



March 2022 Edition

- [From the Technical Coordinator](#)
- [From the Public Information Coordinator](#)
- [From the Section Traffic Manager](#)
- [National News](#)
- [DX This Week](#)
- [Special Events](#)
- [From The South 40](#)
- [From the Section Emergency Coordinator](#)
- [From the Section Youth Coordinator](#)
- [ARES Training Update](#)
- [Club Corner](#)
- [Contest Corner](#)
- [One Question Questionnaire](#)
- [Final.. Final..](#)



I hope that when I get around to finally building that beverage (can) antenna I've always wanted that it looks as good as this guys. I bet he's got a killer signal on 15!

Press Release

SWODXA DX DINNER® ANNOUNCEMENT

April 1st, 2022

AJ8B => Bill Salyers (aj8b@arrl.org)

Southwest Ohio DX Association

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

There are only about 6 weeks left until the 35th annual DXDinner®. The dinner, held in conjunction with the 2022 Dayton Hamvention®, will be on Friday, May 20th, at the Marriott Hotel in Dayton.

Dr. Scott Wright, K0MD, will be the keynote speaker. Scott will present the “High C’s of DXing – Operating in The Caribbean, Chile, and China”

Icom has graciously donated an IC-7610 as the DX Dinner grand prize. Icom has also donated an Icom IC-705 as the raffle prize to be awarded at the DX Forum on Saturday. There are also many other great DX Dinner prizes. You can see a list of prizes at <https://swodxaevents.org/2022-dayton-dx-dinner/>

As always, SWODXA will have a much-anticipated award announcement!

We anticipate brisk ticket sales in April, so don’t wait any longer. For more information and to order dinner tickets, visit WWW.SWODXAEVENTS.ORG and follow us on Twitter (@SWODXA).

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The INDEXA Humanitarian Aid Fund

“The Zorro Miyazawa, JH1AJT, Hams with Hearts Fund”

Press Release - March 29, 2022



INDEXA is proud to announce a new epitaph for our Humanitarian Aid Fund. The addition will be “The Zorro Miyazawa, JH1AJT, Hams with Hearts Fund” in honor of its founder who recently became a silent key.

Before his death in March of 2022, Mr. Zorro Miyazawa, JH1AJT, established and endowed the INDEXA Humanitarian Aid Fund which specifically supports humanitarian aid projects carried out by DXpeditions. His generosity enabled INDEXA to begin these grants in January of 2016. The tag for this fund is "Hams with Hearts," reflecting Zorro's character and values. INDEXA is proud and grateful to be able to sustain Zorro's legacy through this fund.

To learn more about this fund, please visit INDEXA.ORG and select the “[Humanitarian Fund](#)” tab. There is also a short video on this page that shows how “Hams with Hearts” has helped spread goodwill through DXpeditions.

73,

Bob Schenck, N200 President INDEXA

From the Technical Coordinator

Jeff Kopcak – K8JTK TC

k8jtk@arrl.net

Hey gang,

Time. We all use it. Most states change it twice a year. We all have our devices to keep track of it. Some are a little too proud of their device – ‘my WWV synced clock...’ I’ve [discussed WWV in the past](#) when it was on the chopping block for the national budget. Thankfully, that didn’t happen. As hams, we coordinate time with other operators. Nets that cross multiple time zones include Universal Coordinated Time (UTC) in announcements.

This *time*, it’s not so much about having the correct time, rather how do computing devices know when they should change the time? I learned there’s one guy that makes sure devices know in what time zone they’re located.

I wondered: who maintains the time zone data on computing systems? Updating Linux systems would occasionally include the “tzdata” and accompanying packages. Well, someone changed their standard to daylight saving cutover again. Yes, it is “daylight saving time” though everyone says “daylight savings time.” Also wondered: what’s the difference when configuring a system’s time zone to be “US/Eastern” versus “America/New_York” or “America/Detroit?” For whatever reason, never bothered to look into it any further. That was until Paul, a co-worker of mine, was talking about a post he had seen describing one guy whom maintains the time zone database. That post is authored by Daniel Rosehill, who originally made a [YouTube video about the subject](#). [Daniel’s post](#) is where I began exploring the topic further.

In a non-technical sense, time zones are political. Sure, it starts out with the prime meridian and count consistent offsets from there. Adopting and when to adjust time is left to the state. Most of Arizona is on standard time all year long. Some AZ cities decided to stay on mountain time or pacific time, adjusting when those zones change from standard to daylight saving. Closer to home, Indiana cities that are suburbs of Chicago adjust to central time while the remainder of the state uses eastern. Despite what our terrible media says, there are other conflicts, wars, crisis, clashes, and uprisings going on right now. To say that time zones are not important, try selecting the wrong time zone in a territory that’s in conflict with another territory or a countries time zone that has been deleted as punishment due to a historical event.

The “[tz database](#)” is a collaborative effort of information gathered by enthusiasts, done as a hobby or maybe in-conjunction with their job. This database is intended to be used with computer systems, programs and operating systems. The tz database definition of a time zone is “where clocks have agreed since 1970” (theory.html in source). If all clocks in a time zone have agreed since 1970, don’t include more than one zone or locale – even if some disagreed before 1970. The database attempts to record historical time zone and civil changes since 1970. 1970 is also important because it is the [UNIX Epoch time](#) (number of seconds that have elapsed since the arbitrary time of 00:00 UTC on 1/1/1970). Time zone data rules before 1970 are “best effort” which may identify a region but not necessary be correct for the entire region.



[ICANN](#) organizationally backs the tz database. ICANN approves top-level domains (.com, .net, .org, .io, .edu, .club, .info, .radio, etc.) and other Internet functions is the same group responsible for [IANA](#). IANA oversees IP address allocation, Domain Name System (DNS), as well as other symbols, protocols, and Internet numbers. One guy is the editor and decision maker. His name is Paul Eggert. [Paul](#) works as a computer scientist and instructor in UCLA's Computer Science department. He dedicates his time to [maintaining the global time zone system](#). Eggert also designed the uniform naming convention for time zone locales, such as America/New_York and Europe/Paris.



Paul Eggert (UCLA)

Comments in source data files read like the history of the world's stance on time. Referencing articles and texts used in decision making forming their time zone rules.

This, well before Google Earth, where locations of importance only could be estimated in other parts of the world by utilizing such ancient technologies called a map or by calling someone on the telephone. States will arbitrarily decide they had enough of summer and change clocks one month earlier than expected (Jordan). Warlords, dictators take out anger on time and decide to change time zones with only four days' notice - mostly in Africa.

[These rules](#) set time and shift standard to daylight saving (and back) on the correct date and time. They contain rules regarding leap seconds and other historical changes used in calculating time zone conversions. A program that can do such a conversion would know March 25, 2022 at 3pm in Ohio (EDT -4) is March 25, 2022 at 4am in Tokyo - which is still on standard time (JST +9). The same day in 1999, both time zones used standard time. Meaning March 25, 1999 at 3pm (EST -5) was March 25, 1999 at 5am in Tokyo.

Why the difference between America/New_York and America/Detroit? Today, both cities observe changing their clocks at the same time. Differences are of historical significance. Detroit has made many changes to time: 28 minus off central time in the 1900's. Adopted central time in 1905. Michigan did not observe daylight saving time in 1967 like the rest of the US, it decided to begin DST on June 14 at 00:01. A vote in 1968 narrowly repealed DST to take effect in 1969. Observed DST, again, starting in 1973, however changed late in 1975.

New York (City), is the standard for eastern time by which most US states agree. In 1833, New York City Hall time was 3 minutes 58.4 seconds fast of eastern time. Today, selecting either New_York or Detroit will change the time when expected. Comparing historical time is the issue. Ohio's time has followed that of New York City. All of this is documented in the tz data source code comments for *northamerica* with accompanying rules written to account for these changes. Selecting GMT-4 would always be 4 hours off GMT all-year round. The appropriate system section for Ohio would be America/New_York. US/Eastern is a link to America/New_York, which either will work though US/Eastern is considered deprecated.

Should legislation, [which has already passed the Senate](#), making daylight saving time permanent, this would create another set of rules for all U.S. locales reflecting this change. Additional rules would be needed for any locales that decide not to adopt the legislation or decide to recognize the change on a different date.

```
+ ~ timedatectl
      Local time: Fri 2022-03-25 00:25:34 EDT
      Universal time: Fri 2022-03-25 04:25:34 UTC
      RTC time: Fri 2022-03-25 04:25:34
      Time zone: America/New_York (EDT, -0400)
System clock synchronized: yes
      NTP service: active
      RTC in local TZ: no
```

timedatectl example output

server world, Linux dominates, even on cloud infrastructure. Windows systems utilize a mapping between Microsoft Windows time zone IDs and the tz database. This is not perfect as Windows implements less time zones than are present in the database. Changes and releases to the tz database are documented at the [tz mailing list](#).

Most Linux systems store time zone data located in the directory: `/usr/share/zoneinfo`. Those files are compiled and not human-readable but the operating system uses those files to shift time and for time zone conversions. The Linux command `timedatectl` will display system time information: local time, UTC, RTC (hardware clock), time zone, and is time synchronized with an NTP server (Network Time Protocol, usually servers on the Internet). It is standard for *nix systems to store the hardware clock in UTC. Philosophy being it is best not to mess with the hardware clock and do the conversion visually for the user. This is noticed on dual boot Linux and Windows systems. Linux will be the correct time but Windows will display (as of this writing) 4-hours fast.

Real Time Clocks are dumb clocks. They have no ability to adjust for time changes on their own. It is understood in the computing world that external facilitates manage the RTC – most often the Operating System - will adjust the system clock with the help of the tz database. Much like an alarm clock, microwave, or wall-clock that need manual adjusting when the time changes or due to drift.

Think of all the systems, devices, and things that rely on time. The tz database is one, very small, piece of technology which hundreds of millions of devices rely. Daniel pointed out in his write up, think of all the startup companies and dubious technologies that claim to change air water into oil, only to vanish into oblivion within a few years. The tz database won't vanish, because it can't. Everything relies on this database at the bottom of a very large technology stack.

I've seen programs written where developers implement code to account for changes in time zones. Don't. Just don't. The best way for a coder or database administrator to deal with time zones is not to deal with time zones. Let the system handle time or include time zone libraries in the project. Where there are time zone issues to fix, there will be more.

The results are bad and potentially catastrophic when developers attempt to account for time zone changes. It confuses users of the system: why is it changing the time using this one function of the program? The answer is usually something like: the developer stored time in local time instead of UTC, they recognized when this

The database is centralized and developed for Unix and Unix-like systems, including Linux and Mac-based computers. Most Internet users don't understand Linux is quite important in the computing world. While Linux lags behind in the desktop operating system market, favored by hard-core computer enthusiasts. In the

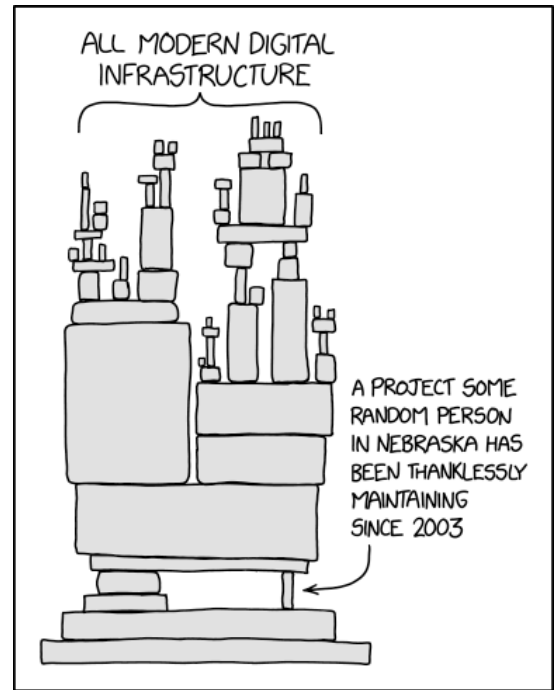
information is sent to a different location across time zones, time would have to be adjusted. However, they implemented hard-coded logic which no longer applies because the state recently changed their rules. Those rules are now wrong and nobody knew or remembered they were there in code. Upstream systems start making incorrect decisions based on the garbage data received as a result of bugs like these. For example, a customer is charged interest on a payment that was recorded as late but wasn't actually late. It continues to roll downhill from there.

As Daniel points out, these high-stakes deliberations represent a near Y2K meltdown that must be averted. Every. *Time*. A single erroneous key stroke could instantly change EST to CST or PST. Magnify the example scenario above by millions of systems which all have the wrong time. Think of all the confusion, missed meetings, missed scheduled jobs, missed TV recordings, incorrectly recorded measurements, incorrectly recorded transaction ledgers, erroneous data, deleted data, and overall impact to the economy (more than our politicians have already managed to do).

Paul (the CS guy, not my co-worker) has gone to sleep each night knowing the world's computers are using his code to know what time zone they are in. He seems to be handling that pressure in strides and is at least owed a "thank you."

Regarding my article last month about Winlink nets, some [PAT](#) client users have informed me standard Winlink forms are now fully supported. HTML forms support is fully implemented as of the July 2021 release. Those who built a system using KM4ACK's Build-a-Pi programs will need to update and [follow his video](#) to make the necessary changes. New installs of Build-a-Pi will come with the latest configuration of PAT. Installs done through the procedure on the PAT website will have to manually update and make [a modification to config.json](#). New installs should already have this value correctly set.

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



Comic depicting modern infrastructure relying on small projects – like the tz database – to perform essential functions (xkcd)

From the Section Emergency Coordinator

Stan Broadway, N8BHL - SEC

broadways@standi.com



Take some time to train!

I can't say "Thank you!" enough for your time and interest! It's great to see you're ready to volunteer.

Now- there's one thing that's important to stress- that is the NIMS training. These courses are set to introduce people in all types of leadership roles to FEMA's standard plan to handle almost any emergency situation. These courses are taken by emergency responders, volunteers, and people like us in ARES; they are also taken by government officials, mayors, commissioners, and more. The end result is ~everyone~ is on the same page when it comes to handling emergencies.

The "Incident Command System" presents an expandable, well thought out system of handling everything from a simple traffic stop or medic call to a major disaster spanning several states. It stresses "span of control" (not overloading a supervisor with too many reportees, etc.) consistent handling of resources, and concentration on task management to make sure our focus is correct.

ARES nationally (and here in Delaware County) has three levels of training: volunteers who are welcome but have none of these certifications. They are applied to public service events and other disaster-type responses that are outside the government's management system.

Level 2 is where all our members should be. In order to achieve level two, we need to go to the NIMS online pages <https://training.fema.gov/nims/>. Scroll down for a condensed list of courses, and you'll find the four "required" courses:

ICS-100

ICS-200

ICS-700

ICS-800

I can also recommend the "Professional Development" series of courses. Completing these move you to ARES LEVEL 3, which is expected in management or leadership positions.

These are not difficult! They are a bit dry since they deal with the theory of incident management and how that is implemented. I guarantee the first time you see an exercise or actual incident, it will all come to life!

Achieving Level 2 qualifies members to be deployed to EOC and other government locations, and to be deployed to other counties as a mutual aid team, or "ARES MAT", when the need arises.

