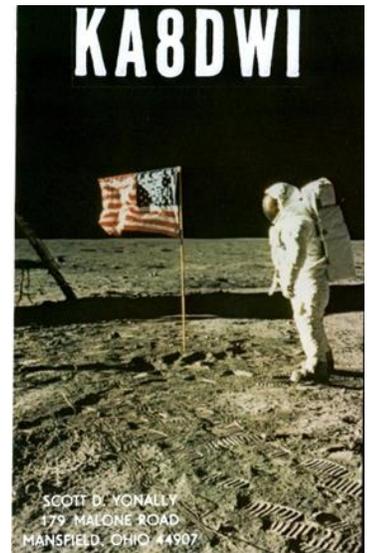
TUNISIA, 3V. Ash, KF5EYY plans to be QRV as 3V8SF in the ARRL 160 Meter contest. QSL via LX1NO.

TIMOR-LESTE, 4W. Operators Sookun, HL1AHS and Tae-Su, DS3EXX are QRV as 4W/HL1AHS and 4W/DS3EXX, respectively, until December 3. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB and FT8. QSL to home calls.

CYPRUS, 5B. Special event station C4XMAS is QRV during the festive season throughout the month of December. Activity will be on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB and various digital modes. QSL via IZ4AMS.

THE GAMBIA, C5. Andre, ON7YK is QRV as C5YK until March 9, 2019. Activity is on 60 to 10 meters using FT8, with some CW and SSB. QSL to home call after March 15, 2019.

SAINT MARTIN, FS. Operators John, K9EL, John, W9ILY, Paul, K9NU, Paul, FS4WBS and Mike, W9MK are QRV as FS/home calls and FS4WBS until December 7. Activity is with three stations on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY and FT8 in DXpedition mode. QSL FS4WBS via IZ1MHY and all others to home calls.



SOLOMON ISLANDS, H4. Remo, HB9SHD is QRV as H44SHD from Uepi Island, IOTA OC-149, until mid-December. Activity is on the HF bands using SSB and FT8. QSL to home call.

FINLAND, OH. Members of Santa's Radio Club will be QRV with special event call OH9S from the Arctic Circle from December 1 to 8. Activity will be on 80 to 6 meters using CW, SSB and digital modes. QSL via LoTW.

NETHERLANDS, PA. Rene, PD2RKG and Roberto, PB5X will be QRV as PB18XMAS and PD18SANTA from December 2 to 27. Activity will be on the HF bands. QSL via PD2RKG.

POLAND, SP. Special event station SN0UNESCO will be QRV December 3 and 4 from the Silver Mine Museum in Tarnowskie Gory. This is an UNESCO World Heritage Site. Activity will be on all HF bands using CW, SSB and PSK31. QSL via SP9KDU.

GREECE, SV. Special event station SX60RAAG will be QRV during the month of December to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Radio Amateur Association of Greece. QSL via LoTW.

MONTSERRAT, VP2M. Operators K7NM, WM7Z, NS7K and AC7ZN are QRV as VP2MLB, VP2MMZ, VP2MSK and VP2MZN, respectively, until December 2.

Activity is on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY, PSK and FT8. They will be active as VP2MLB in the ARRL 160 Meter contest. QSL via operators' instructions.

INDIA, VU. Special event station AU2JCB is QRV until December 11 to commemorate the Indian scientist Jagadish Chanda Bose. Activity is on 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 meters using SSB. QSL direct to VU2DSI.

BURKINA FASO, XT. Al, F8FUA will be QRV as XT2BR from Ouagadougou from December 2 to 11. Activity will be on the HF bands using CW, SSB and various digital modes. QSL to home call.

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CAMBODIA, XU. Steff, HB9FXL is QRV as XU7AKB from various locations here until December 14. Activity is on 40 to 10 meters using SSB and FT8. QSL to home call.

