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CQ CQ CQ de WB8LCD

Let me start this week with this item sent to me from John – W8KIW:

"At last evening's Clinton County ARA meeting Paul Gehringer (WB8ZZR) announced that after 25 years the Wilmington National Weather Service weather radar would be taken out of service for an estimated two weeks starting this Monday, September 11. After 25 years of rotating 24/7/365 the large dish rotation drive gear needs attention. Thus, the large "golf ball" covering the radar dome and then the dome must be removed allowing access to the rotating dish which too has to be removed. A large crane is being brought in to remove and then replace these items. Once removed the drive gear will be replaced or repaired.

According to Paul, allowing for weather issues, it's anticipated the project will be completed on or before the 22nd.

In the meantime, the Office will be using the resources of the lesser powered radars at the Cincinnati, Dayton, and Columbus airports along with the similar radars of the Wilmington Office at the Cleveland, Pittsburgh, Indianapolis, Charleston and Jackson, KY NWS Offices. However, the Wilmington Office is putting area hams on notice as their services may be needed should severe weather hit the Wilmington coverage area during this downtime.

Because radar signals are line of sight and do not follow the contour of the earth the patchwork of radar signals at distance do not see what might be taking place between the ground and the signal wave. Thus "eyes to the skies" may be needed to report weather conditions undetected by those distant radars should questionable weather develop.

Let's hope our services are not needed, but let's be prepared if it is."

This is what I would refer to as a "Planned Emergency" – it's kind of like changing out the hot water tank in your basement, you know they don't last forever, if yours is getting old, start planning now for its replacement, maybe even do it *before* it starts leaking all over everything in your basement. So, if you live in Clinton County and the surrounding area, you know that if bad weather happens, the NWS radar being out is not an "unexpected" emergency. Be Prepared. Make sure all your gear is ready, batteries charged, numbers on hand of local ARES net frequencies and the phone number for Wilmington NWS.

The latest scoop on the Great Lakes Division Elections is that the ballots should be out between the 3rd week of September and the end of the first week of October. The deadline for getting your ballots returned to ARRL is November 17, 2023. You will be able to return you ballot either by mail or online. Not both – pick one and get it done! I shouldn't have to remind you, ARRL is all we got. There's no-one else out there representing our interests. Are they perfect? Of course not. Nothing in this world is. But they deserve our participation and support. Please Vote! And let's make the Ohio Section a "trend-setter" with our participation rate of voters. Throughout the League, only about 20-25% of Hams are members, and about the same percentage of members vote in ARRL elections. I'm sorry to be so blunt, but that's HORRIBLE! Please get your ballot submitted.

I received the following letter this week from ARRL:



An Important Message about ARRL Life Membership and Printed Magazines

"Dear Thomas Sly, WB8LCD

This letter is to explain a recent decision taken by the ARRL Board of Directors about the future of printed magazines (*QST* and *On the Air* specifically) and how this affects you, one of our loyal Life Members.

Life Membership was created in 1968 to raise money to help ARRL overcome a projected deficit in the budget. The introduction of Life Membership worked, however, the program has not

sustained its ability to fund the full cost of annual dues for its members since 1973. In recent years, ARRL has only been able to withdraw \$26 for each Life Member to fund \$49 in dues. A program that clearly demonstrates loyalty to ARRL to this very day lost its way financially, and we were loath to modify or eliminate this program.

At the ARRL Board Meeting in July, the Directors approved a new annual dues rate along with other changes to ensure ARRL can continue to support all members now, and into the future. One of those changes separates the printed version of our membership journals from membership, effective January 1, 2024, making them available as an add-on subscription. This responds to feedback from members who increasingly prefer to read digital editions and stops spreading the high cost of delivering print magazines across the entire membership. All ARRL members will continue to enjoy access to the digital editions of all of our ARRL magazines: *QST*, *On the Air*, *QEX*, and *NCJ*.

The Board also included a special provision to allow current Life Members, as of July 2023, to **continue receiving the printed version** of *QST* or *On the Air* magazine by contacting ARRL between September 1, 2023, and June 30, 2024. Life Members who do not make the designation will receive their last printed magazine as part of membership by December 31, 2023, and will continue accessing ARRL magazines digitally.

ARRL introduced the digital edition of *QST* in 2012...11 years ago. We did it because we knew that reading preferences were changing. I encourage you to look at the digital editions of *QST* and our other magazines. The digital magazines can be accessed via a web browser or mobile app (for iOS and Android devices). Visit arrl.org/magazines for more information.

If you prefer to **GO DIGITAL ONLY** – Thank You! You do not have to do anything.

If you prefer to **CONTINUE RECEIVING PRINT**, you can make this designation now by visiting: (**this link is unique to you and your membership, so please do not share or forward to others**). Or, if you choose, reach out to our Member Services team at 1-860-594-0200 during business hours.

I'm grateful for your ongoing support of amateur radio and ARRL. If you're one of those Life Members who asks me "How else can I help?" please consider joining me as a Maxim Society donor or joining the ARRL Diamond Club. With just a \$50 donation, you'll help grow ARRL's General Fund in support of all ARRL's programs and services.

Very 73,

David A. Minster, NA2AA
ARRL Chief Executive Officer"

I'm putting this out there so everyone will know how ARRL is dealing with Life Members. As a Life member, I appreciate that they are offering this for their life members. I know many who will choose to continue with the printed version, and that's OK. Remember, everyone has the option to continue with the printed version if they are willing to contribute to the rising costs of printing and distribution. I will choose to stop receiving the printed version in January and will take QST via the online distribution channel. I really don't believe there is a right or wrong answer to this issue. It's just something that had to be dealt with.

Spent this morning (Sunday September 10) at the Findlay Hamfest. Always one of my favorites! Lots of good stuff changing hands and some pretty good deals too. I met a lot of old friends and made some new ones. Great Lakes Division Vice Director and Director candidate Scott Yonally – N8SY and Director candidate Michael Kalter – W8CI were both on hand and talking to those present. Outgoing director Dale Williams – WA8EFK was also on hand. The weather was perfect! I'll have some photos in for next week. From Bill Kelsey – N8ET:

"A big Thanks to everyone who attended the Findlay Hamfest today. The weather cooperated for the first time in several years, and the bees weren't too bad after the fair last week. Attendance seemed a little down from the past several years, but the traffic was steady all morning. Next year we intend to get the numbers back up, so watch to see what we will be doing to get the attendance back up! If anyone who attended has any comments they would like us to know about, please drop me a note at hamfest@findlayradioclub.org

73 - Bill - N8ET"

Ohio Hamfests are running down for this year, but there's a whole bunch lining up for next year already! I'll have the 2024 fests added to the calendar shortly.

One final comment....this is "election season" for most clubs. We need good people running for all the positions in all the clubs in the Ohio Section. Will *YOU* consider supporting your club in

this way? Good clubs don't just happen. It takes good people doing their part to support their club and the hobby. Maybe this is your year to step up and fill that position.

73,

Tom Sly - WB8LCD Ohio Section Manager wb8lcd@arrl.org 330-554-4650



Youth Net

When: The second Sunday of every month at 7:30 PM EST

Where: The K8IV repeater located in Kent, Ohio (Echolink node K8BF-L) RF: 146.895 Mhz with PL 118.8

Who: Any licensed amateur radio operator who wishes to participate. Priority will be given to youth stations and those located in Ohio.

The purpose of this net is to encourage youth activity in amateur radio and to help new hams get more comfortable on the air.

***Next Net is Sunday October 8th ***

If you are a young ham, in the Ohio Section or elsewhere, please check in and say "Hello"! Even if you're far away from OHIO you can check in via Echo-Link. Echo-Link is a good tool to have, and it can be accessed from your laptop, tablet or cellphone. But there is a process to get validated to the Echo-link system. It's simple to do, but you need to get it done before the day of the net! Go to Introducing EchoLink for more information on getting started. If you're an "Old Guy" (a gender neutral term meaning not a youthful operator) and you have some kids, grandkids, nieces, nephews or even some neighborhood kids who you would like to give a chance to talk to other kids about Ham Radio, this might be an excellent opportunity to give them that small nudge that could be the start of something positive they will carry with them through life!

National News (from ARRL and other sources)

USA Radio Orienteering Team Brings Home Silver and Bronze Medals

At the 21st International Amateur Radio Union World Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF) Championship in Liberec, Czech Republic, held August 27 through September 2, 2023, USA competitors won a silver medal for an individual competition, as well as two bronze team medals.

ARDF, also known as radio orienteering, is a multi-skill sport that involves running and navigation using only a map and compass.