So please consider spending a couple hours on the computer to complete these courses before outside activities in the Spring take your attention! Forward your certificates of training to me and I'll see that Jim, W8ERW, gets you in the state ARES training database!

Hey all- one of the ideals of being an ARES member, especially you who are in charge, is being prepared. That concept takes on different forms for different people of course, but with the world doing what the world's doing, being prepared takes on a whole new meaning. This can run from buying a few extra cans of food to taking reasonable precautions against an EMP – either manmade or a gift from the sun - and anything in between.

One ham I've been following for a long time is Julian, OH8STN. While he hasn't convinced me to plop a tent in the middle of a blizzard and run some JS8Call contacts, he has created a lot of informational videos on his YouTube channel. You've probably heard about the Russian tactical comms going on around 8 MHz in simple SSB, and that scenario along with a heightened sense of "What can we do to serve our community" has brought about his latest.

It's a half-hour that I think you'll find very valuable. His information is thought provoking and you can use it to refocus your own abilities and goals as we watch the other side of the world go up in smoke.

https://youtu.be/eQ0KxUXK_wI

-Stan N8BHL

From the Public Information Coordinator

John Ross, KD8IDJ - PIC

john.ross3@worldnet.att.net



TIME IS ALMOST HERE FOR **THE 2022 OHIO SECTION** **NEWSLETTER CONTEST**

Just three months from now is the deadline for the 2022 Ohio Section Newsletter Contest! All entries must be in by midnight June 30th.

You can email anytime...just need a link to your clubs' website or preferred, a direct link to your newsletter. Remember, we need copies from two DIFFERENT months for the entry to be valid.

Judging will start right after the July 4th holiday and the winners will be announced at the 2022 COLUMBUS HAMFEST Electronics, Audio, Video and Computer Show Saturday August 6th.

This the longest running newsletter contest in the country and, of course, we think the best anywhere.

Good Luck!!



OHIO PIO ZOOM MEETING IN APRIL

The first ever PIO ZOOM meeting is now set for Thursday evening April 21 at 7:30 PM.

Instructions and the link are below. If you don't have ZOOM, you can download a free copy that will allow you access to any ZOOM meeting. The download will only take a few seconds and not much space on your hard drive.

This meeting will be about 30 minutes and is for all Ohio PIO's and club members who help with newsletter production or other special events. This will give us a chance to say hello, introduce ourselves and just a general meet and greet event.

Here is the link and info:

John Ross is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting for Ohio PIO's.

April 21 at 7:30 PM.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/6834196913?pwd=SUK5bDBrTW1tRTNsazNDaTB0SEJ5QT09>

Meeting ID: 683 419 6913

Passcode: nPZJU1

If you have trouble with the link call or email for help.

Looking forward to seeing and talking to all of you shortly!

WORLD AMATEUR RADIO DAY APRIL 18th

World Amateur Radio Day is this April 18th this year...a chance to promote Amateur Radio and all of the great things that we do.

This also a good opportunity to interact with you local media and arrange for live coverage of operators in action. The ARRL has great promotion and publicity materials on their website...here's the link:

www.arrl.org/world-amateur-radio-day

Most media operations would like as much advance notice as you can so email or call them now to help get this on this on their schedules as soon as possible.

That's all for this month. Remember the 2022 Dayton Hamvention is coming up in May...more on that soon...but tickets are available now.

73

John E. Ross
ARRL Ohio Section Public Information Coordinator
KD8IDJ @ [ARRL.NET](mailto:KD8IDJ@ARRL.NET)
614-459-4292 Home
614-266-4292 Cell

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

New Ohio Section Youth Net

Katherine Campbell, KE8LQR (Ohio Section Assistant Youth Coordinator) and Bernadette Wagner, KE8LWO will be heading up a new net for youth in Ohio.



Ohio Section Youth Net

Announcing a new net:

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

To promote activity on the new net, Katie and Bernadette have come up with a few ice breaker questions for the OSYN:

1. What is your favorite ham radio-related activity?
2. When did you get licensed?
3. Have you ever attended a hamfest?
4. Do you know CW, and if not, do you plan to learn it at some point?
5. Favorite activity or hobby outside of ham radio?
6. What made you want to get licensed?
7. What mode do you mainly operate with?
8. Do you have your own radio? If so, which one?
9. Have you joined any ham radio clubs? Local or National
10. Have you ever checked into a net before?
11. Do you play any musical instruments? If so, which ones?
12. Are you involved in sports? If so, which ones?
13. Have you ever operated in Field day or another on the air contest?
14. Would you be interested in "home-brew" projects for ham radio gear?

Echolink

EchoLink® software allows licensed Amateur Radio stations to communicate with one another over the Internet, using streaming-audio technology. The program allows worldwide connections between stations or from computer to station, greatly enhancing Amateur Radio's communications capabilities. There are more than 350,000 validated users worldwide — in 159 of the world's 193 nations — with about 6,000 online at any given time. The program runs on Microsoft Windows®, with editions also available for Android and iOS. It is offered free of charge and may be downloaded [here](#).



Website -

- [Home- www.echolink.org](http://www.echolink.org)
- [Take a Tour](#)
- [Download](#)

Validation

EchoLink opens a world of new communications possibilities by joining Amateur Radio stations over the Internet. Since the Internet is a shared, public resource, security is naturally a very important part of the system.

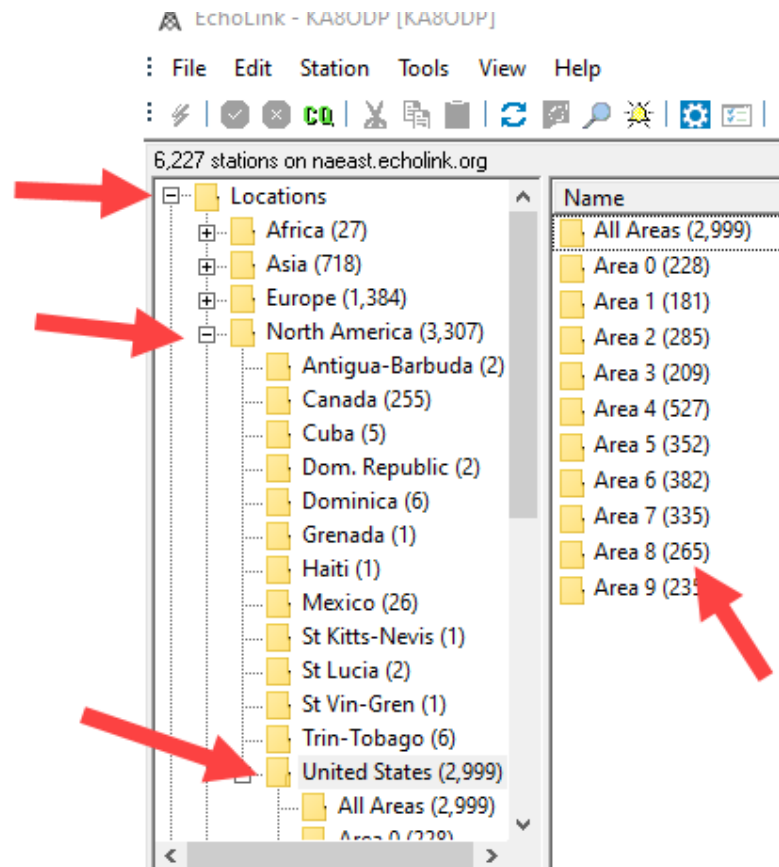
Each new user of EchoLink must provide proof of license before access is granted. This is to ensure that only licensed Amateurs have access to the system and to ensure that each user is using a valid callsign that they are authorized to use.

There are several different ways you can provide proof of license. These options vary somewhat by country. You can do this after installing your software (note: it may take a day or two to get validated).

Installing-

- YouTube Video- [“Installing & Setting Up EchoLink on PC”](#)
- Basic instructions
 - a. Download and install software to your PC or Phone
 - b. Choose User mode (NOT Sysop mode)
 - c. Configure software
 - d. You'll be asked to enter some information about your station.
 - Callsign: Set the callsign exactly as you wish to be registered with EchoLink. If you have already registered, use the same callsign you used previously.
 - Password: If you had used EchoLink previously, type your original password here. Otherwise, select a password you can easily remember, and it will be assigned to you as you register. Be sure to make a note of it in case you need to re-install the software.

- First Name: This name will appear on the other station's screen when you establish contact. Enter the name by which you wish to be called.
 - Location: Enter the location of your station or a description of its function. This will appear in the list of available users. Example: "Akron, OH"
 - Email Addr: Please enter your e-mail address. This address is used only for initial registration and will not be published or displayed anywhere. After registration, please use the EchoLink Web site to inform us of any change in your e-mail address.
 - Region: You will be asked to indicate in which general region of the world you are located.
- e. Configure your microphone and speakers
- f. Callsign Validation: If you have never used EchoLink before, the callsign you entered will need to be validated by the system before you will be able to access it. To gain access, you must provide proof of license to the EchoLink system; for details, please see the [Validation section of the EchoLink Web site](#). Until the callsign has been validated, the Station List area of the screen will be blank or may display a message indicating that your callsign is not yet validated. Once validation is complete, you will see the list of stations appear in the Station List area, and you can proceed to use EchoLink.



Using-

- **Connecting to a Station**

- a. To connect to another station, find the station's callsign in the Station List. Use the tabs at the bottom to select either Index View or Explorer View, depending on your preference. **(NOTE for Ohio Section Youth Net go to North America, United States, Area 8. Then choose "K8BF-L [Svx] Ravenna, OH")**
- b. Once you've located the station you're looking for, double-click on the station's callsign to connect to it. After a few seconds, you should see the station's callsign and name

appear near the bottom of the screen, and you should hear the "connected" signal. You are now in direct contact with the other station and you can begin conversing.

- c. If, after about 30 seconds, you see the message "Timed out," it means that the attempt to connect to the other station failed ([troubleshooting](#)).

- **Speaking Back and Forth**

- a. Once connected, you can converse with the remote station as in an ordinary QSO.
- b. The space bar works as a locking "push-to-talk" switch.
 - Tap the spacebar once to begin "transmitting," tap it again to stop (don't hold it down).
 - A red TX indicator appears on the screen whenever EchoLink is "transmitting," that is, sending audio over the Internet to the connected station.
- c. If you prefer, you can click the lightning bolt icon near the upper left corner of the screen instead of using the spacebar. You can also change the software so that the spacebar is held down to transmit and released to receive, more like a push-to-talk switch. See Preferences for details.
- d. You can switch to Transmit only when the other station is not already transmitting. When the other station is transmitting, the letters RX appear in the status bar at the bottom right, and the sound-level meter moves from left to right to show incoming sound. If you see that the other station is speaking, but you do not hear audio from your PC speakers, you may need to increase the volume on your sound device. Click the loudspeaker icon near the bottom right-hand corner of your Windows screen to adjust. Also, be sure the volume knob on your speakers is turned up.
- e. While transmitting, speak into the microphone and watch the sound-level meter at the bottom-center of the EchoLink screen. The meter moves farther to the right as the sound gets louder. For best results, adjust your Windows Recording Volume settings so that the meter moves vigorously but does not reach full-scale except on peaks.

Station	Location/Description
AC8ZD-L	Metro Detroit MI USA [0/20]
AC8ZT-R	[Svx] Grand Haven MI
AD8DM-L	Loveland, OH [0/20]
AD8DX-L	Royal Oak, MI [0/20]
AD8G-R	Cleveland, OH [0/20]
K8ATX-R	BlackJack Mountain [0/20]
K8BF-L	[Svx] Ravenna, OH
K8BMC-L	Sandusky Ohio Allstar [0/20]
K8BMZ-L	Traverse City, MI [0/20]
K8DAA-R	Holland, MI [1/20]
K8DAC-R	Saginaw, MI 147.24 RPT [0/20]
K8DZ-L	Springboro, OH
K8EEN-R	Mt. Vernon, Ohio
K8FBI-R	Detroit, MI [0/20]
K8GNG-R	Brighton, MI [0/20]
K8HII	Scitami

- f. If you see the red TX indicator while transmitting, but see no indication on the sound-level meter while speaking into the microphone, see Sound Card Issues for more information.
- Disconnecting
 - a. Once your conversation is finished, click on the red "broken link" icon near the top of the screen to disconnect. You should hear the "Disconnected" signal and see the message "Not connected" near the bottom of the screen.

Reminder Youth Resources for Amateur Radio

I maintain two websites with many resources for Youth in Amateur Radio. If you have additional resources for Youth/Students/Scouts in Amateur Radio, share them with me by emailing me at k8zt@arrl.net



- The Kids Radio Zone- www.k8zt.com/youth/kids-radio-zone
- Teacher Radio Zone- www.k8zt.com/youth/teacher-radio-zone
- Ham Radio Youth Resources Handout- tiny.cc/hry

Ham Radio Youth Resources Handout

- **Youth in Amateur Radio Slideshow** (Information & Resources for Clubs or Individuals Interested in Working with Youth In Amateur Radio)- tiny.cc/yiar
- **ARRL Outreach to Youth**- www.arrl.org/outreach-to-youth
- **ARRL Lifelong Learning Project**- www.arrl.org/lifelong-learning
- Tri-fold STEM brochure “Ham Radio- The Original Maker Movement”- tiny.cc/hr-makers
- **Scouting & Amateur Radio**- tiny.cc/ar-scout
- **Radio Technology in Classroom Slideshow**- (Presentation for Educators)- tiny.cc/trice
- **Ham Radio Quick Start Guide**- tiny.cc/new-ham
- **K8ZT Amateur Radio Resources**- www.k8zt.com
- **K8ZT Amateur Radio Education Outreach Column Collection** - tiny.cc/ar-ed-out

Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology - ARRL



As part of our educational outreach to schools through our **Education & Technology Program**, each summer the ARRL offers multiple sessions of the Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology. The Teachers Institute is an expenses-paid professional development program intended to provide teachers with tools and strategies to introduce basic electronics, the science of radio, space technology and satellite communications, weather science, and micro-controllers to their students. The curriculum is designed for motivated teachers and other school staff who want to learn more about wireless technology and bring that knowledge to their students.

Summer 2022 Applications and Brochure

Application submission deadline is May 1st, 2022.

TI - 1 Introduction to Wireless Technology

TI - 2 Remote Sensing and Data Analysis

Program	Location	Dates
TI - 1	Newington, CT	June 27 - July 1
TI - 2	Newington, CT	July 11 - July 15
TI - 1	Dayton, OH	July 18 - July 22
TI - 1	Newington, CT	July 25 - July 29

NEW! Teachers Institute Brochure

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

From the Section Traffic Manager

David Maynard, WA3EZN – STM

wa3ezn@att.net



THE OHIO SINGLE SIDEBAND NET ANNUAL ELECTION

The affairs of the OSSBN shall be under the control of the net manager and an advisory board comprised of three members. The net manager and one advisory board member shall be elected each year.

On March 1st the net manager will appoint a nomination committee of three members with the second year advisory board member as chairman. A slate of nominees for advisory board and net manager shall be presented on March 23.

