Ohio Section Journal

August Edition

From the Technical Coordinator
Jeff Kopcak – K8JTK   TC
k8jtk@arrl.net

Hey gang,

My article last month covered Raspberry Pi and problems users have experienced with the Pi 4 since its release last year. I gave some tips for keeping your Pi running like a top including choosing better power components, SD cards, and having the Pi run cooler despite higher idle temperatures. This month will cover recent projects you can make with the Raspberry Pi to learn about the device, computer programming, or Linux.

Ham Pi – formally the "W3DJS Raspberry Pi for Ham Radio image" is an operating system for the Raspberry Pi with over 80 ham radio applications pre-installed – which include digital modes, APRS clients, antenna programs, SDR, Morse Code, radio programming, and more. Dave wanted to have a Pi image loaded with any ham radio software application he might ever want to use. He initially shared it with a few club members and soon realized there was demand when his image had over 8,000 downloads. Since then, the build process is automated using an Ansible playbook. The playbook is also available on his github which is useful if you want to learn a provisioning technology or build your own customized version. A long time ago, I wrote instructions that just compiled Fldigi and Flmsg on a Pi2 for a go-box. Ham Pi is a definite must for anyone that has a Pi already in their go-box or wants to add one to an existing box.

Build a Pi – wanting a way to have ham radio applications installed on a Pi, Jason - KM4ACK wrote a script that does just that. Having many issues with the first couple implementations, which were mostly copy-and-paste installs, it was not flexible enough to update applications once installed. Version 3 includes an automated way of installing and configuring both ham radio applications and the operating system on a fresh Raspberry Pi OS installation. Differing from Ham Pi in that a stock Raspberry Pi OS download can be used, the user can also pick-and-choose which applications they want to install. A quick tutorial video is available.

Rig Pi Station Server – is a Raspberry Pi that controls your station and on-air activities. With a Station Server install and web browser or smartphone app, you can control a radio, rotor, use CW, operate digital modes, look for spots, and even upload your log. If you don't want to spend much time learning about the Pi or Linux with the above projects, this is the way to get on the air remotely as quickly as possible. Hackaday did a review on the Rig Pi Remote Server.

"Rig Pi" may sound familiar because it was picked up and packaged by MFJ as the 1234 with a Pi and audio interface HAT. Before I receive complains (I've already seen them online), you can download the help and schematics as well as any of the software on the github repository absolutely free. Rig Pi is open-source. Not only that but no one *needs* to buy the commercial package. It can be installed yourself. People that complain about "selling" open-source projects really don't understand how that typically works. It is common practice to release an enterprise grade software application as FOSS (free and open-source).

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A company/individual/whomever will make money on their application by selling licenses, services, or hardware. Same concept here. Assuming the license allows it, a vendor can package the program as part of a device. I'm going to assume the developer is getting a cut or donation as part of MFJ's sales (but I don't know this) as the product is promoted on the project page.

Pi-Star – create a digital hotspot or repeater with a Pi and transmitter. Providing complex services and easy configuration via a web interface, Pi-Star solved the problem of fragmentation when different hotspot boards all had their own Pi image. Most didn't work well if at all. Pi-Star solved that problem by providing an easy to use interface for the beginner and allowing a tinkerer to dig deep into settings. Using the MMDVM suite from G4KLX, it can operate DMR, D-STAR, NXDN, P25, and System Fusion (depending on modem) and use many different protocols. This software is packaged and sold with different hotspot devices such as the ZUMSpot. Another example of software being packaged with hardware and sold commercially.

Ultimate Raspberry Pi Build

Ultimate Raspberry Pi Build – Julian - OH8STN from Finland covers topics related to off-the-grid and grid-down operating. He brings us an excellent instructional video on making a very portable QRP digital station using a Raspberry Pi. He set out to build a smaller and, in turn, much more portable setup than is available commercially with other devices. This video details hardware mods, HAT options, and software needed to operate digital, off-grid, from anywhere.

Pi Clocks – a couple of clock projects are available depending on your level of interest. The first one is created by Kevin – N0BEL. It's not a project specifically for Hams rather for anyone interested in making a nice weather display. His PiClock is a clock ("duh" - as he says) with weather forecast and radar map display. Though it could be used in the shack, it is better suited for a common area in the house, such as the kitchen, with an HDMI monitor. Everyone likes weather information. Emile - KE5QKR from Amateur Logic did a PiClock tutorial.

PiClock

HamClock project - from Elwood – WB0OEW is geared toward the ham shack. It has clock (again, duh), current temperature and weather conditions, solar conditions, VOCAP predictions, satellites, DX spots and daylight map. His project can be built on any UNIX-like operating system including the Raspberry Pi. It cannot run naively on Windows but can run on a Unix system and displayed on Windows using X server forwarding. This has the appearance of a regular Windows application. Tommy – N5ZNO of Amateur Logic did a segment on setting up the HamClock.

Open Repeater – I lost track of this project. I first heard about it back in 2014 when they didn't yet have a domain name for the project. Goal is to create an open-source and simple to use repeater controller. Utilized for high-profile repeaters or basic simplex nodes, the software walks the user through setting up a repeater controller. Owners can have traditional Morse IDs or create longer messages at every hour via audio recordings. Having SVXLink at the core allows seamless integration with VoIP modes like Echolink. Additional modules can be added to the core package providing more functionality.

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Pi-Hole – not specifically Ham Radio related but a fantastic network appliance. DL6ER, a ham radio operator in Germany, is a Developer and Administrator for the project. Pi-Hole acts as a Domain Name System (DNS) sinkhole (returning a fake value) which blocks devices on a home network from accessing ad sites, trackers, or other malicious websites. Though originally intended for Raspberry Pi devices, it has been expanded to include any Linux operating system or docker container. It doesn't filter bandwidth or inspect network traffic. The Pi-Hole acts as the DNS server for a home network instead of your ISP. DNS is referred to as the "phone book" of the Internet by looking up names such as arrl-ohio.org and returning the IP address in order for a network device to access the server hosting the Ohio Section website. When a request for a blacklisted website (such as some-malicious-website[dot]com) is requested, Pi-Hole intercepts and returns a different IP address so the access request will never reach the Internet. This is better compared to a web browser plug-in because Pi-Hole is inspecting DNS requests for all network devices.

Pi-Hole Dashboard (Wikipedia)

It's great to block trackers and ad sites in theory, keeps digital footprints to a minimum and reduces the chance of fraud through scareware-type tactics. In practice, it often blocks couponing and deal websites as well as promotional email links from a favorite restaurant. Those emails are coded to tell the sender which links a recipient clicked and can be used to measure the effectiveness of an advertising campaign. Whitelist exceptions can be granted though the very nice web interface when legitimate sites are blocked. I have a similar application running on my network. After I received complaints about sites being blocked (but they wouldn't tell me when there were problems to create exceptions), I disabled this blocking all together, effectively opening up the Internet. Within 10 minutes I was asked to turn it back on as pop-up ads immediately started to appear stating 'your computer is INFECTED.' Scared the, uh, stuff out of some. Other issues involve in-home advertising and monitoring devices, like Alexa, which freak out when the device can't reach its severs. These devices flood the local network with hundreds of DNS requests per second. Smart TVs and Rokus often have similar problems when they can't reach their servers to track what is being watched. Data feeds containing bad sites are aggregated for free, so you get what you pay for. Sites are frequently categorized as bad when they really aren't. Some are legitimate services. Blocking these sites could cause undesired behavior, for example, using a favorite streaming TV service where you may receive errors.

Windows 10/desktop replacement – with the power and speed of the Raspberry Pi 4, many are finding ways to install traditional operating systems. Windows 10, in its many flavors, has an IoT stripped down version for devices like the Pi. The guide at Tom's Hardware shows how to get the full desktop version of Windows 10 running on the Pi. It's a little sluggish and not for the faint of heart but if you screw up, just start over.

There are plenty more ham radio and non-ham projects to do on a Raspberry Pi. Applications listed in the first couple projects can be installed standalone for single use setups such as a Slow Scan TV (SSTV) receiver when the International Space Station is sending images. A friend in Toledo recently used my instructions to setup an APRS RX Igate. DL1GKK's site has instructions on installing ham radio applications as well. Raspberry Connect contains a list of ham radio applications that can be installed through the apt package manager which simplifies installation. There is no shortage of things to make on a Raspberry Pi.

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Grant Imahara (Wikipedia)

News missed my article last month, but I wanted to mention the passing of Grant Imahara at 49 years old due to a brain aneurysm. Most probably never heard the name but have undoubtedly seen his work. Not a ham radio licensee that anyone can find, Grant was an electronics genius and maker in the truest sense of the word. Landing jobs at ILM (Industrial Light and Magic), the George Lucas special effects company, he modernized R2D2. He was one of three official domestic operators of the droid for the Star Wars movies. His special effects movie credits also include The Lost World: Jurassic Park, Terminator 3, and Matrix movies. Grant also competed on BattleBots where his robot was often highly ranked. The robotic sidekick on "The Late Late Show with Craig Ferguson" was also Grant's creation. He was a designer for the animatronic Energizer Bunny seen in commercials. Joining MythBusters in 2005 is where I picked up his career in front of the camera during my college years. The program took on myths, legends, and Hollywood lure to see if they translated to real-life – oh, and they liked to blow stuff up. Grant not only provided technical expertise but participated in experiments and designed machines to take the place of a person for myths that were too dangerous. A tragic loss and he will be missed.

Thanks for reading and 73… de Jeff – K8JTK

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

What's all this about message traffic?
Why does it have to be so complex??

There's probably nobody in the nation better versed in sending formal message traffic than AEC Matt Curtin, KD8TTE. Matt is at the top levels of Radio Relay International (RRI), the President of the Central Ohio Traffic Net (COTN) and has developed our last several years' worth of SET exercises. He recently was involved as a presenter for the Florida Section's mass exercise. Matt gets something I've been lax about until now: In ARES, we ~say~ our top priority is to provide communication to served agencies in an emergency. But to we actually ~do~ any of that? Sending traffic is, yes, a bit of a challenge to get right. And just like such other modes as fldigi, if we don't use it frequently, our first reaction upon needing it is, "Man, I don't remember any of this!"

So, it's time Ohio ARES takes a step up the ladder, and adds to our already capable ability to send tactical information. Matt has started a series of simple, RF messaging exercises that is designed to take us from "what's traffic??" to "yeah this is no problem!" in a series of easy steps.

Currently the program he's placing out for every EC is not a challenge to the EC… it's a test to see where the ~system~ works, and where it doesn't. By requesting a small bit of information, we can tell where we need to alter or boost the traffic system itself to make sure that our messages are getting through.

So, if you are wondering what this is all about and why, "they're torturing me with extra work, and I don't understand it anyway…" that's the program! Worst case- your local abilities will stay where they are right now. Better case, you might get someone in your county interested in this monster called ham radio traffic. Best case, when there's an emergency in your county and your EMA Director wants a 213 sent to Columbus, you'll be able to adroitly handle it pleasing everyone!

Now- if all the messages and white papers that have come your way have left you confused; I proudly present what Matt has also spent hours on: the YouTube message handling course!

Subscribe to Matt's channel: KD8TTE and watch his presentations of what traffic is all about. Every time I watch one, I pick up just a little more. Most are short, none is over 30 minutes. These are well worth your time!! Look- you studied hard to get your license. You put time into ARES public service. Take a couple hours spread over several days and learn about *how* we're supposed to do this stuff the right way!!

Look for Matt's articles on the arrl-ohio newsletter posts as well!   Just because we say we do this, doesn't mean we do it well. It takes practice- now's the time when we have the time.

Hold onto your hat! It's the big one… maybe

Many thanks to those who were alert and watching as the derecho (OK who had derecho for August 2020 mayhem??)   marched across several states heading toward Ohio. Forecasters expected it to die out here but weren't sure when or how far across Ohio that would be. As it happened, the high damaging winds pretty much skidded to a halt as the system crossed into Northwest Ohio. ARES and amateur radio were ready. Thanks to the alerting technology we have with ARES Connect and Scott's email lists, we were able to alert a few thousand hams (!) in mid-afternoon to be awake and ready. Richard and I went to the Ohio EOC to activate the Sarge, in a "be ready in case it hits us hard" kind of mode. We brought up our stations on 3902 (without announcing anything, we were just listening) on DMR statewide and Fusion Ohiolink. We also asked the 7:30 watch station on OHDEN to stay with us. OHDEN turned out to be one of the more used systems that evening. We were in touch with the Watch Desk, of course. We were also logged into NWSChat - a live talk channel with the National Weather Service, and we were watching on radar. We were able to issue a few updates and talk with a series of weather nets up northwest. OHDEN was a nice vehicle for tactical transmissions, including several status updates from the Sarge to all. We didn't need a check-in net there, and we were even lower profile on the digital networks. Basically, we were there in case… and the system obediently spared Ohio from serious damage. Plans were in place for a worst-case evening: we would have lit up 3902, OHDEN, and linked DMR statewide with Fusion Ohiolink to mate a couple hundred repeaters for on-site reporting as the storm moved across Ohio. (Thanks to the Fusion team for standing by!) Our reporting would have been critical to help the Watch Desk with ground truth and situational reports.

Many thanks to those who were listening, as this had more potential than most to be a damaging event. We looked pretty good to all involved!

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

From the Affiliated Club Coordinator
Tom Sly, WB8LCD - ACC
tomsly29@gmail.com

ACC September 2020

Let me start off asking a few questions about living as a ham radio operator in our new paradigm.

1) What cleaner / disinfectant is safe to use on modern radios, especially those with clear plastic pieces over displays?
2) How do I properly clean and disinfect a desk mic, or a mobile radio mic?
3) How can I properly mentor a new ham when we can't spend as much time together in a club setting, as we had in the past?
4) What's the best way to hold VE Sessions during a pandemic?
5) What ham radio activities have we stopped doing and how can we start doing them again?
6) How do we get involved with "youth programs" when they have all been closed down for the most part?
7) How can we support our local clubs, and ARRL when lots of activities have been shut down?
8) I've got 5B-DXCC, what can I do for a new challenge in Ham Radio?
9) How can we best promote "Ham Radio" to the general public?
10) I know YOU have some questions!

