

Memorial Day Edition

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From the Technical Coordinator

Jeff Kopcak – K8JTK TC

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Hey gang,

Back in January of 2017, [I wrote an article published in the OSJ that talked about different sources of repeater and frequency information.](#)

A couple things have changed since it was published. The ARRL no longer prints a pocket-sized directory, much to the chagrin of my dad, and prices have gone up. There is still no great source for the most current list of repeaters. The workplace required me to do some traveling earlier this year to D.C. and Dallas. The D.C. trip was going to allow for much more hamming it up time because I was driving and it was a two-week trip. Dallas required long working days so I wasn't sure how much radio time I would have but I took an HT anyway. These trips gave me a chance to review different sources of repeater data.



For D.C., I took my HTs along with the gear I typically pack for a public service event where I'll be riding in someone else's vehicle. It's pretty basic consisting of a mag-mount antenna, ICOM IC-2820H dual-band radio with D-STAR, and adapter to go from the radio's power plug to a cigarette lighter. I take a couple extension cables: coax extension with PL-259s and a barrel connector in case the antenna coax is not long enough. I also take the remote mount cable for the display head just in case.

The cigarette lighter car adapter is more than good enough to power the radio especially when listening more than transceiving. I checked the manual, and verified on an amp meter, the highest power setting (50W) draws about 12-13 amps. Most car adapters are rated at 10A so I'm limited to low or medium power. Components of the typical car adapter are flimsy and drawing anywhere near 10A, or more if the line is fused higher, for a sustained period of time could cause failure or even fire. Low power (5W) draws 4A and medium power (15W) is about 7A (a little less on 2m). One thing that has surprised me, no reports of alternator whine where I've used this VHF/UHF setup.



Winterfest hamfest, Annandale, VA

Traveling to and from D.C. and to any new area, I use the band scan memories or scan edge memories. To me it's easier than making banks of repeaters for different cities along the way. Scan edges are memories available on most modern radios. Set the start and end frequency and the radio scans frequencies in-between, stopping on any signals received. Once it hits the end frequency, returns back to the start frequency and begins scanning again. Often notated "xA/xB," "xL/xU," or similar memory locations for beginning and ending frequencies respectively. The 2820 is capable of dual band operation (2 frequencies at once).

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On the left side of the radio I had a scan starting with 144.000 and ending at 148.000 which covers the 2m band. On the right side was 440.000 – 450.000 for the 70cm band. The “step” setting determines frequency increments. A setting of 15.0 kHz will start on 144.000. The next frequency scanned will be 144.015, then 144.030, 144.045, and so on. A step of 5.0 kHz will start on 144.000, then 144.005, 144.010, 144.015, etc. Most 2m band plans are 15 kHz steps and most 440 are 25 kHz. I stick with those frequency steps. Setting the step to 5 kHz catches more frequencies in cases where a repeater might be coordinated on a non-standard frequency, but it does take much longer to scan and it will stop on a lot more interference from the car or nearby transmitters.

In this day and age, noise will be an issue and the scan will stop frequently. This can be reduced by turning up the squelch or attenuator, but you’ll miss weaker signals. Some radios have a ‘skip’ (sometimes called “lock-out”) function that will skip over problematic frequencies. I use the radio’s “scan resume conditions” to resume scanning 10 seconds after arriving on a signal. This is nice so I don’t have to keep messing around with the radio while driving. If there is an interesting conversation, I have to stop the scan in order for the radio to stay on that frequency.

I use [RepeaterBook](#) almost exclusively for downloading repeater lists at home and places I’m staying on the road. The search is straight forward but I do massage the data. I start off with a Location search with a radius of 50 miles. 50 miles is good if you want to hear distant repeaters or driving around the area. A radius of 25 miles is sufficient if you’re staying in or around one city. I export that to CSV (a portability format in plain text for databases, separating the fields by commas) and open in Excel removing anything the radios can’t receive. ATV repeaters, P25, NXDN, 900 Mhz – all get removed. The ICOM radios will get analog and D-STAR repeaters, but not Fusion or DMR. The Fusion radios get Fusion repeaters, not D-STAR or DMR. Then use RT Systems to import the modified CSV for each radio, save it in RT’s file format, and finally download data to the radio. There are entries in RepeaterBook that haven’t been updated so an analog repeater which is now DMR will slip through, for example. I remove those from the RT file later and download again if necessary. I generally don’t spend time writing a DMR code plug while traveling. I don’t find much benefit in researching repeaters static and PTT talk groups for use over a short period of time. If I don’t find a code plug browsing a couple club sites in the area, I use a hotspot.

For some reason, the RFinder application was not loading any data during most of my time in D.C. There was a fix which corrected that toward the end of the trip. I found the website of the local coordinating body for D.C. and Northern Virginia, [T-MARC](#). The website looks like a callback to 1995 but it had information I found interesting including recent coordination actions, detailed interference FAQ, policies, band plans (including digital voice), and updated frequency lists. It should really come as no surprise because the president is a guy that did a lot of good for the Cleveland area before moving to Maryland, Dave – W8AJR.



K3RTV station at The National Capital Radio & Television Museum

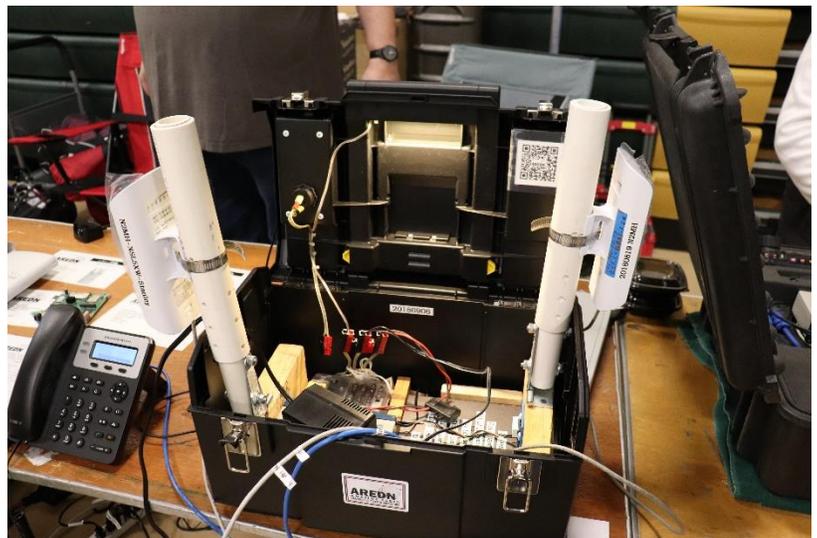
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What does our repeater council website have? Complaints the ARRL is not using their repeater data anymore and the 2016/2017 Ohio Repeater Directory!

When looking for things to do during downtime in D.C., I discovered they had a Radio and Television museum. It was something I wanted to see because I did television production in high school and professionally in college. The [National Capital Radio & Television Museum](#) was located in a converted house. I walked in and you're standing in a side room welcoming area, library, and gift shop. I immediately notice a Signalink and some ham radio gear. There was a bulletin board with ham call signs next to the station. I asked the docent if he was a ham. He wasn't but the guy in charge was the station Trustee of [K3RTV](#) and would arrive a little later. The museum had a couple of pieces from Ohio, KYW pictures and "newspaper delivered by radio" in 1939 from WLW. I hung around and talked to station Trustee Jim – [N3ADF](#) after perusing the exhibits. The museum gives him another place to operate radio in addition to another workshop. The club station at the museum does operate a couple special event stations. I'll be looking for them on the air.

On the way back from the museum, a QSO revealed there was a hamfest coming up that weekend in Virginia. I attended the [Vienna Wireless Society's](#) Winterfest held at Northern Virginia Community College. If you've ever been to NOARSfest in Elyria at Lorain County Community College, it was very similar. Outdoor and indoor flea market areas and catering provided by the college. I was happy I attended because of a couple demonstration tables that were setup. The [NoVA ARDEN Mesh](#) (Northern Virginia) group had nodes setup demonstrating capabilities of the network including phone and video. That area of Virginia has a lot of datacenters. AOL used to be headquartered with 3 datacenters in that area. It was good talking to those guys who could give me more of a deep-dive into technologies used on the networking side. As I'm talking to the mesh guys, I look over at this guy talking about Winlink. He looks familiar but I can't place why. I figured it out a little while later. If you go to YouTube and search "winlink" he is [the first video you'll see](#). It was Greg – KW6GB whose video I had seen doing research for a Winlink writeup. I talked to him for awhile and I'm participating in his [Winlink Wednesday](#).

In Dallas, I knew we were going to be putting in long days and since we were flying, I didn't want to be hassled bringing ham radio equipment by TSA. I did some research and most of the comments read: 'keep a copy of your license' which I always have, 'keep batteries in your carryon' this is regulation especially for any Lithium-Ion batteries which have been known to explode in checked baggage, 'it's unlikely you'll have a problem.' This was exactly my experience in both CLE and DFW. I didn't have large wire antennas or any HF equipment. I can't say if you're transporting that type of gear, you'll have the same experience. Ship it if there is a concern.



Portable ARDEN mesh setup, Winterfest hamfest, Annandale, VA

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As it turned out, I didn't get any time to play on the radio while in Dallas. One night we did have severe storms roll through. After our work was done, our group made it back to the hotel that night while the ground was dry. Storms were threatening, a lot of lightning and weather alerts were popping off. By the time we made it up to our rooms, it was raining sideways.

I was in a hurry to find local Skywarn frequencies and I hadn't pre-programmed the radio before making the trip. I went to [RepeaterBook for Dallas county](#), 93 repeaters were found. Didn't have time to sort through or scan for the Skywarn frequency. I remembered something I found and noted in my 2017 article, the RadioReference database has a list of Amateur Radio frequencies for an area. The ones listed tended to be repeaters actually on the air, more popular, Emcomm, and Skywarn type repeaters. Sure enough, tuning into 146.880, [the first frequency on that list](#) was the Dallas RACES and Skywarn net. The storms blew through with no major events. More like the storms experienced on Thursday night/early Friday morning at Dayton this year. Lotta rain, flooding, and some damage depending on location.

For some reason, this new location for Hamvention and lodging is prime area for thunderstorms. Fine by me. I love a lightning show and it has become a highlight every year to see storms roll through. Sometimes they roll through during the show which wasn't so neat. This year they seemed to happen before and after the show which was perfect. There seemed to be more people attending Hamvention which was probably attributed to the dryer weather. My dad and I spent most of our time in the flea market since it was sunny and dry. Sunscreen was a requirement otherwise you were going to be toasted. I usually don't need sunscreen on my legs but even the backs got a little burned.

My dad and I had some excitement the first night at the hotel. About 4:30am Friday morning, all were woken up by the sound of the fire alarm. Just after being awakened, I heard thunderstorms outside. At that point, I hoped it was a false alarm and would cease before we left our rooms. While in Dallas, the fire alarm went off, but it stopped 20 seconds later in the early morning. Enough to be annoying but I was now 2/2 over my last two hotel stays where the fire alarm sounded. Got dressed and left our room with everyone else. The alarm panel was showing smoke detected in the pool maintenance room. A large awning provided shelter from the storm, pouring hard but not blowing. Waited there 15 minutes or so while the fire department showed up with two firefighters. The hotel staff couldn't get in the pool maintenance room. They finally shut off the alarm, but we had to wait in the lobby. Another 40 minutes later we could return to our rooms, but they couldn't get the fire alarm to reset. That pretty much set the tone for the weekend at this hotel. *Insert [Circus theme music](#) here*



Yaesu FT3DR

At Hamvention, Yaesu was showing off a demo unit of their new Fusion HT. The FT3DR is the same as the FT2DR though a little smaller, more like the size of the FT-70DR, with a color screen and Bluetooth. Elecraft had a demo of their K4. Seems a little higher in price than other SDR radios but those who have them swear by 'em. It's cool that it's running Linux because many other SDR radios have been running and require Windows.

