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CQ CQ CQ de WB8LCD

Maslow's hierarchy of needs is a motivational theory in psychology comprising a five-tier model of human needs, often depicted as hierarchical levels within a pyramid. The five levels of the hierarchy are physiological, safety, love/belonging, esteem, and self-actualization.



Most, if not all of us, don't worry too much about the bottom two levels. After all, we live in the Greatest Country on the planet! That's the luck of the draw, and we all pretty much hit the big time on that one. The next three levels are where we can utilize Amateur Radio to make a better life for ourselves, *and also for others*.

The third level is where family life and our relationships with friends are important. Family is first and foremost, but our circle of friends is critical to our well-being. If you're anything like me, most of your friends are Hams. In my life it's pretty much been that way since junior high. This is a two-way street. Sometimes you need your friends, and sometimes you need to be a friend. We all share a common interest in Ham Radio, open your eyes to those who need a friend. At your local club, make it *your mission* to be that person who is welcoming and friendly to everyone (not just the chosen few). Even if only a couple of you at your club take this up seriously it will make a difference. And, it's contagious! (If you're a club leader, remember, most people will do what you do, not what you tell them to do.)

The fourth level is where you make a name for yourself. This stage is where I would challenge you to be the best there is, no matter what it is you do. Know your stuff and do it better than anyone else. Note: this doesn't mean you have to spend money – just be the best you can be with what you've got. Do it consistently, every day. You will be noticed!

Finally, the top of the pyramid are the things you do that bring joy into your life. These things are generally measured by what you do for others. The deserving, and sometimes the undeserving. These are things you do to help others belong and reach their goals.

I've met a lot of hams through my years. Most are living in those top three tiers. It's what makes Ham Radio the Greatest Hobby In The World!

Share the Magic of Radio.

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.

*** Sunday April 14, 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 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)

ARLB007 FCC to Require Two Factor Authentication for CORESUsers

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has announced an upcoming change to the Commission Registration System (CORES) that licensees use to pay any application or regulatory fees, manage or reset a password on an existing FRN, or request a new FRN. Beginning March 29, 2024, multifactor authentication will be implemented. Users will be prompted to request a six-digit secondary verification code, which will be sent to the email address(es) associated with each username. The user will then need to enter the code into CORES

before they can continue.

In a public notice, the FCC said this change will make the system more secure. "This additional layer of security will further safeguard against unauthorized access, thereby enhancing the overall integrity of information contained within the CORES system and improving the security of user data," it read.

The Public Notice can be found in PDF format at, https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DA-24-219A1.pdf .

The FCC recommends that users confirm they have access to their username account email and to add a secondary email address, if need be.

Resources are available for those who need assistance with the system. For inquiries or assistance regarding the implementation of multifactor authentication on CORES, submit a help request at https://www.fcc.gov/wtbhelp, or call the FCC at 877-480-3201 (Monday through Friday, 8 AM to 6 PM ET).

***I'm running this *again* because I've heard many of you suggest that it's too expensive to get new hams licensed. This is a GOOD Time for "Kids" to get licensed!

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 is 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 for the program instructions and reimbursement form.

Contact <u>ARRL VEC</u> 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!

The SouthWest Ohio DX Association (SWODXA), in conjunction with Icom® America, Inc., has announced a DX Mentor Recognition Program to recognize and reward amateur radio operators who have helped others achieve DXCC. An application form is now available for those who wish to nominate their DX mentor. Amateurs who have received mentoring from a nominee must be under 30 years of age during the calendar year of the award; targeting this age group is meant to keep such amateurs engaged in the hobby after they achieve DXCC. The judging committee will comprise SWODXA representatives and a representative from both the Northern California DX Foundation (NCDXF) and the International DX Association (INDEXA). The awards will be presented at the DX Dinner, held annually in conjunction with Dayton Hamvention®. More information and the entry form can be found at www.swodxa.org/DX-Mentor-Program or by emailing thedxmentor@gmail.com.

Get Ready for the 2024 ARRL National Convention and Youth Rally

A full slate of programming has been committed for the 2024 ARRL National Convention, which will be hosted by Dayton Hamvention®, May 17 - 19, in Xenia, Ohio. Hamvention is the largest



annual gathering of radio amateurs in the world.

