



Inside this issue:

- [THE TECHNICAL COORDINATOR](#)
 - [THE SECTION EMERGENCY COORDINATOR](#)
 - [THE SECTION TRAFFIC MANAGER](#)
 - [EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH](#)
 - [LET'S TALK](#)
 - [SPECIAL EVENT STATIONS IN OHIO](#)
 - [FCC OPENS 630 & 2200-METER BANDS](#)
 - [AFFILIATED CLUB COORDINATOR REPORT](#)
 - [THE PUBLIC INFORMATION COORDINATOR](#)
 - [OUT AND ABOUT](#)
 - [ARES TRAINING UPDATE](#)
 - [THE OFFICIAL OBSERVER COORDINATOR](#)
 - [OHIO HAMFEST CALENDAR](#)
 - [TAKE NOTE](#)
- [FINAL.. FINAL..](#)
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THE TECHNICAL COORDINATOR

Jeff Kopcak – TC

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Hey Gang,

Last couple articles have been features so this month is a lot of odds-and-ends...

System Fusion

Last month's article covering many System Fusion issues sparked some feedback as one might imagine. It was split.

One group in the section was using an external controller and was having a DR-1X repeater lock-up problem. They troubleshot the issue and with "additional circuitry" resolved their issue. One disputed my assertion the repeater is two FTM-400 radios, but didn't provide any details to the contrary. Having opened up LEARA's DR-1X and upgraded the firmware, one radio looks exactly like the 400 (minus the speaker). Additionally, the firmware upgrade process was identical to my 400. Arguably, the transmit radio could be different but it's hard to really tell with the heatsink mounted on top.

On the opposite end, a club in the section is completely frustrated with how Yaesu treated them as customers. They've attempted to call and email no less than 6 Yaesu representatives asking for details on promotions, hardware specifications, or answer to questions but never heard a word. They believe 'Yaesu has lost any competitive edge they had by flooding the market with Fusion gear.' Though I agree, I have not experienced this particular problem with my inquiries to support. My emails have been answered within a day or so – usually confirming suspicions I heard elsewhere. Seemingly ignoring customers is bad for business. Though customers feel they are being ignored, it may be a management attempt to better coordinate internal communication before going public. You're doing it wrong, but it is a possibility. As pointed out previously, statements of fact made countless times are suddenly reversed and changed at release.

To clarify a point, the FTM-400 radio does operate both A & B sides of the radio simultaneously. My issue is, for their high-end offering of a mobile radio, it should be able to operate Fusion from both A & B sides of the radio at the same time. It does not. The A side can operate Fusion digital or FM. B only operates FM. Operating Fusion digital from both sides is one nice feature of the FT2D.

It didn't take long before I started hearing the DMR arguments. DMR does have issues too but I see them as growing pains. It's not: 'this crashes, this locks up in transmit, this doesn't work until you get a factory upgrade, need to spend \$\$\$ to work around a shortcoming, upgrade to get the full power output, something can't be fixed because there is no published specification...' the list goes on. I've covered DMR issues here before and have noted most of them in my DMR Terminology and Programming a Code Plug learning series: <http://www.k8jtk.org/category/amateur-radio/dmr-in-amateur-radio/>.



Background checks, public service, & saving lives

The era of submitting to a background and credit check before helping out with fund-raising public service events is upon us. The local Multiple Sclerosis Society in Cleveland hosts a 150 mile (or so) bike ride every year. This used to be called “Pedal to the [Cedar] Point” but was renamed “Buckeye Breakaway” when the ride changed destinations to Ashland University. Last year, the MS society pushed for all volunteers to run a full background check. This included all ham, SAG (Support and Gear), and medical units – whether they were mobile or stationary at rest stops. Failing to complete the required check or failing the check would mean that person couldn’t volunteer or participate. This request was sprung on the ham and medical coordinators a few weeks out from the event. Citing time constraints and the amount of push back from volunteers, eventually the required check was no longer required but not after some had already completed the investigation.



This year, the MS society required a background investigation and proof of liability insurance for SAG drivers. Though I was not transporting riders, I too had to submit because I was the shadow of an MS staff person for the event. The investigation service stated a ‘credit check’ would be part of the reporting, though the society said it would not be a factor for eligibility.

Like many organizations, the MS Society is going through its share of layoffs, reorganizations, and centralization. The Cleveland chapter had little recourse since the background check was mandated from HQ. I suspect this will become the norm rather than the exception in the legal, CYA, society we live in. It sure takes the fun out of doing a public service event and not sure I want to give up that much personally identifiable information again for a fundraiser event. Then again, Equifax hands out PII data to anyone who can gain access to their systems.



That issue aside, a real life threatening event happened. Ham and medical volunteers dealt with a roll-over accident involving one of the cyclists in the event, a utility pole, and a parked car – all because of an impatient driver. This happened in Medina County near Valley City. The accident was radioed in by a ham volunteer. Other hams were on scene along with the Northeast Ohio Medical Response Corps to triage the situation. NEOMRC is a group of volunteers who provide medial support services for events and nearly all are licensed hams. The injured cyclist was life-flighted to a nearby hospital. The driver, who caused the accident, left the scene. By late afternoon, the story was all over the local news:

<http://fox8.com/2017/08/05/cyclist-struck-by-car-during-race-in-medina-county/>. Fortunately, no one was killed. Img: Brunswick Hills Firefighters.

ISS SSTV

To commemorate the 20th anniversary of Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS), a slow scan TV event was held July 20th and ran for 3 days. During these events, SSTV transmissions originate from the International Space Station as it orbits in space. No special setup is required to copy the images. To receive the best images, Yagi antennas on a tracking tripod is best. I just use my external VHF antenna and let the radio listen for transmissions. Images sent featured different ARISS activities over the past 20 years. Check out the images 34 images I received: <http://www.k8jtk.org/2017/08/03/sstv-transmissions-from-the-international-space-station-july-2017-edition/>. If you want to get started in SSTV, check out the links to my getting started tutorial of MMSSTV in that post. I will also be giving my SSTV presentation at the Geauga Amateur Radio Association meeting on September 25, 2017 at 7:30 in the Geauga County Emergency Operations Center. More on the meeting: <https://geaugaara.org/>.



2017 Eclipse & WSPR



I contributed to the radio sciences taking place around the solar eclipse. I didn't get to travel to an area of totality or even take off work. Instead I worked a number of the special event stations in the surrounding days. Still have to send away for my certificate. Since I didn't take off work or do anything unusual, my contribution to the "eclipse QSO party" was to leave WSPR decoding signals and upload the spots. Scientists are hoping to learn more about eclipses and effects they have on the atmosphere and radio propagation from those spots.