Competitors use a 2-meter (144 MHz) or 80-meter (3.5 MHz) radio receiver to locate multiple transmitters hidden in a forest. The sport directly applies to important activities such as search and rescue, wildlife tracking, airborne and seaborne navigation, and communications. The competition at the championship in Liberec involved mountainous terrain, intricate navigation challenges, periods of rain, and elite racing.

The USA fielded its largest team ever, including 21 athletes, with seven competing in a world championship for the first time. The (IARU) and Czech Radio Club hosted the event in the mountainous region of North Bohemia, with 28 countries and nearly 400 racers attending.

Ruth Bromer, WB4QZG, won a silver medal in the W65 category during the 3.5 MHz "foxoring" event that combines orienteering and transmitter (fox) hunting. Nadia Scharlau, KO4ADV, and Natalia Leoni earned a bronze team medal in the W55



Nadia Scharlau, KO4ADV, competing in the 144 MHz (2-meter band) classic competition. [Photo courtesy of Ondrej Pec]

category 144 MHz classic competition. Several USA athletes also finished within the top 10 results in nearly all the classes, including two fourth - place finishes by Scharlau.

Scharlau was thrilled with the results. "All our newcomers performed beyond our expectations. The courses were extremely hard. We all got along and supported one another. Most importantly, almost everyone expressed their determination to improve and come back to compete again," said Scharlau.

ARRL's ARDF Committee Chair Charles Scharlau, NZ0I, who also raced, echoed the positive take on the USA team, stating, "They successfully navigated well-designed courses on rugged terrain against a field of skilled and experienced competitors. The Czech Republic is an ideal place to hold the world championships. They have great maps, excellent venues, and they know how to put on a world-class event," he said.

The USA Radio Orienteering Championship will be held in Michigan on October 7 - 13, 2024. Team USA will select its team members for the 2025 USA Championship, and that team will travel to Lithuania in 2025 to compete in the 22nd World ARDF Championship.

A complete list of the 2023 results can be found at https://vysledky.ardf2023.cz/.

Thanks to ARRL ARDF Committee and Event Director Joseph Burkhead, KE8MKR, for the information contained in this story.

September is National Preparedness Month

September 2023 has been proclaimed National Preparedness Month to raise awareness of the importance of being prepared for sudden disasters and emergencies.

President Biden's proclamation issued on August 31, 2023, stressed the need to work together to help prepare for and recover from disasters.

The proclamation stated, "In America, we pride ourselves on emerging from every crisis stronger than when we entered it. That is because our people are resilient -- and when we invest in preparing them for disasters seen and unforeseen, we can meet every challenge together."

Read President Biden's full proclamation for National Preparedness Month here.

ARRL Director of Emergency Management Josh Johnston, KE5MHV, said National Preparedness Month is a good time for hams to make sure they are ready for emergencies. Johnston offered the following advice: "During the month of September, we encourage hams to check their preparedness and ensure they are ready for any type of event. Check your go-kit, charge your batteries, and ensure everything is working properly and ready to go if the need arises. The need could be right at



Flooding from Hurricane Idalia in Keaton Beach, Florida. The storm resulted in flooding and damage throughout the communities of Florida's Gulf Coast. [SSG Cassandra Vieira, FLANG, photo]

home, and your backup gear or go-kit may be all you have to get on the air."

Johnston also advised hams to check more than radio gear, stating, "Make sure you have enough food and water to get by for a period of time. Have your medications listed, and pack that list in your go-kit or somewhere you will have it available. Prepare for anything. It is important to make sure your family is safe before you begin any possible activation."

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has announced that their 2023 Ready Campaign's theme, "Take Control in 1, 2, 3," focuses on preparing older adults in communities that are disproportionally impacted by all-hazard events.

FEMA Administrator Deanne Criswell stated, "With the Atlantic hurricane season now underway, it is imperative that we advocate for the well-being of our nation's older adults and champion them as valued, honored, and respected members of our communities."

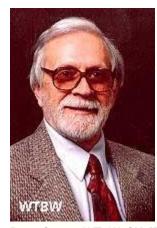
Emergency managers, and all those who work with and support older adult communities, now have access to new FEMA web pages in English (<u>Ready.gov/olderadults</u>) and Spanish (<u>Ready.gov/es/adultos-mayores</u>). For information on helping people with disabilities prepare for disaster events, visit <u>Ready.gov/disability</u> (<u>English</u>) or <u>Ready.gov/es/discapacidad</u> (Spanish).

Dave Coons, WT8W, Former ARRL Great Lakes Division Director, SK

David "Dave" Lee Coons, WT8W, former Director of the ARRL Great Lakes Division, passed away on September 2, 2023, at the age of 92. Coons joined ARRL in 1963 and was a member of the ARRL Diamond Club.

According to the obituary published in the *Dayton Daily News*, Coons was a disabled veteran of the United States Navy, having served during the Korean War. He retired from his role as postmaster of the Miamisburg, Ohio, post office after 37 years with the United States Postal Service.

Coons served in numerous volunteer roles within the amateur radio community, including Vice Director of the ARRL Great Lakes Division from 1996 - 1998 and Director from 1998 - 2000. He was a Volunteer Examiner through the ARRL VEC.



Dave Coons, WT8W, SK. [Photo courtesy of the Dayton Amateur Radio Association.]

Coons was active in leadership of the Dayton Amateur Radio Association, where he served as President, Vice President, and Secretary at different times. He served as Chairman of the Dayton Hamvention® Flea Market Committee and on the Communications Committee. He was also active in the Clark County Amateur Radio Association, who honored him with the Frank J. Kirkpatrick Memorial Award in 1993 for services that went above and beyond.

Federal Aviation Administration records show Coons was an Instrument Rated private pilot. According to his obituary, Coons was involved with maintenance at the Dayton-Wright Brothers Airport.

October 14, 2023, and April 8, 2024, will bring both an annular and then a total solar eclipse. These celestial events will be followed widely by hams because of the sudden and

dynamic changes that occur in the ionosphere during an eclipse. While much is known about ionospheric propagation, much is still to be learned. And these will be the last two solar eclipses in North America for nearly 20 years.

ARRL is partnering with HamSCI – the Ham Radio Science Citizen Investigation to encourage amateurs to get on the air and operate as part of the **The HamSCI Festivals of Eclipse Ionospheric Science.** Propagation experiments will include the Solar Eclipse QSO Party using CW, FT4/8, SSB and other digital modes and The Gladstone Signal Spotting Challenge (GSSC) using CW, WSPR and FST4W modes.

The October 14th event will run from 1200-2200 UTC and amateurs may operate on any band and any mode from 6-160 meters (except the WARC bands.)

All the details may be found at www.hamsci.org/eclipse. If you have any questions or know of a club that would be interested in having a presentation to learn more about the science around the events, please contact the HamSCI Public Relations Officer, Ed Efchak WX2R at pressrelations@hamsci.org. Ed is also the PIC for the ARRL Northern New Jersey section.

Club Corner

This is YOUR cornner 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 send it to: webmaster@arrl-ohio.org



Please! Format as below:

If you want me to publish your club information, or even an article you have written, please send it in WORD format (.docx). Please use Times New Roman font size 12 for the body of the article. Any photos please include as a .jpg or .bmp – the time you save me in doing all the conversions will be greatly appreciated.

For those interested in obtaining an FCC amateur radio license, **the Greene County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (GCARES)** is offering an Amateur Radio license class starting Sunday, September 17, 2023. The class will meet from 7 to 9 p.m. each Sunday through November 12th. A test for all classes of licenses will be given November 19th at 6 p.m. in the Community Room at Beavercreek Township Fire Station 61.

There is no charge for the class and Morse Code is no longer required to obtain any amateur radio license. The entry-level Technician class is held at the Bellbrook Amateur Radio Club (BARC) Clubhouse, Room 1, Sugarcreek Elementary School, 51 South East Street in Bellbrook. No experience is required and there is no minimum age required to earn a Technician class license. To register for the class, you may email Jim Gifford at KD8APT@gmail.com. A textbook may be purchased from the Amateur Radio Relay League (ARRL) at https://www.arrl.org/shop/Licensing-and-Education/.



The Southern Ohio Amateur Radio Association, Inc.
A Nonprofit Ohio Corporation and ARRL Special Service Club
P. O. Box 4684
Ironton, Ohio 45638

"Dedicated to community service through amateur radio" www.w8soe.org

Let's Talk Ham Radio

If you are interested in Ham Radio and want to see firsthand what Ham Radio is about and talk to someone around the word, this <u>free event</u> is just for you. You will receive literature about how to obtain a Ham Radio license without knowing morse code. There will be a full operating station set up on battery and solar power using different antennas that *you* can use with the direct

supervision of an FCC licensed operator. Members of the Southern Ohio Amateur Radio Association (SOARA), Lawrence County, Ohio, will be available to answer all your questions. No age restrictions! Everyone is welcome.

