



*Ohio
Section
Journal* **May 2024**

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***From the Technical
Coordinator***

Jeff Kopcak – K8JTK TC
K8JTK@arrl.net

Hey gang,
One thing that has kept me busy this year is work. We've been traveling for deployments and other work projects. Pilot sites get someone onsite to make sure the transition goes (relatively) smoothly. In addition, cutovers for other sites and other systems have been occurring off hours - early mornings or late at night. One of the perks of traveling for work is the ability to extend a trip using personal time.



The first trip was an M&A (merger and acquisition) in East Hartford, Connecticut last March. One reason I wanted to extend this trip was because East Hartford is about 15 minutes away from Newington - otherwise known as the location of ARRL HQ.

I like to drive and this was a drive at 9 hours. It ended up being more like 10 or 11 with stops and detours. Extending this trip, partially because of ham radio, and getting to drive means I take a lot more ham radio stuff. I put on music and will switch off listening to VHF & UHF. I have an ICOM IC-2820 radio with a homemade cigarette lighter power cable. Using the cigarette lighter (now called an accessory port) is more than good enough to power the radio especially when listening more than transmitting. Since this wasn't my car, the install has to be very temporary. Most accessory ports are fused at 10A. That limits me to low or medium transmit power. Low power (5W) draws 4A and medium power (15W) is about 7A (a little less on 2m). No reports of alternator whine either.

I know there are those who make lists of repeaters when traveling. With electronic sources such as [RFinder](#) and [RepeaterBook](#), it's easier more than ever to import repeater data into radio programming software. The Travel search in RepeaterBook makes it even easier by selecting a travel route or highway. A problem with that feature is the repeater owner or a contributor to RB have to tag a repeater as being accessible on or from a particular route. I-80, which I traveled



through most of Pennsylvania, only lists 25-2m/440 repeaters end-to-end. I traveled 270 miles of I-80 in PA. That seems low.

Instead, I use band scan memories or scan edge memories. To me, it's easier than making banks of repeaters for different cities along the way. Scan edges are memories available on most modern radios. Set the start and end frequency and the radio scans frequencies in-between, stopping on any signals received. Once it hits the end frequency, returns back to the start frequency and begins scanning again. These memories are often notated as "xA/xB," "xL/xU," or similar memory locations noting beginning and ending frequencies respectively.

The 2820 is capable of dual-band operation with two receive frequencies at one time. On the left side of the radio, I had a scan starting with 144.000 and ending at 148.000, which covers the 2m ham band. On the right side was 440.000 – 450.000 for the 70cm ham band. The "step" setting determines frequency increments. 15.0 kHz step starting on 144.000 will then scan 144.015, 144.030, 144.045, and so on. A step of 5.0 kHz starting on 144.000 will then scan 144.005, 144.010, 144.015, etc. Most 2m ham band repeater plans are 15 kHz and 25 kHz on 440. I stick to those as my step settings.



W1AW digital equipment

Rack 1: APRS/D-STAR/HF MARS. Rack 2: Demo. Rack 3: Echolink & Winlink. Rack 4: IRLP

Setting the step to 5 kHz catches more transmissions in cases where a repeater might be coordinated on a non-standard frequency or simplex conversation had on a weird frequency. It does take much longer to scan and the radio will stop on much more interference from the car or other near-by transmitters. Not worth it to me setting such a small step value.

In this day and age, noise will be an issue and the scan will stop frequently. Stopping frequently can

be further reduced by turning up the squelch or attenuator, but you'll miss weaker signals. Some radios have a 'skip' (sometimes called "lock-out") function that will skip over problematic frequencies. I use the radio's "scan resume conditions" to resume scanning 10-seconds after arriving on a signal. This is nice so I don't have to keep messing around with the radio while driving. If there is an interesting conversation, it's one button to stop the scan to remain on that frequency.

Before someone says 'you should have flown,' a co-worker did fly out of Cleveland. Since there are no direct flights to Connecticut, he flew from CLE to ORD (Chicago) then onto Connecticut. With layovers and delays, he left the same time I did from Cleveland and arrived only an hour sooner than I did. If I would have cut out my own detours made in New York, probably would have beat him there.

Unfortunately, this was a grueling trip. Driving wasn't really bad until I got to Scranton, PA, but it was still a lot of driving. We were on site Friday through Tuesday, working 10-to-12-hour days. Didn't do much operating on the front end of this trip. Once we ate and got back to our rooms, it was time to get some sleep and do it all again the next day. We got it done, though. Left the site Tuesday a little after 2pm and tried to catchup on rest. I planned a ARRL HQ visit the next day, Wednesday, March 20th.

I took a bunch of pictures outside of the towers and arrays. Apparently, they don't give tours of HQ anymore (except [virtually](#)). I was pretty disappointed. When they did give tours, you could see things such as the ARRL Lab, testing equipment, ham radio archives, and outgoing QSL Bureau. Not to be had this time. Headquarters lobby and bookstore were open and the only parts accessible.

On my last visit with the family, by the time we got to the [visitor's station - W1AW](#), storms were on their way in. I made calls on HF but made zero QSO's before NJ1Q had to shut down the station. Being one of my first few times on HF was really bummed not to make any QSO's and

learn how things worked. A year after that trip, I got an HF station setup at the home QTH - which my dad had a big hand in setting up.

This time was quite different. No storms to worry about. I had over an hour – probably an hour and a half – operating as W1AW in Studio 3 with a Yaesu FTDX9000D, Heil Microphone, and Alpha 9500 amp running about 600 watts. I don't remember which antenna/array they had be working on. Operated mostly on the upper part of 20 meters, around



Studio 3 operating positions. I operated as W1AW from the station at left.

14.290. Changed frequencies once or twice to avoid other stations that were coming up out of the noise. Had a great path into Ohio as I worked many stations from the Section. Those in Northeast Ohio informed me I missed the two inches of snow. Dodged that bullet.

Unfortunately, didn't note exactly how many contacts I made. I had 40+ contacts after an hour, probably 50 or so QSOs in total. If you happened to make contact, QSL cards are available direct to the ARRL HQ mailing address.

I had such a good time operating that I stuck around even longer and talked with Joe, NJ1Q – Station Manager and Trustee. Fascinating person to talk to. He had finished testing, fixing, and was packing a portable station for a school contact with the ISS in Colorado. Spoke to him about their digital setup including Winlink station. I've previously used W1AW on HF to exchange messages from the home QTH. "It must be working," said Joe. It sure is. Wish I had their racks of digital equipment in my shack and towers in my backyard. He also gave me some tips for things to try with some issues I am having. A veritable fountain of wisdom.

For being at the visitor's station, you now receive a certificate for either visiting or operating. Remember to bring a copy of your valid amateur license in order to operate. The certificate was something carried on since the centennial 10 years ago. I didn't receive one on my last visit. We figured out it had been 11 years (2013) since my last W1AW visit and certificates started just after that.

The remainder of that trip was non-ham radio activities. One of the wide-area linked repeater systems with 10 sites had a pretty bad hum. The owner and some users were trying to track it down. I don't own a repeater but it is a thankless job.



Snapshot from video I took - near the end of totality, 4/8/2024

Couple weeks later, I was in Waco, TX. Since I was flying, I took the IC-91AD HT with me but didn't have much time to use it. I take hardly any ham equipment when I fly because I don't want to deal with TSA.

Waco was in the path of totality for the April 8th Eclipse. I thought about extending the stay but decided against it. Good decision because they had storms. Contacts at the site wanted to see my pictures from Ohio because it turned out to be a crummy day for them. I also

heard car rentals were up around \$600/day in Dallas.

Speaking of the Eclipse, I took the day off and contributed to HamSCI by transmitting and uploading spots for [WSPR](#). I had to make preparations to get my camera setup and had family coming over. Since I wasn't seeing many special event stations on the DX Cluster in the morning, left the radio to do WSPR spotting. Maybe HamSCI will be at Dayton/Hamvention and I'll talk to them about the data gathered from Ham Radio stations.

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

From the Section Emergency Coordinator

Bret Stemen – KD8SCL EC

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Solar Eclipse

WOW! What a day the staff of the SARGE (W8SGT) had at the state EOC. The SARGE started operations at about 09:30 with partial staffing and additional staff arrived at a later time and closed down operations at 18:30. As soon as we started up the radios and announced that we were on the air, we started to receive sit-reps from multiple counties via voice (HF, VHF & UHF) and digital modes which included FIDigi, WinLink and DMR. The State EOC was very active leading up to and after the eclipse.

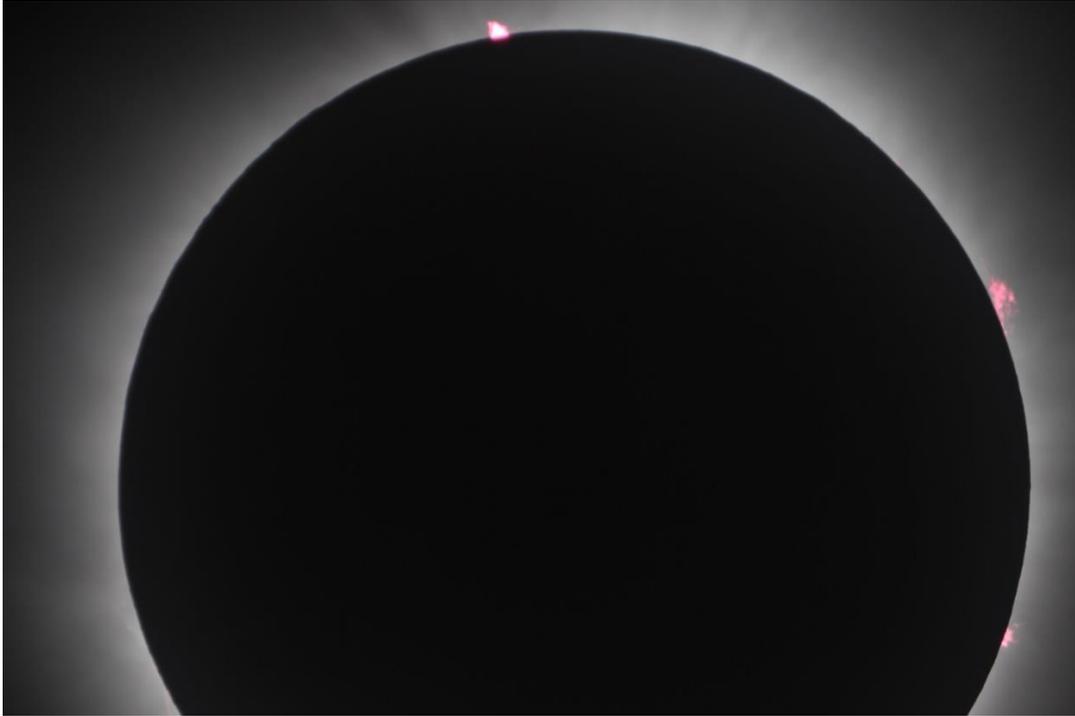




The Ohio EOC activation during the 2024 Solar Eclipse. Picture provide by Beau Pineda, KD8FVV.

When the eclipse started, a couple of us were able to go outside to view the eclipse while the SARGE remained staffed along several of the EOC staff members. Mother Nature put on an impressive show for to enjoy and thanks to the Ohio EMA for providing us with solar glasses.





Solar Eclipse pictures provided Dominic Hord, AD8AK EC Hancock Co.

The EOC was monitoring traffic on the main highways in key areas, weather and the timing of the eclipse as well as radio traffic from the Ohio Highway Patrol, various county LE's and ODOT to name a few. The staff of the SARGE had identified a couple of keys that needs to be addressed as far as communications are concerned and we are currently looking into those areas at this time.

Training

The ARRL has started to release the latest EmComm courses. As of right now, only the Basic EmComm has been released and can be found here. <https://www.arrl.org/online-course-catalog> and the Intermediate EmComm course is expected to be released soon and the Advanced EmComm course is expected to be released by mid-summer.

Hamfests

There are plenty of Hamfests happening through the state including Hamvention. There is still plenty of time to attend one in your area, I am trying to attend as many as possible in my free time.

I am excited to be attending Hamvention again this year and helping to staff the ARRL ARES booth this year. The ARRL will be holding the National Convention at Hamvention this year, there will be plenty of forums to attend. Did you know that there's an app for that? All you have to do is to go to the app store and do a search for "ARRL Events" and there are several things you are able to do on the app. Be sure to stop the ARRL ARES and The Great Lakes Division booths and say hello, we would enjoy meeting and talking with you for a few minutes.

I sincerely appreciate all you do for your neighbors, and for the Ohio Section!

Elizabeth Klinc, KE8FMJ
OHIO Section Public Information Coordinator
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Next, we will focus on the News Release. News (or Press) Releases are your official written statements that are released to the news media. Reporters appreciate them because the facts are right there in print. PIOs appreciate them because reporters are less likely to get the facts wrong. And if they do get it wrong, PIOs can point them back to the news release to show them where they strayed.

An excerpt from the ARRL [PIO Handbook](#):

Getting Started

News Releases (or Press Releases) are the most common ways of communicating information about our activities to the public and, fortunately, they are the easiest to master.

Newspapers are the most accessible of all the different types of media available to us; the best way to get your story into print in a newspaper is to do part or all of the editor's work for him or her.

