



*Ohio  
Section  
Journal*

# *May – Memorial Day*

## *Edition*

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



## *From the Technical Coordinator*

**Jeff Kopcak – K8JTK TC**

[k8jtk@arrl.net](mailto:k8jtk@arrl.net)

Hey gang,

The new FCC exposure requirements. Maybe you've heard about them. Maybe not. Maybe wondering how they apply to your station. The [FCC Report and Order](#) does not change RF Exposure (RFE) limits but does require all services, including amateur radio, to evaluate limits or take the exemption. There's probably a lot I don't understand. With respect to those much smarter than myself, I'll try my best to explain this but I'm probably going to get some stuff wrong. In addition to covering reasons for these changes and what they mean to most hams, I'll walk through an exception calculation. Those are easiest and likely the only calculation a ham might need to perform in most cases.



In 2019, the FCC adopted new rules to limit human exposure to radio frequency energy. These rules went into effect on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021. Not much changed in these new rules except that Amateur Radio is no longer categorically excluded from performing these evaluations to demonstrate compliance. Previously, only when a station exceeded certain power limits was an evaluation required. For the most part, operating barefoot on HF (without an amplifier, typically 100 watts or less) or operating most dual band radios with 50 watts or less, all were categorically exempt. The second exclusion, no mobile stations had to perform these evaluations. Both exclusions are now removed, gone. Exclusions are replaced with the exemption.

Removing the amateur radio exclusions means hams are now required to perform evaluations in all cases. But! You do not submit anything to the FCC. Do the evaluation, print out/save results or put notes on paper – they are to be kept with each station's records. These records would be used in a situation where a complaint is filed with the FCC against your station. Such as: neighbor doesn't care for your tower/antenna. Writes the FCC saying their family is subject to harmful radiation. The FCC takes those complaints fairly seriously and will come knocking for an inspection (which they can - and will do. See 97.103, (a) and (c) specifically). The representative may ask for this evaluation. They will implicitly trust the results if they appear to be correct and the station is otherwise compliant. This is the self-regulation abilities we are allotted by the FCC. The FCC will inform the neighbor, based on evaluation of the station, it was found to be compliant and they have nothing to worry about. Another scenario maybe a building permit is sought in order to erect a tower. The entity that grants the permit might ask to have an evaluation completed.

In any case, each amateur station certifies, on their 605 form, they will comply with Radiofrequency Radiation Safety. Licensed hams are considered trained in safety by way of passing the license exam. Completing an RF safety evaluation does not exempt any station from being otherwise compliant and responsible. If a station is transmitting, someone comes up and touches the antenna, the station operating the equipment is still responsible.

If you were one that completed an evaluation under the old rules, that evaluation is still valid until 2023. You have 2 years to complete an evaluation under the new rules. Every station (not grandfathered under the old rules) must complete an evaluation after May 3, 2021 – including new stations or when any significant changes are made to an existing. Changes would include an increase in power, better antenna, better coax, moving the antenna closer to areas occupied by humans. HTs manufactured before May 3, 2021 are grandfathered – no evaluation needed ever.

HTs manufactured after May 3, a SAR (Specific Absorption Rate) evaluation is performed by the manufacturer.

The exemption calculation is a formula which indicates if the antenna is compliant or more evaluation is needed. Exemptions require less calculations than a full exposure analysis. Exemptions cannot be taken with in the reactive nearfield. Distance to a person is important. Any transmitter within 20 cm (7.87 inches) of the body is considered in the nearfield and requires a SAR evaluation. Nearfield also varies with frequency.

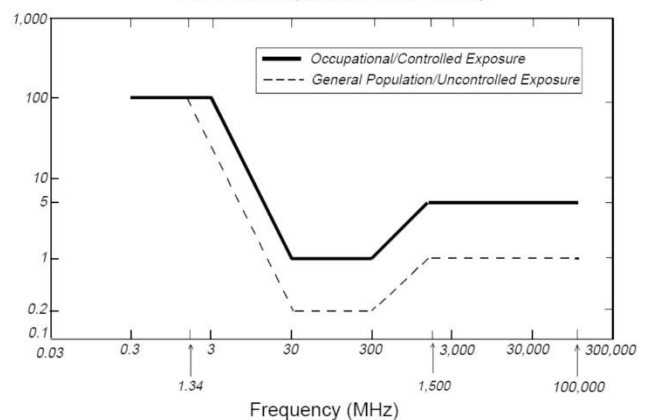
The HT falls into this weird area because they are almost always used within 7.87 inches of the body. At this time, the methods for completing an evaluation are not clear for a few reasons: 1) above 300 MHz is not really measurable, which only affects 2-meter handhelds. 2) SAR evaluations are very costly and require specially calibrated equipment. 3) absorption inside the body is very hard to measure. Cell phone manufactures have to complete SAR evaluations for every handset and antenna configuration. To add insult-to-injury, a SAR would have to be completed in each position of the radio. That is to say holding the radio straight up, slight angle, talking across the microphone, holding the radio with the right hand, left hand, and so on. Chaching! Not so fast. Radio manufactures will be responsible for performing this SAR evaluation. In the evaluation, they will likely use the stock rubber duck antenna provided with the radio. If you change the antenna (as most of us do) with a 3<sup>rd</sup> party or aftermarket, that means all evaluations need to be performed using the new configuration. This is an area the ARRL is still working out with the FCC for clarification. Right now, your HT is OK. Will manufacturers pass on the cost to the consumer? Unknown for sure but very likely.

Don't forget these evaluations need to be performed at field day sites, repeater sites, and beacon locations. Field day sites may need restrictions placed on frequency or power allowed to meet the requirements. Adjustments to antennas maybe needed, adding time to the field day setup.

In places where SAR is performed, an MPE (Maximum Permissible Exposure) chart displays the amount of energy which should not be exceeded at different frequencies. There are two different categories: occupational/controlled exposure (hams and their families) at 6-minute average and general population/uncontrolled (everyone else, such as neighbors) with a 30-minute average. MPE is lowest between 30 MHz and 300 MHz because those frequencies are easily absorbed by the human body. Say we have a station with a multiband antenna (20-10 meters) with 0 dbd of gain (manufacturer specs). There is a sidewalk 15 feet (5 meters) away (closest human exposure to radiation) from the antenna. The transmitter outputs 100 watts into 50 feet of RG-58. The highest frequency in operation is 29.70 MHz. 50 feet of RG-58 at 29.7 MHz is rated at 1db of loss (mfr specs), which is 22% (find a gain/loss table or [calculator](#) for this percentage).

First, are people within the distances (antenna to human) in the table below for **near field exposure**?

Figure 1. FCC Limits for Maximum Permissible Exposure (MPE)  
Plane-wave Equivalent Power Density



MPE chart ([hamradioschool.com](#))

# Exemption Minimum Distances ( $\lambda/2\pi$ )

Exemptions cannot be taken if the distance between the antenna and a human is less than these distances:

160 m (1.8-2.0 MHz) .....	82.8 feet	12 m (24.89-24.99 MHz) .....	6.2 feet
80 m (3.5-3.75 MHz) .....	41.3 feet	10 m (28.0-29.7 MHz) .....	5.2 feet
75 m (3.75-4.0 MHz) .....	38.8 feet	6 m (50-54 MHz) .....	3.1 feet
40 m (7.0-7.3 MHz) .....	20.7 feet	2 m (140-144 MHz) .....	1.0 feet
30 m (10.1-10.15 MHz) .....	15.5 feet	1.25 m (222-225 MHz) .....	7.8 inches
20 m (14.0-14.35 MHz) .....	10.3 feet	For higher frequencies, $\lambda/2\pi$ is less than 20 cm	SAR Exemption or Testing is required.
17 m (18.068-18.168 MHz) .....	8.8 feet	70 cm (420-450 MHz) .....	4.3 inches
15 m (21.0-21.45 MHz) .....	7.8 feet	33 cm (902-928 MHz) .....	2.0 inches

Nearest person would be 15 feet away and lowest band we plan to operate is the 20-meter band since the antenna is capable. No, humans are not within the reactive nearfield (10.3 feet). We can continue with the exemption calculation. If humans are within the nearfield, a full evaluation needs to be completed.

Next, calculate the **maximum ERP**. For a multiband antenna, ERP decreases at higher frequencies so you only need to calculate at the highest frequency the station plans to use. 10 meters in this case.

$3450 R^2/f^2 = \text{Maximum ERP}$  (formula for the range 1.34-30 MHz)

$3450 \times (5 \text{ meters})^2 / (29.7 \text{ MHz})^2 = 97.8 \text{ watts maximum ERP}$

Calculate the **station's ERP**:

(Transmitter power – Feedline loss) x Antenna gain = ERP  
 $(100\text{W} - 22\text{W}) \times 1.0 = 78 \text{ Watts ERP}$

To compare, 78 watts is less than 97.8 watts. This antenna qualifies for an exception!

What happens if the station cannot take the exception? If you never transmit 29.7 MHz and only plan to use lower frequencies, calculate at the lower frequency. Move the antenna further away from the sidewalk. Or perform a full evaluation. The exemption numbers are verrry conservative numbers and conservatively safe. If actual exposure is calculated on the sidewalk, it will be less than the exception calculation. Averaging time is not taken into account. If the station talks for 15 minutes and listens for another 15 minutes, the exposure is halved. Areas like a sidewalk, people are likely to be there for only a few seconds at a time.

Online calculators are a huge help in performing power density estimations. [VP9KF's calculator](#) performs MPE calculations. The [Lake Washington Ham Club site](#) calculates MPE by taking into account transmitter duty cycle. It will provide minimum safe distance to the antenna.

To perform a full analysis, the FCC aid for evaluating human exposure is [OET Bulletin 65](#) and [OET Bulletin 65 supplement B](#). The no-longer-in-print book by Ed Hare – W1RFI is available for [download as a PDF](#). Modeling software is available for free or little cost. One such modeling application is [EZNEC](#). The ARRL is working on finding or developing tools for all hams to use. Those can be found at: <http://www.arrl.org/rf-exposure> and the [ARRL Technical Information Service](#) is a member benefit that can provide more information. Finally, Greg – N9GL, Chairman of the ARRL RF Safety committee, gave a very informative [presentation](#) on these changes. It runs 2 hours with Q&A. Ria – N2RJ, director of the ARRL Hudson Division, has a YouTube

RF Environmental Evaluation must be performed if any person will be closer than R meters to any radiating part of the antenna and the ERP exceeds the values calculated from the following table:

Frequency (MHz)	Threshold ERP (watts)
0.3-1.34	$1920 R^2$
1.34-30	$3450 R^2 / f^2$
30-300	$3.83 R^2$
300-1500	$0.0128 R^2 f$
1500-100000	$19.2 R^2$

f is in MHz, R is in meters and must be  $> \lambda/2\pi$

channel with a [video on this topic](#). The majority of the information in this article came from both videos, thanks to both Greg and Ria.

Recent FCC NPRM's have put ham radio use of the 5GHz band at risk. These frequencies are utilized for things like mesh networking. Who wants to take away these allocations?

Commercial interests to push the 5G mobile standard. These same interests have already taken part of the [3 GHz WiFi band](#). ARDEN Mesh is fighting back, legally, against repurposing these allocations. If you have 5 GHz AREDN mesh nodes in the lower 45 – 5.850-5.895 GHz or upper 30 – 5.895-5.925 GHz channels, please take the time to read and respond to [their solicitation for information](#).

Another huge thank you to the [West Chester Amateur Radio Association - WC8VOA](#), which I'm also a member, for having me as the presenter at their May 6<sup>th</sup> meeting. West Chester is a suburb of Cincinnati and I'm in a suburb of Cleveland so this meeting was all virtual. The presentation was on ham radio VoIP modes (Voice over IP) and my system that links these modes together. There was great questions and discussion around VoIP. This is the club that operates out of the Voice of America Museum and holds tours during Hamvention. You can find their [Monday night net](#) on my system at 8pm.

That's about it for this month. Thanks for reading and 73... de Jeff – K8JTK

---

## ***From the Section Emergency Coordinator***

***Stan Broadway, N8BHL - SEC***  
[broadways@standi.com](mailto:broadways@standi.com)

EC's... it's been a long time since we all have had a chance to actual ~do~ something! But it looks like things are finally opening up and we might just be able to resume some ARES activities.