On March 22 the net manager shall appoint a teller who will call for nominations from March 23 through March 31. Nominees must be members of OSSBN and agree to serve if elected. The teller shall call for votes from the members of the net from April 1st through April 7th and shall on April 8th announce the results of the election. The winner in each case shall be that nominee who has received the most votes. Duties of the net manager shall commence on May 1st. Voting may be by radiogram. For more information check into the OSSBN net.

Current Net Manager – KC8WH

Current Assistant Net Manager – KD8MSZ

Current Advisory Board

KA1G 2019

AC8NP 2020

K8KRA 2021

OHIO SINGLE SIDEBAND NET

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

Mike, KC8WH is the OSSBN Net Manager

OHIO HF CW TRAFFIC NETS

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

All net frequencies plus or minus QRM

OHIO LOCAL VHF TRAFFIC NETS

The Miami Valley Traffic Net MVTN appears to have gone missing. With the resignation of the net manager effective January 1, the fact that no report was received for January or February, reports by at least one station that they could not find the net, the demise appears to be true. My efforts to find contact information for any net members has resulted in no contacts. If you were a net member and wish to revive this net let me know.

VHF NETS	NET TIMES	FREQUENCY	NET MANAGERS
BRTN	9:30 PM DAILY	145.230 PL 110.9	W8DJG
COTN	7:15 PM DAILY	146.970 PL 123.0	KD8TTE
NWOHARES	6:30 PM DAILY	146.10	N8TNV
TCTTN	9 PM Sun, Tues, Fri	147.015	WB8YYS
TATN	8:00 PM DAILY	146.670 PL 123.0	WG8Z

On the 15TH of the month North West Ohio ARES Traffic Net meets on the alternate frequency of 146.94.

WARNING FROM FCC AND NEARLY LOCAL ACTIVITY

Last month I had the FCC WARNING that Amateur Service Licensees May Not Use Radio Equipment to Commit Criminal Acts. The full Enforcement Advisory can be found in PDF format online at: <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DA-22-181A1.pdf>.

An Erie Pennsylvania ham radio operator has been charged with broadcasting false weather emergencies. The 61-year old is accused of using radio frequencies to notify people of emergencies, to alert listeners of false weather reports, like tornadoes and a series of threats. The threats charge stem from his reaction to other radio operators asking him to stop spreading false reports. He is being charged with 11 first degree misdemeanor counts of bomb threats and terroristic threats. I was told he was a 911 dispatch operator and that he used equipment of the Radio Association of Erie to threaten other ham. There was no information found as to which radio service was used for the false weather reports.

TORNADO ON THE GROUND PART 2

Last month I tried to include an historical chart of Ohio tornadoes by month and year. The chart shows that between 1940 TO 2020 there were 1203 confirmed tornadoes in Ohio. The result of my attempt to include the chart causes a truncation affect and the information ended in mid-sentence like this:

Tornado HQ now has an experimental live-updating page at <https://www.tornadohq.com/live/>. You can track as many locations as you like and be notified with a voice alert (if your browser supports it) when any of your locations is affected by severe weather. This site is worth

Here is the rest of the article minus the chart.

Tornado HQ now has an experimental live-updating page at <https://www.tornadohq.com/live/>. You can track as many locations as you like and be notified with a voice alert (if your browser supports it) when any of your locations is affected by severe weather. This site is worth looking at as you can track tornadoes in the U.S. <https://www.tornadohq.com/>.

Ohio has about 16 tornadoes per year. There were 29 tornadoes in Ohio on July 12, 1992, the most recorded tornadoes since the 50s. 1988 is the only year in Ohio that had no reported tornadoes. Since the 1950s, Ohio has

had over 900 tornadoes.

TORNADO ON THE GROUND

A tornado is as a rotating, funnel-shaped cloud that extends from a thunderstorm to the ground with whirling winds that can reach 300 mph. Damage paths of tornadoes can be in excess of one mile wide and 50 miles long. Rotating thunderstorms are the best predictors of tornado activity. They are well defined thunderstorms on radar that may include hail, severe winds, lightning, or flash floods.

Tornadoes can occur when a warm front meets a cold front, forming a thunderstorm, which then can spawn 1 or more "twisters." Most twisters or cyclones travel from southwest to northeast and can move in the opposite direction for short periods of time. A tornado can even backtrack if it is hit by winds from the eye of the thunderstorm. Funnel clouds usually last less than 10 minutes before dissipating, and many only last several seconds. On rare occasion, tornados can last for over an hour.

A tornado may appear nearly transparent until dust and debris are picked up or a cloud forms within the funnel. Twisters strike predominantly along Tornado Alley, a flat stretch of land from western Texas to North Dakota. This region is a hotspot for tornadoes because the dry polar air from Canada meets the warm moist tropical air from the Gulf of Mexico. Tornadoes are most likely to occur between 3 pm and 9 pm, but can occur at any time. In the southern states, peak tornado occurrence is March through May, while peak months in the northernmost states are late June through August.

The NWS WILMINGTON OHIO 2022 VIRTUAL SPOTTER TRAINING SCHEDULE can be found at:
<https://www.weather.gov/iln/spottertrainingschedule>.



Disasters are some of the inevitable things that we may face during our lifetimes. Out of the many things that people do to manage disasters, those who prepare end up on the winning side.

Natural disasters take place at any given time. Some of them, for example, storms that precede floods give warning of impending danger whereas others give no warning, for example, earthquakes. However, as much as the two types of natural disaster are on the opposite ends when it comes to alerting people before they take place, they have one thing in common. This is that once they happen, the time for you to prepare disappears. It is therefore prudent for you to always have a plan of how you will cope with natural disasters before they strike because prior planning is the single best way to survive in such ominous times.

Disasters are of various sizes, from the smaller kind of events like storms that affect suburbs to much larger events which can affect an entire city or massive areas which can even cross state boundaries. Among the many outcomes of disasters, the most significant ones include: people getting killed or injured and others losing their valuable possessions and homes thus bringing them to the point of building their lives from scratch.

Although the number of tornadoes varies year to year it is still important to be vigilant and aware that a tornado can strike anywhere and sometime strike without warning. So as the severe weather season approaches, take some time now to make a safety plan for your family, friends, neighbors and co-workers. Planning ahead will lower the chance of injury or death in the event severe weather strikes.

Tornadoes develop from severe thunderstorms. They are usually preceded by very heavy rain and/or large hail. A thunderstorm accompanied by hail indicates that the storm has large amounts of energy and may be severe. In general, the larger the hailstones, the more potential there is for damaging winds and/or tornadoes.

The most violent tornadoes are capable of tremendous destruction with wind speeds of 250 mph or more. Damage paths have exceeded the width of one mile and 50 miles long. Tornadoes generally move from southwest to northeast, but have also been recorded traveling in any direction. The forward speed of a tornado varies from 30 mph to 70 mph. So take shelter and do not try to outrun a tornado if you are in a vehicle on the roadway.

Peak tornado season in Ohio is generally April through July, and they usually occur between 2 PM and 10 PM. Tornadoes have happened in Ohio in the months of January and December also so it is apparent that they can happen at anytime of the year in Ohio. Last December there was a tornado outbreak that included Ohio.

The Enhanced Fujita Scale is a set of wind estimates (not measurements) based on damage. It uses three-second gusts estimated at the point of damage based on a judgment of eight levels of damage.

Enhanced Fujita Scale

OPERATIONAL EF SCALE

EF # = 3-Second Gust (MPH)

0 = 65-85

1 = 86-110

2 = 111-135

3 = 136-165

4 = 166-200

5 = Over 200

Tornadoes strike when conditions are windy enough, and they can be devastating. The only way for a tornado to stop is for it to burn itself out. Since there isn't a way to fight a tornado, you should be on your guard and prepare for the upcoming terrible weather in your own way.

1. Get to Lower Ground

You should know that the safest place to be during a tornado is on the ground floor of the building you reside in. However, things can get complicated if you don't have a basement or you live in an apartment complex.

If you can hide out in a parking deck or a hallway, you'll be better off than staying where you were. If you absolutely can't get somewhere lower, remember to cover your head and protect your body with something sturdy to prevent damage to your person.

2. Make a Plan for Everyone

Create an emergency plan for your household. The bigger your home is, the more desperately you need a plan to gather everyone in one place. Even if you haven't experienced a disaster within the last year, you should test your plan annually to ensure everyone knows what to do in the event of a tornado.

Folks with special needs, such as those who have mobility aids or even pets, may need plans tailored to them. They may not be able to evacuate or get to the same level as everyone else, and you should create individualized plans for them. Having a plan of their own will help them feel less anxious during an emergency.

3. Keep a Safe Box of Essentials

You'll want a sturdy box full of essentials to keep safe with you in the event of a tornado. This box should include a first-aid kit, non-perishable foods, and more. Make sure you gather all of your important contacts, such as neighbors or faraway relatives you'll want to check in with, in one place where you can easily access them after the storm passes.

Know the difference between Tornado Watch vs. Warning and what to do.

When it comes to tornadoes, the difference between a watch and a warning could mean your life. Follows these tips from the Federal Alliance for Safe Homes (FLASH) and the National Weather Service to become **#tornadostrong**.



A **tornado watch** means the weather conditions for tornadoes are favorable during the next few hours. A watch usually covers a large area of several cities, counties, and sometimes even multiple state.

The National Weather Service issues a **tornado warning** when a tornado has been sighted or indicated by weather radar. A warning means that it is time to take action because there is imminent danger to life and property.

What should I do if I am under a tornado watch?

- Locate your family members and pets.
- Review your family disaster plan, including where you will take shelter.
- Monitor your NOAA Weather Radio, smartphone apps, and local news for updates.
- Stay aware of changing weather conditions. Remember, even if a tornado does not form, severe thunderstorms can pose a safety risk too.
- Make sure your emergency supplies such as flashlights, water, and batteries are accessible.
- Stay away from windows and keep them closed.

What should I do if I am under a tornado warning?

IF YOU'RE INSIDE:

2. Take shelter IMMEDIATELY in an ICC 500 certified tornado shelter or a safe room constructed using FEMA P-320 guidance.
3. If you do not have a certified shelter or FEMA safe room, immediately go to your safest space, such as a windowless interior room on the lowest floor of a sturdy building.
4. Cover yourself with a mattress, sleeping bag, or another protective blanket. Wear a bike helmet for additional protection.

5. If you are not at home or cannot get to your safe room or safe space, protect yourself from flying debris under heavy furniture, such as a sturdy table, and stay clear of windows and doors, including garage doors.
6. Monitor your NOAA Weather Radio and Alerting App to get updates.
7. DO NOT open or crack the windows in your home.

IF YOU'RE OUTSIDE:

- If you can safely get to a sturdy building, then do so immediately.
- DO NOT try to outrun a tornado with a vehicle.
- DO NOT get under an overpass or bridge. You are safer in a low, flat location.
- If you are in a car or outdoors and cannot get to a building, cover your head and neck with your arms, cover your body with a coat or blanket, or abandon your car and seek shelter in a low-lying area such as a ditch or ravine.

What should I do after a tornado?

1. Keep your family together and wait for emergency personnel to arrive.
2. Stay away from power lines and puddles as they may hide electrified wires.
3. Watch your step to avoid broken glass, nails, and other sharp objects.
4. Stay out of any heavily damaged houses or buildings; they could collapse at any time.
5. DO NOT use matches or lighters in case of leaking natural gas pipes or fuel tanks nearby.
6. Remain calm and alert. Listen for information and instructions from emergency crews or local officials.

With the aid of modern observing systems, such as vertically pointing radars (called wind profilers) and imaging systems on satellites that can measure the flow of water vapor through the Earth's atmosphere, forecasters can usually identify where conditions will be favorable for tornado formation for one to seven hours before they occur.

WEATHER AWARENESS

You need not be prepared for an actual tornado all the time. You need some way to tell when the conditions will be favorable or storms will occur with tornadoes. Here are some ways to stay informed.

Most local TV stations will advise you days and sometime a week in advance of the arrival of a storm or storm front. This is because most severe weather comes to Ohio from the west. Most stations will also show radar images during their broadcasts. Some stations also have weather APS to send weather reports and warnings right to your cellphone.

You should have a weather radio so that the NWS can send alerts to you. These alerts are valuable to keep you informed of severe weather and tornadoes even when you are sleeping.

Here are some websites that are worth checking out:

<https://www.tornadohq.com/live/> is an experimental live-updating severe weather page. This page shows an experimental live-updating severe weather map of current tornado and severe weather alerts.

If you experience problems with that link, you can use the regular versions of the <https://www.tornadohq.com/> and <https://www.tornadohq.com/severe-weather-map/> maps. These website maps show current tornado and severe weather warning location anywhere in the US.

<https://data.dispatch.com/tornado-archive/> . The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration has been tracking tornadoes for decades. This interactive map, which contains data from January 1950 to December 31, 2021, pinpoints where a cyclone touched down and traces its path of destruction. For more recent tornadoes,

clicking deeper provides more details, damage estimates and whether someone was injured or killed in the storm.

<https://www.disastercenter.com/ohio/tornado.html> This website has a list of tornadoes by year showing number of tornadoes, death, injuries and adjusted cost of damages. Visit this web page during any disaster for links to the best internet disaster resources for the State of Ohio. This website also has additional valuable links.

73

David WA3EZN

Ohio Section Traffic Manager

ARES Training Update

Jim Yoder, W8ERW – ARES Data Manager

w8erw@arrl.net

ARES Training Update

Hamshack Hotline – For those of you who are familiar with this innovative service available free to licensed Radio Amateurs, you probably would like an easier and more complete reference to find other Ohio Hams who are using Hamshack Hotline. I am working on an improved listing and pending proper approvals, we may have a directory of Ohio Hams available soon. The online listing now provided by the Hamshack Hotline service is lacking in some useful information including last names, county location and how the service is being used by the subscriber. Having a more complete directory available for download will be a plus especially for ARES applications. www.hamshackhotline.com



If you would like to see what I have in mind, please drop me an email w8erw@arrl.net and I will send you a copy of the list I am generating in .pdf format. Any suggestions you might have and your comments are welcome.

So what is attractive about this free VOIP service Hamshack Hotline? Yes, it is free although donations to the project are welcome. Server and storage fees aren't cheap. The service is excellent and is full featured with one exception. It is for licensed Amateurs only which means you cannot call your neighbor, family members or order pizza delivery using the service. It only connects you to other Hams using the service. I can see some functional utility for ARES especially in a deployed situation where we are interfacing with other volunteers who have no RF communication capability. Additionally, it would resolve any HIPPA concerns with using RF means of communicating.

Many of the commonly used telephony features are available on the service. Hamshack Hotline also works well behind the AREDN MESH network. It will work with any internet connection with the exception of satellite service, the latency is problematic. There is also a conference

bridge function which is quite useful when several need to discuss an issue or conduct other business and informational issues.

Pending approval from the Hamshack Hotline organization the online directory should be available soon.

ARES training – We've had another great month with many new submissions to the database including new members and completion of NIMS training. Currently I have 10,219 certificates on file with 1,942 members listed, Level 1-888, Level 2-751 and Level 3-214. 76 members have completed Aux Com and 71 have completed the Professional Development Series. Thanks to all who have submitted training certificates. I encourage everyone who has not already done so to have a look at the FEMA website and consider completing the NIMS training.

