



Flag Day Edition

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Astronauts Bob Behnken, KE5GGX, and Doug Hurley Settling in after Historic Flight



NASA astronauts Bob Behnken, KE5GGX, and Doug Hurley, are settling in on board the International Space Station (ISS) after arriving aboard the first commercially built and operated US spacecraft to transport humans into orbit. Behnken and Hurley headed into space on Saturday, May 30, in the SpaceX Crew Dragon capsule, powered by a Falcon 9 launcher from Cape Kennedy. They docked at the ISS Harmony module on Sunday afternoon.

Astronauts Bob Behnken, KE5GGX, (second from right) and Doug Hurley (right) have joined the ISS crew headed by Chris Cassidy, KF5KDR (center). [NASA photo]

ISS Commander Chris Cassidy, KF5KDR, and crew members Anatoly Ivanishin and Ivan Vagner welcomed their new colleagues.

“The whole world saw this mission, and we are so, so proud of everything you’ve done for our country and, in fact, to inspire the world,” NASA Administrator Jim Bridenstine told the crew. “This represents a transition in how we do spaceflight from the United States of America. NASA is not going to purchase, own, and operate rockets and capsules the way we used to; we’re going to partner with commercial industry.” This would apply to future moon missions, Bridenstine added.

For the past 9 years, human crews were transported to and from the ISS via Russian *Soyuz* vehicles. After they reached orbit, Behnken and Hurley named their Crew Dragon spacecraft *Endeavour* as a tribute to the first space shuttle each astronaut had flown aboard. The Dragon capsule docked to the ISS flawlessly and without human intervention.

The SpaceX vehicle will undergo considerable inspection over the next couple of weeks as part of the process of declaring the Dragon operational. This past weekend’s mission was SpaceX’s second spaceflight test, Demo-2, of its Crew Dragon, but it was the first test with astronauts aboard.

The Crew Dragon being used for this flight test can stay in orbit about 110 days. NASA would require an operational Crew Dragon spacecraft to remain in orbit for 210 days. — *Thanks to NASA*

#####

Balloons with APRS Payloads to Race Across North America in Educational Challenge

It all began when Amateur Radio on the International Space Station ([ARRISS](#)) educator Joanne Michael, KM6BWB — a science coach at the Wiseburn Unified School District in Los Angeles — challenged another ARISS partner group to a mid-altitude, cross-continent balloon race. Michael has led her students in several balloon launch attempts from the Los Angeles area each year.

Given the disruption caused to schools by the COVID-19 pandemic, Michael wanted to shake things up a bit and give students worldwide a unique distance-learning treat that could safely be accomplished during the pandemic. She challenged Ted Tagami, KK6UUQ, from ARISS partner Magnitude.io to a mid-altitude cross-continent balloon race, and Tagami accepted the challenge. Tagami plans to launch his balloon from Oakland, California. ARISS partner ISS Above inventor Liam Kennedy, KN6EQU, of Pasadena, California, got wind of the idea and asked to participate too.

ARRISS, Magnitude.io, and ISS Above are ISS National Lab Space Station Explorer (SSE) partners that work to inspire, engage, and educate students in science technology engineering, arts and mathematics (STEAM) topics and to pursue careers in those fields.

The story caught fire on social media, inspiring one teacher to figure out how to initiate a launch from her school. “Let’s get planning and get your thoughts and ideas and let’s make this happen for the students,” she said in a post.

Once the balloons are airborne, students can track each balloon’s location, altitude, and temperature, which are fed automatically via the Automatic Packet Reporting System ([APRS](#)).

“Educators and parents around the globe can excite at-home youth with this initiative,” ARISS said in announcing the challenge. “Students can tally and track the states each balloon travels through and plot altitude versus temperature [and other parameters). Also, by researching weather patterns, students can make assumptions from their own data. This could include speed variations due to weather. They also can predict each balloon’s flight path and when they might cross the finish line.”

For more information on the balloon launch, lesson plans, and the livestream video link visit the [ARRISS Mid-Altitude Balloon Race](#) page.



Educator Joanne Michael, KM6BWB, and balloon.

#####

Simulated Emergency Test 2019 Results

(Steve Ewald, WV1X)

Amateur Radio operators showcase ingenuity and skill under the pressure of emergency scenarios.

The 2019 ARRL Simulated Emergency Test (S.E.T.) results document the outstanding efforts by many, including those involved in the ARRL Field Organization, Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES®), Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES), Skywarn, National Traffic System, and numerous other allied groups and individuals. Your collaboration and relationships with partner agencies, organizations, and groups help to make this annual national exercise a success

SET Shows Anderson, Ohio, is Prepared

(Jason Patrick Moore, KE8COY)

Hamilton County (Ohio) ARES members participated in a Simulated Emergency Test of communications across Anderson Township on Saturday, October 5th.

The Anderson Emergency Operations Center (EOC) was ground zero for the county radio amateurs during this exercise, and Marty Newhall, KE8CEI, worked with the Anderson Fire Department to establish an amateur radio station at the EOC as an auxiliary and backup communications system. Groundwork for this station was established by former Fire Department Chief Mark Ober, with continued support from current Chief Richard Martin and Assistant Chief Bob Herlinger. The station was capable of city, region, state, and nationwide communication. All radios and antennas were tested.

Using portable and mobile radio equipment, other ARES members fanned out to several different locations throughout Anderson and surrounding areas to exchange messages from their field locations to the EOC and pinpoint locations where radio signals might have trouble getting through.

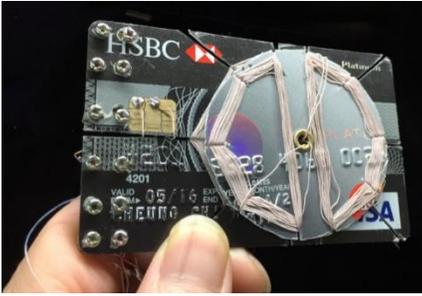
Now for the top 10 scores...

Section	
ARES Activity	Points
Alabama	13,876
Ohio	3,528
Eastern Pennsylvania	2,092
Eastern New York	1,799
Wisconsin	1,746
Santa Clara Valley	1,502
Southern New Jersey	1,434
Western Washington	1,228
Western Pennsylvania	1,201
Georgia	962

Section / Local Nets	
Mississippi	5,247
Wisconsin	5,107
Alabama	3,659
Ohio	924
South Texas	536
Western New York	412
Georgia	343
Connecticut	312
Michigan	251
Western Pennsylvania	249

#####

Credit card chip used to make crystal radio **(Submitted by Gregory Drezdzon, WD9FTZ)**



Hackaday reports a new use for expired credit or debit cards by repurposing them into small, compact, carry able crystal radios thanks to the embedded smart chip.