A newspaper's resources may be limited in the sense that reporters are not always available to cover every story. Plus, no reporter is an expert in every field of human endeavor. Particularly in cases like ours, where many of the stories are a bit esoteric, editors tire quickly of callers with lengthy explanations about their "news." Many also conclude quickly, perhaps too quickly, that if the story is all that complicated, the paper's readers will not be that interested.

News releases help solve these problems and, even more importantly, they help to assure that your story will be told the way you would like it to be told. But if you've never written a news release, where do you begin?

The first thing students learn in a basic journalism class is the "five Ws," Who, What, When, Where, Why. Simple as they sound, just as they comprise the basic elements of a news story, they also form the foundation of an effective news release. The facts are key to an effective release.

Styles vary for different types of news releases. Remember to target your message to the media. Local newspapers will often carry announcements of activities, meeting dates and

the like. Radio and TV are more dynamic and interested in "breaking news" or human interest stories that appeal to a broad audience. As we are looking at a "basic" release, let's concentrate on a release for a local newspaper.

Structure

The news release consists of four parts: 1) the **heading**; 2) the **opening** sentence or paragraph; 3) the **body** of the story and; 4) the **press contact**.

The **heading** should simply communicate to the editor that the paper or papers he is holding constitute a news release, so the words, "News Release" should appear right at the top of the first page. (Incidentally, whether you prepare your release on plain paper, on a club letterhead or your personal stationery is not important. But if it's not on club letterhead, be sure to indicate your title, which lets the editor know you're in a position to be issuing a news release on behalf of the organization).

You might follow that up with information on when it would be appropriate for the editor to use your release. Depending on the circumstances, you could say "For Immediate Release" or "For Release on (Date)."

You should give the news release a title which the editor might decide to use as the headline for your story, for example, "**AMATEUR RADIO CLUB ELECTS OFFICERS**" A dynamic title with a good "hook" can improve the chances of your story getting published. The sample above could also say, "**HAMRAD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB ELECTS FIRST FEMALE PRESIDENT**".

The **opening** sentence or paragraph (also known as the lead) is the most important part of the news release because this is where you must catch the editor's (and the reader's) attention. Get this part right and the rest of the story will write itself. Let's give you an example and then work backwards to explain this:

"At its annual reorganization meeting on June 1 at the Hilton Fire House, the Hamrad Amateur Radio Club elected new officers for 2004-05 and for the first time, elected a woman to lead the organization."

This sets out the "meat" of the story and tells the reader what he can expect as he reads further. It tells "What," the annual meeting of the Hamrad club; "When," on June 1; and "Who," that it elected new officers. It also provides a "hook," the fact that the group elected its first female president.

In the **body** of the story, you need to finish up your "Five Ws" and begin to deal with these in more detail. For example:

The Hamrad club, comprising over 80 federally-licensed Amateur Radio operators in and around

Amok County, elected Ann Tenna, president; Farad Aye, vice president; Iona Sphere, treasurer; and Mike Rochip, secretary.

All of the club's new officers are residents of Amok County and its members are active in the county American Red Cross disaster service.

Incoming president Tenna said on Tuesday that she expects to continue the club's commitment to providing radio emergency communications to Red Cross.

In the first paragraph of our story, we name the Who's and Where's while the second and third paragraphs elaborate and cover some of the Why. The story covers the event – the club's election of officers -and provides an opportunity for us to tie in what happened with some human interest and public service angles.

Finally, the press contact is an easy but too often forgotten ending. [The contact can also be listed at the top of the release]. It goes something like this:

"For Further Information, please contact Clark Kent, Hamrad Amateur Radio Club, 1234 Metropolis Street, Amok City. Telephone 555-5678."

The purpose, obviously, is to let the editor know whom he should contact for more information. A less well understood reason to include this information is so the editor will be able to check the authenticity of his source. Few editors will publish a story without being able to verify that the source of the story provided is reliable and that the information involved is accurate.

Well, there you have it, a complete how-to guide to writing a news release. As you can see, there is nothing mysterious about this, there are no skills you don't already have and it is all really pretty simple.

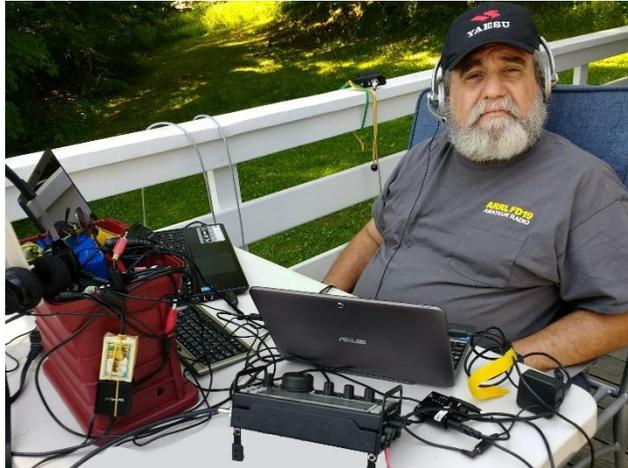
Elizabeth Klinc, KE8FMJ AUXC

OHIO Section Public Information Coordinator
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ARRL - The National Association For Amateur Radio™

From the Section Youth Coordinator
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Just-In-Time Training for June Activities

Beware Homework Ahead

Warning: This article contains many reading materials, resources, videos, etc. You might also find yourself busy on the air during the upcoming weeks. It might even become a habit and get you on the air often. Side effects might include POTA, SOTA, Contesting, Portable Operations, Roving and more!



June Operating Opportunities

Many of you who read my articles or attend my presentations know I love a twofer. In my case, a twofer is “an action that accomplishes two goals but requires only one action.” What is better than a twofer? A Threefer, of course! So this month, I present ideas for June activities that can accomplish three things:

1. Get youth on the air
2. Get Technician Licensees on the air
3. Get inactive hams of any license class on the air

I will focus on two events that can help accomplish all of these goals and provide some just-in-time training to help even newcomers. The two activities are the following:

1. [ARRL June VHF Contest](#) - June 9 & 10
2. [ARRL Field Day](#)- June 22 & 23

VHF/UHF Bands

When someone says VHF or UHF, many of us only think of 2M/70cm Repeaters, but there is so much more available. First, remember that Technicians (the beginner license in Amateur Radio) have full privileges on all bands from 50 MHz (6 Meters) and above! These bands can be used for simplex FM, SSB activity, Satellite communication, Digital modes (FT8/FT4) and more. Also, with the majority of youth operators having Tech licenses, this all applies to them. The ARRL June VHF Contest is obviously an activity that includes this, but Field Day also has two major activities: a VHF station that does not count toward the total number of transmitters and bonus points for satellite contacts.

But, Anthony, I Don't Have the Equipment to Operate These VHF Modes

You might be surprised that you already have radios to work many of these modes, or you may be able to borrow equipment from your local club or a friend. If you want to buy equipment, there are many options, including some reasonably priced new radios or used bargains. Below is a chart I have put together on what you can do in VHF Contests with different types of radios. As you can see, even an FM-only HT can be used to make simplex FM contacts in a contest. A dual-band FM-only HT can be used to make contacts on LEO (Low Earth Orbit) FM Satellites. Going with an FM-only mobile will give you the same capabilities plus more power as an HT. FM Simplex contacts are not as common as other modes in the ARRL VHF contests, but with a little effort and a good antenna (ditch the rubber duck for a better, longer and higher antenna (more on this later), you can make contest contacts. Most contacts in VHF contests have traditionally been SSB, but FT8 & FT4 have recently claimed a significant share. **You will need a radio capable of SSB for either mode.**

If you have...	You can do ___ in VHF Contests									
	6 M SSB	6 M FT8/FT4	2 M SSB	2 M FT8/FT4	430 SSB	430 FT8/FT4	2 M FM	440 FM	LEO FM Satellites	SSB/CW Satellites
A recent HF Radio , most also have 6 Meters. Current models include Icom 7300; Yaesu FT-10dx or 710; Kenwood TS-590; Elecraft K3 or KX3; Xiegu X5105 or X6100 and more. Plus many other <20 year old HF radios.	✓	✓								
An HF plus VHF/UHF Radio . Includes- Icom 705, 7100 or 9100; Yaesu FT-991/991A; Kenwood TS-2000. Older radios include Icom 746, 706 Mark II G & 7000; Yaesu FT-818/817, FT-857 or FT-897	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
A VHF/UHF Only Multimode Radio including Icom 9700 and older Icom 820, 910, 970, etc. Older single or dual band multimodes from a variety of manufacturers			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
A VHF/UHF FM Only Radio including HTs or Mobiles (something most hams already have)							✓	✓	✓	

VHF/UHF Radios	Available Radios	Possible Radios	Modes you can work	Possible QSOs
FM Only	Widely available, inexpensive	Wide variety Mobile FM	FM Only	Limited
Multimode VHF/UHF Only	Current production radios-limited models available	ICOM IC-9700	SSB, CW, FM & Digital (FT8/FT4)	All available
	Number of discontinued/used radios also available	See SS tiny.cc/buyar-ss tab-VHF Multimode	SSB, CW & FM only Digital (FT8/FT4) will require addition of an external soundcard	
HF plus VHF/UHF	Current production radios-limited models available	Yaesu FT-991A, ICOM IC-7100 & ICOM IC-705(Q)	SSB, CW, FM & Digital (FT8/FT4)	
	Number of discontinued/used radios also available	See SS tiny.cc/buyar-ss tab-HF/VHF Combos	SSB, CW & FM only Digital (FT8/FT4) will require addition of an external soundcard	

How to Operate These VHF Contests/Activities



**GOTA with Your
Tech License
in ARRL June
VHF Contest**
Anthony Luscre, K8ZT

“Introduction to VHF Contesting”

- Slideshow- tiny.cc/vhf-contest
- Video- tiny.cc/gotavhf-v

Here is a quick startup guide.

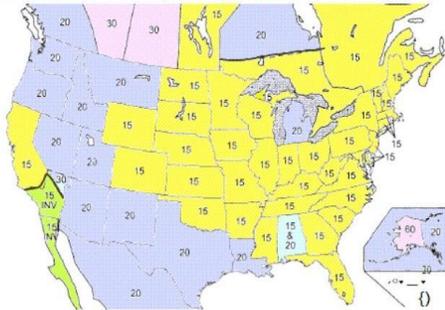
1. Check the contest calendar for detailed rules on individual contests, including date, time, exchange and categories.
2. Know your exchange! In most VHF contests, this is your 4-digit Grid Square (here is information on Grid Square and how to find yours- tiny.cc/findexc).
3. Decide if you want to operate from home or a portable location.
 - a. If you have antenna restrictions at home, your home is in a low spot in terrain, etc., consider a portable location. For more info on portable operations- tiny.cc/portop.
4. Setup antennas
 - a. Gain antennas are usually used on VHF/UHF, typically beams, but you can get away with even a simple dipole on 6 Meters.

- b. SSB/Digital operators typically use horizontally oriented antennas, and FM operators use vertical orientation. Although you will have a significant signal loss, you can still make contacts with the opposite orientation.
 - c. Even a simple 2M/440 fiberglass vertical up and in the clear can make contacts on SSB or Digital in a pinch.
 - d. Use low loss and short runs of coax to the antenna(s).
 - e. For more information on antennas- tiny.cc/portant.
5. Setup your station
- a. Make things easy to use. For example, a boom headset and foot switch for SSB can be beneficial to keep hands free for logging.
 - b. Use a computer for logging. I suggest either *NIMM* or *N3FJP* contest logging software.
 - c. If using FT8/FT4, set up the computer and radio to operate
 - i. See tiny.cc/ft8ft4 and www.youtube.com/watch?v=0m9zV6jjb78
 - ii. Set WSJT-X “Special Modes” to “NA VHF” or “FD.”
 - iii. If you are only using FT8/FT4, you do not need other logging software, as you can easily export your log after the contest.
6. Operating
- a. Keep contacts short and quick
 - b. Use standard NATO Phonetics on SSB/Phone
 - c. Understand “QSYing”
 - i. The other station might ask what other bands you are operating and then ask you to QSY (move) to a specific frequency on that band.
- d. Frequencies
- i. Follow band guidelines for operating frequencies for specific modes
 - ii. If operating FM
 - 1. You cannot use repeaters; all contacts must be simplex
 - 2. Most contacts exclude operation on national calling frequency (i.e., 146.520 on 2 Meters)
 - iii. Use other designated calling frequencies

● FM Simplex Frequencies

- Different suggested channel spacing by state

2 M Channel Spacing- 15 kHz vs. 20 kHz



15	146.400	146.505	147.405	147.510
	146.415	146.520	147.420	147.525
	146.430	146.535	147.435	147.540
	146.445	146.550	147.450	147.555
	146.460	146.565	147.465	147.570
	146.475	146.580	147.480	147.585
	146.490	146.595	147.495	
20	146.400	146.500	147.400	147.500
	146.420	146.520	147.420	147.520
	146.440	146.540	147.440	147.540
	146.460	146.560	147.460	147.560
	146.480	146.580	147.480	147.580
	* Same	146.600	* National Calling Freq	

iv. SSB- The standard SSB calling frequencies are:

1. 50.125 MHz
2. 144.200 MHz
3. 432.100 MHz

As usual, I have some homework for you with more help to get you started:

- **“Beginners Introduction to VHF Operations”**-Co-presenters Marty Woll, N6VI and Anthony Luscre, K8ZT, present a series of three sessions covering almost all aspects of getting on VHF/UHF for new hams. The sessions are recorded for viewing:
 1. **Week 1-** youtu.be/mUXQg_9cDPU
 2. **Week 2-** youtu.be/23mBr3wMqxs
 3. **Week 3-** youtu.be/wiGISL1E0b8
 4. **Week 4-** youtu.be/1CEzFauXmJI
 - A **slideshow** from the presentations, including clickable links and resources, is available at tiny.cc/bgvhf.
- **“Introduction to VHF Contesting”**
 - Slideshow- tiny.cc/vhf-contest
 - Video- tiny.cc/gotavhf-v
- **“Introduction to AR Contesting”**
 - Video- <https://youtu.be/-n5CLG0I1Yw>
 - Slideshow- tiny.cc/arcontest
- **“Technicians, Life Beyond Repeaters”**
 - Video- <https://youtu.be/-m8tOFBYl4E>

- Slideshow- tiny.cc/btech
- From K0NR- *“How to Work A VHF Contest”*
- From K5ND- *“VHF Contesting Resources”*
- From VE3SMA *“A VHF Contest Primer”*
- From Pacific Northwest VHF- *“FM Contesting”*

Annual FD Update with N6VI & K8ZT

Join Marty, N6VI, and me for a live Zoom session and Q&A on Thursday, May 23rd at 7 PM Eastern Time. Zoom link at www.ratpac.us/zoom

Field Day Resources for Operating, Youth & Public Outreach



You can get bonus points for including youth in your FD operations by providing educational activities and public information. After doing dozens of public events, student events and community events over the years, I have developed a few techniques to make things run smoother, avoiding running out of or over-printing paper resources, the high cost of color printing or the lingering fear that no one even bothered to read them. Here are my tips:

- For each resource you create
 - You can upload a version of the document to an online public sharing site (Google Docs, Dropbox, One Drive, etc.).
 - Share the document and get the link
 - Use this link to create a shortened URL and QR code for each document
 - Use your favorite URL shortening site.
 - I like tiny.cc as it lets me choose custom URLs and generates QR codes. It also allows me to track the number of future views of each document over time to see if they are downloaded.

- Add the shortened URL and QR code to your shared documents
 - Instead of printing dozens of paper handouts, print one large size (typically 11 x 17” or 8.5 x 11”) copy with the included QR code and shortened URL on them. I then laminate these to resist wet weather, multiple people handling them, etc.
 - I post one or more copies of each of these resources at public/education tables.
- In addition to handouts, consider hands-on activities, make-it-yourself items, and how-to articles for guests to use at home later.
 - My tiny.cc/freerx handout is an example that provides a how-to guide to use online SDR receivers at home after the event to encourage interest in HF radio, Ham Radio and SWLing.
 - The Morse Code handout (tiny.cc/mcinfo) includes a simple Morse decoding tree for receiving, a list of character Morse equivalents for sending, a link to build your own \$2 Clothespin Key and even a Phonetic Alphabet list.
 - Hands-on activities can include:
 - Making the clothespin keys to use and take home
 - Mini Fox hunts
 - A Field Day site scavenger hunt
 - Trivia Quizzes, Geography Trivia, etc.

Here are a few resources to aid your FD Operations

- ARRL Sections, sorted by number and alpha- tiny.cc/arrl-sections
- ARRL/RAC Sections [Map](#)

1	Connecticut	CT	2	Eastern New York	ENY	Common Q Signals			
	Eastern Massachusetts	EMA		New York City - Long Island	NLI	QRL	Is this frequency busy?		
	Maine	ME		Northern New Jersey	NNJ	QRM	Man made interference		
	New Hampshire	NH		Northern New York	NNY	QRN	Atmospheric interference		
	Rhode Island	RI		Southern New Jersey	SNJ	QRS	Can you please send slower?		
	Vermont	VT		Western New York	WNY	QRT	I will stop sending		
	Western Massachusetts	WMA		Virgin Islands (KP2, WP2, NP2)	VI	QRV	Are you ready?. I am ready		
	Nova Scotia (VE1, VA1)	NS		Labrador (VO2)	NL	QRZ	Who is calling me?.		
	Newfoundland (VO1)	NL		Prince Edward Island (VY2)	PE	QSB	Signal fading		
	Yukon (VY1)	TER		Quebec (VE2, VA2)	QC	QSL	Can you acknowledge?. I acknowledge RECEIPT		
3	Delaware	DE	Alabama	AL	QSO	A contact			
	Eastern Pennsylvania	EPA	Georgia	GA	QSY	Can you change frequency?. Changing frequency to _____			
	Maryland-DC	MDC	Kentucky	KY					
	Western Pennsylvania	WPA	North Carolina	NC					
I	Idaho	ID	S	San Joaquin	SJV	Phonetic Alphabet			
	Illinois	IL		Santa Barbara	SB	A	Alfa	AL' FAH	
	Indiana	IN		Santa Clara Valley	SCV	B	Bravo	BRAH' VOH	
	Iowa	IA		Saskatchewan (VE5,VA5)	SK	C	Charlie	CHAR' LEE'	
	K	Kansas		KS	South Carolina	SC	D	Delta	DELL' TAH
		Kentucky		KY	South Dakota	SD	E	Echo	ECK' OH
	L	Labrador (VO2)		NL	South Texas	STX	F	Foxtrot	FOKS' TROT
		Los Angeles		LAX	Southern Florida	SFL	G	Golf	GOLF
	M	Louisiana		LA	Southern New Jersey	SNJ	H	Hotel	HOH TELL'
		Maine		ME	Tennessee	TN	I	India	IN' DEE AH
Manitoba (VE4,VA4)		MB	Utah	UT	J	Juliet	JEW' LEE ETT		
Maryland-DC		MDC	Vermont	VT	K	Kilo	KEY' LOH		
Michigan		MI	Virgin Islands (KP2, WP2, NP2)	VI	L	Lima	LEE' MAH		
Minnesota		MN	Virginia	VA	M	Mike	MIKE		
Mississippi		MS	West Central Florida	WCF	N	November	NO VEM' BER		
Missouri		MO	West Texas	WTX					
Montana	MT	West Virginia	WV						



Here are a few resources to add to your Education/Public Info Table

- **What is Amateur Radio?**
 - Video loop (~13 minutes)- [Video Loop- Youtube](#)
 - Slideshow- tiny.cc/what-ar2
- **Scouting Amateur Radio Information Sheet-** tiny.cc/radioscout
- **Ham Radio Resources for Visitors, Youth, Students & Teachers-** tiny.cc/hryc
- **Listen to our Field Day stations on your smartphone-** SDRs to listen to FD stations- [link](#)
- **Listen to Shortwave Radio and Amateur Radio Stations from Around the World for FREE From Your Home**
 - [Poster \(11 x 17\)](#)
 - Handout tiny.cc/freerx
- **Clothespin Key-**
 - [Poster \(11 x 17\)](#)
 - Handout- tiny.cc/cp-key
- **\$5 Code Practice Oscillator (CPO) Kit-** tiny.cc/5cpo
- **Morse Code- Send & Decode Tree + Phonetic Alphabet** (not designed for learning Morse Code as an operator, but as a fun activity for guests)

- *Poster (11 x 17)*
- Handout- <http://tiny.cc/mcinfo>

Ham Radio Resources for Visitors, Youth, Students & Teachers

<p>Anthony Luscre, K8ZT Ohio Section Youth Coordinator & Education Outreach ARRL - The National Association For Amateur Radio™ k8zt@arrl.net K8ZT Radio Website- www.k8zt.com</p>	<p>Share or access this document online- tiny.cc/hryc</p> 
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	<p>What is Ham Radio? tiny.cc/whats-ar</p>	
	<p>Kids Radio Zone- www.k8zt.com/youth/kids-radio-zone</p>	
	<p>Zak & Max Books- all seven comic books in both Color and B&W www.k8zt.com/youth/zakmax</p>	
	<p>Teacher Radio Zone- www.k8zt.com/youth/teacher-radio-zone</p>	
	<p>Ham Radio Intro & Quick Start www.k8zt.com/youth/ham-radio-quick-start</p>	

Free Shortwave & Amateur Radio Receivers- Online SDRs You Can Tune and Listen To



by Anthony Luscre, K8ZT

Share this document- tiny.cc/freerx or scan QR Code

One of the problems with setting up a new *HF radio* station is the need for an adequate antenna. Although we now have HF radios that can fit in your pocket, the antennas still usually need to be both big and outside to work best. The second issue is that most portable Shortwave HF receivers do not include SSB reception, which is necessary to receive Amateur (Ham) Radio voice communications. So what do you do when you just can't put up an antenna, don't own an HF receiver, or maybe you are traveling and just want to tap into ham radio? Well, if you have Internet access, you can get on the air to listen. Although you can both receive and transmit with a remotely controlled station, that is beyond the scope of today's project-- simply listening to the ham bands.

Unlike transmitting through a remote station, **listening requires no license** or special access to closed and/or paid remote stations. Fortunately, there are many free and open SDRs (Software Defined Radios) that you can control, tune and listen to with your laptop, phone, Chromebook, tablet, etc., as long as you have Internet access.

Web SDR has links to over 75 such remote receivers listed on the [web sdr](http://www.websdr.org) website.



www.websdr.org

These sites let you tune the HF bands and, unlike some non-ham sites, even receive using

Amateur Radio Bands To Listen To For Field Day Activity

Band	Mode	Filter	Frequency	Best
80 M	CW	0.5	3500 - 3600 kHz	Night
80 M	LSB	2.4	3600 - 3999 kHz	Night
40 M	CW	0.5	7000 - 7070 kHz	Both
40 M	LSB	2.4	7125 - 7200 kHz	Both

- ARRL Field Day Site with Complete Rules & much more- www.arrl.org/field-day



What is FD?

- Amateur (Ham) Radio stations around the US set up & operate radios at portable locations to demonstrate Emergency Communications.

Over 5000 stations in all 50 states, Canada
website www.cjfare.com for more information.

* Classes: **A**- portable club station, **B**- one or two persons portable station, **C**- mobile station, **D**- home station with commercial power, **E**- home station with emergency power & **F**- Emergency Operations Center

Sending Morse

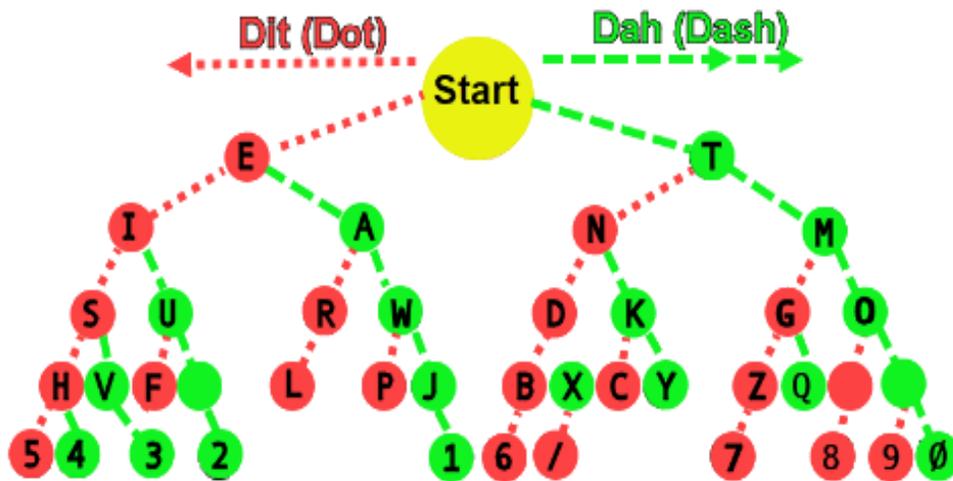
Dots are short sounds (pronounced as Dit)
 Dashes are long sounds (pronounced as Dah)
 Dah should be three times as long as Dits

A	• —	J	• — — —	S	• • •	1	• — — — —
B	• • • •	K	• • —	T	—	2	• • — — —
C	• • • —	L	• • • •	U	• • —	3	• • • — —
D	• • • •	M	— —	V	• • • —	4	• • • • —
E	•	N	— •	W	• • — —	5	• • • • •
F	• • — •	O	— — —	X	• • • • —	6	• • • • •
G	• — — •	P	• — — —	Y	• • • — —	7	• • — — • •
H	• • • • •	Q	• — — — —	Z	• • — — • •	8	• • — — • • •
I	• •	R	• • • —	/	• • — — • • •	9	• • — — • • • •
				?	• • — — • • • •	0	• • — — • • • • •

Decoding Morse Code

Put finger on "start", when you hear a...

← Dit (short sound) go to left | Dah (long sound) go to right →
 Repeat steps until last sound
 For example Dah-Dah-Dit- Dah (go to T), Dah (go to M), Dit (end at G)



Learning Morse Code

If you are serious about learning Morse Code, you want to learn characters as sounds, not visual objects (dots & dashes). Many online websites can assist you in this process. Free online classes for youth are also available from [Long Island CW Club](#); for more information on Morse Code, visit

Help Someone Get On The Air

Here is where I appeal to those who already participate in these activities. Go through your club's roster and identify Tech licensees, new hams, youth, inactive hams, etc. Once you have identified your target audience, contact them personally and invite them to participate in activities with you. Alternatively, your club may want to put together some group activities.

That's it for this month. I hope to hear you on the air operating VHF!