Location: The special event, *Let's Talk Ham Radio*, will take place at the Patriot Park picnic shelter, South Point, Ohio, on the beautiful Ohio riverbank at the confluence of the Ohio River and the Big Sandy River. The GPS location is the intersection of Ferry Street and 2nd Street East. The site is handicap accessible and there is lots of parking.

Date: Saturday, September 30, 2023, with a rain date of Saturday, October 14, 2023.

Time: 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

For additional information, contact Mike Love WB8YKS, SOARA, PIO 304-638-7338 or Mlove82a@gmail.com. Visit the SOARA website WWW. W8SOE.org

Don't miss out on this special opportunity to learn how to get a Ham Radio license!

How to Plan and Apply for an ARRL Hamfest or Convention

If your amateur radio club is planning to host a convention, hamfest, tailgate, or swapfest, please consider applying for ARRL sanctioned status for your event. To learn what it means to be an ARRL sanctioned event, and to get some ideas on how to prepare for and conduct a hamfest or convention, visit www.arrl.org/arrl-sanctioned-events.

To apply for ARRL sanctioned status for your event, go to www.arrl.org/hamfest-convention-application.

The ARRL Hamfests and Conventions Calendar can be found online at www.arrl.org/hamfests. In addition, the Convention and Hamfest Calendar that runs in *QST* each month also presents information about upcoming events.

Low-Viz Rain Gutter Antenna Mount

Jason McCormick N8EI

Originally published at https://ww8tf.club/low-viz-rain-gutter-antenna-mount/

12 | P a g e

For years, I've been wanting to put a VHF/UHF dual-bander in my home office. Two things have stopped me from doing it — outside egress and not wanting to mount another antenna to the roof. However, a few months ago I won a participation door prize from a radiosport contest to HRO. It was just the perfect amount to purchase a Comet CTC-50M Window Gap Jumper which I have always wanted to play around with. The goal in that purchase was to evaluate it for recommendation to people who need to get an antenna up and no good option for getting a feedline out of the house.





The clamp with the hold bored out to 5/8" (click to enlarge)

After purchasing it, the jumper sat near the bench for a few weeks until I had an epiphany – I would use the jumper to install a radio in my home office AND I'd construct a mount for clamping onto a gutter using another part I'd excavated from "the bench" during a clean-up and organizing spree. The idea was to use common, low-cost parts to help people who have HOA restrictions, are renters, or desire low-visibility characteristics put up an

removable, no-"damage" antenna that wouldn't be noticed or, if it was, people wouldn't be bothered with it. That could be fed (or not) with the window passthrough. The other thing I'd excavated from a pile of randomness was a CB radio antenna clamp-mount for trucks I'd purchased as one of the options when I was installing the mobile in my truck but never used. More about that part in a few paragraphs.

The window jumper simply works as advertised. It's a very thin feedline encased in a ribbon dielectric. It's designed for "soft seal" pass-through such as a window sill or a door with a weather strip – i.e. situations where there's some give and compression in the thing being closed upon the jumper. Each end is an SO-239. The insertion loss under 500 MHz is less than 0.5dB and it can support up to 60W on 2m and 40W on 70cm. Put it in place, secure the cable so it doesn't bunch up under the window or door and then that's pretty much all there is to it. It just works as advertised.



The clamp attached to the gutter.

For the antenna, I decided to use the CB radio clamp on the rain gutters to mount an antenna. The idea was the gutter would serve as a ground plane to a mobile-style UHF mounted antenna. The design would sandwich an SO-239 barrel and the radio mount clamp between the feedline and the antenna. The opening in the CB mount was designed for the standard CB-sized antenna mount assembly that mounts a screw-in 3/8" antenna. Using a Dremel with metal cutting bit, I enlarged the hole in the clamp so that an SO-239 barrel would pass through.

After carefully removing a small amount of paint under the fingers of the clamp to get a solid electrical contact, I screwed the mount onto the gutter. It tightens up quite nicely without crushing the aluminum of the gutter. Then I screwed the antenna onto the barrel, added a washer between the antenna and the mount plate, slid it into

place with two washers between the plate and the feed line, and then attached the feed line.



The fully-assembled antenna-and-feedline "sandwich"

Overall the system worked great. I used a Comet SBB-14 that I had on hand and the gutter formed a nice ground plane for the antenna on 2m and 70cm. See the SWR plots. Obviously the SBB-14 isn't exactly "low profile" as it's a tri-bander with 6m capabilities. However the system would work just as well with a low-profile antenna such as a Comet SS-680SB, Comet SBB-2, or a Diamond SG7000A – all of which are less than 19" tall. An all-black antenna is suggested for low-viz over chrome-plated ones.

The full parts list, besides the radio and standard feedline is:

- Comet CTC-50M (\$60)
- Workman QRCS3 (\$22)
- <u>SO-239 barrel connector</u> (example only; used a generic one I had on hand)
- 3 x 5/8-in stainless steel flat washer



2m SWR



70cm SWR

VE Sessions:

The following information is for *ALL* exam sessions:

It is now an FCC requirement to have an FCC FRN; active email address and active phone number before taking any exam. Please bring your FCC FRN, original license, a copy of your license (if a licensed ham), a valid photo ID and \$15.00 - Cash preferred.

Effective April 19, 2022, the FCC will charge a \$35.00 application fee for amateur radio licenses. The fee will apply to new, renewal, rule waiver, and modification applications that

request a new vanity call sign. License upgrades will not have a fee applied. The fee will be per application. *VE's will not collect the fees at exam sessions*.

All Things Amateur Radio Association (ATARA)

We host testing sessions every second Tuesday of the month in Lancaster. To sign up please visit our website https://atara-w8atr.fun and contact us at hamexams@atara-w8atr.fun.

Butler County Amateur Radio Association W8WRK

Laurel VE Testing Session - hosted by DIAL amateur radio club Amateur Radio License Examinations at 9:00AM on Sunday April 29th at Fairfield Township Administration Building 6032 Morris Rd. Hamilton, OH 45011. Pre-Registration is required,

go to: www.qsl.net/w8blv click on Exams and follow the instructions. Additional info may be obtained from Thurl Golden, KD8VLU (513) 939-4891 <u>tgolden@fuse.net</u> or Ron Spaulding, N8QF, (513) 617-6181 or n8qf@roadrunner.com . There are no Exam Fees!

CARS

VE testing from CARS - Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society - at Elmwood Recreation Center, 6200 Wisnieski Parkway in Independence, Ohio 44131 Time: 9:15 AM (Walk-ins allowed) Always the 2nd Sunday of the odd month. Go to CARS www.2cars.org for detailed map of location. Call Metro W8MET 216-520-1320 for details

Clark County Amateur Radio Association (CLARA)

What: CLARA sponsored A.R.R.L. VE Testing - Walk-ins allowed. Pre-Register via email preferred.

When: On every second Saturday of each even numbered month starting at 10:00 AM Feb 11th; Apr 8th; Jun 10th; Aug 12th; Oct 14th; and Dec 9th, 2023.

Where: Springview Government Center - Emergency Operations Center; 3130 E Main St; Springfield OH 45503 This is US-40 aka "old national road". From Route 40 enter Old Columbus Road, at the fork stay left driving straight onto Ogden Rd, then immediately turn left into the parking lot behind the EMA. Walk to the door with the "Employees Only" sign. For more information contact Roland W. Ude, W8BUZ, (937) 605-4951 Email: buzz@baylorhill.com

Dayton Amateur Radio Association (DARA)

If you are interested in testing for a new or upgraded license, please come see us at the DARA Clubhouse. If you have questions about testing, please email exams.w8bi@gmail.com

Dial Radio Club, Middleton, OH

Will offer Amateur Radio License Examinations at 6:00PM on Wednesday March 1st at St. John XXIII Elementary School, 3806 Manchester Rd., Middletown, OH 45042. Pre-Registration is required, go to: www.qsl.net/w8blv click on Exams and follow the instructions. Additional info may be obtained from Dave Williamson, KD8W, (513) 424-5819 or kd8w@ARRL.net or Ron

Spaulding, N8QF, (513) 617-6181 or n8qf@roadrunner.com . There are no Exam Fees!

Geauga Amateur Radio Association (GARA)

Amateur License exam sessions are offered for all license classes (Technician, General, Extra). Walk-ins are always welcome - no prior registration is required. No fee for the exam.

The GARA schedule of exams are these Sundays at 2pm. Dates for 2023 are January 15th, March 19th, May 21st, July 9th, September 10th, and November 12th.

