



April 2022 Edition



I like flowers, But, I have a whole bunch more FUN at Hamvention!

The 70th edition of Hamvention – “Reunion” will be held May 20-22, 2022.
Be There!

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From the Technical Coordinator

Jeff Kopcak – K8JTK TC

k8jtk@arrl.net

Hey gang,

Solar Cycle 25 is here. The previous solar minimum was reached around 2018-2019 with the official end of Cycle 24 marked as December 2019. Being locked at home for the last two years didn't line up with great propagation. I used the solar minimum to catch up on many non-ham radio related projects and things I've been putting off, many I've written about in these pages. Now that



solar activity is on the rise, so goes my operating time – making contacts great again.

I did not have an operational HF station until mid-2014. I upgraded to General and Extra in 2008. Only used these privileges to be an Extra class VE. When my HF station was operational, it was at the peak of Cycle 24. I could hear both sides of a QSO, all check-ins during a Net, and was making sideband contacts with the Middle East. All with 100 feet of wire between some trees in the backyard at 100 watts max. Then 24 started to decline and the bands turned to crap. It was hard hearing all stations on a net aside from a moderately strong net control station. Nets lasted only a fraction of the time. Zero 10-meter contacts made where I had previously spent good parts of weekends operating there. This was my first experience with solar maximums and minimums.

Our nearest star, the sun, goes through cycles of activity that typically last 11 years. Scientists give these cycles numbers. Cycle 24 wrapped in 2019, signaling the start of Cycle 25. Periods of low sunspots are called minimums, while periods of many sunspots are maximums or peaks. Sunspots are areas of reduced temperatures caused by the rising of magnetic fields below the sun's surface.

What does this have to do with propagation? When the sun is inactive or quiet, the electron density of our ionosphere decreases. This makes contacting DX stations more challenging, even impossible. The ionosphere is responsible for refracting signals, HF especially, over greater distances. When the sun is active with sunspots, it charges the ionosphere making it easier to contact DX stations.

Starting around 2021, I noticed bands were picking up. Meaning it was easier to make longer distance contacts and generally more activity on the bands was observed. These early beginnings of Cycle 25 offer a preview of what's in store for the remainder.

It's been very beneficial for me. As of this writing (end of April), I've racked up nearly 250 FT8 contacts this month. Many flock to popular watering holes: 20, 40, even 80-meters. I will spend time on the not-as-popular bands here in the US: 12, 15, and 17m. I do this mostly to rack up Logbook confirmations for Worked All

States on each band and working toward achieving DXCC in general. One evening on 12-meters this month, I worked 16 FT8 DX stations in under an hour. I can't ever recall it being that active. It's hard to find an open spot on the waterfall while operating on 20 & 40 at times.

On the side of sideband, I frequently check into the [Cincinnati Liars net](#). This net is hosted by the West Chester Amateur Radio Association, the same group which has a club station at the VOA museum and gives tours during Dayton. This should be a stop for every Hamvention visitor. I'm able to hear all stations that check-in from the opposite side of the state very well, including a station that frequently checks in from Cedar Rapids, IA. The net typically runs about 8 to 10 check-ins. The net assembles starting at 8pm eastern on Tuesdays around 3.835+/- . Exact frequency can be found using the [NetLogger](#) application.

12, 15, and 17-meters typically shutdown by the time I get on the air in the evenings. Recently, they've been open hours past sunset. I worked Jersey (the island of) and Kenya which are all-time new ones for me on 17 and 12 respectively.

While sunspots were down, I would have terrible luck at times connecting to Winlink gateways. One time, I was halfway down the list of available gateways before I made a successful connection - well into the yellow of reliability for those HF Winlink users. Last six-months, I've had very good luck connecting to Winlink gateways while sending messages using the network. Check out [my February OSJ article](#) for information on Winlink nets. Direct peer-to-peer messages to stations in West Virginia and Virginia have been very easy to accomplish as of late.

QRP operators (5w or less) will benefit from these improved conditions. I've seen many stations operating Parks on the Air. These stations typically have to operate lower power due to portability requirements of operating on battery or, at least, without amplifiers. It will be easier for QRP and portable operators to make contacts with improved propagation.

It's a perfect opportunity for regular operators to look at improving their stations as well. New and improved antennas for 10, 12, 15, and 17-meters are relatively inexpensive to acquire or easy to build. Don't forget about 6 & 10. I'm looking forward to making more sideband contacts with DX entities, which I apparently did early on after setting up my station, though I operate mostly digital now.

Propagation predictions are used to determine the best time of day and frequency to contact a DX station. I use [VOACAP](#) to estimate the best time for finding new DX entities/countries. I'm not a contester, however these predictions are used by contesters to point their antennas, taking advantage of best propagation in order to maximize number of contacts and score. A quick tutorial for those unfamiliar with using the VOACAP site:

- **Drag the red marker** to roughly the TX station location (your location)
- **Drag blue marker** to roughly the RX station location (DX station)
- Alternatively: input location/grid/latitude & longitude along the top
- To the right, select the **mode** and **power** desired
- Click **Antennas** and select antennas that closely match those at the TX and RX locations. If RX station antennas are unknown, leave at defaults.
- Check **Settings** for any specific characteristics to be included in the circuit calculation. I leave them at default.
- Finally, click **Prop Chart**

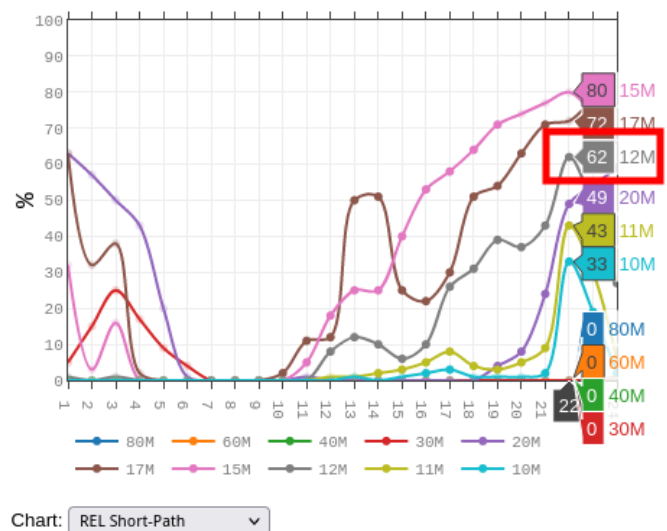
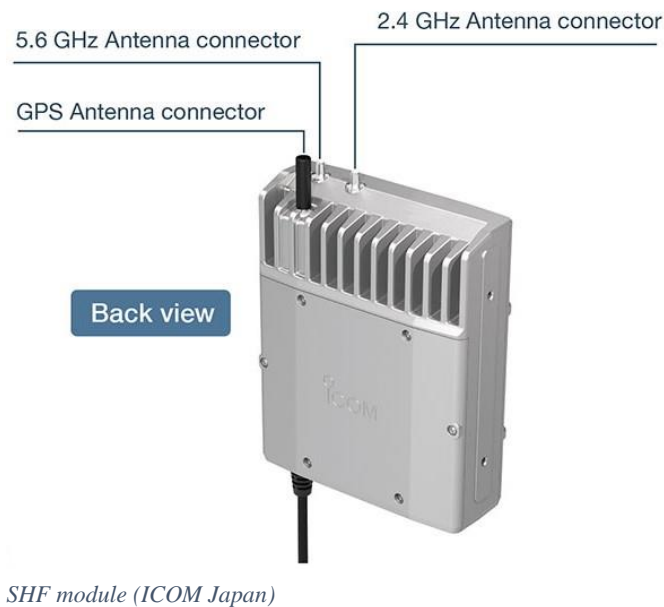


Chart: REL Short-Path

Circuit Reliability graph of my Kenya FT8 contact on 12m (VOACAP)

This presents a Circuit Reliability graph noting probability of reliable communication on a certain band given a time of day. **Chart option** selects a specific band. The *REL* (reliability) and *REL LP* (reliability via long path) lines predict times of reliable communication. More details about VOACAP is available on the [main page](#) with a downloadable Windows application for more accurate predictions using specific antenna modeling.

It's not easy to predict how Cycle 25 turns out, even scientists are not sure if it will be good or bad. If my experience is any indication, it's looking verry good. I've confirmed a handful of DXCC entities and all-time-new ones for myself. Optimists hope for a return of Cycle 19 from the '50s. I wasn't around however an article in the April 2021 edition of QST on Cycle 25 indicated it was spectacular. I'll be happy with a repeat of mediocre Cycle 24. One thing is for sure, all license classes can benefit and join the fun. Novice and Technicians have access to: CW on a couple HF bands, parts of digital & FM on 10-meters, and of course all of 6-meters. If you're fortunate to hear our Manager speak at a hamfest or forum, he's might be the last solar cycle that I'll be I'm hoping for many more beyond 25. get on the bands, operate, and have fun! One of my favorite radio vendors, ICOM announced the [SHF Project](#). This project is modules for the 2.4 and 5.6 GHz bands embedded GPS receivers. This means likely creating devices used for ham radio networking. Those bands are commonly Fi networks with some non-shared for ham radio. It's nice to see ICOM is still the ham radio community buy innovating up with different types of devices. inexpensive mesh devices from commercial readily available. Replacing the stock with modified firmware, [these devices](#) are purposed for use with ham radio mesh networks. The ICOM site states there will a demo available in their booth at Hamvention this year. I'm looking forward to seeing their offering. Speaking of Hamvention and Dayton, assuming governments don't try to sequester us to our homes, again, I look forward to seeing everyone at Hamvention. It's been two long years and it will be a welcome return as hamfests have been making a comeback over the last year. Thanks for reading, get on the air, and 73... de Jeff – K8JTK



Section stated 'this around for.' Either way has building RF with ICOM is mesh used for Wi-allocations devoted to and coming Currently, vendors are firmware easily re-

From the Section Emergency Coordinator

Stan Broadway, N8BHL - SEC

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NVIS and more

Were you active for the 2022 NVIS antenna day? We made a lot of contacts at the Sarge, and all the groups reported having fun! We started on 75 meters, it was strong until about noon. At that time we switched over to 40 to finish out the day, as most of you did.

On 76 meters, we logged 36 QSO's with a total of 25 different counties. We made 34 contacts on 40 meters reaching 26 counties (four were out of state). So combined we were able to connect with 41 different counties. And the big news... NO RAIN!! The weather was pretty much perfect for the first time in years. Perhaps reflecting the current trends in ham radio, there were a lot of end-fed antenna designs in use at varying heights. The venerable dipole was frequently heard in its different forms (lots of inverted V). There were a few loop antennas that did well.

The day was intended to be one in which we get together for some fun and productive testing of NVIS antennas; we think it fit the bill. Thanks to all who participated. Now- hurry to get your log/reports in to contest@k8es.org so we can tally the different stations and antennas for a later report.

