



Ohio
Section
Journal

December 2022

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Merry Christmas to you all!

From Your State Government Liaison

ANATOMY OF THE NEW TEXTING BILL AND AMATEUR RADIO –

At long last, HB-283 has passed the Ohio Legislature and is waiting for Governor DeWine's signature after morphing into SB-288. (The Governor said that he will sign this bill during an interview on Cleveland Channel 5 News the evening of 21 Dec 22.)



You probable recall that we have been monitoring this legislation since it was introduced in May 2021. After its introduction, it was referred to the House Criminal Justice Committee where many proponents recommended its passing. Yet, it was never voted out of committee, and it appeared to be doomed, as were similar bills in prior sessions.

Characteristically, after the general election this past November, our Ohio legislators returned to Columbus for the so-called lame duck session. This is a very short session, between the elections and Christmas recess, where a lot gets done. Suddenly HB-283 was voted out of committee to the House floor where it passed the following day. It was sent to the Senate where it was inserted into SB-288, along with several other unrelated bills, resulting in a massive 1081-page tome that was passed in the Senate, returned to the House, where it also passed a few days ago and sent to Governor DeWine for his signature.

The thrust of the bill was to make texting while driving a primary offense. Up to now, you could not be stopped for texting while driving unless you committed another violation, such as going through a red light. The new bill allows law enforcement to cite you for texting while driving, resulting in a fine for the first offense, with increasing penalties for repeat offenders.

Of concern to Ohio hams, was the broad definition of what is now called an Electronic Wireless Communications Device (EWCD). I felt that our ham radios fit the definition of an EWCD and that just holding the microphone of your mobile rig could subject us to being ticketed while talking on our rigs.

The best way to avoid this contingency was to carve out an exception for our hobby. I requested your help in achieving this goal and was pleased to hear from several hams who knew their Ohio Senator or House Representative and were willing to speak to them about our concerns. On top of the list is **Michael Kalter, W8CI**, of Hamvention fame, who met with one of the bill's sponsors, State Rep. Brian Lampton. Mike explained that without an exemption for amateur radio, our ability to assist in emergencies, would be hampered. He also gave data, some

received from our Section Manager, **Tom Sly, WB8LCD**, about how amateur radio affects community safety.

The result is the following language in the bill: *An “electronic wireless communication device” does not include a two-way radio transmitter or receiver used by a person who is licensed by the federal communications commission to participate in the amateur radio service.” (ORC 4511.204(H)(1)(f))*

When the bill becomes law, you are protected by the above cited amateur radio exemption. I would recommend that you keep a copy of ORC 4511.204 handy, with the above italicized section highlighted, to show the peace officer if you do get stopped. But remember, when you go on the air from your mobile radio, pay attention to your driving, as we always do, and enjoy our great hobby!

Thanks to all of you who did contact your state legislators in support of an exemption for amateur radio. That includes **Tim Price, K8WFL (SK)**, a Wickliffe ham, who was a professional lobbyist for the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers. Tim had volunteered to use his skills to achieve this favorable result for our hobby. Unfortunately, he passed away very quickly last May from a very aggressive form of cancer.

As always, if you know of any legislation that might affect amateur radio, please let me know.

My best wishes for a Merry Christmas, Happy Chanukah, Happy Kwanzaa and a healthy and happy New Year!

Best 73, W2THU

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From the Technical Coordinator
Jeff Kopcak – K8JTK TC
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Hey gang,
I've been the Webmaster for a handful of ham radio sites since about 2005 (excluding my own personal site). Dale's Tales for December 2022 really hit home. That's how I became webmaster for most of those sites. Complaining about the accuracy and timeliness (lack-there-of) on posting information to the club's site. It is the way people interested in the club or a prospective ham radio operator – first interact with the club. If the site hasn't been updated in years, newsletters aren't current, hey the autopatch hasn't worked in 20 years but still detailed on the site, I'm moving on to the next club's site. Consider it the first impression the club makes on a new or prospective club member. Much like a job interview, first impressions count.



While I'm not here to talk about keeping websites updated – though every club and organization should, I'm here to talk about a related topic: SPAM.

Also referred to as “junk mail” they are unsolicited messages, usually sent in bulk. The name Spam came from a Monty Python skit about the canned product of the same name.

If you've ever put an E-mail address out onto the Internet, you know the barrage of spam messages inevitably received. Plain text E-mails are harvested by bots that scour pages on the Internet, looking for: username@somedomain.com. One day, that address will be harvested too. Once collected, they're used by spammers directly or sold to spammers by data miners. The receiving end sees endless messages about dating sites, vitamins, Black Friday deals and the like. These messages are easy to spot. Most are caught by spam filters. Ones that make it through feel like a personal space violation.

Webmasters, such as myself, use techniques to minimize that harvesting. Those include contact forms and captchas where the user fills out a form with their name, callsign, subject, whom they want to contact, and message. Captchas are those things where you have to click all the images containing a crosswalk, select all images with boats, or type some words. This, along with monitoring interactions with the captcha dialog provides a confidence level the submission is by a real human being (not a bot) before the message can be sent. Another technique is to encode E-mail address in a method not recognizable to a bot. When a user clicks the link, the result returned to a browser is a usable E-mail address. Some Content Management Systems (CMS) handle this automatically or with the assistance of a plugin. QRZ requires a user to be logged in

to see E-mail addresses, saying a bot wouldn't have a QRZ account. I use a substitution method on my personal site making the user complete two relatively simple tasks:

Callsign@a-r-r-l.net (callsign found elsewhere, remove dashes)

Another variation uses: K8JTK(@)arrl(dot)net. When a bot harvests the address above, the spam message is sent to a domain that doesn't exist (a-r-r-l.net). A real ham would know what a callsign looks like. They substitute my callsign for "Callsign" and remove the dashes in the domain name, voilà.



SPAM (Hormel Foods)

Those techniques are good for keeping E-mail harvesting spam bots at bay on web pages. PDFs, such as club newsletters, are still an issue because there is no easy way to mask E-mail addresses. All this falls apart when humans are paid to bypass techniques put in place to stop the machines from harvesting. Spammers have gotten very creative. Not only harvesting E-mail addresses but techniques used to reel people in.

Most of the ones I receive that make it through look like the message below. Achieving the result of my site linking to crap commercial site legitimizes the commercial site. This leads to additional traffic and improved search result ranking for the commercial site. Search engines take into consideration the legitimacy of a site by how many other sites it considers reputable, are linking to that other site. Don't fall for these! I have [redacted] parts of the message to not give press to these spammers and scammers.

Subject: jeffreykopcak.com

From: [redacted, company name] <info @ [redacted, company name] .com>

Date: 8/18/21, 6:43 PM

To: Jeffrey <[redacted, another E-mail address] >

Hi Jeffrey,

I hope you're doing well! I came across your page and noticed you included some information about security resources and password protection:

<https://www.jeffreykopcak.com/posts/>

I thought you may be interested in a guide our team created on ways to protect your family and home with the internet:

[https://www. \[redacted, company name commercial site\] .com/blog/harnessing-the-internet-to-keep-your-family-and-home-safe](https://www.[redacted, company name commercial site].com/blog/harnessing-the-internet-to-keep-your-family-and-home-safe)

With the rise of smart home technology, tracking devices and general online communication, the need to have access to high-speed internet and increased safety precautions is more important than ever. We wanted to help provide more information on steps families can take to improve their security.

Our guide includes

Tips on Surveillance Systems and Securing Your Internet Connection

Using the Internet to Stay Safe

Alternative Internet Resources

Would you consider adding our resource to your page that I listed above to help spread awareness on online safety?

I look forward to hearing your thoughts when you have a chance to take a look!

Gratefully,

Jess

Jess [redacted, last name]

Communications Coordinator at [redacted, company name]

info @ [redacted, company name] .com

First sign this is a scam, I didn't ask for or solicit this type of content. Second, the link they refer to on my site is a listing of all postings I've made to my site. They don't reference a specific post meaning they didn't read anything. Their search terms landed on my "all posts" page. References to "security resources" and "password protection" were likely OSJ articles I wrote. Third, I've looked at some of these provided links (on a VPN of course), the information is generic garbage containing basic information and often links to their other garbage posts.

If I'm in a mood, I'll E-mail them back saying 'sponsored content is \$300K/per link/per year.' No takers, lol.

This is one of the best I've seen:

Subject: [redacted, ham club webmaster's name] and [redacted, ham club president's name], [redacted, ham club name]

From: Stacey [redacted, last name] <s[redacted, last name] @ [redacted, their club] .org>

To: [redacted, E-mail addresses]

Date: Tue, 06 Dec 2022 17:58:48

[redacted, names of ham club officials],

My name is Stacey [redacted, last name] and on behalf of the [redacted, their club name] for Girls, I wanted to let the [redacted, ham club name] know your web page was a big help to our club! This one - [redacted, ham club web page]

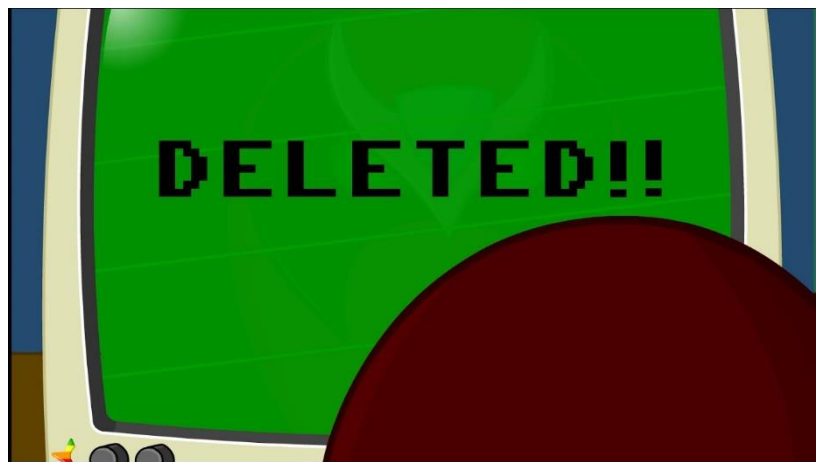
For the month of December, our club is exploring the history of innovations in science and technology with a 'famous inventors and inventions' lesson. The girls are currently learning about the history of the radio, including early broadcasting techniques and amateur radio, and how it impacted society. Your web page led us to some great information on amateur radio to incorporate into our lessons, so the girls requested I reach out and let you know :)

As a thank you, I wanted to pass along this reading on the history of the car radio our member Nicole found. It's a fantastic timeline of radio and audio systems throughout the years, covering the early stages for military use and evolving into the radio we know today with the invention of the vacuum tube. The additional reading on historical broadcasting and the golden age of early radio was really neat for the kids to learn about too. This is it... [https://www. \[redacted, commercial website\] .com/articles/the-history-of-the-car-radio/](https://www.[redacted, commercial website].com/articles/the-history-of-the-car-radio/)

Nicole was very excited to share it with you! She thought it would make a wonderful addition. Will you let me know if you're able to include it for her? I know Nicole would be delighted to see she could help! (We meet Thursday evening, if you can add it by then!) She's really enjoyed working on this project and is even in the works to get her HAM license! Looking forward to hearing from you!

