



February Edition!!

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From the Technical Coordinator

Jeff Kopcak – K8JTK TC

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Hey gang,

Well. Windows 7 reached end-of-life on January 14, 2020. Systems didn't meltdown. Internet is still running. The world didn't end. Reaching "end of life" in Information Technology verbiage means the vendor no longer supports the software (or hardware in other cases), won't provide security updates, and won't fix bugs or problems. End-of-life (often abbreviated "EOL") also implies there is a more recent version or iteration that is supported for those things mentioned above.



Supported as opposed to the developer throwing in the towel or the company going out of business where there are no updates for other reasons. Windows 7 was my favorite version of Windows – the look and feel was nice, functionally made sense, and it was fast. Reality is that computers running Windows 7 will continue to work as they always have but start considering alternatives.

No: Windows 7 will not stop working, you don't need to run out and buy a Windows 10 computer, your files won't be removed, past Windows 7 updates won't be pulled from Windows Update, ISPs won't disconnect you from the Internet for using Windows 7, caches of Windows 7 exploits will not be unleashed.

As with all past Microsoft operating systems, patches and updates will be available on their website and through the Windows Update service for all EOL operating system versions. An install of Windows 2000 can still receive all updates until it went EOL. No updates will be available to implement the latest in encryption enhancements, support newer hardware or protect from newer exploits found in the OS. One thing to note about Windows 7 is there were updates to the Windows Update process during its lifetime. You will run into problems [updating a fresh Windows 7 install](#) through the regular Windows Update process.

Your ISP won't disconnect you for using older versions of Windows. The company you work for will most likely update your machine if it hasn't been done already. This depends on license and support agreements with Microsoft or reseller. Most companies actively replace equipment to comply with those agreements, replace depreciated assets, and keep equipment current as a way to mitigate exploits that propagate through older operating system configurations.

Yes: you need to stop using Internet Explorer, you can still get the free upgrade from Windows 7 to Windows 10 (for now), you can dismiss the full page Windows 10 update nag screen, you need to patch Windows 7, extended patches from Microsoft are available for a fee, there are third-party alternative patching systems; software, devices, and browsers will continue to work, most programs will still support Windows 7 – at least in the short term.

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For the love of all that is holy, stop. using. Internet Explorer. Not only is it riddled with bugs and security flaws, Microsoft keeps flailing round with standards even in Microsoft Edge, which is never a good sign. Chrome is the [market leader](#) at over 80% and reports suspected security issues to Google for mitigation or blocking in the browser. However, if you're not a fan of "the Goog" knowing everything you view on the Internet or heavy-handed implementations in the name of security, alternatives are: [Firefox](#) the favorite with Linux users, the privacy focused [Brave](#) browser, or [Opera](#) if you want to be a one-percenter.

Microsoft offers extended patching (with associated fees) for Windows 7, usually for corporate customers. Consumers can get in on the action but they make it very complicated. Third-party patching is available through companies such as [Opatch](#). The service is free for personal use and non-profit educational use. There are good reviews and many recommendations to use this service. Using these services requires a certain level of trust leaving the responsibility of fixing complex programs to a third-party – because we all know Microsoft has *NEVER had [problems getting their updates right](#)*.

The nag screen which recently started (re)appearing for Windows 7 users, reminding them to upgrade, can be dismissed. Click the text that says "Don't remind me again" - and it actually seems to work as opposed to the weird [mind games](#) that were played during the initial push after Windows 10 was launched.

Displaying this message raised awareness and reminded users about the impending DOOM of end-of-life. Continuing to offer the free upgrade is an incentive for moving users to a supported OS. [Netmarketshare](#) shows Windows 7 utilization is still around 25-30% or about 1-in-3 computers still runs Windows 7.

I was contacted by Jeff – KA8SBI who felt there was a lot of F.U.D. about Windows 7 EOL in the media and he is content using his Windows XP machine. He pointed out "A lot of security flaws have been in the browser." A small number of browsers still support XP. Anti-malware and anti-virus programs still offer older operating system support as well.

Here's the argument against running old and outdated crap on the Internet. I am of the school of thought that if you're connecting any device to a larger network (ie: the Internet), that device (computer, Raspberry Pi, router, switch, server, security camera, TV, printer, DVR, repeater, hotspot, phone, car) must have currently supported operating systems and software. It is each user's responsibility on the network to be good citizens, follow best practices, and not act as a conduit for spreading malware and exploits. The most effective way to do this is by keeping devices updated and current.

The argument can be made that 'manufacturers force consumers to buy new devices by not providing any updates.' Everyone wants their stuff cheap and buying cheap crap leads to these problems. Manufactures barely break-even on most devices let alone leave any extra for updates beyond initial device release. Consumers want to use the device well beyond its serviceable life too.

A report released by the Commerce Department outlined things manufactures should do to reduce the number of attacks. It made some [good points but was mostly vague](#) [updated link for [the report](#)].



Early Microsoft Windows 10 free update notification aimed at tricking the user into installing software they don't want, similar tactics are used by spyware authors

Jeff's point about third-party anti-virus and anti-malware programs that still support XP is a valid one and will help. I stopped and don't recommend using third-party anti-virus because they were [found to downgrade the security](#) of an encrypted session, like ones established during financial transactions, interacting with health care providers, or really almost all Internet communications today.

Remember, though, nothing is ever 100% secure. Secure just means there are no known vulnerabilities – until a researcher or hacker finds one. To Jeff's point about the flaws being in the browser, the number that exist in the underlying operating system and supporting technologies including OS kernel, .NET framework, Office, database engines, media players, and graphics interpreters are just as important. Microsoft has never completely rebuilt Windows from scratch which is why vulnerabilities often apply across all versions of Windows. It's the same underlying computer code. Search for stories about important Windows patches. It will often include some verbiage like 'affects all versions of Windows.' Some exploits are deemed so bad that Microsoft actually went back and patched some EOL versions, like XP. That does not mean there are no other vulnerabilities because there is no patch. Microsoft is not spending resources on an 18-year-old piece of technology. Non-patched issues still make a system vulnerable and less secure overall.

[Ransomware](#) is malware that encrypts files of importance on a system. That is things like downloads, programs, documents, PDFs, spreadsheets, pictures, movies, intellectual property, databases, or public records on local and network attached storage devices. Encryption renders these files unreadable and unusable. The malware then demands a ransom payment to obtain the decryption key and restore files to their usable state. Ransomware is lucrative for the bad guys because no one has effective backups of their data. Various companies, schools, health care, manufacturing, oil and gas, infrastructure, and municipalities have all been infected with ransomware and often pay the ransom. It is an economic trade-off between how much of a payment are the bad guys demanding versus time and effort it would take to restore their systems. Do a search for "ransomware attack" in your favorite search engine and browse the stories to get an idea of the scope and effectiveness of ransomware.



One thing that caused me pause around the details of [the ransomware attack on the Georgia Department of Public Safety](#) was a comment about the communication systems being affected. Believe it or not, their old radio system was still functional. This got me thinking about the radio system that covers the state of Ohio or regional systems and how they could easily be taken offline because of this type of attack. I have no knowledge of any instances where these systems were involved in such an attack – this is simply theoretical.

As evidenced by the news story, it's realistic to believe these attacks can take down a state-of-the-art radio communications system. Could be due to a targeted attack, a single computer where someone clicked a malicious link, someone viewed an infected attachment in a dispatch center, or even because of an infected authorized vendor or reseller of radio equipment for the system. Target anyone? It was an [HVAC vendor that was compromised](#) which led to Target's massive credit card breach. How many public service agencies still have their old/analog communication systems functional to fall back on if something like this took place?

Ransomware infections are utilizing and spreading through the [EternalBlue exploit](#) and [BlueKeep exploit](#). EternalBlue, in particular, is present in all versions of Windows (see?) back to Windows 95!!

It targets and attacks weak configurations of the SMB (Server Message Block) protocol used for sharing files, printers, and devices between hosts on a network. Microsoft has patched all versions back to Windows XP, even though XP is EOL. Win95, Win98, WinNT, and Win2000 were never patched and won't be patched.

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The EternalBlue vulnerability still exists in fully patched systems running those operating systems.

I will keep using Windows 7 in the shack and as my Virtual Machine OS when I need a Windows VM. It will get replaced eventually. The reason I replace it will probably come due to loss of functionality, loss of application or hardware support for a particular program or device I want to use. Firefox was noted for supporting older operating systems. However, after 3 years of extended XP support, Firefox dropped support due to low usage and significant development time being devoted to working around issues in the operating system instead of providing enhancements on supported platforms. Sooner-than-later Windows 7 support will be dropped in favor of more recent and supported platforms.



Impending DOOM

Don't have to jump ship on Windows 7 now unless there is a specific reason. Maybe a new computer device purchase is imminent, which will include Windows 10. Or if it's desired to still use the old machine, maybe consider a move to a supported version of [Linux](#)!

Windows 7 is dead, long live Windows 7!

2020 ARRL Great Lakes Convention

[The Great Lakes Division Convention and Hamfest](#) 2020 sponsored by the Toledo Mobile Radio Association will be here soon. It is a two-day event with ARRL Great Lakes Convention Forums on Saturday, March 14, 2020 followed by the Toledo Hamfest on the 15th. I've been asked to give two presentations back-to-back on Saturday. Tentatively, the first on the Raspberry Pi and how it became a popular device with makers followed by NBEMS philosophy. I'm very proud of both presentations. The NBEMS philosophy has been presented as training in the Ohio Section and adopted by other ARES groups in other Sections. Details, locations, times, and tickets are all available on the convention's website. Hope to see you there!

Thanks for reading and 73...

73... de Jeff – K8JTK

From the Section Emergency Coordinator

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ARES Red Cross Survey

Ohio ARES considers the Emergency Management Agency our 'primary customer' – our first priority should always be to the EMA for emergency and exercise activities. In most cases, other 'Partner' agencies will have a seat at a county EOC table, making it easy for us to coordinate service to them as well.



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Another primary partner that we need to consider is the Red Cross. In many cases, Red Cross facilities are made available to our ham radio organizations. We regularly envision staffing Red Cross shelters with ARES operators... but how well do we know our Red Cross partners? We decided to take a simple survey to find out!

Thanks to 36 EC's, we can put together a picture of ARES interaction after gathering responses to our "Survey Monkey" questionnaire.

Exactly half of those who responded report they have a Red Cross chapter in their county. Contact with the Red Cross varies. When asked about regular contact, the results varied. I'm guessing that some of the responses take into consideration the lack of chapters in that county, but I'm sure there are others with chapters who do not have regular contact.

A great deal	5.56%	2
A lot	16.67%	6
A moderate amount	25.00%	9
A little	22.22%	8
None at all	30.56%	11

One of the benefits afforded to many counties is the use of the chapter facility. When asked if you had meetings or functions at your local chapter, 10 answered yes. In some counties, such as my home county of Delaware, our club meets regularly at the chapter, and we maintain a fairly large all-band station with a tower and wire antennas. We also stage Field Day at this location. I have been with several other counties who have the same benefit. It's good for us, and it's good for the Red Cross!

In more detail, 9 counties report having a permanent radio installation with antennas. 3 Report portable temporary installations (no existing facilities. The majority (21) report having no arrangement. 1 does not permit access.

So, what kind of relationship do we have? When asked if you had a response agreement with the chapter, 12 (35%) reported they do, while 23 (65%) said they had no agreement. (Remember those counties without a chapter will affect this result.)

With or without an agreement, there are occasions when we can work with the Red Cross to keep our relationship alive. In the past two years, 15 (42%) say you have worked a Red Cross event or drill. 21 (58%) said you had not.

These are interesting results, and they do point out a need to rejuvenate our relationship. On the state level, I'm making arrangements to meet with the regional communications group this month to see if we can step up our game! The winter months are great for meeting with your Directors to see if there are plans for drills in which we can participate, opportunities to discuss and demo new technology and just stay in touch! As the saying goes, "The middle of an emergency is NOT the time to be exchanging business cards!"

It's time to mark your calendar for April 4! That is the date for our 2020 Ohio ARES Conference! We will gather at the Marion Tech / OSU Marion campus at 0800 for a day of information and training.

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This year's theme will be something we can ALL apply at home: managing events. We will talk about communicating for small to gigantic events- and we hope there will be plenty of tips and tricks you can take back home! Thanks to the Marion County ARES for hosting us again this year. I truly hope to see you there!