As you prepare to re-enter activities I hope we can regain our focus on what it is we do. First, a question: What are four top responsibilities for an EC? Think about that for a bit. I want to pass on something a really big manager told me back in my 20's, and it hasn't changed: Don't ever forget who's the buyer and who's the seller. In other words, who is your customer? How do you treat your customer?

Emergency managers all rely on people around them who have earned their trust... people to whom they can give an assignment and know that it will be completed, as directed, without fail. The managers don't have time (nor are they required) to explain themselves. We're there to ~help them~! So it helps at times to re-examine our relationships, our motivation and how we're perceived by our customers.

The answer to EC duties:

1. Maintain a productive, proper relationship with your EMA. That is paramount. Without that relationship, you can pack your gear and stay home. Keep your relationship in the right balance.



2. Maintain a productive, proper relationship with your other important agencies – hospitals, Red Cross, law and fire.
3. Maintain a relationship with the various clubs in your area. Portray ARES in a positive light in order to gain more volunteers and better perform your mission.
4. Be accountable to the Section – do the paperwork, do the reports and keep a good working relationship with your DEC.

I want to encourage you all that this is a great time to re-start your conversations and rebuild your relationships! Keep your focus and above all, remember who your customer is!

We all need to take the cue here and revisit our capabilities and readiness! It's time to double-check our antenna systems, radios and portable equipment. Not only will we need those for re-opening public events but it's a great way to refresh our readiness to serve if some event requires our activation.

Amateur Radio is often relegated to the 'background'... until it's not. When we're needed it's on us to be ready, trained, and proficient at communicating for our agencies. Let's get back into the game!

Thanks so much for everything you do! You are the face of amateur radio to our agencies – we want to be there to help and support our agencies!

---

***From the Public Information Coordinator***

***John Ross, KD8IDJ - PIC***

[john.ross3@worldnet.att.net](mailto:john.ross3@worldnet.att.net)



**ONE MONTH TO GO!**

The deadline to enter the Ohio Section 2021 Newsletter Contest is just a month away...June 30<sup>th</sup>!

All of the entries need to be in by midnight...two different months of your clubs' newsletter are needed...and you still have time to email, snail-mail or drone them in!

Judging will start right after July 4<sup>th</sup> and the results should be available by July 12<sup>th</sup>.



Again this year the judging will be electronic so the judges will be going right your link or clubs' website to view the newsletters. We found out last year this method works well and the judges can access the newsletters just like your other readers!

As soon as we have the results you'll see them here. Thanks to all of the editors, writers and designers who put in many hours of hard work to make sure your club members are informed and up-to-date on the latest activities and news about Amateur Radio. This really is the best newsletter contest in the country.

My phone numbers are below...call if you have ANY questions.

Good Luck!



### 2021 AMATEUR RADIO FIELD DAY

The 2021 ARRL field day will be in full swing on June 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. It's a great time to get out of the shack, work on your contact skills and HAVE FUN!

It's also a great time to invite your friends, family and potential new hams so they can see (and hear) what we do and how we do it!

The ARRL website has some printable flyers and information you might want take along to pass around.

You can also join the ARRL FIELD DAY FACEBOOK group for some up-to the minute info,

Remember to take a few pictures and share them with your club and send them to me as well...always great to see HAMS in action in the great outdoors!!!

## FORGOTTEN TREASURE

Cleaning out my dad's shop these past few months has uncovered some of the forgotten pieces of ham radio we used as kids and a few surprises!



Dad was the one that got me interested in electronics even though he never made the jump to ham radio. As an Aeronautical and Mechanical engineer he took some electronic courses at MIT and then passed along the books to me! I was reading schematics before I could spell!!!

But over the years, unknown to me, he was buying stuff he thought I might be able to use. Today we would call that stuff "junk" but as I peel back the layers I'm finding things he bought, placed carefully on a shelf, and just never

had the time to give to me.

All of the good stuff is there...tubes, wires, volt meters of all kinds, connectors, soldering irons so big you could weld tanks together, and some stuff I have never seen and still trying to figure out. I collect old telephones and found boxes of phones and parts, cable, cords and line test sets that generate hundreds of volts in one crank. Yes...I shocked myself trying them out! Also, TOOLS....all kind of tools I can use to cut wire and punch a 3 inch hole in a radio chassis!!!!

It's been a wonderful, emotional and draining experience trying to figure it all out and I've got several more months to go! For the time being I won't need to go to a hamfest...I have my own in my dad's shop. Maybe he planned it that way knowing that for the past two years there wouldn't be any opportunities to "get junk:."

The good news in all of this...I now have stuff to leave my family from the their grandfather...not to mention the stuff I have to leave from MY shop! It should be great picking for generations to come...all because of Amateur Radio!

That's it for this month...talk it up on the air and enjoy Field Day!

73

John E. Ross  
ARRL Ohio Section Public Information Coordinator  
KD8IDJ  
614-459-4292 Home  
614-266-4292 Cell

---



*From the Section Youth Coordinator*  
*Anthony Luscre, K8ZT - SYC*  
[k8zt@arrl.net](mailto:k8zt@arrl.net)

## Get Ready for Field Day 2021- Only One Month to Go!

This summer will mark my 40th year in Amateur Radio and my 39th Field Day (yes, I got my license after FD 1981). This continuous streak is not unique for many hams. For many of us, it was our first exposure to many aspects of Amateur Radio- HF operations, putting up antennas and towers, contest-style operation, etc. Unfortunately, 2020's Pandemic canceled many clubs' group FDs and, to some extent, will keep numbers low again this year. But just as with last year, Hams still got on the air for FD, even if it was a stay-at-home effort. No matter what you and your local club's plans are for this year, I have lots of helpful and how-to information for you.



First, there is my presentation "*Field Day in Social Distancing- II, The Sequel*" you can view it in many ways:

- As a slideshow- [tiny.cc/fdsd](http://tiny.cc/fdsd)
- As a video- [tiny.cc/fdsd-video](http://tiny.cc/fdsd-video)
- As a live club presentation- contact me at [k8zt@arrl.net](mailto:k8zt@arrl.net) to schedule a date for a zoom presentation for your club or group of clubs. If you are interested in a presentation other than FD, here is a list- [tiny.cc/k8zt-p](http://tiny.cc/k8zt-p)

The next set of resources are things you can use in preparing for your FD:

- **Antennas**- [tiny.cc/portant](http://tiny.cc/portant) this is a list of resources on a wide variety of portable and temporary antennas (both DIY and commercial) that you can use FD
- **ARRL/RAC Sections**- A "cheat sheet" of the sections used as exchanges in FD in two sorted lists along with a list of common Q-Codes and standard phonetics:
  - [ARRL\\_RAC Sections by #](#)
  - [ARRL\\_RAC Sections by Alpha](#)
- A template for a club letter to explain your club's 2021 FD activities. You can customize it for your club and its operating situation for 2021- [tiny.cc/sfda](http://tiny.cc/sfda)

The third set of resources are **hand-out materials** you can use to fulfill part of your public information and/or education needs. Both of which can get you FD bonus points while accomplishing one of the most essential parts of FD- letting the public know more about Amateur Radio. These can also be used for many other outreach activities beyond FD.

- What is Ham Radio? [tiny.cc/whats-ar](http://tiny.cc/whats-ar)
- Ham Radio for Youth Resources- [tiny.cc/hry](http://tiny.cc/hry)
- Youth Activity- Clothespin Key- [link](#)
- Free Shortwave & AR Receivers- [tiny.cc/freerx](http://tiny.cc/freerx)

## New Feature- “Try Something New This Month” (II)

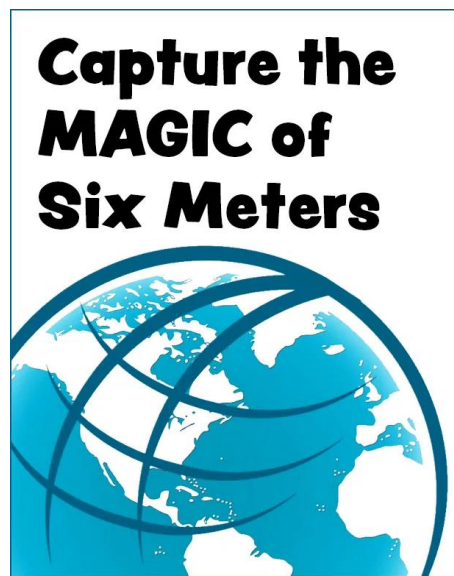
Last month I introduced a new feature for my column- “Try Something New This Month.” For my first version of TSNTM, my suggestion was to try VHF/UHF Simplex. If you missed it, you could [read it here](#). This month’s TSNTM is 6 Meters- The Magic Band! This month’s TSNTM is timed so that you can try it quickly with three significant events in June and July- [ARRL June VHF Contest](#) (June 12-14), [Field Day](#) (June 25 & 26) and [CQ World Wide VHF Contest](#) (July 17 & 18).



### Exploring 6 Meter Operation

Many Hams limit their VHF/UHF operations to 2 Meter and 440 repeaters, but there is a whole world of VHF activity for you to explore. Six Meters, the lowest frequency VHF band is one of those. With the frequencies of 50-54 MHz, 6 M has a mix of character to both the adjacent HF band of 10 Meters and the VHF aspects of 2 Meters. Unlike 10 M, Techs have full privileges (all modes & frequencies) on all of 6 Meters. Six M can provide regional and even DX when conditions are favorable with either high sunspot activity (fortunately, we are on the upswing of the new solar cycle) and with Sporadic E layer activity. Sporadic E, as the name suggests, can occur at any point in the solar cycle and any time of year, although there tends to be increased activity in Summer in Northern Hemisphere.

Most newer HF radios already include 6 M (For more info on HF radios- [tiny.cc/buyar-ss](http://tiny.cc/buyar-ss) and [tiny.cc/buyar](http://tiny.cc/buyar). Gain antennas are an easily manageable size, but even a simple Dipole or J-Pole will work. Mode activity has traditionally been mostly SSB with a bit of CW. There are also a few FM repeaters and even FM simplex activity on 6 Meters. Recently activity on six has taken a dramatic shift to FT8 & FT4 activity dominating (for more information on FT8/FT4, see [tiny.cc/ft8ft4](http://tiny.cc/ft8ft4)). Even if you



Here are some resources for 6 Meters:

- [Free eBook Download](#)
- [K5ND Website](#)
- [6 M Antennas](#)



6 Meters (50-54 MHz)	
50.0-50.1	CW, beacons
50.060-50.080	beacon subband
50.08 - 50.110	CW, beacons
50.10-50.125	DX window
<b>50.125</b>	SSB calling
50.126 - 50.300	SSB
50.300 - 50.400	Digital- FT8/FT4/JT65
50.6-50.8	Nonvoice communications
50.62	Digital (packet) calling
50.8-51.0	Radio remote control (20-kHz channels)
51.0-51.1	Pacific DX window
51.12-51.48	Repeater inputs (19 channels)
51.12-51.18	Digital repeater inputs
51.5-51.6	Simplex (six channels)
51.62-51.98	Repeater outputs (19 channels)
51.62-51.68	Digital repeater outputs
52.0-52.48	Repeater inputs (except as noted; 23 channels)
52.02, 52.04	FM simplex
52.2	TEST PAIR (input)
52.5-52.98	Repeater output (except as noted; 23 channels)
<b>52.525</b>	Primary FM simplex
52.54	Secondary FM simplex
52.7	TEST PAIR (output)
53.0-53.48	Repeater inputs (except as noted; 19 channels)
53	Remote base FM simplex
53.02	Simplex
53.1, 53.2, 53.3, 53.4	Radio remote control
53.5-53.98	Repeater outputs (except as noted; 19 channels)
53.5, 53.6, 53.7, 53.8	Radio remote control
53.52, 53.9	Simplex

That's it for this month; I hope to work you on CW, SSB and/or FT8/FT4 for FD K8ZT 2B WV (Triadelphia, WV) and hopefully on 6 Meters for all three events.