This is possible because the smart chip on many credit and debit cards contains a diode. It is then a simple matter of hooking up the right pads on the credit card to the rest of a crystal radio circuit, and you're all set.

Read the Hackaday story and watch the video at:

<https://hackaday.com/2020/06/01/credit-card-chip-used-to-make-crystal-radio/>

####

AMSAT Spells Out its GOLF Program Objectives

AMSAT says the aim of its developing “Greater Orbit, Larger Footprint” ([GOLF](#)) satellite program is to place amateur radio transponders in low-Earth orbit (LEO), medium-Earth orbit (MEO), and eventually high-Earth orbit (HEO).



“The goal of the GOLF program is to work by steps through a series of increasingly capable spacecraft to learn skills and systems for which we do not yet have any low-risk experience. Among these are active attitude control, deployable/steerable solar panels, radiation tolerance for commercial off-the-shelf components in higher orbits, and propulsion,” AMSAT explains. “The first step is to be one or more LEO satellites similar to the existing AO-91 and AO-92, but with technologies needed for higher orbits. With proven technologies, an interim high LEO or MEO satellite would follow on.”

AMSAT says the eventual goal is an HEO satellite similar to AO-10, AO-13, and AO-40, “but at a currently affordable cost combined with significantly enhanced capabilities, which, in turn, will allow the use of much less complex ground stations.”

####

WSJT-X Version 2.2.0 is Now in General Release



WSJT-X version 2.2.0 is now in general availability release, after a short stint in beta (or release candidate) status. WSJT-X version 2.2 offers 10 different protocols or modes — FT4, FT8, JT4, JT9, JT65, QRA64, ISCAT, MSK144, WSPR, and Echo. The first six are designed for reliable contacts under weak-signal conditions, and they use nearly identical message structure and source encoding. JT65 and QRA64 were designed for EME (“moonbounce”) on VHF/UHF bands but have also proven very effective for worldwide very low-power communication on HF bands.

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“FT8 is operationally similar but four times faster (15-second T/R [transmit-receive] sequences) and less sensitive by a few decibels,” developer Joe Taylor, K1JT, explains in the version 2.2.0 [User Guide](#). “FT4 is faster still (7.5-second T/R sequences) and especially well suited for contesting.”

Taylor noted that even with their shorter transmit-receive sequences, FT4 and FT8 are considered “slow modes,” because their message frames are sent only once per transmission. “All fast modes in *WSJT-X* send their message frames repeatedly, as many times as will fit into the [transmit] sequence length,” he explained. Compared with FT8, FT4 is 3.5 dB less sensitive and requires 1.6 times the bandwidth, but it offers the potential for twice the contact rate.

New in *WSJT-X* version 2.2.0: FT8 decoding is now spread over three intervals, the first starting at 11.8 seconds into a receive sequence and typically yielding around 85% of the possible decodes. This means users see most decodes much sooner than with previous versions. A second processing step starts at 13.5 seconds, and a third at 14.7 seconds. “Overall decoding yield on crowded bands is improved by 10% or more,” Taylor said.

Other changes: Signal-to-noise (SNR) estimates no longer saturate at +20 dB, and large signals in the passband no longer cause the SNR of weaker signals to be biased low. Times written to the ALL.TXT cumulative journal file are now correct, even when decoding occurs after the T/R sequence boundary.

The Handbook Give Away

Hey Gang,

The “Handbook Giveaway” drawing will soon be returning for another big “Give Away”



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>



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

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



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V.E. Testing will be returning for TMRA



VE Testing will return in June. Steve has set up this outdoor venue. Walk-ins will be welcome (this event only) and the Session will be held Rain it Shine.

Itching to get that New Ticket it an Upgrade?

Well here are the Details.

WHEN :[Saturday June 13](#) 2020

What Time:10:00 AM

Where: Trilby Park Open Shelter.

McGregor Rd, 2 blocks east of Secor.

Extra Info: This will be an outdoor session held under a shelter Rain or Shine. Walk-ins will be welcome at this Session Only and preregistration is always encouraged

If you desire more info or want to get on the list, Contact Steve Stalker/KC8TVW

kc8tvw@arrl.net

We look forward to seeing you and Good Luck on your exams

#####

The Northwest Ohio ARES Traffic Net Needs Help

The Northwest Ohio ARES Traffic Net is in need of General and/or Extra Class licensees with either voice or CW capabilities to relay traffic from the VHF net to the HF nets, no experience is necessary.

The NW Ohio ARES Traffic Net meets daily at 6:30PM on the W8RZM 147.375 repeater.

The Ohio Single Sideband Net meets daily at 10:30AM, 4:15PM and 6:45PM on 3.9725 MHz. The Ohio Section also has three CW Nets, the Ohio Slow Net meets daily at 6:00PM on 3.53535 and runs at approximately 10 WPM.

The Buckeye Net-Early meets daily at 6:45PM on 3.580 and runs between 15-20 WPM. Finally, the Buckeye Net-Late meets daily at 10PM on 3.590 and runs in the same range as the Early Net. Currently, there are only 2 volunteers that cover 7 days a week, and most nets there isn't a volunteer at all. Please consider volunteering for an hour a week, you never know, you may like it.

For more information on traffic handling, or volunteering to assist relaying traffic please check into the VHF net or contact Colleen Roth N8TNV, Steve Denniss KC8IDM, or Michael Lacumsky W8MAL.

#####

Make Field Day Great Again in 2020!



With COVID-19 spoiling the fun of Field Day for many clubs, Silvercreek Amateur Radio Association (SARA) and WARC decided to do something about it! The SilverWoo Field Day Event is a joint

effort between the Silvercreek Amateur Radio Association and the Wayne Amateur Radio Clubs. This one-year-only event will provide incentives for hams to operate Field Day from home or in other approved conditions for Field Day 2020. There will be several awards offered based on various Field Day performance criteria. See silverwoo.org for more details and join in the fun!