The Department of Defense is staging an exercise May 3-7, and it's open to ARES operators. Something has caused communication outages, but that's all we know. This most likely will involve the Internet. Alerting for the exercise will come from WWV (Colorado- at the :10 mark after each hour). MARS and other groups will be at work, and we in ARES can help! It's great practice for us, and it puts a good face on ARES and amateur radio in front of critical agencies. It's a study in how we can gain local information, and pass it upward. There will be an emphasis on 60 meters. I'd recommend you participate. For detailed information, Matt, KD8TTE, has a video explaining: <https://youtu.be/7cGabqIXnaM>

Speaking of the gov'mint I hope you were able to attend or watch the video from our statewide Zoom conference last month on preparedness! With the world doing what the world does, we need to pay a little more attention to accumulating food and other supplies... including portable and temporary radio equipment. The session was recorded and is available on the arrl-ohio website: <http://www.arrl-ohio.org/SEC/video/2022%20Ohio%20ARES%20Preparedness%20Zoom.mp4>

This is a really good time to make contact with your Emergency Manager. A lot of counties are ramping up for summer exercises, and it's great to be involved. On the state level we are working with FEMA Region V to participate in an exercise scheduled for late July. We would like this to be a statewide effort- I'll know more as the planning task force continues to form details. These are excellent ways to train, to make sure our equipment is in working order, and we're ready! I encourage you to participate whenever possible!

Check your different sources for training opportunities as well. There are some COML and COMT classes coming up later in summer (register as soon as you can for these, they go fast!) Keep on the lookout for the Auxcomm class. If we were limited to only one training course at all, I wouldn't hesitate to recommend Auxcomm.

Keep your reports coming in, and take lots of pictures!

FROM THE PIC

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OHIO SECTION 2022 NEWSLETTER CONTEST CLOSING SOON!

MIDNIGHT JUNE 30th is the official deadline for this year's Ohio Section Newsletter Contest...that's just about two months away!!

We are on-track to make this a record year for entries and there is still time to enter. Make sure you send two copies of your club's newsletter...from different months...and you'll be in.

Email is probably the best way to get your newsletters to us. Judging is electronic so make sure accessing your newsletter is easy. The judges will get to look at your entry as everyone else, and you, see it.

The winners will be announced on August 6th at the Columbus Hamfest in Grove City.

Good Luck! See you in August!



PIO ZOOM #2 MEETING

Our second PIO ZOOM meeting will held near the end of May after the Dayton Hamvention.

Here's the link for Friday May 27 at 7:30 PM.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/83105596668?pwd=V3cxQXBLC3lDeFZEQUUNweU9MMG1Hdz09>

Meeting ID: 831 0559 6668

Passcode: Gx7jK5

Anyone from your club can join but we need the PIO's and newsletter editors as well.

A blast notice will go out the Monday before the meeting.

Come join us!

REPORTERS ROUNDTABLE

Every so often I have the pleasure of sitting with a diverse group of reporters, working and retired journalists, public relations practitioners, and marketing executives to discuss, well, just about anything and everything related to communications.

The discussions often are a little heated, a little humorous but, always on the money, when it comes to the current state-of-affairs for the Fourth Estate.

Last month we learned that there will be more newspapers shutting off their presses and closing their doors this year. There will also be some newspapers that will further cap daily deliveries to just three copies per week

while some will go to an all-digital mode. While we have seen this trend coming it's the speed at the which the transition is taking place that is of great concern.

Getting the news by newspaper is as old as time itself...except for the brief interlude of the Towne Cryer's! Newspapers worked. Everyone could get the news at the same time...usually without opinion and speculation. The moniker for journalism has always been...GET THE TRUTH...hard to teach and even harder to learn but the end result was worth the effort.

So, where does that put us now? Certainly, it makes it difficult for organizations, large and small, to disseminate information about meetings, projects, things which they have determined important for them and maybe others as well. One thing is clear to everyone, we all need to work harder to communicate. Find new, different, methods and approaches to exchange ideas and information. It's not too far off center to understand why our amateur radio newsletters are so important. Many are better than some newspapers ever were, and many are larger and contain critical information about who we are and what we do.

It will be our efforts to help shape the next iteration of journalism and information.

While this may sound like a bad attempt at a PhD dissertation, it means what we are doing as hams...on and off the air...is more important that ever. Our newsletters, ZOOM meetings, QSO's and even Hamfests can keep us together, keep is educated and informed and...HAPPY! Yes, there is at least one good thing which good communication can teach us.



Amateurs Requested for DOD COMEX 22-2!

C. Matthew Curtin KD8TTE

Are you ready for the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) Communications Exercise (COMEX) 22-2? DOD is specifically requesting amateur operators—as well as others including Shortwave Listeners—to participate. This is not an exercise just for members of the Military Auxiliary Radio System (MARS), though they will also be operating along with other radio services and systems.

We often say things like we're there “when all else fails,” or that we're ready for emergency communication. This is an important time to demonstrate that we can perform.



The tasks are simple. No special software needed. If you can't perform all tasks, you can work with others to ensure that your club station is active, or that your ARES, or RACES, or AUXCOMM team is active.

So what do participants need to do?

1. Listen to WWV/WWVH broadcasts of DOD information,
2. Receive high-power broadcasts from DOD on 5 MHz,
3. Gather some basic local information, and
4. Report the requested information back, sometimes by online form, sometimes via 60 meters / 5 MHz interoperability channels.

I took the liberty of breaking down the exercise and preparing amateur operators for participation. I've got a video that runs about 15 minutes—much less time than the official briefing—and includes links to a template for coordinated station operation, the official briefing video, and references that might be helpful.

The exercise runs the entire first week of May. There's simply no excuse for anyone wearing the "emergency communications" label not to participate. See Radio KD8TTE Episode 61, *RACES / ARES / AUXCOMM: Amateurs in MARS COMEX 22-2!* <https://youtu.be/7cGabqIXnaM>

Keep talking, keep writing ...the best is yet to come!

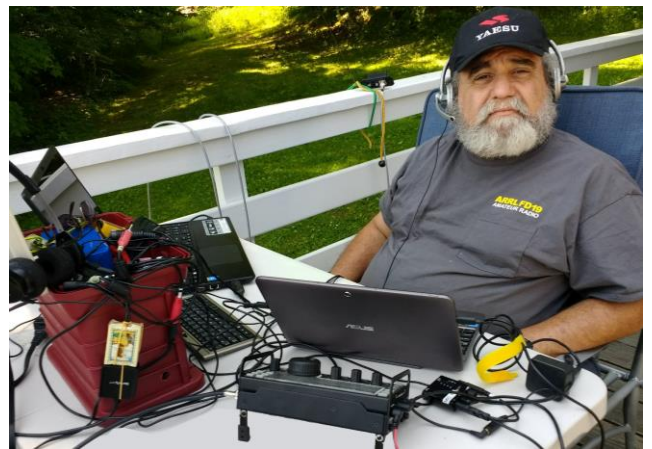
73

See you at the Hamvention!!!!

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From the Section Youth Coordinator
Anthony Luscre, K8ZT - SYC
k8zt@arrl.net

**New Ohio Section Youth Net,
ARRL Teacher Institute and
ARRL Information Resources**



Ohio Section Youth Net

Katherine (Katie) Campbell, KE8LQR (Ohio Section Assistant Youth Coordinator) and Bernadette Wagner, KE8LWO will be heading up a new net for youth in Ohio. Katie was net control for the first running of the net which had 14 check-ins including 11 youth. The next running of the net will be May 8th. Details:




- When: The second Sunday of every month at 7:30 PM EST, starting April 10th, 2022
- Where: The K8IV repeater is located in Kent, Ohio RF:146.895 Mhz with PL tone of 118.8 or outside of the coverage area of the repeater via Echolink Node K8BF-L
- Who: Any licensed amateur radio operator who wishes to participate. Priority will be given to youth stations and those located in Ohio.
- The purpose of this net is to encourage youth activity in amateur radio and to help new hams get more comfortable on the air.
- For information on setting up and using Echolink visit tiny.cc/echolink.



ARRL- Keeping Up With Information

This feature is an update of a version I previously provided in my column. Please consider including it in your local club's newsletter. You can access it at tiny.cc/arrl-info

ARRL Magazine (Journal) Publications

As ARRL members, most of us are aware of the monthly publication **QST**, which arrives via the mail each month. But are you aware that this is not the only magazine/journal that the ARRL publishes? The ARRL publishes the following:

	QST is the monthly membership journal of ARRL. Each issue is your source for equipment reviews, technical tips, projects, and news. www.arrl.org/qst
	On the Air is a suite of ARRL benefits for new ham radio licensees anchored by the ARRL bimonthly 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. It is an alternative monthly membership journal of ARRL. www.arrl.org/on-the-air-magazine
	Companion to On the Air Podcast. The podcast takes a deeper dive into select features and projects. www.arrl.org/on-the-air-podcast

	<p>QEX is published bi-monthly; it features technical articles, columns, and other items of interest to radio amateurs and communications professionals. www.arrl.org/qex</p>
	<p>The NCJ, published bimonthly, features articles by top contesters, letters, hints, statistics, scores, NA Sprint and QSO Parties. Whether you're a big gun or small, NCJ provides a valuable source of information on the active world of competitive radio. www.arrl.org/ncj</p>

When you subscribe, you have the choice of either receiving the paper copy of **QST** or **On The Air** each month as a basic membership benefit. The good news is that for no extra cost, you can read the three remaining publications online for free as a member. Here is the link to the ARRL Magazines page where you can access all of them- www.arrl.org/arrl-magazines. There is also a written guide to the magazines available at www.arrl.org/files/file/QST/PageSuite/UserGuide.pdf. If you would prefer a print version, you can also subscribe, for an additional cost, to any of the publications.

Free Sample Issues

If you are not currently a member of the ARRL (you really should consider joining), you can receive a free printed copy of all four publications by visiting- www.arrl.org/ota-sample. Check all four boxes to get a sample of each publication. To view a sample online version of **QST**, you can also visit www.arrl.org/digital-qst-sample-form.

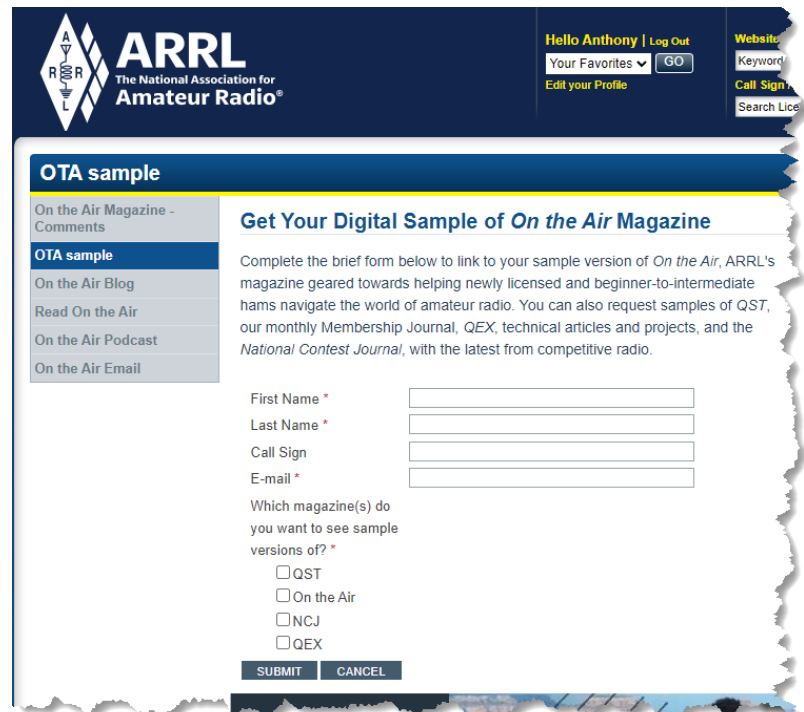
While you are at it, you might want to also request a free sample of **CQ Amateur Radio** magazine by visiting- www.cq-amateur-radio.com/cq_offer_new_ham.html.