73,  
Anthony, K8ZT ([k8zt@arrl.net](mailto:k8zt@arrl.net))

---

*From the Section Traffic Manager*  
*David Maynard, WA3EZN – STM*  
[wa3ezn@att.net](mailto:wa3ezn@att.net)



FCC now requires email address for all applicants. It also requires FRN number before testing!

ZCZC AG15  
QST de W1AW  
ARRL Bulletin 15 ARLB015  
From ARRL Headquarters  
Newington CT May 7, 2021  
To all radio amateurs

SB QST ARL ARLB015  
ARLB015 First-Time Exam Applicants Must Obtain FCC Registration Number before Taking Exam

Beginning May 20, 2021, all amateur examination applicants will be required to provide an FCC Registration Number (FRN) to the Volunteer Examiners (VEs) before taking an amateur exam. This is necessary due to changes the FCC has made to its licensing system.

Amateur candidates who already have an FCC license, whether for amateur radio or in another service, already have an FRN and can use the same number. All prospective new FCC licensees, however, will be required to obtain an FRN before the examination and provide that number to the volunteer examiners on the Form 605 license application. An FCC instructional video provides step-by-step instructions on how to obtain an FRN through the FCC's COmmission REgistration System (CORES).

The video is available at, <https://www.fcc.gov/rofrn>.

The FRN is required for all new applicants to take an amateur exam and is used afterward by the applicant to download the license document from the FCC Universal Licensing System (ULS),

upgrade the license, apply for a vanity call sign, and to submit administrative updates (such as address and email changes) and renewal applications.

In addition, after June 29, all applications will be required to contain an email address for FCC correspondence. Applicants will receive an email direct from the FCC with a link to the official electronic copy of their license whenever a license is issued or changed. ARRL VEC suggests that those without access to email to use the email address of a family member or friend.

Licensees will be

able to log in to the ULS using their FRN and password to download the latest version of their license at any time. The FCC no longer provides paper license documents.

NNNN

/EX

## **National News**

(from arrl and other sources)

### **From David Minster – NA2AA – ARRL CEO**

In a recent communication from David Minster to ARRL Section Managers David writes “through the efforts of our FCC Attorney in Washington DC, we have received confirmation from FCC that email addresses will NOT be viewable to the public. With the requirement of an email address coming up soon, some members were concerned that FCC data would be publicly viewable and expose them to Spam and other unwanted emails. This will not be something they will need to concern themselves with”.

A few words about nets and net etiquette. Etiquette does not simply mean knowing what fork to use at a formal dinner. It means knowing the "rules of the road" for any endeavor and knowing how to avoid embarrassing (or even offensive) missteps. Good operators are made, not born

What is an Amateur Radio Net? An Amateur Radio Net exists whenever 3 or more operators are in simultaneous contact with each other for the purpose of exchanging information or passing informal or official traffic.

#### **Type of Nets**

**Directed Formal Nets** - A directed net is created whenever large number of stations are participating. Directed nets are preferable since the traffic can be coordinated and prioritized. In a directed net stations cannot "break into" or interrupt the net. They listen and wait to ask permission to pass traffic.

**Open informal nets** - There is minimal central control by a Net Control Station. This net allows station to station contact. This is not a rag chew frequency but a chance to coordinate traffic that only relates to two stations.

#### **Net Missions**

**Traffic Net** - Handles formatted written messages between served agency locations or between other nets. Messages to or from outside the immediate area may be handled by a Section-level net, and depending on the distances involved, Regional Nets and Area Nets may be employed to get traffic out to functioning phone and internet locations. These nets may be voice, CW or digital as needed.

**Resource Net** - This net is used for new operators to check in and await assignment, or asking for

relief or reassignment. A resource net may also be used to locate needed equipment, or operators with specific skills. Several different resource nets may be utilized depending on the size of the event.

**Tactical Net** - There may be one or many of these nets. These nets handle the primary on-site emergency communication between served agencies. There may be "sub nets" created to handle specific types of traffic during high volume emergency situations.

**Information Net** - An information net might be used to make regular announcements, disseminate official bulletins or answer general questions.

**Health and Welfare Nets** - These nets usually handle messages between concerned friends, families, and persons in the disaster area. Most H&W nets will be on HF bands, but local "feeder" UHF & VHF nets may be needed.

### **Directed Formal Nets Information**

#### **Net Control Station**

The most essential part of any directed net is the character and skill of the Net Control Operator. The Net Control Operator coordinates all net activity and shapes the efficiency(or inefficiency) of the net operation. The Net Control Operator is in charge of the net at all times. Net Control Operator activates the net. keeps track of stations check in and assigns duties and directs the net operation. Directed Net–Stations call only net control directly, go direct to other stations only with net control permission

#### **Net Conduct and Etiquette**

Listening is 50% of the conversation. Don't get in a hurry – pause briefly before and after keying your microphone. Try as much as possible to tune out other distractions, the Net Control Operator may be trying to get in touch with you. Get permission from Net Control Operator before proceeding with your traffic or calling another station.

#### **Net Control Operator Phrases you may hear:**

Is there any emergency or priority traffic

Do we have a liaison station

All stations hold your traffic

Stations wish to check in – you can give you call to check-in

All stations standby or

#### **Voice Net Pro-words you should use:**

OVER –I have finished talking, your turn (good for simplex)

ROGER –Message received & understood

COPY THAT or I COPY –Use Roger instead

STANDING BY –I am awaiting further transmissions

OUT –This communication is concluded

OFF the AIR – Self explanatory

AFFIRMATIVE/NEGATIVE –Yes/No

CLEAR –No agreed upon meaning (do not use)

#### **Message Handling Prowords you should use.**

WORD AFTER“Say again word after...”

WORD BEFORE “Say again word before...”

BETWEEN“Say again between...and...”

ALL AFTER“Say again all after...”

ALL BEFORE“Say again all before...”

I SPELL  
FIGURES  
INITIAL(S)/LETTER GROUP  
MIXED GROUP  
SAY AGAIN

Useful hints for relaying your traffic

Try to think through what you're going to say before you say it.

Be brief –don't ramble –get your point across.

DON'T SHOUT!

Use plain language – no Q-codes or 10-codes.

Use military phonetics – not cutesy phonetics

Pass messages no faster than you can write them yourself

Pass messages in five word groups is good practice

Give Call Signs in phonetics

Use phonetics when spelling out words

Net Conduct and Etiquette

Inform the Net Control Operator if you are leaving the net and if you plan to return.

Don't criticize or argue with fellow operators or the net control on-air.

Always use your FCC call sign to sign off after your traffic is passed and receipt acknowledged.

Never use the phrase – Back to net on the net frequency - it is not needed

Never say relay – say your call only and wait for the net control to call you

Never correct or comment on a radiogram. Give your call and wait for the net control permission

Emergency Traffic

Never interrupt a current traffic exchange unless you have a life & death situation or emergency traffic.

There are two ways to call net control if you have an emergency. Say "break, break, break and give your callsign or give your callsign and say emergency traffic. This method should only be used when there is an actual emergency.

NTS Methods and Practices Guidelines - Questions??

I have tried to give a few pointers here. It is not possible to cover everything in this one article. If you have questions ask during a net after all traffic has been handled. You can also go to the ARRL guidelines at this link. <http://www.arrl.org/table-of-contents-nts-methods-and-practices-guidelines>



To find out if you would like traffic handling try listening or check into one of these nets.

### OHIO SINGLE SIDEBAND NET

<b>Morning session</b>	<b>10:30 AM</b>	<b>3972.5 KHz</b>	<b>every day</b>
<b>Afternoon session</b>	<b>4:15 PM</b>	<b>3972.5 KHz</b>	<b>every day</b>
<b>Evening session</b>	<b>6:15 PM</b>	<b>3972.5 KHz</b>	<b>every day</b>

### OHIO HF CW TRAFFIC NETS

<b>HF CW NETS</b>	<b>NET TIMES</b>	<b>FREQUENCY</b>	<b>NET MANAGERS</b>
<b>Buckeye Early</b>	<b>6:45 PM</b>	<b>3.580</b>	<b>WB8YLO</b>
<b>Buckeye Late</b>	<b>10:00 PM</b>	<b>3.590</b>	<b>WB9LBI</b>
<b>Ohio Slow Net</b>	<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>3.53535</b>	<b>W8MAL</b>

All net frequencies plus or minus QRM. .

### OHIO LOCAL VHF TRAFFIC NETS

<b>VHF NETS</b>	<b>NET TIMES</b>	<b>FREQUENCY</b>	<b>NET MANAGERS</b>
<b>BRTN</b>	<b>9:30 PM DAILY</b>	<b>145.230 PL 110.9</b>	<b>W8DJG</b>
<b>COTN</b>	<b>7:15 PM DAILY</b>	<b>146.970 PL 123.0</b>	<b>KD8TTE</b>
<b>MVTN</b>	<b>7:00 PM Mon</b>	<b>146.640</b>	<b>KC8HTP</b>
<b>NWOHARES</b>	<b>6:30 PM DAILY</b>	<b>147.375</b>	<b>N8TNV</b>
<b>TCTTN</b>	<b>9 PM Sun, Tues, Fri</b>	<b>146.94 PL 110.9</b>	<b>WB8YYS</b>
<b>TATN</b>	<b>8:00 PM DAILY</b>	<b>146.670 PL 123.0</b>	<b>WG8Z</b>

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

The Wise speak when they have something to say,  
Fools speak because they have to say something.

73

David WA3EZN  
Ohio Section Traffic Manager

---



# Are You Prepared for the ARES Mission?

C. Matthew Curtin, KD8TTE

In the April 2021 edition of the *Ohio Section Journal*, I introduced the Weather Alert Project 21 (WAP21). The project builds upon the capabilities developed in the County Information Report Project 20 (CIRP20) and exercised in BLACK SWAN 20 with the participation of FEMA Integrated Public Alert & Warning System (IPAWS) Research & Development.

As I've spoken about this project as well as those that came before it, I've had a lot of questions, as volunteers in our ARES® and NTS programs sometimes struggle to see how they relate to our work. To focus everyone's attention, I urge you to consider not just what we've "always done," but what ARRL has, as the sponsor of these programs, defined as our public service mission through its Memoranda of Understanding.

In this article, I will show how WAP21 is squarely in the scope of ARES (and NTS, as ARRL's message relay service) programs, as established in the language of ARRL's MOU with:

- FEMA, July 2014, paragraphs IV(A)(1)(c), IV(A)(1)(e), and IV(C)(2), IV(C)(5);
- National Weather Service (NWS), Undated, paragraphs V(B) and V(C); and
- Society of Broadcast Engineers (SBE), April 2000, paragraph 4.5.

Let's first turn our attention to the FEMA MOU of July 2014. The document is technically a "Memorandum of Agreement" for the purpose of "outlin[ing] the ways in which DHS/FEMA and ARRL will cooperate to carry out their respective responsibilities, with respect to disaster mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery operations in the event of a natural or man-made disaster." <sup>(P I P I P I P I)</sup><sub>(SEP:SEP:SEP:SEP:SEP:SEP:SEP)</sub> ¶III

The agreement calls for DHS/FEMA and ARRL to "engage in joint preparedness and mitigation activities to support community resilience consistent with Presidential Policy Directive 8 (National Preparedness)." ¶IV(A)(1)(c)) The Directive applies to communications, as it is "critical infrastructure" as defined in Presidential Policy Directive 21. Further this is consistent with the Federal Government's first articulated justification of the Amateur Radio Service in "[r]ecognition and enhancement of the value of the amateur service to the public as a voluntary noncommercial communication service, particularly with respect to providing emergency communications." (47 CFR 97.1(a)) BLACK SWAN 20 was an excellent example of this activity: FEMA IPAWS R&D pushed alert messages from Washington to individual communities in this exercise, showing that communications can continue even in "black sky" (total loss of Internet and phone service) scenarios.

This work continues under ¶IV(A)(1)(e) in my ongoing work with DHS, now under the Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA). This work will be presented at an upcoming Interoperability Working Group meeting of the SHARES HF Radio Program.

*Messaging* is a critical component of this work. Nowhere in the Agreement does it call for "tactical" communications, but the MOU specifies that ARRL will "[w]ork with DHS/FEMA to disseminate ... public messaging, including, but not limited to, the availability of DHS/FEMA assistance in connection with Presidentially-declared major disasters and emergencies."