V.E. Exam Scheduled

SARA is holding its VE exam on Saturday June 6th. Please see <https://w8wky.org/license-exams/> for more information. At the time of this writing, SARA has 23 confirmed examinees signed up. If you are interested in a license exam, please register in advance. Also, please see the website for very important information about requirements, dealing with groups of 10, and information for multiple tests and re-takes.

Upcoming Hamfests for 2020

07/18/2020 | NOARSfest

Location: Elyria, OH

Sponsor: Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society

Website: <https://www.facebook.com/NOARS.K8KRG>

Canceled

07/19/2020 | Van Wert Hamfest

Location: Van Wert, OH

Sponsor: Van wert Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://w8fy.org>



07/26/2020 - Portage Hamfair '20

Location: Ravenna, OH

Sponsor: Portage Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Website: <http://hamfair.com>

Canceled

08/01/2020 | Columbus Hamfest

Location: Grove City, OH

Sponsor: Voice of Aladdin/ Audio Unit of Aladdin Shrine

Website: <http://columbushamfest.com>

Canceled

08/08/2020 | DXE Hamfest,

ARRL Ohio Section Convention

Location: Tallmadge, OH

Sponsor: DX Engineering

Website: <http://dxengineering.com>

Canceled

New Date

08/29/2020 - Milford Hamfest

Location: Owensville, OH

Sponsor: Milford Amateur Radio Club

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

09/27/2020 | Cleveland Hamfest and Computer Show

Location: Berea, OH

Sponsor: Hamfest Association of Cleveland

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

Click on “Join Our Mailing List” to stay updated.

####

Webpage for Cancelled Hamfests

ARRL has created a webpage that will search the ARRL Hamfest and Convention Database for canceled events. >> [Click Here](#) <<

DX This Week

(from Bill, AJ8B)

DX This Week – ZD7JC

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

CWOPs Member #1567



Interesting week! As we come off the stay at home orders, the bands seem to be picking up a bit. 10M was open several times and 12M also had a few openings. Uncle Frank recently asked me why I list the entities that were spotted on the cluster for the past week. I explained that the reason that I like to list the entities that have been heard is that it gives you an idea of the activity that has been on the bands the previous week. In the past week there was activity around the CQWW WPXCW contest, the last contest of the year for me. I was surprised at the number of stations on as well as the good propagation. It wasn't long skip, but it was reliable. Entities that were spotted by stations in the Midwest included Aland Islands, Austria, Barbados, Belgium, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cape Verde, Colombia, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, European Russia, Fed. Rep. of Germany, Finland, France, French Guiana, Haiti, Hawaii, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Paraguay, Poland, Puerto Rico, Republic of Kosovo, Sardinia, Scotland, Serbia, Singapore, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Tunisia, Ukraine, and US Virgin Islands.



I did receive some QSLs cards this week including EL2DT – The Voodoo contest Group “DXpeditioning” in Liberia, VK2VAR -Colin in New South Wales, Australia, TU5PCT – The Ivory Coast, and 9X2AW- Rwanda (pictured)

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Maybe even better than receiving a QSL card is to receive some sort of award! I received the Honoring Frontiers award after having a CW QSO with KP4RAI. This was emailed to me and is very cool. Congrats to WP3XH, Jorge, for putting this together.

This week, I wanted to share with you the interview that was conducted with John, ZD7JC. This originally appeared in the January 1st, 2019 issues of the Newsletter of the Southwest Ohio DX Association newsletter, *The Exchange*. It is reprinted here with the permission of SWODXA.

Interview with John—ZD7JC

I first worked ZD7JC in 1999 on RTTY and still recall the QSO. He took the time to give me a tip or two on calling for DX in a RTTY pileup. I have worked him 4 other times using FT8 or CW on 3 different bands. John responded instantly when asked to answer my questions.

AJ8B: How did you first get interested in amateur radio?

ZD7JC: I was introduced to amateur radio through a very good friend of mine, Desmond Peters, ZD7DP in 1997 and haven't looked back since.

AJ8B: When did you get on the air?

ZD7JC: In 1997

AJ8B: It appears that you have been on many modes and bands. Do you have a favorite?

ZD7JC: I particularly like the digital modes. My favorite now is FT8.

AJ8B: Any secrets to your success on the air?

ZD7JC: No, there are no secrets. Having the right equipment is most important.

AJ8B: Are you interested in contests? If so, any tips that you can share?

ZD7JC: I don't normally engage in contests, but I did the FT 8 RTTY RU contest over the weekend and made some successful contacts

AJ8B: What is propagation like in your area?

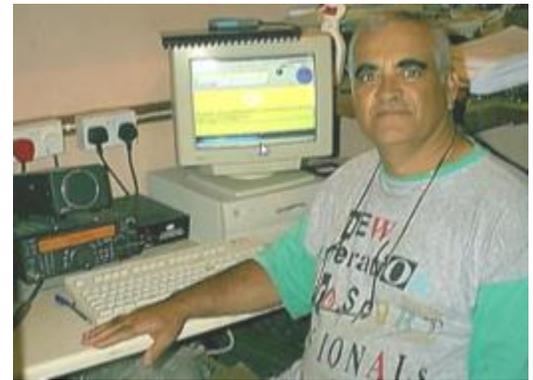
ZD7JC: Propagation is pretty good during the Summer months, October to March but pretty poor otherwise.

AJ8B: What license levels do you have on St. Helena Island?

ZD7JC: There are no license levels on St Helena. You apply for a license and if you have the necessary equipment, a license is normally granted.

AJ8B: Describe what you are currently using:

ZD7JC: I am using the Yaesu FT-991, an excellent piece of equipment. A Cushcraft R-8 vertical antenna, an MFJ-939 automatic antenna tuner and software is JTDX.



AJ8B: What advice do you have for those of us trying to break pileups to work DX?

ZD7JC: I would strongly recommend the JTDX program as it has a unique filtering feature that blocks out all other stations whilst you are in contact with another.

AJ8B: What coaching/advice would you give new amateurs?

ZD7JC: I would strongly recommend amateur radio to anyone who might be interested. It's a great hobby.

AJ8B: Thanks for taking the time to answer my questions. Is there anything you would like to share with us?

ZD7JC: I think I have covered all my bases and hope that amateur radio will continue long into the future.

CQDX CQDX CQDX CQDX CQDX CQDX CQDX CQDX CQDX

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

KC4 – Antarctica - KC4USV at the McMurdo Station hamshack has been QRV. They particularly like 14243 SSB. This is IOTA AN-011. QSL via K7MT.