73,

Anthony, K8ZT (k8zt@arrl.net)

From the Section Traffic Manager

David Maynard, WA3EZN – STM

wa3ezn@att.net



OHIO SINGLE SIDEBAND NET

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

ELECTION RESULTS

The teller on April 8th announced the results of the election. Mike KC8WH was elected net manager and Chris, KD8UUB elected as a new Advisory Board member. Duties of the elected net manager and Advisory Board member shall commence on May 1st. Check into the net for further details. www.OSSBN.ORG.

Mike has been doing a good job as is evidenced by his reelection. Wish him well and support him and the OSSBN so we can continue to make the Ohio section a proud part of the National Traffic System.

Current Advisory Board
K8KRA 2021 until April 30
W8GSR 2022
KB8GUN 2023
KD8UUB Starts May 1st

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

OHIO SINGLE SIDEBAND NET

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

OHIO HF CW TRAFFIC NETS

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

All CW net frequencies plus or minus QRM

OHIO LOCAL VHF TRAFFIC NETS

VHF NETS	NET TIMES	FREQUENCY	NET MANAGERS
BRTN	Monday, Thursday Saturday 9:30 PM	145.230 PL 110.9	KD8GXL
COTN	7:15 PM DAILY	146.970 PL 123.0	KV8Z
TCTTN	9 PM Sun, Tues, Fri	147.015 PL 110.9	WB8YYS
TATN	8:00 PM DAILY	146.670 PL 123.0	WG8Z

OHIO VHF TRAFFIC NETS

BRTN	Burning River Traffic Net serving Cleveland and North Central Ohio
COTN	Central Ohio Traffic Net serving Columbus and Central Ohio
TATN	Tri-State Amateur Traffic Net
TCTTN	Tri-County Traffic and Training Net serving Northeast Ohio

TORNADO RECORDS FOR OHIO

Franklin County is second with 34, followed by Miami (32), Lorain and Clinton (31), and Clark and Huron Counties (30). Morgan County is the least tornadic of Ohio's 88 counties, reporting only one touchdown between 1950 and 2022.

Van Wert County is Ohio's most tornado-prone county, with 37 tornadoes recorded between 1950 and 2022.

The worst year and single outbreak in Ohio history was in 1992.

PREVIOUS RECORDS

On average Ohio endured 13 to 17 tornadoes each year from 1950-2022. The number of twisters has already doubled that range and that is even before the usual severe weather season begins next month. Ohio's peak tornado months tend to be May, June, and July, averaging three to four twisters per month. Historically, June is the most active month, with a total of 271 tornadoes over those 72 years.

Ten of them happened on Feb. 27 and 28. February tornadoes are unusual to start with, let alone a full outbreak. Seven touched down on March 14, including the devastating EF3 that ravaged the Indian Lake area. Another nine hit on April 2 with five following on April 17.

2024 already a top-10 year for tornadoes in Ohio

The worst year and single outbreak in Ohio history was in 1992. On July 12, at least 28 tornadoes raced across the state and contributed to a record 61 twisters for the year. Another seven tornadoes ravaged the state the next day, with three more on July 14.

NOAA ALL HAZARDS RADIO

While we know that outdoor warning sirens provide alerts for you to seek shelter outdoors, have you wondered how to receive information if you are indoors? The NOAA All Hazards Radio is the answer! It is your “indoor warning siren”. The NOAA All Hazards Weather Radio broadcasts official weather service warnings, watches, forecasts and other hazard information 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The National Weather Radio (NWR) system works in conjunction with the Federal Communications Commission Emergency Alert System. NWR is an “All Hazards” radio network, making it your single source for comprehensive weather and emergency information. NWR broadcasts warning and post-event information for all types of hazards that the City of Grapevine might face including:

- Tornado Watches and Warnings
- Severe Weather Watches and Warnings
- Extreme Heat Watches and Warnings
- Hazardous Materials Spills
- Chemical Releases
- Oil Spills
- AMBER Alerts
- 911 Telephone Outages
- National Emergencies

- Unlike the first NOAA weather radios which broadcast to multiple counties at once, present day radios employ new technology called Specific Area Message Encoding (SAME). SAME provides specific, timely information in a digital format on the nature and location of a threat to those most immediately at risk from severe weather hazards.

The SAME six digit identification for Grapevine is 048439. By tuning your weather radio to this frequency, listeners receive only messages and information for Tarrant County.



Unlike the first NOAA weather radios which broadcast to multiple counties at once, present day radios employ new technology called Specific Area Message Encoding (SAME). SAME provides specific, timely information in a digital format on the nature and location of a threat to those most immediately at risk from severe weather hazards. The SAME six digit identification for Grapevine is 048439. By tuning your weather radio to this frequency, listeners receive only messages and information for Tarrant County.

Many different types and brands of weather radios are available and it is important to utilize one that includes NOAA Weather Channels in the description, as well as SAME technology to filter broadcast messages. It is also recommended to choose a radio with a “programmable alert” function so that you can choose to receive only those alerts that you determine are critical. These radios are available through online outlets, discount stores, pharmacies and electronic retailers.

NOAA Weather Radios have also been specially developed to provide alarms and alerts to the deaf and hard-of-hearing community. The radio can provide up-to-the-minute warnings of hazardous conditions, dangerous weather, and other public alert messages. The National Weather Service has a web page devoted to weather [radios for the deaf](#) and hard-of-hearing community. The webpage includes frequently asked questions, links to weather safety tips, and links to specialty retailers that sell weather radios for the deaf and hard-of-hearing community.

With Specific Area Message Encoding (SAME) technology, life-saving messages broadcast on NWR can be targeted to a specific area. Many NWR products contain a special digital code with information about the type of event, the applicable geographic area for the event, and how long the event is valid.

Specific Area Message Encoding (S.A.M.E.) is an alert encoding system that is used on NOAA Weather Radio in the United States and Weatheradio Canada in Canada, as well as the Emergency Alert System on television and radio in the United States.

> **TORNADO SAFETY TIPS** <

Whether practicing in a tornado drill or sheltering during a warning, the Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness encourages Ohioans to DUCK!

- D - Go DOWN to the lowest level
- U - Get UNDER something
- C - COVER your head
- K - KEEP in shelter until the storm has passed

* Take responsibility for your safety and be prepared before a watch or warning is issued. Meet

with household members to develop a disaster plan to respond to tornado watches and warnings. Conduct regular tornado drills. When a tornado watch is issued, review your plan – don't wait for the watch to become a warning. Learn how to turn off the water, gas and electricity at the main switches or valves.

* Despite Doppler radar, tornadoes can sometimes occur without any warning, allowing very little time to act. It is important to know the basics of tornado safety. Know the difference between tornado watches and tornado warnings.

* Tune in to one of the following for weather information: NOAA Weather Radio, local cable or television (Ohio News Network or the Weather Channel), or local radio stations.

* If you are a person with special needs, register your name and address with your local emergency management agency, police and fire departments before any natural or man-made disaster.

* NOAA Weather Radio has available an alerting tool for people who are deaf or have hearing impairments. Some weather radio receivers can be connected to an existing home security system, much the same as a doorbell, smoke detector or other sensor. For additional information, visit:

* The safest place to be during a tornado is a basement. If the building has no basement or cellar, go to a small room (a bathroom or closet) on the lowest level of the structure, away from windows and as close to the center of the building as possible.

* Be aware of emergency shelter plans in stores, offices and schools. If no specific shelter has been identified, move to the building's lowest level. Try to avoid areas with large glass windows, large rooms and wide-span roofs such as auditoriums, cafeterias, large hallways or shopping malls.

* If you're outside or in mobile home, find shelter immediately by going to the **lowest** level of a nearby sturdy building. Sturdy buildings are the safest structures to be in when tornadoes threaten. Winds from tornadoes can blow large objects, including cars and mobile homes, hundreds of feet away.

* If as a last resort you cannot quickly get to a shelter, get into your vehicle, buckle your seat belt and try to drive to the nearest sturdy shelter.

* If you experience flying debris while driving, pull over and park. Choose to either stay in your vehicle, stay buckled up, duck down below the windows and cover your head with your hands, or find a depression or ditch, exit your vehicle and use your arms and hands to protect your head. Never seek shelter under highway overpasses and bridges.



What about your family? Here are some items you can do now to be prepared in the future.

Sit down with your family members and decide how you will get in contact with each other in an emergency.

Once you figure this out, document the contact information on both a master sheet and on wallet sized cards to be carried by all family members. This document will become your “Family Communication Plan” and it will form the cornerstone of your family emergency plan. It will list all family members, their date of birth, and other important information. Include a photo for each person as well as any important medical information. Also include a contact number for an out-of-town contact person.

Determine a meeting place where you will meet in the event you can not get home. This may be your workplace, the home of a parent or relative, your church or even at a school if there are children involved. Whatever you decide, you will need at least three possible locations.

Determine the best evacuation routes from your home or workplace to the safe meeting places. Then take the route and make sure it is accurate and that you understand the directions.

Prepare a list of all workplaces along with the address, telephone number, and closest evacuation location in the event getting to the pre-designated meeting place is not possible. Also prepare a list of all schools that are attended by your children along with the address, contact names, and telephone numbers. Contact the schools now to learn about their own emergency evaluation policies and procedures.

Include a list of medical conditions and prescription medications that are being taken.



Store all the information you have carefully compiled in multiple locations. For example, in preparedness binder, on a flash drive that you carry with you, in your desk drawer at work or in an email attachment sent to yourself at one of the email services that you use

Prepare a list of your insurance policies, including the carrier, the telephone number for claims, and the policy number itself. Include health insurance, homeowners or rental insurance, life insurance policies.

Be aware, however, that phone lines and cell service may not be functional following a catastrophic disaster. Although a valuable tool, do not count on your phone to be the sole mode of communication following a disaster. If you text, you might want to consider a “texting tree”. Texting is usually available even when cell service is down.

Prepare a list of your doctors and your veterinarian along with their telephone numbers.

USEFUL LINKS

www.Weather.gov/safety/tornado

www.Weather.gov/safety/tornado-prepare

<https://search.usa.gov/search?v%3Aproject=firstgov&query=SPECIAL+NEEDS&affiliate=nws.noaa.gov>

Search for “Indian Lake” to find drone pictures of tornado damage there.

OHIO SECTION TRAFFIC REPORT – APRIL 2024

OHIO SECTION NETS – APRIL 2024

NET	QNI	QTC	QTR	SESSIONS	N/M
BN(E)	122	23	242	30	N2LC
BN(L)	60	47	221	30	WB9LBI
OSN	66	17	288	21	N2LC
OSSBN	1545	411	2082	90	KC8WH

OHIO SECTION PSHR REPORTS – APRIL 2024

AD8CM	40	40	10	765	0	10	TOTAL	865
WA3EZN	40	40	30	250	0	10	TOTAL	370
N2LC	40	35	30	145	0	20	TOTAL	280
KD8UUB	40	30	10	150	5	0	TOTAL	235
KE8ANW	40	10	0	150	0	0	TOTAL	200
W8MAL	40	40	10	100	0	0	TOTAL	190
AC8NP	40	40	10	70	5	20	TOTAL	185
WB8YYS	40	24	10	90	0	10	TOTAL	174
KV8Z	40	40	10	70	0	10	TOTAL	170
N8SY	40	10	30	30	0	50	TOTAL	160
KE4RS	40	40	10	40	0	0	TOTAL	130
K8MDA	40	40	30	0	0	20	TOTAL	130
KC8WH	40	40	30	10	0	0	TOTAL	120
KB8GUN	40	40	10	0	0	10	TOTAL	100
WB8SIQ	40	40	10	10	0	0	TOTAL	100
N8MRS	40	40	10	0	0	10	TOTAL	100
KL7RF	40	40	10	0	5	0	TOTAL	95

W8GSR	40	40	10	0	0	0	TOTAL	90
K8KRA	40	40	10	0	0	0	TOTAL	90
KB8HJJ	40	40	10	0	0	0	TOTAL	90
N8OD	40	40	10	0	0	0	TOTAL	90
K3RC	40	40	10	0	0	0	TOTAL	90
KA8BJA	40	40	0	0	0	0	TOTAL	80
NC8V	3	1	0	15	0	0	TOTAL	19

OHIO SECTION TRAFFIC REPORTS – APRIL 2024

AC8NP-59	KC8WH-109	N2LC-64	W8MAL-57
AD8CM-173	KD8GXL-29	N8BV-43	WA3EZN-103
K3RC-48	KD8GYI- 33	NC8V-1	WB8PMG-28
K8KRA-95	KD8HB-102	N8MRS-85	WB8SIQ-66
K8MDA-45	KD8UUB-30	N8OD-82	WB8YYS-24
KA8BJA-65	KE4RS-118	N8SY- 10	WB9LBI-91
KB8GUN-145	KL7RF-56	N8TNV-7	
KB8HJJ- 40	KV8Z-44	W8GSR-114	
	TOTALS	30/1966	

OHIO SECTION LOCAL NETS – APRIL 2024

NET	QNI	QTC	QTR	SESSIONS	N/M
BRTN	112	37	224	12	KD8GXL
COTN	264	92	467	30	KV8Z
TATN	373	80	360	30	WG8Z
TCTTN	131	28	310	13	WB8YYS