One of our regular activities has been the January VHF Simplex Contest, and this year was a fun time for many operators. Our scores have been posted on the ohsimplex.org website. Many thanks to those who participated! It appears that more counties were included in many logs, so conditions must have been a bit better than last year. We also have received suggestions to enhance the rules for next year, and I appreciate that attention to detail! Many thanks to Jason for posting the website- it makes us look to be a real, bona fide contest!!

Top Score & Top Rover: WW8TF

Top Portable: K8GQB

Top Fixed Location: N8LRG

Call	County	QSO Points	Counties	Total Score
WW8TF	(Rover)	710	21	29845
K8GQB	Columbiana	659	17	11303
KE8LND	Ashland	320	11	7165
N8LRG	Knox	136	24	3264
N8ESG/R	(Rover)	195	14	2755
K8EMR	Seneca	193	14	2702
N8JLM	Medina	293	8	2320
KI8B	Wayne	183	9	1647
K8EMA	Shelby	198	6	1238
W8DPK	Madison	102	12	1224
W8KKC	Scioto	130	6	1060
KW8EMA	Medina	82	10	952
N8EE	Marion	77	12	924
K8BCR	(Rover)	64	7	921
W8UCO	Union	64	21	818
K8ZT	Summit	68	11	748
W8THV	Franklin	79	8	682
W8BDE	Summit	118	4	572
KD8CMN	Wayne	65	7	555
K8QIK	Fairfield	58	7	506
KE8ECT	Marion	61	9	495
W8NFM	Hamilton	163	3	489
N8MPF	Cuyahoga	117	4	468
KM8V	Cuyahoga	140	3	444
KC8PUW	Coshocton	60	7	420
N8WAC	Wood	60	6	360

W8OMR	Franklin	63	4	302
KD8ODF	Mahoning	35	5	290
W8ZX	Tuscarawas	44	5	270
KB8VIP	Coshocton	28	6	268
AA8BN	(Rover)	22	5	245
N8ME	Madison	46	5	230
K8SAS	Cuyahoga	11	3	194
KE8MSX	Cuyahoga	35	4	140
WC8RK	Warren	22	6	132
KC8PSW	(Rover)	21	2	109
AC8UJ	(Rover)	11	6	91
KD3WCO	Greene	29	3	87
AC8AP	Erie	70	1	70
W8KVK	Athens	14	3	42
AD8CM	Franklin	13	2	26
N8FJ	Montgomery	7	2	14
KE8NNX	Summit	7	2	14
KG6DI	Meigs	3	3	9
KE8DKC	Greene	1	1	1
WD8SAB	*(no score attached)*			

Don't forget Ohio NVIS antenna day, April 25!

73, Stan N8BHL

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

From the Affiliated Club Coordinator

Tom Sly, WB8LCD - ACC

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Is your club a “Special Service Club” (SSC)? I was surprised when I discovered how few clubs in the Ohio Section actually *were* a Special Service Club. Right now, the number seems to be approximately 9% (Currently there are 116 affiliated clubs in the OH Section – you do the math!). While not every club should be a Special Service Club (for instance, clubs that exist for a single purpose such as a contesting club, might not qualify as a Special Service Club by definition), most clubs should seek to attain that designation.

By definition, if your club is a Special Service Club, you will be doing some of the most important things that affiliated clubs exist for. Those “things” include: Bringing new Hams into the hobby.



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Helping your club members advance in their knowledge and experience of Ham Radio. Encouraging your membership to also belong to the ARRL (more on this later). Providing service to the community. The wording on the certificate is pretty clear, it's not a certificate of achievement as much as it is recognition for what you club will strive to do in the next two years:

“This certificate indicates the club’s commitment for the next two years to improve the visibility of Amateur Radio as a positive force in the community by assisting in emergencies, and providing and encouraging training; as well as to further club activities for the betterment of the membership and the Amateur Radio Service.”

If your club has never been a Special Service Club, go to the ARRL Website at (<http://www.arrl.org/ssc-application>) and work your way through the online application. There you will find out what it takes to become a Special Service Club, and you might just find that you are already eligible! At the very least, fill out the application, print it out,

look at your answers and build it into your club program to include activities and events that will fill in the areas that you may be weak in now. By doing so, you will also become a better club for your members.

John – KD8MQ (my predecessor as ACC) has told me that there were approximately a half dozen more SSC Clubs when he left than those that show up on the list today. That tells me that sometime in the recent past there are some clubs that missed their renewal date! The SSC designation is valid for two years and then needs to be renewed every two years thereafter. If you are one of the clubs that missed it – go to the link listed above, fill out the form, submit it as a “renewal”. Please – keep your SSC status up to date!

I’ve mentioned before that I want to support the youthful hams in the OH Section. I have names and callsigns of about a dozen. Please, almost every club has a youngster or two in it. Help me get these young hams together so they can experience the fun of Ham Radio with their peers. Once I get a few more on the list I will start with a “youth only” net. More details will follow on that later, but I need to know who your young hams are, so I can let them know directly about this opportunity to make friends with other hams in their own age group.

Carole Perry – WB2MGP – has asked me to spread the word that she is now accepting nominations for her "Young Ham Lends a Hand" contest. Any young ham, age 19 or below can be nominated if they have demonstrated one of the basic tenets of amateur radio...service and volunteerism.

All she needs is a description of why this young ham should be honored for his or her "giving back" by helping their community, or offering assistance at local fund raisers or events, or assisting military personnel or the elderly. They can also be nominated for their efforts in recruiting and/or mentoring other young people into amateur radio. Nominations accepted until the end of April. Winner will be announced at Hamvention Youth Forum. Prize...\$100 She is now accepting nominations at wb2mvp@gmail.com .



If you have young hams in your club – GET THEM to HAMVENTION! Make sure they attend Carole’s Youth Forum. They need to see that this is not just a hobby for “old guys”. The Youth Forum is held on Saturday morning and features youth Hams from around the country. Friday morning Carole has a forum for youth leaders that is definitely worth attending. Be there. You won’t be disappointed.



Another Youth program that I want to mention here is the “Dave Kalter Memorial Youth DX Adventure”. <https://www.qsl.net/n6jrl/> This is an *outstanding* program that gives our young hams the opportunity to be the DX. If chosen for the trip, it is an opportunity for youthful operators to participate, with all expenses paid, on a DXpedition where they will be the station that will get world-wide attention. For 2020 they will be visiting PJ2T on Curacao. Having had the chance to operate from PJ2T myself, I can tell you they will have the experience of a lifetime! Please, support this program! I also want to point you to the PJ2T website and the Caribbean Contesting Consortium. <http://www.pj2t.org/cc/default.htm> These

guys have hosted YDXA several times and have certainly done their part to encourage and promote youth participation in Amateur Radio.

You need to get your young hams involved in these and other programs that will have a profound influence on their lives and go a long way to support their interest in Amateur Radio. They will see the magic that they might miss as the one youngster at the local ham meeting with a bunch of old timers.

Don’t forget, every member of your club should be a member of the ARRL. We’ll PAY you to get them enrolled and renewed! For every new ARRL membership submitted through your club, your club keeps \$15.00! And for every renewal submitted through the club, your club keeps \$2.00. That’s easy money. The necessary forms are available at:

<http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Membership/ARRLAffiliatedClubMembershipApplication.pdf>



It’s not too early for you club to start thinking about Field Day. I know that some clubs approach Field Day like it’s a contest, and they want to win it! (Disclaimer: Field Day is not a “contest” – scores are kept only for the amusement of the participants) I’ve been to a lot of Field Day sites through the years and there are basically 2 types of people at each one: those that are doing Field Day, and those that are just there to hang out. First off, if you are “doing” Field Day, you are there and are involved in the set up and the operation of the stations. But, what are you doing to make things better? Improve your score? If you aren’t trying to do something better, increase your skills or increase your knowledge, then you’re probably as good as you’re ever going to get. There’s an old saying that if you keep doing what you’ve always been doing, you’ll keep getting what you’ve always been getting. So, I’ve got to ask you – Have you peaked? Are you as good as you’ll ever get? I hope not. But if you’re happy with that, it’s your choice.

Same with all of you who just want to hang out. If that's what you want to do, ok. But I'm not going to go out with a whimper. I'm going to go out living life, doing the things I love, learning more every day. Meeting new people and having new experiences. I will not be comfortably numb.

Ham Radio is the Best Hobby in the World!

73 Tom WB8LCD

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

From the Public Information Coordinator

John Ross, KD8IDJ - PIC

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FROM THE PIC

A HAM IN THE FAMILY!

For as long as I have been writing this column, I have been amazed at the number of hams that are just "hiding in plain sight"!

I have found hams in barbershops, craft stores, car washes and...working 30 feet away from me across the hall! But last night...WOW...I discovered a ham living two blocks away...and it was A FAMILY MEMBER!!!!



As I was waiting for the local Weather Net to start, I began doodling on the internet typing in a search for amateur radio operators in my zip code. The list wasn't very long...but one name stood out...it was, and I hope I have the conjugations correct, my sister-in-law's husband's brother!! He's a firefighter, a Frist Responder and we talked a while back about the new FIRSTNET system and amateur radio...complete with a demonstration and a tour of the ham shack. Well, apparently, he went ahead and passed his test and got his license. I have known this guy for nearly 35 years and just found out now he's a ham! Maybe more holiday dinner invitations are in order.

I don't know if we need special shirts, a hat or an antenna glued to the top of our heads but, thankfully, there are lot of hams out there, so we need to keep looking.

So, if you're not sure...ask...and if the answer is no offer to help get them a license and on the air. We have a lot to offer and share as Amateur Radio operators...even to neighbors and relatives!

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2020 OHIO SECTION NEWSLETTER CONTEST...UPDATE



As unbelievable as it may sound...the deadline to enter the 2020 Ohio Section Newsletter Contest is only FOUR months away!!!

There still is plenty of time...the deadline is June 30th...but entries have been rolling in and 2020 has all of the hallmarks of being a banner year for the contest.

In just the first two months of this year entries have increased over all previous years! I'm glad to see the participation and the interest including some new newsletters. Keep them coming!

Remember you'll need to submit two DIFFERENT copies of your club's newsletter to be entered. Just email, snail mail or call me...I'll come pick it up!

PIC PODCAST



← Our PIC PODCAST is on assignment this month. In March you can listen to Newsletter Judge Jean Fox talk about her approach to reviewing newsletters and some more helpful tips.

Jean is talented and experienced journalist. She's worked for CCN and handled public relations for several major companies here in Ohio.

FEBUARY FOR HAMS

February has been a busy month for amateur radio.

First, the ground hog prediction of an early spring and the possibility of more sunspot activity! It's also hamfest time. I've been to one and headed to another in mid-March at the Great Lakes Convention and Hamfest. There are a lot of hamfests lined up for this year including the big Hamvention in May.



It's good idea...and fun...to go the hamfests and to the meetings of other clubs. There is a lot to learn and a lot to share about Amateur Radio.

Finally... by the time you get this I hope to have passed my test to upgrade to EXTRA! I've been taking classes for nearly two months and hundreds of practice exams and I think I'm ready...but you never know. I do, however, know this...studying with a class is the way to go. There is more conversation, more questions and more learning about things you already thought you knew!!! It's all worth the effort...I'll let you know the outcome next month.

Thanks it for now...73

John Ross KD8IDJ Public Information Coordinator Ohio Section ARRL

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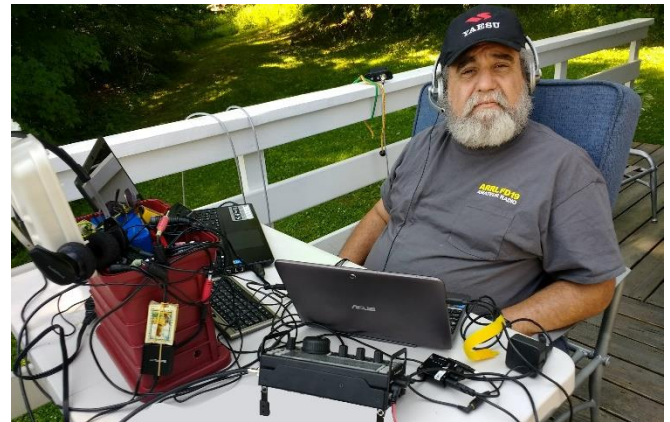
From the Section Youth Coordinator

Anthony Luscre, K8ZT - SYC

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A Long History

This month I want to talk about a potential entry point for exposing both youth and seniors to Amateur Radio. This year marks the 100th anniversary of the first commercial broadcast radio station in the USA- KDKA in Pittsburgh. Let's take a look at how you might be able to use this in Amateur Radio outreach.



