



Primary Day Edition!!

- [From the Technical Coordinator](#)
- [From the Affiliated Club Coordinator](#)
- [From the Section Youth Coordinator](#)
- [ARES Training Update](#)
- [The Handbook Give Away](#)
- [Hamfests](#)
- [One Question Questionnaire](#)
- [VE Testing](#)
- [From the Section Emergency Coordinator](#)
- [From the Public Information Coordinator](#)
- [From the Section Traffic Manager](#)
- [National News](#)
- [Club Corner](#)
- [DX This Week](#)
- [ARES Connect](#)
- [Final.. Final..](#)



From the Technical Coordinator

Jeff Kopcak – K8JTK TC

k8jtk@arrl.net

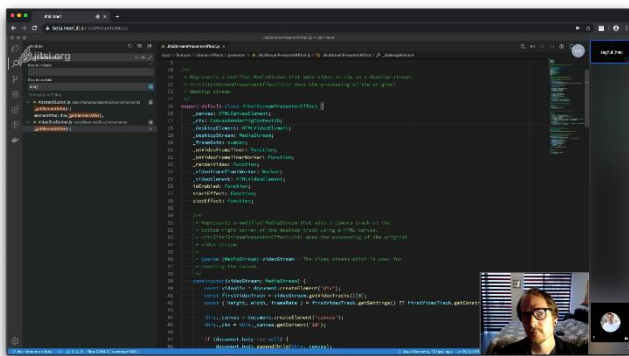
Hey gang,

Stay at home: day 42. Continuing to work from home. Haven't seen co-workers or friends in a month and a half. Regular lunch outings and after work happenings have long since terminated. Virtual meetings and conferences have replaced in person interaction. Participation in Ham Radio activities is on the rise! Nets are seeing higher check-in counts than they've ever seen. The curve is rising for digital modes and logged contacts.

Are we all having fun yet during Corona Fest 2020?

As people are forced to work from home due to closures, companies are utilizing videoconferencing services to keep in touch with employees and teams. These are now methods for coordinating efforts and relaying the latest to employees about the status of their company. A videoconferencing solution was likely available for employees to interact with remote team members or vendors world-wide. Now, those services are utilized all-day, every day. My company decided to begin the transition from WebEx to Microsoft Teams for meetings. I liked WebEx and it generally worked. MS Teams, well it's part of Office 365 and that's probably [down again](#). Corona Fest is forcing usage of these collaboration solutions, not only companies but social organizations that previously met in person. These include popular names like Skype, Google Hangouts, and Zoom.

Those who value open sourced solutions should use Jitsi or Jitsi Meet to hold meetings. The service is completely free and open-source where anyone can look at the [source code](#) of the project. The difference between Jitsi and Jitsi Meet: [Jitsi](#) is a roll-your-own solution meaning you can download server packages or code and deploy an instance however you want. [Jitsi Meet Online](#) is an extremely easy-to-use alternative solution for holding meetings – with no installation required.



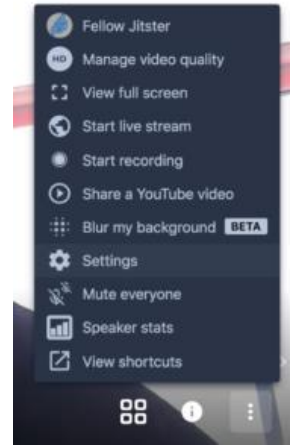
Settings up a meeting is easy as visiting the Jitsi Meet Online link, create a name for the meeting, click Go, set a meeting password, then send out the meeting URL or phone numbers to participants. A meeting can be created in a matter of seconds! Yes, POTS phone service is available as part of the meeting for free. Note, plain old telephone service audio options will not be encrypted due to the nature of the technology. There is nothing to download for desktop PCs with a web browser and most smart devices. Smart phone apps are available for iOS and Android including the F-Droid store. Functionally, Jitsi

Meet offers the same features as the others: video, audio, chat, and shared desktop.

If I had to pick one thing that I don't like about Jitsi it is the use of [WebRTC](#). Web Real-Time Communication is also a free and open-source project that provides web browsers and mobile applications with real-time communication (RTC). WebRTC is included in all modern browsers and enabled by default in most.

[TOP^](#)

This technology allows audio and video communication to happen without the need to install additional plugins or apps. Makes it very easy. There are a couple problems with WebRTC in highly privacy focused implementations. One problem is the communication is direct, peer-to-peer. This makes it possible for a skilled individual to learn real Internet Protocol (IP) addresses even while the other is utilizing a VPN. Use of a VPN can allow a user to appear as though their traffic is coming from a different IP and aids in masking actual location. Corporations use VPNs to establish secure communications from their network to their endpoint devices over networks with unknown integrity. Another problem is that end-to-end encryption is not possible with WebRTC. Jitsi addresses this issue in their [security document](#). [End-to-end encryption](#) (also abbreviated “E2EE”) is a method where only the communicating users can read messages exchanged, preventing eavesdroppers anywhere along the communication path.



Jitsi Meet options menu

I wish people used better tools such as Jitsi. That’s why there’s choice. I would use this for any meetings I hosted. It seems like a really good open-source alternative to the other solutions.

Zoom became very popular very quickly, almost overnight. It was even recommended right here in [last month’s OSJ](#). Attacks and threats emerge as a result of that popularity and pose risks for users and clubs who are using these services to host meetings. Cyber criminals are crafting email messages to steal logon credentials and packaging malware to look like a Zoom meeting installer.

For most of us, club meetings are not doing anything that’s overly sensitive with Zoom. Some organizations (companies, agencies) banned the use of Zoom citing [flaws in the encryption implementation](#) making it easy to exploit and three Chinese companies develop the applications. These should be taken into consideration but there has been no evidence of influence resulting from these issues. Zoom should be commended, though, due to their responsiveness in correcting vulnerabilities and privacy issues that have been discovered in recent weeks.

Free for accounts, everything is managed by the Zoom cloud, including encryption keys. Data is encrypted between the clients and Zoom servers. However, audio is not encrypted if a paid account is using the POTS phone line options.

Shortly after its popularity exploded, so did the number of unwanted participants in meetings leading to the term “[Zoombombing](#).” Having someone crash a meeting is obnoxious and an unwanted disruption. Examples of this have made the rounds where Zoom sessions were hijacked by individuals saying or showing things that are lewd, obscene, racist, or antisemitic in nature where everyone in the session can see or hear. Students themselves [conspired to have pranksters harass teachers in their online classes](#). Others utilized [‘Wardialing’ tools to discover unsecured Zoom sessions](#). [Wardialing](#) is an early hacking term where every number in an area code was dialed to find computers, bulletin board systems, servers, and fax machines. The resulting list would be used to guess login credentials and gain unauthorized access to those systems. One person I know had her yoga session crashed by an individual cursing and displaying symbols associated with the National Socialist German Workers' Party. I have not heard about any disruption to ham radio club meetings.

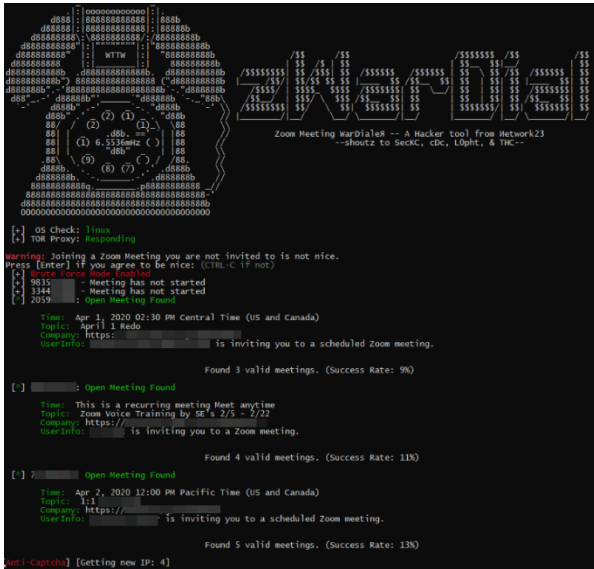
There are steps the organizer can take or have someone else follow the directions in the Zoom support articles to prevent these issues. Not all of these configuration recommendations are needed for every meeting, follow ones applicable to that meeting. For example, you may not want to lock a club meeting from participants but instead use a waiting room approach.

[Latest version](#): ensure participants are using the most recent client version. In April alone, there have been three updates to the Windows client.

[Meeting password](#): posting a meeting link to social media will draw attention. Send the event password to known users through a direct message or other means where your participants are known.

[Waiting room](#): virtual staging area for guests and participants until you're ready for them to join.

[Manage participants](#): remove any participants that should not be in the meeting and set who can share their screen.



Zoom War Dialer (krebsonsecurity.com)

Disable [video](#), [file transfer](#), [annotations](#), and [private chat](#): cut down on distractions, unsolicited content, or messages as needed.

[Accidental removal of a participant](#): a booted user cannot rejoin a session using the same email address unless a few settings are changed.

[Put participants on hold during breaks](#): attendees audio and video can be disabled during lunch, bio breaks, or private moments.

[Video recordings](#): exercise discretion when recording content and know where that content is stored. Paid customers have the option to record a meeting to the cloud.

Following these tips can lead to a successful, uninterrupted meeting.

I saw [a posting](#) by the developer of the MMDVM software, Jonathan – G4KLX. Digital hotspot and repeater owners should follow these guidelines.

This message contains important information that I want disseminated far and wide please.

I have been approached by the people who run aprs.fi and REF001/REF030 (not the same people) about problems being caused by hotspots. This is down to usage and I hope that people will act on this information:

1. APRS, it is important that when configuring your hotspot, that you ensure that the suffix used for accessing aprs.fi is unique. For example, if you use more than one hotspot, then ensure that for every mode and for every hotspot, the aprs.fi access callsign is unique. This is usually done by specifying a unique suffix to the callsign used by the hotspot. If more than one hotspot attempts to access aprs.fi with the same callsign+suffix combination, the first one is thrown off, and the new one connects. In the meantime, the original one tries to connect and throw the new one off. This can happen multiple times per second and is causing problems for them. Please, please, please, look at your configurations and if you have a duplicate, change one of them.

2. REF001/REF030, apparently the network load on these D-Star reflectors is now very high due to the number of hotspots connecting and staying connected. Could you please consider changing your gateway configuration so that you disconnect after a certain period of inactivity (this means local RF activity) so that they aren't overloaded. I know we like to listen out for activity, but we must also realise that D-Star popular reflectors cost money to run, and that includes network and processor usage. A quick look at their dashboards will reveal the problem, they're huge. Jonathan G4KLX

Set unique SSIDs for APRS on different modes and on different hotspots. Finding where APRS information originates isn't always easy with hotspots. The OpenSPOT 1 has a location information box in settings but it is [not transmitted directly by that device](#), rather Brandmeister pushes that information to the APRS network. [Disabling APRS data on the Pi-STAR](#) requires editing the config files and setting priority messages in Brandmeister. The priority message solution should work for OpenSPOT devices too.



ZUMSpot on Raspberry Pi Zero compared to a quarter

Unlink from reflectors, talkgroups, and systems when you're not using them, especially ones with large numbers of connected users. Users are apparently leaving their devices connected to popular reflectors tying up bandwidth and resources unnecessarily.

To put this into perspective, when I looked at [REF001](#) there were 850 remote/hotspot users connected, about the same on [REF030](#). A mere 12 had transmitted since they were connected. A 5 second transmission is about 9KB worth of Internet traffic. Multiply that by 850 connected devices, that's 7.6MB of traffic in 5 seconds to connected hotspots, many of which are not being used. That's an estimated 80 gigabytes or

so for an hour-long net. There are ping/heartbeat packets to all connected devices even when the reflector does not have an active radio transmission taking place.

Please check your hotspot APRS configurations and disconnect when not in use.

