



*Ohio
Section
Journal*

December 2023

- [From the Technical Coordinator](#)
- [From the Section Emergency Coordinator](#)
- [From the Public Information Coordinator](#)
- [From the Section Youth Coordinator](#)
- [From the Section Traffic Manager](#)
- [National News](#)
- [From the Affiliated Clubs Coordinator](#)
- [One Question Questionnaire](#)
- [Club Corner](#)
- [DX This Week](#)
- [Final.. Final..](#)



From the Technical Coordinator
Jeff Kopcak – K8JTK TC
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Hey gang,

Finally, a step in the right direction allowing ham radio to modernize - being able to use and develop new data communication methods and have greater flexibility encouraging experimentation.

Last month, an announcement [from the ARRL](#) recapped a ruling made by the FCC to amend the Amateur Radio Service rules. Commissioners voted

unanimously to remove the symbol rate (baud rate) restriction replacing it with a 2.8 kHz bandwidth limit on the HF bands.

[Émile Baudot](#) was an engineer and inventor of the first means of digital communication called the Baudot code in 1870. Instead of using dots and dashes as used in Morse Code, he invented a system of bits to represent each character when transmitting messages over a telegraph line. The “baud” unit was named after him. Baud is the number of symbols transmitted per second across a medium. Baudot’s system allowed for multiple transmissions over a single line.

In modern electronics and computing, baud is often associated with serial communication. Most of us remember or have used serial ports. Stating a serial port operates at “9600 baud” means that serial port can transfer up to 9600 bits per second.

Telephone modems, such as those used to access BBS’ and early Internet, had baud rates that matched bit rates. As technology developed and faster communications were demanded, modems used multiple signaling events. The [V.32 ITU-T standard](#) allowed for data transfers at 9.6 kbit/s or 4.8 kbit/s at 2,400 baud. This means there were 4 or 2 signaling events respectively occurring at 2,400 baud to achieve the transfer rate.

In their decision, the FCC stated “baud rate limits were adopted in 1980, when the Commission amended the rules to specify ASCII as a permissible digital code. The Commission adopted the limits so that ASCII signals would occupy no more spectrum than traditional radioteletypewriter signals associated with the use of Baudot code ([FCC Amends Amateur Radio Rules for Greater Flexibility](#)).”

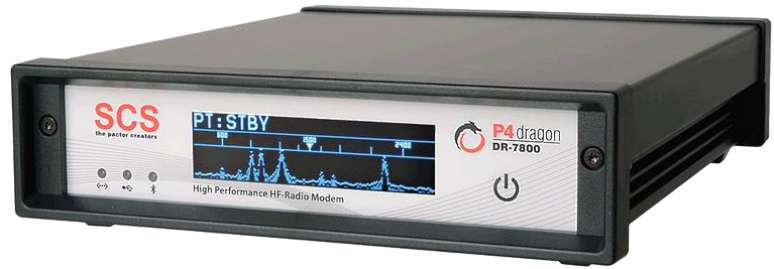
Hams are (for the time being) limited to 300 bauds on the 2200m-12m bands. 1200 bauds on 10m. 19.6 kilobauds on VHF (6 & 2m) not exceeding 20 kHz. 56 kilobauds not exceeding 100 kHz on 220 and 440. A symbol rate is not specified for 33cm and above ([97.305](#)).

The ARRL’s petition asked the commission to delete all references to a symbol rate and establish a bandwidth limit of 2.8 kHz for data emissions below 29.700 MHz (2200 and 630-meter excluded). FCC commented that amateur radio can still play a vital role in emergency communications, but is hindered by current baud rate limitations. This ruling removes the old standard of ‘how much data can be sent per second’ replacing it with ‘how much data can be packed into 2.8 kHz of RF spectrum’ on the HF bands. 2.8 kHz occupies the same bandwidth as common side-band (voice) signals seen on HF bands. Even though sections permit wider transmissions (AM, FM in portions of 10m), the limit is imposed uniformly across all HF bands. 2.8 kHz was decided upon because placing the limit below 2.8 would preclude some modes that are already legal.

Radios that do not have a specific “digital” mode setting use SSB when transmitting digital signals from a computer or other device. Radios capable of SSB can be used when newer data modes are made available if offered in a traditional sound card configuration and the radio doesn’t have a hard roll off at 2.7 kHz that cannot be adjusted. Newer ICOM radios (like the 7300) and Software Defined Radios can transmit full bandwidth. Offerings may decide to use standalone hardware or a modem with the assistance of a computing device to transmit and receive signals.



The ruling did not change anything else. Only symbol rates below 29.7 MHz are affected. 6m and up are unaffected and remain at the published symbol rates in Part 97. The commission proposes removing baud rate restrictions in favor of bandwidth limits on MF, VHF, and UHF too. Band plans and sub-bands remain the same. Digital portions remain digital



Pactor 4 Radio Modem (landfallnavigation.com)

portions, voice remains voice. Band plans are not something the FCC rules on either. Band plans are typically established by gentleman's agreement among hams. 2.8 kHz is a maximum. A single PSK or FT8 signal is not going to start utilizing all 2.8 kHz – though some operators act like it. Stations must still set audio levels correctly to reduce digital splatter from their station.

The ARRL previously stated they are in favor of bandwidth limits on other bands but wanted to review limits that might be imposed. I believe it gets tricky with modes of varying bandwidths. For example, many would probably say most popular on the 2m band is FM, including repeaters. There are 2m SSB sub-bands too. 6m is similar with the low-end being DX windows and the upper end being largely FM and repeaters. Could there be multiple limitations implemented per band? DX windows get a 2.8 kHz limit while FM portions are limited to 15 or 20 kHz? Maybe. One problem with this theory, existing permitted legal bandwidths (e.g.: 100 kHz) would be excluded. These and other considerations are likely being reviewed by the ARRL.

An immediate effect of the bandwidth ruling permits later PACTOR modes. In nearly every [hurricane](#) or disaster where hams are involved with emergency communications, the FCC would grant a waiver allowing greater than 300 baud transmissions. This temporarily allowed [PACTOR III & IV](#) transmissions, which are faster and more reliable than other modes. No more symbol rate waivers will be needed. I'm noticing more Winlink RMS stations in the U.S. listing 2750 Hz VARA HF. There was some question whether 2750 is legal under existing rules in the U.S. and these new listings could be in anticipation of the upcoming changeover.

PACTOR-III has a "data rate of up to 3600 bits per second and a symbol rate of 100 bauds" while PACTOR-IV is "capable of a data rate of 5800 bits per second ... [at] a symbol rate of 1800 bauds ([Amateur Baud Rate NPRM](#))."

PACTOR-III would be permitted. PACTOR-IV, which does not occupy anymore bandwidth than PACTOR-III, is prohibited and not spectrally efficient. The new rules go into effect 30 days after publication in the Federal Register. The document [was published](#) on December 7, 2023 with amended Part 97 rules. The new Part 97 HF bandwidth rules go into effect January 8, 2024!

Thanks for reading and 73... de Jeff – K8JTK

From the Section Emergency Coordinator Bret Stemen
– KD8SCL EC
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December 2023

Net Control Station:

Most of you know what an NCS (Net Control Station) is, new hams may not and should. I feel that it's important for everyone to know how to run the local net. This could be a club net, weekly ARES practice net or a severe weather net.

Here is a brief history of my experience with net control. I was first licensed in April 2012 and had joined the local ARES group, June 2012 the Derecho storm was moving into Ohio and the local EC had activated our severe weather net for the county ahead of the storm, He had taken check-in's before the storm and any warnings were issued. Then the warnings were issued and the next thing I knew was my power started going flickering on and off. I reported this to NC and then my power went out completely, I was able to get on back-up power within a few minutes and got my radio back into operation. As the storm was moving east through my county, members were reporting that their power was flickering and some of them were stopped mid sentence as their power had gone out.

This is when I took over as net control as I was one of few that was back on the air, I had very little experience as NC, I learned by listening to the local nets and had not ran a net before. This was "trial by fire" and I ended up running the net for several hours throughout the night. I was later asked to be "Net Manager" for the local ARES group.

This is why I feel strongly that all members should be able to run a local net no matter if it's a local club net, ARES net or a severe weather net, when it comes to severe weather net, you never know if the net manager, EC or AEC is out of the county or running personal errands and is away from the radio and is unable to start a net. In many counties, the local EM Director relies on our reports (if any) about the storm that is moving through your county as well as the NWS.

Most counties and clubs a "Net Script" that can be downloaded from their website or passed along, all you would have to do is to read the script and record your check-ins or have an "Alternate Net Control" to record the check-ins for you. Some counties have a regular ARES Nets, this is when you can practice being an NC for your local group. If you don't know the repeater codes to put the repeater into "net mode", someone on the net may be able to active or put the repeater into net mode for you. It's that simple. If you already participate on a local net, then you already know how the net operates, practice, practice, practice, is the only way for you to be comfortable to run the net. I realize that the first time you are NC, it can be nerve racking and you are nervous, my best advice is to relax, take your time and don't be afraid to say "Net Hold" until you get caught up or have a question about a check-in that you may not have gotten the suffix or complete call sign due to multiple check-ins at the same time, pause for few seconds in between check-ins in case there is someone else trying to check-in. After the closing of the net, you may be given tips on how to improve your operation as NC.

Something to remember, everyone runs the net differently and even though you may be reading/following the script that you were given. Sometimes the NC may improvise or go off script a little. I don't think this is a big issue as long as you keep it as professional and friendly as possible to keep the net moving along.

Alternate Net Control:

Alternate Net Control is also important, the ANC is a back-up to the NC and may be the one to record the check-ins using computer software, website or plain paper and at the end of the net, the ANC should give/send a copy to the NC. On extended emergency nets, the ANC may have to become NC in the event the NC operator needs to take a break or even rotate out.

These are a few things that I personally have experienced. Be sure to check with your local net manager (ARES or Club), each county and or clubs have different ways of running their nets. Some ARES groups may recommend that you are net control trained.

Don't be afraid to step up and offer to help and train, you never know when you may be needed to start an emergency net or club net. This is how we learn, by doing.

Thank you to all your participation and support.

Elizabeth Klinc, KE8FMJ
OHIO Section Public Information Coordinator
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I hope you all had a very Merry Christmas and are happy and healthy for the New Year! Let's make 2024 the best year for Amateur Radio in general and the Ohio Section, specifically. We can help in this plight by beefing up our PIOs to bring information to the general public.



The PIO or Public Information Office should develop integrated communications plans that coordinate radio's advertising, public relations, and social media efforts. Specific responsibilities can include developing advertising campaigns and concepts for newspapers, broadcast radio, television, and online. The PIO can write and distribute news releases as well as develop content for related publications. They can look into coordinating social media efforts to include fliers, posters, banners, brochures, and/or invitations. PIOs can take photos and maintain an online or other type gallery.



[fema.gov](https://www.fema.gov)

So, what will you do in this 2024 year to promote Amateur Radio? Join me in making this our best year yet.

