



Tax Day Edition

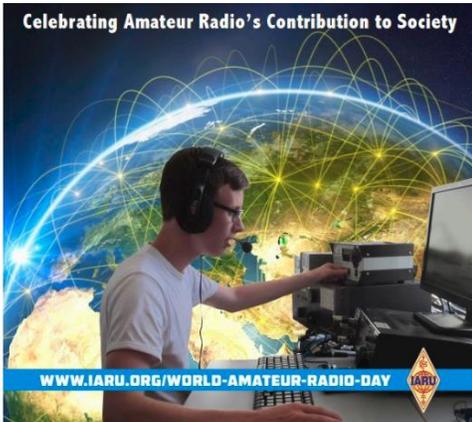
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National News

(from arrl and other sources)

World Amateur Radio Day 2019 Marks International Amateur Radio Union Founding



Thursday, **April 18**, is World Amateur Radio Day ([WARD](#)), this year marking the 94th anniversary of the International Amateur Radio Union ([IARU](#)), founded in Paris in 1925. Each year, WARD celebrates Amateur Radio's contribution to society. Groups in the US and around the world will celebrate WARD 2019 with on-the-air activities.

"I am pleased to extend my greetings for World Amateur Radio Day," IARU President Tim Ellam, VE6SH, said. "April 18 is the day for all of Amateur Radio to celebrate and tell the world about the science we can help teach, the community service we can provide, and the fun we have. I would encourage all radio amateurs to join in the celebrations and promote Amateur Radio on the air or in your community."

Amateur Radio experimenters were the first to discover that the shortwave spectrum was not the wasteland experts of the time considered it to be but a resource that could support worldwide propagation. In the rush to use these shorter wavelengths, Amateur Radio was "in grave danger of being pushed aside," the IARU's history notes. Amateur Radio pioneers met in Paris in 1925 and created the IARU to support Amateur Radio around the globe.

Two years later, at the International Radiotelegraph Conference, Amateur Radio gained allocations still recognized today — 160, 80, 40, 20, and 10 meters. More bands have followed, and the IARU has been working to defend and expand Amateur Radio frequency allocations ever since.

From the 25 countries that formed the IARU in 1925, the IARU has grown to include 160 member-societies in three regions. IARU Region 1 includes Europe, Africa, the Middle East, and northern Asia. Region 2 covers the Americas, and Region 3 is comprised of Australia, New Zealand, the Pacific island nations, and most of Asia.

The International Telecommunication Union ([ITU](#)) has recognized the IARU as representing the interests of Amateur Radio.

Groups are encouraged to promote their WARD activity on social media by using the hashtag **#WorldAmateurRadioDay** on Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook.

On-the-Air Activities

Brazil: LABRE Roraima, PV8AA, will sponsor various activities and satellite operations with participation by Scouts, including young Venezuelan refugees.

Denmark: Operators in Denmark will be permitted to use the call signs [5P0WARD](#) and 5P0WHD on April 18. Single operators will be assigned a special suffix extension (00 to 99) to distinguish individual stations, e.g., 5P0WARD/36 or 5P0WHD/7. Danish Contest Academy station OZ5E will be active as 5P0WARD/60. Awards will be available for contacts with stations on all modes and bands.

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France: TM94WARD will mark World Amateur Radio Day, under sponsorship of the REF, France's IARU member-society. It will be on the air on April 13 – 21.

Malaysia: 9M4CMN will be on the air from Segamat, in southern Malaysia, and 9M4CKK will be active from Tumpat, on the east coast of Malaysia, from 0230 until 1530 UTC on April 18.

Portugal: The Rede dos Emissores Portugueses (RED) will hold an open house at its headquarters on April 18, demonstrating an installation of a portable and low-power amateur station, as well as how to operate it and how to transport it.

United States: The Fair Lawn (NJ) Amateur Radio Club ([FLARC](#)) will hold an open house on April 18, from 2 PM until 9 PM EDT at the FLARC clubhouse at the Fair Lawn Recreation Center, 10-10 20th Street, in Fair Lawn, New Jersey. Club members will be available to demonstrate the stations, and to discuss the many interests of Amateur Radio operators and the role that individual hams and clubs play by providing public service communication.

Worldwide: The World Radio Network and the World Friendship Net will participate in World Amateur Radio Day 2019 using special event call sign W2W. A commemorative QSL card will be available, and a 12-hour net will be convened with net controllers from around the world. Join the commemoration at 1600 UTC via Echolink on the World Conference server (IRLP 9251) and on Allstar Node #47620 – World Conference Hub.

#####

FCC Releases Nationwide Emergency Alert System Test Report

(from Radio Resource and Gregory Drezdson, WD9FTZ)

The FCC has released the final 31-page report on the Oct. 3, 2018, nationwide test of wireless emergency alerts (WEA) and the emergency alert system (EAS). The tests were conducted with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in coordination with the FCC and the National Weather Service (NWS).

The purpose of the test was to assess the reliability and effectiveness of the nation's alert and warning infrastructure, or the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS), as well as the efficacy of WEA and the EAS as nationwide alerting tools.



IPAWS is a FEMA-operated alert aggregator that government authorities may use to send WEA alert messages to commercial service providers and EAS alerts to EAS participants using the common alerting protocol (CAP). This protocol enables alerts to be consistently and simultaneously distributed over the EAS and WEA architectures and ultimately transmitted to the public.

The nationwide test demonstrated that WEA is an effective alerting tool to rapidly disseminate emergency information to the public. Based on survey data shared with the FCC, most people reported successful receipt of the WEA test message, with several news reports noting the success of the nationwide test to reach the public.

The test also highlighted areas where WEA delivery can be improved, such as ensuring more delivery that is consistent, reducing duplicate messages, and resolving issues concerning alert message audio tone and vibration cadence.

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With respect to EAS, the nationwide test also demonstrated that IPAWS continues to deliver high-quality, effective and accessible EAS alerts, and that EAS participants' *results are comparable to 2017* performance levels, with continued improvement in several areas.

A majority (58.7%) received the test alert first via IPAWS compared with 41.9% in 2017.

The test found a similar rate of both successfully receiving and retransmitting the test alert, 95.7% receipt compared with 95.8% in 2017, and 92.1% retransmission compared with 91.9% in 2017.

The rates of receiving and retransmitting the test alert in both English and Spanish increased — up from 2017 by 388% for receiving the alert and by 350% for retransmitting the alert.

There was a decline in audio issues reported as an explanation for complications in receipt and retransmission — down to 68 explanations from 1,056 explanations provided in 2017. There were slightly higher rates of configuring equipment to monitor IPAWS, 96.8% compared with 96.7% in 2017.

The report provides information on areas for improvement regarding technical and operational performance. The report also includes recommended next steps for all participants and the FCC.

The full report is at <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-356902A1.pdf> .

#####

2019 State of the Hobby Results

(from Dustin, N8RMA | Gregory Drezdson, WD9FTZ)

Radio amateurs have spoken and the results are in!