<https://training.fema.gov/is/crslist.aspx>

Thank you Jim W8ERW w8erw@arrl.net

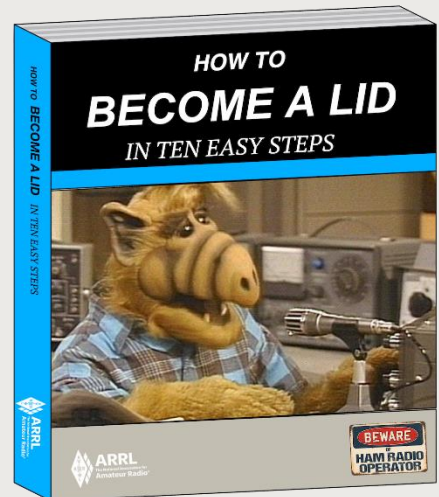
Terrific new products you wont see anywhere else!

April 2022 Edition

New ARRL publication: How To Become a Lid in Ten Easy Steps!

Here's your chance to learn to be a top rate operator! Various chapters include:

- Transmitting and talking while eating.
- Keeping YOUR frequency clear.
- Creative uses of CW carriers.
- Tuning up: anywhere is fine!
- Band edges are just suggestions.



Get it now! Your friends will thank you later.



Coax Stretcher

Did you cut your coax a few inches too short? No worries, use our new COAX STRETCHER to lengthen any coax to fit! Also performs the following vital functions:

- Changes RG-8 into RG-58.
- Perfect for building tuned stubs.
- Changes diameter of dielectric.
- Can be used to adjust velocity factor.

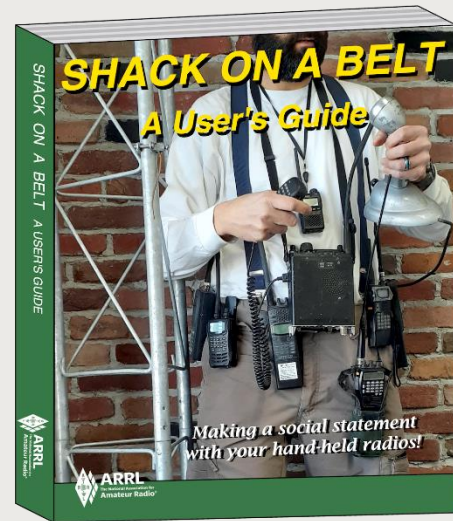


New ARRL Publication: Shack on a Belt: A User's Guide

Get the most out of hand held radios! This guide explains the nuances of using multiple rigs simultaneously, with topics such as:

- Keeping your pants up.
- Managing long counterpoises.
- Walking a yagi on a tall mast.
- Coping with public shaming and antenna envy.

Get yours now!





Plastic Ground Rods

No more rusting or corroded ground rods! Use these plastic ground rods that will last many lifetimes!

- Very flexible and easily conforms to rocks, obstructions, etc. when driving into ground. They just bend around the rocks!
- No corrosion!
- No dissimilar metal issues...because it isn't metal!
- Low conductance.
- Impervious to red ants.

No Pass Filter

Filters ALL and I mean ALL outgoing signals on all frequencies.

- Great SWR's.
- Stops QRM.
- Stops RFI.
- HOA compliant.
- Not a dummy load.
- Protects coax from red ants.





Right Angle Screwdriver

Get into those tight to reach screws, particularly inside linear amplifier chassis! Chrome vanadium steel, black oxide handle.

Gold Plated Coax Pins

Guaranteed to reduce QRM! Our gold plated coax pins offer high performance conductivity in a small package, difficult to find again once inserted. Discover the fun of pinning your buddy's coax; get a 10 pack today!

(I have to give credit here to **KF7P Metalwerks** for these new products!)

Register to Log in to ARRL.ORG

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

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

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

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

WSPR Beacon on the Air from Antarctica



AMSAT Argentina has assembled and delivered a permanent WSPR (Weak-Signal Propagation Reporter) beacon system to the Argentine research station at Esperanza Base on the Antarctic Peninsula. Using the call sign LU1ZV, the 200 mW beacon is presently active on 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters at 7.0386, 14.0956, 21.0946, and 28.1246 MHz, respectively, and reception has been reported by stations throughout the world.

The LU1ZV WSPR beacon is on the air from Esperanza Base, a permanent Antarctic research station.

WSPR is a digital communications protocol designed for reception at very weak-signal levels. It is part of the [WSJT-X](#) software suite. You can use [WSJT-X](#) to receive the LU1ZV beacon directly, or you can see reports from other stations online at www.wsprnet.org. [Thanks to the AMSAT News Service]

Important Message from ARRL VEC

By Maria Somma, AB1FM, ARRL VEC Manager

The FCC released a [Public Notice](#) on March 23, 2022, stating that the amateur radio application fees, including those associated with Form 605 application filings, would become **effective on April 19, 2022**. The Federal Communications Commission's authority to impose and collect fees is mandated by Congress.

The \$35 application fee, when it becomes effective on April 19, will apply to new, renewal, and modification applications that request a new vanity call sign. The fee will be per application.

Administrative updates, such as a change of name, mailing or email address, and modification applications to upgrade an amateur radio licensee's operator class*, will be exempt from fees. (*this new information was just confirmed by FCC staff on Tuesday, March 29.)

VECs and Volunteer Examiner (VE) teams will not have to collect the \$35 fee at exam sessions.

Once the FCC application fee takes effect, new applicants will pay the \$15 exam session fee to the ARRL VE team as usual and pay the \$35 application fee directly to the FCC by using the [CORES FRN](#) Registration system. VEC and VE team licensing procedures will not change.

When the FCC receives the examination information from the VEC, it will email a link with payment instructions to each qualifying candidate. The candidate will have **10 calendar days**, from the date of the application file number being issued, to pay. After the fee is paid, and the FCC has processed an application,

examinees will receive a second email from the FCC with a link to their official license or, in very rare instances, an explanation for why the application was dismissed or denied. The link will be valid for 30 days.

Per usual procedures, examinees that pass multiple exams at one session, will have one application transmitted to the FCC reflecting the highest-level license class earned. Again, our procedures will not change. The new license candidates will have an extra step before the license is issued. VE teams can point candidates to our [FCC Application Fee](#) webpage. Our new ARRL VEC CSCEs also include information about the application fee and points candidates to the webpage. The FCC rule pertaining to CSCEs will not change. CSCE credit will continue to be valid for 365 days, starting from the date of issuance.

For VE teams holding exam sessions the weekend before April 19, the FCC advised that applications not received by the FCC before April 19 will be subjected to the fee. The ARRL VEC urges teams to upload sessions via our documents upload page to get your sessions to us as quickly as possible. Assuming the FCC electronic batch filing (EBF) system is functioning properly on Monday, April 18, the VEC staff will work to get these to the FCC before April 19. Email the VEC department at VEC@arrl.org for the upload instructions.

Additionally, the FCC stated that the fee for applications processed and dismissed will not be refundable. This includes vanity requests where the applicant does not receive the requested call sign. However, returned applications that are missing information will not require an additional fee, if the missing information is submitted to the FCC within the proper amount of time.

Youth Licensing Grant Program

Anticipating the implementation of the fee in 2022, the ARRL Board of Directors, approved the ARRL [Youth Licensing Grant Program](#) in July 2021. Under the program, ARRL will cover a one-time \$35 application fee for license candidates younger than 18-years old for tests administered under the auspices of the ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (ARRL VEC). Qualified candidates also would pay a reduced exam session fee of \$5 to the ARRL VEC. ARRL is finalizing details for administering the program.

Further news and instructions will follow as the FCC releases them. Details for the ARRL Youth Licensing Grant Program will be posted when available. For additional information, visit the resources below.

ARRL VEC Application Fees webpage:

arrl.org/fcc-application-fee

ARRL News Story: arrl.org/news/new-amateur-radio-license-applications-fee-to-become-effective-april-19-2022

FCC CORES Video Tutorials: fcc.gov/licensing-databases/fcc-registration-system-cores/commission-registration-system-video-tutorials

FCC Registration Help: apps.fcc.gov/cores/publicHome.do?help=true



Record-Setting NASA Astronaut Returns to Earth

NASA astronaut [Mark Vande Hei](#) is back on Earth after a NASA record-breaking 355 days in space.

Vande Hei's extended mission aboard the [International Space Station](#) ended on Wednesday, March 30, after a parachute-assisted landing in Kazakhstan along with Russian cosmonauts Anton Shkaplerov and Pyotr Dubrov. He returned to Houston on March 31.

Arriving at the orbiting laboratory in April of last year, Vande Hei's stay in low-Earth orbit exceeded the previously held record by 15 days. During his 355 days aboard the station, Vande Hei experienced:

- Approximately 5,680 orbits of Earth
- Approximately 150,619,530 statute miles traveled (equivalent of approximately 312 round trips to the Moon and back)
- Fifteen spacecraft or modules visits to the International Space Station, including three Russian Progress cargo ships, two Northrop Grumman Cygnus cargo craft, three Russian Soyuz, two SpaceX crew Dragons, three SpaceX cargo Dragons, and the two new Russian modules (the Nauka Multipurpose Laboratory Module and the Prichal Node Module)

“Mark’s mission is not only record-breaking, but also paving the way for future human explorers on the Moon, Mars, and beyond,” said NASA Administrator Bill Nelson. “Our astronauts make incredible sacrifices in the name of science, exploration, and cutting-edge technology development, not least among them time away from loved ones. NASA and the nation are proud to welcome Mark home and grateful for his incredible contributions throughout his year-long stay on the International Space Station.”

[More About Vande Hei's Historic Mission](#)

Are You Willing to Help Clubs?

You may have heard of the ARRL Foundation Club Grants Program. More information is coming on that, but one part of the program that you may not have heard about, is a new project to provide help to clubs who are seeking grants. This is being launched along with the grants program. It entails two distinct types of club mentors.

The first is the Club Grants Coach.

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

The second is a Club Mentor.

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

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

Not all hams can renew before the new fee kicks in, but about 17% of us (including those within the expiration grace period) can get a ten-year reprieve on the upcoming \$35 fee—IF they act fast!

Here is a handy chart of permissible 90 day amateur license renewal dates to avoid the \$35 fee, based on expiration date, and including the two-year grace period for expired licenses.

License Expires:	Renew between:
03/27/20 to 6/24/22	03/26/22 to 4/18/22
06/25/22	03/27/22 to 4/18/22
06/26/22	03/28/22 to 4/18/22
06/27/22	03/29/22 to 4/18/22
06/28/22	03/30/22 to 4/18/22
06/29/22	03/31/22 to 4/18/22
06/30/22	04/01/22 to 4/18/22
07/01/22	04/02/22 to 4/18/22
07/02/22	04/03/22 to 4/18/22
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07/08/22	04/09/22 to 4/18/22
07/09/22	04/10/22 to 4/18/22
07/10/22	04/11/22 to 4/18/22
07/11/22	04/12/22 to 4/18/22
07/12/22	04/13/22 to 4/18/22
07/13/22	04/14/22 to 4/18/22
07/14/22	04/15/22 to 4/18/22

07/15/22	04/16/22 to 4/18/22
07/16/22	04/17/22 to 4/18/22
07/17/22	04/18/22

Please note that renewal applications for licenses that expired before April 1 2020 and licenses expiring after July 14 2022 might run the risk of being rejected if not processed in time by the FCC. License renewal applications filed before the renewal dates listed in the table will definitely be rejected as "too early." Please see the following information on the Internet:

<https://www.fcc.gov/common-amateur-filing-task-renewing-license>

<https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-47/section-97.21>

Expired licenses: If your license expired less than two years ago, apply for renewal immediately! If your license expired more than two years ago—even by one day—you must retest for the Technician license and submit proof of your old license with your application if you were a higher class than Technician. Expired Advanced class licensees will be granted General privileges.

Thanks to Joe Shupienis – W3BC WPA SM for the above information!

Club Corner

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

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

Send it to: webmaster@arrl-ohio.org



OHIO DMR NET MARCH NET
RPT 245 CHK-INS 151 MINS
IN 4 SESSIONS

Gregg Gary - WB8YYS Asst. EC - Summit County

ARRL - The National Association for Amateur Radio
WB8YYS@ARRL.NET
330-357-6575

Alliance Radio Club Raffle

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

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

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

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



NOARS Saturday Zoom Elmers

The Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society's Board of Directors has started Saturday Morning Zoom Elmers, a time for new and not-so-new hams to ask and have questions answered. These sessions are on the third Saturday of each month at 11:00. One does not need to be a member of NOARS to attend. You don't even need to be a ham to attend. There will be two, perhaps three, knowledgeable hams available for questions. You can receive the Zoom invitation from Elaine, KC8FOS at ewilkinson1951@gmail.com or Chuck, K8CVM at k8cvm@mehoz.net.

Rio Grande Hamfest

Due to an allergic reaction and taking a Benadryl last night, I overslept this morning and arrived at the Bidwell/Rio Grande hamfest about 10:45 a.m.

It was a small set up, with about four vendor tables plus the announcer. There were homemade sausage egg and biscuits as well as sweet and regular iced tea available.

I spotted a pile of Athens Hamfest fliers on the table and inquired about them. The attendant thought it was a Ham from Glouster who had brought them.

I scored a few MFJ antennae for HTs and an MFJ lightning arrester for my new base unit. Also a lanyard, Yasu ball cap and a digital clock. When they drew for the grand prize, I heard several familiar names, but they weren't present: Mark Summers, Eric McFadden. Eventually they drew the ticket for one of the table vendors and he got the \$250 grand prize!

Although the front desk told me it was running until 2pm, the final drawings were pulled at 11:30 a.m. and tear down began. I passed one new arrival as I was leaving, and he hustled his way inside quickly.

I'm glad I went, but should have arrived much earlier.

I was told after the original date had been cancelled by the snowstorm two week ago, they had decided on an August date. But after a meeting of the group, that was altered to Today's March 26th date as the only one available in the next couple of months. Poor distribution of that change accounted for a lower turn-out this time, they said.

Still, spirits were high among those who attended.

-Kirk G KC8JRV

Vinton County Ham Radio Club reforming

According to the Vinton Co. Sunday Night Net, A meeting has been set for April 16th at 9 a.m. at the McArthur FireHall for any and all Hams to attend. There is a movement afoot by Repeater Trustee and Net Control KE8DJE Rusty to reform the club which Had gone dormant a while back. Can you help promote this event?

-Kirk G KC8JRV
Athens, OH

2022 Skywarn Training for Wood County and BGSU

Wednesday April 19, 2022, 6:00 PM (Check in begins at 5:30 PM) Register now at bgsu.edu/SkyWarn The training will take place at Olscamp Hall Room 115, BGSU, Bowling Green, OH 43403. Use parking lot N on Ridge St. off Mercer Rd.

This free training is open to first responders, the general public and BGSU students, faculty and staff. First responders may earn two continuing education units for this session.

Skywarn Severe Weather Spotter's Training:

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

VE Sessions

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

CARS

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

Dayton Amateur Radio Association (DARA)

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

The Lake County Amateur Radio Association

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

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

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

The Lancaster and Fairfield County Amateur Radio Club (LFCARC) hosts exam sessions at the

FAIRFIELD County EMA, 240 Baldwin Dr in Lancaster Ohio, 43130, on the first Saturday each month at 10:00 am. Please visit our website at <http://www.k8qik.org> for exam dates on our calendar and navigate to our Learning Center/Taking the Exam link for information and requirements. Our VE team looks forward to serving the Amateur Radio community in Central Ohio and across our nation. We have an experienced team that has

tested candidates from Alaska, Florida, Texas and points in between! Contact me at ve_testing@k8qik.org to register.