Messaging again arises in ¶IV(C)(5) to "[i]dentify, develop, strengthen, and support capabilities for ESF #6 (including, but not limited to, volunteer mobilization) and ESF #15 (including, but not limited to, disseminating preparedness and disaster information to the public) through planning,

training, exercises, and operations.” Our interface to IPAWS and handling of CAP is precisely on-target here. The Emergency Alert System (EAS) where critical messages are sent to the public through broadcast television and radio stations uses CAP, and in a “black sky” situation, only radio or physical movement of electronic media will be able to move the CAP messages from alerting authorities to broadcasters.

The MOU between ARRL and NWS articulates three “Principles of Cooperation,” each of which contains language relevant to the WAP21 project and the broader program of capability improvement it’s part of. Clearly the MOU is focused on the SKYWARN program and support of weather spotters, but it is not limited to the act of spotting and reporting into NWS offices.

“ARRL Section management teams” are “to *provide specialized communications* and observations support on an as-needed basis for NWS offices in other weather emergencies such as hurricanes, snow and heavy rain storms, and other severe weather situations.” (§V(B), Emphasis mine.) As NWS issues its own products such as Tornado Warnings in CAP format, our project is exactly the use case needed for getting critical information to the public to protect lives and property. Remember, those CAP messages are read not only by the local EMAs but are used to alert the public through EAS at broadcasters and Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA) at mobile phone service providers.

It’s simply incorrect and shortsighted to assume that in a black sky emergency, there won’t be any agency in need of CAP messages, whether from NWS or other alerting agencies. Understanding this, the MOU specifies that NWS will “work with ARRL Section [ARES] volunteers to establish ... specialized weather emergency alert and relief systems.” Notice the NWS language does not say that ARRL Headquarters will do this work: *this is the work of the ARRL Sections*. This means me and you!

This brings us to the SBE MOU, where the organizations “will ... urge members of both organizations to develop increasingly effective communications and cooperation.” To this end, we are again turn our attention to the WAP21 use case: broadcasters need the alerts from NWS and other alerting authorities to activate EAS. Black sky or not, people need to know if a tornado is headed their way or a child has been abducted.

Please join us in ensuring resilience and security of our communities by applying your skills and those that you will learn and develop. By participating in WAP21, you can help ensure that amateur radio remains a vital part of the nation’s toolkit to address not only the emergency communications needs of yesterday but those of today and tomorrow.

<https://www.blackswancomex.org/2021/weather-alert-project-21>

---

## ***National News***

*(from arrl and other sources)*

## **Annual WX4NHC On-the-Air Station Test Set for Saturday, May 29**

The annual [WX4NHC](#) station on-the-air test will be held on Saturday, May 29, 1300 - 2100 UTC. The WX4NHC operators plan to be working remotely again this year as the

National Hurricane Center plans to maintain all CDC COVID-19 pandemic protocols until the end of 2021. The yearly exercise takes place just ahead of the official start of the Atlantic Hurricane Season, June 1 - November 30. Assistant WX4NHC Coordinator Julio Ripoll, WD4R, said the event offers an opportunity for radio amateurs worldwide to exercise the sorts of communication capabilities available during severe weather.

"We will be making brief contacts on many frequencies and modes, and exchanging signal reports and basic weather data (sunny, rain, temperature, etc.) with any station in any location," Ripoll said.

Participating stations may use HF, VHF, UHF, APRS, and Winlink, with WX4NHC HF activity centering on the Hurricane Watch Net frequencies of 14.325 MHz and 7.268 MHz, depending on propagation, and will operate elsewhere as conditions dictate. WX4NHC will also participate in the [VoIP Hurricane Net](#), 2000 - 2100 UTC.

As for the upcoming hurricane season, Ripoll said, "Even if you are not directly affected by a hurricane situation, please volunteer to monitor and relay reports; just one report can make a difference and help save a life!"

In conjunction with the [National Hurricane Conference](#) next month, the traditional Amateur Radio Workshop sessions will be held virtually on Tuesday, June 15, 10:30 AM - 12 PM EDT and 1:30 - 5 PM EDT. The sessions will be moderated by Rob Macedo, KD1CY, Director of Operations, VoIP Hurricane Net, with Ripoll.

To access the [Zoom meeting check-in](#), use the meeting ID 844 9788 6921, and the passcode 565708.



## Nine Proposals Move Forward in ARISS Host Selection Process

Amateur Radio on the International Space Station ([ARISS](#)) has accepted proposals from nine schools or organizations as candidates to host amateur radio contacts with an ISS crew member during January - June 2022. These potential hosts will move forward in the planning process. ARISS provides opportunities for schools and educational entities to speak directly with an ISS crew member via amateur radio in a question-and-answer format. The primary goal of the ARISS program is to engage young people in science,

technology, engineering, arts, and math activities and to raise awareness of space communication, radio communication, space exploration, and related areas of study and career possibilities.

ARISS anticipates that NASA will be able to provide scheduling opportunities for the nine selected US host organizations. The semi-final candidates must now complete an equipment plan that demonstrates an ability to carry out the ham radio contact. Once an equipment plan is approved by the ARISS technical team, the finalists will be scheduled as their availability matches up with the scheduling opportunities.



The schools and organizations are:

- Bellefontaine High School, Bellefontaine, Ohio
- Carter G. Woodson Middle School, Hopewell, Virginia
- Lewis Center for Educational Research, Apple Valley, California
- Matinecock District, Suffolk County Boy Scouts, Medford, New York
- McBride High School, Long Beach, California
- Old St. Mary's School, Chicago, Illinois
- Salem-South Lyon District Library, South Lyon, Michigan
- Sussex County Charter School for Technology, Sparta, New Jersey
- Space Hardware Club, Huntsville, Alabama

ARISS is celebrating 20 years of continuous amateur radio operations on the International Space Station. ARRL is an ARISS partner.

## AMSAT Invites Nominations for 2021 Board of Directors Election

AMSAT has put out a call for nominations for the 2021 AMSAT Board of Directors election, which will be held in the third quarter of the year. The seats of four incumbent Directors expire in 2021: Jerry Buxton, N0JY; Drew Glasbrenner, KO4MA; Patrick Stoddard, WD9EWK, and Michelle Thompson, W5NYV. Up to two Alternate Directors may be elected for 1-year terms.



A valid nomination for Director must be in writing and requires either one AMSAT member-society or five individual members currently in good standing to nominate an AMSAT member. Written nominations, with the nominee's name, call sign, and contact information, as well as the nominators' names, call signs, and contact information, should be sent to AMSAT Secretary [Jeff Davis, KE9V](mailto:Jeff.Davis@amsat.org), 1909 S. Batavia Ave, Muncie, IN 47302-2044, with a copy to Executive Vice President [Paul Stoetzer, N8HM](mailto:Paul.Stoetzer@amsat.org).

AMSAT bylaws require that the nomination be written and in the form specified by the Secretary. The Secretary has elected to accept written nomination materials via mail or in electronic form, including email or electronic image of a paper document. Fax transmissions cannot be accepted.

Petitions must be received by the Secretary no later than June 15. The Secretary will verify the qualifications of candidates and nominating members or member-societies as petitions are received, and will notify candidates whether their nominations are in order by the end of June. -- *Thanks to AMSAT News Service*

---

### ***Club Corner***

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



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

Send it to: [webmaster@arrl-ohio.org](mailto:webmaster@arrl-ohio.org)

### **Help Needed in Lucas County**

We have been asked to help with the Muddy Mini half marathon coming up on Saturday, June 19th. The race starts at 7:30 AM and runs from downtown Maumee to 5/3 Field in downtown Toledo. There is also a quarter marathon course which starts a bit north of Maumee and finishes in the same place. Last time we did this race I believe we were all finished by 11:30. If you'd like more information or to sign up to help please contact me at either [k8rks@arrl.net](mailto:k8rks@arrl.net) or 419-471-0573. Thanks!

Rick K8RKS  
[k8rks@arrl.net](mailto:k8rks@arrl.net)  
419-471-0573

## **HARA assists in placing flags on veterans' graves**

**Members of the Highland Amateur Radio Association are pictured at the Hillsboro Cemetery. (Submitted photos)**

On a beautiful Friday evening, several members of the Highland Amateur Radio Association gathered at Hillsboro's rolling tree-covered cemetery to assist the cemetery board by placing flags on the graves of the 1,000 veterans whom are buried there.

The Club was joined by three other civic-minded organizations all wishing to honor those who served to protect our freedoms.

According to cemetery board and HARA member John Willis, KE8JEM, the project was completed in a record less than one hour. HARA members will return to the cemetery after June 14's Flag Day to assist removing the flags.

Friday marked the third year that HARA has assisted with the project.



The Highland Amateur Radio Association is an association of over 125 Federal Communications Commission licensed "ham radio" operators and others interested in communications who mostly reside in Highland County.

More information about the Club and its activities may be found on Facebook at [www.Facebook.com/HighlandK8HO](http://www.Facebook.com/HighlandK8HO) or by contacting the Club's information officer John Levo at (937) 393-4951. General information about amateur radio can be found at [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org).



If you would like to contribute to this free, community news website, your support would be greatly appreciated.

Remit to:

The Highland County Press,  
P.O. Box 849, Hillsboro, Ohio 45133.

## Clinton County ARA

On July 24<sup>th</sup>, we are having a combination Tailgate and VHF\UHF antenna building event. Spaces for the tailgate is \$5 and admission is also \$5.

We will have antenna kits available for sale (raw parts) that users can buy and we will assist them in measuring, cutting, soldering and adjusting for the correct setup. We would like to assist those who many not be into antenna building to enjoy building antenna's as much as we do. We will also assist as we can with any antenna building or adjusting issues you may be having.

Antenna Kits will be 2Meter Slim Jims, dual band Slim Jims, Dual band Aluminum JPole and 2Meter ground plain. Those who wish will be able to pre-order their antenna kits beforehand via our website.

The event will be at our new shack:  
Clinton County Fairgrounds:  
958 W Main St.  
Wilmington, OH 45177

For more information, please feel free to contact us via Facebook, Clinton County ARA, or our website at <http://ccara.net>  
My cell phone is: 937 283 5353

Thank you,

Dave Gordley  
President CCARA  
K8DEG

## Fairfield Co. ARES Training Event

Just thought I'd update you on a training event we did with our team this morning. The Fairfield County ARES team conducted a drill called, "Dead Computers" by Sterling Eanes AK1K. During the drill, NCS passed messages to teams who in turn verified the messages with another team before transmitting back to NCS. Our team set up four remote stations and operating on simplex ran through the drill. We plan on running through the drill again, giving each team a chance at net control. The team enjoyed the training! During the After Action Report, the feedback was very good with some good suggestions on how to improve the drill. See photos below.

73,  
Diane Warner, KE8HLD  
Assistant EC, Fairfield County ARES



(Editor's Note) – It's nice to see some Club activity and announcements here! Now that things are starting to open up a bit, I hope you'll let us know what your club is up to. Photo's and copies from local media are always appreciated. Thank You!

---



## ***DX This Week***

### **DX This Week – Monthly K9LA**

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



The Midwest DX Cluster spots included Andorra, Australia, Austria, Azores, Balearic Islands, Bonaire, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fed. Rep. of Germany, Fiji, France, Gibraltar, Greece, Israel, Italy, Kaliningrad, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Montenegro, Morocco, New Zealand, Poland, Portugal, Sardinia, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Ukraine, and the US Virgin Islands. This brings the total number of entities spotted in the Midwest in 2021 to 177!

I received a few QSL cards including ZL3JT – Duncan in Christchurch, New Zealand, and VK3BVW – Rob in Mount Evelyn, Australia. Rob also sent a hiking guide to the area and a standing invitation to come over and “walk about”. We just may do that! What did you get?

***DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH      DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH***

Lots to cover this week.