NICARAGUA, YN. Operators Sergey, R4WAA, Elena, RC5A, Yan, RZ3FW, Yuri, RM0F and Yuri, N3QQ are QRV as H7/R4WAA, H7/RC5A, YN4RRC, H7/RM0F and H7/N3QQ, respectively, from Big Corn Island, IOTA NA-013, until December 26. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters using CW and SSB. QSL YN4RRC via RZ3FW and all others via operators' instructions.

THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO. The ARRL 160-Meter Contest, NCCC RTTY Sprint, QRP 80-Meter CW Fox Hunt, NCCC CW Sprint, UFT CW Contest, Wake-Up. QRP CW Sprint, YARC QSO Party, TOPS Activity CW Contest, FT8 Roundup and EPC Ukraine DX BPSK63 Contest will certainly keep contesters busy this upcoming weekend.

The ARS Spartan CW Sprint is scheduled for December 4. The CWops Mini-CWT Test, Phone Fray and QRP 40-Meter CW Fox Hunt are scheduled for December 5.

The ARRL International Grid Chase runs during all of 2018.

Please see November QST, page 90, December QST, page 70, and the ARRL and WA7BNM Contest Web Sites for details.

One Question Questionnaire



Hey Gang

About 25% of you were busy last Tuesday for **#Giving Tuesday** and that's good! We all have to remember that no matter how bad we think we have it, there's always someone that is in worse shape than us. OK... Let's just see how cozy we are in our ham shacks.. Here's the next question for you to answer...

“Do you have a couch in in you ham shack??”

You'll find the “One Question” questionnaire on the Ohio Section Website! <http://arrlohoio.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.

End of Service for Weather Underground API - Weather Stations



We're contacting you today to tell you about some upcoming changes to the Weather Underground (WU) API and what these changes mean for you.

The WU API has been around since 2010 to help you develop apps and websites as well as manage your Personal Weather Station data. During that time, we've watched you build amazing products and visualize weather data with creativity and purpose.

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Over the years, our infrastructure has struggled to keep up with the growing numbers of users coming to us for API data. We realized we needed to make changes to ensure the highest level of quality, performance and uptime for our API users.

As a result, we've made the difficult decision to retire the Weather Underground API. The Weather Company, which acquired WU back in 2012, offers a powerful suite of enterprise-grade APIs that might be better suited to meet your scale and performance needs while offering a broader range of weather data. You can see these products [here](#).

Here's what you need to know going forward:

- Your subscriptions, and therefore access, will continue to work through 12/31/2018.
- If you are a paying WU API customer, you will receive a call from a representative from The Weather Company, and IBM business, to discuss transition options to other API services. If you'd like to have these conversations sooner, [contact us](#).
- If you are a Personal Weather Station owner, you will receive more information about our plan to offer free access to the data you provide to Weather Underground. We'll reach out once that plan has been finalized.
- For developers who use WU API data for non-commercial purposes, you will have access to a new plan for a personal use, low call volume API. Stay tuned for more details as we build this out.
- The [WU Forum](#) will continue to be the best place to connect, keep you informed, share your feedback and get your questions answered as we go through this process.

We are grateful for your commitment to Weather Underground and appreciate your understanding and support as we work through this process. These changes will allow us to continually improve our services and develop new features to keep WU a thriving place for you for many years to come.

Thanks for being part of the community.

The WU Team

The Ohio Section will continue to list all the weather stations around as we have in the past until they no longer work. As that there have been no announcements yet for those of us providing weather information and if we will continue to get to provide that valuable service to our communities, we will wait patiently to see what Weather Underground will propose.

Here's a link to all of our known weather stations around Ohio... <http://arrrl-ohio.org/wus.html>

Ohio State Parks on the Air Results

Greetings to the 2018 OSPOTA (Ohio State Parks On The Air) Participants



From the Portage County Amateur Radio Club's OSPOTA Committee, we would like to extend our appreciation for your participation in the 11th annual Ohio State Parks On The Air contest. You are now part of OSPOTA history and our hope is that it will be a long and rewarding one.