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

Please pre-register at www.milfordhamradio.org

Portage County Amateur Radio Service (PCARS)

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

US Coast Guard Auxillary March 12, 2022 at 0900 (local) at the Shrine Building, 6401 Fruit St. Huntsville, OH 43238. For more information contact Michael Robinson – KI0DE at 614-734-4369 msrobin1980@gmail.com

DX This Week

DX This Week – Sites

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

Today's issue is dedicated to JH1AJT, Yasuo "Zorro". The information below is from Ralph Fedor, K0IR via INDEXA

PRESS RELEASE
Zorro JH1AJT – Silent Key
March 23, 2022



INDEXA, the DX community, and the world lost a Zorro, JH1AJT, died on March 22, 2022, after a long cancer. Until the end, he was optimistic; cheerful; importantly, concerned for his fellow human beings, disabled children. Through his schools and his humanitarian trips in Asia and Africa he brought a all of those he touched.

We of the DX community are deeply him. He contributed generously to DXpeditions and and mentored operators. Without Zorro's support our and our memories would be less than they are.

Zorro's legacy and a deep bond will live on INDEXA. He established and endowed INDEXA's Humanitarian Aid Fund. Through it, Zorro's helping always be extended.

We called each other "brother." But he was brother to us all and all of us will miss him.

.... Ralph Fedor, KØIR



great man.
battle with
and most
especially

better life to

indebted to
encouraged
logbooks

within

hand will

truly a

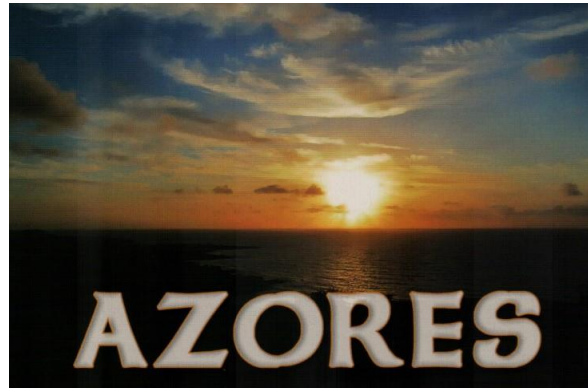
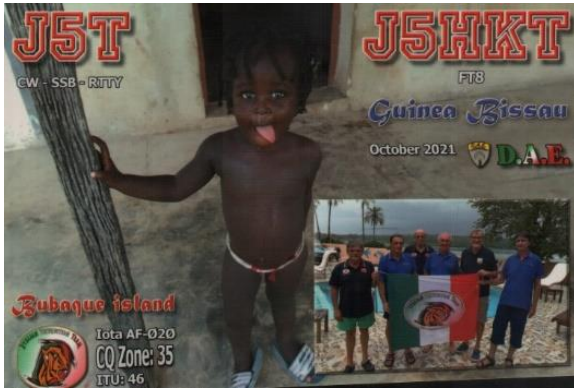
DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH DAH DIT DIT DIT

DAH

12 meters FT8 and 15 meters CW was open most of the week. Additionally, there was some really nice DX on the low end of 15 and some needed entities on 40. Let me know what you worked. If you have not been chasing DX before now, the bands will continue to get better with some drop offs. I can remember participating in the Cincinnati Area Ten Tuners net, a group dedicated to activity on ten meters, in the late 70s. It was not unusual to have check-ins from Japan, Australia, and New Zealand at 8 PM locale time!

Midwest entity spots included Australia, Azores, Belize, Brazil, Canada, Cayman Islands, Corsica, Crete, Croatia, Dodecanese, French Polynesia, Georgia, Guernsey, Hawaii, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Puerto Rico, Taiwan, United States, Vanuatu, Venezuela, and Wales. Let me know if you work an all time new one. (ATNO) I was able to work my first ZC4GR – UK Bases on Cyprus. Always fun to add one to the total.

I received several nice cards this week including J5HKT – DXpedition to Guinea Bissau and CQ8CQ – Joao in the Azores. Let me know what you worked!

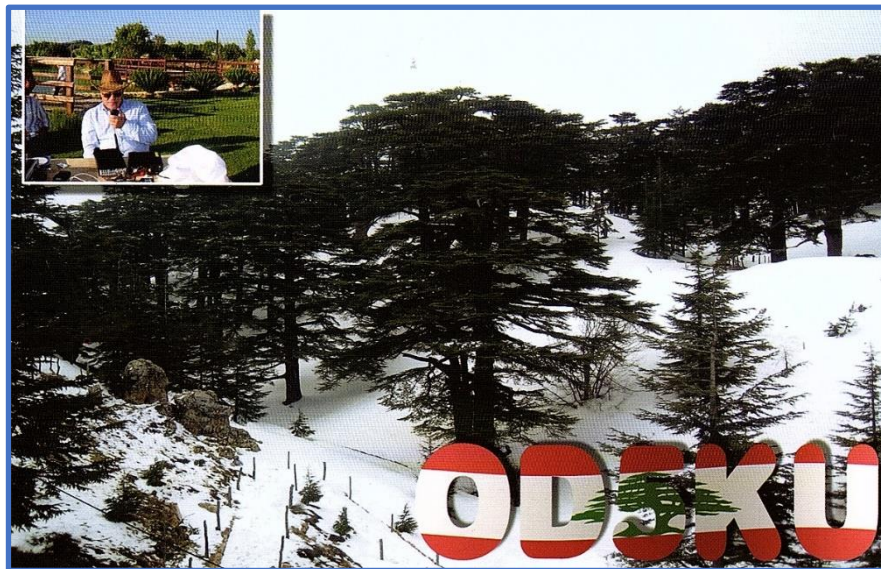


DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH

The Southwest Ohio DX Association (SWODXA) was featured in the current issue of CQ magazine. Check it out!

NR8Z, Tom, sent this wrote "I was snow on this Lebanon QSL. I they do get snow in

Thanks Tom for the



QSL card. He surprised to see looked it up and the mountains!" great QSL!

DAH DIT DAH DIT DIT DIT

DIT DIT DAH DAH

CWops Club - Many of us feared that with the advent of the "No Code" requirement in 2007, CW would start to fade as a medium for communication. However, in reviewing the number of logs submitted for CQWW CW contest since 2007, we learn that while amateur radio have increased 10.7%, log submission has increased EIGHTY-TWO SSB Log submission also increased but by only 49.5% in the same time Something was going on!



the licenses percent! frame.

(From www.CWOPS.org – They can say it better than me)

“In late 2009 a small group of CW operators – rag chewers, testers, and DXers – began talking about founding a new club. As these operators were from all three ITU regions, they decided from the outset that this club, unlike many, would be an international club from day one.

The CW Operators Club (CWops) was launched in January 2010. During those three years, the club grew from a handful, to a few hundred, to over 1000 members in over 70 countries. CWops, from the outset, was meant to be inclusive. Whether your preference was using CW for rag chewing, testing or chasing DX, you would find kindred spirits among the club's members.

At first, we established monthly on-air activities (CWTs), but today CWTs are held weekly on Wednesday. There are three 60-minute sessions each Wednesday at times that favor different geographic areas. By 2011, we had also crafted a worldwide CW contest with many novel features (CW Open). The goal has been to stimulate worldwide weekly CW activity and to conduct an annual contest that could be won on a single band using modest power and wire antennas with a time commitment of only four hours! These events are open to CW operators whether members of the club or not.

We realized that there were a lot of hams who wanted to explore the joys of CW operating but felt overwhelmed. Some of them knew Morse but were only able to copy and send at low speeds. Others had not yet learned 'the code,' but were intrigued by the mode and sought ways to learn and practice it. In response to this demand, CWops created CW Academy in 2012, which uses a developed curriculum, proven method of teaching and Skype for a virtual classroom to teach Morse Code.

We truly believe that CW is far more than a nostalgic throwback to the early days of ham radio. It has relevance in many ways to our desire to do things that not everyone else can do; and to provide an efficient, effective mode for communicating with others around the globe. We invite you to explore our Website; to participate in our on-air activities; or if your goal is to learn or improve CW skills, to sign up for CW Academy and join the hundreds of hams who have already done so.”

There is a nomination process as well as a 25 WPM code requirement. Check www.cwops.org for more details! How do you get to 25 WPM? Stay tuned for the next installment!

DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH

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:

CY9 - St. Paul Island - The planned CY9C expedition for August has been canceled. Their October CY0C trip to Sable Island is still a go at this point. <http://cy0dexpedition.net/index.html>

9M2 - West Malaysia - The next 9M2/SQ9UM activity is March 23-31. Alex says he is in Kuala Lumpur with a 100-watt ICOM transceiver to a multiband vertical for 40-10 "including WARC," and he does CW, SSB, FT8 and FT4. QSL to his home QTH in Poland or use LoTW. He says he may be on for the CQ WPX SSB Contest. <https://www.qrz.com/db/9m2/sq9um>

3A – Monaco - 3A5M commemorates the 100th anniversary of the passing of Albert I, Prince of Monaco, who lived from 1848-1922. ARM, the Association des Radio-amateurs de Monaco, will be on SSB, CW and digital modes, April 1 to May 31. Prince Albert was a big supporter of oceanography, founding oceanography museums in both Paris and Monaco. QSL through the bureau.

JX - Jan Mayen - JX7QY by LA7QY, Rune, should start within the next week or two and going to the beginning of October. Also, JX/LB4MI might be found on the air within a week or so.

VK9/N - Norfolk Island - VK3QB, Chris; VK3HJ, Luke; and VK6CQ, Alan; will be active from Norfolk Island (OC-005) from April 14-25 as VK9NT. They will be active on 160 through 10 meters, as well 6 meters on CW, some SSB and FT8 as time allows. This information may change as their plans mature. QSL via M0OXO OQRS.

DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH

DX This Week – CW Academy

Bill AJ8B (aj8b@arrl.net, @AJ8B, or www.aj8b.com)

CWOPs Member #1567

I hope you have been active and working some of the great DX that has been showing up. This week, 10,12, and 15 were open well into the late evening. I was able to work New Caldonio last night around 10 PM on 10 M CW. I have not seen that kind of activity late into the night for several years.

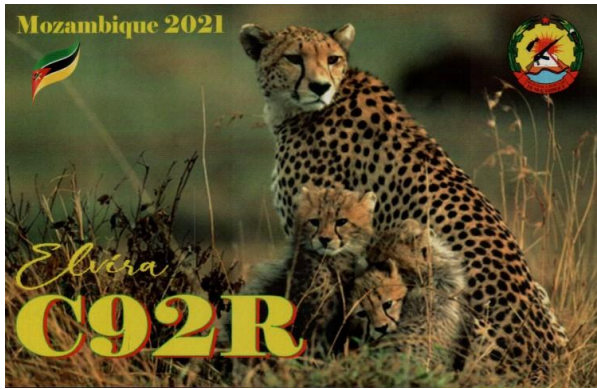
What I did learn is that my skills are rusty. I have a 3-step approach when trying to break a pileup. I had to revisit all of those and refocus myself trying to get JT1CO on 15M CW and was not successful. Time to “sharpen the saw” and get after it.

Did you attend the QSO Today Virtual DX event? If so, what did you think? I certainly got my money’s worth. Eric, 4Z1UG, did a great job and really pulled this off well. Please send me your thoughts.

Midwest entity spots included Algeria, Asiatic Turkey, Australia, Austria, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Brazil, Canada, Canary Islands, Cape Verde, Chile, Cuba, Cyprus, Denmark, Desecheo Island, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, England, Estonia, Falkland Islands, Faroe Islands, Fed. Rep. of Germany, France, French Guiana, Grenada, Guadeloupe, Hungary, India, Ireland, Isle of Man, Israel, Italy, Kuwait, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Mexico, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Northern Ireland, Norway, Pakistan, Poland, Portugal, Puerto Rico, Rodriguez Island, Saba & St. Eustatius, San Marino, Scotland, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, Trinidad & Tobago, United Arab Emirates, and Zambia. This brings the number of entities spotted in the Midwest to 157 and the number of Zones is 40. That is a total of 197 CQ Marathon points if you are participating in the Marathon.

I received several nice cards this week including C92R – Elvira in Mozambique, CO7BLC – Lazaro in Cuba, EI3KD – Mark in Ireland, and PS8RV – Ronaldo in Teresina, Brazil. Let me know what you received!





Over the next several weeks, I will be highlighting several clubs that you can join that will allow you to work DX and achieve various levels of awards. The series will culminate with a review of an app that will track and apply for hundreds of awards. All at no Cost! I was never really a paper chaser until I came across this. More next week

Good Hunting!

DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH

CW Academy

By Bill, AJ8B CWops ID #1567



CW Academy (CWA) is an internet-based Morse code training curriculum. CWA was formed to directly address growing problems including a lack of skilled advisors, lack of training in sending and the geographical dispersion of interested students. The solution was to organize a volunteer group of CW skilled advisors, provide training in sending AND copying and to use online video/audio conferencing for training. The results have been nothing short of amazing. We have been averaging over 80 students per semester and 80% of those complete the program. In addition, a growing number surpass the 25- wpm rate, and some become CW Academy advisors! Currently CWA is staffed by CWops and its members. There are well

over 20 volunteer advisors. It is a unique training program that has three levels. The program is given three times per year with each semester lasting 8 weeks.

The 3 levels of training are broken out as Level 1 (beginners), Level 2(those with speed above 10 wpm and below 20 wpm and Level 3. (for those with speeds above 20 wpm) CWA is held three times per year – Jan-Feb, Apr - May and Sep-Oct. Each eight-week semester typically has groups of 5 students (or less) with an assigned advisor who meets ‘online’ two evenings per week for about 45 minutes per session. Level 1 spends 5 weeks learning all Morse characters, numbers, some punctuation, useful “Q” signs. The remaining 3 weeks are spent doing simulated CW QSOing, contesting, and DX pile-up training. The objective of Level 1 is to attain speeds above 10 wpm, to attain skill with QSO protocols, to get acquainted with CW contesting and DXing



Level 2 is tailored to the aspirations of the students in each group It stresses improved head copying skills, better sending, further training in QSOing, contesting, and DXing. The objective of level 2 is to attain speeds above 20-wpm, to attain skill with QSO protocols, to gain experience with CW contesting and DXing

Level 3 is also tailored to the aspirations of the students in each group. It stresses improved head copying skills, better sending, further training in QSOing, contesting, and DXing. The objective to Level 3 is basically the same as Level 2 but at 25 WPM and above, namely, to attain speeds above 25- wpm, to attain skill with QSO protocols, to gain experience with CW contesting and DXing. Check the cwops.org website for more information or to sign up.

DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH

Press Release

SWODXA DX DINNER® ANNOUNCEMENT

April 1st, 2022
Southwest Ohio DX Association

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

There are only about 6 weeks left until the 35th annual DXDinner®. The dinner, held in conjunction with the 2022 Dayton Hamvention®, will be on Friday, May 20th, at the Marriott Hotel in Dayton.