73 and Happy New Year,

Elizabeth, KE8FMJ
OHIO Section PIC
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From the Section Youth Coordinator
Anthony Luscre, K8ZT - SYC
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New Year's Resolutions

It's time to put together your New Year's resolutions as we end another year. Let me make a few Ham Radio suggestions:

- **NBCHRS-** Night Before Christmas Ham Radio Style. End December on a fun note with a short video https://youtu.be/c_9REVC4dtc. Make sure you share it with your ham radio friends and family.
- **GOTAMO-** Get On The Air More Often! You will not regret it as you meet new friends, learn more and have more fun.
 - If you are recently licensed, I co-present two programs for new VHF/UHF Operators and new HF Operators. Each has 4+ hours of recorded video. For more details, visit- tiny.cc/bghfvhf.
 - If you are interested in VHF/UHF-
 - Consider a local net. I have a list of Northeast Ohio Nets- tiny.cc/neohnets. You can use the [ARRL Online Net Directory](#) to find nets in your specific area or around the country.

| An attempt to provide an organized list of local (Northeast Ohio) Amateur Radio nets in the 70 cm, 2, 6 and 10 meter bands The list below is a start, but it is far from complete. Please help us add new nets and update changes. If you are aware of corrections or wish to submit additions to this list, please e-mail them to: k8zt@arrl.net and they will be included. Thanks and 73! - Anthony, K8ZT & Frank, W8EZX - last updated 2023-12-12 | | | | | | | Share page with this link tiny.cc/neohnets |
|---|--------------|---|--|------------------|--|--|---|
| For additional nets around the state and country use the ARRL ONLINE NET DIRECTORY: www.arrl.org/arrl-net-directory-search | | | | | | | |
| Day of Week | Time (Local) | Time (GMT) | Frequency | Call | Type | Description | Website |
| Monday | 7:00 AM | | 147.39+ (114.8Hz) | W8WKY | General | Barometer Net in Doylestown, Ohio | http://www.w8wky.org/barometer-net-history-and-status |
| | 7:30 PM | | 147.030+ (444.925+ linked) | W8EOC | General | Medina 2 Meter Group Net | http://w8eoc.org |
| | 7:30 PM | | 444.55+ (Backup 442.5+) See website for Tones | W8OOJ | ARES | Summit County ARES Net | http://www.summitares.org/repeater.php |
| | 7:30 PM | | 147.21+ | N8BC | ARES | Lake County ARES Training Net | www.lcara.org |
| | 7:30 PM | | 145.410- (224.48-[141.3], 442.225+[131.8] linked) | W8PRC | General | Parma Radio Club (1st and 3rd Monday of the month) | www.parmaradioclub.com |
| | 8:00 PM | | 145.15- | WD8IQJ | Specialized | Digital Discussion Roundtable (trends in digital modes) | |
| | 8:00 PM | | 146.73- | | General | TUSCO ARC | http://tuscoarc.org |
| | 8:00 PM | | 147.27+ (444.200+ linked) | W8VPV | News | CFARC presentation of Amateur Radio Newsline | www.cfarc.org |
| | 8:30 PM | | 147.27+ (444.850+ PL 100.9 is linked) | W8VPV | General | CFARC 2 meter net | www.cfarc.org |
| | 8:30 PM | | | | ARES | Ohio ARES DMR Net (TG: 3139) | |
| | 9:00 PM | | 147.015+ | W8OKE | General | Newberry Net | https://normaweb.org |
| 9:30 PM | | Rotates by Week of Month 1st. 58.278 (6M) 2nd. 28.368 (18M) 3rd. 7.187 (48M) 4th. 3.827 (88M) When there is a 5th Monday band rotates see website) | W8VPV | General | CFARC HF Net (starting in Sept 2020 the HF net band will rotate each week, see calendar for frequencies) | www.cfarc.org | |
| 9:30 PM | | 147.150+ | KC8BED | Traffic | Burning River Traffic Net (Elyria) | www.qsl.net/brtn | |
| Tuesday | 7:00 AM | | 147.39+ (114.8Hz) | W8WKY | General | Barometer Net in Doylestown, Ohio | http://www.w8wky.org/barometer-net-history-and-status |
| | 7:00 PM | | 147.12+ | WD8AYE | ARES | Stark County AES & Newsline (Check in twice a month to stay on roster) | www.wd8aye.net |
| | 7:45 PM | | 146.94- | W8CWO | Weather | Stuebenville-Weirton area Skywarn Weather Net (approx. 15 minutes duration) | www.swarc.net |
| | 8:00 PM | | 145.41 (224.48-[141.3], 442.225+[131.8]) | KB8WLW/ KB8RS | General | Cuyhaoga County ARES (1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month) | https://ccares.us |
| | 8:00 PM | | 147.39+ | AB8GO | News | Silvercreek Amateur Radio Club - Newsline | https://w8wky.org |
| | 8:00 PM | | 147.51 | K8OMO | Specialized | Homeland Security Net Monthly Net (LAST Tuesday of each month) WBLKY Alliance Amateur Radio Club | http://w8lky.org |
| | 7:00 PM | | 3.902 LSB +/- | | | Ohio ARES HF | |
| | 8:30 PM | | 147.39+ | AB8GO | General | Silvercreek Amateur Radio Club Net | https://w8wky.org |
| | 9:00 PM | | 147.68 | | ARES | Portage Emergency Net (simplex) ??? STANUS??? | |

- Monitor 146.520 Nation FM Calling frequency
 - Try ARRL VHF/UHF Contesting-
 - [January VHF](#)
 - [June VHF](#)
 - [September VHF](#)
- **HAYGOTA-** Help a Youth Get On The Air (see below).
- **GANAL-** Get A New Amateur License.
 - If you have your Tech License, join us for a free online General License upgrade class starting Jan 14th. For more details, visit this link tiny.cc/beahamq.
 - Also, take a look at tiny.cc/new-ham for “Ham Radio Intro & Quick Start Guide.”
- **MANARO-** Mentor A New Amateur Radio Operator. Invite a newly licensed or upgraded ham to your shack to make their first QSOs with their new privileges. Help install a new antenna, set up a new radio, interface a radio to a computer, set up a new mode, help them learn to contest, etc.
- **CQ DX MARATHON-** This annual, year-long contest is a great way to work more DX. If you are a newer HF operator, it is a great way to earn your first [DXCC](#). I think it is even more fun if you already have a high DXCC total, as it is an opportunity to start from zero each year with everyone a new one for the Marathon. Visit the website for details- <https://dxmarathon.com> and watch a live presentation by the program director- Mark, WC3W, at 9:00 PM on Jan 3, 2024, at www.ratpac.us/zoom.
- **QSLing-** Handle your outstanding QSLs. If you are not set up for online QSLing visit my presentation “Online QSLing” video <https://youtu.be/VqOFt3wyETk> and slideshow <http://tiny.cc/qx3>.
- **LOGGING-** If you are not using an electronic log or keeping any log at all, now is the time to get started. Visit my presentation “Logging- General & Contesting” slideshow tiny.cc/logsw.
- **PROGRAM-** Schedule a program for your local club with me. I would happily do any of the sessions from my list at tiny.cc/k8zt-p either in person or via Zoom or other online tools, depending on your location and my schedule.
- **SET GOALS-** One of the best ways to increase your Amateur Radio activity for the coming year is to set goals and/or use a checklist of items. Maybe a contact a day, work all states, work DXCC, check into a newt for 12 consecutive weeks, etc. Below is one I created last year. Share it with your club and ham friends; you can even turn it into a friendly competition.



| Band Worked | Mode Worked | Activity (or mode of op) |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> - 2,200 M (135 kHz) | <input type="checkbox"/> - SSB | <input type="checkbox"/> - Repeater QSO (2 M and up) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> - 630 M (472 kHz) | <input type="checkbox"/> - CW | <input type="checkbox"/> - Repeater QSO (10 or 6 M) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> - 160 M (1.8 MHz) | <input type="checkbox"/> - AM | <input type="checkbox"/> - Simplex FM QSO (VHF/UHF) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> - 80/75 M (3.5/3.8 MHz) | <input type="checkbox"/> - FM | <input type="checkbox"/> - SSB QSO (VHF/UHF) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> - 60 M (5.3 MHz) | <input type="checkbox"/> - PSK (31, 63) | <input type="checkbox"/> - CW Contact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> - 40 M (7 MHz) | <input type="checkbox"/> - FT4 | <input type="checkbox"/> - Contest Contact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> - 30 M (10.1 MHz) | <input type="checkbox"/> - FT8 | <input type="checkbox"/> - Satellite and/or EME Contact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> - 20 M (14 MHz) | <input type="checkbox"/> - Other WSJT- X Modes (FSK441, JT6M, JT65, etc.) | <input type="checkbox"/> - Fox Hunt (ARDF) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> - 17 M (18 MHz) | <input type="checkbox"/> - JS8call | <input type="checkbox"/> - WinLink Contact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> - 15 M (21 MHz) | <input type="checkbox"/> - Packet (AX25)/APRS | <input type="checkbox"/> - EchoLink Contact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> - 12 M (24.9 MHz) | <input type="checkbox"/> - SSTV or Fast Scan ATV | <input type="checkbox"/> - WAS (work all 50 states) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> - 10 M (28 MHz) | <input type="checkbox"/> - Digital FM- DMR, D-Star, Fusion, etc.) or Hotspots | <input type="checkbox"/> - Work 50 countries |
| <input type="checkbox"/> - 6 M (50 MHz) | | <input type="checkbox"/> - Work 100 countries |
| <input type="checkbox"/> - 2 M (144 MHz) | <input type="checkbox"/> - Pactor, Clover, Olivia, Throb, DominoEX, MT63, Thor, AMTOR, etc. | <input type="checkbox"/> - WAC- Work All Continents |
| <input type="checkbox"/> - 1.25 M (222 MHz) | | <input type="checkbox"/> - POTA (Parks On The Air) or SOTA (Summits On The Air) Chaser Contact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> - 75 cm (440 MHz) | <input type="checkbox"/> - FAX or Hellschreiber | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> - 33 cm (902 MHz) | Club | <input type="checkbox"/> - POTA or SOTA Activation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> - Higher Microwave Bands | <input type="checkbox"/> - Attend an ARC meeting | <input type="checkbox"/> - POTA Activator |
| Build or Install | <input type="checkbox"/> - Present at ARC meeting | <input type="checkbox"/> - Work you State QSO party |
| <input type="checkbox"/> - New VHF/UHF Antenna | <input type="checkbox"/> - Head a committee | Build/Test/Repair |
| <input type="checkbox"/> - New HF Antenna | <input type="checkbox"/> - Attend a Hamfest | <input type="checkbox"/> - Electronics Kit or Homebrew |
| <input type="checkbox"/> - New Mobile Radio | <input type="checkbox"/> - Teach a Licensing Class or be a VE | <input type="checkbox"/> - Use an Antenna Analyzer or nano-VNA to measure |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> - New Mobile Antenna | <input type="checkbox"/> - Mentor a new ham | <input type="checkbox"/> - Fix non-working Radio |
| <input type="checkbox"/> - Computer/Radio Interface | <input type="checkbox"/> - Write a newsletter article | <input type="checkbox"/> - Arduino, Rasp Pi microprocess Proejct or Program |
| <input type="checkbox"/> - New Operating Desk | <input type="checkbox"/> - Volunteer for Public Serv | |

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

I received an email and subsequent phone call from a ham asking how he could get his kids interested in Amateur Radio. He has a Technician license, so I designed some of these ideas to allow him to share 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. It can also receive commercial broadcasting.
- Cheap Shortwave Radios
 - Ensure it has SSB (Singlesideband) receive capability 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 the \$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 the \$60 to \$125 price range. Improved version of ATS-20 with touch screen and larger display)

- An SDR (Software Defined Receiver) Note that many of the cheap SDR Dongles are VHF/UHF only; check to ensure 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.
 - Many HF Transceivers are available for a few \$100s for a listing of various models- [link](#).
 - A few of the 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
- 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](#)
 - [RADIODDITY 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

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

wa3ezn@att.net

David Maynard, WA3EZN – STM

ARRL Straight Key Night 2024

By the time you read this you will have missed the ARRL Straight Key Night (SKN) that was held on January 1, 2024, from 0000 UTC through 2359 UTC. Many hams look forward to SKN as one of the highlights of their operating year.



