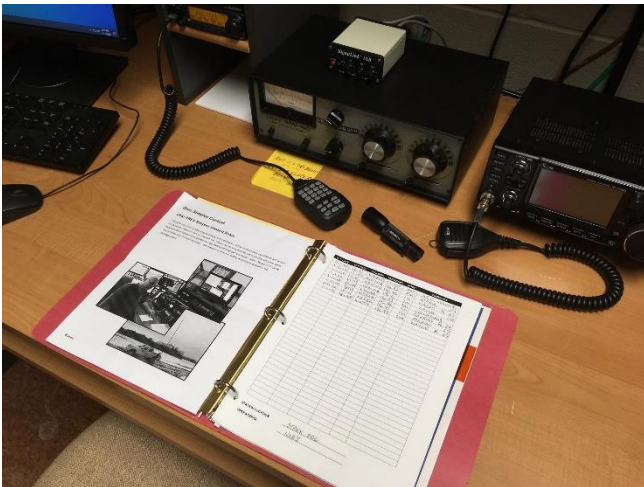




January 20th Edition

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National News

(from arrl and other sources)

Barry Shelley, N1VXY, to Become ARRL Interim CEO

At its meeting this weekend, the ARRL Board of Directors did not elect Howard Michel, WB2ITX, as the ARRL Chief Executive Officer. Beginning Monday, January 20, Barry Shelley, N1VXY, will become interim CEO. Mr. Shelley was ARRL's Chief Financial Officer for 28 years and CEO during 2018 before his retirement. The board has created a search committee to select the next CEO.



More details on this and other matters which took place at the board meeting will be released shortly.

#####

Puerto Rico Earthquake Relief Effort Continues, with Help from Ham Radio

In Puerto Rico, Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) volunteers continue to operate from the American Red Cross distribution center in Yauco — one of the towns hit the hardest by the recent earthquakes and ongoing aftershocks on the island. The Red Cross requested assistance last week to identify undeclared refugee camps and to report on close or damaged roadways and bridges. ARES District 5 Emergency Coordinator Herb Perez, WP4ZZ, who is among those volunteering for the Red Cross at Yauco, reported on January 14 that he, Melvin Velazquez, WP4RAP, and Yolanda Garcia, WP4QZF, are on duty there.

“Today, we were able to occupy our space with no major incident other than the usual shaking of the entire structure. More than 10 per hour,” Perez said. “One of our members Jared Martinez, KP4LCO, was able to search near his hometown of Lajas and was able to locate more than 10 unidentified campsites around the area.” Perez said such reports enable the Red Cross to provide necessary assistance to those left homeless as a result of the earthquakes.



Puerto Rico Section Manager Oscar Resto, KP4RF, installs an antenna at Red Cross Headquarters in San Juan.

Perez said volunteers were able to collect food for isolated communities in the mountain region from a church-run food pantry in Sabana Grande. He said local members of the GMRS and Citizens Band radio communities have been pitching in.

Operations from Yauco have been on VHF and UHF, although commercial telecommunication services remain in operation for the most part. Another station has been established at the Red Cross Headquarters in the capital of San Juan, which is not in the earthquake zone. Puerto Rico Section Manager Oscar Resto, KP4RF, said the stations are operating as a backbone, in the event of new or stronger earthquakes. HF equipment has been safely stowed if communications fail, Resto said. Most of Puerto Rico now has power and water.

ARRL is shipping six VHF/UHF base/repeater antennas and six 50-foot rolls of LMR-400 coax, through the [Ham Aid Fund](#). Resto said a new Red Cross warehouse will be place in Mayagüez, where he will install a third station for backbone communication. “That is the reason for the new antennas,” he said. “We already have the radios. In case we need to escalate to HF, we are ready with ARRL go-kits from Hurricane Maria.” The ARES team in Yauco has also been handling health-and-welfare traffic from the earthquake zone. Operations are running from 9 AM until 5 PM each day.

A magnitude 6.4 earthquake struck the southwestern part of Puerto Rico on January 7, fast on the heels of a magnitude 5.8 tremor the day before. The worst-impacted cities were Guayanilla, Peñuelas, Yauco, and Guánica, where most homes are no longer habitable.

####

YOTA Month Reported a Success in the Americas



For several years now, Youngsters on the Air ([YOTA](#)) has sponsored [YOTA Month](#) each December, primarily involving young radio amateurs in Europe and Africa. In December, youth-operated amateur radio stations in the Americas picked up the ball to contribute more than 12,000 contacts to the worldwide event. Eighteen operators aged 25 or younger deployed special event 1 × 1 call signs — **K8Y, K8O, K8T, and K8A** — to promote youth in amateur radio. Fifteen young operators across the US took turns using these call signs throughout December. They logged 10,474 contacts using those **call signs on SSB, CW, digital modes, and satellites. Some operators also aired the call signs** during contests. Participants in the Americas offered opinions on what made the event special for them.

“Operating-wise, it was definitely the pileups...I love a good pileup,” said Mason Matrazzo, KM4SII. “Apart from that, it was great getting to be part of a group of youngsters that are all into the hobby. Even though we weren’t physically working together, we all got to be part of the YOTA program over the air.”

Audrey McElroy, KM4BUN, also cited the on-air camaraderie. “My favorite part of YOTA month was getting the wonderful experience of talking to other youth all over the world and sharing our experiences,” she said. “It gives us hope to know the future of Amateur Radio is in the hands of these great kids.” Her brother Jack, KM4ZIA, also took part.

In Canada, David Samu, VE7DZO, signed VE7YOTA in December, making 458 contacts on CW. “My favorite part was seeing all the YOTA stations on the air throughout December and seeing all the high energy youth activity,” he said.

Mathias Acevedo, CE2LR, activated XR2YOTA, and met another young operator from Chile, Manu Pardo, CA3MPR, through YOTA month. Between them, they put 1,535 contacts into the log on CW, SSB, and digital modes.

Bryant Rascoll, KG5HVO, coordinated the efforts of the 17 participants and the logs for the US stations. “I learned much during the month about the importance of teamwork and communication...just like baseball,” Bryant said about his role as coordinator. “I think YOTA month was a great success considering the short amount of time we had to plan this all out. I had a lot of fun operating this event, but it was even more rewarding to see other youth here in the Americas make tons of QSOs during December.”

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Bryant managed Logbook of The World accounts for the US stations and QRZ.com pages for all call signs, maintained an operator schedule, worked with YOTA Month Award Manager Tomi Varro, HA8RT, and reported in to the YOTA Camp Committee in the Americas.

Globally, nearly 129,000 contacts were logged using 48 call signs, all operated by hams under the age of 25 or younger. More than 2,500 operators of all ages requested and received awards based on the number of YOTA contacts they had made. **Statistics** are available.

The first Youth On The Air camp in the US will take place next June 21 – 26 at the National Voice of America Museum of Broadcasting in West Chester Township, Ohio.

For more information about YOTA in the Americas, contact YOTA Month in the Americas Coordinator [Bryant Rascoll, KG5HVO](#), or YOTA in the Americas Camp Director [Neil Rapp, WB9VPG](#).

####

Iowa State Parks on the Air 2020 Celebrating Centennial of Iowa State Parks

Iowa State Parks on the Air ([IASPOTA-2020](#)) is under way and will continue through year's end. The event is sponsored by the [Great River Amateur Radio Club](#), with the support of Iowa ARRL Section Manager Lelia Garner, WA0UIG, and the Iowa Division of Natural Resources (DNR).



According to Colin Wheatley, W9UPK, Iowa had the first state park system in the nation, and Iowa's first state park, Backbone State Park, was dedicated in 1920. Since then, the state park system has grown to some 70 parks and recreational facilities, including 63 state parks.

Stations logging contacts with five of Iowa's state parks during the year-long celebration can request a certificate by sending a legal-size self-addressed, sealed envelope to IASPOTA-2020 c/o Great River Amateur Radio Club, P.O. Box 1384, Dubuque, IA 52004.

####

Grow Lights Cause Interference to Ham Radio

(Submitted by Gregory Drezdzon, WD9FTZ)

The Lansing State Journal, on January 14, reports amateur radio operators have been complaining of interference from marijuana grow lights.

The newspaper says:

The rumbling, noise, and buzzing would start like clockwork. Gregg Mulder, WB8LZG, noticed the static each evening when he finished dinner and turned on his radio equipment. The noise made it impossible for Mulder to communicate with other amateur radio enthusiasts.