First is the annual DXPedition of the Year award presented by the SouthWest Ohio DX Association. Due to the Covid restrictions, there were only a few DXPeditions to choose from. However, this winner would have won in most years and they had an outstanding effort in spite of Covid. Here is the announcement from the President of Tom, NR8Z:

### ***The Southwest Ohio DX Association 2021 DXPedition of the Year® Award***

*The Southwest Ohio DX Association is proud to announce the 2021 DXPedition of the Year award goes to VP8PJ, South Orkney Island. The DXPedition team consisted of: Dave, K3EL and Les, W2LK (coleaders); Gene, K5GS; Arliss, W7XU; Heye, DJ9RR; Laci, HA0NAR; Vadym, UT6UD; Walt, N6XG, Rob, N7QT; Steve, W1SRD; Mike, WA6O; Ken, NG2H; Hans-Peter, HB9BXE; and Alan, VK6CQ. Congratulations on a well-organized and executed*



*DXPedition in a very challenging environment. Each year the Southwest Ohio DX Association presents the DXPedition of the Year Award at the annual DX Dinner. Our goal is to recognize excellence in DXPedition planning and execution from Most Wanted entities. DXpeditions that completed from March 2020 through February 2021 are eligible for this year's award. Winners of the DXPedition of the Year award have overcome significant access, licensing and logistical challenges to deliver a large number of contacts to a broad swath of the global amateur community.*

Secondly...I would love to tell you that I might mistakes on purpose hoping that someone who is paying attention will call me on it – It tells me that some folks are actually stopping by each week. Well, I made a legitimate error and Bob, K8BL called me out.

I had an old article that I used when discussing Outgoing QSL Buro fees. There is not transaction fee required. Bob sent along the details below. Thanks Bob!

From: [http://www.arrl.org/files/file/QSL/Outgoing\\_QSL\\_Rules\\_Jan\\_2021.pdf](http://www.arrl.org/files/file/QSL/Outgoing_QSL_Rules_Jan_2021.pdf)

*Fees and Payment ARRL members - including foreign members, QSL Managers, or managers for DXpeditions — should enclose payment as follows: **Effective May 15, 2019:** \$2.00 for 10 or fewer cards in one envelope. \$3.00 for 11-20 cards in one envelope, or 75 cents per ounce, for packages with 21 or more cards. (For example, a package containing 1.5 pounds of cards -- 24 ounces, or about 225 cards -- will cost \$18. **No transaction service fees.**) You should use an accurate scale to weigh your cards. Most post offices have scales that you may use. Please pay by check (or money order) and write your call sign on the check. Send cash at your own risk. **DO NOT** send postage stamps or IRCs. Please make checks payable to: "The ARRL Outgoing QSL Service." Packages received with insufficient payment will not be processed until the balance is paid in full. The outgoing QSL bureau does not keep money on account.*

Third, we have a 60-meter update from Joe, W8GEX. Joe has been the biggest proponent of the band and actively encourages DXPeditions to have a presence on 60. Thanks, Joe, for allowing me to reprint this newsletter.

**May 11, 2021 60 Meter Update by Joe Pater W8GEX**

**Bouvet Island** coming in 2023 - We aim to do a good job! See you on 60 meters from Bouvet in 2023!

--- 73, Paul N6PSE, co-leader

**Mozambique: - C92RU** was very active and thanks to the team for bringing it on the air.

**NEW ZEALAND is back: Paul G4MWO reporting**

*New 60 m/5 MHz WRC-15 Sub-License Now Available for New Zealand following the end of the two channel 60 m NZ trial in 2020, as previously mentioned in Southgate ARC News, Bob Vernall, ZL2CA has been successful in obtaining clearance of the new WRC-15 Amateur Secondary Allocation of 5351.5 – 5366.5 kHz, NZART is pleased to announce that negotiations with regulator RSM have been successful in obtaining a license to allow operation for all New Zealand amateur operators to use in the 60 m (5 MHz) band using the WRC-15 allocation.*

*Thanks again Bob Vernall ZL2CA for all your work in this area. Maximum allowable power is 15 W EIRP (effective isotropic radiated power).*

**Pirate on 60m per Jeff K8ND / PJ2ND:** *I received a couple of emails from European ops seeking to confirm that I worked them from PJ2ND on 60-Meters on May 8. On DX Summit, I*

*found spots from 2110Z – 2141Z on May 8. I returned to the USA on May 5, and I have never yet operated on 60-meters, so it was not me!*

*Tom PJ2DD had operated on 60-meters over a year ago, but I don't know if he might have been active on that band this week. It could be a mis-spot, but I suspect it was a pirate active in Europe for a short time on 60-meters.*

**C5C Gambia** - F5RAV, Luc, with friends F5NVF, Gerard, and M0NPT/7X2TT, Abdel, have a Gambia license, C5C, good until April 22, 2022. They are including 60M. For QSO confirmation it's LoTW, eQSL, and direct via the F5RAV home QTH.

Below reported by Mark Murray, W2OR via "The Daily DX Newsletter" by Bernie, W3UR:

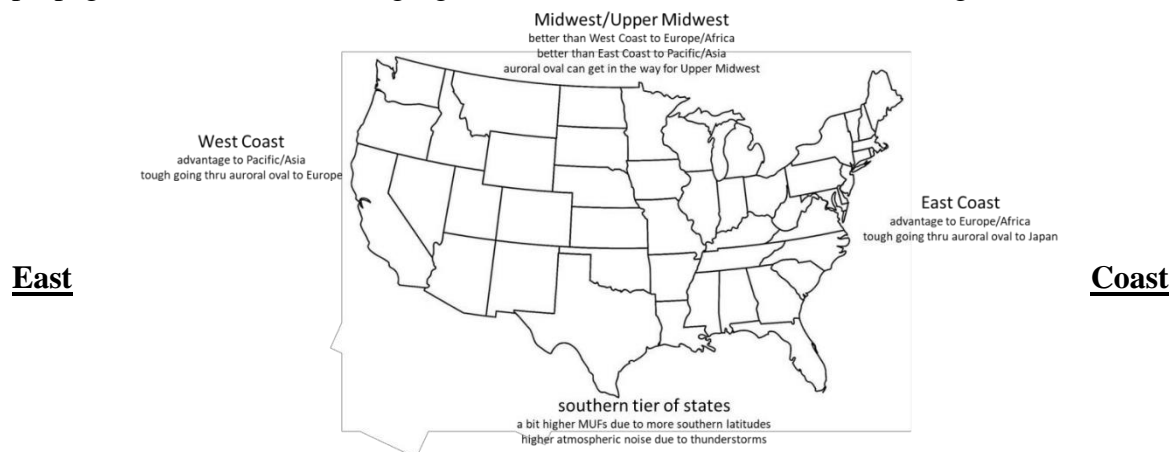
*PSK reporter info now has a new feature to include a column of signal reports as part of the "Show Logbook" page, a very handy tool. To enable the listing of signal reports, first open the regular map page, click on "Display Options"; and check "SNR in LogBook", then close "Display Options." Then, to see the LogBook, first enter a callsign of a recently active DX station in the main map callsign field, and press the "GO" button as usual; that will then show the typical DX station flags on the map, as usual. Now press "Show LogBook" to see the newly added signal report column. The columns can be sorted by clicking on column titles. Additional PSK reporter enhancements are expected in the months to come, all thanks to Philip Gladstone, N1DQ*

## **DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH     DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH**

This week we have an interesting article by our propagation expert, Carl, K9LA. Carl will be one of the presenters at the W8DXCC convention in August. I hope you find it as interesting as I did.

### **A Very Broad Look at Propagation versus Location Carl Luetzelschwab K9LA     March 2021**

A recent thread on the Society of Midwest Contesters (SMC) reflector was about the geographical advantages of certain areas of the US with respect to propagation. There are lots of issues related to this: antenna gains, noise environment (especially important on the low bands), take-off angles due to favorable terrain and others. Instead of diving into these specific issues, let's take a very broad look at geographical advantages/disadvantages with respect to propagation. See the following figure. Let's start with the East Coast and go clockwise.



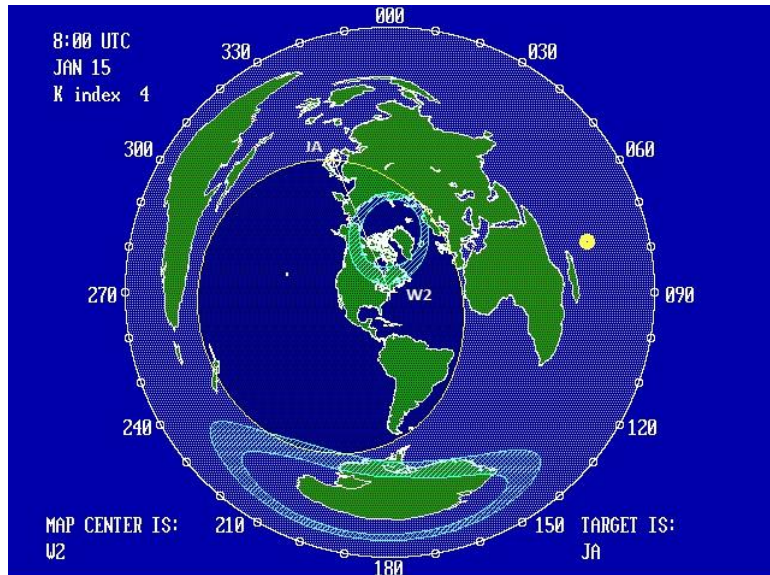
First, the East Coast has an advantage to Europe and Africa due to shorter distances than other geographical locations. This also translates to a second advantage – the amount of time a path is in daylight, which is important on the higher bands.

path	duration that the short path is in daylight
East Coast to Italy in January	3 hrs, 39 min
West Coast to Italy in January	0 hrs, 43 min

I chose January as it's pretty much centered on the CQ WW DX contests, the ARRL 10 Meter contest and the ARRL DX contests. Of course, you have to realize that ionization in the F2 region doesn't decrease as fast after sunset as it does in the E and D regions. Thus, propagation won't abruptly end after sunset on the Italy end. What it does is add the same constant to both paths – the East Coast still has an approximate 3 hour advantage over the West Coast.

Third, the East Coast path to Europe and Africa is more over water than from the other geographical areas. This means less loss due to ground reflections.

The disadvantage for the East Coast is a path through the auroral oval to Japan (and other countries in that area). The following image (from the 1995 DOS program DXAID 4.5 by Peter Oldfield) shows this for the month of January at 3AM local on the East Coast. The center of the map is W2, and the thin white straight line to the northwest from W2 is a path to JA (JA is the circle with a + in it). The K index is 4.



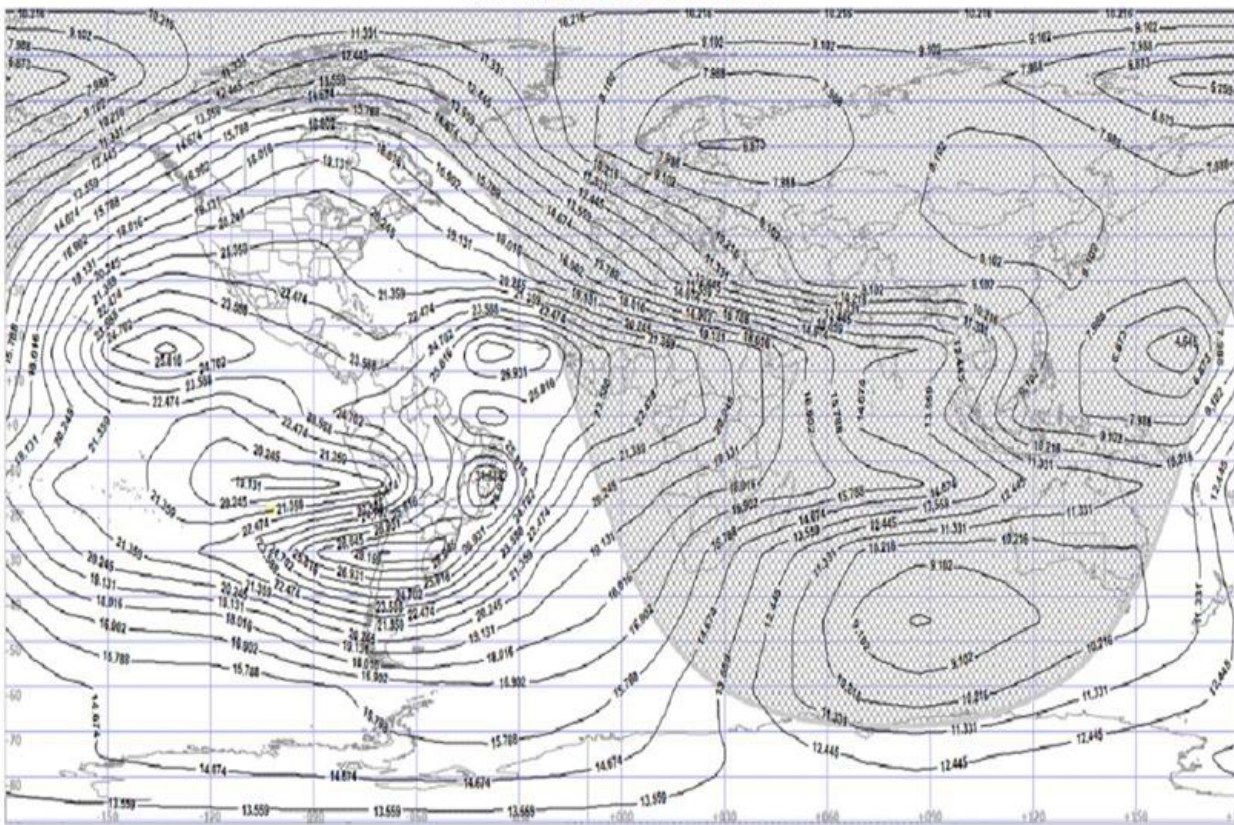
With the path entirely in darkness, this would should be a good opportunity on the low bands

– except for the auroral oval likely messing things up.