WSPR stands for Weak Signal Propagation Reporting Network. If you have WSJT-X installed, WSPR is included in that package. WSPR is intended to be a QRP mode because each receive and transmit window is 2 minutes. It works like a beacon network based on timed transmissions like JT65, JT9, and FT8. Each band has 200 Hz of bandwidth designated for WSPR. A transmitting station will digitally transmit their call sign, grid square, and dBm (power output). Similar to the JT's, the signal report (DB), time difference between the two clocks, and drift are calculated by the receiving station. Decoded signals are uploaded as spots to the WSPR Net website. The data is crunched and used to draw real-time maps of propagation. More: <http://wsprnet.org/>

Technical Specialist Reports

In Technical Specialist news, Dave – KD8TWG held a "Test and Tune" night for LEARA. Communications and spectrum analyzers were brought in to tune radios that might be off frequency or show how much those Baofeng radios do transmit everywhere at once. Contact Dave or a section Specialist to bring this educational and eye-opening experience to your club meeting.

In addition, KD8TWG would like to thank everyone who came out and worked the 195th Great Geauga County



Fair. Dave was in charge of the communications and networking for golf cart drivers who transported fair goers to and from their cars. Golf carts were equipped with APRS for location tracking. A WiFi network based on the Mikrotik NV2 protocol was built for two weeks. NV2 is a proprietary WiFi protocol based on TDMA in the 5.1-5.8 GHz range. The advantage of TDMA



wireless is better throughput and lower latency in point-to-point or point-to-multipoint networks. Traditional WiFi is built on a Carrier sensed collision avoidance system where nodes transmit only when they sense the channel is idle. Dave points out, this is NOT mesh. Over the wireless network, they ran a phone system and IP cameras. The Sherriff's Office was impressed with the video coverage and wants to run more cameras next year. By the numbers: 60 volunteers worked 1,284 hours, with just under 700 golf cart transports. Dave ate approximately 47,000 calories in fried food. Imgs: KD8TWG.

Technical Regulation Reform

An ARNewsline report (#2080) points out the FCC Technical Advisory Council is looking for opinions and suggestions to update existing technical regulations or to adopt new ones. *"The FCC wants the council to single out any rules that are obsolete or in need of being brought up-to-date. The Council also wants comments on how the agency's regulatory process on specific technical rules could become more efficient. The agency stresses that the issues being considered are those of a technical nature."* Thoughts or opinions can be filed in ET Docket 17-215 or with the ARRL. October 30th is the deadline. More: <http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-technological-advisory-council-investigating-technical-regulations>

Foxhunts

I've only participated in two Fox Hunts. The first time, I came in dead last. Second time, came in second. No idea how that happened because no skills were honed at all. The Ham Radio 360 podcast had an episode with Larry Jacobs – WA7ZBO talking all about Fox Hunts. Surprising to me was the [Tape measure antenna](#) is very popular even among serious hunters. As for gear, an antenna, attenuator, and radio are needed. In the absence of an attenuator, your body could be used to attenuate signals. Larry talked about some dos and don'ts. He encouraged hamfests to hold hunts to 'whet the appetite.' The most popular hunts are races with mileage and time restrictions to keep things safe. Don't make the hunt too hard where participants get discouraged and don't want to ever participate again. Always use public property. Use common sense and don't be a wise guy. For example, a convention had the fox located near the hotel pool.

When someone asked what everyone was doing with antennas around the hotel, someone responded with 'a Soviet Satellite with a radioactive payload went down near here.' Guests couldn't check out of the hotel fast enough. The hotel asked this group not to return.

While funny, don't be that guy. Instead have ARRL handouts and pamphlets about ham radio when someone asks. The episode can be found at: <http://hamradio360.com/index.php/2017/07/25/ham-radio-360-fox-hunting-transmitter-bunnies-too/>

Last Man Standing & Frequency TV shows

Many have heard by now the Tim Allen show “Last Man Standing” was canceled by ABC and possibly looking for a new home. Tim Allen plays a fictional ham radio operator using the call sign KA0XTT. The show was popular among politically conservative individuals and ham radio operators. According to ARNewline (#2069), talks fell through for the show and it will not be returning with new episodes. The show will soon be removed from Netflix as 20th Century Fox struck a deal with Hulu for exclusive rights to their catalog, which includes Last Man Standing. Hulu is a premium service for streaming TV and movies. Channels carrying reruns include: CMT, Hallmark, Freeform, and The CW. Also on CW was the TV spinoff of the movie Frequency, it too was canceled.

TYT MD-2017 Broken Antenna Connectors

If you purchased an early Tytera MD-2017 DMR dual-band radio and the antenna connector broke, contact your dealer. This appears to be a first-run issue and TYT has shipped replacement connector parts to their dealers. Replacing the connector requires opening the radio and soldering. If you’re not comfortable, ask if the dealer will do the work or swap the radio.

Thanks for reading, 73, and Go Tribe!... de Jeff - K8JTK

[TOP ^](#)

THE AFFILIATED CLUBS COORDINATOR

Tom Sly, WB8LCD - ACC

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They say that “old habits are hard to break.” I can certainly attest to that. It also seems the opposite is true too: New habits are hard to make! (I need to qualify that, bad habits usually come pretty easy, GOOD habits are hard to make) I know I need to get out there and start visiting all the clubs in the Ohio Section, but it's going to have to be a habit for me to really get it done. I'll be starting next week with a visit to the Western Reserve Amateur Radio Club in the Youngstown area. Hopefully I'll be able to make it a habit to visit one or more Ohio Section clubs each month.



According to the ARRL web site, there are 2495 Affiliated Clubs. The Ohio Section has 110 clubs currently. Since there are 27,989 Amateur Radio licenses issued in Ohio, that means we should have approximately 250 members in each of our clubs! Alright, that's a bit optimistic. Let's say only 50% of licensed hams are active, now we drop down to 125 current / active members in each of our clubs. (DARA is the obvious exception to this rule)*** Is that what your club looks like at its meetings and events? Yeah, mine neither.

I'm a strong believer in picking as much of the "low hanging fruit" as you can, as quickly as possible! While I'm certainly an advocate for bringing new hams into the hobby, people who are already licensed, or were licensed when they were younger, but then got caught up in life and either let it lapse or have renewed but not been active, is a pretty large group who might be easier to get involved because of their prior experience. Take a look through QRZ.com for the licenses listed in your area.



I guarantee there are going to be quite a few who you've never heard of. Reaching out to those who are already familiar with Amateur Radio and already have a license should be pretty easy to start a conversation with. Invite them to your club activities, and, if you've got some good programs for them to participate in, and if your club makes them feel welcome, you might just bring a few back into the realm of being active hams and club members!

So, I'm off to visit the Western Reserve Amateur Radio Club, and I'm thinking about all the clubs that are actually pretty close to me. A 50-mile radius would include quite a few. A 100-mile radius would be A Lot! What would it look like if members of local clubs routinely visited with the other clubs in the area? There's really very little downside to it. It's a chance to make new friends. A chance to see how other clubs run their meetings. A chance to pick up ideas on meeting topics / speakers and other club activities. You don't have to belong to every club you visit with, and, at the same time, you can belong to more than one club!