ARRL Straight Key Night (SKN) is January 1, 2024, from 0000 UTC through 2359 UTC. More information is available at www.arrl.org/straight-key-night.

A Straight Key Night Story:

By Dan Henderson, N1ND

In my early days in amateur radio, I was privileged to have three top-flight Elmers. Each shared with me new interests and enthusiasm for different parts of the hobby. The first, Col. Frank, WB4JMG, was special because we shared the same birthday and he taught me most of what I learned in those early days about electronic theory. The second Elmer, Everest McDade, W4DYW, was special because our families were so close – and as he was my principle mentor for on-the-air operations, especially CW traffic nets.

Unless your Elmer was one of your parents, you probably can't say what my third Elmer would say about our relationship. Dr. Mac, WA4VNV (later N4IX), would say he knew me my entire life. Not only was he a dedicated amateur operator – he was my mother's OBGYN (the man who literally "delivered me" to the world) -- then in later years he helped me find the world of amateur radio.

I had been attending club meetings with the old Asheville Radio Club for months before I was first licensed (Asheville RC later merged with the Buncombe County VHF Society to form the Western Carolina Amateur Radio Society). Being the precocious teenager that I was, I jumped in with both feet. In

mid-1971 I agreed to take over as editor of the Asheville RC's monthly newsletter, known as "Smoketest from Dr. Mac." He agreed to help me as a regular contributor, but slyly with one caveat—he would only provide news stories for me for the newsletter if I would copy them over the air using CW, since I was only a Novice and had no phone privileges during those years.

I accepted his offer, and began two years of almost daily QSOs on 3725 KHz— because that was one of the few crystals I had for my Heathkit HW-16 (a rig that Col. Frank had been commissioned by my parents to build for my Christmas present in 1970). It was a unique experience, yet one which served to continue building what became my passion for Morse code. In later years I would follow in Dr. Mac's footsteps once again when I became the ARES EC and RACES Radio Office for my county (but that's a topic for another article).

Between the efforts of my three Elmers, my CW speed quickly increased from the nervous 5 WPM necessary to earn my license to being able to conduct a coherent rag chew in the 25-30 WPM range. And the mantra of all three was simple – If you want to be competent in CW, you have to use it.

So each year from 0000 UTC to 2359 UTC PM on January 1st, I now have the chance to pay a small bit of homage back to my Elmers - via the opportunity to participate in the annual ARRL Straight Key Night (SKN). This 24-hour event is not a contest; but rather it is a day dedicated to celebrating our CW heritage. Participants are encouraged to get on-the-air and simply make enjoyable, conversational, QSOs. There are no points scored, and all who participate are winners.

In the decade since I wrote my first SKN announcement for QST, I have seen a marvelous metamorphosis occur. The number of entries has grown almost every year, even with the elimination of CW as a licensing requirement in the US. Participants have also used this popular annual event for more than just demonstrating their prowess while pounding a brass key. Numerous participants use SKN to test and "show off" their vintage equipment. Some will plug in their old CW "bugs" and join in the event. The common bond for all of them is to have fun in a more relaxed CW-enriched setting. You will even find CW enthusiasts do get on just to enjoy the rag chewing. That's the purpose of this popular operating event after all, so don't get hung up about the equipment you use.

When participating in SKN, instead of sending RST, before sending the signal report, also send the letters "SKN" to indicate your participation, and to clue in passers-by who may be listening (alerting them that SKN is still going strong). After SKN, send the Contest Branch a list of the stations you contacted, plus your vote for the best fist you heard (it doesn't have to be one you worked). Also, include your vote for the most interesting QSO you had or that you monitored.

Don't forget to post your comments and any interesting photographs from your SKN adventure to the ARRL Contest Online Soapbox. Entries should be emailed to the Contest Branch at StraightKey@arrl.org or may be sent via regular mail to ARRL - SKN, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111. The Soapbox becomes an online album of stores and photographs to share with others.

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 FM TRAFFIC NETS

| VHF NETS | NET TIMES | FREQUENCY | NET MANAGERS |
|----------|-----------------------------------|------------------|--------------|
| BRTN | Monday, Thursday Saturday 9:30 PM | 145.230 PL 110.9 | KD8GXL |
| COTN | 7:15 PM DAILY | 146.970 PL 123.0 | KV8Z |
| TCTTN | 9 PM Sun, Tues, Fri | 147.015 PL 110.9 | 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

TATN Tri-State Amateur Traffic Net

TCTTN Tri-County Traffic and Training Net serving Northeast Ohio

Why Morse Code?

If I can talk FM on two meters, or SSB on HF, why should I be concerned at all about Morse Code, also known as CW (Continuous Wave).

Find out below.

Many newcomers exploring ham radio, also known as amateur radio, are discouraged by the need to learn morse code. In the United States, that requirement to know morse code to get an amateur radio license was dropped in 1991, and completely removed in 2007.

Morse Code used to be required as an entry requirement to HF (High Frequency or Shortwave) ham communications. The entry level speed was 5 words per minute (WPM). That speed is slow enough to

learn the basics, get on the air, and increase your speed through practice. (Yes, I started as a Novice way back when at 5 WPM, and can comfortably copy about 13 WPM (often copying the text in my head without the need for scratch paper), although I want to raise that proficiency much higher.)

I thought I'd want to get enough code speed to get on SSB voice. I did that, but discovered something I didn't expect. Sometimes, the band was so poor that I couldn't hear a signal voice contact on SSB. But, when I tuned down to the Morse code CW portion of the band, lo and behold, there were CW contacts going on. I learned that Morse code needs only about a tenth of the power of SSB to make a contact. Or, stated another way, if you use Morse code, it's like getting an amplifier for your transmitter for free! That's what renewed my love for CW! Believe me, there are days you'll be desperate for a contact, and you simply can't beat Morse code!

A short history of Morse code

Morse code was invented by Samuel Morse (1791-1872). Originally, it was developed for telegraphers. It was a new method where each letter was represented by a set of long and short pulses of sound. Samuel Morse formed the original morse code by counting the letters from the local newspaper. Then he assigned the most common letters a faster "key", for faster transmission.

Morse's original code was not the same as the one in use today, as it included pauses as well as dahs and dits. An international version was established in 1851 in Berlin.

<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Samuel-F-B-Morse>

I hope everyone had a happy and safe Christmas. With the gasoline prices in Ohio being what they are, the news reports were all saying how many millions of Americans were going to be on the road. Here in Hilliard and Columbus we had no snow but from what I understand the northern sections of the state like Cleveland may have had some snow to deal with. I can't prove that they did because I stayed home for Thanksgiving.

You can still read back OSJ issues on the website www.arrl-ohio.org. 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. And by the way, if you had to go to the website to read these issues of the OSJ, Tom sends the Ohio Section Journal out by email every month. If you are not getting it in your emails send Tom an email (tomsly29@gmail.com) so he can include you when sending the Journal.

From the reports I am hearing the Ohio Section SET went well. The OSSBN reports that the traffic count was up but the participation was down. If you club or group participated don't forget to send in your reports to the ARRL and send me a copy also.

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For many of today's hams there was no choice; obtaining a ham license required learning Morse code. Five words a minute was the requirement for the entry level Novice license and also for the

renewable, but VHF only, Technician ticket. A General or Advanced class required 13 wpm and it was 20 wpm for an Extra.

Morse Code used to be required as an entry requirement to HF (High Frequency or Shortwave) ham communications. The entry level speed was 5 words per minute (WPM). That speed is slow enough to learn the basics, get on the air, and increase your speed through practice. (Yes, I started as a Novice way back when you had to copy 5 WPM, and was later comfortable coping about 13 WPM to get my general license.

I thought I'd want to get enough code speed to get on SSB voice. I have discovered something the bands are so poor that I couldn't hear a single voice station on SSB. But, when I tuned down the band to the Morse code CW portion of the band, lo and behold, there were CW contacts going on. I've learned that Morse code needs only about a tenth of the power of SSB to make a contact. Or, stated another way, if you use Morse code, it's like getting an amplifier for your transmitter for free!

Many newcomers exploring ham radio were discouraged by the need to learn morse code. In the United States, that requirement to know morse code to get an amateur radio license was dropped in 1991, and completely removed in 2007.

If you are not a CW operator or are a little rusty you can learn or practice morse code. I know I passed the 13 WPM test before the FCC some years ago but am really rusty now. To help everyone out I have looked up some websites with helpful information, programs and practice sessions to help you master CW. Although I can not endorse any one program or source you can try one of these links or do an internet search for more information. I will say that the ARRL MP3 practice files can be loaded on a laptop or other device and taken with you for practice sessions. **Code practice text** is from the pages of QST magazine, the League's membership journal. The source is given at the beginning of each practice session and alternate speeds within each session. The text for each session is also available to download.



Publications and instruction:

Tips for Learning Morse Code: <http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Morse/LearningMorseCode.pdf>

CW MANUAL:

<http://www.fistsna.org/pdfdocs/A%20BASIC%20CW%20OPERATING%20MANUAL.pdf>

So You Want to Learn Morse Code: <http://www.qsl.net/n1irz/finley.morse.html>

Just Learn Morse Code: <http://www.justlearnmorsecode.com/>

Other Resources

ARRL Training Courses, Aids and Apps - <http://www.arrl.org/learning-morse-code>

FISTS CW Club: <http://fists.co.uk/resources.htm>

Daily Morse Code Practice QST Source by ARRL <http://www.arrl.org/code-practice-qst-source>

Ron Hashiro CW Web Site <https://www.qsl.net/ah6rh/am-radio/morse/>

W1AW Code Transmissions

Frequencies are 1.8025, 3.5815, 7.0475, 14.0475, 18.0975, 21.0675, 28.0675 and 147.555 MHz.

