



July 2021 – Summer Daze Edition

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Jeff – K8JTK – Section Technical Coordinator at the Van Wert Fest

From the Technical Coordinator

Jeff Kopcak – K8JTK TC

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Hey gang,

Coming soon: Windows 11. Wait, wasn't Windows 10 the "[last version of Windows](#)?" Yes. Now, no. People interpret that statement to mean once you've upgrade to Windows 10, there would be free upgrades forever and you would never have to pay for another version of Windows. Microsoft: we kind of meant that but not really, it's only "reflective" of delivery in an ongoing manner. On June 24th, Microsoft announced its next major version of the Windows operating system expected for release later in 2021.

As of this writing, no official release date has been set. Though a [retirement date](#) for Windows 10 in 2025 has been published. Retiring (or end-of-life) means after 10/14/2015, no mainstream support will be available for security updates, fixes, and enhancements. Businesses, or those paying for extended support, will likely have updates available for some time longer. The 2025 date puts Windows 10 in at over 10 years of service life, just a few months short of Windows 7's service life. *Has Windows 10 been out that long??*

Microsoft is nothing, if not clear, in their statements and announcements. In Microsoft fashion, there is plenty of confusion around system requirements. Microsoft states that more than half, as much as 60%, of the PCs running Windows 10 today could not run Windows 11. I figure many systems upgraded from Win 7 to 10 will not meet the minimum requirements. Those who've bought a packaged PC since July 2016 should be good to upgrade and can upgrade for free. The reason for July of 2016 is when Microsoft required system integrators to include the [TPM](#) in new systems shipped after that date. TPM is used to generate cryptographic keys ensuring system integrity and security at system boot. DIY motherboards had this built in since about 2015. New PCs will see Windows 11 included as part of the entire purchase price. System builders will likely see the same prices as Windows 10, about \$100 for Home and a little more for the Pro edition.

Home version of Windows 11 will require an Internet connection and a Microsoft account to complete first-time setup. If you have an account for Hotmail, Outlook, OneDrive, Office, or Xbox – you're all set. If not, one can be created for free. Though nothing says you can't unlink the account after setup. This connection between Windows and a Microsoft account has been used to store license information and retrieve a license should, when, a reinstall is needed. It also enables "cloud" features allowing some settings and preferences to be synced across all devices logged in with the same account. Pro versions can opt to use a Microsoft account or create a local account.

What else is new in Windows 11? "Sweeping" redesign of the user interface – to make it look more like a Mac – starting with a center aligned taskbar. A design choice aimed at touch users (tablets, Microsoft Surface devices). To be fair, GNOME has long adopted the center aligned taskbar as well as the Mac. Another start menu redesign "powered by the cloud" – which allows internet searches directly and synced documents across devices running Office 365. Microsoft Teams is directly integrated. Teams is the messaging and collaboration platform that started out as MSN Messenger and later absorbed Skype. To gain traction for the Windows Store (which no one ever went into), Windows will now be able to run Android apps natively.

Before the Microsoft announcement, a leaked build of Windows 11 appeared on the Interwebs. It appeared to be locked down to virtual machines only. Those that obtained the leaked version had significant issues

installing it on bare metal. Not even an issue installing it on a virtual machine. The build might have been locked down to virtual machines for testing and demonstration purposes.

Since the announcement, a downloadable ISO image is still not available. There are [guides](#) how to download all the necessary files and build one yourself if you so choose to test out the preview on a real machine with a clean install. The official way is to enroll in the Insider program and do an in-place upgrade on a Windows 10 machine. This is done by signing into a Microsoft account in Windows 10, register for the Insider program online, enroll the device in the settings pane, then change Insider settings to the “Dev Channel.”



Windows 11 desktop (Wikipedia)

Though reviews have been initially positive about the new release, it seems very much like Windows 10 under the hood with the user interface redesign and improvements. Videos I saw had very good experiences gaming on the preview build leading more credence to it being Windows 10 underneath. If you’re like me and didn’t enjoy the user experience of having things buried, needing to do more clicks to accomplish the same/simple tasks, and ultimately moving to Linux as a result of Windows 10, this is going to be a ‘meh’ release for you as well. On the subject of Windows. While I run Linux primarily and rag on current versions of Windows, if you are still running Windows 7 (which I am) or even XP on your machines, this is another friendly reminder to remediate, remove, or update unsupported versions of Windows. Removing would be replacing the machine or upgrade to a supported version of Windows if available. Remediate would be to remove Internet access to that device and remove its ability to access other devices on the Local Area Network by properly segmenting the device. Use of a hardware firewall appliance to block and monitor device communications is preferred. Should those options be unavailable, look to invest in a reputable service that provides patches for legacy operating systems such as [Opatch](#) (pronounced “zero patch”). Opatch Pro for Windows 7 end-of-support patching is available for 22.95 EUR +tax/computer (agent)/year, about \$27 USD.

Vulnerabilities, such as [PrintNightmare](#), will continue to be discovered. In situations such as this, emergency patches will be graciously released by Microsoft for unsupported operating systems but don’t expect this to continue. Vulnerabilities like this have always existed in affected operating systems but were only recently disclosed. PrintNightmare is a vulnerability in the Windows print driver, of all things. It allows a bad guy that has or can gain low level access to any affected Windows machine to take control of the local machine or domain controller gaining control of the entire domain. That second part regarding domains is not applicable to average users, only power users and corporations. Not to be out done by the exploit Microsoft botched the initial patch [leaving systems still vulnerable](#). You would think a company worth \$2 trillion would have the resources to fix the issue in its entirety.

Linux is not getting out unscathed this month too. I've talked about how [I moved to Fedora](#) and their very aggressive end-of-life cycle. Fedora 34 was released at the end of April. Typically, I'll wait two months or so to let the bugs get sorted out in this community supported operating system. Realizing it had been three months since release, I took the dive and upgraded all my Fedora systems at once. Bad decision. I had two initial problems. My RAID array is showing individual disks in file explorer. This is a problem because it should never show individual disks. More to the point, if I accidentally write to an individual disk instead of the array because all elements are labeled the same (only the icon is different), the disk becomes out of sync with the rest of the array which would almost certainly result in data loss. The second is Redshift (shifts the screen color to red as it becomes later in the day to reduce eye strain) which keeps throwing an error at logon that all of a



Van Wert Hamfest

sudden manifested itself... [from 2016](#). What? It's been about an issue per day I'm discovering. Applications disappearing from the task bar is another very annoying issue. A downgrade attempt failed on the laptop which means wiping the operating system partition and re-installing Fedora 33. /home is on a separate partition meaning my files and most settings would be OK. Then praying 35 is not such a dud.

The Section is sponsoring learning and exploring sessions. Technical Specialist Jason – N8EI will be presenting one of those sessions on August 31st. Look for details in this edition or in forthcoming communications from our Section Manager. His topic is “Beyond the Baofeng: Thoughts on Equipment Choices for New Hams.” You received your license. Picked up a \$20 Baofeng. Tried to reach some repeaters with it. Now what? Now comes a real station. He touches on prioritizing equipment purchases and gives recommendations on radios. It will be a good one not only for newly licensed hams but hams looking to improve their station.

I'm jiddy that Hamfests are returning. I made both [NOARSFest](#) in Elyria and the [Van Wert Hamfest](#) last weekend. NOARSFest seemed like a few more were in attendance over previous years. That was the last hamfest I attended before we were sequestered to our homes so it was fitting being the first one to return. Van Wert had a perfect day for holding a hamfest – though it was quite foggy on the ride out, maybe due to the wildfires out west. Even though I attended school in the area and traveled often for work, never made it to Van Wert. Their 'fest was one I've been wanting to attend for some time. Figured I would take in all that I can and support hamfests as much as I can this year seeing as all were canceled leaving clubs without that income over the last year.

Thanks for reading and 73... de Jeff – K8JTK

From the Section Traffic Manager

David Maynard, WA3EZN – STM

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The **OSSBN** held a meeting on July 10 at 11AM at the Richland County Fairgrounds. This meeting was in conjunction with the trunk sales. Minutes of the meeting are at www.ossbn.org

BUCKEYE NET EARLY. This CW net is in need of a net manager. WB8YLO has been doing a fine job as manager but has informed me that a family situation will keep him off the air for six months to a year. Efforts to find a new net manager has lead to the position still being open. In order to fill the reporting requirements I have offered and began to receive the individual NCS reports and will tabulate the results at the end of each month.

NORTH WEST OHIO ARES TRAFFIC NET

North West Ohio ARES Traffic Net meets daily at 6:30 PM on the 146.610 repeater. On the 15TH of the month we meet on the alternate frequency of 146.94 per COLLEEN N8TNV net manager

I once received an email from another ham asking for me to assign him his Tactical Callsign. He stated that he was following directions from one of the ARRL published guidelines. It instructed him to contact the Section Traffic Manager who assigns these Tactical Callsigns. My response to him was that I do not assign tactical callsigns.