I've done a lot of traveling between Ohio and California over the past three years. On a couple of my trips I was able to time them so I could visit with the local ham club where I was staying. ARES of Sonoma County. It was their "homebrew" night, where they all brought in some of their projects and presented them and explained them to the group. I had a great time, met some new friends and learned some interesting things about homebrewing. It was definitely worth the effort to find them and visit them.

So, as I'm going to start a program of regular visits, I want to ask you to join me in visiting the other clubs near you. Let me know what your experience was. For everyone who attends their regular club meetings I want you to be conscious of who shows up at your meetings. If it's someone you don't know, or recognize, make it your personal responsibility to greet them and welcome them to your club! That one thing will make them think highly of you personally, they'll feel positive about their visit to your club, and they will have a good feeling about Amateur Radio in general! It's a win, win, win!

*** As an aside to what I was saying (rambling) earlier, DARA is a unique club. Although I've never been to one of their meetings (that's soon to change) I've been a member of DARA. They have done something very unique for themselves as a club and for all of Amateur Radio. I belong to DARA because I want to be a part of that. I support them as a member and as an annual visitor to the Dayton Hamvention! They have members from all over the world simply because they want to support DARA and what they do for us every year. Let's do some creative thinking and see what other clubs can come up with to be of service not only to their own membership, but to hams the world over. I'll say it again; the Ohio Section is loaded with very intelligent and creative hams – we're certainly capable of coming up with "The Next BIG Thing in Amateur Radio."

Hope to hear you on the air!

73, de Tom, WB8LCD

[TOP ^](#)

THE SECTION EMERGENCY COORDINATOR

Stan Broadway, N8BHL - SEC

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Amateur Radio: still getting the message through.

I must be a bit shorter this month, as I'm writing the Hurricane Watch Net is preparing for a second marathon session on the arrival of Cat. 5 hurricane Irma. The HWN spend several days watching hurricane Harvey as it moved inland and blew apart the Texas/Louisiana coasts. Irma has promised to do the same to the southeast. When you read this, you'll already know the result.



Amateurs across the world have been very polite and cooperative during the operation of the Hurricane Net. Because it was involving the US coastline, we operated on both our home frequency of 14.325 and our adopted 40 meter frequency of 7268. Nets on 40 were most cooperative, moving their operations off frequency or standing by for the HWN. In the mornings, there's a "Waterways Net" on 40 which meshes nicely with the information we need on the HWN- so it's a good fit, and we cooperate very well.

We were not overwhelmed with reports during the days before Harvey hit land. A few stations provided regular measurements. Many other stations heeded local warnings and were busy preparing their own residences for the storm and anticipated flooding. I must say the National Hurricane Center had Harvey pinned down- they were right on target with their forecasts and predictions of massive flooding.

Because it was a populated area, much of the weather-related traffic was conducted on local resources- repeaters, DMR, and Echolink. Interestingly, as I monitored Houston Fire, it was apparent that while overloaded, the public safety communications systems were strong enough to stay alive during the storm. I have not seen AAR's from other locations into Louisiana, but without the population centers, I'm certain amateur radio was a big player.

Now, comes Irma- and we're at it again. Since this storm is coming across the islands, we promise to have a much higher impact with the HF nets, since one of the first things they do is cut power on the islands. As I help operate these nets, I sometimes wonder why we still do this on HF with satellites and all the "stuff"...but then we get reports from battery-operated stations with no power, no communication and no other resource.

My constant concern is that we here in Ohio are ready for whatever decides to disrupt our lives. We cannot be ready by just assuming we are. We have to practice, develop plans and practice again!



One such operation promises to be a big deal this year! Matt Curtin, KD8TTE, has structured "Black Swan" for our SET this October. It will involve multiple states, even reaching into Europe, for message traffic. We have provided a timetable and skeleton for EC's to structure their county's activities! Please plan on playing in this exercise- it's important for ARES and amateur radio.

It's important to solidify our partnership with agencies such as EMA, Red Cross, and various military organizations. They will all be watching! For information and to register as a participating county/agency, go to <http://sites.google.com/view/blackswan/2017>

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

73, Stan, N8BHL

[TOP ^](#)

THE PUBLIC INFORMATION COORDINATOR

John Ross, KD8IDJ - PIC
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FROM THE PIC

Over the past several weeks, with hurricanes in Texas and Florida, we have witnessed some of the worst natural disasters in the past 100 years.

As mesmerizing as it was to watch the storms on television and listen on radio there was more drama playing out on the ham radio bands. The hurricane nets were in full force 24/7 and the traffic was pretty rugged and non-stop. If you tuned across the other bands there were more nets...and individuals...passing emergency communications in and out of the hardest hit areas. It was amateur radio doing what it does best...stepping up and bringing the full force of our hobby and training...to help. The skill of the operators, their true concern for all of the residents and victims, added up to immeasurable assistance when it was needed.



I was never far from a radio tuned to the hurricane net. I had one at work, in the car and at home the shack was light up all day and night. At the Findlay hamfest I don't think there was a ham who wasn't thinking about the events unfolding in Florida. One vendor had an old radio for sale at his table...powered up and a piece of bailing wire for an antenna...tuned to the hurricane net. A lot of people crowded around the table...not to buy the radio but to listen to ham radio in action.

One hamfest ham walked by with a tee-shirt that pretty well summed it up "I'm Proud To Be An Amateur Radio Operator".

Indeed, I think we all share that motto. For those who helped and worked the nets...THANK YOU! It's a great time to be an Amateur Radio Operator.

FINDLAY HAMFEST

Yes, I did make it to the Findlay Hamfest... first time ever. WOW! What a great time.

They have a nice setup there...parking was quick and easy, plenty of room to show off some good "stuff"...and a lot of nice folks. The massive sheep barn wasn't a BAAADAAAD place either to set up shop! (sorry, just a little city boy humor)



It was a great day and I'll go back next year and hope the construction on I-75 is done!

Nice job Findlay!

FirstNet Update



FirstNet[®]

The new nationwide first responder cellular net is growing. As of last week, 20 states had signed up. FirstNet hopes to be up and running in a limited mode by November.

They have a website with all of the details and latest information, FirstNet.com, and it's worth a look. Once the net is fully up and running it will help police, fire and other public service agencies communicate across a common platform.

Haircut Ham

Finally, a ham story too good to pass up.

As I sat down at the barber shop to wait, a gentleman walked up and said, "Hi Chief!" Well, politely I asked if I should know who he was and he then pointed to his hat blazoned with the word YAESU across the front! Yes, he was an amateur radio operator.

I had met him a couple of years ago, at the Madison County club...and apparently made an impression. I thanked him for the recognition and apologized for not wearing something that identified me as a ham. Maybe I should get a tattoo with my call sign on my forehead...nothing else seems to be growing there! Anyway, there are hams amongst us...and you don't have to look very hard or far.