I truly hope you read and enjoy the report below. It represents approximately 120 hours of blood, sweat and tears each spring, donated out of love for amateur radio and a sense of duty to help in some way. Share these results with your clubs, ham friends and family, and most importantly challenge them (and yourself) to use the information to enact positive change. We all know this hobby isn't one we can do solo - it's in our best interest to improve and grow it each and every year. It doesn't have to be a grand gesture either - to quote the greatest movie ever, Contact, starring the marvelous Jodie Foster, "small moves Ellie, small moves". Do something small within your community or club to positively promote the

hobby and create that ripple.

As always, if you are interested in receiving email updates please subscribe to the blog. The yearly survey, results and information will be posted there and by subscribing you won't miss a single update.

Now, on to the report! [2019 State of the Hobby](#)

#####

The Handbook Give Away

Hey Gang,

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 yourself registered now!



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 I usually “Give Away” more than just a Handbook too!!



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>

Club Corner

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

Let me know what you club is up to. Are you going to have a special guest at your meeting or are you having a special anniversary? Just sent it to:
n8sy@n8sy.com



#####

Oh-Ky-In Amateur Radio Society, Ham Radio Licensing Classes and Exams



Classes for Technician and General are being held on Monday nights starting **April 15th** until May 13, 2019 at the Cincinnati Red Cross Building, Dana Ave, 2111 Dana Ave, Cincinnati, OH 45207. These classes are also two hours in length from 7pm to 9pm. Licensing exams will be held on **May 25th** in St. Bernard in the Centennial Room of the Municipal Building 110 Washington Ave, Cincinnati, OH 45217.

Got questions? Please email Mike Niehaus KD8ZLB : KD8ZLB@gmail.com and visit <http://ohkyin.org/wp/club-activities/classes/>

#####

TMRA Needs Volunteer Help

Spring is here so it's almost time for the Glass City Marathon! This year the race is on **Sunday, April 28th** and starts at 7 AM. The course closes at 1:30 PM. Not every position requires you to be there the whole time. We need lots of operators to cover this event so if you can help please let me know at either k8rks@arrl.net or 419-471-0573.



#####



ATCO Spring Event

Guys (and Gals too),

It's closing in on ATCO Spring Event time. The Event date is **Sunday May 5th** starting about noon. Come one, come all in the ABB Cafeteria, and **it's free!** We'll have a free lunch followed by a short business meeting then on to the door prizes.

Let's have a great turnout this time! Surprise me!

ABB Cafeteria is located at: ABB Inc, 579 Executive Campus Dr, Westerville, OH 43082

Hope to see you there!!!

#####



SARA is partnering/supporting Wayne County EMA in the offering of the SKYWARN training this year. As you may have heard, budget and staffing issues in the Cleveland NWS office has

led them to cancel the NWS-lead SKYWARN classes. EMAs and ARES ECs are being encouraged to hold the SKYWARN training directly.

SARA is playing a supporting role to the Wayne County EMA which is holding a session for this region. The date will be **Monday, May 6th from 6p - 8p**. Volunteers will be needed 5p - 8:30pm. The tentative location is Chippewa Jr/Sr High School in Doylestown. Volunteers will help register attendees and print the SKYWARN training cards with ID numbers. Fred Sheppard KD8GYS will be assisting Joe Villegas with the class.

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Additionally, SARA will have a table with some amateur radio materials available to spread the word about our hobby and service.

If you can volunteer your time, please contact me so I can add you to the roster. Please note that volunteers will not be able to be present in the class for the entire session as volunteers will register latecomers and also print and organize the ID cards.

Thanks! For more information or questions, contact Jason, N8JDM jason@mfamily.org

#####

Tuesdays Summer Lunch Program Activity Help Needed



Help for activities for the summer lunch program on Tuesdays at Partners Park in Marysville is needed. The summer lunch program provides free summer lunches to people 0-18 years old. Lunch is served at 12pm.



Usually by 12:30pm lunches are consumed. We have the opportunity to setup an amateur radio or stem/technology type activity at the park on Tuesdays. Since we will be at a park, we won't be limited to time constraints for the length of the activity. If the activity has a lot of interest and goes longer, we will be able to stay as long as we need to.



Our hope is by consistently being at the park on Tuesdays, kids that are interested in technology and amateur radio will know to show up on Tuesdays for lunch to participate in the club activity.

If you can help out with this effort, please let Ed, KE8ANU@arrl.net know what Tuesdays you are available to help. The more club members we have help with it, the easier it will be on everyone. Ideally it would be good to have 2 different volunteers for each of the 10 Tuesdays. Since this is the first time, we will be doing this, we do not know what to expect.

#####

AID Volunteer Fire Department / Community Open House Event, April 13, 2019

(from Michael Love, WB8YKS - SOARA / ARES PIO)

At the request of Aid Volunteer Fire Department Chief, Louis Pauley and Deputy Chief, Matt Jenkins the Southern Ohio Amateur Radio Association (SOARA) and Lawrence County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) participated in their special community open house event Saturday, April 13, 2019. Also, set up at the Fire Department was the American Red Cross, Lawrence County Emergency Management Agency / 911, Lawrence County Emergency Medical Service, Aid Township Trustees and the Aid Fire Department. A special guest, Lawrence County Commissioner, Freddie Hayes attended the event.

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The event was well attended by the community and everyone enjoyed the EMS demonstration of the new Lucas 3 CPR compression device. Additionally, the fire department and EMS provided everyone the opportunity to inspect their equipment and learn more about what they do here in Aid Township and Lawrence County, which was their goal, said Deputy Fire Chief, Matt Jenkins.

Of course, what would an event like this be without hotdogs and all the trimmings which were provided to the public by the Fire Department.



This special event provided SOARA and ARES the opportunity to operate from a table in the exact location where they would normally set up during an emergency event. They also demonstrated HAM Radio and provided ARRL handouts.

The Aid Fire Department has been a great partner and are very enthusiastic with the capabilities of amateur radio. Their territory in the county does not have cellular coverage. In the future a special antenna will be mounted on their tower which will accommodate a faster set up for responding amateur radio operators. It is hopeful that they will be able to access DMR.

This was not only a fun event for the amateur radio operators but also a precursor to an emergency event if they would be requested to respond. Also, meeting with the American Red Cross Representative and public officials was an important aspect of the event.

Amateur Radio Operators who participated in the event: Annabelle Jenkins KB8TGI, James Rowe N8TVO, Arthur J. Pearson N8LRO, Herb Dunfee KB8GUE, Jerry Lockhart W8HIC, [Mike Love](#) WB8YKS and remote operator Eddie Jenkins N8URU.

Fire Chief Louis Pauley, had this to say, “On behalf of all the members of the Aid Volunteer Fire Department we appreciate all of our partners participating in this special Community Open House event. We never know when an emergency will arise that will require everyone working together. Additionally, a special thank you to our Amateur Radio Operators for what they do here in Lawrence County and the unique capabilities that they provide to areas that do not have Internet/cell phone capabilities. We recognize how extremely important they are for our back up communications.”