K8JTK Hub Interlink System

Anyone wanting a place to meet-up for checking on friends and fellow hams or looking for something to do can use a system I've been working on the last few months. Currently, it offers 6 full-time ham radio VoIP modes interlinked for interoperability. Ways to access the system:

- EchoLink: **K8JTK-R 233196**
- AllStar Link: **50394**
- Hamshack Hotline: **94026**
- DMR: **Brandmeister TG 31983**
- D-STAR: **DCS/XLX983 A**
- YSF: **K8JTK Hub 17374**

Since I'm working from home, I've linked up my Wires-X room: **K8JTK-ROOM 40680**

More information or updates on the system: <http://www.k8jtk.org/ham-radio/k8jtk-hub-digital-voip-multimode-interlink-system/>

Thanks for reading, stay sane, and 73... de **Jeff – K8JTK**

[TOP^](#)

From the Section Emergency Coordinator
Stan Broadway, N8BHL - SEC
broadways@standi.com

A giant step forward

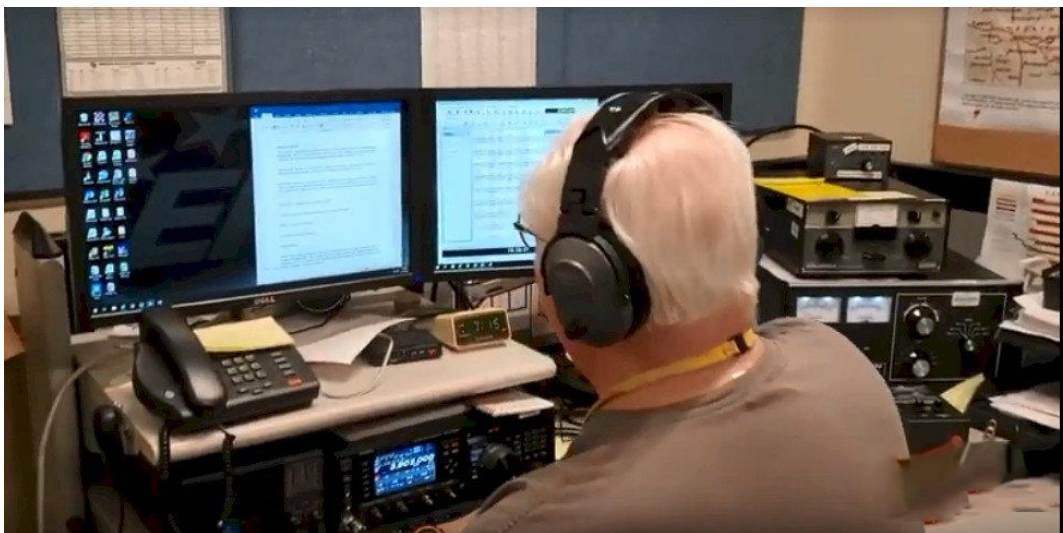
The April 4th statewide net

When the Ohio ARES Conference got cancelled Tim, K8WFL, suggested we could still get our ARES organization involved with a statewide “Work from home” net. With some preparatory work this grew into a technical test of the digital voice systems that promised to double our penetration and coverage in Ohio during emergencies.



It took some work to gain permission from Fusion and Brandmeister admins to allow the link. There are other links, but it was groundbreaking to link the two statewide talk paths together. When the link was completed, over 200 repeaters around Ohio were activated plus innumerable hotspots.

As we expected, 40 meters didn't exist. NVIS signals weren't to be heard. Several have asked about using 60 meters instead. This is something we might investigate further. Another benefit is we could merge voice and OHDEN since we're permitted to transmit both on the 60-meter frequency. 80 meters was remarkable! Not only were stations able to pretty much hear every other station in the net, but there was an overwhelming number of stations!



We had over 130 stations logged from 59 counties, and for every station logged there were at least three other stations who didn't get acknowledged. I thank ALL of you who were there to participate, whether checked in or not.

I think we're going to come up with a more reasonable way of doing check-ins, maybe dividing the districts or by calling counties to allow more stations to be heard. It didn't take a big gun- we had several solar-powered QRP stations who were clear and easily heard. OHDEN had the same issues with 40 and ran about 30 check-ins on 80.

[TOP^](#)

The big deal for us at the Sarge was testing the linked systems on digital voice. Upon gaining permission from each system to link the statewide paths (Brandmeister's admin was very supportive of our use of 3139) we proceeded to test the basics on Thursday preceding the net. Gary, KE8O threw the switch. Audio levels were about even, the latency or delay wasn't bad, and it all seemed to work. So how well would it work under pressure? The answer: extremely well! The net launched without a hitch, and Jae, N8YMT began watching all the different station ID's he could while Richard, KD8PHG logged.



There was the ID on the Fusion radio, fairly instant. There was the list of stations on the dashboard, very slow to update. And there was the ear hearing callsigns. That, and for many the unfamiliar delays (key up and count to three- you're bringing up 200 repeaters and that isn't instant!!) set the pace slower than a simplex net. There may have been some system glitches, where transmissions might have been missed or quick keying didn't grab the network, we don't know. What we do know is the over 200 check-ins with many more stations on the air produced a major load for the linked systems.... and they held up very well. Of the 200 logged, the numbers were about evenly divided across our districts and only slightly more

were on DMR as Fusion. They were almost evenly balanced.

So, what does this mean?

Remember our "Watch Desk Project" where during a ~major~ event such as a blizzard, tornado outbreak, etc.? Under our procedure, the Sarge activates our station on 3139 and we announce that we're listening for reports or messages directed at the Ohio EOC. This low-profile situation worked well each time it was needed (about once a year so far). Now, in an actual emergency, we will be able to ride along with Fusion and DMR linked-doubling our present penetration and reach across Ohio for information moving both toward the EOC, and allowing more stations to monitor in the case it's moving their direction. This is not something we take lightly, and we don't expect to use this except for very rare occasions. Those occasions, however, we'll be glad it works!

What did we learn?

We had good technical results as mentioned above. We had a LOT of you participating, and that was a major goal at the outset. So, pat yourself on the back, accept our thanks for being there! Many were operating under remote conditions - solar, battery, low power, portable antennas. It was a good time to make those tests, for sure!

I want to be honest here... absolutely NOT critical or condemning but reasonably looking at our overall performance. So nothing personal, no ranting or jumping up and down. Basically, one thing we learned is at as a whole we all need some really intense training and practice in large-scale net operation. In other words, we need to be better operators in a net! Lots of training.

As for the HF nets, there were a LOT of stations. We are going to have to change the way we call for stations in the future under such events... perhaps breaking districts down into smaller chunks, or even calling by county. If we do that, we will certainly be able to hear and log many more stations than we did trying to work through pileups. (Can I admit that working the pileups was a lot of fun!) I was constantly aware that for every station we logged there were probably three or more others who we just didn't hear. You didn't have to be a big gun - we logged several QRP or low power stations. Most HF operating was good!



controlled net.

The massive press of stations on the digital systems was pretty chaotic. I know that for many, the way digital systems operate was very different and unsettling. The delays built into bringing up over 200 repeaters across Ohio, and bridging systems, imposed a slower pace. The usual "Key fast and get heard" operation doesn't work on digital voice. There may have been glitches where parts of messages weren't heard. We did not behave ourselves when NCS said, "Net hold!" on many occasions. I get it - this was a very new environment for many, and I applaud you for dusting off the digital radio and trying it out!! Be assured that in a real emergency we would not be running a full-on check-in net! We would, as mentioned, be on air with announcements and listening for messages. Only under catastrophic circumstances with traffic intensifying would we need to move to a tightly

And that's where we didn't score very well. Net controls were informal, not like it would be in a real situation. Net stations as a whole showed that we need to move to a new phase: LOTS of net training! We are a hobby. On our Tuesday night nets, and on this Saturday, we opted for an informal approach - where we encourage participation, recognize voices and people, and hopefully bond the entire group more closely together. But that is NOT the best way to operate during a real situation... and we have been lax in requiring that kind of performance. Gang, we need to learn to be better operators! Listen to safety forces on the radio, listen to the Hurricane Net and traffic nets. When it hits the fan, we need to be able to function at that level. So, EC's, trainers, I'm asking that we step up basic network training in our meetings and in our local nets! Let's step up our game to the next level now and help each other get tighter, more professional as an overall service! We will try to put together some information and training that can be distributed... that'll be our assignment here.

I hope you had a good time Saturday, and really enjoyed being part of the statewide exercise. The activity was reported out on the main EOC floor Saturday afternoon, and received high recognition from the state managers who were present. Thanks to Brandmeister and Fusion for the support! Thank you for being a part of ARES in Ohio! Stay safe in these times!

Thank you all for being there and being ready!

73, Stan N8BHL

You can view all of the SEC's monthly reports on the website.. <http://arrl-ohio.org/SEC/default.html>

#####

From the Affiliated Club Coordinator

Tom Sly, WB8LCD - ACC

tomsly29@gmail.com

When I last sat down to write something for the Ohio Section Journal, the reality of the Wuhan Flu had just started to hit. Event closings (especially the BIG Ham Radio events I really looked forward to every year – Hamvention most significantly) were just starting to be announced. I was in a serious Funk! Fortunately, I got over it quickly.

Life is full of disappointments, but what really makes the difference is how we react to them. I'm reminded of this dialog from the movie Apollo 13:

NASA Director: "This could be the worst disaster NASA has ever experienced."



Gene Kranz: "With all due respect, Sir, I believe this is gonna be our finest hour! We've never lost an American in space, we're sure as hell not gonna lose one on my watch! Failure is not an option."

We all know the rest of the story. And, you've still got plenty of time left in quarantine – I highly recommend on adding this to your watch list for a refresher.

My thoughts and prayers go out to all of you who may have had the COVID-19 virus hit close to home. For all of you who are feeling a financial impact. The effects of this are going to be with us for a long-time. It will definitely be a time remembered, and studied, on into the future. How will Ham Radio be remembered when this is all over?

This could be the time in history that future generations look back to and say it was when Ham Radio finally lost its significance in society and left the planet for good. OR, it could be the time when future hams look back and say "Wow – those guys really stepped it up and made a difference in the world!" It's up to us. It's also up to us to share our success stories with each other so we can build on each other's positive experiences.

Club meetings. Are you still having them? How do you do that in this day of social isolation? What kind of meeting topics are you covering? How are you getting presenters to talk to your club? What will it look like when we are "allowed" to have meetings again? Will you jump back into them or take it slow? I've heard of lots of meetings taking place on platforms like Zoom, has anyone used a radio net for a meeting?

Club nets. Doing anything different? More or less nets? Different or added frequencies? Club nets reaching out to bring in participants outside of the club area?

Club building projects. Are you building anything as a group? How are you tracking how each individual builder is doing? Are you building kits? If so, what kits – from where? How are you helping those who need assistance?

[TOP^](#)

Club Newsletter. I would presume that with all your spare time, most everyone's shack is picked up and looking better than ever. Getting those photo's in for the newsletter? Documenting your homebrew efforts and submitting to the newsletter? How about researching that article you always wanted to write – getting that done?

Club Operating Activities. Have you made any special “club operating events” for your members to compete against each other with? What kind of events have you come up with? How are you trying to get your members involved with Contests? QSO Parties? County Hunting, Worked all States and other awards?

Field Day. Is your club participating this year? Field Day is supposed to be an “Emergency Preparedness” event. We are currently in a National Emergency. Do we sit this one out? Do we operate individually from home? Do we figure out a way to run an Emergency Communications event while minimizing the risk to all participants? What type of precautions can we all take to stay safe?

Club/new member licensing and upgrade classes. Anyone running these on a video conferencing platform? How about putting together a YouTube video for each section of the license manual? How about a couple of clubs working together on this? What about the VE Sessions? What about a YouTube video on some simple projects for new hams? (a simple 2 meter antenna to hook up to your new handi-talkie so you can actually hit the repeater!)

Supporting other organizations. I know in these times not everyone can afford to, and that's OK. But, if you can, organizations still need our help, if not even more. Personally, humanitarian needs come first. But please also consider: ARRL, Youth DX Adventure Program, Carole Perry's Youth Programs at the Radio Club of America, your local club, Hamvention. Just to name a few.....

Most of you will look at this list and (hopefully) say “Yeah, our club should be doing those things.” But not all of you are the club president. Not all of you are an officer / board member of the club. That doesn't mean your contributions are not important! After our first ever Zoom meeting last month, one of the PCARS members told me that the next day she had mailed a QSL card to both of the gentlemen who were kind enough to be our presenters, thanking them for taking the time to be with us and make our meeting extraordinary. Do you have any idea how meaningful that is to someone who just went out of their way to do something for your club? I can tell you it made an impact for that club member and her club. This is simple stuff. Good manners. Yet not as common as you would hope that it would be! Let me stress this: no matter what your position in the club – YOU can make an impact on behalf of your club.

In a broader sense, YOU can make an impact for the hobby. Are you open and inviting on the air? Ham Radio has had a reputation of not welcoming new hams and/or young hams. New kid tries to break into the group that's just rag chewing, like they do every night on THEIR frequency, he sometimes is not given a very heartfelt welcome into the hobby! How about getting on HF and calling CQ? The new guys are looking for someone to talk to, give them a reason to call YOU! We all want to expand the base of active participants in the hobby, make sure you let them know they're welcome when they show up.