He didn't state which guideline he had found his information so I started searching to find which guide line the erroneous information came from. I did find the information and it did in fact say to contact the Section Traffic Manager to get you tactical callsign. This is another fine example where someone without a full understanding of procedures published incorrect, silly or misleading information.



To find out if you would like traffic handling try listening or check into one of these nets.

OHIO SINGLE SIDEBAND NET

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

OHIO HF CW TRAFFIC NETS

HF CW NETS	NET TIMES	FREQUENCY	NET MANAGERS
Buckeye Early	6:45 PM	3.580	WB8YLO
Buckeye Late	10:00 PM	3.590	WB9LBI
Ohio Slow Net	6:00 PM	3.53535	W8MAL

All net frequencies plus or minus QRM. .

OHIO LOCAL VHF TRAFFIC NETS

VHF NETS	NET TIMES	FREQUENCY	NET MANAGERS
BRTN	9:30 PM DAILY	145.230 PL 110.9	W8DJG
COTN	7:15 PM DAILY	146.970 PL 123.0	KD8TTE
MVTN	7:00 PM Mon	146.640	KC8HTP
NWOHARES	6:30 PM DAILY	146.10	N8TNV
TCTTN	9 PM Sun, Tues, Fri	146.94 PL 110.9	WB8YYS
TATN	8:00 PM DAILY	146.670 PL 123.0	WG8Z

On the 15TH of the month North West Ohio ARES Traffic Net meets on the alternate frequency of 146.94. These VHF net times and frequencies are those that have been reported to me by the net managers.

A few words about nets and net etiquette. Etiquette does not simply mean knowing what fork to use at a formal dinner. It means knowing the "rules of the road" for any endeavor and knowing how to avoid embarrassing (or even offensive) missteps. Good operators are made, not born

What is an Amateur Radio Net? An Amateur Radio Net exists whenever 3 or more operators are in simultaneous contact with each other for the purpose of exchanging information or passing informal or official traffic.

Type of Nets

Directed Formal Nets - A directed net is created whenever large number of stations are participating. Directed nets are preferable since the traffic can be coordinated and prioritized. In a directed net stations cannot "break into" or interrupt the net. They listen and wait to ask permission to pass traffic.

Open informal nets - There is minimal central control by a Net Control Station. This net allows station to station contact. This is not a rag chew frequency but a chance to coordinate traffic that only relates to two stations.

Net Missions

Traffic Net - Handles formatted written messages between served agency locations or between other nets. Messages to or from outside the immediate area may be handled by a Section-level net, and depending on the distances involved, Regional Nets and Area Nets may be employed to get traffic out to functioning phone and internet locations. These nets may be voice, CW or digital as needed.

Resource Net - This net is used for new operators to check in and await assignment, or asking for relief or reassignment. A resource net may also be used to locate needed equipment, or operators with specific skills. Several different resource nets may be utilized depending on the size of the event.

Tactical Net - There may be one or many of these nets. These nets handle the primary on-site emergency communication between served agencies. There may be "sub nets" created to handle specific types of traffic during high volume emergency situations.

Information Net - An information net might be used to make regular announcements, disseminate official bulletins or answer general questions.

Health and Welfare Nets - These nets usually handle messages between concerned friends, families, and persons in the disaster area. Most H&W nets will be on HF bands, but local "feeder" UHF & VHF nets may be needed.

Directed Formal Nets Information

Net Control Station

The most essential part of any directed net is the character and skill of the Net Control Operator. The Net Control Operator coordinates all net activity and shapes the efficiency(or inefficiency) of the net operation. The Net Control Operator is in charge of the net at all times. Net Control Operator activates the net. keeps track of stations check in and assigns duties and directs the net operation. Directed Net–Stations call only net control directly, go direct to other stations only with net control permission

Net Conduct and Etiquette

Listening is 50% of the conversation. Don't get in a hurry – pause briefly before and after keying your microphone. Try as much as possible to tune out other distractions, the Net Control Operator may be trying to get in touch with you. Get permission from Net Control Operator before proceeding with your traffic or calling another station.

Net Control Operator Phrases you may hear:

Is there any emergency or priority traffic

Do we have a liaison station

All stations hold your traffic

Stations wish to check in – you can give you call to check-in

All stations standby or

Voice Net Pro-words you should use:

OVER –I have finished talking, your turn (good for simplex)

ROGER –Message received & understood

COPY THAT or I COPY –Use Roger instead

STANDING BY –I am awaiting further transmissions

OUT –This communication is concluded

OFF the AIR – Self explanatory

AFFIRMATIVE/NEGATIVE –Yes/No

CLEAR –No agreed upon meaning (do not use)

Message Handling Prowords you should use.

WORD AFTER“Say again word after...”

WORD BEFORE “Say again word before...”

BETWEEN“Say again between...and...”

ALL AFTER“Say again all after...”

ALL BEFORE“Say again all before...”

I SPELL

FIGURES

INITIAL(S)/LETTER GROUP

MIXED GROUP

SAY AGAIN

Useful hints for relaying your traffic

Try to think through what you’re going to say before you say it.

Be brief –don’t ramble –get your point across.

DON’T SHOUT!

Use plain language – no Q-codes or 10-codes.

Use military phonetics – not cutesy phonetics

Pass messages no faster than you can write them yourself

Pass messages in five word groups is good practice

Give Call Signs in phonetics

Use phonetics when spelling out words

Net Conduct and Etiquette

Inform the Net Control Operator if you are leaving the net and if you plan to return.

Don’t criticize or argue with fellow operators or the net control on-air.

Always use your FCC call sign to sign off after your traffic is passed and receipt acknowledged.

Never use the phrase – Back to net on the net frequency - it is not needed

Never say relay – say your call only and wait for the net control to call you

Never correct or comment on a radiogram. Give your call and wait for the net control permission

Emergency Traffic

Never interrupt a current traffic exchange unless you have a life & death situation or emergency traffic.

There are two ways to call net control if you have an emergency. Say “break, break, break and give your callsign or give your callsign and say emergency traffic. This method should only be used when there is an actual emergency.

NTS Methods and Practices Guidelines - Questions??

I have tried to give a few pointers here. It is not possible to cover everything in this one article. If you have questions ask during a net after all traffic has been handled. You can also go to the ARRL guidelines at this link. <http://www.arrl.org/table-of-contents-nts-methods-and-practices-guidelines>

The Wise speak when they have something to say, Fools speak because they have to say something.

73

David WA3EZN
Ohio Section Traffic Manager

From the Public Information Coordinator

John Ross, KD8IDJ - PIC

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2021 OHIO SECTION NEWSLETTER CONEST

The entry deadline has passed...the judges have made their decisions...and...you'll have to wait until next month to find out the winners!!!

Actually, this year's winners will be announced on Saturday August 7th at the Columbus Hamfest held at the Aladdin Shrine Center in Grove City. This has been our traditional location for the past 8 years (except for last year) and it will be good to get back and see the folks in person...and... there is HAMFEST to boot!!!

The Aladdin Shrine Audio Unit – W8FEZ puts on a great show. Here's the info:

2021 Columbus Hamfest

8:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Talk-In 146.760 PL 123.0

Doors open at 6:00 AM for vendor set-up

Aladdin Shrine Center

1801 Gateway Circle

Grove City, Ohio 43213

The Aladdin Shrine Center is behind Tee Jaye's restaurant off of Stringtown Road and 1-71.

There will be a food trailer, door prizes and all COVID RULES WILL BE FOLLOWED...bring a mask!

Admission is \$5.00..under 12 free

Now, back to the newsletters!!! Another great year and a great crop of newsletters. All of the entries were outstanding and the final selections were difficult...we would not want it any other way.

I'll have a complete rundown of the winners next month...CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!



PIO ZOOM!!!

Coming your way this Fall....a PIO ZOOM Meeting!!

I have access to join ZOOM meetings and shortly I'll have new software loaded that will allow me to conduct ZOOM meetings.

Over the years we have tried HF meetings and even considered DMR meetings. The DMR approach still is in the mix once we can determine if everyone has DMR access. It would be good to use our Amateur Radio frequencies if we can.

Look for an invitation sometime after Labor Day...maybe mid-September...and I'll send out several suggested times to see if we can make it convenient.

If you don't have ZOOM software yet don't worry. The invitation will allow you download software FREE that will allow your participate. It's not complicated and easy to use.



PIC PODCASTS

A couple of years ago we had several successful PIC PODCASTS for the Ohio Section...and next year they will return!!

Recording them here at the studio was pretty easy...it was uploading them to YOUTUBE that was difficult, frustrating and time consuming. Hopefully that will all be resolved in a few months with new software and equipment.

The PIC PODCASTS allow you hear stories about Amateur Radio from our own hams in their own words...and I have some pretty good folks lined up for the first few. Because of the new telephone interface we can record anytime from cell phones or landlines and have the capability of remote on-site recording as well.

While the ARRL has its own PODCASTS very few sections have their own PODCASTS...so we need to continue to pave the way and use as many different forms of communication as we can.