Probably the biggest news came in the Ham Nation wrap-up of Hamvention. It maybe answers the question, what happened to [Mendelsons](#)? They had the biggest tent in the flea market when the show was at Hara Arena with loads of surplus gear. Since the switch to Xenia, I think they were there in some corner one year. George – W5JDX [went to visit the store location](#) and found out they are planning to close the store.

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They maybe still around for visitors of Hamvention 2020 but sounded like they might be closed by next year. George shot some video but hasn't edited it yet. It will probably appear on [Ham Nation](#) or his other show, [Amateur Logic](#). Sad to see another Hamvention vendor go!

Thanks for reading

73... de Jeff – K8JTK

From the Section Emergency Coordinator

Stan Broadway, N8BHL - SEC

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A Major New Step for ARES in Ohio; NVIS Day 2019 in the Books

A Step Up

Amateur Radio and ARES have been strong partners with the Ohio Homeland Security/Emergency Management Agency for a number of years. We have now been asked to step up our game as a contributing partner to help keep the agency alerted to important developments around the state. This means that ARES operators will be used more frequently in “real” situations-

either monitoring potential weather conditions, the damaging results, or other important conditions affecting the state. In other words, we're being asked to put our training into actual practice to do meaningful stuff.



The Ohio HS/EMA “Watch Desk” is staffed 24/7 and is the room which has all the “red buttons” to activate the state’s EMA response. In Ohio as a home rule state (the county EMA Director is in charge) the state must be requested to send aid but gathering accurate information about emergency conditions will help the Watch Desk to gauge how much ramping up they need to do in order to be ready. For example, our recent tornado strike in Richland County drew everyone’s attention. Computer reports from NWS and official agencies were at least 30 minutes ~after~ amateur radio reports came in. And it was not reported that after midnight, when the situation was ruled relatively safe, responders elected to wait until daylight to begin cleanup and restoration of services. Amateur radio could have been a help to resolve that kind of issue.

We want to work as partners to our county EMA agencies, and obviously make this beneficial to them... it is the local EMA which must respond and coordinate the level of help. We want to make sure this information goes to them first- thus, it’s really important that your county either have a station at the EOC or you are in constant contact with the agency to relay these reports. In most cases, we actually expect the details to come from the EMA’s so it works out well either way.

Read this twice: ARES is NOT even thinking about changing the way Skywarn nets operate in Ohio- the system works, is not broken, and definitely doesn’t need “fixing.” We are not even remotely interested in “taking over” the spotter system.

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What we are considering is asking local nets to appoint a liaison station (or possibly use existing amateur stations at the county EOC) to report just significant events to The Sarge. Under normal conditions that would probably mean actual sightings or tornado strike, as an example. Most of the information we would want actually follows the oncoming weather: we're more interested in damage and situations which might involve a request to the state. Many counties can create an incident in WebEOC software, but in many smaller operations, the Director might be found at the scene coordinating a response so the overall information would be of value to him and the Watch Desk.

I'm excited about this, it's a big step upward in the profile of amateur radio and ARES across our state. But it's not without its problems. Chief among them is how we're supposed to make all this stuff work!

How are we going to do this?

Working backward in constructing a system, several in leadership have logins to the WebEOC program. During "Snow Net" we were uploading logs regularly to wide acclaim. It was an excellent and successful test of the very situation we've been asked to create. We can enter reports both at the Sarge and remotely. Several also have logins to the "NWS Chat" system, which affords direct communication with the weather offices. That would be simple if only one weather office covered the state, but there are ~six~ forecast offices (Wilmington, Ft. Wayne, Detroit, Cleveland, Pittsburg and Huntington) which cover counties in Ohio. So, there's no real direct route from NWS to State that's simple and concise.

The larger challenge is how are we going to listen/report across the state in a fashion that everyone (hams and agencies) can benefit. For example, a typical storm system moving west- while those western counties will be active, counties in the east benefit by listening- they can gage their response based on what they hear the system doing upstream. In the very rare case of a derecho or Palm Sunday outbreak, a statewide network would be invaluable and very active. But for most situations, we want to keep this all low-key and not jump overboard. Most important, where do we find a dependable statewide network?

We have a robust 80-meter system- both voice and digital data. This system is a proven asset, and we plan to make use of it. However, particularly with summer storms, the resulting static crashes and noise present a formidable challenge to widespread communication. Another situation to consider is that 55% of the licensed amateurs in Ohio are Techs- without HF privileges. It would be great to include them and have a system that would afford handheld coverage from disaster scenes.

Our experiments have included DMR. Snow Net was carried out on both HF and DMR Ohio talk group, with good success and overwhelming support from operators around the state. This was not out of the blue, as Section Manager Scott Yonally, N8SY, had received enthusiastic support a couple years ago from DMR owners. That support continues. We researched the license trustees of all DMR repeaters in the state and obtained email for all but about 5. We created a survey, and emailed the support continues. We researched the license trustees of all DMR repeaters in the state and obtained email for all but about 5. We created a survey and emailed the 50 trustees asking them to take part. 20 did. The results were conclusive, with 19 of the 20 strongly supporting ARES making occasional, low-traffic use of the Ohio talk group 3139.

Here's how we see this working. In the typical "big-time weather system moving this way from Indiana" scenario, we would notify hams by email (EC email list and over 1000 in ARES Connect) that a situation was developing.

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W8SGT would be ~MONITORING~ on the Ohio talk group and the HF net. That's it...we'd just listen. IF a station or county began to really rock and roll, that EOC station or weather liaison would merely call W8SGT, tells us what's going on, and we'd go back to listening. We would then file the report into WebEOC. The worse it got, of course, the busier we might be but it would take a major event to lead us to actually calling a formal net. So, we want to keep it low-profile but functional.

Plans are NOT solid yet, we're still researching, and we're open to your suggestions! More to come on this major project!

Amateur radio saves lives in Shelby, Ohio

We learned April 14 that when it hits, it can hit hard and fast! A handful of Skywarn spotters (including DEC-6 Danny Bailey W8DLB and Section Manager Scott Yonally N8SY) were watching the storm move into Richland county. One report of spinning motion was immediately sent to NWS Cleveland, which in turn issued a tornado warning. Thanks to the Skywarn system, the warning was out before the storm struck Shelby, Ohio. No lives were lost, but there were six injuries.



This tornado was rated as an "EF-2" storm, but before you conclude it to be a small little funnel, consider it was on the ground for 17 miles, and reached a width of ½ mile! This developed into a classic wedge tornado. Check out TV video of the storm here: https://www.nbc4i.com/news/local-news/watch-video-of-tornado-in-shelby-ohio_20190414225650/1925752092

And look at the aftermath here: <https://www.wkyc.com/video/weather/pictures-tornado-rips-through-shelby-ohio/95-a9702b0d-3313-4f68-8766-f65fafc9fc2c>



Immediately after receiving word of the strike, coordinating through the county EMA, Danny and the rest of the crew headed immediately to Shelby, where they met with the Police Department. SEC Stan Broadway N8BHL coordinated with Danny on the 146.94 Mansfield repeater, where all tactical activity was taking place. It was agreed we needed to find more help in order to have enough manpower should dire reports of devastation prove lengthy. Since District 6 was all activated, it was decided to activate two counties to the north and three counties to the south of Richland- meaning District 2 (DEC in Toledo) and District 7 (DEC in west Columbus) as well as Richard KD8PHG in Groveport (southwest Columbus)

who would stand by in case of state EOC activation. In order to coordinate resources across this great area, we used DMR Ohio Talk Group 3139. Five responded from Marion County to assist, along with some CERT members from a neighboring county.

The guidance "Do whatever we can to help" proved out here- where no communication facilities suffered, our hams were assigned to walk perimeter to watch for any looting or breach of security.

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By midnight, when all were accounted for, it was determined to close operation until dawn's light when power workers and others could work more safely.

The takeaway from this? It hit hard and fast, and there was no time to sit back and theorize about our reaction. We needed to act quickly, and Danny did that masterfully. So – we aren't kidding when we tell you that you NEED to be active in your local spotter's net, keep your battery charged and ready! Ohio weather can turn on a dime- and amateur radio spotters are the key to saving lives!



NVIS Report

NVIS 2019 is in the books, and with band conditions under the “Yucky” category we really didn't do badly. The Sarge had over 40 contacts (all on 80, at least inside Ohio) and worked at least 24 different counties. The band was up and down, but in a real emergency we would have had communication! It wasn't raining, that was a plus. We heard from a number of you that there was a lot of fun to be had- and that is what it's all about. Thanks, and see you next year!!

Now Hiring

Folks, we have a deficiency at The Sarge- we need more operators. We do not want to grab more from Franklin County ARES, we're already hitting them pretty hard. So, we're looking for operators within an hour's drive of the 270/315 area. We need at least a general class licensee. You should be familiar with fldigi and digital communication on HF and VHF. Experience in emergency response is a plus. You must pass a background check. If you're a seasoned operator - primarily a solid traffic handler or a successful contester – who is comfortable working under moderate pressure, and you're able to take on a modest time commitment (at most one night a week under a schedule with emergency activation always possible) please consider contacting myself or Richard, KD8PHG to be considered!

Now...to get ready for Field Day!!

Thank you all! Remember the basics! They will save you!

73, Stan N8BHL

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

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From the Affiliated Club Coordinator

Tom Sly, WB8LCD - ACC

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Dayton HamVention! Once again, one of the best weekends of my year! As a young Novice (WN8AAB) in 1968, the Dayton Hamvention was the first “fest” that I ever attended. I can’t say I’ve been to everyone since, but I’ve sure been to a lot of them. Of the Big Three hamfests in the world (Dayton, Tokyo and Friedrichshafen), Dayton is the original, running continuously since 1952. I understand that not everyone can take 3 or 4 days off, travel to Dayton and enjoy the show, but, if you are at all serious about being an Amateur Radio operator, then you need to make the trip – at least once. Put it on your “bucket list”. Start saving your dollars. Line up your vacation time. I guarantee, after the experience, your enthusiasm for Amateur Radio will ratchet to a much higher level.



This year, first thing Friday morning, I attended the Carole Perry “Instructor’s Forum.” For anyone working with younger members of the hobby, or trying to bring younger members into the hobby, it was time well spent. One of the speakers, Dr. Tamitha Skov – WX6SWW, The Space Weather Woman, talked about the importance of teaching our younger generations math and science. She points out that they call themselves “The Mars Generation” because they are going to go to Mars. She also points out that too many of them take the math and science involved for granted, and without first-hand knowledge they are doomed to failure. Amateur Radio can, and should, be a catalyst to get them involved and studying and learning the math and science that will be required. Thanks to DXEngineering, I was able to get a photo of myself with Dr. Skov.

I didn’t spend as much at Hamvention this year as I have in the past, but I still came away with a bunch of neat “stuff”. My two favorite items brought home were both “freebies”! The first was a chart of the Radio Spectrum. I’ve always said that the allocations available for Amateur Radio use are worth billions (if not trillions) of dollars and this chart graphically shows how the Amateur allocations fit in with all of the other users of RF spectrum. I’ve always used this chart in my presentations to Tech class students, or the general public, when talking about why Amateur Radio is certainly different that communications on CB radio or a cell phone. The second item I brought home (for free) was a map of the United States with every County in the US broken out. This was given out by the Mobile Amateur Radio Awards Club (MARAC - www.marac.org).

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Old TV's and Radios came home every week. They were disassembled and all re-usable parts were stored for future projects. Jim pointed out that everyone has old computers laying around, that probably should be trashed. Instead of trashing them, give them to a kid with some basic hand tools and tell him to take it apart! Not that he/she is going to get a whole bunch of useful parts anymore, but he/she will get an opportunity to work with simple tools, get the feel of how to be proficient with them, learn what tool is used for what purpose. My grandson, Jax, has since taken apart about a dozen old computers for me. He needed a lot of help on the first one, but now he's gotten pretty good at it! For his birthday, even though he didn't have it on his list, he got his own toolbox loaded with quality tools (please, don't give the kid's crap – it'll just frustrate them). I know he didn't expect it, but I think he really liked it! He's 9 years old now, so now it's time to get him started on putting things together – not just taking them apart. But now he has the skills and knowledge of how to use the tools that will be necessary.

