



Tornado Edition



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The Ohio Section Welcomes Two New Affiliated Clubs



This past week the Ohio Section grew by two new Affiliated Clubs. Let's all give a big round of applause for the Ohio University Amateur Radio Club under the care of Anthony Milluzzi, KD8RTT and the Bearcat DX Club under the care of Dennis Fitzpatric, W8BXG.

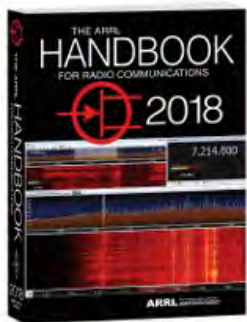
This brings the number of Affiliated Clubs in Ohio to 115. Oh, by the way, Ohio still leads the way with 46 clubs that are listed as Special Services Clubs. Ohio has around 30% of all the Special Service Clubs in America today. It's really great when the Ohio Section keeps on growing like this and I'm sure it isn't going to stop any time soon!

OK now, let me ask you this... Does your club work with your community by providing volunteers to help out in times of need? Do you have, or support a repeater? Do you have a club newsletter? Are you working with your local EMA and ARES programs? Do you do "special" things, like support or put on Amateur Radio licensing courses and V.E. Testing? What about Field Day and Winter Field Day. Is your club there? How's about NVIS Day or bicycle races. Is your club involved? Well, if you can answer yes to all of the above, you just might be worthy of becoming a Special Service Club.



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The Handbook Give Away



Hey Gang,

We had another fantastic response this month, but I'm sure you're more interested in knowing just who won the Handbook this month...

And the winner is.... ***Danielle Kopp, KD8YVG!***

Since we've had such a great response with the Giveaway this month, I added some knit caps "Give Away" as well!! AND... those winners are...

Richard Goebbel, WB8GNN; Kent Wright, KC8YLZ & Donald Bower, N8VCK

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, and from time to time, I Give Away more than just a Handbook. You'll never know just what months will be those special times!

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



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675th Person is now in our Ohio NIMS Database

We've found our 675th member! He's Thomas Ecleberry, WB8YOK. Wow, it took just a freckle over a month to get to this goal! Now I'm going to set the bar up to the **700th person**. Yes, we're going to continue giving away these ARRL ARES mesh vests. We are currently at 676 members and still moving forward. How about it, I know that there's still a lot of you out there that have not taken the NIMS classes yet. C'mon, what have you got to lose? You're gonna' be stuck inside the house anyway with old man winter blasting away, why not put this time to good use and start your classes now. Here's a link to get you started on your way:

<http://arrl-ohio.org/SEC/training.html>



Now I do have to say, once you get into the swing of taking these classes, why just stop at those 4. You may not know this, but for us to participate in the Republican National Convention we all had to have **IS-706** and **IS-802** as well. They also required us to take IS-701, but it's no longer being offered, so there's one that you don't have to worry about anymore!

I have had a few of you ask if I would recommend you for the ARRL **EC-001** and **EC-016** communications courses. I have no problem doing this as long as you already have the prerequisites in. Want to know what they are, here's a link.. <http://www.arrl.org/online-course-catalog> In fact, I am now going to tell you that I highly recommend taking both of these courses. I will tell you in advance that these 2 courses do have a fee to them. It's \$50 per course if you are an ARRL member, and \$55 per course if you are not. So, you'll need to make up your own mind and decide if the pocketbook can afford them.



Now, for our PIO's out there, I strongly recommend that you've taken **EC-015**, or what used to be known as **PR-101** from the ARRL. It's free and extremely educational. By the way, I was one of the first to take that class when it came out. I also strongly recommend that you take the NIMS/ICS courses – **IS-29** and **IS-42** as well.

I know that we have been pushing these courses for some time now. I wouldn't do this unless I felt really strongly about the need for us to be trained BEFORE we go out into the field. It's important for us to know just what we are doing in these emergency situations. We don't want to get in the way, or cause more harm than what has already happened.