SIGN OF THE TIMES

This sign was made by an eight year boy who wanted, in the worst way, to have a radio station! Yeah, it was me back in 1958 and I made it to put over the coal bin door in the basement of parents house.

Dad and I built the "studio" there with oak paneling, acoustical tile on the ceiling, carpet on the floor, a bench, record player and a low power AM transmitter. I was ON THE AIR and had the SIGN to prove it! Soon, I moved in my ham radio equipment and this room became all things electronic. I would spend every day after school playing radio, blowing up capacitors and just having fun. I learned a lot, screwed up a lot of good radios but stayed out of trouble and out of my parents way.

The sign was an inspiration, a location for dreams and a place where I could be anything I wanted to be. It hung on the coal bin door for over 60 years...until last week. My parents have passed on, the house is being sold and I wanted to make sure that sign could continue to make a difference in my life. So I took it down, brought it to my home and put on the door of my radio station/recording studio/hamshack where I hope it lives for maybe another 30 years!!! It's amazing how something so small and simple...from the mind of an eight year old... can make a huge impact on the rest of your life.

I've done pretty good in the making-the dreams-come-true department. Spent a lot of years in radio and TV, amassed a large amount of ham radio equipment, got my extra ticket and spent 28 years at Ohio Bell, Ameritech, SBC AT&T or whatever the phone company is using for a name today. All it took was a sign.

All I hope is that future amateur radio operators can find a sign...of any kind...that can guide them in the right direction...even if it's handmade and in crayon.

Maybe we could help show them the way.

Well...that's enough preaching for this month. See you at the Columbus Hamfest on August 7th.

73

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From the Section Youth Coordinator

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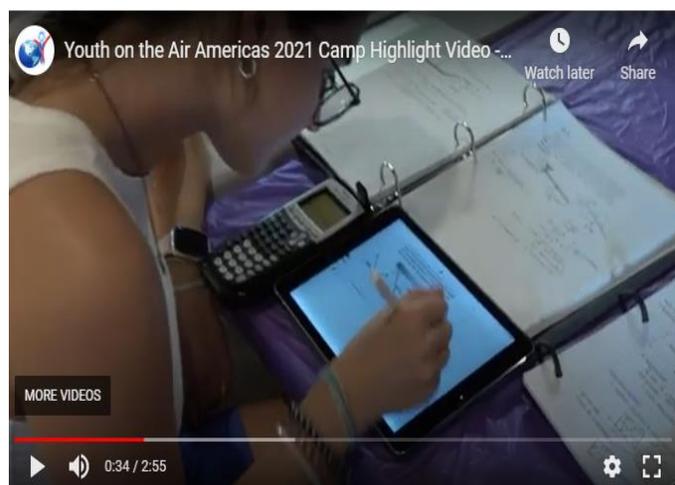
Try Something New and Kill Multiple Birds with One Stone*

**Note no birds are actually killed in this month's article*

YOTA Americas 2021 Camp

Before we get started on this month's column, I want to focus on the activities that took place a few days ago in Southwest Ohio-- YOTA Americas 2021 Camp. The youth took part in a wide variety of Amateur Radio activities, including an ARRIS contact, antenna & kit building, operating, etc. A number of the events were live streams and there is a sampling of recorded videos available at <https://youthontheair.org>.





Try Something New- Portable Operation

Quite often, when you read an article about something new, you say to yourself, “*maybe I’ll try that someday.*” Unfortunately, it is soon out of mind and never happens. In this article, I will start off with a few concrete activities as reasons to try Portable Operating, not someday, but very soon!

The events:

- Ohio QSO Party- Aug 28th- www.ohqp.org (Activate one county as a portable or multiple counties as a rover)
- Ohio State Parks On The Air- Sep 11th- <https://ospota.org>
- Our fleeting summer season is a great time to try POTA (Parks On The Air) or SOTA (Summits On The Air)
- It is prime vacation time and a great time to try a portable operation as part of your holiday

One thing about this month’s “Try Something New” is how many different ways you can take part; everything from backpacking with a superlight setup to mobile in a giant RV. I am in the process of putting together an extensive slideshow presentation on Portable Operating; you can read through it here- tiny.cc/portop.

I will be presenting it in person at my local club Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club. The meeting will be in person and via [Zoom- link](#). It will also be recorded, and if your club is interested, I can do a presentation for you.

Portable Field Radio Operations

Anthony Luscre, K8ZT



Topics in the presentation include

Portable & Field Operations

- Types of Operations
- Antennas
- Power Sources
- Misc Accessories
- Planning
- Packing
- Setup
- Operating



There are often trade-offs in planning your portable operation-

- Antennas- bigger size can result in more gain, but they are often heavier and require heavier support and often more assembly time
- Increase Radio power levels can mean more contacts but also more weight with increased battery weight or generator needed
- Lower power and/or gain antennas may require using more efficient modes (CW or FT8) for completing more contacts
- Use of more efficient modes (CW or FT8) may require more specialized skills and/or additional equipment

Portable operations can include any bands and modes depending on your intended activity. One of the things that often differentials different types of Portable Operations is the type of transit used to get to the final operating location or even operating while in transit:

- Foot (often a premium placed on lightweight & small size)
 - Hike In
 - Final Lug (from the parking lot to site)
 - Mobile (Pedestrian Mobile)
- Cycle
 - Bicycle
 - Motorized (Motorcycle, Scooter, eBike, etc.)
- Mobile (Car/Truck)
 - Mobile (in motion)
 - Mobile (parked)
 - Stationary with the possible addition of extra antennas

	Predestination Mobile	SOTA	POTA	Vacation (Holiday) Operation
Transport	Foot	Foot	Vehicle, Last Mile maybe foot	Mixed often includes Air
Primary Considerations	Light Weight, Ability to operate while carrying everything	Light Weight, Small Size, Include Antenna Support	Flexibility, Minimum # of QSOs	Packable for travel, Flexibility
Radio	Low Power	Low Power	Depends on Last Mile/Vehicle situation	Depends on Power Sources Available
Antennas	Vertical Whips, Pole held Dipole/Beam	Portable, Multiband	Portable, Multiband	Often need for Stealth & Flexibility
Power Sources	Battery	Battery/Solar	Battery/Vehicle	Commercial
Misc Access.	Voice recorder for logging	Climbing equipment, dealing with elements	Public relations materials- banner, handouts, etc.	
Packing	Allows operation while packed	Protection for gear, hands-free carry	Quick deploy Go-Box	Depends a lot on method(s) of travel
Setup	Minimal	Use of nature (trees, rocks, etc.)	Varies greatly	Varies greatly
Operations	Typically Voice. Public demonstration, limited # of QSOs, local net check in	HF or VHF, fairly short duration due to travel time, Voice or CW. Spotting helpful	HF or VHF, flexible time, Voice or CW. Spotting helpful	Varies considerably depending on location available time, etc.

	Field Day	DXpedition	Mobile	State QSO Party Rover
Transport	Vehicle	Mixed often includes Air	Vehicle	Vehicle
Primary Considerations	Group Activity, Multi-station interoperability, Bonus Activities, Ed & PR	Activation of Rare location, high volume, Worldwide Prop.	Ability to operate in motion, Antenna optimization	Ability to operate in motion, Activation of specific locations
Radio	100 Watt, Multiband	Include Amps	100 Watt, Multiband	100 Watt, Multiband
Antennas	Multibands, Varies by Geo-location	Gain/Directional is very useful	Vertical Whips, durable	Vertical Whips, durable
Power Sources	Generator	Generator/ Commercial	Vehicle	Vehicle
Misc Access.	Computer logging, lighting, educational/public outreach	Computer Logging	Voice recorder for logging, repeater guide	Computer Logging, GPS/Maps, Temporary non-mobile Antennas
Packing	Often logistics of multiple sources of equipment & supplies	Depends a lot on method(s) of travel	Installed (permanently or temporarily)	Installed (permanently or temporarily)
Setup	INTENSIVE! Includes feeding & shelter	INTENSIVE! Logistics/planning critical	Depends on type of installation	Depends on type of installation
Operations	Contest Style Op, Full 24 Hours, nationwide contacts, modes (CW, SSB & Digi)	Multi Day, Big Pile-ups / High Demand, worldwide contacts,	Casual, mostly Voice, VHF or HF (big differences)	Contest Style Op, 8 to 12 Hours, HF SSB & CW, Travel planning important

There is a separate supplement on Antennas- <http://tiny.cc/portant>

Antennas

- "Antennas" Information Sheet [link](#)



Antennas

This is by no means a comprehensive or exhaustive guide to antennas. There are a plethora of books and online resources on antennas (see links at end of doc).