First, we will look at seniors (and other adults). Here the contact point is your local Library and/or Historical Society. Both of these organizations are often looking for free programs for their members and community (and free programs often attract senior citizens among others). First, you will want to start developing your presentation and then start soliciting presentation opportunities. Once you have a potential audience you will want to tweak your presentation. Make sure it is interesting, visually appealing, includes video and sound and other things to capture your audience's attention. Don't forget to mention how many early listeners built their own receivers and how hams carry on these traditions. Bring examples of old radios to show (if you don't have any check with fellow club members or use images from website links below). For this group, you may want to put a major focus on the sentimental nature of old radio broadcasts that attendees will remember. Along with commercial radio history, you can subtly include information on Amateur Radio, your local radio club and licensing classes they may be planning.



Now let's take a look at youth. One of the things I always suggest to clubs or individuals that are trying to get a foot in the door with local schools is to focus on things the school is already teaching and apply a radio connection to it. I have provided a number of examples of this on my "Radio Day Agenda" document- tiny.cc/rdagenda. The 100th Anniversary of Commercial Broadcast Radio can be adapted as a Social Studies US History lesson. It could also then be expanded into a Language Arts lesson on scriptwriting, news delivery, etc. It could also be great for a drama class as many early radio broadcasts focused on the air dramas and comedies. Or you might focus on the broadcast of music for a music class. As you see the possibilities are many.

The third way you can use this idea is to develop a program to present at your local radio club meeting.

To get you started in your research for either project, I recently ran across a website packed with radio history in the form of old magazines and books. The [American Radio History.com](http://AmericanRadioHistory.com) website contains a wide variety of both commercial and amateur radio historic publications. Of particular interest for this project:

- [Early Radio History](#)
- BROADCASTING: Station and Network Albums and Brochures

Even if you are not doing a presentation on broadcast radio, some highlights for hams:

- [Includes 30+ years of ARRL QST Magazine 1915-1949](#)
- [73 Magazine](#)
- [Ham Radio Magazine](#)
- [Ham Radio Horizons](#)
- [Popular Communications](#)
- [Ham Radio Today](#)
- [Books from the Howard Sams Library](#)

Music fans will find the many years of Billboard magazine interesting. There is also a collection of radio broadcasting music news. Relive AM radio stations of your youth with [coverage maps](#) of Ohio.

Here are other sites that may be helpful are:

- The Broadcast Archive- www.olderadio.com
- Antique Radio Photo Gallery and Identification Guide- <http://classicradiogallery.com>
- Smithsonian- [Radio Activity: The 100th Anniversary of Public Broadcasting](#)
- PBS People and Discoveries- [KDKA begins to broadcast](#) (don't miss small links to other radio resources at the bottom of the page)
- [Broadcasting The History Of Radio](#)
- [Radio, In Cleveland](#)
- [History of the Radio: From Inception to Modern Day](#)



- [Radio Broadcasting, History of](#)
- [The History of the Radio Industry in the United States to 1940](#)
- [UNDERSTANDING MEDIA AND CULTURE- Evolution of Radio Broadcasting](#)
- [Timeline: The History of Public Broadcasting in the U.S.](#)
- Youtube
 - [History of Broadcast Radio](#)
 - [Early Radio Shows](#)

Remember I would love to hear from you about any presentation you develop, especially if you are willing to share material with other potential presenters. Email your info to me at k8zt@arrl.net.

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

73, Anthony K8ZT

From the Section Traffic Manager

David Maynard, WA3EZN – STM

wa3ezn@att.net

More on Pactor, Winlink and NTSD but first this info on OSSBN and SKYWARN®.

By the time you read this the Mansfield Mid-Winter Hamfest will be over. Did you get your coffee and donuts at the OSSBN meeting? I hope everyone attending the hamfest had fun and got home safely. Minutes of the OSSBN meeting are usually posted on the OSSBN website: <http://www.ossbn.org/> In March the OSSBN will be electing a Net Manager for a one year term and an Advisory Board member for a three year term. Here is the current OSSBN net schedule.

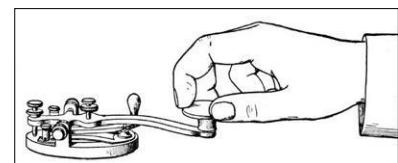


OHIO SINGLE SIDEBAND NET

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

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

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



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OHIO HF CW TRAFFIC NETS

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

All net frequencies plus or minus QRM.

Ohio also has a network of VHF traffic nets. The VHF net information below may contain errors concerning net times, dates and frequencies. This can happen when the net managers fail to keep me informed of any changes.

OHIO LOCAL VHF TRAFFIC NETS

VHF NETS	NET TIMES	FREQUENCY	NET MANAGERS
BRTN	MON, WED, SAT 9:30 PM	145.230 PL 110.9	W8DJG
COTN	7:15 PM DAILY	146.970	KD8TTE
MVTN	7:00 PM Mon	146.640	KC8HTP
NWOHARES	6:30 PM DAILY	147.375	N8TNV
TCTTN	Sun, Tues, Wed, Fri 9 PM	146.94	WB8YY5
TATN	8:00 PM DAILY	146.670 PL123	WG8Z

BRTN	Burning River Traffic Net
COTN	Central Ohio Traffic Net
MVTN	Miami Valley Traffic Net
NWOHARES	Northwest Ohio ARES Net
TCTTN	Tri-County Traffic Training Net
TATN	Tri-State Amateur Traffic Net

NWS SKYWARN® Storm Spotter Program

In most years, thunderstorms, tornadoes and lightning caused hundreds of injuries and deaths and billions in property and crop damages. To obtain critical weather information, the National Weather Service (NWS) established SKYWARN® with partner organizations. SKYWARN® is a volunteer program with between 350,000 and 400,000 trained severe weather spotters. These volunteers help keep their local communities safe by providing timely and accurate reports of severe weather to the National Weather Service.

Although SKYWARN® spotters provide essential information for all types of weather hazards, the main responsibility of a SKYWARN® spotter is to identify and describe severe local storms. In an average year, the United States experiences more than 10,000 severe thunderstorms, 5,000 floods and more than 1,000 tornadoes.

Since the program started in the 1970s, the information provided by SKYWARN® spotters, coupled with Doppler radar technology, improved satellite and other data, has enabled NWS to issue more timely and accurate warnings for tornadoes, severe thunderstorms and flash floods. SKYWARN® storm spotters are citizens who form the nation's first line of defense against severe weather. There can be no finer reward than to know that their efforts have given communities the precious gift of time--seconds and minutes that can help save lives.

Who is eligible and how do I get started?

NWS encourages anyone with an interest in public service to join the SKYWARN® program. Volunteers include police and fire personnel, dispatchers, EMS workers, public utility workers and other concerned private citizens. Individuals affiliated with hospitals, schools, churches and nursing homes or who have a responsibility for protecting others are also encouraged to become a spotter. Training is free and typically lasts about 2 hours.

You'll learn:

- Basics of thunderstorm development
- Fundamentals of storm structure
- Identifying potential severe weather features
- Information to report
- How to report information
- Basic severe weather safety



WEATHER SPOTTER REMINDER

Next month is March and that means there will be multiple weather spotter training sessions over most of the state of Ohio. These training sessions and a good weather alert radio or cell phone alert app are two of the steps you can take to help protect yourself and your family if a severe weather situation arises.

Due to a staffing shortage, the NWS office in Cleveland will not be holding any resident (in person) SKYWARN® classes for Spring 2020.

They are looking at alternate options and will update accordingly. If you have any additional questions contact Christine Riley at christine.riley@noaa.gov until February 26th. Beginning February 27th, contact Sarah Jamison at sarah.jamison@noaa.gov.

NWS WILMINGTON OHIO SPOTTER TRAINING SCHEDULE

Classes are free and open to the public, but some may require advanced registration.

You do not need to be a resident of the county in which a talk is being held in order to attend.

Each class lasts about 1.5 to 2 hours and is led by a National Weather Service meteorologist who will discuss techniques and safety for severe weather spotting. Once you attend a class, you are an officially trained spotter and can report severe weather to your NWS office.

Tuesday, February 25 6:30pm	Hamilton County OH
Wednesday, February 26 6:30pm	Brown/Clermont County OH
Thursday, February 27 6:00pm	Butler/Warren County OH
Monday, March 2 6:45pm	Ripley County IN
Tuesday, March 3 6:00pm	Preble County OH

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Tuesday, March 10	6:00pm	Clinton County OH
Wednesday, March 11	6:30pm	Union County OH
Saturday, March 14	9:00am	Dayton/Montgomery County Basics Training
	1:30pm	Advanced Spotter Training Class
Monday, March 16	6:30pm	Darke County OH
Tuesday, March 24	6:30pm	Logan County OH
Wednesday, March 25	6:00pm	Fairfield County OH
Thursday, March 26	6:00pm	Fayette County OH
Saturday, March 28	9:00am	Franklin County OH
Monday, March 30	6:00pm	Auglaize/Mercer County OH
Tuesday, March 31	6:00pm	Champaign County OH
Wednesday, April 1	6:00pm	Pickaway County OH

All events shown in Eastern Time. Location and maps available on the NWS website by clicking on the location listed on their website. I could not copy the links to list them here. Use this link for more information and locations <https://www.weather.gov/iln/spottertrainingschedule>

Digital Traffic Network

WINLINK is a Windows program for MBO's which allows simultaneous operation on VHF packet and HF Amtor, Pactor and Clover (with suitable controllers), and provides store-and-forward message handling. WinLink was originally written by Vic Poor W5SMM as a development of his APLink (Amtor/Packet Link) program, and has been extensively rewritten and developed by Hans Kessler N8PGR.



Following is information from the DTN Coordinator. Remember we are using Pactor. The only TNC supported for Pactor other than SCS, and it is slow Pactor 1 is the AEA PK-232 MBX with the current firmware 7.2 release. Airmail supports both the Kantronics KAM Plus, KAM 98 and KAM XL as well as the PK-232 MBX as above. You could buy one of these modems used, although I would only buy a used PK-232MBX with the current firmware 7.2 release because it is the only TNC that is common to both Winlink Express and Airmail.

Unfortunately you cannot access the Digital Traffic Network (DTN) by using the Signal:ink via a sound card method.

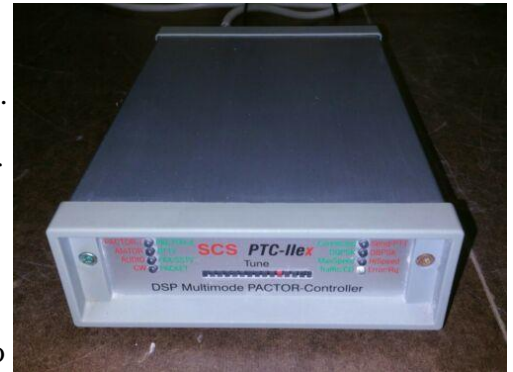
If someone only wants to post messages on DTN they can do this using Winlink Express via the Radiograms RRI template in the list of templates or forms. This works by sending the message via Winlink-Telnet to a station who will put the message into the DTN system. Note that these messages are in Radiogram format This has been tested and worked well but note that someone is taking the radiogram off the internet and putting it into the DTN network. I question if this is a good ideal for emergency and priority traffic and will there be a delay.

Be advised that The ARRL NTS Methods and Practices is no longer relevant for DTN because it has been replace by the DTN guideline which you can access here: http://nts-digital.net/mw/index.php/Main_Page This is the DTN digital web/wiki pages.

You could access DTN if a hub has Winmor access. Most of them do not and there are none in Eastern Area. This means that no Ohio operators can be a digital relay stations (NTSD) with using Winmor Pactor and one of the modems already mentioned.

SCS Pactor II Modem

Three components are needed to set up a Pactor station: a radio transceiver (and antenna), a data controller (also known as a terminal note controller or TNC), and a computer with some appropriate software. The controller is the only specialized piece of equipment, and is essentially a radio modem, similar in concept to the ubiquitous computer modem used for telephone connections. The controller generates the audio signals that are sent via the radio transmitter and decodes the incoming audio signals from the radio receiver. So the primary connection between the controller and the radio is two audio signals (audio in and audio out), plus a PTT (push-to-talk) signal to tell the radio when to transmit.