*Wishing you a very Happy Holidays,
Mrs. [redacted, last name]
[https:// \[redacted, their club\] .org](https://[redacted, their club].org)*

There weren't the usual red flags. It's well written. Their club could be completely legitimate. It's about kids (won't somebody please think of the children!) and they gave a name to their member, Nicole, to humanize her. They mention ham radio a couple different times meaning they read the site or the person writing this has familiarity with the subject. Red flags: The E-mail address this message was sent to, I've never used anywhere. The person harvesting E-mails strung together some text. They did not even grab the E-mail address that I use on that site. One could have surmised the text they saw equated to an E-mail address. As



(homestarrunner.com)

it turns out, they guessed correctly. Second, the ‘commercial website’ is an auto title loan agency and the content of the article is not well detailed. But I could enter to win prizes in their holiday giveaway! I am not spamming the club’s visitors with links to a loan agency. If I saw links like these on another club’s site, I’m not joining. Third, the implication of a deadline or sense of urgency (by Thursday evening). This is the same way people get scammed by those calls where ‘there is a warrant out for your arrest and you must pay \$X00 now or the sheriff will arrest you in 10 minutes.’ I ain’t buying it! DELETE!

If I had to guess, assuming their “club” is completely legitimate, in an attempt to raise some cash, they are involved in soliciting traffic for commercial sites. They get paid by the number of sites that post the URL driving traffic to that site and/or increase that site’s search ranking. Their campaign deadline was Friday and the reason for the urgency getting links posted by Thursday evening. Did I mention I could enter to win 30+ prizes in their holiday giveaway? I write about this to bring awareness to the rest of the ham radio webmasters and club officials. These solicitations come across looking legitimate. Do not get taken by or caught up in these scams. If these links have been posted to the club’s site, remove them like yesterday. The club isn’t asking for these solicitations, posting them can’t be beneficial to the organization. Thanks for reading. Happy New Year! 73... de Jeff – K8JTK

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

New Year’s Resolutions

1. Introducing Youngsters to Amateur Radio- Ideas for Interesting Youth in AR

Recently, I received an email and subsequent phone call from a ham asking how he could get his kids interested in Amateur Radio. He currently has a Technician license, so I designed some of these ideas to allow him to share some communication experiences with his kids.



Ideas & Gifts for Involving Youngsters in Radio

Share this doc

Anthony Luscre, K8ZT- k8zt73@gmail.com



tiny.cc/yri

● Receiving - Listening to Amateur & Broadcast Radio

- Online Software Defined Receivers- tiny.cc/freerx. No Radio or Antenna is needed. High-performance radios are capable of SSB reception with sites around the world. Can also receive commercial broadcasting
- Cheap Shortwave Radios
 - Make sure it has SSB (Single Sideband) receive capability to be able to listen to Amateur Radio voice communication
 - You will need a wire antenna, preferably outside, to get good reception from amateurs. It does not need to be fancy.
 - Commercial Radios (I suggest one with knobs, not up/down buttons for tuning)
 - [C. Crane CC Skywave SSB AM, FM, Shortwave](#)
 - [Eton - Elite Executive AM/FM/Aircraft/SSB/Shortwave Radio](#)
 - [Tecsun Digital PL330 AM/FM/LW/SW Worldband Radio with SSB](#)
 - [Tecsun PL-600 AM/FM/LW SSB Shortwave Radio, Black](#)
 - [Tecsun PL880 Portable Digital PLL Dual Conversion AM/FM, Longwave & Shortwave Radio with SSB](#)
 - Si4732 Based Radio (It is basically a microprocessor combined with an Integrated Circuit)
 - [ATS-20 all Band Si4732 Portable Shortwave Radio Receiver](#) (This is just one example on eBay there are 100s of vendors with similar models in \$40 to \$65 price range)
 - [ATS-25 Si4732 Full Band Radio Receiver FM LW MW SW with 2.4 inch Touch Screen](#) (This is just one example on eBay of vendors with models in \$60 to \$125 price range. Improved version of ATS-20 with touch screen and larger display)
- An SDR (Software Defined Receiver) Note many of the cheap SDR Dongles are VHF/UHF only check to make sure freq coverage includes HF (3.5 to 28 MHz) You will also need a computer, software and antenna

- RTL-SDR Blog R820T2 RTL2832U 1PPM TCXO SMA Software Defined Radio- [link](#) ~\$30
 - SDRPlay- [RSP1A](#) ~\$110
 - Nooelec NESDR Smart HF Bundle: 100kHz-1.7GHz Software Defined Radio Set for HF/UHF/VHF Including RTL-SDR, Assembled Ham It Up Upconverter, Balun, Adapters- [link](#)
 - Ham Radio Transceiver (used as a receiver). You will also need a power supply and antenna
 - There are many HF Transceivers available used for a few \$100s for a listing of a variety of models- [link](#)
 - A few of cheapest new HF radios
 - QRP Labs Kits (Single HF band CW Transceiver \$55 QCX+ or QCX Mini) not great for SSB due to narrow filtering but include on-screen CW decoder)
 - Xiegu G106 Sdr Hf Transceiver | 5W QRP Radio | SSB CW ~ \$300
 - Xiegu G90 Hf Radio | Sdr | Qrp | Auto Antenna Tuner | 20W | SSB CW ~ \$450
 - Yaesu FT-891 HF/50MHz 100 Watt All Mode ~\$695
 - Yaesu FT-818 HF/VHF/UHF All-Mode Portable QRP (5 watts) Transceiver ~\$650 (has 2M & 440 in addition to HF)
 - Crystal Radios
 - [Power Crystal Set: No soldering required. New, boxed kit](#)
 - [Grandad Bob's Crystal Radio Set Electronics Project Kit Whizzkits Cat Whisker](#)
 - [Portable Crystal Set Radio Kit of Electronic Parts, Solderless](#)
 - [United Nuclear Standard Crystal Radio Kit](#)
- **Two Way Radio (without a license)**
 - Handhelds
 - FRS (Family Radio Service- License Free)
 - [BAOFENG BF-88ST Pro Walkie Talkies 3 Pack](#)
 - [BAOFENG FRS Radio, USB Rechargeable Walkie Talkies](#)
 - [RADIOODDITY FS-T3/PR-T3 \[4 PACKS\]](#)
- **Morse Code (CW)**
 - Key
 - [\\$2 Clothespin Key](#)

- Complete all-in-one Morse tutor, keyer, paddles, local two-way license free connections, etc. (would require two kits to “talk to each other”)
 - [Morserino](#)
 - Morse Code Classes
 - [Long Island CW Club](#)
 - Adults \$30 Membership
 - Kids under 18 - Free
 - Morse Code Decoders
 - Apps for Arduino or iPhone
- **Cheap Soldering Kits**
 - [Pixie 40 Meter Transceiver](#)
 - [Electric Piano DIY Kits, NE555 DIY Electronic Organ Module Electronics Soldering](#)
 - [16-Tone Board Components Accessory Electronic Parts DIY Kit](#)
 - [DIY Metal Detector Electronic Parts Kit 60mm Non-contact Sensor Board](#)
 - [DIY Kit Mini Tesla Coil Plasma Speaker Set Electronic Field Music](#)
 - [FM Stereo Radio Module With Microphone DIY Kit](#)
 - [AM/FM AM Radio Kit Parts CF210SP](#)
 - [AM/FM Radio - DIY Solder Kit - Soldering Required](#)
 - **Satellites (You can work these with your Tech License or just listen with no license). See Technicians, Life Beyond Repeaters... (starting around slide #31)**
 - Required
 - Radio or radios capable of receiving and transmitting on 2 Meters and 440. FM is fine for many of the satellites, including the ISS) Dual Band HT will work fine
 - Dual Band Antenna
 - [Arrow Antenna](#)
 - [Elk Antennas](#)
 - Moxon-Yagi Dual band VHF-UHF antenna- [link](#)
 - Vertical dipole, with crossed full-wave loops- [link](#)
 - VE2ZAZ Arrow-Style Portable Sat. Antenna- [link](#)
 - \$4.00 Ham Radio Satellite Antenna- [link](#)
 - \$4.00 Ham Satellite Antenna Modifications- [link](#)
 - WA5VJB- Cheap Antennas for the AMSAT LEO's- [link](#)
 - Way to track Satellites
 - Free Online sites

- [Heavens Above](#)
- [N2YO.com](#)

- **Even More Ideas**

- Ham Radio Youth Resources Website- www.k8zt.com/youth
- RATPAC Holiday Gift Guide- includes youth including books & other ideas
 - Video Recording tiny.cc/ratpac-list
 - Slideshow- tiny.cc/argifts22

2. Put on a Program at Your Local Library, School or other Organization

I am putting on a program for the Western Reserve Amateur Radio Club at their area library branch. Here is a sample of my announcement, plan and supplies you are free to adapt to your group. I will also be willing to share the “History and Technology of Communication.” slideshow with you when it is completed.

Join the Western Reserve Amateur Radio Club for a teens and tweens program on the “History and Technology of Communication.” Since ancient times people have wanted to communicate over distances well beyond simple speech and hearing. How did they devise methods to do it? Did you know that “texting” predated the telephone? We will explore a wide variety of communication, including- pre-electrical methods, telegraphy, telephony, radio, TV, cell phones and digital communications. The session includes a hands-on make-it-take project for all attendees, live demonstrations, fun facts and another project to do at home.