Share this doc: tiny.cc/portant
Or scan QR Code

Portable Antenna Choices Pros & Cons

Wire Antennas	Pros	Cons	Notes
Dipole (resonant)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inexpensive • Easy to build • Can be fed with coax 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Require 2 supports • Single or limited # of bands 	
Dipole (nonresonant) or offset center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inexpensive • Easy to build • Multiple bands support • Cheaper & lighter Ladder line instead of coax 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Require 2 supports • Requires Antenna Tuner • May require balun 	Often fed with open line or ladder line feeders to allow better multiband performance
Inverted V	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inexpensive • Easy to build • Require only 1 support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In some cases, it may not work as well as dipoles 	Often have more omnidirectional pattern than dipoles
End Fed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inexpensive • Easy to build • Require only 1 support • Multiband Operation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May require a special balun • May cause RFI 	
Verticals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Require no high supports • Can be very simple (especially single band) • Very easy to transport • The only option for most mobile work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Require Radials • Often have lossy or problematic traps for multiple bands • Low angle of radiation poor for close-in QSOs 	
Beams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good gain • Directivity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Require tower or sturdy support • Often require lots of assembly • Limited to higher frequency bands • Expensive 	Smaller size at VHF (6 or 2 M) greatly decreases Cons
Mag Loop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small • Easy to transport • No supports needed • No Radials 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited bandwidth • Require frequent retuning when changing freq. • Can be expensive 	Works well for fixed freq. modes such as FT8/FT4
Mobile Antenna	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can be operated when the vehicle is in motion quality for Class C 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poor performance • Difficult to tune • Narrow bandwidth 	With a suitable ground plane, mobile antennas can be used for portable operations

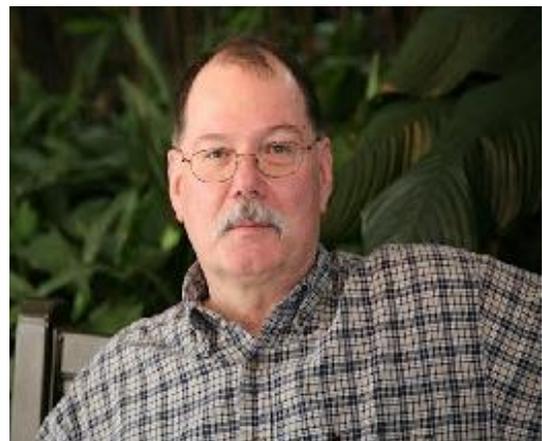
I will leave the rest of the presentation for you to read- <http://tiny.cc/portop>

That's it for this month; I hope to work you soon, maybe even portable in one of the upcoming events.

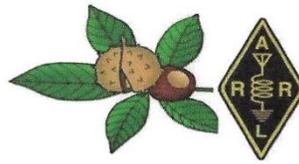
73,

Anthony, K8ZT (k8zt@arrl.net)

ARES Training Update
Jim Yoder, W8ERW – ARES Data Manager
w8erw@arrl.net



ARES Training Update



Ohio Section Ohio ARES Training Statistics

	Members	Active	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	PDS	Aux Comm	Com (L)	COM (N)	COM (T)	SK
Total	1923	1076	982	736	205	65	74	10	2	4	49
ARES Connect	1524	797	841	519	164	56	70	8	2	4	5

Training Certificates Submitted

Prior 2014	4933
2014	378
2015	385
2016	877
2017	990
2018	1214
2019	664
2020	393
2021	94
Total	9928

Total member records in the database

Total Members submitting training documents

Level attainment and ancillary training submissions.

Our Silent Keys

Level 1 members have not completed NIMS although may have submitted some certificates.

Level 2 members have completed NIMS.

Level 3 members have completed NIMS and ICS-300-400 or the alternate courses online.

PDS references attainment of the Professional Development Series certificate.

ARES Connect numbers reflect details from ARES Connect for Ohio members only.



The ARES training initiative provides a framework that will allow ARES members to integrate our communications skills and experience into the structure of the National Incident Command System NIMS which is widely used by our served agencies.

W8ERW

15-Jul-21

73,

Jim W8ERW
w8erw@arrl.net

Volunteer Stations Wanted For Exercise

C. Matthew Curtin, KD8TTE

The Ohio Military Reserve is conducting an exercise that includes objectives for demonstrating radio interoperability. It's a small exercise that will include establishing one or more amateur radio stations able to act as gateways to other radio services. Ohio's BLACK SWAN net will be participating.

Amateur radio activity will be centered around the BLACK SWAN net at 1300 on both Saturday and Sunday. We're looking for volunteers to perform one or more of the following functions (but only one at a time):

- Net Control Operators for BLACK SWAN net sessions. See the Control Script for details on how that works. <https://www.blackswancomex.org/net/control-script>
- Stations designated to handle exercise messages via the net.

Volunteers will be assigned roles and tasks according to their availability and station capability. Each station will simulate an agency station.

Please volunteer with Lee N2LC (@Winlink.org) no later than Monday 2 August. Only pre-registered exercise players can be built into the Master Scenario Event List (MSEL). When registering, indicate:

- Station Callsign
- Station Location (Maidenhead Grid)
- Hour(s) Volunteered
- Role(s) Volunteered
- If the station is Winlink RF capable
- If the station is 60m capable
- If the station is NBEMS HF capable

We look forward to working with you.

Club Corner

This is YOUR corner of the newsletter. Send us what your club is doing, and we'll make sure that it gets in. Got a special event or club project that you want everyone to know about? Send it to us!. Need help with a project? Send it to us.

Let us know what your club is up to. Are you going to have a special guest at your meeting or are you having a special anniversary?

Send it to: webmaster@arrl-ohio.org



Highland ARA

Secretary Kathy Levo, N8ZNR, presented Ken Lightner, KE8JEL, an ARRL Handbook for being a Field Day contact winner. Ken exceeded the 5 contact minimum needed to qualify for the drawing.

Following the photo Ken turned around and re-donated the Handbook back to HARA to be used at its discretion as a later member incentive. According to Ken he already has the Handbook set and refers to it frequently.

The Handbook was donated to HARA by ARRL Vice Director Scott Yonally, N8SY.

The \$100 DX Engineering gift certificate awarded to HARA by Section Manager Tom Sly, WB8LCD, was won by Blake Gall, KE8PAQ. It will be presented to Blake at the August 10 HARA business meeting.

Congrats to each winner.



The following recently ran in the Highland County Press:

Amateur Radio Club honors Bob Hodson

**Pictured are John Levo (left) and Bob Hodson.
Courtesy of John Levo
Highland Amateur Radio Association**



Longtime Highland County banker, broadcaster and civic leader Bob Hodson was recently awarded a lifetime membership by the Highland Amateur Radio Association in its organization.

Besides all of his devotion to Highland County, Hodson has also held an amateur radio license since the early 1960s. Although his 29 years doing a local news program on WSRW exposed him to radio, Hodson became interested in amateur radio through his son David's electrical project in 4-H. Both were exposed to the excitement of ham radio through fellow 4-Hers who were amateurs.

When the Clinton County radio club offered a class to earn licenses, both jumped at the chance. They passed their tests that at that time included being able to send and receive Morse Code. The Federal Communications Commission issued Bob the call sign WA8KTU and David WA8LCW.

During David's time in college and when he lived in Dayton, they found ham radio an excellent way to keep in touch.

Since 1964, Bob has maintained his license; however, moving out of state and life "getting in the way" caused David to let his license expire.

Bob was a driving force behind the founding of the Highland Amateur Radio Association when, in 1977, around 20 Highland County hams gathered in the Hillsboro Farm Bureau conference room to found the organization. Hodson is one of only a handful of those charter members still alive.

In the meantime, HARA has grown to a membership of more than 140 mostly Highland County area persons either with ham licenses or interested in radio communications, technology and/or electronics. FCC data indicates there are well over 200 amateur radio licenses issued with Highland County zip codes.

The club was recently recognized by the American Radio Relay League as one of the nation's leading amateur radio clubs.

More information about amateur radio and how the hobby can serve a community can be found on the Web at www.arrl.org. Information about Highland County's Highland ARA can be found at www.facebook.com/highlandk8ho, highlandara@gmail.com or by contacting Information Officer John Levo at (937) 393-4951. A wealth of information about the club and their past activities may be found on the internet through any popular search engine.

PCARS – Ohio State Parks On The Air

Hi everyone,

According to the countdown ticker on ospota.org, we are down to only 50 days till OSPOTA 2021. There's several subjects I want to touch on, but this week, let's start with the new class for Rovers.

So what is a Rover? Well, simply put, a Rover is a station that operates from more than one Ohio State Park during OSPOTA.

If you're considering operating as a rover this year. These are the relevant sections of the 2021 rules concerning Rovers (**The complete rules can be found at <https://ospota.org/Files/OSPOTA-Rules-1Jan2021.pdf>**).