I already talked about getting those “shack shots” in for your newsletter, how about your homebrew projects? Why not “kit it up” so others can make it too, with the challenge to make it better? Make it into a club project. Make it into a club fundraiser. Want to see how this is done? Check out the 4 State QRP Club for some of their kits (www.4sqr.com). Interesting club – worth checking out.

How about the Ohio Section Journal? Have you got everyone in your club on the mailing list? Every month I find some useful and inspiring information right here! I'll repeat myself here, but, the Ohio Section has some of the brightest, friendliest, interesting hams in the country. Make sure everyone in your club is being exposed to them on a monthly basis. And, if you ever want to catch a Ham's attention, just mention that it's FREE! What a deal.

So, this month I'm a bit more cranked up than I was last month. This quarantine period has given us a much different environment to enjoy our hobby in. For most it's given us the gift of TIME to spend in ways that we want to, not just in the ways we have to. Use this time to increase your enjoyment of the hobby. Use this time to increase your knowledge of the hobby. I won't say where I heard it, but someone once said, "never let a good crisis go to waste". Well, here we are. Hopefully, as things start to return to normal, we can use our experiences to make our clubs, and our hobby, more meaningful to ourselves and more attractive to those who have not joined us yet!

73 Tom WB8LCD

That's it for now. Let me know what's on your mind. tomsly29@gmail.com

From the Public Information Coordinator

John Ross, KD8IDJ - PIC

john.ross3@worldnet.att.net



FROM THE PIC

NEWSLETTER CONTEST
KEEPS ROLLING

It's good to know that in these uncertain times there is one thing that has not changed....the 2020 edition of the Ohio Section Newsletter Contest!!!

The newsletters are rolling in...they all look great...and our editors are taking advantage of some extra time and doing a little more "in detail" writing and reporting. Ham Radio folks are very good at communicating both in print and on the air!

A couple of weeks ago I got to thinking that we might not be able to do our yearly round table judging so I put together a plan to judge the newsletters electronically. It's not all that complicated...the judges will receive...electronically...packets of newsletters and links. Each judge will make their selections and send the results back to me. The packets will then be rotated among the other judges...minus the previous judges' picks...and eventually each judge will get a fresh look at every newsletter. Once all of the preliminary selections have been made a list of finalists will be sent so the recipients of this year's awards can be made. No mayonnaise jars or safes are required.

It may take a day or two extra to do the judging but we will have complied with the best social distancing practices and, as always, picked the cream of the crop for this year's awards.

[TOP^](#)

It just won't be as much fun!!! I like seeing the judges argue, sweat and bicker over our newsletters. It reminds me every time just how good the newsletters really are, and why we have the best contest in the nation.

We are hoping to be able to present the awards at the hamfest in Tallmadge in August and keeping hope that will still happen.

There are two months left to enter...June 30th is the deadline. Just remember you'll need two copies of your club's newsletter...form different months...to be entered.

Keep up the good work hopefully we can get together soon to celebrate our winners.



TALKING MORE

I have been able to work at home for past two months and set up shop in my ham shack/recording studio. A big advantage of this arrangement...thank you AT&T...is that the ham radios come on every morning at 5:00 AM!

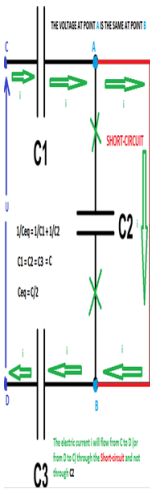
I can now listen to every conversation on every repeater and on some selected low bands. When there is break in the work action (frequently) I can actually pick up a microphone and join in. I have talked to folks waiting in line at the grocery, new hams who are on the air for the first time trying out their radios and antennas, and the good old folks who are just "reading the mail" and listening for a friendly voice. It's great! We really need more of this, not only in the worst of times, but in the best of times.



Ohio has a lot of great repeaters and with DMR we can communicate statewide...and around the world...all on the same radio, same channel at once. I know that some clubs are now meeting regularly on the air instead of monthly breakfast or dinners in person. It's a little less fattening but a lot fun...although the smell of bacon or a burger would be nice.

Keep up the happy talking...we need to use our frequencies more often to keep them ours longer and for the future of amateur radio.

VIRUSES, VACCINES AND SHORT CIRCUITS



Our current health problems are a lot like the short circuits we have all experienced over the years as we learned about electronics.

We have all been stumped by smoked resistors, burnt transformers, exploding capacitors and circuits that just won't seem to lockup and oscillate.

But...in the end we identify the problem, find the right component and with a little tweaking everything works.

Maybe it's the soapbox I'm standing on, but I have great faith that soon there will be a solution to this pandemic and the process will have been a lot like what we do as hams everyday...keep on trying.

Everything worthwhile takes time...and with time we will fix our health issues as easily as we replace a tube, transistor or IC. I also have great faith in amateur radio and the people that make it work. Truly, together, with what we know and have learned we can solve any problem.

That's it for this month...stay safe and keep on talking!

John Ross KD8IDJ - Public Information Coordinator Ohio Section ARRL

From the Section Youth Coordinator

Anthony Luscre, K8ZT - SYC

k8zt@arrl.net

What are You and Your Local Radio Club Doing to Get Through COVID-19?

Typically, we have too little time on our hands to work on projects or learn new things. The self-isolation/stay-at-home aspect of COVID-19 has suddenly given us lots of time and simultaneously limited our ability to meet in-person with others. Many clubs have dealt with by increasing existing on-air nets or doing club meetings as on-air nets. Many other clubs have taken a cue from businesses and are now having online meetings with Zoom, Google Meet, Skype, etc. In this month's column, I would like to provide a few suggestions:



- **GET ON THE AIR!**
- Learn something new and/or get better at something you already do
- Study for an Amateur Radio License upgrade
- Create Materials to help others learn
- Have a virtual online presentation for your club (do it yourself, find a member that would like to present or see below if you would like me to present)
- Station Improvements
- Build Something (especially that unbuilt kit sitting on the shelf)
- Read things you have been setting aside- Amateur Radio Magazines, articles here on Ohio Section website, books, etc.

1. GET ON THE AIR!

As Amateur Radio Operators we are blessed with an activity that we can do from our own homes, 24-7, no matter virus situation or the weather (except of course those pesky spring thunderstorm interruptions). By choosing appropriate bands we can even find someone to contact in the wee hours of the morning. Pick some on-air activities, bands, modes, etc. you have not tried, haven't done in a while or pick your favorite band/mode and have a nice long rag-chew.



Do you monitor your local club(s) VHF/UHF repeater(s)? If not dust off that radio and start monitoring. But don't just listen, start calling and/or answering other's calls. If you don't monitor your local repeater daily at least get on the air for weekly nets. My local club, [Cuyahoga Falls ARC](#) maintains not only a list of our weekly nets but [other area clubs' nets](#) on their website. You can also find lists of nets in your area or even around the world at these links:

- [ARRL Nets List](#)
- [N1YZ Net List](#)
- [AC6V Net List](#)

Contests are a great activity to get a large number of QSOs in a short period of time. They are also a great way to up your WAS (Worked All States), DXCC, etc. totals. Visit my web page www.k8zt.com/contesting for contest calendars, clubs, software and more. [State QSO Parties](#) are a great lower-key way to get involved in contesting, especially for beginners. A great activity for 2020 is the [State QSO Party Challenge](#) that gives you points for competing in multiple State QSO Parties.

I also have a presentation on Contesting Software that I put together for the recently canceled 2020 Great Lakes Division Convention. You can read through it- tiny.cc/gl-contest or if you are interested in having it as a club presentation see below.

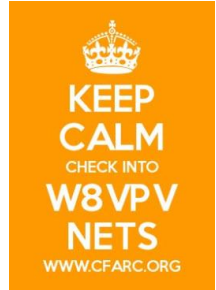
2. Learn something new and/or get better at something you already do

Here are a few ideas

- Morse Code- "Having Fun with Morse" - tiny.cc/fwm
- FT8/FT4- tiny.cc/ft8ft4
- Amateur Radio Satellites (the low-orbit, FM only satellites require a few basic things you may already have and are simple to operate) - tiny.cc/fm-sat
- Arduinos
 - www.coursera.org/courses?query=arduino
 - www.classcentral.com/tag/arduino
 - www.arduino.cc/en/Tutorial/HomePage?from=Main.Tutorials
- Raspberry Pi-
 - www.futurelearn.com/partners/raspberry-pi
 - <https://digitaldefynd.com/best-raspberry-pi-tutorial-course>
- Electronics
 - www.edx.org/learn/electronics
 - <http://101science.com/basicelectronics.htm>
 - www.arrl.org/arrl-basic-electronics-course

3. **Study for Amateur Radio License upgrades** and/or help a family member or friend get their license. You could work with others over the phone online conferencing software, etc. This might be a good club project.

- Books
 - [KB6NU-The No-Nonsense Technician-Class License Study Guide](#) (free pdf version available)
 - [Gordon West Tech Class Manual](#)
 - [ARRL Ham Radio License Manual](#)
 - [Ham Radio Study Guide!](#)



- Online
 - [The Ham Whisperer's Technician Class License Course](#) (also available as videos on YouTube)
 - [Ham Test Prep - Android Apps on Google Play](#)
 - [HamTestOnline](#)
 - [KB9OKB Introduction to Ham Radio and Technician Training Class](#) (Youtube)
 - Variety of YouTube “classes” (these are some good samples, but beware, there is also a lot of “junk” out there)
 - Dave Casler- [link](#)
 - Hoshnasi- [link](#)
 - Ham Radio 2.0- [link](#)
 - KB9OKB- [link](#)
- Practice Exams Online (a great place to start to give you an idea of what you still need to know to pass the exam)
 - [Practice Tests - Free Amateur Radio Test Preparation - “The Fastest”](#)
 - [HamExam.org Amateur Radio Practice Exams](#)
 - [eHam.net Ham Radio Practice Exams](#)
 - [Practice Amateur Radio Exams by QRZ Ham Radio](#)
 - [Ham Study.org](#) - [link](#)
 - Free Extra Class Course for VECs- www.hamradiolicenseexam.com/free-extra-course-for-active-volunteer-examiners.htm

4. Create Materials to help others learn

Consider creating a help guide for your favorite radio or piece of software to share with other hams, create a club presentation, create a website with helpful information, etc. (by the way this is one of the best ways for you to learn yourself as you organize information and prepare guide)

- Record a Youtube Video
- Write an online guide
- Create a flow chart or step-by-step guide on a specific operation
- Create a Quick Guide
- Prepare a presentation to share with your local club once meetings restart or online as a Zoom or other meeting program
- Some of the software tools I find useful in creating the above materials include:
 - Screen Capture Software
 - My favorite, [SnagIt by Techsmith](#) software
 - [Awesome Screen Capture Chrome Extension](#)
 - Video Capture
 - [Screencastify](#)
 - [Loom](#)

5. **Have a virtual online presentation for your club** (do it yourself, find a member that would like to present or see below if you would like me to present). Many clubs are using online conferencing software including - Google Hangout Meet, Zoom, Skype, etc.

An offer of Online Presentations for Your Radio Club

This is a repeat from last month's OSJ. I have already had some responses and have scheduled a few presentations but have plenty of open time slots.

No, I won't go over all the public health warnings you have heard, or even give you a Microbiology/Infectious Disease lecture (even if one of my previous careers was as Clinical Medical Microbiologist)! What I want to talk about instead is offering your club members a program in lieu of canceled ham radio club meetings. I have two sessions I prepared for the Great Lakes Division Convention originally scheduled for March 14th but canceled because of COVID-19 measures and would be willing to present these as online webinars for your club members via the Internet. In addition, I have three other topics if you would prefer these.



Available sessions are:

- [FT8 & FT4- Digital Soundcard Modes](#)
- [Software & Web Resources for Contesting](#)
- [QSLing in Online World](#)
- [Having Fun with Morse Code](#)
- [Top Secret- Techniques to work DXCC and WAS](#)

You can click on any of the sessions to see the slide decks I use for my online presentations. If you are interested in having a presentation for your group:

- We will schedule a time
- I will provide a link for your club members
- Your members will go to the link at the appointed time
 - They can use a computer, tablet or phone
 - A microphone and camera are suggested if they would like to be able to ask questions directly or if they prefer they can forgo camera and mic and use texting to ask questions
 - They do not need to be together in one place as separate simultaneous connections are supported
- I will be sharing my screen to show:
 - Presentation slides
 - Software demos
 - My voice & image

If you are interested, please email me (k8zt@arrl.net).