HB0 – Liechtenstein - Updating our May 27th story about HB9HBY's 3-day trip in July, he has firmed up the dates, July 24, 25 and 26. Going with him will be HB9TWU. They say they plan to operate nonstop and there will be a "little surprise on Saturday with a special code."

N8RR, Charlie Young, is West Virginia's first DXer to achieve the ARRL DXCC Challenge 3000 level. Charlie is a member of the West Virginia DX Association. <https://wvdx.com/2020/05/29/n8rr-reaches-3000-challenge-level/>

The EIDXG Summer Challenge - EI9FBB, David Deane, is excited about this event, June 1 through August 30. The goal is to work as many DXCC entities, CQ zones, and members of the EIDXG Irish group, and EI/GI counties as possible. Each of these counts once regardless of band and mode you work them on. David says the check sheet is easy to download. Send your log from whatever logging software no later than September 6. There will be plaques for leading scorers and (mysterious) "bonus prizes." Says Dave, "So why not join in the fun and get DXing again?" www.eidxx.com/sc2020.

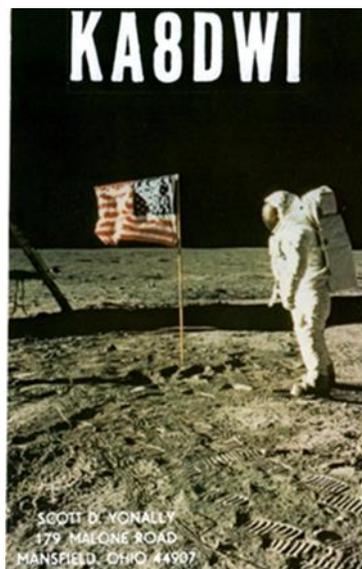
DX news

ARLD023 DX news

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by 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.

CUBA, CO. Special event station CO200SMP will be QRV from June 8 to 30 to celebrate the 200th anniversary of San Miguel del Padron, one of Havana's municipalities. Activity will be on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB and FT8. QSL direct to CO2AME.

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FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, DA. Volker, DL1WH will be QRV as DL1WH/p from Sylt Island, IOTA EU-042, from June 7 to 19. Activity will be holiday style on the HF bands using mainly CW with some SSB. QSL to home call.

SPAIN, EA. Special event station EG1FSB will be QRV from June 8 to 14 to commemorate the Festivals of San Bernabe and La Rioja Day. QSL via LoTW.

FRANCE, F. Members of the Radio Club of the British Breakout from Normandy Museum will be QRV as TM80CDG from June 6 to 20 to commemorate Charles de Gaulle's speech made via the BBC on 18 June 1940. Activity will be on the HF bands using CW, SSB and FT8. QSL via F4KKE.

SWITZERLAND, HB. Special event station HB15SOTA is QRV until May 8, 2021 in celebration of the 15th anniversary of the SOTA Group Switzerland. QSL via HB9DPR.

ANTARCTICA. Station KC4USV located at the McMurdo Station, IOTA AN-011, has been QRV on 20 meters using SSB. QSL via K7MT.

PERU, OA. Daniel, OA9DVK, is a missionary who is QRV from the Amazon Rain Forest in Peru. Activity is in his spare time on 160 to 6 meters. QSL via LoTW.

CANADA, VE. Special event station VX3X is QRV until June 30 to commemorate the Apollo 13 space mission. QSL direct to VE3IKV.

NICARAGUA, YN. Trevis, YN7ZTR is a missionary working in Gaunacastillo for the next two years. He is active in his spare time. QSL via LoTW.

COVID-19 SPECIAL EVENT STATIONS. A number of special event stations are active with the STAYHOME suffix including, 4U9STAYHOME, 9M4STAYHOME, 9V1STAYHOME, A43STAYHOME, CR2STAYHOME, CV7STAYHOME, E2STAYHOME, E7STAYHOME, and YO1STAYHOME. Many of these stations will participate in the STAYATHOME Contest.

THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO. The RSGB Hope FT4 QSO Party, 9th Green Party, HA3NS Sprint Memorial CW Contest, PVRC Reunion, 10-10 International Open Season PSK Contest, VK Shires Contest, DigiFest, Wake-Up QRP CW Sprint, COVID-19 Radio Communication Event, UKSMG Summer Contest, Kentucky QSO Party, RTTYOPS Weekend Sprint, KANHAM Contest and the Cookie Crumble QRP Contest will certainly keep testers busy this upcoming weekend.

The RSGB Hope QSO SSB Party is scheduled for June 8.

The RTTYOPS Weeksprint, RSGB Hope QSO CW Party and Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest are scheduled for June 9.

The UKEICC 80-Meter Summer Series, RSGB 80-Meter Club CW Championship, RSGB Hope QSO RTTY Party, VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest, CWops Mini-CWT Test, NAQCC CW Sprint and Phone Fray are scheduled for June 10.

Please see June 2020 QST, page 69 and the ARRL Contest Calendar and WA7BNM Contest Web Sites for details.