That's it for this month.

73, John, KD8IDJ

[TOP ^](#)

THE SECTION TRAFFIC MANAGER

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SIMULATED EMERGENCY TEST

What if suddenly, disaster struck and all normal means of communications failed? Without organized communications, coordination efforts of even the most highly skilled and trained emergency response teams would be dramatically impacted. There are however emergency communications services that are dedicated to providing communications both locally and nationally during these critical moments. ARES (the Amateur Radio Emergency Service), NTS (National Traffic System) and RRI (Radio Relay International) are comprised of organized volunteer based teams of Ham Radio operators that are trained and recognized nationwide by agencies from the Red Cross to FEMA. In times of communications interruption, ARES, NTS and RRI teams are standing by and ready to make sure the message is delivered. Volunteer are always welcome. However, training is needed to become efficient operators for these groups. After disaster strikes it is too late for training.



If disaster struck your home town right now, would you know what to do? If an inattentive backhoe operator cut the telephone trunk lines to your local hospital, could you be of service? In either case, you won't be of much help from your home. You and other hams will have to go to the places where communications are needed. You will probably need to bring your own radio gear.

Is all the equipment that you would need ready to go right now? Are your batteries charged? Could you get on the air quickly and effectively from a disaster site or a damaged facility? What agencies and institutions will you be able to help? What will they expect of you? With whom will these agencies want to communicate? What radio paths will you use to contact or send messages to the people that they need to reach?

Simply put, if you haven't put some serious thought and effort into answering questions like this in advance, then you are not yet ready to be an emergency communicator. You might become one of the scores of hams who will get on the air to talk to each other about the disaster, but you won't provide any real support to the citizens of your community. You won't be a vital resource, you'll be a wasted resource.

On Saturday, October 7th, Amateur radio operators across our region, state, and nation will participate in an annual training exercise known as SET (Simulated Emergency Test). SET, the largest nationwide exercise in emergency communications, provides Amateur radio operators the unique opportunity to focus on strengths and weaknesses, in order to and enhance overall emergency communications capabilities within each community. This exercise attempts to "overload" the network and provides a real-life scenario type 'hands-on' training opportunity for the less experienced members. This year's exercises, includes scenarios ranging from severe weather events to threats to homeland security will be extremely fast paced in nature. The dynamic nature of these drill will provide an extremely accurate feel of what communications in an 'actual' emergency would consist of.

So, what will Ohio's 2017 SET scenario be? Simple answer is BLACK SWAN 2017. Matt KD8TTE Ohio Assistant SEC is the director of BLACK SWAN 17 which for the upcoming Simulated Emergency Test (SET) is set to take place in October. Matt has been working hard on developing a scenario for SET which will be a derecho over many states in a wide area.

In Matt's own words the BLACK SWAN 17 Communications Exercise (COMEX) purpose is to test the ability for volunteer, NGO, and government agencies to communicate across services in emergency conditions through amateur radio. The exercise will serve as the annual Simulated Emergency Test (SET) for the Ohio Section of the American Radio Relay League. Controllers will remain active for the first fifteen days of October, allowing any ARES or traffic organization to operate in the period of "intense activity" of October 7-8, or during any other 48-hour period convenient for the organization.

SYNOPSIS (Draft)

Strong and occasionally severe weather in the Iowa-Illinois-Indiana-Ohio region in the first week of October causes some localized damage and response. The situation intensifies during the weekend of 7-8 October, leading to full activation of emergency management partners. EOCs regain normal function as the week of 9 October begins, and throughout the week, normal service is restored to the area, leading to gradual stand-down of participating forces.

A critical element of the exercise is that during the high-intensity period, there will be injects to the scenario from sim cells in the area, bringing traffic, bulletins, and other information from responding agencies and organizations—including interaction with federal stations on 60M.

RATIONALE

Amateur Radio, and especially the various services within it (e.g., ARES, NTS/RRI) are not islands. Amateur Radio fulfills its public service mandate only to the degree that it actually is able to support the public and the agencies that support the public in times of emergency.

This exercise is designed to exercise emergency communications function in and related to amateur radio. We want ARES, RACES, and Traffic Handlers all to participate, and want for a master scenario to provide the superstructure for participants to have local activities complement the activities of other participants in the area. Scenario injects and traffic will be brought to the system from simcells that are working in the master scenario, including traffic from government agencies and NGOs. Further, by having a two-week period of exercise activity, we'll be able to simulate the development of a situation, and to address response that includes providing an outlet for Welfare traffic. Using this period of time should also allow more to participate, even if they cannot during the high-intensity period where most activity will take place.

We specifically want this to be more than activating ARES stations who go to various EOCs, stand up a net, and exchange signal reports with everyone, then go home and proclaim victory. The ExPlan will include specific and measurable objectives against which we'll assess performance. (Hence the need for planners, controllers, and evaluators who are not players.) There is further information available at <https://sites.google.com/view/blackswan/2017>

I do not know anything further at this time as to the involvement of the OSSBN, NTS or local VHF traffic nets. I expect a lot of traffic for the nets and I am asking that the local nets that meet once a week during the week to discuss the possible need for weekend nets specifically for SET to assist with delivery incoming traffic.

What can you do to be prepared?

Contact you Net Manager, local ARES organization or RRI and start training now. There is a proper procedure for working with these groups and a proper protocol for receiving and sending radiogram traffic and messages. A well trained operator will pass traffic quickly and efficiently. Are you really ready? Remember, when the disaster strikes, it's too late to start planning and training..

ARES - SEC - Stan Broadway, N8BHL <http://arrl-ohio.org/SEC/default.html>

Our most popular appointment is those who serve the Amateur Radio Emergency Service. Each of our 88 counties have an Emergency Coordinator appointed to operate ARES programs in that county. The Section Emergency Coordinator (SEC) runs this program.

NTS

Even in the days of E-mail and other electronic means of communication, the National Traffic System (sending messages by radio) continues to operate. Ohio has one statewide phone net - the Ohio Single-Side Band Net (OSSBN) and three CW statewide nets. These are listed in each month's edition of Section News. In addition all our major metropolitan areas have nets on VHF and UHF repeaters. Ohio's traffic nets are among the best in the US

Section Traffic Manager [David Maynard, WA3EZN E-mail: wa3ezn\(at\)arrl.net](mailto:wa3ezn@arrl.net)

Ohio Section Traffic Nets

SSB

Ohio Single Sideband Net (OSSBN), 10:30 AM, 4:15 PM. and 6:45 PM daily, 3.972.50 MHz, KC8WH manager http://ossbn.org/traffic_nets.html

CW

Buckeye Net (Early), BN-E, 6:45 PM daily, 3.580 MHz, WB8YLO manager

Buckeye Net (Late), BN-L, 10:00 PM daily, 3.590 MHz, WB9LBI manager

Ohio Slow Net (OSN), 6:00 PM daily, 3.53535 MHz, W8OLO manager

Ohio Local Nets

Burning River Traffic Net (BRTN), 9:30 PM daily, 147.150 MHz, W8DJG manager thebrtn (at) gmail dot com