The only difficult part of setting up a Pactor station is the variety of equipment that is available, none of which uses compatible connections. This means that cables need to be made up especially for each installation, which is the number one source of problems. (Number two is figuring out the correct transmit frequency).

Almost any sort of computer will do the job. The controllers all have a pretty reasonable command set, and at the basic level any sort of "dumb terminal" program can be used effectively, so even the simplest computer is capable of handling digital communications. For sending more than the occasional message, however, cutting and pasting messages with a dumb terminal program gets pretty tedious and some sort of specialized terminal program such as Airmail will make things much easier. Marsel

In checking Ebay for used SCS modems I have found the prices ranged from \$700 to over a \$1000 depending on which modem you are buying. This is a rather large expense for the ham that want to be a casual Digital Relay Station.

Thanks to Marcell AD8CM for showing me how to send a radiogram via Winlink Express. I'll have to stop here and may be able to do more later.

73

David WA3EZN
SECTION TRAFFIC MANAGER - OHIO

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

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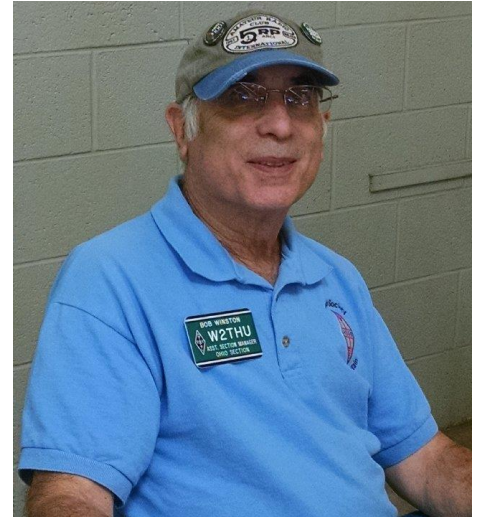
From the State Government Liaison

Bob Winston W2THU – SGL

w2thu@arrl.net

OHIO'S RECENTLY PROPOSED ANTI-TEXTING LAW – OUCH!

Over the years our state and municipal legislators have proposed and passed laws aimed at preventing motorists from texting while driving. This is good because how can you pay attention to your driving if you're looking down at your mobile phone? Well, you can't. Whenever a new proposal comes up, Scott and I are deluged with comments from Ohio hams wanting to know if the new law will affect their mobile radio use. Typically, we are asked what is the League going to do about it?



When the current anti-texting bill was introduced, we reviewed it and found that it was narrowly written to cover texting only. Presently, texting is only a secondary offense in Ohio, meaning that you have to be stopped for something else before a peace officer can cite you for texting. I wrote in my SGL column in 2018 that “the so-called enhanced penalty is a \$100 fine in addition to the normal fine and court costs. It seems to me that anybody fool enough to text while driving is not going to be dissuaded by another \$100 out of their pocket.”

A lot of folks must have seen it that way because last week Gov. DeWine announced on TV that he is supporting Ohio Senate bill **SB-285** that in no uncertain terms bans texting while driving with DUI type penalties. It also makes texting a primary offense. Unfortunately, it is so broadly written that in its present form, it makes it very difficult to operate our ham radios while driving.

SB-285 is a very long read (66 pages) that proposes to amend many sections of the Ohio Revised Code pertaining to driving. The problem with the bill from our point of view is that the subject matter is referred to as “any wireless communication device.” There are exceptions, but they do not allow the driver to touch the device with any part of their body. Therefore, doesn't this ban holding your microphone while operating your mobile rig, something we've been doing since at least the 1930s?

Curiously, if this is true, **SB-285** doesn't ban holding a microphone that is connected to a PA loudspeaker on top of your truck, because a public address system is clearly not a wireless communications device. This makes no sense.

Crafting legislation is a very difficult process, especially when it attempts to cover so much ground as this bill does. It raises a lot of questions, some of which will have to be resolved in the courts. However, our goal is to lobby the legislature to amend **SB-285** to allow Ohio amateurs to continue the public service it has always provided while operating mobile. In this way we can have an effective anti-texting bill that does not impinge on our great hobby.

Rest assured that your ARRL Ohio section will actively participate in the legislative process, through committee testimony and other means, to carve out an exemption for amateur radio. We support a bill meant to stop texting while driving, but we do not support a bill that outlaw's amateur radio mobile operations in the state of Ohio. If you think you can help, please contact me or Scott.

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ARES Training Update

Jim Yoder, W8ERW – ARES Data Manager

w8erw@arrl.net

ARES Training Update

Global warming has forgotten my thermometer. I am registering 11 degrees this morning in Fremont. It's Friday and the Mansfield Hamfest is coming Sunday. Surely the weather will give us all a break and warm up so that we can walk around between the buildings and enjoy a great Hamfest this year.



I think we are all itching by now to get outside and begin working on our outdoor ambitions, maybe plan for the garden this year or of course get started on an antenna project. I've neglected my HF station since moving back to Ohio as there were plenty of other things that needed my attention first. I am resolving to correct that omission as soon as it warms up a bit more. It will be a compromise within a city lot that has no trees. But shucks, what is there about our hobby that does not require a tradeoff here and there. Time and sufficient funds are always in contention as we set our priorities. I do have a couple of ideas for dealing with the limited space I have and no natural support structures. I also have the neighbors power drop crossing my lot right where the tower I have stacked in the garage and waiting should logically go. I may have to see if AEP could relocate that for me.

I hear the Toledo area Hams are going to be getting a high profile AREDN MESH network node up and operational soon. Working with the Toledo Mobile Radio Association TMRA, NW-AREDN USERS have plans to establish their first network location in West Toledo with additional plans for future AREDN MESH Nodes in the surrounding areas including Wood, Sandusky, Seneca and perhaps Ottawa Counties. The group has been working diligently in planning for an initial roll out and has established themselves as the local subject matter experts. I look forward to working with them as they undertake this worthwhile effort.

The folks at AREDNMESH.org have been working on the latest firmware developments that will include updates to the two basic elements of what makes AREDN operate.

OPEN-WRT is the foundation of the AREDN MESH architecture along with OLSR, Optimized Link State Routing, both of which are being improved and incorporated into future releases of the AREDN firmware. Initial builds are currently being tested with generally good results. My hat is off to this great team for their hard work in developing another tool in our ARES bag of tricks. Have a look at what they are doing here: <https://www.arednmesh.org/>.

Did you know that we here in Ohio have the largest number of active Hamshack Hotline stations, more than any other state? It's a fact as recently reported. Ohio now has 113 Hamshack Hotlines in service. If you have not yet looked into this, you may want to do so. The service is free to any licensed Amateur and provides a 4 digit number on their VOIP service connecting Hams all over the world. This is another service with great utility for our ARES capability. Locally, the EOC's in Sandusky and Seneca Counties are equipped as are many of our local Amateurs. The service is regularly used and is regarded as superior in quality to the service provided by the local VOIP provider. Check this out at <https://hamshackhotline.com/>.

ARES Training continues to increase again this month and we are now showing some 1,702 members in the training database with approximately 9,100 training certificates registered. Many of you are progressing along towards level upgrades while others are coming onboard with NIMS initial training. Still others are pursuing the large list of available FEMA online courses as well as other relevant training opportunities.

After you successfully complete one or more of the online FEMA courses, they will send you a link via email that will point you to the certificate of completion that we need to register you in the training database. Once you go to this link, save the certificate as a .pdf file on your PC and forward that to your local EC and me. Do not forward the email as we cannot get to your certificate that way in many cases due to the nature of some email programs. Ideally, we would like to see individual copies of each certificate. This will make it much easier in the event of a disaster situation when we must validate your credentials with the served agency. Obviously, there are situation where this cannot be done especially when the course and certificate were not recently obtained, and the original paper copy is all that is available. A scanned copy is suitable and again ideally individually and saved in .pdf format. We will accept whatever you have. When you email your certificates, please be sure to include your Call. This will ensure your certificate gets credited to you and filed appropriately.

Thanks again for your diligent work in supporting ARES training. Our ARRL Ohio Section is the greatest!

Jim
W8ERW
w8erw@arrl.net

National News

(from arrl and other sources)

Yasme Foundation Announces Grants and Excellence Awards

The [Yasme Foundation](#) Board of Directors announced several grants when it met in Orlando, Florida, on February 9. Financial support will go to:



- The Ethiopian Amateur Radio Society (ET3AA) for VHF equipment.
- The SU8WRC/SU8X demonstration station at World Radiocommunication Conference 2019 in Egypt.
- The Youth on the Air and HamSCI exhibits at Dayton Hamvention 2020.
- Contest University at Dayton Hamvention 2020, for audio/visual equipment, student materials, and live internet streaming.
- The Croatian Amateur Radio Association (HRS) to support the Youngsters on the Air (YOTA) 2020 IARU Region 1 annual summer camp.

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The Board also announced the individual and group recipients of the Yasme Excellence Award, which recognizes significant contributions to amateur radio through their service, creativity, effort, and dedication. The award may recognize technical, operating, or organizational achievement. The Yasme Excellence Award is in the form of a cash grant and an individually engraved crystal globe.

The latest recipients of the Yasme Excellence Award are James Sarté, K2QI, and Adrian Ciuperca, KO8SCA, for their efforts in combining the latest state-of-the-art technology, diplomatic skills, persistence, and leadership in reactivating the United Nations Headquarters club station, 4U1UN. Additional help with gathering equipment and logistical support was provided by RA9USU, NT2Y, NT2X, K2LE, and N2UN (SK).

The Yasme Foundation is a not-for-profit corporation organized to support scientific and educational projects related to amateur radio, including DXing and the introduction and promotion of amateur radio in developing countries.

####

AMSAT Declares End of Mission for Pioneer AO-85 CubeSat



AMSAT reports that the pioneering AMSAT-OSCAR 85 (AO-85) CubeSat, also known as Fox-1A, has gone silent.

“Having not been heard throughout the most recent period of full illumination, it is reasonable to believe the batteries have deteriorated to the point of no longer being able to power the transmitter,” AMSAT said this week. “Should some future event cause a cell to open, it is possible the satellite may be heard again, but for now, it is time to declare end-of-mission.

AO-85 was conceived as the first AMSAT CubeSat and designed to be a successor to the popular AO-51 Microsat. AO-85 was launched on October 8, 2015. Its success led to further Fox satellites AO-91, AO-92, AO-95, and RadFxSat2 / Fox-1E, which will be launched later this year.

The Fox-1E transponder was also spun off into a radio system now in orbit on board HuskySat-1, and soon to be in several other university CubeSats. — *Thanks to AMSAT News Service*

####

LED street lights raise RF pollution fears

(Submitted by Gregory Drezdson, WD9FTZ)

ABC TV News report on fears in Toledo, Ohio, that the installation new LED street lights will generate considerable RF pollution and interference.

"The Universe is full of noise," Mike Kehr, WA8SYD, an amateur radio operator said. "When you turn the radio on and hear that it has sound and there's no signal there, that's the noise of the universe."

The noise that the amateur radio community is concerned about is LED lights.

Kehr says the lights make a lot of electrical radio noise and, "that noise can rise to the level of actual interference."

Watch the TV news report at:

<https://www.13abc.com/content/news/Are-LED-Lights-A-Threat-To-Communication-567847131.html>

####

Radio frequency exposure test finds an iPhone 11 Pro exceeds the FCC's limit

(Submitted by Gregory Drezdzon, WD9FTZ)

A test by Penumbra Brands to measure how much radiofrequency energy an iPhone 11 Pro gives off found that the phone emits more than twice the amount allowable by the U.S. Federal Communications Commission.

The FCC measures exposure to RF energy as the amount of wireless power a person absorbs for each kilogram of their body. The agency calls this the specific absorption rate, or SAR. For a cellphone, the FCC's threshold of safe exposure is 1.6 watts per kilogram. Penumbra's test found that an iPhone 11 Pro emitted 3.8 W/kg.

Ryan McCaughey, Penumbra's chief technology officer, said the test was a follow up to an investigation conducted by the Chicago Tribune last year.

The Tribune tested several generations of Apple, Samsung, and Motorola phones, and found that many exceeded the FCC's limit.