ARRL Contest Corner

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



Special Events

- **06/12/2020 | Whiskey Rebellion/Cumberland Heritage Days**
Jun 12-Jun 14, 1300Z-2359Z, W3W, Cumberland, MD. Mountain Amateur Radio Club. 14.322 7.222 3.855. QSL. MARC, P.O. Box 234, Cumberland, MD 21501. www.hamtalk.org
- **06/13/2020 | WHOA/Scout Camps On the Air**
Jun 13, 1300Z-1900Z, W1M, Russell, MA. Western Mass Council-BSA. 14.250 10.115 7.060 7.190. QSL. Thomas Barker, 329 Faraway Rd., Whitefield, NH 03598.
- **06/14/2020 | Iowa State Parks On-the-Air Centennial – Cedar Rock**
Jun 14, 1500Z-1900Z, KCØRMS, Quasqueton, IA. Buchanan County Amateur Radio Club . 14.240 7.240. Certificate & QSL. Great River ARC, P.O. Box 1384, Dubuque, IA 52004. IASPOTA-2020 Lowell Walter residence by the famed architect Frank Lloyd Wright, the residence lies on a limestone bluff overlooking the Wapsipinicon River near Quasqueton in Buchanan County. Cedar Rock is one of nine Wright designed residences in Iowa. Certificate & QSL managed by Great River Amateur Radio Club, P.O. Box 1384, Dubuque, IA 52004. QSL for contact; certificate for 5 parks. See website for complete information, <http://www.w0dbq.org/rules> or www.bcarc.net
- **06/16/2020 | WPAFDA 50th Anniversary**
Jun 16-Jun 30, 0000Z-2359Z, W3W, New Kensington, PA. Western Pennsylvania Field Day Association - KS3N . 3.850 7.250 14.250. QSL. Tom Straub, 1020, Edgewood Road, New Kensington, PA 15068. SASE requested Wpafda.webnode.com
- **06/19/2020 | Crescent City Fireball Anniversary**
Jun 19-Jun 22, 1300Z-0100Z, W9C, Crescent City, IL. Metro DX Club. 14.280 14.050 7.280 7.050. Certificate & QSL. Jim Mornar N9TK, 8607 W. Kendall Ln. , Orland Park, IL 60462. A certificate to be returned by email may be requested by sending an email to n9tk@comcast.net. To receive a printed certificate and QSL card, please send a self-addressed 9x12 envelope with three (3) ounces postage (\$1.40) attached to N9TK, our QSL manager for W9C: Metro DX Club c/o Jim Mornar N9TK, 8607 W. Kendall Lane, Orland Park, IL 60462 USA. www.metrodxclub.com
- **06/20/2020 | Kids Day Lawton, OK**
Jun 20, 1800Z-2359Z, K1D, Lawton, OK. Frank Phillips Memorial Repeater Association, AB5J. 21.250 14.250 14.045 7.250. QSL. Ronald Grossman, 1308 SW Washington Ave., Lawton, OK 73501. Celebrating the ARRL Kids Day in Lawton, OK> Please contact us using Special Event Callsign K1D. QSL available SASE. We will be on FT-8, CW, SSB, DMR, etc. Lets support the Kids!!

- **06/20/2020 | Treasure Island**

Jun 20, 1200Z-2300Z, K5E, Bonham, TX. Fannin County Amateur Radio Club K5FRC. 28.415 14.265 7.265 3.815. QSL. Fannin County ARC, P.O. Box 553, Bonham, TX 75418. Join in on the voyage on Treasure Island, within Lake Texoma. We will experiment with FT4 Digital. SASE for QSL card. www.k5frc.org

- **06/22/2020 | BSA Camp Horseshoe Scout Reservation**

Jun 22-Aug 9, 1600Z-1600Z, K2BSA/3, Rising Sun, MD. Chester County Council BSA Camp Horseshoe Scout Reservation. 14.325. QSL. Walt Beattie, 2315 Bradley Way, Pottstown, PA 19464-2684. Chester County Council BSA Camp Horseshoe Scout Reservation will be operating from its new council owned camp radio station as K2BSA/3 during all seven weeks of summer camp which runs from June 22 to August 9, 2020. Licensed staff, scouts, and scouters will be using the station for educational purposes, radio merit badge, and to get the youth on the air. Operations will primarily be on 20 and 40 meters but the camp station is capable of operating from 80 meters and up. Modes will be SSB, digital PSK/RTTY, and CW when possible. QSL cards are welcomed. SASE for reply please. If possible, please ID operator you spoke with. Thank you for your support and working our youth at camp!

<https://k2bsa.net/2020/02/camp-horseshoe-2019-summer-camp-k2bsa-3>

- **06/24/2020 | Field Day 2020, Commemorating the Lives of President Ronald & Mrs. Nancy Reagan**

Jun 24-Jun 30, 0000Z-2359Z, N6R, Simi Valley, CA. Ventura County Amateur Radio Society, Simi Settlers Amateur Radio Club and other area Amateur Radio Operators. 21.320 14.255 7.260 3.810. QSL. Peter S. Heins, 1559 Norwich Ave., Thousand Oaks, CA 91360. www.qrz.com/db/n6r

- **06/25/2020 | Vermontville TWP Fire & EMS 100th Annual Dance**

Jun 25-Jul 6, 0900Z-0900Z, W8S, Vermontville, MI. Rodney Harmon WK8H Fire/EMS Dance Committee. 446.200 MHz PL 74.4; 147.080 MHz PL 103.5; 145.560 MHz; IRLP Node 4868. QSL. Rodney L. Harmon, WK8H, 172 East Second St., Vermontville, MI 49096-9455. A Century of the Annual Fire EMS Dance wk8h_michigan@att.net

- **06/27/2020 | 38th Anniversary Jupiter Tequesta repeater Group/Field Day**

Jun 27-Jun 28, 0730Z-1700Z, AG4BV, Jupiter, FL. Jupiter Tequesta Repeater Group. 14.214 14.174 14.164 14.184. QSL. Albert Moreschi II, 11826 154 Rd N, Jupiter, FL 33478. 38th Anniversary Jupiter Tequesta Repeater Group and ARRL Field Day Event on the Beach in Jupiter, Fla www.jtrg.org

- **06/28/2020 | Boy Scouts of America Trail to Eagle XXVI**

Jun 28-Jul 3, 1300Z-0500Z, K2BSA/8, Metamora, MI. Garden City Amateur Radio Club. 14.330 7.270 3.840. QSL. Richard Zarczynski, AC8FJ, 7371 N. Farmington Road, Westland, MI 48185-6900. K2BSA/8 will operate at the D-Bar-A Scout Ranch during the week as time permits. We will also be teaching the Radio merit badge to our scouts. michiganscouting.org/event/trail-to-eagle-xxvi-2019-trail-to-eagle

Parks On The Air (POTA) ARES

(from Bryan Bartzi, KF8G and Del LaBo, N8OFP)

The ARES disaster drill you just participated in, how long was it planned ahead? Months, a year maybe? How ready would you be if something bad happened today?



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By the way the Superantenna is an outstanding piece of equipment that is stored in a bag more than small enough to fit in the back pack.

100 feet of coax, on an electrical cord reel (about \$6.00 at your local big box store), a spare power cord for the GoBox. A 4-foot ground rod to ground the system and a small sledgehammer.

Lately I've also been using a Diamond BB7V HF antenna. Its small enough to fit in my Kia Soul at about 5 feet and manually extends to about 17 feet by pulling out several sections and twisting them in place. This goes into an old military style mast system with the tripod for the legs. I'm sure you've seen one at Field Day, but they are getting kinda' rare. I made a battery box using an old cooler that was large enough to house a SLA Battery that will run the radio for several hours. I charge the battery with a small automotive charger.