Central Ohio Traffic Net (COTN), 7:15 PM (19:15), daily, 146.970 MHz (Columbus RPTR), KD8TTE manager www.cotn.us

Miami Valley Traffic Net (MVTN), 7:00 PM Mon, Thurs, Sat, 146.640 MHz, KC8HTP manager

Northwest Ohio ARES Net (NWOHARES), 6:40 PM, daily, 146.940 MHz, PL 103.5, N8TNV manager

Tri-County Traffic Training Net (TCTTN), 9:30 PM Sun, Tues, Fri,
147.015 MHz, KI8U manager <http://www.tricountytraffic.net/>

Tri-State Amateur Traffic Net (TATN), 8:00 PM daily, 145.370 MHz,
WG8Z manager <http://www.tatn.org/>

KD8TTE VIDEOS

BLACKSWAN17

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oJEzSgp1x-8&feature=youtu.be>

Handling Traffic by Voice on the National Traffic System

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wcUYE1FGXSU>

Using a Radiogram to Receive NTS Traffic

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nHyG2YBhqEI>

See you on the air!!

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

73,

David, WA3EZN

[TOP ^](#)

OUT AND ABOUT

Lyn Alfman, N8IMW - ASM

lynalfman@aol.com

On August 4, I helped the Cambridge Amateur Radio Association park cars for Deerassic Classic as a fundraiser. Then I attended the Ohio Section Conference on August 5 where I helped with the ARRL table while Section Manager Scott Yonally, N8SY, hosted the ARRL Forum where he presented the Allan Severson Award and announced the winners of the newsletter contest. The *CARA Communicator*, for which I am the editor, won Honorable Mention. Then on Sunday, August 6, I enjoyed the Dublin Irish Festival with members of my family. What a full weekend!

On Monday, August 7, my husband Sonny, W8FHF, who is the ARES District 9 Emergency Coordinator, and I attended the newly ARRL Affiliated Morgan Amateur Radio Club in Malta. Russell Booth, KD8RW, the club president, agreed to become the Morgan County Emergency Coordinator. This club set up radio stations and operated the Ohio QSO Party from the public park near the Kate Love Simpson Library in Malta on August 26.



On August 26, I attended the Cambridge Amateur Radio Association meeting, participated in an amateur radio test session by the Cambridge Amateur Radio Laurel Exam Team, and opened our ham shack to CARA members to operate the Ohio QSO Party. We had a new young ham, Chase Morris, KE8HMX, come out for the QSO Party.

It is picnic time for clubs from July through October. We just attended the CARA annual picnic in the park on August 27. Picture is courtesy of Evelyn Barton, KA8NZS.



Coshocton County ARA is having a picnic on September 16, and the Marietta ARC is having one on October 10. These are just a few that I know about. And, as usual, I attended six amateur radio related lunches.

I just finished publishing the September issue of the *CARA Communicator* (It is a quarterly.). Time to start gathering items and articles for the December issue, so if you have anything you want included in our next newsletter send it to me at lynalfman@aol.com.

CARA members will be activating Blue Rock State Park for the Ohio State Parks on the Air. Hopefully, your club will be participating. CARA members also plan to have a Fox Hunt on September 24 and operate a Special Event Station commemorating the Coal Mining History of Guernsey County on October 1 (noon to 6 PM) using the club's call W8VP.

On a sad note, the former Emergency Coordinator for Belmont County, John Green, K8JRG, became a Silent Key. John worked for WRTF 7 TV in Wheeling.

Remember to be "Radio Active"!

'73 Lyn, N8IMW

[TOP ^](#)

FROM THE EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH ASM

Anthony Luscre, K8ZT

k8zt@arrl.net



Modified Portable MFJ-1835 Cobweb Antenna

The MFJ-1835 Cobweb Antenna is an inexpensive way to easily get on 20, 17, 15, 12 and 10 Meters. Its lightweight and being non-directional make it easy to mount using simple masts for portable operations. Unfortunately as shipped the antenna is not very portable, even disassembled, as the shipping box is over 6 ½ feet long. Once assembled the distance across two elements is almost 14 feet and it not easy to partially disassemble to transport.

My goal was to make it a portable antenna, but without changing the supplied fiberglass poles if I wanted to later do a permanent installation. One of the best things about this conversion project is the low cost (<\$20) and readily availability of all the parts.

[Read More...](#)

Materials needed

- 1/2 in. x 10 ft. PVC Schedule 40 Conduit (Lowes 5 each at \$1.90 = \$9.50)
- #6-32 x 1-1/4-in Round-Head Machine Screws and Matching Nuts (10-Count \$1.25 or \$2.05 for stainless)
- #10 x 0.5-in Zinc-Plated Self-Drilling Interior/Exterior Sheet Metal Screws with hex heads (Ace Hardware- 50-Count \$5.25 you will only need 20)
- #10 x 1/2-in Stainless Steel Flat Washer (Ace Hardware- 36-Count \$2.00, you will only need 20)

Tools needed

- Small Tubing Cutter- to cut PVC conduit
- Sandpaper to slightly reduce size of end and remove sharp edge and burrs from cut conduit

- Drill and bits
- Nut driver for the ¼ and ⅜ inch nuts
- Tape measure
- Marking — “sharpie” type marker and medium nail
- Vaseline or light grease