OHIO SECTION TRAFFIC REPORT – APRIL 2024

OHIO SECTION NETS – APRIL 2024

NET	QNI	QTC	QTR	SESSIONS	N/M
BN(E)	122	23	242	30	N2LC
BN(L)	60	47	221	30	WB8LBI
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KD8UUB	40	30	10	150	5	0	TOTAL	235
KE8ANW	40	10	0	150	0	0	TOTAL	200
W8MAL	40	40	10	100	0	0	TOTAL	190
AC8NP	40	40	10	70	5	20	TOTAL	185
WB8YYS	40	24	10	90	0	10	TOTAL	174
KV8Z	40	40	10	70	0	10	TOTAL	170
N8SY	40	10	30	30	0	50	TOTAL	160
KE4RS	40	40	10	40	0	0	TOTAL	130
K8MDA	40	40	30	0	0	20	TOTAL	130
KC8WH	40	40	30	10	0	0	TOTAL	120
KB8GUN	40	40	10	0	0	10	TOTAL	100
WB8SIQ	40	40	10	10	0	0	TOTAL	100
N8MRS	40	40	10	0	0	10	TOTAL	100
KL7RF	40	40	10	0	5	0	TOTAL	95
W8GSR	40	40	10	0	0	0	TOTAL	90
K8KRA	40	40	10	0	0	0	TOTAL	90
KB8HJJ	40	40	10	0	0	0	TOTAL	90
N8OD	40	40	10	0	0	0	TOTAL	90
K3RC	40	40	10	0	0	0	TOTAL	90
KA8BJA	40	40	0	0	0	0	TOTAL	80
NC8V	3	1	0	15	0	0	TOTAL	19

OHIO SECTION TRAFFIC REPORTS – APRIL 2024

AC8NP-59	KC8WH-109	N2LC-64	W8MAL-57
AD8CM-173	KD8GXL-29	N8BV-43	WA3EZN-103
K3RC-48	KD8GYI-33	NC8V-1	WB8PMG-28
K8KRA-95	KD8HB-102	N8MRS-85	WB8SIQ-66
K8MDA-45	KD8UUB-30	N8OD-82	WB8YYS-24
KA8BJA-65	KE4RS-118	N8SY-10	WB9LBI-91
KB8GUN-145	KL7RF-56	N8TNN-7	
KB8HJJ-40	KV8Z-44	W8GSR-114	

TOTALS 30/1966

OHIO SECTION LOCAL NETS – APRIL 2024

NET	QNI	QTC	QTR	SESSIONS	N/M
BRTN	112	37	224	12	KD8GXL
COTN	264	92	467	30	KV8Z
TATN	373	80	360	30	WG8Z
TCTTN	131	28	310	13	WB8YYS

OHIO HF TRAFFIC NETS

BN(E)	Buckeye Net Early - CW
BN(L)	Buckeye Net Late – CW
OSN	Ohio Slow Net - CW
OSSBN	Ohio Single Sideband Net – Phone

OHIO VHF TRAFFIC NETS

BRTN	Burning River Traffic Net serving Cleveland and North Central Ohio
COTN	Central Ohio Traffic Net serving Columbus and Central Ohio
TATN	Tri-State Amateur Traffic Net
TCTTN	Tri-County Traffic and Training Net serving North East Ohio

73

David, WA3EZN

Ohio Section Traffic Manager



Amanda Farone, KC3GFU

ARRL Ohio Section | Affiliated Club Coordinator

Afrone926@gmail.com

330-509-4095

We have finally made it to May, along with warm weather and sun! This time of year always gets me excited. While I enjoy radio year-round, I REALLY look forward to all of the events coming up in the next few months. First, Hamvention. This will be my 3rd year

(in a row) attending Hamvention and I hope to keep the annual tradition alive. There are so many things I enjoy about it, browsing all the new shiny toys, browsing all the used treasures, collecting the free swag, recognizing callsigns and finally putting a face to it, catching up with my “radio friends” that I haven’t seen for a while, and even playing POTA after hours. This year we have a few friends tagging along with us and we can’t wait to have a great time. If you see me there, come say hello! I may not look approachable, but I promise I am, hihi. If you plan on attending, I strongly suggest you check out the forums. They provide invaluable information that will last a lifetime.

June brings on Field Day. I hope your club has already started planning and should be in the final stages by now. Field Day is a fantastic way to introduce potential hams into the world of amateur radio. I know I have mentioned it before, but Field Day is where I caught the “bug” and I’ve been full blast ever since. I will be out visiting Field Day sites over the course of the weekend. As of right now, I plan to be in the Northwest area of the state. I don’t often travel that way and I hope to meet many of you in person and am excited to see your setups. I was blown away last year by all the incredible people and setups I witnessed. Ohio really knows how to put on a Field Day! You can find all the information about Field Day at field-day.arrl.org. They have also released Field Day swag in the ARRL store.

A few key notes I’d like to mention...as you have seen in the previous newsletters, they will be opening the Club Grant Program again for 2024. This is a great opportunity for your club to tackle a project you have been dreaming up but do not have the funds for. I highly encourage all clubs to submit a proposal and not pass this opportunity up. They have not announced the details yet, but be sure to keep an eye out, as the information will be announced soon. The other big thing I’d like to talk about is..well...something I talk about *often*. Please, take a moment to check out your club listing on the ARRL page. It is **important** to be sure that information is up to date. I reach out to clubs on a regular basis and more often than not, I get no response or a kickback email. Which means potential hams and/or members are getting the same thing. It’s a good habit to update that information annually. If you are a member of the club and notice the information is wrong, please let someone on the board know. If you aren’t sure of how to update it or need assistance, please reach out to me at any time! You can find your club information at arrl.org/find-a-club.



Hi Gang,

The Great Lakes Division Newsletter is now on-line!

There’s lots of great information for you to read. So, grab your favorite beverage, a sweet snack to munch on and sit back in your easy

chair and have a great read!!

>> <https://arrl-greatlakes.org/gldnews/2024/04-gldnews.pdf> <<

73,

Scott, N8SY

National News

(from ARRL and other sources)

ARRL Learning Center Features Two New Emergency Communication Training Courses

ARRL has released [two new courses](#) to train emergency communications (EmComm) operators for volunteering within the [Amateur Radio Emergency Service® \(ARES®\)](#). Both courses are within the ARRL Learning Center.

The Basic EmComm course is designed to get a new volunteer started. It provides basic knowledge and tools for any emergency communications volunteer and contains three modules and 11 topics, including required prerequisites. It's expected to take approximately 10 - 20 hours to complete.

The Intermediate EmComm course builds on the lessons learned in the first course and equips volunteer radio amateurs with the tools needed to thrive in the fast-paced environment of public service communications and to understand the legal rights and responsibilities of working with a served agency, as well as teach them and how ham radio fits into the broader incident command (IC) structure.

The new courses replace the previous EC-001 and EC-016 programs, however, certificates of completion earned for the previous courses are still valid. "Training is not a one-and-done thing.

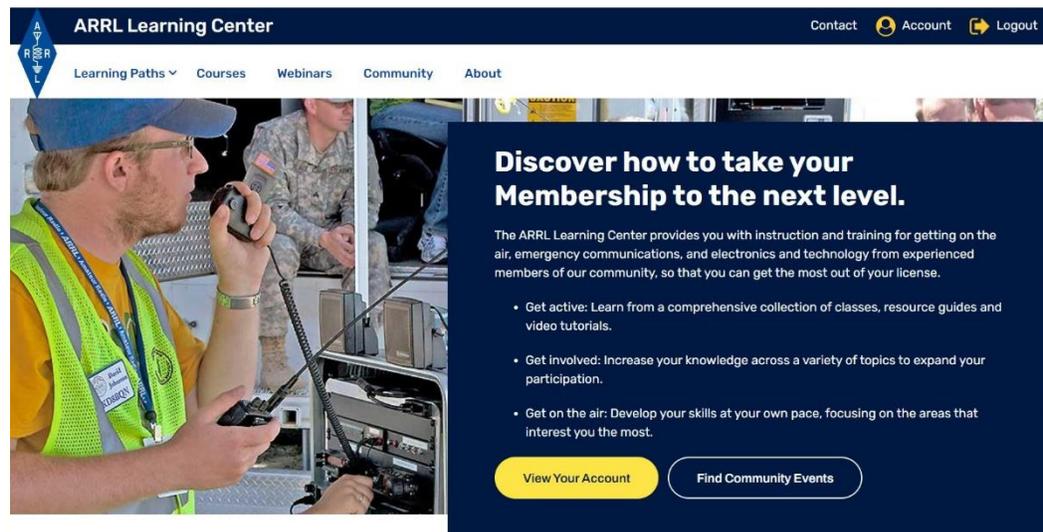


Throughout my firefighting and emergency management career, we were constantly taking new courses to reinforce existing knowledge and introduce new concepts," said ARRL Director of Emergency Management Josh Johnston, KE5MHV. "Engaged volunteers should want to stay up to date on advances in the science of emergency communications. I'd even encourage veteran operators to take the new courses."

In 2023, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) [revised the Guide for National Emergency Preparedness](#) to specifically include amateur radio. ARRL and FEMA entered into a new Memoranda of Understanding in May 2023 that outlined the importance of trained radio amateurs within the response ecosystem.

"Amateur radio is as important as ever in emergency management," said Johnston. "The new courses will keep hams trained to serve effectively."

The ARRL Learning Center at learn.arrl.org is a member benefit and features many ways to get the most out of your amateur radio license. The Basic and Intermediate EmComm courses are available to anyone with a free www.arrl.org account. Users must log in to the ARRL Learning Center with this account, and functionality of the site relies on cookies being enabled.



What do you want to do with Amateur Radio?

Choose your own adventure! The ARRL Learning Center organizes its course content around Learning Paths, making it easy to navigate and explore the field. Select the path that interests you most to get started.

Above: A screenshot of the ARRL Learning Center at learn.arrl.org.

ARLX002 Armed Forces Day Crossband Test Scheduled for May 11

The US Department of Defense (DOD) is hosting this year's Armed Forces Day (AFD) Crossband Test on Saturday, May 11.

For more than 50 years, military and amateur stations have taken part in this event, which is an interoperability exercise between amateur and government radio stations. The event is open to all licensed amateur radio operators and will not impact any public or private communications.

The AFD Crossband Test is a unique opportunity to test two-way communications between military communicators and radio stations in the Amateur Radio Service (ARS), as authorized in 47 CFR 97.111.

The annual DOD message will be transmitted via RTTY on 14.667 kHz at 1400 and 2000 UTC. These tests provide opportunities and challenges for radio operators to demonstrate individual technical skills in a tightly controlled exercise scenario. Military stations will transmit on selected military frequencies and announce the specific ARS frequencies monitored. All scheduled times will be in Zulu, and all scheduled frequencies will be upper sideband (USB), unless otherwise noted.

Information on frequencies, times, and other technical information can be found at DoD MARS - Armed Forces Day at, <https://www.dodmars.org/mars-comex-information-website/armed-forces-day> .

The Battleship IOWA Amateur Radio Association (BIARA) and the ship's Innovation, Engineering and Technology Team will activate NEPM, which was the ship's original radio station call sign from 1942 until 1997. It was reassigned to the ship in 2015. The activation will begin at the same date and time as the Armed Forces Day Crossband Test, from 1400 to 2000 UTC. All SSB operations are USB only for transmit and receive.

Assigned transmit and expected receive frequencies are:

- * 4.0435 to 3.943 MHz USB
- * 6.9035 to 7.295 MHz USB
- * 9.9440 to 10.113 MHz CW
- * 14.4635 to 14.343 MHz USB
- * 18.2930 to 18.143 MHz USB

Information for QSL cards and contact information is available at Armed Forces Day QSL

request form at,
<https://www.usarmymars.org/armed-forces-day-qs1-card-request> .

The ARRL Public Relations Committee will offer PR training workshops for 2024 ARRL Field Day.

The training sessions are slated to be a series of live webinars held on Wednesday, May 22, at 7:30 PM EDT and 10:00 PM EDT (7:00 pm PDT), and Wednesday May, 29, at 8:00 PM EDT (5:00 PM PDT). Registration information will be available soon. Experts in media, public relations, and outreach will share best practices to help equip public information officers and club leadership to get the local spotlight on their activities.

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



Portage County Comms Unit / 2024 Eclipse

In November 2023, Ryan Shackelford, who is the Director of the Portage County Office of Homeland Security/Emergency Management (PC OHS/EM) directed the Communications Unit (Coms Unit) to prepare a plan to support amateur radio backup communications between key agencies in Portage County and the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) of the PC OHS/EM for the April 8th Total Eclipse event. Ryan's initial concept was to station Coms Unit members and other amateur radio communicator volunteers at the EOC, the six county 911 call centers, and at each of the eighteen Fire/EMS agencies in Portage County.

The first tasks that were accomplished were to issue a Warning Order to all Coms Unit members, and establish a plan on recruiting additional amateur radio communicators to volunteer

for the event. Recruitment involved publishing articles in the PCARS newsletter, contacting PCARS members via the PCARS QST email system, a presentation to PCARS at a club meeting by the PC OHS/EM Deputy Director Bret Lee, and contacting ARES District 5 and Summit County ARES. After several months with only one volunteer coming forward, Ryan, in consultation with the Coms Unit COML modified the plan to provide backup communications support using amateur radio, to just the EOC and the six 911 call centers with an operational period of 11:00 to 17:00. Once requirements were defined, the COML wrote an Operations Plan to support the event and distributed it to Coms Unit members and radio communicators. Additionally, the COML contacted the EOC and the six 911 call centers to identify agency liaisons and to establish locations and logistics for each agency location for the radio communicators who would be supporting them.