Exams are held at the Geauga County Department of Emergency Services and Emergency Operations Center, 12518 Merritt Road, Chardon, Ohio 44024. The EOC is located just south of the University Geauga Hospital and just east of the Geauga County



Safety Center (Sheriff's Office), off of State Route 44 between State Route 322 and State Route 87 on Merritt Road.

Please arrive a few minutes before 14:00 to allow adequate time to process the necessary paper work and take your test. Bring your 1) photo ID, 2) email address, 3) FCC FRN, 4) a printout of your current license if taking the General or Extra exam.

Additional info may be obtained from Jim Mekeel, KE8EMP, email <u>KE8EMP@gmail.com</u> or the Geauga Amateur Radio Association website https://geaugaara.org

Huber Heights Amateur Radio Club

Huber heights amateur radio club does ARRL VE testing the second Saturday of each even numbered month. Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec. 9:30-11:00 For more information contact Jim Storms – AB8YK at ab8yk@hotmail.com

The Lake County Amateur Radio Association

The Lake County Amateur Radio Association is holding its **2023** Amateur Radio license exams at the **Kirtland Library**, 9267 Chillicothe Road, on the following dates:

Saturday, February 4 Saturday, August 5
Saturday, April 1 Saturday, October 7
Saturday, June 3 Saturday, December 2

This bi-monthly schedule is the first Saturday of every even-numbered month (e.g., February being the second month, etc.). They are held at the Kirtland Library, 9267 Chillicothe Road. It is

1.7 miles south of I-90 on Route 306 (Chillicothe Rd). The library is on the left, just beyond the Marathon gas station.

The tests will start at **12 noon.** Please arrive a few minutes earlier.

To register, you will need a NCVEC 605 Form, which will be available at the test. If you would like to complete one ahead of time, be sure it is the Sept 2017 version or later. You can find it by Googling "NCVEC quick-form 605" and clicking on the url for a pdf of the form. Please note **the FCC requires you to provide a FRN** (FCC Registration Number). Social Security Numbers are no longer accepted. If you are new to ham radio and don't have a FRN, Google "New FRN" and follow the fcc.gov link.

If you are currently licensed, be sure to **bring a copy of your license to the exam.** The cost of the exam itself is \$15.00, and if you wish to pay by check, it should be made out to the ARRL/VEC. Identification with your picture is also necessary, such as a driver's license. If you have any questions, please contact Scott Farnham, KO8O, at (440) 256-0320, or scottfarnham@roadrunner.com

In addition to the \$15 test fee, the FCC now charges \$35 to add you to the Amateur Radio database. The FCC will e-mail successful candidates instructions for payment directly to them. Payment must be made within 10 days of the e-mail. This charge does not apply to upgrades.

The Lancaster and Fairfield County Amateur Radio Club (LFCARC)

hosts exam sessions at the FAIRFIELD County EMA, 240 Baldwin Dr in Lancaster Ohio, 43130, on the first Saturday each month at 10:00 am. Please visit our website at http://www.k8qik.org for exam dates on our calendar and navigate to our Learning Center/Taking the Exam link for information and requirements. Our experienced VE team looks forward to serving the Amateur Radio community in Central Ohio. Contact me at ve_testing@k8qik.org to register.

Lisbon Area Amateur Radio Association

Beginning Feb 11, 2023 Testing on the 2nd Saturday of each month at the Columbiana County EMA located at 215 S Market St. Lisbon, OH 44432. Walk-ins OK. Check in at 1:00PM. For more information go to www.K8GQB.com or contact NN8B at nn8b.oh@gmail.com

Madison County

The Laurel testing group will offer testing on the first Thursday of January, March, May, July, September and November. Tests are held at 7:00PM at the Madison County EMA located at 271 Elm St. London, OH. No fee.

The Milford Amateur Radio Club (MARC)

VE testing is held the third Thursday of each month at 6:00 PM. Location; Miami Township Civic Center located at 6101 Meijer Drive, Milford, OH 45150. Please pre-register at www.milfordhamradio.org

Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society (NOARS)

VE sessions are held the first Saturday of odd-numbered months (EXCEPT FOR March and July) at 10 AM in the North Olmsted Library, 27403 Lorain Rd., North Olmsted. Registration is preferred, but walk-ins are welcome. For more information or to register, contact Elaine, KC8FOS at ewilkinson1951@gmail.com. There will be a VE session held March 12th at the NOARS Winterfest held at Lorain County Community College in the John A Spitzer Conference Center, 1005 Abbe Rd N, Elyria, OH 44035. Please email Elaine – KC8FOS at ewilkinson1951@gmail.com to register.

Portage County Amateur Radio Service (PCARS)

The first Saturday of every even numbered month -10 am - at the PCARS club site in Ravenna. Please visit the PCARS web site and check out the information about VE testing in the latest newsletter at www.portcars.org.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact me at KB8UUZ@gmail,com

Tusco Amateur Radio Club W8ZX

VE Testing sessions are held on the second Saturday of every even numbered month at the Dover Faith Church, 420 N Wooster Ave, Dover, OH 44622. Pre-registration is not necessary. Doors open at 0830 for registration, exams begin at 0900. Cost is \$15. You are required to have an email address and a copy of your FRN or current ham radio license. For more information please go to www.w8zx.net/exam or email VETEAM@N8BAG.NET.

West Chester Amateur Radio Association (WC8VOA) Exam sessions are held one Saturday each month at 10:00 AM-Noon at the VOA Bethany Relay Museum located at 8070 Tylersville Rd, West Chester, Ohio 45069. For more information and links to register, please see our website: https://wc8voa.org/licensing/

DARA University

The fall season at DARA University is nearly upon us. Here are the classes for the Fall 2023 learning season:

- · Technician 23 Sep, 30 Sep, 7 Oct, and 14 Oct
- General 21 Oct. 28 Oct. 4 Nov. and 11 Nov.
- Extra 18 Nov, 25 Nov, 2 Dec, and 9 Dec
- Tech and General Test session 15 Nov 1900 local at the DARA Clubhouse
- · Extra Test session TBA

All classes are from 0900 to 1300 local and are conducted at the DARA Clubhouse.

For more information see https://w8bi.org/education/classes/

For the full content of the Technician learning materials (not including the manual) see https://w8bi.org/education/classes/tech-class-details/

Limited quantities of license manuals are available from your instructor for \$30.00. Please feel free to share and repost this information on social media and pass it along to prospective Technician candidates!

73 and see you in class.

de N8NMG – John – Dayton, Ohio

Emergency Communicators Offer Free License Classes

Natural disasters highlight the ways that amateur radio operators serve their communities. Amateur radio not only provides a way for citizens to communicate for their own safety but a way for them to assist others when cell phones and other communication systems fail or are overloaded.

For those interested in obtaining an FCC amateur radio license, the Greene County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (GCARES) is offering three Amateur Radio license classes starting Sunday, September 17, 2023. The classes will meet from 7 to 9 p.m. each Sunday through November 12th. A test for all classes of licenses will be given November 19th at 6 p.m. in the Community Room at Beavercreek Township Fire Station 61.

There is no charge for the classes and Morse Code is no longer required to obtain any amateur radio license. The classes are supported by the Bellbrook Amateur Radio Club (BARC), the

Upper Valley Amateur Radio Club (UVARC) and the Xenia Weather Amateur Radio Network (XWARN) in addition to GCARES.

The entry level Technician Class course will be held in the Bellbrook Amateur Radio Club Clubhouse, Room 1, Sugarcreek Elementary School, 51 South East Street in Bellbrook. No experience is required and there is no minimum age required to earn a Technician Class license. The General Class course and the Test Session will be held in the Training Room at Beavercreek Township Fire Station 61 located at 2195 Dayton-Xenia Road just west of Orchard Lane. The Extra Class course will be held in the Training Room at Fairborn Fire Station 2 located at 2200 Commerce Center Blvd. just south of Dayton-Yellow Springs Road.

To register for a course or for more information, please contact Bob Baker, N8ADO, by email at n8ado@woh.rr.com or Jim Gifford, KD8APT, BARC Secretary at kd8apt@gmail.com. You may also register in person at the first class.

Amateur radio is authorized by the FCC and you must register with the FCC and obtain an FCC Registration Number (FRN) before getting a license. To visit the FCC website and login or register, go to https://wireless2.fcc.gov/UlsEntry/licManager/login.jsp Textbooks may be purchased from the Amateur Radio Relay League (ARRL) at https://www.arrl.org/shop/Licensing-and-Education/.