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OH-KY-IN NVIS Day



NVIS Day is Saturday, April 27th. We're going to be at Ross Park in Saint Bernard. The event is from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM ET, with setup beforehand.

Spring is here! And nothing says spring better than NVIS Antenna Day! It is a chance to get out of the shack you have been cooped up in all winter and set up a field station! It's also your chance to win a prize. A prize will be given to anyone who makes a contact with their own homebuilt NVIS antenna, (as long it isn't an inverted V!).

Every year that Jerry Shipp W1SCR and Michael Sien KD8SOH have hosted NVIS Day the only antennas that people bring are the Standard inverted V's.....

This year we are looking for the most creative antenna that can make contacts in Ohio especially to The ARES team in Columbus. **“There will be one prize \$50 for the antenna that Jerry and I decide is the best”.**

Note: Inverted V's will not be illegible to win a prize! In case of a tie the one with the most contacts in Ohio will win! Remind everybody to bring a log! Also if one antenna really stands out it still has to make a contact in Ohio to win!

We will have coffee and donuts available at 8:30 AM and lunch will be served at 12 noon. Hamburgers, Hot Dogs and snacks....

Come join us...

Date: April 22, 2017

Time: 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. (Set up at 8:30)

Place: Ross Park in St. Bernard: 5198 City Park Dr, St Bernard, OH 45217

Want more information on how to make a NVIS Antenna? Here's a link.. <http://arrl-ohio.org/SEC/nvis.html>

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GENERAL LICENSE UPGRADE CLASS



The Lorain County Amateur Radio Association will be conducting a 10-week course for General class upgrades.

The classes will be on **Monday evenings starting the 29th of April** to the 1st of July, from 7pm to 9pm at The American Red Cross 2929 West River Rd Elyria, Ohio.

There is NO cost for this course, only your time.

The course will be instructed by Eric, N8AUC.

Eric feels that even if a person had NO amateur radio license, a person could gain enough knowledge to potentially pass the technician and general exams.

If you would like to attend this course, or have ANY questions, contact Eric, N8AUC@arrl.net

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[Upcoming Hamfests](#)

04/20/2019 | Portsmouth Radio Club Hamfest

Location: Portsmouth, OH

Sponsor: Portsmouth Radio Club

Website: <https://www.facebook.com/w4pox/>



04/28/2019 | Athens Hamfest

Location: Athens, OH

Sponsor: Athens County Amateur Radio Association

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

05/17-19/2019 | Dayton Hamvention

Location: Xenia, OH

Sponsor: Dayton Amateur Radio Association

Website: <http://hamvention.org/>

06/01/2019 | FCARC Summer Swap

Location: Wauseon, OH

Sponsor: Fulton County Amateur Radio Club

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

06/08/2019 | Union County ARC TrunkFest

Location: Marysville, OH

Sponsor: Union County Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.ohiohams.net>

06/15/2019 | Milford Hamfest

Location: Owensville, OH

Sponsor: Milford Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.w8mrc.com>

06/15/2019 | W8DXCC DX Convention

Location: Owensville, OH

Sponsor: SouthWest Ohio DX Association

Website: <http://www.w8dxcc.com>

07/07/2019 | 20/9 Radio Club Hamfest

Location: Austintown, OH

Sponsor: 20/9 Radio Club, Inc.

Website: <http://20over9.org>

07/07/2019 | Ohio Link Swap Meet

Location: 1801 Gateway Circle, Grove City

Sponsor: Ohio Link Network Group

Website: www.olnradio.digital

DX This Week

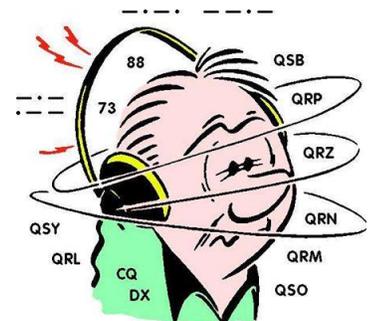
(from Bill, AJ8B)

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

CWOPs Member #1567

Now that we are moving in to the spring/summer season, we need to start to focus on the mid-range HF bands. My band of choice for the spring and summer is 30 meters. 30 always surprises me and there seems to always be some good DX to work. When the DX is not coming in, I have been able to connect with several hams from the CWOPs group or just others I have worked over the years. Of course, I will keep checking 40 and 80 for gray line openings and I will be on the lookout for what FT8 might turn up. We shall see.

Uncle Frank and I were on 30 meters discussing antenna projects for the summer. He commented that he needed to get out of the house this year and meet some DXers and refresh his knowledge.



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I like to refer to that as “Sharpening the Saw”. If you are familiar with Dr. Stephen Coveys’ “7 Habits of Highly Effective People”, then you will recognize that phrase.

Dr. Covey teaches that, although our main task may be to chop down a tree, we need to take a break to recharge our body and we need to sharpen the saw blade to be more effective. When was the last time you “Sharpened Your Saw”? So much information is to be had on websites and YouTube. For instance, before putting up my 160M inverted “L”, I checked YouTube and found dozens of videos of hams dealing with 160M antennas.

Another source of excellent DX information are DX clubs. The Northern Ohio DX Association is one you should check out! (<http://www.papays.com/nodxa.html>). Tedd Mirgliotta, KB8NW, is the president and the editor of the OPDX Bulletin. One of the defacto sources of regular DX Information. They also hold monthly meetings.

The SouthWest Ohio DX Association (SWODXA) (www.swodxa.org) is another Ohio based organization. They have monthly meetings in the Dayton/Cincinnati area. SWODXA is also internationally known for bestowing the DXpedition of the Year® award. This coveted award has been granted to the top DXpeditions each year since 1984 and has been received by the “Who’s Who” of the DX world. The award is presented at the DX Dinner® which is held the Friday night of Hamvention weekend. CQ also announces and presents the newest inductees in to the CQ Hall of Fame and the Island Radio Expedition Foundation will announce its IOTA DXpeditioner of the Year. (www.swodxaevents.org)

The unique thing about the DX Dinner is that it seems to be the largest gathering of DXers in a single spot that I can find anywhere. Visalia, another large DX Gathering, and W9DXCC don’t have 400 DXers in one location. Plan to attend, meet, greet, chat, and learn.

Finally, on June 15th, SWODXA will host the inaugural W8DXCC convention in conjunction with the Milford Hamfest. The combination of these two events is making it a must attend event in the summer. Some tickets are available in advance on the website – www.w8dxcc.com . The purpose of the convention is to give everyone an opportunity to “Sharpen the Saw” by meeting, greeting, and learning. There will be 5 presentations and plenty of networking time. Also, Jay, K4ZLE, the veteran of at least 9 major DXpeditions will be the emcee.

The Keynote speaker will be K3LR, Tim Duffy (of DXEngineering fame). K9LA, Carl, the Dean of Propagation, will speak on “Propagation Basics and Cycle 25”. The remaining presenters are NR8Z, Tom – “DX on 100 Watts and a Wire”, K8CR, Chuck and W8MRL, Rob – “FT8”, and K8DV, Dave – “QSL and DXCC Basics”

Other activities include “DXCC Card Checking”, “CQ Card Checking”, “Plenty of Networking time”, “QSL Board”, “Special Event Stations K8S, K8W, K8O, K8H”, and a Major Door Prize Drawing. More at www.w8dxcc.com .