Slow Code = practice sent at 5, 7-1/2, 10, 13 and 15 words per minute (wpm).

Fast Code = practice sent at 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 13 and 10 wpm.

Code practice text is from the pages of QST magazine, the League's membership journal. The source is given at the beginning of each practice session and alternate speeds within each session. For example, "Text is from November 2010 QST, pages 9 and 81," indicates that the practice session's plain text is from the article on page 9 and its mixed number/letter groups are from page 81.

Code bulletins are sent at 18 wpm.

CW frequencies include code practices, Qualifying Runs and CW bulletins.

You can also find [W1AW code practice](#) online, in MP3 format.

W1AW Qualifying Runs are sent on the same frequencies as the Morse code transmissions.

I hope this inspires you to at least give morse code a try. You may like it and have lots of fun. Remember you do not have to have the greatest new transceiver to use morse code. And when you learn how to do it there are three CW traffic nets in Ohio and many more around the country for you to test your skills. Look for one of these nets and have fun

Here is some useful information for sending radiograms outside the US.

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: AFA5XF <raygun@roadrunner.com>
To: David Maynard <wa3ezn@att.net>
Sent: Tuesday, December 19, 2023 at 05:30:10 PM EST
Subject: DTN international addressing

Dave,

I recently handled a piece of traffic going to Mexico, and got corrected on the addressing. I thought you may be interested, so here it is.

----- Forwarded Message -----

Subject: RE: Traffic for Puerta Vallarta

Date: Tue, 19 Dec 2023 12:41:46 +0000

From: Ron W2AH <W2AH@outlook.com>

To: RayWebb <raygun@roadrunner.com>

I'm not aware of a formal guide for International DTN addressing, but generally, with the exception of Canada, you would address it with (CALLSIGN @ - Alpha-3 ISO Code for the country) (note: you must include the hyphen before the ISO code). **All the Country Codes can be found here:**

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ISO_3166-1_alpha-3

So as an example, a common one is Peter – DL4FN.. addressing to him would be DL4FN@-DEU

Canada is a little different as we can address to the provinces (ON, NS, etc) ... so their addressing would be (Postal Code @ NTS Two character abbreviation of Canadian province).

So, as an example, a common one in Canada is Glenn Killam – VE1IJ... addressing to him would be B0W2J0@NTSNS

Hope this helps.

73 – Ron W2AH

From: RayWebb <raygun@roadrunner.com>

Sent: Monday, December 18, 2023 8:47 PM

To: Ron W2AH <W2AH@outlook.com>

Subject: Re: Traffic for Puerta Vallarta

Thanks Ron. Where can I find info on international addressing for dtn ?

Sent from my iPad

On Dec 18, 2023, at 7:24 PM, Ron W2AH <W2AH@outlook.com> wrote:

Ray,

Just an FYI... I modified the addressing on your traffic on DTN to Puerta Vallarta as 48300@NTSJA was not a valid send to address.

The DTN addressing was changed to KK7KKP@-MEX.

73 – Ron W2AH

Wishing you all the best for 2024,

73 for now,

David WA3EZN Ohio Section Traffic Manager

73

David WA3EZN

Ohio Section Traffic Manager

wa3ezn@att.net

Amanda Farone, KC3GFU

ARRL Ohio Section | Affiliated Club Coordinator

Afrone926@gmail.com

330-509-4095

In this month's issue of the Ohio Section Journal, I would love to feature a really great club, Cambridge Amateur Radio Association.

Cambridge ARA (W8VP) is located in Guernsey County, was established on December 4th, 1913, and currently has 40 members (6 of which live out of state). They meet the last Saturday of the month, excluding May & December, at 10am in the Guernsey County Administration Building located at 627 Wheeling Avenue in Cambridge, OH.

2023 Officers:

President: Jim Shaw, AB8P

Vice President: Vacant

Secretary: Evelyn Barton, KA8NZS

Treasurer: Beverly Bunn, KD8MSL

Trustees: Evelyn Barton, KA8NZS; Steven Bunn, KD8MFC; Dick Wayt, WD8SDH

Activities & Program Chair: Sonny Alfman, W8FHF

PIO & Newsletter Editor: Lyn Alfman, N8IMW

Q&A

Q: What is your favorite thing about your club?

A: *My favorite thing about our organization is the camaraderie of the members. Even when members move away, they keep their membership in the club to keep up on what members are doing. We have members in seven Ohio counties and four states.*

Q: What is one event your club does that you are proud of or sets you apart from other clubs?

A: *One thing that sets our club apart is our local trivia net on our repeater. Activities Chairman, Sonny Alfman, W8FHF, started the on-air trivia net on April 1, 2020, during the pandemic when the nation basically shut down as a means for our members as well as any amateur who could reach our repeater could participate in the net. It started out having the trivia net every night for about two years. When things began to open, it was decided to only have it Monday through Friday. This year with everything back to normal, the participants decided to only do Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday nights. Then eventually because of the local weekly net on Tuesdays, it was changed to only Wednesdays and Thursdays. Each net starts out by having the stations that check in to tell us about their day or what has happened since the last time they checked in. Then it asks for a topic of discussion, which is then followed by a trivia question and answer session. Again, anyone who can reach the repeater is invited to join in the fun.*

Q: How do you attract new members?

A: *We do a membership drive around March each year, offer free amateur radio license testing, and invite those interested in amateur radio to attend meetings and Field Day.*



Q: Do you have any current projects the club is working on?

A: *Our organization has its nomination of officers in January, election of officers in February, and new officers assume duties in March. At the March meeting, a survey of projects and events is passed to the members for their input (room for other suggestions on survey). Last year projects included upgrades to the communication van and preparing the Waller-McMunn Museum to host open houses. The museum showcases our amateur radio and commercial broadcasting history (first broadcast station in southeastern Ohio), amateur radio histories of surrounding counties, and amateur radio equipment in general.*

Q: What is your favorite or most fruitful way of fundraising?

A: *As for fundraising, we do raffles once or twice a year.*

Q: Does your club host any Special Event Stations? If so, tell us about it.

A: *It was a difficult year health wise for much of our membership in 2023; therefore, we did not have any Special Event Stations for the year – normally we average two per year. For our 100th anniversary, we did a Special Event Station each month – twelve total.*

Q: Does your club do any training? If so, what?

A: *Some of our programs can be considered training. Members are asked on the survey what they would like to see as a program. Activities and Program Chair Sonny Alfman, W8FHF, who has been licensed since 1962, is always available to answer questions, mentor new and existing members by going to their homes to help set up radios, help them make dipole antennas, and much more.*

Q: How does your club support the local community?

A: *Our organization has always provided communications to the community for parades, marathons, races, and other events for free as a public service.*

Q: What operating events does your club participate in?

A: *Despite members' health issues this year, we still managed to participate in various activities. We provided communications for parking cars and busing of attendees for the Senior Citizens Picnic in late May; participated in ARRL Field Day in late June; participated in the Salt Fork Arts & Crafts Festival with our show and tell booth in the Salt Fork Arts & Crafts Festival's Heritage Tent showcasing our club's history in early August; participated in the Ohio State Parks on the Air in early September; gathered for the annual Picnic in the Park in late September; participated in the Ohio Simulated Emergency Test in early October; participated in Jamboree on the Air in mid-October; hosted four museum open houses on May 6, July 1, September 2, and November 4; and provided support for Cambridge Christmas Parade on November 25.*

Q: Anything else you'd like to share with us?

A: *Because December is such a busy month for our membership due to the holidays, we will have a Special Event Station on the air on January 20th from 11am-5pm from the current President's home*



celebrating the 110th anniversary of the founding of our club. Details are available on the ARRL website and in the January QST.

We look forward to 2024 hoping for better health for the membership, so we can get on the air more.

I think we can all agree that Cambridge ARA is a great asset to the Ohio Section and an outstanding example of what amateur radio is to their local community and beyond. They are an active and thriving club. If you are in the area, I encourage you to stop by one of their meetings or events. If you can't make it in person, show your support by participating in one of their Special Event Stations.

Join me again next month to see which club is featured next. Could it be yours?



Hi Gang,

Wow, I can't believe that it's been over 40 years that I have used that very short opening phrase and it means just as much to me now as it did back then. I regard all of you as part of my family, my ham radio family! From the days when I edited and published a small newsletter (Airwaves) for my local club back in the early 1980's to now, what an amazing ride it has been.... AND... it ain't over yet!! On January 1st, I will be taking over as your Great Lakes

Division Director. Yes, I have some very big shoes to fill for sure and I will do my very best for you.

I want to say "thank you" to all of you that invited me to your club activities and meetings over this past year. I had a lot of fun getting to meet some new friends and getting reconnected with some old friends that I haven't seen for years as well. I want you to know that I will be back to visit with you again soon. I made a promise to you that I would work hard and always keep you, the loyal ARRL dues paying member first and I meant that with all my heart.

This coming new year a number of changes will be happening in the ARRL as well as within the Great Lakes Division. Some will be obvious, and some will be more behind the scenes, like moving the Division website to a completely new webserver for one. This new webserver promises to have much better uptime as well as much faster download speeds. For you, this means that the website will be available more and it will load faster for you.

Roy and I will be busy in January getting things ready for the upcoming Board of Directors meeting. Roy will be going out to Connecticut a day early, as he has a full schedule with his Vice Director orientation and getting to know his way, and the people, at Headquarters, and I've got several committee meetings scheduled.

January starts the hamfest schedule all over again. Here in the Great Lakes Division, we have over 50 hamfests a year, including the largest one in the country, Hamvention. This year Hamvention will also be the ARRL's National Convention as well, which means that there will be some very special things happening there. So, if you haven't started planning your hamfest schedule yet, you really need to start now.

If you are reading this newsletter on or before New Years Eve, don't forget that "Badges on the Air" will be taking place from 00:00 to 23:59 UTC December 31. What is Badges on the Air? It's just like the times we did the RED badges except this time it's for everyone that has any color ARRL badge, and YES, I've been on and passing out my 200 points here and there. I'm mostly on 20 meters, as it does seem to be the best band for me right now. But I do move around a lot and you can also find me on 10, 15, 40 and 75 meters too! So, catch me on the air and you'll get 200 points!



The holidays are always a special time for me. I have great memories of me and my dad going out on the first Saturday of December to my uncle's tree farm in Perrysville and cutting down the best tree we could find. My dad would always haggle over what he felt the tree was worth with my uncle, but eventually they would settle on a price, and we'd load it up on a toboggan where the tree and I would get a free ride back to the car. Then it was time to get the twine out and tie it to the top of the car. Wow, this brings back some wild memories for sure. I remember one year the twine broke and the tree went flying down the road! We'd eventually get it home, and dad hung it from the rafters of the garage and let the snow and road salt melt off of it before we tried to bring it through mom's kitchen door. I do remember one year when the tree just didn't fit, but my dad, being a carpenter and a Navy "Seabee", always had his trusty saw at the ready. Now, if you didn't know, the motto of the Navy Seabee's is "Can Do.." and boy, did my dad ever live up to that motto. He would cut this limb and then that one and eventually we got it in the house. Now when we went to set it up it looked rather funny with some limbs missing, but again, my dad had the answers. He drilled a few holes in the trunk and shoved those cut limbs into the holes and voila, we had the best-looking tree in the neighborhood.