6. Build Something (especially that unbuilt kit sitting on the shelf)

Many of us, especially old-timers, have a large backlog of projects on the bench or shelves. Unbuilt kits are a common fixture. Now is the time to open the box, heat up the soldering iron and assemble.

Many of us also have equipment waiting to be repaired now is a good time to examine these projects and decide if we can repair it, are not interested in it anymore, etc. If you decide you don't want it anymore, pass it onto another ham (especially a new ham or youngster) pack it up for sale at the next hamfest (I know many have them have been canceled or delayed) or create a boxful of what our club calls: *Find what you want, take what you need, pay what it is worth!* This is a great fundraiser for our club at hamfests and provides items to potential users instead of filling landfills.

7. Station Improvements

This is a great time to tweak your station, antennas, feedlines, station computer, etc. Whether it is a simple cleaning and dusting or a full rebuild this is a great time to get your station in shape for future operations. Of course, if you are doing virtual online meetings this means more people seeing your clean, well-organized shack.

[TOP^](#)

Some specifics you may want to address might include:

- Documenting everything
 - Label incoming coaxes, switches, interconnecting cables, etc.
 - Make an inventory for future possible insurance claims, estate sales, etc. (this doesn't relate to the current virus situation but the fact that none of us are getting younger)
- Read the manuals- here is a [link to the article "Now You Have Time to Actually Read the Manual!" I wrote for a recent edition of PostScript](#) on this subject
- With warmer weather, its time to check all of your antennas, antenna supports, towers, guidelines, support ropes, coax cable, cable feed-in points to house, etc.

8. **Read things you have been setting aside-** Amateur Radio Magazines, articles here on Ohio Section website, books, etc. One example, if you have not been reading the excellent weekly "DX This Week" articles that Bill AJ8B writes go to <http://arrl-ohio.org/news/> and go back through archived articles, it will be time well spent! While you are reading any of the Ohio Sections Newsletter, please remember to email feedback to the authors. They do all of this writing for free and an email from readers can be very encouraging knowing someone is reading their writing.

Speaking of reading magazines, here are three free opportunities to read ham radio magazines:

CQ Magazine Article on Youth Resources- Available for Free!

Last month, in the OSJ, I mentioned the following:

CQ Magazine Article

The March 2020 issue of [CQ Amateur Radio](#) magazine contains an article I wrote: "Ideas and Resources for Growing Youth Involvement in Amateur Radio". I would like to thank CQ Editor Rich Moseson, W2VU for running the article and urge you all to read it.

Now I have some additional, good news-- in the time since I wrote the article CQ Magazine has announced that the March 2020 and April 2020 *CQ Amateur Radio* issues will be available for free online reading. This means you can read my entire article even if you are not currently a subscriber to CQ; below are the details on the offer:

Many of us talk about the need to get (or continue getting) more young people involved in amateur radio, but sometimes find it difficult to locate resources to help turn a concept into a functioning program. CQ Contributing Editor Anthony Luscre, K8ZT, is here to help ...

Ideas and Resources for Growing Youth Involvement in Amateur Radio

BY ANTHONY LUSCRE, K8ZT

Looking around at a hamfest or club meeting will give you the definite -- and most likely accurate -- impression that the ham radio population as a whole is getting older. While there are definitely young people getting involved and active in amateur radio, and many of them and their activities are highlighted in these pages, there need to be more. And it's up to us to bring them in.

Unfortunately, most of these young people are not in the field -- at least in the way we think of it. They are in the field, but not in the way we think of it. Many of the previous articles in this issue have been replaced with today's challenges. And to that the ability to make long-distance phone calls to them on the same device. Without these positive incentives, we need to increase the active involvement of new hams. We also need to do a better job of mentoring newly licensed hams to make sure they become and stay active.

There is no silver bullet that will completely solve these issues, but there are a lot of things we can do to help. For our part, we are going to do our best to help you do your part. We will cover a wide range of ages and requires multiple steps to address the interests and needs of the many sub-groups involved.

For this article, we will focus on the subgroups of students in grades 4 to 12, as the outreach opportunities and young professional group are different approaches. The purpose of this article is to provide you and your local radio club with ideas and resources to encourage, assist and mentor youth involvement in amateur radio. In addition to resources for youth, I have also included a number of resources for you to share with school teachers, including and other youth group leaders.

Getting Your Foot in the Door

One of the first problems is getting your foot in the door. One approach to this is participating in the current high school or college STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics) and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics) and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics) programs. Many local school districts, public libraries, and

...email: k8ztd@arrl-ohio.org



A possible future ham-producing Brian Cook using the new-generation aluminum key that he assembled. (Photo by the author, except as noted.)



Stuck at home?

Events and activities cancelled?

Feeling cut off from friends and family?

Remember your radio!

In view of the "stay at home and flatten the curve" recommendations from the health experts during this worldwide pandemic, *CQ* would like to give everyone the opportunity to escape the news alerts for a brief period and enjoy the hobby they love through the pages of *CQ*!

View the March and April issues of *CQ* magazine at no charge! It's easy, simply send an email to FreeIssues@cq-amateur-radio.com and we'll send you the March issue now and the April issue on April 1st!

Take advantage of this opportunity to read *CQ* - free of charge - and keep connected with the latest trends and activities in amateur radio! Stay home... stay well!

A day or two after you send the email you will receive a message from *CQ* Magazine on how you access your free issues.

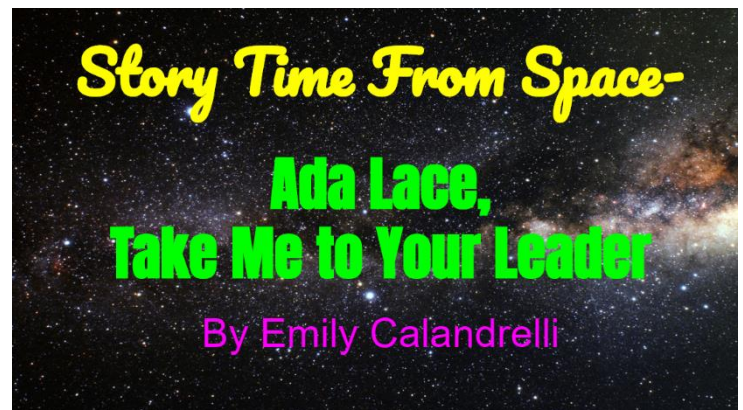
The South African Amateur Radio League (SARL) is the latest national society to make their magazine freely available to all in the convenient PDF format. You can download the PDF of the April edition at www.sarl.org.za/Web3/DocumentStore/20200331122728oXhxY0QQYg.PDF. I just downloaded it and has a lot of good articles.

The third magazine you can read for free requires you to be an ARRL member. Most of you know all about QST, but did you realize the ARRL now has a new magazine available? On the Air Magazine is part of a suite of ARRL benefits for new ham radio licensees, anchored by the ARRL bimonthly magazine, *On the Air*. The magazine covers a range of ham radio interests and topics, delivering introductory techniques and stories to help anyone with a beginner-to-intermediate-level of experience. From making your first radio contact to selecting the right equipment to project building and getting involved with public service or your local clubs, *On the Air* magazine and its suite of companion benefits will help you make the most of your amateur radio license. Get active, get involved, get *On the Air*! [Link to read *On the Air*!](#) magazine (Members only).

Story From Space- *Ada Lace, Take Me to Your Leader* - by Emily Calandrelli

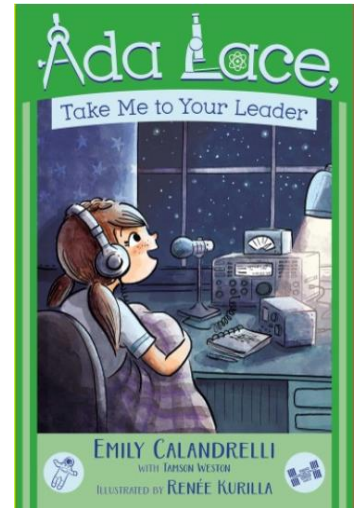
Recently, I put together a project for teachers to assign to their "at home students." It is a fun non-graded activity. It includes a series of three reading sessions from the space station by Astronaut Anne McClain. It focuses on a number of subjects-- space, Amateur Radio, Ada Lovelace (one of inventors of what we now call computer algorithms), Computer Programming, NASA, etc. The project is presented as a Google Slideshow with embedded Youtube videos and Internet links.

You can get the presentation at [this link](#).



A short link is also available for you to share with interested parties- tiny.cc/ada-lace. Please share with any Elementary/Middle School teachers you may know and/or directly with youngsters you may know.

Ada Lace, Take Me to Your Leader and other [books by Emily Calandrelli](#) are available from your usual sources of books and would make a great present for any youngsters in your life.



Teacher's Institute Canceled



The landscape of education in the U.S. has been greatly affected by the current pandemic. As K-12 school systems and universities have been forced to move entirely to remote learning, the teachers and students have had to make dramatic adjustments to their teaching and learning methods. After considering these educational challenges, along with travel restrictions and restraints on the ability to gather in groups, ARRL leadership feels it is appropriate and necessary to cancel the 2020 Teachers Institute. We look forward to bringing back this important

program in 2021, so that we can continue promoting amateur radio in the classroom through our [Education & Technology Program](#) (ETP). If you have additional questions, please email EAD@ARRL.org.

So, go forth, have some fun and make sure you share it with a youngster!

73, Anthony K8ZT

From the Section Traffic Manager

David Maynard, WA3EZN – STM
wa3ezn@att.net

APRIL 2020 OSJ NEWS

First things first, I want to congratulate Mike, KC8WH who this month has been reelected the net manager for the Ohio Single Sideband Net. Mike has been doing a good job as is evidenced by his reelection. Wish him well and support him and the OSSBN so we can continue to make the Ohio Section a proud part of the National Traffic System.

Dan AC8NP was elected to the Advisory Board for a three-year term. Ed KA1G was elected to the Advisory Board for a three-year term in 2019 and WD8SDH was elected in 2018.

Ted NC8V is leaving the Advisory Board after three years of service. Chris KD8UUB was a candidate this year for the Advisory Board.



[TOP^](#)

I would like to take this time to thank these men and all the those who check into the OSSBN and the local traffic nets for their support of the nets and handling traffic so efficiently. More information and useful links can be found on the OSSBN website www.ossbn.org

While on the subject check into the OSSBN and some of these Ohio HF traffic nets:

OHIO SINGLE SIDEBAND NET

["Specializing in the first and last mile of NTS delivery in Ohio."](#)

Morning session	10:30 AM	3972.5 KHz	every day
Afternoon session	4:15 PM	3972.5 KHz	every day
Evening session	6:45 PM	3972.5 KHz	every day

Ohio has three very fine CW nets. These nets are looking for new CW operators to check in and the Ohio slow Net is in need of a net manager. Thanks to WB8YLO for collecting the OSN net reports and sending the monthly report to the Section Traffic Manager

OHIO HF CW TRAFFIC NETS

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

All net frequencies plus or minus QRM.



Dayton Hamvention Canceled

Have you been to a ham fest or club meeting lately. Not likely in this time of social distancing and pandemic. At this point last year I reminded everyone about the Dayton Hamvention held at the Green County Fairgrounds. But the Hamvention for this year has been **CANCELED** because of the Coronavirus pandemic. Here is the news on a substitute event.

Let's celebrate the many years we have all had at the Great Gathering we call Hamvention. We also want to remember Ron Moorefield W8ILC who never missed a Hamvention and contributed to our club until his recent death.

Let's light up the airwaves with our remembrances of Hamventions of the past! See you on the air! K3LR, Tim Duffy and W8CI, Michael Kalter.

Here is the deal: 12-hour event, 8 am. to 8 pm EDST on Saturday of Hamvention May 16, 2020. Operate CW or SSB on 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 meters. The exchange is a signal report and first year you attended Hamvention. If you have never attended Hamvention you send 2020.

Send your score (number of QSOs) to 3830scores.com within 5 days of the event. You can print a certificate on line via www.HVQP.org. More details will appear on the Hamvention QSO Party web site being set up now. Special bonus: W8BI, the club call of the Dayton Amateur Radio Association (DARA is the host of Hamvention) will be activated by designated DARA members from their home stations. You can add 10 points for each band/mode QSO with W8BI (12 available). So you can earn 120 bonus points (like having 120 additional QSOs).