Finally, thinking about Clubs. It seems to me that every club wants to be the “be all, do all, end all” destination for their members. I get it. But every club doesn't have the ability, the assets, the time, the right people, to be all things to all people. Too often, clubs in close proximity to each other seem to have an adversarial relationship. I belong to several clubs. Different clubs serve different needs. I've been to several clubs, all over the country, and we all have our strong points and our weaknesses. That's OK. But let's think about ways that we can all work together as clubs. As an example, if there is more than one club in an area, why not join together to provide licensing classes? Maybe running each class as a joint effort, or maybe one club running the Tech class, another club running the General class and another club covering the Extra class? The same thing could be done for exam sessions, making sure that in an area there was always an opportunity to go to a session on a weekday or a weekend and be as convenient as possible for the candidates. Got a great “build it” project coming up – how about inviting the members of the other local clubs to participate with you? Planning that DXpedition to the rare county? Invite other clubs to go with you. The whole point is, the more we support each other, the more successful we all can be. The more Amateur Radio Fun we all can have!

That's it for now. Let me know what's on your mind. tomsly29@gmail.com

73, Tom WB8LCD

From the Public Information Coordinator

John Ross, KD8IDJ - PIC

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2019 HAMVENTION RAMBLEINGS



The 2019 Hamvention is now history...and for those of us who go every year...another great effort!

Usually I reserve the first day for “shopping” the flea market and this year was no exception. A lot of good stuff...and NO RAIN...made it easy to walk, look and drool.



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The only thing I would recommend would be some benches placed around the flea market trail. Just dreaming of the boat anchor equipment, you want to take home can make you a little woozy!!!

I overheard a couple of hams trying to do the math on how many years they had been coming to the Hamvention and I thought that was a good idea. For me...51 years....and I didn't even know it. Dad and I first went just after I turned 17 and he left me drive! I got my first "handheld" radio...a 6-channel crystal controlled Heathkit. It was a great time then and fun has endured for over five decades.

Below is this month's PIC PODCAST with Ohio Section Manager Scott Yonally. Give it a listen for the official rundown on the 2019 Hamvention.



Our official "first" PIC POD cast is here. This month Ohio Section Manager Scott Yonally shares his take on the 2019 Hamvention. Give it a listen.

[← Open Podcast](#)

2019 NEWSLETTER CONTEST

The deadline for entering the 2019 Ohio Section Newsletter Contest is just about a month away. The official deadline is midnight June 30th! Remember you'll need copies of your club's newsletter from two different months to be eligible.



I have heard from most everyone and this shaping up to be another great year.

The judges will meet in early July and we'll announce the winners at the Voice of Aladdin Hamfest on August 3rd.

Our newest judge, Erin Cribbs, just received her Associate Degree in Applied Science from Columbus State. She is now on her way to Capital University here in Columbus to complete her degree in Interdisciplinary Studies with an emphasis on Business and Marketing Analytics. Call or email with any questions....
GOOD LUCK!!!



SCOUTS AND AMATEUR RADIO

Scouting and Amateur radio have worked together for years giving scouts unique opportunities to learn about radio communications while earning their radio merit badges.

JOTA...Jamboree On The Air...lets scouts talk to other scouts around the country and around the world. It's a great way to expand their horizons with knowledge they can use in everyday life. At the 2019 Hamvention the K2BSA Amateur Radio Association booth was a busy place...for kids as well as adults...and that's a great thing to see and it's important every scout leader get the information.

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Just last week a friend of mine casually mentioned he was taking a half day off from work to help his scouts clean up their gear after a very muddy weekend of camping. For some reason I asked if his scouts were going to participate in JOTA this year. After a few seconds of silence...he asked, "What's JOTA?" I'm sure he thought I was talking Klingon or some other ancient language, but no one was more surprised than I was that he did know about Amateur radio and scouting!

I took a few minutes to tell what I knew and send him some links to the ARRL website and to K2BSA. I've also put him in touch with a local radio club to help get him started. I'm looking forward to this October when I can witness a whole new group of scouts making their first contacts via Amateur Radio.

All us need to keep our radar up for opportunities to expand our hobby and sometimes just asking an obvious question will open doors which we never knew were closed.

I'm going follow this group of scouts and I'll let you know just how successful they were discovering Amateur Radio

COMING NEXT MONTH

Next month a great story about Collegiate Amateur Radio Clubs. They are staging a good comeback and I'll have the latest on a couple of clubs here in Ohio.

Also, more about the Scouts on the air and some Field Day stories as well.

That's it for now....great meeting and talking to you at the 2019 Hamvention. Hope to see you in August at the Columbus Hamfest.

73, John KD8IDJ

From the Section Traffic Manager

David Maynard, WA3EZN – STM

wa3ezn@att.net

OHIO SINGLE SIDEBAND NET

"Specializing in the first and last mile of NTS delivery in Ohio."

Morning session	10:30 AM	3972.5 KHz	every day
Afternoon session	4:15 PM	3972.5 KHz	every day
Evening session	6:45 PM	3972.5 KHz	every day



OHIO LOCAL VHF TRAFFIC NETS

Burning River Traffic Net (BRTN), every Monday and Saturday on 147.150R MHz, and every Wednesday on 146.700R at 9:30 PM per KD8GXL net manager.

Central Ohio Traffic Net (COTN), 7:15 PM daily, 146.970 MHz (Columbus repeater), KD8TTE net manager www.cotn.us

Miami Valley Traffic Net (MVTN), 7:00 PM Mon, 146.640 MHz, KC8HTP net manager

Northwest Ohio ARES Net (NWOHARES), 6:40 PM, daily, 146.940 MHz, PL 103.5, N8TNV manager



The American Radio Relay League
RADIOGRAM
Via Amateur Radio

Number	Precedence	HX	Station of Origin	Check	Place of Origin	Time Filed	Date
123	R	C	KONTS	19	Littleton CO		Jun26

To:

Jack Ciachia WMOG
Boulder CO 80308

This Radio Message was received at:

Amateur Station _____ Date _____

Name _____

Street Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone Number:

<u>Colorado</u>	<u>Traffic</u>	<u>League</u>	<u>operating</u>	<u>from</u>
<u>Bear</u>	<u>Creek</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Park</u>	<u>for</u>
<u>Field</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>participants</u>	<u>7</u>
<u>ARES</u>	<u>members</u>	<u>solar</u>	<u>power</u>	

Leslie WA3QLW Net Manager

REC'D	From	Date	Time	SENT	To	Date	Time

A licensed Amateur Radio Operator, whose address is shown above, handled this message free of charge. As such messages are handled solely for the pleasure of operating, a "Ham" Operator can accept no compensation. A return message may be filed with the "Ham" delivering this message to you. Further information on Amateur Radio may be obtained from ARRL Headquarters, 225, Main Street, Newington, CT 06111.

The American Radio Relay League, Inc. is the National Membership Society of licensed radio amateurs and the publisher of QRP Magazine. One of its functions is promotion of public service communication among Amateur Operators. To that end, The League has organized the National Traffic System for daily nationwide message handling.



Tri-County Traffic Training Net (TCTTN), 9 PM Sun, Tues, Fri, 147.015 MHz, WB8YYS manager <http://www.tricountytraffic.net/>

Tri-State Amateur Traffic Net (TATN), 8:00 PM daily, 146.670 MHz, PL123 WG8Z net manager <http://www.tatn.org/>

All licensed amateurs are welcome to check in regardless of experience in handling amateur message traffic. Of course, you have to have q general class or higher license to check into the sideband net but if you have HF receiver you can still listen in. You can also listen and check into a VHF traffic net. The best thing to do is to tune into a net and listen for several nets too get a feel for how it operates and what is expected of those checking in to the net. When you feel comfortable that you understand the operation of the net listen for the net control to call for check-ins and give you call slowly and phonically and listen for the acknowledgment from the net control.

Traffic nets are not the only VHF/UHF nets in Ohio. I believe you may possibly find an ARES or club net in almost every county in Ohio. Although they are not traffic net they are worth listening to and checking them out.

During Field Day points can be gained for sending radiograms similar to this one to the Section Manager N8SY during your field day operation. The radiograms can be sent using any of the traffic net listed here. Just check into the net with you call and say traffic, then wait and follow the instruction of the net control station before sending your radiogram



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Learn more about Field Day at these websites:

<http://www.arrl.org/field-day>

<http://www.arrl.org/field-day-locator>

The next big ham event after Hamvention will be Field Day the last full weekend in June.

Field Day not only will test and challenge an individual operator's communication skills, but it also will test and challenge the participants ability and flexibility in mounting a major effort on the magnitude that would be encountered in a major disaster.

Field day logistics and location is another area where good planning really pays off. If you have not reserved your favorite room, shelter or spot for operating it should be done soon before someone reserves you spot for a birthday party. I know this happened to one club last year so get cracking.

Antenna selection and location is another area where good planning really pays off. The three most important considerations in antenna selection are: 1. Locate antennas far enough from each other to avoid station to station interference 2. Which direction to point the antenna's peak radiation and 3. determining where the vast majority of contacts will come from. Strongly consider using simple wire antenna such as dipoles, which are light and easy to put up and take down. Dipoles work out very well even at QRP power levels.

Field Day is also a time to demonstrate new technologies to ourselves and to the general public. Bonus points are earned by presenting these public demonstrations of new technologies such as satellite communications, APRS, ATV, digital communications and solar power sources. Furthermore, we are encouraged (with additional bonus points) to invite community leaders and the media. We might find ourselves on the front page of tomorrow's paper.

Here are some of the potential benefits from your Field Day operation:

Find out what works in the field and who can bring it on short notice. Practice operating with field conditions and emergency power. Organized planning and execution of a sustained effort -- good for Public Service Events planning & coordination and possibly for fitting into Served Agency emergency planning. Invite ARRL Section / Division officers to visit your FD site. Invite (potential) Served Agency & or Government officials to visit your FD site, good for ARES and bonus points. Invite the media to promote amateur radio.

Additional suggestions for a successful Field Day:

Appoint someone to be in charge to make sure things get done. A point to consider is location, location, location. Make sure you have it secured at least a month before Field Day. Have a plan in place for the person in charged to follow. The plan should cover operating techniques and modes, antennas, number of transmitters, media presentation and maximizing bonus points

Don't forget to go over the exchange with the operators. Stress keeping the exchange short, quick and effective, not being chatty and give examples of Dos and Don'ts. Plan ahead by arranging who is bringing what equipment – have back-up equipment available if possible. In considering equipment, the simplicity of its operation is important. Most new radios have a learning curve to operate efficiently.

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Don't forget the little things like short jumpers, barrel connectors, adapters, headphones etc. Document everything. Next year's Field Day coordinator needs to have a starting place. Try to secure operators for a 24-hour operation. This can be the key to a big score if that is your thing.

Check the Field Day Rules for the chances to make extra points. Finish and follow-up. Record and discuss next year's Field Day while everything is fresh in your minds.

Finally, don't forget to plan for Saturday's dinner menu, good food makes for happy operators.

And most important is to HAVE FUN and enjoy the friendship and fellowship of Field Day.
Know more, do more, and have more fun with ham radio!

That's it for this month, have some fun with Amateur Radio.

73, David WA3EZN

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

Out and About

Lyn Alfman, N8IMW - ASM

lynalfman@aol.com

XENIA HAMVENTION WAS HUGE SUCCESS!

Something unusual happened at the Hamvention this year—three days of sunshine with no rain! The crowds on Friday were larger than I can remember for opening day after the move to Xenia. After I checked in with Section Manager Scott Yonally, N8SY, and his wife Janie, KB8YPW, at the Field Organization/Ohio Section booth in the ARRL Expo area, I decided to purchase my Field Day shirt, checked out Building 2 “Tesla”, visited with several people I knew, checked which forums I might want to attend, ate lunch from one of the many food trucks/vendors to choose from, then at noon, I relieved Scott and Janie Yonally for the rest of the afternoon, so they could take care of some things they wanted/needed to do.