My dad spent hours rigging up the lights on the tree and every year we went through a box or two of fuses because he'd load up one outlet with 10 dozen strings of lights! I'm reminded of this every time I watch "A Christmas Story" with Ralphy's dad doing that very same thing! Yes, those were great times for sure.

I'm sure that most of you have great memories of your folks just like me. My dad passed away just about 30 years ago now and there's not one day that doesn't go by that I don't think about those great times that we had together, especially those special times around the holidays.

So, from my family to yours, Janie and I wish you the very best for 2024. May your glass always be full, and your amateur radio family be close.

73,

Scott, N8SY
Great Lakes Division Director (elect)

n8sy@arrl.org

National News

(from ARRL and other sources)

RATPAC Zoom Presentations

RATPAC Amateur Radio presentations are **FREE** and available for viewing and/or download. Does your club, group, or organization need a presentation (?). We have well over 300 of them and growing.

<https://tinyurl.com/3zjnunw6>

Wednesday RATPAC Zoom presentations are centered around general Amateur Radio. Amateur Radio is like a giant pizza with a slice for everyone's taste. RATPAC brings those "slices" to the forefront. Let us know what you want to hear about; we'll do it!!

Thursday RATPAC Zoom presentations are centered around disaster communications. There is no one-hat-fits-all, but there is a place in disaster communications for everyone. Our federal, state, and local agencies, hospitals, etc., all need us. However, they need us to be trained and part of their team. RATPAC Zoom presentations cover what to do, how, when, and where to be involved.

RATPAC uses the same Zoom information for all their presentations. You could make a desktop shortcut using the below URL address for joining RATPAC presentations.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2128884758?pwd=RG94eEY2L3FiMEg0U3ZlWmhXaEdwdz09>

Meeting ID: 212 888 4758

Passcode: RATPAC

RATPAC
is there
for you...

Let us know what topic or subject you want covered, and we'll do it. Send requests to ratpac.plan@gmail.com

Last but not least... **Everyone have a great holiday season.**

73 ~Dan

Dan Marler, K7REX
ratpac.plan@gmail.com
<https://www.ratpac.us>

QST de W1AW
ARRL Bulletin 36 ARLB036
From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT December 19, 2023

To all radio amateurs

SB QST ARL ARLB036

ARLB036 WRC-23 Concludes with Wins for Amateur Radio and Agenda Items Designated for the Next Two Events

The following report comes from International Amateur Radio Union Secretary Joel Harrison, W5ZN:

After 4 hectic weeks of the 2023 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-23), and a preceding week of Radiocommunication Assembly meetings, WRC-23 concluded on Friday, December 15. Amateur radio fared very well overall, despite the enormous pressures across the radio spectrum from LF to terahertz. This is a tribute to the effort of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) team, who at times had to work from 8:00 AM to as late as 2:00 AM the next morning, as well as on the weekends.

At the top of the amateur radio priority list was Agenda Item (AI) 9.1b, regarding the coexistence of the secondary amateur and amateur-satellite allocation with the primary radionavigation satellite service in the 1240 - 1300 MHz band. This had seen 4 years of strenuous effort prior to WRC and resulted in a recommendation being agreed upon at the Radiocommunication Assembly, followed by WRC-23 participants agreeing to mention the recommendation in a new footnote for the allocation. Both the recommendation and the footnote are an excellent outcome for the amateur services.

Other items were relevant to the amateur service and were prioritized beforehand:

- * AI 1.12: 40 - 50 MHz radar sounders. These are now largely limited to the polar area.
- * AI 1.14: 231.5 - 252 GHz re-allocations for Earth sensing. Fortunately, our secondary 241 - 248 GHz allocation is unchanged, and the primary allocation of 248 - 250 GHz is unaffected.
- * AI 9.1a: Space weather sensors was an item of major interest. A clear definition for such sensors was confirmed, with frequency protection being agreed upon as an agenda item for WRC-27.
- * AI 1.2: More broadband in the 3.3 GHz and 10 GHz bands (in Region 2). This is a difficult challenge, as the amateur services are secondary with numerous (mainly South American) countries allocating mobile broadband by way of footnotes. Instead of a region-wide designation for IMT at 10.0 - 10.5 GHz in Region 2, there is a footnote limited to a dozen countries.

Every WRC agreed to an agenda for the next conference under AI 10. This AI had an unprecedented number of proposals for WRC-27 and preliminary ones for WRC-31. Following the relatively quick agreement on AI 9.1b, the IARU team switched most of its efforts to the following future proposals to reduce the impact on the amateur services, as numerous amateur bands were under consideration.

WRC-27

The WRC-27 agenda will have 19 items. The following are the most relevant to the amateur services:

- * 1300 - 1350 MHz: A previous proposal for this band, adjacent to 23 centimeters, was suppressed, providing certainty for our secondary allocation.
- * Space Weather: This potential AI was initially very concerning, as the 0.1 - 20 MHz and 28 and 50 MHz bands were initially under consideration, until concerns were raised, and a team effort resulted in these

allocations being removed from the topic.

* Lunar Communications: This future agenda item initially included 70 centimeters and other bands where Earth-moon-Earth could be restricted. Fortunately, the UHF aspect of this AI was modified to exclude 430 - 440 MHz.

* 10 GHz: We were fortunate that this band was withdrawn from another round of consideration for mobile broadband, especially in Region 1.

WRC-31

A record number of preliminary item resolutions were agreed on. The following two are especially relevant:

* Wireless Power Transmission (WPT): Both near-field and beamed are being considered as part of the International Telecommunication Union radio regulations, whilst minimizing the impact from interference.

* 275 - 325 GHz Allocations: This will include an opportunity for the amateur and amateur-satellite service.

The IARU team worked effectively to minimize the amateur bands from future studies, which is a great result for amateur radio.

IARU is very pleased with the overall result of WRC-23. The IARU team has already started to discuss and consider how to engage and resource for the next cycle leading up to WRC-27. IARU WRC Coordinator and Vice President Ole Garpestad, LA2RR, expressed his pleasure with the results and complimented the extraordinary effort of the dedicated team of IARU volunteers who worked long hours to achieve the results that will benefit all amateurs.

The IARU team includes ARRL Technical Relations Specialist Jon Siverling, WB3ERA. WRC-23 ran from November 20 - December 15, 2023.

Club Corner

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

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

Send it to: webmaster@arrl-ohio.org





Announcing!

The Ohio ARES VHF Contest

January 20, 2024



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 20, 2024. The start time is (for those of us who sleep in) 9 AM through 4 PM Eastern. Why January 20th? After receiving several emails last year if we could have the contest the same time as the ARRL’s VHF Contest, I decided to try it this year. 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 2 meter, 6 meter and 70 centimeter FM bands only, the contest is limited to those 3 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, SEC, ASEC, SM or ASM Pretty simple- any more complex and we’ll confuse the scorekeepers.

Da Score

Each FM Simplex contact counts as 5 points.

Each non- FM simplex contact counts as 2 points.

Each digital simplex contact counts as 10 points. (Detect a pattern here?)

Contact with EC, AEC, DEC, ADEC, SEC, ASEC, SM or ASM adds 25 points. Contact with an EOC or with a portable station adds 25 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. For more information on the scoring, please visit our website below.

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

The following information is for ALL exam sessions:

It is now an FCC requirement to have an FCC FRN; active email address and active phone number before taking any exam. Please bring your FCC FRN, original license, a copy of your license (if a licensed ham), a valid photo ID and \$15.00 - Cash preferred.

Effective April 19, 2022, the FCC will charge a \$35.00 application fee for amateur radio licenses. The fee will apply to new, renewal, rule waiver, and modification applications that request a new vanity call sign. License upgrades will not have a fee applied. The fee will be per application. *VE's will not collect the fees at exam sessions.*

If you are applying for your first license, please go to <http://apps.fcc.gov/cores/userlogin.do> and obtain an FRN. This website is self-explanatory and the FRN registration is free.

All Things Amateur Radio Association (ATARA)

We host testing sessions every second Tuesday of the month in Lancaster. To sign up please visit our website <https://atara-w8atr.fun> and contact us at hamexams@atara-w8atr.fun.

Butler County Amateur Radio Association W8WRK

Laurel VE Testing Session - hosted by DIAL amateur radio club

Amateur Radio License Examinations at 9:00AM on Sunday April 29th at Fairfield Township Administration Building 6032 Morris Rd. Hamilton, OH 45011. Pre-Registration is required, go to: www.qsl.net/w8blv click on Exams and follow the instructions. Additional info may be obtained from Thurl Golden, KD8VLU (513) 939-4891 tgolden@fuse.net or Ron Spaulding, N8QF, (513) 617-6181 or n8qf@roadrunner.com . There are no Exam Fees!

CARS

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

Clark County Amateur Radio Association (CLARA)

What: CLARA sponsored A.R.R.L. VE Testing - Walk-ins allowed. Pre-Register via email preferred.

When: On every second Saturday of each even numbered month starting at 10:00 AM Feb 11th; Apr 8th; Jun 10th; Aug 12th; Oct 14th; and Dec 9th, 2023. Where: Springview Government Center - Emergency Operations Center; 3130 E Main St; Springfield OH 45503

This is US-40 aka "old national road". From Route 40 enter Old Columbus Road, at the fork stay left driving straight onto Ogden Rd, then immediately turn left into the parking lot behind the EMA. Walk to the door with the "Employees Only" sign.

For more info contact Roland Ude, W8BUZ, (937) 605-4951 Email buzz@baylorhill.com

Central Ohio Radio Club (CORC)

VE TESTING PRE-REGISTRATION ONLY

Date: Saturday October 21, 2023

Time: 10:00 AM (Registration Opens 10-1-2023)

Location: Westerville Fire Dept Station 111

Training Room

400 W. Main St

Westerville OH 43081-1436

Go to: www.ae8fp.net for complete registration information

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

Dial Radio Club, Middleton, OH

Will offer Amateur Radio License Examinations at 6:00PM on Wednesday March 1st at St. John XXIII Elementary School, 3806 Manchester Rd., Middletown, OH 45042. Pre-Registration is required, go to: www.qsl.net/w8blv click on Exams and follow the instructions. Additional info may be obtained from Dave Williamson, KD8W, (513) 424-5819 or kd8w@ARRL.net or Ron Spaulding, N8QF, (513) 617-6181 or n8qf@roadrunner.com. There are no Exam Fees!

Geauga Amateur Radio Association (GARA)

Amateur License exam sessions are offered for all license classes (Technician, General, Extra). Walk-ins are always welcome - no prior registration is required. No fee for the exam.