+ -----+

Now that this lengthy commercial is over, let’s see what our friend at the DailyDX and the WeeklyDX, the best source for DX information, (<http://www.dailydx.com/>) has this to report:

YJ - Vanuatu - Russian ops RZ3FW, Yan, and R4WAA, Sergei, are heading to Vanuatu during November of this year. They will depart Moscow on October 31st heading to Port Vila, arriving November 2nd.

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Next the two will then depart for Gaua Island, Banks Islands (OC-104) on November 4th and then on to Tongoa Island, Sheppard Islands (OC111) from November 8-13. They will be operating as YJ0RRC from both OC-104 and OC-111. Finally, they will wrap things up as YJ0FWA from Efate Island (OC-035) from November 14-20.

Equipment will include an Icom IC-7200 with Ameritron ALS 500M and a Yaesu FT450D. As for antennas they will have phased verticals for 30 and 40 meters, a sloper for 30 meters, a three element VDA will be used on 20 meters from OC-104 and 111, a VDA on 20 and 17 meters, a top loaded 80/160 meter vertical for OC-035) along with a Flag and 70 meter long BOG. Operations will be on CW, SSB, RTTY and FT8. They have a website at <https://r4waa9.wixsite.com/yj0rrc> .

PY0F - Fernando de Noronha - The PY0F team has announced their plans to return to FDN for the CQ World Wide DX SSB Contest, October 26-27. <https://py0f.wordpress.com/2019/04/03/cqwwssb-2018-results/>

5T - Mauritania - Last week PA2KW, Evert, announced (<https://www.qrz.com/db/5T2KW>) his plans to be a guest of 5T5PA, Johannes, in Nouadhibou, Mauritania between April 9 and 15. Evert has received the callsign 5T2KW and will use Johannes' antennas. Listen for Evert mostly on CW and possibly on SSB on all HF bands. This will be his first time to experience what it is like from "the other side" of the pileup. He will be on the air as much as possible, but not 24/7. Logs will be uploaded to Club Log (<https://clublog.org/charts/?c=5T2KW>) and LoTW after his activity. He prefers QSLs via OQRS on Club Log.

ARLD015 DX news

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by EA4NF, The Daily DX, The OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX News, DXNL, Contest Corral from QST and the ARRL Contest Calendar and WA7BNM web sites. Thanks to all.

UGANDA, 5X. Anders, SM0HPL is QRV as 5X7W from Kampala until April 27 while on work assignment. He is active in his spare time on the HF bands using CW, JT65 and FT8 with QRP power. QSL via LoTW.

PHILIPPINES, DU. Ed, 4F1OZ and Gil, 4F2KWT are QRV as DX1CC from Arena Island, IOTA OC-207, until April 15. Activity is on 30, 20- and 17-meters using CW and SSB. QSL via EA5GL.

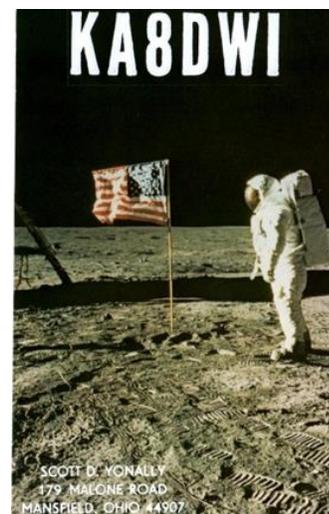
LIECHTENSTEIN, HB0. Philippe, EA4NF will be QRV as HB0/EA4NF from April 17 to 19. Activity will be on the various FM and SSB Satellites. QSL via LoTW.

DJIBOUTI, J2. A group of operators will be QRV as J20DX from April 13 to 21 from Sept Frere Island, IOTA AF-059, and then as J20DX/p from Moucha Island, IOTA AF-053. Activity will be on 80 to 6 meters using CW and SSB. QSL via LoTW.

AMERICAN SAMOA, KH8. Joe, OZ0J and Palle, OZ1RH will be QRV as KH8/home calls from Tutuila, IOTA OC-045, from April 16 to 22. Activity will be on 80 to 12 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY and FT8 with two stations. QSL via LoTW.

BULGARIA, LZ. Members of the Thracian Rose Club are QRV with special call sign LZ116RF until the end of July during the Rose Festival in Kazanlak. QSL via LZ1YE.

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ALAND ISLANDS, OH0. Mart, DL6UAA is QRV as OH0UA until April 19. Activity is on the HF bands using CW and various digital modes. QSL to home call.

MARKET REEF, OJ0. Pasi, OH3WS plans to be QRV as OJ0W on April 13 and 14. Activity will be in his spare time on 60 and 30 meters using only CW. QSL to home call.

DENMARK, OZ. Special event stations 5P0WARD and 5P0WHD will be QRV on April 18 in celebration of the 94th World Amateur Radio Day. QSL via LoTW.

EAST KIRIBATI, T32. Ken, KH6QJ will be QRV as T32AZ from Kiritimati Island, IOTA OC-024, from April 16 to 23. Activity will be on 80, 40, 20 and 15 meters using CW and SSB. QSL to home call.

SOMALIA, T5. Ali, EP3CQ will be QRV as 6O1OO beginning April 15 and active for one month. Activity will be mostly on 40 and 20 meters using FT8. QSL via operator's instructions.

PALAU, T8. Shunji, JA1JEJ and Ichy, JH7IPR are QRV as T88IB and T88UW, respectively, from Koror Island, IOTA OC-009, until April 16. Activity is on the HF bands using CW, SSB, FT8 and other digital modes. QSL direct to home calls.

UKRAINE, UR. Special event station EN185UNIV will be QRV from April 15 to December 31 to celebrate the 185th year of the Taras Shevchenko National University of Kiev.

NORFOLK ISLAND, VK9N. Rob, VK2FBBB plans to be QRV as VK2FBBB/VK9 from April 14 to 27. Activity will be on 80 and 40 meters. QSL to home call.

ANGUILLA, VP2E. Chris, PA2CHR and Jos, PA3FYC plan to be QRV as VP2EMB until April 21. Activity will be with EME on 2 meters, and 70- and 23-centimeters using CW and JT65. They may also be active on HF frequencies. QSL direct to PA3FYC.

BURKINA FASO, XT. Harald, DF2WO is QRV as XT2AW from Ouagadougou until April 26. Activity is holiday style on 160 to 10 meters using mostly RTTY, PSK31, RTTY, JT65 and FT8, and slow CW. QSL direct to M0OXO.

THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO. The ARRL SSB Rookie Roundup, Japan International DX CW Contest, Maritime Radio Day QSO Party, NCCC RTTY Sprint, NCCC CW Sprint, SKCC Weekend CW Sprintathon, OK/OM DX SSB Contest, F9AA PSK Cup, FT8 DX Contest, New Mexico QSO Party, Texas State Parks on the Air, Georgia QSO Party, North Dakota QSO Party, Yuri Gagarin International DX CW Contest, WAB 3.5/7/14 MHz Data Modes, International Vintage Contest HF and the Hungarian Straight Key CW Contest will certainly keep contesters busy this upcoming weekend.

The 4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint is scheduled for April 15. The 222 MHz Spring Sprint is scheduled for April 16. The CWops Mini-CWT Test and Phone Fray are scheduled for April 17. The Canadian National Parks on the Air, CNPOTA, operating event runs for the entire year of 2019, with special stations active from Canada's parks and historic sites.

Please see April 2019 QST, page 87, and the ARRL and WA7BNM Contest Web Sites for details.

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Special Events

- **05/04/2019 | 100th Anniversary Mahoning Valley Amateur Radio Association**

May 4-May 5, 1300Z-0100Z, W8QLY, Youngstown, OH. Mahoning Valley Amateur Radio Association. .3825 7.250 14.250. QSL. MAHONING VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION INC, 125 W McKinley Way, PO BOX 14141, Youngstown, OH 44512. Electronic QSLs will be sent for confirmed contacts--request form on QRZ page. mvara.W8QLY@gmail.com or www.qrz.com/db/w8qly

- **05/04/2019 | COSI Big Science Celebration**

May 4, 1500Z-2000Z, W8LT, Columbus, OH. Friends of W8LT. 14.250 14.070. QSL. W8LT c/o Larry Feth, 1080 Carmack Rd., Room 40 Bevis Hall, Columbus, OH 43210. For up-to-date information, go to www.qrz.com/db/w8lt

- **06/01/2019 | Museum Ships Weekend**

Jun 1-Jun 2, 1100Z-2100Z, K8E, Toledo, OH. Toledo Mobile Radio Association and National Museum of the Great Lakes. 14.260 14.039 7.260 7.039. QSL. SS Col. James M. Schoonmaker, Team K8E, P.O. Box 9673, Toledo, OH 43697. www.tmrahamradio.org

- **06/15/2019 | W8DXCC DX Convention**

Jun 15-Jun 16, 0000Z-2359Z, K8S, Owensville, OH. SouthWest OH DX Association. 14.245 14.074 7.245 3.535. Certificate & QSL. AJ8B - Bill, 8275 Cierra Way, Waynesville, OH 45068. This is the inaugural year for this DX Convention. We are using these call signs: K8S, K8W, K8O, K8H. A QSL for each and/or certificate for working all four. www.w8dxcc.com

ARRL Contest Corner

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



One Question Questionnaire

Hey Gang

There's another NEW – one question – questionnaire on the Ohio Section Website!
<http://arrlohoio.org>

Wow.. I guess we need to have more questions about resistors in series and parallel! I was surprised to see that a little over 25% of you answering the question about resistors didn't get it right, the correct answer is... **48.62 ohms**.



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Anyway, these questions are all in fun and I hope that you are enjoying answering these “ONE QUESTION” questionnaires. Ok, enough on that, here’s the next question for you to answer...

“Will you be operating HF portable while camping or hiking?”

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

V.E. Test Sessions

For the latest testing site information please >> [Click Here](#) << The ARRL site tracks all of the VE testing sites that register with them, including W5YI and Laurel. ARRL gives you a number of different ways of sorting to find that site that is closest to you as well.

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Exam Session Reminders

GRADING EXAMS: Each VE must grade each exam taken or must agree to the score given. After all three VEs agree to the number of correct answers shown, the score is announced to the examinee. The VEs must inform the examinee of their grade (pass or fail, and state the score {e.g., 26 out of 35}) upon completion of the grading.

NEW GENERAL EXAMS COMING: The new General class question pool will take effect on July 1, 2019 for all Element 3 General class license written exams. With the General class exams changing July 1st, new test designs must be created and used on that day. ARRL VEC will be supplying all its (near 1,000) Field Stocked VE teams with new test booklets about the 3rd week in June. Do not destroy the 2015 versions of the General exams until June 30.

BASIC QUALIFICATION QUESTION PROCEDURES: The detailed instructions are available on the ARRL website. At the exam session, candidates that answer “YES” to the qualification (felony) question should be given the “Applicant Instructions for FCC Basic Qualification Question” document. Print or download here: <http://www.arrl.org/files/file/VEs/Applicant%20Info%20Qualification%20Question%202019.pdf>

Applicants can also be referred to our Basic Qualification Question web page for information and instructions. View page: <http://www.arrl.org/fcc-qualification-question>

After the application data from the session is submitted to FCC and an FCC file number is created, the applicant is required to provide an explanation directly to the FCC within 14 days. Do not collect information from the candidate and do not send any documents to the VEC.

Incident Command System (ICS) Training Schedule

All current trainings are listed on the Ohio EMA training calendar located at:

<https://webeoctraining.dps.ohio.gov/TrainingAndExercise/courselist.aspx>

I've been asked to also include a link to the Kentucky EMA training calendar as well..

<https://kyem.ky.gov/training/Pages/default.aspx>

<https://sites.google.com/site/ccoemtraining/home>



Please pay particular attention to these courses listed above, as that there's a lot of ICS 300 & 400 classes listed that are very useful for all Amateurs to have under their belts. I will also state that G775 is also a very good course to take as well. These 3 courses are multiple day in class courses, so please be prepared to spend some time taking them.

We do recognize that IS-300/400 requires multiple days of actual classroom training that is not easily obtained. So, if you just can't find the time to fit these class room courses in, we do have an alternative method for getting you to Level 3.

Completing the following “**FREE**” and “**ONLINE**” courses will act as substitute for you FEMA Leadership Development Course requirements. You absolutely will need to complete all **7** of these courses to get your ICS 300/400 credit. Here are the courses that you need to take: **IS-120, 230, 240, 241, 242, 244 & 288.**

Now, if you are looking for wallpaper and have a little extra time, taking IS-235 in addition to the 7 listed courses above, you will get a really cool looking certificate from FEMA stating that you have completed the Professional Development Series. That's impressive in itself!

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The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Returns to Provide Auxiliary Communications (AUXCOMM) Training in Conjunction with Hamvention® 2019

The Emergency Communications Division (ECD) of DHS's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) will be on hand at Hamvention® 2019 to conduct its nationally recognized NIMS/ICS compliant AuxComm course. Over 2,500 amateur radio operators from around the country have taken this course. The purpose of this course is to train qualified amateur radio operators so they may assist their local, county and state governments with emergency backup communications if requested to do so.

This course introduces the auxiliary communicator to the other positions within the Communications Unit (COMU) and how to provision emergency communications in a public safety context. The course also goes deeper into the National Incident Management System framework. The location of the course will be at the “Courtyard by Marriott” in Beavercreek, Ohio and be held 14-16 May 2019. Registration for this class may close early when all available seats for this class are taken.