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The OSPOTA contest was conceived with three main goals in mind: **1.** Promoting public awareness of ham radio and Ohio’s beautiful State Park system; **2.** Contribute to the recognition that Ohio has a very diverse and wonderful ecology; and **3.** Promote camaraderie within the ranks of Ohio’s Amateur Radio Operators. It has been with your participation that we believe those goals were achieved again this year.

To those of you who placed in the top three spots in each category, congratulations on your efforts. You deserve your awards for your operating skills. The turnout for OSPOTA was great and we are counting on having everyone do even better in OSPOTA 2019. To see all the results go to:

<http://www.ospota.org>

So, until September 7, 2019 - **73!**

Tom - KB8UUZ, OSPOTA Chairman
 Chuck - W8PT; Joe - W8KNO; John - KD8MQ;
 John - KB8UHN OSPOTA Committee Members



Website Stats for ARRL-Ohio.org for November

Unique visitors	Number of visits	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth
3,782	6,244	56,589	1,377,353	17.15 GB

I haven’t displayed the stats from the website in some time now. As you can see, it’s a very busy website indeed! Now, for “kicks and giggles” I started monitoring some new stats about the website as well. Here’s some of the new information that is being logged.

Here’s the Top 10 Downloads for November

/news/2018/OSJ-Nov-18.pdf
/digital/Amateur%20Radio%20Digital%20Hotspot%20Comparison.pdf
/SEC/Ohio%20NVIS%20Final-2016.pdf
/news/2018/ps-11-12-18.pdf
/news/2018/ps-11-05-18.pdf
/news/2018/ps-11-26-18.pdf
/SEC/special/ICS%20Complete%20by%20County%20and%20Name.pdf
/SEC/nvis/Modified%20AS-2259%20NVIS%20Antenna.pdf
/digital/DMR_CodePlug-101_TYT_20170120.pdf
/SEC/WP-NVIS-Rev3.pdf

Devices used to access website

Sessions by device



Desktop	Mobile	Tablet
75.8%	12.1%	12.1%
↓4.7%	↑3.6%	↑1%

We are on track to have another record setting year for our website. I encourage everyone to visit often, as it changes all the time.

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ARES Connect

CQ... CQ.... CQ... Calling all persons to be a part of the new ARES Connect program.

We need to discuss some very important items that only YOU can make a difference with. I need you to get yourselves registered in ARES Connect, that is... if you haven't already. Now, how do I know that you need to do this? It's simple, we have a little over 700 now registered in the database. Stan's last S.E.C. report shows that we have a little over 1,500 persons in ARES.

ARES Connect

Instructions to Register

Enter ARES Connect

That means that there is still a lot of you that haven't taken the plunge yet and need to! What are you waiting for? No matter how much you resist, it's coming, and we need to make sure that no one is left behind.

Now, as an incentive to get you to not only register.... But to actually start using the system... (*Notice how I have that in bold type for you to clearly see?*) I am giving away all sorts of goodies to help you get motivated. I have a footlocker of really cool items that I will be giving away! Oh, if you didn't know, I've already given away an ARRL Handbook! What's next? Who knows!! There's lots more of things to choose from for sure and I'm not stingy about giving things out!

Here's how it looks for the month of November:

	Events Logged	Hours
James Yoder (w8erw)	13	66.50
Ron Hollas (K8RJH)	3	59.75
James Hershberger (KE8ERN)	14	47.50
Carl Gedeon (KB8VXE)	8	38.00
Steven Tarbert (KC8ZKC)	4	37.00
Christopher Domenick (KC8CAD)	23	27.75
John Westerkamp (W8LRJ)	37	25.75
Lowell Kern (kd8kxd)	6	25.50
John Rawson (KE8HUV)	29	22.50
Dan Stahl (KC8PBU)	21	17.25

Don't know where to get started? We have a set of instructions on how to get registered right above the button to enter ARES Connect. I would strongly suggest that if you haven't registered yet, that you read these instructions first. Here's a link to get you started... http://arrl-ohio.org/ares_connect_directions.pdf

Please, don't just hurry through the questions, read them carefully, if you don't understand something, please ask me, I'm here to answer your questions.