The GARA schedule of exams are these Sundays at 2pm. Dates for 2023 are January 15th, March 19th, May 21st, July 9th, September 10th, and November 12th.

Exams are held at the Geauga County Department of Emergency Services and Emergency Operations Center, 12518 Merritt Road, Chardon, Ohio 44024. The EOC is located just south of the University Geauga Hospital and just east of the Geauga County Safety Center (Sheriff's Office), off of State Route 44 between State Route 322 and State Route 87 on Merritt Road.



Please arrive a few minutes before 14:00 to allow adequate time to process the necessary paper work and take your test. Bring your 1) photo ID, 2) email address, 3) FCC FRN, 4) a printout of your current license if taking the General or Extra exam.

Additional info may be obtained from Jim Mekeel, KE8EMP, email KE8EMP@gmail.com or the Geauga Amateur Radio Association website <https://geaugaara.org>

Huber Heights Amateur Radio Club

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

The Lake County Amateur Radio Association

The Lake County Amateur Radio Association is holding its **2024** Amateur Radio license exams at the **Kirtland Library**, 9267 Chillicothe Road, on the following dates:

| | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Saturday, February 3 | Saturday, August 3 |
| Saturday, April 6 | Saturday, October 5 |
| Saturday, June 1 | Saturday, December 7 |

This bi-monthly schedule is the first Saturday of every even-numbered month (e.g., February being the second month, etc.). They are held at the Kirtland Library, 9267 Chillicothe Road. It is 1.7 miles south of I-90 on Route 306 (Chillicothe Rd). The library is on the left, just beyond the Marathon gas station. The tests will start at **12 noon**. Please arrive a few minutes earlier.

To register, you will need a NCVEC 605 Form, which will be available at the test. If you would like to complete one ahead of time, be sure it is the Sept 2017 version or later. You can find it by Googling “NCVEC quick-form 605” and clicking on the url for a pdf of the form. Please note **the FCC requires you to provide a FRN** (FCC Registration Number). Social Security Numbers are no longer accepted. If you are new to ham radio and don’t have a FRN, Google “New FRN” and follow the fcc.gov link.

If you are currently licensed, be sure to **bring a copy of your license to the exam**. The cost of the exam itself is \$15.00, and if you wish to pay by check, it should be made out to the ARRL/VEC. Identification with your picture is also necessary, such as a driver’s license. If you have any questions, please contact Scott Farnham, KO8O, at (440) 256-0320, or scottfarnham@roadrunner.com

In addition to the \$15 test fee, the FCC now charges \$35 to add you to the Amateur Radio database. The FCC will e-mail successful candidates instructions for payment directly to them. Payment must be made within 10 days of the e-mail. This charge does not apply to upgrades.

The Lancaster and Fairfield County Amateur Radio Club (LFCARC)

hosts exam sessions at the FAIRFIELD County EMA, 240 Baldwin Dr in Lancaster Ohio, 43130, on the first Saturday each month at 10:00 am. Please visit our website at <http://www.k8qik.org> for exam dates on our calendar and navigate to our Learning Center/Taking the Exam link for information and requirements. Our experienced VE team looks

forward to serving the Amateur Radio community in Central Ohio. Contact me at ve_testing@k8qik.org to register.

Lisbon Area Amateur Radio Association

LISBON AREA AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION (LAARA) 2024 SCHEDULE.

VE TESTING IS AT THE COLUMBIANA COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY
AT 215 SOUTH MARKET STREET, LISBON, OH 44432.

SIGN IN AT 1 PM AND TESTING AT 1:30 PM.

VE TESTING DATES FOR 2024

JAN 13; FEB 10; MAR 9; APR 13; MAY 11;
JUN 8; AUG 10; SEP 14; OCT 12; NOV 9; DEC 14.

WE CAN ALSO GIVE THE TEST AT OUR REGULAR MEETINGS THAT ARE NORMALLY ON THE 3RD THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH. LAARA MEETINGS ARE HELD AT THE COLUMBIANA COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY AT THE SAME ADDRESS AS ABOVE. SEE THE K8GQB.COM WEB SITE FOR UPDATES. MEETING TIME IS 6:30 PM. WE HAVE ACTIVITY MEETINGS ON THE ODD MONTHS AND BUSINESS MEETINGS ON THE EVEN MONTHS.

Madison County

The Laurel testing group will offer testing on the first Thursday of January, March, May, July, September and November. Tests are held at 7:00PM at the Madison County EMA located at 271 Elm St. London, OH. No fee.

The Milford Amateur Radio Club (MARC)

VE testing is held the third Thursday of each month at 6:00 PM. Location; Miami Township Civic Center located at 6101 Meijer Drive, Milford, OH 45150. Please pre-register at www.milfordhamradio.org

Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society (NOARS)

VE sessions are held the first Saturday of odd-numbered months (EXCEPT FOR March and July) 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. There will be a VE session held March 12th at the NOARS Winterfest held at Lorain County Community College in the John A Spitzer Conference

Center, 1005 Abbe Rd N, Elyria, OH 44035. Please email Elaine – KC8FOS at ewilkinson1951@gmail.com to register.

Portage County Amateur Radio Service (PCARS)

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

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

Tusco Amateur Radio Club W8ZX

VE Testing sessions are held on the second Saturday of every even numbered month at the Dover Faith Church, 420 N Wooster Ave, Dover, OH 44622. Pre-registration is not necessary. Doors open at 0830 for registration, exams begin at 0900. Cost is \$15. You are required to have an email address and a copy of your FRN or current ham radio license. For more information please go to www.w8zx.net/exam or email VETEAM@N8BAG.NET.

West Chester Amateur Radio Association (WC8VOA) Exam sessions are held one Saturday each month at 10:00 AM-Noon at the VOA Bethany Relay Museum located at *8070 Tylersville Rd, West Chester, Ohio 45069*. For more information and links to register, please see our website: <https://wc8voa.org/licensing/>

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 Sunday January 14th, 2024 *****

Hello and Welcome to the DX Corner for your weekly Dose of DX, I'm Bill, AJ8B.

My Elmer, and dad, 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 and work to reach them. During my career at Hewlett-Packard, 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 2024 goals include:

- Long Term Goals
 - Achieving DXCC Honor Roll

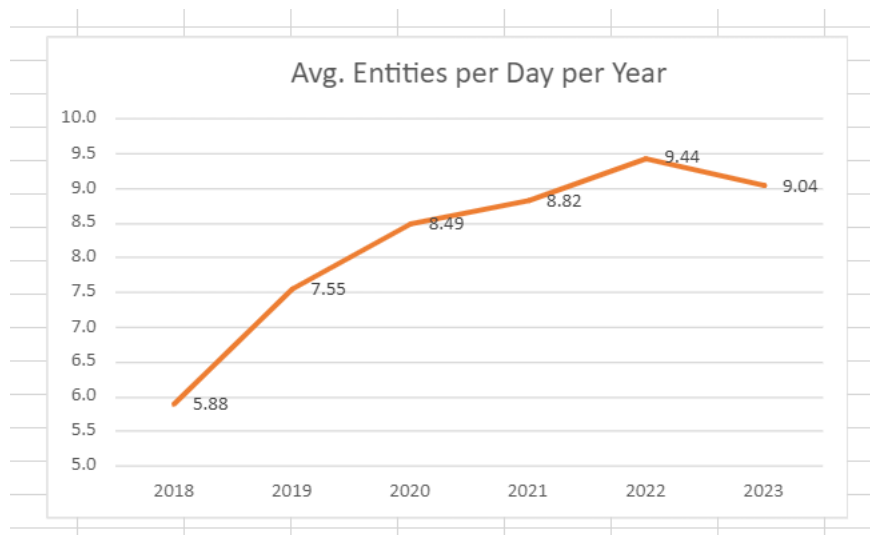


- Exceeding 2,000 on the ARRL DXCC Challenge roster
- Short Term Annual Goals
 - Participate in the 8 major contests and exceed my results from the previous year. These would be (CQWW DX RTTY, CQWW DX SSB, CQWW DX CW, CQWW WPX SSB, CQWW WPX CW, ARRL 160, CQ 160, and the 8th Area QSO party.)
 - Exceed my previous years' score in the annual CQ Marathon.
 - Increase my 160M entity count working towards DXCC.
 - Participate in at least 50% of the CWTs
 - Work at least 5 entities every day via any mode

What are your goals for 2024? I thought this would be a great topic as we are at 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!

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.) My annual average has gone up each year. I averaged 9.44 different entities/day for 2022 and am very close to that for 2023.

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 additional New Ones. 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.

Here is what is happening in the World of DX:

This section of DX News comes from Bernie, W3UR, editor of the DailyDX, the WeeklyDX, and the How's DX column in QST.

I received the following email from the Northern California DX Foundation, NCDXF, to all of its' members. It is a great summation of the activities and achievements of the NCDXF.

Dear DXer:

2023 saw the return of DXpeditions, with the promise and planning for more in 2024.

The NCDXF funded 3Y0J, Bouvet. As you know, the team had many problems landing and setting up stations. However, they persevered and made 20,000 QSOs, dropping Bouvet to #11 on the Most Wanted List. This was not the DXpedition we all wanted and expected. The good news is that the ops learned from the failures of 3Y0J. Four separate groups, including Ken, LA7GIA, are working on plans to return to Bouvet. Ken's group is working on plans for including a partial remote operation.

George, AA7JV, took his ship, the Magnet, to several Pacific locations, along with RiBs (Radio in a Box). His voyage included stops at VP6A, Ducie, and E51D, N. Cook Island. Many of the ops for these groundbreaking DXpeditions were at home connecting via Starlink to the Magnet, and onto an island RiB via a 900 MHz link. The operations started out as FT8, then evolved to be able to include CW and SSB. These operations demonstrated the viability of the configuration, one that George first envisioned several years ago. RiBs aren't the game changer that FT8 has been, but they will definitely improve the ability to get permission for future DXpeditions to environmentally protected destinations.

Other NCDXF-funded DXpeditions in 2023 with their QSO totals included: TN8K, Congo (166,000); CY0S, Sable Is. (85,000); 3B7M, St Brandon (129,000); 9Q2WX, D. R. of Congo (27,000); ZD9W, Tristan de Cunha (70,000); T2C, Tuvalu (112,917); W8S, Swains Is. (92,000); TX7L, Marquesas Is. (55,000); TJ9MD, Cameroon (100,000); PR0T, Trindade Is. (20,000), and VU7W, Lakshadweep Is. (60,000).

We also provided funding to WRTC 2022, AMSAT, and Contest University (for youth to attend).

A few years ago, NCDXF created the DXcellence Award – given to a NCDXF-funded DXpedition for the previous year, April to April. For 2023, this award went to Thierry Mazel, F6CUK/FT8WW.

The Visalia International DX Convention (IDXC) did happen in April 2023. There were rumors that it might be the last ever IDXC, as the two sponsoring clubs (NCDXC and SCDXC) found the organization and operation increasingly difficult to staff and maintain. However, the Central Arizona DX Association (CADXA) stepped up and brought new energy to the convention. Organization of the 2024 IDXC is well along. Please visit www.dxconvention.org (<http://www.dxconvention.org/>) to make plans to attend.