I've heard a lot of folks talking about "when we get back to normal", But what is normal? Normal is what we are experiencing right now. No – it's not the way it was, probably never will be exactly the same again. Add to that, it will probably be different again 2 years from now. Consider how much the human condition changed between the time of Christ and the year 1000 bc. Probably not a huge difference. How much did it change in the next 500 years? Think about where we were as a society in the year 1500 compared to the year 1776. Things probably changed a bit more over that time period. Now think about 1776 to 1976. A mere 200 years. We went from wooden ships crossing the oceans, to spaceships exploring the heavens! Finally, think about the changes in technology (and the human condition) that have occurred between 1976 and 2020. It's been a mind boggling 44 years. (And I've personally experienced more than that!) Anyone familiar with Moore's Law? Sometimes, in the course of history there have been events that have pushed change forward at a faster pace than what humankind was used to. This pandemic could be one of those events. "Normal" changes all the time. The *pace* of change increases all the time. It's never going to be like it was before.

Embrace the change! The younger generation that we want to engage in our hobby takes for granted much of the technology we are still wondering about. There will always be those that want to preserve history. You can still ride horses, shoot a bow and arrow, restore old sports cars or muscle cars. Why, there are even some of us that like to restore old radios or send messages into the ether via CW! That's all well and good, and I encourage you to participate in those types of activities. But amateur radio and Amateur Radio operators have always been at the forefront of changing technology. If we decide that we want to stop at this point in the technological history of mankind, never moving forward again then, we will quickly lose all relevance to the society in which we exist. Except for being quaint.

So now I have a different set of questions.

1) Can Amateur Radio be used again as a stepping-stone to get youth interested in math and the sciences?
2) What would Amateur Radio need to look like to make that happen?
3) What would our local club need to look like to make that happen?
4) What emerging technologies would I need to learn about to keep myself current with the "state of the art"?
5) How can we be more involved with Space Communications?
6) How can an old guy like me get back into "homebrewing" when all the pieces/parts are so small?
7) What real life communications problems do we now have the ability to simulate in order to provide solutions?
8) How do we ensure that science and technology are not hijacked for nefarious purposes?
9) I know YOU have some questions, too!

I don't throw these out as rhetorical questions. These are real (at least to me) and I would like to see amateurs come up with some of the answers. I would like to see amateurs help making the world a better place. I know there are stories all the time about Hams who are involved in lots of creative research and solutions to real life problems. I've seen Hams, who may be "professionals" in the corporate world work on things on their own time because they have the freedom to think outside of the corporate culture and/or vision. What are YOU working on to make the world a better place?

So now we get down to clubs. Clubs have many *important* functions for the amateur radio community. We cannot let this pandemic, or the NEW Normal keep us from fulfilling those functions – both for the Amateur Radio community and for society at large. Wikipedia says: "A **club** is an association of people united by a common interest or goal." That's pretty stark, but OK. Each club has it's own reason for being, or mission statement. Some of the things that should be the mission of every club include providing an environment for it's members where they can feel that they are a part of something. A "mission" statement defines what the goals of the club should be. Does your club make it a "mission" to make sure everyone feels that they are as important to the club as everyone else? Regardless of their abilities or capabilities? That's something that's missing in many parts of our society. We can make a huge difference in many people's lives with just that one goal for our club. Especially in times like we've experienced here in 2020. But don't stop there! Another part of our mission should be to promote the never-ending pursuit for more knowledge in the areas of radio, electronics, communications, propagation and much more. All the way from the simplest to the most complex ideas, concepts and techniques. I believe that if our clubs could all do just those two things, we could attract a following and provide a service to our communities, and to the scientific community that would be worthy of our history.

Think about this, and how it might look. I'll get back to you later on it.

73, Tom WB8LCD

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From the Public Information Coordinator
John Ross, KD8IDJ - PIC
john.ross3@worldnet.att.net

FROM THE PIC

John is currently out doing his professional duties with the AT&T crews helping with Hurricane Laura.

He promises to have an article for you next month!!

73

John E. Ross
ARRL Ohio Section Public Information Coordinator
KD8IDJ

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

A Summer of Binge Learning

A few things before I get started with my column this month:

- I would like to update you on my quest for an Assistant Section Youth Coordinator (ASYC) for Ohio. I have selected Katherine (Katie) Campbell, KE8LQR, to serve as one of hopefully two ASYCs. Katie lives in Columbiana, OH (Northeast Ohio) and I am still looking for one more ASYC, preferably in the western or southwestern part of Ohio. If you are interested or know someone that might make a good ASYC please email me at k8zt@arrl.net. I will have full details on Katie and hopefully a second ASYC in an upcoming column.
- With back-to-school plans in flux for K-12 and many colleges, this may be a difficult time to interact with youth in Amateur Radio directly. Consider this an excellent time for planning future activities and providing alternative online opportunities. I know of at least one club planning on online Tech and General Licensing classes this fall.

- If your club is planning online classes, please consider inviting youth to participate, the online environment has some distinct advantages for youth-
  - Often hard for youth to find time & transportation for off-site classes.
  - Parents can be suspicious of an unknown class, instructors, etc. at a non-school location.
  - Online classes can lessen the intimidation of being a youngster in a class of adults.

In this Spring and Summer of COVID-19, there have been many online Amateur Radio activities. Many of these activities have revolved around online presentations instead of typical hamfest programs. While lacking many of the touches only possible with in-person presentations, these events have the advantages of being available to much wider audiences and, in many cases, have been recorded for later viewing. In case you have missed any of these opportunities, I would like to share them with you. If anyone has others I should add to my list, please email me.

So, start up your browser, gather your snacks and binge-watch for educational purposes.

- Contest University- 10 hours of contest related presentations- Youtube link
  - Individual Session topics, slideshows and times to jump ahead in above Youtube
    - 8:45 am Welcome to CTU 2020 from W8CI, K3LR and N9JA
    - 9:00 am W3LPL – "Effective Low Band Receiving Antennas"
    - 10:00 am W2NAF – "2020 Solar Cycle Update and the HF Response to Ionospheric Storms and Traveling Ionospheric Disturbances"
    - 11:00 am N6TV – "Everything You Need to Know About USB and Serial Interfaces"
    - Noon K1AR – Memorial reading of the Silent Keys for 2020
    - 12:30 pm NN1C – "Exuberance and Youth Contesting – Update on What is Going On"
    - 1:00 pm W0YK – "Digital Contesting Hints & Kinks"
    - 2:00 pm K1DG – "Optimizing your Station for Contest Operations"
    - 3:00 pm N0AX – "Grounding & Bonding for Contest Stations"
    - 4:00 pm NC0B – "Contest & DX Performance A Complex Subject Today: Great RX Performance – TX Limitations"
    - 5:00 pm W3LPL – "60 Years of Competitive Contesting — the W3LPL Story"
    - 6:00 pm K3ZJ – Presentation of CQ Contest Hall Of Fame 2020

7-Aug	#	Speaker Topic and Name
9:00:00 PM	1	Keynote: COVID-19: Amateur Radio's Impact On Problem Solving To Create A Global Response To The Pandemic - Dr. Scott Wright, K0MD
8-Aug	**#**	**Speaker Topic and Name**
11:00:00 AM	2	How to Solder - Steve Johnston, WD8DAS
11:15:00 AM	18	DXpeditions - Glenn Johnson, W0GJ
11:30:00 AM	37	GPS Today - John Ackermann, N8UR
11:45:00 AM	46	ARKnet Wireless Emergency Intranet - Marcel Stieber, AI6MS
12:00:00 PM	3	The History of Heath Company, the G.I. Bill, and Economics of Restoration - Paul Topolski, W1SEX
12:15:00 PM	20	Digital Amateur Television And Social Distancing - Joel Wilhite, KD6W
12:30:00 PM	38	The Slot Antenna: Undiscovered Country for Most Hams - John Portune, W6NBC
1:00:00 PM	4	Get Active! Get On The Air! - Don Keith, N4KC
1:15:00 PM	21	FT8 & FT4 An Introduction - Anthony Luscre, K8ZT
1:30:00 PM	39	Getting Started On EME (Moon Bounce) With A Basic Station - Howard Sherer, AE3T
1:45:00 PM	48	21st Century Transceiver Design: The K4 High Performance Direct Sampling SDR - Eric Swartz, WA6HHQ
2:00:00 PM	5	Getting On the Air For Beginners, Having Fun With VHF - Bob Witte, K0NR

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Time	#	Track 1 - Speaker Topic and Name
2:15:00 PM	22	Introduction to FlexRadio - Michael Walker, VA3MW
2:30:00 PM	40	Remotely Controlling A Solar Station - Robert Norman, VK5SW
2:45:00 PM	49	Audio Building Block for Hams - Mark Smith, KR6ZY
3:00:00 PM	6	The Search For Amelia Earhart's L10E - Tom Vinson, NY0V
3:15:00 PM	23	Portable HF Operating - Mike Dahlhofer, K8MRD
3:30:00 PM	41	Is 3 dB Worth A Divorce? - Glenn Johnson, W0GJ
3:45:00 PM	50	Send An Amateur Radio Balloon Around The World - Bill Brown, WB8ELK
4:00:00 PM	7	Saltwater Effect: Fact Or Myth - Greg Lane, N4KGL
4:15:00 PM	24	Salt Water Amplifier: Key To QRP SSB DX - Thomas Robinson, G0SBW
4:30:00 PM	42	Building And Contesting On 10 GHz - Wayne Yoshida, KH6WZ
4:45:00 PM	47	
4:45:00 PM	51	Welcome to the Arduino - Glen Popiel, KW5GP
5:00:00 PM	8	Building A New Shack - Vance Martin, N3VEM
5:15:00 PM	25	The 630-Meter Band: Is It Practical For Amateur Use? - Steve Johnston, WD8DAS
5:30:00 PM	43	Simple HF Antennas - Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA
5:45:00 PM	52	Digging Dirt On Inductors: Experiments With Custom Magnetics Made From "Black Sand"- H.P. Pete Friedrichs, AC7ZL
6:00:00 PM	9	Antenna Theory - Robert Zavrel, W7SX
6:15:00 PM	26	DXing With Modern Software Defined Radios - Ria Jairam, N2RJ
6:30:00 PM	44	A 100W HF-6M Amplifier Project -Jim Veatch, WA2EUJ
6:45:00 PM	53	3D Printing Microwave Antennas - Karen Ricker, KG5GAK

- QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo (Warning Only Available Until Sept 9, 2020, free but requires registration) - link

  - Manufacturer's booths
  - Over 50 speakers

9-Aug		Track 1 - Speaker Topic and Name
11:00:00 AM	10	Grounding And Bonding: The Essentials - Ward Silver, N0AX
11:15:15 AM	27	Getting Started In HF - Michael Burnette, AF7KB
11:30 to 18:30	45	Youth In Ham Radio - Carole Perry, WB2MGP Getting Girls Involved In STEM, Specifically Amateur Radio! - Audrey McElroy, KM4BUN Highly Flying Kids With High Altitude Balloons (HAB) - Jack McElroy, KM4ZIA Citizen Science: HamSCI And The Personal Space Weather Station Project - Frances Bonte, KE8HPA 5 Fun Things for Youth to Do With Ham Radio - Ben Wagner, AD8FQ; Bernadette Wagner, KE8LWO; and Agnes Wagner, KE8LWP How To Be A Great Contester - Connor Black, W4IPC
11:45:00 AM	54	QSL Confidential - Jeff Murray, K1NSS
12:00:00 PM	11	Your Radio Club Is The Answer - Joel Wilhite, KD6W
12:15:15 PM	28	Portable Operating - John Jacobs, W7DBO
12:45:00 PM	55	Qatar Oscar-100 Satellite - Zvi Segal, 4Z1ZV
1:00:00 PM	12	Fully-Remote Amateur Radio Exam Administration- Marcel Stieber, AI6MS
1:15:15 PM	29	GigaParts
1:45:00 PM	56	Summits On The Air: Taking Ham Radio to New Heights - Keith Schlottman, KR7RK
2:00:00 PM	13	CWOps CW Academy: Learning CW - Eric Silverthorn, NM5M
2:15:15 PM	30	Having Fun With Morse - Anthony Luscre, K8ZT
2:45:00 PM	57	FlexRadio: An Introduction To Remote HF Operating - Michael Walker, VA3MW
3:00:00 PM	14	HamSCI: Science With Your Ham Radio - Phil Erickson, W1PJE
3:15:15 PM	31	PackTenna: Think Like A Backpacker - George Zafiropoulos, KJ6VU

3:45:00 PM	58	Hollow-State Homebrewing - Grayson Evans, KJ7UM
4:00:00 PM	15	Kit Building Techniques For Success - Joseph Eisenberg, K0NEB
4:15:15 PM	32	EME On 40 Meters - Dennis Kidder, W6DQ
4:45:00 PM	59	Everything you need to know about Lithium Batteries- Marcel Stieber, AI6MS
5:00:00 PM	16	Marconi And Me: A QRP Adventure In Italy Or A Program On SOTA, Summits on the Air - Don Minkoff, NK6A
5:15:15 PM	33	FT8 DXpedition Mode: Will DXing Ever Be The Same? - Ned Stearns, AA7A
5:45:00 PM	60	Everything You Need To Know About USB And Serial interfaces -Bob Wilson, N6TV
6:00:00 PM	17	Building The Future -David Cripe, NM0S
6:15:15 PM	35	Solar And Propagation Topics - Carl Luetzelschwab,K9LA
7:15:15 PM	36	Tips for Being A Better Single Op Contester - Randy Thompson, K5ZD