On Saturday, I checked out Building 1 “Maxim”, took in a forum or two, met up with friends from Ohio and from out of state, and visited with John Ross, KD8IDJ, who was minding the Ohio Section booth Saturday afternoon while Sonny was checking out the flea market for bargains. (I needed to sit down and rest for a while.) I did not stay through Sunday because I had to dog sit my grand dog Sugar. Hopefully, we can attend the Hamvention next year.

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ON A FINAL PERSONAL NOTE

While I was at Xenia, I decided to resign as Assistant Section Manager mainly due to health issues I have been dealing with. Scott understands and has accepted my resignation. I have enjoyed serving you as Assistant Section Manager, but I felt I could no longer fulfill my responsibilities of the position. I hope Scott can find a replacement to help him as soon as possible. I will continue to be an Ohio Section Public Information Officer, and I will continue to be as active as possible in my local clubs' activities.



Be Safe and be Radio Active!

73 Lyn N8IMW

From the Section Youth Coordinator

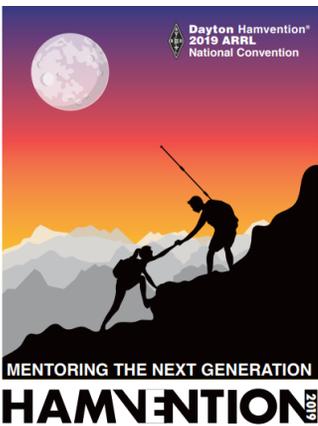
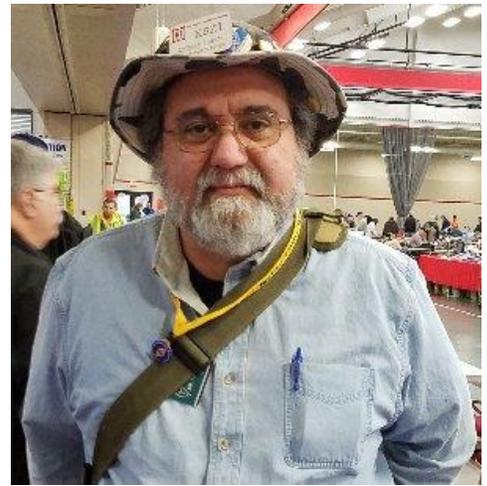
Anthony Luscre, K8ZT - SYC

k8zt@arrl.net

Ham Radio Youth and Learning at the 2019 Hamvention™

I am writing this column on the Monday after the 2019 Hamvention™. This year's theme was "Mentoring the Next Generation" and there was definitely a focus on learning.

My weekend actually began on Thursday at [Contest University](#) (CTU), a great learning opportunity for any ham interested in contesting. Before I get into the youth portion of CTU, I wanted to make sure you all were aware of the wonderful continuing learning resource they provide with free [recordings of previous year's presentations](#). This year CTU included multiple sessions on recruiting new contesters including youth. Bryant Rascoll, KG5HVO (a 15-year-old contester who was 2018 Newsline Young Ham of the Year) gave a great talk on what is needed to get youth interested in and involved in contesting.



Many years ago at the Dayton Hamvention, you may have been lucky enough to get one or more of the free *Ham Radio Zak & Max* comic books provided by [ICOM America](#). These Anime style color comic books were great and for 7 years there were new issues. Unfortunately, the paper versions of these comic books are no longer available, but the good news is ICOM has made them available electronically. You will definitely want to check CTU later for the recording of his session.

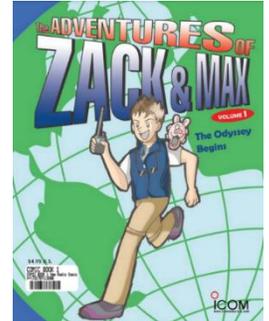
I feature them on both my Kids Radio Zone (www.ztlearn.com/radio-kids) and Teacher's Radio Zone (www.ztlearn.com/radio-teachers) web pages or you can access them directly at www.ztlearn.com/z-m-1. I had a nice chat with Ray Novak, N9JA from Icom America about their generous support of Youth in Amateur Radio support.

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Carole Perry, WB2MGP conduct her usual forums on Friday and Saturday. I was able to attend and share a list of resources with attendees at the Instructor Forum on Friday including:

- A handout for “Ham Radio Resources for Youth, Students, Teachers”- tiny.cc/hry
- A tri-fold brochure on Ham Radio and STEM- “Ham Radio- The Original Maker Movement“- [link](#)
- My clothespin Morse code key- [link](#)
- Links to my Kids Radio Zone (www.ztlearn.com/radio-kids) and Teacher’s Radio Zone (www.ztlearn.com/radio-teachers) web pages



Unfortunately, I was only able to catch the very end of the packed three-hour Youth Forum on Saturday. One of the young presenters included 17-year-old Marty Sullaway, NN1C, who discussed Team Exuberance, an all-youth contesting team that recently competed in their first contest in April at the K3RL contest superstation. This session had a great assortment of other student hams as speakers and you might want to put it on your schedule for next year’s Hamvention. Bring your young hams with you and did I mention there are lots of prizes for both youth and adults (including an ICOM donated IC-7300 this year)!



Sunday I was able to spend some time at ARRL Educational booth with Teacher Institute Instructors- Tommy Gober, N5DUX; Larry Kendall, K6NDL and Matt Severin, N8MS and ARRL Lifelong Learning Manager Kris Bickell, K1BIC and ARRL Lifelong Learning Administrator Ally Flynn, KM3ALF. The [ARRL Lifelong Learning Project](#) is a new program this year at ARRL- *“While designed for everyone with an interest in learning more about Amateur Radio, the Lifelong Learning Initiative will initially focus on creating online learning opportunities for new and newer hams, a segment of the Amateur Radio community desperately searching for educational and instructional resources.”*

The Hamvention sponsors, The Dayton Amateur Radio Association (DARA) had a Youth Tech Area where the Chairman of the Youth Tech Committee, Jeff Ullery, KD8SHF had students busy building and soldering electronic projects. This is at least the second year of this great project.

In the same room as the Youth Tech Area were two other youth and learning oriented groups: The [Youth Amateur Radio Club](#) and [HamSCI](#), the Ham Radio Science Citizen Investigation, is a platform for the publicity and promotion of projects that are consistent with the following objectives:

- Advance scientific research and understanding through amateur radio activities.
- Encourage the development of new technologies to support this research.
- Provide educational opportunities for the amateur community and the general public.

HamSCI serves as a means for fostering collaborations between professional researchers and amateur radio operators. It assists in developing and maintaining standards and agreements between all people and organizations involved.

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HamSCI does not perform research on its own. Rather, it supports other research programs, such as those funded by organizations like the United States National Science Foundation.



I was also able to spend some time with the [ARRL Collegiate Amateur Radio Initiative \(CARI\) group](#) including Tony Mlluzi, KD8RTT. This group has an active Facebook group- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ARRLCARI>. Tony invites campus radio clubs, college students, alumni, faculty, staff and administration around the country to participate in CARI activities including the September [Collegiate QSO Party](#) and School Club category in ARRL Sweepstakes. One of my focuses this year as the Ohio Section Youth Coordinator is College-age youth so if you are a member of a campus radio club, a college student, alumni, faculty, staff or administrator please get in touch with me (k8zt@arrl.net) if I can be of any assistance.

Well, the Hamvention was again a great time (this was our 36th trip to Hamvention for my wife Linda, KA8ODP and I). If you have never made the trip, start making plans for next May now!

Ham Radio Resources for Youth, Students & Teachers

Share or access this document online- tiny.cc/hry

You can use the QR codes with your phone or tablet to go to the resources

Anthony Luscre, K8ZT Ohio Section Youth Coordinator & Education Outreach ARRL - The National Association For Amateur Radio™ k8zt@arrl.net K8ZT Radio Website- www.k8zt.com	
Kids Radio Zone- www.ztlearn.com/radio-kids	
Teacher Radio Zone- www.ztlearn.com/radio-teachers	
Ham Radio Intro & Quick Start Guide- tiny.cc/new-ham	
Radio Day Handout tiny.cc/radio-day-h	
Ham Radio- The Original Maker Movement a tri-fold flyer for maker groups and advisors: - tiny.cc/hr-makers	
"Radio Technology in Classroom" a presentation for Educators - tiny.cc/rtice	
Having Fun with Morse, Getting Started with CW & Getting on HF Bands with Any License- tiny.cc/fivm	
Collected Education Related Articles from the ARRL Ohio Section Journal & K8ZT- tiny.cc/ar-ed-out	
	All seven Zak & Max Books collection in both Color and B&W www.ztlearn.com/z-m-1
	Collection of Wide Variety of Radio Resources www.ztlearn.com/radio-kids
	How Does Radio Work? www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ed0Mx6LW61Y
	Online radio you can tune & listen to from around world www.websdr.org
	Help on using SDRs (above)
	A free online course to get Amateur Radio License www.hamwhisperer.com/p/ham-courses.html
	Send Morse Code with an on-screen key or by typing (requires Flash)
	Amateur Radio Resources www.k8zt.com
	Maps & Social Studies www.k8zt.com/maps & www.ztlearn.com/social-studies

Finally, Field Day will be coming up soon so I want to remind you about using my youth handout for your club's Field Day site guests- "Ham Radio Resources for Youth, Students & Teachers"- tiny.cc/hry.

Until next time hope to work you on HF NOW!

73, Anthony K8ZT

From the Official Observer Coordinator

John Perone, W8RXX - OOC

w8rxx@arrl.net

The Ohio OO's monitored a total of 467 hours in April.

One OO Advisory Notice card was sent.

73, John W8RXX



ARES Training Update

Jim Yoder, W8ERW – ARES Data Manager

w8erw@arrl.net



ARES Training Update

Among other things, Facebook can be hilarious. My niece and her hubby are farmers and she recently posted a picture of a sailboat on the water pulling a planter. Today someone else posted a picture of a riding mower on a seriously wet lawn with an outboard motor on the back. Who in Ohio cannot appreciate the humor here? For some though, especially our farmers, this very wet spring has delayed working ground and planting for the season. The cold winter often with a lot of wind has killed off a lot of the hay this year also. Neither has my tower project gotten started because of the very wet ground conditions. Aye, enough complaining.

Have you taken a look at Hamshack Hotline, <https://hamshackhotline.com/> ? The number of Ohio Hams now on the service with an Amateur only VOIP line is growing quickly. The Hamshack Hotline project provides without charge, a VOIP line on the service which can be used to contact any other Amateur using the service and is now worldwide. They currently support several Cisco VOIP phones and the SPA112 VOIP adapter using an analog telephone set.

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The setup is very quick and easy. Other VOIP arrangements are offered, although without direct support. The feature set is very well implemented including the capability for a conference bridge. Several of the bridges are already in place including one I have set up for ARES District 1. This is a great service and has interesting possibilities for ARES. Once you have your line provisioned and working, it will operate anywhere that you have internet access. I have one setup in my go box with access provided by an internet hotspot.

The Team at AREDN, <https://www.arednmesh.org/> has now added some new hardware implementations including Mikrotik routers. Additional memory and dual band capability make these devices especially useful to Amateurs and ARES members supporting our served agencies. One quite useful application is to network your contact logging for Field Day. N3FPJ's Field Day logging program works very well with each station having a laptop to log contacts. Each station is connected to the designated server laptop where all the contacts for your group are centrally recorded and saved. The AREDN Mesh network makes for a clean setup without requiring network cables to trip over and worry about. The range of hardware options is extensive and the AREDN Mesh Network can be used like any network. As a bonus, your Hamshack Hotline works very well over the AREDN Mesh Network.