Oh, have you looked at the database lately? It's had a little make over and I think you're gonna' like what you see <http://arrl-ohio.org/SEC/special/ICS%20Complete%20by%20County%20and%20Name.pdf>

While you're there, check your own name out and make sure that we have you listed correctly. Let me know if there's any errors.

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Wall Warts – Revisited

Hey Guys, I've got some really great news to report back to you on. If you remember back a few months ago I did a story about how much power is being wasted by wall warts.. you know those crazy little blobs of plastic that we plug into the outlet to make some low voltage device work. Well, if you remember I found that in my house we had 25 of them plugged in and not producing a darn thing, except to increase my electric bill.

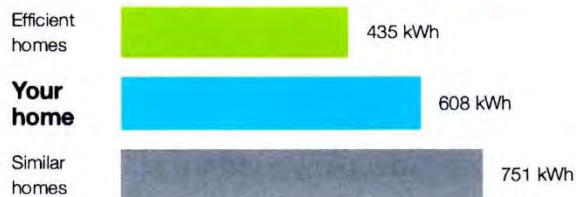
Now, that's where this story actually began, with my electric company sending me a notice in the mail that I am using 30% more electric than my comparable neighbors and about 60% more electric than what they consider "efficient" homes. I just couldn't believe that since we don't run a lot of devices that use high current. We have natural gas that heats our furnace and water heater, where as most of our neighbors have electric baseboard heat and water heaters. So, that set me out to find where this big waste of electric could be coming from. I found that the wall warts weren't really using that much, but we did have 25 of them plugged in and not doing a thing, so we eliminated them. In fact, we eliminated over 30 of the little buggers and bought just one modern 6 station



USB charger system. It's intelligent enough to know that when something has come to a complete charge it shuts that particular station off. So, we aren't overcharging our devices and we are saving money. Whoopie!!!

Now, just this past week I get in the mail a new estimate from the electric company. You won't believe this! Yes, we are now using 19% LESS electric than comparable homes and about 40% more than those "efficient" homes. So, I guess we have saved about 20% just by eliminating those unneeded nasty little wall warts.

Here's how you compare



This is based on 100 similar homes within approximately 1 mi. Efficient homes are the 20% who use the least amount of electricity.

😊 Great

😄 **Good**

😞 Using more than average

40% more electricity
than efficient homes

The chart above is a screen shot of the report that the electric company just sent me. If you remember, we were using around 680 kWh per month. Now we've dropped that down to just 608. That's about 11% savings, and this is from the 3 coldest months of the year! I will say this... In the 15 years that we've lived in this house, this is the first comparison that we've received where it states that we are in the "GOOD" range.

Maybe you need to take a good look around your house and see if there's any of those little nasty wall warts hanging on an outlet not doing anything!



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Shack Safety

Can you have a 20-amp outlet on 15-amp breaker with 12-gauge wire?

This is a question that almost never comes up, but should. I have talked to many of my certified electrician folks about this and here's a summation of their answers to this question.

You can, but it would be misleading. Technically it's safe because you can't draw more than 15-amps long term, and the wire is large enough gauge to handle the 15-amps. If you are looking to sell your home where there would be a "home inspection" involved, a lot of home inspectors look for this common type of error. Why do I say it's a common error? Simple, many of us when installing or replacing an outlet in our homes will not look for the proper size outlet, or we see that it states 20-amps and we figure since it's larger than the circuit that we're installing it will mean it will have a longer life since it's built to handle more current.



Many folks will simply go to the hardware department and grab the first outlet that they come to without realizing that they might be grabbing the wrong one. Using the wrong outlet can advertise to someone that knows the difference between the 2 types of outlets. This can lead to having someone attempt to plug in a 20-amp appliance and finds that it keeps tripping the breaker since you are really on a 15-amp circuit.

The reasoning for 15/20-amp receptacles on 15/20 circuits is this, 15-amp and 20-amp receptacles have different pin configurations. A 20-amp receptacle will have one slot that is turned sideways or T shaped to allow a 20-amp plug to be used.

20 Amp Outlet

A 15amp receptacle on a 20-amp circuit will not overload the circuit. You will only be allowed to plug in 15a devices. How many of these appliances you plug in is always a concern that you should observe.