Submitted by Bellbrook Amateur Radio Club secretary, James M. Gifford

OHIO SECTION TRAFFIC REPORT – AUGUST 2023

OHIO SECTION NETS - AUGUST 2023

NET	QNI	QTC	QTR	SESSIONS	N/M
BN(E)	127	28	236	31	N2LC
BN(L)	39	21	187	30	WB9LBI
OSN	70	24	457	23	N2LC
OSSBN	1526	308	1871	93	KC8WH

OHIO SECTION PSHR REPORTS – AUGUST 2023

WA3EZN	40	40	30	325	0	10	TOTAL	455
AD8CM	40	40	10	310	0	10	TOTAL	410
N2LC	40	40	30	70	0	30	TOTAL	210
KV8Z	40	40	10	55	0	10	TOTAL	155
N8SY	40	4	30	10	10	60	TOTAL	154

1401454	40	4.0					TOTAL	4.40
K8MDA	40	40	30	0	0	30	TOTAL	140
WB8YYS	38	18	20	30	5	10	TOTAL	121
AC8NP	39	40	10	10	0	20	TOTAL	119
KE4RS	40	39	10	30	0	0	TOTAL	119
KC8WH	40	40	30	0	0	0	TOTAL	110
KB8GUN	40	40	10	10	0	10	TOTAL	110
K3RC	40	40	20	0	0	0	TOTAL	100
KL7RF	40	40	10	0	10	0	TOTAL	100
AC8RV	40	40	10	10	0	0	TOTAL	100
KD8UUB	40	28	10	20	0	0	TOTAL	98
K8KRA	40	40	10	0	0	0	TOTAL	90
KB8HJJ	40	40	10	0	0	0	TOTAL	90
N8MRS	40	40	10	0	0	0	TOTAL	90
W8GSR	40	40	10	0	0	0	TOTAL	90
KA1G	40	40	10	0	0	0	TOTAL	90
WB8SIQ	40	9	10	10	0	0	TOTAL	69
NC8V	17	12	0	0	0	0	TOTAL	29

OHIO SECTION TRAFFIC REPORTS - AUGUST 2023

AC8NP-72	KB8GUN-90	KE4RS-39	N8SY- 4
AC8RV-60	KB8HJJ- 40	KL7RF-41	N8TNV-80
AD8CM-247	KC8IDM-9	KV8Z-45	NC8V-12
KA1G-41	KC8WH-106	N2LC-90	W8GSR-41
K3RC-42	KD8GXL-21	N8BV-45	WA3EZN-220
K8KRA-75	KD8GYI-11	N8GBU-38	WB8PMG-16
K8MDA-40	KD8HB-48	N8MRS-88	WB8SIQ-9
KA8BJA-49	KD8UUB-28	N8OD-25	WB8YYS-16
			WB9LBI-79
	TOTALS	33/1867	

OHIO SECTION LOCAL NETS - AUGUST 2023

NET	QNI	QTC	QTR	SESSIONS	N/M
BRTN	75	24	150	12	KD8GXL

COTN	215	53	388	31	KV8Z
NWOH ARES	232	99	452	31	N8TNV
TATN	352	79	380	31	WG8Z
TCTTN	104	16	300	13	WB8YYS

OHIO SECTION TRAFFIC REPORT – AUGUST 2023

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N8SY	40	4	30	10	10	60	TOTAL	154
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WB8YYS	38	18	20	30	5	10	TOTAL	121
AC8NP	39	40	10	10	0	20	TOTAL	119
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KC8WH	40	40	30	0	0	0	TOTAL	110
KB8GUN	40	40	10	10	0	10	TOTAL	110
K3RC	40	40	20	0	0	0	TOTAL	100
KL7RF	40	40	10	0	10	0	TOTAL	100
AC8RV	40	40	10	10	0	0	TOTAL	100
KD8UUB	40	28	10	20	0	0	TOTAL	98
K8KRA	40	40	10	0	0	0	TOTAL	90
KB8HJJ	40	40	10	0	0	0	TOTAL	90
N8MRS	40	40	10	0	0	0	TOTAL	90
W8GSR	40	40	10	0	0	0	TOTAL	90
KA1G	40	40	10	0	0	0	TOTAL	90
WB8SIQ	40	9	10	10	0	0	TOTAL	69
NC8V	17	12	0	0	0	0	TOTAL	29

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K8KRA-75	KD8GYI-11	N8GBU-38	WB8PMG-16
K8MDA-40	KD8HB-48	N8MRS-88	WB8SIQ-9
KA8BJA-49	KD8UUB-28	N8OD-25	WB8YYS-16
			WB9LBI-79

TOTALS 33/1867

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NWOH ARE	S 232	99	452	31	N8TNV
TATN	352	79	380	31	WG8Z
TCTTN	104	16	300	13	WB8YYS

OHIO HF TRAFFIC NETS

Buckeye Net Early - CW BN(E) Buckeve Net Late - CW BN(L) OSN Ohio Slow Net - CW

OSSBN Ohio Single Sideband Net - Phone

OHIO VHF TRAFFIC NETS

BRTN Burning River Traffic Net serving Cleveland and North Central Ohio Central Ohio Traffic Net serving Columbus and Central Ohio COTN

NWOH ARES Northwest Ohio ARES Net serving Toledo and surrounding counties

Tri-State Amateur Traffic Net TATN

Tri-County Traffic and Training Net serving North East Ohio **TCTTN**

"GMRS-Gateway to More Radio Stakeholders"

John Nestor N8JCN

Or call it like it is, General Mobile Radio Service (GMRS) is a licensed radio service that uses channels around 462 MHz and 467MHz. It requires no exam or specialized radio knowledge, just a thirty-five-dollar, ten-year family license from the FCC, issued only to

individuals for family and non-commercial communication. But let's consider what it could be, a gateway to more radio stakeholders and supporters, if tapped.

If it weren't for CB in my youth, I wouldn't have earned my amateur Extra license. But I was disappointed to learn the hobby has all but dried up in my south-central Ohio rural community. But then I Googled GMRS and learned several communities have created "GMRS Neighborhood Radio Watch Groups" which has renewed citizen interest in basic radio operations. And then I thought what if GMRS could be promoted in a similar fashion, but also as a family backup to cellphones during disruptions, disasters, spotty coverage, Jeep off-roading, or when a cellphone can go dead, be stolen, broken, or lost, or just for fun. Nothing has filled the gap as CB radios did for landline phone disruptions leaving populations vulnerable. But here comes GMRS.

In my small community of Washington Court House, Ohio, I have created a renewed interest in radio as a family contingency communication, several who have never touched a two-way radio are considering it now. Even without a disaster, cellphone service has been disrupted several times leaving some with no alternative means to communicate locally with family. Case in point, my cell service provider stranded me for about three hours, no phone service, internet, or email. My wife, on the same service, could not reach me, and that's where GMRS comes in. It can renew interest in radio while providing a valuable backup for local family communications, up to 50 watts transmit power allowed on mobile units, and more range if the community installs a repeater. One interested party commented on my Facebook page "WCH Connect" that if "you build it they will come." As I write this article, our city alerted citizens Verizon calls could not be received by the city due to a national problem. So, what's the backup? Not everyone has the inclination to study for amateur license tests, at least not initially.

Citizens without radio have become solely reliant on cellphone service with its multiple failure points as demonstrated in every recent disaster. Out west, communities organize around GMRS to alert residents to fast moving wildfires. They learned the hard way when cellphone towers and lines were destroyed even before alerts were sent, example Paradise, California. The recent fire in Hawaii left families without communications. A recent news conference of Tulsa, Oklahoma leaders admitted cellphone coverage outages "presented a lot of unique challenges during storm recovery..." They had no contingency. GMRS is a low budget, reliable backup not dependent on complex infrastructure.

ARRL and amateur radio have a timely opportunity to come alongside GMRS and connect communities to helpful GMRS information and resources for mutual learning. If the aim is to grow the radio community and ARRL memberships, GMRS, the "Gateway to More Radio Stakeholders" is just the ticket in the nick of time to sustain the radio hobby. And it fulfills FEMA's goal of contingency communications for any interested community and its citizens with easy access to get on the air.

Contact: John C. Nestor at drightninestor@gmail.com also on Facebook "WCH Connect." John is a former Chief of EMS, Chief of Police, and emergency management coordinator.

Your Club news should be listed here!

I know you're out there doing things! Send me a write-up (MSWord please) and some photo's

(.jpg please) and we'll get your club hi-lited here for the other OH Section Clubs to see! Send to WB8LCD@ARRL.ORG

ARLD036 DX news

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by N9GB, The Daily DX, 425 DX News, DXNL, Contest Corral from QST and the ARRL Contest Calendar and WA7BNM web sites. Thanks to all.

KENYA, 5Z. Rick, M0LEP is QRV as 5Z4/M0LEP and will be here during the month of September. Activity is on the HF bands. QSL via LoTW.

ALGERIA, 7X. Enrique, EA5AD is QRV as 7X0AD from Oran until September 14. Activity is on 40 to 10 meters using FT8 and FT4. QSL direct to home call.