Mulder, who lives in Dimondale, Mich., built an antenna device called a "sniffer" and tracked the interference to a house a few doors down. The problem, Mulder determined, was a high-powered light used by his neighbor to grow cannabis.

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It is legal for Michiganders to grow marijuana in their homes under certain circumstances. But, some amateur radio operators complain that grow lights are interfering with their signals.

Problems arise from products that exceed emission limits from the Federal Communications Commission. The uncertified products, typically the ballasts that send power to light bulbs, are often manufactured overseas.

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 yourself registered now!

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 I usually “Give Away” more than just a Handbook too!!



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!

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



####

Mercer County Amateur Radio Club Hosting Special Guest

I am pleased to announce that Bob Allison, WB1GCM from the ARRL headquarters lab team will present two topics at the Mercer County Amateur Radio Club January 2020 meeting on **January 28th** starting at 6 PM at the Park Inn Radisson West Middlesex.

Everyone is welcome to attend the January Mercer County Amateur Radio Club (MCARC) meeting and learn how ARRL reviews and tests new equipment - from the guy that writes the articles you see in QST magazine.

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This is a meeting you do not want to miss.

73 and Happy New Year,
Tim K3LR
MCARC President

####

The Highland ARA is starting a Technician Class in the not too distant future. On Sunday, **January 19** there will be an Introduction to Ham Radio program held at the Hillsboro Methodist Church. In addition to the usual ham radio videos and handouts, there will be new and old hams telling those present ‘what got them interested in ham radio and what they have gotten out of the hobby and service’. **Actual instruction will start on Sunday, February 9** and be held each Sunday afternoon into March. Each weekly session will last about two hours. A \$25 fee will be charged which covers the cost of the ARRL Technician License Manual. More information is available from John Levo, W8KIW, 937-393-4951.

####

Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society (CARS) 2020 Winter Ham Radio Classes!

Thursday evenings starting **February 20, 2020** and ending April 2, 2020 at 6:30 pm. April 2nd will be a special VE Test session for all license classes.

To register, please follow the link at: www.2cars.org and complete the on-line application.

Classes will be held at the Seven Hills City Hall, 7325 Summit View Dr, Seven Hills, OH 44131 in room “C” at 6:30 pm every Thursday. All class materials are provided.

####

Massillon ARC Holding Classes for Tech and General licensing, and Code training.

All three classes will run simultaneously at club Headquarters, (Massillon Senior Center) 39 Lincoln Way West, Massillon, OH.

The classes will begin **Friday evening, February 14**, 7 p.m to 9 p.m, and continue every Friday evening for Ten weeks. Cost per person for entire class is \$15 to cover expenses. A VE exam session will tentatively be scheduled for immediately after the last class.

Additional information can be obtained by visiting our Web site at: www.w8np.org or emailing Perry Ballinger at w8au@sssnet.com. For reservations call 330-705-8449 and leave message.

####

Mount Vernon ARC Holding Technician Classes

The Mt Vernon ARC will be holding a Technician Class License study session, capped off with a testing session this February and March.

Unlike previous years, we're going to run everything on Saturdays. We will have 4 study sessions (**2/15, 2/22, 2/29, and 3/7**) from **10:00am to 2:00pm** with testing on Saturday March 14 starting at 10:00am. These sessions will be in the Red Cross Training Center, 300 N Mulberry Street, Mount Vernon. Could you post this info in the Ohio Section Newsletter for us?

For more information contact: Michael, KE8HGE at g.m.jacobs@gmail.com

#####

TMRA will once again host Winter Field Day at the Maumee Public Library.

When: **Saturday January 25th from 09:00 till -17:00 EST**

Where: Maumee Library - 501 River Road - Maumee Ohio

Who: This event is open to the Public and all are encouraged to attend.

Details: Set up will begin in the 09:00 O'clock hour. The official start of field day will follow and we will begin tear down around 16:00pm.

The Club HF Radios are expected to be on hand as well as any equipment you bring. While not participating for points, we will be on the Air making Contacts under the club Call-Sign. This means that if you are a Technician, you can get on HF (with a properly licensed Operator at your side).

There will be at least one FLDIGI setup on site as well as Equipment from the NWO AREDN Mesh Committee. The club is planning on supplying Lunch. Feel free to bring out any Radio Related equipment. The Elmers will be there. If you have a question or need help with a particular problem, be sure to ask.

While Winter Field day is a contest type event, we at the TMRA do not participate for points. TMRA Winter Field Day is more of a social/ Show and Tell type gathering. A chance for members and the Public to meet and explore Amateur Radio and fellowship.

Please plan to attend, bring your family and friends. We look forward to seeing you there.

#####

Tuscarawas County Amateur Radio Club (TUSCO) Post Results from Ohio Simplex Contest

Results of Ohio Simplex Contest for W8ZX:

19 QSO's

5 Counties

270 pts.

Not bad for our first try from the EMA, we got Knox, Columbiana, Stark, Muskingom, and Tusc.

Thanks to all who participated!

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Ohio ARES Simplex/Skywarn Events 1-11-2020

On Saturday 1-11-2020, local amateur radio operators participated in the Ohio Ares Simplex contests. The event was a follow up to the simplex net held earlier this year. Harley Maines K8HM EC and myself Tom K8TDA AEC used the equipment at the EMA to run the local net. We used 146.520 MHz and 446.000 MHz operating in simplex mode for the channels on the net.

There were 7 Stations checking into the net on 146.52 and one mobile operator using the 446.000 frequency. All communications were good and equipment worked as it should. Conditions for mobile operating were not quite so good as the wind did cause problems with John's rig when the wind blew his antenna over and landed on his truck causing big dent. Sorry for that John!

Stations checking in:

KD8VUY Jeff Collins 146
KQ4TL Ted Ruble 146
KD8HHE Rodney Chamblin 146
N8BAP Pat Hagen 146
N8EWH Patrick Gilfillen 146
W8KIW John Levo 146, 446 (3 locations)
N8YHU Lee Bishop 146

K8TDA Net Operator
K8HM

The Net started at 10:00 am and concluded at 11:00am.

Shortly after 12:00 noon the National Weather Service in Wilmington activated the Skywarn Net for South West Ohio. At 12:15 Tom K8TDA checked into Adams County WX control Ridney Lorenz N8XGP to let him know we were monitoring the weather net in Highland County. Shortly following I activated the Skywarn net from my QTH for Highland County Amateur Radio operators.

The severe storms we were expecting stayed mostly south of our locations but the net stayed active until most of the bad weather had passed through Adams County. The net for Highland County was closed at 3:00pm.

Stations checking into the Skywarn Net:

KD8VUY Jeff C.
N8EWH Patrick G.
N8BAP Pat H.
W8HS Randy M.
W8KIW John L.
WD8AIG Ronnie B.

Thanks for everyone's help with both the nets on Saturday!

73
Tom K8TDA

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Upcoming Hamfests for 2020

01/26/2020 | Tusco Amateur Radio Club's 30th Annual Hamfest, Electronics and Computer Show

Location: Strasburg, OH

Sponsor: Tusco Amateur Radio Club

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

02/16/2020 | Mansfield Mid-Winter Hamfest

Location: Mansfield, OH

Sponsor: Intercity Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://WWW.IARC.CLUB>

03/01/2020 | WinterHamFest

Location: Elyria, OH

Sponsor: Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society

Website: <http://noars.net>

03/14-15/2020 | Toledo Hamfest, ARRL Great Lakes Division Convention

Location: Perrysburg, OH

Sponsor: Toledo Mobile Radio Association

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

03/21/2020 | Mid-Ohio Valley ARC Hamfest

Location: Gallipolis, OH

Sponsor: Mid-Ohio Valley Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Website: <http://sites.google.com/site/midohiovalleyarc/>

04/11/2020 | 66th Annual Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club Hamfest

Location: Cuyahoga Falls, OH

Sponsor: Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Website: <http://www.cfarc.org/hamfest.php>

04/18/2020 | Portsmouth Radio Club 2020 HAMFEST

Location: Portsmouth, Oh

Sponsor: Portsmouth Radio Club

Website: <http://prc.altervista.org/>

04/26/2020 | Athens Hamfest

Location: Athens, OH

Sponsor: Athens County Amateur Radio Association

Website: <http://www.ac-ara.org/>



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DX This Week

(from Bill, AJ8B)