West Branch State Park, located in Portage County has a historic relationship with Mahoning County ARES for providing communications at the park during various events there. The Mahoning County EC (MCEC) initially contacted the COML through the Ohio Section Manager to inquire about providing COMS support to the park. COML approved coordinating with MCEC and their operation at the park. MCEC contacted Ryan Shackelford to provide their support plan, and MCEC and COML exchanged ICS-205 Coms Plans and COML integrated MCEC into a common coms channel for coordination.

The plan for supporting the six 911 Call Centers and the EOC involved stationing a radio communicator at each location to relay message traffic from the assigned liaison, as required. It was determined that radio communicators working inside of supported locations using hand-held radios would not reliably be able to communicate with area amateur radio repeaters, and that simplex operations with hand-held radios would be impossible. To facilitate reliable communications, each radio communicator was to use his/her high-power (mobile) VHF/UHF radio in their vehicle to communicate on established nets. The radio communicator and their supported liaison would each be equipped with public safety analog FM (NBFM) hand-held radios to communicate and pass message traffic. Each radio communicator would also be equipped with a public safety MARCS radio to operate on the OEMA67 channel.

On April 8th at 08:00 the Operations Plan became the Operations Order, OPORD Total Eclipse. Radio communicators reported to their assigned locations at 11:00 and met with assigned liaisons to issue radios and effect coordination. COML reported to the EOC at 08:00 for EOC operations. At 11:00 NCS opened a net on the primary repeater and took check-ins from radio communicators. After the initial check-in, NCS directed all stations to change to the first alternate repeater and conduct radio checks. NCS then directed all stations to change to the second alternate repeater and conduct radio checks. NCS then directed all stations to change to the simplex alternate and conduct radio checks while directing each station to note which stations could be heard on simplex. NCS directed all stations to return to the primary repeater and commence operations.

The Ohio MARCS radio system used by almost all first responding agencies in Portage County is a very reliable and resilient radio system, specifically designed to be able to support interoperability between disparate agencies, as well as accommodating each individual agency's communications needs. During this event, the system performed exactly as expected, with no noted failures at any point. As a result, support activities of the Coms Unit and its associated radio communicators consisted of conducting periodic radio checks. At 17:00 Director Shackelford determined no further communications support was required and COML directed radio communicators to demobilize and return home.

The Basis and Purpose of amateur radio is defined in FCC Part 97, and the *very first words* of section 97.1(a) state: "Recognition and enhancement of the value of the amateur service to the public as a voluntary noncommercial communication service, particularly with respect to providing emergency communications." Amateur radio has lived both the word and spirit of 97.1(a) from its very beginning, to the present day. The radio communicators who volunteered to assist the Portage County Office of Homeland Security/Emergency Management did so in exemplary fashion. Their willingness to give their time and talents, and to do so as professionals, casts great credit on amateur radio in the eyes of the supported agencies and of the public. The following members of our amateur radio community are to be both thanked and congratulated for their efforts.

~Rick DeMattia KD8WCK~ ~Greg Ash KA8TOA~ ~Paul Hyland KE8EGF~
~Andrew Roland KE8BWA~ ~Ron Eckelberry W8AHC~ ~Mike Ryan KB8TUY~
~Sandy Getty KD8JCY~

Submitted by Rick Kruis – W8CAV

VE Sessions

The following information is for ALL exam sessions:

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

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

AE8FP Amateur Radio Test Team administers ARRL-VEC testing in the Central Ohio area. Our test dates for 2024 are as follows: Januray 20, April 27, July 20, and October 19. Time and location for these dates are 10:00am at the Westerville Fire Station #111, 400 W. Main

St in Westerville, Ohio. The listed dates are co-sponsored by the Central Ohio Radio Club (CORC).

Pre-Registration is required, and open the 1st of each testing month. All information is available at www.ae8fp.net <<http://www.ae8fp.net/>>

Alliance Amateur Radio Club

The Alliance Amateur Radio Club holds quarterly VE testing, at the Christ United Methodist Church in Alliance. The address is 470 E. Broadway St, Alliance, OH (<https://maps.app.goo.gl/prDyEPp6siJun2ibA>).

Upcoming Exam Dates are

Saturday, March 16th, 2024

Saturday, June 15th, 2024

Saturday, August 10th, 2024

Saturday, October 19th, 2024

We begin registration at 8 AM, with testing at 9am.

More information can be found at www.w8lky.org/licensing/ve-exams/.

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

CARS

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

Clark County Amateur Radio Association (CLARA)

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

When: On every second Saturday of each even numbered month starting at 10:00 AM Feb

10th; Apr 13th; Jun 8th; Aug 10th; Oct 12th; and Dec 14th, 2024. Where: Springview

Government Center - Emergency Operations Center; 3130 E Main St; Springfield OH 45503

This is US-40 aka "old national road". From Route 40 enter Old Columbus Road, at the fork stay

left driving straight onto Ogden Rd, then immediately turn left into the parking lot behind the

EMA. Walk to the door with the "Employees Only" sign.

For more information contact Roland W. Ude, W8BUZ, (937) 605-4951 Email:

buzz@baylorhill.com

Dayton Amateur Radio Association (DARA)

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

The Findlay Radio Club

The Findlay Radio Club sponsors an Exam Session the second Saturday of every month except September when we have our Hamfest. The Exam Session takes place at the Findlay Radio Club, 1333 West Sandusky St., Findlay Ohio 45839. The session begins at 9 AM. Pre-registration is recommended, but not required. You can pre-register at hamstudy.org. We can also give Exams remotely on-line on your schedule if you can't make to a session.

The club has meetings on the first and third Thursdays at the clubhouse at 7:30 PM. The meetings are also available on Zoom. Contact N8ET if you would like to log in. All are welcome.

We also meet at the club on Sunday afternoon from 2 until 5 (or later!) to talk about anything Ham Radio. The sessions are geared toward new Hams. Everyone brings their questions and equipment they would like to show off or learn how to use. This Sunday we are going to install and learn to use Fligi, Flmsg, and Flamp. In past sessions we have built antennas, fired up new rigs, and generally had a good time!

The next meeting (Feb 15) will cover the same topic. Bring your laptop!

Geauga Amateur Radio Association (GARA)

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

The GARA schedule of exams are these Sundays at 2pm. Dates for 2024 are Jan 14, March 10, May12, July 14, Sept 15, and Nov 17, 2024. All sessions are at 2:00PM each month



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

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

Additional info may be obtained from Jackie Welch, N8JMW by email n8jmw2@gmail.com or calling at 440-228-2716. More information is available from the Geauga Amateur Radio Association website <https://geaugaara.org>

Huber Heights Amateur Radio Club

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

The Lake County Amateur Radio Association

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Lancaster and Fairfield County Amateur Radio Club (LFCARC)

hosts exam sessions at the FAIRFIELD County EMA, 240 Baldwin Dr in Lancaster Ohio, 43130, on the first Saturday each month at 10:00 am. Please visit our website at <http://www.k8qjk.org> for exam dates on our calendar and navigate to our Learning Center/Taking the Exam link for information and requirements. Our experienced VE team looks forward to serving the Amateur Radio community in Central Ohio. Contact me at ve_testing@k8qjk.org to register.

Lisbon Area Amateur Radio Association

LISBON AREA AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION (LAARA) 2024 SCHEDULE.

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

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

VE TESTING DATES FOR 2024

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

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

Madison County

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

The Milford Amateur Radio Club (MARC)

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

Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society (NOARS)

Six VE testing sessions in 2024. Registration is appreciated but walk-ins are welcome. Contact Elaine, KC8FOS for more information or to register. ewilkinson1951@gmail.com or 216-337-4235

Saturday, Jan 6. Fairview Park Library. 21255 Lorain Rd., Fairview Park. 10 AM.

Sunday, March 10. NOARS Hamfest. Lorain County Community College. 1005 Abbe Rd. N., Elyria. 9 AM.

Saturday, May 4. Fairview Park Library. 21255 Lorain Rd., Fairview Park. 10 AM.

Saturday, July 20. NOARSfest. Lorain County Community College. 1005 Abbe Rd. N., Elyria. 9 AM.

Saturday, September 7. Fairview Park Library. 21255 Lorain Rd., Fairview Park. 10 AM.

Saturday, November 2. Fairview Park Library. 21255 Lorain Rd., Fairview Park. 10 AM.

Portage County Amateur Radio Service (PCARS)

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

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

Tusco Amateur Radio Club W8ZX

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

Silvercreek ARA (SARA)

Hold six exam sessions per year for all license classes. Pre-registration requested but not required. Exam sessions for 2024:

Saturday, February 3rd - Wayne County Justice Center (Wooster)

Saturday, April 6th - Sharon Center UMC (Wadsworth/Medina)

Saturday, June 1st - Sharon Center UMC (Wadsworth/Medina)

Saturday, August 3rd - Wayne County Justice Center (Wooster)

Saturday, October 5th -Sharon Center UMC (Wadsworth/Medina)

Saturday, December 7th -Sharon Center UMC (Wadsworth/Medina)

All sessios begin at 10:00am. For directions and test information visit <https://w8wky.org/license-exams/>. Pre-Registration to expedite paperwork is requested, but not required at <https://w8wky.org/sara-ve-registration-form/>. Sign up and if you aren't ready or can't make it, just notify the VE team lead.

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

Your Club news should be listed here!

I know you're out there doing things! Send me a write-up (MSWord please) and some photo's (.jpg please) and we'll get your club hi-lited here for the other OH Section Clubs to see! Send to WB8LCD@ARRL.ORG

Important Links

ARRL Home: www.arrl.org

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

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

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

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

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

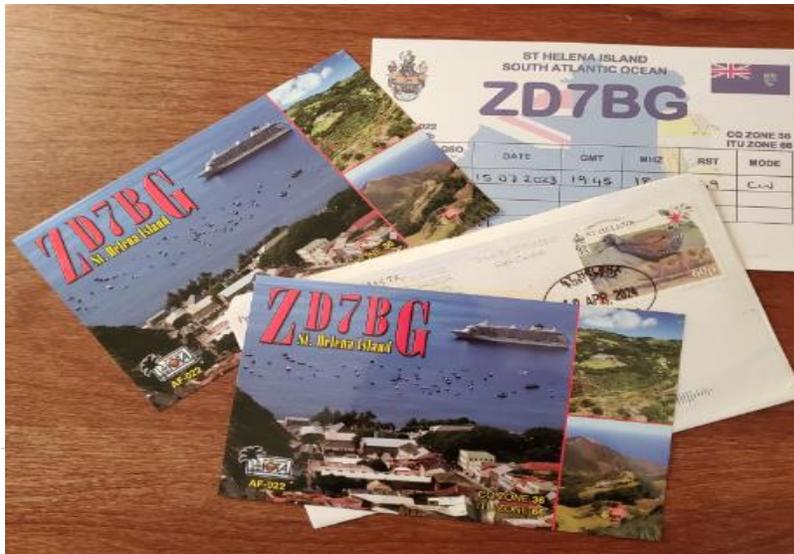
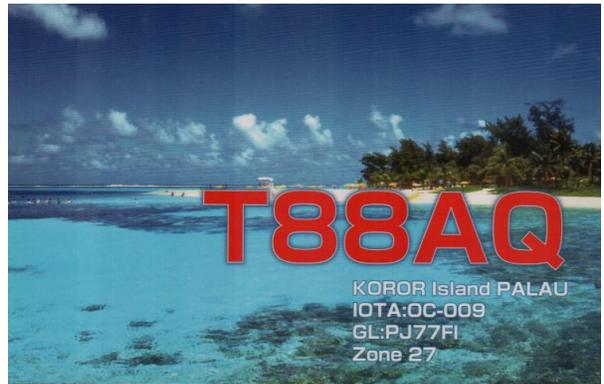
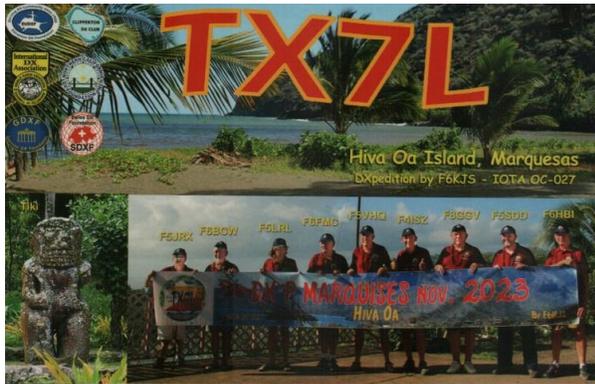
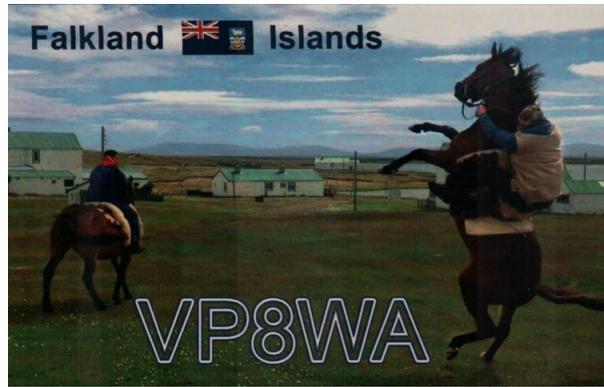
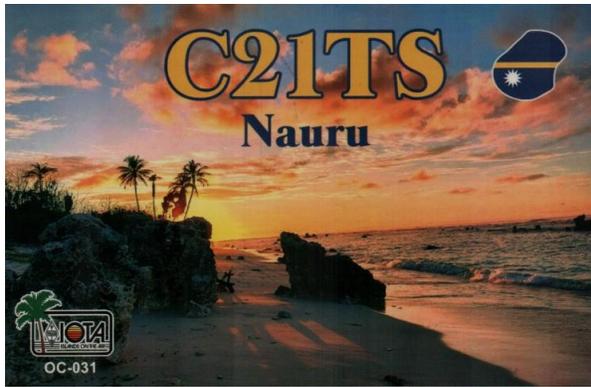
Email ARRL Clubs: clubs@arrl.org

DX This Week

Bill - AJ8B (thedxmentor@gmail.com / www.aj8b.com)

I thought I would take this opportunity to share some QSL cards I have received over the past few weeks. Below is C21TS from Nauru, VP8WA from the Falkland Islands, TX7L from the Marquesas Islands, T88AQ from Palau, 4W8X from Timor Leste, and C37N from Andorra.