15 Amp Outlet

3/0 Gauge	200 Amps	Service entrance
1/0 Gauge	150 Amps	Service entrance and feeder wire
3 Gauge	100 Amps	Service entrance and feeder wire
6 Gauge	55 Amps	Feeder and large appliance wire
8 Gauge	40 Amps	Feeder and large appliance wire
10 Gauge	30 Amps	Dryers, appliances, and air conditioning
12 Gauge	20 Amps	Appliance, laundry and bathroom circuits
14 Gauge	15 Amps	General lighting and receptacle circuits

However, if you put a 20-amp receptacle on a 15-amp circuit, it can allow a 20-amp device (like an Air Conditioner) to be plugged into the 15-amp rated circuit. This is an immediate problem for the circuit, and can make for a very bad afternoon as well.

The other question I get is do I use 14-gauge wire or 12-gauge. My philosophy to this is. I always gauge the wire I wire size up from what I really need. Yes, it's a little more expensive in the short term, but the peace of mind, and the flexibility that this gives me is worth it to me. What do I mean by flexibility? Well, simply this. If I use 12-gauge wire on a circuit that starts out as a 15-amp circuit and decide later that I really needed a 20-amp circuit, all I will need to do is change the circuit breaker.

I'm to the right size wire already. Now, if I need that 20-amps for an appliance that has a 20-amp plug on it, I will also need to change out the outlet as well, but this is a very minor cost compared to having to completely rip out all the wire and start over with new. Now, like I said, it may cost me a little more in the beginning, but in the end, I save.

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Ohio QSO Party 2017 Results

Sponsored by MRRC

Mad River Radio Club

Next OhQP Aug 25 2018

Congratulations to the 2017 Plaque Winners

Plaque Category	Winner	Sponsor	
Ohio - Single Op - High Power	KW8N	Mike Zilavy	WA3C
Ohio - Single Op - Low Power	W8WTS	Portage Co. Am. Radio Service	
Ohio - Single Op - QRP	K9TM	Northern Ohio QRP Club	
Ohio - Multi-operator	K8T	Geauga Amateur Radio Assn.	
Ohio - Mobile	K8O	Jim Snell	W8DRZ
Ohio - Rover	K8RYU	Delaware Amateur Radio Assn.	
Ohio - Emergency Op. Center	W8VVL	Radio Society of Ohio	
Ohio - Top CW Score	K1LT	Chuck Patellis	W8PT
Ohio - Top SSB Score	KC8QDQ	Muskingum Ham Radio Club	
North America - Single Op - High Power	N4PN	COOKEN	
North America - Single Op - Low Power	AD8J	Sean Fleming	K8KHZ
North America - Single Op - QRP	WN4AFP	Lake Co. Amateur Radio Assn.	
Mountain/Pacific - Single Op	WA2JQZ	Canton Radio Club	
DX - Single Op	OM2VL	Northern Ohio DX Association	

Help Wanted

Are you E.C. caliber? I want to talk to all of you about becoming an Emergency Coordinator (E.C.) in your county. We are extremely fortunate to have a so many dedicated E.C.'s in Ohio. They do their jobs, mostly behind the scenes and without a lot of fan-fare, but it does come with a lot of self-satisfaction for a job well done. Our ARES program is one of the strongest in the country. The stats that Stan listed a few weeks back prove that out for sure!



I've talk to many of my counterparts all over the country. I hear them complain about how hard it is to get anyone to step up to the plate now days, and every time these complaints I say a little prayer just to thank my lucky stars we have such a great corps of folks that take their jobs seriously, and with great pride and dedication.

Now, from time to time we do have openings that need to be filled. In particular, we have openings right now for the following counties:

Ottawa	Allen	Fulton	Henry
Mercer	Paulding	Putnam	Logan
Clermont	Warren	Carrol	Portage
Fayette	Athens	Jackson	Meigs
Perry	Belmont	Harrison	Monroe

Do you have what it takes to become an E.C. in the Ohio Section? Unlike many other Sections, we are more than just badge wearers for sure! Yes, we do have high expectations, but we do have a lot of fun too. Got questions about what it takes? Call or write me or Stan.