Registration for this course is ongoing: Students wishing to attend the DHS Auxiliary Communications (AuxComm) Course must meet all prerequisites and provide electronic/scanned images of the following required documents prior to **1 May 2019**:

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Prerequisites:

- A signed copy of your current valid FCC issued amateur radio license
- IS-100 certificate (FEMA issued); IS-200 certificate (FEMA issued); IS-700 certificate (FEMA issued); IS-800 certificate (FEMA issued), and the name of the public safety entity, and its contact information, that you would support upon completing this course

Please scan copies of this information, attached it to an email, and then send to COMU@hq.dhs.gov. In the subject line, please put Hamvention AUXCOMM. Your information will be reviewed, and a reply sent back to you indicating that you have been given a seat in the course.

This will be an intensive three-day version of the course with facilitated lectures and student exercises conducted by professional AUXCOMM instructors. This course provides time for interactive discussions and exercises. Should you have any questions regarding this course, please send them to COMU@hq.dhs.gov.

One final note, please mark your forum calendar, on Friday 17 May, to come see us at the AUXCOMM forum. You will be given a glimpse at the new AUXCOMM Position Task Book (PTB), a briefing on the proposed Communications Section for NIMS/ICS and a briefing on one of the most active AUXCOMM states – North Carolina!

ARES Connect

CQ... CQ.... CQ... Calling all persons to be a part of the new ARES Connect program.

We need to discuss some very important items that only YOU can make a difference with. I need you to get yourselves registered in ARES Connect, that is... if you haven't already. Now, how do I know that you need to do this? It's simple, we have 1006 now registered in the database and Stan's last S.E.C. report shows that we have a little over 1,700 persons in ARES right now. As you can see, we still have a way to go to really take advantage of this new system.

As the numbers show, there's still a lot of you that haven't taken the plunge yet and need to! What are you waiting for? No matter how much you resist, it's coming, and we need to make sure that no one is left behind.

Now, as an incentive to get you to not only register.... But to actually start using the system... (*Notice how I have that in bold type for you to clearly see?*) I am giving away all sorts of goodies to help you get motivated. I have a footlocker of really cool items that I will be giving away!

ARES Connect

Instructions to Register

Enter ARES Connect

I'm doing this in various intervals throughout the year, so it will challenge you to be dedicated to getting your hours into the system. You'll never know just when another drawing will be, so you really do have to be prudent!!

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Here's the top 10 folks for hours for this portion of April:

	Name	Events	Hours
1	Christopher Domenick (KC8CAD)	11	52.50
2	Dan Stahl (KC8PBU)	20	45.50
3	James Yoder (w8erw)	4	43.00
4	Robert Baker (N8ado)	10	33.00
5	Elizabeth Klinc (KE8FMJ)	17	28.00
6	Mark Griggs (KB8YMN)	6	24.00
7	Larry Caskey (K8LPC)	14	19.00
8	Edward Kopcak (KB8BKE)	6	18.00
9	Bret Stemen (KD8SCL)	6	17.50
10	Steve Wheatcraft (AA8BN)	5	16.75

*Here's how we did with people getting signed up for events
and the total hours logged so far for April*

Total Amount signed into Events	Total Hours for Events
739	2,328.53

It adds up quickly, but you do have to be registered and actually USE the system in order for any of your time to count. We have a set of instructions on how to get registered right above the button to enter ARES Connect. I would strongly suggest that if you haven't registered yet, that you read these instructions first.

Here's a link to get you started... http://arrl-ohio.org/ares_connect_directions.pdf Please, don't just hurry through the questions, read them carefully, if you don't understand something, please ask me, I'm here to answer your questions.

We know that you mean well by answering that you do have the needed courses in, but I will let you know that we are verifying what you say you have with what is showing for you in our statewide database when we are completing your registration. So, how can you find out if you are already listed in our statewide database? Easy, here's a link: <http://arrl-ohio.org/SEC/special/ICS%20Complete%20by%20County%20and%20Name.pdf>

Ok, now on to something new for ARES Connect... I was asked by Ron, NU8N about having a certificate for those who have taken the extra time and courses to get to Level 3. Well, after some thinking about it, Stan and I agreed with Ron that we should have some wallpaper for those who have taken this extra hard step. So, I'm here to tell ya' that we are now offering a really nice certificate for all of those who have worked so hard to obtain their Level 3 ARES Status.

All you have to do is complete a couple of boxes and we'll send you a certificate suitable for framing. Now I want to make sure that you understand that you do have to be registered in the statewide database as a Level 3 to qualify for this certificate.

Here's the link... <http://arrl-ohio.org/SEC/level3.html> So, if you have certificates that you haven't submitted yet, this is the perfect time to do just that!

Wouff Hong Ceremony At Hamvention

When: **Saturday – May 18th starting ~ 9:00 PM** Where: Marriott at the University of Dayton



Hey Gals and Guys... You've been asking if this is going to happen, and now I can tell you for sure, YES we are having a Wouff Hong Ceremony at Dayton!!! The Conclave will gather at 9pm and those willing to take the plunge and become a part of this ever growing and most secretive of all Societies. Come join us and be indoctrinated into history!

The ceremony is steeped in mystery! Attendees will receive a special keepsake. A fun activity for all ages. Doors to the conclave will open at 9:00 PM (no admittance after 9:30 PM) at the Marriott at the

University of Dayton (Tradewinds Pavillion), 1414 S Patterson Blvd, Dayton, OH 45409. **Free registration online** to ensure there will be enough seats, and to get a really cool certificate following the ceremony. Go to: <http://arrl-ohio.org/wouff-hong.html>. This event is sponsored by the ARRL Ohio Section.

Now, for those of you who don't know what Wouff Hong is all about:

A Wouff Hong is a fictional tool used to "punish" Amateur Radio operators who demonstrate poor operating practices. Legend has it that the Wouff Hong was invented by ARRL co-founder Hiram Percy Maxim under the pseudonym, "The Old Man," just as radio amateurs were getting back on the air after World War One.

Early in 1919, "The Old Man" wrote in *QST* "I am sending you a specimen of a real live Wouff Hong . . . Keep it in the editorial sanctum where you can lay hands on it quickly in an emergency." The "specimen of a real live Wouff Hong" was presented to a meeting of the ARRL Board and the Board voted that the Wouff Hong be framed and hung in the office of the Secretary of the League.

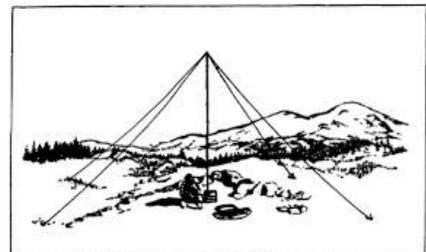


On display at ARRL Headquarters today, the Wouff Hong is a constant reminder to Amateur Radio operators to be mindful of their operating etiquette.

2019 Ohio NVIS Day

NVIS DAY IS COMING!
Saturday, April 27, 2019
10 A.M.–4 P.M.