I also received an email from Mark AA5TA, with a picture of the cards he has received recently. (Below)

Mark said "Hey Bill, I do read "DX This Week" in the weekly Ohio Section newsletter. I hope you keep sharing all the great info. Also, the "family

size" amount of content is good for me.:)

I use LoTW and rarely send cards. But for those who don't use LoTW, I have grandkids draw on blank cards and send them.

I finally got around to sending a couple cards to ZD7BG (St Helena Island) and got a couple in return today (for QSOs on my old call N8FTB and current call AA5TA).

Been trying to work TT8RR (Chad) but it's been a lot tougher going than the A8OK (Liberia) dxpedition (just CW, no other mode).

Best, Mark AA5TA

DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH

Here is what is happening in the World of DX:

This section of DX News comes from Bernie, W3UR, editor of the DailyDX, the WeeklyDX, and the How's DX column in QST. If you would like a free 2-week trial of the DailyDX, just drop me a note at thedxmentor@gmail.com

5H – Tanzania - NK8O (VE3ISD and 5H3DX), Charles, plans a trip to Dodoma, Tanzania, potentially June 18-30. He has been there several times before. He says that this trip is “primarily for business and I may not have a lot of time for operating, but I will try to keep my options open.”

Operation will be on 30-10M CW and FT8 (foxhound)/FT4. “Unless propagation is phenomenal, SSB operation is unlikely,” he says, noting that power to limited to 100W in Tanzania. He will use an Elecraft KX3 and KXPA100, and possibly a QRP Labs QDX digital transceiver. Charles says, “Although I am more of a casual DX hunter, I take being the DX seriously. It’s a lot of fun working a pileup.”

9X – Rwanda -DF2WO, Harold, is in Kigali through May 17, operating as 9X2AW on 80-6M CW, SSB, and possibly FT8. QSL via MØOXO OQRS.

May 11-19: CP7DX in Tarija, **Bolivia** - Members of the Argentine Yaguarete DX Group will operate from Tarija, Bolivia as CP7DX May 11-19. Listen for them on SSB, CW, and FT8/FT4 on 160-6M. They will also be on LEO satellites on SSB and FM. The operators will be LU1FM, Joe; LU2JCW, Andy; LU3FR, Fabian; LU6FOV, Fer; LU7HN, Rene; LU7MT, Pablo; LU8YD,

Alex; and LU9FHF, Dany. QSL direct only via LU1FM with SASE and two IRCs, or you can QSL via OQRS on Club Log. The DXpedition team has provided links for log searches and Club Log Livestream.

XU – Cambodia: XU7AGA - Over the past few days VK3BL, Jarrad, has been QRV as XU7AGA from the Kampot province of Cambodia. He is running a Yaesu FT-891 and FC-40 at 100W with an inverted-L antenna. He has been reported on FT8 on 20, 17, 15 and 10M. Jarrad is now a permanent resident. This is not a DXpedition, as only residents can obtain licenses. Jarrad says that he is filtering stations worked before; if he does not respond to your call on FT8, that may be why. Contacts are being uploaded daily to Club Log, and he plans to eventually upload contacts to LoTW. He has not decided how to handle paper confirmations.

XU – Cambodia - DL7BO, Tom, began activity again as XU7GNY and expects to remain QRV until May 12. Listen for him on CW, SSB and FT8 on 1.8 through 50 MHz, with an emphasis on the low bands. QSL via DL4WK, Club Log and eQSL.

A5 – Bhutan - The two-op Bhutan operation ended May 6th. This was A52P by SP9FIH, and A52CI by SP6CIK. Their last days they had no internet so the logs were uploaded right away when they ended the operation. They hope to be back home in Poland tomorrow. 32,797 QSOs for A52P were uploaded to Club Log: <https://clublog.org/logsearch/A52P> and 25,167 for A52CI: <https://clublog.org/logsearch/A52CI>

Z8 - South Sudan - Z81D, Diya (aka YI1DZ) moved to a different hotel a few days ago, taking down his antennas and mast and then putting things back up at the new place. He is expected back on the air before May 12. QSL via OM3JW or go through OQRS, eQSL and LoTW.

VU7 - Lakshadweep Islands - Earlier today VU3OQK, Lal, departed Kochi, India heading for Agatti Island. The ship is scheduled to arrive at Agatti on May 8th at 0730Z. Plans are to begin operations as VU7LAL starting on May 8th or 9th.

Four major DXpeditions come to an end!

The 3GØYA (Easter Island) DXpedition, the OJØT (Market Reef), and the 3D2CCC (Conway Reef) DXpeditions are all QRT. Each operation has stories to tell that dramatically illustrate both the allure and the hazards of DXpeditioning – poor conditions, antenna woes, man-made noise, ships drifting away (!), high winds, birds crashing into antennas and masts, and more. Still, memories were created for a lifetime, and the world DX community benefited. Thank you to the operators and support crew who made these DXpeditions possible!

DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH

The contest that I want to focus on this week is the upcoming CQ World-Wide WPX contest. The CW contest is the weekend of May 25th and 26th.

The purpose of the contest is to work as many different prefixes as you can in the contest period. Remember me, AJ8!!! Contacts between stations on different continents are worth 3 points on 10, 15, and 20 meters and 6 points on 40, 80, and 160. Historically, 40 meters is my “go-to” band for this contest.

Contacts between stations in the same country are worth 1 point, regardless of band.

This is a contest with a “target rich environment” and whether you are new to contesting or experienced, give this one a try

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!

Contest	Start Date	End Date
SWODXA DXDINNER	5/17/2024	
SWODXA DXForum	5/18/2024	
Arkansas QSOP	5/18/2024	5/19/2024

CQ WW WPX Contest, CW	5/25/2024	5/26/2024
ARRL International Digital Contest	6/1/2024	6/2/2024
10-10 International PSK Contest	6/1/2024	6/2/2024
Kentucky QSOP	6/1/2024	6/2/2024
ARRL June VHF Contest	6/8/2024	6/10/2024
All Asian DX Contest, CW	6/15/2024	6/16/2024
West Virginia QSOP	6/15/2024	6/16/2024

OHIO'S



HAPPY MAY!!

Last time out I commented about being excited getting ready to attend my first Ohio hamfest of the season. Lee Bishop, N8YHU, and I made the trip from Hillsboro to Athens in the predawn darkness of what turned out to be a perfect day. Although a bit slim on inside vendors, the annual **Athens County ARA**'s Hamfest set the Hamvention anticipation juices flowing. ACARA President Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, was pleased with the attendance and the number of those set up in the outside flea market area. I really appreciated the number of readers who stopped by to say "HI" even if they didn't leave with any of the goodies on the flea market tables and lighter wallets.

Since I've already mentioned Hamvention, let's go ahead and talk about some of the things happening during it's run. It's rather hard to believe that the world's largest gathering of amateur radio operators and those interested in radio communications takes place in the Western edge of the Ohio's South 40 coverage area. Between 30,000 and 35,000 people are expected to purchase tickets to the May 17-19 event at Xenia's Greene County Fairgrounds. As the **Dayton ARA**'s Mike Kalter, W8CI, would point out, those are tickets sold. Not people making multi-day passes through the traffic gates! Hamvention is not an event, it is an experience that any

ham should experience at least once. If you are looking for something ham radio related, between the inside buildings and the acres of outside flea market, it has to be there somewhere. Finding it becomes the challenge. Plus many hams travel to Hamvention just to take home a souvenir—a new ham license or an upgraded one. Free Laurel VE tests are given on Friday and Saturday at the church across from the Fairgrounds. And don't overlook the daily seminars featuring top notch speakers from the world of ham radio. Plus all the various types of food featured at the food trucks.

Although Hamvention officially doesn't kick off until the 17th, there are many events happening prior to its beginning. One of the most popular is the annual **“Four Days In May”** that starts on Thursday the 16th and continues through the 19th at the Holiday Inn in Fairborn. Although said to be the world's largest gathering of QRP operators, the event offers dozens of good speakers, vendor exhibits and advice and operating pointers any amateur can use. It has grown to be a very popular and well attended event during HamVention weekend with some nice prizes awarded to lucky attendees. More information is available at www.qrparci.org.

Another popular event happening during Hamvention weekend is the **West Chester ARC's** Voice of America Museum Open House. It opens on Thursday afternoon, May 16 at 1 PM and then be open on Friday and Saturday until 9 and Sunday until 5. Admission is \$10. Travel time to the site of “those Zircinnati liars” transmitter site is less than an hour from Xenia and is well worth the trip.

Southwest Ohio DX Association President Bill Salyers, AJ8B, informs us that tickets for the May 17 Hamvention DX Banquet are going fast and anyone wanting to [secure a seat](#) should act quickly at www.swodxa.org. Many DX chasers regard this affair as the highlight of Hamvention weekend. Well known DXer Dave Anderson, K4SV, will be the keynote banquet speaker. The event at the University of Dayton Marriott begins with a cash bar at 5:30 and the program and awards presentation begins at 7. After the banquet there will be a cash bar in a separate room where to socialize. Dozens of great prizes are already committed to be awarded during the evening with ICOM donating an IC7610 as the grand prize.

These items only scratch the surface of events, dinners and bull sessions happening during Hamvention weekend. One has to attend to appreciate the event. So plan to get a carload of other hams together and make the trip to Xenia. For someone attending for the first time, try to buddy up with someone who is a veteran Hamvention attendee as it can be an overwhelming experience. Just think, some hams scrimpt and save for years to make the trip from halfway around the world. And we can experience it in our back yard.

Although the National Weather Services In Person Spring Severe Storm Spotting training sessions are mostly over, one does remain. On May 13 Martins Ferry becomes the site where the Pittsburgh NWS Office to hold an in person training session at the Belmont County Library. The Wilmington NWS Office has one remaining virtual spotter training class that can be attended by anyone from any location. It will be on May 14. You must register for it at www.weather.gov/iln.

On May 14 members of the **Highland ARA** are asked to gather at the chapel in the Hillsboro Cemetery to assist the cemetery association with decorating the graves of the 1,200 military veterans buried there. John Willis, KE8JEM, says he plans to get underway about 5:30. A May 21st rain date is in place. Often several members adjourn to a local restaurant afterwards to continue the fellowship and enjoy the satisfaction of conducting this non-radio community event to honor our veterans.

Bill Gehringer, N8SBT, reminds **Fayette ARA** members not attending Hamvention the May 18 breakfast gathering will be moved to Wendy's in Washington CH because of the remodeling of the Tim Hortons.



Memorial Day might be a few weeks away, but the **Southern Ohio ARA** is already calling for volunteers to assist their communications and line-up efforts to make it another safe year for it. Information Officer Mike Love, WB8YKS, asks for area amateurs to assist that day. Dave Bruce, KD8NYN, is coordinating SOARA's assistance with parade officials and too asks for more members to step forward and assist in the event that SOARA has been providing communications assistance for many years. It will be further discussed at the upcoming May 20 meeting. The Ironton/Lawrence County parade is the oldest continuously held Memorial Day Parade in the nation.

More new Technician ham licenses have been issued to folks in the Western counties of the South 40 Region. Paul Hauwiller from Lebanon is now KF8BDA and Alexander Sheldon from Loveland is KF8BDE. Milford's Philip Harris now bears the KF8BDF call sign while Renee Simmons from Goshen is KF8BDN. Thanks to the efforts of Mike Boyle, WF8B, the recent **Clinton County ARA**'s license class and test sessions has resulted in new licenses issued within the County. Blanchester now has two new hams. They are Kristie Kiphart who has become KF8BDUV and Michael Sutton who is KF8BDW. On the opposite side of the County Sabina's Thomas Cox has become KF8BEB. Let's welcome them all to our ranks.

According to **Athens County ARA** President Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, the sponsors of the Southern Ohio Forest Rally are looking for radio amateurs to assist with this year's three day event. On Thursday, June 6, a single event will take place at Chillicothe's Yochtangee Park. The following day events move to the Shawnee State Forest where several stages will happen. Then on the 8th things get lively at the Zaleski State Forest where all the action is. Besides the need for radio operators, there are other non-radio opportunities to assist. Check the www.southernohioforestrally.com website for more information and how to apply to become a volunteer.