We will show you that we have the best program in the nation, and one that you'll be proud to serve in!

Want to know what it takes to be an E.C. in Ohio? Here's a link for ya'...

<http://arrl-ohio.org/SEC/ARESmanual2015.pdf> Yes, this is a lot of information to absorb. You do have to be an ARRL member, and here in Ohio you are also required to be a Tier I member before you will be considered for the appointment. Now, is this something that you'd like to do? Let me know.

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One Question Questionnaire

Hey Gang...

There's another NEW – one question – questionnaire on the Ohio Section Website!

<http://arrlohio.org> I noticed that that around 62% of you said that you'll be taking a transceiver with you on vacation. Wow.. That's great!



It's all in fun and we are learning some things that we didn't know from these questions. I hope that you are enjoying answering these "ONE QUESTION" questionnaires.

Now, here's the next question... **"Do you watch online videos for Amateur Radio information?"**

The survey will only take 2 seconds for you to answer it, and you can see how your answer stacks up with others instantly. If you haven't done it yet, please do. I really want to hear from you. Hey... If you've got a question that you'd like to see on our questionnaire, please send it to me!

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Ohio DMR Weekly Net Report

March 21st DMR Net

District 1 – 1	District 5 – 5	District 9 – 9	QNI: 100
District 2 – 3	District 6 – 15	District 10 – 10	Time: 50 minutes
District 3 – 9	District 7 – 17		
District 4 – 10	District 8 – 8	Outside of Ohio – 13	NCS: W8BLJ



The reason for conducting this net every week and having you actually check “IN” is to make sure that all of our connections to the now ever-growing and changing list of repeaters throughout the state are working as we want them to. Sometimes things don’t always work as we expect them to, and testing this system, and ourselves, each week gives us the ability to better understand what can happen during any emergency situation. Come join in on the fun every Wednesday evening at 8:30pm local on the DMR - 3139 talk group!

You can find a ton of information about DMR and the most popular DMR Nets and Code Plugs on the website: <http://arrl-ohio.org/digital/digital.html>

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Training Opportunities from your Ohio EMA

The following is just a partial listing of classes that you can attend and get certified for.

- ICS-400 Advanced ICS, April 3-4, Montgomery County
- ICS-300 Intermediate ICS, April 9-11, Cuyahoga County
- G271 Hazardous Weather & Flood Preparation, April 9-11, Portage County
- ICS-300 Intermediate ICS, April 9-11, Erie County
- ICS-300 Intermediate ICS (Evening Course), April 9, 11, 16, 18 and 23, Butler County
- G-108 Community Mass Care, April 12-13, Franklin County
- ICS-400 Advanced ICS, April 16-17, Erie County
- ICS-300 Intermediate ICS, April 23-25, Portage County
- G290/291 Public Information Officer/Joint Information Center, April 23-25, Hancock County
- L-548 Continuity of Operations (COOP) Program Manager, April 24 - 25, Ohio EMA
- ICS-300 Intermediate ICS, April 24-25, Noble County
- ICS-300 Intermediate ICS, April 24-26, Summit County
- L146 Homeland Security Exercise & Evaluation (HSEEP) Program, April 24-26, Hamilton County

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Murphy’s Volunteer Fire-brigade Laws



- ***Don't look conspicuous. When you're dealing with the public it draws stupid questions. Back on Station it draws Crew Leaders***
- ***When dealing with the public try to look unimportant, they may go and find someone else to ask that stupid question to***

- ***Falling trees have the right of way***
- ***Uniforms only come in two sizes, too small and too large***

Fun Things To Do, Classes & Hamfests Too

(from various newsletters and sources)

Class Instructors - Don't forget to register your classes with the ARRL. It's easy to do. Make sure that you send me that information too! Just think of all of the extra publicity that you'll get for your classes!