-
1. Introduction
 2. Slideshow on the History of Comm
 3. Morse Code
 - a. Build Clothespin Key (tiny.cc/cp-key)
 - i. Short pieces of 2x4 Pine
 - ii. Brass Thumbtacks
 - iii. Short pieces of copper wire
 - iv. Clothespin
 - v. Screw
 - vi. Computer Buzzer
 - vii. Battery clip
 - viii. 9 Volt Battery (square)
 - ix. Tools
 1. Screwdriver
 2. Awl to make the hole for screw or drill bit
 3. Wire strippers

- b. Send & Receive with Key- tiny.cc/mccs
- c. Radio Demonstration
 - i. Making Contact with CW
 1. HF TXCVR & Antenna
 2. On-screen display of decoded CW
 3. Recognizing simple words by sound
 - a. K8ZT
 - b. CQ
 - c. 73
 - d. TU
 4. Answer CQ stations and attempt to make contacts
4. Radio Listening
 - a. Intro to Online Tunable SDRs (tiny.cc/freerx)
 - b. Intro to WebSDR.org
 - c. Participants will try tuning stations
5. Newer Digital Communications
 - a. Demonstration of FT8 (and maybe RTTY)
6. Handouts to go home with participants
 - a. tiny.cc/hry
 - b. tiny.cc/freerx
 - c. tiny.cc/mccs

Library Requirements

- Projector & screen
 - Internet Access for the presenter
 - Outside access for a portable antenna
 - Tables for building keys
 - Access to computers or lab for participant's use of WEB SDRs
-

3. Get on The Air

With the increase in Sunspot activity, the upper HF bands, including 10 Meters, are hot! Get on the air and work your favorite mode, a new mode, a new band, etc.

4. Support Your Local Amateur Radio Club

Find and join a club www.arrl.org/find-a-club. If you are already a member, attend meetings, participate in activities, do a presentation, teach a class, write an article for the newsletter, volunteer to head a committee, serve as an officer, etc.

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

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

My wife, Esta, had spent more sick days in a hospital in the months of September through December than she did at home. When I realized that this was not another “normal” sick hospitalization I sent Mike this email:

Hi Mike,
I will not be on the net for awhile. My wife of 52 years has had a life altering event and will be going into hospice very soon. When I can control my emotions I will be back.



Those that want to help me can email me what ham radio has meant to them. I will use their thoughts to make my next news article for the Ohio Section Journal. I will need them to respond in time for me to make the article and meet the OSJ deadline the last full weekend of December.

Here are the responses I received to WHAT HAM RADIO MEANS TO ME.

...

Mike, KC8WH read your email on the net this morning regarding your request for net members to comment on what ham radio has meant to them.

When I was a youngster, my older brother was a ham and he taught me Morse code.

I didn't do anything with it at that time, later on, when in the Navy, I was privileged to be able to read the signal lights between the ships. It was fun being able to do that at sea.

When I got out of the Navy, a fellow at the plant introduced me to a group of hams, who got me into the hobby. My brother had let his license expire, years before, but when I got my novice ticket, he got back into ham radio and it brought us closer together. We shared a bond that we never had before.

The hobby has meant a lot to me. All of my closest friends, I would not have even met if it wasn't for ham radio. My wife enjoys the closeness with those same friends and their spouses, also.

Any time we moved to a new area and knew nobody, amateur radio has helped me to meet new people and make new friends.

It has been a GODSEND to me.

Frank Steverson, KA8BJA

GOD BLESS,

Frank

...

What does ham radio mean to me? 12 days after I graduated from high school many years ago, I was a passenger in a serious car wreck that left

me totally paralyzed and a quadriplegic. My physical condition was so weak I could not attend college. Therefore I started studying many subjects on my own at home. One of those subjects was amateur radio which I had always been interested in. I started out with an old receiver and somehow found the OSSBN which I started listening to every day. Many of those voices that I heard on the net later became long time friends. Because I was confined to a wheelchair, ham radio became my window to the world. I was no longer confined to my wheelchair and a small bedroom. I had the world at my fingertips on a dial that could take me anywhere I wanted to go. There has been at least eight times that I could have died, or should have died. I lost my first wife to lung cancer and although I have had some pretty rough times in my life like we all do, ham radio has been my life preserver and my window to the world to make many friends nationally and internationally.

Dan, WB8VZX.

...

There is an old saying that says "do what makes you happiest in the world, and you will never work a day in your life". That is certainly true in my case. I was fortunate to work in Telecommunications my entire career, and became a ham early in that journey. I was fortunate that job and my hobby were very much alike. I would jokingly say at work (not to my boss), that I can't believe that they pay me for something I do for

fun at home.. Ham radio made my job seem like an extension of my hobby.
Now that I am retired, I have more time, (but less money) to spend on my hobby.

Amateur radio has also allowed me to contribute to my local community by starting a radio club, supporting the Red Cross, and partnering with local government to provide emergency communications. When 911 happened, I was too old to enlist, but Amateur radio opened a door to the MARS program that allowed me to contribute. The traffic handling training I received in MARS brought me to the Ohio Single Sideband Net where, thanks to your help, I serve as a digital liaison station. I have learned a lot during my ham radio career, and I am sure there is will always be more to learn.

Ray Webb KB8GUN

...

Ham radio is in place to enhance the art of communication. I am a longtime fan of the digital voice modes.

Back in the day, I enjoyed using IRLP. I did not use Echolink as much, unless conditions were poor since Echolink could be done on the computer where IRLP required radios. Today, my activity tends toward DMR and YSF, with some Winlink tossed in for good measure. I still use traditional modes such as SSB and CW, and believe strongly that

CW is the reason for “When all else fails, Ham Radio.” But when operating strictly for entertainment, digital voice is my go-to.

Chris, KV8Z

...

Dave,

I am so sorry to hear that you presently dealing with some major concerns. My prayers are with you. May God Bless You. God is with you.

I have been an amateur radio operator since 1964, when I was 17 years old. Ham radio probably kept me out of jail as a teenager. While some of my friends were playing the alcohol and drug scene I was enjoying ham radio.

I have met so many people and developed friends that have lasted over 50 years. A couple, even longer, which I still enjoy to this day.

Through the years during some hardships, ham radio was there to comfort me by being able to talk to wonderful friends I made through this terrific hobby.

At one point in my life, I went through a terrible divorce, coming home from a sales meeting and finding that my wife of several years had left and ran off to Idaho with another guy. I was devastated. My Ham Radio Friends were there to comfort me.

Had it not been for Ham Radio, I would have not been scheduled to go to electronics school when I enlisted into the Air Force. Due to an injury in I was discharged and was never able to attend the school. To this day, I have always wonder where I would be, had I gotten that education.

I became a member of the OSSBN in 1965. My Elmer was a traffic handler and I soon got interested in traffic. I was NCS 2 or 3 nights a week during the 60's. In those days, when Viet Nam was headlining the news, we handle tons and tons of traffic on 3.9725. A normal evening net would handle anywhere from 50 to maybe a 100 pieces of traffic. Net time may last as long as 3 hours or longer. Those were great time! A lot of the traffic was brought from the MARS nets.

I remember how great it felt when I would deliver a message to a family from their son, daughter, mom or dad, serving in the Military. Even if it was....."ARL FIFTY ARRIVED SAFELY U S NAVAL TRAINING CENTER WILL WRITE WHEN POSSIBLE."

I don't know if this is what you are looking for or not. Use it if you wish, or scrap it if you wish.

Again Dave, Our prayers are with you through your troubled times. Keep Faith in God. HE will see you through. I know He is here. I can attest to his miracles.

God Bless and 73,

Butch, WA8SHP

...

Hi David, Freda and I are so sorry to hear that Esta is not doing so good. You and she are in our prayers daily.

In response to your request for the OSJ I offer these comments.

Ham Radio has been a wonderful hobby for me. Even though the rest of my family is not licensed they have participated with me, going to ham fests and other associated ham functions. It has become a part of our family. I was licensed in 1974 and we became a Ham Radio family at that time. I have enjoyed traffic handling the most and still do to this day. The joy of becoming a family with the OSSBN members has been wonderful. I will cherish the memories forever.

Don/WB8SIQ

P.S. Freda and I wish you and Esta a Blessed Christmas.

...

Hi David. My thoughts are with you. As you requested, here is what ham radio means to me:

Amateur radio has been a ton of fun, especially building antennas and seeing how they perform. It has also given me the confidence and motivation to try fixing more things around the

house when they break. It also has been a great thing to do with my son besides video games.

Greg Reichenbach

Stony Ridge OH

W8GSR

...

Dave,

First of all, I know where you are coming from concerning your wife. If you need to talk please let me know.

What Ham Radio Means to Me:

Ham Radio wasn't only a means for me to provide a public service through the OSSBN, NTS, ARES, and other networks, including the Eye Bank Net in the past, I also provided phone-patches for my shipmates from the Persian Gulf back here to the States while in the Navy. One of my shipmates proposed during a phone-patch and she accepted! But most importantly, Ham Radio was a special bond that my dad, WA8MHO (SK), and I had. Not only were we father and son, but we were brothers in the fraternity of being fellow Amateur Radio Operators. Now that dad is gone I'm not as active as I once was.

Regards,

John, K8PJ

...

'twas the night before Christmas and all thru the house not a creature was stirring - except my TS-830S, although not visible it's final tubes all aglow . . .

Joyce mildly complained that I was a bit off frequency for her traffic net but after my QRU bid kindly regards . . .

there is something wonderful about the infrastructure that AT&T created for our country . . . but to contrast there is something crazy wonderful about an individual amateur radio operator being able to talk all over the country with his or her personal radio and antenna.

helping young and old develop or stay active mentally is a great tradition . . .

those not with the budget for travel can travel - over the airwaves.

setting up a portable station is a joy - and a challenge . . . the hound conditions and terrain often affect the tuning of a wire . . . and so it goes we trim and measure and most often find the right lengths for main wire and counterpoise so as to not need a tuner. this connects us with the many cases of resonance and impedance from automobile transmissions to atomic resonance phenomena associated with photonics emissions . . .

happy holidays David / 73 / Richard / KC8YTV

...

David,

So sorry to hear of the passing of your xyl.

Our prayers continue for you and your family.

May the Lord's peace be with you!

One of the joys for me in ham radio is just to get to know and meet so many people who also enjoy the hobby and community service.

I did set up a station onsite many years ago for two disasters.

Also enjoyed being on the staff of K2BSA (at several Boy Scout National Jamborees) and handle traffic (outgoing and incoming) for the scouts and scouters before the years of cell phones.

Still continue to enjoy being on the CW, SSB, and FM traffic nets in Ohio.

Amateur radio was so special to me during the time I stayed home because of the covid issues.

Sure hope to hear you on the air for years to come.

73,

Your Friend,

Bob K3RC

...

Hello Dave,

Ham Radio means a place in my house enabling me to reach-out to my best friends.

Ham Radio means a building a station to achieve great distances without leaving my shack.

Ham Radio means a way to demonstrate patriotism.

Robert Pusch WD8NVN

...

Dave,

I am so sorry for your loss. If there is anything I can do please let me know.