We know that you mean well by answering that you do have the needed courses in, but I will let you know that we are verifying what you say you have with what is showing for you in our statewide database when we are completing your registration. So, how can you find out if you are already listed in our statewide database? Easy, here's a link: <http://arrl-ohio.org/SEC/special/ICS%20Complete%20by%20County%20and%20Name.pdf>

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HEY..!!!! We need persons that can input events and approve hours into the new ARES Connect system. You do not have to be an E.C. for this, although we'd prefer that they would be willing to step up to that challenge someday. If we could just have some folks willing to do the inputting of events and approve hours for now I'd be eternally grateful.

Counties where this is only a RACES program in place. Please.. this is a great opportunity for you as that we will not interfere with any of the programs that you already have in place. In fact, it will help you in getting those valuable volunteer hours recorded as they have never been before!!!

How's about it? Could you spend a little time just working with ARES Connect? Let me know!!! Again, you do not have to be E.C.'s to do this work in ARES Connect.

We can give you admin privileges so that you can help with logging events into the system, keeping track of hours or even making sure that certificates get to Jim or I for placement into the statewide database.

Here are the counties that we really need help with. Allen, Fulton, Henry, Mercer, Paulding, Putnam, Logan, Adams, Brown, Clermont, Carroll, Athens, Jackson, Meigs, Perry, Vinton, Belmont, Harrison, Monroe. This is a great opportunity for anyone that has a little time and is willing to volunteer.

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>



FEMA

I've been asked to also include a link to the Kentucky EMA training calendar as well..

<https://kyem.ky.gov/training/Pages/default.aspx>
<https://sites.google.com/site/ccoemtraining/home>

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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.

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.**

I would like to remind any of you that are going to take any of the in-class training sessions that you dress appropriately. You will be in these classes with Police, Fire, mayors and other government and local officials. You do want to represent Amateur Radio in a good light.

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Final.. Final..



Hey Gang...

This past week has been filled with lots to do, most of them are for Christmas. Yes, it's that time once again and I joined in on some of the madness and started my Christmas shopping really early for me. Normally I don't shop until around December 30th or so. Hey – I'm not a procrastinator, but why pay more when you can get the returns that are just like new for 1/3 of the price that YOU paid for it before Christmas. And, of course, I did the "Clark Griswold" thing and setup the lights all over the house. I sure hope the electric company is understanding about the bill in January. Well, maybe I can setup a "GoFundMe" page to help out.

I will say that I was on the end of my chair most of Saturday night watching my Buckeyes beat the snot out of Northwestern.

Unfortunately, it seems that they won't get to go to the national playoffs after all. But they might just get to play in the Rose Bowl which won't be as good as the National Playoff's, but at least it isn't some unknown or slightly watched bowl game. Now, if we just could get my Brownies in the winner's circle a little more, and we won't even talk about the Cavs right now.

Let's go down the band with a new topic... I want to make sure that club newsletter editors know that the annual Ohio Section Newsletter Contest will be starting back up in January. That's actually only a few weeks away! If your January newsletter gets mailed out in December, like many do, make sure that John Ross, KD8IDJ and I are on your mailing list to get it. Want more information about the Newsletter Contest? Click on this link.. http://arrl-ohio.org/pic_page/pic.html Even if your newsletter is web based, send us the link!!

We have some updates on the Ohio Section website to report. First thing is I've replaced the rectangular boxes that you clicked on to get to the various departments with a more professional looking bubble. When you roll your mouse over the bubble it changes colors. They work the same as any link, but they do have some user feedback on them now. I've also improved the Ohio Section Cabinet webpage. It now gives a description for each of the positions. This lets you can see what each Cabinet Member is responsible for. The Ohio Section is very blessed to have so many great folks that dedicate their time and talents to you and me. I've also updated the "About the Ohio Section" webpage as well. It now lists of all of the organizations that the Ohio Section is associated with or a member of. I'm sure that you'll be impressed with the list. It is quite extensive for any ARRL Section!