>> Classes starting near you <<

Amateur Radio Technician Classes



The Toledo Mobile Radio Association (TMRA) will be holding a two-day Technician License class on **April 7 & 21, 2018**. There is no charge for the class. A text book is required and costs \$25.00. At the end of the second

class, students may take the FCC license exam. The cost of the exam is \$15.00.

The classes will be held at the **Lucas County EMS Training Center, 2127 Jefferson Street, Toledo, Ohio 43624**. Registration is required. Contact Steve, KC8TVW. Phone: 419-467-3734 or email: kc8tvw@arrl.net.

ARRL V.E. Test Sessions

04/07/2018 | [Bryan OH 43506-8410](#)

Sponsor: Williams County ARC

Location: Williams County 911/EMA

Time: 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

[Learn More](#)

04/07/2018 | [Cincinnati OH 45216-1427](#)

Sponsor: Cincinnati Repeater Assoc Inc

Location: Hartwell Presbyterian Church

Time: 8:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

[Learn More](#)

04/07/2018 | [Columbus OH 43228-2127](#)

Sponsor: CRES ARC

Location: Haubach Armory

Time: 9:00 AM (No walk-ins)

[Learn More](#)

04/07/2018 | [Kirtland OH 44094-8500](#)

Sponsor: Lake County ARA

Location: Kirtland Library

Time: 12:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

[Learn More](#)

04/07/2018 | [Ravenna OH 44266-2191](#)

Sponsor: Portage County ARS Inc.

Location: PCARS Club Site (Rear of complex, under BIG tower)

Time: 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

[Learn More](#)

04/10/2018 | [Cuyahoga Falls OH 44221-3205](#)

Sponsor: Cuyahoga Falls ARC

Location: Cuyahoga Falls Library

Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

[Learn More](#)

04/10/2018 | [Lancaster OH 43130-3014](#)
Sponsor: Lancaster & Fairfield Cnty ARC
Location: American Red Cross
Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
[Learn More](#)

04/12/2018 | [Milford OH 45150-1427](#)
Sponsor: Milford ARC
Location: Faith Church
Time: 6:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
[Learn More](#)

04/14/2018 | [Cuyahoga Falls OH 44223-2504](#)
Sponsor: Cuyahoga Falls ARC
Location: Emidio & Sons Expo Center
Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
[Learn More](#)

04/14/2018 | [Delaware OH 43015-8533](#)
Sponsor: Delaware ARA
Location: American Red Cross
Time: 10:00 AM (No walk-ins)
[Learn More](#)

Here's also links to other great V.E. testing sites:

[Laurel V.E. Test Locations](#) & [W5YI V.E. Test Locations](#)



The Stark County ARES in conjunction with the Stark County EMA Office will be sponsoring FEMA ICS Training over the next few months. Training will be for the ICS-200, ICS-700 and ICS-800 certification.

Currently we have scheduled training for the ICS-200 Certification on **Wednesday, April 18th** at the County EMA Office on Route 62 lower level.

There is no cost for the training and it will run from 5:30 PM until about 9:00 PM. Future courses will also be offered based on interest.

Please contact me if you are interested!

Terry Russ, N8ATZ. Emergency Coordinator - Stark Co ARES
Home 330-837-3091 or cell 330-802-0958

Contests – Just for the FUN of it!!

April 2

- [IQRP Quarterly Marathon](#)
- [RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW](#)

April 3

- [ARS Spartan Sprint](#)

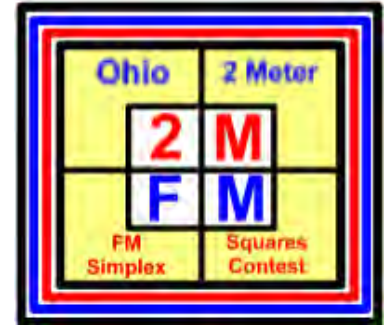
April 4

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

See the [ARRL Contest Calendar](#) for more information. For in-depth reporting on Amateur Radio contesting

FM2M²- Ohio 2 Meter FM Simplex Squares Contest

Sponsored by The Cuyahoga Fall Amateur Radio Club



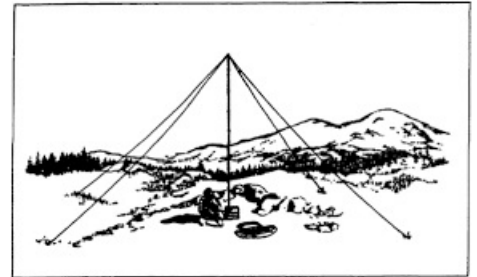
A contest for all hams in Ohio!