### **Southern Tier of States**

There are many times when I see (on PacketCluster) the southern tier of states working stuff I can't even hear. Their advantage comes from the fact that the ionization increases as you move from the higher latitudes to the lower latitudes. The following image is for a January month at 1900 UTC at a smoothed sunspot number of 10 (solar minimum). The contour lines are the MUFs (maximum usable frequencies) for a 3000 km path with any point on the worldwide map being the midpoint of the 3000 km path.

Global Ionospheric Chart for 2021/01/15 19:00:00 UTC



It's obvious that the amount of ionization in the daylight part of the ionosphere increases as we move from the poles to the equator. For this example, the MUF on a 3000 km path along the southern tier of states is around 22 MHz. For Fort Wayne, Indiana (where I am), the MUF on a 3000 km path is around 20.7 MHz. For those in the Upper Midwest, the MUF is around 20 MHz. Although the difference is only a couple MHz, those areas with the lower MUF could see up to 20 dB more loss if you're operating just below the MUF (this comes from the above-the-MUF mode in VOACAP).

Additionally, geomagnetic disturbances to the ionosphere tend to be less extreme as you move down to lower latitudes.

One disadvantage for the southern tier of states is the possibility of more atmospheric noise from thunderstorms because they are nearer the equator. And if you're in Texas, in the middle of the southern tier of states, you may suffer more loss from ground reflections.

## West Coast

The West Coast has an advantage to the Pacific and Asia due to shorter distances than other geographical locations. Again, this translates to a longer duration (about 3 hours longer). And of course, the West Coast path to the Pacific and Asia is more over water than from the other geographical areas. This means less loss due to ground reflections.

The disadvantage for the West Coast is a path through the auroral oval to Europe. The following image is for a path (thin white straight line) from W6 to Europe for the month of January at 0100 UTC (5PM local on the West Coast) at a K index of 4.

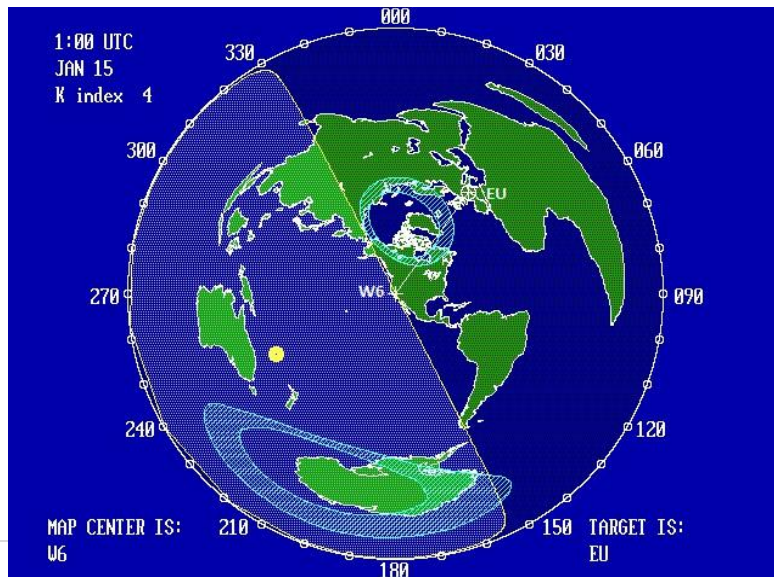
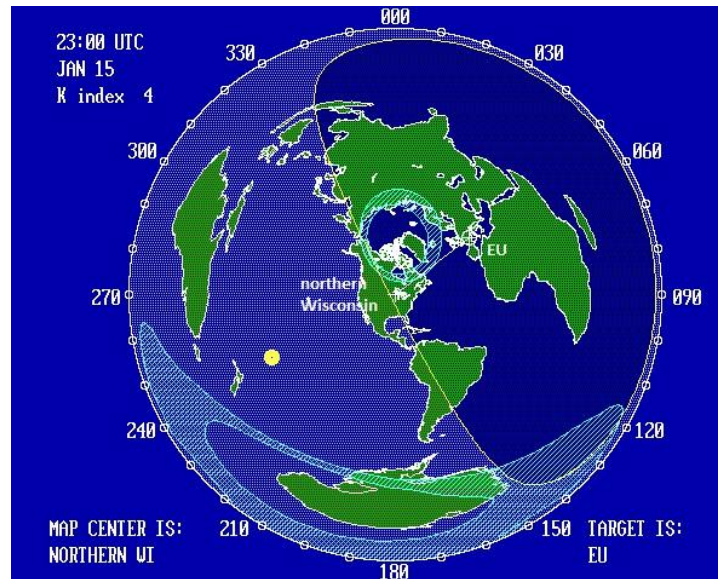
With the path entirely in darkness, this should be a good opportunity on the low bands – except for the auroral oval likely messing things up.

I had to scratch my head a bit to come up with some advantages of being in the Midwest/Upper Midwest. Propagation from the Midwest/Upper Midwest to Europe/Africa can be better than propagation from the West Coast to Europe/Africa. And propagation from the Midwest/Upper Midwest to the Pacific/Japan can be better than propagation from the East Coast to the Pacific/Japan. I readily admit these are advantages in the loosest of terms. The biggest disadvantage for the Upper Midwest (northern Wisconsin, northern Minnesota, North Dakota and northern Michigan) is the auroral oval. The following image is centered on northern Wisconsin with a path (thin white straight line) to Europe at 5PM local time in January.

With the path entirely in darkness, this should be a good opportunity on the low bands – except for the auroral oval likely messing things up.

## Midwest/Upper Midwest

I had to scratch my head a bit to come up with some advantages of being in the Midwest/Upper Midwest. Propagation from the Midwest/Upper Midwest to Europe/Africa can be better than propagation from the West Coast to Europe/Africa. And propagation from the Midwest/Upper Midwest to the Pacific/Japan can be better than propagation from the East Coast to the Pacific/Japan. I readily admit these are advantages in the loosest of terms.



The biggest disadvantage for the Midwest (northern Wisconsin, northern Minnesota, North Dakota and northern Michigan) is the auroral oval. The following image is centered on northern Wisconsin with a path (thin white straight line) to Europe at 5PM local time in January.

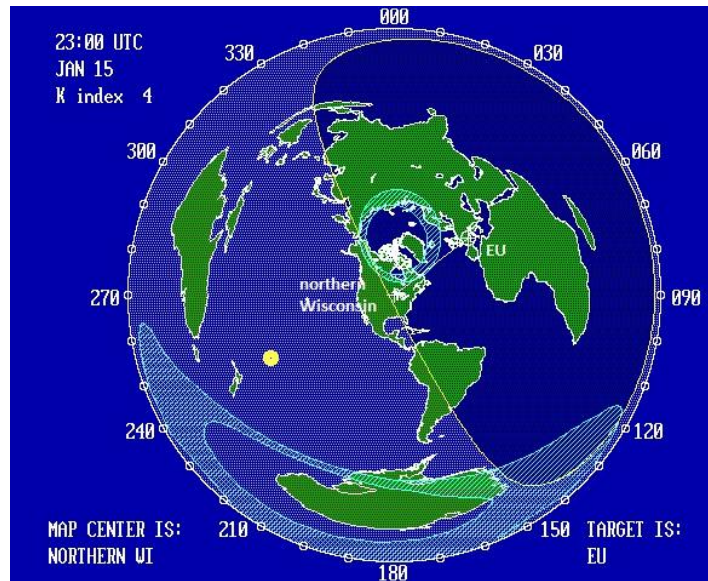
Unfortunately, the most energetic electrons that precipitate into the auroral at the equatorward edge of the oval – the path from northern Wisconsin to encounters the auroral oval. For those at latitudes in the Midwest (those in Indianapolis, for example, or me in Fort the auroral oval is pretty much out of the unless the K index gets really high.

The other disadvantage of the Upper Midwest is what was mentioned earlier – the lower ionization giving slightly lower MUFs. Again, being in Indianapolis or even Fort Wayne should help a bit. It'd be nice to quote a dB difference, but I don't think that's possible – too many variables that are not well enough understood.

Summary

This has been a very broad look at propagation advantages and disadvantages for four areas of the US. As mentioned earlier, station specifics can also come into play – antenna gains, noise environment (especially important on the low bands), take-off angles due to favorable terrain and other issues.

The best advice given in this thread on the SMC reflector was that propagation isn't fair with respect to your location. It's best to just compete with others in your local area.



Upper  
line) to  
oval are  
where  
Europe  
lower  
Wayne),  
way –

*DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH      DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH*

*CQDX CQDX CQDX CQDX CQDX CQDX CQDX CQDX CQDX*

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

**5R – Madagascar** - After 21 years as 6W7RP, Daniel Eichenberger, is now 5R8RP on Nosy Beisland on the other side of the continent. Dan says it's a small station compared to the one in Senegal, now an FT-1000MP to an R8 vertical, which he figures is at least enough to keep in touch with old friends "in France and elsewhere." He notes that his old QTH 80 kilometers south of Dakar, Senegal, has been sold to a non-ham and all the antennas are taken down. He gives a bit of his history as the Former Founding President of ADRASEC SENEGAL, <http://www.senrasec.org>, currently in charge of missions for Madagascar and the Indian Ocean.

**5U – Niger** - F4IHM is returning to Niger, callsign 5UAIHM, arriving there as early as today, on the air until

June 15. Adrien has an IC-706MKIIG and wire antenna, looking forward to CW activity on 40 and 20. QSL direct or bureau to F4IHM.

**LU – Argentina** - May 8 through June 8 is LU9ESD/XO. He says the XO stands for Santa Cruz Province. This will be from the Cabo Curioso Lighthouse, ARG- 024, during the "Argentinian HF Tournament." LU9ESD will be on 40 meters only, RTTY from 1900-1959Z and SSB from 2100-2259Z. Here are the rules for this on-air event: [www.campeonatos.com.ar](http://www.campeonatos.com.ar).

**PA - The Netherlands** - Unusual callsign PA827HGV will be from the retired minesweeper ship HNLMS Hooegeven during Museum Ship Weekend. PA827HGV will be on the air June 5 from 00Z to June 6 at 2359Z, HF CW and SSB. The ship is moored in Den Helder. PA7X will be at least one of the ops.

**3Y – Bouvet** - The latest update on the planned 3Y0J operations from DXPeditioners N6PSE and LA7GIA is that DXers should expect high QSO rates, of course; a team of good operators has been put together. They will be on 160-10 CW, SSB and digital modes, hoping to make at least as many QSOs, 135,000, as did VP8STI/VP8SGI. After the first surges of big signals worked they will try hard to work weaker signals and young operators. They will not have real-time log search but will upload every day to Club Log and M0OXO log search.