During its April 2023 annual board meeting, the NCDXF board of directors voted to provide funding to DXpeditions for the costs (primarily airfare) of including a youth operator. However, implementation is challenging because it requires identifying potential youth operators with the requisite time and interest. If you know of youth ops with an interest, please let me know and we can help connect them to future DXpeditions.

At that same meeting the board also approved the funding of a project related to DQRM. See the most recent NCDXF newsletter for details.

NCDXF continues to invest in infrastructure - the RiB being the best example in recent times. The International Beacon Program (IBP) is ongoing – the beacons continue to be maintained and monitored.

NCDXF continues in its mission to fund and support well-organized DXpeditions to desirable DXCC entities. Another part of our mission is to support the advancement of DXpeditioning skills, technology, and infrastructure. *Your continued support and donations make this possible*.

As 2023, comes to an end, please consider a donation to NCDXF. Visit: <http://www.ncdxf.org/pages/contribute.html> (<http://www.ncdxf.org/pages/contribute.html>). One option for donations is the use of an annual Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) from an IRA in accordance with tax laws and regulations. Another option is participating in our Cycle 25 Fund as part of your estate plan.

73 and GUD DX in 2024,

Kevin, K6TD
NCDXF President

On November 15th, the Southwest Ohio DX Association (SWODXA) voted to bestow the SWODXA Excellence Award to K4UEE, “Bob” Allphin.

The inscription reads:

“Given in honor of recognition of you being an excellent DXpeditioner in all aspects of Amateur Radio. Whereas, due to your dedication, efforts, actions, and commitment, many entities were worked worldwide which otherwise would not have been possible.”

Congratulations to Bob, K4UEE, for this well-earned recognition.

St. Helena Island is hopping! Chris, HB9FIY, operating as ZD7CA, and his XYL, Agata, ZD7AA, will activate three new Parks on the Air on St. Helena Island during their remaining three weeks there. Information is on the ZD7 St. Helena Island Facebook page. Chris and Agata also will welcome Bruno, HB9BEI, and his XYL, who will visit St. Helena briefly while traveling on the Celestyal Journey cruise ship. Chris has arranged the callsign ZD7BK for Bruno, and hopes to assist him on a quick SOTA activation sometime between January 5th and January 6th. Finally, Chris notes that licensed visitors to the island can easily obtain ZD7 callsigns, usually the same day, “if not within the hour.”

Elvira, IV3FSG, will be active as ZD7Z from January 16th to February 4th, on 160-6M, including the WARC-79 bands, CW, SSB, RTTY, FT4, and FT8 MSHV. Full details are on Elvira’s qrz.com page.

There is a 3W/XV9, **Vietnam** operation in progress. Japanese operators have been operating holiday style from Hanoi since December 21st and will continue through the end of the year. Activity is on 80-6M SSB, CW, RTTY, and FT8. This operation is supported by the JARL Kyoto Club. The group thanks XV2A and XV9HEU (JP3HEU) for all of their assistance. QSL routes will be posted on qrz.com.



Contest Updates

I know that the ARRL contest sheet is read elsewhere in this podcast and the contests that I mention are sometimes redundant. However, there are a few contests that I have found to be especially useful for DXers who are trying to fill band slots or to get entities or zones in the log that may otherwise be almost impossible to get.

In addition to our regular contesting report, I thought it would be interesting in 2024 to review the various CQ zones, the entities in them and what it takes to work them. Depending upon where you live, some are easier than others. Each week I will review the countries and what suggestions I can pass along to work them.

CQ Magazine defined the initial zones and the geography of those zones in the 30s. It has changed slightly over the years, but it is the basis for the most popular contests in ham radio. Google CQ Zones list to get more details. I hope you find that interesting.

Until next week, this is Bill, AJ8B saying 73 and I Hope to see you in the pileups!

ARLD052 DX news

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

RODRIGUES ISLAND, 3B9. Luca, IV3JVJ and Ivan, IK3ZAZ are QRV as 3B9AT until January 6, 2024. Activity is on 80 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, and FT8. QSL via IV3JVJ.

MOROCCO, CN. Yannick, CN2YD is QRV as CN2YD/p from Molitor Island, IOTA AF-065, until March 15, 2024. QSL via F6FYD.

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, DA. Special event call signs DB100FK, DC100FK, DD100FK, DF100FK, DL100FK, DM100FK, DQ100FK, DR100FK, DM100MW, and DR100PE will be active from January 1, 2024 to May 31, 2024 to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the formation of the Deutsche Funk-Kartell, a federation of clubs of radio enthusiasts during the early days of amateur radio in Germany. QSL via LoTW.

FRENCH GUIANA, FY. Pierre-Jean, F4GPK is QRV as TO2FY from Kourou until January 16,

2024. Activity is on the HF bands using only SSB. QSL direct to home call.

HAITI, HH. Members of the Radio Club d'Haiti will be QRV as HH220Y from January 1 to 31, 2024 to celebrate the 200th anniversary since the declaration of the former colony's independence. QSL via N2OO.

THAILAND, HS. Brad, VK2BY is QRV as HS0ZNR until January 14, 2024. QSL direct to home call.

SVALBARD, JW. Jack, M0PLX will be QRV as JW/M0PLX from Spitsbergen Island, IOTA EU-026, from January 1 to 5, 2024. QSL via SP7DPJ.

AUSTRIA, OE. Special event station OE100RADIO is QRV during all of 2024 to celebrate the centennial of radio broadcasting in Austria. QSL via operators' instructions.

BELGIUM, ON. Members of the Radio Club de Luettich will be QRV with special event station OR100LGE during 2024 to celebrate the club's 100th anniversary. Activity will be on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, FT8, and FT4. QSL via ON6YH.

EAST KIRIBATI, T32. Members of the Rebel DX Group are QRV as T32TT from Christmas Island, IOTA OC-024, until January 12, 2024. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, FT8, and FT4. QSL via OQRS.

GABON, TR. Roland, F8EN is QRV as TR8CR until February 28, 2024. Activity is on 30 to 10 meters using CW. QSL via F6AJA.

NAMIBIA, V5. Eric, F5LCX is QRV as V5/F5LCX until January 11, 2024 from several locations here. QSL to home call.

INDIA, VU. Operators VU3GWN, VU3CIQ, VU3TBU and VU3UZD will be QRV with special event call sign AT3POG from Karnataka from January 1, 2024 to March 31, 2024. QSL via VU3GWN.

ST. HELENA, ZD7. Chris, HB9FIY and his wife Agata are QRV as ZD7CA and ZD7AA, respectively, until January 14, 2024. Activity is on 40 to 10 meters using SSB and various digital modes. QSL via EA5GL

Upcoming Hamfests

We **DO** have some hamfests scheduled for 2024!!



Ohio Hamfests

2024

01/14/2024 - [Sunday Creek Amateur Radio Federation Hamfest](#)

Location: Shade, OH

Sponsor: club members

[Learn More](#)

03/10/2024 - [WINTERHAMFEST](#)

Location: Elyria, OH

Sponsor: Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society

Website: <http://winterhamfest@noars.net>

[Learn More](#)

03/17/2024 - [Toledo Mobile Radio Association Hamfest and Computer Fair](#)

Location: Perrysburg, OH

Sponsor: Toledo Mobile Radio Association

Website: <http://www.w8hhf.org>

[Learn More](#)

04/13/2024 - [Mid-Ohio Valley Amateur Radio Club](#)

Location: Bidwell, OH

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Mid-Ohio Valley Amateur Radio Club

[Learn More](#)

04/28/2024 - [Athens Hamfest](#)

Location: Athens, OH

Sponsor: Athens County Amateur Radio Association

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

[Learn More](#)

05/05/2024 - [Lucas County ARES Trunk Sale & Swap Meet](#)

Location: Toledo, OH

Sponsor: Lucas County ARES

Website: <http://lucasaes.org>

[Learn More](#)

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>05/16/2024 - 05/19/2024 - Four Days In May Location: Fairborn, OH Sponsor: QRP Amateur Radio Club International Website: http://qrparci.org/fdim Learn More</p> | <p>05/17/2024 - 05/19/2024 - Dayton Hamvention / ARRL National Convention Location: Green County Fairgrounds Sponsor: Dayton Amateur Radio Club Website: https://hamvention.org</p> |
| <p>07/21/2024 - Van Wert Hamfest Location: Van Wert, OH Sponsor: Van Wert Amateur Radio Club Website: http://w8fy.org Learn More</p> | <p>08/10/2024 - Cincinnati Hamfest Location: Owensville, OH Sponsor: Milford ARC Website: https://CincinnatiHamfest.org Learn More</p> |
| <p>08/18/2024 - Warren Hamfest Location: Cortland, OH Sponsor: Warren Amateur Radio Association Website: https://www.w8vtd.com/ Learn More</p> | <p>10/27/2024 - 2024 MARC Hamfest at MAPS Location: N. Canton, OH Sponsor: Massillon Amateur Radio Club Website: https://www.w8np.net Learn More</p> |
| | |



OHIO'S



All the excitement of Christmas 2023 is now just a memory. Let's hope yours was an enjoyable, but relaxing one and Santa filled your wish list with that whiz bang radio item you wanted. Now that Christmas is behind us, it's time to look to the coming year and what it may bring. But before leaving 2023, let's take a look at some happy and exciting news ending the current year.

Although I don't know if they were wrapped with ribbon and bows, I've learned Santa was the delivery person for the FCC and left Technician licenses under the trees for six individuals in the South 40 region. Those receiving their licenses were Joel Behnke, Greg Johnson, David Scott, Jr., John Taylor, Matt Tipton and Shanon Tipton. Shanon and Matt both live in Jackson and are now

KE8ZTF and KE8ZSW. Greg is now KE8ZSU and is from Mt. Orab while John will be transmitting the KE8ZSV call sign from West Portsmouth. Up in Fayette County, David will sign the KE8ZQX call sign from Washington Court House. In fact I had the opportunity to welcome him during the Tuesday evening **Fayette ARA**'s net. Although Joel has a Milford address, he actually lives closer to Blanchester in Clinton County and is now KE8ZTW. Congratulations to all on the new licenses-a gift that will keep giving.

The New Year's Net conducted by the **Highland ARA** appears to be the only activity yet to take place in the South 40 Region. It kicks off at the stroke of Midnight with the broadcast of the ringing of the Highland County Society's large Hillsboro manufactured C. S. Bell. Although the bell was damaged by a wayward auto, it has been repaired, functional and back in place according to HCHS director and HARA VP John Willis, KE8JEM. Checkins will be taken once the ringing ceases. Any amateur within the sound of the Hillsboro 147.21 (100 tone) is welcome to check in and be acknowledged. There will be no comment recall, however usually several stay around after the Net secures for further discussions. Those outside the repeater's primary coverage area who hear the net but are unable to check-in may send an email to highlandara@gmail.com to let the Net know it is being heard.