- IARU Workshops - Youtube Channel link
- DX Engineering Virtual Hamfest & DX Academy- Youtube link
  - - Introduction by Tim Duffy, K3LR, CEO of DX Engineering
  - 0:35 - Ward Silver, N0AX, Radiosport: Training for Public Service
  - 1:22 - Sean Kutzko, KX9X, Working Amateur Radio Satellites
  - 2:06 - Anthony Luscre, K8ZT, Youth in Amateur Radio
  - 2:42 - DXE Question and Answer
  - 4:05 - Jerry Rosalius, WB9Z, Low Band Antennas for DXing
  - 5:20 - Ray Novak, N9JA, Icom Product Showcase, IC-705
  - 5:53 - Glenn Johnson, W0GJ, VP6R DXpedition to Pitcairn Island
  - 6:48 - Valerie Hotzfeld, NV9L, Operating Tools and Ideas for Becoming a Better DXer

- WK1-WK12 Youth in Ham Radio Zoom Series from https://groups.io/g/NewHams.This is a series of youth and new hams in ham radio presentations. (Weeks 6 to 12 have not been presented yet).
  - WK1 - N0SSC: Intro to Youth In Ham Radio
    - Viewing
    - Document
  - WK2 - K1NPT: Getting Youth to Put Ham Radio in their Life Skills Toolbox
    - Viewing
    - Document
  - WK3- N0SSC: 21st-century Relevance of Ham Radio
    - Viewing
    - Document
  - WK4 - N0SSC: Don't Be Shy! Show me Ham Radio
    - Viewing
    - Document
  - WK5 - EA5HVK: Winlink Workshop VARA HF-VHF
    - Viewing
    - Document

- ARRL Learning Network Webinars- Link
  - New sessions upcoming sessions are on their calendar- link
  - Previously recorded sessions:
    - The Sport of Finding Hidden Transmitters On Foot- Robert Frey, WA6EZV

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- With a radio receiver, a hand-held antenna, and a compass, you can join the exciting radiosport of Amateur Radio Direction Finding, also known as ARDF or fox hunting. Learn how to get started, including equipment required for 2M or 80M hunts, and suggestions for beginner practice events and where to get additional information. View Recording
    - Capture the Magic of 6 Meters- Jim Wilson, K5ND
        - Have you ever wondered about the "Magic" of six meters? After all, you've probably pressed the six-meter button on your rig and failed to find any magic or even any other stations. If that's the case, you've identified the "tragic" of the band. But without tragic there would be no magic. This presentation will cover how you too can find the magic of six meters including propagation, antennas, software, awards, contests, and more. View Recording >
    - Introduction to Computer Logging- Steven Lott Smith KG5VK
        - An introduction to computer logging with focus on N1MM+ Logger, with tips & tricks to get more out of this logging tool. View Recording >
    - HF Wire Antennas- George Cooley, NG7A
        - A review of antenna basics and tips for improving your signal with simple homebrew wire antennas. Whether you have many acres or a postage-stamp lot, there's an antenna for every yard and budget. View Recording >
    - Fun with Digital Signal Modes FT4 and FT8- Anthony Luscre, K8ZT
        - Get on the air with two of the hottest new digital soundcard modes- FT8 & FT4. What it is, why I use it, what it can do and how to get started. The session will include a live demonstration and a wide variety of weblinks to get you started with these modes. View Recording >
    - Relay Stations and the Art of Traffic Handling- Aaron Hulett, K8AMH
        - Do you know how to relay critical information during an emergency? Come learn about the "relay" in American Radio Relay League, where we will provide a high level overview of how messages (traffic) move across the country and beyond, the radiogram format used, and how you can find a traffic net in your area to practice and build this critical communications skill. View Recording >

- Club Presentations I have done this summer (Youtube Channel Link). By the way, if you are interested in a live online presentation for your club, please email me. I have around half a dozen other sessions ready to present.
    - QSLing in an Online World
    - Having Fun With Morse
    - Top Secret Techniques to WAS & DXCC
    - Field Day in Social Distancing

- G-QRP Convention- September 5 & 6, 2020- link
    - "Building QRP transceivers" with Hans Summers G0UPL, designer and manufacturer of the QCX QRP transceiver.
    - "HF propagation and QRP" with Steve Nichols G0KYA
    - "Homebrew SSB Transceivers" with Pete Juliano N6QW
    - "Vector Network analysers explained and the NanoVNA" with Alan Wolke W2AEW
    - "Antennas for QRP" with Callum McCormick M0MCX, YouTube star
    - "FT8/FT4 for the QRPer" with Anthony Luscre K8ZT will take a detailed look at this the fastest-growing mode in amateur radio.

- There will also be a range of knowledge-sharing sessions, including "Using Antenna analysers" with Heather M0HMO, "Running a QRP DxPedition" with Dom M1KTA, "Battery technology for QRP portable" with Bill G4ERV, "Omni Directional antennas" with John G8SEQ, "My mag loop experiments with milliwatt QRP" with Mark MM0DQM and many more.

That's it for this month. Remember, all of us writers for the Ohio Section Journal love to get you feedback, questions and comments, so please email me k8zt@arrl.net

73, Anthony K8ZT

From the Section Traffic Manager
David Maynard, WA3EZN – STM
wa3ezn@att.net

Hot! Hot! Hot!

As I start to write this the outside temperature here in Columbus and most of Ohio is in the 90's with high humidity and it is stifling to be outside.

The Covid-19 pandemic seems to be headed to a second peak. When I do get out and about, I see many people in small groups that must think they are immune to the virus because they are not wearing masks. Not me, I may be imitating chicken little, but I am going to wear a face mask pandemic hoax or not. Give it a try the life you save could be your own or one of your love ones.

As the month progressed, we had storms and just missed a derecho when it ran out in Indiana. Now it has got a little cooler and we are waiting for the remnant of a hurricane to pass. More on all of this later.

With this being the new normal and a statewide directive to social distance it is not looking good for a gathering and meeting for the Ohio Single Sideband Net. During the on-air discussions Mike KC8WH expressed a desire to still have a meeting. It will be up to Mike and the advisory board to determine if and when it will happen. Keep checking into the OSSBN for+ any updates. While on the subject check into the OSSBN and some of these fine Ohio HF traffic nets:

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OHIO SINGLE SIDEBAND NET
"Specializing in the first and last mile of NTS delivery in Ohio."

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

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

OHIO HF CW TRAFFIC NETS

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

All net frequencies plus or minus QRM. .

OHIO LOCAL VHF TRAFFIC NETS

VHF NETS	NET TIMES	FREQUENCY	NET MANAGERS
BRTN	MON, WED, SAT 9:30 PM	145.230 PL 110.9	W8DJG
COTN	7:15 PM DAILY	146.970	KD8TTE
MVTN	7:00 PM Mon	146.640	KC8HTP
NWOHARES	6:30 PM DAILY	147.375	N8TNV
TCTTN	Sun, Tues, Wed, Fri 9 PM	146.94	WB8YYS
TATN	8:00 PM DAILY	146.670 PL123	WG8Z

These VHF net times and frequencies are those that have been reported to me by the net managers.

By now you should have almost finished six months of disastrous pandemic living. Many of us that are not working have been staying at home with family members trying to stay safe and virus free. We have been forced to adventure out to stores to find food and necessities. In the early weeks we found bare store shelves and month later you have trouble finding such items as liquid hand soap. Then some stores set limits on how many paper products you can purchase at one time. Being caught off guard were we unprepared? It's a good time for children to hug their dads.

TOP^

What's this...

Panoramic view of the storm's shelf cloud over <u>Sugar Grove, Illinois</u> on August 10, 2020.

The August 2020 Midwest derecho was a severe weather event which took place from August 10-11, 2020 across the Midwestern United States.

The event caused notably widespread high winds, some extreme, and spawned a tornado outbreak of low-class tornadoes. In addition, certain areas reported torrential rain and large hail.

Damage was moderate to severe across much of the affected area as wind speeds of 70 miles per hour were prevalent, often sustaining themselves for half-an-hour or more. The greatest damage occurred in eastern Iowa, where the highest wind speeds were recorded, and northwestern Illinois where most of the tornadoes touched down. The highest measured wind speed was 126 mph while the highest estimated from damage was 140 mph equivalent to a Category 4 hurricane. Both events occurred in Iowa.

The impact subjected millions to wide scale utility disruptions, residential and commercial property damage, and significant to severe damage to the yearly corn and soybean crop in the area. In the hardest hit areas, such as the Cedar Rapids, Iowa area, the damage was catastrophic, and cleanup remained ongoing for more than a week after the storm.

Wide-scale utility disruption and property damage occurred across the affected area. Early estimates showed more than a million customers (residential and commercial) had been left without power. As of Thursday, August 13, affected customers totaled over 1.9 million, with 1.4 million maximum simultaneous outages, breaking down into 759,000 in Illinois, 585,000 in Iowa, 283,000 in Indiana, and 345,000 in other states. Over 100,000 Illinois and 200,000 Iowa customers were still without power on August 13. Mediacom, a telecommunications company, had reported an internet outage for 340,000 customers across multiple states in the affected area. As of Monday, August 17, a week after the storm, 75,000 Iowans still lacked electricity, most of them in Linn County.

The local utility company Mid-American Energy reported it might take days of round-the-clock shifts before power is restored to many of those 132,000 experienced outages in the Des Moines metropolitan area.

TOP^

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Terry Dusky, CEO of electrical infrastructure company ITC Midwest, described the storm damage as "...equivalent of a 40-mile wide tornado that rolled over 100 miles of the state."

Would Amateur Radio antennas been able to withstand a storm like this? I think not after seeing this picture.

WMT (AM) radio tower north of Marion, Iowa estimated by the National Weather Service to have been downed by 130 mph winds.

So, what to do next? As I have said more than once we need to be prepared. Radio wise you should have a back-up wire antenna and either enough coax or ladder line to connect the antenna to the radio. Antenna supports will be needed depending on your individual situation. It doesn't matter that we have the latest and greatest radio and a big watt amplifier without our antennas and backup electricity supply we will be little to no value to our community. And yes, thousands of homes in the storm also lost internet service too.

Could this happen in Ohio? We already had a derecho on a smaller scale in central Ohio. Trees were toppled and power lines went down Ohio is not immune to severe weather.

With the current band conditions, I have heard more and more that traffic handlers are using CW. As I have heard that CW will get through when voice communications fail. If you don't believe this just check into or listen to the OSSBN on a bad propagation day. If you don't use your radio daily be sure to check out its operation regularly.

"I foolishly suggested he try it out first-that was three days ago."

Now on a personal note. Did you get caught in the rush to buy and stock toilet paper? Local news reported one person bought so much that they tried to return it to the store, but the store refused to take it back. Hording is a game all by itself.

Here is a suggested list of things you might want to stay stocked up on so the next time there is an emergency you don't have to go to store after store just to find empty shelves.

These items disappeared fast when the pandemic was declared:
- toilet paper
- hand sanitizer
- liquid hand soap
- disinfectant wipes
- spray disinfectant
- protective gloves
- face masks
- bottled drinking water
- diapers and wipes if you have a baby
- dog and/or cat food
- Aluminum foil

Other items you may want to consider for a real long term disaster:
- Manual can opener
- sweeteners sugar honey
- Rice Beans Wheat
- Cereal
- Vegetable oil and shortening
- Laundry Soap and Supplies
- Flour Yeast and Salt
- Paper Plates Plastic Cups and utensils
- Baking supplies, Garlic, spices and vinegar
- Coffee, Tea and Chocolate and Cocoa
- Wine and liquors
- First aid kit and supplies
- Matches ("Strike Anywhere" preferred. Boxed, wooden matches.)

Matt KD8TTE doing a series of video instructions of traffic handling. These are well done and educational and can be seen by searching for KD8TTE-YouTube. The might also be found on the Central Ohio Traffic Net web page at www.cotn.us

"An amateur will train until he gets it right; a professional will train until he cannot get it wrong!"

73

David WA3EZN
Ohio Section Traffic Manager

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

####

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

ARES Training Update

OK, I am a Ham and like most of us, I like to tell stories. One of my dear friends, Mark N8OHO is a great storyteller. Sometimes when I call him to give him some information, it might be several minutes before I get the chance to do so. He always has some interesting experience to tell about or a tidbit to add to one you might be weaving. So, you get the drift here. We mostly have the gift of gab and chewing the rag although a bit graphic is what we do best aside from having the knack, translated "Experience" to make all manner of things work when they really should not.   Where am I going with this?

As you know with the implementation of ARES Connect, we now have a great online system to account for our ARES activity and time. The system also keeps up with much of the training that ARES would like us all to have, the same training that I record in the database I keep. I also update our Section Manager Scott, N8SY with the report he publishes on the website, ARRL-Ohio.org which lists by county all of you that have completed NIMS training and more. Scott and I determined that it would be a good idea to compare the ARES Connect data with what I have. Keeping some statistical numbers derived from the data is useful to see how we are doing and of course to brag on the wonderful job you are all doing with completing this training. We like to have something to impress Newington with other than our Ohio weather.

In the last week, Scott has provided me with the raw data from ARES Connect and I have been bouncing it against what I have in the training database. Herein lies the story that I think you will perhaps find interesting. There have been some obvious things discovered like the misspelling of a name and license upgrades that we were unaware of. Phone numbers and email addresses are also some of the simple corrections I have made. Likewise, there are always changes to call signs as Ohio Amateurs opt for and receive vanity Calls.   These issues are all rather mundane as you might agree and normal as we try to keep our records accurate and up to date.

Some are still interesting however and are often a challenge to resolve.   One recent submission to ARES Connect involved a new Ham listing his vanity call that had not yet been posted. That took some investigation using the FCC data to sort out why the Call was not listed as valid. Fortunately, the next day it was granted and then posted on QRZ.com. Often the registrations on ARES Connect do not reflect the name as it is on the license. Not so much of a problem until its Bob Smith. When that happens, I have to dig deeper to insure I have the right person in the right county. Another situation exists regarding the County identified in ARES Connect. Some report the County they are associating with their ARES activity. Others report their County of Residence.   Ideally, it would be good to know both as I file your certificates under Residence County which is likely to be more permanent than where a person chooses to work with ARES. Again, these are elements that tend to change, and we never hear about them. One last issue happens often. Certificate submissions are sent with a name is listed and no Call. We can fix that with a little work on QRZ.com although it's a bit strange that all that work to obtain a license is done and the accomplishment isn't worth mentioning by identifying the Call.