The **Clinton County ARA** announces the winner of their recent fund raiser of a package of meat from Sam's Meats in Wilmington was David Gordley, K8DEG. When's the cookout Dave?

May 21 will mark the next meeting of the **Tri-State ARA**. The meeting will be held at the Museum of Radio and Technology in Huntington beginning at 7 PM. Visitors are always welcome.

On May 22 the **Cambridge ARA** will assist with parking control for the annual Guernsey County Senior Citizens Picnic in Cambridge. If you are interest in earning a free meal for the day, contact Roger Davis, AB8JH, or Sonny Alfman, W8HFH at lynalfman@aol.com or 740-872-3884 and volunteer to assist.

During the recent ZOOM meeting of the clubs activating their states for the upcoming Lewis and Clark Trail on the Air it was mentioned that the organizers are wanting two clubs to represent each state along the Trail. Two of the states needing an additional club are Pennsylvania and West Virginia. If you know of a club in either of the two states that might like to investigate becoming involved, please have them contact www.info.lctota.org. The **Portsmouth RC** and **Highland ARA** are the two Ohio representatives this year. This is stressed this is an operating event and not a contest. It starts June 1 and runs through June 16.

At the recent **Athens County ARA** Hamfest I chatted with Milton and Russell Perry (W8MLP and KD8DJE) who stated the **Vinton County ARA** plans to hold a swap fest on October 26 at the community building in McArthur. I also learned the **Buffalo 10 Meter Group** will hold their 4th annual swap meet on Saturday, September 21 at the Leavitt Funeral Home lot in Belpre. As in past years, it will be held in conjunction with the annual festival and car show.

The 2024 version of the ever popular ARRL Field Day is right around the corner. Some of the region's clubs have already announced their intents to participate and locations. **All Things ARA** will operate from the Alley Park, Old Logan Road, in Lancaster. This year the **Athens County ARA** will operate as K8V from the Athens County Fairgrounds. The **Cambridge ARA** returns to the Grove Park north of New Concord. The **Clinton County ARA** returns to last year's K8GO site at 1020 Farmer's Road outside of Wilmington. The **Highland ARA** is relocating this year and will operate K8HO from the historic Scott House at 335 West Main Street at the edge of Hillsboro's business district. In the London area, the **Madison County ARC** will set up shop at 75 Middle Street in London. The **Milford ARA** will only operate Field Day on Saturday from 2 pm until the park closes at dusk. Their operation will take place at the Clepper Pike Pavillion A on Summerside Road. Another club making a location change is the **OH-KY-IN ARS**. This year they are changing their FD location to the Masonic Lodge on West Fork Road. The **Tri-State ARA** is looking forward to the event and will be testing some

Eagle One antennas in preparation for the event. A look at the ARRL Field Day Locator indicates a lot of clubs in the region have not registered their participation on the site. Please do that so others will know your club intends to be active.

By now we all have heard the announcement of the production closing of MFJ. It's ironic the closing takes place during Hamvention. I recall getting my first MFJ product (a 24-hour digital clock kit) many years ago at Hamvention. Since then many of their products and those of their various other lines have graced my shack. Like many others, I hope someone will step up and continue their most popular items. It will be sad not to see them any longer. I also understand long time ham radio dealer R & L Electronics will not attend this year because of health issues.



Because of my activities assisting with the testing program during Hamvention, I do not foresee a column that weekend. But before putting the wraps on the column for this time, I wish to call attention to the observation of Armed Forces Day on May 17 and thank the many men and women who serve or have served in some branch of the military or supporting department or agency. Thank you for your service.

John Levo, W8KIW

jlevo@cinci.rr.com or highlandara@gmail.com or 937-393-4951 (landline-leave a message)

ARLD019 DX news

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

RWANDA, 9X. Harald, DF2WO is QRV as 9X2AW from Kigali until May 17. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, FT8, and FT4. QSL via M0OXO.

BOTSWANA, A2. Remo, HB9SHD is QRV as A255HD until May 13. Activity is holiday style on 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters using SSB and possibly FT8. QSL to home call.

BAHRAIN, A9. Special event station A91WTIS will be QRV from May 11 to 17 to celebrate World Telecommunication and Information Society Day. QSL via EC6DX.

MOZAMBIQUE, C9. Bill, C91CCY has been active using SSB on 80 meters around 0400z, and 40 meters around 0430z. QSL via K3IRV.

MOROCCO, CN. Special call sign CN21HM is QRV until May 12 in celebration of the 21st

birthday of Prince Moulay Hassan, the heir apparent to the Moroccan throne. QSL direct to CN8RAH.

BOLIVIA, CP. Members of the Yaguarete DX Group will be QRV as CP7DX from Tarija on May 11 to 19. Activity will be on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, FT8 in DXpedition mode, as well as SSB and FM on various LEO satellites. QSL direct to LU1FM.

NORTHERN IRELAND, GI. Members of the North West Group ARC are QRV with special event station GB0AEL until May 31 to commemorate the anniversary of Amelia Earhart's transatlantic flight in May 1932. QSL via MI0HOZ.

SAUDI ARABIA, HZ. Members of the Saudi Radio Amateurs Society will be QRV with special event station HZ1WTIS from May 10 to 17 in celebration of World Telecommunication and Information Society Day. QSL via bureau.

ITALY, I. Members of the United Nations Global Service Centre ARC in Brindisi are QRV as 4U29MAY until May 31 to promote the International Day of UN Peacekeepers. QSL via 9A2AA.

SARDINIA, IS0. Tomi, OH2TJS is QRV as IS0/OH2TJS until May 18. Activity is on the HF bands using SSB, FT8, and FT4. QSL to home call.

WAKE ISLAND, KH9. Tom, NL7RR is QRV as KH9/NL7RR until May 15. Activity is generally on 20 meters SSB around 0700z. QSL direct to home call.

AUSTRIA, OE. Rene, DL2JRM is QRV as OE7/DL2JRM until May 12. This includes being an entry in the CQ-M International DX contest. QSL to home call.

CZECH REPUBLIC, OK. A number of operators are QRV using the OL87 prefix until May 26 to showcase the 87th Ice Hockey World Championship. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY, PSK, FT8, and FT4. QSL via operators' instructions.

SOMALIA, T5. Alex, IT9HRK is QRV as T5/IT9HRK from Mogadishu. Activity is in his spare time on 80 to 10 meters using mainly SSB, with some CW, RTTY, FT8, and FT4. He is here for several months. QSL via IU5RPJ.

LAKSHADWEEP ISLANDS, VU7. Lal, VU3OQK is QRV as VU7LAL from Agatti and Kavarathi until May 31. Activity is on 40, 20, and 10 meters. QSL direct.

CAMBODIA, XU. Jarrad, VK3BL is QRV as XU7AGA from Kampot. Activity is in his spare time on 20, 17, 15, and 10 meters using mostly FT8. QSL via Club Log.

NEW ZEALAND, ZL. Members of the Gisborne Branch of the New Zealand Association of Radio Transmitters are QRV with special event call ZL100AC during May to commemorate the first trans-Pacific contact with Carlos Braggio, CB8, near Buenos Aires, Argentina. QSL via

operators' instructions.

Please see May QST, page 77, and the ARRL and WA7BNM contest websites for details.

Upcoming Hamfests

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



Ohio Hamfests

2024

05/11/2024 - 05/16/2024

RV Radio Network

Location: Millersburg, OH

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: RV Radio Network

Learn More

05/16/2024 - 05/19/2024

Four Days In May

Location: Fairborn, OH

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: QRP Amateur Radio Club International

Website: <http://qrparci.org/fdim>

Learn More

05/17/2024 - 05/19/2024

Dayton Hamvention, ARRL National Convention

Location: Xenia, OH

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Dayton Amateur Radio Association

Website: <https://hamvention.org>

Learn More

06/01/2024 - FCARC Summer Hamfest

Location: Wauseon, OH

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Fulton County Amateur Radio Club

Website: <https://k8bxq.org/hamfest>

Learn More

<p>07/06/2024 - Mansfield Mid Summer Trunkfest Location: Mansfield, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Intercity Amateur Radio Club Website: http://W8WE.ORG Learn More</p>	<p>07/20/2024 - NOARSFEST Location: Elyria, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society Website: http://www.noars.net Learn More</p>
<p>07/20/2024 - Ashtabula County Hamfest 2024 Location: Pierpont, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Amigos Radio Club Ashtabula Website: https://sites.google.com/view/arca-home/ Learn More</p>	<p>07/21/2024 - Van Wert Hamfest Location: Van Wert, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Van Wert Amateur Radio Club Website: http://w8fy.org Learn More</p>
<p>08/03/2024 - 2024 Columbus Hamfest Location: Grove City, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Aladdin Shrine Audio Unit Website: http://www.columbushamfest.com Learn More</p>	<p>08/10/2024 - Cincinnati Hamfest Location: Owensville, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Milford ARC Website: https://CincinnatiHamfest.org Learn More</p>
<p>08/18/2024 - Warren Hamfest Location: Cortland, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Warren Amateur Radio Association Website: https://www.w8vtd.com/ Learn More</p>	<p>09/08/2024 - Findlay Hamfest Location: Findlay, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Findlay Radio Club Website: http://w8ft.org Learn More</p>
<p>09/22/2024 - Cleveland Hamfest Location: Berea, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Hamfest Association of Cleveland Website: https://www.hac.org Learn More</p>	<p>10/05/2024 - Northwest Ohio Amateur Radio Club (NWOARC) Hamfest Location: Lima, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Northwest Ohio Amateur Radio Club, Inc. Website: http://www.nwoarc.com Learn More</p>
<p>10/27/2024 - 2024 MARC Hamfest at MAPS Location: N. Canton, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Massillon Amateur Radio Club Website: https://www.w8np.net Learn More</p>	<p>12/07/2024 - Winter Hamfest Location: Archbold, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: FCARC Website: https://k8bxq.org/hamfest Learn More</p>

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](#)

Final... Final

I’ve been thinking a lot lately about all the Angst we have experienced with ARRL lately. I’ve tried to take the attitude that I’m not picking sides, I just want to see and understand what’s going on from a perch high above the fray, where I can look down on and see everyone’s concerns and actions. All of this started and exists at a level that I am not personally involved in. I would like to think that I’m impartial to what is going on, you may think differently of me, and that’s OK. We all have our own point of view.

A lot of the issues I can’t speak to, because I have not been personally involved in them. I’ve got good friends on both sides of the issues. It’s a difficult place to be in. But I feel compelled to make just a few comments here. Ham Radio has been one of the major forces / interests in my life, since I was very young. Most of my friends are Hams. My business partner of over 40 years was a Ham I met in college. Most of the activities I’m involved in are Ham Radio activities.

I've personally experienced "Angst" with Ham Radio and in other portions of my life. Usually it revolves around relationships even more than the "issues" as people line up and take sides with the issues and let that interfere with their relationships. I remember after the LA Riots in 1992 Rodney King asked the question: Can't we all just get along?

I think we can. When it really comes down to it, we all have the same interests and desires for our hobby and our involvement in the ARRL. Especially since COVID, we seem to have lost our skills at inter-personal relationships and that's affecting our lives not only with Amateur Radio / ARRL but in other important aspects of our lives too.

In the March 2021 Ohio Section Journal I wrote "Last month I told you that I have three main areas that I will be working on for the duration of my term(s) as OH Section Manager. #1. Making sure that the Hams in the OH Section not only have but take advantage of all the opportunities that this hobby gives them to have FUN! #2. Increase the number of licensed hams, increase the number of active hams, and increase the number of ARRL member hams in the OH Section. #3. Increase and improve the public image of Amateur Radio to the general population of OH."

Today, those are still my main goals as Ohio Section Manager. In all my years as a ham I've met a lot of really smart, caring and involved Hams. Because of that, I have faith that we will work out the issues we have right now, and in the light of history, this time will be just a blip on the timeline. Those three goals for me are just as important as the other "issues" that we face as Radio Amateurs and ARRL members. My prayer is that we will all "just get along" to work out the problems that face us. As we do that, we can have fun, attract new hams to join us, and create an image in our communities as a really smart, creative and friendly people!

(I hope that didn't ramble too much. And believe me – I don't claim "perfection" in any area of my life, but I'm working on it!)

I hope to see you all at Hamvention next week! It's going to be Fantastic!

Get on the air and enjoy the greatest hobby in the world!

73,
Tom WB8LCD

Last weekend, in the mountains near Gatlinburg, TN I found the perfect car wash for my car:



“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://arri-ohio.org/sm/s-s.html>



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

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

The same rules will apply as do for the For Sales and Give-A-Ways and will only be posted for a month at a time. Please see the Terms & Conditions on the webpage. You might want to list your location so that prospective buyers know where you're at.

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

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

Back Issues of the PostScript and Ohio Section Journal

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



Ohio Section Cabinet

Section Manager – Tom Sly, WB8LCD	Section Emergency Coordinator – Bret Stemen, KD8SCL
Technical Coordinator – Jeff Kopcak, K8JTK	Section Traffic Manager – David Maynard, WA3EZN
State Government Liaison – Bob Winston, W2THU	Affiliated Clubs Coordinator – Amanda Farone, KC3GFU
Section Youth Coordinator – Anthony Lascre, K8ZT	Public Information Coordinator – Elizabeth Klinc – KE8FMJ

Chit – Chat, and All That!

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



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

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

[TOP^](#)