You asked about what amateur radio has meant to us:

I have had health problems for the past ten years. Then we have Covid. I have been mostly staying home and seldom go out except for the hospital, drug store, grocery store. I live alone but am not isolated. With amateur radio I can talk with and interact with people all over the country and the world. The Ohio Single Side Band Net has been especially helpful. Managing the net

gives me purpose. We operate and maintain an excellent traffic net, but we also serve as a social safety net for the net members checking in with each other on a regular basis. Making sure all are getting along alright. it helps give purpose to my life.

Best regards, Dave

Mike Kc8wh

...

My first Radio Shack.

I found a photo of my first “real” shack circa 1960, when I was 15 yr old.

I was a Novice in 1958 (I was 13 yr old) and a year later passed the General, Adv and Extra class. A Novice was a temporary license, with CW only on HF bands and XTAL control - so what about that DX100’s VFO? Note a Gonset II Communicator for 2m AM (good to about 20 miles). I think I had four crystals for transmit and would “tune the band” (144-148 MHz) after calling CQ. No one had VFO’s back then.

My receiver was a Hammarlund HQ110 - a fabulous receiver that covered the HAM bands only from 160m to 6m. I knew every part in that receiver and tweaked it with an audio filter I made from junk parts. It had a manual BFO to adjust the pitch of CW and the pitch of SSB phone.

My antennas were a Telrex 8 element 2m beam (horizontal in those days) and a 40m dipole that also could work on its 3rd harmonic or 15m. Later on, a small beam for 10/15/20m which was about the size of our roof in Merion, PA (just west of St. Joseph’s University). My neighbor used to say that “my antenna sucked up all of the TV signals”.

I learned a lot about the behavior of RF on the HF bands and had a ball working DX on CW before going to school around 6 am every day. The Heathkit DX100 did not do SSB, only CW and AM. 10m and 15m bands were open all day and a bit into the night.

The big problem in those days - TVI (Television Interference) since that DX100 had lots of harmonics up into the lower VHF channels. I even had a visit one evening from three FCC fellows who wanted to check me out after complaints of TVI (scared my mom when they asked for the “ham” in the family to come to the door). Oh, and I was cleared of any faulty transmissions. A local friend (WCAU engineer who was my Elmer) got me a Drake Low Pass Filter (50 ohm coax in/out) which cured most of the TVI (still have that RF filter). It has an 80dB attenuation of RF above 40 MHz!! But everyone in the neighborhood knew I was a “ham”.

Notice the straight key for CW - still have that key today and can (with a bit of oil on the bearing) maybe produce 25 wpm for a few minutes before my hand aches.

Fond memories,

Barry k3eui

STREIGHT KEY NIGHT

If you not going anywhere on New Years eve here is something fun to try. The ARRL Straight Key Night is coming up on January 1, 2023. This 24-hour event is not a contest; rather it is a day dedicated to celebrating our CW heritage. Participants are encouraged to get on the air and simply make enjoyable, conversational CW QSOs. The use of straight keys or bugs to send CW is preferred. There are no points scored and all who participate are winners.

Why not dust off that old straight key and give it a try. Who knows you may like it and have some fun. Straight Key night starts January 1 at 0000Z and ends at 2359Z (UTC). More details can be found at www.arrl.org/straight-key-night .

If you have traffic you need to move take it to a VHF net or if it is going out of Ohio you can take it to the OSSBN. Here is WHERE TO FIND AN HF OR VHF TRAFFIC NET IN OHIO

OHIO SINGLE SIDEBAND NET

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

OHIO HF CW TRAFFIC NETS

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

All CW net frequencies plus or minus QRM

OHIO LOCAL VHF TRAFFIC NETS

VHF NETS	NET TIMES	FREQUENCY	NET MANAGERS
BRTN	9:30 PM DAILY	145.230 PL 110.9	W8DJG

COTN	7:15 PM DAILY	146.970 PL 123.0	KV8Z
NWOHARES	6:30 PM DAILY	147.375 PL 103.5	N8TNV
TCTTN	9 PM Sun, Tues, Fri	147.015	WB8YYS
TATN	8:00 PM DAILY	146.670 PL 123.0	WG8Z

OHIO VHF TRAFFIC NETS

BRTN Burning River Traffic Net serving Cleveland and North Central Ohio
 COTN Central Ohio Traffic Net serving Columbus and Central Ohio
 NWOHARES Northwest Ohio ARES Net serving Toledo and surrounding counties
 TATN Tri-State Amateur Traffic Net
 TCTN Tri-County Traffic and Training Net serving North East Ohio

Check out the website www.arrl-ohio.org and look off to the left for the survey questions. While on the subject you should check out this website often as Tom does a good job and frequently changes his survey questions. There are also many reports for all of the Ohio Cabinet, more news and valuable links.

Thanks to your efforts, the public service tradition in Amateur Radio continues!

As time marches on it will soon be a new year – 2023. Happy New Year

Until next month, 73

David Maynard, WA3EZN
 Section Traffic Manager - Ohio
 ARRL - The National Association For Amateur Radio™
wa3ezn@arrl.net



ARES Training Update

Jim Yoder, W8ERW – ARES Data Manager

w8erw@arrl.net



The new shack, man cave is coming along. The electrician has been here and should be finished sometime later in the day. Once he is finished and I have power, I can begin to set things up and get to some operating again. Oh, I did forget about the antennas but I think I can manage to get a wire up regardless of the weather. You may wonder why a Ham of 30 plus year would hire an electrician. My XYL would never allow me to crawl around in the attic to fish wire down into the breaker panel. I'd not do so well with digging a trench outside for the line to the barn either. Better to let a professional do this job and get it done sooner than I could as well as avoid falling through the ceiling or wrenching up my old back driving a shovel.

I just finished updating the Hamshack Hotline Division Listings. We have 274 lines currently in service for Ohio Amateurs. I wish I had a total for the entire Hamshack Hotline Service, but they do not publish the number of users. Needless to say, the generous folks, fellow Hams involved with this project have put a lot of work into providing their fellow Amateurs with a valuable service. If you have not looked into it yet, I encourage you to do so. The VOIP telephony service they offer has many applications and is entirely suitable for our ARES mission. Have a look at their website, hamshackhotline.com. There is a trove of good information located in their WiKi link.

Congratulations to my friends and fellow HAMs in Seneca County who have recently concluded a technician class bringing several new licensed Amateurs into the fold. I understand several more upgraded their license also. The Seneca Radio Club will be offering an Extra Class next spring as well. Folks, this group in Seneca County with just roughly 250 Hams in the county is on fire with activity. If you get a chance, have a look at their web page and drop in for one of their meetings. You will see what good leadership and hard work can do. w8id.org

Just as I reported last month's ARES training numbers and noted the expected seasonal slowdown, I began to receive a good bunch of new training certificates. We've gained additional amateurs pursuing a Level 2 or Level 3 designation and have added additional certificates to the database. We have 10,382 certificates on file including 894 Level 1, 751 Level 2 and 222 Level 3. In addition, 70 have earned the Professional Development Series certificate and 80 have completed the Aux COM certification.

Keep those certificate submissions coming. Our Ohio Section is doing great and is being noticed. Our ARES program and the training statistics we have give great reason to be proud. My sincere thanks and appreciation go to each of you who have helped us achieve these numbers.

Questions, Comments and Funny Stories are always welcome.

Thank you,
Jim W8ERW
w8erw@arrl.net

From the Section Affiliated Clubs

Coordinator - ACC

Amanda Farone – KC3GFU

Afrone926@gmail.com

330-509-4095



Time To Update Club Information

The new year is upon us and it is a great time for Affiliated Clubs to update their information in the ARRL database. It is also a good opportunity to become an Affiliated Club if you aren't already. In my position, I spend a lot of time browsing the database to find clubs within the Ohio Section and find information on their upcoming events. When doing this, I have noticed that a large number of clubs have outdated information. Whether it be broken website links, abandoned social media pages, or severely outdated meeting locations/times. As we all know, prospective members are what keep our clubs alive and thriving. Generally, the first resource a prospective member or ham is going to use is the ARRL database to find a club in their area to get them started. If the information listed is incorrect or the club looks to be inactive, they will turn to another source. It is a good idea to get into the habit of checking this information at least once a year in January to start the year off right. Your club events, meetings, and happenings details should be easy to find to promote attendance. A few things to keep in mind when updating your information:

1. You must be logged in to the ARRL website as a member.
2. To make changes to the club listing, you must be listed as a club Officer or the club contact. Only they can make changes.
3. If you meet the two requirements above, you should see the EDIT button in the upper right corner of the club listing web page.
4. All Affiliated Clubs and Special Service Clubs need to do annual updates to maintain their status. If no updates are made for 2 years, you run the risk of being listed as an inactive club and not being shown in the club listings.

5. If you are not listed as a club Officer or the club contact, you can contact your Section Manager, your Affiliated Club Coordinator, or send an email to clubs@arrl.org and ask for help.

If you have any issues updating, please reach out to me and I will help you the best I can. As a reminder, I am here to support your club however possible.

Amanda Farone, KC3GFU

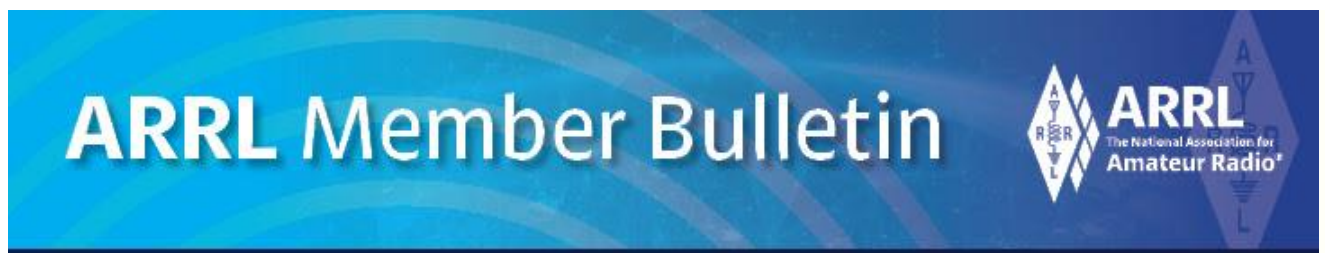
ARRL Ohio Section | Affiliated Club Coordinator

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National News

(from arrl and other sources)



December 23, 2022

Rep. Bill Johnson Introduces Bill to Eliminate Private Land Use Restrictions on Amateur Radio

Congressman Bill Johnson (OH-6) introduced a bill in the U.S. House of Representatives ([H.R.9670](#)) on Thursday, December 22, 2022, to eliminate private land use restrictions that prohibit, restrict, or impair the ability of an Amateur Radio Operator from operating and installing amateur station antennas on property subject to the control of the Amateur Radio Operator.