Is your station ready to establish and maintain high-reliability communication with other stations around Ohio when repeaters, phone, and internet service are impaired? When infrastructure just isn't there, HF radio using Near-Vertical Incidence Skywave (NVIS) propagation offers the ability to stay in contact on frequencies of 2–30 MHz for distances of about 30–400 miles.



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NVIS Day is the ARRL Ohio Section event to test your NVIS antenna designs and builds. Join us on Saturday, April 27 to show how well amateur radio can keep Ohio communicating! This is not a contest: it's an event for Ohio stations to operate with other Ohio stations and understand how well they hear and are heard.

THE DETAILS

Date: Saturday, April 27

Time: Start at 10 A.M., end at 4 P.M.

Power: Up to but no more than 100w

Exchange: six-digit grid, power, and true—measured—signal report

Schedule: This isn't a contest, so take your time! Try different designs! Have lunch!

Register: Tell others that you'll be operating, when you'll be operating, and how to find you.

<https://forms.gle/rMar6gN2sWf4VUNu5>

We'll publish a map and information for all registered stations just before the start of the event.

We look forward to hearing you on the air!

C. Matthew Curtin KD8TTE ASEC
Stan Broadway N8BHL SEC

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

Weather Underground and Other Ham Weather Stations



Have you visited the webpage to see all the Weather Underground stations yet? It's really fun to see just how much the weather varies across the state and this gives you access to each individual station very quickly and easily.

Hey gang, if you haven't looked at your Weather Underground dashboard lately you might want to. It seems that the nice folks there have taken the time to upgrade your dashboard. The new design is still being worked on from what information that I could gather, but they have done a really nice job. The new design is really easy to view and contains the same information as before, but it's laid out in a really professional manner.

Now, our list of stations is growing all the time. How's about your station? Is it listed with us? It doesn't necessarily have to be a Weather Underground reporting station. I'd love to have any weather station that is connected to the internet available for all of us to view, especially when the weather gets bad out. The more stations reporting the better.

Thanks to everyone who has contributed to this effort. If you haven't, you really should take a look at the various weather stations around the state when we get bad weather coming in. You can really see just where the line of storms are as they cross through the state. It is very fascinating to watch it all unfold right you're your easy chair, and all the data is real time! Here's a link to all of those listed... <http://arrl-ohio.org/wus.html>



We're starting to get a really good collection of stations all over. I know that there is a lot more than what we have listed. How's about sharing your weather information with all of us! All that you need to do is send me your Weather Underground ID and your call sign and I'll take it from there. Sent it to: n8sy@n8sy.com

Sign Up for Hamvention Alerts

If you are planning a visit to Hamvention 2019, you are urged to sign up for the Hamvention alerts which are available again this year on your mobile phone. To subscribe to the system just text **Hamvention19** to **888777**. The alerts will provide up-to-date information for those traveling to or attending Hamvention such as weather, traffic, parking and other useful information throughout Hamvention. If you signed up for the alerts in 2018 you are automatically registered for this year.

The alerts are especially important for up-to-minute information about parking and weather, especially for those who might not be able to monitor the talk-in or bulletin stations. The alerts will provide another way to direct drivers to the best parking solution if weather requires closing some onsite parking lots or if some remote lots fill up. A special thanks to Greene County Sheriff Gene Fischer, KX8GCS, for making the alerts possible again this year

The Media Committee is working to make winning prize numbers available on the alert system soon after they are drawn. This is an effort to help winners claim prizes and to decrease the number of unclaimed prizes that must be redrawn prior to the main prize drawing on Sunday. During Hamvention the numbers from the hourly prize drawing will be posted on Twitter and Facebook as well as displayed on monitors throughout the fairground's buildings. Following Sunday's Grand Prize drawings, winners will also be posted on Twitter and on <http://hamvention.org/event-details/prizes/>.

The alert system, which was initiated in 2018, was a Hamvention effort to get visitors the information they need. It is a supplement to the Hamvention talk in station that has operated for many years on the Dayton Amateur Radio Association repeater, 146.94(-) 123.0 Tone to give directions and other assistance.

Last year a traffic bulletin station was also added on 145.525 to periodically repeat needed information. Amateurs with 2-meter capability are urged to enter those frequencies into their radios before starting their Hamvention journey.

Hamvention 2019, the world's largest amateur radio gathering, will be held May 17-19 at the Greene County Fairgrounds and Expo Center in Xenia, OH.

THREE NON-TRADITIONAL WAYS FOR HAMS TO COMMUNICATE

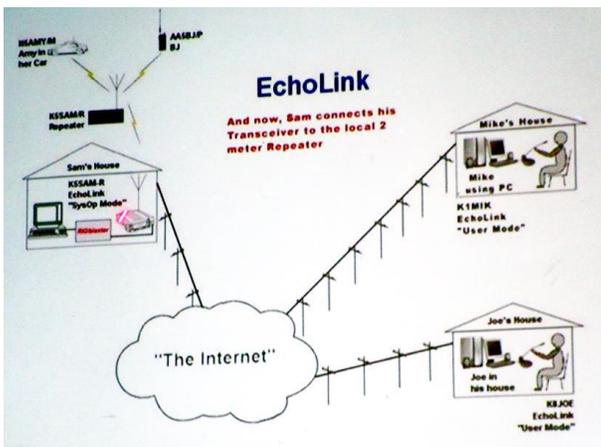
(By Frank Tompkins, W8EZT and The Chattering Relay)

The February Fellowship Meeting was a presentation by Club member Ken Dorsey, KA8OAD, demonstrating three communication modes of that some hams may not know about, EchoLink, HamShack Hotline, and Peanut.



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He started presentation with a discussion of EchoLink, a software package that can run on a PC and allows licensed Hams to use DTMF commands to link their station to other EchoLink stations and to EchoLink enabled repeaters over the Internet. EchoLink uses VoIP (Voice over IP) and allows voice QSOs between hams and other hams and when coupled with a repeater, he said, it allows hams from around the world to access and use a local repeater.



Ken explained that EchoLink operates in one of two modes, “Single User” and “Sysop”. In “Single User” mode, EchoLink provides point to point communications over the Internet between two hams using their two computers. In “Sysop” mode, a VHF or UHF radio is interfaced with the computer and used to connect to a local repeater, just as anyone using an HT or base station would.

He added that there is also an EchoLink app for that allows a licensed Ham to access the EchoLink from an Android Smart Phone. He also listed the software packages available for various hardware platforms: for windows PCs: EchoLink, for Apple PCs: EchoMac, for Linux PCs, 2 options: Skylink and

the Bridge, for iPhones, EchoLink, and for Android Smart Phones, EchoLink.

Wrapping up the EchoLink portion of the presentation, Ken used an app on his smart phone to initiate an EchoLink contact.

The second part of the presentation was about a new IP based phone system, limited to licensed Hams, called Hamshack Hotline. While not “Ham Radio” itself, it allows Hams to set up point to point VoIP communication links anywhere that Internet service is available. It’s designed to offload administrative and managerial communications, and as a tool to co-ordinate trouble shooting of radio circuits. A conference feature lets groups of Hams collaborate on issues and problems. Hamshack Hotline phones, he said, could be installed in Hamshacks, EOCs, Repeater Sites, any place where a Ham may need to communicate quickly.