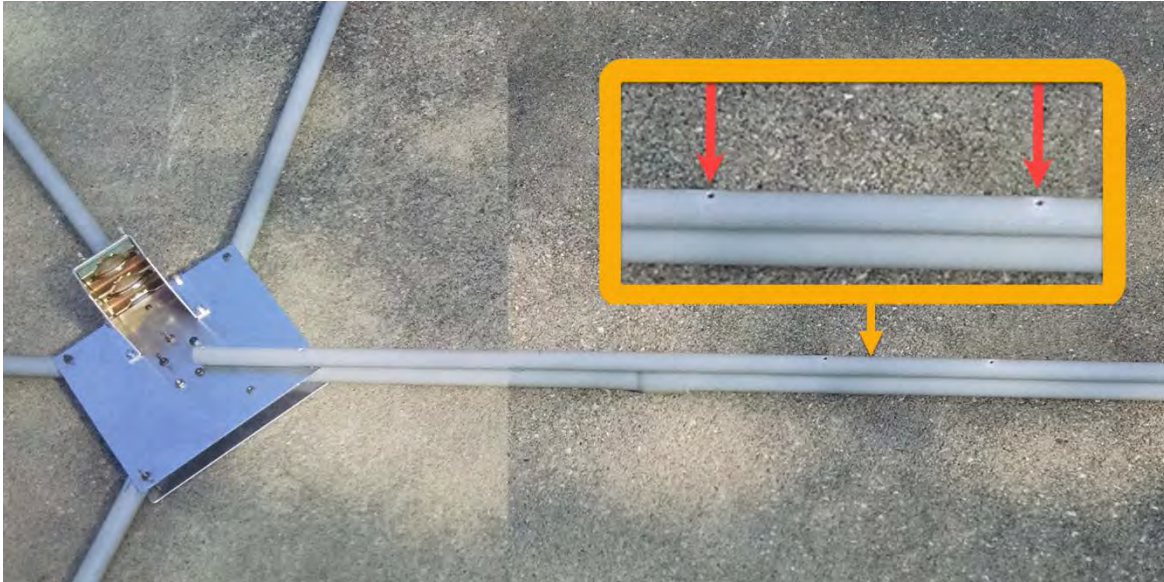
Steps

1. Measure and Cut Conduit 30” section with flared end x 5
2. Measure and Cut Conduit 47” section x 4
3. Measure and Cut Conduit 17” section x 1
4. Use sandpaper to remove any sharp edges or burrs of cut conduit ends
5. Using one of the MFJ fiberglass masts as a template drill two aluminum plate mounting holes through flared sections of conduit (on the opposite end from flare) x 4
6. Repeat with matching mount conduit.
7. Insert 1 ¼ “ Machine Screws through conduit sections to attach to aluminum plates as described in MFJ instructions (do not put nuts on yet) x 4



8. Prepare the four sections of straight conduit by sanding first 2” inches to slightly decrease diameter and apply small amount of Vaseline to easily insert into flared ends (make sure all four are inserted approximately the same depth).
9. After inserting mark each conduit and flare with a letter (A, B, C, D) to facilitate later reassembly.
10. Repeat with the short section used for mounting matching box.

11. Temporarily place one of the MFJ fiberglass poles on the two protruding screws from step above and align over the newly inserted conduit. Insert the nail through existing holes on fiberglass pole and gently tap to mark conduit.



12. Set MFJ fiberglass poles aside for safe storage.
13. Put nuts and washers on protruding screws from aluminum mounting plate step above and tighten.
14. Use drill with nut driver head to start one metal screw and washer at each of the marked spots on conduit, do not tighten.



15. Mark holes for matching box on short conduit section, drill hole and mount per MFJ instructions.
16. Mount all wires on machine screws under washers and tune per MFJ instructions.
17. Gently tighten all the machine screws
18. When ready to transport, remove conduit ends from flared end (start with conduit with matching box).

19. Once all sections have been pulled out, carefully bring them together being careful to not kink/tangle wires. Insert into a box or carry bag.
20. On the hub assembly remove outer mounting screw from the two conduit sections furthest from matching box conduit. Loosen inner screws on the same two bolts. Gently rotate two sections along the remaining two to reduce size of hub assembly for transporting.
21. The last two pictures show both the hub and elements packed for transport. If necessary, you can remove aluminum plates and fit everything in an even smaller package.
22. To reassemble reverse step 19. Lay out 5 conduits with wires and matching box. Place the hub assembly in middle and reinsert all conduit ends making sure not to tangle wires. Insert matching section last



ARES TRAINING UPDATE

Jim Yoder, W8ERW – ARES Data Manager

w8erw@arrl.net

Wasn't the Findlay Hamfest great this year? It's always nice to have a good Hamfest close to home. Findlay is less than an hour from Fremont and always attracts a crowd from all over Ohio, Michigan and Indiana. It was also nice to meet up with many old friends again this year and share some of the happenings from the past year.



Training submissions have begun to pick up again after the summer break.

Many of you are also participating in the Ohio Responds program. If you have not yet taken a look at this, the attractive feature in addition to the program itself is the liability issue that could cause a Ham difficulty when responding to an emergency or disaster situation. Being registered with Ohio Responds enables your credentials to be quickly verified and offers protection from liability while

engaged in public service when the activity is requested officially by the program. When you submit your training, the information is maintained for quick access via the list posted on the arrlohio.org web page. Your data is also maintained here with me and I regularly update our SM N8SY with the most current information. So keep those training submissions coming. The numbers continue to grow and Ohio is leading the nation in getting our ARES volunteers trained and providing a database from reference when needed to verify credentials.

Currently there are 787 members, 774 active members, 580 members trained in all four NIMS required courses and a total of 5,204 classes taken and registered. There have been more than 675 additional classes submitted to the database since the beginning of this year. The largest groups are in Cuyahoga, Franklin, Hamilton, Lucas and Montgomery counties as would be expected by the larger populations of Ohio's largest cities and counties. All license classes are represented with the exception of Novice. Most of you have submitted the four required NIMS courses while a few have sent certificates and training transcripts for over 100 classes and NIMS courses. This is all great work and evidence of the commitment Ohio Hams and ARES members have shown in support of our mission to support our public service agencies when they need us most.

There is also some good news coming from Seneca County. The Sentinel Vocational Center which has a public service training program to prepare students for jobs as Firefighters, Police Officers, EMS and related occupations, has asked the Seneca County EMA to participate with them and is establishing an EOC training facility. This new facility on the Sentinel campus will be equipped with dispatching and communications facilities including Amateur Radio with the intent of giving students real world training and exposure to these activities. This is a wide-open opportunity for us as Amateurs to promote our hobby through ARES and to train these future public service members and get them into our hobby. Thanks to EMA Director Dan Stahl KC8PBU and Asst Director Mike Klaiss KC8BUJ for recognizing the great opportunity we have here and for their continued support of the Amateur Radio community.

Those wishing to verify NIMS training submissions can do so on the arrloho.org webpage. SM N8SY maintains the list and I often update the list daily as new and additional training submissions are received. I can also provide a report to the local county EC's, DEC's and individuals detailing the training on record. If you have any questions regarding training submissions, I would be happy to answer them.

Training is organized and kept by the County you reside in. There are additional fields for the county you are serving in and your personal contact information. The report available on the arrloho.org page is kept by serving county. Obviously too, your information is kept and organized by Call. If you change your call, please let us know so that your records can be updated. Other changes regarding your location or the ARES group you are associating with should be submitted so that we can find you and report your training to the correct organization.

Many of you have been submitting additional local training outside of the online FEMA NIMS program. This is certainly acceptable and welcomed. Many of these courses do qualify for required NIMS training and also represent additional skill sets that may be needed in an emergency. I am happy to record these along with your other training.

Please submit your training documents, Certificates and or Transcripts to your local Emergency Coordinator. Your EC will then forward the information on to me for inclusion in the training database. The Certificates and Transcripts are stored as .pdf documents and if possible, should be submitted in that format, Example: W8ERW-IS-00100.b.pdf which is the file naming format I use. We all save a lot of stuff on our PC's and if you have lost or cannot locate your original .pdf file(s) from FEMA, you can scan the hard copy and save again as .pdf documents. However, this is not always possible in which case, send what you have available and we will file what we receive. You can also request a Transcript from FEMA. Each certificate or transcript is stored as an individual document. If you are scanning hard copies to submit, please send them as individual files rather than one. This makes the lookup process much easier when the time comes and we need to document your training.