I don't wish to sound unappreciative with these comments as the work all of you are doing is appreciated and very much contributes to the value of our Amateur Radio hobby.   Many of you as County ECs are also very good at keeping us up to date with information about your people and activities.   I am also impressed quite often when corresponding with someone regarding some question about reporting and submitting certificates. There is just an awful lot of creative and dedicated Amateur activity in our great Ohio Section. I see new Hams being made and becoming active, engaging in the wide variety of modes, technology and of course training. A few of you even take the time to let me know you have read one of my monthly pieces. Thank you.

Here are the end of July numbers: 9,632 training certificates on file, 1,835 ARES Members in the database, 656 Level 2 members, 225 Level 3 Members and 1,455 ARES Connect registrations. The growth continues and is appreciated along with all of the dedicated work and activity from Ohio ARES members.   As our Section Manager often says, "Fantastic".

While closing this month's bit of information, I would like to say once again thank you for the huge and continuing effort you all give towards supporting ARES and constantly improving our readiness posture. Your questions and comments are always welcome as we are here to serve you.

Thank you and 73,
Jim W8ERW
w8erw@arrl.net

National News
(from arrl and other sources)

Board of Directors Elects New ARRL CEO David Minster, NA2AA

The ARRL Board of Directors has elected David Minster, NA2AA, of Wayne, New Jersey, as ARRL's new Chief Executive Officer, starting on September 28. Minster is currently Managing Partner at Talentrian Partners, a management consulting firm serving the consumer goods and luxury goods industries.

Minster began his career as a software engineer, moving into management at Unilever, as a Chief Information Officer of this globally recognized portfolio of brands that includes Elizabeth Arden Company, Chesebrough-Ponds Canada, Thomas J. Lipton Co., and others. From there, he moved to fine jewelry manufacturer and retailer David Yurman, where he served as COO and CIO. More recently, Minster served as CEO of jewelry brands Scott Kay and Judith Ripka.
"Building a culture of accomplishment and accountability is what I do best. My initial focus will be working with the Board on establishing strategic goals and concrete plans to navigate ARRL through the digital transformation required for the coming decades of its Second Century. This includes exciting and innovative ways to be engaged in amateur radio, while growing activity and membership."

Minster got his Novice license, WB2MAE, in 1977, when he was in his teens. He progressed from Advanced to Amateur Extra and, after a stint as NW2D, he settled on the vanity call sign NA2AA in the 1990s as a way to honor a mentor, N2AA, and the contest station that he used to frequent, K2GL, in Tuxedo Park, New York. Minster's ham radio pursuits have ranged far and wide over the years.

TOP^

His background includes National Traffic System training and participation in public service events, as well as contesting from home, club stations, and contest stations in the Caribbean — particularly on Bonaire, where he is a member of PJ4G. Primarily a CW operator, Minster collects unique and vintage bugs and keys.

Minster earned a bachelor's degree in computer engineering from The Ohio State University and has a special interest in satellites, digital communications, remote operation, and ham radio computing and software. He has written keyer software for the commercial market, and contest logging, packet, and satellite telemetry software for personal use.

In addition to being an ARRL member, Minster is a member of AMSAT, the Frankford Radio Club, the Straight Key Century Club, CWops, and the North American QRP CW Club.

"I spend every day of my life, one way or another, engaged in amateur radio. It is more than just a hobby for me; it is my community. It is where I live; where I have built lifelong friendships, and friendships that span the globe. Amateur radio allows me to dream and to experiment. I can't wait to bring my energy and boundless enthusiasm in service to ARRL."

ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, said, "We are excited to welcome David as our new CEO, and look forward to his progressive leadership. His experience in management and operations, plus his activities in amateur radio, will serve our organization and members well."

Minster will succeed Barry J. Shelley, N1VXY, who was CEO in 2018, and who has been serving as ARRL's Interim CEO since January 2020. Shelley had been ARRL's Chief Financial Officer since January 1992.

#####

Candidates Set for 2020 ARRL Division Elections

The candidates for the 2020 ARRL Division Elections are now official. ARRL members will choose between two candidates for Director in the Dakota, Great Lakes, and Midwest Divisions in this year's election cycle, and from among three candidates for Vice Director in the Great Lakes Division. In the Atlantic and Delta Divisions, incumbents are unopposed for both Director and Vice Director. In the Dakota Division, the sitting Vice Director is running unopposed, while in the Midwest Division, the current Vice Director is the only candidate for Director.

Declared Elected without Opposition
- In the Atlantic Division, Director Tom Abernethy, W3TOM, who has held the seat since 2015, and Vice Director Bob Famiglio, K3RF, elected to a 3-year term (2015 – 2018) and then appointed in 2019 to fill a vacancy when the incumbent stepped down.
- In the Dakota Division, Vice Director Lynn Nelson, W0ND, in office since 2018.
- In the Delta Division, Director David Norris, K5UZ, who's served in that office since 2012, and Vice Director Ed Hudgens, WB4RHQ, appointed in 2013.
- In the Midwest Division, current Vice Director Art Zygielbaum, K0AIZ, will become the new Director in January, succeeding incumbent Rod Blocksome, K0DAS, who is not seeking a new term. Zygielbaum has been Vice Director since 2014.

Contested Seats
- In the Dakota Division, incumbent Director Matt Holden, K0BBC, in office since 2018, is being challenged by Vernon "Bill" Lippert, AC0W.
- In the Great Lakes Division, incumbent Director Dale Williams, WA8EFK, who has held the seat since 2014, will face off against Michael Kalter, W8CI, who is treasurer of the Dayton Amateur Radio Association.
- In the Great Lakes Division, members will choose from among three candidates to succeed incumbent Vice Director Thomas Delaney, W8WTD, who is not running for another term. They are current Ohio Section Manager Scott Yonally, N8SY; Jim Hessler, K8JH, who is vice president of the Grand Rapids Amateur Radio Association, and Frank Piper, KI8GW, Yonally's predecessor as Ohio Section Manager.
- In the Midwest Division, members will choose between Dave Propper, K2DP, a current Assistant Director, and Lloyd Colston, KC5FM, a past Oklahoma Section Manager to fill the Vice Director's chair that Zygielbaum is vacating.

Balloting for contested seats will take place this fall. Votes will be counted, and successful candidates announced, in November.

####

FCC Proposes to Reinstate Amateur Radio Service Fees

Amateur radio licensees would pay a $50 fee for each amateur radio license application if the FCC adopts rules it proposed this week. Included in the FCC's fee proposal are applications for new licenses, renewal and upgrades to existing licenses, and vanity call sign requests. Excluded are applications for administrative updates, such as changes of address, and annual regulatory fees.

The FCC proposal is contained in a *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* (*NPRM*) in MD Docket 20-270, which was adopted to implement portions of the "Repack Airwaves Yielding Better Access for Users of Modern Services Act" of 2018 — the so-called "**Ray Baum's Act**."

The Act requires that the FCC switch from a Congressionally mandated fee structure to a cost-based system of assessment. In its *NPRM*, the FCC proposed application fees for a broad range of services that use the FCC's Universal Licensing System (ULS), including the Amateur Radio Service that had been excluded by an earlier statute. The 2018 statute excludes the Amateur Service from annual regulatory fees, but not from application fees.

"[A]pplications for personal licenses are mostly automated and do not have individualized staff costs for data input or review," the FCC said in its *NPRM*. "For these automated processes — new/major modifications, renewal, and minor modifications — we propose a nominal application fee of $50 due to automating the processes, routine ULS maintenance, and limited instances where staff input is required."

The same $50 fee would apply to all Amateur Service applications, including those for vanity call signs. "Although there is currently no fee for vanity call signs in the Amateur Radio Service, we find that such applications impose similar costs in aggregate on Commission resources as new applications and therefore propose a $50 fee," the FCC said.

TOP^

The FCC is not proposing to charge for administrative updates, such as mailing address changes for amateur applications, and amateur radio will remain exempt from annual regulatory fees. "For administrative updates [and] modifications, which also are highly automated, we find that it is in the public interest to encourage licensees to update their [own] information without a charge," the FCC said.

The FCC also proposes to assess a $50 fee for individuals who want a printed copy of their license. "The Commission has proposed to eliminate these services — but to the extent the Commission does not do so, we propose a fee of $50 to cover the costs of these services," the FCC said.

The Ray Baum's Act does not exempt filing fees in the Amateur Radio Service. The FCC dropped assessment of fees for vanity call signs several years ago.

Deadlines for comments and reply comments will be determined once the *NPRM* appears in the *Federal Register*. File comments by using the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System (**ECFS**), posting to MD Docket No. 20-270. This docket is already open for accepting comments even though deadlines have not yet been set.


The Handbook Give Away

Hey Gang,

Have you registered for the "Handbook Giveaway" drawing for this month yet? If you haven't, you've only got a couple of hours left to get registered... Hurry up and go to: http://arrl-ohio.org/handbook.html and get yourself registered now!

What's the catch? I want to get everyone checking in to the Ohio Section website as often as possible, and in order to register each month, you have to visit the website often! There's nothing else to it. I pay all expenses and I usually "Give Away" more than just a Handbook too!!
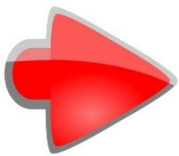
Many of you ask me just how do I know when the drawing is on? Well, that's easy all you need to do is check in on the Ohio Section Website on a regular basis and watch for the big **RED** Arrow that will appear on the left side of the page. This is the sign that the drawing is on and you need to get registered. So, keep a sharp eye out on the website and check in often!

Club Corner

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

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

####

The Toledo Mobile Radio Association
A Ham Radio Organization

The Toledo Mobile Radio Association (TMRA) will have a fox hunt **September 16 at 6:30p**, with a rain date of September 19 at 1p.

The "hunt" kicks off from Swan Creek Metropark, Airport Highway entrance. This will be an in-park hunt that may or may not require participants to cover some ground.

Those who would like to learn this sport can be teamed up with an experienced hunter. For more information contact W8MAL@QSL.NET

Monroe County Radio Communications Association in conjunction with Monroe ARPSC will be hosting a Fox Hunt open to all Amateur Operators. We will meet **September 5th at 8:45am** at the EMD parking lot 987 S. Raisinville Rd.

Monroe County Radio Communications Association

Serving Monroe County Since 1941

W8DWL

SPECIAL SERVICE CLUB

Please park along the West End (closest to the Extension building and Raisinville Rd.

Briefing and instructions will be at 8:45am, Fox Hunt will start at 9am, Fox Frequency will be 146.475 Simplex, 1 minute on, 1 minute off. This will be a on road by vehicle Hunt (within 5-mile radius of EMD). Hunt can be done by a single operator or a team. There will be a couple simple communications tasks to be completed throughout the hunt to help polish your Emergency communications skills.

After Hunt refueling will be held shortly after 12pm at Benny's Diner on S. Dixie unless announced otherwise at briefing.

Bring your antenna, radio, maps, mask for when appropriate, plenty of coffee, and a desire to have some social distance fun.

Interested folks may contact me via e-mail at KE8BYC@yahoo.com and I can pass along rules and further information.

Ohio QSO Party Activation
(from Tom Foy, N4HAI)

Ed, K8MEJ and Tom, N4HAI activated at Morrow County at the Mt. Gilead State Park. Due to COVID, we ran two stations, but only transmitted one at a time.

I ran CW, he ran SSB, and we both had a great time. I set up a 20m beam, but we mostly used his DXCommander 80/40 vertical. We were on the air for the entire 12 hours, except for a quick break for dinner.

TOP^

After setting up camp on Friday, we retired to our respective temporary homes (camper + tent), ready to get a good night's sleep before all of the action the next day.

I was awakened by a chopper fly by around midnight. No big deal. Well, it came back again. And again. And again. Turns out a convict escaped a near by prison and they were on the hunt for him! They finally captured him the next day.

####
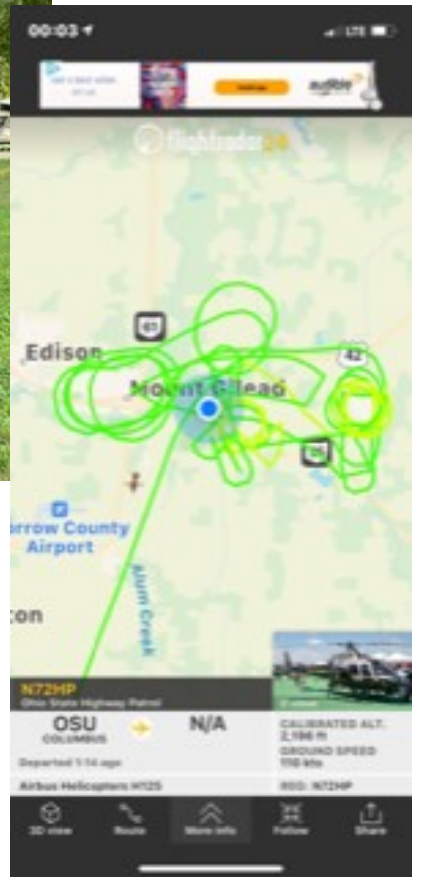
Ohio QSO Party 2020
(by [Jay Pecora](#))

The Ohio QSO party this year was again a great event. The activity was solid the whole 12 hours. We operated 2 stations with some new equipment this year and found that a lot of our past issues have disappeared. Everything went as planned except for a inductor knob broke at around 7pm so Tom NQ8O ran home to grab his tuner so we could finish out the party. Great signals from all over the US and beyond. Thanks to all in our log and see you in the next one.

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OHIO QSO at the Barn

John Levo, W8KIW operating "Field Day Style" from our farm in Clinton County.