The exponential growth of communities subject to private land use restrictions that prohibit both the operation of Amateur Radio and the installation of amateur station antennas has significantly restricted the growth of the Amateur Radio Service. These restrictions are pervasive in private common interest residential communities such as single-family subdivisions, condominiums, cooperatives, gated communities, master-planned communities, planned unit developments, and communities governed by community associations. The restrictions have particularly impacted the

ability of Amateur Radio to fulfill its statutorily mandated duty of serving as a voluntary noncommercial emergency communications service.

Congress in 1996 directed the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to promulgate regulations (Public Law 104-104, title II, section 207, 110 Stat. 114; 47 U.S.C. 303 note) that have preempted all private land use restrictions applicable to exterior communications facilities that impair the ability of citizens to receive television broadcast signals, direct broadcast satellite services, or multichannel multipoint distribution services, or to transmit and receive wireless internet services. ARRL attempts to obtain similar relief for Amateur Radio were rejected by the FCC with a statement such relief would have to come from Congress.

ARRL Legislative Advocacy Committee Chairman John Robert Stratton, N5AUS, noted that Congress, in 1994 by Joint Resolution, S.J.Res.90/H.J.Res.199, declared that regulations at all levels of government should facilitate and encourage the effective operation of Amateur Radio from residences as a public benefit. He continued by stating that "H.R.9670, the *Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act*, is intended to fulfill that mandate and preserve the ability of Amateur Radio Operators to continue to serve as a key component of American critical communications infrastructure."

ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, and Mr. Stratton both extended on behalf of the ARRL, its Members, and the Amateur Radio community their thanks and appreciation for the leadership of Rep. Johnson in his tireless efforts to support and protect the rights of all Amateur Radio Operators.

For the full text of the bill, [click here](#) (PDF).

SB QST ARL ARLB025

Rep. Lesko Introduces Bill to Replace Symbol Rate Limit with Bandwidth Limit

Congresswoman Debbie Lesko (AZ-08) introduced a bill in the U.S. House of Representatives (H.R. 9664) on December 21, 2022, to require that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) replace the current HF digital symbol rate limit with a 2.8 kHz bandwidth limit.

After being petitioned by ARRL, The National Association for Amateur Radio, in 2013 (RM-11708) for the same relief, in 2016 the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (WT Docket No. 16-239) in which it agreed that the HF symbol rate limit was outmoded, served no purpose, and hampered experimentation. But the Commission questioned whether any bandwidth limit was needed in its place. Most amateurs, including the ARRL, objected to there being no signal bandwidth limit in the crowded HF bands given the possibility that unreasonably wide bandwidth digital protocols could be developed, and since 2016 there has been no further FCC action.

In conjunction with introducing the legislation, Congresswoman Lesko stated that "With advances in our modern technology, increased amounts of data can be put on the spectrum, so there is less of a need for a regulatory limit on symbol rates. I am pleased to introduce this important piece of legislation to update the FCC's rules to support the critical role amateur radio operators play and better reflect the capabilities of our modern radio technology."

ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, hailed introduction of the bill. Roderick stated that "the FCC's delay in removing this outdated restriction has been incomprehensible, given that the biggest effect of the delay is to require totally inefficient spectrum use on the already-crowded amateur HF bands. I hope that the Commission will act to remove this harmful limitation without waiting for the bill to be passed."

ARRL Legislative Committee Chairman John Robert Stratton, N5AUS, added that "the symbol rate limit hampers experimentation and development of more efficient HF data protocols by U.S. amateurs. For all practical purposes the field has been ceded to amateurs outside the U.S., where there is no comparable limit. Removing the restriction not only will allow U.S. amateurs to use the most efficient data protocol suitable for their purpose, but it also will promote and incentivize U.S. amateurs to experiment with and develop even more efficient protocols."

Volunteers On The Air

As announced in the January 2023 issue of *QST*, ARRL is holding the year-long operating event, Volunteers On The Air (VOTA), honoring all ARRL volunteers.

In similar fashion to the 2014 ARRL Centennial QSO Party and the 2018 International Grid Chase, this event will be exclusively driven by contacts uploaded to Logbook of The World (LoTW).

Highlights of the event include:

Earning points for contacting W1AW portable stations: There will be week-long activations of portable W1AW/# stations in all 50 states, and in several US possessions/territories, which will generate on-air activity to earn points. Each state will be activated twice. The schedule of when each state will be activated will be updated as changes and additions occur. See the Points Table at www.arrl.org/volunteers-on-the-air for the full list of points.



Contacting ARRL volunteers or members on the air: ARRL Officers, Directors, Section Managers (and their appointees), staff, and even domestic and DX members, can be contacted for points.

Using LoTW (<http://www.arrl.org/logbook-of-the-world>) as the contacts data source, the Volunteers On The Air event features W1AW activations from all 50 states (twice) and several territories during 2023. Weeks will begin on a Wednesday and end on a Tuesday. Some weeks will be shown as off weeks to avoid other major operating events.

Participants will work W1AW portable stations and ARRL volunteers to earn contact points.

Participants do not need to upload to, or participate in, LoTW. Uploads to LoTW by W1AW portable stations and by the volunteers will feed the points scoring system.

A leaderboard will be activated after the event ramps up, and certificates will be available during and after the event concludes. Once the year is completed, an annual summary will be released.

If you review the state activations list and notice your state is not yet indicating a host, and you have interest in activating your state, consider reaching out to your Division Director to express your club's interest.

For information and continued updates, visit the VOTA website at www.arrl.org/vota.

ARRL Straight Key Night (SKN) is January 1, 2023, from 0000 UTC through 2359 UTC. In the US, SKN begins on New Year's Eve. Many hams look forward to SKN as one of the highlights of their operating year. Operators participate using Morse code (CW). All you need is your favorite straight key or bug. Many participants dust off vintage radios and keys and put them back into service each year, just for SKN. SKN is not a contest, so there's no need for quick exchanges. However, all hand keys, regardless of age, are welcome. The number of contacts you make is not important. The reward is meeting many new friends as you get together on the air. Send a list of stations contacted, SKN stories and photos, and your votes for Best Fist and Most Interesting QSO to straightkey@arrl.org by January 31, 2023. More information at www.arrl.org/straight-key-night.

Club Corner

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

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

Send it to: webmaster@arrl-ohio.org



The Greater Cincinnati Amateur Radio Association (GCARA) [1936 Net](#) will host its annual AM night on Thursday December 29th, 2022, on 1936 kHz. The activities get underway with pre-net check-ins beginning at 6:30 PM EST. The official net begins at 9:00 PM EST (0200 UTC) and typically lasts two hours. The net control station is Bill Donnermeyer Jr., NM4A, located in Union, Kentucky. The net typically attracts about 65 stations from across the United States during the course of the evening. All AM check-ins are welcome. This is a great opportunity to hear some classic AM rigs, heavy metal military and broadcast AM transmitters, and state-of-the-art software defined radio AM. *Thanks to net manager Geoffrey "Geoff" Mendenhall, W8GNM, and other members of the GCARA, an ARRL Affiliated Club.*



Announcing! The Ohio ARES VHF Contest January 14, 2023



Purpose:

ARES is tasked with being able to provide communications "When all else fails." Local communication is critical and typically takes place on the VHF or UHF amateur band. In order to improve our ability to perform on these bands, Ohio Section ARES is sponsoring the ARES VHF Contest (Yeah, we know, but calling it the Ohio VHF / UHF Contest got a little long-winded). Participants in the contest are encouraged to make as many contacts as possible within the timeframe of the contest, with as many different geographical locations as the bands permit. The contest is open to all amateur operators, ARES members are strongly

encouraged to participate. How else are you going to win the ‘bragging rights’ session of your next ARES meeting?

When did you say it was?

The contest is January 14, 2023. The start time is (for those of us who sleep in) 10 AM through 4 PM Eastern. Yeah, a civilized timeframe that doesn’t rob sleep, and allows time with the family. Why, you can even watch a few cartoons in the morning!

Please register at <https://ohsimplex.org/submit-operation/>

Where you gonna be?

You may operate this contest from anywhere. There are certain benefits for venturing out from your warm, comfortable home station. EOC stations can gain extra points. Portable stations can gain even MORE extra points – that is, if your frozen fingers will still be able to operate a keyboard. Portable stations MUST use portable antennas, nothing permanently attached...kind of like Field Day on ice. We are not going with any mobile operation this time. The image of a bunch of vehicles running around with portable towers, 150 pounds of antenna hardware and an occasional grounding anchor is best left to the ARRL contesters.

Da Bands – a la’ Mode

Because local emergency communication takes place primarily on the two meter and 70 centimeter bands, the contest is limited to those two bands. Within each band, we will have these modes: FM Simplex, “Everything else” Simplex; DIGITAL simplex contacts will make up a third mode on each band. Contacts with a station count once per mode- if you can talk the other guy into abandoning “his frequency” and meeting you on SSB or CW, more power to ya! NO REPEATER CONTACTS WILL COUNT. If you get bored, you certainly are welcome to chat amongst yourselves on repeaters, or simplex, or cell phones, or smoke signals.

Da Contacts

The goal is to contact as many different stations in as many different counties as possible. You can make as many overall contacts as you like, they will then be multiplied by the number of counties you’ve reached. Extra points will be available for contacting an EC, AEC, DEC, ADEC, ASEC or SEC. Pretty simple- any more complex and we’ll confuse the scorekeepers.

Da Score

Each FM Simplex contact counts as 1 point.

Each non- FM simplex contact counts as 1 point.

Each digital simplex contact counts as 1 point. (Detect a pattern here?)

Contact with EC, AEC, DEC, ADEC, ASEC or SEC adds 10 points.

Contact with an EOC or with a portable station adds 5 points.

Operation from an EOC add 200 points to your total contact score.

Operation from a portable location add 100 points to your total contact score.

Total contact score (all bands/modes added together) will be multiplied by the total number of counties you contacted.

To name a few

Da Logs

Please use any of the appropriate computer logging programs, paper dupe sheets, a well worn slide rule or rusty abacus. Just keep all that to yourself, we can't find anyone with the time to go through all the detail contacts.

For more information and log submission, please visit <https://ohsimplex.org>

If you need an antenna, here is a J-Pole that you can make: <https://w8wky.org/simple-j-pole-antenna/>

VE Sessions

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

CARS

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

Dayton Amateur Radio Association (DARA)

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

Huber Heights Amateur Radio Club

Huber heights amateur radio club does ARRL VE testing the second Saturday of each even numbered month. Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec. 9:30-11:00 For more information contact Jim Storms – AB8YK at ab8yk@hotmail.com

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

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

Please pre-register at www.milfordhamradio.org

Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society (NOARS) VE sessions are held the first Saturday of odd-numbered months at 10 AM in the North Olmsted Library, 27403 Lorain Rd., North Olmsted. Registration is preferred, but walk-ins are welcome. For more information or to register, contact Elaine, KC8FOS at ewilkinson1951@gmail.com.