Coupled with the

National Convention, this year promises to be a Hamvention not to miss. Building on a yearlong theme to "Be Radio Active," ARRL has planned exhibits, forums, panels, and activities that promise to engage and inspire attendees in a wide range of amateur radio interests.

Hamvention has committed one of its four forum rooms to a track of ARRL National Convention presentations with topics that span public service, technology, on-air activities, instruction, and youth outreach.

- In the Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES®) forum, ARRL Director of Emergency Management Josh Johnston, KE5MHV, will discuss the role of SAFECOM in supporting the public safety community to improve the emergency communications ecosystem, as well as the importance of building mutually beneficial relationships with local emergency management officials.
- ARRL National Instructor Gordon West, WB6NOA, will lead an **Instructor Academy**, showing off many new training tools to help lead lively ham radio license classes.
- ARRL Education and Learning Manager Steve Goodgame, K5ATA, will cover Youth Outreach through Amateur Radio STEM Education, covering ways to inspire students to pursue higher education and careers in technological fields.
- Enhancing Transmitter Performance will examine the ARRL Clean Signal Initiative, and presenters include ARRL Second Vice President Mike Ritz, W7VO; Rob Sherwood, NC0B, of Sherwood Engineering Inc., and ARRL Laboratory Manager George Spatta, W1GKS.
- Kyle Krieg, AA0Z, will present, **How to Control Your Ham Shack with A Node-RED Dashboard**, offering a tutorial for this easy-to-learn flow-based programming language that ham radio operators can use to build simple web-based dashboards that provide command, control, and automation in their ham shack.
- ARRL First Vice President Kristen McIntyre, K6WX, will examine the theory of ground, discussing dc grounds, RF grounds, and even talking about gravity, in her presentation, **Ground is a Myth!**
- ARRL CEO David A. Minster, NA2AA, will delve into the world of Gaming the Amateur Radio Modes, offering tips and tricks covering station design, operating, instruction, and mastering the art of amateur radio modes, including FT8.
- **Five Steps to a Successful POTA (Parks on the Air®) Activation** will be presented by Michael Martens, KB9VBR, of KB9VBR Antennas on YouTube.
- ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, will moderate a panel on Good
 Operators and Interference that includes Lark Hadley, KA4A, Director, Region Three, FCC
 Enforcement Bureau; ARRL Volunteer Monitor Program Administrator Riley Hollingsworth,
 K4ZDH, and ARRL Laboratory Manager George Spatta, W1GKS.
- ARRL Field Services Manager Mike Walters, W8ZY, will present, Tips for Successful Radio Clubs.
- ARRL Radiosport Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, and Contest Program Manager Paul Bourque, N1SFE, will provide an ARRL Contest Program Update.
- Explore the full scope of operating privileges and ham radio activities that can be done with a Technician class license, in the forum **Beyond Repeaters: See How Far Your Tech License**

Will Take You, presented by ARRL Laboratory Digital RF Engineer John McAuliffe, KD2ZWN.

Additionally, an ARRL Membership Forum will be held on Saturday, May 18, covering several



key areas of membership interest. The forum will be moderated by ARRL Great Lakes Division Director Scott Yonally, N8SY, and panelists include ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR; First Vice President Kristen McIntyre, K6WX, and CEO David A. Minster, NA2AA.

On Saturday, May 18, a **2024 ARRL Youth Rally** will be a special feature of the National Convention at Hamvention. The Youth Rally is intended for students who are 11 to 21 years of age. While Hamvention offers free tickets for youth aged 12 through 18, advance registration for the Youth Rally is recommended. A preliminary Youth Rally agenda and registration instructions are on the ARRL website, at www.arrl.org/expo. The Youth Rally registration fee is \$20 and includes a tee shirt (to wear on Saturday), badge, lanyard, and reusable tote bag.

Youth Rally participants will enjoy a full day of activities, discovery, sharing, and fun. Rally day begins at 9:15 AM on Saturday with the annual Dayton Youth Forum -- open to all Hamvention attendees -- moderated by well-known amateur radio educator Carole Perry, WB2MGP. The forum includes presentations from young hams covering a variety of amateur radio activities, topics, and technology. After lunch (on your own) Youth Rally registrants will gather in Forum Room 3 to get know each other and to explore a variety of amateur radio interests and activities. Learn about satellite communications, participate in a short sprint contest, contact a parachute mobile station, and participate in other fun! Bring a 2-meter handheld radio if you have one.