Upcoming Hamfests for 2020

09/13/2020 - Findlay Hamfest
         Canceled

09/27/2020 | Cleveland Hamfest and Computer Show
         Canceled

10/10/2020 - Northwest Ohio Amateur Radio Club (NWOARC) Fall Hamfest
         Canceled

DX This Week
(from Bill, AJ8B)

DX This Week – DXCC 3rd Level
Bill AJ8B (aj8b@arrl.net, @AJ8B, or www.aj8b.com)
CWOPs Member #1567

Tough week for DX shows that we are not out of the poor propagation woods yet! However, the following entities were spotted by hams in the Midwest: Alaska, Australia, Azores, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Columbia, Denmark, Ecuador, England, European Russia, Fed. Rep. of Germany, France, French Guiana, Greenland, Hawaii, Iceland, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Serbia, Slovak Republic, South Africa, Spain, St. Lucia, Switzerland, Uruguay, Venezuela, Wales, and Zambia. Let me know what you worked!

TOP^

I received a beautiful card from 5Z4/G3AB, Andy in Kenya. He was somewhat stranded in Kenya due to the COVID travel restrictions. Great card with a 3-week turnaround.

Contest Corner
This week I want to add some more information to the DX column. In addition to testing my operating ability and addressing my competitive nature, I rely on contests to fill my band slots, even it it is just looking for a few that I need over a few hours. I also find that it gives me the ability to experiment. (For instance, using 2 VFOs like SO2R)

Give some of these contests a try and let me know how you do. I will post your score and comments if you send them along to me! I will present this rolling two-week table each week.

Thanks to CQ magazine and the home of the WA7BNM Contest Calendar (www.contestcalendar.com) for this info

Date(s)	Event	URL for Info
Sept. 5	Colorado QSO Party	http://ppraa.org/coqp
	AGCW Straight Key Party	http://ppraa.org/coqp
	LZ Open SES Contest	www.lzopen.com
	Russian "Radio" RTTY WW Contest	https://bit.ly/3eWEtDl
Setp. 5-6	All Asian DX Phone Contest	http://bit.ly/2TUaDqj
	IARC Region 1 Field Day	http://bit.ly/3cC0HKf
	RSGB SSB Field Day	https://bit.ly/3dGfjZv
	PODXS 070 Club Jay Hudak Memorial 80M Sprint	http://bit.ly/2MkaaNt
Setp. 6-7	Tennessee QSO Party	https://tnqp.org/rules
Sept. 7	RSGB Autumn Series SSB	https://bit.ly/2XF8mSB
Sept. 7-8	MI QRP Labor Day CW Sprint	www.miqrp.net/contest
Sept. 12	OSPOTA Contest	http://ospota.org
Sept. 12-13	Alabama QSO Party	www.alabamaqsoparty.org
	ARRL EME Contest	www.arrl.org/eme-contest
	SARL Field Day	http://bit.ly/H0IqQf
	Russian Cup Digital Contest	www.qrz.ru/contest/detail/86.html
	Veron SLP Contest	http://bit.ly/2L9eT1L
	Worked All Europe SSB Contest	http://bit.ly/2vufgcb
	ARRL September VHF QSO Party	www.arrl.org/september-vhf
Sept. 12-15	Texas QSO Party	http://txqp.net
Sept. 13	North American CW Sprint	http://ncjweb.com/Sprint-Rules.pdf
Sept. 26-27	**CQWW RTTY Contest**	**www.cqwwrtty.com**

DXCC Level 3

In July, we discussed how to achieve DXCC and to not get overwhelmed. I proposed that you break the chase in to 3 parts; First 125 (Most Wanted #340 – #216), Mid-Tier (Most Wanted #215 – #101), and the final 100! (#100 - #1). Let's assume you now have 215 confirmed on one or mode bands and one or more modes. How do you get to the final 100? Let's start with the list of entities that comprise the "Final 100" from clublog.org:

1	P5	DPRK (NORTH KOREA)	34	KH9	WAKE ISLAND	68	4W	TIMOR-LESTE
2	3Y/B	BOUVET ISLAND	35	T33	BANABA ISLAND	69	9U	BURUNDI
3	FT5/W	CROZET ISLAND	36	VK9M	MELLISH REEF	70	JX	JAN MAYEN
4	BS7H	SCARBOROUGH REEF	37	T31	CENTRAL KIRIBATI	71	VK9C	COCOS (KEELING) ISLAND
5	CE0X	SAN FELIX ISLANDS	38	VK9W	WILLIS ISLAND	72	T2	TUVALU
6	BV9P	PRATAS ISLAND	39	TI9	COCOS ISLAND	73	T30	WESTERN KIRIBATI
7	KH7K	KURE ISLAND	40	3D2/C	CONWAY REEF	74	FW	WALLIS & FUTUNA ISLANDS
8	KH3	JOHNSTON ISLAND	41	FT/J	JUAN DE NOVA, EUROPA	75	KH8	AMERICAN SAMOA
9	3Y/P	PETER 1 ISLAND	42	FO/C	CLIPPERTON ISLAND	76	ZL7	CHATHAM ISLAND
10	FT5/X	KERGUELEN ISLAND	43	HK0/M	MALPELO ISLAND	77	CE0Z	JUAN FERNANDEZ ISLANDS
11	FT/G	GLORIOSO ISLAND	44	VP8O	SOUTH ORKNEY ISLANDS	78	S2	BANGLADESH
12	VK0M	MACQUARIE ISLAND	45	KP1	NAVASSA ISLAND	79	VK9L	LORD HOWE ISLAND
13	YV0	AVES ISLAND	46	4U1UN	UNITED NATIONS HQ	80	CY9	SAINT PAUL ISLAND
14	KH4	MIDWAY ISLAND	47	7O	YEMEN	81	5A	LIBYA
15	ZS8	PRINCE EDWARD & MARION ISLANDS	48	ZD9	TRISTAN DA CUNHA & GOUGH ISLANDS	82	H4	SOLOMON ISLANDS
16	PY0S	SAINT PETER AND PAUL ROCKS	49	FT5Z	AMSTERDAM & ST PAUL ISLANDS	83	VK9X	CHRISTMAS ISLAND
17	PY0T	TRINDADE & MARTIM VAZ ISLANDS	50	H40	TEMOTU PROVINCE	84	VP6	PITCAIRN ISLAND

18	KP5	DESECHEO ISLAND	51	VU4	ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS	85	TT	CHAD
19	SV/A	MOUNT ATHOS	52	XZ	MYANMAR	86	Z6	REPUBLIC OF KOSOVO
20	VP8S	SOUTH SANDWICH ISLANDS	53	1S	SPRATLY ISLANDS	87	E3	ERITREA
21	KH5	PALMYRA & JARVIS ISLANDS	54	CY0	SABLE ISLAND	88	YJ	VANUATU
22	JD/M	MINAMI TORISHIMA	55	VU7	LAKSHADWEEP ISLANDS	89	Z8	REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN
23	ZL9	NEW ZEALAND SUBANTARCTIC ISLANDS	56	ZK3	TOKELAU ISLANDS	90	TL	CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC
24	EZ	TURKMENISTAN	57	3B7	AGALEGA & ST BRANDON ISLANDS	91	TN	REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO
25	YK	SYRIA	58	3C0	ANNOBON	92	5U	NIGER
26	FK/C	CHESTERFIELD IS.	59	3C	EQUATORIAL GUINEA	93	D6	COMOROS
27	VK0H	HEARD ISLAND	60	E5/N	NORTH COOK ISLANDS	94	T32	EASTERN KIRIBATI
28	FT/T	TROMELIN ISLAND	61	3D2/R	ROTUMA	95	E6	NIUE
29	ZL8	KERMADEC ISLAND	62	T5	SOMALIA	96	VQ9	CHAGOS ISLANDS
30	KH1	BAKER HOWLAND ISLANDS	63	VP6/D	DUCIE ISLAND	97	V6	MICRONESIA
31	KH8/S	SWAINS ISLAND	64	FO/A	AUSTRAL ISLANDS	98	1A0	SOV MILITARY ORDER OF MALTA
32	XF4	REVILLAGIGEDO	65	FO/M	MARQUESAS ISLANDS	99	CE0Y	EASTER ISLAND
33	VP8G	SOUTH GEORGIA ISLAND	66	C21	NAURU	100	XX9	MACAO
			67	R1F	FRANZ JOSEF LAND			

One of the key elements in chasing the top 100 is best expressed by Jay, K4ZLE, in an article that appeared in the March/April 2009 edition of the DX Magazine. "While watching an old John Wayne movie called *The Train Robbers*, I caught the following profound statement, "Don't grow old. You'll live to regret it." On one hand I liked the ironical humor; on the other hand, I disagree with the statement. If you want to be a 'complete' DX'er, you have to outlast your competition.

TOP^

You gotta' outlast 'em in the pileup and you gotta' live long enough that at least one generation of cartographers have dipped their pen into the empty ink well. Persistence is the operative word in DX'ing. If you doubt my veracity, note the average age of those who have attained Honor Roll status!"

I have to agree with Jay. In my case, I was active before the wall was torn down and have QSL cards from East Germany, various Soviet "oblasts", and even the Canal Zone. Jay has a point! To further support this notion, there are often times that rare entities are activated every 10 years or so. It is a long wait if you miss them.

Over the years, I have taken note on the equipment, techniques and knowledge that those who are in the top tier use and those of us who are not in the top tier use. DX gatherings are a great place to learn and discuss and I really encourage you to do so.

From an antenna perspective, there are two surveys that I can share. The first was conducted a few years ago by the ARRL to assess the antennas used by the general HF population. Table 1 shows the results of that survey. The second survey was conducted by 425 DX News. Table 2 shows the results of that.

The obvious distinction is that a Beam/Yagi is only in use by 19.5% of the general ham population while over half of the DX'ers polled indicated they were using a Beam/Yagi.

General Ham Population
(per ARRL Survey)

Antenna Type	%
Multiband Vertical	24.4%
Triband Yagi	19.5%
Other	17.8%
Low Band Dipole (3.5 -> 10.1Mhz)	17.5%
High Band Dipole (14 -> 30 MHz)	13.7%
Monoband Yagi	4.3%
Quad	2.7%

DXers
(per 425 DX News Survey)

Antenna Type	%
Beam / Yagi	52%
Vertical	16%
Dipole	15%
Quad	9%
Loop	4%
Other	2%
Sloper	1%

We need to focus on all of our equipment at this point. It is very likely that there may be a quick opening and you will need to be ready to work them when they are there. Enhanced headphones are extremely helpful as well as a DSP speaker. The headphones MUST be comfortable and fit well. I use my headphones all the time as you never know what might be hidden underneath another QSO.

Your microphone is another critical consideration. You should stress the high frequencies and rolloff the low frequencies. Be careful about using compression and do some on the air testing to get the best results.

If you don't have an amplifier, it is always a great feeling to turn on the "after burner" to chase one that you need. I have noticed many excellent deals from hams who want the latest and greatest and want to sell their amplifiers. Some things to consider are No Tune, Full Power, and Long Duty Cycle. This will all come down to your budget, but these are things to consider. If I had to spend money on an antenna or an amplifier, I would put my money in the antenna first.

When you are down to the last few entities that are needed to make the honor roll, it really has to be an all out effort. This includes All Modes, All Bands, and All Tactics. I know some pretty staunch opponents to FT8, but I am pretty sure that if Korea came on the air using FT8 only, they would fire up the FT8 software and give it a go.

We have discussed what it takes at each level of the chase to be in the best position possible to work the most entities that you can. There are common components to all three levels and there is one that is the MOST important element. We will tackle that one last.

You have to be able to confirm the QSOs. If you are not yet on LoTW, do it now. Also, I would highly recommend registering with Clublog.org and with qrz.com if you haven't done so already.

What software are you using in the shack? Ten years ago, this was a convenience, but now it is a necessity. Personally, I use the DXLab suite for all of my shack activities. Take the time to really learn what ever software product you have at your disposal.

I have my DXLab set up so that if there is a cluster spot for an entity that I need, I receive a text message on my phone.

Airtime is another important element. Tune and don't depend on the cluster or a spotting website. Some DX stations will work a few Qs and then move to avoid a pile up.

Finally, what is the MOST important element of working any/all of the 300+ entities? You must LISTEN! I don't believe that I have talked to a seasoned DX'er, read a book about DX'ing, or attended a seminar and have not come away with the importance of listening and following directions stamped on my mind.

Good Hunting. Please pass along your thoughts on this topic!

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5Z – Kenya - ZS5J has been licensed since 1984 but has been living and working in Kenya since the beginning of 2018. With much effort he has now been approved for a Kenyan callsign, 5Z4J. He also holds the C91J Mozambique, A25J Botswana and 7P8/ZS5J Lesotho callsigns. For now, he is only confirming QSOs through LoTW but asks that DX'ers be patient. He needs to register with LoTW and upload the log to both LoTW and Club Log.

TOP^

He plans to be active on HF SSB, CW and FT8, HF SSB mobile, and VHF/UHF on satellites. He has ordered an Arrow dual band Yagi. Most of the ham gear is too bulky to take to Kenya so he is leaving it in South Africa but hopes to take his Expert 1.3K amplifier to Kenya after his next trip home.

The gear he does have in Kenya now includes an IC-7300, IC-7100, IC-7000, KX3 with PX3, FT-891 and McHF SDR. For VHF/UHF he has a Kenwood TM-D700A dual bander and the IC-7100. The 5Z4J antenna complement is a multiband for 80-10, EFHW impedance transformer covering 80-10 and a 133-foot wire to an 85-foot-tall tree, all on six acres of land with tall trees. He is going to keep improving the antennas, he says, and has various homebrew VHF/UHF antennas.

ST0 – South Sudan - YI1DZ, Diya, is back in Juba, doing his 14-day quarantine. If quarantined at the hotel, he can put Z81D on the air, as early as today. Otherwise, he will get on the air two weeks later.