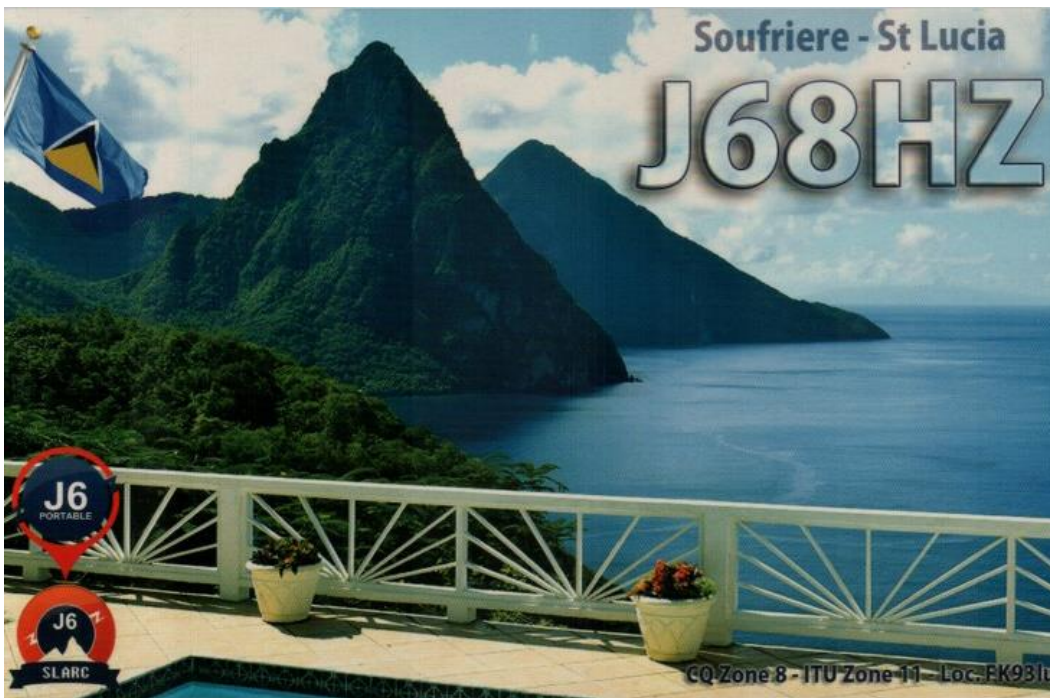
DX This Week – Solar Numbers Part 1

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

CWOPs Member #1567



DX Spots that originated in the Midwest included Alaska, Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Aruba, Australia, Balearic Islands, Belize, Colombia, Croatia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Eritrea, Estonia, European Russia, Ghana, Gibraltar, Guadeloupe, Hungary, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Madeira Islands, Maldives, Moldova, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Caledonia, Niue, Northern Ireland, Norway, Palau, Palestine, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Rotuma Island, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, South Africa, St. Helena, St. Kitts & Nevis, St. Lucia, Suriname, Sweden, Trinidad & Tobago, Turks & Caicos Islands, Ukraine, and Uruguay. The DX Clusters were very busy! I hope you were too!



The Mailman delivered QSL cards from WB9Z, RT6A, 6V7A – Sengal, EI9LF – Ireland, KG6JDX – Guam, and J68HZ – St. Lucia. (Pictured)

What did you get?

If you have been following various DX publications, you are aware of the excitement about the appearance of sunspots for Cycle 25, indicating a potential rise in propagation over the next several years. However, if I don't continually review these topics, I quickly forget! So, as I have done the past two years, I will start the new year out with a two-part article on Solar Numbers and what they mean.

These articles were written by Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA, a leading expert on the topic. If you missed Carl's presentation at the W8DXCC Convention last June, it will soon be on YouTube. He will also be appearing at the second W8DXCC in 6 months.

Solar Numbers – What they Mean Part 1:

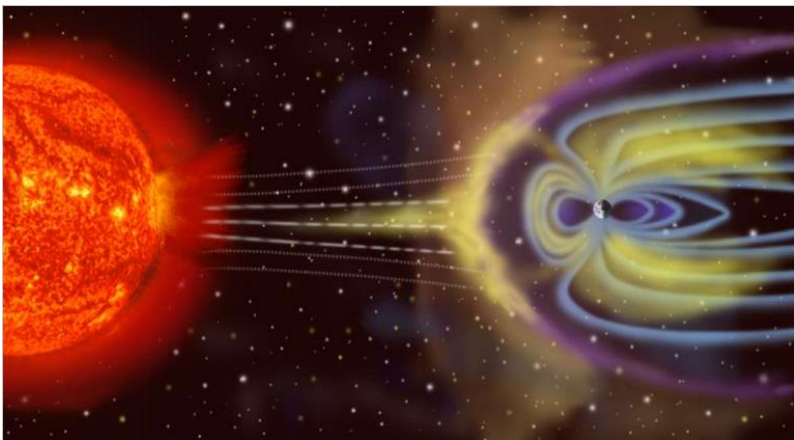
By Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA

http://k9la.us/Propagation_101_23Sep07.pdf

The sun emits electromagnetic radiation and matter because of the nuclear fusion process. Electromagnetic radiation at wavelengths of 100 to 1000 Angstroms (ultraviolet) ionizes the F region, radiation at 10 to 100 Angstroms (soft X-rays) ionizes the E region, and radiation at 1 to 10 Angstroms (hard X-rays) ionizes the D region. Solar matter (which includes charged particles--electrons and protons) is ejected from the sun on a regular basis, and this comprises the solar wind. On a "quiet" solar day the speed of this solar wind heading toward Earth averages about 400 km per second.

The sun's solar wind significantly impacts Earth's magnetic field. Instead of being a simple bar magnet, Earth's magnetic field is compressed by the solar wind on the side facing the sun and is stretched out on the side away from the sun (the magnetotail, which extends tens of earth radii downwind). While the sun's electromagnetic radiation can impact the entire ionosphere that is in daylight, charged particles ejected by the sun are guided into the ionosphere along magnetic field lines and thus can only impact high latitudes where the magnetic field lines go into the Earth.

Additionally, when electromagnetic radiation from the sun strips an electron off a neutral constituent in the atmosphere, the resulting electron can spiral along a magnetic field line (it spirals around the magnetic field line at the electron gyrofrequency). Thus, Earth's magnetic field plays an important and critical role in propagation.

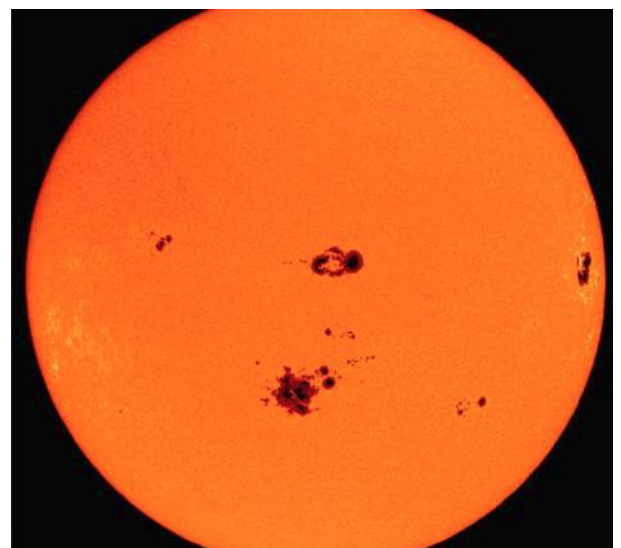


The Sun's Magnetic Field Meets the Earth's Magnetic Field - Wikipedia

Variations in Earth's magnetic field are measured by magnetometers. There are two measurements readily available from magnetometer data--the daily A index and the three-hour K index. The A index is an average of the eight 3-hour K indices and uses a linear scale and goes from 0 (quiet) to 400 (severe storm). The K index uses a quasi-logarithmic scale (which essentially is a compressed version of the A index) and goes from 0 to 9 (with 0 being quiet and 9 being severe storm).

Generally, an A index at or below 15 or a K index at or below 3 is best for propagation.

Sunspots are areas on the sun associated with ultraviolet radiation. Thus, they are tied to ionization of the F region. The daily sunspot number, when plotted over a month time frame, is very spiky. Averaging the daily sunspot numbers over a month results in the monthly average sunspot number, but it is also rather spiky when plotted. Thus, a more averaged, or smoothed, measurement is needed to measure solar cycles. This is the smoothed sunspot number (SSN).