Entry Categories

- MML - Multi-Op Multi-Transmitter Low Power (.1 to 100 watts) located at one Ohio State Park
- MMH - Multi-Op Multi-Transmitter High Power (>100 watts) located at one Ohio State Park
- MSL - Multi-Op Single-Transmitter Low Power (.1 to 100 watts) located at one Ohio State Park
- MSH - Multi-Op Single-Transmitter High Power (>100 watts) located at one Ohio State Park
- SL - Single Operator Low Power (.1 to 100 watts) located at one Ohio State Park
- SH - Single Operator High Power (>100 watts) located at one Ohio State Park
- INOH - Operator (Single or Multi) inside Ohio not at an Ohio State Park (low or high power)
- OUT - Operator (Single or Multi) outside of Ohio (low or high power)

Note - Rovers must choose one of the categories listed above. Rovers must submit a Summary Sheet for each park they activate inside the boundaries of the State Park. Rovers must use a /R as their call sign (example: K8BF/R).

Miscellaneous

Stations inside an Ohio State Park (includes Rovers) must make a minimum of **TEN** contacts. Four of the contacts being made to four other (different from where you are transmitting from) Ohio State Park stations.

Rovers should send their call with a /R at the end (example: K8BF/R). Rovers will submit a summary sheet for each park they activate. Rovers' scores will be totaled up when their logs are checked and their total score will be the sum total of all the summary sheets they submit.

FAQ

If I decide to be a rover, is there a special way to signup?

No signup is necessary. Just sign a "/R" (example: K8BF/R) after your callsign when operating, then make sure that you use that callsign on your summary sheets when submitting your entry.

Are there provisions for contacting Hams planning to operating the same park as me ahead of time to coordinate, and avoid interference?

Most parks are large enough to allow ample spacing between stations, If you want to touch base all the same,

just post your request to either the OSPOTA group on groups.io, or the OSPOTA facebook group. If they see it, and choose to respond, then you will hear from them directly.

We do, however encourage you to share your plans to PlannedParks@ospota.org, so that we can add you to the Planned Activation page on ospota.org. the page is anonymous; not listing callsigns, but it tells you at a glance how much activity is planned.

Do I need to make a minimum number of contacts?

Yes, all stations inside an Ohio State Park (including Rovers) must make a minimum of **TEN** contacts. Four of those contacts must be made to four other different Ohio State parks.

How should I identify as a Rover on the air?

Rovers should send their call with a /R at the end (example: K8BF/R).

I don't see a Rover class on the summary sheet. How do I submit my rover entry?

Rovers must submit a summary sheet for each park they operate from. The callsign must be your call with a /R added (example: K8BF/R). Rovers' scores will be totaled up when their logs are checked and their total score will be the sum total of all the summary sheets they submit.

John Myers, KD8MQ

DX This Week – QSL Storage

Bill AJ8B (aj8b@arrl.net, [@AJ8B](https://twitter.com/AJ8B), or www.aj8b.com)
CWOPs Member #1567



This week I wanted to present the results of a question that I sent along to our “DX Friends” group. Over the past 4 years, we have had 73 DXers agree to answer questions for our “interview”. I regularly rely on these hams to provide insight and thoughts about various topics. If you check this section regularly, you know that I am a BIG fan of QSL cards.

A couple of months ago, I sent our DX Friends group an email asking them: “Do you keep all of the QSL cards that are sent to you? How many do you estimate that you have? How do you store them? How often do you take them out and look at them? Do you have a way to display them?”

Many of them responded..enjoy...

Do you keep all of the QSL cards that are sent to you?

Totally ... I don't understand Radio without the QSL's ... Being QSL Manager, I try to ensure that the QSL's are of the highest quality so that they last for more years in the collection in optimal conditions.

How many do you estimate that you have?

Around 5000 QSL's... I try to confirm all my QSO's by Mode / Band with a Paper QSL's... It is more difficult to obtain an Award...!!!! LoTW is free and Easy, but old fashion QSL Culture remind me of my beginnings.

How do you store them?

ABC Boxes per year with some anti humidity product

How often do you take them out and look at them?... Do you have a way to display them?

I have all DXCC's by ABC order in a book, and I try to see them one or 2 times per years when I show you to some Radio friend or when I insert a New One

Best 73 and Good Job ;!!

Jose EC6DX

Do you keep all of the QSL cards that are sent to you?

All QSL cards are kept and stored in closed boxes

How many do you estimate that you have?

About 4000 from the buro (QSL card only, no envelope) About 300 - 400 via direct. My logbook is updated manually for each card received.

How do you store them?

Some of them are displayed on a board but having no more space on this one, all new cards are now stored in bulk.

How often do you take them out and look at them?

I look closely at each card for a short while when I receive it. After that, they are forgotten!!

Do you have a way to display them?

My dream would be to stick them all to the wall otherwise I will probably never watch them again. Even big album wouldn't be enough to put it all away

73s Laurent

TK4LS

My QSL cards from 1985 to 1996, of which there were about 5000, I gave away to collectors for two reasons. One because of the room and secondly, they would have a better home.

Then Data came along a few years back am very pleased that most of the thousands of contacts are electronically sent and stored but still receive about 200 QSL cards a month mostly from Europe and quite a few welcome SWL cards also answered, direct ones answered directly within a reasonable time, with the Covid 19 issue its taking about 1 year for me to receive cards.

Most collectible cards are those with trains steam or otherwise on???

Bill,

I usually collect LoTW. Nice QSL cards I display on the wall in my shack – which is impossible with LoTW! It is always nice to look around and memorize the contacts, some achieved after hard work and long nightshifts, and a few easy ones.

One part of the shack is for old QSL cards, another for ATNO – it's a lot of memories. I always like the QSL cards with a small handwritten story or message.

73 Ken LA7GI



Hello Bill!

Do you keep all of the QSL cards that are sent to you?

Yes, I have all QSLs which I got as SWL OM3-27707 and OM2VL (also for previous callsign)

How many do you estimate that you have?

Hmmm, I never count it, but sure 20.000 +

How do you store them?

In boxes in the alphabetical order

How often do you take them out and look at them?

Sometimes when I apply awards.

regards, Laci OM2VL



Good evening Bill—I hope you and the family are ok

Here are the answers to your questions:

1.I do keep all my QSL cards I find it very interesting from wherever on this planet it comes from...

2.I have about 4 to 5 thousand of them

3. I store them in a big square box

4.I do not look at them that often but when I need to sort them for an award it takes about a day

5.This moment I do not have a way to display them, but I am planning to do it this year. When I am finished, I will send a picture

I hope that answers your questionnaire Bill

73 and have a great and Blessed week ahead
De Zs2ec Theunis

Hi Bill,

I have a few boxes of QSLs somewhere around, never took time to watch them again, I keep aside my DXCC cards. The most original one I ever received was for a QSO in 1979, from WB3CHS, Calvin. This "US shape QSL" is made of hard plastic. The QSO details are on the backside.

Nowadays, with the modern logs like eQSLcc it is easier to watch the QSLs, I still use paper QSLs just to maintain the tradition.

Keep Safe, 73s

Pat
3B8FA



Hi Billy,

Sorry for the late reply but we are very busy at work. To answer some of your questions I really don't chase DXCC, so I don't keep cards. With that said, I have kept 1 card from each DXCC entity over the years. I can safely say it has been in the thousands of QSL cards I have received over many years. I try to promote Digital QSLing to save some trees

"Lol" 73

Regards Chris 9Y4D

Hi Bill!

Thank you for a SWODXA Newsletter with many interesting articles. I like it much and always check on the articles.

Yes, I have all my QSL cards received in the last 40 years stored. Since I have my previous call of YU3HR (ex Yugoslavia), I still have all the cards received in that time. Never throw any QSL cards and I will keep them as long I live.

I have used the bureau for more than 40 years. Older times were much better with the QSL's, as there was not an electronic way of confirmations, so there were many more to send.

There are many shoeboxes - but I did not count them. I have them on the ceiling and every year at least two new ones are stored there you can imagine that the ceiling is more or less all filled with them. I still get many QSL's over the bureau.

No, I don't check them much but when I do, it's surprising how many great DX can be found there, even some deleted countries such as Abu Ail, Penguin island, Walvis Bay and similar. That was the times. Many of the QSL card owners are silent key until now. Well, nice memories on some other times with more Ham-spirit and operating skills as today.

I may be old fashioned, but I like paper cards much, I'm not a fan of eQSL, LoTW, and similar services. I send more than 60 000 QSL's for the call used now (S51DX) in last 30 years - so guys - any QSL is welcome here!

I hope this meets your questions. Best of luck.

73 es DX de Janez S51DX

Primary e-mail : s51dx@yahoo.com

URL : <http://www.qsl.net/s51dx/>

Do you keep all of the QSL cards that are sent to you?

Yes, I keep all QSL cards I receive they are put into 300 pocket photo albums in alphabetical and country order

How many do you estimate that you have?

106 albums containing approximately 33,000 cards dating back to 13-02-2005 when I first operated as VK7AC IN Tasmania

How do you store them?

In 300 pocket photo albums in my shack on shelves

How often do you take them out and look at them?

Quiet regularly when other hams come to visit, or I want to look up a particular person

Do you have a way to display them?