In addition to the **On The Air Podcast** ([Listen Now](#)), you can also listen to other ARRL Podcasts (ARRL's *Eclectic Tech Podcast*) and YouTube Videos (www.youtube.com/user/ARRLHQ).

Back to the Publications, Digging Deeper

In addition to the current issues, as a member of ARRL, you can utilize several features to access previous issues and additional resources.

- ARRL Periodicals Archive and Search- www.arrl.org/arrl-periodicals-archive-search
- QST Annual Indexes- www.arrl.org/qst-annual-indexes



ARRL
The National Association for
Amateur Radio®

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Keyword
Call Sign
Search Lic

OTA sample

On the Air Magazine - Comments

OTA sample

On the Air Blog
Read On the Air
On the Air Podcast
On the Air Email

Get Your Digital Sample of On the Air Magazine

Complete the brief form below to link to your sample version of *On the Air*, ARRL's magazine geared towards helping newly licensed and beginner-to-intermediate hams navigate the world of amateur radio. You can also request samples of *QST*, our monthly Membership Journal, *QEX*, technical articles and projects, and the *National Contest Journal*, with the latest from competitive radio.

First Name *
Last Name *
Call Sign
E-mail *

Which magazine(s) do you want to see sample versions of? *

QST
 On the Air
 NCJ
 QEX

SUBMIT CANCEL

- QST in Depth- Supplemental Information- www.arrl.org/qst-in-depth
- QST Product Reviews- currently link is broken
- Digital QST FAQ- www.arrl.org/digital-qst-faq
- QEXfiles- Additional resources for QEX articles- www.arrl.org/qexfiles
- QST Android App- *Get the digital edition of QST on your Android device.*
- QST iOS App- *Get the digital edition of QST on your iPad, iPhone, or iPod touch.*
- QST Kindle Fire App- *Get the digital edition of QST on your Kindle Fire.*
- QST Binary Files by Issue Date (1965-2010)- www.arrl.org/files/file/QST%20Binaries/ (links for files in later versions of QST are directly accessible via the online version of QST)

Mailing Lists

There are two types of ARRL mailing lists Announcements (often referred to as Bulletins) and *discussion* groups (groups.io).

ARRL Bulletins:

Receiving W1AW bulletins via e-mail is easy for ARRL Members: Go to your online *member profile*. Click “Opt-In/Out” under “Communications”. Click “Edit” and select the categories of bulletins you wish to receive. Non-ARRL members can also receive W1AW bulletins via e-mail: Send an e-mail message to w1aw-list-request@arrl.org with the Subject: Subscribe [your e-mail address]. To unsubscribe: Send an e-mail message to w1aw-list-request@arrl.org with the Subject: Unsubscribe [your e-mail address]

List of Bulletins:

- **ARES E-Letter**
- **ARRL Board** meeting agendas and minutes
- **ARRL Club News** - (monthly notification)
- **ARRL Contest Update** (bi-weekly contest newsletter)
- **ARRL Current** - (monthly digital notification)
- **ARRL Instructor/Teacher E-Letter** (Radio Waves)

- ARRL Legislative Update
- ARRL Letter
- ARRL Member Bulletin
- Division and Section News
- IARU E-Letter (International Amateur Radio Union)
- Notification of ARRL membership expiration
- Notification of license expiration
- Publication Announcements and Special Offers
- W1AW - DX
- W1AW - General/Special
- W1AW - Propagation
- W1AW - Keplerian
- W1AW - Satellite
-

Discussion Groups

ARRL currently has ten mailing groups:

- ARRL-Groups
- ARRL-Contesting

The screenshot shows the ARRL website's user interface. At the top, the ARRL logo and navigation links are visible. The main content area is titled 'MY ACCOUNT' and is divided into several sections: DEMOGRAPHICS, MEMBERSHIP & PARTICIPATION, EDUCATION, COMMUNICATION, and PURCHASES. The 'COMMUNICATION' section contains a link for 'Opt In/Out', which is highlighted with a red box and a red arrow. To the right of this section, the 'OPT IN/OUT' page is displayed, showing a list of topics that the user is interested in receiving information on. The 'EDIT' button at the top right of this list is also highlighted with a red box and a red arrow.

- ARRL-Education
- ARRL-New-Hams
- FeedbacktoARRL
- Antenna Law and Policy Forum
- ARRL Logbook of the World (LoTW)
- Regulatory Affairs
- ARRL HF Band Planning
- ARRL Awards

These groups are rather recent and new ones will probably be added over time based on member feedback and needs. To join any of these groups go to

<https://groups.arrl.org/groups>

ARRL Forums

The ARRL website has online forums-
www.arrl.org/forum

Some of the forums are active and others are relatively stale. Here is a list of categories and individual forums:

- Awards
 - DXCC
 - VUCC
 - WAS
 - A-1 Operator Club
- Contesting
 - HF Contesting
 - VHF Contesting
 - Beginner's Corner
 - QRP Contesting
 - Digital Contesting
- Technology
 - General discussion about technology and policy
 - General Technical Q & A
 - RFI - Discussion and Q&A
 - Vintage Gear - Restoring and Operating
 - Equipment Testing and QST Product Review



ARRL Forums				
	Forum	Topics	Posts	Activ
<input type="checkbox"/>	Welcome to the ARRL Forums These forums are for conversations among ARRL members. Feel free to discuss the topics as they are posted, or start your own topic. The forums will be monitored by ARRL staff, so you may also ask questions of staff or fellow members.	394	1,465	New ARRL website / chang 20 hours, 1 minute ago by
Awards				
	Forum	Topics	Posts	Activ
<input type="checkbox"/>	DXCC Welcome to the DXCC forum. This forum will be moderated by ARRL HQ staff on a weekly basis. Please post questions and comments about anything related to DXCC.	75	262	Silent Key "W2LT" # on 4/1/22 by michaeltingey
<input type="checkbox"/>	VUCC Discuss the VUCC award process and applications.	6	22	Contact Stamp Question # on 30/7/20 by WB1GCM
<input type="checkbox"/>	WAS Join the discussion about the Worked All States award.	39	85	How long does it take to certificate # 3 days, 13 hours ago by Nt
<input type="checkbox"/>	A-1 Operator Club Join the discussion about topics associated with the A-1 Operator Club	2	13	CW Error Handling # on 23/6/21 by W9JJ
Contesting				
	Forum	Topics	Posts	Activ
<input type="checkbox"/>	HF Contesting Questions about contesting on 160 through 10 Meters	89	306	Power Level Abbreviation on 19/2/22 by KC3O

- Antennas, feed lines, baluns and antenna tuners
- Digital modes and operation
- Software Defined Radio and DSP
- FM and Digital repeaters
- VHF and up "Weak Signal" Operating
- Propagation Satellites and Space
- Construction and homebrewing
- Emergency power (solar, batteries, generators)
- QRP operation and techniques
- Voice modes — Operating and technology
- CW operating and technical techniques
- AM operating and techniques
- Software in Amateur Radio
- Education
 - Can't Find a Licensing Class?
 - Can't Find an Emergency Communications Class?
- Amateur Radio in the Classroom
 - Welcome classroom teachers!
 - Radio in the Classroom/ Curriculum Connections
 - Satellite Operations in the Classroom
 - Receiving Weather Satellite Images
 - Exploration of Wireless Technologies
 - Bulletin Board

Division & Section News

Each Division and Section manages their own news and web presence. You can view a log and read all emails sent out to Division or Section members at www.arrl.org/section-division-email-log.

To subscribe to individual Division or Section messages/newsletters, see the Division or Section information pages www.arrl.org/divisions & www.arrl.org/sections.

ARRL Benefits Include Answers to Your Questions

The [ARRL Technical Information Service \(TIS\)](#) and [ARRL Lab](#) complete some of the most important support for ARRL members, as well as for the benefit of all radio amateurs. The TIS is a member's resource for technical problems, understanding the fine points, and getting tips for your projects. Watch this introduction to the ARRL Lab and summary of services, featuring ARRL Lab Manager Ed Hare, W1RFI.

[Watch Video Now](#)

 See my other resources and presentations at

K8ZT List of Presentations

- tiny.cc/k8zt-p &
- www.k8zt.com



That's it for this month; I hope to work you on the air soon. 73,
Anthony, K8ZT (k8zt@arrl.net)

From the Section Traffic Manager

David Maynard, WA3EZN – STM

wa3ezn@att.net

THE OHIO SINGLE SIDEBAND NET ANNUAL ELECTION

First things first, I want to congratulate Mike, KC8WH who has been reelected the net manager for the Ohio Single Sideband Net. Mike has been doing a great 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.

I would also like to thank Greg, W8GSR for stepping up and accepting the elected position of advisory board member. This is a three-year term position so welcome aboard Greg.

On his QRZ page, Greg says his interests include traffic handling on the Northwest Ohio ARES Traffic Net and the Ohio Single Sideband Net; FT8 & FT4; Parks on the Air; WinLink; and general contacts near and far. He is working on "worked all U.S. counties" but it's going to take a while. He enjoys building antennas and masts. Also, he says he is new to CW, so please go slow for him. He says he is working on his code speed, currently around 10-12 wpm. Check him out on www.QRZ.com and see his many ham radio certificates.

I would like to take this time to thank these men and all the those who check into the OSSBN, the CW nets and local VHF 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.

Current Net Manager – KC8WH

Current Assistant Net Manager – KD8MSZ

Current Advisory Board Members

KA1G 2019 – ED will be leaving and replaced by W8GSR on May 1st.

AC8NP 2020

K8KRA 2021



Don, WB8SIQ, and Mike KC8WH have repeatedly talked about the poor operating conditions frequently found during the OSSBN nets. As these conditions may last for a while they are seeking the help of all stations on the net to listen and be prepared to assist with the passing of traffic. This should be done by copying traffic being sent even if it is not coming to you. By doing so you will be able to fill in the blanks when words or phrases are missed by the receiving station. If you are able to help you must seek permission from the net control station to do so. You should never just blurt out the answer but should say the words "RELAY" followed by you callsign and wait to be recognized by the net control station.