The Youth Rally will wrap up on Saturday with a presentation from the ARRL Collegiate Amateur Radio Program (CARP).

Learn more about the 2024 ARRL National Convention at www.arrl.org/expo, where you can find the full listing of ARRL-sponsored forums, exhibits, and activities.

Hamvention is held in Xenia, Ohio, on the sprawling grounds of the Greene County Fairgrounds and Expo Center. Visit the event's website at www.hamvention.org, where you can also purchase tickets, find the complete list of Hamvention forums, and learn more about the event.

Registration for Contest University (to be held May 16, 2024, at the <u>Hope Hotel</u> in Dayton, Ohio) is now open. Now in its 15th year, this event is held the day before the opening of the annual <u>Hamvention</u> 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.

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.

Updated Library Book Program

One of the projects that we have been working on is an update to the Library Book Program. The purpose is that a club can purchase a set of discounted books to donate to their local library or school at a reduced price. This allows the club to do outreach and place the books where hams and prospective hams have access. The details are at Library Book Set (arrl.org).

Thanks

Mike

Mike Walters, W8ZY

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[ARESOhio] District 10 Winlink Monday (others encouraged to participate)

As discussed at the ARES conference, we are bringing the Monday Winlink "net" back. Here is how it will work.

- 1) Hams are encouraged to send a winlink message to <u>ab8m@winlink.org</u>. The message should be via a Winlink ICS-213 form in winlink. Submissions are welcome on Monday's until 23:59 ET. In the body of the message the originator should indicate how they are submitting the message telnet, VHF, or HF.
- 2) On Tuesdays, AB8M will download the messages and respond to each one with an ICS-213 reply. AB8M will also generate a communications log for KC8NZJ outlying the week's activities. (Note that this step will be delayed the first week of March due to schedule conflicts)
- 3) Each participating station will receive 1 entry towards a 2024 ARRL Handbook for a telnet submission and 2 entries for a VHF or HF submission.

4) Entries will count towards the prize between the dates of Monday, March 4th and Monday, May 6th. A raffle will be held by the ARES D10 leadership after that date an AB8M will donate an ARRL handbook and ship it to the address of the winner.

-doug AB8M

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.

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/

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/.

<u>All Things Amateur Radio Association (ATARA)</u> We host testing sessions every second Tuesday of the month in Lancaster. To sign up please visit our website https://atara-w8atr.fun</u> and contact us at https://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 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

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

The Findlay Radio Club

The Findlay Radio Club sponsors an Exam Session the second Saturday of every month except September when we have our Hamfest. The Exam Session takes place at the Findlay Radio Club, 1333 West Sandusky St., Findlay Ohio 45839. The session begins at 9 AM. Pre-registration is recommended, but not required. You can pre-register at hamstudy.org. We can also give Exams remotely on-line on your schedule if you can't make to a session.

The club has meetings on the first and third Thursdays at the clubhouse at 7:30 PM. The meetings are also available on Zoom. Contact N8ET if you would like to log in. All are welcome.

We also meet at the club on Sunday afternoon from 2 until 5 (or later!) to talk about anything Ham Radio. The sessions are geared toward new Hams. Everyone brings their questions and equipment they would like to show off or learn how to use. This Sunday we are going to install and learn to use Flgigi, Flmsg, and Flamp. In past sessions we have built antennas, fired up new rigs, and generally had a good time!

The next meeting (Feb 15) will cover the same topic. Bring your laptop!

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 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

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

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

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 <u>K8GQB.COM</u> 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

Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society (NOARS)

Six VE testing sessions in 2024. Registration is appreciated but walk-ins are welcome. Contact Elaine, KC8FOS for more information or to register. ewilkinson1951@gmail.com or 216-337-4235

Saturday, Jan 6. Fairview Park Library. 21255 Lorain Rd., Fairview Park. 10 AM.

Sunday, March 10. NOARS Hamfest. Lorain County Community College. 1005 Abbe Rd. N., Elyria. 9 AM.

