[](http://arrl-ohio.org/news/)

***“******January 29th, 2024”***

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**CQ CQ CQ de WB8LCD**

I’m not sure how *you’re* feeling about it, but January has flown past me in the blink of an eye! Not only all the typical “Year End” stuff to catch up on for filing all my business taxes and reports, I had an opportunity to expand into the office next to mine. That means a total renovation of both spaces. If I spend too much money on it, I won’t be able to afford the new, shiny, Ham Radio gizmo at Hamvention in May. So, I’m doing the work myself. Sue, I’ve got some help, but for January I have spent many evenings and every Saturday / Sunday at the office working on this project. In the meantime, I know I’ve got more than a couple unanswered emails and some other things I have not paid attention to. Stand by – I’m almost finished and plan to be back to “business as usual” with the beginning of February!

But, this has unintentionally given me the opportunity to make a change that I’ve had in mind for awhile here. You’ll notice that this is the last “PostScript” for January and it would have normally been an “Ohio Section Journal". Next week will be the February edition of the OSJ. On more than one occasion I’ve run out of month too soon, so this will put me on the track that the first edition of the month will be the OSJ, all others PostScript.

As Section Manager, one of my responsibilities is to report back to the membership on a regular basis as to what the ARRL is doing on their behalf at the local level. Ohio Section Journal is where I ask the Ohio Section Cabinet members to all contribute a write up so that you’ll know that the Ohio Section is not just me, it’s all of us working together for the benefit of the hobby.

PostScript is a weekly follow-up with news and information of interest to the Amateur Radio community.

For most of us, one of the most interesting parts of the hobby is what everyone else is doing. That means YOU! How about sending me some photos of your operating station, your mobile installation, your antennas and your workbench area? How about a write up on some of the events you’ve participated in or some of the projects you’re working on? Your fellow Ohio Section Members would like to know! (photos: .jpg format, articles and fliers: .doc format)

In our hobby, there are lots of ways to get things done. There are lots of personalities and opinions and world views represented by our fellow hobbyists. Recently there has been a lot of opposing opinions on how things should be run in our organization (ARRL). This is actually a good and healthy thing to have. Where it becomes a problem is when we get so polarized in our thinking and our actions that we can’t tolerate someone with an opposing view. Given time and rational debate, we can work out all of our issues. It’s not YOU vs THEM. It’s US working together. It’s not how do we burn it down, it’s how do we work to make it better?

Two things jump out at me. First off, membership is more important than ever. Unfortunately, as individual Hams and ARRL members, we have not placed enough emphasis on how important it is to belong. Right now there are some internal issues, but in the long term our threat to continued existence as a hobby (and a service to our community) is in greater jeopardy to external issues. “Numbers” are everything to the world in which we exist. (Those numbers can me measured in both membership and $$$) Secondly, participation of our membership can resolve a lot of our issues, although time is required to see it through. ARRL membership has not taken its responsibility as a member seriously. (We are actually a subset of a much larger national “problem” with many of the same issues…) At ARRL, the Board of Directors is the ultimate entity that runs the show, and they are all elected by the membership. Yet, it’s a very small percentage of the membership that even bothers to vote in any of the ARRL elections that take place! And it’s also a small percentage of the membership that supports the organization with anything more than their annual dues.

I’m trying to be optimistic. I believe we have a lot of really smart people in our hobby. I believe we have a lot of really good people who all want the best for our hobby. I believe that we will resolve the issues we have, but we can’t accomplish it when the majority are apathetic.

Those are my opinions, you’re welcome to disagree with me. We can still be friends and work together for the good of Amateur Radio. The Greatest Hobby in the World!

Share the Magic,

73,

Tom Sly - WB8LCD

Ohio Section Manager

[wb8lcd@arrl.org](mailto:wb8lcd@arrl.org)

330-554-4650

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**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.

\*\*\* Sunday February 11, 2024 \*\*\*

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](https://www.echolink.org/) 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)*

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| **ARISS News Release No. 23-47**  **Dave Jordan, AA4KN**  **ARISS PR**  **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  ***Message to US Educators***  **Amateur Radio on the International Space Station Contact Opportunity**  ***Call for Proposals***  **New Proposal Window is January 8, 2024–February 29, 2024**  January 8, 2024 --- The Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) Program is seeking formal and informal education institutions and organizations, individually or working together, to host an Amateur Radio contact with a crew member onboard the ISS. ARISS anticipates that the contacts would be held between **July 1, 2024** and **December 31, 2024**. Crew scheduling and ISS orbits will determine exact contact dates. To maximize these radio contact opportunities, ARISS is looking for organizations that will draw large numbers of participants and integrate the contact into a well-developed education plan.  **The deadline to submit a proposal is February 29, 2024.** Proposal information and more details such as expectations, proposal guidelines and the proposal form can be found at [www.ariss.org](http://www.ariss.org/). An ARISS Introductory Webinar session will be held January 17, 2024 at 7 PM ET.  **The Zoom link to sign up is:** <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcrc-qsrD0pGNLBvhR_2p5O9uTeRzO0u4Sw>.  The Opportunity  Crew members aboard the International Space Station will participate in scheduled ARISS amateur radio contacts. These radio contacts are approximately 10 minutes in length and allow students to interact with the astronauts through a question-and-answer session.  An ARISS contact is a voice communication opportunity via amateur radio between astronauts and cosmonauts aboard the space station and classrooms and communities. ARISS contacts afford education audiences the opportunity to learn firsthand from astronauts what it is like to live and work in space and to learn about space research conducted on the ISS. Students also will have an opportunity to learn about satellite communication, wireless technology, and radio science. Because of the nature of human spaceflight and the complexity of scheduling activities aboard the ISS, organizations must demonstrate flexibility to accommodate changes in dates and times of the radio contact.  Amateur radio organizations around the world with the support of NASA and space agencies in Russia, Canada, Japan and Europe present educational organizations with this opportunity. The ham radio organizations’ volunteer efforts provide the equipment and operational support to enable communication between crew on the ISS and students around the world using amateur radio.  Please direct any questions to [education@ariss-usa.org](mailto:ariss.us.education@gmail.com).  **About ARISS:**  Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) is a cooperative venture of international amateur radio societies and the space agencies that support the International Space Station (ISS). In the United States, sponsors are the American Radio Relay League (ARRL), Amateur Radio Digital Communications (ARDC), Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation (AMSAT), NASA’s Space Communications and Navigation program (SCaN) and the ISS National Lab—Space Station Explorers. The primary goal of ARISS is to promote exploration of science, technology, engineering, the arts, and mathematics topics. ARISS does this by organizing scheduled contacts via amateur radio between crew members aboard the ISS and students. Before and during these radio contacts, students, educators, parents, and communities take part in hands-on learning activities tied to space, space technologies, and amateur radio. For more information, see <http://www.ariss.org>.  Media Contact:  Dave Jordan, AA4KN  ARISS PR    Find us on social media at:  Twitter: ARISS\_Intl  Facebook: facebook.com/ARISSIntl  Instagram: ariss\_intl  Mastodon: ariss\_intl@mastodon.hams.social  Check out ARISS on Youtube.com. |