PJ4 – Bonaire - Bonaire's hams have a month-long operating event, marking the 10th anniversary of the change of their relationship with The Netherlands. An award available in PDF format is called "10/10/10," noting that relationship change on October 10, 2010, which made the several Netherlands Antilles islands separate entities for DXCC. To get this certificate you need 10 points by making contacts with PJ4 stations during October. Contact station PJ4TEN and get two points. Any other PJ4; is one point, but on that exact date, October 10, each PJ4 QSO counts as two points, 00-2359Z.

You may work each station once on each band or mode. Contacts must be between 00Z October 1 and 2359Z October 31. There is no fee and no QSLs required. To apply, send your list of QSOs made with PJ4s with date, time, band and mode to pj4ten@gmail.com. The award is also available to SWLs. SWLs should list callsigns of at least two stations that you hear the PJ4 station working. Here is the complete list of the known current

Bonaire licensees:

PJ4BZL, Berry; PJ4DX, Steve; PJ4EVA, Eva; PJ4GR, Gerard; PJ4KY, Bert; PJ4NG, Noah; PJ4NX, Peter; PJ4RF, Rinse; PJ4TEN, the special event call; PJ4/DC7MO, Monika; PJ4/DL1COP, Holger; PJ4/PE1NMB, Erwin, PJ4 call pending; And there may be other PJ4s

Here is a picture of Dwight, K4YJ taken right before he started his Oh QSO Party quest.

DX News

ARLD035 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.

GEORGIA, 4L. Peter, HB9DVG is QRV as 4L/G4ENL while working at a hydropower plant here. Activity is in his spare time on the HF bands using CW, SSB and FT8. His length of stay is unknown. QSL direct to home call.

MALTA, 9H. Reiner, DL2AAZ will be QRV with special call 9H3SAT from Gozo, IOTA EU-023, during the month of September. Activity will be on the HF bands and 6 meters, and especially on Satellite QO-100, using CW and SSB from grid square locator JM76cb. QSL to home call.

MALAYSIA, 9M. To celebrate the 63rd anniversary of Malaysia's independence, a number of special event stations in both East and West Malaysia will be QRV with the 9M63 prefix on August 30 and 31. QSL via operators' instructions.

CHILE, CE. Members of the Radio Club Traiguen are QRV with special event calls CB6T, CB6Q, CB6P and CB6TEB to commemorate the arrival 131 years ago of the first railroad in Traiguen. QSL direct to CE6TRA.

SPAIN, EA. Special event stations EG1SDC to EG9SDC and EH1SDC to EH9SDC will be QRV from September 1 to 13 to celebrate the feast day of Asturias and its patron saint, Santina de Covadonga. QSL all calls via EA1AUM.

REUNION ISLAND, FR. Chris, F8FPY is QRV as FR8TG from Le Guillaume. Activity is on various HF and VHF bands using mostly CW with some SSB and FT8. QSL direct.

ENGLAND, G. Special event station GB5ST will be QRV on September 1 to celebrate the TV series Star Trek and its various spin-offs. QSL via bureau. In addition, members of the Royal Air Force Amateur Radio Society will be QRV with special call GB800BOB from September 1 to 28 to commemorate the Battle of Britain. QSL via 2E0NDZ.

BULGARIA, LZ. Members of the Bulgarian Radio Club Blagovestnik will be QRV with special call sign LZ595IP during the month of September to honor the memory of Orthodox saints. QSL via bureau.

GREENLAND, OX. Bo, OZ1DJJ is QRV as OX3LX from Aasiaat Island, IOTA NA-134, and possibly islands Upernavik and Uummannaq until September 20. QSL via OZ0J.

ARUBA, P4. Members of the Aruba Amateur Radio Club will be QRV with special event call P42WW during the month of September to commemorate the end of World War II. QSL via P41G.
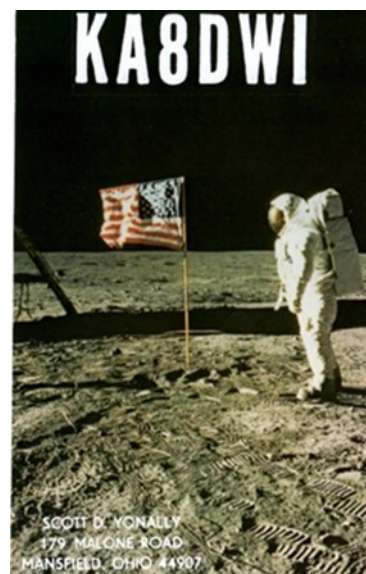
GREECE, SV. Pol, SV1AHH and George, SV1GGF will be QRV with special event call SX1AFM during September to mark the 70th anniversary of the Hellenic Air Force History Museum. Activity will be on 80 to 6 meters using all modes. QSL via LoTW.

ICELAND, TF. Norbert, DJ7JC is QRV as TF/DJ7JC until October 18. Activity is holiday style on 160 to 10 meters using CW, RTTY and FT8. QSL via DJ5BWD.

EUROPEAN RUSSIA, UA. Members of the Moscow city branch of the Radio Amateur Union of Russia are QRV as RA75RA until September 3 to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the national nuclear industry. QSL via R2ATC.

HONG KONG, VR. Special call sign VR2HK9O is QRV until May 31, 2021 to celebrate the 90th anniversary of the Hong Kong Amateur Radio Transmitting Society. QSL via VR2HK.

SOUTH SUDAN, Z8. Diya, YI1DZ is QRV as Z81D from Juba until November 10 while working for the UN World Food Programme. Activity is on the HF bands in his free time using mostly FT8. QSL via OM3JW.

THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO. NCCC RTTY Sprint, NCCC Sprint CW Ladder, RTTYOps World Wide RTTY, Feld Hell Sprint, ALARA Contest, YO DX HF Contest, W/VE Islands QSO Party, World Wide Digi DX Contest, Kansas QSO Party, Kentucky State Parks on the Air, RTTYOPS Weekend Sprint, SARL HF CW Contest and QCX CW Challenge are all on tap for this upcoming weekend.

The RTTYOPS Weeksprint, Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest and QCX CW Challenge are scheduled for September 1.

The VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest, G3ZQS Memorial Straight Key Contest, UKEICC 80-Meter SSB Contest, Phone Fray and CWops Mini-CWT Test are scheduled for September 2.

Please see August 2020 QST, page 69, September 2020 QST, page 71, and ARRL Contest Calendar and WA7BNM Contest websites for details.

ARRL Contest Corner

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

August 31
- QCX Challenge

September 1
- Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest
- QCX Challenge
- RTTYOPS Weeksprint

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2020 CQ WW Rules Updated

Effective with the 2020 contest, there have been some modifications to the CQ WW rules that have been developed and approved by the WW contest committee. In summary:

New Category Nomenclature. The multi-operator category names have been changed to be more consistent with other contests. The CQ WW contest now uses Multi-Single, Multi-Two, and Multi-Multi as the standard for all logs and reporting. No other changes have been made to these categories.

Station Location. Amplifiers are now included in the previously defined 500-meter diameter circle description of station locations.

Paper Logs. Effective with the 2020 contest, paper logs will no longer be accepted for the CQ WW. Uploading logs via the Web is the only approved method for submitting a log. Logs can be uploaded at: cqww.com/logcheck.

A complete listing of the 2020 rules has been posted at <cqww.com/rules.htm>. Updated translations for a variety of languages are also available.

As always, if you have any questions, please submit them via our contact form at <cqww.com/contact/> where you can expect to receive a response as soon as possible.

Best of luck as you prepare for the upcoming contest season in what will arguably be a strange year due to COVID-19! Best of luck and be safe!

73, John, K1AR
CQWW Contest Director

The Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS) announces the 13th Annual "Ohio State Parks On the Air" (OSPOTA) contest, from the hours of 10 am to 6 pm ET (1400 UTC to 2200 UTC).
13th OSPOTA - **September 12, 2020**
14th OSPOTA - September 11, 2021
15th OSPOTA - September 10, 2022
16th OSPOTA - September 9, 2023

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17th OSPOTA - September 7, 2024
18th OSPOTA - September 6, 2025
19th OSPOTA - September 12, 2026
20th OSPOTA - September 11, 2027

Always the first Saturday after the Labor Day holiday.

For hams throughout the State of Ohio, this is your opportunity to visit and enjoy the amenities offered by the 75 beautiful State Parks here in Ohio. Don't just make a day of it - spend the weekend at the park of your choice. No matter whether you are camping or staying at one of the outstanding lodges or resorts, you will find that the parks are one of Ohio's greatest assets. Find out more about the Ohio State Parks at: http://parks.ohiodnr.gov/

In past years, hundreds of Amateur Radio Operators (hams) from around the country participated in the event. With the success of OSPOTA, we hope to have amateur radio operators at every Ohio State Park.

This contest places a premium on working stations located in the Ohio State Parks. That means that it is critical to have as many parks activated as possible. The challenge for Ohio stations will be to work HF in the 50 to 300 mile range. This is the perfect opportunity to learn more about the design and deployment of Near Vertical Incident Skywave (NVIS) antennas. You can find numerous designs on the Internet and in various Amateur Radio antenna manuals. Along with your operating skills, it will be a chance to showcase your antenna building skills as well.

Individuals and multiple operators can operate Ohio State Park stations. Non-park stations in Ohio as well as stations outside of Ohio can also compete. Contacts can be made on 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 meters using SSB. All contacts have the same point values. Make sure that you read the Rules, FAQ's and get your forms for the contest that are posted on the OSPOTA website: www.ospota.org before the contest.

So, get to an Ohio State Park and get On The Air in September. Have some fun with this contest!

73 for now, OSPOTA Contest Committee

Special Events

- **09/02/2020 | 75th Anniversary of the Victory Over Japan Ending World War II**
Aug 30-Sep 13, 1800Z-2359Z, W2V, Ansonia, CT. Stratford Amateur Radio Club. 21.345 14.345 7.245 3.845. QSL. See website, for QSL, information . NOTE DATE CHANGES. w2v.se@yahoo.com or www.qrz.com/db/w2v
- **09/04/2020 | Florence Nightingale Bicentenary 2020**
Sep 4-Oct 1, 1800Z-2000Z, GB200FN, Romsey, UNITED KINGDOM. RSGB. 14.200 3.665. QSL. John Wakefield, Oakhurst, Lower Common Road, Romsey SO51 6BT, UNITED KINGDOM. www.qrz.com/db/gb200fn

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- **09/05/2020 | Fly/In Cruise/In Festival - EVENT HAS BEEN CANCELLED**

Sep 5, 1200Z-1900Z, W9EBN, Marion, IN. Grant County Amateur Radio Club. 14.180; DMR Talk Group 31189; DSTAR Ref 24B; 146.790- (PL 141.3). Certificate. Fly/In Cruise/In c/o L. B. Nickerson, 517 North Hendricks Ave., Marion, IN 46952. Celebrating 30 years of Marion, IN Fly/In Cruise/In Festival. This annual event features antique, classic, homebuilt, ultralight, rotorcraft and warbird aircraft as well as vintage cars, trucks, motorcycles, fire trucks, autocycles, military vehicles and tractors. Send QSL card and a 9X12 SASE envelope for certificate. EVENT HAS BEEN CANCELLED www.grantarc.org

- **09/05/2020 | Return to Paradise**

Sep 5-Sep 7, 1800Z-1800Z, K7RDG, Sierra Vista, AZ. Cochise Amateur Radio Association. 14.285 14.070 7.255 3.890. Certificate. Cochise ARA, P.O. Box 1855, Sierra Vista, AZ 85636-1855. Operating from the ghost town of Paradise, AZ www.k7rdg.org

- **09/05/2020 | Shelby Hamfest At Home Edition**

Sep 5-Sep 8, 0030Z-0100Z, W4NYR, Shelby, NC. Shelby Amateur Radio Club. 14.260 7.260 146.880 - No tone 14.060. QSL. Shelby ARC Special Event, PO Box 2206, Shelby, NC 28151-2206. Since our club had to cancel our 64th Annual Hamfest due to COVID 19 restrictions, we wanted to have a Shelby Hamfest COVID 19 Stay at Home Edition! We want to contact and connect with other's having to stay at home during this year! Please send SASE with QSO information. www.shelbyarc.org

- **09/06/2020 | Come and get Wyoming**

Sep 6-Sep 15, 0000Z-2359Z, W7Y, Cheyenne, WY. Shy-Wy ARC. 14.250 7.250. QSL. Shy-Wy ARC, P.O. Box 22483, Cheyenne, WY 82003. shywyarc.net/wp/comeandgetwyoming

- **09/07/2020 | Disaster Communication Action Team Field Day Operations**

Sep 7, 1300Z-2300Z, KD1CAT, Birmingham, AL. Disaster Communication Action Team. 7.195 7.210 14.230 14.240. Certificate. Tim Cameron, PO Box 59345, Birmingham, AL 35209. Disaster Communication Action Team will have the monthly field day communication event on Labor Day 2020. Please join us. www.disastercat.org

- **09/09/2020 | Dog Island IOTA DXpedition NA-085 K4D**

Sep 9-Sep 18, 0000Z-2359Z, K4D, Carribelle, FL. K5TEN (Operator). 14.275 14.074 7.190 7.074. QSL. Bruce Brady K5TEN, 208 Mt Tabor Rd, Hot Springs National Park, AR 71913. Very rare IOTA island, rare grid square & rare county. (NA-085), EL79, Franklin County. Rescheduled from June due to Covid19. k5ten@aol.com

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"ARES Connect"

Connecting Amateur Radio Volunteers with a Purpose

Hey everyone… please make sure to go in and register your time to all of the events that you have signed up for. Don't forget to get this done no later than **5 days** after the event has ended. I'm asking you to do this for our ability to run reports accurately.

I want to remind all of you that you do not have to be an ARES or ARRL member to use this system. All licensed amateur radio operators throughout the country are welcome and strongly encouraged to use it.