Saturday, May 4. Fairview Park Library. 21255 Lorain Rd., Fairview Park. 10 AM.

Saturday, July 20. NOARSfest. Lorain County Community College. 1005 Abbe Rd. N., Elyria. 9 AM.

Saturday, September 7. Fairview Park Library. 21255 Lorain Rd., Fairview Park. 10 AM.

Saturday, November 2. Fairview Park Library. 21255 Lorain Rd., Fairview Park. 10 AM.

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.

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/

Your Club news should be listed here!

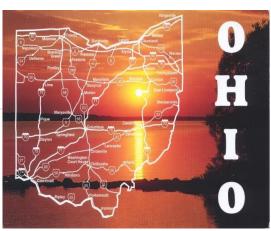
I know you're out there doing things! Send me a write-up (MSWord please) and some photo's (.jpg please) and we'll get your club hi-lited here for the other OH Section Clubs to see! Send to WB8LCD@ARRL.ORG

ARLD012 DX news

Please see March QST, page 78, and the ARRL and WA7BNM contest websites for details.

Upcoming Hamfests





Ohio Hamfests

2024

04/13/2024 - Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio

Club 68th Hamfest

Location: Cuyahoga Falls, OH

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Website: http://www.w8vpv.org/hamfest

Learn More

04/13/2024 - Mid-Ohio Valley Amateur Radio

Club

Location: Bidwell, OH **Type:** ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Mid-Ohio Valley Amateur Radio Club

Learn More

04/27/2024 - 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

04/28/2024 - Athens Hamfest

Location: Athens, OH

Sponsor: Athens County Amateur Radio

Association

Website: https://www.ac-ara.org/

Learn More

05/05/2024 - Lucas County ARES Trunk Sale &

Swap Meet

Location: Toledo, OH

Sponsor: Lucas County ARES **Website:** http://lucasares.org

Learn More

05/11/2024 - 05/16/2024

RV Radio Network

Location: Millersburg, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Rv Radio Network

Learn More

05/16/2024 - 05/19/2024

Four Days In May

Location: Fairborn, OH

05/17/2024 - 05/19/2024

Dayton Hamvention, ARRL National

Convention

Type: ARRL Convention **Location:** Xenia, OH **Sponsor:** QRP Amateur Radio Club International **Type:** ARRL Convention Website: http://qrparci.org/fdim **Sponsor:** Dayton Amateur Radio Association Learn More Website: https://hamvention.org Learn More 07/06/2024 - Mansfield Mid Summer Trunkfest 07/21/2024 - Van Wert Hamfest **Location:** Mansfield, OH **Location:** Van Wert, OH **Type:** ARRL Hamfest **Type:** ARRL Hamfest **Sponsor:** Van Wert Amateur Radio Club **Sponsor:** Intercity Amateur Radio Club Website: http://W8WE.ORG Website: http://w8fy.org Learn More Learn More 08/03/2024 - 2024 Columbus Hamfest 08/10/2024 - Cincinnati Hamfest Location: Grove City, OH **Location:** Owensville, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest **Type:** ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Aladdin Shrine Audio Unit **Sponsor:** Milford ARC Website: http://www.columbushamfest.com Learn More Website: https://CincinnatiHamfest.org Learn More 08/18/2024 - Warren Hamfest 09/08/2024 - Findlay Hamfest **Location:** Cortland, OH **Location:** Findlay, OH **Type:** ARRL Hamfest **Type:** ARRL Hamfest **Sponsor:** Findlay Radio Club **Sponsor:** Warren Amateur Radio Association

Website: http://w8ft.org

Learn More

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Website: https://www.w8vtd.com/

09/22/2024 - Cleveland Hamfest

Location: Berea, OH **Type:** ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Hamfest Association of Cleveland

Website: https://www.hac.org

Learn More

Location: Lima, OH **Type:** ARRL Hamfest

Club (NWOARC) Hamfest

Sponsor: Northwest Ohio Amateur Radio Club,

10/05/2024 - Northwest Ohio Amateur Radio

Inc.