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**ARRL Youth Licensing Grant Program**

Clubs around the country sponsor VE sessions in order to help new hams get their licenses and to help existing hams upgrade. One of the changes in the last couple of years if the introduction of the $35 FCC License Fee. The ARRL Youth Licensing Grant Program, in effect since April 19, 2022, will cover the one-time $35 application fee for new license candidates younger than 18-years old for tests administered under the ARRL VEC program.

The $35 FCC application fee will be reimbursed after the ARRL VEC receives the completed reimbursement form and after the new license has been issued by the FCC. The reimbursement check will be mailed to the fee payer. Also, candidates who are under the age of 18 pay a reduced exam session fee of $5 to the ARRL VEC VE team at the time of the exam. The $5 fee is for all candidates under the age of 18, regardless of the exam level taken. Proof of age is required at the session. Visit [www.arrl.org/youth-licensing-grant-program](http://www.arrl.org/youth-licensing-grant-program)for the program instructions and reimbursement form.

Contact [ARRL VEC](mailto:vec@arrl.org) for assistance or for information on how your club can set up an ARRL VEC VE team and offer testing on a regular basis in your area, and how to take advantage of the reduced exam fee for youth candidates. It's extremely gratifying when a candidate passes their test and earns a license.

Clubs that already sponsor ARRL VEC exam sessions, we thank you for your service to our program!

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**National Aeronautics and Space Administration**

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| **Live Launch Coverage:**  **﻿NASA’s Northrop Grumman CRS-20** |

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| NASA, Northrop Grumman, and SpaceX are targeting 12:29 p.m. EST on Monday, Jan. 29, for the next launch to deliver science investigations and supplies to the International Space Station. This launch is the 20th Northrop Grumman commercial resupply services mission to the orbital laboratory for the agency.  The Cygnus spacecraft is scheduled to remain at the space station until May, when it will depart the orbiting laboratory, at which point it will harmlessly burn up in the Earth’s atmosphere. This spacecraft is named the S.S. Patricia “Patty” Hilliard Robertson after the former NASA astronaut.  Live launch coverage will begin at 12:15 p.m. EST.  [**STREAM ON NASA+**](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001ktk65jUm_5uYrseA2Mx5c1Yp5t_A8Xt9bAR8b6zq2cYQEV-6zxjfyeZR5DUQQpKxGvFDP7H6dB58MilSjViXReGuQ-tCebaeuWF_cbTvnho8z3yDHEDciT-Cdaz_NXd00bbCho0SNrWibtl7_CxSxmHwBtP27XwLF-oa3e97G1y3S3wzQWj8qKuGxTpr5fHg2nIgEoZ-L7kHQLPjK9AhQH7LPddSKVe7&c=xroV0YnPxUvenErcS8FXzfq9JhGy7pNKXVAsmdctvt9-p9RgRa_nqw==&ch=wA73eiVUBaq19CJV_G47ckAyC7UxDgou0clEOW2r8gEEmh5SNY29NQ==) |

A satellite flying over a desert

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HamSCI 2024 Workshop

Ham Radio Science Citizen Investigation ([HamSCI](https://hamsci.org/" \t "_blank)) will hold its sixth annual workshop on March 22 - 23, 2024, at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. A black letter on a white background

Description automatically generatedThe event is meant to bring together the amateur radio community and professional scientists.

The 2024 workshop's theme will be "Alignments" - specifically those between the Sun, Moon, and Earth; collegiate amateur radio recreation and science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) curricula; data collection and analysis, and professional and citizen science. Workshop participants will prepare for the solar eclipse taking place on April 8, 2024, which will be seen in totality from Cleveland.

HamSCI's main interest is using amateur radio for the characterization and study of ionospheric phenomena like traveling ionospheric disturbances, sporadic E, solar flares, geomagnetic storms, the 2024 total solar eclipse, and other space weather events. To facilitate this science, continued development of the [HamSCI Personal Space Weather Station](https://hamsci.org/basic-project/personal-space-weather-station" \t "_blank) and discussion about integrating amateur radio into the collegiate curriculum will also take place during the workshop.

Registration is now open, and the deadline is March 1, 2024. HamSCI is also accepting presentations relating to amateur radio and science -- particularly space and atmospheric science, space weather, and radio astronomy -- that analyze the ionosphere, propose ideas for the Personal Space Weather Station, and discuss the 2024 eclipse.

Presentations should be the form of talks, posters, lightning talks, and demonstrations. The Science Program Committee will be accepting abstracts and presentations.

If you would like to present, please submit your abstract by February 10, 2024. Presenters will be notified about their acceptance by March 1, 2024. Questions about abstracts should be emailed to Nathaniel Frissell, W2NAF, at [hamsci@hamsci.org](mailto:hamsci@hamsci.org).

For registration and additional information about the event, visit [HamSCI Workshop 2024 | HamSCI](https://hamsci.org/hamsci2024" \t "_blank).

**Amateur radio volunteers are needed for the 2024 Boston Marathon.** Registration is still open, but the deadline is February 2. A [step-by-step sign-up guide](https://hamradioboston.freshdesk.com/support/solutions/articles/44002497536-2024-volunteer-registration-step-by-step-guide) is available to help make sign-up easy. Almost all amateur radio positions are single-person assignments. Returning volunteers have received an email from the Boston Marathon Communications Committee of the Boston Athletic Association (BAA) that included registration instructions. In order to make registration as smooth as possible, specific instructions are provided for amateur radio operator volunteers. For questions and more information, email the Boston Marathon Communications Committee at [contact@hamradioboston.org](mailto:contact@hamradioboston.org).