Unfortunately, not. My current LOG4OM shows 92402 QSOs for VK7AC

Hello Bill,

I keep the QSL cards sent to me but as I have had QSL managers for many years I now receive very few. In the past I received many cards via the bureau, but the bureau closed with the drop-in member of the RSZ and the RSZ is now defunct. My QSL managers policy was to send me only the cards that I requested or those of special interest. My late QSL manager, Mike G3TEV, would send me all the G cards received and all the Japanese cards as he knew I am a chaser of JCC. I estimate that I have about 5000 cards.

Most of the cards are in two drawers in my radio room. The mixed DXCC cards I store and display in First Day Cover albums.

I look at my cards quite frequently usually when I am in my radio room and the bands are dead and I have nothing else to do. They are not arranged in any order.

I only have 9 cards displayed on the wall of the shack. They are those of special friends or events.

73 Brian 9J2BO,G3TOA

Well Bill,

Good to hear from you again. Hope all is well with you and yours as the virus is still not showing any signs of abating. We are still in a major lockdown here with schools etc. still closed. I am still working every day though which certainly helps my situation.

So, to the QSLs:

I keep all my QSLs and also have all my QSLs from my CB days from the early 90s.

I think I have about 10,000 (very rough estimate).

I have them sorted by band on shelves.

I usually don't look at them too often but they're there if I want to!

That's it,
Stay Safe Bill.

Vy best 73 de EI8IU Brian.

Do you keep all of the QSL cards that are sent to you?

Yes - until now I have done that.

How many do you estimate that you have?

I think about 10.000 - including all my different call signs.

How do you store them?

In boxes for every of my call signs.

How often do you take them out and look at them?

I look at them when I receive them - after that I do look very very seldom.

Do you have a way to display them?

I display some of them on my web site <https://www.oz1bii.dk/qs1.htm> and I display my own QSL layouts on https://oz2i.dk/wp/?page_id=2693

Hope to meet some of you in the upcoming ARRL DX CW Contest. I will be active from the Danish Contest Academy as OU2I. BCNU

Vy 73 de OZ2I Henning

Do you keep all of the QSL cards that are sent to you?
Of course not, only about 45 percent, for a SWL I think it's a good result

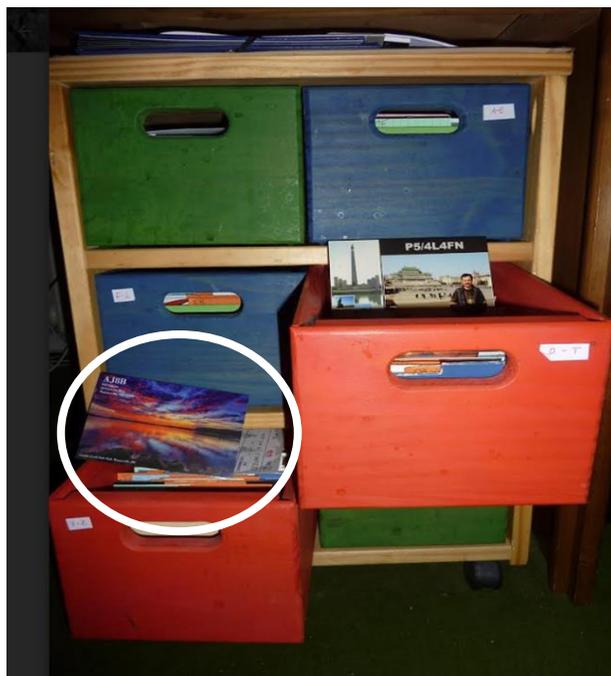
How many do you estimate that you have?
More than 50,000

How do you store them?
In box containers of wood

How often do you take them out and look at them?
Seldom, only if a need to search for something

Do you have a way to display them?
Not as a picture or scan, but all data is held in a database of over 165,000 entries.

73 es good DX de Walter (DE0WAF@qsl.net)



DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH

CQDX CQDX CQDX CQDX CQDX CQDX CQDX CQDX CQDX

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:

E5 - North Cook Islands - E51WL, Warwick, is on Penrhyn Atoll, IOTA OC-082. The ship arrived July 9 and he got a bag of mail, mostly QSL cards. He sees from the postmarks some were sent late in 2020. He says he does not need your QSL card but if you do send be warned that "the snail moves slowly!" PayPal requests for QSLs may be sent to him, 164mack@gmail.com with 3 USD, which covers his outgoing postage. He can send you up to three cards in that envelope. Be sure to give the date and all the other QSO info. If the info is unclear, he will set aside the request until later. He takes his out-going cards to the local post office and it is out of his control how long it takes to get to you from there, with a lot of stops "from here to there."

OJ0 - Market Reef - OH3WS, Pasi, will be there August 21-28 again. He is a volunteer worker working to keep the lighthouse going. He will have callsign OJ0WS on HF CW. Earlier he planned to use the OJ0W callsign. That is changed now to OJ0WS. QSL through the bureau to OH3WS. He notes that OJ0D will be there that same week and will do SSB and satellite operating so he will stick to CW.

OJ0 - Market Reef -

OJ0D, Joseph Holman, who also has the OG7D callsign and the US callsign AD7D, will be August 25-28. He plans to mostly be on the QO-100 satellite with perhaps some HF SSB. QSL through Logbook of the World or via OG7D. He says another ham on the trip is bringing the HF rig. He notes that landing can only happen if the weather is calm at the reef. https://twitter.com/OG7D_AD7D. The Maidenhead grid locator: <https://www.karhukoti.com/maidenhead-grid-square-locator/?grid=jp90nh>. Joseph says you can switch to aerial view to see the reef. And here is the satellite tracking software he likes: <https://www.microsoft.com/store/apps/9wzdncrdndf7>

J8 - St. Vincent - J88PI, op GW4DVB, Brian, will be on Palm Island, also known as Prune Island, July 24 to August 1. He will operate casually on 40 through 6 CW, SSB, SSTV and FT8. His station will be a Yaesu FT-991A to a 10M vertical plus an "M0CVO HW-40HP" OCF, off center fed dipole. He may put up some more. <http://www.g4dvh.co.uk> QSL direct only, although a PayPal request can work too. For the postal way, send to GW4DVB:

GW4DVB
PO Box 20:20
Llanharan, Ponty-clun
Wales
UK CF72 9ZA

More, Brian says Palm Island is a private island resort, an idyllic tropical hideaway. The Grenadines are 32 islands and cays with warm water and sea turtles.

6 Meters - 50 MHz - W5VY, Pat, in Arkansas, reports working new ones YT9A on Sunday morning and 9H1TX and Z37CXY yesterday morning (local time). He also worked new grids Sunday afternoon (local time) with BG6CJR and HL3GOB. Just south of Crescent City, Illinois WB9Z, Jerry, was recovering from 24 hours in the IARU HF World Championship and then spending much of Sunday DXing on 6 meters. Yesterday

morning Jerry got a late start on the Magic Band as "Six meters was rockin into the Middle East." Immediately, around 1315Z, Jerry saw multiple 4X, two OD's and one TA station coming through on FT8. First in the log was TA2LG for Jerry, but NV9L, Val, quickly jumped in and the musical chair game began. Next Jerry work OD5KU followed by Val. Then 4Z1UF called Val as did OD5ET, he second OD of the day. Unfortunately, OD5ET did not reply to Jerry. OD5KU quickly confirmed Jerry's QSO on LoTW. All this in about 25 minutes. "A big Thank You to TA2LG, OD5KU and HV0A for the LOTW confirmations today!" reports Jerry.

DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH

CONTEST CORNER

Below is a list of upcoming contests in the "Contest Corner". I think this is important for someone who is trying to move up the DXCC ladder since entities that are on the rarer side and easiest to work in contests. Some of my best "catches" have been on the Sunday afternoon of a contest when the rarer entities are begging for QSOs. Of course, the gamble is that if you wait until Sunday, conditions may change, or they simply won't be workable. However, it is not a bad gamble. Of course, why not work the contest and have some fun! Check out the WA7BNM Contest Calendar page (<https://www.contestcalendar.com/>) and CQ Magazine for more contests or more details.

The contests in **red** are those that I plan to spend some significant participation time on. PLEASE let me know if you are working contests and how you fared.

Thanks!