I have a Netbook that runs several hours on its new battery pack or it can be connected to 12VDC (supplied by the GoBox). The Netbook is small and lightweight, it is powerful enough to run Windows 10 and N3FJP logging software. The laptop has Wi-Fi capability so I can pull data from QRZ or receive email.

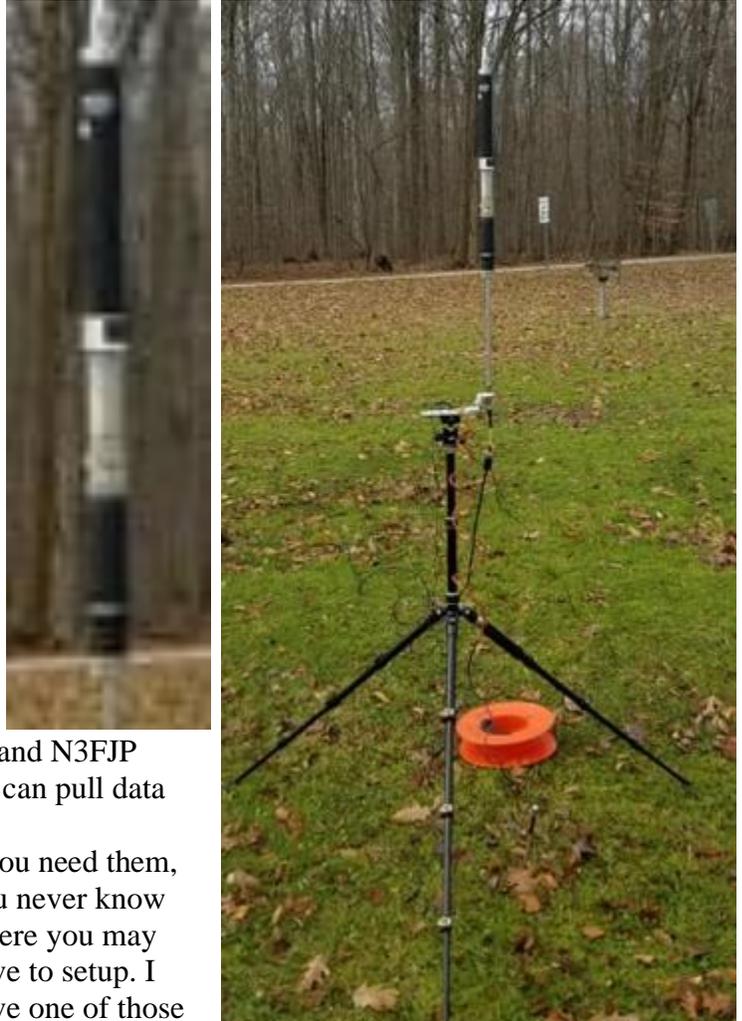
I always bring a folding table and a chair just in case you need them,

you never know where you may have to setup. I have one of those folding fabric wagons you can get from Sam's Club to haul equipment from the car to wherever we are operating.

When setting up I start with firing up the laptop, so it boots up while I'm doing other things. I then open the GoBox and connect it to whatever power source we'll be using.

Next comes the antenna, tripod and coax. Have the coax on a cord reel makes it really quick and easy to unwind and wind the coax, and it keeps your coax from kinking while you are trying to roll it up at the end of the day.

Operating with POTA really fine tunes your operating skills, whether its breaking through a pileup as a hunter, or dealing with a pileup as an activator. I've learned a tremendous amount with the time I've spent on the air.



No matter what you are doing on a radio, keep a notepad handy so you can catch that call sign you've been wanting to work, a crucial piece of information. Practice makes perfect and participating in Parks On The Air is a very fun and effective way to practice and sharpen your skill. And you can collect some pretty cool wallpaper while you are at it.

In short, you will quickly learn what equipment you need or don't need. The first time we activated, we had a car full of stuff we never used. Over time, you will make a simple checklist that helps you remember what items you need to grab when you go out the door. Also, make sure if you use a headset, to bring along simple headphones and the stock microphone. Yes, I have left the headset at home a few times! LOL I really feel that doing POTA is a very valuable lesson in how to quickly set up and effectively operate on the air in what could be a stressful situation. And it's a whole lot of fun too. Especially when you catch that rare band opening these days. Last Saturday I got lucky and got a huge band opening. I even got Alabama on 10m! I ended up with 110 contacts over a bit over two and a half hours.

73 and hope to work you as a POTA station!!!

Bryan KF8G

<https://parksontheair.com>

2020 Field Day Club Preparation; It' Not Too Soon!

(By Anthony Luscre, K8ZT)

Over the last couple of weeks, I have been busy preparing materials, doing online presentations and answering questions from both clubs and individuals concerned about their 2020 Field Day plans under COVID-19 precautions.

I have put together a slideshow "Field Day in Social Distancing" available at tiny.cc/fdsd. It is a "live" document and I am constantly making additions and corrections based on reader feedback and changes in ARRL rules.

On June 3rd I did an online presentation of the slideshow as part of the IARU Region 2's Workshop series. You can view the Youtube video recording of this workshop at https://youtu.be/xLk5_BIpF6s?t=509

One the of the things I address at length are opportunities for Technician (and legacy Novice) Licensees to operate solo FD stations:

- VHF Station
 - 6 SSB & Digital
 - 2 Meter FM Simplex
- Satellite Contacts
- 10 Meter SSB & Digital
- CW Only Operations on 80, 40 and/or 15 Meters

If these operators are going to be successful in making contacts (especially if e-skip propagation on 10 & 6 Meters does not raise its head) we need to make sure all operators take time out of their HF operations to both monitor and call CQ in bands and modes available to Techs.