Penumbra used RF Exposure Labs, an independent, accredited SAR testing lab for the tests (The Tribune also used the San Diego-based lab for its investigation). Penumbra was conducting the test, which also included testing an iPhone 7, to study its Alara phone cases, which the company says are designed to reduce RF exposure in a person.

When the FCC conducted a follow-up investigation, they did not find evidence that any of the phones exceed SAR limits. "That said, while the Tribune and Penumbra both used off-the-shelf phones, the FCC largely tested phones supplied by the manufacturers, including Apple," adds IEEE Spectrum.

Joel Moskowitz, a researcher at UC Berkeley, says that could be because there's a systematic problem with RF Exposure Lab's testing methods, or Apple allegedly rigged the software in the provided test phones to ensure they didn't put out enough power to exceed the SAR limit.

Both McCaughey and Moskowitz agree that the FCC's RF exposure testing is woefully out of date, as the limits reflect what the FCC deemed safe 25 years ago.

Read the IEEE Spectrum report at:

<https://spectrum.ieee.org/tech-talk/telecom/wireless/radio-frequency-exposure-test-iphone-11-pro-double-fcc-limits>

####

The Handbook Give Away

Hey Gang,

Have you registered for the “Handbook Giveaway” drawing for this month yet? If you haven’t, go to: <http://arrl-ohio.org/handbook.html> and get yourself registered now!

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



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

Club Corner

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

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



#####

Mahoning Valley ARA to hold Two-Meter Contest



Mahoning Valley Amateur Radio Association

The MVARA is excited to announce the Mahoning Valley Two Meter Contest **Saturday March 21, 2020 from 7:00 to 10:00 pm.** We thought it would be fun to see if valley hams would enjoy shaking off the winter doldrums by getting on the air for a local contest. It will be an opportunity to talk to old friends and make new ones.

Old timers may remember participating in the Lou Malice Memorial Contest years ago. The MV 2 Meter Contest will be a similar two-meter simplex contest. Stations will simply exchange grid squares as defined in the contest rules. The contest format will allow participants to evaluate their stations simplex capabilities. This information could be valuable in an emergency.

No 100-watt base station, no problem. There will be a low power category of 5 watts or less and a high-power category of greater than 5 watts so everyone will have a level playing field. Awards will be given for the highest scoring Low Power Home, High Power Home, Low Power Rover, and High-Power Rover stations at the June 11, 2020 MVARA meeting.

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For contest rules and a list of rover stations and the grids they plan to activate go to www.mvara.org/Mv2mc.html

This year the contest will be dedicated to the memory of pioneer Valley ham Lou Malice WA8PKN whose dedication to amateur radio touched the lives of all of us. Even if you never had the pleasure of knowing Lou you are still part of his legacy. Chances are good that the hams who inspired and encouraged you to become part of amateur radio were, themselves, inspired, encouraged, and trained by Lou.

We hope to hear you on the air! Scott Wilton KE4UHC – President

####

Technician License Classes Scheduled in Newark

Classes are being hosted and sponsored by: Earl, W8BR, in conjunction with, Newark Amateur Radio Association and the American Red Cross - East & South-Central Ohio Chapter

Place: 143 S. 30th St., Newark, Ohio 43055 <https://goo.gl/maps/CSbgxAbaU322>

Dates: Saturday, March 14; March 21; March 28; April 4; April 11. Saturday, April 18 will be the exam.

Time: 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM (No lunch break)

Registration: Students must register in advance with Mr. Earl Paazig, email@paazig.net or by phone at 740-828-1057 or 740-504-1950. Registrations may be limited.

Cost to participants: *The course is free however participants must provide and come prepared with writing and note-taking materials. This will be a fast-paced course. You won't want to miss a note. Students will be required to download and print a free copy of the Study Guide available at: <https://paazig.net/owncloud/index.php/s/wT13jVN4zm1BTOP/download>*

Optionally, the participants would be encouraged to purchase a book costing \$32.95 plus shipping. <http://www.arrl.org/shop/Ham-Radio-License-Manual/?page=1>

####

Pan Ohio Hope Ride Heroes of Hope! SAG Support



**Pan Ohio
Hope Ride**

The American Cancer Society will be hosting a ride in Columbus Ohio. Heroes of Hope is a single-day, family-friendly event that will give families and casual cyclists the opportunity to join the Pan Ohio Hope Ride community in support of vital American Cancer Society research, programs, and patient services.

To volunteer to provide SAG support for this event, please: [sign up here](#)

When: **Sunday, April 26, 2020**

Where: Scioto Audubon Metro Park, Columbus, OH

Details:

- Family-friendly trail routes ranging from 3-15 miles (all ages welcome)
- Fully-supported, scenic road routes of approximately 32.8 and 62 miles (18+ only)
- Post-ride celebration with food and fun for all ages
- Inspiration from some Heroes of Hope in the fight against cancer - researchers, patient navigators, and survivors
- Costume and bike decorating contests for kids and adults
- After party at local family-friendly brewery

####

Cleveland Marathon

As always, we are looking for a lot of help for the Cleveland Marathon **May 16 and 17**. Yes, it's unfortunately on Hamvention weekend as usual and no, they aren't going to change the date of the marathon just because of that (yes people have suggested that. Seriously)



We normally need about 10 people to work the 5k on Saturday ending about noon and about 40 to work the actual Marathon on Sunday ending about 3p. If you are available to help, please sign up. If you need to leave early, that usually is not a problem so please don't be afraid to ask. [Please sign up here.](#)

####

Maker Faire Coming



Saturday, May 16, 2020 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

The University of Akron Wayne College
1901 Smucker Road
Orrville, OH 44667

[>> Click Here <<](#) for more information

Upcoming Hamfests for 2020

03/01/2020 | WinterHamFest

Location: Elyria, OH

Sponsor: Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society

Website: www.wp.noars.net/hamfests/winter-hamfest/



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**03/14-15/2020 | Toledo Hamfest,
ARRL Great Lakes Division Convention**

Location: Perrysburg, OH
Sponsor: Toledo Mobile Radio Association
Website: <http://www.toledoglc.org/>

Great Lakes Convention Banquet

Hey Gang,

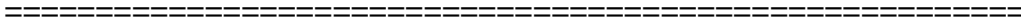
The clock is ticking fast to get your reservations for the Convention Banquet. If you are planning on going now is the time to get those reservations in to assure your seat at the banquet. Go to: <http://www.toledoglc.org/> for all the details on the banquet as well as the hamfest too!!

Wouff Hong Ceremony at the Great Lakes Convention

A Wouff Hong Ceremony will be held just after the ARRL Banquet on Saturday, March 14th

If you are interested in being inducted into the Royal Order of the Wouff Hong we need you to pre-register. This will assure you that you will have a seat at the Conclave.

[>> Click Here <<](#) to get registered



03/21/2020 | Mid-Ohio Valley ARC Hamfest

Location: Gallipolis, OH
Sponsor: Mid-Ohio Valley Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
Website: <http://sites.google.com/site/midohiovalleyarc/>

04/11/2020 | 66th Annual Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club Hamfest

Location: Cuyahoga Falls, OH
Sponsor: Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
Website: <http://www.cfarc.org/hamfest.php>

04/18/2020 | Portsmouth Radio Club Hamfest

Location: Portsmouth , OH
Sponsor: Portsmouth Radio Club
Website: <http://portsmouthradioclub.com>

04/26/2020 | Athens Hamfest

Location: Athens, OH
Sponsor: Athens County Amateur Radio Association
Website: <http://www.ac-ara.org/>

DX This Week
(from Bill, AJ8B)

DX This Week – Zones 6-7-8

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



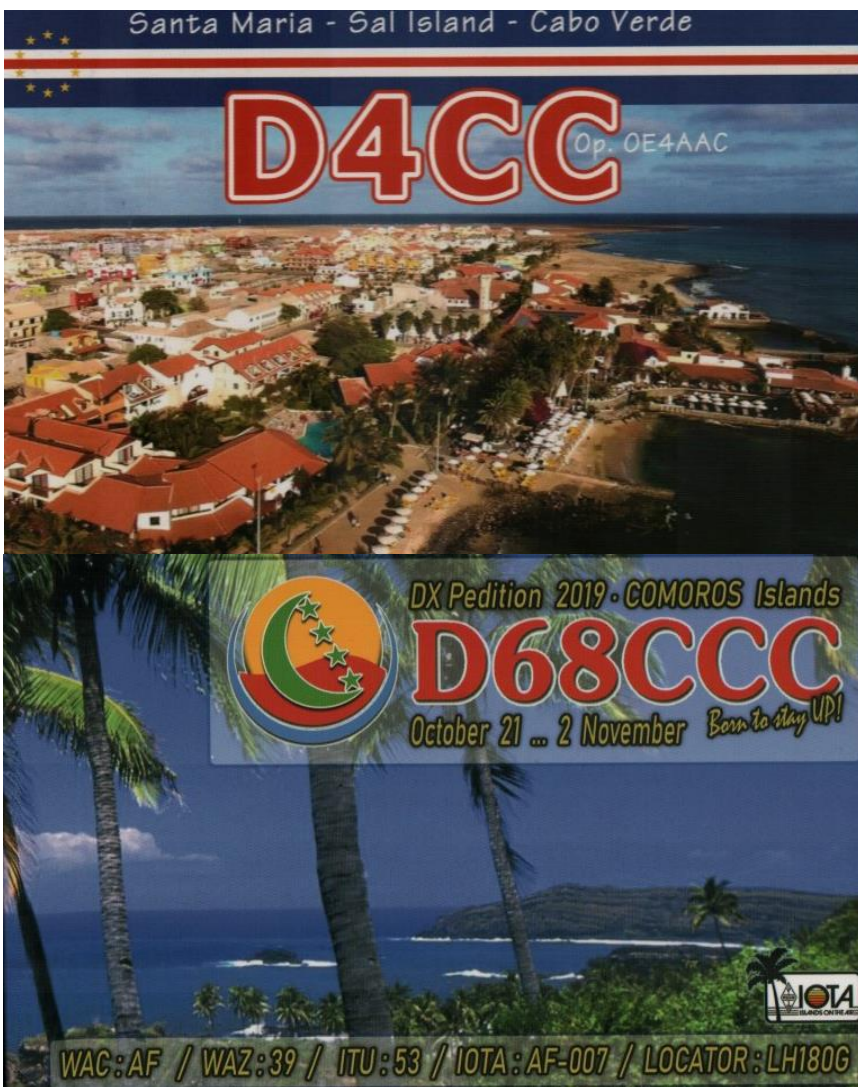
The weeks before and after a major DX contest are always filled with small and large DXpeditions which provides for quite a few entities to work, especially if you are participating in the CQ 2020 Marathon. This past week was no exception with Antigua & Barbuda, Argentina, Aruba, Asiatic Russia, Australia, Balearic Islands, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bermuda, Bonaire, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canary Islands, Cayman Islands, China, Croatia, Cuba, Curacao, Czech Republic, Ecuador, England, European Russia, Faroe Islands, Fed. Rep. of Germany, Fernando de Noronha, Finland, France, Greece, Guam, Guatemala, Hawaii, Honduras, Hong Kong, Hungary, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mariana Islands, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Montserrat, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Palau, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Puerto Rico, Republic of Korea, Serbia, Sicily,

Slovak Republic, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, St. Barthelemy, St. Kitts & Nevis, Sweden, Switzerland, Tanzania, Trinidad & Tobago, Turks & Caicos Islands, Ukraine, US Virgin Islands, and Wales being spotted. Did you get a chance to work the contest?

The Mailman delivered cards from DF5AN – Germany, CS25ARR – Portugal, D68CCC – Comoros Islands (Pictured), and D4CC – Cape Verde Island (Pictured). What did you get?

Zones 6, 7, and 8

This week we will continue our exploration of the CQ Zones. Zones 6,7, and 8 are the southern zones of North America, Central American Zones, and the West Indies Zone. Below is a breakout of the entities that are contained in the zones and the number of licensed amateurs if that data was available. One entity that is somewhat rare in this group is KG4, Guantanamo Bay. There are regular hams that activate KG4, but, make sure you work them when you have the chance as they are not common.



A few other entities in this group that are tough to work are XF4 – Revilla Gigedo, FO – Clipperton Island, HK4 – San Andreas Island, and YV0, Aves Island.



Zone 6. Southern Zone of North America: **XE** (Mexico) 7,059, **XF4** (Revilla Gigedo).