Our ARES Training statistics are nothing short of amazing. Congratulations are in order this month to Ron Hollas K8RJH who has completed every online FEMA course that is offered. Ron has 250 certificates on file including the 244 offered FEMA online courses. Now I am not suggesting that we all need to pursue this lofty goal as Ron has, but the bar has certainly been set high.

ICS-200 and ICS-400 are the required courses for Level 3 attainment. These are both classroom courses and for many, the time off work and possible need to travel out of town are not possible. There is an alternative path which includes 7 online FEMA courses, ICS-120, ICS-230, ICS-240, ICS-241, ICS-242, ICS-244 and ICS-288. And if you take one more, ICS-235, you will also receive the FEMA Professional Development Series certificate. For those who have leadership responsibilities or wish to do so, the Aux Comm course is a significant achievement. Finally, the Com series including COM T, COM L and COM N courses are available for those who have technical and management responsibilities.

The latest numbers show 1,028 active ARES members submitting 8,242 completed course certificates, 810 Level 2 completions and 157 ARES members completing Level 3. We have logged 228 certificates for 2019 amounting to some 1,130 estimated hours of training. Thank you all for demonstrating our Ohio commitment to ARES.

I have one more item for this month to share with you. Did I save the best for last? I will let you decide but I will tell you that our District 1 Emergency Coordinator Brent Stover WD8PNZ is excited about it. We have two new EMA directors who are also licensed Amateurs. Please join Brent and all of us in Seneca and Wood Counties as we welcome John Spahr Jr. KE8CNA, Seneca County and Jeff Klein KG8QP Wood County as our new EMA Directors. We look forward to working with them both as we support our served agencies in both counties. We also welcome Owen Fritz KD8GSI as our new Emergency Coordinator in Sandusky County.

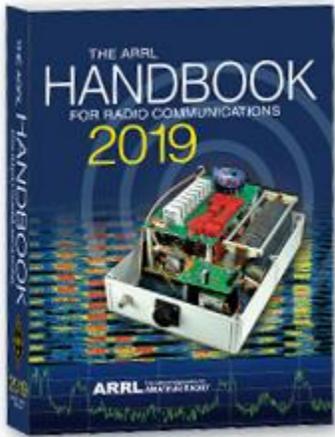
Thanks and 73,

Jim W8ERW

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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>



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



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The Toledo Air Show is **July 13 & 14** and we did such a great job at the last Air Show the powers that be have requested additional help from us this time around. We are still in the planning phase and do not have final numbers for needed operators, but I wouldn’t be surprised to see a number around 50 or more each day.



**The Toledo Mobile Radio Association
A Ham Radio Organization**

The Lucas County EC is the contact person for the air show, boxcar@toast.net.

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American TTT race at Salt Fork State Park May 31-June 1 and 2

There will be a total of 4 races during the weekend. They are;

Friday May 31 from 4pm to 7pm

Saturday June 1 from 7am to 11am

Saturday June 1 from 2:30pm to 7pm

Sunday June 2 from 6:30am to 4pm



For each race the sponsors are requesting 1 radio operator at the command post, 1 radio operator at the start / finish line, and up to 10 radio operators to be stationed along the racecourse. If we have enough volunteers, we may have a radio operator in a SAG vehicle and some mobiles. The races get progressively longer with the race on Sunday being 24 miles in length. The Friday night race is the shortest so we may not need as many radio operators for it. Each race will have swimming, running and biking components.

After each race there will be food served at the start / finish line and volunteers are welcome to eat. The lodge and cabins are booked for the entire weekend. If someone wants to camp, I can check on the availability of campsites.

Please let me know if you are willing to help and what times you are available. After I get a list of volunteers, I can start making assignments. Please contact me if you have any concerns or questions.

Dick, WD8SDH Guernsey County EC - cell 740 630 1815

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HF operators needed...



The USS Cod will be participating in the upcoming "Museum Ships on the Air" event on **June 1st & 2nd**. Some 107 U. S. Navy ships stations will be activated for this annual celebration.

<https://www.qsl.net/w/wa2tvs//museum/>

If you would like to help or want more information, please contact Bill Chakin KA8VIT: ka8vit@ka8vit.com

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HIGHLAND ARA MEMBERS HELP PREPARE FOR MEMORIAL DAY

On Saturday morning members of the Highland ARA gathered at the Hillsboro Cemetery to assist the cemetery board prepare for the upcoming Memorial Day weekend. HARA members assisted those from the board and the Highland County Historical Society with placing American flags on the graves of approximately 1,000 United States Military Veterans who have served our nation in times of war and peace.

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It was noted veterans of all wars from the Revolution through the most recent conflict rest on the peaceful and gently sloping hillsides of the tree covered cemetery.

While placing the flags, HARA members were told about some of the note-worthy people who are buried there. Possibly the most famous is Casper Collins, who as a soldier during the Plains Indian Wars was killed in the July 1865 battle of the Platte Bridge while trying to save a wagon train. Casper, Wyoming is named for him. His father, Col. William Collins established a military outpost

in the Colorado Territory that was later named after him and became the city of Fort Collins, Colorado. He was also an early Governor of the Colorado Territory. Their stately home is on Collins Avenue in Hillsboro.

Another interesting resident of the cemetery is Carrie Lou Finnel. Ms Finnel was an early stage performer on the burlesque circuit. It is said she is credited for “putting the tease in striptease” and singlehandedly took the “art” to new levels.

Highland ARA members assisting were John Willis, KE8JEM; Dave Tourtelot, KD8TUR; Buddy Holcomb, NA8CB; Doug McLaughlin and John Levo, W8KIW. Janet Holcomb and Jackson Willis also assisted HARA.



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Volunteers Needed

For Saturday, **June 15th** the Muddy Mini Half Marathon will be held. We need operators help with this event. Start time is 7:30 AM and the cut off for finishing is at 11:30 AM.

The race starts in downtown Maumee and ends in Mud Hens Stadium. If you’d like to volunteer or need more information, please get in touch with me at k8rks@arrl.net or 419-471-0573. Thanks!

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Lawrence County ARES Active in County Drill



Lawrence County Amateur Radio Emergency Service has been and continues to be an integral part of the county's back up emergency communications plan. Their representation and participation at the LEPC Tabletop Exercise, May 20, 2019 is just one example of their commitment. Additionally, Eddie Jenkins, N8URU ARES, EC is a Member of the Lawrence County LEPC.

The annual LEPC hazmat drill was conducted this evening May 20, 2019 at the Ohio University Southern Campus Ironton, Ohio. It was an interesting tabletop discussion that involved a truck vs. automobile accident. There were several different hazards involved. The county received a good score. ARES was praised several times for the valuable service provided to our community. All of the county's emergency services were represented.

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THE ART AND SCIENCE OF AMATEUR RADIO DIRECTION FINDING

(By Frank Tompkins, W8EZT & The Chattering Relay)

The March Fellowship meeting was a presentation by Bob McFadden, K8RJM, Jim Korenz, N8PXW, and yours truly, Frank, W8EZT discussing Amateur Radio direction finding. Also known as Fox Hunting, Fox Tailing, and Radio Orienteering, Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF) is yet another interesting and competitive facet of the Amateur Radio hobby.



Opening the discussion with a PowerPoint presentation, the first few minutes dealt with a bit of DFing history, with emphasis on the technological growth from the '30s to the '60s. After that, the presentation addressed the theoretical radio direction finding process (head in the direction of the strongest signal) and pointed out that Radio Direction finding, and Radio Navigation were essentially mirror image operations of each other. As the slides continued, it quickly became apparent that in the practice of ARDF, factors such as terrain variations, reflections, intentional misdirection, and adjacent sources of RF all can significantly complicate the process.

Throughout the presentation, the participants offered anecdotes and explanations of unusual events that have occurred during hunts. In addition to the challenge and enjoyment of bring the first hunter to find the fox, fox hunting is ideal practice in the event a real source of interference must be tracked down. In line with that, Jim summarized a request the Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club received from the FCC in 1999, seeking help in identifying a source of interference that was disrupting approach control at Cleveland Hopkins Airport.

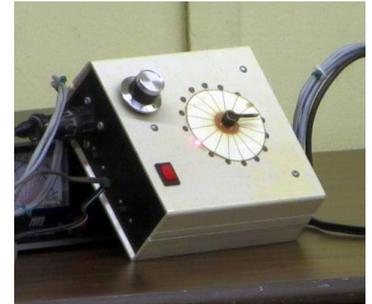
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The FAA had been unsuccessful in identifying the source and asked the FCC to help. The signal was weak and varied in frequency and after several unsuccessful attempts to locate it, the FCC reached out to the fox hunting contingent of the Club for help. The fox hunters were successful in localizing the source, which the FCC then identified as a defective amplifier on an antenna tower. (Editor's note: After the presentation, Bruce Ferry, AK8B, went through the Newsletter archives and found an article written by Jim Miller, K8EIO/sk describing the FAA foxhunt in detail. The article can be found in the Newsletter archives in the May 2000 edition of the Chattering Relay). May 2019



The presentation then addressed the biggest problem faced by most fox hunters, the dynamic change in signal, which can vary as much as 100 or more db, from the starting point to near the fox. The basic problem is that most hunters use the signal strength meter on their mobile rig or HT, and because of the limited resolution (sometimes as few as 6 or 8 LCD dots), and the way the AGC (Automatic Gain Control) works, very quickly as you approach the fox, the meter saturates (shows full scale) and you lose the ability to discern whether the signal strength is continuing to increase or not. Several solutions to this problem were discussed including the use of switched attenuators, offset attenuators, dedicated field strength meters, hunting the third harmonic of the fox's signal (it should be at least 43 db down from the main signal), and finally, a specially designed audio visual field

strength meter specifically designed for ARDF called the VK3YNG Foxhunt Sniffer 4.



Throughout the presentation, various antennas were discussed and demonstrated,



including an Arrow satellite antenna, tape measure beams, and a remotely operated beam that Bob built to be magnetically mounted to a vehicle and operated (direction and polarization) from inside. Jim also demonstrated the quad he often uses when he is the fox.

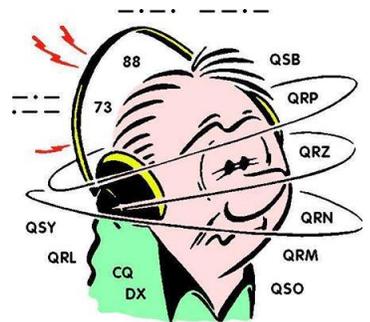
Finally, the Cadillac of foxhunting tools was described and demonstrated, Doppler direction-finding systems. Several models were discussed, and a commercial unit was set up and demonstrated at the end of the presentation. Doppler antenna arrays were discussed, along with the critical spacing issues between the antennas, and Bob demonstrated his half wave center fed dipole array, fabricated using PVC (of course), and some of the design revisions he has made to it.

As the presentation wrapped up numerous questions were asked and answered, and an open invitation was made to all members to join us for a "ride along" to see how we do fox hunting. Thanks go out to Bob and Jim, two of our fox hunters, for their help with the presentation.

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DX This Week
(from Bill, AJ8B)

Bill AJ8B (aj8b@arrl.net, @AJ8B, www.aj8b.com or www.swodxa.org)
CWOPs Member #1567



Last week I introduced you to something that has gotten me excited, namely, the Ultimate Awards Application Center. (UAAC) Let me know if you have looked at that.

There are so many discussions about getting this generation and that generation involved in Ham Radio I wonder if we are missing something obvious. As Uncle Frank and I were discussing on 80 meters Monday night, what MOST hams want, (what we think the younger folks want) and have become accustomed to, is Instant (or almost instant) gratification.

Having coached basketball for 16 years, I have seen the differences in kids and their expectations AND the parent's expectations over that time. I believe that the quick turnaround provided by LoTW is the biggest benefit to LoTW and perhaps the best thing that the League has done to keep members and attract new ones. In this day, who wants to wait 6 months or longer just to see if you are in the log and THEN apply for the award?