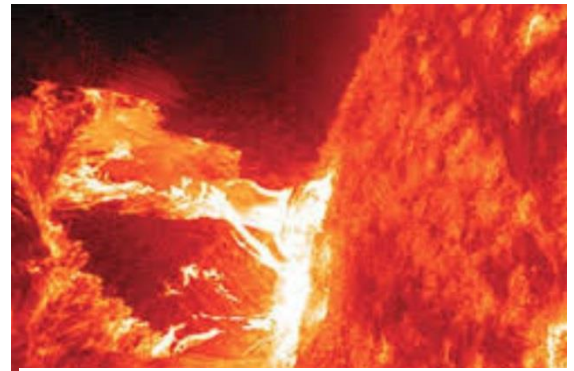
Sunspots

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The SSN is calculated using six months of data before and six months of data after the desired month, plus the data for the desired month. Because of this amount of smoothing, the official SSN is one-half year behind the current month. Unfortunately, this amount of smoothing may mask any short-term unusual solar activity that may enhance propagation.

Sunspots come and go in an approximate 11-year cycle. The rise to maximum (4 to 5 years) is usually faster than the descent to minimum (6 to 7 years). At and near the maximum of a solar cycle, the increased number of sunspots causes more ultraviolet radiation to impinge on the atmosphere. This results in significantly more F region ionization, allowing the ionosphere to refract higher frequencies (15, 12, 10, and even 6 meters) back to Earth for DX contacts. At and near the minimum between solar cycles, the number of sunspots is so low that higher frequencies go through the ionosphere into space. Commensurate with solar minimum, though, is less absorption and a more stable ionosphere, resulting in the best propagation on the lower frequencies (160 and 80 meters). Thus, in general, high SSNs are best for high-frequency propagation, and low SSNs are best for low-frequency propagation.

Most of the disturbances to propagation come from solar flares and coronal mass ejections (CMEs). The solar flares that affect propagation are called X-ray flares due to their wavelength being in the 1 to 8 Angstrom range. X-ray flares are classified as C (the smallest), M (medium size), and X (the biggest). Class C flares usually have minimal impact to propagation. Class M and X flares can have a progressively adverse impact to propagation.



Solar Flare

The electromagnetic radiation from a class X flare in the 1 to 8 Angstrom range can cause the loss of all propagation on the sunlit side of Earth due to increased D region absorption. Additionally, big class X flares can emit very energetic protons that are guided into the polar cap by Earth's magnetic field. This can result in a polar cap absorption event (PCA), with high D-region absorption on paths passing through the polar areas of Earth.

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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:

South Pacific DXpedition - AA4NC, Will Roberts and AA4VK, Ron Oates, will be on a holiday style DXpedition to the South Pacific as a follow up to their 2018 WWII Commemorative DXpedition to the N. Pacific: Feb. 11-17 French Polynesia TX4N and TX4VK (TX4N Entry in ARRL DX CW Contest) Feb. 18-20 New Zealand ZL/AA4NC and ZL/AA4VK Feb. 21-24 Norfolk Island VK9NR and VK9NN Feb. 24-27 Australia VK/AA4NC and VK/AA4VK Feb. 28 Papua New Guinea P29NC and P29VK (tent.) March 1-2 Solomon Islands H44NC and H44VK (tent.) March 3-6 Vanuatu YJ0NC and YJ0VK March 6-11 Fiji 3D2AA and 3D2VK (3D2AA entry in ARRL DX Phone Contest) They will be limited to 100 watts by licensing and baggage limits. Antennas will be wires and beach verticals. Hope to be on all bands 160-10, CW, FT4/8, SSB. QSL AA4NC calls to EA5GL, AA4VK calls direct. Other details and changes will be posted to QRZ.com pages.

FJ – St. Barthelemy - “I am excited to report that I will be going to Saint Barts between 1.-7. of April 2020”, OH2IS, Ismo tells The Daily DX. This will be both a vacation and DX operation. He will be located “close to the sea which should have a superb take-off towards the North, catering for NA, EU and AS”. He will be installing a full-size vertical for 7 through 21 MHz and an inverted L for 1.8 and 3.5 MHz. He will be operating as FJ/OH2IS. Ismo will be mainly operate on CW with some FT8 and SSB. “Precise bands will depend on the location specifics in terms of space for especially receiving antennas for low bands and conditions of the bands at the time” he says. Ismo will take a 500-watt amplifier. QSL OQRS, via the bureau or direct to OH2IS and LoTW.



J8 – St. Vincent - WJ2O will be here and QRV as J8/WJ2O from February 9-20, including participation in the ARRL DX CW Contest. He will be on all bands, except Topband. Outside the contest he will be on FT8. QSL via N2ZN. SU - Egypt SU1SK, Said, says QSLs are at the printer and will be in the post to DXers in the next two weeks. Photos celebrating “Person of the year” SU/OH2BH and his activities as SU8WRC and SU8X are on www.qrz.com/db/SU8X and www.qrz.com/db/SU8WRC. The Egyptian Radio Society Facebook page is www.facebook.com/erasdnet/.

####

SWODXA DXDINNER® ANNOUNCEMENT

January 6th , 2020
Mike Suhar – W8RKO
msuhar@woh.rr.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The SouthWest Ohio DX Association (SWODXA) is pleased to announce that we will again sponsor the DX Dinner, held in conjunction with the 2020 Dayton Hamvention®. This, our 35th annual dinner, will be on Friday, May 15th, 2020, at the **Dayton Marriott, 1414 S. Patterson Blvd., Dayton, OH 45409.**

We will have another fantastic array of great prizes at the Dinner and the Forum!

There will be a cash bar starting at 5:30 p.m., with dinner served at 7:00. Following the event, there will be a separate room and cash bar available for more fellowship. This is an excellent opportunity to meet new hams and to renew old acquaintances as well as to learn about past DXpeditions and those in the planning stages.

The Marriott is very accommodating to a group our size. The dining room is on the ground floor so there are no steps, the dining room is very large, and there is ample **free**, on-site parking.

This dinner is always well attended by some of the most avid DXers in the world. The 2019 dinner had over 400 attendees! As in the past, there will be some major door prizes, and there is always great anticipation as to who will be named the “DXpedition of the Year®”, the “IOTA DX-Peditioner of the Year”, as well as the inductees in to the CQ DX Hall of Fame during the dinner.



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Tickets can be purchased on the SWODXA Events website at www.swodxaevents.org/purchase-tickets/

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

You can check <https://swodxaevents.org/latest-news/> for the latest news.

DX news

ARLD003 DX news

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by LU4AAO, 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.

SRI LANKA, 4S. Peter, DC0KK is QRV as 4S7KKG until March 30. Activity is on the HF bands using CW and various digital modes. QSL to home call.

WEST MALAYSIA, 9M2. Safri Bin, 9M2SAF will be QRV from Pulau Lalang Perak, IOTA AS-072, from January 21 to 27. Activity will be on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB and various digital modes. QSL direct to home call.

QATAR, A7. Rasto, OM6AA is QRV as A75GR until April 2020. Activity of late has been on 80 meters. QSL via M00XO.

PAKISTAN, AP. Hasant, AP2HA has been active using FT8 on 30 meters between 1300 and 1400z. In addition, he has also been active on 80 meters using FT8 around 0200z. QSL direct to home call.

NAURU, C2. Nobu, JA0JHQ is QRV as C21NH until January 18. Activity is on 40 and 20 meters using FT8. QSL to home call.

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, DA. Members of the DARC club of Pulheim are QRV with special event call sign DL40PUL during 2020 to celebrate the club's 40th anniversary. QSL via bureau.

GUADELOUPE, FG. Jean-Pierre, F6ITD is QRV as FG/F6ITD from Desirade Island, IOTA NA-102, until March 9. Activity is on the HF bands using SSB and various digital modes. QSL direct to home call.

HONDURAS, HR. Dirk, WA4DT will be QRV as WA4DT/HR9 from Roatan Island, IOTA NA-057, from January 18 to February 2. Activity will be on 40 and 30 meters using CW and FT8. QSL direct to home call.

ITALY, I. Operators S50X, S51V, S52P, S54W, S56DX, S56N, S57DX and S59A will be QRV as IG9/home calls from Lampedusa, IOTA AF-019, from January 21 to 27. Activity will be on the HF bands. They will be active as IG9/S59A in the upcoming CQ World Wide 160 Meter CW contest. QSL to home calls.