**ET – Ethiopia** - K4ZW, Ken, says "Greetings from ET3" as he is back again at ET3AA. Yesterday the students began with some FT8 activity. The ET3AA club "station had been stripped and repainted". There were a few "cabling issues" which were taken care of yesterday. "So hopefully there will be more activity this week although Thursday is a holiday", says Ken. The ET3AA station is QRV on 6 meters, although the "SWR is a tad high". In the future Ken plans to take a new beam. Something has happened to the 6-meter rotator box for the 6-meter antenna as it "does not power up". Currently the 6-meter beam is fixed on Europe and the US. Ken, who is at the Institute of Technology at Addis Ababa University, will look into fixing the rotator. Unfortunately, there will be no 160-meter activity as the "noise problem still comes on at 5pm local and wipes out the entire HF spectrum". It's on all bands at S9. Ken gives us some good news as "the university has reopened fully from the pandemic, the club posted a notice for an open house, looking to attract new students to Amateur Radio". There were more than 100 attendees. QSL ET3AA via N2OO.

*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.

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 to Tom, N8ZM, for pointing out my lack of listing VHF/UHF contests in the contest summary. I merge a couple of calendars and was not searching for VHF/UHF. Sorry about that to all who participate in these contests. I will list them starting with the column below.

Thanks!

May 27	RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW	<a href="http://bit.ly/3avHbk3">http://bit.ly/3avHbk3</a>
May 29-30	<b>CQWW WPX CW CONTEST</b>	<a href="http://www.cqwp.com">www.cqwp.com</a>
June 4-6	PODXS 070 Club Three Day Weekend Contest	<a href="http://bit.ly/2Srdp8A">http://bit.ly/2Srdp8A</a>
June 5-6	10-10 Open Season PSK Contest	<a href="http://bit.ly/1FrFeBc">http://bit.ly/1FrFeBc</a>
June 5-6	Kentucky QSO Party	<a href="http://www.kyqsoparty.org">www.kyqsoparty.org</a>
June 5-6	Liga Radio Boga (LRB) HF Contest	<a href="http://www.qrz.com/db/hk3lrb">www.qrz.com/db/hk3lrb</a>
June 5-6	RSGB CW Field Day	<a href="http://bit.ly/2OKdymu">http://bit.ly/2OKdymu</a>
June 5-6	Seanet Contest	<a href="http://www.seanet2019.com/seanet-contest">www.seanet2019.com/seanet-contest</a>
June 5-6	Tisza Cup CW Contest	<a href="https://tinyurl.com/ar2kyr6p">https://tinyurl.com/ar2kyr6p</a>
June 7	RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data	<a href="http://bit.ly/3avHbk3">http://bit.ly/3avHbk3</a>
June 12	Asia-Pacific SSB Sprint	<a href="http://jsfc.org/apsprint">http://jsfc.org/apsprint</a>
June 12	AGCW VHF-UHF Contest	<a href="https://bit.ly/3lw91PK">https://bit.ly/3lw91PK</a>
June 12-13	Portugal Day Contest	<a href="https://portugaldaycontest.rep.pt/rules.php">https://portugaldaycontest.rep.pt/rules.php</a>
June 12-13	GACW WWSA CW DX Contest	<a href="http://www.contest.com.ar/gacw-wwsa">www.contest.com.ar/gacw-wwsa</a>
June 12-13	REF DDFM 6M Contest	<a href="http://concours.r-e-f.org/index.php">http://concours.r-e-f.org/index.php</a>
June 12-13	DRCG Long Distance Contest (RTTY)	<a href="http://www.drcg.de">www.drcg.de</a>
June 12-14	ARRL June VHF QSO Party	<a href="http://www.arrl.org/june-vhf">www.arrl.org/june-vhf</a>
June 16	RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW	<a href="http://bit.ly/3avHbk3">http://bit.ly/3avHbk3</a>
June 19	FIRAC VHF Contest	<a href="http://www.fireac.de/index.html">www.fireac.de/index.html</a>
June 19-20	All Asian CW DX Contest	<a href="http://www.jarl.org/English/0-2.htm">www.jarl.org/English/0-2.htm</a>
June 19-20	Stew Perry Topband Challenge	<a href="http://www.kkn.net/stew/stew_rules.html">www.kkn.net/stew/stew_rules.html</a>
June 19-20	Ukrainian DX classic RTTY Contest	<a href="http://urdx.org/rty">http://urdx.org/rty</a>
June 19-20	West Virginia QSO Party	<a href="https://tinyurl.com/54c7ajfp">https://tinyurl.com/54c7ajfp</a>
June 24	RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB	<a href="http://bit.ly/3avHbk3">http://bit.ly/3avHbk3</a>
June 26-27	ARRL Field Day	<a href="http://www.arrl.org/field-day">www.arrl.org/field-day</a>
June 26-27	His Maj. King of Spain SSB Contest	<a href="http://bit.ly/1cKAR5V">http://bit.ly/1cKAR5V</a>
June 26-27	Ukrainian DX DIGI Contest	<a href="http://www.izmail-dx.com">www.izmail-dx.com</a>
June 28	RSGB FT4 Contest Series	<a href="http://bit.ly/3mCNXXH">http://bit.ly/3mCNXXH</a>
July 17-18	CQWW VHF Contest	<a href="http://www.cqww-vhf.com">www.cqww-vhf.com</a>
August 28	<b>Ohio QSO Party</b>	<a href="https://www.ohqp.org/">https://www.ohqp.org/</a>
August 28	<b>W8DXCC</b>	<a href="https://www.w8dxcc.com">https://www.w8dxcc.com</a>

[TOP^](#)

---

## ***DX News***

SB DX ARL ARLD020  
ARLD020 DX news

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by KK9A, 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. Ennio, IW1RBI and other operators will be QRV as 3A/IW1RBI from May 27 to 30. Activity will be on 30 to 6 meters around the clock using CW, SSB and FT8 in DX-pedition mode. QSL direct to IW1RBI.

AZERBAIJAN, 4K. Boris, 4K4K and members of the 4J0SFR Safari club are QRV with event call sign 4K880NZM to commemorate the 880 years since the birth of poet Nizami Ganjavi. QSL via 4K4K.

NIGERIA, 5N. Jean-Louis, ZS6AAG is QRV as 5N7MSF while working with Doctors Without Borders in Abuja until September 2021. Activity is in his spare time currently on 20 and 15 meters using SSB. QSL via operator's instructions.

NIGER, 5U. Adrien, F4IHM is now QRV as 5UAIHM until June 27 while on work assignment. Activity is in his spare time on 40 and 20 meters using CW and SSB. QSL to home call.

MADAGASCAR, 5R. Daniel, 6W7RP is QRV as 5R8RP from Nosy Be, IOTA AF-057. Activity is on 40 to 6 meters. QSL to 5R8RP.

MARTINIQUE, FM. Marius, ON4RU plans to be QRV as FM/OQ3R from May 23 to June 5. Activity will be on 160 to 10 meters using CW. This includes being active as TO3F in the upcoming CQ World Wide WPX CW contest. QSL direct to home call.

ITALY, I. Special event call sign II6RI is QRV until June 30 to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Italian Republic. QSL direct to IK6IHU.

ARUBA, P4. John, KK9A will be QRV as P40A from May 25 to June 1. Activity will be on 160 to 10 meters using CW and SSB. This includes being an entry in the upcoming CQ World Wide WPX CW contest. QSL via WD9DZV.

NETHERLANDS, PA. Special event station PA21ARDF is QRV until May 30 to support Amateur Radio Direction Finding. QSL via bureau.

SEYCHELLES, S7. Ros, 4Z5LA is QRV as S79LA until May 27. QSL to home call.

BENIN, TY. Ian, ZS6JSI is now QRV as TY5AB from Parakou and here until June. Activity is in his spare time on 80, 40 and 20 meters using SSB and FT8. QSL via EC6DX.

EUROPEAN RUSSIA, UA. Special event station R800ANL is QRV to commemorate the 800th

anniversary of the birth of Grand Prince Alexander Nevsky, who lived from 1221 to 1263. QSL via RV1AQ.

AUSTRALIA, VK. John, VK6NU plans to be QRV from Rottnest Island, IOTA OC-164, from May 25 to 28. Activity will be holiday style on 40 to 10 meters using CW and SSB. QSL to home call.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS, VP5. Operators K4BAI, K4QPL, KR4R and K2SX will be QRV as VP5/home calls from May 25 to June 1. They will be active as VP5M as a multi op entry in the upcoming CQ World Wide WPX CW contest. QSL via operators' instructions.

LATVIA, YL. Special event station YL21ICE is QRV until June 6 for the Ice Hockey World Championship to be held in Riga. Activity is from various locations and on 160 to 10 meters, including 30, 17 and 12 meters, and V/UHF bands, using CW, SSB, RTTY, FT8/4. QSL via LoTW.

ZIMBABWE, Z2. Peter, PA3CPI is now QRV as Z21DX and has been active on 20 meters using SSB between 1740 and 1800z. QSL to home call.

The OK1WC Memorial, QRP ARCI Hootowl CW Sprint and K1USN Slow Speed CW Test are scheduled for May 24.

The Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest and RTTYOPS Weeksprint are scheduled for May 25.

The CWops Mini CWT Test, SKCC CW Sprint and Phone Fray are scheduled for May 26.

Please see May QST, page 71, and the ARRL and WA7BNM contest web sites for details.

---

### ***ARRL Contest Corner***

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



## [Upcoming Hamfests](#)

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



### HAMFEST/CONVENTION

#### **06/05/2021 - FCARC SummerFest**

**Location:** Wauseon, OH

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Fulton County Amateur Radio Club

**Website:** <http://k8bxq.org/hamfest>

**Learn More**

### HAMFEST/CONVENTION

#### **07/10/2021 - Mansfield Mid-Summer Trunkfest**

**Location:** Mansfield, OH

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Intercity Amateur Radio Club

**Website:** <http://WWW.IARC.CLUB>

**Learn More**

### HAMFEST/CONVENTION

#### **07/17/2021 - NOARSFEST**

**Location:** Elyria, OH

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society

**Website:** <http://noars.net>

**Learn More**

### HAMFEST/CONVENTION

#### **07/18/2021 - Van Wert Hamfest**

**Location:** Van Wert, OH

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Van Wert Amateur Radio Club

**Website:** <http://W8FY.ORG>

**Learn More**

HAMFEST/CONVENTION  
**08/07/2021 - 2021 Columbus Hamfest**  
**Location:** Grove City, OH  
**Type:** ARRL Hamfest  
**Sponsor:** Aladdin Shrine Audio Unit  
**Website:** <http://columbushamfest.com>  
**Learn More**

HAMFEST/CONVENTION  
**08/28/2021 - Cincinnati Hamfest<sup>SM</sup>**  
**Location:** Owensville, OH  
**Type:** ARRL Hamfest  
**Sponsor:** Milford ARC  
**Website:** <http://CincinnatiHamfest.org>  
**Learn More**

HAMFEST/CONVENTION  
**09/26/2021 - Cleveland Hamfest**  
**Location:** Berea, OH  
**Type:** ARRL Hamfest  
**Sponsor:** Hamfest Association of Cleveland  
**Website:** <http://www.hac.org>  
**Learn More**

HAMFEST/CONVENTION  
**10/31/2021 - Massillon (Ohio) Hamfest**  
**Location:** Green, OH  
**Type:** ARRL Hamfest  
**Sponsor:** Massillon Amateur Radio Club  
**Website:** <http://w8np.org>  
**Learn More**

HAMFEST/CONVENTION  
**12/04/2021 - FCARC WinterFest**  
**Location:** Delta, OH  
**Type:** ARRL Hamfest  
**Sponsor:** Fulton County Amateur Radio Club  
**Website:** <http://k8bxq.org/hamfest>  
**Learn More**

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.

---

## Upcoming NIMS Training Opportunities

Need to get those really hard to get ICS 300 and 400 classes to get to Level 3? They are now being offered with very limited virtual seating. Yes, these classes are being offered virtually now along with a lot of other classes that used to require in-class sessions. Want to see what and where these classes are being offered?