Winmor, Winlink and NTSD

A few parting words on the subject of Winmor, Winlink and NTSD. Even though you can not be an Eastern Area NTSD station without a Pactor modem there are uses for these other programs in emergencies and NTS. You can send radiograms station to station and send emails among other good uses. You can send radiograms using Winlink Express. To that end here is where to look for more information. Additional information is available on the internet.

Getting Started with Winlink and WINMOR:

https://winlink.org/content/getting_started_winlink_and_winmor

Introduction to Winlink video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UTx9pY1AkI8>

Winlink for Emcomm: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3gdwsV9_ca0

Winlink series of short clips:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL-7mirT-kjfs84FQzLr-qv066K194rtYM>

WINMOR TNC: <https://github.com/la5nta/pat/wiki/WINMOR-TNC>

Soundcard Winlink installation: No TNC Needed

<http://n4ser.org/2014/winlink-getting-air-without-modem/>

Moving on here is some more important information about the weather.

APRIL SHOWERS BRING MAY FLOWERS

April showers bring May flowers. But it also signals the begging of the thunderstorms season. It is true that thunderstorms and tornadoes can occur almost any time of the year but they become more prevalent during the warmer spring and summer seasons. This brings my mind to that big metal item in our yards that most people do not have. That object is our antenna. Be it a tower or a wire antenna it also become an attractor to lightening which can not only destroy our expensive radios but can also cause a fire that will destroy our homes. Cables vaporized due to a direct lightning hit.



What are we going to do? Some of the solutions are to eliminate the antenna, not likely to happen, or disconnect the antenna outside the house which could lead to forgetfulness, or properly ground the antenna with the proper lightening arrester. Which of these three choices you choose is a decision only you can make.

[TOP^](#)

When I say ground the antenna, I am not talking about the grounding of the radio equipment **INSIDE** the house. I am talking about bringing any generated lightning EMP down to a ground before it has a chance to enter the house. Why did I say EMP? When lightning strikes something or the ground close to your antenna Mother Nature delivers a high voltage electromagnetic pulse in your antenna which is called an EMP pulse. A *lightning* bolt hitting the ground becomes an *EMP* weapon delivered by Mother Nature that shuts down electronics. This pulse is usually of enough strength to at least destroy the front end of you receiver and at the most cause a fire in your building. You probably cannot expect your ground system to protect you against a direct lightning strike if connected but you should consider protection against a nearby strike.

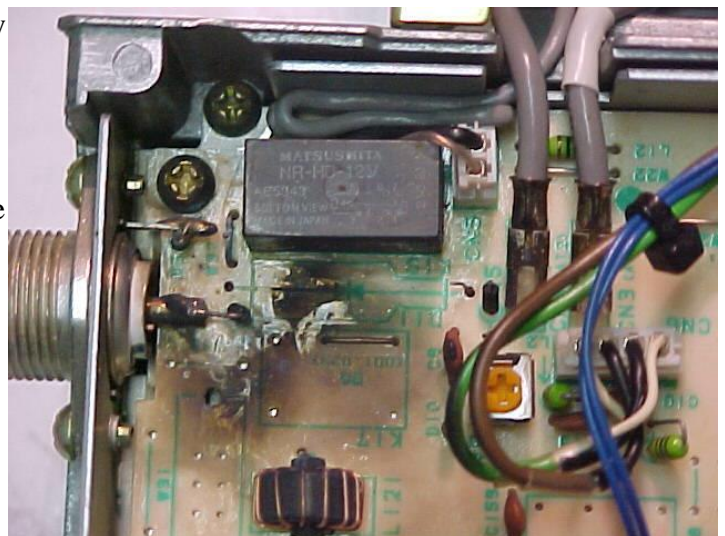


This lightning strike produces a localized EMP that gives rise to large electrical currents in nearby wires. A single current surge can also damage sensitive hardware such as computers and peripherals. All electronic and communications systems should have some form of protection against the effects of an EMP. Transient suppressors, also called surge protectors, AC outlets, and modem jacks offer limited protection against the EMPs that occur during thunderstorms. The best method of protection is to unplug AC cords and modem lines of computers when they are not in use.

The detonation of a hydrogen bomb at a high altitude also generates a powerful EMP over a large geographic area. This induces damaging electrical currents in wireless antennas, telephone lines, and utility wires. A strategic nuclear weapon used in this way, for the purpose of disrupting the communications and/or electrical infrastructure, is called an electromagnetic bomb. This produced electromagnetic pulse (EMP) is an intense burst of electromagnetic (EM) energy caused by an abrupt, rapid acceleration of charged particles, usually electrons. An EMP can contain energy components over a large part of the EM spectrum, from very-low-frequency radio to ultraviolet wavelengths.

LIGHTENING DAMAGE AT ANTENNA INPUT

When most amateurs think of lightening protection, they immediately think of protection their equipment. You should have far more concern for the health and welfare of yourself and your family. Each year lightening is responsible for hundreds of deaths and injuries in the U.S. Other reasons for lightening protection include fire protection and protection of sensitive electronic equipment. Each year lightening causes millions of dollars in damages. Keep in mind your equipment can also be damaged by power line switching transients, voltage surges and static build-up on outside wires and antennas.



So, what can you do? Your best defense is to become educated on this complex problem. The more you know the better you will be prepared to make decisions about what protection you need. If you go to your local library you will find little if any information on lightening protection. There are some links to internet information at the end of this article.

As to the protection of you ham radio station the best advice seems to be to disconnect all your equipment from all antennas and power lines. When lightning strikes it will seek the shortest path to ground. Unless you disconnect your equipment, you are giving lightning a good return path to ground – through your equipment.

That's it for this month, have some fun with Amateur Radio.

73

David WA3EZN
SECTION TRAFFIC MANAGER - OHIO

You can view the STM's monthly report on the website.. <http://arrl-ohio.org/stm/stm.html>

ARES Training Update

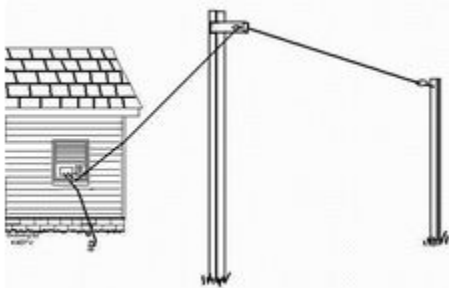
Jim Yoder, W8ERW – ARES Data Manager
w8erw@arrl.net

ARES Training Update 04-2020

It seems all that is news revolves around our current pandemic situation and our response individually and as a country. At risk of working already plowed ground I will not attempt to offer any assessment on the subject other than perhaps some thought as to how we may continue to enjoy our hobby and adapt our Amateur Radio practice to meet the restrictions necessarily in place.



Nearly everything anticipated thus far has been or is being cancelled including all of our normal group meetings of any sort. Field Day this year will not be operated as a group this year. So how do we handle not doing a group field day which traditionally involves a team of Hams working together to operate in the field? Here is a great opportunity for some creative innovation to participate in Field Day under a totally unanticipated environment while adhering to the rules and guidelines. Quite a challenge perhaps isn't it?



Not all of us have the most ideal conditions for operating where we reside. I am one of those due to a small treeless lot in the city with limited antenna options and plenty of building obstructions that would limit propagation. You may hear me this year operating from Highland County out in the countryside and from what my XYL would call the “She Shed”. The antenna possibilities will be much friendlier, and the creature comfort a lot more desirable I expect than the other possibilities available.

I just hope I don't have to pack up half of the shack and house in order not to forget anything I might need. My proclivity towards over packing might be challenged. I think my recliner will need to stay in Fremont.

[TOP^](#)

For certain, the reports this year following Field Day will be interesting. Operating conditions will surely span a varied and creative list of new ideas and compromises. This will be a unique and hopefully nonrepeating requirement to necessary to deal with again. I would expect to see some very well thought out Field Day singular operations that capture the real ingenuity and craft of our hobby. Remote operation is being proposed by some as are Field Day site spacing to address the separation desired. I hope when it's all over that many of you will take the time to document the interesting ways you experienced Field Day this year.

I am pleased to report our ARES Training numbers have again taken an uptick with additional Registrations on ARES Connect and Certificate submissions. Ohio Hams are indeed taking advantage of the "Secure in Place Directive" and hitting the FEMA courses with energy. Many have completed NIMS Level 2 and still others have finished the requirements for Level 3. Additionally, certifications for the ARRL EC series courses are being submitted along with the FEMA Professional Development Series certificate. I have been entering new certificates daily almost from the onset of the pandemic. We have a lot to be proud as Ohio Hams. I salute every one of you who has taken the time to embrace and complete the huge amount of training now recorded in the Training Database.

As always if you have questions or wish to verify your current status with respect to training, please let me know. I am here to serve you as are all of our Ohio Section officials.

Thank you,

Jim W8ERW
w8erw@arrl.net

National News
(from arrl and other sources)

ARRL Suggests Taking a Creative Approach to Field Day 2020

This year, ARRL [Field Day](#) promises to be a unique iteration of this annual event, with many individuals and groups coming up with new and interesting ways to adjust their approach. As an event, Field Day is structured to be versatile and can be adapted for any situation.

Many groups have asked how they can adjust their Field Day planning to address social-distancing guidelines that may be in effect in many areas of the country, as gathering at their traditional Field Day site may not be feasible or safe. Instead of participating in a group event this year, consider operating as a Class B, C, D, or E station, utilizing your own call sign.

ARRL will include club names for all participating stations in the published results, so the efforts of your club's members can be acknowledged. While we will not publish an aggregate club score, seeing the name of your club associated with various individual member's results is certainly a way to highlight your club's activity. Myriad opportunities are possible in this year's Field Day setting. These are just a couple.



[TOP^](#)

- Consider having an intra-club competition among members, seeing who can make the most contacts during the event. You can award prizes or distribute certificates at a club meeting. This can be a fun way to bolster the activities of individual club members, even though they cannot all gather together at the same location this year.
- Set up a Field Day Challenge with rival clubs in neighboring communities. See how many members of each club get on the air from their own stations and participate in the event. In addition to “bragging rights,” perhaps certificates to the top-scoring individual entries in each category can be presented as part of this inter-club camaraderie.

One club is planning to conduct its Field Day as a 4A club group, with participants spaced to comply with social distancing guidelines within the required 1,000-foot diameter circle and operating individual stations. This club also plans to set up a “Get on the Air” (GOTA) station. The club’s plan is to have the GOTA coach at the Field Day site, while GOTA operators participate via remote link.

Another club is planning to set up a remote-controlled station at its usual Field Day site, with club members taking turns controlling the station from their homes. The club is developing a schedule that outlines when each member of the club will be at the helm via the remote link.

Whatever approach you take to this year’s Field Day, keep up to date with the current guidelines issued by local and state health agencies that may impact your proposed operation.

ARRL invites your stories about the interesting and creative ways you’re planning to use to adapt your Field Day operation. Share these on the [ARRL Field Day Facebook](#) page.

#####

Contest University (CTU) 2020 will be Free and Online



Tim Duffy, K3LR, has announced that Contest University ([CTU](#)) USA 2020 will be held online via Zoom on Thursday May 14, starting at 1245 UTC. CTU 2020 is free. The CTU [course outline](#) has been posted online. Connection details to the CTU Zoom bridge will be posted on the Contest University site one week prior to CTU. Sessions will be recorded for viewing any time after May 14. Slide decks will be posted on the CTU website as well. At the end of CTU 2020, Dave Siddall, K3ZJ, will present the 2020 CQ Contest Hall of Fame

awards.

#####

Japan’s Radio Amateurs Gain Expanded Access to 160 and 80 Meters



Effective on April 21, Japan radio amateurs have [new privileges](#) on 160 and 80 meters. The new allocations are 1800 – 1810, 1825 – 1875, 3575 – 3580, and 3662 – 3680 kHz. ARRL Life Member Kenji Rikitake, JJ1BDX/N6BDX, said the new regime allows Japanese radio amateurs to operate FT8 on 80 meters (3574 ~ 3577 kHz), and on 160 meters (1840 ~ 1843 kHz) as well as WSPR (1836.6 kHz).

On 160 meters, the allocations are:

- 1800 – 1810: All modes (new assignment)
- 1810 – 1825: CW only
- 1825 – 1875 kHz: All modes (as secondary service, new assignment)
- 1907.5 – 1912.5: CW and data (A1A, F1B, F1D, G1B, and G1D)

On 80 meters, the allocations are:

- 3500 – 3520: CW (A1A) only
- 3520 – 3535: CW and data (A1A, F1B, F1D, G1B, and G1D)
- 3535 – 3575: CW, phone, and image, and data only permitted for making contacts with non-JA amateurs
- 3575 – 3580: All modes (as secondary service, new assignment)
- 3599 – 3612: CW, phone, image, and data
- 3662 – 3680: All modes (as secondary service, new assignment)
- 3680 – 3687: CW, phone, and image
- 3702 – 3716, 3745 – 3770, and 3791 – 3805: CW, phone, and image (no data).