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ARES Connect Shortcuts… Part 3…

Many of you have told me that you find this new system very cumbersome in that you have to scroll down and down through a big listing of events before you can find what you are looking for. In fact, a few of you stated that this is the main reason for you not using the system at all. You said that it's a waste of your time. Ok... I have heard you on this and have a quick and easy shortcut for you to get to just those events that you want to see and possibly signup for. Are you ready??

First, you'll need to sign into the system as you always do. Once you've done that, I want you to look to the right of your name for a little icon that looks like a magnifying glass.

Admin   Jane Yonally ▾   🏆 40 points   Q
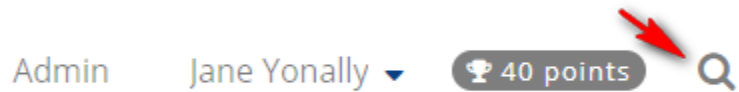
This is your search feature. Once you click on that little magnifying glass it will open up the search feature and allow you to type in the name of the specific event you want to see.

Q | DMR | ✖
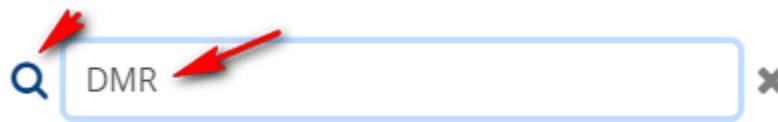
Ok, once the search box is open type in the name of the event that you want the system to search for. The more information that you give the system to look for the narrower the search becomes. In this example we are looking for any event that is listed with DMR in it.

Click on the magnifying glass to start the search.

Search Results for **"DMR"**

SATURDAY, 8/29/2020

9:00 PM
Licking Co. Skywarn DMR Practice Net

🕐 Sat, August 29, 9 pm - 10 pm (1 hour)

👤 Unlimited slots remaining
🏆 50 points

SIGN UP

This net is on TG 31685

MONDAY, 8/31/2020

7:30 PM
Stark County DMR Net

🕐 Mon, August 31, 7:30 pm - 8 pm (30 minutes)

👤 Unlimited slots remaining
🏆 1 points

SIGN UP

The Stark County DMR Net on Monday at 7:30 PM on MARC East & West Repeater, TG 313989

8:00 PM
The DMR "BOLO (be on the lookout) Net"

🕐 Mon, August 31, 8 pm - 9 pm (1 hour)
📍 Wooster Ohio

👤 Unlimited slots remaining
🏆 1 points

SIGN UP

In this case, it brought up a number of different events that have "DMR" in it. You'll need to go through the list to see which one you want and then you can sign up for that one only. Or, since you have all of them up, you might be interested in signing up for others at this time too. It will be your choice.

Search Results for **"DMR"**

SATURDAY, 8/29/2020

9:00 PM			
Licking Co. Skywarn DMR Practice Net	🕐 Sat, August 29, 9 pm - 10 pm (1 hour)	👤 Unlimited slots remaining 🏆 50 points	SIGN UP

This net is on TG 31685

MONDAY, 8/31/2020

7:30 PM			
Stark County DMR Net	🕐 Mon, August 31, 7:30 pm - 8 pm (30 minutes)	👤 Unlimited slots remaining 🏆 1 points	SIGN UP

The Stark County DMR Net on Monday at 7:30 PM on MARC East & West Repeater, TG 313989

8:00 PM			
The DMR "BOLO (be on the lookout) Net"	🕐 Mon, August 31, 8 pm - 9 pm (1 hour) 📍 Wooster Ohio	👤 Unlimited slots remaining 🏆 1 points	SIGN UP

To sign up for an event you simply click on the "Sign UP" button that appears on the right side of the event and that's it, you're signed up!

This example used DMR for the search. You can type in any name of event in the system and it will work the same for you as it did in this example.

You do have to remember just one thing. You do have to know how the event is listed. In this case, these events had the acronym "DMR" in the event name. But, if you didn't find what you were looking for this way, try spelling it out… Digital Mobile Radio. The same will hold true for many club events as well. We as hams use an awful lot of acronyms, so if you don't find your event using an acronym, try spelling it out.

Now… What's your excuse for not using the system??? The information that's gathered is extremely important and has been used to prove what we do for our local and state government. Please, if you haven't gotten registered into the system yet, do so now.

Want to see your name appear in the list below? There's only one way of doing that, you have to sign-up for events and then enter your time in afterward. Are you a regular on a NET or other event? You can sign you up for the entire life of the event if you want. What's the advantage of that? No more registering, that part is done automatically for you. You still need to enter your time, but that's all!!!

TOP^

Here's are the top 10 hours earners so far for the month of August:

	Name	Events	Hours
1	Dwight Bonifield (W8TJT)	166	226.00
2	Leo Dubois, Jr. (KE8OOS)	134	164.59
3	Daniel Schlick (KB8LKH)	30	139.00
4	James Yoder (W8ERW)	23	126.50
5	Dan Stahl (KC8PBU)	88	112.25
6	Bret Stemen (KD8SCL)	44	109.00
7	Christopher Domenick (KC8CAD)	32	94.45
8	Alan Rothweiler (N8CJ)	25	93.50
9	David Maynard (WA3EZN)	97	56.50
10	Greg Dersarkisian (KD8SSJ)	18	55.00

Let's get everyone in the Ohio Section on "ARES Connect!!!" Simply go to:
https://arrl.volunteerhub.com/lp/oh/ and get yourself registered and using the system.

Prepare for SET: Be Ready to Activate
(C. Matthew Curtin, KD8TTE)

This article is for all ARES and NTS net members, but especially for Emergency Coordinators and Net Managers. If you haven't already started, you need to get preparations underway now. The good news is that you don't need to create an exercise and have exercise controllers. The event will come; you need to be ready to respond. This is an enormous opportunity to test our emergency communications systems, to demonstrate that capability to our agencies and the public, and to give valuable operating experience to our members.

The Simulated Emergency Test (SET) is coming, on October 2-3, 2020. Starting on the evening of September 29, information will be released from controllers for an exercise called BLACK SWAN. This will be the first information about the type of event that we're facing, its scale, and what likely missions amateur radio will need to undertake.

Preparations are all about starting with the foundation. The SET is a 48-hour period for testing, where critical elements of the ARES and NTS operations are measured, to be reported back to ARRL headquarters, compiled, and released in *QST*. As mentioned in earlier installments of this series, the Ohio Section did relatively well: Second in the League for ARES activity, and Fourth in the League for net activity. This isn't about making a contest of SET, though: the goals of SET are testing the system, demonstrating capability, and building experience.

Every ARES group should be participating unless there's a real-world event that requires attention, and even then, there should still be coverage. It doesn't follow that only one communications emergency happens at a time, or that only one agency at any one time needs support. As I write this, agencies throughout the world are suffering major internet and phone service (VOIP) outages due to a CenturyLink routing problem, and are watching that situation, should we be called to activate.

TOP^

Every traffic net should be participating. As discussed in the previous installment of this series, ARRL has specified that support of the public and the ARES groups that serve agencies is the NTS mission.

Emergency Coordinators: Whether you're the county EC or a DEC, you need to be sure that you understand Form A and are ready to complete it. If you have a net (it should), you also need to understand Form B and are ready to complete it; you might have a Net Manager appointed, in which case, make sure the Net Manager is ready with that Form B.

Net Managers: Whether your net is an ARES or NTS net, you need to be ready to complete Form B. ("I thought Form A was for ARES and Form B was for NTS," I hear you say. Well, I've heard people say that but the fact is that if you've got an ARES net and you don't complete Form B, you're leaving points on the table.)

Let's take a look at the two forms to be sure that you understand them. We'll look first at Form A, then Form B.

Form A: The Emergency Coordinator SET Report

We go line by line in this chart, letting you see what the League is asking for, and my commentary on how to make sense of the item. Also note that we show some relationships between Form A and Form B. In particular this focuses on traffic. Did you know if your ARES group files only a Form A and no Form B that you'll get credit only for creating messages (off-air activity) and delivering messages (off-air activity), but not for transmitting or receiving the messages? Those are *relay* tasks, recorded only on Form B.

No.	Item	Commentary
A	Number of amateurs who participated in the test	Each amateur radio licensee participating in the event includes those in coordination, publicity, and support roles.
B	Number of new amateurs (licensed since 2016)	When you're tracking your resources, be sure to know when they were licensed!
C	Number of formal 3rd party written traffic messages originated or delivered during the SET on behalf of served agencies.	*Origination* is creating a message for transmission by radio. It's not on-air activity. It's *preparation* that happens during the SET period. *Delivery* is the process of taking the radio message and turning it into something to be used by the agency. *Form A does not count messages relayed, i.e., sent or received. It's messages originated or delivered. These are "terms of art," not subject to interpretation.*
D	Were TACTICAL communications conducted on behalf of served agencies?	Tactical communications are not drafted into documents: they're interactive exchanges. The amount of time that this service was provided is what matters for scoring. (1 hour or more, score 20 points; ½ hour to 1 hour, score 10; less than ½ hour, score 5.)

E	Number of stations on emergency power during the test.	Just as you track your human resources to know when they were licensed, you need to track your station resources to know if they were on emergency power during the test.
F	Number of emergency-powered repeaters used during the test.	Again with the tracking. While scoring doesn't require how long the emergency power will list, you should know the answer. Find out now!
G	Is dual membership in ARES and RACES actively encouraged?	If your emergency management agency has a RACES program and you encourage your operators to be on the roster maintained by the EMA director, this qualifies. Note that the "RACES" organization might be designated "AUXCOM."
H	Was liaison maintained during the SET with an NTS section or local net?	This is a requirement for communication beyond your county. If you don't have this working now, then get with the County Information Report Project to get that established now. And again, track your resources, so you can give the callsigns of the stations performing that role. It should be many, working in shifts, to ensure coverage throughout the exercise period.
I	Were digital modes utilized at any time during the exercise?	You should have the ability to use NBEMS, and in fact will want to be able to work NBEMS in the SET this year not only to support your local agency but to help your local agency in supporting others who need help. Keep track of what you're using locally. Buckeye Net will use OLIVIA and MT-63 variants for the most part. Other modes are more appropriate for VHF.
J	Number of different agencies for which communications were handled.	Many agencies are not allowing their AUXCOM or volunteer teams on-site for training with COVID-19 response procedures. You can simulate those agency operations if necessary. Keep track of the agencies whose messaging you're supporting. It might be much more than just your local EMA. It could be a partner NGO, it could be a public safety agency, or other entity.
K	Number of communities in which agencies were contacted.	This is the time to reach out to the agencies. Even if not playing with them, at least advise them of the exercise, and prepare them to hear from you later regarding the results.

L	Was a press release submitted?	Of course you did that. If you don't know how to do that, use your support chain. Ask your District EC, if the District EC needs help, go to the Section. We have a Public Information Coordinator. Ask for help now if you need it! John Ross KD8IDJ is the man. http://arrl-ohio.org/pic_page/pic.html
M	Is your group represented by an ARRL Public Information Officer?	This is a "bonus," but it counts. A big part of the SET is demonstration for the public and for agencies. You want ARRL Public Information Officers doing that job. If you don't have one locally, ask your DEC how to get one to represent you! If you're a DEC and need one, as your SEC how to get one to represent you!

Form B: The Net Manager Report

Now we look at Form B to see how it complements Form A to provide the complete picture of amateur radio activity in emergency operations. This is for every Net Manager, whether the net is an ARES tactical net or an NTS affiliated traffic net.

No.	Item	Commentary
	Is the net associated with ARES?	This is information-only, not for points. Nevertheless, any public service net should have an association with ARES, whether it is an ARES tactical net or an NTS net, it's there to provide support for public service.
	Is the net associated with RACES?	If the served agency is an emergency management agency, it could have a RACES program. The agency might actually have an AUXCOM program that includes RACES but if there is such a program where the agency maintains the roster of operators, this is a "yes."
	Is the net part of the National Traffic System?	Tactical nets, those that support interactive communication directly between stations, provide a specific role and exist separately from the National Traffic System, whose job is to move *record* traffic, i.e., prepared messages or information. If your net is not a formal message relay net connected to the system of message relay nets, then the answer here is no.

	Liaison was maintained with which NTS nets?	If the answer above is yes, then you must have nets listed here. If the answer above is no, you should have nets listed here so that you've got a way for your agency's messages to get out of the county or messages for your agency to get in the county. Options you should expect to see in Ohio are going to be Northwest Ohio ARES Traffic Net, Burning River Traffic Net, Tri-County Traffic Training Net, Central Ohio Traffic Net, Miami Valley Traffic Net, Tri-State Amateur Traffic Net, Ohio Single Sideband Net, or Buckeye Net. Section nets will in turn have liaison to still other traffic nets such as 8RN.
	Traffic totals.	*This is where message relay counts.* ARES nets that move formal messages need to complete Form B to count these messages; Form A refers only to *origination* and *delivery*. Here the League is looking for a breakdown of messages. Unfortunately, they break down by message precedence, except for ICS-213, which is not a precedence, but a message format. Whatever rule you have for this in your net, apply it consistently. Also if you have the leading group TEST in your precedence, count that in the corresponding precedence, e.g., TEST WELFARE is a point for WELFARE.
	Time in Operation	Whatever time you have the net active, whether directed or free, counts. In 2019, Central Ohio Traffic Net operated at the top of each hour as a directed net, and once all traffic was moved, net control would make the net a *free net*, so anyone could use the system. Anyone who came on to the frequency listing traffic would be able to find that a net control operator was still there and listening, and liaison operators were also there ready to take that traffic. *No need to wait for hours to move a message!* Net Managers need to design their nets and their schedules to support the needs of their members.
a	TOTAL number of messages handled	Whatever the "class" of messages, each message relayed on the net counts here.
b	Number of different stations participating	Each station that reports into the net counts.

c	Number of different stations checking-in on emergency power	Track your resources: be sure that stations reporting indicate if they are on emergency power.
d	Number of new amateurs (licensed since 2016) participating	Track your resources: be sure to not when stations are licensed since 2016. Only here will ARES tactical nets get credit for their new operators in the net.
e	Number of different net control stations	Track your resources: be sure to note when a station is the net control station. Only here will ARES tactical nets get credit for their net control stations.
f	Number of different stations performing NTS liaison (including stations who liaise from local nets to higher nets)	Track your resources: be sure to note when a station is a liaison to or from an NTS net. ARES tactical nets that have liaison to NTS nets thus get points here.