Zone 7. Central American Zone: **FO** (Clipperton), **HK0** (San Andres Is.), **HP** (Panama) 2024, **HR** (Honduras) 298, **TG** (Guatemala) 386, **TI** (Costa Rica) 937, **TI9** (Cocos Is.), **V3** (Belize), **YN** (Nicaragua) 564 and **YS** (El Salvador) 703.

Zone 8. West Indies Zone: **C6** (Bahamas), **CO** (Cuba) 1870, **FG** (Guadeloupe), **FJ** (St. Barts), **FM** (Martinique), **FS** (Saint Martin), **HH** (Haiti) 100, **HI** (Dominican Republic), **J3** (Grenada) 168, **J6** (St. Lucia), **J7** (Dominica), **J8** (St. Vincent), **KG4** (Guantanamo Base), **KP1** (Navassa Is.), **KP2** Virgin Islands, **KP4** (Puerto Rico), **KP5** (Navassa Is.), **PJ5** (Eustatius), **PJ6** (Saba), **PJ7** (Sint Maarten). **V2** (Antigua and Barbuda), **V4** (St. Kitts and Nevis), **VP2E** (Anguilla), **VP2M** (Montserrat) 92, **VP2V** (British Virgin Is.), **VP5** (Turks and Caicos Is.), **YV0** (Aves Is.), **ZF** (Cayman Is.), **6Y** (Jamaica) 84, and **8P** (Barbados) 150.

I used information from http://www.n0hr.com/ham_radio_population.htm for the ham population. Also, you should monitor several sources including the Oh Section Bulletin and <https://www.ng3k.com/misc/adxo.html> for upcoming DXpeditions to entities in CQ Zone 6,7, and 8.

Good Hunting!

CQDX CQDX CQDX CQDX CQDX CQDX CQDX CQDX CQDX

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

VU4 – Andaman and Nicobar Islands - A group of eight operators are planning a DXpedition as VU4R to Neil Island from March 20 to 31, including the CQ WPX SSB Contest. Plans are to have three stations with an emphasis on 160, 80 and 40 meters. More details expected next week. QSL via VU2RS.

FJ – St. Barthelemy - F6CUK, Thierry, and F6EHJ, Gerard, are planning to operate as FJ/F6CUK and FJ/F6EHJ between April 5th and May 16 from the QTH of FJ5AB, Adolphe. They will be operating on all bands on CW and SSB. Sometime in the middle of these dates they are planning to operate from Tintamarre Island (NA-199). Adolphe will be part of that operation. A special callsign is being requested. More details to follow.

P4 – Aruba - KK9A, John, plans to be QRV from Aruba as P40A from March 1-8, including activity of CW and SSB on 1.8 through 28 MHz. He will also operate in the ARRL DX SSB Contest. QSL via WD9DZV.

5H – Tanzania - Earlier today the Italian DX Team, operating 5I4ZZ and 5I5TT from Zanzibar reported the following on their website: “our activity is running and we reached 34K QSOs. The propagation condition are not helping us, during the sunlight the bands are often dead.

[TOP^](#)

We got a few opening on 15 m, rarely we may operate on 12 and 10 m. At the sunset all the bands are totally closed for a couple of hours then a strong noise above S9 appears for the remaining dark hours. Although we have already eliminated a source of the noise, we cannot identify this new one.

We are equipped with some noise killer devices which have proved inefficient in this case despite numerous tests. It affects negatively the performances on the low bands and we regret not being able to maintain good rates even when our signals are well received. However, we do not give up and continue in an attempt to improve our performances.”

VK – Australia - VI3RA is a unique callsign planned for March 14-15. With permission from “BAI Communications,” Broadcast Australia, the Shepparton and District Amateur Radio Club, SADARC, will be hooking up their ham rigs to the curtain array and rhombic antennas at the site in north central Victoria. The site was previously the shortwave transmitter site for Radio Australia, which went off the air in 2017. Note the “RA” suffix stands for “Radio Australia.” A special QSL card will be sent out for all the QSOs made. The operation starts Saturday, March 14 at 12AM local time (UTC+11), and ends Monday, March 16 at 12AM local time, 48 hours later. They plan to be on 40, 30, 20, 17 and 15 meters. Local hams will get to tour the site. The antenna farm will have as much as 15db gain on low bands and 20db on 15 meters. www.sadarc.org.

DX news

ARLD008 DX news

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by AA4NC, W3UR, The Daily DX, the OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX News, DXNL, Contest Corral from QST and the ARRL Contest Calendar and WA7BNM web sites. Thanks to all.

TANZANIA, 5H. Charles, NK8O and Fred, N8AX will be QRV as 5H3DX and 5H3AX, respectively, from February 24 to March 21. Activity will be holiday style on 160 to 10 meters using CW, PSK31 and FT8. QSL direct to NK8O.

MALDIVES, 8Q. Hiro, JG1SXP is QRV as 8Q7HK until February 24. Activity is on 80 to 15 meters, and possibly 160 meters, using CW, FT8 and some SSB. QSL direct to home call.

SENEGAL, 6W. Daniel is QRV as 6W1/EA4ATI from Dakar until February 26. Activity is on 40, 20, 15 and 10 meters using SSB. QSL via EA4R.

BAHAMAS, C6. Michael, DF8AN plans to be QRV as C6AAN from February 23 to March 1. Activity will be holiday style on the HF bands using CW and FT8. QSL to home call.

ST. BARTHELEMY, FJ. Operators N2IEN, WW2DX, WW1X and W2RE are QRV as FJ/home calls until February 22. Activity is holiday style on 160 to 6 meters, including the V/UHF bands, using CW, SSB, RTTY, EME and on various satellites. QSL to home calls.



OGASAWARA, JD1. Take, JA1UII and Kami, JH1HHC will be QRV as JD1BON and JD1BPH, respectively, from Chichijima Island, IOTA AS-031, from February 25 to March 5. Activity will be on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY and FT8. QSL to home calls.

ALASKA, KL7. Henry, NL0H is QRV as NL0H/p from St. Lawrence Island, IOTA NA-040. Activity is on 80, 40, 30 and 20 meters using mainly FT8 and possibly SSB. His length of stay is unknown. QSL direct to home call.

PUERTO RICO, KP4. Two groups of operators are QRV as KP3RE from Culebra Island, IOTA NA-249, and as NP3VI from Vieques Island, IOTA NA-249, until February 23. Activity is on 80 to 10 meters using CW, SSB and FT8. QSL both calls via EA5GL.

AUSTRIA, OE. Special event station 4UNR is QRV from the United Nations Vienna International Center until the end of February in celebration of World Radio Day. Activity is on 80, 40, 20 and 15 meters using CW and SSB. QSL via UA3DX.

COSTA RICA, TI. Mike, W1USN and Bob, AA1M are QRV as TI5/home calls until March 4. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB and FT8. QSL to home calls.

COTE D'IVOIRE, TU. Petr, OK1BOA, Petr, OK1FCJ and David, OK6DJ will be QRV as TU5PCT from Abidjan from February 24 to 29. Activity will be on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY and FT8. QSL via OK6DJ.

ST. KITTS AND NEVIS, V4. John, W5JON is QRV as V47JA from Calypso Bay, St. Kitts, IOTA NA-104, until March 5. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters, including 60 meters, using SSB and FT8. QSL direct to home call.

BRUNEI, V8. Special event station V84SHK will be QRV from February 23 to March 2 in celebration of the 36th Brunei Darussalam Nation Day. Activity will be on the HF bands using CW, SSB and various digital modes. QSL via operators' instructions.

AUSTRALIA, VK. Will, AA4NC and Ron, AA4VK will be QRV as VK/AA4NC and VK/AA4VK, respectively, from February 24 to 27. Activity will be holiday style on all HF bands using CW, SSB, FT8 and FT4. QSL both calls via EA5GL.

NORFOLK ISLAND, VK9N. Will, AA4NC and Ron, AA4VK are QRV as VK9NR and VK9NN, respectively, until February 24. Activity is holiday style on all HF bands using CW, SSB, FT8 and FT4. QSL both calls via EA5GL.

SOUTH ORKNEY ISLANDS, VP8. Members of the Perseverance DX Group are QRV as VP8PJ from Signy Island, IOTA AN-008, until March 5. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY and FT8 in DXpedition mode. QSL via M0URX.

INDONESIA, YB. Operators YB8RW, YE8XBN, YE8XW and YF8XAT are QRV as 7I8X from Widi Island, IOTA OC-145, until February 23, and then Mayu Island, also IOTA OC-145, until February 29. Activity is on the HF bands using CW, SSB, RTTY, JT-modes, FT8 and FT4 with three stations active. QSL via YB8RW.

THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO. The CQ 160-Meter SSB Contest, NCCC RTTY Sprint, QRP 80-Meter CW Fox Hunt, NCCC CW Sprint, REF SSB Contest, UK/EI DX CW Contest, SARL Digital Contest and the High Speed Club CW Contest are all on tap for this upcoming weekend.

The QCX CW Challenge is scheduled for February 24.

The QRP 40-Meter CW Fox Hunt, UKEICC 80-Meter CW Contest, Phone Fray, CWops Mini-CWT Test and SKCC CW Sprint are all scheduled for February 26.

Please see February QST, page 81 and the ARRL and WA7BNM Contest Web Sites for details.

Special Events

- **02/26/2020 | Snowbird Field Day**

Feb 26, 1500Z-2100Z, W7ASL, Mesa, AZ. Sunlife ARC. 14.230 7.200. QSL. Tom Goforth, 4324 E Dragoon Cir, Mesa, AZ 85206. Please see the website for the most up to date information. <https://www.sunlifearc.org/index.php/events/2-uncategorised/28-snowbird-field-day>

- **02/29/2020 | "2019 Rare Disease Day" Special Event**

Feb 29, 0000Z-2359Z, WA4CZD, Sparta, TN. WA4CZD. 14.246 7.246 7.115. QSL. Jill Dybka, WA4CZD, 7737 Sprata Hwy, Sparta, TN 38583. QSL to home call of WA4CZD including via BURO. Also using LoTW.

- **03/01/2020 | Nebraska Statehood Day**

Mar 1, 1300Z-2300Z, N0N, Lincoln, NE. Southeast Nebraska Amateur Radio Club. 7.180 18.150 14.292 14.265. Certificate & QSL. Charles Bennett, KD0PTK, P.O. Box 67181, Lincoln, NE 68506. Hams will be broadcasting from the 14th floor of the State Capitol building. Clubs across Nebraska are encouraged to participate. Please include SASE. <https://www.facebook.com/SENRC>

- **03/05/2020 | C-47 Skytrain**

Mar 5-Mar 12, 0000Z-0000Z, W5S, Oklahoma City, OK. Mid-Del Amateur Radio Club. 144.200 14.280 7.280. QSL. Mid-Del Amateur Radio Club, P.O. Box 30512, Midwest City, OK 73140. www.w5mwc.org

ARRL Contest Corner

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



February 24

- [QCX Challenge](#)

February 25

- [QCX Challenge](#)

February 26

- [SKCC Sprint](#)
- [QRP Fox Hunt](#)
- [Phone Fray](#)
- [CWops Mini-CWT Test](#)
- [UKEICC 80m Contest](#)

February 28

- [NCCC RTTY Sprint](#)
- [QRP Fox Hunt](#)
- [NCCC Sprint](#)

March 1

- [NSARA Contest](#)
- [SARL Hamnet 40m Simulated Emergency Contest](#)
- [North Carolina QSO Party](#)

March 3

- [ARS Spartan Sprint](#)
- [AGCW YL-CW Party](#)

February 27

- [CWops Mini-CWT Test](#)
- [RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW](#)

February 29

- [Feld Hell Sprint](#)
- [FTn DX Contest](#)
- [UBA DX Contest, CW](#)
- [South Carolina QSO Party](#)
- [NA Collegiate Championship, RTTY](#)
- [North American QSO Party, RTTY](#)

March 2

- [RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data](#)

March 4

- [QRP Fox Hunt](#)
- [Phone Fray](#)
- [CWops Mini-CWT Test](#)
- [UKEICC 80m Contest](#)

Attention ALL Ohio...

Mark April 4, 2020 (Saturday) as our ARES OHIO SPRING CONFERENCE!