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**Registration for**[**Contest University**](http://contestuniversity.com/) (to be held May 16, 2024, at the [Hope Hotel](https://www.hopehotel.com/) in Dayton, Ohio) is now open. Now in its 15th year, this event is held the day before the opening of the annual [Hamvention](https://hamvention.org/) and is popular enough to suggest early registration to be able to receive the day's printed handouts. Materials from previous years are available on the Contest University website.

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***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](mailto: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 aritcle. Any photos please include as a .jpg or .bmp – the time you save me in doing all the conversions will be greatly appreciated.

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](http://www.arrl.org/arrl-sanctioned-events).

To apply for ARRL sanctioned status for your event, go to [www.arrl.org/hamfest-convention-application](http://www.arrl.org/hamfest-convention-application).

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

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**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.*

**AE8FP Amateur Radio Test Team** administers ARRL-VEC testing in the Central Ohio area. Our test dates for 2024 are as follows: Januray 20, April 27, June 22, July 20, and October 19. Time and location for these dates are 10:00am at the Westerville Fire Station #111, 400 W. Main St in Westerville, Ohio. The listed dates are co-sponsored by the Central Ohio Radio Club (CORC).  
  
Pre-Registration is required, and open the 1st of each testing month. All information is available at [www.ae8fp.net](http://www.ae8fp.net/) <<http://www.ae8fp.net/>>

**Alliance Amateur Radio Club** The Alliance Amateur Radio Club holds quarterly VE testing, at the Christ UInited Methodist Church in Alliance. The address is 470 E. Broadway St, Alliance, OH (<https://maps.app.goo.gl/prDyEPp6siJun2ibA>).

Upcoming Exam Dates are

Saturday, March 16th, 2024  
Saturday, June 15th, 2024  
Saturday, August 10th, 2024  
Saturday, October 19th, 2024

We begin registration at 8 AM, with testing at 9am.

More information can be found at [www.w8lky.org/licensing/ve-exams/](http://www.w8lky.org/licensing/ve-exams/).

**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](mailto:hamexams@atara-w8atr.fun).

**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](http://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  
10th; Apr 13th; Jun 8th; Aug 10th; Oct 12th; and Dec 14th, 2024.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](mailto: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](mailto:exams.w8bi@gmail.com)

**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 2024 are Jan 14, March 10, May12, July 14, Sept 15, and Nov 17, 2024. All sessions are at 2:00PM each month

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 Jackie Welch, N8JMW by email [n8jmw2@gmail.ccom](mailto:n8jmw2@gmail.ccom) or calling at 440-228-2716. More information is available from 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](mailto:ab8yk@hotmail.com)

**The Lake County Amateur Radio Association**

The Lake County Amateur Radio Association is holding its **2024** Amateur Radio license exams at the **Kirtland Library**, 9267 Chillicothe Road, on the following dates:

Saturday. February 3 Saturday, August 3

Saturday, April 6 Saturday, October 5

Saturday, June 1 Saturday, December 7

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](mailto: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](mailto:ve_testing@k8qik.org) to register.

**Lisbon Area Amateur Radio Association**

LISBON AREA AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION (LAARA) 2024 SCHEDULE.  
  
VE TESTING IS AT THE COLUMBIANA COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY  
AT 215 SOUTH MARKET STREET, LISBON, OH 44432.  
  
SIGN IN AT 1 PM AND TESTING AT 1:30 PM.  
  
VE TESTING DATES FOR 2024  
  
JAN 13; FEB 10; MAR 9; APR 13; MAY 11;  
JUN 8; AUG 10; SEP 14; OCT 12; NOV 9; DEC 14.  
  
WE CAN ALSO GIVE THE TEST AT OUR REGULAR MEETINGS  
THAT ARE NORMALLY ON THE 3RD THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH.  
LAARA MEETINGS ARE HELD AT THE COLUMBIANA COUNTY  
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY AT THE SAME ADDRESS AS ABOVE. SEE THE [K8GQB.COM](http://k8gqb.com/) WEB SITE FOR UPDATES.  
MEETING TIME IS 6:30 PM.  
WE HAVE ACTIVITY MEETINGS ON THE ODD MONTHS AND  
BUSINESS MEETINGS ON THE EVEN MONTHS.

**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](http://www.milfordhamradio.org/)

**Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society (NOARS)**  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 **Fairview Park Library, 21255  Lorain Rd., Fairview Park.** Registration is preferred, but walk-ins are welcome. For more information or to register, contact Elaine, KC8FOS at [ewilkinson1951@gmail.com](mailto:ewilkinson1951@gmail.com). There will be a VE session held **Sunday, March 10** at the NOARS Winterfest held at Lorain County Community College **in the College Center,** 1005 Abbe Rd N, Elyria, OH 44035. Please email Elaine, KC8FOS at [ewilkinson1951@gmail.com](mailto:ewilkinson1951@gmail.com) for more information or 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](http://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](http://www.w8zx.net/exam) or email [VETEAM@N8BAG.NET](mailto:VETEAM@N8BAG.NET).

**Silvercreek ARA (SARA)**

Hold six exam sessions per year for all license classes. Pre-registration requested but not required. Exam sessions for 2024:

Saturday, February 3rd - Wayne County Justice Center (Wooster)

Saturday, April 6th - Sharon Center UMC (Wadsworth/Medina)

Saturday, June 1st - Sharon Center UMC (Wadsworth/Medina)

Saturday, August 3rd - Wayne County Justice Center (Wooster)

Saturday, October 5th -Sharon Center UMC (Wadsworth/Medina)

Saturday, December 7th -Sharon Center UMC (Wadsworth/Medina)

All sessios begin at 10:00am. For directions and test information visit <https://w8wky.org/license-exams/>. Pre-Registration to expedite paperwork is requested, but not required at <https://w8wky.org/sara-ve-registration-form/>. Sign up and if you aren't ready or can't make it, just notify the VE team lead.