July 31-Aug. 1	Missouri QSO Party	https://tinyurl.com/fbcw8r3
July 31- Aug. 1	Russian WW Multi Mode Contest	http://bit.ly/2CMbWOM
Aug. 1	SARL HF Phone Contest	http://bit.ly/HOlqQf
Aug.4	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest	www.ft8activity.eu/index.php/en
Aug. 7	European HF Championship	http://bit.ly/H2eMg5
Aug. 7	FISTS Summer Sprint	http://fistsna.org/operating.html#sprints
Aug. 7	WAB 144 MHz Low Power Phone	http://bit.ly/31_yE4kT
Aug. 7-8	10-10 Int'l Summer Contest SSB	http://bit.ly/1_FrFeBc
Aug. 7-8	ARAL 222 MHz and Up Distance Contest	http://bit.ly/21JZcy9
Aug. 7-8	Batavia FT8 Contest	https://batavia-ft8.com
Aug. 7-8	North American CW 080 Party	http://ncjweb.com/NAQP-RRules.pdf
		(Featured in this month's column)
Aug. 11	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest	www.ft8activity.eu/index.php/en
Aug. 14	ORP ARCI European Sprint	www.qrparci.org/contests
Aug. 14-15	CVA DX Contest CW	http://cvadx.org/regulamento
Aug. 14-15	Worked All Europe CW Contest	http://bit.ly/2vufgcb
Aug. 14-15	Maryland-DC QSO Party	www.w3vpr.org/node/325
Aug. 15	FISTS Summer Sprint	http://fistsna.org/operating.html#sprints
Aug. 15	SARL HF Digital Contest	http://bit.ly/HOlqQf
Aug. 21-22	ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest	www.arrl.org/10-ghz-up

Aug. 21-22	CVA DX Contest SSB	http://cvadx.org/regulamento
Aug. 21-22	SARTG RTTY Contest	www.sartg.com/index.html
Aug. 21-22	North American SSB QSO Party	http://ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf
Aug. 21-22	KCJ Contest	www.kcj-cw.com/e_index.htm
Aug. 22	ARRL Rookie Roundup RTTY	www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup
Aug. 28-29	Hawaii QSO Party	http://hawaiiqsoparty.org
Aug. 28-29	Kansas 080 Party	www.ksqsoparty.org
Aug. 28-29	YO DX HF Contest	www.yodx.ro/en
Aug. 28-29	ALARA Contest	www.alara.org.au/contests
Aug. 28-29	World Wide Digi DX Contest	https://ww-digi.com
Aug. 28-29	WNE Island 080 Party	https://usislands.org/qso-party-rules
Aug. 29	SARL HF CW Contest	http://bit.ly/H0lqQf
August 28	Ohio QSO Party	https://www.ohqp.org/
August 28	W8DXCC	https://www.w8dxcc.com
Sept. 25-26	CQWW RTTY DX Contest	www.cqwwrtty.com

[TOP^](#)

OHIO'S



During our last visit it was indicated the Dog Daz of August appear to have hit early this year. At least in our part of Ohio-although the temperatures have been high-the skies have been cloudy. Therefore I've found outside work to be bearable. It's thought our cloudy skies are caused by smoke from the forest fires in the Northwest. That alone has caused some spectacular sunsets and sunrises. N8ZNR and my daughter lives within ten miles from a large fire in Central Oregon and her descriptions are concerning. We understand some hams are on the firelines. Although the area highlighted through this column is heavily forested, thankfully forest fires of those magnitudes are not a major concern here. Now on to the news:

The July QST made mention of July and August being hot times for six meter DX openings. Reports from several of our region's clubs indicate their six meter activity during Field Day and exposing members to the 'Magic Band'. The **Highland ARA** even used FT8 with success. Some have reported good openings into the Caribbean with Japan and Europe showing up on FT8. Not only has six been good, but some newer hams with only ten meter privileges have been having a ball with frequent opening on that band. One ham has even discovered the use of beacons as an indicator of the bands being open.

It's doubtful a couple Southern Ohio hamfests will occur this summer due to circumstances beyond their control. The location the **Portsmouth RC** has used for several years is not being used for other purposes and is unavailable. The **Scioto Valley ARC** not only has an affordable location situation but a manpower issue and is looking towards teaming up with another club to have a show in 2022.

However here are some hamfests that will happen in the coming weeks:

On Saturday, August 7, the **Aladdin Shrine Audio Unit (W8FEZ)** will sponsor the Columbus Hamfest at the Shrine Center, 1801 Gateway in Grove City. It begins at 8 AM and runs until 1. There is a \$5 admission with indoor or outside tables for \$10.

Also on the 7th is a hamfest in Bidwell sponsored by the **Mid-Ohio Valley ARA**. It is at the Fellowship of Faith Church on SR 554. For more information contact Lester Cardwell, KD8ZU, at docdiesel@hotmail.com.

The **Tri-State ARA's** Hamfest will be on August 14 at the New Baptist Church, 610 28th Street in Huntington, WV. It runs from 8:30 to 1:30. Admission is \$6. Tables are \$10.

The **Athens County ARA** will hold a no fees charged Trunkfest on Sunday, August 22. They anticipate it being at the Community Center's parking lot, however if that is not possible it will be at the Masonic Center. Stay tuned.

The Greater Cincinnati Hamfest and W8DXCC DX Convention will be held on Saturday, August 28 at the Clermont County Fairgrounds in Owensville. The hamfest is sponsored by the **Milford ARC** and runs from 8 until 4. The DX convention is sponsored by the **Southwest Ohio DX Association** and begins at 1 PM with a DX roundtable starting at noon. Each requires a separate \$8 admission ticket to attend. www.cincinnatihamfest.org/venue is the website information on each event and to place your ticket order.



According to the Ohio State Parks on the Air website, the number of parks expected to be activated during the September 11 event is currently 25. The number of parks in Southern Ohio gives clubs and individuals another chance to fine tune their talents to assemble and put a signal on the air under emergency conditions. It's another great opportunity to provide new hams with an Elmering moment. Why not take a look at the www.ospota.org website and see if there is a park near you where you can operate from?

Tom Berry, KD8U, has some radios he would like to find new homes for. They include a Yaesu FTDX 5000MPL, FT 897d and a FT857d. He also has an AL 80B amp up for grabs along with a list of other miscellaneous goodies. He can be contacted at kd8u@att.net. **Athens County ARA** member Brian Shapio, KC8ZUF, is in the midst of a house project and needs to clear out some of his computer related 'stuff' to allow the project to proceed. If interested in what he has that you might have an interest in, contact him at shapio@ohio.edu. Most items will be freebies.

Quick work of removing and sorting over 1000 flags from the graves of buried in the Hillsboro Cemetery happened on Wednesday evening according chairman John Willis, KE8JEM. Ten members of the **Highland ARA** and the county historical society accomplished the project in a bit over an hour.



veterans project three from

Last time we listed a number of Southern Ohio special event stations that will be on the air in the upcoming weeks. Well--add another one to the list. Ted Jacobson, W8KVK, tells us the **Athens County ARA** will operate W8V from July 29 to August 1 from the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Replica Wall and Mobile Education Center and its visit to Athens during its nationwide tour. Special QSL cards will be available. More info is at <https://qrz.com/db/w8v>.

Lyn Alfman, N8IMW, passes along information about a certificate the **Cambridge ARA** issues for working amateurs in Guernsey County. The Guernsey Heritage Award is issued for contacts with five Guernsey County

hams by non-county hams and ten contacts between hams within the county. Repeater contacts do not count. Submit your contact information including call signs, date, time, frequency and mode to ka8nzs@yahoo.com. Neat idea.

The **Portsmouth RC** will meet on Monday evening, August 2 at the American Legion Post in Portsmouth. The meeting will be preceded by a VE session at 5 pm. The **Clinton County ARA** meets on Thursday, August 5, at the Boyd Cancer Center in Wilmington. That meeting starts at 7:30. The **Highland ARA** will meet at the Harmony Lake shelter house at Hillsboro's Liberty Park on Tuesday, August 10, at 7 pm.

The **Scioto Valley ARA** will hold a project building night on Thursday, August 5, at the clubhouse located at the edge of the Scioto Trails State Park south of Chillicothe. The project is building and loading HAM-PI on a Raspberry. All gets underway at 7 pm. President Jesse Stanley, KD8CHP, invites anyone interested in this technology to feel free to attend.



It was a wonderful Saturday morning to wander the hills and forests of Athens County when the **Athens County ARA** held its second Fox Hunt of the year. This month's winner Phil Stanley, KB8NZB, located the 'fox' in only about 30 minutes! It appears the club will hold their next Fox Hunt on August 14.

It's understood the **Clinton County ARA** will start a Technician license class on Sunday, August 1. Classes will be from 2 until 5 at the Boyd Cancer Center in Wilmington. The South 40 wasn't provided with information about the length of the course or possible costs.

The **Athens County ARA** and Sunday Creek ARF will hold a VE testing session on Monday, August 16. Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, says he hopes the Red Cross is reopened by then; however should it not be available the Masonic Center will be used. The time for the ARRL test will be at 7 pm.

Well that does it for another week as we wrap up July. As you have read, August looks to be a busy month for some of the region's clubs with their special event stations, county fairs, socials and the return of some hamfests. Let's hope the return of COVID a freight train at the end of the tunnel instead of daylight. Until next time healthy, safe and radio active.



meetings, concerns isn't please stay

Upcoming Hamfests

We **DO** have some hamfests scheduled for 2021!! Yes, take a good look at the list, it's growing every day!