Website: http://www.nwoarc.com

Learn More

10/27/2024 - 2024 MARC Hamfest at MAPS

Location: N. Canton, OH **Type:** ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Massillon Amateur Radio Club

Website: https://www.w8np.net

Learn More

12/07/2024 - Winter Hamfest

Location: Archbold, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: FCARC

Website: https://k8bxq.org/hamfest

Learn More

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!)

_ DX This Week – Zones 34 & 35

Bill - AJ8B (<u>thedxmentor@gmail.com</u> / <u>www.aj8b.com</u>)

Hope you had a good week. A couple of DXpeditions have gone QRT and a couple more are QRV. Keep the chair in the shack warm!

The one that I have been chasing is T32EU, for two reasons. First, I need East Kiribati for 2024 CQ Marathon. Secondly, they were guests on the most recent DX Mentor Podcast/YouTube episode, and I want to get a QSL to commemorate

that. If you haven't work them, you should at least give them a listen. They are very good at pile-up management!

I received a couple of cards this past week including YO5LD – Dan in Romania, SV1CEI – Nikolaos in Greece, ON2BER – Jean-Luc in Belgium, and SV1OCA – Leonidas in Greece. Let me know if you received anything!



DAH DIT DIT DAH DAH DIT DIT DAH

This week we will continue our investigation of the various CQ Zones.

So far this year, we have covered CQ zones 1 through 33. This week we will review Zones 34 & 35.

Zone 34. Northeastern Zone of Africa: ST (Sudan), SU (Egypt), Z8 (South Sudan) and 5A (Libya).

Zone 35. Central Zone of Africa: C5 (The Gambia), D4 (Cape Verde Is.), EL (Liberia), J5 (Guinea Bissau), TU - (Ivory Coast), TY (Benin), TZ (Mali), XT (Burkina Faso), 3X (Guinea), 5N - (Nigeria), 5T (Mauritania), 5U (Niger), 5V (Togo), 6W (Senegal), 9G (Ghana) and 9L (Sierra Leone).

Zone 34 is a tough zone for the simple reason that many of these entities have had internal strife and may not be on the air for long periods of time. Another great group of entities to work during contests.

The "Terrible T's" are in Africa and many of them are in Zone 35. These include TT – Chad, TZ – Mali, TU – Ivory Coast, TY – Benin, TJ – Cameroon, TR – Gabon, TN – Congo, TL – Central African Republic, and T5 – Somalia. Over the years there have been DXPeditions to these countries that have moved them slowly down the Most Wanted lists.

Good Hunting in these Zones!

DAH DIT DIT DAH DAH 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:

J38R Grenada – The J38R DXpedition is now QRT and they have this to report: "It has been an incredible journey involving six dedicated individuals that has led to this amazing result. Special thanks go to the local radio amateurs who came to our rescue by providing us with a third radio, allowing us to achieve this outcome. Also, to those of you who sometimes had to wait for hours to make that much-needed QSO with us, we are grateful. There's still more to come in the future, and we look forward to adding another new DXCC country to your logs. There are certainly areas where we can improve, and the tips you've sent have contributed to our success. Now, it's time for us to return to our families, whom we've missed dearly. 73, and until next time... where? We're not sure yet."

The DXpedition to **T32EU**, **Eastern Kiribati**, has this to report. "No doubt – T32 welcomed us with a difficult start. Two (out of ten) suitcases did not make it

to T32 and critical equipment for some of our antennas and multi-stations is missing.

Upon arrival to our destination, there was no electric power. Even though it came back after few hours, this shortfall has been staying with us since then. One of the three (public) power generators for the island had burnt down shortly before our arrival and the local government established a rotating scheme of "load shedding", i.e. whole areas of the island are taken off power on a rotating basis. Repair is forecasted for next March at the earliest. For us this means that, once per day, we experience a power shutdown for several hours – usually something between 8 and 12 consecutive hours. Even though our immediate search for a back-up generator was successful, the power which the (2.5kW) generator delivers is very unstable under a varying load, which limits our usable transmit power drastically – anything above "barefoot 100W" quickly leads to shutdown of one or the other transceiver. Simultaneous CW or even SSB traffic proved particularly impossible. Not exactly the ideal situation that we had hoped for. Our search for a better generator is on, but folks – we are on Christmas Island in the middle of the Pacific Ocean. Know what I mean?