**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/>

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**The Geauga Amateur Radio Association Offering Classes 2024**

Classes are as follows:

Gen: starts- Friday Feb 16, 2024

          Ends- Friday April 12, 2024

Extra: Starts- Friday April 19, 2024

          Ends- FridayJuly 5, 2024

\*\*\*All Classes are Fridays from 6:00PM- 8:00PM

Location for sessions and classes are:

Geauga County EOC

12518 Merritt Rd

Chardon, Ohio 44024

Information can be obtained by emailing or calling:

Jackie Welch, N8JMW [n8jmw2@gmail.com](mailto:n8jmw2@gmail.com) 440-228-2716

**Ham License Classes**

The Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society will be offering ham radio licensing classes beginning Thursday, February 29th, 2024 at 6:30 PM. There will be six sessions held each Thursday and a special VE testing seA red and blue logo

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There will be three separate classes -Technician, General, and Amateur Extra.

Classes will be held at the Seven Hills Community Room, 7325 Summit View Drive, Seven Hills, OH 44131.

Cost of the classes is $20.00. The General class is free to all CARS members.

Anyone interested in registering for a class should contact Toby Kolman, WT8O, at [wt8o@att.net](mailto:wt8o@att.net) or 440-525-6109.

**Massillon ARC Amateur Radio Classes For Technician, General and MORSE CODE**

Begin Wednesday, Feb 8 and run weekly for 8 weeks.  7-9 p.m. At Massillon, OH ARC.   Location: R.G. Klein Museum, corner of Erie St & Federal Ave, NE.

Exams at conclusion (except Code)

For information and registration call or email at these addresses:

330-705-8449 or [w8au@arrl.net](mailto:w8au@arrl.net)

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**ARES CONFERENCE**

**Hosted by District 10**

**Come Join us for the D10 ARES Conference**

* Go-Box Displays
* Informative Presentations
* DMR Programming Workshop
  + Lunch Provided

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A round blue and white logo with a map and a radio tower

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Presentation topics include: MARCS, Red Cross, National Weather Service, Tabletop Exercises, Winlink

**Tri-Point Medical Center | 7590 Auburn Rd Painesville, OH 44077**

[www.n8esg.org/conference](http://www.n8esg.org/conference) For information and to register

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**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](mailto:WB8LCD@ARRL.ORG)

**ARLD004 DX news**

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by The Daily DX, 425 DX News, DXNL, Contest Corral from QST and the ARRL Contest Calendar and WA7BNM web sites.  Thanks to all.  
  
GEORGIA, 4L.  Look for 4L9M, and 4L7ZS to each be active in the CQ World Wide 160 Meter CW contest.  QSL 4L9M direct and 4L7ZS via LoTW.  
  
SENEGAL, 6W.  Gerhard, OE3GEA plans to be QRV as 6W/OE3GEA near Dakar from January 27 to February 4.  Activity will be on 30 to 10 meters using CW.  QSL to home call.  
  
YEMEN, 7O.  Vlad, OK2WX is QRV as 7O2WX from Socotra Island, IOTA AF-028, until February 12.  Activity is on 160, 80, and 40 meters. This includes an entry in the CQ World Wide 160 Meter CW contest. QSL via IZ8CCW.  
  
MALDIVES, 8Q.  Keith, G3WRO is QRV as 8Q7WR until February 6. Activity is holiday style on 40 to 10 meters, and possibly on 80 meters, using SSB.  QSL to home call.  
  
CROATIA, 9A.  Members of the Radio Club Zagreb are QRV with special call sign 9A100RKZ during all of 2024 to celebrate the club's 100th anniversary.  QSL via 9A1ADE.  
  
WEST MALAYSIA, 9M2.  Ross, 9M2AX has been active on 160 meters using CW from around 1230 to 1430z, and then from around 2000 to 2330z. QSL direct to home call.  
  
BOTSWANA, A2.  John, A2NEW is QRV from Gaborone.  Activity is on most HF bands daily from 1600 to 1900z.  QSL to home call.  
  
ANTARCTICA.  Station DP0GVN is QRV from the Neumayer Station III on the Ekstroem Ice Shelf at Atka Bay on Dronning Maud Land.  QSL via DL5EBE.  
  
IRAN, EP.  Mohammed, EP5MMS is often active on 20 meters using SSB around 1200 to 1300z.  QSL via LoTW.

GUADELOUPE, FG.  Herve, F5HRY is QRV as FG/F5HRY from Marie Galante Island until February 2.  Activity is holiday style on 80 to 10 meters, including 30, 17, and 12 meters using CW, SSB on request, but no digital modes.  QSL direct to home call.  
  
CLIPPERTON ISLAND, FO.  Station TX5S is QRV until February 1. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY, FT8, 6 meter EME, and active on various Satellites.  QSL via M0URX.  
  
LIECHTENSTEIN, HB0.  Operators DL1MGB, DL3DXX and DL5LYM will be QRV as HB0DX in the CQ World Wide 160 Meter CW contest.  Prior to the contest and possibly during the contest they will be active on other bands using mostly CW.  QSL via DL3DXX.  
  
MINAMI TORISHIMA, JD1.  Take, JG8NQJ is QRV as JG8NQJ/JD1 while on work assignment at the weather station located here.  Activity is in his spare time on 17 and 15 meters, and possibly 12 and 10 meters, using CW and some FT8 around 2100 to 0200z.  QSL via JA8CJY.  
  
AUSTRIA, OE.  Jorg, OE6VIE is QRV with special event station OE60RRDXA until June 30 to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Rhein Ruhr DX Association RDXA.  QSL via LoTW.  
  
REPUBLIC OF KOSOVO, Z6.  Rene, DL2JRM is QRV as Z68XX from Gjilan until January 29.  Activity is on the HF bands using mostly CW.  QSL to home call.  
  
UK SOVEREIGN BASE AREAS ON CYPRUS, ZC4.  Martin, MW0BRO is QRV as  
ZC4GW during 2024.  QSL to home call.  
  
ST. HELENA, ZD7.  Elvira, IV3FSG is QRV as ZD7Z from Jamestown until February 4.  Activity is on 160 to 6 meters, including 60 meters, using CW, SSB, RTTY, FT8, and FT4.  QSL via IK2DUW.  
  