OHIO SINGLE SIDEBAND NET

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

OHIO HF CW TRAFFIC NETS

HF CW NETS	NET TIMES	FREQUENCY	NET MANAGERS
Buckeye Early	6:45 PM	3.580	N2LC
Buckeye Late	10:00 PM	3.590	WB9LBI
Ohio Slow Net	6:00 PM	3.53535	N2LC

All net frequencies plus or minus QRM

OHIO LOCAL VHF TRAFFIC NETS

VHF NETS	NET TIMES	FREQUENCY	NET MANAGERS
BRTN	9:30 PM DAILY	145.230 PL 110.9	W8DJG
COTN	7:15 PM DAILY	146.970 PL 123.0	KV8Z
NWOHARES	6:30 PM DAILY	147.375	N8TNV
TCTTN	9 PM Sun, Tues, Fri	147.015	WB8YYS
TATN	8:00 PM DAILY	146.670 PL 123.0	WG8Z

On the 15TH of the month North West Ohio ARES Traffic Net meets on the alternate frequency of **146.610**. Thanks Colleen for the **NWOHARES** net update.

Countdown to Dayton Hamvention May 20 - 22, 2022



210 Fairground Rd, Xenia, OH 45385

DAYTON HAMVENTION COVID-19 ANNOUNCEMENT

Hams and vendors hoping to attend Hamvention 2022 are asking questions about plans to deal with COVID. Hamvention management is monitoring the situation closely. General Chairman Rick Allnutt, WS8G, has issued the following statement:

“We strongly anticipate that the Hamvention 2022 is a go. We cannot guarantee what government may decide about unknown changes in the pandemic. It has become obvious that the State of Ohio is very unlikely to call a halt to large gatherings anytime soon. Despite a recent large spike in Omicron COVID cases and hospitalizations, there is no move to restrict large indoor or outdoor events such as sports events.”

Allnutt added that he anticipates the official state guidance may be to recommend (but not require) wearing a mask and social distancing. Hamvention will support state guidance. We do not anticipate checking immunization status on site.

Some have asked whether COVID testing will be available at Hamvention. At this time there are no plans to have testing on site. Watch hamvention.org for any updates dealing with the COVID situation.

By the time you will read this the “Hamvention” will be just a few days away. The Dayton Hamvention is generally considered to be the world's largest hamfest. Hamvention will be held May 20, 21 and 22, 2022 at the Greene County Fairgrounds and Expo Center near Xenia. The Hamvention offers forums, exhibit space and a flea market and usually claims to have over 20,000 visitors. Many amateur radio enthusiasts go out of their way to attend the Dayton Hamvention, traveling from all over the United States, Canada, Mexico and various parts of the world and maybe even as far as Australia. J

The entire staff of Hamvention volunteers is working hard behind the scenes to make 2022 a year to remember as they complete plans in the post covid era. For more information, please select the tab below to visit pages of interest. hamvention.org

You never know what you'll find at the Dayton Hamvention. Chances are you'll find equipment ranging from radios made in the 1950s with vacuum tubes to modern computer-controlled transceivers. If nothing else, you'll get an education on the wide range of amateur radio equipment that's out there.

You'll find more than used equipment at Hamvention though. Many dealers will bring new equipment to Hamvention and have inside booths to show off their radios. This is your chance to look at a number of different radios that you may have only been able to look at in catalogs and compare different models. In addition, dealers often offer “hamfest prices,” so you may be able to get that radio at a slight discount.

Hamfests are also good places to connect with other hams. Quite often, you'll meet guys that you've only talked to on the air. It's a lot of fun to connect a name and call sign with a face. Sometimes, different ham groups, such as NTS groups, FISTS, ARES/RACES groups or QRP clubs, will set up a table to promote their group. You can use this opportunity to find out more about these groups and their activities.

Hamfests are basically swap meets/flea markets geared towards ham radio, electronic, and computer enthusiasts

and almost anything else electronic. There are a lot of reasons to go to Hamvention, including:

You get to see a lot of ham radio gear in one place.

You might be able to get a good deal on some used (or new) equipment.

You might find something that will be fun to play with.

You get to meet hams face-to-face that you've only talked to on the air.

You can learn something new at one of the programs or forums

If you plan on attending a hamfest for the first time, try to go with a group or someone who has experience. In either case, alone or with experienced hams, the following will be helpful.

Bring lots of cash - most sellers will only take cash, and you don't want to miss out on something because you don't have enough money on you. Make sure the cash is in small bills, not 50's and 100's which may scare off the seller.

Try to haggle - many sellers price stuff above what they expect to get for it because they know most buyers will haggle. So don't be afraid to offer a lower price for something. However, don't be a jerk. Most prices are negotiable; more so after lunch, but a good deal goes quickly. Most vendors are not interested in trades, but you do no harm by offering.

Don't spend money you can't afford to lose – Most hams are honest about what they sell, and try to test used items and describe them accurately. Still, sometimes stuff is defective or worked when it was tested but got knocked around in transit.

Also keep in mind that not every seller knows that much about what they are selling - there are a lot of resellers who just buy lots of stuff at auctions or the like and drag it to the hamfest.

BUYER BEWARE. If you are going to buy used equipment at a high cost, ask to test it to make sure it works. Ask the seller for contact information. If a vendor refuses to demonstrate a supposedly functional piece of gear, or won't open up a used piece of equipment for inspection, you may want to move along. Be familiar with the smell of burnt or overheated electronics, especially transformers and sealed components. Direct replacements may be difficult to obtain.

If you are looking for something specific, know what you are looking before you go. You can't ask for a widget for your radio and not even know what model radio you have. If you need a part, research the part number or specs before you go. If you know exactly what you are looking for, check the auction Web sites and radio swap sites, such as www.ebay.com, www.eham.net, and www.qrz.com, before you attend the hamfest. You can get an idea of the going price and average condition, so you're less likely to get taken.

Remember if you buy it some one has to carry it to the car or bus. The vender is not expected to help in this carrying endeavor.

Now to the Hamvention itself, those that get there early can get the really good stuff, which will sell really fast. Those that stay late will get the deals where people hate to lug stuff home, so you can sometimes get some great deals to just take merchandise off the seller's hands.

Take a pen and pad of paper. At the Hamvention flea market, it's almost impossible to remember where something was you saw 30 minutes ago. Keep track of that item by writing down where it is when you see it. Then you can easily find it again later. Writing down the price is also a good idea for comparison bargain hunting.

Don't count on smaller hamfests having food available, but the larger hamfests like Hamvention almost always

have a hamburger stand. Expect the same level of quality as that of the concession stands. Taking along several bottles of water is a good idea, especially if it is going to be hot and sunny.

In conclusion, hamfests are a great place to pick up interesting pieces of equipment, both new and used, and also picked up a lot of unique items you may never find anywhere else. If going to a hamfest, carry cash and give yourself a budget. Don't be afraid to walk away if you don't see something in your price range. Buyers remorse for spending too much is worse than the feeling of letting something get away. There's always the next hamfest. And most importantly, Have fun.

2022 ARRL FIELD DAY UPDATE

ARRL Field Day, ham radio's most popular on-the-air event, is June 25 - 26, 2022. Field Day is fun whether you're participating from the great outdoors with your radio club, or from your home or backyard. It's also a terrific opportunity to practice your personal radio communications readiness, and to demonstrate amateur radio to the public.

After taking a few detours over the past couple of years due to the COVID-19 pandemic, [ARRL Field Day](#) rules are being updated on a permanent basis starting this summer. ARRL conducted a Field Day community survey with invitations propagated far and wide, and direct emails sent to more than 15,000 individuals and ARRL-affiliated clubs. After sorting through, reviewing, and discussing the survey results, the ARRL Programs and Services Committee recommended a number of rule changes for ARRL Field Day, which will take place this year over the last full weekend in June, the 25 through the 26 weekend.

Field Day not only will test and challenge an individual operator's communication skills but it also will test and challenge the participants ability and flexibility in mounting a major effort on the magnitude that would be encountered in a major disaster.

Field Day logistics and location is another area where good planning really pays off. If you have not reserved your favorite room, shelter or spot for operating it may be too late by now.

Some of the potential benefits from your Field Day operation are finding out what works in the field and who can bring it on short notice. Practice operating with field conditions and emergency power. Organized planning and execution of a sustained effort -- good for Public Service Events planning & coordination and possibly for fitting into Served Agency emergency planning.

Check the Field Day Rules for the chances to make extra points. Learn more about Field Day at this websites: <http://www.arrl.org/field-day>



Until next month, Know more, do more, and have more fun with ham radio!

73

David WA3EZN

Ohio Section Traffic Manager

ARES Training Update

Jim Yoder, W8ERW – ARES Data Manager

w8erw@arrl.net



ARES Training Update

Let's talk a bit about the training database this month. As many of you know, I've been recording and maintaining a database in MS Access for some time now. Many of you have submitted your certificates which are also saved in addition to logging them in the database. I try to keep everything up to date including call changes, upgrades and contact information. As you might imagine, many of these change over time for various reasons. There are nearly 2,000 of you included in the data and it would be time consuming to verify the data using one of the online references. I do verify each time I receive certificates or a new person joining ARES. I would like to ask everyone to help me a bit and when you have significant changes to please let me know. Call changes, phone numbers (Primary number, Secondary number and an Emergency contact number, email address) and license class are all changes that need to be updated. Relocations are also important if you move out of Ohio or into a difference ARES organization. Some of you live in one county and participate in another county. I need to know this as well.

Yes, it is a lot of information. It is maintained in private and is available only to you and if requested, I will provide a summary to the EC in the county where you are active. This entire effort was initiated to be able to locate and verify the appropriate talent and training history to the agency requesting our ARES assistance in an emergency situation where time is of the essence.

Training documents (Certificates) should be provided to your EC and me ideally in .pdf format from FEMA when you receive them. Individual certificates are best rather than multiple certificates in one file. Probably the easiest means to add your FEMA training to the database is to request a transcript direct from FEMA which especially useful when you have many certificates to submit. However, they will be logged in whatever manner you send them.

Additional training that is relevant to ARES also should be submitted. Skywarn, Red Cross and local EOC sponsored courses are examples of relevant training. If you have taken a class, more than likely it should be in the database.

Again, the purpose is to quickly identify and verify training when a situation comes up and our ARES members are called to duty. Our Ohio Hams have embraced training and I have no doubt that The Ohio Section is way ahead of the rest. Keeping up with you all and maintain this information is some work to be sure. However it is also rewarding and it gives me a unique window to the entire section. I have made many acquaintances' while assisting you with submissions and changes over these years. It is my personal pleasure to see how our Ohio Section Amateurs have and continue to grow the database with now over 10,000 certificates on file. Thank you all!

I recently put together a directory listing for Ohio Hams who are using the Hamshack Hotline service. The directory is available online at arrl-ohio.org under the ARES section. You will need to login to view or download the directory. I have tried to verify as much of the information as possible and did note some errors in the data online with the Hamshack Hotline service. Please, if you notice any errors or omissions, let me know and I will make the appropriate adjustments.

Now for the current training numbers: 888 members are at Level 1, 748 at Level 2 and 218 are at level 3. There are 10,239 certificates on file. Many of you have gone beyond Level 3 with various other designations including 71 who have achieved the Professional Development Series certificate, 76 who have obtained the Aux Com certificate and many have numerous additional FEMA certificates.

One last though before I close this month, when we lose a member and his/her key becomes silent, please let me know. We lost 62 members since I began to keep the database. Out of respect, I note their SK status in the database and do not continue to publish their information on the website. Please let me know when the status of your members changes.