The **Athens County ARA** recently held its annual Christmas Dinner at the Athens Applebees. During the evening President Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, presented the Club's NC8V Memorial Trophy to John Biddle, W8PG. The award is presented annually to the member achieving the highest score in the recent ARRL Ten Meter Contest. This years club competition was really tight between three members. John made 157 contacts for 18,840 points with Paul Schutz, WD8SCV, coming in second with 153 contacts and a 18,666 point score. Carl Denbow, N8VZ, also made 153 contacts but had one less multiplier and ended up with 18,054 points.

An 'atta boy' goes out to Highland County's Dave Tourtelot, KD8TUR, on receiving four different levels of Straight Key Century Club WAS Awards. The last time I chatted with Dave I think he was still needing an Alaskan contact. It appears he finally made it. Who says CW is dead?

Because the **Portsmouth RC**'s normally scheduled meeting date falls on New Year's Day, the Club has rescheduled the meeting to take place the following Monday, January 8, at the Portsmouth American Legion Building. A test session will take place prior to the business meeting.

A major announcement was made by Andrew Adrian, W9AMA, on the **Clinton County ARA** website. And we quote "The Clinton County Amateur Radio Association has filed for an FCC low power FM (LPFM) license in Wilmington, Ohio. Low power FM licenses are specifically non-commercial and must serve an educational or public service need, focused on local

community. The Clinton County Amateur Radio Association (CCARA) has been in existence since 1962 and is a 501©(3) non-profit organization. The group has provided trained radio operators, technical education, free FCC license exams and service to the local community since that early beginning. We look forward to adding this new chapter to our 60 years of service to the community. We hope for a speedy grant of our FCC permit and will be operating on 95.9 on the FM dial.” I believe there are two other amateur radio clubs in the United States that operate broadcast stations. One is in Texas and the other California. The proposed station’s coverage area will be mostly Clinton County. It will be interesting to see this develop once the FCC approves the application and issues a construction permit.

Sunday Creek Amateur Radio Federation

2024 HamFest---Shade, Ohio!

Annual ARRL Sanctioned Hamfest - Sunday January 14th, 2024

8:00 A.M. to 2 PM



Shade Community Center
2380 Old U.S. 33 Shade, Ohio

7:00 A.M. Setup

VE Tests at 10AM

\$6.00 Admission

1 Free Table with Paid
Admission-Tables First Come

CLUB MEMBERS ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR PRIZES

Contact Jeremy Duncan
Phone: (740) 343-5976
Email: jeramy_duncan30@yahoo.com

www.qrz.com/db/kc8aav

Incoming Great Lakes Division Director Scott Yonally, N8SY, says the 2024 Ohio hamfest season will begin in Shade, Ohio on January 14 when the **Sunday Creek ARF** holds its hamfest at the Shade Community Center, 2380 Old US 33. The doors will open to the public at 8 AM with a \$6 admission fee. Email jeramy_duncan30@yahoo.com for more information. ARRL Ohio Section Manager Tom Sly will be in attendance.

For those looking for a ham license testing site, there will be an ARRL VE test session at the SCARF hamfest on the 14th. Then on January 20 the **Fayette ARA** will conduct a Laurel VE test session at the Washington CH Public Library. Registration at the WCH one begins at 10 AM in the basement conference room. Please enter through the

side door. All test elements will be given at both testing locations. There is a \$15 fee chared for the ARRL Shade session but no fee is charged for the Laurel one at Washington Court House. However the FCC fee for issuing a new license does apply for any new license issued, but it is not collected at this time.

Also on January 20, the **Cambridge ARA** will observe the 110th anniversary of the club with a special event station operation. They anticipate operating on 14.240 using the club’s W8VP call sign. More information is available at www.w8vp.org.

Congratulations go to the **OH-KY-IN ARS** for achieving a ‘Clean Sweep’ during the November ARRL Phone Sweepstakes. Those of us who participate in the event know that getting them all is a challenge and it can be very frustrating to hear that one section you need, but they don’t hear you.

Have you ever wondered what kind of non-repeater range your UHF/VHF radio has? On January 20 you will have the opportunity to check it out because that is the day when a lot of operators will take to the airwaves during the annual Ohio VHF Simplex Contest. The event gets underway at

10 AM and runs until 4 PM with the final two hours over-lapping with the national ARRL January VHF Contest. There are several changes to the rules this year so check out the www.ohsimplex.org website for the updated rules, suggested frequencies, anticipated operations and plenty of good tips for your own successful and fun operation.

The **OH-KY-IN ARA** Harvest Home Barn at 3961 North Bend Road will be other clubs once we hear of them.



will operate a Winter Field Day station from the during the January 27-28 event. The barn is located in the Cincinnati suburb of Cheviot. It's certain there planning on such an operation. Those will be posted

Our Kentucky correspondent Brent Wells, N4BDW, tells us the **Greater Mason County ARC** has elected a new president. According to Brent, WD4OQH, Paul Earhart has been selected to lead the Club during 2024. He will be joined by KG4PXA, Larry Dodge, as Vice President; KE4LCZ, Holton Cartmell as Treasurer and Mike Mullins, KN4COE, filling the Secretary position. Brent also informs us of the early December passing of long-time member Barry Jackson. The Club has started the process to transfer Barry's WB4N call sign to the Club and place it on their repeaters in his memory.

Southern Ohio UHF/VHF guru Bob Mathews, K8TQK, informs us of the passing of Ron Piatt, KB8GUE, of Leesburg. Ron was known throughout the region for his activity on six meters and non-FM weak signal work on the various UHF/VHF bands. Services were held in Sabina on the 27th.

Last time out I commented about N8ZNR and I visiting the "Get On The Air With Santa" that was held at the **West Virginia Museum of Radio and Technology** in Huntington. Mark Killen, KD8QIG, states 178 visitors signed the visitors log during the day and 51 youngsters made an over the air request to Santa. I noted while the kids were waiting their time to chat with Santa or working on one of the various crafts, the adults were deeply involved with viewing the exhibits and reminiscing. A tip of the hat to the volunteers who pulled the event together. It was a great public relations promotion for amateur radio.

Are you current on your club dues? Not every ham radio club has the luxury of holding a trunk or hamfest or other fund raising project to earn the necessary money to keep repeaters on the air, pay insurance premiums and website fees, postage or to cover other necessary expenses. In fact some clubs frequently ask their members to dig into their own pockets and take up collections to pay the bills. Unfortunately a lot of clubs nationwide are seeing memberships drop and those who rely on the annual membership fees to cover expenses are finding it harder to keep a reserve in their treasury. And from what I see around the South 40 Region, most membership dues are downright cheap. So check with your local club to make sure your 2024 dues are current. And while you are at it you might even check into supporting a neighboring club with a membership. Strong ham clubs build a strong amateur radio community.

Don't forget the January 11 **Southwest Ohio DX Association** meeting. Check the website for info.

Mark Atwell, WX8A, reminds Clinton County area hams of the **Clinton County ARA** meeting on the 4th at 7:30 PM in the conference/training room at the Farquhar Street Boyd Cancer Center in Wilmington.

The **Bainbridge Area Ham Group** will hold their monthly breakfast at 8:30 AM on Saturday, January 13 at the Dutch Restaurant on SR 41 near Bainbridge. Later that morning the **Highland ARA Brunch Bunch** meets at the Hillsboro Burger King around 10 AM. Area hams are invited to either or both events.

Members of the **Scioto Valley ARA** are reminded of the next club meeting on January 18. It will begin at 7 PM in the EMA Building at the Pike County Airport near Waverly.

Speaking of Pike County, 2023 unfortunately saw Pike County lose a repeater when the **Highland ARA**'s 146.745 machine at Elm Grove left the air when the tower site was sold and the new owner removed the power because he wants the tower removed so he can build upon the site. However two Bainbridge hams later placed a new Fusion machine on the air on 442.2625 from near Knockemstiff and the Ross/Pike County line. The new WA6WTF repeater is a part of a network of Southwestern Ohio Fusion repeaters.



This frequent column in the weekly Postscript and the monthly Section Journal would not be possible without contributions from a number of people. Some months ago, I counted 17 clubs in the South 40 region that I received periodic information from and a couple out of state ones who asked me to insert some information in the column. Although I know I will miss some information contributors, I want to give a big

THANK YOU to some folks who supply me, so I can supply you, with news and information from their part of the region. I confess their input makes the preparation of the column easier to let all know there is amateur radio life outside of the states big metropolitan areas. A special thanks goes to the newest ARRL McGan Award winner, Lyn Alfman of the **Cambridge ARA**. Lyn's quarterly newsletter is a gem. From the Athens area, Ted Jacobson keeps me up to date with the latest licenses issued by the FCC. Long time friend Ralph Howes passes along information from the Lancaster area and often includes items from this column in his club's newsletter. Across the Ohio River in Kentucky, our correspondent Brent Wells lets us know what is happening in his part of the Bluegrass State that might be of interest to those of us on the Ohio side of the River. Jennifer and Mike Bailey, Mike Love and Mark Killen are some others whose clubs lay on the River and the line that separates states but also serves as ARRL section and division lines. Mark actually serves double duty because he not only provides us information on his local club, but also is a spokesperson for Huntington's **Museum of Radio and Technology**. And who can forget Eric McFadden who keeps us up to date with what is going on in the Athens County area or another

long-time friend, Kim Paquette, who lets us know what is ticking in Adams County? Over in the far Eastern side of the region Marietta's Ralph Matheny does his best to keep us informed of what is happening. Or who could overlook Bill Salyer, Joe Pater or Tom Delaney? As I said, I know there are others who provide periodic items who make this a Southern Ohio area ham radio community product. So to all of those mentioned and unmentioned, thank you so much for your assistance this past year. It is really appreciated and without your input, I doubt this column could happen. I am really looking forward to this continued cooperation in the New Year.

Until next time, 73. John Levo, W8KIW jlevo@cinci.rr.com or highlandara@gmail.com or 937-393-4951

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

Here we go!,

Last weeks question: Have you met your Amateur Radio Goals for 2023?

OUT OF 51 RESPONSES:

25 **YES**

26 **NO**



Maybe many of you didn't have GOALS!

The new question is: Have you made any Ham Radio New Years Resolutions?

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.

Look for the **RED ARROW** on the website – After your vote ENTER out Handbook giveaway contest! You've got just a few more days to get in on the October drawing...

Final... Final

23 – Skido! You'll find me ringing in the new year at 2359 UTC! I still get a full nights rest that way. See you all next year – 2024 is going to be *FANTASTIC* for Amateur Radio!

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. You might want to list your location so that prospective buyers know where you’re at.

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

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

Back Issues of the PostScript and Ohio Section Journal

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

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



Ohio Section Cabinet

| | |
|--|---|
| Section Manager – Tom Sly, WB8LCD | Section Emergency Coordinator – Bret Stemen, KD8SCL |
| 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 – Elizabeth Klinc – KE8FMJ |

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!

[TOP^](#)