[Additional details](#) are on the Japan Amateur Radio League (JARL) website. — *Thanks to Kenji Rikitake, JJ1BDX/N6BDX*

#####

ARRL 2020 Teachers Institute Sessions are Canceled

The landscape of education in the US has been greatly affected by the current pandemic. As K – 12 school systems and universities have been forced to move entirely to remote learning, teachers and students have had to make dramatic adjustments to their teaching and learning methods.



After considering these educational challenges, along with travel restrictions and restraints on the ability to gather in groups, ARRL leadership feels it is appropriate and necessary to cancel the 2020 Teachers Institute. We look forward to bringing back this important program in 2021, so that we can continue promoting amateur radio in the classroom through our Education and Technology Program ([ETP](#)).

The Handbook Give Away

Hey Gang,

Have you registered for the “Handbook Giveaway” drawing for this month yet? If you haven’t you betting do it quickly, as that time is running out fast...

Go to: <http://arrl-ohio.org/handbook.html> and get yourself registered now!



What’s the catch? I want to get everyone checking in to the Ohio Section website as often as possible, and in order to register each month, you have to visit the website often! There’s nothing else to it. I pay all expenses and I usually “Give Away” more than just a Handbook too!!

[TOP^](#)



Many of you ask me just how do I know when the drawing is on? Well, that's easy all you need to do is check in on the Ohio Section Website on a regular basis and watch for the big **RED** Arrow that will appear on the left side of the page. This is the sign that the drawing is on and you need to get registered. So, keep a sharp eye out on the website and check in often!

Club Corner

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

Let me know what you club is up to. Are you going to have a special guest at your meeting or are you having a special anniversary? Just sent it to: n8sy@n8sy.com



#####

Hamvention update: Clearing up a misconception

There seems to be some confusion regarding some events being advertised during the weekend the now cancelled Hamvention would have been.

Hamvention and the Dayton Amateur Radio Association have endorsed only two events. The Contest University on Thursday May 14 and the Hamvention QSO party on May 16.

The virtual hamfest event planned by the YouTubers group is not endorsed by Hamvention.

We wish the YouTubers all the best.

Michael Kalter W8CI - --Official Spokesperson HV

#####

Pan Ohio Hope Ride - --020 Event Update



The safety of our riders, volunteers, and staff always comes first. The Pan Ohio Hope Ride staff and volunteer leadership committees have been actively monitoring the ongoing COVID-19 crisis and holding contingency planning sessions since early March. It has become increasingly apparent that we will not be able to safely travel or gather as a large group this summer. It is also highly likely that some

of our partnering colleges, parks, and municipalities will not be available for our use.

[TOP^](#)

As such, we have made the difficult decision to cancel the in-person 4-day event as we know it and shift the 2020 Pan Ohio Hope Ride to a primarily virtual experience.

Further information can be found in our [2020 Virtual Pan Ohio Hope Ride FAQ](#), including details on registration and lodging fees and highlights of our planned virtual events. We will keep this document updated as the situation evolves and our plans develop.

Now our mission needs you more than ever and the funds you're raising are even more critical. We are so grateful for the passion and dedication of our millions of volunteers and supporters. Thank you for your continued support of our mission and for all you are doing to help lead the fight for a world without cancer.
2020 Virtual Pan Ohio Hope Ride FAQ

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/121bHOIbtO6aF8sqRFXfm6wLt0XKvsTfjaVTuaXtboBU/edit>

####

Cleveland Marathon Converted to Virtual Event

The Cleveland Marathon has officially been moved to a “virtual event”. This means we will obviously have no communications responsibilities. Thanks very much for your willingness to work this very important event. Because of this, I will also be cancelling the May Cuyahoga County ARES meeting which was to be a review of the Marathon procedures.



If you want to read the full statement from the Marathon, you may find it here

<https://www.clevelandmarathon.com/media/recent-news/rite-aid-cleveland-marathon-goes-virtual-due-to-covid-19.aspx>

####

Upcoming Event Status Update

Below is an update on the future radio related events in the Cleveland area.

- May 16-17 Cleveland Marathon Cancelled (converted to virtual events)
- June 14 Sunday in June Bike Ride Cancelled

Our friends over at the Geauga Amateur Radio Association have begun compiling a list of as many radio related cancellations as they can. Be sure to check it frequently at <https://geaugaara.org/coronavirus/>

####

Net Control (NCS) Classes Being Offered

I am offering an online class using Zoom. "**B“coming a Better Net Control Station”**” as proven very popular with over 200 registrations from the Atlantic Division.

[TOP^](#)

This class is based on information from the ARRL NTS Manual as well as other sources plus my 50+ years' experience as a Ham NCS on different types of nets and my 26 years of experience with military nets.

I am offering 2 sessions on **Monday, April 27th**. The first is at **10 AM EDT** and the second is at **7:30 PM EDT**.

I have been a computer instructor for Fortune 500 Companies plus an Air Force Instructor.

If anyone in your sections is interested, send me an email for log in instructions.

73
East Penna Section Manager
George Miller W3GWM
w3gwm@arrl.net

#####

Dave Kalter Memorial Youth DX Adventure

Unfortunately, our 2020 trip to Curacao has fallen victim to the covid-19 virus. It was set for July 11-17, 2020. Conditions and restrictions on the island remain locked down and we anticipate they will not change in time to finalize our trip. We are very disappointed but understand. The group wishes the best for the people of Curacao and pray for their health and safety.



We are extremely grateful for the generosity of the CCC in hosting us again on short notice and rescuing our 2020 event. Our best wishes for the group as they deal with the issues in keeping the site up during these times. Especially the loss of PJ2T during all the contests! Of course several of the contests have eliminated the multi-multi categories. Maybe we will see them on the bands as a remotely operated station.

We plan to extend the 2020 team to our 2021 trip as long as the individuals are still available.

Jim Storms AB8YK

Upcoming Hamfests for 2020

05/15-16-17/2020 | Dayton Hamvention
Cancelled

06/06/2020 | FCARC Summer Hamfest
Location: Wauseon, OH
Sponsor: Fulton County Amateur Radio Club
Website: <http://k8bxq.org/hamfest>



[TOP^](#)

07/19/2020 | Van Wert Hamfest

Location: Van Wert, OH

Sponsor: Van Wert Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://w8fy.org>

07/26/2020 | Portage Hamfair '20'

Location: Ravenna, OH

Sponsor: Portage Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Website: <http://hamfair.com>

####

Webpage for Cancelled Hamfests

ARRL has created a webpage that will search the ARRL Hamfest and Convention Database for canceled events. >> [Click Here](#) <<

DX This Week

(from Bill, AJ8B)

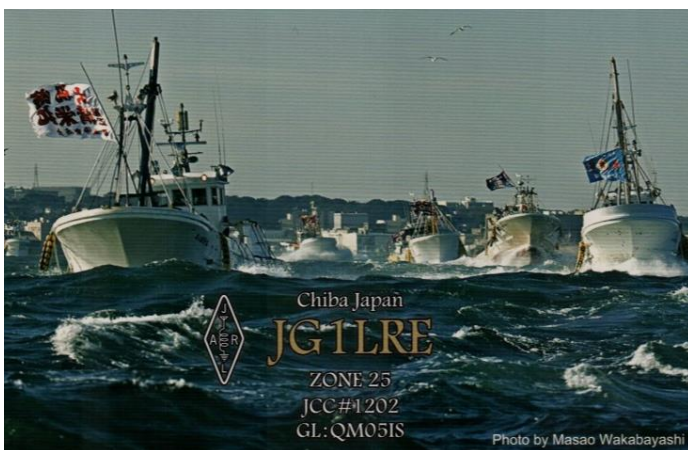
DX This Week – Zones 12, 13 and 14

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

CWOPs Member #1567



If you were around the cluster this past week, there were many different entities to be worked. These included Albania, Anguilla, Australia, Austria, Azores, Barbados, Belgium, Brazil, Canary Islands, Cayman Islands, Chatham Islands, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, England, Fiji, France, Guadeloupe, Guatemala, Haiti, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Kuwait, Mexico, Morocco, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Norfolk Island, North Macedonia, Panama, Portugal, Puerto Rico, Sardinia, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, St. Lucia, Suriname, Trinidad & Tobago, and Venezuela.



I received a couple of cards this week: W5ADD – Parker from Louisiana, VA3FF – Igor from Ontario, GB2RN – London HMS Amateur Radio Club, and JG1LRE – Kazi from Japan (Pictured). Did you get any or send any this week?

I came down to the shack last Wednesday to see if anything was stirring. I had my rig on 10M from the weekend and decided to start there. In just a few minutes, I thought I heard a ZL calling CQ on 10M CW. Of course, I knew that could not be as 10 has been less than stellar for a few years. However, there he was. So, I called him back and worked him!

The last CW QSO I had on 10M was Feb 22nd of 2015. After doing a bit of research via the spots on my logging program and on www.dxsummit.fi, I realized that there had been quite a bit of activity on 10M and 12M. You must listen, listen, and then listen some more. Tune slowly and take your time!

Zones 12,13, and 14

This week we will continue our exploration of the CQ Zones. Zones 12,13, and 14 are the Southwest Zone of South America, Southeast Zone of South America, and the Western Zone of Europe. Below is a breakout of the entities that are contained in the zones and the number of licensed amateurs if that data was available.

Zone 12. Southwest Zone of South America: CE (Chile) – 7,054, CE0 (Easter Is.), CE0(Juan Fernandez Is.), CE0 (San Felix Is.), 3Y (Peter I) and some Antarctic stations.

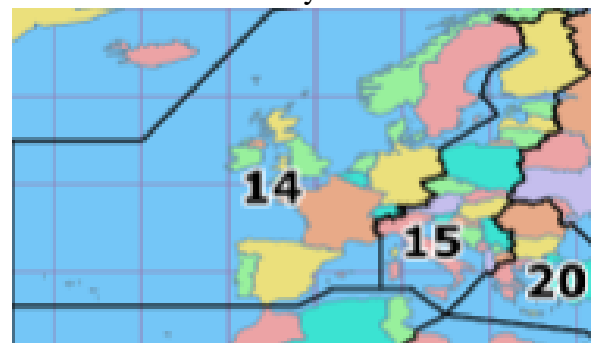
Zone 13. Southeast Zone of South America: CX (Uruguay) – 3,980, LU (Argentina) – 16,889, VP8 Falklands, VP8 South Georgia, VP8 South Orkney, VP8 South Shetlands, VP8 South Sandwich and some Antarctic stations.

Zone 14. Western Zone of Europe: C3 (Andorra), CT (Portugal) – 4,200, CU (Azores Is.), DL (Germany) – 75,262, EA (Spain) – 58,700, EA6 (Balearic Is.), EI (Ireland) – 1,658, F (France) – 14,160, G (England) – 58,426, GD (Isle of Man), GI (Northern Ireland), GJ (Jersey), GM (Scotland), GU (Guernsey), GW (Wales), HB (Switzerland)– 5,500, HB0(Liechtenstein), LA (Norway) - 5,302, LX (Luxembourg) - 525, ON (Belgium) – 5,295, OY (Faroe Is.), OZ (Denmark) – 10,060, PA (Netherlands), SM (Sweden) – 10,817, 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!

I used information from the following http://www.n0hr.com/ham_radio_population.htm for the ham population, www.clublog.org for DXpedition research, and https://www.cq-amateur-radio.com/cq_awards/cq_waz_awards/cq_waz_list.html for the CQ Zone details.

You should monitor several sources including the Oh Section Bulletin and <https://www.ng3k.com/misc/adxo.html> for upcoming DXpeditions to entities in CQ Zone 12,13, and 14.

CQDX CQDX CQDX CQDX CQDX CQDX CQDX CQDX CQDX

Here is an update from Bernie, W3UR, of the DailyDX and the WeeklyDX, the best source for DX information. <http://www.dailydx.com/>. Bernie has this to report:



CE0Y – Easter Island - XR0YHM is the callsign DK2HM, Hans-Martin, will have August 27-September 7, holiday style on 80-10 SSB and digital modes. Health and the travel situation by then certainly will be factors. Easter Island is IOTA SA-001. QSL through OQRS on Club Log, LoTW, eQSL or direct or bureau to DK2HM.