Portage County Amateur Radio Service (PCARS)

The first Saturday of every even numbered month -10 am – at the PCARS club site in Ravenna. Please visit the PCARS web site and check out the information about VE testing in the latest newsletter at www.portcars.org .

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact me at KB8UUZ@gmail.com

Important Links

ARRL Home: www.arrl.org

Find an ARRL Affiliated Club: www.arrl.org/clubs

Find your ARRL Section: www.arrl.org/sections

Find a License Class in your area: www.arrl.org/class

Find a License Exam in your area: www.arrl.org/exam

Find a Hamfest or Convention: www.arrl.org/hamfests

Email ARRL Clubs: clubs@arrl.org

The Ohio Section Youth Net



Youth Net

When: The second Sunday of every month at 7:30 PM EST

Where: The K8IV repeater located in Kent, Ohio (Echolink node K8BF-L) RF: 146.895 Mhz with PL 118.8

Who: Any licensed amateur radio operator who wishes to participate. Priority will be given to youth stations and those located in Ohio.

The purpose of this net is to encourage youth activity in amateur radio and to help new hams get more comfortable on the air.

*****Next Net is a ZOOM Meeting Sunday January 8th *****

Thomas Sly is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Ohio Section Youth Net ZOOM Meetin

Time: Jan 8, 2023 07:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87184685005?pwd=NEN2TGd1T0V5dVBtWXFacnRsSVdvUT09>

DX This Week – Goals

Bill AJ8B (aj8b@arrl.net, @AJ8B, or www.aj8b.com)
CWOPs Member #1567

I am very excited about 2023. 2022 is quickly ending. I hope that you had a restful Christmas and were able to catch up with friends and family. By chance, did you get a new dipole, HT, rig, or accessory under the tree? Let me know.

I really enjoyed working with you this year and I hope you get some DX tidbits that are worthwhile each week. I received more email



this year than ever before and it really helps me to keep providing the information you like to read.

The first section below is about a new program that you can enter and win an Icom IC-7300. The program is **The DX Mentor Recognition** program, and you can read all about it below.

The second section is on my own personal goals. Do you have some operating goals? How did you do in achieving them?

The final section is my own challenge to you. Give it a read and consider it.

A big Thank-You to W3UR, Bernie, for allowing me to reprint all of the DX news that I provide each week. If you wonder what his newsletter is like, you can get a two-week trial by going to <https://www.dailydx.com/free-trial-request/>. I really can't imagine being serious about chasing DX without Bernie's help. You don't have to tell him that AJ8B sent you, but it is always appreciated!

Finally, a big Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to the Ohio Section Journal editor, Tom Sly, WB8LCD. A great supporter of Ham Radio, a great editor, and an all-around good guy. Can't wait to share a bottle of "Pliny the Elder" with him in 2023.

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SWODXA Announces the DX Mentor Recognition Program

The Southwest Ohio DX Association (SWODXA) in conjunction with ICOM® America, Inc. is announcing a program to recognize and reward amateur radio operators who have played a key role in helping other amateur radio operators achieve DXCC. The purpose of this program is not to bring recognition to those that achieve DXCC but rather to recognize those amateurs that assist others in achieving their first 100 confirmed entities.

There is an application form and a judging committee staffed by SWODXA representatives and a representative from both the NCDXF and INDEXA. Those amateurs receiving the mentoring must be under 30 years of age during the calendar year for the award. The intent of targeting this audience is to attract and retain those amateurs that are most likely to remain engaged in the hobby after achieving DXCC.

SWODXA is uniquely positioned to bestow this award at the annual SWODXA DX Dinner®. The DX Dinner, held annually in conjunction with the Dayton Hamvention®, is arguably the largest gathering of active DXers in the world. We present the DXpedition of the Year Award®, the DXpeditioner of the Year Award, when applicable, and host the DX Forum there. CQ Magazine announces their CQ DX Hall of Fame inductees at the DX dinner as well.

As a technology leader in our hobby, there is no better partner to promote and celebrate this award than ICOM. Ray, N9JA, has been a constant promoter of ham radio, even coining the phrase "For the Love of Ham Radio". ICOM has selflessly supported amateur radio over the years and is taking this opportunity to promote the mentors of DX. Thanks to ICOM for their support!

More information and the entry form can be found at www.swodxa.org/DX-Mentor-Program, by emailing thedxmentor@gmail.com or by calling 1-513-855-3980.

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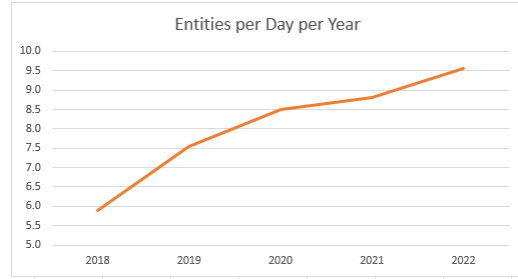
My Elmer (and OM), K8DWE (SK), convinced me early on that the only person that I had to compete with on the bands was myself! I would never have the biggest station, best antennas, most power, etc. so I had to set goals for myself. During my career at HP, I learned about *stretch* goals. Most people set goals for themselves, but they either forget about them or make them too easy to attain. Additionally, you must revisit your goals frequently and set up procedures and practices that support your goals. What does all of this have to do with DX? I took these teachings to heart years ago and set several short term and long term goals. I review them annually and then monthly. I keep an eye out for things that can help me achieve these goals and implement those things when I can. My 2023 goals include:

- Long Term Goals
 - o Achieving DXCC Honor Roll
 - o Exceeding 2,000 on the ARRL DXCC Challenge roster
- Short Term Annual Goals
 - o Participate in the 8 major contests (CQWW DX RTTY, CQWW DX SSB, CQWW DX CW, CQWW WPX SSB, CQWW WPX CW, ARRL 160, CQ 160, and the 8th Area QSO party.)
 - o Exceed my previous years' score in the annual CQ Marathon.
 - o Increase my 160M DXCC count
 - o Work at least 5 entities every day via any mode (Next Section)

What are your goals for 2023? I thought this would be a great topic as we are getting close to the end of the year. If you don't have any goals, but like to chase DX, I would ask you to consider participating in the CQ Marathon DX chase. One of the great things about the award is that confirmations are not required. However, you need to be honest!

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The AJ8B challenge: Since 2018, I have set a goal for myself. It has been to work an average of 5 entities or more each day. This is any mode and/or any band. The results are shown in the graph to the right.



For the first 2 years, most of the QSOs were CW or Digital. Since then, I have been able to add a few SSB QSOs each day. It keeps me active and involved and gives me a sense of accomplishment. At first, it was kind of a chore, but over time my band slots have been filling up, my DXCC Challenge count has improved, and I have added an additional New One. All good things.

A side benefit is that I am comfortable with my rig. Do you know what all the dials, buttons, or menus do? I am getting better at it.

Give this a try and keep me informed on your progress.

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

FT#W - Crozet Islands - F6CUK, Thierry, is on his way to Ile de la Possession (Possession Island) in the Crozet Islands. Crozet is number three on the most wanted list at Club Log (Club Log's Most Wanted DXCC List). The ETA for the ship, Marion Dufresne, to arrive is this afternoon, today, December 19th, with landing tomorrow. "Afternoon" in the Indian Ocean is here already so the ship could be offshore now. Fog is an issue, but everything seems on track otherwise. Many serious DXers are looking forward to working Thierry on several new bands for the DXCC Challenge Award. Newer DXers need Crozet for an all-time new one, any band, any mode.

VK9/N - Norfolk Island - ZL1MTO, Marcelo, will have the VK9MTO callsign when he visits there on holiday December 29 to January 5. He is taking along his ICOM IC-718 and some portable antennas. He says most of his time will be spent enjoying the island and "taking it easy." His last visit was in 2019. He notes that VK9DX is a resident of the island. Marcelo expects to do some SSB and FT8 on 20, 15 and 10, "most likely between 0600-1100Z." <https://www.qrz.com/db/VK9MTO>

ZC4 - UK Sovereign Bases of Cyprus - 2M1DHG, Garry (aka VP8DLB), is back at ZC4GR and has been QRV for the past week or so with reported activity on 40, 30 and 10 meters FT8. QSL via EB7DX.

The following was posted on the 3Y0J FaceBook page today.....

[Kenneth Opskar3Y0J - The Bouvet island DXpedition](#)

Today we reached 100% funding of our \$715,000 budget! The 3YØJ fundraising has been extremely successful and one month before we go to Bouvet, we have secured 100% financing.

This is quite amazing, and we want to thank all our upfront supporters!

- Thank you to all individuals that have trusted us with their hard-earned money and supported us in our mission to activate the rare #2 DXCC Bouvet.
- Thank you to all clubs and foundations that unconditionally have supported us!
- Thank you to all the manufacturers who generously have donated equipment to us at NO cost! Without the manufacturers we would simply not be able to go to Bouvet

We are quite humbled receiving all this upfront support – and we’re really thankful seeing the trust in our team! It is only with upfront donations that such DXpeditions can take place. We have prepared the best we can, and we are determined to do our best to fulfill all your expectation and make a great show at Bouvet!

Each team member has paid up to \$25,000 dollar in operator fee and other expenses. Some of these expenses are not shown in any DXpedition budget but are paid by the operators to make this DXpedition happen. Not to mention the huge amount of time we have put into this. Despite we have reached 100% funding, please feel free to continue supporting us if you want to help us reducing the operator fee.

There are still advantages to you as a DXer to support us upfront. Only upfront supporters will receive the benefits of being prioritized during the QSL/LoTW process.

73, 3YØJ team

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CONTEST CORNER

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

Check out the WA7BNM Contest Calendar page

(<https://www.contestcalendar.com/>) and CQ Magazine for more contests or more details. I also have a comprehensive list that can be imported to your calendar at www.aj8b.com/files

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

Thanks!