Please see January 2024 QST, page 76, and the ARRL and WA7BNM contest websites for details.  
  
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[**Upcoming *Hamfests***](http://arrl-ohio.org/hamfests.html)

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| ***Ohio Hamfests*** | |
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| ***2024*** | |
|  | **03/10/2024 -**[**WINTERHAMFEST**](https://www.arrl.org/hamfests/winterhamfest-3) **Location:**Elyria, OH **Sponsor:** Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society **Website:** [http://winterhamfest@noars.net](http://winterhamfest@noars.net/) [**Learn More**](https://www.arrl.org/hamfests/winterhamfest-3) |
| **03/17/2024 -**[**Toledo Mobile Radio Association Hamfest and Computer Fair**](https://www.arrl.org/hamfests/toledo-mobile-radio-association-hamfest-and-computer-fair-2)  **Location:**Perrysburg, OH **Sponsor:** Toledo Mobile Radio Association **Website:** [http://www:w8hhf.org](http://www:w8hhf.org/) [**Learn More**](https://www.arrl.org/hamfests/toledo-mobile-radio-association-hamfest-and-computer-fair-2) | **04/13/2024 -**[**Mid-Ohio Valley Amateur Radio Club**](http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/mid-ohio-valley-amateur-radio-club)  **Location:**Bidwell, OH **Type:** ARRL Hamfest **Sponsor:** Mid-Ohio Valley Amateur Radio Club [**Learn More**](http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/mid-ohio-valley-amateur-radio-club) |
| **04/13/2024 -**[**Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club 68th Hamfest**](https://www.arrl.org/hamfests/cuyahoga-falls-amateur-radio-club-68th-hamfest)  **Location:**Cuyahoga Falls, OH **Sponsor:** Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club, Inc. **Website:** <http://www.w8vpv.org/hamfest> [**Learn More**](https://www.arrl.org/hamfests/cuyahoga-falls-amateur-radio-club-68th-hamfest) | **04/27/2024 - [Tusco Amateur Radio Club Hamfest, Electronics, and Computer Show](https://www.arrl.org/hamfests/tusco-amateur-radio-club-hamfest-electronics-and-computer-show-1" \o "Tusco Amateur Radio Club Hamfest, Electronics, and Computer Show)**  **Location:**Dover, OH **Type:** ARRL Hamfest **Sponsor:** Tusco Amateur Radio Club W8ZX **Website:** <http://www.w8zx.net/hamfest> [**Learn More**](https://www.arrl.org/hamfests/tusco-amateur-radio-club-hamfest-electronics-and-computer-show-1) |
| **04/28/2024 -**[**Athens Hamfest**](http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/athens-hamfest-11)  **Location:**Athens, OH **Sponsor:** Athens County Amateur Radio Association **Website:** <https://www.ac-ara.org/> [**Learn More**](http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/athens-hamfest-11) | **05/05/2024 -**[**Lucas County ARES Trunk Sale & Swap Meet**](http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/lucas-county-ares-trunk-sale-swap-meet)  **Location:**Toledo, OH **Sponsor:** Lucas County ARES **Website:** [http://lucasares.org](http://lucasares.org/) [**Learn More**](http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/lucas-county-ares-trunk-sale-swap-meet) |
| **05/11/2024 - 05/16/2024** [**RV Radio Network**](https://www.arrl.org/hamfests/rv-radio-network-2)  **Location:**Millersburg, OH **Type:** ARRL Hamfest **Sponsor:** Rv Radio Network [**Learn More**](https://www.arrl.org/hamfests/rv-radio-network-2) | **05/16/2024 - 05/19/2024** [**Four Days In May**](https://www.arrl.org/hamfests/four-days-in-may)  **Location:**Fairborn, OH **Type:** ARRL Convention **Sponsor:** QRP Amateur Radio Club International **Website:** <http://qrparci.org/fdim> [**Learn More**](https://www.arrl.org/hamfests/four-days-in-may) |
| **05/17/2024 - 05/19/2024** [**Dayton Hamvention, ARRL National Convention**](https://www.arrl.org/hamfests/dayton-hamvention-arrl-national-convention)  **Location:**Xenia, OH **Type:** ARRL Convention **Sponsor:** Dayton Amateur Radio Association **Website:** [https://hamvention.org](https://hamvention.org/) [**Learn More**](https://www.arrl.org/hamfests/dayton-hamvention-arrl-national-convention) | **07/06/2024 -**[**Mansfield Mid Summer Trunkfest**](https://www.arrl.org/hamfests/mansfield-mid-summer-trunkfest-2)  **Location:**Mansfield, OH **Type:** ARRL Hamfest **Sponsor:** Intercity Amateur Radio Club **Website:** [http://W8WE.ORG](http://w8we.org/) [**Learn More**](https://www.arrl.org/hamfests/mansfield-mid-summer-trunkfest-2) |
| **07/21/2024 -**[**Van Wert Hamfest**](https://www.arrl.org/hamfests/van-wert-hamfest-8)  **Location:**Van Wert, OH **Type:** ARRL Hamfest **Sponsor:** Van Wert Amateur Radio Club **Website:** [http://w8fy.org](http://w8fy.org/) [**Learn More**](https://www.arrl.org/hamfests/van-wert-hamfest-8) | **08/10/2024 -**[**Cincinnati Hamfest**](https://www.arrl.org/hamfests/cincinnati-hamfest-3)  **Location:**Owensville, OH **Type:** ARRL Hamfest **Sponsor:** Milford ARC **Website:** [https://CincinnatiHamfest.org](https://cincinnatihamfest.org/) [**Learn More**](https://www.arrl.org/hamfests/cincinnati-hamfest-3) |
| **08/18/2024 -**[**Warren Hamfest**](https://www.arrl.org/hamfests/warren-hamfest-1)  **Location:**Cortland, OH **Type:** ARRL Hamfest **Sponsor:** Warren Amateur Radio Association **Website:** <https://www.w8vtd.com/> [**Learn More**](https://www.arrl.org/hamfests/warren-hamfest-1) | **10/27/2024 -**[**2024 MARC Hamfest at MAPS**](https://www.arrl.org/hamfests/2024-marc-hamfest-at-maps)  **Location:**N. Canton, OH **Type:** ARRL Hamfest **Sponsor:** Massillon Amateur Radio Club **Website:** [https://www.w8np.net](https://www.w8np.net/) [**Learn More**](https://www.arrl.org/hamfests/2024-marc-hamfest-at-maps) |

Plenty of Ohio Section Hamfests on tap for 2024! If you haven’t got yours submitted to ARRL as of yet – go back up a couple pages to the top of the “Clubs” section for complete instructions on how to get your fest ARRL Sanctioned! As you can see, I’ve left a couple open slots here for your Ohio Section Hamfest! (I’ve got a couple more that will hit the list next week!)