International Amateur Radio Union
Working for the Future of Amateur Radio

Workshops

Field Day in Social Distancing	English	Canada / US / Caribbean	June 3, 2020	19:59 Eastern Time	Anthony Luscre, K8ZT
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Field Day in Social Distancing

Anthony Luscre, K8ZT

Home - Region 2
News and Events
About IARU
Amateur Radio
Spectrum
On the Air
Reference
EMCOMM
Contact



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Included in the slideshow are links to a number of resources for planning your or your club's 2020 FD including but not limited to:

- A Google Document that you can edit and use for your club's newsletter, website or as an email to members. The document condenses much of the slideshow into a text-based document with the ability to address club-specific issues- tiny.cc/sfda.
- A comparison of Portable Antennas and resources for each of the types discussed- tiny.cc/portant.
- A FD Public Information table & Educational activity handout- tiny.cc/hry. You could print this out laminate and put it on a table a safe distance from your actual public operation explaining, "Here is what we are doing and some information about us, sorry we can not have you closer to demonstrate everything to you. Hope to see you next year."
- FT8 & FT4 - An Introduction Presentation- tiny.cc/ft8ft4
- FT8/FT4 Quick Start Operator Guide- tiny.cc/ftqs
- "Having Fun with Morse"- tiny.cc/fwm

SAMPLE 2020 Field Day Preparations for YOUR LOCAL CLUB'S NAME HERE Members

By
Anthony Luscre, K8ZT and YOUR NAME HERE

PLEASE MAKE A COPY OF THIS DOCUMENT (MENU, FILE...MAKE A COPY)
YOU CAN THEN EDIT FOR YOUR CLUB'S NEEDS
PLEASE FEEL FREE TO ADD OR REMOVE PORTIONS FOR YOUR NEEDS
MAKE SURE YOU CHANGE/ADJUST ALL OF THE HIGHLIGHTED ITEMS
FOR YOUR LOCAL CLUB

As most of you know this year's OUR CLUB'S Field Day operation will not be the same usual Class A multi-station setup at OUR USUAL LOCATION. Due to COVID-19, the club is taking social distancing precautions similar to many other clubs around the country. Instead of the usual operation, we are encouraging all club members to operate as individual or small group stations (within guidelines of social distancing and safe practices for all). Please mark your calendars now for **Saturday, June 27 & Sunday, June 28th** for FD. Operating begins at 2:00 PM and ends 24 hours later.

Anthony, K8ZT has put together an extensive slideshow, which he also presented at May 5th...

Portable Antenna Choices Pros & Cons

Wire Antennas	Pros	Cons	Notes
- Dipole (resonate)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inexpensive Easy to build Can be fed with coax 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Require 2 supports Single or limited # of bands 	
- Dipole (nonresonant) or offset center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inexpensive Easy to build Multiple bands support Cheaper & lighter Ladder line instead of coax 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Require 2 supports Requires Antenna Tuner May require balun 	Often fed with open line or ladder line feeders to allow better multiband performance
- Inverted V	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inexpensive Easy to build Require only 1 support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May not work as well as dipoles 	
- End Fed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inexpensive Easy to build Require only 1 support Multiband Operation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May require special balun May cause RFI 	
Verticals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Require no high supports Can be very simple (especially single band) Very easy to transport Only option for most mobile work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Require Radials Often have lossy or problematic traps for multiple bands Low angle of radiation poor for close-in QSOs 	
Beams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good gain Directivity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Require tower or sturdy support Often require lots of assembly Limited to higher frequency bands Expensive 	Smaller size at VHF (8 or 2 M) greatly decreases Cons
Mag Loop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Small Easy to transport No supports needed No Radials 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited bandwidth Require frequent retuning when changing freq. Can be expensive 	Works well for fixed freq. modes such as FT8/FT4
Mobile Antenna	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can be operated when vehicle is in motion qualify for Class C 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poor performance Difficult to tune Narrow bandwidth 	With suitable ground plane, mobile antennas can be used for portable operations

Ham Radio Resources for Youth, Students & Teachers

<p>Anthony Luscre, K8ZT Club Section Youth Coordinator & Education Outreach ARRL - The National Association For Amateur Radio™ k8zt@arrl.net K8ZT Radio Website- www.k8zt.com</p>	<p>Share or access this document online- tiny.cc/hry</p>	
<p>What is Amateur (Ham) Radio? tiny.cc/whats-ar</p>		
<p>KIDS RADIO ZONE www.ztlearn.com/radio-kids</p>		
<p>TEACHER RADIO ZONE www.ztlearn.com/radio-teachers</p>		
<p>Ham Radio Quick Start tiny.cc/new-ham</p>	<p>Ham Radio Intro & Quick Start Guide- tiny.cc/new-ham</p>	
<p>Radio Day Handout tiny.cc/radio-day-h</p>	<p>Radio Day Handout tiny.cc/radio-day-h</p>	
<p>Ham Radio- The Original Maker Movement tiny.cc/trn-makers</p>	<p>Ham Radio- The Original Maker Movement a tri-fold flyer for maker groups and advisors - tiny.cc/trn-makers</p>	
<p>"Radio Technology in Classroom" a presentation for Educators - tiny.cc/rtrtce</p>	<p>"Radio Technology in Classroom" a presentation for Educators - tiny.cc/rtrtce</p>	
<p>Fun with Morse! Getting Started with CW tiny.cc/fwm</p>	<p>Having Fun with Morse, Getting Started with CW & Getting on HF Bands with Any License- tiny.cc/fwm</p>	

You can use the QR codes with your phone or tablet to go to the resources

<p>Zack & Max Comic Books www.ztlearn.com/z-m-2</p>	<p>All seven Zak & Max Books collection in both Color and B&W</p>	
<p>KIDS RADIO ZONE www.ztlearn.com/radio-kids</p>	<p>Collection of Wide Variety of Radio Resources</p>	
<p>How Does Radio Work? www.youtube.com/watch?v=EdMz6LW81Y</p>	<p>How Does Radio Work?</p>	
<p>web sdr tiny.cc/freerx</p>	<p>Online radio you can tune & listen to from around world</p>	
<p>Clothespin Code Key tiny.cc/cp-key</p>	<p>Build your own simple Morse Code Key</p>	
<p>THE HAM WHISPERER HAM COURSE www.hamwhisperer.com/ham-courses.html</p>	<p>A free online course to get Amateur Radio License</p>	
<p>Boys' Life Morse Code Machine www.k8zt.com</p>	<p>Send Morse Code with an on-screen key or by typing (requires flash)</p>	
<p>K8ZT Amateur Radio Resources www.k8zt.com</p>	<p>Amateur Radio Resources</p>	
<p>Maps Geography & History Page www.ztlearn.com/social-studies</p>	<p>Maps & Social Studies</p>	

“ARES Connect”

Everyone – please make sure to go into all of the events that you have signed up *for and get your hours registered no later than 5 days after the event has ended.*

“ARES Connect”

Enter

ARES Connect Helpful Instructions

Folks, I’m seeing a lot of folks that have signed up for events not entering their time after the event. This is a very important piece of using “Connect.” Your hours need to be recorded and it’s so easy to do.