I have explored most of the clubs that you can use the UAAC to apply for awards to and wanted to highlight two of those this week, the FT8 Digital Modes Club (FT8DMC) and the 30 Meter Digital Group. (30MDG) Both are free, both are handled by the UAAC, and both offer really colorful awards that can be downloaded as soon as you are eligible. I contacted the FT8DMC (FT8 Digital Modes Club) and the 30MDG (30 Meter Digital Group) to gather information so you could explore them with me. I really encourage you to join, work, and submit. I have been thrilled with the results. Even Uncle Frank (who looks down on my vertical, OCF dipole, and HW101) has been impressed with the results. Let me know how you are doing and your thoughts!

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FT8 Digital Mode Club



From Jo OE4VIE FT8DMC#00001

FT8DMC-the first 20 months

How time flies! On July 12, 2017 Jo, OE4VIE and Hannes, OE1SGU/OE3SGU founded the Ft8DMC and a lot has happened since then. Both of us are serious long-time DXers and operate in almost every mode, with CW as the main activity. Well, then why did these two old folks start the FT8DMC? Honestly, it was a spontaneous idea. We could have instead also created any other Ham Radio related group.

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We simply were (as so many others) puzzled by the efficiency and possibilities of this new mode and its potential, especially in weak signal operating on 6m and the low bands, so we started the group.

None of us expected that after a bit more than one year we have grown to more than 9500 regular members. Additionally, almost 8500 people joined our Facebook group. Our group has become truly international with many members who are “real DX“.

We have been featured in international radio magazines, especially overseas (some magazines and associations in EU try to ignore us, but who cares?). In the meantime, 10 award managers administer 45 different awards from really easy to quite challenging. Overall, more than 150,000 awards have been issued!

All this would not have been possible without you, our members, and the help of Heinz, DK5UR, who implemented our awards into the UAAC system of the European Phase Shift Club. This way we could increase efficiency and create new awards on a regular basis. What are our plans for the future? We will certainly continue to spread the popularity of FT8 (or any other mode by JT to come in the future) and the Club. More awards are in the planning, especially some more difficult ones. We also have an idea about an upcoming contest and/or marathon. An important factor in our opinion is to spread the word about proper operation techniques in FT8, especially important in DX-mode and on a busy band. A members meeting is also in our thoughts, but, we have yet to find a proper location and/or date. Also, financing and organizing such a meeting is a real challenge since membership is free and we rely on donations.

Some people say that FT8 is killing Ham Radio. We at the FT8DMC believe that the numbers shown above and the continuing interest and growth in the group clearly prove that the opposite is true. Well, history shows us that Ham Radio has died many deaths (e.g. AM vs. SSB, drop of CW-tests for shortwave-access and so on). Many folks who were lacking interest in the hobby rejoined thanks to JT.

Many members (including the presidency) of the FT8DMC are avid CW and/or SSB-operators and can be found in most pile-ups. Yes, it really is possible to enjoy both-traditional and revolutionary modes! Our hobby has so many facets, so who decides what is “true“ or “false“?

We at the FT8DMC welcome everyone who is interested in the JT-modes, be it in addition operating the conventional modes or the “Digi freak“. There are no prejudices and there is no feeling of superiority. Just enjoy the hobby, that’s it.

How can you become a member or obtaining awards? Visit www.ft8dmc.eu where you find the answer!

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30 Meter Digital Group (30MDG) Established November 2007		Members	10340	DGCC	142
		W.A.S	50	W.A.E.	53
		W.A.C	07		

(I have had a passion for operating 30 M since the allocation was assigned to hams at the WRC conference in 1979. In fact, Chod Harris, VP2ML, offered the very first DXCC award for 30 meters. I was fortunate enough to earn #79 in the world for 30 meters. I have chased DX on 30 meters nearly every day since then! – Bill AJ8B)
From the 30 Meter Digital Group Website (<http://www.30mdg.org/intro.html>)

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Our goal is to promote the use of digital modes on the 30 meter band and awareness on how great this band is - plus provide place for like minded operators with the same interests. We will promote awareness of this unique HF band which many have called 'the best kept secret' in Ham Radio and encourage good digital operating practices, the use of different digital modes, experimenting, known weekly or monthly activities, skeds/spots, antennas, and study propagation for 30 meters.

There is no HF band in our minds, better to support and promote, than 30 meters - which in the U.S. is the only LOW POWER, Digital ONLY (includes CW), NON-CONTEST band. (note: this is a WARC band so we do not promote contests on 30 meters - the group/members would NOT participate if this idea was ever suggested - again NO CONTESTS but we will promote activity)

Some other reasons to join this Group:

- ✓ It is FREE! This site is supported by donations only, no Group fees, no hoops to jump - join and have fun on the band.
- ✓ If you have never explored or used 30 Meters then there is no better time than now to explore - this group is dedicated to the 30 Meter Digital band.
- ✓ If you are a seasoned Digital Mode Operator using other bands like 20 or 40 meters and are looking for a virtually under used band that has unique propagation qualities similar to both 20 and 40 Meters, then don't skip over 30 meters! You get the best of both bands here on 30 Meters, be it local propagation to World-Wide DX (it is open somewhere 24/7)
- ✓ New to digital modes? We are dedicated Digital Operators, so join, look around and ask questions- then get on the band!
- ✓ Not sure where to find 30 Meter Digital activity? This Group is dedicated to promoting and increasing digital activity on our digital only HF band (U.S). There will be postings of known 30 Meter activities and events so please join in (if you tried in the past on 30 Meters with little results on digital modes then please note, the band has increased in activity since 2007!)
- ✓ Don't like Contest Weekends, then join in on this NO CONTEST 30 Meter WARC band as there is plenty of room to have some very nice qso's/ragchews or work some DX while others are scrambling for a clear spot on other crowded bands with sometimes, poor operating practices.
- ✓ 30 Meters (in the U.S. and in some other Countries) is the only HF Digital ONLY band, so it certainly makes sense to use and promote digital activity on this Digital ONLY band.
- ✓ '30 Meters is the Energizer Bunny Band' - join in because this band just keeps going and going! 30 Meters is open somewhere and has propagation from local to World Wide DX - ALL stations are welcome.

From Don KB9UMT kb9umt@yahoo.com (30MDG#00001) Founder/Award Manager

I will give you a few facts about 30MDG and then some links and hope that helps:

- 30MDG was formed back in 2007 so we have been around for a while (but we are very casual and quite like the 30-meter band!)
- 30MDG formed to promote the use of the 30-meter band and digital modes (which includes any and ALL digital modes -including the original CW -on this unique band but we promote ONLY 30 meters and keeping it active!)
- 30MDG has over 10,400 members.... all 50 States, 53 WAE, and over 142 DXCC entities

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- 30MDG does NOT promote contesting on the 30-meter band or any WARC band...but we do promote experimenting with different digital modes, antennas, power, making 30m friends with like interests, rag chew keyboarding to DX...30 meters has it all in our view.
- 30MDG has over 100 Awards to collect but in your own time and all casual so for example WAC you can do this in a day, a week, a year or anytime it is easy to just have fun casually working the 30 meter band then using UAAC (Ultimate Award Application Center-Software Manager)
- 30MDG has about 40% of our members participating in the Award Program and average of 20 Awards per member and our Award Managers have issued well over 100,000 Awards

Below some links for 30MDG and info: 30MDG Intro: <http://www.30mdg.org/intro.html>

To join 30MDG: <http://www.30mdg.org/join.html>

30MDG Awards: http://www.30mdg.org/award_rules.html http://www.30mdg.org/awards_01.html

30MDG Q and A: <http://www.30mdg.org/qa.html>

30MDG Award Software using UAAC (also FT8, EPC, DMC, etc use UAAC also!)
http://epc-mc.eu/index.php?option=com_phocadownload&view=category&id=1&lang=en

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Here is an update from Bernie, W3UR, of the DailyDX and the WeeklyDX, the best source for DX information. (<http://www.dailydx.com/>) Bernie has this to report:

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A3 - Tonga The September 2019 A35JT DXpedition team have announced their pilots and QSL manager. The chief pilot will be ON9CFG, Bjorn, who will also be handling Europe and Africa. N2AJ, Steve, will be taking care of North America, PY2YP, Cesar, will do South America, JJ3PJT, Joe, is in charge of Japan, VK5SA, Chris will cover VK/ZL Pacific while AC9EZ, Jim, will be the youth pilot. QSL Manager M0OXO, Charles, will be handling the QSLing duties.



VP6 - Pitcairn Island VP6R plans 6M operation from grid CG44ww on EME. W8HC and W0VTT will handle the moonbounce operations. W7GJ passes the word, saying he will be at home working them like everyone else, for an all-time new one on 6. Due to team and gear changes, EME will only be on 6. Lance says the operation will be on October's best days for EME, with excellent moon windows to all continents, October 21-27 with moonrise at 0915Z on October 21 a first opportunity. They will have 1500 watts output to a single 6M8GJ Yagi with elevation, fed with LMR600 coax, mode JT65a with VP6R always transmitting first sequence, 50.200 MHz with 1271 Hz offset (DF=0 on JT65a from WJST10.) With elevation, they will be able to match your moonrise or moonset if you have horizon only capability. All of their moonrises will be over the ocean. Moonset has slightly rising ground to about seven degrees above the horizon. They will also monitor FT8 some and look for trans-equatorial propagation openings.

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3D2 - Fiji The Rebel DX Group website announces "The Rebel catamaran is ready to set sail. Graham, Tack, Taddy and Dom are in 3D2 Fiji making last minute preparations with licenses and permissions in hand. Once the Rebel Team "weigh anchor" [they] will make an announcement [t]here with the expected dates, operating frequencies and the location of [their] first stop! Stay tuned!" As stated we don't know officially where they are going, however remember they have recently announced they have recently obtained the 3D2CR (Conway Reef) and T33T (Banaba Island) licenses and are planning to activate both in 2019.

ARLD017 DX news

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by 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.

GEORGIA, 4L. Jun, JH4RHF will be QRV as 4L9S from Tbilisi from May 25 to June 2. Activity will be on the HF bands using only CW. QSL via OE1ZKC.

ISRAEL, 4X. Zvi, 4X6OM plans to be QRV as 4X7R in the CQ Worldwide WPX CW contest as an All Band entry. QSL to home call.

KENYA, 5Z. Nick, LZ4NM plans to be QRV as 5Z4/LZ4NM in the CQ World Wide WPX CW contest. QSL via operator's instructions.

KUWAIT, 9K. Hamad, 9K2HN will be QRV in the CQ World WPX CW contest as an All Band entry. QSL to home call.

EAST MALAYSIA, 9M6. Saty, JE1JKL is QRV as 9M6NA from Labuan Island, IOTA OC-133, until May 28. Activity is focused on 6 meters using FT8 in DXpedition mode. This includes being an entry in the CQ Worldwide WPX CW contest. QSL via LoTW.

CHINA, BY. Members of Club Station Jiangyin ARES will be QRV as B4T in the CQ Worldwide WPX CW contest. QSL via BA4TB.

MOROCCO, CN. A large group of operators will be QRV as CN3A as a Multi/Multi entry in the CQ Worldwide WPX CW contest. QSL via IK2OHG.

ERITREA, E3. A large group of operators will be QRV as E31A from May 23 to June 3 while there in support of humanitarian activities. Activity will be in their spare time on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB and FT8. QSL via JH1AJT.

FRANCE, F. Special event station TM19ATHF is QRV until May 27 during the Tour des Hauts-de-France 2019 bicycle race. QSL via F4HXC.

GUADELOUPE, FG. Didier, F6BCW is QRV as FG/F6BCW from Archipel des Saintes, IOTA NA-114, until May 26. Activity is on 20 meters using CW. QSL to home call.



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ALAND ISLANDS, OH0. A group of operators are QRV as OG0C from Kokar until May 28. Activity is on 160 to 2 meters using CW, SSB, MSK144, FT8, and FT4. This includes being an entry in the CQ Worldwide WPX CW contest. QSL via OH5CW.