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A person sitting in a chair

Description automatically generatedDX This Week – Zones 12,13, and 14

Bill - AJ8B **(**[**thedxmentor@gmail.com**](mailto:thedxmentor@gmail.com) **/** [**www.aj8b.com**](http://www.aj8b.com) **)**

Have you worked TX5S? As you will read, they logged 12,000 QSOs on the first full day. Even if you are not a DXer, you should work them just in case. Clipperton doesn’t get activated frequently so work them just to have them.

Below is a press release from the Southwest Ohio DX Association about the DX Dinner.

**SWODXA DX DINNER® ANNOUNCEMENT**

January 19th, 2024

AJ8B => Bill Salyers

SouthWest Ohio DX Association

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

The SouthWest Ohio DX Association (SWODXA) is pleased to announce that we will again sponsor the DX Dinner, held in conjunction with the 2024 Dayton Hamvention®.  This, our **39th** annual dinner, will be Friday, May 17th, 2024, at **The Marriott at the University of Dayton, 1414 S. Patterson Blvd., Dayton, OH 45409**.

We will have another fantastic array of great prizes at the dinner and the Forum on Saturday!

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

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

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

The keynote speaker will be Dave Anderson, K4SV.

Tickets can be purchased on the SWODXA Events website at <https://swodxaevents.org/product/single-seat-ticket-2024>.

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

# DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH

**This week we will continue our investigation of the various CQ Zones. So, lets get started.**

**Zones 12, 13, and 14**

Zones 12,13, and 14 are the Southwest Zone of South America, Southeast Zone of South America, and the Western Zone of Europe. Following is a breakout of the entities that are contained in those.

**Zone 12**. Southwest Zone of South America: CE (Chile), CE0 (Easter Is.), CE0(Juan Fernandez Is.), CE0 (San Felix Is.), 3Y (Peter I) and some Antarctic stations.

**Zone 13.** Southeast Zone of South America: CX (Uruguay), LU (Argentina), VP8 Falklands, VP8 South Georgia, VP8 South Orkney, VP8 South Shetlands, VP8 South Sandwich and some Antarctic stations.

**Zone 14.** Western Zone of Europe: C3 (Andorra), CT (Portugal), CU (Azores Is.), DL (Germany), EA (Spain), EA6 (Balearic Is.), El (Ireland), F (France), G (England), GD (Isle of Man), GI (Northern Ireland), GJ (Jersey), GM (Scotland), GU (Guernsey), GW (Wales), HB (Switzerland), HB0(Liechtenstein), LA (Norway), LX (Luxembourg), ON (Belgium), OY (Faroe Is.), OZ (Denmark), PA (Netherlands), SM (Sweden), ZB (Gibraltar), 3A (Monaco) and 4U1ITU (ITU, Geneva).

These zones have been “feast or famine” for me. For each zone area there are several entities that are very common and there is at least one that is rare.

In Zone 12, I was very lucky to work 3Y0PI, Peter Island, in 1994. The last DXPedition to operate from Peter Island was in 2006.

Zone 13 has some of the most available entities and the rarest. The VP8 group is usually only workable during a DXPedition.

Zone 14 also has a few challenges with the Gx group (GD, GM, GU), ZB – Gibraltar, and 3A – Monaco. I have worked well into the upper hundreds of hams in this zone, but, only one 3A!

Good Hunting in these Zones

# DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH

Here is an update from Bernie, W3UR, of the DailyDX and the WeeklyDX, and the How’s DX Column in QST. The DailyDX the best source for real-time DX information. <http://www.dailydx.com/> . Bernie has this to report:

**TX5S, Clipperton** Island is On the air for real!

Daytime temperatures are over 90 degrees Fahrenheit (32 degrees Celsius), but the TX5S team made nearly 12,000 QSOs in its first full day on Clipperton Island. As of January 21, local time, they still had additional setup to do, including low band antennas and “the big amps.” Says K5GS, Gene, “It’s difficult to work in the blazing hot sun, so we go slow to avoid heat-related medical issues.”

Gene also says that the log to date was uploaded to Club Log and to MØURX.com. “There were some discrepancies between [Club Log] Live Stream when we first came up; we had a software glitch that was resolved. I am still working on the satellite log and hope to have it uploaded soon.” He asks that DXers not send messages to team members’ personal email addresses, to the DXpedition address, or directly to the PayPal email address. Also, he notes that many people are sending log screenshots, spreadsheets, and other files. These messages and their attachments are being deleted immediately.

Finally, they are not using QRZ.com logging, so please do not send requests for same. “We are **not** making log corrections while on the island,” says Gene. “All busted calls and not-in-log issues will be resolved by submitting the form on the MØURX Bespoke OQRS application. Use the Groups.io account to contact us; the pilots will summarize your comments and send to us.”

As a reminder, K6TU, Stu, and DH3WO, Wolfgang, have made available propagation tools.

N3QE, Tim, cites on Facebook a Club Log white list that chronicles the history of Clipperton DXpeditions from 1954 to the present. This list is shown at right.

Much more information is available at the TX5S website.

The EIDX Group has confirmed March 20-29 as the dates for their upcoming DXpedition to **7P**, **Lesotho**. Thirteen operators will be QRV as 7P8EI and will operate up to eight stations on 160-10M CW, SSB, and digital modes. QSL via MØOXO OQRS. They will have a website up soon.

N8JTR, Jay, is vacationing on **St. Kitts and Nevis**, using the callsign V47TT when he can. He terms this a “tiny outing.” Starting next here, he will be there for three years; “that will be a lot of operating.”