BARBADOS, 8P. Greg, N9GB is QRV as 8P9GB until September 14. Activity is on 60 to 10 meters using CW and SSB. QSL via LoTW.

BOTSWANA, A2. Sajid, VA3QY plans to be QRV as A22EW until October 8. Activity is on 20 to 10 meters, and possibly 6 meters, using CW and SSB. QSL via KB2MS.

CAPE VERDE, D4. Harald, DF2WO is QRV as D44TWO from Sao Tiago, IOTA AF-005, until September 17. Activity is on the HF bands and 6 meters using CW, SSB, and FT8, and on Satellite QO-100. QSL via M0OXO.

NORTH COOK ISLANDS, E5. Operators AA7JV, HA5YD, HA7RY and KN4EEI are QRV as E51D from Penrhyn Atoll until September 10. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, and FT8. QSL via HA7RY.

FRANCE, F. Special event station TM23RUGB will be QRV from Tonneins from September 10 to 13, next on September 21 to 24, and then on October 16 to 22, during the Rugby World Cup. Activity will be on the HF bands. QSL via F5KHG.

ISLE OF MAN, GD. Torsten, DL4APJ and Udo, DL2AQI will be QRV as MD/DL4APJ and MD/DL2AQI, respectively, from September 10 to 19. Activity will be holiday style on 80 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, and various digital modes. QSL to home calls.

MARIANA ISLANDS, KH0. Uli, DL2AH is QRV as KH0/DL2AH from Rota Island, IOTA OC-024, until September 14. Activity is on 80 to 6 meters using SSB and FT8. QSL direct to home call.

DODECANESE, SV5. Claudio, HB9OAU is QRV as SV5/HB9OAU from Karpathos Island, IOTA EU-001, until September 21. Activity is on 80 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, and FT8. QSL via LoTW.

EAST KIRIBATI, T32. Ken, KH6QJ is QRV as T32AZ from Kiritimati, IOTA OC-024, until October 17. QSL to home call.

PALAU, T8. Operators JR3QFB, JO3LVG and JM1LIG will be QRV as T88JH, T88MK, and T88FM, respectively, from Koror Island, IOTA OC-009, from September 12 to 19. Activity will be on 40 to 6 meters using CW and some SSB. QSL to home calls.

ICELAND, TF. George, K5KG and Charles, K1XX will be QRV as TF/K5KG and TF/K1XX, respectively, from September 11 to 18. Activity will be on the HF bands. They also plan to be active as part of the TF3D Multi/Multi team in the upcoming Scandinavia Activity CW contest. QSL via LoTW.

CORSICA, TK. Thomas, DL1ASA is QRV as TK/DL1ASA/p for the next few weeks. He will also try to be active from IOTA EU-164, various SOTA, WWFF, and various Lighthouse references. Activity is holiday style on the HF bands. QSL to home call.

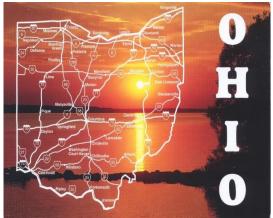
BELIZE, V3. Uwe, DL8UD and Mark, DK8MM are QRV as V31KO and V31XT, respectively, until September 14. Activity is on the HF bands. They will be active as V3O in the Worked All Europe DX SSB contest. QSL V3O and V31KO via DL8UD, and V31XT via DK8MM

IRAQ, YI. Sam is now QRV with the new call sign YI1YY. Activity is on 40 to 10 meters using SSB. QSL via IK2DUW.

ALBANIA, ZA. Achim, DL1DAW is QRV as ZA/DL1DAW from Kallmet/Lezha until September 11. Activity is holiday style on 80 to 10 meters using CW and SSB. This includes an entry in the Worked All Europe DX SSB contest. QSL to home call.

Upcoming Hamfests





Ohio Hamfests

2023

09/24/2023 - Cleveland Hamfest

Location: Berea, OH

Sponsor: Hamfest Association of Cleveland

Website: http://www.hac.org

Learn More

10/29/2023 - Massillon (OH) Hamfest (&

auction)

Location: North Canton, , OH

Sponsor: Massillon Amateur Radio Club

Website: http://www.w8np.net

Learn More



ARCS ANNUAL HAMFEST SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 30 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM



Restivation Radio

PAINTSVILLE REC CENTER
Rt 40 232 Preston Street
Paintsville, KY 41240

Ky4arc.com website

Talk in 147.225 + pl 127.3

Welcome

\$ 5.00 ADMISSION

\$ 5.00 VENDOR TABLES

EXTRA MAIN PRIZE

TICKETS WILL BE SOLD

ARRL TESTING ALL CLASSES

\$15.00, COPY OF EXISTING

LICENSE or CTCSS, PICTURE ID,

and FRN number

MAIN PRIZES

Do not have to be present to win

Dual band (VHF/UHF) Mobile Radio

Off Center Fed Dipole

Other smaller prizes

Food Consessions will be available!

Under Five Get In Free!

contact: Ron Grossl 606-789-7767 n4rlg@arrl.net

DX This Week – TK4LS Interview Bill - AJ8B

(thedxmentor@gmail.com, @AJ8B, or www.aj8b.com)

I am starting to get emails from various readers with questions and comments and I really appreciate that! Here is an email from Teresa, KA9IFQ. Teresa asks "Previously, you mentioned the CWOPs organization. What can you tell me about it?"



Great question Teresa. I have been a member for about 9 years and have really gotten quite a bit out of this club. So as not to pass along any inaccurate information, I will read this from their website: "There are other clubs for CW operators, each with its attractions. CWops is very different and stands out as a unique international organization because it advances the "state of the art" of operating across the full spectrum of CW activities – early introduction, rag chewing, contesting, DXing, and awards chasing.

- Our educational programs and learning support systems are of the highest quality and they work. The CWA Academy annually teaches hundreds of former and new CW enthusiasts CW in a classroom environment with a goal of proficiency at 25 wpm.
- Our member rag chewing metrics are amazing over 1700 rag chews are typically recorded during a two-month period as shown in the QTX and mini-QTX program summaries.
- Our on-air competitive activities are broad and pervasive. The CWTs, weekly one-hour on-air QSO parties, are hugely popular and growing every month. Typical is participation by over 800 operators with some 48,000 exchanges as reported on 3830scores.com. Further, many CWops calls are regularly heard in contests; some play to win, others just to pass out points but our presence is impactful. The top placers in ARRL DX CW and other contests are filled with CWops members. They hone their skills in the CWTs. Moreover, CWops members regularly participate in major DX competitions from a dozen or more DX locations.
- CWops members reside in some 100 countries and have been active in over 200 countries. Members have been included on multiple DXpedition teams using exotic calls such as 9J2LA, D68CCC, TI9A, VP8PJ, ZC4UW and ZK3A.

CWops has funded a scholarship fund through ARRL Foundation with a grant of \$30,000. It is intended to provide funding for the educational expense of licensed Amateur Radio operators who know CW.

CWops promotes the continual improvement of CW proficiency across a broad range of activities. We establish and support a range of events and programs that allow members to continually learn, practice and improve their CW skills. CWops is the CW club of choice!

If anyone has a question or a comment, just send an email to TheDXMentor@gmail.com.

DAH DIT DIT DAH DAH DIT DIT DAH

Interview with Laurent, TK4LS

I have worked Laurent several times and I have heard him mange a pileup a few times as well. Laurent is a world class operator and a great guy. Check out his qrz.com webpage and don't be afraid to email him for a sked: tk4ls@free.fr



AJ8B: How did you first get interested in amateur radio?

TK4LS: I started the radio listening to the different bands and the 11m band when I was in holidays in the countryside. It was magical moments and full of dreams to be able to listen to stations sometimes far away.

AJ8B: When did you get first get on the air?

TK4LS: I did my first QSO with local CB stations in AM mode at the age of 10 and the following years with DX stations in SSB on 11m. It is only in 2009 that I pass my license for





AJ8B: Do you have a favorite band or mode? **TK4LS:** I do not have any favorite bands or mode. Maybe a preference for the CW because I'm proud to practice it after a long learning phase. I monitor the 6m band carefully when it's the right season. I try to be present on different bands, any mode (SSB, CW & DIGI) at any time according to my equipment and propagations conditions.

AJ8B: Describe what equipment and antenna you are currently using:

TK4LS: I use several home-brew mono-bander Yagi antennas for 6, 10, 12, 15 & 17m. On 80m, I use a dipole. On 30 & 40m I use 1/4 home-made vertical. I'm not QRV on 160 & 20m yet and no longer active on VHF/UHF. About my radio, I have a Kenwood TS-590 and since 2 years an

Ameritron amplifier.