DENMARK, OZ. Henning, OZ2I will be QRV as 5Q6EE from Fyn, IOTA EU-172, in the CQ Worldwide WPX CW contest. QSL to home call.

NETHERLANDS, PA. Special event station PA100IAU will be QRV from May 25 to June 16 to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the International Astronomical Union. QSL via PA1UN.

SEYCHELLES, S7. Laci, HA7JTR is QRV as S79HA from Praslin Island, IOTA AF-024, until May 29. Activity is holiday style on 160 to 17 meters, with a focus on the low bands, using mainly CW and some SSB. QSL to home call.

DODECANESE, SV5. Wolf, DL3DRN will be QRV as SV5/DL3DRN from Rhodos, IOTA EU-001, from May 25 to June 14. Activity will be on the HF bands using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL to home call.

BELIZE, V3. Josep, EA3AKY is QRV as V31AK until May 28. Activity is mainly on 6 meters using FT8. This includes being an entry in the CQ Worldwide WPX CW contest. QSL via LoTW.

INDONESIA, YB. Yohanes, YB2DX will be QRV as a Single Op/Single Band on 80 meters entry in the CQ Worldwide WPX CW contest. QSL direct to home call.

KOSOVO, Z6. Look for members of the Kosovo Friendship Consortium to be QRV as Z66X from Pristina in the CQ Worldwide WPX CW contest. When not active in the contest, they will be working with young hams in preparation of YOTA 2019. QSL via OH2BH.

THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO. The CQ Worldwide WPX CW Contest, NCCC RTTY Sprint and NCCC CW Sprint are all on tap for this weekend.

The QCX CW Challenge is scheduled for May 27.

The CWops Mini-CWT Test and Phone Fray are scheduled for May 29.

The Canadian National Parks on the Air, CNPOTA, operating event runs for the entire year of 2019, with special stations active from Canada's parks and historic sites.

Please see May 2019 QST, page 84, and the ARRL and WA7BNM Contest Web Sites for details.

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Special Events

06/01/2019 | Museum Ships Weekend

Jun 1-Jun 2, 1100Z-2100Z, K8E, Toledo, OH. Toledo Mobile Radio Association and National Museum of the Great Lakes. 14.260 14.039 7.260 7.039. QSL. SS Col. James M. Schoonmaker, Team K8E, P.O. Box 9673, Toledo, OH 43697. www.tmrahamradio.org

06/15/2019 | W8DXCC DX Convention

Jun 15-Jun 16, 0000Z-2359Z, K8S – K8W – K8H – K8O, Owensville, OH. SouthWest OH DX Association. 14.245 14.074 7.245 3.535. Certificate & QSL. AJ8B - Bill, 8275 Cierra Way, Waynesville, OH 45068. This is the inaugural year for this DX Convention. We are using these call signs: K8S, K8W, K8O, K8H. A QSL for each and/or certificate for working all four. www.w8dxcc.com

06/24/2019 | Simon Kenton Council, Delaware District, Cub Scout Day Camp

Jun 24-Jun 28, 1330Z-1700Z, K2BSA/8, Lewis Center, OH. Delaware Amateur Radio Association K8ES. 14.290 7.190. QSL. Ed Jones, 2965 Seaway Ct, Lewis Center, OH 43035. We'll be operating each day from 13:30-19:30 from Camp Lazarus in Ohio. We'll have hundreds of scouts on the air over the course of the week.

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.



One Question Questionnaire

Hey Gang,

It seems that about 52% of you used the new ARRL Hamvention App. Very good. I myself still found the Hamvention Program for my go information. Call me old fashioned, but I still like the idea of having an actual program in my hands.

There's another NEW – one question – questionnaire on the Ohio Section Website! <http://arrloho.org> Ok, with Field Day coming up in a few weeks, I want to know...

“Will you be using “voice keyer” software during Field Day this year??”



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Anyway, these questions are all in fun and I hope that you are enjoying answering these “ONE QUESTION” questionnaires. Ok, enough on that, here’s the next question for you to answer...

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.

V.E. Test Sessions

For the latest testing site information please >> [Click Here](#) << The ARRL site tracks all of the VE testing sites that register with them, including W5YI and Laurel. ARRL gives you a number of different ways of sorting to find that site that is closest to you as well.



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>

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>



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.**

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Now, if you are looking for wallpaper and have a little extra time, taking IS-235 in addition to the 7 listed courses above, you will get a really cool looking certificate from FEMA stating that you have completed the Professional Development Series. That's impressive in itself!

ARES Connect

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, if you haven't already. 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.

ARES Connect

Instructions to Register

If you live in Ohio and you haven't registered yet, we need you to get registered now. **We need you to only use this URL to get registered <https://arrl.volunteerhub.com/lp/oh/>.** Using any other entrance to register will only slow down your registration process. Again, this is for those living in Ohio only. **If you are an out of state person (not Ohio), you can simply change the /oh/ to your 2-letter state designation. This will put you in the correct state for signing up**

Enter ARES Connect

Now, as an incentive to get you to not only register.... and 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 at various times!

I'm doing this so it will challenge you to be dedicated to getting your hours into the system. You'll never know just when another drawing will be, so you really do have to be prudent!!

Here's the top 10 folks for hours thus far in May:

	Name	Events	Hours
1	Henry Ruminski (W8HJR)	28	104.15
2	Christopher Domenick (KC8CAD)	19	94.25
3	Bret Stemen (KD8SCL)	28	85.25
4	John Westerkamp (W8LRJ)	38	84.58
5	Elizabeth Klinc (KE8FMJ)	37	83.40
6	Robert Baker (N8ado)	15	68.40
7	James Yoder (w8erw)	8	57.00
8	Dan Stahl (KC8PBU)	43	53.50
9	Eldon Peterson (W5UHQ)	6	38.00
10	Michael Farkas (n8gbu)	26	33.50

Here's how we are doing with people getting signed up for events and the total hours logged so far for May

Total Amount signed into Events	Total Hours for Events
1,424	3,063.78

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It adds up quickly, but you do have to be registered and actually USE the system in order for any of your time to count. 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>

Here's a quick breakdown of the 10 Districts currently through 25 May

	Registered		Registered		Hours		Hours
District 01	139	District 02	10	District 01	345.25	District 02	0
District 03	161	District 04	116	District 03	443.13	District 04	98.50
District 05	100	District 06	49	District 05	21.25	District 06	418.25
District 07	209	District 08	35	District 07	252.20	District 08	2.00
District 09	59	District 10	173	District 09	106.70	District 10	398.50

Now, that's not the only information we have. With this new reporting system, we can get real time information that shows how many hours, who volunteered and what did they volunteer for. There's a ton of information that we can draw out of the system and here's just a sampling.

	# Signed up	# of Events	Hours Credited
Communications Emergency	23	1	78.00
Community Event	65	22	307.00
Exercise	15	7	42.00
Meeting	174	43	401.60
Net	823	300	1216.78
Skywarn	149	29	103.00
Training	56	41	509.50
Miscellaneous	119	69	405.90
Total	1424	512	3063.78

We now have **1051** registered and growing in the system. As you can see by the numbers above, we are moving very fast to a day when we will all need to be registered in this system for our hours to count.

Right now, we depend on our EC's and DEC's to remember our hours of volunteering and report those hours for us on their monthly reports. Very soon now those days of the EC and DEC monthly reports will not be necessary, and it will be coming faster than you think!

The time that is spent in getting your information and making sure it is up-to-date and on file with the EC, as well as transferring all of those records when a new EC takes over will also no longer be needed. This system takes care of all of that automatically. Forget a meeting time or location? Just look it up on the calendar and there you have it. If set, you can even see the location on a map! I have attended many meetings and gatherings just because it was listed on ARES Connect and I found it just browsing around. I wouldn't have known about it if it hadn't been on the ARES Connect Calendar!

Why is this so important? These hours are what is shown to those we go to for funding as well as for more frequencies to operate on. Yes, we have to justify why we need the money or frequencies to those in government that want "just the facts." This system allows us to show them the facts, anytime and with great accuracy.

Wouff Hong A Very Special Night

Hey Gang,

Did you attend the meeting of the Royal Order of the Wouff Hong on Saturday evening last weekend? Well, if you didn't, I do have to tell you that you not only missed out on absolutely THE best performance done to date, but you also missed out on one monumental event as well. Yes, monumental in that this was the one and only **100th Anniversary of the Wouff Hong!**

Early in 1919, "The Old Man" wrote in [OST](#) "I am sending you a specimen of a real live Wouff Hong . . . Keep it in the editorial sanctum where you can lay hands on it quickly in an emergency." The "specimen of a real live

Wouff Hong" was presented to a meeting of the ARRL Board and the Board voted that the Wouff Hong be framed and hung in the office of the Secretary of the League.



As our performance was done at the only ARRL National Convention this year, we (Ohio Section) now holds the title of performing the ceremony on the **100th anniversary** and this session. It was also the first time that the Ohio Section ever had this performance pre-recorded. We did this deliberately to allow the players the ability to concentrate fully on their performance, and not have to worry about reading from a script! This also allowed us to add some great sound effects to the script as well.

Now, we need to give credit where credit is due... None of this would have been possible if it weren't the Mighty Ohio Section Wouff Hong Players.

Russ Ward, W8ARD (Crystal); Jay Himes, N8YMT (High Spirit); Justin Bogar, KE8EEO (Novice); Bret Stemen, KD8SCL (Audio and voice of QRN); Mark Griggs KB8YMN (QRM); Matt Curtin, KD8TTE (The Old Man); Richard Wynkoop, KD8PHG (QRN); Bob Rector, W8RWR (Sargent at Arms); Terry Holdren, KD8YFW (Sargent at Arms); Scott Yonally, N8SY (Scribe). Thank all of you for taking on this very impressive performance. It definitely went down as one for the century!!!!

So, if you missed this performance I will let the “cat out of the bag” just a little bit and let you in on a secret, the Mighty Ohio Section Wouff Hong Players are gearing up for a possible repeat performance at the ARRL Great Lakes Division Convention in Toledo next March! Will you be there?

National News

(from arrl and other sources)

June Event in Europe to Assess Activity, Ability to Share Spectrum on 6 Meters

The International Amateur Radio Union ([IARU](#)) has thrown its support behind an upcoming operating event on 6 meters aimed at assessing activity on 6 meters and the ability of Amateur Radio to share spectrum with government users on the band. The worldwide Amateur Radio community is invited to participate in the Czech-sponsored Pohotovostní (readiness) Test — or “P-Test” — which will take place on June 13. Agenda Item 1.1 for World Radiocommunication Conference 2019 (WRC-19) will consider an Amateur Service allocation in the 50 – 54 MHz band in Region 1 (Europe, Africa, Asiatic Russia), taking into account studies looking into sharing between the Amateur Service and the mobile, fixed, radiolocation, and broadcasting services, “in order to ensure protection of these services.”



The Czech Republic’s telecommunications regulator CTO is investigating if theoretical study results match real life. The June test follows an initial trial that took place in late February in the Czech Republic. One objective was to verify that military and Amateur Radio stations could coexist on the band. The second test will take place when enhanced propagation is more likely. During the event, other 50 MHz band users will operate their own communication systems, and the IARU has cautioned radio amateurs not to interfere with their activities.

“The purpose of this event is to show regulators that amateurs and military stations can coexist without causing harmful interference to each other,” said an IARU Region 1 [news article](#) by Hans Blondeel Timmerman, PB2T. The June 13 event will take place in two activity periods: The first will run from 0730 until 0900 UTC, and the second will take place from 1100 to 1230 UTC. Participating stations will call “CQ P (Contest)” and exchange signal reports, a sequential serial number, a six-character grid locator, and a geographical location.

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Maximum power output will be 25 W PEP, the maximum power under Czech Amateur Radio Service regulations. Stations outside of the Czech Republic are requested to use the same output power to enable comparisons with the February test. The use of spotting networks is permitted. [Submit](#) logs no later than 1230 UTC on June 15.