To allow for reasonable QSO rates nevertheless, we started using MSHV digi modes during load shedding. Their power need is more continuous, and we use two TRX simultaneously for the two alternating time slots, thus doubling our presence. Not ideal, but better than using barefoot CW or SSB with interruptions every 30 seconds or so. So, for the CW and SSB community: be patient with us—we are working on it.

Enough of bad news – what is the good news? Despite all the limitations that surprised us, we were on the air since day #1. The majority of our QSOs have gone to the Americas and Asia, but over 20% has gone to Europe via the difficult polar path.

While I am sitting at my laptop to write this interim report, it is Monday morning, March 18 – i.e. evening of March 17 in UTC) I am heavily sweating, as we have had no power and no air conditioning for 6 hours. But our QSO rate after four complete DXpedition days stands at something well above 13,000 (almost 50% in CW).

So folks, bear with us – we are doing what we can to put T32EU into your log – be it as a new band or even an ATNO.

For those few who feel pressed to leave inappropriate comments on the DX cluster – please feel free to rush Christmas Island to demonstrate your own superior performance under these circumstances. Always good to learn from more experienced DXers. But, please hurry. Flights to Christmas Island arrive only once per week, and your next opportunity will be two days from now. We will greet you with a lukewarm beer!

I have an update on **FT4GL**, **Glorioso Island**. Marek, FH4VVK, will operate as FT4GL, May 24-June 19, from Glorioso Island which is currently #8 on the Club Log DXCC Most Wanted List.

According to the FT4GL Facebook page, this DXpedition was made possible by agreement of the French Southern and Antarctic Lands. Planning has taken over one year. Details are coming in little by little. We know that thanks to F5PYI, Laurent, POTA France program manager, the operation has been accepted as a Parks on the Air (POTA) activation. We also know that W2IRT, Peter, will be pilot for the East Coast of North America; KE1B, Rich, will be pilot for the West Coast of North America; and JJ3PRT, Joe, will be pilot for Asia. The FT4GL Facebook page, and The Daily DX, will have the most up-to-the-minute news, and The Weekly DX will provide periodic summaries.

I received some last-minute news on the **Galápagos Islands.** HC1MD (NE8Z), Rick, and HC1MM, Maria, are returning to the Galápagos Islands where they will be operating as HD8MD and HD8MM respectively March 20-29. They will be located at a house, near the beach with many sea lions, at Shipwreck Bay on San Cristobal Island. Listen for HD8MD on 40-6M CW, SSB, and FT8/FT4 ("sometimes MSHV") and HD8MM on 40-10M SSB. Rick says that on 6M, the Magic Band, he "will pay extra attention for openings in all directions 24/7 over the nine days of the operation." He anticipates "some good 6m openings" later this month and will prioritize 6M over other bands. HD8MM "will be monitoring 6M propagation reports on dxmaps.com at all times." Rick's goal is to "make this trip a fun 'DXPN-LITE' operation by using a very basic, simple station and antennas" – a Kenwood TS590G at 100W into a Windom, Outbacker vertical, and a Moxon for 6M. They also hope to give out HC8 for those who need it for an ATNO (All Time New One).

Rick has worked 230 DXCC entities and will be hunting down "39 active DXCC entities" on all continents and Oceania. QSL direct or via the W8 QSL Bureau (via K8LJG or NE8Z), direct or LoTW, on QSOs will be uploaded daily to LoTW. Color QSLs will be printed by UX5UO, Gennady, post-trip.

VU7 - Lakshadweep Islands - VU3OQK, Shantilal, has gotten permission to operate from Lakshadweep until May 31, callsign VU7LAL. He plans to operate from different islands in the group. More details later.

If you need **HB0** – **Liechtenstein**, here are two opportunities. First, OH2YL, Anne, tells us about her next DXpedition, which will be in Liechtenstein between April 6-13. She will have a Yaesu FT DX10 and Elecraft K3. Antennas will include a MyAntennas EFHW-8010-1K, OH2YL Special vertical 10M-30M, Dipole 60M and L-vertical 160M. Activity will be on CW and FT8 on 1.8 through 28 MHz. QSL via OH2YL.

Secondly, HB0/DL2JRM, Rene, will be here March 29 to April 1 including participation in the 2024 CQ WPX SSB Contest (callsign not mentioned) with HB9EHJ. Watch the Daily DX for details.