Date(s)	Event	Info
Dec. 26	DARC Xmas Contest	https://www.darc.de/?id=820
Dec. 30	YOTA Contest	www.ham-yota.com/contest
Dec. 31-Jan. 1	Bogor Old and New Contest	https://contest.orari-bogor.org
Jan. 1	AGB New Year Snowball Contest	https://tinyurl.com/2bhxz96n
Jan. 1	AGCW Happy New Year Contest	www.agcw.de/contest/hnyc/hnyc-engl
Jan. 1	AGCW VHF/UHF Contest	www.agcw.de/contest/vhf-uhf
Jan. 1	ARRL Straight Key Night	www.arrl.org/straight-key-night
Jan. 1	QRP ARCI New Year's Day Sprint	http://qrpccontest.com
Jan. 1	SARTG New Year RTTY Contest	www.sartg.com
Jan. 4	UKEICC 80 Meter Contest SSB	https://ukeicc.com/80m-rules.php
Jan. 4	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity	www.ft8activity.eu/index.php/en
Jan. 7	PODSX PSKFest	http://bit.ly/2Qv3wkA
Jan. 7-8	Original QRP Contest	www.qrpcc.de/contestrules/index.html
Jan. 7-8	WW PMC Contest	http://bit.ly/2y2QWCc
Jan. 7-8	ARRL RTTY Roundup	www.arrl.org/rtty-roundup
Jan. 7-8	EUCW 160m Contest	www.eucw.org/eu160.html
Jan. 8	DARC 10-Meter Contest	http://bit.ly/2pCiRo1
Jan. 11	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity	www.ft8activity.eu/index.php/en
Jan. 14	YB DX Contest SSB	https://ybdxcontest.com
Jan. 14-15	Feld Hell "Low Down" Sprint	https://bit.ly/3eKxi2f
Jan. 14-15	North American CW QSO Party	http://ncjweb.com/naqp
Jan. 14-15	UBA PSK63 Prefix Contest	http://bit.ly/2Oi8fsa
Jan. 18	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity	www.ft8activity.eu/index.php/en
Jan. 21-22	Hungarian DX Contest	www.ha-dx.com/en/contest-rules
Jan. 21-22	North American SSB QSO Party	http://ncjweb.com/naqp
Jan. 21-23	ARRL January VHF Contest	www.arrl.org/january-vhf
Jan. 25	UKEICC 80 Meter Contest CW	https://ukeicc.com/80m-rules.php
Jan. 25-26	AWA Linc Cundall Memorial Contest	https://bit.ly/3iDUm34
Jan. 27-29	CQWW 160M CW Contest	http://cq160.com/rules.htm
Jan. 28-29	AWA Linc Cundall Memorial Contest	https://bit.ly/3iDUm34
Jan. 28-29	BARTG RTTY Sprint	http://bartg.org.uk/wp/contests
Jan. 28-29	REF CW Contest	https://tinyurl.com/p4bbva92
Jan. 28-29	UBA SSB Contest	http://bit.ly/W0gziE
Jan. 28-29	Winter Field Day	www.winterfieldday.com
Feb. 11-12	CQWW WPX RTTY Contest	www.cqwxprtty.com
Feb. 24-26	CQWW 160M SSB Contest	http://cq160.com/rules.htm

ARLD051 DX news

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by JG7PSJ, The Daily DX, 425 DX News, DXNL, Contest Corral from QST and the ARRL Contest Calendar and WA7BNM web sites. Thanks to all.

SENEGAL, 6W. Earl, WA3DX is QRV as 6W1/WA3DX from Dakar, 6W6/WA3DX from Mbao, and 6W9/WA3DX from Kaolack and Marloj Island. Activity is on 40 to 10 meters using SSB and FT8. QSL direct to home call.

PHILIPPINES, DU. Pete, VK4CCV is QRV as VK4CCV/DU7 from Cebu. Activity is on all bands and modes. This is a temporary call sign. QSL to home call.

CANARY ISLANDS, EA8. Frank, DL2GRF is QRV as EA8/DL2GRF until January 14, 2023. Activity is on 20 to 10 meters using QRP power. QSL to home call.

FRENCH GUIANA, FY. Pierre-Jean, F4GPK will be QRV as FY/F4GPK from Kourou from December 26 to January 8, 2023. QSL direct to home call.

GRENADA, J3. Mike, M0MDS is QRV as J38TB from True Blue Bay until December 30. Activity is on 40, 20, and 17 meters using CW, SSB, and FT8. QSL to home call.

OGASAWARA ISLANDS, JD1. Harry, JG7PSJ will be QRV as JD1BMH from Chichijima Island, IOTA AS-031, from December 24 to January 2, 2023. Activity will be 40 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, and RTTY. QSL direct to home call.

AUSTRIA, OE. Members of the ARCDXC Club are QRV with special call 4U1XMAS until December 31. QSL via UA3DX.

CURACAO, PJ2. Heli, DD0VR and Bigi, DE3BWR are QRV as PJ2/DD0VR until January 5, 2023. Activity is on 20, 15, and 10 meters using SSB, FT8, and FT4. QSL to DD0VR.

SLOVENIA, S5. Special event station S523PMC is QRV until January 8, 2023 to promote the PMC Contest. QSL via bureau.

COSTA RICA, TI. Joe, VE3BW is QRV as TI7/VE3BW from Las Villas del Guayabo until January 3, 2023. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, and FT8. QSL to home call.

BELIZE, V3. Oliver, DJ5QW is QRV as V31TX until March 2023. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters using CW. QSL to home call.

NORFOLK ISLAND, VK9N. Marcelo, ZL1MTO will be QRV as VK9MTO from December 29 to January 5, 2023. Activity will be holiday style on 20, 15, and 10 meters using SSB, FT8, and FT4, generally between 0600 to 1100z. QSL to home call.

INDIA, VU. Members of Team POTA India are QRV with special call AU2SOA until December 31. Activity is on the HF bands using SSB, SSTV, and FT8. QSL via operators' instructions.

ROMANIA, YO. Special event call sign YR1400VT is QRV until June 30, 2023 to draw attention to the long distance Transilvanica trail. QSL direct.

ALBANIA, ZA. Ron, NS5K is QRV as ZA15K while doing missionary work. Activity is in his spare time on 40 and 20 meters using SSB. QSL to home call.

UK SOVEREIGN BASES ON CYPRUS, ZC4. Garry, 2M1DHG is QRV as ZC4GR and has been QRV for the past week or so with reported activity on 40, 30 and 10 meters FT8. QSL via EB7DX.

The DARC Christmas Contest, QCX CW Challenge, ICWC Medium Speed CW Test, OK1WC CW Memorial, Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest, RTTYOPS Weeksprint, SKCC CW Sprint, QRP 40-Meter CW Fox Hunt, Phone Weekly Test, A1Club AWT, CWops Test, Mini-Test 40, Mini-Test 80 and the CW QRS Xmas Activity runs from December 26 to 31.

Please see December 2022 QST, page 59 and the ARRL and WA7BNM Contest web sites for details.

Upcoming Hamfests

We **DO** have some hamfests scheduled for 2023!! Yes, take a good look at the list, it's growing every day!





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

Ohio Hamfests



2023

01/15/2023 - [Sunday Creek Amateur Radio Federation Hamfest](#)
Location: Shade, OH
Sponsor: Sunday Creek Amateur Radio Federation
Website: [QRZ KC8AAV](#)
[Learn More](#)

03/11/2023 - [MOVARC Hamfest](#)
Location: Bidwell, OH 45614, OH
Sponsor: Mid-Ohio Valley Amateur Radio Club
[Learn More](#)

03/19/2023 - [Toledo Mobile Radio Association Hamfest and Computer Fair](#)
Location: Perrysburg, OH
Sponsor: Toledo Mobile Radio Association
Website: <http://www.tmrahamradio.org>
[Learn More](#)

04/15/2023 - [Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club Hamfest](#)
Location: Cuyahoga Falls, OH
Sponsor: Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
Website: <http://www.cfarc.org>
[Learn More](#)

<p>05/13/2023 - 05/17/2023 RV Radio Network Location: Berlin, Ohio, OH Type: ARRL Operating Specialty Convention Sponsor: RV Radio Network Learn More</p>	<p>05/19/2023 - 05/21/2023 Dayton Hamvention Location: Xenia, OH Sponsor: Dayton Amateur Radio Association Website: http://Hamvention.org Learn More</p>
<p>07/08/2023 - Mansfield Trunkfest 2023 Location: Mansfield, OH Sponsor: Intercity Amateur Radio Club Website: http://iarc.club Learn More</p>	<p>07/16/2023 - Van Wert Hamfest Location: Van Wert, OH Sponsor: Van Wert Amateur Radio Club Website: http://w8fy.org Learn More</p>
<p>08/12/2023 - Cincinnati Hamfest Location: Owensville , OH Sponsor: Milford ARC Website: https://CincinnatiHamfest.org Learn More</p>	

OHIO'S



HO, HO, HO. No I'm not speaking of another popular hobby many amateur radio operators have-model trains. I'm speaking of Christmas. Personally I think of Christmas as the most wonderful holiday we observe during the year. Thanksgiving is great, but there's something about being with family and friends at this special time of the year. There's also something joyful and peaceful about sitting in a candlelight church service on Christmas Eve celebrating the birth of the reason for the season.

Several South 40 region clubs have recently held their Christmas meetings, dinners and elections. I'm looking forward to hearing reports from those clubs about how their respective events turned out and be able to share them with our readers. Remember this column covers the activities of clubs South of Interstate 70 plus the clubs in the West Virginia and Kentucky counties bordering Ohio. If you do not see something from your local club feel free to forward information to the email address at the end of the column.

Members and friends of the **Portsmouth RC** gathered at the Gathering Place in Wheelersburg on the 17th for an excellent catered meal and the traditional fund raising gift auction.

It appears the **Athens County ARA** has the honor of wrapping up the club celebrations with their annual dinner on December 20. According to President Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, it will be at the Applebee's Restaurant on East State Street in Athens. Things start at 5:30 with club furnished hors d'oeuvres with meals ordered from the menu at 6. During the evening the winner of the Club's NC8V Memorial Trophy will be announced. The award is presented to the member achieving the highest score during the recent ten meter contest.

The **Hocking Valley ARA** held its annual Christmas dinner on December 6 at the Antioch Alliance Church in Enterprise with an attendance of long time members and some newer hams in attendance. Elections were held with W8TUZ, Roman Wilshanetsky being elected President. The Vice President is Dave Kunkler, KD8PSB and Bill Hopstetter, W8LGX returns as Secretary. Roy Vickers, KC8TFW, is a new Trustee.

Comments from **Scioto Valley ARA** President Jesse Stanley, KD8CHP prove their members like to eat. Jesse says 24 people showed up at the recent social at the Scioto Ribber in Portsmouth and 18 made it to the Club's Christmas dinner. Jesse says the Club anticipates holding another social at the Ribber in March.

The **Tri-State ARA** held its annual holiday dinner at the West Virginia Museum of Radio and Technology on this past Tuesday evening, December 13. There was a good attendance of members and guests. The main event feature was an outstanding buffet style meal prepared by the Killen Family.