KH2 – Guam KH2/KC4VBE, Steve Vitrella, says it was unplanned, but he is there for work and now is stuck there due to the virus. He is operating from his hotel room on the 13th floor of a 23-floor building for the next 12 days or so. The room faces west so he is not hearing much from the US, he says. He's made a few QSOs but thinks maybe they were longpath.

XU – Cambodia - XU7AMG by operator BG9XD (KG5NJU), Tom, is on the air now until June 14th. He has an IC-7100 to an 80/40 dipole and "3-3-5" for 20, 15 and 10. He plans to be on 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10, CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via BG9XD. He will respond to Club Log requests but only for direct. No LoTW.

Ham Radio gathering cancelled - "Ham Radio," aka Friedrichshafen, has been canceled due to COVID-19. They say it is "radio silence." Organizers say it is a difficult decision. Scheduled for June 26-28, 2020, the next one will now be June 25-27, 2021. The German government announced no major events should be held until August 31. This would have been the 45th annual "Messe Friedrichshafen." Other large events in Germany had already canceled. Christian Entsfellner, Chairman of DARC, notes people planning to attend, vendors, and others, are hit hard by this decision but we all look forward to keeping in contact using amateur radio. Vendors will be having a virtual trade fair on the Ham Radio website and DARC will have presentations on it too. The word is being passed to the vendors and others presently

DX news

ARRL017 DX news

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

CAMBODIA, XU. Chenxing, BG9XD is active as XU7AMG from Phnom Penh until June 14. Activity is on 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via BG9XD direct.



[TOP^](#)

AZERBAIJAN, 4J0/4K0. Members of the Federation of Radiosport have activated two special event stations, 4J0STAYHOME and 4K0STAYHOME, during the COVID-19 crisis. The length of the activity was not mentioned. QSL to DC9RI via DARC or direct.

MOROCCO, CN20. A group of operators will be using the COVID-19 Awareness special event call sign CN20SH until April 30. QSL via RW6HS.

NORTHERN IRELAND, GB1. Stevie, MI0GTA has activated special event station GB1SOS from Co Derry until May 11. Activity is to thank all health care workers who put their lives at risk every day during the pandemic crisis. Operations will be on 20 to 10 meters using SSB. See QRZ.com for QSL details.

PERU, OA7. Yuri, N3QQ will be active as OA7/N3QQ from Machu Picchu from August 6 to 12. Activity will be holiday style on various HF bands. QSL via N7RO.

GREECE, SZ3. Members of the Association of Radio Amateurs of the Western Peloponnese (ERDYP) are active as SZ3STAYHOME during this health crisis. QSL via LoTW, e-QSL or QRZ.com.

UNITED STATES, W2. Look for special event station W2H to be operating during its inaugural year in honor of World Pulmonary Hypertension Day 2020 on May 5. They will be QRV on 80, 40 and 20 meters using SSB, FT8/FT4 as well as other bands and modes as conditions permit. Check the QRZ.com page for a more detailed operating schedule.

EASTER ISLAND, XR0. Hans-Martin, DK2HM will be QRV as XR0YHM from August 27 to September 7. Activity will be holiday style on 80 to 10 meters using SSB and the digital modes. QSL via DK2HM, direct, by the Bureau, ClubLog's OQRS, eQSL or LoTW.

BRAZIL, ZW8. Special event call sign ZW8THANKS is a tribute to health care professionals fighting COVID-19. Activity will be on all bands and modes including the satellites. QSL via direct, eQSL or LoTW.

SOUTH KOREA, HL. South Korea celebrates the 40th anniversary of the May 18 Democratic Uprising with special event station D73M. Activity will be on all bands and modes from May 1 to 31. QSL via HL4CCM.

CANADA, VE. For the next two months Ian, VO2IR will be operating with special call CH2IR to remind all of the COVID-19 pandemic and friendly reminder to stay home. Also, XN1BOA will be operated by members of the Grassroots HAM Radio Club, commemorating the end of the Battle of the Atlantic 75 years ago. Look for them from April 25 to May 15.

CROATIA, 9A. Members of the Hrvatski radioamaterski Savez are celebrating World Amateur Radio Day with special call sign 9A20WARD until April 30. QSL via LoTW and eQSL.

ENGLAND, G. Members of the Bury Radio Society urge everyone to "Wash Your Hands". They are using the call sign GB9WYH until May 11 on SSB, FM, FT4, FT8 and CW.

HUNGARY, HA. The following special event calls will be active until May 15: HG20ST, HG20AY, HG20AT, HG20HO, and HG20ME. QSL via bureau or LoTW.

AUSTRIA, OE. The Documentary Archive for the History of Radio Communication and Electronic Media special event station OE20M marks Marconi's birthday from April 24 to 26. QSL via bureau to OE1WHC or direct.

STAY AT HOME. More COVID-19 special event call signs include 4J0STAYHOME, 4K0STAYHOME, 8C2WFH, CB3SH, CN20SH, CV7STAYHOME, I19SH, OE1STAYHOME, OP2STAYHOME, OR20STAYHOME, OR8STAYHOME, OS0STAYHOME, YO19STAYHOME, Z60STAYHOME and ZW8THANKS.

BRUNEI, V8. Members of the Brunei Darussalam Amateur Radio Association are celebrating World Amateur Radio Day with the call sign V84SAR until May 2 on HF using SSB, CW and digital modes. QSL via direct with the info at QRZ.COM.

AUSTRALIA, VK. The Wireless Institute of Australia celebrates its 110th anniversary and World Amateur Radio Day with the following call signs over the next six months: VK1WIA, VK2WIA, VK3WIA, VK4WIA, VK5WIA, VK6WIA, VK7WIA, VK8WIA and VI110WIA. QSL via LoTW, eQSL.

THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO. The 10-10 International Spring Contest, Digital, SP DX RTTY Contest, Helvetia Contest, Florida QSO Party and the BARTG Sprint 75 are all on tap for this weekend. The QCX Challenge is on April 27 and the UKEICC 80 Meter Contest is on April 29.

ARRL Contest Corner

An expanded, downloadable version of *QST*'s [Contest Corral](#) is available as a PDF. Check the sponsor's Web site for information on operating time restrictions and other instructions.



Special Events

- **05/01/2020 | Old Timers Day**

May 1-May 3, 0001Z-2359Z, W4T, Dickson, TN. Dickson County Amateur Radio Club. 14.280 7.245 3.980 146.520. QSL. Vollie Miller, 1755 E. Piney Rd., Dickson, TN 37055-3835. www.wc4dc.org

- **05/02/2020 | IA State Park On The Air (Lake Darling)**

May 2, 1400Z-2200Z, W0ARC, Washington, IA. Washington Area Amateur Radio Club, Inc.. 14.275 14.070 7.225 7.080. QSL. Mark Lukins, 802 N. 2nd Ave., Washington, IA 52353. www.waarc.net

- **05/02/2020 | Lahontan Dam 105th Anniversary, Churchill County, NV**

May 2, 1500Z-2300Z, K7L, Fallon, NV. Amateur Radio of Churchill County. 14.280. Certificate. eCertificate, request to, nv7ccfallon@gmail.com . nv7ccfallon@gmail.com

- **05/02/2020 | Marion County Ohio Bicentennial - Celebrating 200 Years**

May 2-May 3, 1400Z-2100Z, WW8MRN, Marion, OH. Marion Amateur Radio Club. 147.300; 14.300 14.030 7.250 7.030 3.950 3.530; digital 7.040 3.590 1.070. Certificate & QSL. Dustin Holbrook, P.O. Box 252, Marion, OH 43301.

[TOP^](#)

- **05/03/2020 | The INDYCAR Grand Prix**

May 3-May 9, 0400Z-0400Z, W9IMS, Indianapolis, IN. The Indianapolis Motor Speedway Amateur Radio Club. 18.140 14.245 7.245 3.840. Certificate & QSL. Indianapolis Motor Speedway Amateur Radio Club, P.O. Box 30954, Indianapolis, IN 46230. See website for all details. www.w9ims.org

- **05/04/2020 | Florence Nightingale Bicentenary**

May 4-May 31, 1400Z-2359Z, GB200FN, Romsey, UNITED KINGDOM. RSGB. 14.190 3.650. QSL. John Wakefield, Oakhurst, Lower Common Road, Romsey SO51 6BT, UNITED KINGDOM. www.qrz.com/db/gb200fn

- **05/05/2020 | World Pulmonary Hypertension Day**

May 5, 0001Z-2359Z, W2H, Forked River, NJ. K2JSS. 14.250 14.074 7.074 3.573. QSL. Jack Bartky, 2209 Longwood Dr., Forked River, NJ 08731. K2JSS@arrl.net

- **05/08/2020 | 75th Anniversary of the Victory in Europe**

May 8-May 23, 1800Z-2359Z, W2V, Ansonia, CT. VOA Radio Club. 14.345 21.345 7.245 3.845. QSL. Dave Arruzza, 32 Benz Street, Ansonia, CT 06401. w2v.se@yahoo.com or www.qrz.com/db/w2v

- **05/08/2020 | Golden Spike Celebration Special Event Station W7G**

May 8-May 9, 1500Z-2300Z, W7G, Corinne, UT. Ogden Amateur Radio Club (OARC) - W7SU. 14.255 7.235 14.040 7.040. QSL. Ogden Amateur Radio Club (OARC) - W7SU, P.O. Box 3353, Ogden, UT 84409. Golden Spike Celebration Commemorating the Anniversary of the 1869 Driving of the Golden Spike, completing the Transcontinental Railroad at Promontory Summit, Utah. Golden Spike National Historical Park - National Parks Service 6200 North 22300 West, Promontory Summit, UT 84307. <http://ogdenarc.org> or w7g.org

- **05/08/2020 | Utah Valley Hamfest 2020**

May 8-May 9, 0900Z-1700Z, K7UVA, Orem, UT. Utah Valley Amateur Radio Club. 14.280 7.200 7.080. QSL. Utah Valley Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 1288, Orem, UT 84059-1288. <https://utahvalleyhamfest.com>

“ARES Connect”

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

“ARES Connect”

Enter

ARES Connect Helpful Instructions

Folks, I’m seeing a lot of folks that have signed up for events not entering their time after the event. This is a very important piece of using “Connect.” Your hours need to be recorded and it’s so easy to do.

Let’s run through how so in case you have forgotten. If you have already gotten signed up for an event, all you have to do afterward to get your time entered is at any time after the event has ended, log into “Connect.” And then click on your name in the upper right-hand corner of the page. This will bring up a drop-down menu where you will then click on “View Hours.” This brings up another screen where you can “Report Hours” as well as “View Hour History” You’ll want to click on “Report Hours.” You will then be presented one at a time by chronological order each event that you have signed up for and hours have not yet been reported on.

[TOP^](#)

Type in those hours in the “Hours Worked” box and hit “Submit”... Keep doing this until you have no more hours to report.... That’s all there is to it. Now, if you are following the request above and doing this at least every 5 days or more often, this will only take you a minute or so to complete.

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

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

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

Now, isn’t that easy? Yes, and we all need to be diligent at doing it promptly.

Here’s the top 10 hours earners so far for April:

	Name	Events	Hours
1	Christopher Domenick (KC8CAD)	24	78.00
2	Dan Stahl (KC8PBU)	55	61.74
3	Bret Stemen (KD8SCL)	25	59.50
4	James Yoder (w8erw)	14	52.50
5	Earl Paazig (W8BR)	22	52.25
6	James Garber (W8CEN)	33	49.50
7	Gordon Broadway (N8BHL)	25	48.00
8	Michael Lacumsky (W8MAL)	37	45.75
9	Bryan Hoffman (KC8EGV)	34	42.25
10	Greg Dersarkisian (KD8SSJ)	15	40.50

Let’s get everyone in the **Ohio** Section on “**ARES Connect!!!**” Simply go to: <https://arrl.volunteerhub.com/lp/oh/> and get yourself registered and using the system.

New - Dashboard for Great Lakes Division ARES Connect

Now that ARES Connect has been fully implemented within the Great Lakes Division, have you ever wondered just what our three Sections actually contribute to our combined communities?



We now have a Dashboard on the Great Lakes Division website that will tell you that exact information. Since ARES Connect is an “on-line” and up to the minute reporting system, we now have the ability to obtain this very detailed information.

ARES Connect is full of details that we’ve never been able to obtain before, and because of that, we now can see a much more detailed view of what the Division is doing. Oh, I guess I should also mention that you can also see the data broken down into each Section as well. Now, ain’t that something!!!