ARGENTINA, LU. AMSAT Argentina station LU7AA will be QRV from January 18 to 26 to celebrate the 30th anniversary of Satellite LO-19, or LUSAT. Activity will be on the HF bands using QRS CW, SSB and FT8. QSL direct to LU7AA.



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WESTERN SAHARA, S0. Station S01WS has been active on 17 meters using CW around 1600z. QSL direct.

SOMALIA, T5. Ali, EP3CQ is QRV as 6O1OO from Mogadishu until February 5. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB and FT8. QSL via operator's instructions.

PALAU, T8. Operators JI3DNN, JH3LSS, JA3HJI, JA3IVU, JA3ARJ and JA3AVO are QRV as T88CZ, T88DK, T88DN, T88ED, T88EF and T88MD, respectively, from Koror, IOTA OC-009, until January 23. QSL to home calls.

COSTA RICA, TI. Rich, W4GKR is QRV as TI5/W4GKR until February 4. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters using mainly various digital modes and QRS CW. QSL to home call.

CANADA, VE. Operators VE3FU, VE9CB and VO1HP will be QRV as VO2AC, VO2AAA and VO1HP/VO2, respectively, from the Lighthouse Point Amour/Labrador from January 20 to 26. They plan to be active as VO2AC in the upcoming CQ World Wide 160 Meter CW contest. QSL to home calls.

NORFOLK ISLAND, VK9N. Janusz, SP9FIH is QRV as VK9NK until April 12. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters using SSB, RTTY and FT8. QSL to home call.

CHATHAM ISLANDS, ZL7. Chris, ZL7DX is currently QRV on 20 and 6 meters using mostly digital modes. He plans to be active on other bands soon. QSL direct to home call.

THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO. The ARRL January VHF Contest, NCCC RTTY Sprint, QRP 80-Meter CW Fox Hunt, NCCC CW Sprint, LZ Open CW Contest, PRO Digi Contest, Hungarian DX Contest, RSGB AFS SSB Contest, North American SSB QSO Party, North American Collegiate SSB Championship, WAB 1.8 MHz Phone/CW Contest and Feld Hell Sprint are all on tap for this upcoming weekend.

The Run for the Bacon QRP CW Contest is scheduled for January 20.

The CWops Mini-CWT CW Test, QRP 40-Meter CW Fox Hunt, Phone Fray and SKCC CW Sprint are scheduled for January 22.

Please see January 2020 QST, page 81, and the ARRL and WA7BNM Contest Web Sites for details.

Special Events

- **01/25/2020 | Discovery of Gold in California Special Event Station**

Jan 25-Jan 26, 1400Z-2330Z, AG6AU, Coloma, CA. El Dorado County ARC. 21.348 14.248 7.248. QSL. El Dorado County ARC, PO Box 451, Placerville, CA 95667. www.edcarc.net

- **01/25/2020 | Kansas Day**

Jan 25, 1600Z-2100Z, KS0KS, Edgerton, KS. Santa Fe Trail Amateur Radio Club. 14.250 14.055 10.115 7.250. QSL. SFTARC, P.O. Box 3144, Olathe, KS 66063. www.sftarc.org

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- **02/01/2020 | Biathlon World Championships 2020**

Feb 1-Feb 29, 0001Z-2359Z, I3BIA, Antholz South Tyrol, ITALY. ARI Sektion Bruneck. CW, SSB, and digital; 160, 80, 40, 20,15,10, 2 meters; 70 centimeters; 23 centimeters satellite Es'Hail 2 QO-100. QSL. Via bureau or direct to: ARI Sektion Bruneck, Montal 25, 39030 Bruneck/St Lorenzen, ITALY. www.ari-bruneck.com

- **02/01/2020 | Groundhog Day Special Event Station**

Feb 1, 1400Z-2100Z, K3HWJ, Punxsutawney, PA. Punxsutawney Amateur Radio Club. 14.330 7.235. Certificate. Stephen Waltman KB3FPN, 37 Clark St, Brookville, PA 15825. punxyclub.com

- **02/01/2020 | JY1 Special Event Memorial Station 2020**

Feb 1-Feb 29, 0000Z-2359Z, N9SES, Lake Station, IN. Arab QRZ Club. 3.25-3.50 7.025-7.050 10.103-10.110 14.252. QSL. Ayman Azar, 2861 Decatur St, Lake Station, IN 46405. www.n9ses.com/?page_id=18

- **02/01/2020 | Shuttle Columbia Special Event**

Feb 1-Feb 2, 1500Z-2300Z, K5C, Nacogdoches, TX. Nacogdoches Amateur Radio Club. 14.260 14.174 7.220 7.174. QSL. Nacogdoches Amateur Radio Club, 167 County Rd. 2093, Nacogdoches, TX 75965. All contacts will be confirmed via LoTW. QSL requests must include SASE. w5nac.com

- **02/08/2020 | Lee/Jackson**

Feb 8, 1600Z-2300Z, N4SCV, Gainesville, FL. Sons of Confederate Veterans Camp 1424. 14.240 7.224. QSL. Madison Starke Perry Camp 1424, P.O. Box 998, Alachua, FL 32616. <https://www.gatorscv.com/events>

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.



Attention ALL Ohio...

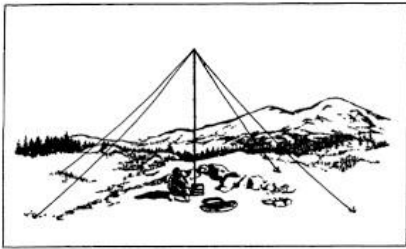
Mark April 4, 2020 (Saturday) as our ARES OHIO SPRING CONFERENCE!

We have the Marion Tech lecture hall reserved (THANKS MARION ARES!!!) and we'll begin planning some important topics! More information will be forth coming.

This event is always "Standing Room Only" so we do ask that you register ahead of time so that we can be properly prepared for how many are coming. It's quick and painless and we will even send you a confirmation email back. Here's the link to get registered!! <http://arrl-ohio.org/SEC/form.html>

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NVIS DAY IS COMING!



Is your station ready to establish and maintain high-reliability communication with other stations around Ohio when repeaters, phone, and internet service are impaired?

When infrastructure just isn't there, HF radio using Near-Vertical Incidence Skywave (NVIS) propagation offers the ability to stay in contact on frequencies of 2–30 MHz for distances of about 30–400 miles.

NVIS Day is the ARRL Ohio Section event to test your NVIS antenna designs and builds. Join us on Saturday, April 25th to show how well amateur radio can keep Ohio communicating! This is not a contest: it's an event for Ohio stations to operate with other Ohio stations and understand how well they hear and are heard.

THE DETAILS

Date: Saturday, April 25

Time: Start at 10 A.M., end at 4 P.M.

Power: Up to but no more than 100w

Exchange: six-digit grid, power, and true—measured—signal report

Schedule: This isn't a contest, so take your time! Try different designs! Have lunch!

Winter Field Day Preparations – Clinton County ARA

The Clinton County ARA is getting their members involved in the Winter Field Day event this year.



They found a great place to hold the event at the Caesars Creek Flea Market in a outbuilding that they have not used in a while. We have a great amount of green space available (20 plus acres) and it is right next to interstate 71.



The flea market gets 4000-6000 visitors in a normal weekend so exposure to the public is going to be great. They are even going to offer a special "Ham" sandwich for the event. Any help we could get in promoting this would be great.

They plan on doing a few more events at that location, more to come on that later. Visit their site at: www.ccara.net

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.



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One Question Questionnaire



Hey Gang,

This past week's survey was about our Ohio Section ARES VHF Contest. I was a bit surprised at the results to this question.

Ok.. "Survey Says"..... 25% of you actually got out there and did some simplex work. That's really great! I even got in on the act for a little bit last weekend and worked a few.

Looking at these results I'd say a lot of folks need to get some "FUN" into their lives!!! Hey, even if you did like I did, just work a few and I'll probably not even turn in a score for it since it's so low, but I had fun for about an hour or so and didn't even get out of my chair here in the shack!!

Ok, I've got another NEW – one question – for you to answer. This past week ARRL introduced their latest magazine to the world. It's written specifically for all the new folks just coming into Amateur Radio. Not too technical, yet it does have some great articles on some of the basic things that a new ham will definitely have questions about. Yes, to read the full version you must be an ARRL member, but there is a sample teaser version that does a great job giving you some idea of what this "service" is all about and it doesn't cost you anything.

Have you read the newest edition to ARRL's magazines – "On The Air" yet?