Thank you each for your contribution to our hobby. Please feel free to contact me or any of our Ohio Section cabinet if you have questions, concerns or ideas. It takes a village to run a section and we have the best of both. Thank you again,

Jim
W8ERW
w8erw@arrl.net

National News

(from arrl and other sources)

_ ARRL Youth Licensing Grant Program

The ARRL Youth Licensing Grant Program, in effect since April 19, 2022, will cover the one-time \$35 application fee for new amateur radio license candidates younger than 18 years old for tests administered under the ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC) program.

"We are thrilled that we are able to provide this opportunity to our youth candidates," said ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM.

The \$35 Federal Communications Commission (FCC) application fee will be reimbursed after the ARRL VEC receives the completed reimbursement form and after the new license has been issued. The reimbursement check will be mailed to the fee payer. Also, candidates younger than 18 years old would pay a reduced exam session fee of \$5 to the ARRL VEC team at the time of the exam. The \$5 fee is for all candidates under the age of 18, regardless of the exam level taken. Proof of under 18 status is required at the session.

The ARRL Board approved the Youth Licensing Grant Program at its July 2021 meeting in Hartford, Connecticut, expanding on the scope of the original motion proposed by ARRL Southeastern Division Director Mickey Baker, N4MB.

The Board believes the recruitment and training of young amateur radio operators is a necessary and proper mission of the ARRL and subsidization of the \$35 fee will reduce the number of new amateurs that would otherwise be lost from these groups. Initially the new program would serve up to 1,000 new license applicants under 18 years old. The program length is indefinite; it may be renewed or terminated by the Administration and Finance Committee or by the Board of Directors.

Visit the ARRL website for the program instructions and reimbursement form at www.arrl.org/youth-licensing-grant-program.



Register to Log in to ARRL.ORG

Follow these steps to sign in and access ARRL features and services: Go to arrl.org and click "Login" which will redirect you to "Register" (please note, even if you have an ARRL account you will need to register).

To register, enter the main e-mail address we have on file and click "Next." You will be prompted to create a user name and new password. Your password must contain at least eight characters, a number, an uppercase letter, a lowercase letter, and a non-alphanumeric character. If you receive an e-mail verification one-time password request instead, you will receive an e-mail from Personify Identity Provider. Enter the one-time password, which will default your user name to the e-mail you used and prompt you to enter a new password twice. Click "Next."

This will log you in to arrl.org, which now allows you to renew, donate, and shop all in one transaction.

If you need help, we're here for you. Call us Monday - Thursday from 8 am - 7 pm (ET) and on Friday from 8 am - 5 pm (ET) or e-mail us at membership@arrl.org.



The image shows the ARRL Amateur Radio website's login and registration interface. At the top left is the ARRL logo, a diamond shape containing the letters A, R, R, L. To its right is the text "ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio". Below the logo are two buttons: "Login" and "Register". Under "Login" are two input fields: "Username" and "Password". Below these is a blue "Login" button. To the left of the "Login" button is a checkbox labeled "Remember Me". To the right are links for "Request One Time Password", "Forgot Password?", and "Forgot Username?".

Out of this world. Astronaut Kayla Barron, KI5LAL, completed a successful, scheduled ham radio contact on April 21, 2022, with students from Bellefontaine High School in Bellefontaine, Ohio via Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS). The radio contact was streamed on [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...). The students were supported by members of the Champaign Logan Amateur Radio Club Inc., W8FTV, an ARRL-affiliated radio club. The school's STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) curriculum supports the newly formed Bellefontaine High School Amateur Radio Club, W8BCS. Barron is currently serving as mission specialist of the NASA SpaceX Crew-3 mission to the ISS, which launched on November 10, 2021. [ARRL](http://ARRL.org), an ARISS supporter, has information for schools and student groups interested in hosting a future amateur radio contact with a crew member on board the ISS.



Astronaut Kayla Barron, KI5LAL [Photo courtesy of SpaceX]

Are You Willing to Help Clubs?

You may have heard of the ARRL Foundation Club Grants Program. More information is coming on that, but one part of the program that you may not have heard about, is a new project to provide help to clubs who are

seeking grants. This is is being launched along with the grants program. It entails two distinct types of club mentors.

The first is the Club Grants Coach.

This is a person that can collaborate with a club to help them create or refine a grant application. As grant applications come in there will be some that need assistance with the process. This person should be able to work with a club to help visualize and present their ideas for a grant. They will not be responsible for writing the applications, but they will be helping the clubs get organized and through the application process. Grants Coaches will start work after the first round of applications.

The second is a Club Mentor.

This person will work with a club that may be struggling to survive, helping them reorganize or structure programs to help the club grow. Some clubs are on virtual life support and can benefit from a Mentor to help them develop new outlooks and ideas and execute a rebuilding program for their club.

Both positions will receive training in the processes that they will need to do the jobs and will be supported by the Field Services Team at ARRL. The expected formation of these positions is planned for over the course of the next several months as the grants program develop. If you are interested in either of these volunteer roles, please let me know at mwalters@arrl.org. I am starting a list for future teams.

Club Corner

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

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

Send it to: webmaster@arrl-ohio.org



Alliance Radio Club Raffle

Each year since 2020, the Alliance Amateur Radio Club in alliance, OH has raffled off a HF Rig. With each year, the interest grows. A portion of the money raised goes back into the Alliance area in the form of donations to local service groups at Christmas Time.

In 2021, moneys from our raffle combined with proceeds from the fundraiser at our Annual meeting allowed us to donate over \$1000 to Charities in the Alliance Ohio area.

This year, we've chosen as our raffle item, an Icom IC-7300 HF + 6M Radio.

The winning ticket will be drawn on July 13th. The winner need not be present to win. You can learn more, and purchase tickets at <https://www.w8lky.org/about-us/2022-fundraiser/>. Questions can be directed to <mailto:fundraiser@w8lky.org>



ATAR Activities

April 30, Afterschool Programs of Lancaster held their Family Survival Day at Alley Park. The families canoed on the lake, did some archery, and visited the nature center. ATARA, All Things Amateur Radio Association, taught the National Association for Search & Rescue's Hug-a-Tree Program, what to do if you are lost in the woods. Kids and parents learned how a trash bag can keep you warm and dry if you are lost. ATARA taught the families primitive fire starting. The kids used magnesium bars, char cloth, and jute. It was so fun watching them when they finally got the spark on the char cloth and ignited the jute. The families visited a POTA station and listened as contacts were made across the country. They even heard stations from the Dominican Republic and Porta Rico. They had some really good questions. Oscillating keyers were also set up for the families to key their name in Morse Code. Everyone had such a great time that plans are in the works for next year!





YDXA Trip for 2022 is happening!

The Dave Kalter Memorial YDXA is a DX Adventure group that was formed in 2008 for taking young hams (and a parent) to a DX location to be the DX for several days. In the past we have been to Costa Rica TI5N, Curacao PJ2T, and Saba Island PJ6Y. Our mission each year is forming a team of youth between the ages of 12 to 17 (flexible) to travel outside the United States to operate as DX and to gain international



travel experience and education. The group relies heavily on donations from Clubs, individuals, and organizations to help fund this effort. There is no cost to the youth and parent as we raise money through a raffle and the generosity of the amateur community.

This year (2022) we will be going to Curacao PJ2T and we have our team of 3 youth selected and ready for a great adventure.

The group owns their own equipment but travel, lodging and food costs are increasing. Our budget normally runs about \$2500 per person and we have teams of 8-12. We do not divulge any amounts of donations and we do not have levels for our contributors. We do put your logo on our Website and our QSL cards. Please visit our website atwww.qsl.net/n6jrl for instructions on mailing your donations.

We will have a booth at the 2022 Hamvention. Icom will be donating a radio such as the IC-705 that we will raffle off at the show. Please stop by and purchase a ticket for the Icom Radio. Thank you and we hope to see you in the log.

Best 73,

Don N6JRL,
Jim AB8YK,
Ron N8VAR

VE Sessions

All Things Amateur Radio Association (ATARA) We host testing sessions every second Tuesday of the month to sign up please visit our website <https://atara-w8atr.fun> and contact us at hamexams@atara-w8atr.fun. We have room in our next class to avoid the coming fees by the FCC!

CARS

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

Dayton Amateur Radio Association (DARA)

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

The Lake County Amateur Radio Association

The Lake County Amateur Radio Association is once again holding its **2022** Amateur Radio license exams at the **Kirtland Library**, 9267 Chillicothe Road, on the following dates:

Saturday, June 4, August 6, October 1, and December 3.

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

The Lancaster and Fairfield County Amateur Radio Club (LFCARC) hosts exam sessions at the FAIRFIELD County EMA, 240 Baldwin Dr in Lancaster Ohio, 43130, on the first Saturday each month at 10:00 am. Please visit our website at <http://www.k8qik.org> for exam dates on our calendar and navigate to our Learning Center/Taking the Exam link for information and requirements. Our VE team looks forward to serving the Amateur Radio community in Central Ohio and across our nation. We have an experienced team that has tested candidates from Alaska, Florida, Texas and points in between! Contact me at ve_testing@k8qik.org to register.

The Milford Amateur Radio Club (MARC) is now doing VE testing on the third Thursday of each month at 6:00 PM. Location; Miami Township Civic Center located at 6101 Meijer Drive, Milford, OH 45150. Please pre-register at www.milfordhamradio.org

Portage County Amateur Radio Service (PCARS)

The first Saturday of every even numbered month -10 am – at the PCARS club site in Ravenna. Please visit the PCARS web site and check out the information about VE testing in the latest newsletter at www.portcars.org . If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact me at KB8UUZ@gmail.com

DX This Week – Collins Restore 2
Bill AJ8B (aj8b@arrl.net, @AJ8B, or www.aj8b.com)
CWOPs Member #1567

I hope you have been in the chair trying to work the Austral Islands, Nepal, or the group on Svalbard. Lots of good DX the past few days, especially at night. I have found 30 meters particularly hot in the late evenings.

We have part 2 of the excellent Collins S-Line series by Dave, K8DV. The final article will have a link to youtube.com videos with Dave operating the newly restored rig.

The past several weeks I have been highlighting three of the groups that I joined that provide excellent awards for working stations that meet certain criteria. They were the Natal Digital Group (NDG) from Brazil and the European Radio Club (ERC), and the FT8 Digital Modes Club. This week I will introduce you to the 30 Meter Digital Group. The details are below.



DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH

I received several nice cards this week including HB0A – DXPedition to Liechtenstein, DT8A – The South Shetland Islands, SV2GJV – George in Greece, and ZC4GR – Garry in the UK Sovereign-Base on Cyprus. Let me know what you received!



DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH

certificate at the right is an example of the that can be earned in the 30 Meter Digital (30MDG) To join go to <http://www.30mdg.org/join.html>

The information below is from Dave (dhobson123@aol.com)

How was the 30MDG formed?

Around 2006/7 my curiosity of 30 started....I didn't know much about 30 use the 30 meter band nor did many of my use it much other than a friend down in Southern IL that sent me an email one day saying he made a small 30 meter loop out of hard-line coax using QRP power and the original digital mode CW making contact all over the U.S. and North America, Caribbean, South America and even into Europe...and discussed with many how the 30 meter band was very unique so my interest began. I noticed after research this 30 meter band was very different than the other HF bands....was a WARC band so no contesting (I might participate in a contest to give



The certificates group.