He will be on CW and FT8 from “the Brimstone Fortress and the volcano crater” using an ICOM IC-705 and Wolf River at 10W into a telescoping whip antenna, most likely on 20 and 15M. His QSL mailing address is on QRZ.com; he will also upload his log there and to POTA whenever he activates a park. He is waiting for his LoTW certificate and having QSL cards printed. Says Jay, “I'm kind of new to being DX instead of working it!”

Activity from **South Sudan** will be on hold for a bit. Z81D, Diya, aka YI1DZ, left two days ago for two weeks at his home in Istanbul, visiting family.  When he's back in Juba he plans SSB and FT8 on the air until his contract in Juba ends, at the end of May.  He may extend another half year.

We have 2 hams making a Pacific tour :

First, YT1AD, Hrane and team will be active between February 8 and March1 from **Fiji, Samoa and Tonga** but not from Tokelau (ZK3) as previously announced. The ZK3 operation is being postponed for late 2024 or early 2025. "The reason is New Zealand's state activities on the island of Tokelau in February and March, which have PRIORITY!!", says Hrane. More details on the delayed ZK3 activity are expected.

The team members going to 3D2, 5W and A3 include RC9O, Anatoliy; UA9OYL, Olga; YU3AA, Stevan; and YT1AD, Hrane, all with their own individual callsigns.

The Second tour will be made by Bill, G0VDE. Bill will be traveling to the Pacific between August 31 and September 23. His first stop will be to Pitcairn Island where he will be operating as VP6WR from September 5-15. Next, he is on to Mangareva Island, French Polynesia as FO/G0VDE from   
September 17 to 21. He'll have an IC-705 and IC-7300 along with a Juma PA1000 amplifier. Vertical and wire antennas will be used.

Listen for him on SSB, FT8 and some CW. He will have the ability to operate on 3.5 through 28 MHz, depending on propagation. He is currently working on QSL Manager arrangements and preparing a website.

OE3GEA, Gerhard, should be QRV by now from **Senegal** and will stay until February 4. This will be a holiday style operation as 6W/OE3GEA. He will be operating in his spare time.

JG8NQJ, Take, is back at the weather station on **Minami Torishima** and will be QRV in his spare time as JG8NQJ/JD1. He planned to be active on CW and some FT8 on 17 and 15 meters. Take is interested in making QSOs with North America and hopes to be active during those time frames (2100-0200Z) for short periods. Remember he must work. Take may also use a dipole to be QRV on 12 and 10 meters. QSL via JA8CJY.

# DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH

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Description automatically generated 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/>) 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!

The 2024 CQ World Wide 160-Meter CW Contest takes place this weekend. The event starts at 2200Z on Friday January 26 and ends at 2200Z on Sunday January 28. Complete rules can be found at   
<https://cq160.com/rules.htm>

The 2024 UBA DX Contest. This is the Royal Belgian Amateur Radio Union annual DX Contest. It is held in 2 phases. The first is SSB held the weekend of January 27th and 28th. The second is CW which is held the weekend of February 24th and 25th.

The purpose is to contact as many Belgian and other amateurs as possible.

More information can be found via the WA7BNM website.

|  |  |  |
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| **Contest** | **Start Date** | **End Date** |
| 10-10 Int. Winter Contest, SSB | 2/3/2024 | 2/4/2024 |
| British Columbia QSOP | 2/3/2024 | 2/4/2024 |
| Minnesota QSOP | 2/3/2024 |  |
| Vermont QSOP | 2/3/2024 | 2/4/2024 |
| CQ WW RTTY WPX Contest | 2/10/2024 | 2/11/2024 |
| Mississippi QSOP | 2/10/2024 | 2/11/2024 |
| ARRL Inter. DX Contest, CW | 2/17/2024 | 2/18/2024 |
| CQ 160M Contest, SSB | 2/23/2024 | 2/25/2024 |
| North Carolina QSOP | 2/25/2024 | 2/26/2024 |
| ARRL Inter. DX Contest, SSB | 3/2/2024 | 3/3/2024 |
| YB DX RTTY Contest | 3/9/2024 |  |
| Idaho QSOP | 3/9/2024 | 3/10/2024 |
| Oklahoma QSOP | 3/9/2024 | 3/10/2024 |
| Wisconsin QSOP | 3/10/2024 | 3/11/2024 |
| Virginia QSOP | 3/16/2024 | 3/17/2024 |
| CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB | 3/30/2024 | 3/31/2024 |

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**OHIO’S** A white sign with black text

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As the Postscript reported last week, the Ohio hamfest season is now officially off and running when the **Sunday Creek Amateur Radio Federation** (SCARF) held its annual hamfest recently at the community center in Shade. I did not make the trip, but some friends did and they reported the journey worthwhile. Although the weather was less than ideal, they reported a reasonable attendance with people enjoying the event and some items changing hands. The next hamfest in the South 40 Region will be on April 13 when the **Mid-Ohio Valley ARA** holds their hamfest at Bidwell. Then on April 28 the scene moves to the recreation center in Athens where the **Athens County ARA** holds its annual event. If you haven’t been to a hamfest, one of these smaller shows is an excellent place to cut your teeth and is not over-whelming like Hamvention can be. Try attending one. You might enjoy it.

A VE test session was conducted at the above mentioned **Sunday Creek ARF** hamfest which resulted in a couple “happy campers”. According to test coordinator Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, Wellston’s Darin McKee, KE8ZKD, upgraded to General and Hamden’s Robert Wellman became KE8ZWV. Another test opportunity was on the 20th when the **Fayette ARA** held a session in Washington CH. Jim Scott, N8ORJ, reports the two new licenses issued went to Leesburg with Jerry Lucas becoming KE8ZYA and Donald Seitz becoming KE8ZYB. The Commission has also cranked out some licenses to folks in other parts of the region. Down in Lawrence County Noah Hensley of Ironton passed his General and became KE8ZXE. Over in Clermont County William Jennings from Batavia became KE8ZXC while Michael Harris of Loveland was no more than granted the KE8ZXP call sign until he applied for the N0DNT vanity call. Lancaster welcomes Tyler Wehrum, KE8ZVQ as its newest amateur.