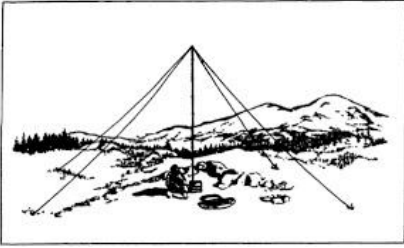
We have the Marion Tech lecture hall reserved (THANKS MARION ARES!!!) and we'll begin planning some important topics! More information will be forth coming.

This event is always "Standing Room Only" so we do ask that you register ahead of time so that we can be properly prepared for how many are coming. It's quick and painless and we will even send you a confirmation email back.

Here's the link to get registered!! <http://arrl-ohio.org/SEC/form.html>

####

NVIS DAY IS COMING!



Is your station ready to establish and maintain high-reliability communication with other stations around Ohio when repeaters, phone, and internet service are impaired?

When infrastructure just isn't there, HF radio using Near-Vertical Incidence Skywave (NVIS) propagation offers the ability to stay in contact on frequencies of 2–30 MHz for distances of about 30–400 miles.

NVIS Day is the ARRL Ohio Section event to test your NVIS antenna designs and builds. Join us on Saturday, April 25th to show how well amateur radio can keep Ohio communicating! This is not a contest: it's an event for Ohio stations to operate with other Ohio stations and understand how well they hear and are heard.

THE DETAILS

Date: Saturday, April 25

Time: Start at 10 A.M., end at 4 P.M.

Power: Up to but no more than 100w

Exchange: six-digit grid, power, and true—measured—signal report

Schedule: This isn't a contest, so take your time! Try different designs! Have lunch!

2020 Weather Safety Week Events

- Ohio's Severe Weather Awareness Week: March 22-28
- **Statewide Tornado Drill: Wednesday, March 25 at 9:50 am**
- Lightning Safety Awareness Week: June 21-27
- Ohio's Winter Safety Awareness Week: November 15-21



V.E. Test Sessions

For the latest testing site information please >> [Click Here](#) << The ARRL site tracks all of the VE testing sites that register with them, including W5YI and Laurel. ARRL gives you a number of different ways of sorting to find that site that is closest to you as well.



One Question Questionnaire



Hey Gang,

Ok.. “Survey Says”..... 94% of you don’t have what I’d call a “Big Screen” TV in your ham shacks. I’m really not all that surprised at the results. But I am a little taken back that there at least 6% of you out there that DO have one that big!!

Ok, I’ve got another NEW – one question – for you to answer. With a little warmer weather coming for this week, and no snow is predicted... Here’s the next question....

“Do you have any outside antenna work scheduled for this week ?? ”

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

“Connect”

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

I need you to be as prompt as possible in reporting your hours. I’m noticing a number of events that aren’t getting hours credited and that is due to you not going back into your account and registering your hours! Please, don’t miss out on your hours just because you missed on very important step, record hours!! It’s so simple and quick to do.

“Connect”

Enter “Connect”

ARES Connect Helpful Instructions

Here’s the top 5 hours earners so far for February:

	Name	Events	Hours
1	Greg Dersarkisian (KD8SSJ)	20	136.50
2	James Yoder (w8erw)	16	88.41
3	Earl Paazig (W8BR)	11	87.00
4	Bret Stemen (KD8SCL)	24	65.00
5	Robert Northrup (Kc8psw)	18	55.00

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

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

[TOP^](#)

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

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

Special NIMS Training Available

G-557 RAPID ASSESSMENT PLANNING COURSE

Hosted by: Fulton County Emergency Management Agency

Tuesday, June 9, 2020

Course Description: This course provides information and resources to enable participants to develop an effective Damage Assessment Program and conduct rapid and effective needs assessments. A good assessment allows community leaders to prioritize response actions ensuring the greatest life-saving and life sustaining benefits. Since resources are often limited in the first few hours of a disaster or emergency an effective rapid needs assessment allows for the efficient and effective use of those resources. Likewise, it allows local officials to evaluate their needs and request those resources that are not available in their jurisdiction to support life sustaining and life saving measures.

This is a "Required" course in the Advanced Professional Series (APS) program

Application Deadline: **May 26, 2020**

Time of Course: Registration: 7:45 am – 8:00 am

Course Time: 8:00 am – 4:00 pm

Location: Fulton County Welcome Center/EOC - 8848 State Highway 108 Wauseon, Ohio 43567

Supported By: The Ohio Emergency Management Agency

Recommended Participants: Local officials who are responsible for assessing, collecting, and reporting damages during and after any event that causes damage of private, public, and critical infrastructure.

Recommended Prerequisite: IS0100.c, Introduction to the Incident Command System, ICS 100; IS0200.c, Incident Command System for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents; IS0700.b, National Incident Management System, An Introduction; IS0800.b, National Response Framework, An Introduction; IS0120.a, An Introduction to Exercises; and IS0130, Exercise Evaluation and Improvement Planning. These courses are available online by going to <https://training.fema.gov/is/crslist.aspx?all=true>.

Enrollment: Students must enroll via the Department of Public Safety Training Campus website:

<https://trainingcampus.dps.ohio.gov/cm/cm710/pstc/pstc.html> Course registration will generally close 10 working days prior to the course start date. You can check enrollment/approval status via the Department of Public Safety Training Campus website.

Course Costs: This course is free to participants. Lodging, meals and all other expenses are the students' responsibility.

County Point of Contact: Peggy Volkman, Administrative Assistant, (419) 337-9207,
peggyvolkman@fultoncountyoh.com

State Point of Contact: Matt Jaksetic, State Training Coordinator, Ohio EMA (614) 799-3666,
mtjaksetic@dps.ohio.gov

Other courses being scheduled...

G-271 Hazardous Weather and Flooding Preparedness 9/23-23/20

G-272 Weather Warning Coordination 10/20-21/20

OH-606 Disaster Recovery and **OH-607** PA Cost Recovery/Damage Assessment 11/5/20.

#####

ICS400 ADVANCED FOR COMMAND & GENERAL STAFF MGT905

Hosted by: Mahoning County Emergency Management Agency

March 30 – 31, 2020

Application Deadline: March 16, 2020

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

Course Time: 8:00 am to 5:00 pm – Both days One-hour Lunch each day

Training Location: Boardman Fire Department, Station 71 7440 Market Street Boardman, OH 44512

Required Prerequisites: Individuals must complete the IS-100.c Introduction to the Incident Command System, IS-200.c Basic Incident Command System for Initial Response, IS-700.b An Introduction to the National Incident Management System and the IS-800.c National Response Framework, an Introduction courses.

In addition, ICS-300 Intermediate courses prior to attending the ICS-400 Advanced course and provide copies of their certificates of completion to the instructors on day one of the course.

Enrollment: Students must enroll via the Department of Public Safety Training Campus website:

<https://trainingcampus.dps.ohio.gov/cm/cm710/pstc/pstc.html> Course registration will generally close 10 working days prior to the course start date and applicants can check enrollment/approval status via the Department of Public Safety Training Campus website.

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

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

#####

Below is a status update of upcoming training classes. Please look at the list, there is a variety of topics, and I would appreciate it if you would consider registering for one (1) or more if your schedule allows.

Some of the classes you can register for on the FCEM&HS website; go to the “Training Opportunities” site <https://fcmhs.org/Training-Exercises/Training-Opportunities> (where you can find the information flyer on all of the classes) and then click on the “FCEM&HS Training Registration” link <https://fcmhs.org/Training-Exercises/FCEMHS-Training-Registration>

The rest of the classes you will need to register on the Ohio Public Safety Training Campus <https://trainingcampus.dps.ohio.gov/cm/cm710/pstc/>

For those classes that are being instructed through TEEEX, once you register with me, I will send you an approval email with a link to then register on the TEEEX website.

CLASS	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
AWR-364 STRIVE (Strategic, Tactical, and Resilient Interdiction of Violent Extremism) (Register via paper registration or the FCEM&HS website)	February 25&26	8am-5pm (16 hrs)	FCEM&HS
MGT-467 Sport and Special Event Public Information and Emergency Notification (Register via paper registration or the FCEM&HS website)	March 3&4	8am-5pm (16 hrs)	OSU Airport
OH/L-146 Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) (Register via OH Public Safety Training Campus)	March 25-27	8am-5pm (24 hrs)	FCEM&HS
AWR-376 Understanding Targeted Cyber Attacks (Register via paper registration or the FCEM&HS website)	April 7	8am-5pm (8 hrs)	FCEM&HS
AWR-213 Critical Infrastructure Security & Resilience Awareness of Critical Infrastructure/Key Resources (Register via paper registration or the FCEM&HS website)	April 15	8am-5pm (8 hrs)	FCEM&HS
MGT-317 Disaster Management for Public Services (Register via paper registration or the FCEM&HS website)	April 21&22	8am-5pm (16 hrs)	FCEM&HS

####

EMA-G289 PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER (PIO) AWARENESS
Hosted by: Youngstown State University Police Department
April 7, 2020

[TOP^](#)

Course Description: The Public Information Officer (PIO) Awareness Course is a “Free” course designed to familiarize participants with the concepts underlying the PIO role. The material provides a basic understanding of the PIO function for those new to the position. It orients the participants to the public information function and the role of the PIO in the public safety / emergency management environment. This training forms the foundation for more advanced training that takes participants from the awareness level to the mastery level in their public information careers. Additionally, it provides those in executive level roles the necessary knowledge of PIO roles and responsibilities during an emergency.

Application Deadline: March 24, 2020

Time of Course: Registration: 7:30 am – 8:00 am

Course Time: 8:00 am – 5:00 pm

Location: Youngstown State University Police Department
266 West Wood St. Youngstown, Ohio 44555

Supported By: The Ohio Emergency Management Agency

Recommended Participants: The primary audience for this training is individuals who have public information responsibilities as their main job or as an auxiliary function at the federal, state, local, tribal, or territorial level of government, and in the private and nongovernmental sectors.

Recommended Prerequisite: IS-100 Introduction to Incident Command System; IS-702 NIMS Public Information Systems; and IS-909 Community Preparedness: Implementing Activities for Everyone

Enrollment: Students must enroll via the Department of Public Safety Training Campus website:
<https://trainingcampus.dps.ohio.gov/cm/cm710/pstc/pstc.html>.

Course registration will generally close 10 working days prior to the course start date. You can check enrollment/approval status via the Department of Public Safety Training Campus website.

Course Costs: This course is free to participants. Lodging, Meals, Per Diem and all other travel expenses are the responsibility of the student or the parent organization
The FY 2019/2020 Ohio EMA Training Catalog at <http://ema.ohio.gov/Training.aspx> provides additional information.

County Point of Contact: Adam Guerrieri. (330) 503 – 4626. ajguerrieri@ysu.edu

State Point of Contact: Matt Jaksetic, State Training Coordinator, Ohio EMA (614) 799-3666,
mtjaksetic@dps.ohio.gov

#####

Below are trainings that can be found by following this link: <https://services.dps.ohio.gov/CIMS/>.

- **G-191 ICS-EOC Interface (Lawrence County April 2020)**
- **G-289 Public Information Officer (PIO) Awareness (Fulton County April 2020)**
- **G-289 Public Information Officer (PIO) Awareness (Hocking County April 2020)**

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- **G-318 Mitigation Planning Workshop (Cuyahoga County April 2020)**
- **G-402 ICS Overview for Executives and Senior Officials (Franklin County April 2020)**
- **OH-202 Debris Management Workshop (Stark County April 2020)**

Intended Audience: Law Enforcement, Emergency Services, Emergency Managers, Communications, Government, Volunteers, State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial Personnel

For more questions or concerns regarding CIMS please contact CIMS@dps.ohio.gov.

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Campbell County Kentucky Office of Emergency Management Upcoming Training



James E. Sparks, Deputy Director of Operations
Campbell County Fiscal Court
Office of Emergency Management, Unit 2152

O: 859-547-3152 · C: 859-743-4136 · F: 859-635-3132

<http://www.campbellcountky.gov>

Campbell County Kentucky Office of Emergency Management
FREE Training Opportunities

Hazardous Weather Preparedness for Campuses (AWR-332)
– **March 4, 2020** – (NDPTC) / ****Tentative/Requested****

Readiness: Training Identification and Preparedness Planning (MGT-418) – **March 11-12, 2020** - TEEX / Register:

<https://train.ncbrt.lsu.edu/Student/Register?ClassID=26374>

Registration Password: NCBRT418 If you have trained with NCBRT before, enter your FEMA SID, Last Name, and First Name. If your training record is found, your registration form will be pre-filled for you. Otherwise, click Register as New Person to fill out a blank registration form.