You'll find the "One Question" questionnaire on the Ohio Section Website! <http://arrloho.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.

ARES Connect

Everyone – please make sure to go into all of the events that you have signed up for and get your hours registered no later than **5 days after the event has ended**.

I need you to be as prompt as possible in reporting your hours. I'm noticing a number of events that aren't getting hours credited and that is due to you not going back into your account and registering your hours! Please, don't miss out on your hours just because you missed on very important step, record hours!!

Admins – Make sure that you are as prompt about approving those hours as well. We really need to be as prompt at getting those hours recorded as possible.

Please, try your best to get those hours recorded **in less than 5 days after the event**. This really should be more than ample amount of time to make sure hours are recorded for every volunteer that signed up and get those hours approved.

ARES Connect

Enter ARES Connect

ARES Connect Helpful Instructions

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Here's the top 10 hours earners thus far in January:

	Name	Events	Hours
1	Bret Stemen (KD8SCL)	17	72.00
2	Daniel Schlick (KB8LKH)	12	63.00
3	Dan Stahl (KC8PBU)	40	53.84
4	Greg Dersarkisian (KD8SSJ)	13	50.00
5	Dwight Bonifield (W8TJT)	27	47.00
6	James Yoder (w8erw)	5	45.00
7	Christopher Domenick (KC8CAD)	9	37.00
8	Diane Warner (KE8HLD)	16	34.50
9	John Buck (kd8rtp)	6	31.05
10	Harvey Wile (kd8cmn)	32	30.30

Let's get everyone in the Ohio Section on ARES Connect!!! Simply go to:

<https://arrl.volunteerhub.com/lp/oh/> and get yourself registered and using the system.

Want to see all the numbers from May through the end of the year that we have in ARES Connect? I have a full summary of 2019 with all the numbers and graphs for you to compare.

I've stated for some months now that I would be giving away a really neat gift to the most hours earner for 2019 and encouraging all of you to make sure that your time was getting recorded. Well, that day has come to reveal just who will be the lucky recipient of an Official Ohio Section Logo Sweatshirt for being the one person in all the Ohio Section with the most hours logged in ARES Connect.

Now, I should tell you right here and now who it is, but instead I'd rather you find out by looking at the Summary of what we did and seeing for yourself just who is the top earner... Here's the link:

<http://www.arrl-ohio.org/SEC/2019%20ARES%20Connect%20Summary.html>

Yes, we did exceptionally good this year. Everyone in the Ohio Section should be proud.

Admins... If you are wondering how to get an overview of all of your events you can simply go into reports and using the new Event by Participation by Event (version 2) you can not only see who registered for your event, but you also can see if he/she has inputted their hours for it as well. Take advantage of this new report to help you get the time entered into your events.

We still have a number of recurring events created but no activity reported for them. Please, if this event is no longer needed, let me know and I can delete it from the masters. I know that many of you setup recurring events to learn how, but if they aren't going to be used, let's get them cleared out.

Also... If you are setting up events, please don't set a limit for how many folks can sign-up unless absolutely necessary. This causes issues when doing reports. It's also counter-productive since the reason for you to list the event is to get as many volunteers as you can to attend. When you set limits, it discourages folks from signing up.

Special NIMS Training Available

ICS-300 INTERMEDIATE ICS FOR EXPANDING EVENTS

Hosted by: Huron County Emergency Management Agency

February 4 - 6, 2020

Course Description: This 21-hour classroom course provides training for personnel who require advanced application of the Incident Command System (ICS) and Individuals who may assume a supervisory role in incidents. This course expands upon information covered in the ICS 100 and ICS 200 courses.

Application Deadline: January 21, 2020

Course Registration time: 7:30 am – 8:00 am (on day one)

Course Time: 8:00 am to 4:00 pm – All three (3) days - one-hour Lunch each day

Training Location: Fisher-Titus Medical Center 272 Benedict Avenue Norwalk, OH 44857

Recommended Participants: FEMA designed this course for individuals who may assume a supervisory role in expanding incidents or Type 3 incidents.

Note: During a Type 3 incident, some or all of the Command and General Staff positions may be activated, as well as Division/Group Supervisor and/or Unit Leader level positions. These incidents may extend into multiple operational periods.

Required Prerequisites: Individuals must complete the IS-100.c Introduction to the Incident Command System, IS-200.c Basic Incident Command System for Initial Response, IS-700.b An Introduction to the National Incident Management System and IS-800.c National Response Framework courses prior to attending the ICS-300 Intermediate course and provide copies of their certificates of completion to the instructors on day one of the course.

Enrollment: Students must enroll via the Department of Public Safety Training Campus website:

<https://trainingcampus.dps.ohio.gov/cm/cm710/pstc/pstc.html>. Course registration will generally close 10 working days prior to the course start date and applicants can check enrollment/approval status via the Department of Public Safety Training Campus website.

Course Costs: There is no charge for participants to attend this course. However, Lodging, Meals, Per Diem and all other travel expenses are the responsibility of the student or the parent organization.

State Point of Contact: Matt Jaksetic, Training Coordinator, (614) 799-3666, mtjaksetic@dps.ohio.gov

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ICS-400 ADVANCED ICS FOR COMMAND & GENERAL STAFF

Hosted by: Huron County Emergency Management Agency

February 11 – 12, 2020

Course Description: This 15-hour classroom course provides training for personnel who require advanced application of the Incident Command System (ICS). This course expands upon information covered in ICS-100, 200, 700, 800 and ICS-300 courses, which are the prerequisites for the ICS-400 course.

The target audience for this course is senior personnel who are expected to perform in a management capacity in an Area Command or Multi-Agency Coordination Entity.

Application Deadline: January 28, 2020

Course Registration time: 7:30 am – 8:00 am (on day one)

Course Time: 8:00 am to 4:30 pm – Both days

One-hour Lunch each day

Training Location: Fisher-Titus Medical Center

272 Benedict Avenue

Norwalk, OH 44857

Recommended Participants: FEMA designed the course for Senior Personnel who expect to perform in a management capacity in an Area Command or Multi-Agency Coordination Entity.

Required Prerequisites: Individuals must complete the IS-100.c Introduction to the Incident Command System, IS-200.c Basic Incident Command System for Initial Response, IS-700.b An Introduction to the National Incident Management System and the IS-800.c National Response Framework, an Introduction courses. In addition, ICS-300 Intermediate courses prior to attending the ICS-400 Advanced course and provide copies of their certificates of completion to the instructors on day one of the course.

Enrollment: Students must enroll via the Department of Public Safety Training Campus website: <https://trainingcampus.dps.ohio.gov/cm/cm710/pstc/pstc.html>. Course registration will generally close 10 working days prior to the course start date and applicants can check enrollment/approval status via the Department of Public Safety Training Campus website.

Course Costs: There is no charge for participants to attend this course. However, Lodging, Meals, Per Diem and all other travel expenses are the responsibility of the student or the parent organization.

State Point of Contact: Matt Jaksetic, Training Coordinator, (614) 799-3666, mtjaksetic@dps.ohio.gov

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ICS400 ADVANCED FOR COMMAND & GENERAL STAFF MGT905

Hosted by: Mahoning County Emergency Management Agency

March 30 – 31, 2020

Application Deadline: March 16, 2020

Course Registration time: 7:30 am – 8:00 am (on day one)

Course Time: 8:00 am to 5:00 pm – Both days One-hour Lunch each day

Training Location: Boardman Fire Department, Station 71 7440 Market Street Boardman, OH 44512

Required Prerequisites: Individuals must complete the IS-100.c Introduction to the Incident Command System, IS-200.c Basic Incident Command System for Initial Response, IS-700.b An Introduction to the National Incident Management System and the IS-800.c National Response Framework, an Introduction courses.

In addition, ICS-300 Intermediate courses prior to attending the ICS-400 Advanced course and provide copies of their certificates of completion to the instructors on day one of the course.

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Enrollment: Students must enroll via the Department of Public Safety Training Campus website: <https://trainingcampus.dps.ohio.gov/cm/cm710/pstc/pstc.html> Course registration will generally close 10 working days prior to the course start date and applicants can check enrollment/approval status via the Department of Public Safety Training Campus website.