Hamshack Hotline Inc.
(KC1KSC)

The newest and oldest come together to make emergency communications more efficient. K1WIZ John Rogers came up with a brilliant idea. He thought that wouldn't it be great to institute a Asterisk PBX VoIP system, that would augment our efficiency for ARES and RACES with Emergency Management Agencies and their Emergency Operation Centers.

When a disaster or large scale event hits your local area, chaos ensues. Your public safety networks become overburdened. Why not have a back channel that reduces the on the air traffic by using the Hamshack Hotline? It uses a SIP phone such as the Cisco SPA-303, which is easily purchased on Ebay for some really short money.

When we are in the process of communicating in a disaster, or large scale event we are usually using the Incident Command Structure. Depending on scale of event we may have multiple layers in the command, which can create an enormous amount of radio traffic. By using the Hamshack Hotline much of the administrative and managerial work can be done there, creating less radio traffic, but more efficient radio traffic.

Ken explained the only hardware needed was a SIP capable phone, available on e-bay and Amazon for \$20 to \$40, depending on speed and features, but he stressed several times that it must be unlocked and set to factory defaults. Supported devices (as specified by Hamshack Hotline) are: Cisco SPA-112 (provides VoIP for analog phones), Cisco SPA-303, SPA-504g, and SPA-514g. Supported phones will auto configure, he explained, and will be allowed to connect to the HHUS hub. Other phones, including some software versions, may work, but will have to be manually configured, and will be required to connect to the HHEX (experimental) hub of Hamshack Hotline.

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After listing the steps needed to get registered in the system, he demonstrated Hamshack Hotline, connected to a Wi-Fi hot spot. Unfortunately, it was a quiet evening, and there was no one to be found in the several conference groups he logged into.

The third component of Ken's presentation was Peanut, a client app for an Android smart phone that allows you to connect to the Peanut server. The Peanut server is a DStar reflector, which in turn, allows you to access to DStar and the DStar Rooms. To use Peanut, he said, you will need to have a Ham license and be registered in the DStar system. Then you go to the Peanut web site and request a Peanut access code. Once the App is installed, provide the access code, and you're ready to go.

Again, as he wrapped up the session, Ken demonstrated Peanut on his smart phone.

Finishing the presentation by answering questions, he provided a slide with links to the web sites that provide these tools. Thank you, Ken, for an excellent presentation.

Final.. Final..



Hey Gang...

This past week was really great. I was on vacation. Janie and I went to Myrtle Beach to not only relax, but to meet up some old friends that we haven't seen in quite a long while. Our first night there was one that neither of us will soon forget. After a long drive we hit the hotel around 4pm. We were both really tired, so after finding a nice little out of the way seafood restaurant we returned to the hotel and crashed for the rest of the night. Now, at least that's what we thought we'd do.

Around 3:30am we were very abruptly wakened by the sound of the fire alarms going off everywhere in the building. Our hotel had both visual as well as audio alarm systems. It rang out loud and clear that we were to evacuate the building immediately! So, stumbling around for a few seconds trying to get our bearings we figured that we'd better get the heck out and that's just what we did.

At 3:30 in the morning the entire occupancy of the hotel was standing out front trying to figure out just what the heck was going on. One blessing that we had was it was a very comfortable 66 degrees out, so none of us got too cold. Luckily it wasn't raining either, but if you can imagine about 70 residents all standing out in the street and on the sidewalk in various stages of dress looking and wondering what was going to happen next, it was a real site for sure.

Anyway, after the fire department when floor to floor making sure that there was no emergency, they finally gave us the "all clear" and told everyone that it was just a false alarm.

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Now, if you've never experienced this for yourselves, imagine getting back to your room and trying to go back to sleep. Ha.. it doesn't work. No matter how hard you try, your imagination gets the best of you and you start to wonder when the alarm is going to go off again, this time for real. So, instead of tossing and turning I decided just to go out on the balcony and play DMR radio for the rest of the night. I had a blast!!! You'd be surprised who all is up at that hour.

We were there for just a few days, but we did meet up with our old friends and had a blast talking about old times that we had in the past and eating great seafood! Yes folks, I love seafood, all kinds. I even had some oysters on the half shells. I will say, the beer that I had helped greatly to wash the saltiness of the oysters down.

Now, let's move on to more important things... Did you make it to the Ohio Section ARES Conference? I lost track of just how many folks were there, but I know that we didn't have only but a few empty seats in a very large room. I've heard from many of you that stated you had a lot of fun there. I'm really happy to hear that and I do want you to know that the team is already working on next years conference. I know that it will be even bigger and better than this year.

Since I went on vacation right after the conference, I didn't have time to do any editing of the video that I took, but I'll be working on that this week. So, stay tuned for more news about the videos.

I've been asked by many of you just how many folks do we have in ARES Connect now. Well, here's a breakdown of all 3 levels for you: Level 1 – 446; Level 2 – 425; Level 3 – 131 This gives us a total of **1,006** in ARES Connect. I don't know positively for sure, but my guess from everything that I can see within the system is that no one other than the Ohio Section has more people registered in ARES Connect.

I do want to clear up some mis-interpretations that have been going around. First, in the Ohio Section we only require our Level 2 volunteers to have the 4 basic courses, IS 100, 200, 700 & 800. For our Level 3 volunteers we do require the additional ICS 300 / 400, or the equivalent professional series courses IS 120, 230, 240, 241, 242, 244 & 288. These equivalent courses are all on-line classes just like your basic 4 NIMS courses are and being offered as an alternative way for you to get credit for taking the professional series courses in the event you just cannot get scheduled into an ICS 300/400 class.

By the way, if you decide to take these 7 on-line courses and complete them all, you will want to take just one more class **IS-235**. By completing this additional course, you will get a really great looking certificate from FEMA recognizing that you have completed the entire Professional Series courses. I do hope that this clears up the confusion that has been going around lately. As we have stated on the website and in this newsletter many times "We don't want anyone left behind."

Whelp... That's going to do it for this time around. Stay safe, stay warm, and most of all... have FUN!!

73,

Scott, N8SY

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Tax Day

Founding Father Benjamin Franklin famously said that the only things certain in this world were death and taxes, but he wasn't necessarily talking about federal income taxes. The U.S. didn't institute such a tax until the time of the Civil War, as a temporary measure. The Sixteenth Amendment, ratified in 1913, made it possible for the federal government to tax individuals directly. But the story of Tax Day doesn't end there, in 1954 Congress passed nearly 1,000 pages of revision to the Internal Revenue Code. No wonder we can't get a break on our taxes!

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://arrrl-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://arrrl-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!!"



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PostScript is produced as a weekly newsletter. I want to thank everyone that has contributed articles and ideas to make this an even better news source. I sincerely hope that you have enjoyed this edition and will encourage your friends to join with you in receiving the latest news and information about the Ohio Section, and news and events happening around the world!