Dr. Scott Wright, K0MD, will be the keynote speaker. Scott will present the “High C’s of DXing – Operating in The Caribbean, Chile, and China”

Icom has graciously donated an IC-7610 as the DX Dinner grand prize. Icom has also donated an Icom IC-705 as the raffle prize to be awarded at the DX Forum on Saturday. There

are also many other great DX Dinner prizes. You can see a list of prizes at <https://swodxaevents.org/2022-dayton-dx-dinner/>

As always, SWODXA will have a much-anticipated award announcement!

We anticipate brisk ticket sales in April, so don't wait any longer. For more information and to order dinner tickets, visit WWW.SWODXAEVENTS.ORG and follow us on Twitter (@SWODXA).

DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH

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:

V4 - St. Kitts and Nevis - W5JON, John, will again be operating from his Calypso Bay, St. Kitts, West Indies vacation home, located 200 feet from the Caribbean Sea, from April 20-28. Activity will be on 6-160m, SSB and FT8. Equipment includes a Yaesu FT1000MP, FT450D and Elecraft KPA500 Amplifier. For antennas he uses a Mosley Mini32A 10/15/20m, 33' Vertical 10-40m, 35' Top Loaded 80m Vertical, 160m Vertical and 6m a 5el Yagi. QSL direct to W5JON or via LoTW.

3V – Tunisia - After years of trying to get his own 3V callsign (3V4-002), aka KF5EYY, Ash has finally received his 3V9A callsign. First, he tried by getting his US license KF5EYY back in 2017 and then passed the local testing in December 2021. His plan is to "keep using the club callsigns" until he builds his own station.

Z6 – Kosovo - Since March 24 DL7UCX, Ben, has been operating from near Gjilan as Z6/DL7UCX until May 28. He's running a K3 and Expert 1.3K into a multi-band dipole up 12 meters. Activity will be on CW on 7 through 28 MHz, with an emphasis on 12 and 10 meters. He is located on a mountainside sloping towards North America. Despite being outside the villages he notes the local background noise is S5-7 from "lots of Chinese LED ceiling lamps. QSL via DL7UCX either direct or via the bureau. He will be uploading QSOs to LoTW and Club Log. www.dl7ucx.de

FO/A - Austral Islands - JA1XGI, Haru, updates us on his trip to French Polynesia this coming November. He will be QRV as FO/W1XGI from the Austral Islands, a separate DXCC Entity from French Polynesia, from November 2-9. He plans to have an IC-7300 with 500 watt amplifier and verticals. Activity will be mostly on CW with some digital and SSB activity, on 1.8 through 28 MHz An emphasis will be to work Europe on 160 and 80 meters. QSL via the bureau, LoTW, OQRS (if needed), digital QSL system for JA's and direct with SASE. <https://australvacation.amebaownd.com/>

OH0 - Aland Islands - OH2OT (aka OG5O and OG55W), Keijo; and OH2HOD, Raili (XYL); will be QRV from Lemland, in rare grid locator KP09cx, Aland Islands from May 21-27. They will be operating with a 100-watt FT-991A along with a long Windom and ground plane as OG55W/OH2OT and OH2HOD. Activity will be

on FT8, CW, SSB and RTTY on 1.8 through 70 MHz, including 60 meters. QSOs will be uploaded to Club Log and LoTW. QSL via Club Log, direct or via the bureau.

HC8 - Galapagos Islands - HC1MM (ex HC8MM), Maria, and her husband HC1MD (aka NE8Z), Rick, will be traveling to Santa Cruz Island, Galapagos Islands. They will be there and QRV in their spare time as HD8MM and HD8MD respectively between April 7 and 14. In the past Maria has operated as HC8MM, while Rick has been QRV in the past as HC1MD/8, HC8EE, HD8EE, HC8MD, HD8MD, HC8VF, NE8Z/HC8, HC5EE/HC8, HD8CD (Charles Darwin) and HC8X.

While on this trip the couple will be visiting friends on Santa Cruz Island, including Steve Divine, the son of the late HC8GI, Bud Divine. Currently there are no active hams living on any of the HC8 islands. HC8JG, Jose Gallardo, still resides on Santa Cruz Island, however he has been QRT for years. HC8GR, Guido Rocillo, left San Cristobal Island and is now living in Quito.

Rick says he currently has "199 DXCC entities confirmed from [his] past [HC8] operations. Being a DXer Rick "hope[s] to be able to work a lot of new DXCC entities on this trip".

The two will be using an FT857D, Samlex SEC-1235M power supply, MFJ mobile antenna tuner and RIGblaster Advantage. Antennas include an Outbacker vertical and two element, 6 meter Moxon. Activity will be on 7 through 50 MHz on FT4, FT8 with some Fox and Hound, CW and SSB. After the trip QSOs will be uploaded to LoTW. QSL via K8LJG or to NE8Z. Maria and Rick plan to be back home in Michigan in late April. They have plans to be back in Ecuador in November 2023.

A3 – Tonga - JA0RQV, Masa, says his next trip to Nuku'alofa, Kingdom of Tonga "depends on the situation of Covid-19 as well as recovery from [the] recent disaster from volcanic eruption in Tonga." Now he is planning to return to A35JP around July 2022 "to help people in [a] difficult situation". He hopes to stay through October and will keep us posted on any updates. When he goes he will take a 100 watt IC-7300 and ground plane for activity on 3.5 through 50 MHz on SSB, CW and Digital. QSOs will be uploaded to Club Log and LoTW. QSL via his home call. <https://www.qrz.com/db/A35JP>

XT - Burkina Faso - DK1MAX, Max, is heading back to Ouagadougou (grid locator IK92fh), Burkina Faso next week. He arrives on Thursday April 7th and expects to begin activity as XT2MAX on Friday April 8th. He'll be using an IC-7300 running up to 100 watts into dipoles and verticals. Listen for him on CW, FT8 (Fox and Hound), FT4 and some SSB all bands "but will try to concentrate on high bands" until April 20th. Max says, "When changing from FT8 normal mode to f/h I will announce the new frequency on dx-cluster." QSOs will be uploaded to Club Log and LoTW. You can search his log on Club Log at clublog.org/logsearch/XT2MAX and he may also do livestream at clublog.org/livestream/XT2MAX QSL via EA5GL either direct or via the (DARC) bureau. <https://www.qrz.com/db/XT2MAX>

3B8 – Mauritius - OM5ZW, Lubo, is heading to Long Beach, Mauritius at the end of next month. He'll be taking a Sun SDR running up to 800 watts into a DX Commander, vertical and dipole for 80 meters. He will be operating "holiday style" as 3B8/OM5ZW from April 29 to May 6 on 3.5 through 28 MHz on CW, SSB, RTTY and FT8. QSOs will be uploaded to LoTW and Club Log. QSL via OQRS.

DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH

CONTEST CORNER

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

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

www.aj8b.com/files

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

Thanks!

Apr. 9	QRP Spring QSO Party	http://www.qrparci.org/contests
Apr.9-10	FT8 DX Contest 2022	https://europeanft8club.wordpress.com/
Apr. 9-10	IG-RY Worldwide RTTY Contest	https://www.ig-ry.de/ig-ry-ww-contest
Apr. 9-10	JIDX CW Contest	http://www.jidx.org/
Apr. 9-10	Yuri Gagarin International DX Contest	http://gc.qst.ru/en/section/32
Apr. 10	ARRL Rookie Roundup, SSB	http://www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup
Apr. 10	Hungarian Straight Key Contest	http://hskc.ha8kux.com/
Apr. 10	International Vintage Contest HF	http://www.iv3ehh.it/vintage.htm
Apr. 10	RSGB RoLo SSB Contest	https://bit.ly/31qpcJl
Apr. 10	WAB 3.5/7/14 MHz Data Modes	http://bit.ly/31yE4kT
Apr. 11	RSGB FT4 Contest Series	https://bit.ly/31qpcJl
Apr. 11	144 MHz Spring Sprint	https://bit.ly/3Fazrif
Apr. 13	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity	http://www.ft8activity.eu/index.php/en/
Apr. 15-16	Holyland DX Contest	http://www.iarc.org/iarc/#HolylandContest
Apr. 16	ES Open HF Championship	https://esopen.eu/
Apr. 16-17	CQ Manchester Mineira DX Contest	http://www.cqmdmx.com/rules/
Apr. 16-17	Worked All Provinces of China DX Contest	https://bit.ly/3sDGs72
Apr. 16-17	YU DX Contest	http://yudx.yu1srs.org.rs/
Apr. 18	DARC Easter Contest	http://bit.ly/3bOk9pd
Apr. 19	222 MHz Spring Sprint	https://bit.ly/3Fazrif
Apr. 20	RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB	https://bit.ly/31qpcJl
Apr. 20	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity	http://www.ft8activity.eu/index.php/en/
Apr. 23-24	10-10 Spring Digital Contest	http://bit.ly/1FrFeBc
Apr. 23-24	Helvetia Contest	https://www.uska.ch/
Apr. 23-24	SP DX RTTY Contest	http://www.pkrv.org/strona,spdxrttyen.html
Apr. 24	Bartg Sprint75 Contest	http://bartg.org.uk/wp/contests/
Apr. 24	North American SSB Sprint	https://ssbsprint.com/rules/
Apr. 27	432 MHz Spring Sprint	https://bit.ly/3Fazrif

Apr. 27	UKEICC 80m Contests CW	https://ukeicc.com/80m-rules.php
Apr. 28	RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data	https://bit.ly/31gpcJl
Apr. 30- May 1	UK/EI DX Contest, CW	https://www.ukeicc.com/dx-contest-rules.php
May 1	AGCW QRP/QRP Party	http://bit.ly/3bwH1aZ
May 28-29	CQWW WPX CW Contest	www.cqwp.com

DX News

ARLD013 DX news

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

MONACO, 3A. Members of the Monaco Radio Club are QRV as 3A5M until May 31 to mark the 100th anniversary of the death of Prince Albert I. Activity is on all HF bands using CW, SSB, and various digital modes. QSL via bureau.

MALTA, 9H. John, 9H1CJ is a Franciscan friar operating from the Capuchin friary in Floriana. He is active with special call 9H6CAP until June 30 to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the destruction of the historic friary and adjacent church during World War II. QSL direct to home call.

NEPAL, 9N. Matjaz, S57MK will be QRV as 9N7MK from April 2 to 23 during his trekking tour to Mount Everest. Activity will be in his spare time on 40, 20, 17, and 15 meters using CW, SSB, and FT8. QSL to home call.

BOLIVIA, CP. Toni, EA5RM is QRV as CP1XRM until April 22 while working as a volunteer in the rain forest. Activity is in his spare time on the HF bands using CW, SSB, and FT8. QSL to home call.

FRANCE, F. Special event call sign TM40AMRA will be QRV from Metz from April 2 to 16 to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Association Mosellane des Radio Amateurs. QSL via F8EFU.

NEW CALEDONIA, FK. Jean-Louis, F5NHJ will be QRV as FK/F5NHJ from April 5 to June 7. Activity will be holiday style on 160 to 6 meters with a focus on RTTY, FT8 and FT4. QSL via LoTW.

GALAPAGOS ISLANDS, HC8. Maria, HC1MM and Rick, NE8Z will be QRV as HD8MM and HD8MD, respectively, from Santa Cruz Island from April 7 to 14. Activity will be in their spare time on 40 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, FT8, and FT4 in DXpedition mode. QSL via K8LJG.

ITALY, I. Members of the ARI Vigenano club are QRV with special call IR2SM until April 10 to mark the 150th anniversary of the death of Samuel F. B. Morse. QSL via I2MYF.

MONGOLIA, JT. Chak, JT1CO, has been active on 15 meters using CW around 1300z. QSL to home call.

JAN MAYEN, JX. Rune, LA7QY and Helge, LB4MI are QRV as JX7QY and JX/LB4MI, respectively, until early October while stationed on Jan Mayen. Activity is in their spare time. QSL to home calls.

ALAND ISLANDS, OH0. Wies, SP1EG, Hans, DK8RE, Frank, DM5WF and Hans, DL8UUF, are QRV as OH0EG until April 9. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, and various digital modes. QSL via SP1EG.

MARSHALL ISLANDS, V7. Jeff, KD7ADI is QRV as V7/KD7ADI from Kwajalein, IOTA OC-028, until April 23 while stationed here. Activity is in his spare time. QSL via LoTW.

BURKINA FASO, XT. Max, DK1MAX will be QRV as XT2MAX from Ouagadougou from April 7 to 20. Activity will be on the HF bands using CW, some SSB, FT8, and FT4 in DXpedition mode. QSL via EA5GL.

REPUBLIC OF KOSOVO, Z6. Ben, DL7UCX is QRV as Z6/DL7UCX near Gjilan until May 28. Activity is on 40 to 10 meters, with an emphasis on 12 and 10 meters, using CW. QSL to home call.

SOUTH SUDAN, Z8. Diya, YI1DZ is QRV as Z81D from Juba for the next six months. QSL via OM3JW.

The OK1WC CW Memorial, RSGB 80-Meter Club CW Championship, ARS Spartan CW Sprint, Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest, RTTYOPS Weeksprint, Phone Weekly Test, A1Club AWT, CWops Test, VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest, Mini-Test CW 40, Mini-Test CW 80 and UKEICC 80-Meter CW Contest are scheduled for April 4 to 6.

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

Upcoming Hamfests

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



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

Ohio Hamfests

2022

04/09/2022 - [Sixty-Sixth Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club Hamfest](#)

Location: Cuyahoga Falls, OH

Sponsor: Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Website: <http://www.cfarc.org/hamfest.php>

[Learn More](#)

04/24/2022 - [Athens Hamfest](#)

Location: Athens, OH

Sponsor: Athens County Amateur Radio Association

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

[Learn More](#)

<p>04/25/2022 - 04/29/2022 RV Radio Network Spring Rally Location: Millersburg, OH Sponsor: RV Radio Network Website: http://rvradionetwork.com</p> <p>Learn More</p>	<p>05/01/2022 - Lucas County Amateur Radio Emergency Service Trunk Sale and Swap Meet Location: Toledo, OH Sponsor: Lucas County Amateur Radio Emergency Service Website: http://tinyurl.com/lcaresswap</p> <p>Learn More</p>
<p>05/20-22/2022 - Dayton Hamvention Location: Greene County Fairgrounds, OH Sponsor: Dayton Amateur Radio Association Website: https://hamvention.org</p> <p>Learn More</p>	<p>05/28/2022 - Scioto Valley Amateur Radio Club Hamfest Location: Piketon, OH Sponsor: Scioto Valley Amateur Radio Club</p> <p>Learn More</p>
<p>06/04/2022 - FCARC Summer Hamfest Location: Wauseon, OH Sponsor: Fulton County Amateur Radio Club Website: https://k8bxq.org/hamfest</p> <p>Learn More</p>	<p>07/09/2022 - Mansfield Mid Summer Trunkfest Location: Mansfield, OH Sponsor: Intercity Amateur Radio Club Website: http://www.w8we.org</p> <p>Learn More</p>
<p>07/17/2022 - Van Wert Hamfest Location: Van Wert, OH Sponsor: Van Wert Amateur Radio Club Website: http://W8FY.ORG</p> <p>Learn More</p>	<p>08/13/2022 - Cincinnati Hamfest Location: Owensville, OH Sponsor: Milford ARC Website: https://CincinnatiHamfest.org</p> <p>Learn More</p>
<p>09/17/2022 - Mound Amateur Radio Assoc. Swap Meet Location: Miamisburg, OH Sponsor: MARA Website: http://W8DYY.ORG</p> <p>Learn More</p>	<p>09/25/2022 - Cleveland Hamfest Location: Berea, OH Sponsor: Hamfest Association of Cleveland Website: http://www.hac.org</p> <p>Learn More</p>

OHIO'S



April 3, 2022

A belated April Fool's Day to each of you. I hope not too many of you were suckered into things like returning phone calls to Mr. Fox at the Zoo. The weather for the end of March was such I wonder how much truth can be held with the old thought of March going out like a lamb holds. The last week saw snow flurries on Sunday, stiff breezes and temperature ranging anywhere between the lower 20s and the 70s. There were even some passing showers thrown in for good measure. The National Weather Service even reported a small tornado near Clarksville which is on the Clinton and Warren County line. The State even cancelled the statewide tornado siren test because of the chance of severe weather and not wanting to confuse people.