KB9UMT –

meter band meters or Ham friends

out some points but nice to have a place to also get away from contesting), low power <200w PEP so perfect a fair playing field for all Ops, no voice so CW/digital only (Region 2 anyway) for a digital mode keyboard Op this was perfect for me, was between the best 2 HF bands for DX the 40 meter and 20 meter bands so perfect with best propagation of both bands...perfect for my modest station so gave it a go. In late 2006 and early 2007 I noted how the band was laid out so what was where and why but really noticed the lack of digital modes i.e. PSK, MFSK, etc....I very much enjoyed PSK digital mode on 20 meter working many stations for years so I enjoyed keyboard PSK digital modes (any other MFSK, RTTY, etc. I could find at the time but then PSK was king and most used at this time). Also noticed that RTTY DX on 30 meters found from time to time but no set spots or real digital activity to find easily....thus the start of a Yahoo Group for 30 meter digital in May 2007 (At the time Yahoo Groups was the place to be...I already had a very large Yahoo Group called HamRadioHelpGroup with over 5,000 members and also a Yahoo Group VHF/UHF/PSK with hundreds of weak signal VHF/UHF Ops experimenting with different digital modes so between all these thought we might get some interest for 30 Meters once decided to give a Group for 30 Meters a try...my friend Trey KI4ITV helped a lot at first to get things going with me on this). Once the Group started I spend hours and hours weekly/monthly posting on other Ham sites and Yahoo Groups for those interested in promoting digital modes on 30 meters we had a few hundred others interest in this as well so couple hundred joined this new Yahoo Group for 30 meter digital pretty quickly...best part was we had some that actually wanted to move forward to form an actual club/group...30MDG formed July, 2007. I ended up being the head promoter working as hard as I could getting the word out (hundreds of emails to many Ham clubs or posting of Ham websites) and then we were lucky enough to have the right Hams at the right time willing to help...so it gave me a goal in order to help get this new 30MDG off the ground that if I could get 1,000 members some key players to help would get involved at a high level to make things happen. With just a couple others and I to manage doing every task by hand was draining on us at the time (manual database, manual membership certificates, manual awards etc.). So we met the 1,000 member goal and my DX friends in the group jumped in as promised....ZL3RG Rob took on the task of the 30MDG website and design of all the new 30MDG Awards as we added more awards we would add an activity weekend to promote those (i.e. added EU Award so had EU weekend where members posted any contacts to EU members and in any and all digital modes including CW...it would draw some attention on 30 meters and did...BUT with simple rule NO CONTESTING we were NOT CQing for EU or CQ Contest...30MDG was not and will not promote contesting on 30MDG so it was get on 30 meter band, relax, rag chew, experiment with digital modes, power, antennas, etc...just operate normal with the other great Ops that appreciated the 30 meter band). Once we had a lot of Awards formed, we needed a way to not do everything manually thus ZL3RG Rob got Laurie VK3AMA to do his magic to create the automatic database and issuing of 30MDG Awards....then John OE3JPK a fantastic programmer joined in to create U30 Software to tie this all together.... then we added a few more Award Mangers that would take hours weekly of their free time to review award applications and issue awards. At the time there was only DX spot pages to see activity but that wasn't so much 'live' at the moment if you will or with a map to show activity on the 30 meter band and where the activity was...so we got PropNet Group involved (i.e. W2EV from PropNet, my friend from back 2002/3 when we were also testing on VHF/UHF propagation and digital mode and this new software of WSJT from Joe Taylor, which WSJT not used on HF back then) and used PropNet spots to see activity but we wanted more real time so our 30MDG member Sholto KE7HPV (now callsign of K7TMG) created a program for 30MDG called 30 AUTO SPOTTER and we asked for volunteers to run 24x7 spotting PSK stations in NA, EU, SA, OC, AS, AF thus our 30 Auto Spot page showed instant Spots and included a chat page at the time and Spots were set where we wanted to make a permanent PSK anchor Frequency for 30 meters at 10.140 (Keeping in mind Region1/2/3...today PSK at 10.141 to 143 since FT8/4 kind of took over almost to 10.140)...so we had what is now PSKReporter before that existed which was neat for us to use but once PSKReporter started then of course we retired Sholto's Auto Spot page and started using what all over Hams used the PSKReporter. So long winded but I will stop there...that is how 30MDG was formed and started by many Hams that really loved 30

meters and the idea to promote 30 meters and more digital mode use on the band. Rob ZL3RG even received a special call that he used from 2008 to 2012 or so to promote 30 Meters so New Zealand authorized him the call of ZL30MDG in which with his Quad that had 30 meters could round up a lot of interest for 30MDG. If you're bored, you can read posts from the start of the group since switching from Yahoo Groups that went away a few years ago the 30MDG Groups.io history shows all the history of posts and the start of the group. Again, if bored or want to know how things started post by post month by month from May2007 go here....
<https://groups.io/g/30MDG/messages?start=5:2007:420>

What is the purpose?

Our goal is to promote the use of digital modes on the 30-meter band and awareness on how great this band is – plus provide place for likeminded operators with the same interests.

We will promote awareness of this unique HF band where many have called 'the best kept secret' in Ham Radio and encourage good digital operating practices, the use of different digital modes, experimenting, known weekly or monthly activities, skeds/spots, antennas, propagation for 30 meters.

There is no HF band in our minds, better to support and promote, than 30 meters - which in the U.S. is the only LOW POWER,

Digital ONLY, and NO CONTEST band. (Note: this is a WARC band, so we do not promote contests on 30 meters – this group/member would NOT participate if this idea were ever suggested - again NO CONTESTS but we will promote activity)

Why Join?

- ✓ Why not join? If you have never used 30 meters or digital modes, you are in for a lot of fun with some great ops on this band.
- ✓ Oh yes, it's also FREE to join 30MDG!

- ✓ If you have and do use 30 meters and digital modes, then this can only add to a band you already know is a great band to work plus have an added advantage of participating with others of like interests.

- ✓ Some other reasons to join this Group:
- ✓ It is FREE! This site is supported by donations only, no Group fees, no hoops to jump - join and have fun on the band.

- ✓ If you have never explored or used 30 Meters, then there is no better time than now to explore - this group is dedicated to the
- ✓ 30 Meter Digital band.

- ✓ If you are a seasoned Digital Mode Operator using other bands like 20 or 40 meters and are looking for a virtually under used band
- ✓ that has unique propagation qualities like both 20 and 40 Meters, then don't skip over 30 meters! You get the best of both
- ✓ bands here on 30 Meters, be it local propagation to World-Wide DX (it is open somewhere 24/7)

- ✓ New to digital modes? We are dedicated Digital Operators, so join, look around and ask questions- then get on the band!

- ✓ Not sure where to find 30 Meter Digital activity? This Group is dedicated to promoting and increasing digital activity on our digital
- ✓ only HF band (U.S). There will be postings of known 30 Meter activities and events so please join in (if you tried in the past on 30
- ✓ Meters with little results on digital modes then please note, the band has increased in activity since 2007!)

- ✓ Don't like Contest Weekends, then join in on this NO CONTEST 30 Meter WARC band as there is plenty of room to have some
- ✓ very nice QSO's/rag chews or work some DX while others are scrambling for a clear spot on other crowded bands with sometimes, poor
- ✓ operating practices.

- ✓ 30 Meters (in the U.S. and in some other Countries) is the only HF Digital ONLY band, so it certainly makes sense to use and promote
- ✓ digital activity on this Digital ONLY band.

- ✓ '30 Meters is the Energizer Bunny Band' - join in because this band just keeps going and going! 30 Meters is open somewhere
- ✓ and has propagation from local to Worldwide DX - ALL stations are welcome.

**** Please remember, we are secondary users of the 30 Meter Band ****

Is there a charge?

- There is no charge to join 30MDG and no charge for any Awards issued....FREE to all to join and participate (note: Membership Certificate and Awards are issued via email with a link to your 30MDG Membership or Award(s) in PDF so members can either save the PDF Certificates on their PC or print to keep a paper copy or post on your wall) All our Managers work for FREE giving lots of their free time for others to enjoy. The 30MDG Domain is paid for by Don KB9UMT and 30MDG website/server is hosted/managed/paid by Roberto IZ1TGH (Roberto took over once ZL3RG Rob/Laurie VK3AMA retired to host the website and keep up the database...very thankful for Roberto IZ1TGH plus a great programmer too...so our 30MDG server is located in Italy)

Please thank our 30MDG Managers occasionally if you are using the 30MDG Awards...they work hard and FREE for all to enjoy!

30MDG could not do all it does without managers Barry M0IOW, Richard PA3GWH, Darin VE3OIJ, Fred NZ4DX, Marc ON9TT, John K3JAE, Brian N2MLP, Al WB2JEP, Yuri R6KEE, Bill K3ABE, Fawaz A92AA, Jo DL1AB, Roberto IZ1TGH and even me Don KB9UMT

<http://www.30mdg.org/team.html>

Most of the awards are fantastic, who creates them?

- The Awards were all created mostly by Rob ZL3RG 30MDG#00002 now retired and no longer participating in Ham Radio....the first 10 or so Awards were created by me (Don KB9UMT) and a few of the Managers at the time so those might be the few that are not the best HIHI or the 'most' of the awards that are fantastic are Rob's ZL3RG....not being award creators by trade nor did we have any software at the time we literally used MS PAINTBRUSH and WORD to manually make every Award and type in every applicant call signs, dates,

etc...very time consuming so thank God that Rob ZL3RG came along to create the Awards and Laurie VK3AMA the fantastic database to do all automatically and track and John OE3JPK with our own U30 software...all worked very slick for us and Rob ZL3RG with his years of chasing DX created all Award rules and series of Awards, both Rob ZL3RG and Don KB9UMT tried to create these to keep interest on 30 Meters and in the beginning adding different Awards every few weeks or months to keep interest and chasing these casually as those that work the 30 Meter band....all very laid back and casual like the 30 Meter Band. We that those of our members that participate keeping the Award program active which also keeps the 30 Meter band active as well (sadly we can't add any more Awards or update anything so we are kind of stuck with the 111 Awards still being offered today but all fun Awards even today).

How did 30MDG get affiliated with the UAAC and DK5UR?

- As with any Club/Group formed things change and you either quit or try to move things around to move on....so after 7 years going at it pretty hard in 2014 we had several of our key players announce they would be stepping down from their 30MDG roles....Rob ZL3RG retired and left Ham Radio all together so we were stuck with things as is and still are as is if you will since all the programming was made in a software no longer used...then Laurie VK3AMA retired so our database guru was no longer and Laurie moved on to promote his love for programming/database skills creating JTAAlert (if you used WSJT modes on HF you will most likely know the call VK3AMA and Laurie's great addition to the WSJT JT modes and alerts)...then John OE3JPK took ill and was on and off so we had to come up with a good solution if we were to keep 30MDG going (also a few other managers retired or went SK etc.)...so reached out to the largest PSK Club at the time the EPC PSK Club and our dear friend Heinz DK5UR saved the day for 30MDG and was willing to work with me and Roberto IZ1TGH to include 30MDG Awards in the UAAC software....a BIG THANKS to Heinz DK5UR so our 30MDG Awards and group could continue on (and with other digital mode clubs and Awards included in UAAC it automatically gave us new members without all the manually promotion needed to keep interest in participating with 30MDG or other digital clubs which we also promote those Clubs and ALL digital modes too...only difference with 30MDG is we promote the 30 Meter Band using any/all digital modes).