“We would like to involve amateur stations experimenting with wideband modes in this test,” the IARU news article said. This could include reduced-bandwidth digital television or other wide-band emissions. Such stations would participate in the second activity period.

“There needs to be as much activity as possible on the band during these two periods, preferably sticking to the Czech power limit of 25 W ERP,” said UK Six Metre Group Chair Chris Deacon, G4IFX. “It doesn’t matter whether the band is open or not; just get on the air using SSB, CW, digital, or all three. This is your chance to do something to help the 50 MHz community in Europe and beyond.”

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175th Anniversary of Morse Code

(Newsweek / Gregory Drezdson, WD9FTZ)

Newsweek reports Morse Code is 175 years old and still as useful as ever

Last Friday, the first message sent by Morse code across a long distance from Washington, D.C., to Baltimore and was transmitted on Friday, May 24, 1844 - 175 years ago.

This wired signal, for the first time in human history, began the era in which complex thoughts could be communicated over long distances almost instantaneously. Until then, people had to have face-to-face conversations; send coded messages through drums, smoke signals and semaphore systems; or read printed words in letters or newspapers. Thanks to Samuel F.B. Morse, communication changed rapidly, and has been changing ever faster since.

Morse also improved the electric telegraph in 1843 that took six more years to standardize a code for communicating over telegraph wires. In 1843, Congress gave him \$30,000 to string wires between the nation’s capital and nearby Baltimore. When the line was completed, he conducted a public demonstration of long-distance communication.

There is a thriving community of amateur radio operators who treasure Morse code, too. Among amateur radio operators, Morse code is a cherished tradition tracing back to the earliest days of radio. Some of them may have begun in the Boy Scouts, which has made learning Morse variably optional or required over the years.

The Federal Communications Commission used to require all licensed amateur radio operators to demonstrate proficiency in Morse code, but that ended in 2007. The FCC does still issue commercial licenses that require Morse proficiency, but no jobs require it anymore.

Read the full story at: <https://www.newsweek.com/morse-code-175-years-old-useful-1432418>

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FCC Blames Insufficient Backhaul, Roaming, Coordination for Hurricane Michael Response

(RadioResource, Gregory Drezdson, WD9FTZ)

An FCC report found that numerous key factors were the predominant causes of the unacceptably slow restoration of wireless service in the Florida Panhandle following Hurricane Michael in 2018.

It is estimated that Hurricane Michael caused over \$25 billion in damages and resulted in 57 known deaths according to the FCC report.

The report indicated that insufficient resilient backhaul connectivity, inadequate reciprocal roaming arrangements, and lack of coordination among wireless service providers, power crews and municipalities caused the problems.

“Indeed, the investigation found that recovery efforts themselves often led to communications outages,” the FCC said. “There were numerous cases in which a wireless provider had restored service to customers only to have that service brought down as third-party crews damaged communications assets while clearing trash or restoring power lines and utility poles.”

The report said such lack of coordination among wireless providers, utilities and debris clearance crews unnecessarily prolonged the time customers lacked service.

“It will come as no surprise to the residents of the Florida Panhandle that there is significant room for improvement on the recovery efforts seen in the wake of Hurricane Michael,” said FCC Chairman Ajit Pai. “I appreciate the efforts of the FCC’s public-safety staff and call on wireless phone companies, other communications providers, and power companies to quickly implement the recommendations contained in this report.”

To improve recovery efforts from future storms, the report recommends that:

- Wireless providers in hurricane-prone areas enter into roaming agreements as part of their pre-storm preparation processes.
- Communications providers and power companies in hurricane-prone areas enter into coordination agreements regarding mutual preparation and restoration efforts that can be activated when a storm strikes.
- Wireless providers use diverse backhaul options, such as microwave links and satellite links in hurricane-prone areas.
- Communications providers participate in training activities to improve coordination of restoration efforts.
- Wireless providers ensure familiarity with applicable best practices, especially as they relate to cooperation and coordination with local utilities.

The Hurricane Michael 26-page report is available here: <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-357387A1.pdf>

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The future of SD memory cards

(By PR ADMIN, Gregory Drezdzon, WD9FTZ)



Since many radio amateurs use SD cards in some facet, SD cards technology keeps evolving, and new SD cards, including microSD cards may not be compatible with some of the radio amateur's technology.

One of the obstacles is because radio manufactures do not include state of the art SD technology, and continue to use USB1 and USB2 interfaces.

Lensvid published their interview with the chairman of the SD Association Mr. Yosi Pinto who discussed the future of SD memory cards:

Some key points:

While the UHS-II interface has become increasingly more popular with the release of more cards and supported cameras in recent years, few people are aware that in early 2017 the SD Association introduced the third iteration of this interface – UHS-III with up to 624MB/s of transfer speed – which is twice as fast as UHS-II. Although this relatively new standard was developed at the request of several companies in the photo industry (we have not given any specific names) no products offering UHS-III have been announced so far and the introduction of the upcoming SD Express (see later on in this article) may replace UHS-III entirely.

In 2018 the SD Association finalized the SD 7.0 specification which brought two major additions to SD cards. The first is the creation of the SD Express interface, a PCIe 3.0 x1 and NVMe-based interface and protocol with maximum transfer speeds of up to 985 MB/sec. The second innovation is the SD Ultra-Capacity (SDUC) class of cards which will be able to go up to 128 TB in capacity (SDXC maxes out at 2TB).

It is important to note that despite the lack of push from the photo industry for the new SD Express, the upcoming new cards will be backwards compatible with SD UHS-I devices so you will be able to use them in any camera or device that work with existing cards. This will be done in a way similar to what has been done in the past with UHS-II (and UHS-III) where one row of connectors on the back of the card is dedicated to UHS-I and the other to the SD Express PCI-E. This also means that in backwards compatibility mode, the card will only support UHS-I speeds and not UHS-II/III.

In the past, SD was typically considered to be a consumer/prosumer-oriented format while CF (and later XQD) were more of a pro level memory formats. At the moment it isn't clear if this division will continue between SD Express and CF Express, however, we believe that the fact that both are now based on the same basic PCIe/NVMe protocols might have interesting consequences in the future.

As we have noted above, SD Express was not developed primarily for the camera industry but was pushed forward by other markets. This means that camera manufacturers may not be the first to implement it.

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However, jumping on the SD Express train for all type of products should be easier than it was for previous SD iterations since the PCIe interface and NVMe protocols are well established in the industry with all the supporting software and hardware required for implementing them.

As for when the first SD Express supported cameras will be available on the market, Mr. Pinto did not wish to speculate, but based on our understanding this will not happen during 2019 (and possibly not even during the first half of 2020).

Minimum Sequential Write Speed	Speed Class			Corresponding Video Format
	Speed Class	UHS Speed Class	Video Speed Class (NEW)	
Card image				The necessary speed varies by each recording / playback device condition, even in the same format.
90MB/sec			V90	8K Video
60MB/sec			V60	4K Video
30MB/sec		U3	V30	Full HD / HD Video
10MB/sec	10	U1	V10	Standard Video
6MB/sec	6		V6	
4MB/sec	4			
2MB/sec	2			

Host Device and Card Compatibility

Host Device	(2GB or less)	(Over 2GB to 32GB)	(Over 32GB to 2TB)	(Over 2TB to 128TB)
	FAT12/16	FAT32	exFAT	exFAT
SD compatible	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
SDHC compatible	✓	✓	N/A	N/A
SDXC compatible	✓	✓	✓	N/A
SUXC compatible	✓	✓	✓	✓

Final.. Final..



Hey Gang...

This was one great week for sure. One day it's 50 degrees, the next it's 90 and I'm still looking for where we packed my shorts from last year! Yup.. that's good ol' Ohio weather for ya'.

I've been on a mission this last week. It seems that I have a new family that moved in on me over this past several weeks. Well, to be more precise, I have a mama and daddy with about 4 little ones that have taken up residency under my deck! Since I'm not running a hotel for ground hogs, I decided to get the live cage out and start to work. Boy, are they clever! They've found a way to get the bait without tripping the trapdoor. I've even put a counterweight on the trap lever to make it way more sensitive and even doing that, they've found a way to escape getting

caught.

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I wouldn't normally mind them being under there if they didn't squeak and squeal every time we go out and sit on the deck. Oh well, looks like this is going to be a longer-range project than what I wanted, but I will prevail for sure!

Sliding down the band a bit... I had a blast this week visiting with everyone at several breakfasts. It's always fun to sit and have a cup of coffee and talk about Amateur Radio and ARRL. Two of my favorite subjects for sure.

Rotating the dial a little more... I want to make sure that all of you know that you need to get signed up in ARES Connect soon. If you didn't read the ARES Connect Column above, there were a lot of statistics listed in there that will help you understand the importance for you to start using the system.

Here in the Ohio Section we only require our Level 2 volunteers to have the 4 basic courses, IS 100, 200, 700 & 800. For our Level 3 volunteers we do require the additional ICS 300 / 400, or the equivalent professional series courses IS 120, 230, 240, 241, 242, 244 & 288. These equivalent courses are all on-line classes just like your basic 4 NIMS courses are and being offered as an alternative way for you to get credit for taking the professional series courses in the event you just cannot get scheduled into an ICS 300/400 class.

By the way, if you decide to take these 7 on-line courses and complete them all, you will want to take just one more class **IS-235**. By completing this additional course, you will get a really great looking certificate from FEMA recognizing that you have completed the entire Professional Series courses. I do hope that this clears up the confusion that has been going around lately. As we have stated on the website and in this newsletter many times "We don't want anyone left behind."

And last, but certainly not least... Lyn Alfman, N8IMW my Assistant Section Manager has decided to retire. She's done a Yeoman's duty for many years as ASM, and she will be missed for sure.

Now, as you all know, the Official Observer program is fast coming to an end. I had the opportunity to speak with Riley Hollingsworth the manager of the new Volunteer Monitor Program at length at Dayton Hamvention. He stated that the OO program will be officially shutting down over the summer and switching over to the new VM Program. This means that the Official Observer program and the Official Observer Coordinator position will no longer exist. John Perone, W8RXX has been our OOC since December of 2013 and he's done a fantastic job with the program.

Now, as the old saying goes – "as one door closes, another opens up!" I have asked John to stay on and fill the open Assistant Section Manager position and he has accepted. For a short time, he will be pulling double duty as he will remain the OOC and work with Riley and a number of other OOC's helping get the VM Program up and running.

Whelp... That's going to do it for this time around. Stay safe, enjoy the sunshine while we have it, and most of all... have FUN!!

73,

Scott, N8SY

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Memorial Day

Memorial Day is an American holiday, observed on the last Monday of May, honoring the men and women who died while serving in the U.S. military.

Originally known as Decoration Day, it originated in the years following the Civil War and became an official federal holiday in 1971. Many Americans observe Memorial Day by visiting cemeteries or memorials, holding family gatherings and participating in parades. Unofficially, it marks the beginning of the summer season.

By the late 1860s, Americans in various towns and cities had begun holding springtime tributes to these countless fallen soldiers, decorating their graves with flowers and reciting prayers.

It is unclear where exactly this tradition originated; numerous different communities may have independently initiated the memorial gatherings. Nevertheless, in 1966 the federal government declared Waterloo, New York, the official [birthplace of Memorial Day](#).

Memorial Day, as Decoration Day gradually came to be known, originally honored only those lost while fighting in the Civil War. But during World War I the United States found itself embroiled in another major conflict, and the holiday evolved to commemorate American military personnel who died in all wars.

For decades, Memorial Day continued to be observed on May 30th. But in 1968 Congress passed the Uniform Monday Holiday Act, which established Memorial Day as the last Monday in May in order to create a three-day weekend for federal employees; the change went into effect in 1971. The same law also declared Memorial Day a federal holiday.



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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>



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 over 7,000 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://arrl-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



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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!