AJ8B: You have operated from all over Corsica. What is the propagation like?

TK4LS: I operate only from my home QTH, never in mobile or portable. Occasionally from a few IOTA around the main island as portable when a well-known DX team came to activate. Also, QRV once a year from the contest station. The propagation is probably different between the different stations on the island due to the relief. Corsica Isl is a big mountain (2710m height) and we also can find some nice spot on the seaside.



AJ8B: When you operate from other areas, what equipment are you using? **TK4LS:** In portable (from IOTA), we used only 1/4 vertical antennas and 100w HF. And a generator when possible or battery as power supply.

AJ8B: I noticed that you are now QRV on 6M. How is that working out?

TK4LS: I'm QRV on 6m with my 6 element Yagi LFA home-brew antenna and 100w only. I contact a lot of stations from Europe easily when I beaming to the north. For DX, that's another story when I beam to the West. Towards this direction, there is high summit. To the east, that is easier even if I must keep calling sometimes. To the south, my place is not so bad for QSO with Africa. I enjoy the trans equatorial propagation and I realized some unexpected QSOs.

AJ8B: On your webpage you have a quote: "The only thing better than DXing is BEING the DX!!" - Are there any locations you plan on being QRV from in the future?

TK4LS: No, I have no project to be QRV from other location. With a TK prefix, pile-up is still guaranteed HI!! When a DXPedition is on air, I always imagine the happiness that it can be felt on the DX side.

AJ8B: You also encourage stations to request a sked with you to confirm Corsica. Does this happen often?

TK4LS: Only few skeds during the year. Usually, for missing slots or previous QSO with TK station never confirmed.

AJ8B: When did you start to offer the "Diploma of Corsica?" Has it been a popular request? **TK4LS:** I'm not the manager of this diploma but I know a couple of diplomas are delivered every year for the benefit of the club.

AJ8B: What advice do you have for those of us trying to break pileups to work DX? **TK4LS:** At first, listen & listen, be patient and wait your turn according to the Propagation. Propagation conditions will make the difference between all the hunters.

Call only when it seems to be the right time.

- When signal improves
- On a clear frequency if possible

Propagation will do the rest with a little bit of luck.

AJ8B: What coaching/advice would you give new amateurs?

TK4LS: For radio contacts, take care of the antenna setup. In French, a motto is "Tant vaut l'antenne, tant vaut la station!!" (So much is the antenna, so much is the station.)

AJ8B: Thanks for taking the time to answer my questions. Is there anything you would like to share with us?

TK4LS: In ham radio life, we find all kinds of activity. There are so many facets of amateur radio that everyone will have fun.

DAH DIT DIT DAH DAH DIT DIT DAH

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:

K5KG & K1XX, George and Charlie are heading to **Iceland** September 11th to the 18th as TF/K5KG and TF/K1XX and will be part of the TF3D M/M crew for the SAC CW Contest September 16th to 17th. They will be joining TF3DC, TF3SG, and UT4EK from Benni's, TF3T, contest station. TF3D is located near Iceland's south Atlantic coast. George and Charlie will be signing TF/K5KG and TF/K1XX outside of the contest. QSL via LOTW.

WRTC Champion VE3DZ, Yuri, is heading to Roatan Island, **Honduras** for the CQ World Wide DX SSB Contest. He'll be there from October 19th to the 31st operating as HQ9A. Listen for him on all HF bands on CW, SSB and FT8, outside the biggest contest of the year. QSL via VE3DZ. QSOs are expected to be uploaded to LoTW and Club Log.

Members of the Rebel DX Group will be QRV as T22T from **Tuvalu** September 21st to October 9th. They plan to have 10 simultaneous stations on the air. This will include two stations on CW, one on SSB and seven on FT8. They will be using WSJT-x in Fox and Hound mode. The Mediterraneo DX Club (MDXC) is mounting a DXpedition November 2nd-15th to the **Republic of Cameroon**, a Central African country that has not been on the air since 2018. This operation will be from Kribi, a beach resort and seaport on the Gulf of Guinea. It took some time to obtain the TJ9MD amateur radio license and commercial import permits for equipment but plans for the DXpedition are now proceeding full speed ahead.

At least four stations will be on CW, SSB, RTTY, and FT8 around the clock. They will be on 160-6M, and plan to work moonbounce on two meters.

A six-operator team from Washington state will operate as H44WA from Honiara, Guadalcanal, **Solomon Islands**, November 15th -29th. This beach operation will be powered exclusively by generators. According to WA7CPA, Robin, the team is "taking extra measures against endemic malarial mosquitoes and the bedbugs with whom we will be cohabitating." She also thanked DX Engineering for their generous support with coaxial cable, crimpers, and connectors. For more details, visit the H44WA website.

Andre Philipp Mwakalambo, 5H7MP, otherwise known as Phil and OE8ASR, president of the 305-member Karnten Funkt Radio Club is working for a month in Mbeya, **Tanzania**. His station is a Sun SDR 20W radio to 300W amplifier and vertical.

Greg, K0GW, in Minnesota, reports that K4NTO worked KG4NE in **Guatanamo Bay** on both 160 and 80 late Saturday, 03Z on FT8. K0GW worked him Sunday on 30 and 17. On 17 he switched to FT4 from FT8 while still on the 18095 frequency.

DAH DIT DIT DAH DAH DIT DIT DAH

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. I also have a comprehensive list that can be imported to your calendar at www.aj8b.com/files

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.

CWops Tests, or CWTs, are 60 minutes in duration and held on Wednesday and Thursday every week. There are now four events each week, at times that favor different geographic areas. Everyone is welcome – you don't have to be a CWops member to join the fun. CWTs are a good opportunity to meet other CW fans who may be interested in CWops membership. Six bands are used – 10, 15, 20, 40, 80 and 160m. Suggested frequencies are from 28 to 45 kHz from the band edges. However, this range should not be considered a limit when activity is such that participants find it necessary to spread further. Please be considerate of ongoing QSOs and mindful of ongoing or imminent DXpedition operations, W1AW transmissions, etc. Please slow down when called at a slower speed – we want everyone to feel welcome. Lots of Qs or just a few, please submit your results for each session at http://3830scores.com

PURPOSE

Meet and greet and show activity on the bands. It's a good public relations opportunity for CWops for those who haven't heard of us yet. It's also an opportunity for interested non-members to garner the required nominations for membership.

More information can be found at cwops.org/cwops-test

Below is a list of upcoming contests:

Date(s)	Event	Info
All Year	CQ DX Marathon	http://bit.ly/3FyPiui
Sept. 14	Bavarian Contest Club QSO Party	https://bit.ly/42VQn9f
Sept. 16	Feld Hell on Wheels Sprint	http://bit.ly/2JcbOwW
Sept. 16-17	ARRL 10 GHz and UP Contest	http://www.arrl.org/10-ghz-up
Sept. 16-17	Iowa QSO Party	http://www.w0yl.com/IAQP
Sept. 16-17	New Hampshire QSO Party	https://w1wqm.org/nh-qso-party/
Sept. 16-17	New Jersey QSO Party	http://bit.ly/1nDlf8V
Sept. 16-17	QRP Afield	http://bit.ly/2QACxFu
Sept. 16-17	SARL VHF/UHF Digital Contest	http://bit.ly/H0IqQf
Sept. 16-17	Scandinavian CW Activity Contest	https://www.sactest.net/blog/
Sept. 16-17	Texas QSO Party	http://txqp.net/
Sept. 16-17	Washington State Salmon Run	http://salmonrun.wwdxc.org/rules/
Sept. 17	BARTG Sprint PSK63	http://bartg.org.uk/wp/contests/
Sept. 17	North American RTTY Sprint	http://ncjweb.com/Sprint-Rules.pdf
Sept. 18	RSGB FT4 Contest Series	https://bit.ly/3TxCrxl
Sept. 20	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest	http://www.ft8activity.eu/index.php/en/

Sept. 28	RSGB Autumn Series Data	https://bit.ly/3TxCrxl
Sept. 23	AGCW UHF/VHF Contest	https://www.agcw.de/contest/vhf-uhf/
Sept. 23-24	Maine QSO Party	http://www.ws1sm.com/MEQP.html
Sept. 23-24	CQ WW RTTY DX Contest	http://www.cqwwrtty.com
Sep.30-Oct. 1	UK/EI DX Contest, CW	https://www.ukeicc.com/dx-contest-rules.php

OHIO'S





Well Labor Day is now behind us. Schools are back in session and fall football, soccer and other high schools sports are underway. In the world of ham radio, the Ohio QSO Party plus the Ohio State Parks on the Air Contest as well as the Findlay Hamfest are now history. Now that evenings are beginning to get a bit darker earlier and the mornings and evenings are beginning to chill, it's an indication our farm friends will be soon starting the fall harvest. It's hoped the return of Fall will get more of us in front of our radios and more hams turning out for their local club meetings, projects and programs.