- All you need is a 2M FM HT or mobile radio and a simple antenna to compete for prizes and certificates; yes, even a cheap HT will do
- The contest is 10 hours total, two 5-hour windows each on April 7th & 8th 2018
- Use 2 Meter FM Simplex communication to contact as many other stations and grid squares in Ohio as possible
- Anyone sending in a log with at least one valid contact is eligible to win prizes, but the more contacts you make the better your odds of winning. There will also be certificates for leaders in a variety of categories
- Full details and rules can be found at <http://tiny.cc/fmsq>

>> *Ohio NVIS Day* <<

Hey everyone, Stan, N8BHL has let me know that the date for NVIS Day is scheduled for **Saturday, April 28th**. Are you ready? Start your planning now!

Like last year, we are planning on having the operation run from 10 – 4 EDT. Take a lunch break, enjoy each other’s company. Transmit power should stay at 100 watts for accurate signal comparison. You may operate anywhere, home, club, portable.



Want to know more about what NVIS is? Go to: <http://arrl-ohio.org/SEC/nvis.html> and learn all about Near Vertical Incident Scattering and how you can easily put up a NVIS antenna and participate in this great exercise.

***This year’s theme for the Dayton Hamvention is
“AMATEUR RADIO.... SERVING THE COMMUNITY”***

Continuing the tradition and in harmony with this year theme, Dayton Hamvention will once again have a setup and display of emergency communications vehicles, an “ECOMM TRUCK RALLEY”. The purpose of the display is to promote emergency communications and for groups who build and operate mobile communications facilities to display their equipment and demonstrate their capabilities it’s also a chance for the groups to talk about how to develop emergency communications in the field and to exchange ideas with Hamvention visitors.



This is a great opportunity to share your concepts, designs, ideas, layout and equipment for mobile emergency communication in the field and to give others ideas on designing their own unit or updating their existing unit!

We have had displays as simple as a pop up tent to RV style operations. We have had displays from local groups, out of state hospital support teams, Salvation Army, Civil Air Patrol, MARS, DHS and many others.

There will be a meet and greet and “review of the troops” during the event with emergency communications leaders and managers from the ARRL, ARES, MARS and others. This would be a great time to explain your display and your emergency communications program.

It is recommended that your organization have information such as handout or flyers. Also take lots of pictures for possible publication.

There are a few basic rules:

- Setup will be on Thursday May 17, 2018 anytime during the day. Before/ afterhours arrivals by appointment.
- Display area will be in the parking lot of 2017 Hamvention tents.
- Vehicles will not be allowed to leave the display area during active Hamvention hours, but may be driven out after hours.
- Electricity hookups may not be available or some distance away. Bring long extension cords.
- No noisy generators such as construction site type above 65db noise level
- Selling/flee market out of displays prohibited.
- No holes or damage to the blacktop. If you have to use jacks or stabilizers they should have a large footprint or use a 2" thick wooden pad sufficient to distribute the weight of the vehicle.

Hamvention has offered up to four (4) gate passes that allows you entry into the entire Hamvention which are also eligible for the door prizes and one (1) parking pass to the display unit.