Course Costs: There is no charge for participants to attend this course. However, Lodging, Meals, Per Diem and all other travel expenses are the responsibility of the student or the parent organization.
State Point of Contact: Lisa Jones, DSC 2, Ohio EMA, SAA Training Point of Contact, (614) 799-3824 ljones@dps.ohio.gov

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G-386 MASS FATALITIES

Hosted by: Franklin County Emergency Management & Homeland Security **February 20 - 21, 2020**

This is an “Elective” course in the Advanced Professional Series (APS) program

Application Deadline: February 10, 2020

Time of Course: Registration: 7:30 am – 8:00 am Course Time: 8:00 am – 4:00 pm

Location: Franklin County EM&HS - 5300 Strawberry Farms Blvd. - Columbus, OH 43230

Supported By: The Ohio Emergency Management Agency

Enrollment: Students must enroll via the Department of Public Safety Training Campus website:

<https://trainingcampus.dps.ohio.gov/cm/cm710/pstc/pstc.html>

Course Costs: This course is free to participants. Lodging, meals and all other expenses are the students’ responsibility.

County Point of Contact: Pam Tickle, Franklin County EM&HS (614) 794 – 0213,

pktickle@franklincountyohio.gov

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Campbell County Kentucky Office of Emergency Management Upcoming Training



James E. Sparks, Deputy Director of Operations

Campbell County Fiscal Court

Office of Emergency Management, Unit 2152

O: 859-547-3152 · C: 859-743-4136 · F: 859-635-3132

<http://www.campbellcountky.gov>

Campbell County Kentucky Office of Emergency Management **FREE** Training Opportunities

Working with the Media: A Short Course for Emergency Responders (AWR-209) – January 22, 2020 – RDPC / Register:
<https://qrgo.page.link/o2Gs>

Isolation and Quarantine for Communities (MGT-433) – February 19, 2020 – RDPC /

****Tentative/Requested****

Hazardous Weather Preparedness for Campuses (AWR-332) – March 4, 2020 – (NDPTC) /

****Tentative/Requested****

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Readiness: Training Identification and Preparedness Planning (MGT-418) – March 11-12, 2020 - TEEEX /
Register: <https://train.ncbirt.lsu.edu/Student/Register?ClassID=26374>

Registration Password: NCBRT418 If you have trained with NCBRT before, enter your FEMA SID, Last Name, and First Name. If your training record is found, your registration form will be pre-filled for you. Otherwise, click Register as New Person to fill out a blank registration form.

Evacuation and Re-Entry Planning Course – March 25-26, 2020 / **Requested through KYEM Training Division**

Pediatric Disaster Response and Emergency Preparedness (MGT-439) – April 8-9, 2020 / TEEEX /
Register: <https://qrigo.page.link/GFf4>

Debris Management Planning Course – April 15-17, 2020 / **Requested through KYEM Training Division**

Intermediate ICS-300 for Expanding Incidents w/Forms (MGT-904) – April 22-24, 2020 / TEEEX /
Register: <https://qrigo.page.link/HzT2>



For Immediate Release: January 6, 2020
Ohio EMA Offers Rebates to Homeowners for Tornado Safe Rooms
Application Period Opens Today, Runs Through April 6

COLUMBUS — Homeowners throughout Ohio now have the opportunity to apply to receive reimbursement for the purchase and construction/installation of a tornado safe room inside or outside their homes.



The Ohio Emergency Management Agency began accepting applications for its Ohio Safe Room Rebate Program today. A safe room is a structure specifically designed to provide near-absolute protection in extreme weather events. The Ohio EMA’s rebate program provides a rebate of up to 75 percent to homeowners selected for the program.

“The entire state of Ohio is vulnerable to tornadoes,” said Governor Mike DeWine. “Safe rooms are costly, but they can save lives – which is why we want to help homeowners with the expense.”

In May, more than 900 homes and buildings were destroyed or significantly damaged when 21 tornadoes tore through Auglaize, Darke, Greene, Hocking, Mercer, Miami, Montgomery, Muskingum, Perry, and Pickaway counties.

“Safe rooms offer protection to a tornado’s strong winds and resulting airborne debris and provides near-absolute protection for occupants,” said Steve Ferryman, Ohio EMA mitigation branch chief. “We urge Ohioans to apply for these grants.”

This is the eighth year for the Ohio Safe Room Rebate Program. To date, more than \$1.5 million in rebates have been awarded to homeowners for the construction of more than 200 safe rooms across the state.

Safe rooms can be constructed/installed in one of several places in the home, including in the basement; beneath a concrete slab-on-grade foundation or garage floor; or in an interior room on the first floor. A safe room may also be buried in the yard or be a stand-alone structure near the home.

The deadline to apply to participate in the Ohio Safe Room Rebate Program is April 6 at 5 p.m. Residents selected for the program are eligible for a rebate up to 75 percent of the cost to install or construct a safe room – up to a maximum of \$4,875.

For more information and to apply, visit: https://ema.ohio.gov/ema_saferoom/saferoom-concept.aspx
Additional Information: The Ohio Safe Room Rebate Program will use a computerized random selection process to select applicants. A priority list of applicants will be created from the selected applicants. Chosen homeowners will be notified by email of their position on the priority list on or after April 22. Ohio EMA anticipates grant funding will become available this year and having a list of participants who meet program requirements will expedite the rebate process.

Funding for the rebate program is through a partnership with the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) grant programs. Ohio homeowners would be responsible for 25 percent of the construction costs and any additional costs over the 75 percent maximum rebate of \$4,875.

Safe rooms must meet FEMA requirements in FEMA publications 320 and 361 and cannot be constructed/installed prior to the rebate drawing and notification from Ohio EMA to proceed with construction.

Homeowners with questions should call Ohio Emergency Management Agency Mitigation Specialist Dan Clevidence at 614.799.3533.

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My Safe Room

Good Morning Scott,

I was just reading the Postscript I received last night and thought I would tell you about my adventure.

I applied for the FEMA tornado shelter grant for quite a few years. Shockingly in 2017 I was notified that I was in the top fifty of the lottery drawing that they did.

Ok, I thought, maybe I would be in line to get a shelter via the grant process, still not quite believing it would happen.



Just in case I researched shelters for several months trying to decide what would fit my location the best.

After some months of waiting I thought, well I'm not getting a grant since there was no further communication. About that time Dan Clevidence, the Ohio EMA specialist in charge of the program, notified me that the Federal Government did not provide money for that year for the grant. I thought my shelter chance was gone, Not, I found that I was still on the list of possible recipients.

In 2018 I was notified to attend a mandatory meeting of grant recipients as part of the program requirements and did so. Hmm now I'm starting to think it might happen.

In May of 2019 I was mailed the "notice to proceed" which was the next step in the process. Finally, I was confident that I was going to get a shelter.

I took a two-day trip to Alabama to the shelter manufacturer that I had decided was the type I wanted and ordered a shelter. And of course, I drove my mobile and operated ham radio all the way.

On November 2, 2019 two Alabama boys arrived to install my tornado shelter in my garage. The day was a mix of snow and rain and miserable, later that day we received 4 inches of snow, but they persevered and installed the shelter. My wife provided them gloves to use and keep since their hands got very cold during the installation. What... They don't use gloves in Alabama?

So, in summary I was put on the list to receive a grant for a tornado shelter in 2017 and in 2019 I received a shelter and in 2020 I will receive my grant money for the shelter.

The moral of the story is never give up on Federal money even though it takes a long time sometimes.

73,

Darl, NA8W

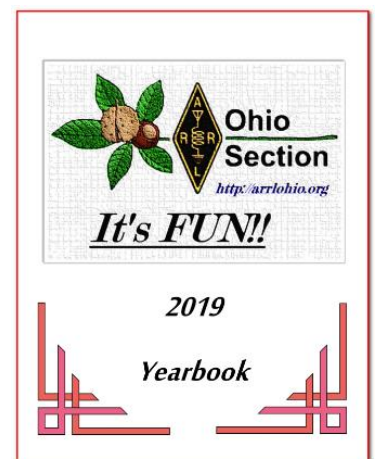
PS, As I finished typing this e-mail, I received an email from the Ohio EMA, my shelter grant check is in today's mail.

2019 Ohio Section Yearbook

The 2019 Ohio Section Yearbook has just been published. This is a very comprehensive look at the Ohio Section and everything that we did in 2019. It's really a great way of learning about all the different functions that the Ohio Section is involved with.

I'm sure that there's things inside of this Yearbook that you never knew about.

You just gotta' take a look.. http://arrl-ohio.org/news/2019/2019_Yearbook.pdf



Final.. Final..



Hey Gang...