Dates are confirmed and transportation has been secured for the upcoming four-man team heading to **OJ0**, **Market Reef**, April 27 to May 4. The team of LA1UW, Bjorn; LA3WAA, Tor; LB5SH, Stian; and LB0VG, Kristoffer; will now be signing OJ0T instead of OJ0/home calls. "We will also do some antenna upgrades for this DXpedition, still mainly verticals and probably some monobanders, but hopefully be able to reach out to the most distant operators out there." The team will be open to "distant and/or low power/QRP operators!"

DAH DIT DIT DAH DAH DIT DIT DAH

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.

The 2024 WPX SSB contest will be held on March 30th and 31st. The exchange is simple, just RST and a serial number. I have found this contest to be fantastic for filling band slots on 40, 80, and 160m. Here is why.

Scoring follows these rules:

A. Score: The final score is the result of the total QSO points multiplied by the number of different prefixes worked.

A station may be worked once on each band for QSO point credit:

- 1. Contacts between stations on different continents are worth three (3) points on 28, 21, and 14 MHz and six (6) points on 7, 3.5, and 1.8 MHz.
- **2.** Contacts between stations on the same continent, but different countries, are worth one (1) point on 28, 21, and 14 MHz and two (2) points on 7, 3.5, and 1.8 MHz. Exception: For North American stations only—contacts between stations within the North American boundaries (both stations must be located in North America) are worth two (2) points on 28, 21, and 14 MHz and four (4) points on 7, 3.5, and 1.8 MHz.
- **3.** Contacts between stations in the same country are worth 1 point regardless of band.

How much time should you operate the contest? Should you work the entire 36 hours? Statistically the sweet spot for operating seems to be 3 to 6 hours of operation. Last year, due to a variety of issues, I was only able to work 5 hours of the contest, so now I feel better about my participation!

April 19-20: Israel Holyland Contest The Israel Amateur Radio Club will hold its annual Worldwide Holyland DX Contest April 19-20. The rules have been

updated from 2023 and are available in Adobe PDF. More information is available on the IARC website.

Thanks!

Contest	Start Date	End Date
CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB	3/30/2024	3/31/2024
SP DX Contest	4/6/2024	4/7/2024
Louisiana QSOP	4/6/2024	4/7/2024
Missouri QSOP	4/6/2024	4/7/2024
Georgia QSOP	4/13/2024	4/14/2024
New Mexico QSOP	4/13/2024	4/14/2024
Holyland DX Contest	4/19/2024	4/20/2024
Michigan QSOP	4/20/2024	4/21/2024
Ontario QSOP	4/20/2024	4/21/2024
SP DX RTTY	4/27/2024	4/28/2024
10-10 Intl. Spring Contest, Digital	4/27/2024	4/28/2024
Florida QSOP	4/27/2024	4/28/2024
10-10 Intl. Spring Contest, CW	5/4/2024	5/5/2024
Arizona QSOP	5/4/2024	5/5/2024
Connecticut QSOP	5/4/2024	5/5/2024
Delaware QSOP	5/4/2024	5/5/2024
Idaho QSOP	5/4/2024	5/5/2024
Indiana QSOP	5/4/2024	5/5/2024
Maine QSOP	5/4/2024	5/5/2024
Massachusetts QSOP	5/4/2024	5/5/2024
Montana QSOP	5/4/2024	5/5/2024

Nevada QSOP	5/4/2024	5/5/2024
New Hampshire QSOP	5/4/2024	5/5/2024
Oregon QSOP	5/4/2024	5/5/2024
Rhode Island QSOP	5/4/2024	5/5/2024
Utah QSOP	5/4/2024	5/5/2024
Vermont QSOP	5/4/2024	5/5/2024
Washington QSOP	5/4/2024	5/5/2024
Wyoming QSOP	5/4/2024	5/5/2024
SWODXA DXDINNER	5/17/2024	
SWODXA DXForum	5/18/2024	
Arkansas QSOP	5/18/2024	5/19/2024
CQ WW WPX Contest,	5/25/2024	5/26/2024
CW		

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

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



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!!

NEWSIETTER PARTITION

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!