We do need the following Contact Name/call:

Agency/Affiliation:
Phone: Email Address:
Size of the unit:
Picture of unit:
A short description of your unit:

Send request to:
Gary Hollenbaugh, NJ8BB
Ecomm Display Coordinator
ecomm.display@yahoo.com
<http://hamvention.org/emcomm/>
937-503-7070

Please review QST March 2018 advertisement on page 122 and ARRL news letter dated March 15 2018. Website <http://hamvention.org/emcomm/>

04/14/2018 | Cuyahoga Falls ARC's 64th Annual Hamfest

Location: Cuyahoga Falls, OH

Sponsor: Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.cfarc.org/hamfest.php?festnow=2018>



04/21/2018 | Portsmouth Radio Club Hamfest

Location: Portsmouth, OH

Sponsor: Portsmouth Radio Club

Website: <http://www.facebook.com/groups/portsmouthradioclub/>

04/28/2018 | 2018 JCARC Hamfest

Location: Jackson, OH

Sponsor: Jackson County Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.jacksoncountyarc.org>

04/29/2018 | Athens Hamfest

Location: Athens, OH

Sponsor: Athens County Amateur Radio Association

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

Find all the Ohio Hamfests in one location? Go to: <http://arrl-ohio.org/hamfests.html>

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Ohio Section ARES Conference

Hey Gang, the 2018 Ohio ARES conference will be held **Saturday, April 7** at the Marion Technical College / OSU Marion campus! Doors will open at 8am and the meeting will start promptly at 9am.



We have a great venue with the use of 150 plus seating lecture facility with excellent audio / visuals, and a wide selection of lunch places nearby! This year's keynote speaker is already set, and it's perhaps the most important talk you'll hear all year: Great Lakes Division Director Dale Williams, WA8EFK, has been the chair of a committee working on BIG changes to ARES nationally.

The committee report was accepted at the January Board meeting. Some portions are already being launched. While the report itself needs to go through staff and such, Dale will be telling us the important changes that will be happening to the ARES program.

There will be some great opportunities for all of us! So, this is a benchmark year- one you'll be at the leading edge of for sure! We will also have a number of other great speakers that will be there as well! I know that you will find this meeting extremely valuable! You just can't miss it! And, it's FREE!!!

We're asking all of you coming to register so that we can properly prepare for how many will be coming. The link to register is: <http://arrl-ohio.org/SEC/form.html>

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Final.. Final..



Hey Gang...

This week marks the 44th anniversary of the second largest outcropping of tornadoes in this county's history - April 3 & 4th 1974. And, for those of you who are too young to remember this day, I am talking about the Xenia tornado. I got to spend quite a bit of time there after the tornado hit helping out with the Red Cross, and I will tell you that it was an experience that I will never forget!

The Super Outbreak affected 13 states across the eastern United States, from the Great Lakes region all the way to the Deep South. In all, 148 tornadoes were documented from this event, of which 95 were rated F2 or stronger on the Fujita scale and 30 were F4 or F5. Aside from all the catastrophic damage they left behind, the tornadoes resulted in

Some of the strongest tornadoes from this outbreak occurred right here in the Ohio Valley. Dozens of tornadoes struck Ohio, Indiana, and Kentucky, resulting in 159 deaths, over 4000 injuries, and hundreds of millions of dollars in property damage.

Two violent F5 tornadoes destroyed much of Xenia and Sayler Park (a western suburb of Cincinnati) in Ohio. Resulting in 34 deaths, the Xenia tornado was the deadliest of all tornadoes from this outbreak and remains among the top 10 costliest U.S. tornadoes on record (approximately \$250 million in 1974). Several other strong F2 to F4 tornadoes also touched down during the Super Outbreak across southeast Indiana, northern Kentucky, and southwest Ohio, an area that today encompasses NWS Wilmington, Ohio's warning area.

The National Weather Service office boundaries and technology were quite different back in 1974. The Weather Service Office (WSO) in Cincinnati served the greater Cincinnati Tri-State area while WSO Dayton was responsible for the Miami Valley and west-central Ohio. In those days, not every NWS office was equipped with a radar. A WSR-57 (Weather Surveillance Radar - 1957) was installed at WSO Cincinnati in 1960, giving NWS meteorologists coarse reflectivity data but no velocity data, which made it extremely difficult to detect tornadoes. Storms on the radar screen were traced onto thin paper maps, and meteorologists heavily relied on the manifestation of hook echoes as well as spotter reports when issuing tornado warnings. WSO Dayton did not have a radar of its own but utilized a facsimile machine tied into Cincinnati's WSR-57 (also known by its identifier, CVG) display.