Wow.. this has really been a busy week! I visited with the great folks at PCARS, then down to the Delaware ARC where I did a presentation. Then over to Silvercreek ARA for a great supper meeting. Friday, I traveled down to Mt Vernon and met with the Breakfast group, then Saturday it was a very slushy trip up to DX Engineering for their Winter Sale! It was great seeing and talking with all of the hearty folks that ventured out on Saturday in all the snowy and rainy mess. Yes folks, it was a busy week for sure.

Did you get a chance to get on the annual ARRL VHF Contest this past weekend? I really didn't get much of a chance to play on this contest, at least I did get to play a little on the Ohio Section ARES VHF Contest the weekend before. I will say that I did hear some folks on 146.520 and 446.00 and I tried to go back to them, but unfortunately, they didn't seem to hear me. Oh well, better luck next year!

Ok, now as far as the furniture moving adventures around my house, this past week has settled down a bit. I only ran into the footstool twice. That's a great improvement over the past weeks where you never knew where those freaky little objects would come out of the woodwork to stub your toe on.

Now, on to other matters... One of the most common comments I hear among the newest of our ranks is "I can't wait to get my license so that I will be done with all this learning stuff..." That's such an ill-informed statement that I just have to write about it this week. I hear this all the time from those folks now in classes and those studying on their own and even from some that have been licensed for years. In fact, I've heard this so much lately that I decided to start responding to these folks this way. "I hate to burst your bubble but.... You're learning days will just begin with that license..." It's true, if you think about what that license gives you is lots of room to mess up. Yes, we all have those little teaching moments that we go through, but if you really think about it, we do just start our learning process when that license comes.

Want to do FT-8 or D-Star? You have to learn how. It's not something that you were born with. Want to pass traffic or get involved with emergency communications? You have to learn how first. Want to make your own power supply or power amplifier? You have to do a lot of reading and experimentation before flipping that power switch on.

Amateur Radio is one of the most diversified "hobbies" that you'll ever come across. Yes, we are all licensed the same, but as you go through your life as an Amateur Radio operator your interests will change, grow and expand into many different areas, yet we are still Amateur Radio operators.

Everything we do, regardless of how simple or complex it is, we've had to learn either through a book or through the "school of hard knocks" to learn it. Using proper etiquette on a repeater, to having fun working folks on VHF simplex is a "learned" process. So YES, my friends, when you get that license in your hands you have just started down that road of academia.

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Learning how to do something new and different shouldn't be feared, it should be embraced with an open mind. This is all part of being an Amateur Radio operator. You are the experimenter and teacher. Don't agree, just look at what Part 97.1 (c) says...

(c) Encouragement and improvement of the amateur service through rules which provide for advancing skills in both the communication and technical phases of the art.

This simple sentence means that you are learning, experimenting and passing forward your knowledge to others. Now, how can you do this? Easy, become a part of **“Get A Ham Involved.”** The goal with this project is to encourage and mentor those coming into this wonderful “service” of ours. Does your club have a mentoring program for newbies? If not, why not? How did you learn? I'll bet it was from some club member that took you under their wing and taught you the right way of doing things. It's now time for you to help pay that back. Get involved, it can be as simple as saying “Welcome” to new folks at meetings. Shake their hand. Let them know they are accepted at your meeting.

Don't just assume that someone will do that. Clubs... be sure that your leadership is on top of knowing who's new to the meeting and shake their hand introduce yourself to them. Don't assume that the newbie will be forward enough to come to you, trust me on this... **most won't.** Most importantly of all... “Smile” No one likes to go to meetings where there's a bunch of grumpy old men sitting around complaining about how all the newbies are ruining Amateur Radio for everyone. Ok, nuff said on that subject.

Let's change the channel for a moment... Please, if you haven't renewed or joined ARRL, maybe now is the time. Here's a great idea for you, even though it's now long after Christmas, why not ask for that extra special gift from Santa, you know, the one that “keeps on giving!” Hey, membership to ARRL is less than \$1 per week. I think that's doable for most everyone. Like I always say, if you just cut 1 McDonald's coffee per week out, you've got your membership paid for, AND... you'll get \$3 back to boot!! Now, what a deal that is. Oh, I will also add, ARRL does have a **90-day FREE** trial offer, if you are still not sure if this is something that you would enjoy. What have you got to lose? It's FREE. Oh, don't forget that if your YL is a ham you'll want to get her a membership as well.

Whelp, final go around before gong QRT... That's going to do it for this week. Stay safe, enjoy the sunshine when we have it, and most of all... have FUN and get on the air!!

73,

Scott, N8SY

Back Issues of the PostScript and Ohio Section Journal

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>



Swap & Shop Has Come to the Ohio Section Website



Hey Gang,

Have you taken a look at the **Swap & Shop** page on the Ohio Section webpage yet??

Here's a link that will take you there... <http://arrl-ohio.org/sm/s-s.html>

There's already been some great activity going on up there. Do you have equipment that you just don't need or want anymore? Here's a great venue to advertise it, and it's FREE!! No, it won't be listed in this newsletter because it would take up way too much space, so your ad will only appear on the website.

It is there for any individual to post equipment Wanted / For Sale or Give-Away. No licensed vehicles/trailers or business advertising will be posted.

Postings are text only (no pictures or graphics) will be posted for a maximum of 1 month from date posting and require a contact phone number or email within the posting.

Send your Wanted / For Sale or Give-Away post to: swap@arrl-ohio.org

Updated Information... *Want to Share your Club Newsletter With Others?*

We have a new webpage where you can download and read all of the newsletters that I get from around the state.

Here's the link to the page.... http://arrl-ohio.org/club_news/index.html

Please, if you don't see your club newsletter posted, it's probably because I'm not receiving it, or I just cannot convert it over to Adobe Acrobat. Have your newsletter editor contact me and let's see if we can get your club's newsletter on the site!! We all learn and steal (I mean, share) from each other's work. So, let's give this new webpage a real workout and send me your newsletter!!! Send it to: n8sy@n8sy.com



Welcome New Subscriber

Robert, KC3OOC



Ohio Section Cabinet

Section Manager – Scott Yonally, N8SY	Assistant Section Manager – John Perone, W8RXX
Section Emergency Coordinator – Stan Broadway, N8BHL	Section Traffic Manager – David Maynard, WA3EZN
Technical Coordinator – Jeff Kopcak, K8JTK	Affiliated Clubs Coordinator – Tom Sly, WB8LCD
State Government Liaison – Bob Winston, W2THU	Public Information Coordinator – John Ross, KD8IDJ
Section Youth Coordinator – Anthony Lascre, K8ZT	

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Chit – Chat, and All That!

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



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

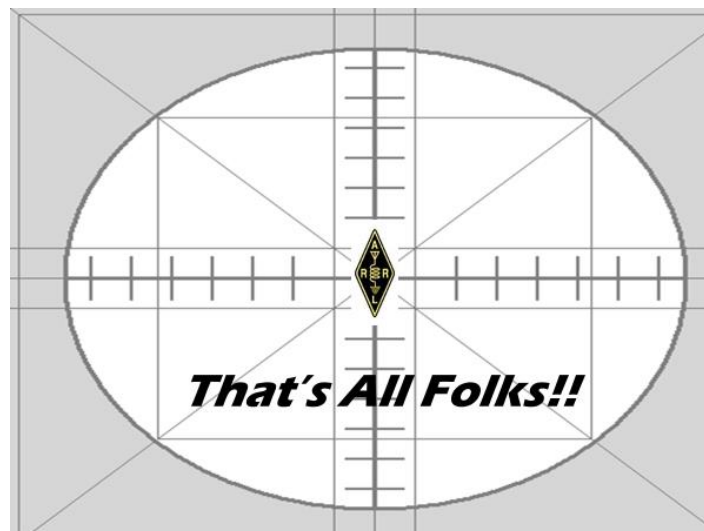


You can always "[Opt-Out](#)" at any time if you feel this is not what you were expecting. It's fun and very informative. All of your favorite past newsletters are now archived too. You can go back at any time and read them. Just go to: <http://arri-ohio.org/news/>

Got questions, concerns or would just like to sit and chat awhile? Heck, I'll even buy the coffee!! Give me a call at (419) 512-4445 or email me at: n8sy@n8sy.com



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



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PostScript is produced as a weekly newsletter. I want to thank everyone that has contributed articles and ideas to make this an even better news source. I sincerely hope that you have enjoyed this edition and will encourage your friends to join with you in receiving the latest news and information about the Ohio Section, and news and events happening around the world!