Want to take a look? Here’s a link... <http://arrl-greatlakes.org/ac.html>

Oh, and don’t forget to checkout the rest of the Division’s website as well!!!!

V.E. Test Sessions

For the most part, all V.E. testing has stopped until such time as we can once again gather in groups.

Keep on studying and taking those practice tests to keep what you’ve learned fresh in your mind. We will get out of this soon and testing will resume, so you’ll want to be prepared for when it does return.



Long-Lost 1965 U.S. Military Satellite Found By Amateur Radio Operator

(Submitted by Gregory Drezdson, WD9FTZ)

There are more than 2,000 active satellites orbiting Earth. At the end of their useful lives, many will simply burn up as they reenter the atmosphere. But some will continue circling as “zombie” satellites — neither alive nor quite dead.

“Most zombie satellites are satellites that are no longer under human control, or have failed to some degree,” says Scott Tilley, VE7TIL, of Roberts Creek, BC, Canada.

Tilley, has a passion for hunting them down.

In 2018, he found a signal from a NASA probe called IMAGE that the space agency had lost track of in 2005. With Tilley’s help, NASA was able to reestablish contact.

However, Tilley has tracked down zombies even older than IMAGE on March 24th.

“The oldest one I’ve seen is [Transit 5B-5](#). And it launched in 1965,” he says, referring to a nuclear-powered U.S. Navy navigation satellite that still circles the Earth in a polar orbit, long forgotten by all but a few amateurs interested in hearing it “sing” as it passes overhead.

[TOP^](#)

The full story is at:

https://www.npr.org/2020/04/24/843493304/long-lost-u-s-military-satellite-found-by-amateur-radio-operator?utm_campaign=storyshare&utm_source=twitter.com&utm_medium=social

NASA link:

<https://solarsystem.nasa.gov/news/375/meet-a-citizen-scientist-scott-tilley/>

One Question Questionnaire

Hey Gang,

“Survey Says”..... Around 83% of you got this right. Guess some of you still need to do some catch up reading while you’re off work! For those of you who just didn’t know the right answer, it was “C” - If the antenna is less than 1/2 wavelength high, the azimuthal pattern is almost omnidirectional.



Now, this next question comes from Mike, N8GBU.

His question is related to the new ARRL Magazine “On The Air”

Do you like the new ARRL Magazine “On The Air” better than QST?

You’ll find the “One Question” questionnaire on the Ohio Section Website! <http://arrloho.org> It’s all in fun and it’s not a scientific survey in any way, but we are learning some things that we didn’t know from these questions. I hope that you are enjoying answering these “One Question” questionnaires.

2020 Weather Safety Week Events

- Lightning Safety Awareness Week: **June 21-27**
- Ohio’s Winter Safety Awareness Week: **November 15-21**



Conference Bridge Now Available to Clubs in Ohio

Hey Gang,

With the government closing down all meetings of 10 or more persons it has become a struggle for clubs all over our Section to find ways of having their meetings, and as you can see in the “Club Corner” section of this newsletter all the cancellations that have happened recently.

The Zoom logo, consisting of the word 'zoom' in a blue, lowercase, sans-serif font.

[TOP^](#)

Well, the Ohio Section has come up with a tool for the toolbox that will allow you to have a video/phone conference meeting and stay within the CDC's guidelines for distancing. We've partnered up with Zoom, one of the premiere video conferencing bridges in the country and we now have the ability to do our own "on-line" conferences.

Our Zoom account allows for up to 100 persons at a time to be connected with not only audio, but video as well. This is sooooo 21st century. You can share your screen for those really fancy presentations, see everyone that's connected with a camera on the call and really do a first-class meeting with this technology. No, you don't need to have a computer. Zoom will also allow you to just call in on your regular or cellular phone too. That is what makes this so great.

I know that there has been a lot of stories lately about ZoomBombing and how it can really disrupt a meeting pretty quickly. Zoom just this past week implemented two separate changes to their system to keep this from happening. These changes are in direct response to this issue. But, in defense of Zoom, I will say from all the articles that I've read about the ZoomBombing it seems to me this could have been resolved with the account holder taking a little more precaution when setting up their meetings in the first place. Having an open meeting where anyone could simply take control and the Host is left powerless is not a good idea.

There always needs to be a moderator that can quickly and easily take FULL control of the situation just in case, much like a Control Operator that the FCC requires us to have when allowing others to use our radios. Anyway, Zoom has changed the defaults to how a meeting gets setup now, and it will be much more difficult for anyone just to takeover a meeting without the Host's permission. Problem solved.

I think it is really great for all of us to keep in contact with each other, especially with our older hams that might not be able to get out at night, or just aren't as mobile as they used to be.

Ham radio is a great way for all of us to make those very important contacts with each other to be sure we are all ok and safe. Zoom is another tool in the toolbox for us to use. So, if you want to try Zoom or have a meeting using it, just let me know. n8sy@n8sy.com

ARRL Members now have digital access to all four magazines!

No matter your level of experience in ham radio, you'll find articles and stories for you.

ARRL members will now receive digital access to four ARRL magazines beginning with their latest issues. Joining QST and On the Air on a digital platform will be the bimonthly editions of QEX — The Forum for Communications Experimenters and NCJ — National Contest Journal. QEX includes articles, columns, and other features ranging from construction projects to more advanced technical information in radio theory and practice.



[TOP^](#)

NCJ targets radio amateurs active in radiosport, and includes scores, technical articles, contributions from top contesters, and advice for radiosport enthusiasts alike.

"All members can enjoy specialized content and a high-quality reading experience whether at their desk or on the go. Offering this suite of digital magazines is an opportunity for us to give members more of what they want while adding value to ARRL membership" said ARRL Publications Manager Steve Ford, WB8IMY.

ARRL's digital magazine editions provide replicas of the printed editions with added functionality, allowing users to fully search issues, enlarge pages, share articles, and more. All four are easily accessible through any web browser from members-only links. The free ARRL Magazines app also supports downloading complete issues for offline reading. It is available for iOS and Android in the Apple App Store and Google Play.

For more information visit www.arrl.org/arrl-magazines

Final.. Final..



Hi Gang,

Welp, another week on the calendar checked off! It looks like we're gonna' see some light at the end of the tunnel coming this week with the re-opening of some businesses. I'm sure we are still a very long way from having club meetings and hamfests yet, but at least this is a positive move forward to recovering.

I'm still attending lots of meetings and get-togethers on Zoom, Go To Meeting and the like. I've also been utilizing my EchoLink account quite a bit to connect up with many on their repeaters all over the state.

I didn't get the trike out this week, but I did take several nice long walks along the bike trail. It was just so relaxing and nice to be out with nature and leaving the cell phone behind for an hour or so. Have you gotten out? You really need to. I'm sure that you'll find yourself much more relaxed afterward too.

Did you get to do any HF work for NVIS Day? I've heard from many of you that did and even though the bands weren't the best, they all reported that they had a blast just messing around with NVIS antenna's and such. Unfortunately, I had a small emergency here at the house and by the time I got it fixed, it was 4:30pm. Well, better luck next year. Yes, we'll do it again next year!

Whelp, my final go around before gong QRT... Stay safe my friends! I want to see all of you soon at a meeting or hamfest! We will get through this and when we do, we'll have so much to talk about. Most of all... have FUN and get on the airwaves!!

73,

Scott, N8SY

[TOP^](#)

Let's take some pictures

(Submitted by Gregory Drezdzon, WD9FTZ)

The command team has had a few requests for camera mode on AO-92 over the last few weeks, and it's been a while, so let's take some pictures next week.

On Tuesday morning, April 28, we will attempt to command the camera on at approximately 1440Z, 1612Z, and 1750Z. If we can't command on the 1750Z pass, we'll find a suitable pass later in the week for the west coast.

Take a look at <https://www.amsat.org/foxtelem-software-for-windows-mac-linux/> for a guide on how to set up FoxTelem, and <https://www.amsat.org/tlm/showImages.php?id=4> for near-live images as we go. Remember, the more stations submitting telemetry during the event, the better the chance of complete images!

Andrew Glasbrenner, KO4MA
AMSAT VP Operations

Frequencies and other information:

<https://www.amsat.org/ao-92-commissioned-open-for-amateur-use/>

Radio Programming Chart – AO-92 (Fox-1D) Doppler Shift Correction:

Memory 1 (AOS) – TX 435.340 MHz (67.0 Hz Tone), RX 145.880 MHz
Memory 2 (Rise) – TX 435.345 MHz (67.0 Hz Tone), RX 145.880 MHz
Memory 3 (TCA) – TX 435.350 MHz (67.0 Hz Tone), RX 145.880 MHz
Memory 4 (Descend) – TX 435.355 MHz (67.0 Hz Tone), RX 145.880 MHz
Memory 5 (LOS) – TX 435.360 MHz (67.0 Hz Tone), RX 145.880 MHz

The L-band experiment will use 1267.350 MHz uplink with 145.880 MHz downlink. UHF and L-band uplink operation are set by the command stations; the operating schedule will be posted.

Ohio Section Cabinet

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

Welcome New Subscriber

Craig, KE8NIO



[TOP^](#)

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://arri-ohio.org/news/index.html>



2020 Ohio presidential primary



Ohio's 2020 presidential primary was to have taken place on Tuesday, March 17, 2020, as one of four U.S. primaries scheduled for that day. On March 16, Gov. Mike DeWine, and Ohio's Department of Health Director Amy Acton, MD, MPH, ordered polls closed for COVID-19 safety.

A new date of June 2 was proposed. Eight days later on March 25, the Ohio legislature passed a coronavirus response bill that addressed the March 17 primary, voting to extend mail-in voting in the state's primaries through April 28. The voter registration date of February 18 was not changed. The Democratic primary in Ohio will decide the allocation of 136 out of 153 delegates, while the Republican primary will award a total of 82.

Want to Share your Club Newsletter With Others?

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

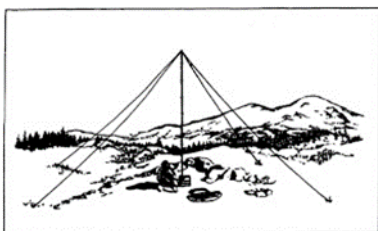
Here's the link to the page.... http://arri-ohio.org/club_news/index.html/



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

Sunday Evening – Late Breaking News

Hey everyone!



Thanks so much for participating in our slightly altered **NVIS antenna day!** The weather was great, the band... wasn't but it wasn't dead, either. As we expected, 80 was the bread-and-butter band. The Sarge had 76 log entries on 80, and a half-dozen on digital OHDEN frequencies. The vast majority of our contacts were using NVIS antennas, so it was a lot of fun hearing about them!

[TOP^](#)

This is not a contest- so we're much more interested in finding out which antennas were most efficient and made more contacts. So, what do you do with your logs? Here's the plan:

Most important is a summary description of what you used for an antenna. Pictures would be great if you happen to have them.

It's very different using grid squares than counties to evaluate your coverage area, but I would love to read your comments about how your station performed, both good and bad.

You can summarize your contacts (made 40 contacts on 80 meters with the inverted V at 10') or feel free to include your logs.

Send the information to contest@k8es.org so we can take a look! We're interested to see how many of you participated!

Thanks- this is an important exercise- we learned in such disasters as Hurricane Michael that when ALL infrastructure is wiped away, it's 80-meter HF that comes through... so will your NVIS antennas!!

I hope you had fun!!

-Stan

#####

Hello everyone,

NWS Wilmington OH
Virtual SKYWARN Basic Spotter Training Course

When: Monday, May 4
Time: 6 PM – 8 PM EDT
Registration Information:
<https://www.weather.gov/iln/onlinespotter>

What You Will Need

- 1 A Computer or Tablet
- 2 A Thirst For Knowledge!

The banner features a background image of a weather radar tower and a building under a cloudy sky. It includes the SKYWARN logo, NOAA and National Weather Service logos, and a list of requirements for the training course.

The first webinar was a big success. We hit our 1000 registrant limit. Almost 700 ended up attending, which is a great turnout.

Due to the demand, we have scheduled another one for **Monday, May 4 at 6 pm to 8 pm.**

Registration is required. [This website](#) has more info including the registration link.

Thanks,

Brandon

[TOP^](#)

Chit – Chat, and All That!

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



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



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

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



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

Be safe... Stay 6 feet apart...
or these two will come to visit you!!!



[TOP^](#)

The Ohio Section Journal (OSJ) is produced as a comprehensive look at all the programs within the Ohio Section. I sincerely hope that you have enjoyed this edition of the OSJ and will encourage your friends to join with you in receiving the latest news and information about the Ohio Section, and from around the world!