[>> Click Here <<](#)

---

## 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](#)

[TOP^](#)

---

## One Question Questionnaire

Hey Gang,

For now, I’m not happy with the number of you who responded. Only 50 votes cast – not really significant for a group the size of ours. So, I’m going to keep the same question up there:



***“Are You Happy About the Mask Mandates Being Rescinded?”***

Please, no stuffing the ballot box, but, if you haven’t voiced your opinion, please let us know, and make sure your other “HAM” friends cast their opinion too!

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

---

## 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>



---

## From The South 40

(from John Levo, [W8KIW@arrl.net](mailto:W8KIW@arrl.net))



# The South Forty

Last time we visited the Athens County ARC and had a great time learning the history of one of the oldest amateur clubs in Southern Ohio. Again, thanks to the great members there who shared their stories and history with us.



Today's adventure finds us visiting another Athens County amateur radio club, the Sunday Creek Amateur Radio Federation. The club is named after a Hocking River tributary that flows through northeastern Athens and Hocking Counties. It's said it was named when early settlers to the region found it on a Sunday.

Founding member Russell Ellis, N8MWK, says he and other amateurs from the Nelsonville/Glouster area decided to found the club in March 1993. Since that time the club membership has grown to include several hams in area counties who enjoy being on the air and having contacts with others who enjoy 'collecting counties'. The Club is a small but diverse group with some enjoying digital communications, HF and VHF DXing, repeaters, satellites and contesting. During the Ohio State Parks Contest and the Ohio QSO Party you can count on SCARF members activating Burr Oak State Park and Hocking and Athens Counties. Ellis served for many years as the club president and is the current secretary. His chief interest is DXing and lacks only 6 for the DX Honor Roll and only 58 from meeting that goal on 10 meters. The Sunday Creek ARF is well known for sponsoring the annual Nelsonville January hamfest. It's possibly Ohio's first hamfest of each new year and is well attended by hundreds of hams looking for a cure to cabin fever. The Club's KC8AAV call sign is on two repeaters. One is the 147.225 machine in Glouster and the other is on 147.15 in the Athens area. SCARF has recently been co-sponsoring license testing sessions with the Athens County ARA.

After thanking Russ for his club history lesson, we now turn our attention to learning a bit about the neighboring Hocking Valley ARA. But in the meantime let's take a look at some of the things happening in the South 40.

On Monday the Cincinnati Enquirer reprinted a Columbus Dispatch article about the least attended of Ohio's State Parks. The article also pointed out that Ohio is one of only seven states that do not charge admission fees. Three of the six listed are South of US 40-but one just by a few miles. Perhaps what might be the least visited is the Sycamore State Park near Trotwood in Montgomery County. The Blue Rock State Park is just South of Zanesville and the Forked Run State Park is near the Ohio River in Meigs County. Although the Cambridge ARA is considering activating Blue Rock for the Ohio State Parks Contest, the other two may present some interesting activation consideration especially if you don't want bothered by crowds.

Welcome to the area's newest known ham. The South 40 wants to congratulate Ross County's Kenneth Daniels of Frankfort on earning his Technician license. He now bears the KE8SAY call sign. At the same time Ross County gained a new ham, the June QST reported the passing of one. According to the Silent Key column, Willard "Skip" Long, WD8CPW, from Chillicothe recently passed away.

Adams County has a new ham. He is Ralph Begley, Jr. of Blue Creek and has earned his Technician License and KE8SCW call sign.

We wish to also acknowledge the following who have changed their call signs in the last couple of weeks: Steve Frazier of Washington CH was KE8RVK and is now K8SEF and Chris Osborne from the Sinking Spring/Peebles area who was KE8RVJ is now K8CAO. Years ago Joe Holdren was WD8ADU and he has been able to reclaim that call sign. Joe was KE8RVL. Congrats and best wishes to all.

Proctorville's Mark and Teresa Killen (KD8QIG and KD8QIH) recently celebrated their daughter Ashton's graduation from Morehead State with a graduation party at the West Virginia Museum of Radio and Technology in Huntington. This was a very appropriate setting for the joyous occasion as Ashton is KD8QII and was active in the Morehead University ARC during her time on campus. The Killen Family is active in the activities of the Tri-State ARA. Best wishes to Ashton on this exciting time in her life.

Information from Jennifer Bailey, N8JEN, reminds us of the upcoming Lawrence County Ironton Memorial Day parade on May 31 at 10 am. The parade is recognized as the oldest continuing Memorial Day parade in the nation beginning in 1868. The Southern Ohio ARA and Portsmouth RC have provided communications for the parade for many years and this year is no exception. Anyone interested in assisting is urged to contact club officials for more information.

Milford ARC Club President Ron Brooks, AC8MA, announces the Highland Amateur Radio Association has been asked and agreed to conduct license testing at the August 28 MARC sponsored Cincinnati Hamfest. He states HARA will give all elements. Information is now available at [www.CincinnatiHamfest.org](http://www.CincinnatiHamfest.org).

The Portsmouth Radio Club has been invited to assist with communications for the upcoming Southern Ohio Forest Rally on June 11 and 12.

On June 17 the Athens County ARA will conduct a full scale LEPC on June 17. It will begin at 8 am with the exercise beginning at 9. Things should be over by noon with the full wrap up by 2. This will be the first test of



the new ham station at the EMA Center. Six to eight members will be required for the exercise. If you are able to assist please contact Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ.

It's hard to believe that Field Day is just a bit over a month away. But several Southern Ohio clubs are in the early planning stages. Based on comments it appears the Athens County ARA has received approval to operate from the Fairgrounds in Athens. Now that the pandemic concerns are easing, the Portsmouth RC thinks their past FD site at the Mound Park will be available to them. The Highland ARA will hold a planning breakfast in New Vienna on June 12 prior to a site preparation visit to their New Vienna site. The Cambridge ARA will journey to Muskingum County where they will operate from the Highland Township Grove Park near New Concord. The Queen City Emergency Net will not be at the Red Cross but at the W8VND Field Station site. The ARRL's Field Day Site Locator Map is a great tool to locate nearby FD locations with. From that [www.arrl.org/field-day-locator](http://www.arrl.org/field-day-locator) site it was learned the Southwest Columbus HRC will operate WB8MMR from Deer Creek State Park. Other clubs planning operations are urged to send your plans to me at [jlevo@cinci.rr.com](mailto:jlevo@cinci.rr.com) for inclusion in upcoming columns.

Unfortunately Greg Osborne, AI4HA, has decided to retire from ham radio. Thus he is placing his Kenwood TS2000 transceiver and other items up for sale. Anyone wishing to know what is available should contact him at 740-656-1586 or at [ai4ha@me.com](mailto:ai4ha@me.com). Greg is located in the Chillicothe area.

The Highland ARA just came off a very busy week. On Saturday the Club was presented with the ARRL Special Service designation by Section Manager Tom Sly, WB8LCD, and Great Lakes Vice Director Scott Yonally, N8SY. Also at the presentation were HamVention General Chairman, Rick Allnutt, and Official Spokesman Michael Kalter, W8CI. Tuesday saw many new hams joined by older hams for an Elmer session devoted to HF, UHF and VHF antennas and the associated components to have an effective antenna system. It was a learning experience for all who attended with a lot of good information and operating tips exchanged and questions answered. Approximately 20 different antenna brands and types were displayed and discussed at this hands on opportunity. Then on Friday several members met at the Hillsboro Cemetery to assist the Cemetery Board with preparing the grounds for Memorial Day by placing flags on the graves of the 1,000 veterans who are buried there.

Bud Cyr, KB8KMH, informs us that Tri-State ARA member Bob Ripley presented an interesting program on the Nano VNA at the club's meeting this past Tuesday evening. He also lets us know there are six seats remaining for the club's June 12 license examination. It begins at 9 am that morning at the Radio and Technology Museum in Huntington, WV.

Things are progressing nicely for the upcoming W8DXCC Convention being held in conjunction with the Cincinnati Hamfest on August 28. According to the Southwest Ohio DX Association's Bill Salyer, AJ8B, the event will be held from 1 until 4 following the conclusion of the Hamfest at noon. Admission will be \$8 with some nice radios awarded as attendance prizes. A number of well-known amateurs have already confirmed their intent to give presentations. So get that date inked in on your calendar and plan to attend what promises to be another great event filled with a lot of information for not only new hams, but "old timers".

I had intended a stop in Hocking County to get some information about the Hocking Valley ARA. However I decided to take a rain check and return to the home QTH to participate in the weekend HamVention activities. I don't know about others, but I'm having a serious case of "hamfest withdraw" and the Huntsville and Cincinnati Hamfests and W8DXCC events can't get here soon enough. However the planned HamVention virtual seminars

and the QSO Party might ease the pain a bit. So until next time when we can catch up with our Hocking County friends, keep safe, healthy and radio-active.

---

## *Final... Final*



I am going to start here by asking you all to enjoy the Memorial Day weekend coming up. This is not the time for fireworks and celebration, this is a time to thoughtfully reflect on all of those who have given their support, and many their lives, for the sake of, and the continued FREEDOMS offered here in the United States of America. For those of you who have served, or are currently serving in the US Military, you have my utmost respect and thanks. For those of you who have, or are currently, serving in any other capacity, thank you also. The attitude of service to others is one of the things that truly makes America the Greatest country that has ever existed on this earth!

Field Day is getting close. Please, if you are planning on operating with your club make sure you get your Field Day location listed on the ARRL Website [Field Day Station Locator \(arrl.org\)](http://www.arrl.org/Field-Day-Station-Locator). Not only will that make it easier for folks in your community to find you, it'll make it easier for ME to find you! I'm trying to arrange a travel plan that will get me out to see as many of you as possible. It's looking like it's going to be a long night! This week I have a generic Field Day Press Release that I am going to shotgun to as many media outlets across the state that I can find! In next week's PostScript I'll have a sample press release that your club can use with your local media to publicize *your* Field Day operation. Let's get the word out there! And, if that's not enough, after Field Day is over let's blanket the media a second time to let them know what we accomplished. As I have been saying, one of my three goals for my tenure as Section Manager is to improve and expand the public image and awareness of Amateur Radio in Ohio!

For those of you who haven't heard, my three main goals for the Ohio Section are as follows:

1. I want every ham in the Ohio Section to get involved and have more FUN with their hobby than they ever thought possible! One of the most interesting things about Ham Radio is how many different ways there are to have FUN. If you're having fun, you'll be fully engaged and it will be contagious.
  2. I want every citizen of the State of Ohio to be aware that YES – Amateur Radio still exists and it's as much fun and more exciting than ever. I also want every citizen in the State of Ohio to view Amateur Radio Operators in a positive manner, and as people who engage in their hobby with passion, a sense of service to their community, and as a group with a special bond of friendship and fraternalism.
  3. I want to see the hobby grow. New Hams, and new ARRL members. There is strength in numbers!
- All three of these goals work together. Each one supports the other two. I hope that you will support me in this.

With summertime quickly approaching, and the pandemic subsiding, we will probably see an uptick of service opportunities with run-a-thons, bike-a-thons and whatever other “thons” there are out there. As we volunteer at these events, we are the “face” of Ham Radio to the public we come into contact with. We need to be aware of

how we present ourselves. Our appearance and our actions will create the “image” of Ham Radio in the minds of those who come in contact with us. This includes not only the public at large, but new hams who have recently joined us. Make sure *everyone* gets to know what a great group of people we are.

My thanks and appreciation go out to everyone involved with the Ohio Section Journal and PostScript. Your updates and articles make them way more interesting than anything I could do on my own. If you’re reading this and think you might have a good idea for an article, write it out and send it in! In my 50+ years as a Ham, I’ve found that most of my growth in the hobby has come from hearing about what others are doing.

That’s it for me this month. Get on the air, build something, try something new! Have fun and let me know what you’re doing.

73, de Tom WB8LCD ARRL OH Section Manager  
[WB8LCD@ARRL.ORG](mailto: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@arrloho.org](mailto:swap@arrloho.org)

---

## Welcome New Subscriber(s)



---

## 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 Luscre, 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](mailto: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!!"



---

**Stop... We'll be back next week with another exciting adventure for your reading pleasure!**

---

*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!*