What else should we know about 30MDG ?

-Over 13,200 Members from 153 DXCC, all 50 States WAS, 55 WAE, All WAC
- From time to time we might have a Weekend to promote using the 30 Meter Band and using/experimenting with different digital modes...although we have not done this in a few years if we have one please feel free to join in and despite what some might say there is NO REPORTS to send anyone (although we welcome activity to be posted to our Groups.IO site to show activity or fun contacts that are had), NO LOGS to send anyone, NO EXCHANGE so these activity events are NOT CONTESTS they are to promote the use of 30 Meter band and digital modes period.....30MDG does NOT promote CONTESTING on 30 Meters or any WARC bands we like so many others love the band as is with no contesting and unique features to actually be enjoyed by all Ops.... when or if we have a weekend, it is for casual fun with other members period

-Personally our mission was accomplished years ago so we still appreciate any and all new members that join....but our main purpose is and always will be to promote the use of 30 meter unique band and also experimenting with digital modes (CW, PSK, WSJT, RTTY, MFSK, OLIVIA, etc.)...please just don't skip from 20 meters to 40 meters without giving the 30 meter band a try, it is a great band, great Ops, and very unique in propagation, great DX, rag chews to meet new Ham friends, many experimenters wanting to experiment with antennas, modes, power, etc...also low power so all on same playing field and a place to go if you are tired of the current weekend contest...no contesting on 30 meters and no voice just CW and digital so very different from any other HF band and very over looked (most that give it a try soon find 30 meters is their new go to

band).

Thank you for answering our questions. Is there anything else you would like to share?

- Please don't overlook the 30 Meter Band (most just hop from 20m down to 40m skipping a very unique 30m band)

- Please do call CQ on the 30 Meter band in whatever mode you wish be it CW or digital mode i.e. PSK or WJST modes FT8/4 (using RXID/TXID on those less used modes like OLIVIA, CONTESTIA, MFSK, DOMX, TROB, THOR, etc.)...I'm always amazed at who/where might answer my CQs

- Join in with 30MDG if you wish it is FREE to all and FREE UAAC 30MDG Software to load your log of 30-meter contacts while casually working the band have fun accumulating some Awards

- For me personally I have a number of 30MDG Awards, but I don't really chase much nor need any award I get a bigger kick out of working stations when they reply back "you are my first digital mode contact on the 30 Meter Band" or "using QRP power and inside antenna"...I get the biggest reward from those contacts

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Collins S-Line Restoring, On Air Operations and 100 DXCC Entities – Part 2

By Dave Vest, K8DV

Last month I wrote about my early days of looking through the pages of ham radio magazines like it was the latest edition of the Sears Christmas catalog and dreaming of what it would be like to operate some of the equipment that was out of reach for a student on a grass cutting budget. I also went over on my adventure to restore the Collins 75S-1 receiver and getting it back in working order and ready for on-air operations.

The next piece to tackle is the power supply 516F-2 which Collins used to power the 32S-x series of transmitters and the KWM-2 transceivers. The 516F-2 virtually went unchanged over the entire period of Collins production, approximately 1958 through the mid-seventies. My power supply is from 1961 and was all original. After removing the power supply from the cabinet and just doing a visual inspection there was no question in my mind that the power supply needed some work. At 60 years old it was time to do some updates.



Fig 1 Original Components in 516F-2

power supply gray box
My particular removing the inspection there some work



Fig. 2 Line Voltage at K8DV

I started researching on what was rebuilding and cost of the different that some of the Collins purists out there with me about my decision and believe it should be left as close to original design as possible. After spending considerable time in researching and thinking about what others have done and the things they suggested, I put together a list of things I wanted to accomplish with the update. Some of the biggest concerns with a lot of Collins users were

higher line voltage that we see today at 120 volts verses 115 volts years ago, replace the tube rectifiers to reduce load on transformer and be able to add years of life of service and keep the look original.

The following items is what I came up with that I wanted to address:

- Replace all old capacitors
- Replace tube rectifiers
- Replace worn line cord

available for options. I know would argue

- Add years of life and reduce on-going maintenance
- Add relay for power on/off to take surge/load off on/off switch of transmitter
- Keep appearance of it being original, no modifications to cabinet
- Have a much of the above on one circuit board



Fig. 4 Radio Farm Board

I ended up going with the Radio Farm Projects 516F-2 rebuild kit as it gave me a solution to all my the list above. The kit includes the circuit board, new diodes, resistors, stand offs for mounting in the base of supply as well as relay for taking the load off the switch transmitter and provided a new line cord. The board is and high quality. It took about an hour to assemble the



Fig 3 Completed Board

Collins items on capacitors, the power in the well made board

starting with the diodes, then the capacitors, resistors and finally the relay. After completing this task laid it aside to prep the power supply for installing the Radio Farm Projects board.

In preparing the 516F-2 chassis by removing the tube rectifiers, pulling them out of their sockets as well as cutting all the old capacitors, the one diode that was used in the original design in the bias supply. remove all the clips that were used for holding the original capacitors.



Fig 5 Prepping for new board

which is just resistors and Also had to



Fig 6 Board Mounted

The next step is mounting the board in chassis of the 516F-2 using the supplied begin the process of wiring it in. I elected to original wiring in place and take them loose one

the bottom hardware and leave the at a time to

connect to the new board, this way it would be easier to know what was coming from where and keep track as I went. After getting the board in and wired up I went back over all my work to verify my wiring, connections and solder joints. The last thing I did was wire in the new line cord that replaced the original that the insulation was dry rotted and was falling off so it was becoming if not already a safety hazard.

The next step was to check it out and see if it was producing the right voltages, I but a jumper across the connections that normally go to the on/off switch in the transmitter, hooked up my voltmeter to the filament supply to start with as this would be a good indication that my wiring was correct if I had voltage there. Upon plugging the supply in my meter read 7.31 volts on the filaments, as many of you know that is a volt higher than you want which is due to the higher line voltage we have today. I then proceeded to check the high voltage, low voltage and the bias voltage, all of these where within specifications without a load attached. To reduce the filament voltage I decided to do what is reffered to as bucking the primary of the transformer, basically what you do is use the previous used secondary windings that went to the filaments of the tube rectifiers and put them in series with the primary winding. Keep in mind there is polarity associated with these windings so connecting one way you will raise the secondary voltage and the other will lower it. I ended up using both filament windings that went to the rectifier tubes that ended reducing the filament voltage by just over a volt to 6.23 volts.



Fig 8 Filament Voltage

The last step was the dress the wiring and final prepping the power supply to reinstall back into the cabinet. All in all I have about 6 hours invested in the 75S-1 receiver and 4 hours in the 516F-2 power supply.



Fig 7 Filament Voltage

That is it for the Collins 516F-2 power supply and it is unlike the receiver it will not be set aside as it will be used to 1 transmitter which is next to be put on the bench for service and start my chase of 100 entities old school.

Hope you enjoy reading about my journey of putting these beauties back on the air. I cannot wait to start having some on air. Until next time when I will be writing about bringing the 32S-1 operations.



Fig 9 New board wired in and wires dressed

ready for use, power the 32S-1 get it ready to

60 year old fun with these. back to on air

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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:

S9 - Sao Tome and Principe - K0EFW, Ryan, has announced his plans to operate S9EFW from Sao Tome (AF-023) during the second week of May 2022. He will have an IC7300 and an End Fed Half Wave running 100 watts. Activity will be on SSB on 40, 20, 15 and 10 meters. QSL via K0EFW and LoTW.

3A – Monaco - Special callsign 3A5M will be QRV from April 1 to May 31 by members of the Association of Radio Amateurs of Monaco (ARM). This special call is to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the death of Prince Albert 1st (1889-1922). He was both a humanist and scientist and "founded the Institute of Peace before the First World War". One of his interests was oceanographic science as he made multiple "oceanographic expeditions around the world" and founded the Oceanographic Institute in Paris and the Oceanographic Museum in Monaco. During his life he also "encouraging the creation of maritime coastal radio stations and the installation of radioelectric transmitter-receiver stations onboard ships, with the aim of saving lives and making it possible to establish a contact between ships at sea and stations ashore". 3A5M will be QRV on all HF bands and modes. All QSL requests need to go via the 3A QSL Bureau.

There will also be a specific 6-meter activity using the call 3A6M by members of the Association of Radio Amateurs of Monaco (ARM) between July 6 and 14. A special effort is planned to work Japan on 6 meters. The first QSO between JA and 3A took place at 1232Z on June 6, 2009, between 3A2LF and JR3IIR with 559 on both ends of the CW contact. During this time frame two European guest ops are expected to be focusing on this effort. (Editor's note: It should be noted that 3A - Monaco ranks #76 in North America and #77 in the Far East on Club Log's DXCC Most Wanted List for 6 meters.)

FP - St. Pierre and Miquelon Islands - KV1J, Eric, is all set with his plane tickets and rental house for his return to Miquelon, where he will be QRV again as FP/KV1J from June 28 to July 12. Listen for him mostly on SSB, RTTY, FT8 and FT4, "with some CW" on 3.5 through 50 MHz. Eric will be emphasizing activity on 6 and 60 meters. He will also be on SSB and FM satellites. Listen for him to be active during the DL/DX RTTY and IARU HF World Championship Contests. Eric, reports "HF Logs will be loaded each night to LoTW and Club Log" while "Satellite logs will be loaded after the trip". QSL FP/KV1J direct or via the bureau to KV1J or via LoTW. <http://www.kv1j.com/fp/July22.html>

VU4 - Andaman and Nicobar Islands - VU4W is May 3-16 by YL2GM, VU2CDP and VU2CPL with a K3, SP3 kilowatt, on 160, 80, 40, 30, 20, 17, 15, 12 and 10M with a vertical and beverages on receive. 20-10 will also have a Spiderbeam, plus a delta loop for 20 and 6. Modes: CW, SSB, RTTY and FT8 F/H. Supporters with 20 USD or more will get a direct QSL. Through Club Log (<https://clublog.org/logsearch/VU4W>) with 5 USD will also work, or an OQRS request for a bureau card, no charge, those sent out on a six-month delay. "If you don't know how to use OQRS, send email to y12gn@lral.lv" with the QSO details. The "full LoTW upload" will be six months later. One more option, a QSL via YL2GN with 3 USD and SAE to this address:

Ziedonis Knope
P.O. Box 55
Balvi, LV-4501
Latvia

The VU4W website: <https://www.lral.lv/vu4w/>

A2 – Botswana - VE7VR, Dave, will be there April 28 to May 26, callsign A25VR. He is doing a four-wheel-drive camping safari trip. He expects to be on the air every day, somewhere on 40-10 CW and SSB. Another report says it's 40 and 20 through May 24th. He has a KX2 10-watt rig and inverted V for 40 and 20 put up in a tree, when stationary for the overnights. He also has a 40-foot fiberglass pole to support the antennas. QSL via VE7VR.