Your hard work and dedication as ARES members is appreciated. The numbers I am proud to report each month are a worthy example of the effort being given by Ohio Section Hams and the level of knowledge we possess in order to support and work alongside our public service agencies. Ohio does it best. Take a bow for your dedication and training.

Your Ohio Section Officials are here to serve you. We welcome your comments, suggestions and input. Supporting the Amateur Radio Community, "You" is what we are all about. Feel free to contact any of us at any time. We would be glad to hear from you.

73 and Thank you,

Jim W8ERW

[TOP ^](#)

LET'S TALK

Scott Yonally, N8SY - SM
n8sy@arrl.org

Hey Gang,

Wow.. September has really been a month that none of us will soon forget. Not only for the hurricanes that touched down on our southern shores, but also for the loss of some very fine Traffic Handlers here in the Ohio Section as well.

We pay tribute to Silent Keys **Jim Williams, N8IBR**; **Connie Hamilton, N8IO** and now **Charles Rielage, Jr., W8QIW**. May your Rest in Peace my friends.



Have you registered for the “Handbook Giveaway” drawing for this month yet? If you haven’t, go to: <http://arrl-ohio.org/handbook.html> and get registered. You never know, you just may be the next winner!

What’s the catch? I want to get everyone checking in to the Ohio Section website as often as possible, and in order to register each month, you have to visit the website often! There’s nothing else to it. I pay all expenses, and from time to time, I Give Away more than just a Handbook. And, you’ll never know just what months will be those special times that I will have more than just a Handbook to Give Away!!

There’s another NEW – one question – questionnaire on the Ohio Section Website! I was really happy to see that almost 90% of you really like the new format. I do too. It’s so much easier to read and, you can print it off if you want a hard copy of it.

Now, I want to see just how many of you use the hyperlinks in the new format, or do you just start at the top and read the entire newsletter all the way through.

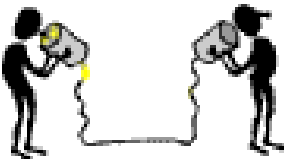
It will only take 2 seconds for you to answer it, and you can see how your answer stacks up with others instantly. Go to: www.arrl-ohio.org and look on the left side of the page. I really do want to hear from you on these questions. And, if you have a question that you’d like to see on our questionnaire, please send it to me!





Are you a member of the ARRL? Have you let your membership lapse? Want more information on how to join, or rejoin? Here's the link: <http://www.arrl.org/membership-levels>. There's even a 90 day FREE trial that you can apply for if you've never been a member..

Got questions about becoming a member or your current membership? Send me an email n8sy@n8sy.com I'll be happy to call or write to you. We can even meet and have coffee if you'd like, and I'll buy!!



I'm sure all of you have heard me say that I'm always available for you, whether you're an ARRL member or not. It's true, and you can feel free to write or call me anytime. If you have any questions, concerns, or would just like to sit and chat awhile over a cup of coffee or something cold to drink, feel free to call or write me (419) 512-4445 or n8sy@n8sy.com

That's going to do it for this month. I sincerely hope that you have enjoyed reading all about what's happening within the Ohio Section Cabinet this month, and that's why we call it a "Journal". I am looking forward to seeing all of you at the many hamfests, club meetings that I attend, or even on the air!

73, Scott, N8SY

[TOP ^](#)

THE OFFICIAL OBSERVER COORDINATOR

John Perone, W8RXX - OOC

w8rxx@arrl.net

The ARRL and the FCC are currently working together to update and to make changes to the Official Observer/Amateur Auxiliary program. Because of these expected upcoming revisions and changes, ARRL has placed a moratorium on applications for new Official Observers and new Official Observer Coordinators at this time.

In August the OO's in Ohio monitored a total of 937 hours.

They sent a total of 6 "Good Operator OO" cards & 2 "OO" cards on issues they observed.

73, John, W8RXX

[TOP ^](#)



SPECIAL EVENTS STATIONS

- **09/23/2017 | VOA Bethany Relay Station 73rd Anniversary**
Sep 23, 1300Z-2100Z, WC8VOA, West Chester, OH. West Chester Amateur Radio Association. 14.275 14.250 7.285 7.225. QSL. West Chester Amateur Radio Association, 8070 Tylersville Road, West Chester, OH 45069.

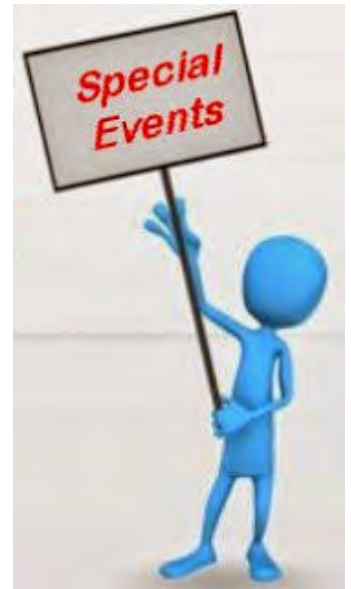
- **10/01/2017 | Coal Mining History of Guernsey County**
Oct 1, 1600Z-2200Z, W8VP, Cambridge, OH. Cambridge Amateur Radio Association. 7.235 . QSL. Cambridge Amateur Radio Association, P.O. Box 1804, Cambridge, OH 43725. Please send SASE with QSL request. www.w8vp.org

- **10/07/2017 | Michelson-Morley Experiment 130th Anniversary**
Oct 7, 1200Z-2200Z, W8M, Cleveland, OH. Case Amateur Radio Club of Case Western Reserve University. 21.280 14.230 14.050 7.230. Certificate & QSL. Case Amateur Radio Club, W8EDU, Glennan Building 9A, 10900 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44106. Case Amateur Radio Club will be on the air discussing the Michelson-Morley Experiment with amateur radio operators around the world. Alumni are welcome to visit, get on the air with W8EDU, and learn about the Michelson-Morley Experiment. Tours of Glennan amateur radio station will also be available. w8edu.wordpress.com

- **11/01/2017 | 100th Anniversary of Red Cross of Southeastern Ohio**
Nov 1-Nov 16, 0000Z-0000Z, K8R, Athens, OH. Athens County Red Cross Amateur Radio Service. 21.275 14.215 7.215 3.800. QSL. Samuel J (Jeff) Slattery, 45 Carol Lane, Athens, OH 45701. SASE please. www.ac-ara.org/wordpress/k8r

- **11/11/2017 | Coast Guard Auxiliary 78th. Anniversary**
Nov 11-Nov 12, 1402Z-1402Z, W8E, Loveland, OH. United States Coast Guard Auxiliary. 7.2340. Certificate. Dave Stroup, 6138 Misty Creek Dr., Loveland, OH 45140.