When the CVG radar displayed hook echoes and other impressive storm features outside WSO Cincinnati's warning area on April 3, meteorologists there made calls to the appropriate neighboring offices. At one point, the CVG radar screen displayed five distinct hook echoes--more than meteorologists there had ever seen before. Shortly after 4:30 PM, a call was made by WSO Cincinnati to WSO Dayton to ensure they had seen the hook echoes, of which one was quickly approaching Xenia.

In fact, the National Weather Service in Dayton had already issued a tornado warning for Montgomery and Greene counties around 4:10 PM (in effect until 5:00 PM), based on radar indication of a possible tornado 25 miles northeast of Cincinnati moving northeastward.

The tornado touched down about 4:33 PM near Lower Bellbrook Road, flattened much of the Windsor Park and Arrowhead subdivisions minutes later, and then roared into central Xenia around 4:40 PM. In the following months, careful analysis of all the damage led **Dr. Fujita and other experts to determine that the Xenia tornado was in fact the worst of all the 148 Super Outbreak tornadoes.**

About an hour after the Xenia tornado, another violent F5 tornado took aim at the western suburbs of Cincinnati. The only tri-state twister of the Super Outbreak, this tornado originated near Rising Sun in Indiana around 5:30 PM, passed through Kentucky, and then crossed the Ohio River to inflict severe damage in Saylor Park and other neighborhoods west of Cincinnati. This tornado was witnessed by many, including by those at the Greater Cincinnati International Airport and WSO Cincinnati, which had issued a tornado warning at 4:45 PM (in effect until 5:45 PM). Then at 5:40 PM, the power went out at WSO Cincinnati, resulting in a loss of radar, teletype, and most means of communication. While the power was out for the next three hours, the NWS in Cincinnati had some backup radar imagery available from the Air Force and FAA and had the NWS in Cleveland issue warnings for them. Fortunately, most of the worst tornadoes had already occurred before the power went down, but the need for emergency power backup at National Weather Service offices was recognized following this event.

In the aftermath of this horrific event, many lessons were learned that have since been applied by various government agencies to mitigate hazards in subsequent severe weather outbreaks. Improvements in communications (Amateur Radio), warning systems, emergency preparedness, and forecast techniques and equipment have been implemented since the Super Outbreak, with the end result being increased lead times for warnings, more accurate forecasts of events, greater public awareness, and more reliable communications.

Now, on to another subject... It seems that many of you have taken my challenge about getting on the Ohio ARES DMR net Wednesday evenings and have been checking in. I do believe we are the largest of all the DMR Nets now.

There's been quite a few changes to the DMR website this past week, Greg, WD9FTZ sent me more changes to the "DMR NET" listing. I got a new Code Plug for the Mototrbo SL 7550 and an update on the Anytone AT-D868UV dual-band radio. Go take a look: <http://arrl-ohio.org/digital/digital.html>



Ok I to want to update you on the NIMS count. We now have 676 persons registered in our NIMS database. I'm sure that you've already read who received the Vest. I am once again setting the bar up even higher to get the **700th person** register, and YES, I will send that person an ARRL ARES Mesh Vest! Have you gotten your courses in yet? How about it, I know that there's still a lot of you out there that have not taken the NIMS classes yet. C'mon, what have you got to lose? Here's a link to get you started on your way: <http://arrl-ohio.org/SEC/training.html>

That's going to do it this time around... I'll catch you on down the log for sure, and stay warm my friends, remember the Dayton Hamvention is just 46 days away!!!!

Scott, N8SY... -sk-

[TOP^](#)

Back Issues of the PostScript and Ohio Section Journal (OSJ)

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>

Chit – Chat, and All That!

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



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



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

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

The pictures on the front page 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 on the Ohio Section News!!"



SORRY FOLKS



We've reached the end of PostScript!

**We'll be back next week with
another great edition...**

[TOP^](#)

PostScript is produced as a weekly supplement to the Ohio Section Journal (OSJ). I sincerely hope that you have enjoyed this edition of PostScript, 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!