Evacuation and Re-Entry Planning Course – March 25-26, 2020 / ****Requested through KYEM Training Division****

Pediatric Disaster Response and Emergency Preparedness (MGT-439) – April 8-9, 2020 / TEEX / Register: <https://qrgo.page.link/GFf4>

Debris Management Planning Course – April 15-17, 2020 / ****Requested through KYEM Training Division****

Intermediate ICS-300 for Expanding Incidents w/Forms (MGT-904) – April 22-24, 2020 / TEEX / Register: <https://qrgo.page.link/HzT2>

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MicroHAM, Windows, and mhuxd – An Odyssey

(from Bill, K8RWH)

When I got my amateur radio license at age 60, I had several goals in mind: to receive and transmit CW at 16 wpm; to participate in emergency communications; and to have as much fun as I did as a SWL. I haven't accomplished any of these 15 years later. This article is about my trials to conduct digital hamming, the "stuff" of ARES, et al.

Digital hamming was a morass of unnavigable waters, so I consulted the 746Pro user's group asking what interface box I should use for my Icom. The recognized "guru" of this group unhesitatingly recommended the microHam Digi Keyer II, which I bought. Thus commenced my odyssey. I could not find a compatible software digital program; although, I tried DX Lab, MMTTY, Digipan, and others over several years. I eventually got AirLink express working and learned some rudiments. But, by this time, Ohio EmComm was on its fiftieth, or so it seems, generation of required software, so AE was already passé.

Coincidentally, Microsoft served notice that their Windows 7 would not be supportable past January 2020. Without a working digital program compatible with a supportable operating system, I felt that my recourse was to sell the DKII for what I could get for it. It had hardly ever worked for me. The only thing I knew for certain was that W1HKJ's stellar FLDIGI was pretty much the de facto program of choice for digital hamming. So, with that one element "nailed", I sought the rest.

How to get away from MS and its insecure and unwieldy OS presented a horrible specter. Enter "Linux in the Ham Shack", a regular booth at the Dayton Hamvention. I sidled up and listened for a while, then asked a few questions of the always affable N4ERD, and learned that Linux was entirely supportable out into "infinity and beyond". That convinced me to take their free disk and load a "Live" Linux version onto my laptop. No harm would happen to the laptop or its existing programs, so once I did that, I was hooked. I'm on my 5th iteration, having tried various "tastes" of Linux desktops and versions. I settled on Linux Mint Xfce. Now came the fulcrum.

How was I going to get my DKII to "communicate" with my "nailed" FLDIGI? As you are probably aware, all of the US digital interface boxes, are Windows-only compatible. I had found that FLDIGI was perfectly at home on Linux, so how was I to conquer this divide? For several years I periodically did Google searches while watching the 746Pro User's Forum for clues. I ran across the answer quite by accident. I was searching for "Linux microHam software interface", and mhuxd suddenly popped up. It is a digital router - totally Linux software - for Only Icom transceivers and microHam digital interfaces – DK II, MicroKeyers, etc.

So, I gritted my teeth, followed the wonderful download instructions from DJ5QV's website, and began the integration phase. Enter the Ohio Technical Manager, K8JTK. We are extremely fortunate to have this Linux "expert". I downloaded his slide presentations on integrating with FLDIGI, and beams of hope glimmered for the first time in this foggy odyssey.

It became apparent to W1HKJ that a great deal of my integration problem involved the sound card issues. By that, I mean the devious passageways the sound signal – without which FLDIGI CAN NOT WORK – simply vanished. So, after much emailing consultation with the outstanding W1HKJ, he recommended I use BOTH Pulse Audio (which I had to download and learn), and ALSA sound interface (ditto to download and learn). Whether my homespun "model" is correct in my mind or not, it was the only solution I could understand.

Pulse Audio is the software envisioned to reside in the innermost of two concentric circles on your piece of paper. Here is where I learned from W4TV of microHam USA the DK II signal I wanted was the “Line” output in PAVU. Everything else had to be kinda’ “greyed out”, especially for testing. The next concentric circle is envisioned as ALSA. In my “world”, ALSA is the turnstile between PAVU and FLDIGI. Once I learned from W1HKJ that ALSA Mixer was the “key” to getting “Line” to the outside world, I was enormously closer to operational with FLDIGI than ever before. But mhuxd had to be “set” first. It actually turned out to be easier than I expected. I made my virtual serial ports (where all the signals traverse from the DKII to the laptop and FLDIGI) identical to DJ5QV’s “install instructions” screen shots of his working DKII, I was almost home free. It took quite a few more weeks to work through DJ5QV’s use of Linux debug logs and K8JTK’s Linux commands and his interpretations of results to “tweak” PAVU and ALSA to finally get a turn-on sequence that really worked.

That sequence is:

1. mhuxd – this is actually a “daemon” which runs in laptop background once I open Firefox. The daemon is resident on my laptop, as a local host:5052. Linux software groups and permissions are critical!
2. Turn on Astron power supply, then Icom 746 Pro, to USB mode. Mouse left click on the mhuxd “daemon” tab to turn the orange indicator to green.
3. Invoke the Linux terminal and type – sudo alsactl restore (where I’ve previously saved the config) {return} and enter your password {return}.
4. On the same terminal type: alsamixer {return} Choose F6 to select the “Microham Codec” for the F3, showing, playback configuration. Select same. {Return}. Choose F5, arrow over to the next to last block, rotate your mouse thumbwheel to select “Line”. Then arrow right again to thumbwheel a value for your configuration, according to the FLDIGI help manual para. 2.34. Mine started at 25, but I’ve used all the way to 75 to “LISTEN ONLY”. I’ve not transmitted a digital signal yet.
5. Click your Linux laptop menu to FLDIGI – your waterfall starts if you’ve done everything correctly. Then click on your menu once more for FLRIG, then minimize it.

That’s everything simplified. Let me recount the advantages you have with this microHAM, Icom, Laptop with Linux, mhuxd software router, pulse audio, alsamixer, FLDIGI, and FLRIG. You have escaped the enormous piling on of programs in Windows 10 or non-supportability of Windows 7. My total Linux disk space is about 17 GB to run the entire system. I’ve not updated the PAVU or ALSA; I’m several versions behind, but I have not had any “hiccups” at all from those.

I practice almost every evening working the FLDIGI modes from the W1AW evening digital bulletins. The “familiarization curve” for a Sr. is pretty daunting, but W1HKJ, K8JTK, W4TV, DJ5QV – ALL Superb ‘Elmer’s’!! - is what made my odyssey a success. Amateur radio is beginning to get “fun” again... in “only” 14 years.

But I have no regrets moving to Linux. My world is far less complicated than the world of MS. I have met fine Christian gentlemen and other fine gentlemen. I am beginning to “study” Linux in detail. I’ve built a Raspberry Pi 3B+ and have found that it is an EVEN SIMPLER ADAPTATION OF LINUX. Hope you did not get too bored on this odyssey. Scylla and Charybdis almost got me... but I’m lashed to the mast sailing on!!

73, K8RWH

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ARISS Contact at the Maple Dale Elementary School

This is always a huge event for Amateur Radio as well as the school and the kids that attend. There's really no way of describing the excitement and joy that you'll see on all of the kids' faces when contact is made with the astronauts. The room literally lights up!



After months of preparation, sweat and hard work, everything came together, and contact was made!!!

I am working on a video that will be posted, but until it's completed, here some great pictures of the event.



Final.. Final..



Hey Gang...

This past week was absolutely crazy for me! I had a blast attending the Mansfield Mid*Winter Hamfest, then it was on to doing several webinars to help out those other Sections learning “Connect.” Then off to Columbus to meet with the Franklin County ARES group and do a “Connect” program. Then down to Cincinnati for the ARISS program, then over to Mt. Vernon for their Breakfast Club meeting and then back on the phone with several other webinars over this weekend and finally ending the week with a Potluck supper and meeting with the Central Ohio Repeater Club (CORC). What a busy week this was!!

I hope you all read the article from Bob Winston, W2THU our State Government Liaison about the new PROPOSED Texting Bill that was the main topic of discussion by our governor at several press conferences a week or so ago. Yes, Bob and I, as well as several folks at ARRL Headquarters, have been in discussion about this new proposed legislation, and I want to reiterate what Bob has stated in his article, this is not LAW yet, and we will be actively participating in the legislative process throughout the many months that this will take! I’ve received a huge amount of phone calls and emails from folks that are concerned. We too are concerned, but there is a process that we have to follow, and we will be proactively participating in that process. Yes, we have already asked Headquarters to get involved as well.

I will keep everyone informed on the processes through the weekly newsletters to come. At this time if you are interested in reading this very lengthy “Bill” **SB 285** >> [Click Here](#) <<

Now, for those folks that weren’t awake during government classes, I have a link for you too. This link explains the process that ALL legislation has to take before it becomes law.

<https://www.ohiosenate.gov/about/how-a-bill-becomes-a-law>

Update on the furniture move... It seems as though Janie has finally started to leave the furniture where it is, at least for now. I think that’s because she has found something new to move, pictures! Yes, every day some pictures get moved from one wall to the other or just not hung at all. At least I won’t be tripping over them in the dark! Oh well. This process seems like it’s finally starting to come to an end as that we really don’t have that many pictures in the first place!

Moving down the log a bit... I know that this must sound like a broken record, but... “Have you joined or renewed your ARRL dues yet?” If not, why not. The ARRL is your only advocate to keep and expand your amateur radio frequencies. And this is not the only benefit to be a member of the ARRL. Where else will you get insurance as inexpensively as the ARRL provides for its membership? There’s also all of the ARRL awards that you are eligible for as well. Hey, membership to ARRL is less than \$1 per week. Less than a cup of coffee at McDonald’s!!!

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Oh, I will also add, ARRL does have a **90-day FREE** trial offer, if you are still not sure if this is something that you would enjoy. What have you got to lose? It's FREE. Oh, don't forget that if your YL is a ham you'll want to get her a membership as well.

Whelp, final go around before gong QRT... That's going to do it for this week. Stay safe, enjoy the sunshine when we have it, and most of all... have FUN and get on the air!!

73,

Scott, N8SY

Ohio Section Cabinet

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

Youth On The Air Camp

(From The ARRL Contest Update Newsletter - ARRL members may subscribe at no cost or unsubscribe by editing their Member Data Page as described at <http://www.arrl.org/contests/update>)



The [Youth On The Air Camp](#) is being held this summer in Cincinnati, Ohio. It's an opportunity for licensed Amateur Radio youth to gather and learn from one another through [workshops and hands-on activities](#).

"From now until the end of February 2020, every dollar donated in support of the Youth on the Air Camp will be matched by Steve, KM9G, up to a total of \$4000! Your donations in support of this unique opportunity for youth to share ham radio with their peers will count DOUBLE until the end of February. For links and details, visit YouthOnTheAir.org and click "[Donate](#)"

[in the top right corner.](#)"

[Applications to the Youth On The Air Camp are being accepted through March 15, 2020.](#) "Licensed amateur radio operators ages 15 through 25 who want to attend are encouraged to apply online at YouthOnTheAir.org. The camp will take place June 21 through June 26, 2020 at the National Voice of America Museum of Broadcasting in West Chester Township (North Cincinnati), Ohio. The application process is FREE. The cost of the camp is \$100 plus transportation to and from the VoA museum. The \$100 fee will not be payable until after acceptance. Should a potential camper not be able to afford the \$100 fee, he or she may apply for a scholarship. Campers will be selected by the committee and notified by the end of March." [See the Youth On The Air website for additional details!](#)



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Swap & Shop Has Come to the Ohio Section 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!! No, 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. 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>



Welcome New Subscribers

David, KE8MGS; Renee, KB8SVF; Chuck, N2DUP; Sterling, N0SSC; John, KI5FXK; Kent, KM4OBK; James, KM4RGZ; Richard, KE0YGN; Russell, WB5DXG; Richard, KR1CKH; John, W8SMN; William Bauer; Roy, KC1LWG; PJ, KI5DKN; Frank, K4FMH; Steven, KG5VK



Want to Share your Club Newsletter With Others?

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

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



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

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Chit – Chat, and All That!

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



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



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

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

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



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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!