9X – Rwanda - 9X2AW by DF2WO, Harald, will be north of Kigali, grid KT48xe, June 1- 22, 160-10M mostly digital but not just FT8/4. It will be FT8, PSK31, JT65 and RTTY, he says, with "some CW and SSB." He will do the QO-100 satellite on 2M and 70cm with his FT991A to a vertical, dipoles and hexbeam. For the satellite he will have a 80cm dish and BU500. Next he goes to XT2AW and D44TWO in September. QSL via M0OXO or use OQRS.

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CONTEST CORNER

Below is a list of upcoming contests in the "Contest Corner". I think this is important for someone who is trying to move up the DXCC ladder since entities that are on the rarer side and easiest to work in contests. Some of my best "catches" have been on the Sunday afternoon of a contest when the rarer entities are begging for QSOs. Of course, the gamble is that if you wait until Sunday, conditions may change, or they simply won't be workable. However, it is not a bad gamble. Of course, why not work the contest and have some fun!

Check out the WA7BNM Contest Calendar page (<https://www.contestcalendar.com/>) and CQ Magazine for more contests or more details. I also have a comprehensive list that can be imported to your calendar at

www.aj8b.com/files

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

Thanks!

Apr. 30- May 1	UK/EI DX Contest, CW	https://www.ukeicc.com/dx-contest-rules.php
May 1	AGCW QRP/QRP Party	http://bit.ly/3bwH1aZ
May 5 – 7	7 th Area QSO Party	http://7qp.org/
May 5 – 7	New England QSO party	https://neqp.org/
May 14	Arkansas QSO Party	http://www.arkqp.com/
May 14 – 15	Canadian Prairies QSO Party	https://cpqp.ve6hams.ca/
May 20	SWODXA DX Dinner	https://www.Swodxaevants.org
May 21	SWODXA DX Forum	Hamvention
May 28- 29	CQWW WPX CW Contest	www.cqwp.com

ARLD017 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.

MAURITIUS, 3B8. Lubo, OM5ZW is QRV as 3B8/OM5ZW until May 6. Activity is holiday style on 80 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY, and FT8. QSL via LoTW.

NEPAL, 9N. Janusz, SP9FIH and Leszek, SP6CIK are QRV as 9N7WE and 9N7CI, respectively, until May 19. Activity is on 40, 30, 17, 15, 12, 10, and 6 meters. QSL to home calls.

BOTSWANA, A2. Dave, VE7VR is QRV as A25VR until May 26 while on a safari trip. Activity is holiday style on 80 to 10 meters. QSL to home call.

MOZAMBIQUE, C9. Pedro, CT7AHV is QRV as C91AHV from Chinonanquila, Matola Rio until May 4, and only during weekdays. Activity is on 40 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, and FT8. QSL to home call.

PORTUGAL, CT. Members of the Coimbra Amateur Radio Association are QRV with special call CS5ARC to celebrate their 24th anniversary. Activity is on the HF bands. QSL via CS5ARC.

URUGUAY, CX. Members of the Radio Club CX1UA are QRV with special call CW27U until May 8 to celebrate their 27th anniversary. QSL via IK2DUW.

PHILIPPINES, DU. Michael, W6QT is QRV as DU3/W6QT from Subic Bay during the month of May. Activity is on 80 to 6 meters using SSB and FT8. An extension of his stay until mid-September is possible. QSL to home call.

SVALBARD, JW. A large group of operators will be QRV as JW4D from May 3 to 8. Activity will be on 80 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, and various digital modes. QSL via LA4D.

BULGARIA, LZ. Members of the Bulgarian Radio Club Blagovestnik are QRV as LZ330AL during the month of May to honor the memory of Orthodox saints. QSL via bureau.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA, P2. Alberto, EA4PL is QRV as P29LL from Port Moresby. Activity is on the HF bands. QSL via EA7FTR.

GREECE, SV. Members of the Western Peloponnes Amateur Radio Association are QRV as SX335T during the month of May in recognition of NATO Tiger Meet 2022. QSL via LoTW.

CRETE, SV9. Piotr, SQ6DX is QRV as SV9/SQ6DX until May 4. Activity is on 40 to 10 meters using SSB. QSL to home call.

ST. KITTS AND NEVIS, V4. Members of the St. Kitts and Nevis, and Anguilla Amateur Radio Society are QRV as V49WARD until May 5. Activity is on 80, 40, 20, and 17 meters using SSB from 0900 to 1300z, and then 2000 to 0000z. QSL via operators' instructions.

NAMIBIA, V5. Paul, ZS2PS is QRV as V5/ZS2PS from May to mid July. Activity will be on 80, 60, 40, 30, 20, and 10 meters. QSL via LoTW.

ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS, VU4. Yuris, YL2GM, Deepak, VU2CDP and Monoj, VU2CPL will be QRV as VU4W from Andaman Island, IOTA AS-001, from May 3 to 16. Activity will be on all HF bands. QSL via YL2GN.

Please see April QST, page 74, May QST, page 71, and the ARRL and WA7BNM Contest web sites for details.

[Upcoming Hamfests](#)

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





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

Ohio Hamfests

2022

05/01/2022 - [Lucas County Amateur Radio Emergency Service Trunk Sale and Swap Meet](#)
Location: Toledo, OH
Sponsor: Lucas County Amateur Radio Emergency Service
Website: <http://tinyurl.com/lcaresswap>
[Learn More](#)

05/20-22/2022 - [Dayton Hamvention](#)
Location: Greene County Fairgrounds, OH
Sponsor: Dayton Amateur Radio Association
Website: <https://hamvention.org>
[Learn More](#)

05/28/2022 - [Scioto Valley Amateur Radio Club Hamfest](#)
Location: Piketon, OH
Sponsor: Scioto Valley Amateur Radio Club
[Learn More](#)

06/04/2022 - [FCARC Summer Hamfest](#)
Location: Wauseon, OH
Sponsor: Fulton County Amateur Radio Club
Website: <https://k8bxq.org/hamfest>
[Learn More](#)

<p>07/09/2022 - Mansfield Mid Summer Trunkfest Location: Mansfield, OH Sponsor: Intercity Amateur Radio Club Website: http://www.w8we.org Learn More</p>	<p>07/17/2022 - Van Wert Hamfest Location: Van Wert, OH Sponsor: Van Wert Amateur Radio Club Website: http://W8FY.ORG Learn More</p>
<p>08/06/2022 - Columbus Hamfest Location: Grove City, OH Sponsor: Aladdin Shrine Audio Unit Website: http://columbushamfest.com Learn More</p>	<p>08/13/2022 - Cincinnati Hamfest Location: Owensville, OH Sponsor: Milford ARC Website: https://CincinnatiHamfest.org Learn More</p>
<p>09/17/2022 - Mound Amateur Radio Assoc. Swap Meet Location: Miamisburg, OH Sponsor: MARA Website: http://W8DYY.ORG Learn More</p>	<p>09/25/2022 - Cleveland Hamfest Location: Berea, OH Sponsor: Hamfest Association of Cleveland Website: http://www.hac.org Learn More</p>
<p>10/30/2022 - Massillon Hamfest (OH) Location: Green, OH Sponsor: Massillon Amateur Radio Club Website: http://w8np.org Learn More</p>	

Print an Official or Unofficial Copy of Your Amateur Radio License

(By Anthony Luscre, K8ZT)

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

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



[Click here to download the instructions](#)

One Question Questionnaire

Hey Gang,

Last months question **"DID YOU PARTICIPATE IN NVIS DAY LAST WEEKEND?"**

Survey Says: 12 (28.5%) yes, 30 (71.5%) no. The new question is:

ARE YOU CURRENTLY STUDYING TO UPGRADE YOUR LICENCE CLASS? YES OR NO?

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



V.E. Test Sessions

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



Final... Final

Last weekend I was at the Athens Hamfest. In all my years as a Ham in NE Ohio, that's one I had never been to before. The venue was really nice. There was a pretty good crowd and money was changing hands. On an impulse buy, I am now the proud owner of a 6 meter "Benton Harbor Lunchbox" complete with the 50.4 Mhz crystal! Once again, and I can't say this enough, I had a chance to meet and talk to a lot of really nice folks. As SM in my second year, I've noticed a difference of going to the fests with the purpose of meeting and getting to know the other hams in the section. In the past, most of my time at fests has been spent looking over the "stuff" that was there. The stuff is good, but as your out and about this summer be sure to participate in the "social" side of the hobby. Get to know some new and interesting people. You'll be glad you did!

Following is the IMPORTANT information your club will need to apply for the Club Grant Program:

An informational webinar about the ARRL Foundation Club Grant Program will be held on Wednesday, May 4, 2022 at 8PM EST

Please register in advance for this webinar at:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_4lhqvUdzS1S34tT1u8ZC4Q

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

The website has been created that will be used to convey info on the program at:

www.arrl.org/club-grant-program

A new mailbox here at ARRL has also been created for correspondence concerning the program.

clubgrants@arrl.org

The official launch of the program is Wednesday May 4th and clubs can apply after that date.

Thanks

Mike

Mike Walters, W8ZY

Field Services Manager

ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio®

There is \$500,000 available to clubs under this program and it is expected to be awarded FAST! So be sure that your club gets there application in as quickly as possible. Grants will be available up to \$20,000 – but don't let that intimidate you into not asking for something much smaller – if your club as

a need for \$1000 make the request. All submissions have a chance at being accepted! If you don't make a submission, you will 100% guaranteed not be awarded a grant.

Get on the air! Have some fun.

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

“Swap & Shop” on the website

Hey Gang,

Have you taken a look at the **Swap & Shop** page on the Ohio Section webpage yet?? Here's a link that will take you there...

<http://arrl-ohio.org/sm/s-s.html>



Do you have equipment that you just don't need or want anymore? Here's a great venue to advertise it, and it's FREE!!

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

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

If your club is doing a fund raiser and wants more exposure, please forward the information to me and I'll advertise it on the Swap & Shop webpage for you. Now, I still want to remind you that it won't be listed in this newsletter because it would take up way too much space, so your ad will only appear on the website. It is there for any individual to post equipment Wanted / For Sale or Give-Away as well as for Club Fund Raisers. No licensed vehicles/trailers or business advertising will be posted.

Postings are text only (no pictures or graphics) will be posted for a maximum of 1 month from date posting and require a contact phone number or email within the posting. Send your Wanted / For Sale or Give-Away post to: swap@arrlohio.org

Back Issues of the PostScript and Ohio Section Journal

Hey, did you know that PostScript and Ohio Section Journal (OSJ) are archived on the website? You can go back and look at any edition simply by clicking:
<http://arrrl-ohio.org/news/index.html>



Ohio Section Cabinet

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

Chit – Chat, and All That!

Do you know someone that's not getting these Newsletters? Please, forward a copy of this Newsletter over to them and have them "[Opt-In](#)" to start receiving them. Heck just have them send an email to: webmaster@arrrl-ohio.org to be added.



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



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

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



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!

[TOP^](#)