[TOP ^](#)



OHIO HAMFEST CALENDAR

09/23/2017 | OH-KY-IN ARS Hamfest
Location: Cincinnati, OH
Sponsor: OH-KY-IN Amateur Radio Society
Website: <http://www.ohkyin.org>



09/24/2017 | Cleveland Hamfest and Computer Show
Location: Berea, OH
Sponsor: Hamfest Association of Cleveland
Website: <http://www.hac.org>

10/07&08/2017 | Great Lakes Division Convention
Great Lakes HamCon
Location: Brooklyn, MI
Sponsor: Great Lakes Amateur Radio Association
Website: <http://GLHamCon.org>

SPECIAL NOTE: Tom, WB8LCD – is one of the forum speakers. He will be speaking at 11am on Saturday

10/07/2017 | Scioto Valley ARC Hamfest
Location: Chillicothe, OH
Sponsor: Scioto Valley Amateur Radio Club
Website: <http://www.qsl.net/w8bap/SVARC.html>

10/15/2017 | Conneaut ARC Hamfest
Location: Conneaut, OH
Sponsor: Conneaut Amateur Radio Club
Website: <http://www.facebook.com/pg/W8BHZ/>

10/29/2017 | Massillon ARC Hamfest
Location: Massillon, OH
Sponsor: Massillon Amateur Radio Club
Website: <http://www.w8np.org>

11/04/2017 | Grant ARC Hamfest
Location: Georgetown, OH
Sponsor: Grant Amateur Radio Club
Website: <http://garcoho.net/>

We now have a complete listing of upcoming hamfests in Ohio on the website.

Go to: <http://arrl-ohio.org/hamfests.html> to see everything that is currently scheduled, including the Great Lakes Division Convention!

[TOP](#) ^

FCC Opens 630- and 2200-Meter Bands; Stations Must Notify UTC Before Operating

(from the ARRL Bulletins)



The FCC has announced that the Office of Management and Budget has approved, for 3 years, the information-collection requirement of the Commission's March 29 *Report and Order (R&O)* that spelled out Amateur Radio service rules for the two new bands — 630 meters and 2200 meters. Notice of the action appears in today's edition of the *Federal Register*. Before using either band, stations must [notify](#) the Utilities Technology Council ([UTC](#)), formerly the Utilities Telecom Council, that they plan to do so, and if UTC does not respond within 30 days, they may commence operation.

Last March 27, the FCC adopted the 2012 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-12) implementation Report and Order (ET Docket 15-99), amending its Amateur Radio rules to — in the FCC's words — “provide for frequency-sharing requirements in the 135.7-137.8 kHz (2200-meter) and 472-479 kHz (630-meter) bands.”



Section 97.313(g)(2) of those rules requires that, prior to starting operation in either band, radio amateurs must notify UTC that they intend operate by submitting their call signs, intended band(s) of operation, and the coordinates of their antenna's fixed location. The new rules do not permit any mobile operation.

“Amateur stations will be permitted to commence operations after a 30-day period, unless UTC notifies the station that its fixed location is located within 1 kilometer of Power Line Carrier (PLC) systems operating on the same or overlapping frequencies,” the FCC said. PLC systems are unlicensed. “This notification process will ensure that amateur stations seeking to operate [on 630 or 2200 meters] are located beyond a minimum separation distance from PLC transmission lines, which will help ensure the compatibility and coexistence of amateur and PLC operations, and promote shared use of the bands.”

The FCC announced that it is making effective immediately the Part 97 rule amendments, § 97.3, 97.15(c), 97.301(b) through (d), 97.303(g), 97.305(c), and 97.313(k) and (l), which do not require OMB approval

Click [HERE](#) to access the UTC notification website.

[TOP](#) ^

→ TAKE NOTE: ←

Dear ARRL Official:

Please share the following with your appropriate section leadership and field organization volunteers. Thanks!

The ARRL has been asked to share the following from the Communications Branch Director of the Florida Division of Emergency Management:



"The State of Florida appreciates the service of ARES. State of Florida SEOC and its staff will never request individuals or provide individuals any information on an incident. All requests for individuals in the ARES program in the State of Florida will follow the North Florida ARES Plan and direction of their Section Manager Stephen Szabo. Absolutely no direct communications to the SEOC or its staff is to be made by individuals to request to be deployed or provide services at any time."

Any amateur wishing to volunteer to assist needs to go through the ARRL Northern Florida Manager Steve Szabo's established processes, as that is the system Florida Emergency Management is utilizing to coordinate Amateur Radio activities. Under no circumstances should individual Amateurs contact Florida Emergency Management.

We also remind ARRL / ARES volunteers who may be assisting in support of the ongoing relief and recovery efforts that the only persons who should be speaking on behalf of the ARRL or its field organization are the ARRL Section Manager or their Public Information Coordinator / Public Information Officer. Unfortunately, we have had reports of false information being apparently shared via Amateur Radio channels. This type of misinformation can negatively affect the hard work being done by various Emergency Management agencies involved, as well as the various agencies also providing assistance, and can be harmful to the efforts of the Amateur community trying to assist in the response and relief efforts. ARRL SMs, PICs, and PIOs only provide information publicly where it has been vetted by state officials, and only as directed. Unauthorized false reports can seriously and negatively impact the work of relief and recovery officials as well as damage the good relationships that Amateurs have in those relief and recovery communities. Let the trained PICs/PIOs do their jobs!

Thanks to the hundreds of Amateurs who are providing communications assistance as this story continues to unfold. With everyone working in concert and through appropriate channels, your work is helping make a difference.



Dan Henderson, N1ND
Assistant Secretary, the American Radio Relay League, Inc.
Regulatory Information Manager
ARRL - the national association for Amateur Radio
Phone: 860-594-0236

[TOP ^](#)

A final – final..



As many of you know, Jim Yoder, W8ERW wasn't available to come to the Ohio Section Conference back in August for me to personally present him with the Allan Severson Award, BUT... we finally did catch up with him at the Findlay Hamfest and did the presentation there for all to see.

Thanks so much Jim for all that you do for the Ohio Section!!

Amateur Radio is exciting and a lot of FUN. It's also a learning experience for everyone! Share your enjoyment and learning experiences with those just coming into Amateur Radio!!

Know someone that's not getting these Newsletters? Please, forward a copy of this Newsletter over to them and have them "[Opt-In](#)" to start receiving them. Heck, just have them send me an email n8sy@n8sy.com and I'll get them added to the Ohio Section Emailing list. I urge all of you to make sure that everyone, regardless of whether they are a League member or not, gets signed up to receive these Newsletters. You can always "[Opt-Out](#)" at any time if you feel this is not what you were expecting.



This newsletter is written in a format that will allow you to print it out so that you don't have to read it on your computer screen only anymore. Consider printing out several copies and leaving them on the front table of your next club meeting. What a great way of spreading the news!

[TOP ^](#)

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It's FUN!!

www.arrloho.org