The Wilmington NWS Office will have a final Storm Spotter webinar on Monday evening April 18 at 7 pm. It is a live webinar where questions can be asked and answers received. Check the Wilmington NWS Office website to learn how to participate.

I wish it was an April Fool's prank, but the FCC is not fooling around when they say the long discussed ham radio license fees are set to start on April 19. Therefore I suspect there may be a flurry of activity with clubs conducting license sessions in order to give those interested in becoming licensed a chance to beat the fee start. On April 9 the **Tri-State ARA** will hold a test session at Huntington's Museum of Radio and Technology. It will begin at 9 AM. Although it's after the new fee goes into effect, another license and upgrade opportunity will be at the **Athens County ARA's** hamfest on April 24. Registration begins at 10 AM. It is an ARRL session and the appropriate ARRL fee will be charged. For more information contact Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, at n8suz@arrl.net.

With the new FCC fee only a couple weeks away, you might want to look at the expiration date of your license. If you are within 60 days of it expiring you may go ahead and apply for a renewal. Additionally, if you have considered changing your call sign you might want to go ahead and get the procedure in gear. Both renewals and call sign changes will be subject to the fee. However things as name and address changes will not.

Martin Knight of Proctorville recently took advantage of the VE test session conducted by the Southern Ohio ARA and walked away with a new Technician license. Martin now can proudly proclaim to the world he is KE8UGW. Ted Jacobson, W8KVK, and Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, both advise us that Shawn Barr from Jackson passed his Technician and General tests and has been assigned the KE8UHD call sign. Ted also informs us the FCC has assigned KE8UGA to Timothy Watson of Wilmington. Also reported were the resulting new licenses issued by what I think is the recent **Milford ARC** test session. Technician licenses were issued to Karl Treier, KE8UHR, Milford; Anthony Seymore, KE8UHS, New Richmond; Michael Taylor, KE8UHU, Winchester and Leah and Michelle Svensson, KE8UHW and KE8UHV of Milford. Speaking of Wilmington, **Clinton County ARA** President Mark Atwell has traded in his KD8DGH call sign of many years and is now WX8A.

According to librarian Mike Wells, N8DAW, six students attended start of a ham radio class sponsored by the Wilmington Public Library this past week. Members of the **Clinton County ARA** are assisting with instruction.

On April 17, 1977 the **Highland ARA** was officially founded by a group of 20 Highland County area hams. With that date in mind, the Club will observe the occasion at their April 12 business meeting by a cake and other refreshments following the meeting. Since it is in honor of their 45th Anniversary they hope to have 45 members, past members and Friends of HARA in attendance. The meeting gets underway at 7 PM at the Highland County EMA Office in Hillsboro.

On April 19 the **Athens County ARA** will return to the Athens Red Cross Building for their monthly meetings according to President Eric McFadden, WD8RIF. Undoubtedly one item to be discussed is the Athens Hamfest scheduled to be held at the usual Athens Community Center location on Sunday, April 24. It runs from 8 AM until Noon. Admission is still \$5 and non-ham XYLs are free. Inside flea market spots are \$10 per table while those free outside spots are on a first come basis. There is even a discount if you order an inside space at least a week in advance!

On what seems to be rather unusual, as the Athens club returns to their usual meeting location, the **Highland ARA** will be vacating their Brunch Bunch meeting location following their April 9 gathering. On April 13 the Hillsboro McDonald's will be closed and leveled to make way for a new and updated facility. Brunch Bunch coordinator Ken Lightner, KE8JEL, says that in the interim while construction is happening the Brunch Bunch will meet at a shelter house at the Hillsboro Liberty Park. The Bunch will say "Good Bye" to the old facility starting at 10 am on the 9th. Any and all area amateurs and others interested in radio and electronics are invited to join in good times on that morning. Spouses and children are always welcome.

COVID pulled the rug out from under the popular and fun hamfest sponsored for years by the **Portsmouth Radio Club**. However in an attempt to fill the void left, on Saturday May 28, the **Scioto Valley ARC** will sponsor a Scioto Valley Trunkfest at the Pike County Fairgrounds near Piketon. According to club officers it will get underway at 8 AM. Although there is no fee to set up to sell, there is a \$5 per person admission charge. This should be a great opportunity for those who do not venture to HamVention to experience what a hamfest is about.

Bill Salyers, AJ8B, reminds us tickets remain for the **Southwest Ohio DX Association's** 37th annual DX Dinner taking place during HamVention but a brisk sale is expected in the coming weeks. The dinner is the evening of May 20 at the Dayton Marriott Hotel with a cash bar opening the evening's festivities at 5:30. The Mayo Clinic's Dr. Scot Wright, K0MD, will be the keynote speaker and talk of his experiences operating from South America, China and the Caribbean. Visit the www.swodxaevents.org to learn more about the evening and/or order tickets. It is a highlight of HamVention weekend and usually features some neat door prizes. The grand prize for the banquet is an Icom IC-7610.

According to their website, it's hoped the RFI problem to the **Milford ARC** repeater has been solved. Duke Energy has installed a new replacement pole, transformer, insulators and other hardware at the site of where it was found the interference was originating. Ken Klosterman, KD8FKU, has shown photos of the old pole where one can clearly see where it was slowly burning itself up.

The **Athens County ARA** is still in need of some additional hands with HTs to assist with the Athens Marathon on April 10. Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, states this is a rather low key event and provides an excellent opportunity for new hams to get experience in event traffic handling. If you can provide assistance please contact Jeff at n8suz@arrl.net.

Letting more people know about amateur radio, what is being done by those who have a license and the value to a community in not only good times, but in emergencies is something the **Cambridge ARC** takes to heart. On

Monday afternoon, April 25, Sonny Alfman, W8FHF, will present a program about ham radio to the Cambridge Lions Club. And what a program it should be if for no other reason than just its history. CARA has served Guernsey County since 1913 and is also one of the oldest affiliated American Radio Relay League clubs in the nation. It will begin at Noon at Mr. Lee's Restaurant in Cambridge.

It's understood the hams in the Bainbridge/Ross County area are going to try to restart their monthly breakfast gatherings. Tentative plans are to meet at the Dutch Restaurant, SR 41, on the second Saturday of each month at 8 AM. If interested, contact Bob Mathews, K8TQK, for more information.

John Levo, W8KIW, jlevo@cinci.rr.com

Using Images to Communicate and See Signal Quality

C. Matthew Curtin KD8TTE

Emergency communication is about getting information where it needs to be, when it needs to be there, under adverse conditions. Communication might take the form of bursts of chatter, formal written messages, or something else—like images. Are you testing and exercising your ability to communicate when the usual options aren't available?

NVIS Day 2022 is Saturday, April 23. The annual event is a great way to test Near-Vertical Incidence Skywave (NVIS) propagation to give you reliable short-medium communication. It's got an exchange—this year is the six-digit Maidenhead grid rather than county—as well as power and measured signal report. It's not a contest: the goal isn't to get as many contacts as you can but to test different antenna systems to see what works best for reliable statewide communication.

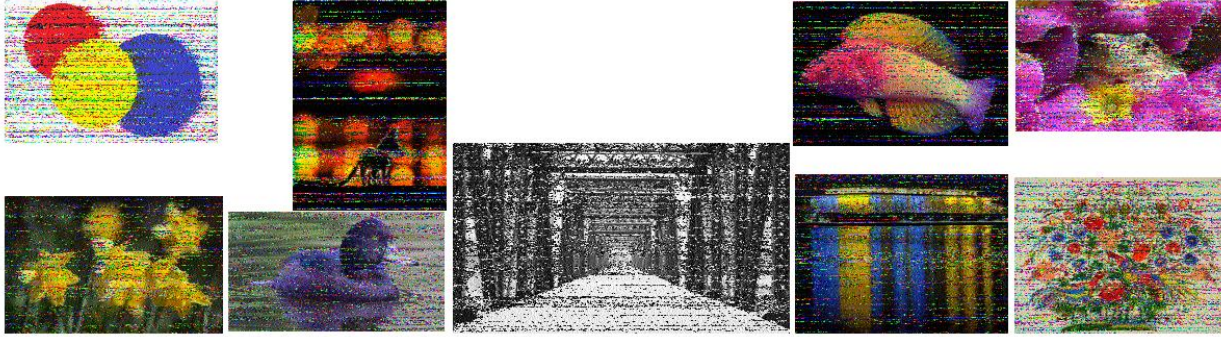
If you're looking for a way to measure performance other than looking at the S-meter, make sure that your station planning includes some time to receive images from BLACK SWAN Net. All you need to make it work is to have a rig that can listen on 60m—no transmission necessary!—and *fldigi* or similar software to decode MFSK Images. I'll show how to participate at the end of this article but first let's consider the use of images to see HF reception.

Shortwave Radiogram

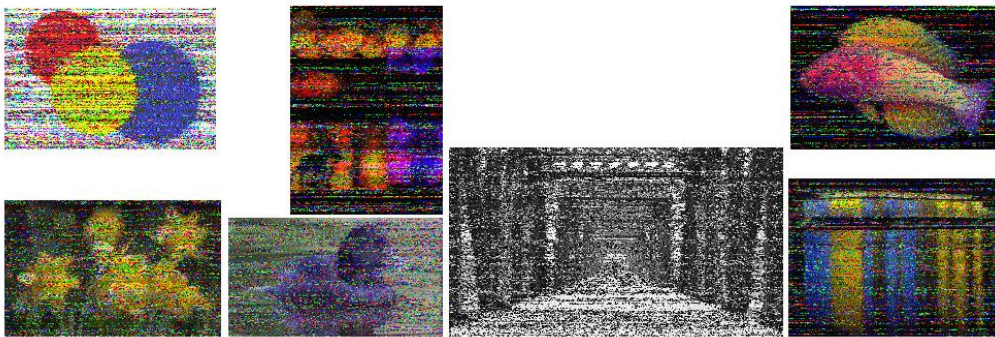
For about a year I have been following the Shortwave Radiogram program broadcast on commercial shortwave. The program includes some phone-mode emissions, text, and images. I compile the images, note the transmitting station and location, date-time of the transmission, and its frequency. Comparing the same program transmitted at different times of day, different frequencies, and from different locations can be helpful for building up some expectation of what works and when it works for particular signal needs. (I discuss Shortwave Radiogram in Radio KD8TTE Episode 32. <https://youtu.be/n8TgnhFFtQ4>)

Here's an example from Program 247. Note that I didn't have good enough reception even to decode all of the images until the third transmission I received, which was from Florida at 5 MHz in the wee hours of the morning.

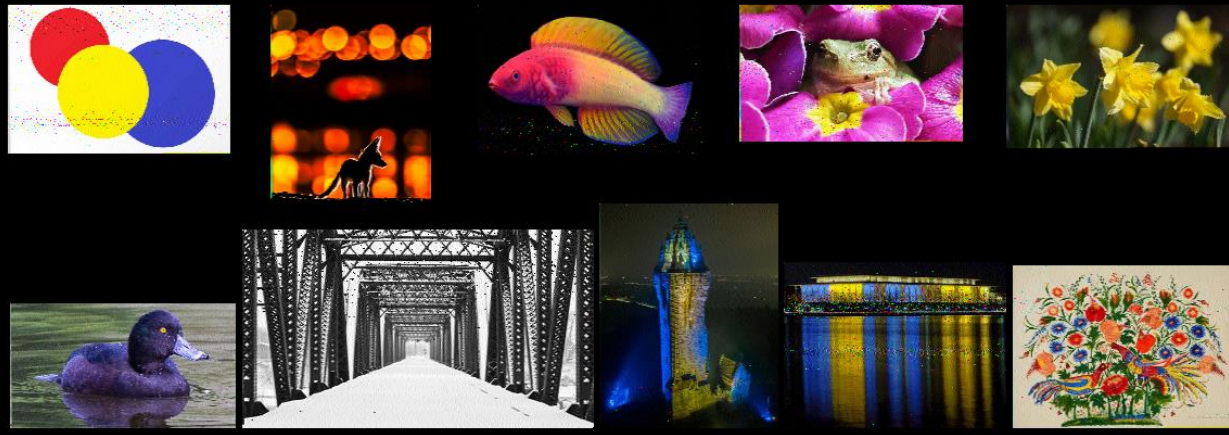
SHORTWAVE RADIOGRAM 247 SWRADIOGRAM.NET
RECEIVED BY KD8TTE BEXLEY OH FROM WINB RED LION PA 9265 KHZ
110030Z MAR 2022



SHORTWAVE RADIOGRAM 247 SWRADIOGRAM.NET
RECEIVED BY KD8TTE BEXLEY OH FROM WINB RED LION PA 9265 KHZ
120330Z MAR 2022



SHORTWAVE RADIOGRAM 247 SWRADIOGRAM.NET 130800Z MAR 2022
RECEIVED BY KD8TTE BEXLEY OH FROM WRMI OKEECHOBEE FL 5850 KHZ

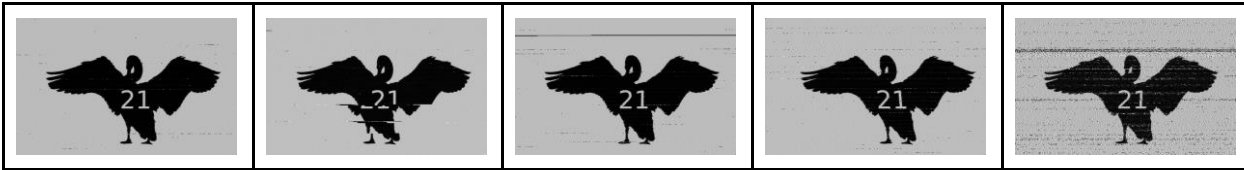


Using Images for Emergency Communication

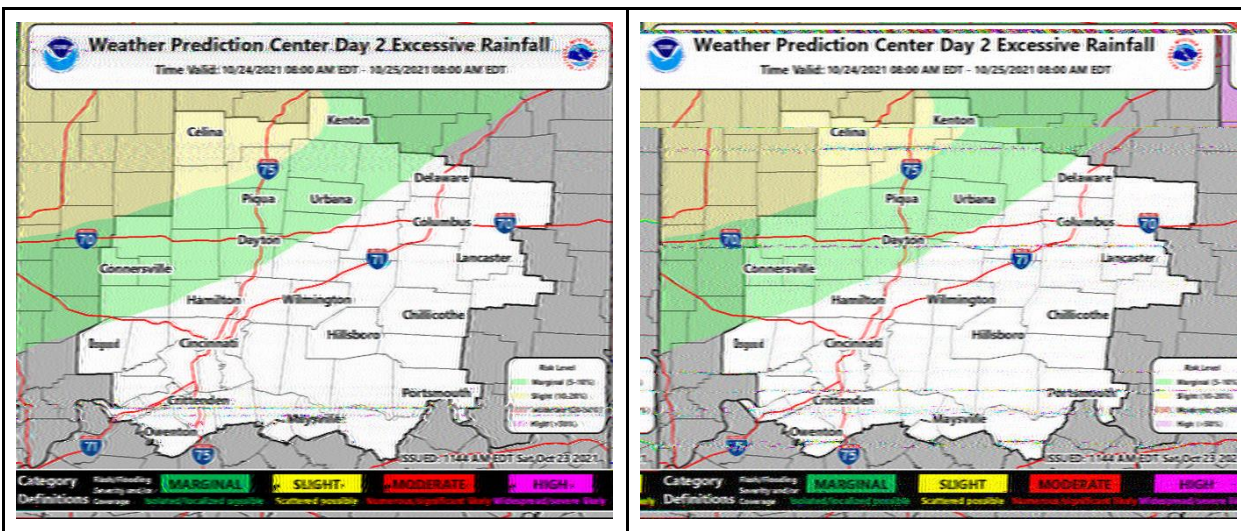
Inspired by this capability, we have started using images to transmit critical information during exercises and operations on the BLACK SWAN Net. Comparing how different stations received the same transmission has been valuable for us to understand how well transmitting stations were covering the state, as well.