A cartoon of a polar bear skiing

Description automatically generatedAlthough the ARRL’s annual Field Day emergency training exercise happens in June, we all know that disasters don’t happen only in decent weather conditions. Therefore another exercise takes place in late January when conditions leave something to be desired. That 24 hour event is called Winter Field Day and it will happen on January 27 and 28. This year the **Clinton County ARA** will operate a WFDA station from the maintenance building at the National Weather Service Office at Wilmington. The **DeForest ARA** is going to rough it from Glen Dale Park near Peebles and are even challenging members to overnight during the event. In the Cincinnati area the Harvest Home Barn at 3961 North Bend Road in the Cincinnati suburb of Cheviot will be the site of the **OH-KY-IN ARA** operation. The **All Things Amateur Association** will operate the WFDA event from the Lancaster Campground Lodge #2 in Lancaster. The **Athens County ARA** will operate from the Crouse Memorial Station at the Athens Red Cross Building. The Red Cross will conduct a mass-feeding training exercise during the event. The **Tri-State ARA** will operate from the Radio Museum in Huntington starting at 2 pm. We understand the **Sunday Creek ARF** will be operating from a remote spot in Morgan County.

A can of beer next to a glass of beer

Description automatically generatedBefore heading to the NWS office in Wilmington to set up for Winter Field Day, the **Clinton County ARA** will gather at Sam’s Meats and Deli for the monthly Last Saturday Breakfast. It will get underway at 8:30.

A group of cans on a table

Description automatically generatedOn another type of radio themed fun note, the Grainworks Brewing Company in West Chester, OH has introduced a beer called the “Cincinnati Liars Larger”. The beer honors those employees of the Voice of America who operated the VOA’s Bethany Relay Station at West Chester during WWII until it was closed. The beer’s name comes from WWII when Hitler referred to the powerful Voice of America Bethany transmitter as the “Cincinnati Liar”. This Weizenbock will be available during February and March at selected carry-outs and stores in the Cincinnati area as well as at the taproom in West Chester.

While talking brews, there is a Radio Brewing Company in Kellog, Idaho. The initials of the two owners are AM and FM. Thus the tie in with the primary types of broadcast radio. “Call Sign IPA” sounds like a fitting brew name. I’m just wondering who the first brewery will be to name a beer an “807”?

With February just acround the corner, let’s take a look at some of the upcoming meetings to take place in the coming weeks. The **Clinton County ARA** meets on Thursday evening, Februrary 1 at the Boyd Cancer Center Conference Room in Wilmington at 7:30. Also meeting on the 1st is the **Lancaster/Fairfield County ARA**. They meet at the Fairfield County EMA Building in Lancaster at 7 pm. The **Portsmouth RC** will meet on Monday, February 5 at the Portsmouth American Legion Hall. February 13 will be a busy evening as three South 40 clubs meet that night. In West Union the **DeForest ARA** will meet at the Senior Nutrition Center at 7 pm. Up SR 247 in Hillsboro the **Highland ARA** will convene at the Highland County EMA Office at 7 pm and across the River in Maysville the **Greater Mason County ARA** will meet at 7 pm in the Mason County EOC Training Room. On the 20th, the **Athens County ARA** will meet at 7 pm in the Athens Red Cross Building and the **Tri-State ARA** will meet at the Radio Museum in Huntington at 7. Later in the month, the **Cambridge ARA** will meet on the 24th at the Guernsey County Administration Building at 10 am.

The Tri-State ARA will conduct a VE test session on February 10 at the Huntington Radio Museum. It starts at 9 am. All elements will be given. Pre-registration is not necessary.

A purple square sticker with white text

Description automatically generatedOf course hams like to eat and drink coffee almost more than they like to make on the air contacts. On Saturday, February 10 the **Bainbridge Area Hams** will journey to the Dutch Restaurant about 8 for their monthly biscuit, eggs and gravy gathering. Then later in the morning the **Highland ARA**’s Brunch Bunch crew will gather at the Hillsboro Burger King at 10 to exchange stories, radio information and good times. Then at 1 pm the **OH-KY-IN ARS** will hold their Brunch Bunch version at a location to be announced. On the 17th the **Lancaster/Fairfield County ARA** will gather for breakfast at 9 am at the Lancaster Frisch’s.

On February 17 the **Athens County ARA**’s annual February Pot Luck Social Dinner will take place at the Southeastern Ohio Red Cross Building starting at 5 pm. Those attending are requested to bring a dish to share and their own table service and drinks. All area hams and their guests are welcome to attend.

A local newspaper article regarding the **Highland ARA** recently appeared as a press hit in the *ARRL Letter’s* “In The News” column.

Jim Scott, N8ORJ, tells us the **Fayette ARA** has scheduled another Laurel VE session for Saturday, March 2 in Washington Court House. He also tells us that David Scott, KE8ZQX, upgraded from Technician to Extra at the recent WCH test session. Congratulations!

Until next time, 73. John Levo, W8KIW [jlevo@cinci.rr.com](mailto:jlevo@cinci.rr.com) or [highlandara@gmail.com](mailto:highlandara@gmail.com) or 937-393-4951

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**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\***

[**Click here to download the instructions**](http://arrl-ohio.org/news/2020/print_your_license.pdf)

***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: Did you operate Winte FD last weeked?

1. **Yes**
2. **NO**

From last week’s question – **DO YOU HAVE A BRICK AT ARRL HEADQUARTERS?**

Yes – 9% No – 91%

Let me point out that if you want to support ARRL financially, this is a good way to commemorate your club, a local Ham who has been a mentor to you, or a family member or even yourself! Contact me if you would like more information (wb8lcd@arrl.org)

(**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 November Handbook give away! It’s been reworked in the last week, so it should work for you…)

Bottom of Form

Ohio Section Cabinet

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Section Manager – Tom Sly, WB8LCD | Section Traffic Manager – David Maynard, WA3EZN |
| Section Emergency Coordinator – Bret Stemen KD8SCL | Section Youth Coordinator – Anthony Luscre, K8ZT |
| 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:Opt-In)” to start receiving them. Heck, just have them send an email to: [webmaster@arrl-ohio.org](mailto: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!*