After a summer recess, the **South West Ohio DX Association** will have its first meeting for the Fall on Thursday evening, September 14. Hunter's Pizza in Franklin will be the site for the gathering that will begin at 6:30. It is located at 4161 SR 122. The evening's program is with Mark Wohlschlegel, WC3W, and the CQ DX Marathon Program. Those unable to attend in person may attend via ZOOM. Contact Bill Salyers, AJ8B at aj8b@arrl.net to learn how you may join the presentation.

One of the remaining outdoor events that draws a number of South 40 Region hams from Southern Ohio and West Virginia is the Annual Ham Radio Swap Meet and Leavitt Car Show in

Belpre. For the past three years the **Buffalo** with the Leavitt Funeral Home to sponsor the conjunction with the funeral homes annual car place on September 16 on the grounds of the



10 Meter Net has teamed ham radio swapfest held in show. The dual event takes funeral home at 801 Victor

Street in Belpre. The event is totally free and includes door prizes, music, food, drinks and

demonstrations of Arden Mesh and ATV. A Yaesu 891 is being awarded as the Main Prize. Visit the www.buffalo10meter.net website for details.



On Saturday, September 16 the Charleston, WV National Weather Station will showcase their new RLX facilities by conducting an Open House of their new facilities from 10 until 2. The open house will not only highlight the new radar facilities, but also the new amateur radio equipment and antenna system installation. It will additionally call attention to the new "WX4RLX" call sign assigned the station. Tours will be given each half hour. However pre-registration is required and can be made at www.weather.gov/rlx/2023-open-house. The Charleston Office serves several South 40

Region counties in Southern Ohio and West Virginia.

We have some great news we need to share and celebrate this week. That is because our ham radio ranks has increased by the addition of two new hams to the roles of those in Ohio's South 40 Region. According to the FCC data base, Keith Landrum of Batavia has been granted a Technician License and is now KE8ZBO. Billy Collins also became a Technician with a KE8ZCE call sign after attending the **Portmouth RC** test session.

The regular business meetings of the **Athens County ARA** will resume following a summer meeting pause according to President Eric McFadden, WD8RIF. The next meeting is scheduled for September 19 at the Red Cross Building in Athens. It begins at 7 pm. Eric reminds us that those unable to make the physical meeting may participate via Zoom.

The **Clinton County ARA** will be using the group activity building at Lake Cowan State Park for an overnight "Parks On The Air" activation starting on Saturday afternoon, September 23 through Sunday afternoon. Plans have it so it could also turn into a nighttime picnic.



On Sunday, September 24 the **Cambridge ARA** will hold a covered-dish picnic at the Cambridge City Park, 1203 North Eighth Street. Things get underway at 2 pm. All folks interested in amateur radio are urged to attend and besides a dish to share, bring your picnic ware, a beverage and a good

Ham Radio will be the subject of a presentation that Mike Love, WB8YKS, will deliver to the Lawrence County LEPC on September 25. Mike will discuss ham radio in general and the

ARES. Also to be discussed is the upcoming **Southern Ohio ARA**'s "Let's Talk Ham Radio" event to occur on Saturday, September 30 at South Point's Patriot Park picnic shelter at 2nd and Ferry in South Point. It will feature a Field Day type operation where amateur radio will not only be displayed but in operation. Members will be on hand to demonstrate to the public what ham radio is about and to answer questions from those wishing to learn more. It will start at 10 AM and run until 2.

Across the Mason-Dixon Line Paintsville, Kenturcky's **A. R. C. S** will hold their A. R. C. S. Radio Festival on September 30 at the Paintsville Rec Center. Admission to the event is \$5 with things getting underway at 8am. Their flyer can be found elsewhere in this copy of the Ohio Section Journal and more information about it can be found at the www.ky4arc.com website.

Clinton County ARA President Mark Atwell, WX8A, reminds members and other hams in the Clinton County area to place the monthly "Last Saturday Breakfast" on their calendars. It will be on September 30 at Sam's Meats and Deli in Wilmington.

The **Athens County ARA** will assist with communications for the October 7 Blue Blaze Festival Trail Run. The 10-mile hike will depart at 8 that morning from the Buckeye Trail Office in Shawnee. At 9 a half-marathon will begin and at 9:15 the 5K and 10K get underway. Communications coordinator Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, is rounding up his crew and is interested hearing from anyone who would like to assist. Anyone new can be placed with a seasoned operator if desired. Jeff can be contacted at 740-592-6124.

It's been learned of the recent passing of Eddy "Gene" Stephenson, W8NJL, of Lesage, WV. He was a member of the **Tri-State ARA** and a retired broadcast engineer at WOWK Television. Services have been held in Huntington, WV.

Most of us agree that amateur radio needs a public relations shot in the arm to let people know such a critter exists and what it is and can do. A news release was sent to the *Highland County Press* by the **Highland ARA** describing the Club's upcoming participation in the Ohio State Parks on the Air event from Rocky Fork State Park. The release was geared not to strickly promote amateur radio, but to indicate how ham radio was being used to tell the world about Rocky Fork. In a week filled with county fair activities and news, county government issues as well as many other items of local interest the newspaper chose to give front page coverage to the Club and its efforts! The county's second newspaper-the *Times Gazette*-also published the article in its on-line addition and is expected to print it in their weekend printed edition.

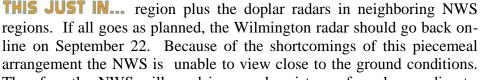
Although a few weeks away, we're informed the **Cambridge ARA** will conduct a FREE Laurel VE test session will be held following the Club's monthly meeting on Saturday, October 28 at the Guernsey County Administration Building in Cambridge. Pre-registration is required to Jim Shaw (AB8P) at 740-305-5041.

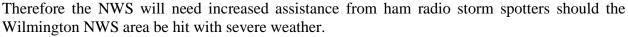
On Thursday evening a number of **Highland ARA** members traveled to Wilmington to attend the monthly Clinton County ARA's business meeting and program. It's great to attend other club's meetings, learn what they are doing and exchange ideas. Plus seeing old friends and meeting new ones is priceless.



After 25 years of rotating 24/7/365 the Wilmington National Weather Service's radar dish will be shut down for replacing the main gear drive. It

will be turned off on September 11 when the "golf ball" and radar dome are removed. happens the Wilmington Office will rely on radars at the various commercial airports in its coverage





Until next time here's hoping each of you have a great and safe week. Plus take some time to get on the air and talk to someone. You just might make their day.

John Levo, W8KIW, jlevo@cinci.rr.com or highlandara@gmail.com, 937-393-4951

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

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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*

Click here to download the instructions

One Question Questionnaire

!!!!! I would really like to hear from as many of you as possible. How about going to http://arrl-ohio.org and giving me a click? (It's in the bottom left corner of the page) While you're there, you can click the Big Red Arrow to enter into this months Handbook Giveaway!

This week's Question: Are you excited about the way cycle 25 is going? Making some good DX Q's?



A) Yes, or B) No

From last week's question - DO YOU HAVE A BRICK AT ARRL HEADQUARTERS WITH YOUR NAME ON IT?

Only 41 responses -4 Yes and 37 NO. This would be a very nice way to memorialize a club member / officer or friend / family member!

(This is a subliminal message: Go to the Ohio Section Website, on the bottom left of the landing page answer this week's question. AND DON'T FORGET – look for the Big Red Arrow and sign up for the June Handbook give away!)

Ohio Section Cabinet

Section Manager – Tom Sly, WB8LCD	Section Traffic Manager – David Maynard, WA3EZN		
Section Emergency Coordinator – Bret Stemen	Section Youth Coordinator – Anthony Luscre, K8ZT		
KD8SCL	·		
Technical Coordinator – Jeff Kopcak, K8JTK	Affiliated Clubs Coordinator – Amanda Farone –		
	KC3GFU		
State Government Liaison – Bob Winston, W2THU	Public Information Coordinator – Elizabeth Klinc -		
	KE8FMJ		

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. You might want to list your location so that prospective buyers know where you're at. 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



Want to Share your Club Newsletter With Others?

We have a webpage where you can download and read all of the newsletters that I get from around the state and even other sections!

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 because I'm not receiving it. Just have your newsletter editor contact me and I'll get your club's newsletter listed on the site!!



We all learn and steal (I mean, share) from each other's work. So, get me your newsletter!!! Send it to: webmaster@arrl-ohio.org

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 and we'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://arrl-ohio.org/news/

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! Occasionally you may find and error or two in this newsletter — be assured, they were put there on purpose to make sure you're reading the newsletter carefully!