On the 13th **Highland ARA** President Pat Hagen conducted his final official duty as President serving as the Master of Ceremonies for the Club's annual Christmas Dinner gathering. Needless to say, the highlight of the year was being named the Dayton Hamvention Club of the Year.

Secretary/Treasurer Kathy Levo, N8ZNR, says 83 made passes through the dinner line. Outgoing President Hagen introduced the new officers for the coming year. They are Ken Lightner, KE8JEF as President and John Willis, KE8JEM, as Vice President. Kathy Levo, N8ZNR, continues as Secretary/Treasurer. Trustees will be Tom Archibald, K8TDA; Dan Carruthers and Richie Hagen, N8CUB. Great Lakes Vice Director Scott Yonally, N8SY, also delivered comments.

Last time out we commented about the **Clinton County ARA**'s participation in the recent National Weather Services SkyWARN Recognition Day from the Wilmington NWS Office. Now Ted Jacobson, W8KVK, has provided us with a recap of the activity through the W8W special event station at the Charleston, WV NWS Office. Among those most interesting statistics it shows a total of 306 HF contacts made with 4 of those on VHF. Another interesting item was the contact with 16 other NWS stations during the day. Although the majority of contacts happened with US stations, seven countries entered the logbook.

The wheels of justice and insurance companies move slow according to **Highland ARA** incoming Vice President John Willis, KE8JEM. John's comments refer to getting repairs made to the large bell in the front of the Highland County Historical Museum. Therefore repairs to the cradle holding the bell (which was recently struck by a vehicle trying to allude law enforcement) may not be made in time for the bell to toll in the New Year. However if he has to personally strike the bell with a mallet, he says the annual tolling of the bell to usher in the New Year will take place. Such action will allow the annual **Highland ARA**'s New Year's Eve Net to take place. Traditionally the bell ringing announces the start of the New Year and like a church bell can be heard throughout the City. For several years HARA has broadcast the ringing over the Hillsboro and Greenfield repeaters signaling the start of an "Ault Lang Syne" Net once the ringing ceases. During the Net amateurs from anywhere within the footprint of either repeater is welcome to check in. Once the Net concludes QSOs lasting into the wee hours of the New Year begin. Stations outside of the repeater footprints who cannot get into the Net are welcome to send emails letting the Club know where the broadcast was being heard. Send the reports to highlandara@gmail.com.

The **Hocking Valley ARC** will meet on January 3 at Logan's Hocking County EOC beginning at 7 PM.

An annual event I usually participate in is the Ohio VHF+ Test. This six hour event is held each year to inspire amateurs to make emergency type simplex contacts using as many UHF/VHF modes as possible during those six hours. It is also a splendid opportunity for one to test their personal station's performance. And for those who rely on ham radio as a communications vehicle during an emergency, it gives them a chance to determine if that HT will do what they hope. This year's event starts at 10 AM on January 14 and will run until 4 PM. Fixed stations and mobiles are invited to participate. The rules, suggested frequencies and more can be found at www.ohsimplex.org. Several videos from previous years can be found on YouTube. A 2020 contact with yours truly as a rover even shows up on one!

Highland ARA President-elect Ken Lightner, KE8JEL, reminds all amateurs in the Highland County area of the Club kicking off the new year with the monthly Brunch Bunch gathering on

Saturday, January 14. It starts at 10 AM at the Hillsboro Burger King which is in front of Rural King on North High Street.

A Technician license class sponsored by the **Athens County ARA** will begin on January 16 and be held each Monday through March 20 at the Red Cross Building in Athens. The classes will run from 7 until 9 each week. There is no fee for the class but preregistration is requested to Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, at 740-541-0972 or n8suz@arrl.net. An ARRL VE session will be on March 20.

On January 28 and 29 the **OH-KY-IN Radio Society** will operate from the Harvest Home Park and the **Athens County ARA** will operate from the Red Cross Building in Athens during the annual Winter Field Day. I'm ending this weeks column with another joyous note. It seems Santa, by way of the FCC, left a present under the tree for David Hamblin. Instead of a lump of coal or another pair of socks, it contained a Technican Amateur Radio License in David's name. According to it the Williamsburg resident is now KE8WDH. What a great present that can give a lifetime of joy and adventure.

On Christmas Eve in 1906 wireless operators used to the dots and dashes of spark gap produced Morse Code were suddenly surprised hearing the a human voice and violin music in their headphones. It was on that date Canadian Reginald Fessenden is credited with making the the first radio broadcast heard by ships in the Atlantic and wireless operators along the Atlantic coast. From a transmitter in Brant Rock, Massachusetts Fessenden gave a short speech and announcement and then played a phonograph recording of a piece of Handel music. He then played "Oh Holy Night" on a violin and then read passages from the Bible. A reproduction of the broadcast can be found on YouTube. An interesting sideline to the story is that his wife was to have read the Bible passages, but froze and Fessenden himself had to read the passages. Thus the first case of "mic fright" occurred that night. He also did a broadcast on New Year's Eve.

We are knocking on the door of what is one of the most joyous times of the year. However it also is a time when that door is opened it is met with sadness and depression. For some it is the first time not to have a spouse or children at home. For some health, age, job responsibilities or financial reasons keep them from traveling or being with friends and family. Hams are known as communicators. So why not put down that microphone, shove the keyboard or key aside and pick up the phone to give that ham you haven't heard from for some time a jingle. Even better, pick up a pen and drop them a note or a Christmas card. And even better yet, take a few moments from your so-called "busy" day and make a visit or invite them to meet you somewhere for coffee or something to eat. Any of these suggestions might turn out to be the best Christmas gift you could give someone as well as yourself.

Until next time stay warm, healthy, safe and radio-active.

And in the meantime N8ZNR (Kathy), K9DOG (Pete the beagle) and I wish each of you a most happy and Merry Christmas.

Print an Official or Unofficial Copy of Your Amateur Radio License

(By Anthony Luscre, K8ZT)

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

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



[Click here to download the instructions](#)

One Question Questionnaire

Hey Gang,

Last weeks question **Did you use LoTW at your station?**

- A) YES?**
- B) NO?**



Survey Says A) 52 (56.52%) Yes, and B) 40 (40%) No.

The new question is:

DID YOU LOOSE COMMERCIAL POWER AT YOUR LOCATION BETWEEN 12/22 AND 12/26?

A) YES?

B) NO?

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

Nex week I'll announce December's handbook winner! Get your entry in prior to December 29th. And Good luck!

The "Handbook Giveaway" for the month of November has everything back on track. The RED arrow will appear on the page again, you need to enter to win. Good Luck to all!

V.E. Test Sessions

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



Final... Final

I want to wish you all the blessings of Christmas. I speak often of the "Magic of Radio", but I assure you that the "Magic of Christmas" will have an even greater impact on your life.

I truly believe that Amateur Radio is the "Greatest Hobby" in the world! The science of radio and electronics is absolutely fascinating. To many of us, especially the area of science which studies radio wave propagation, including the effects of the Sun and space. As we QSO with others around the world, geography comes into play, learning where other people are, about their spot on the earth as well as their customs and languages. There are many parts to the hobby which are purely mechanical – setting up a station, antenna support structures, even down to the cases and controls on our equipment. Mathematics has it's place in everything I've mentioned so far. Finally, and most importantly, it comes down to the people. There are an awful lot of totally awesome people in this hobby!

As we move into 2023, the year has been declared to be “The Year of the Volunteer”. When you look at part 97 – we are *by definition* – a volunteer service:

Under Part 97.1 Basis and Purpose:

The rules and regulations in this part are designed to provide an amateur radio service having a fundamental purpose as expressed in the following principles:

(a) Recognition and enhancement of the value of the amateur service to the public as a ***voluntary noncommercial*** communication service, particularly with respect to providing emergency communications.

Under Part 97.3 Definitions:

(4) ***Amateur service***. A radiocommunication service for the purpose of self-training, intercommunication and technical investigations carried out by amateurs, that is, duly authorized persons interested in radio technique ***solely with a personal aim and without pecuniary interest***.

We’re always there when bad things happen and communications in the normal sense are not available. Perhaps our role has changed somewhat, but we always have been, and continue to be available to serve where needed. Through ARES and many other emergency communications entities (SKYWARN for one example), we have a thoughtful and organized way of coming together to serve the needs of the public as necessary. Thank you all for the service you provide.

I want to humbly ask you for more. More of your time, involvement, and efforts as a volunteer in the service of ***AMATEUR RADIO***. Let’s start with the simple things: get on the air! Believe it or not, that’s something extremely simple that not every ham does! How many hams do you know – let me rephrase that – How many people do you know (or maybe it’s you) who have a license that has been basically “parked” for the last 5, 10, 20 or more years? **GET THEM ON THE AIR!** Something as simple as getting on the air and occupying our band allocations will go a long way to help us maintain those allocations when others come along who want them!

OK. That was pretty simple wasn’t it. But, we’re not done. We need volunteers to be VE’s and teachers. We need folks to be Presidents, Vice-Presidents, Secretaries, Treasurers of local clubs! No more of this “I’ll do it if no-one else will” attitude. Step up and serve your club with an attitude of I’M the best guy (guy – non-specific term meaning most anybody) for the job and I’m going to do the job better than it’s ever been done before! And don’t forget, all your clubs have a whole bunch of non-elected positions and jobs that need to be done. Step up and do them! Even if you have to do more than one, make it happen for your club.

You’ll be hearing a lot more about volunteering and clubs in the Ohio Section. I hope you’ll join me in making 2023 one of the best years for Amateur Radio *ever!*

And, before I sign off, VOTA starts next week! Get your butt in the chair, and get on the air!

73,

Tom WB8LCD

“Swap & Shop” on the website

Hey Gang,

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

Back Issues of the PostScript and Ohio Section Journal

Hey, did you know that PostScript and Ohio Section Journal (OSJ) are archived on the website? You can go back and look at any edition simply by clicking:

<http://arrl-ohio.org/news/index.html>



Ohio Section Cabinet

Section Manager – Tom Sly, WB8LCD	Section Emergency Coordinator – Stan Broadway, N8BHL
Technical Coordinator – Jeff Kopcak, K8JTK	Section Traffic Manager – David Maynard, WA3EZN

State Government Liaison – Bob Winston, W2THU	Affiliated Clubs Coordinator – Amanda Farone, KC3GFU
Section Youth Coordinator – Anthony Lascre, K8ZT	Public Information Coordinator – John Ross, KD8IDJ

Chit – Chat, and All That!

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



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



You can always “Opt-Out” at any time if you feel this is not what you were expecting. It’s fun and very informative. All of your favorite past newsletters are now archived too.

You can go back at any time and read them. Just go to: <http://arrl-ohio.org/news/>

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



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

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