08/07/2021 - [2021 Columbus Hamfest](#)

Location: Grove City, OH

Sponsor: Aladdin Shrine Audio Unit

Website: <http://columbushamfest.com>

[Learn More](#)

08/15/2021 - [WARA Tailgate Swap Meet](#)

Location: Warren, OH

Sponsor: Warren Amateur Radio Association

Website: <http://w8vtd.com>

[Learn More](#)

09/12/2021 - [Findlay Hamfest](#)

Location: Findlay, OH

Sponsor: Findlay Radio Club

Website: <http://www.findlayradioclub.org/hamfest>

[Learn More](#)

09/18/2021 - [Mound Amateur Radio Assoc. Swap Meet](#)

Location: Miamisburg, OH

Sponsor: MARA

Website: <http://W8DYY.ORG>

[Learn More](#)

10/02/2021 - [10th Annual Vette City Hamfest,](#)

[ARRL Great Lakes Division Convention](#)

Location: Bowling Green , KY

Sponsor: Kentucky Colonels Amateur Radio Club

Website: <https://ky4bg.com>

[Learn More](#)

08/07/2021 - [MOVARC HAMFEST](#)

Location: Bidwell, OH

Sponsor: Mid-Ohio Valley Amateur Radio Club

[Learn More](#)

08/28/2021 - [Cincinnati HamfestSM](#)

Location: Owensville, OH

Sponsor: Milford ARC

Website: <http://CincinnatiHamfest.org>

[Learn More](#)

09/18/2021 - [Miami County Swap Meet](#)

Location: Troy, OH

Sponsor: Miami County Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://w8fw.org>

[Learn More](#)

09/26/2021 - [Cleveland Hamfest](#)

Location: Berea, OH

Sponsor: Hamfest Association of Cleveland

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

[Learn More](#)

10/09/2021 - [Northwest Ohio Amateur Radio Club \(NWOARC\) hamfest](#)

Location: Westminster, OH

Sponsor: NWOARC, Northwest Ohio Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.nwoarc.com>

[Learn More](#)

10/31/2021 - [Massillon \(Ohio\) Hamfest](#)

Location: Green, OH

Sponsor: Massillon Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://w8np.org>

[Learn More](#)

11/06/2021 - [GARC Hamfest](#)

Location: Georgetown, OH

Sponsor: Grant Amateur Radio Club

[Learn More](#)

12/04/2021 - [FCARC WinterFest](#)

Location: Delta, OH

Sponsor: Fulton County Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://k8bxq.org/hamfest>

[Learn More](#)

Be sure to keep your eyes on this schedule as that when things start getting better and the vaccine rolls out to more and more, hamfests will surely get back to their normal schedule. Don't see your hamfest listed?? Did anyone register it with ARRL? It's really easy to do and you get a lot of FREE publicity if you do.

Upcoming NIMS Training Opportunities

Need to get those really hard to get ICS 300 and 400 classes to get to Level 3? They are now being offered with very limited virtual seating. Yes, these classes are being offered virtually now along with a lot of other classes that used to require in-class sessions. Want to see what and where these classes are being offered?

[>> Click Here <<](#)

Print an Official or Unofficial Copy of Your Amateur Radio License

(By Anthony Luscre, K8ZT)

As of February 17, 2015, the **FCC no longer routinely issues paper license documents** to Amateur Radio applicants and licensees. The Commission has maintained for some time now that the official Amateur Radio license authorization is the electronic record that exists in its Universal Licensing System (ULS). The FCC will continue to provide paper license documents to all licensees who notify the Commission that they prefer to receive one.

Licensees also will be able to print out an official authorization — as well as an unofficial “reference copy” — from the ULS License Manager. I’ve created a set of instructions on how you can request an **“official” printed copy of your license***

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE			
K8JGK			
John Q. Amateur 123 Maple Avenue Amateur, State 10000			
FCC Registration Number (CRN): 010000000			
Special Conditions / Endorsements			
NONE			
Grant Date	Effective Date	Print Date	Expiration Date
01/01/2008	01/01/2015	01/01/2008	01/01/2015
ID Number 000000000	Operator Privileges Advanced		Status Privileges TECHNICIAN
	THIS LICENSE IS NOT TRANSFERABLE		
<i>John Q. Amateur</i> (Licensee's Signature)			FCC 003 - May 2015

[Click here to download the instructions](#)

One Question Questionnaire

Hey Gang,

Well, either your not reading down this far, or, you didn't find this particularly intriguing.

“Have you ever donated to a DXpedition?”

Only 27 responses to this one. About 1/3 said yes and 2/3 said no. I hope you will take a look at the new survey and give us an answer!

You'll find the “One Question” questionnaire on the Ohio Section Website! <http://arrlohio.org> It's all for 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

Many V.E.'s have decided to start testing once again, but with restrictions that need to be adhered to for sure. Here's the link to find that V.E. Test session and what is expected of YOU before going. <http://www.arrl.org/find-an-amateur-radio-license-exam-session>



Final... Final



Amateur Radio is a Fantastic hobby. Unfortunately, we exist only at the pleasure of the United States government! Without their consent, and frequency allocations, our hobby would only exist as 1) Pirate Radio 2) CB Radio or 3) SWL'ing. None of those alternatives are satisfactory to me. What makes our hobby so special is the Frequency Allocations we have available to us – again – only at the pleasure of our government. Get yourself a copy of a Radio Spectrum Frequency Allocation Chart. When you see where Amateur Radio fits into that chart, you'll notice that we have exclusive rights to some pretty prime chunks of Radio Spectrum. If you had to put a value on it, I'm guessing Billions (if not Trillions) of dollars worth. Between commercial, military and government interests, I'm sure our government could sell out our allocations for big money overnight. We have a vested interest in making sure that does not happen!

Amateur Radio is “codified” into public law. (you can find it here: [Part 97 Text \(arrl.org\)](#)) If you go to the very first page, you'll notice that 97.1 are the “Basis and Purpose” of the Amateur Radio SERVICE. (emphasis is mine)

§97.1 Basis and purpose.

The rules and regulations in this part are designed to provide an amateur radio service having a fundamental purpose as expressed in the following principles:

- (a) Recognition and enhancement of the value of the amateur service to the public as a voluntary noncommercial communication service, particularly with respect to providing emergency communications.
- (b) Continuation and extension of the amateur's proven ability to contribute to the advancement of the radio art.
- (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.
- (d) Expansion of the existing reservoir within the amateur radio service of trained operators, technicians, and electronics experts.
- (e) Continuation and extension of the amateur's unique ability to enhance international goodwill.

As we enjoy and participate in our hobby, we need to remember that these are the reasons our hobby exists. We provide a “service” to our society and fellow countrymen in each of the 5 areas listed. It's imperative that as we provide these services, that we create a public awareness that this is why we exist. Without that public awareness, the people who control our existence could terminate our existence without a second thought.

There are two ways that we need to create that awareness: 1) by supporting the ARRL and 2) by our own PR efforts to make sure that there is a high level of public awareness as to who we are, what we do, and how it benefits every citizen.

The ARRL is the **ONLY** organization that represents our interest to both the US Government and other world governments to justify our existence. Because of ARRL lobbying efforts on our behalf, we have a voice that is heard, and ARRL is very good at that. That doesn't mean they win every battle, but they have won enough to keep us in existence since the last time government tried to shut us down (shortly after WW1, it was only

because of the efforts of the ARRL that Amateur Radio was allowed to restart after being banned during the war). Supporting the ARRL should be a high priority to every licensed ham in the US who wants to see our hobby to continue to exist.

I've also commented that we need to step up our game when it comes to public relations and public awareness. Government works quite often based on public consensus. Having a positive and widespread public awareness will certainly be of benefit to us anytime government looks to our frequency allocations as being a wasted opportunity. We have to keep the things we do at the forefront of our public image. We are the Amateur Radio SERVICE and it's up to us to keep the public aware of our efforts on their behalf. Highland ARA has done an OUTSTANDING job of keeping Amateur Radio in the public eye in their community. They "Get it" and they're doing something about it! But they can't do it all by themselves. Every other club in the OH Section needs to step up and get the word out in their communities too.

Thank you. Thank you all for making this the best hobby in the world!

73, de Tom WB8LCD ARRL OH Section Manager
WB8LCD@ARRL.ORG
330-554-4650

"Swap & Shop" on the 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>



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!!

Is your club doing a fund raiser to help raise money? After a lot of thought, it was decided that the Swap & Shop webpage could also contain these types of items as well.

The same rules will apply as do for the For Sales and Give-A-Ways and will only be posted for a month at a time. Please see the Terms & Conditions on the webpage.

If your club is doing a fund raiser and wants more exposure, please forward the information to me and I'll advertise it on the Swap & Shop webpage for you. Now, I still want to remind you that 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 as well as for Club Fund Raisers. 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@arrlohio.org

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>



Ohio Section Cabinet

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

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 an email to: webmaster@arrl-ohio.org to be added.



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

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!!”



Stop... We'll be back next week with another exciting adventure for your reading pleasure!

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!