We've had some updates on the DMR webpages as well. Greg, WD9FTZ has updated the DMR Nets listing. He's done a fantastic job of keeping up with all the nets around the country on DMR and made it easy for all of us to select the ones that we want to participate in. Daniel, KB8LKH has updated his Anytone 868UV Code Plug and the Connect Systems CS-800D Code Plug. Ken, KA8OAD has updated his Alinco DJ-MD5 Code Plug.

Changing the band selector once again... This next week will be an extremely busy and important week for me as well as for the Ohio Section. Tuesday will be the Northern Ohio Skywarn dinner and meeting.

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This is an annual get together that started over 20 years ago with all of the Skywarn folks in Northern Ohio along with some of the National Weather Service folks from the Cleveland office. It's always a blast and we do actually have a meeting along with all the food that everyone brings in. We get the updates from the meteorologists on what we can expect for the next month or so.

On Thursday and Friday, I will be attending the EMAO Winter Conference. This is where I will be working the hardest to make sure that all of our EMA Directors know what we can do for them. Friday night will be my home clubs "Peel & Stick" party. This is where we put the mailing labels on about 5,000 postcards for the Mansfield Hamfest. They will be mailed out near the end of the month, but over the years we have made this function a club activity. So you see, you can make any chore that needs to be done a fun one for the entire club to join in on. Yes, we do have food at this party! For a number of years, we had coney dogs from our local coney shop. This year Danny, W8DLB is promising to bring in a surprise that we'll all enjoy.

I've also started working on some new designs for my ham shack. It's been over 15 years since we moved here, and I put the shack in after I made my wife's sewing room and completed a few other expensive improvements around the house, so there wasn't much time spent on making my room just the way I wanted it. In fact, it was actually designed to be a bedroom first and ham shack second. Now, since there is just the two of us, we don't really need a fourth bedroom in the house. It's now time to change the layout and make my room more comfortable for me. Yes, I will keep my room in a design so that it can be a fourth bedroom if really needed, but it will be as my grandson says, my "man cave" first!!! Now, once I've figured out where my sofa and easy chair will go in the interim, my room will get completely stripped out which means dismantling all my radios, computers and so on will be down for a bit. I can work from my laptop, so there's really no computer issues, but the HF stuff will have to be taken down.

I've already got a line on some really good carpeting that will not only look good but make it nice and comfy in here as well. The carpet I have now is a left over from the tube that didn't sell well at Lowe's, so it's not really good carpeting or my style, and it has a number of spots on it from where I spilled my coffee and several burned spots from where hot solder fell on it. I'm also looking at changing the shelving in here. When I installed it, I wasn't thinking in terms of needing to change it, but now I do need the shelf room and I can't really change the spacing on the shelves much. So, out the door with the current shelves too. It's going to be a real undertaking that will take me some time I'm sure. You know how these things always start out looking like it's just a weekend project and then take not only a month to do, but it takes Fort Knox to pay for as well! I've promised not to break that bank with this change, but I need new lighting and some new outlets and some new shelving and some new... Well, you get the idea. It's going to take some time and it will definitely be expensive I'm sure!

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

Scott, N8SY

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

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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 and I'll get them added to the Ohio Section Emailing list.



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



You can always "[Opt-Out](#)" at any time if you feel this is not what you were expecting. It's fun and very informative. All of your favorite past newsletters are now archived too. You can go back at any time and read them. Just go to: <http://arri-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



The pictures on the front page are from various newsletters, Facebook posts and/or were sent directly to me in recent weeks. Take a good look at them, you just might be in one of the pictures! "SMILE... you're on the Ohio Section News!!"

SORRY FOLKS



We've reached the end of PostScript!

**We'll be back next week with
another great edition...**

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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 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!