Before we started to include transmissions of real information, we did some test transmissions to help everyone practice receiving and to adjust their stations accordingly. Some discovered a slant in the image, others found

that their clocks were out of sync, and some found that some crackly noise that “could be worked through” created bigger problems for images than expected.



About a month after those test transmissions we started to incorporate images in our exchange of messages. Situation reports sent as text could be followed up with an image. We have been surprised to discover that even with low resolution, high-level information could still be conveyed in a way that many find easier to consume than a large table of text that we might put in a bulletin. Here is an example of two stations’ reception of a National Weather Service image that provided stations in the net with some situational awareness during our 23 October 2021 session.



Finally, I’ll share an example of what we saw in our GROUNDHOG DAY 22 no-notice exercise. The conditions were there, so we called the net to action and ran along with real-world information. (See information about the exercise, including a complete After-Action Report/Improvement Plan and three-part video series on the event at <https://www.blackswancomex.org/2022/groundhog-day-no-notice-exercise.>)

During GROUNDHOG DAY 22 we transmitted a bulletin and transmitted a color image as black and white (reducing its transmission time to 1/3 of the time for color transmission).

```
DE KD8TTE NR 4378
P 032054Z FEB 2022
FM C Matthew Curtin
   ARES OH D7 Franklin
TO BLACK SWAN Net
GRNC
BT
UNCLAS
Source https://poweroutage.us/area/state/ohio
```

Ohio

Customers Tracked: 5,313,249

State Outages: 28,298

Last Updated: 2/3/2022, 03:54:04 PM

Electric Providers for Ohio

Provider	Customers Tracked	Customers Out	Last Updated
Adams Rural Electric	7,605	124	2/3/2022, 03:52:59 PM
AES Ohio	520,000	1,000	2/3/2022, 03:53:04 PM
American Electric Power Ohio	1,502,262	15,626	2/3/2022, 03:52:55 PM
Buckeye Rural Electric	18,560	0	2/3/2022, 03:53:01 PM
Butler Rural Electric	13,669	0	2/3/2022, 03:53:04 PM
Carroll Electric	16,273	0	2/3/2022, 03:53:02 PM
Consolidated Electric	18,574	0	2/3/2022, 08:32:41 AM
Darke Rural Electric	7,334	7	2/3/2022, 03:53:04 PM
Duke Energy	759,707	125	2/3/2022, 03:50:28 PM
Firelands Electric	9,113	0	2/3/2022, 03:53:05 PM
First Energy	2,117,225	175	2/3/2022, 03:52:55 PM
Frontier Power	17,455	0	2/3/2022, 03:53:03 PM
Guernsey-Muskingum Electric	17,606	257	2/3/2022, 03:53:06 PM
Hancock-Wood Electric	13,425	0	2/2/2022, 09:12:33 AM
Holmes-Wayne Electric	22,498	0	2/3/2022, 03:53:06 PM
Licking Rural Electrification	10,215	0	2/3/2022, 03:53:06 PM
Logan County Electric	11,105	0	2/3/2022, 03:53:05 PM
Lorain-Medina Rural Electric	16,617	0	2/3/2022, 03:53:03 PM
Midwest Electric	11,981	0	2/3/2022, 03:53:07 PM
Midwest Energy Cooperative	1,575	0	2/3/2022, 03:51:51 PM
North Western Electric	5,913	1	2/3/2022, 03:53:03 PM
Northwestern RECA	73	0	2/3/2022, 03:52:42 PM
Paulding-Putnam Electric	24,287	0	2/3/2022, 03:53:02 PM
Pioneer Electric	16,950	0	2/3/2022, 03:53:02 PM
South Central Power	122,639	10,863	2/3/2022, 03:53:00 PM
Steuben County REMC	549	0	2/3/2022, 03:54:03 PM
Union Rural Electric	19,671	0	2/3/2022, 03:53:07 PM
Washington Electric	10,368	120	2/3/2022, 03:53:02 PM

Untracked Providers:

Provider	Customers
Cleveland Public Power	Unknown
Clyde Light & Power	Unknown
Mid-Ohio Energy	8,000
North Central Electric	9,600
Tricounty Rural Electric	4,400

BT

NNNN

Bulletin transmitted on BLACK SWAN NET

<p>Powerout Bulletin Image in Original Color</p>	<p>Powerout Bulletin Image as Monochrome Image (approx.)</p>	<p>Powerout Bulletin Image as Received by One Station</p>

Add Image Reception to Your NVIS Day Plans

Ohio's NVIS Day is, as usual, on the fourth Saturday of April, for six hours starting at 10 o'clock in the morning. See the details from Stan Broadway N8BHL at the ARRL Ohio SEC page. <http://www.arrl-ohio.org/SEC/>

Here's your checklist:

1. Schedule your reception efforts,
2. Prepare your station to receive MFSK Image emissions,
3. Prepare to receive on 60m,
4. Test the process before NVIS Day, and
5. Please send us your received images!

We'll discuss each briefly.

1. Schedule Your Reception Efforts

BLACK SWAN Net operates through Activation Notices that spell out what we're doing and why. Current Activation Notices (and warnings of upcoming activations) are available online whenever possible. <https://www.blackswancomex.org/net/activation> Activation Warnings and Notices are also transmitted on-air, of course, so our operators aren't stymied by inability to get to the web site.

As of this writing, Activation Warning NVIS Day 22-1 is the current plan of operation. It spells out that the net will start operations at 1100 and run for four hours. We'll run the net and exchange messages as usual.

At 10 minutes before each hour of operation, we'll have an MFSK Image listed for transmission. If the net is busy at that time, the traffic will list at the next opportunity. To catch the transmission, you'll need to find the net and be ready to receive at 10 minutes before the hour. If you miss the start of the transmission, you won't be able to tune in late to catch the "last part" of it. If you miss the header, you've missed the image. We expect that we'll conclude the transmissions by the top of the hour, so you can be off to the rest of your NVIS Day operation.

2. Prepare to Receive MFSK Image

Receiving MFSK Image transmission is not difficult. If you're active in emergency communication, you likely already have the *fldigi* application up and running. You'll find that the software is able to receive pictures

transmitted with MFSK. The manual describes the MFSK mode including how to receive pictures.

http://www.w1hkj.com/FldigiHelp/mfsk_page.html

If you don't have *fldigi* yet, you can get it (and related Narrow Band Emergency Messaging Software—NBEMS) without charge from SourceForge. <https://sourceforge.net/projects/fldigi/> The manual will walk you through installation and configuration. <http://www.w1hkj.com/FldigiHelp/index.html>

To receive a digital signal, disable your noise blanker, notch filter, noise reduction, and any other signal processing performed by your rig. You want raw, noisy, unfiltered signal going into the *fldigi* software. If you can get audio straight from your rig into your computer via some direct interface, great! If not, you can probably still make it work by putting a laptop computer near the speaker of the rig so the laptop's microphone will pick up the demodulated audio.

For your MFSK Image reception, be sure:

- Enable detection of Reed-Solomon ID (RxID) in *fldigi*,
- Disable AFC in *fldigi*, and
- Center the receive window at 1500 Hz.

3. Prepare to Receive on 60m

Some stations do not have rigs or antenna systems that will work well on 60m. That's OK. We're going to transmit images *by broadcast method*, which means that receiving stations do not answer the transmission. You can receive the images passively. No need to transmit on 60m or even to have an antenna that is resonant at 5 MHz.

BLACK SWAN Net operates on 60m during daytime conditions, as that is typically most reliable for HF communication within Ohio then. Our standard practice is to operate on Channel 4, and if it's not available, our fallback pattern is:

- Channel 5,
- Channel 1,
- Channel 2, and
- Channel 3.

If you're unfamiliar with 60m, you'll find it different from other parts of the spectrum to which amateur operators are granted access. First, it is not a "band," where you can choose any place to operate: it's *channelized*, meaning that a precise frequency and bandwidth is specified for one operator at a time.

Depending on which reference you're using you might see that Channel 4 is specified as 5373 kHz (center frequency) or as 5371.5 kHz suppressed carrier frequency in upper sideband (USB) mode. These mean the emissions are in the same place and same mode.

To receive on 60m, you won't need control of the rig through the computer, or even a rig that has 60m transmit capability. To participate you can tune the rig to the right carrier frequency, set the rig's mode to USB. In the order that we select channels for operation, that means:

- Channel 4: 5371.5 kHz suppressed carrier USB,
- Channel 5: 5403.5 kHz suppressed carrier USB,
- Channel 1: 5330.5 kHz suppressed carrier USB,

- Channel 2: 5346.5 kHz suppressed carrier USB, and
- Channel 3: 5357.0 kHz suppressed carrier USB.

Continuing with Channel 4 as our example, your rig set to 5371.5 kHz USB and your *fldigi* set to receive at 1500 Hz, i.e., 1.5 kHz, you will be receiving the signal that is centered at $5371.5 \text{ kHz} + 1.5 \text{ kHz} = 5373.0 \text{ kHz}$, the published *center frequency* of Channel 4.

4. Test the Process

Be sure to test this process before NVIS Day. During NVIS Day, you should be making contacts, exchanging signal reports, and receiving messages that are transmitted at published times, whether you're ready or not. It's not time to debug your reception of MFSK images on 60m. You can try listening to BLACK SWAN Net before NVIS Day.

You might like to get familiar with BLACK SWAN Net operation by seeing the Net's site, including Signal Operating Instructions and a demonstration video published 7 March 2022.

<https://www.blackswancomex.org/net>

An important part of the NVIS Day activity is that we will transmit the images by broadcast method. Once the transmission has completed, net control will pick right up and continue on with any pending business.

Net control will direct transmission of the message with broadcast method one of two ways:

- By voice: "SEND BY BROADCAST METHOD" or
- By signal: "ZBRF" which means "send by broadcast method." [ACP 131(F)]

On most of our nets, like on the demonstration video, you'll see "direct method," which is the mode most familiar to most amateur operators. One station sends the message to the receiving station directly, and the receiving station answers unless directed otherwise.

If you are able to work 60m you're welcome to join BLACK SWAN Net operations, and we're happy to work with you to bring you up to speed on our operating procedures and advanced messaging standards.

5. Send Us Your Received Images

Once you've received your MFSK images on NVIS Day, please share them with us. I'll compile the results so we can see how our signal was received around the state. Sending me the received message isn't part of the "emergency communications" exercise so use regular Internet email at kd8tte@pm.me.

Whether it requires developing new capability or exercising capability you already have, get out there on NVIS Day and try adding image reception to your plans. I look forward to seeing your received images!

Print an Official or Unofficial Copy of Your Amateur Radio License

(By Anthony Luscre, K8ZT)

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

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



[Click here to download the instructions](#)

One Question Questionnaire

Hey Gang,

Last months question **"HAVE YOU EVER WATCHED THE ISS FLY OVERHEAD?"**

Survey Says: 75 (82.42%) yes, 16 (17.58%) no. The new question is:

WHEN YOU TRAVEL, BUSINESS OR PLEASURE, DO YOU TAKE AMATEUR RADIO WITH YOU? YES OR NO?

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



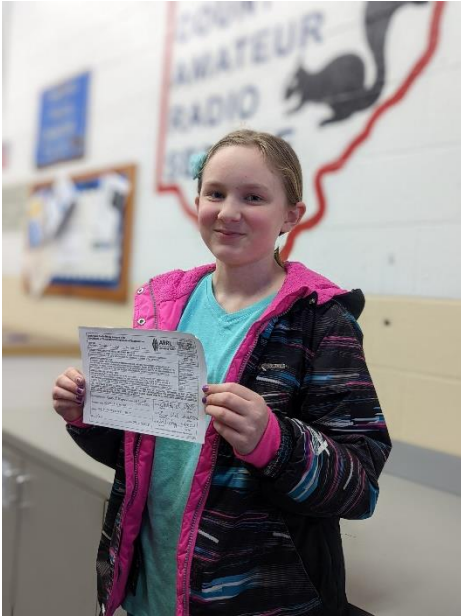
V.E. Test Sessions

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



Final... Final

Things don't always work out the way we like them to. Even worse, when they don't work out the way we plan them to! This is, by accident, the first ever combination Ohio Section Journal for one month, PostScript for the following month, and "April Fools" edition all in one! Hopefully I'll be back on track now.....



First off, I want to congratulate Agnes Wagner – KE8LWP. At 11 years old she is our newest *EXTRA CLASS* Ham at PCARS! From the look on her face, I'd say she was pretty happy about it, as was everyone on the VE team at this mornings test session. That includes her dad, PCARS President Nick – AC8QG.

If you go way back up to page 12, you'll read about the Ohio Sections newly forming youth net. I hope you'll all share that article with all the young hams you know, and encourage them to participate in the net.

After getting home from spending a week in California, the gas prices around here really don't look that bad! (Yeah, I know. They're bad enough.) On April 9th I'll be at the Cuyahoga Falls Hamfest, and later in the month on April 24th I'll be at the Athens Hamfest. I hope you'll stop out and stop by and say Hello!

Thanks to all of you who make this the best hobby in the world!

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

"Swap & Shop" on the website

Hey Gang,

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

Back Issues of the PostScript and Ohio Section Journal

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



Ohio Section Cabinet

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

Chit – Chat, and All That!

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

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





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

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



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

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