Be ready!

Watch the new information as it becomes available from the BLACK SWAN communications exercise web site at www.blackswancomex.org/2020, and be sure to follow channel KD8TTE on YouTube for training videos to help you be prepared. Time is short, and the task ahead is not easy. It is, however, certain to be rewarding.

Incident Command System (ICS) Training Schedule

It's been quite a while since we've had any training sessions scheduled, but it seems like things are starting to open back up just a little and we do have a couple of courses for you to consider.

ICS-300 INTERMEDIATE ICS FOR EXPANDING EVENTS
Hosted by: Franklin County EM&HS
February 23, 24, 25, 2021

Course Description: This 21-hour classroom course provides training for personnel who require advanced application of the Incident Command System (ICS) and Individuals who may assume a supervisory role in incidents. This course expands upon information covered in the ICS 100 and ICS 200 courses.

Application Deadline: Ten working days prior to the course
Seating availability is limited so register early

Course Registration time: 7:30 am – 8:00 am (on day one)

Course Time: 8:00 am to 4:00 pm – All three (3) days
One-hour Lunch each day

Training Location: Franklin County Emergency Management & Homeland Security
5300 Strawberry Farms Blvd.
Columbus, OH 43230

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Recommended Participants: FEMA designed this course for individuals who may assume a supervisory role in expanding incidents or Type 3 incidents.

Note: During a Type 3 incident, some or all of the Command and General Staff positions may be activated, as well as Division/Group Supervisor and/or Unit Leader level positions. These incidents may extend into multiple operational periods.

Required Prerequisites: Individuals must complete the IS-100.c Introduction to the Incident Command System, IS-200.c Basic Incident Command System for Initial Response, IS-700.b An Introduction to the National Incident Management System and IS-800.c National Response Framework courses prior to attending the ICS-300 Intermediate course **and provide copies of their certificates of completion to**

Pam Tickle, pktickle@franklincountyohio.gov , after you register for the class/before the first day of the class.

Enrollment: Students must enroll via the Department of Public Safety Training Campus website: https://trainingcampus.dps.ohio.gov/CourseMill/pstc/pstc.html. Course registration will close 10 working days prior to the course start date and applicants can check enrollment/approval status via the Department of Public Safety Training Campus website.

Course Costs: There is no charge for participants to attend this course. However, Lodging, Meals, Per Diem and all other travel expenses are the responsibility of the student or the parent organization.
State Point of Contact: Lisa Jones, DSC 2, Ohio EMA, SAA Training Point of Contact, (614) 799-3824 ljones@dps.ohio.gov

<center>####</center>

ICS-400 ADVANCED ICS FOR COMMAND & GENERAL STAFF
Hosted by: Franklin County EM&HS
March 30 & 31, 2021

Course Description: This 15-hour classroom course provides training for personnel who require advanced application of the Incident Command System (ICS). This course expands upon information covered in ICS-100, 200, 700, 800 and ICS-300 courses, which are the prerequisites for the ICS-400 course. The target audience for this course is senior personnel who expect to perform in a management capacity in an Area Command or Multi-Agency Coordination Entity.

Application Deadline: Ten working days prior to the course
Seating availability is limited so register early

Course Registration time: 7:30 am – 8:00 am (on day one)

Course Time: 8:00 am to 4:30 pm – Both days
One-hour Lunch each day

Training Location: Franklin County Emergency Management & Homeland Security
5300 Strawberry Farms Blvd.
Columbus, OH 43230

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Recommended Participants: FEMA designed the course for Senior Personnel who expect to perform in a management capacity in an Area Command or Multi-Agency Coordination Entity.

Required Prerequisites: Individuals must complete the IS-100.c Introduction to the Incident Command System, IS-200.c Basic Incident Command System for Initial Response, IS-700.b An Introduction to the National Incident Management System and the IS-800.c National Response Framework, an Introduction courses. In addition, ICS-300 Intermediate courses prior to attending the ICS-400 Advanced course **and provide copies of their certificates of completion to Pam Tickle, pktickle@franklincountyohio.gov, after you register for the class/before the first day of the class.**

Enrollment: Students must enroll via the Department of Public Safety Training Campus website: https://trainingcampus.dps.ohio.gov/CourseMill/pstc/pstc.html. Course registration will close 10 working days prior to the course start date and applicants can check enrollment/approval status via the Department of Public Safety Training Campus website.

Course Costs: There is no charge for participants to attend this course. However, Lodging, Meals, Per Diem and all other travel expenses are the responsibility of the student or the parent organization.

State Point of Contact: Lisa Jones, DSC 2, Ohio EMA, SAA Training Point of Contact, (614) 799-3824 ljones@dps.ohio.gov

Here in the Ohio Section we recognize that IS-300/400 requires multiple days of actual classroom training that is not easily obtained. So, if you just can't find the time to fit these classroom courses in, we do have an alternative method for getting you to Level 3.

Completing the following **"FREE"** and **"ONLINE"** courses will act as substitute for you FEMA Leadership Development Course requirements. You absolutely will need to complete all **7** of these courses to get your ICS 300/400 credit. Here are the courses that you need to take: **IS-120, 230, 240, 241, 242, 244 & 288.**

Now, if you are looking for wallpaper and have a little extra time, taking IS-235 in addition to the 7 listed courses above, you will get a really cool looking certificate from FEMA stating that you have completed the Professional Development Series. That's impressive in itself!

One Question Questionnaire

Hey Gang,

"Survey Says"…..   about 23.91% have 1 HT charged and ready to go. 19.57% of you have 2; 18.48% have 3 and 33.70% have 4 or more all charged and ready to go. Only 4.35% have none at all. That's really great. That shows we are prepared!!!

Ok, since I'm seeing a huge amount of posts on Social Media about the newly proposed FCC licensing fees that would affect all amateur radio licenses if implemented as proposed, I want to ask how **YOU** feel about it.

"Would you pay the proposed $50 licensing fee for your amateur radio license??"

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

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

Silvercreek Amateur Radio Association (SARA) Holding V.E. Testing

SARA will be holding its quarterly license exam on **Saturday, September 5th** at 10:00 am.

We will be returning to the Sharon Center United Methodist Church for this test and likely the one in December as well. Social distancing will again be in effect and masks will be required. Anyone who can is requested to pre-register to expedite the onsite paperwork process.

All exam sessions start at 10:00am with check-ins. All three tests for Technician, General, and Extra are offered at all exam sessions. Preregistration is requested by all participants to speed up the onsite paperwork process, but walk-ins are welcome. *If you are taking an Extra class exam, please indicate that when contacting us.*

The SARA VE Team is led by: Stephen Kinford, N8WB 440-381-8655   n8wb@n8wb.com

Ohio Valley Amateur Radio Club - Ohio Valley Amateur Radio VE Testing September 2020

The Ohio Valley Amateur Radio Club will be holding testing at the Warrick County EOC. The next testing will be… **September 12th at 9:00am** at the Old Boonville Courthouse - 3rd Floor. Entrance will be through the North lower level doors (Signs will be posted guiding the way)

The cost for the test is $10. WHAT TO BRING WITH YOU TO THE AMATEUR RADIO TEST
Two forms of identification, including at least one photo ID (Drivers license, Employer's identity card, or a Student ID) - A calculator - Your FCC Federal Registration Number (FRN)
Information here:
https://www.fcc.gov/wireless/support/universal-licensing-system-uls-resources/getting-fcc-registration-number-frn

Upgrade Exams:
Your current Original License and a photocopy any original "Certificate of Successful Completion of Examination" (CSCE) and a photocopy. Your FCC Federal Registration Number (FRN)

For Additional Information: Chris L. Owen (KC9CLO) - KC9CLO@gmail.com

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Ohio | Department of Public Safety

Emergency Management Agency

Mike DeWine, Governor   Thomas J. Stickrath, Director
Jon Husted, Lt. Governor Sima Merick, Executive Director

News Release
www.ema.ohio.gov

For Immediate Release: **August 28, 2020**

September is National Preparedness Month
Disasters Don't Wait. Make Your Plan Today.

COLUMBUS, OH – National Preparedness Month (NPM) is recognized annually in September to encourage family and community disaster planning not only for a month, but throughout the year. As our state and nation continue to respond to COVID-19, National Preparedness Month is an ideal time for Ohioans to ensure they are prepared for any disaster, including a pandemic.

This year's theme for NPM is: "***Disasters Don't Wait. Make Your Plan Today.***"
"Even while battling the coronavirus, Ohioans have dealt with other emergencies, including floods, tornadoes, and extreme heat," said Governor Mike DeWine. "Disasters can happen at any time, and National Preparedness Month is a good time to ensure you're ready to handle the next emergency."

"As the governor said, disasters don't pause because of the coronavirus," said Ohio Emergency Management Agency Executive Director Sima Merick. "We have to stay diligent. We have to stay prepared. We have to make plans to protect ourselves and loved ones from hazards and severe weather events that can impact our lives. Making and practicing your emergency plans, which includes having disaster supply kits for the home and car, are just a few things that we all can do to be safe and resilient."

In coordination with FEMA's Ready campaign, the Ohio EMA and ReadyOhio encourage households, county EMAs, businesses, schools, and places of worship to plan for emergencies by participating in the weekly themes for NPM 2020:

Week 1 (Aug. 31-Sept. 4):   COVID-19 Safety & Preparedness Information
Week 2 (September 7-11):   Make an Emergency Plan
Week 3 (September 14-18): Build a Kit
Week 4 (September 21-25): Youth Emergency Preparedness

Throughout September, Ohio EMA will post emergency preparedness information on Facebook and Twitter that coincide with the NPM weekly themes.

Visit ReadyOhio for additional information on emergency safety and preparedness.

####

Final.. Final..

Hi Gang,

The weather this week has really been a wild one for sure this week. We've even had some remnants from Hurricane Laura come through. I was thankful for the rain the other night, but not the wind that came with it. I blew so hard here that we now have some of our maple trees with missing limbs that I will have to clean up out of the yard before I attempt to mow. Oh yes, now that we've had some rain and lightning, the grass has decided to grow some. So, now it's time for the mower. It's been so long since I've had it out that I'm not sure I can even get it started, but we will, and the mowing we will go!!

I'm still joining in on Zoom calls just about every night with all of you and having a blast for sure. But, I'm like all of you, I want to get out there and mingle with you and talk about ham radio for sure. I really miss going places and meeting new folks.

Antenna Not So Woes… After doing a lot of adjusting and reading, I have found the problems and fixed them on the 4-BTV. It seems that even though the book states clearly not to do any adjustments on the traps, that's exactly what I had to do to fix the issues of not tuning up inside the amateur bands. Now that things are all tuned to where they are supposed to be, my transceiver and amplifier are once again happy with the setup. This makes tuning from band to band very quick and simple for sure. I want to thank everyone for their wonderful suggestions about how to fix the issues. I did get to operate a bit this past week but mostly sat back and listened to the Hurricane Watch Net and all the activities that went with it.

For those interested in my Bicycle Mobile project, I've gotten on the Ohio Talk Group (DMR) several times over these past days and interestingly enough, no one seems to be on when I've been on. I know that everything is working ok. I've even taken the little DMR radio along just to make sure things were getting out, and they were. Then yesterday I had tire problems. Yes, I had a blowout at 15mph. No, it didn't cause a crash, but it did leave me stranded about 5 miles from anywhere and I ended up walking the trike back to the car. There's nothing worse than to hear that big "pop" and then all the air in the tire goes out all at once. I do carry a CO_2 canister with me to refill the tire if it runs low, but with a complete blowout like this was, there's no way it will help. So, it's A. T. – you know, alternate transportation, you walk back. And what a hike it was, 5 miles with the trike in tow. Oh well, it could have been worse, it could have been raining! All's fixed and we're ready to go back out, but that was an experience that I really don't want to repeat for sure.

Changing Subjects… Let's not forget to take a quick look at ARES Connect
Ok, now that you have the secrets of how to get yourself signed up over longer periods of time, and you now know how to quickly report your time, are you now convinced that it's worth a few minutes of your time each week to use ARES Connect? Remember, this system isn't there so much for ARRL Headquarters as it is for us. Yes, we are using the data to show our government leaders here in Ohio just what we are doing to help our communities.

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Have you looked at the breakdown per county on the website yet? We have a "per county" dashboard of the hours recorded in ARES Connect for each county. We also list those District only events as well as the hours recorded for Section wide functions. These are the hours of actual volunteers and not anonymous hours. Want to see how many hours your county has gotten so far?   Go to…   http://arrl-ohio.org/SEC/reports.html
This page is updated regularly, so you can see what's happening in real time in your county. Don't see hours recorded in your county? That's because you haven't done **your part** and gotten your time recorded.

Have you seen the latest Section Emergency Coordinators report? If not, you can view it by going to: http://arrl-ohio.org/SEC/reports.html

Whelp, my final go around before gong QRT… I'm still busy and having a blast doing Zoom meetings for all the clubs out there that are meeting "virtually." I'm really hoping that we call can get back to those great "in-person" meetings soon.

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

73,

Scott, N8SY

Back Issues of the PostScript and Ohio Section Journal

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

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Welcome New Subscriber(s)

William, W8PKT; Tim, KE8OIK

Swap & Shop Has Added Club Raffles To Its Listings On The Webpage

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!!

TOP^

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

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Want to Share your Club Newsletter With Others?

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

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

Please, if you don't see your club newsletter posted, it's because I'm not receiving it. Just have your newsletter editor contact me and I'll get your club's newsletter listed on the site!!

We all learn and steal (I mean, share) from each other's work. So, get me your newsletter!!! Send it to: n8sy@n8sy.com

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

TOP^

Chit – Chat, and All That!

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

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

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

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

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

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!