Let’s run through how so in case you have forgotten. If you have already gotten signed up for an event, all you have to do afterward to get your time entered is at any time after the event has ended, log into “Connect.” And then click on your name in the upper right-hand corner of the page. This will bring up a drop-down menu where you will then click on “View Hours.”

This brings up another screen where you can “Report Hours” as well as “View Hour History” You’ll want to click on “Report Hours.” You will then be presented one at a time by chronological order each event that you have signed up for and hours have not yet been reported on.

Type in those hours in the “Hours Worked” box and hit “Submit”... Keep doing this until you have no more hours to report.... That’s all there is to it. Now, if you are following the request above and doing this at least every 5 days or more often, this will only take you a minute or so to complete.

Now, isn’t that easy? Yes, and we all need to be diligent at doing it promptly.

Here’s are the top 10 hours earners so far for June:

	Name	Events	Hours
1	John Major (KD8MMY)	5	30.50
2	Dan Stahl (KC8PBU)	14	30.33
3	Bob Mueller (K8MD)	1	20.00
4	Christopher Domenick (KC8CAD)	5	15.95
5	Robert Gaskins (KE8HWD)	5	14.00
6	Ryan Owens (AC8UJ)	7	12.25
7	Harry Melke (KM8N)	11	10.00
8	Earl Paazig (W8BR)	4	9.50
9	Steve Wheatcraft (AA8BN)	6	8.25
10	Elmer Thomas (KE8HNK)	11	8.00

Let’s get everyone in the **Ohio** Section on “ARES Connect!!!” Simply go to: <https://arrl.volunteerhub.com/lp/oh/> and get yourself registered and using the system.

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Special ICS 300 & 400 Training being offered

For those interested in attaining ARES Level 3 certification, the State of Kentucky plans to offer these courses in Ashland at the Boyd County EMA:

Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents (ICS-300) **June 23-25**

Advanced ICS Command & General Staff for Complex Incidents (ICS-400) **July 14-15**

Though not part of the ARRL curriculum, another good class is:

ICS/EOC Interface Workshop (G-191), **September 16**

Prerequisites for these courses is completion of IS-100, IS-200, IS-700 and IS-800. All 4 of these courses are online and free from FEMA Independent Studies program.

For more information go to <https://kyem.ky.gov/training/Pages/default.aspx> and scroll down to June, July and September.

Gregg Hendry, W8DUQ

What do you want your ARES team to be able to do?

(C. Matthew Curtin KD8TTE)

Hopefully everyone participating in the Red Cross / ARES Emergency Communications National Radio Simulation on Saturday enjoyed themselves. The weather was great, and what a way to break a little bit of cabin fever! It's a bit too early to expect to see the *After-Action Report / Improvement Plan* documents but I would like to offer a few observations.



Incomplete information is part of exercise play. No one knows everything taking place in an incident. Generally speaking, an Incident Commander will understand the situation, the objectives, and the concept of how the organization will go about the objectives. A Radio Operator will know how to get the radio to the right frequency, how to get the message prepared for transmission, how to get the message on the air, how to receive the message,



and how to deliver it. Moving the message doesn't require knowing all of what's happening in an incident.

Knowing your objectives is essential. If you don't know what you're supposed to accomplish, you can't get it done. "Talking on the radio" isn't an operational objective. "Establishing a communication circuit by radio" is. "Originating a message" is another operational objective. "Transmitting a message by voice" is. "Receiving a message" is. As we're taught in the Incident Command System training, objectives are "SMART:"

- Specific,
- Measurable,
- Action-oriented,
- Realistic, and
- Time-sensitive.

Exercise play gives us an opportunity to see objectives and to have a common operating picture, a context, in which we go about our work.

In the May 30 exercise, information came out in parts, from different sources, and led to a lot of speculation about what to do. Even what to expect changed. The exercise planners didn't seem to use a coherent plan or even an appropriate framework for exercise planning and management. Any of these factors could lead us to say that someone else has a problem, that we shouldn't play, or that we should accept any level of performance from ourselves and the teams that we're part of. As we learn in the Homeland Security Exercise Evaluation Program (HSEEP), exercises provide a "no-fault learning environment." That means that it's safe for us to try things, to measure our performance critically, and to see not only what we do well, but most importantly, where we had to work harder than we should, struggled, or even failed to meet objectives. It's part of the process of learning. Even outright failure to meet an objective in a learning environment shouldn't make us feel bad. It provides the basis for an Improvement Plan, the path for how we'll improve so when facing that objective again, we won't fail. Maybe we'll merely struggle. After more improvement we'll only work harder than we should. After more improvement, we'll accomplish the objective without difficulty.

As you're thinking about what activity you undertook, consider a bit of background.

1. Exercise Planners created an Incident Action Plan (IAP), but it was about the exercise, not one for exercise play. Players should not have had to see the document, much less understand its 30 pages.
2. Upon seeing what the exercise was about (based on short descriptions, before an IAP was released), ARES leadership in the Ohio Section talked through capabilities throughout the various districts, how to organize for play. An important observation was that this was not about county and state EOCs in need of tactical communication.
3. Seeing that the exercise was about message-passing, the Ohio Section developed a Concept of Operations for Message Routing. This is a document that should have been seen by all ECs, and in turn made available to all players to understand how the parts were to work together.
4. The Ohio Section also developed detailed instructions as Incident Objectives, Form 202, one for "Part A" (the morning exercise), and another for "Part B" (the afternoon exercise). These documents should also have been seen by all ECs, and made available to all players.
5. Training for how to operate in the mixed-mode Buckeye Net followed, in the form of a slide deck to lay out the steps, a Signal Operating Instructions document, and fldigi macros to ease operation. The net also met almost daily to test various tasks for two weeks leading up to the exercise.
6. Announcements about the operation were made on the Ohio Section traffic nets, as well as on OHDEN's weekly net and watch sessions.

Just in case you haven't seen any of these documents: here they are now for reference:

1. ARRL Ohio Section Message Routing Concept of Operations ARC May 30 Exercise [Rev F]
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1B41pJiLtPmritpJFPfz17cVdENHZVqpktYllm7AvnyA/edit?usp=sharing>
2. Incident Objectives (Form 202), Red Cross EmComm Nationwide Radio Simulation PART A (ARRL Ohio Section)
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1dnwH3UdCtND7nwOF10mPxZ4DhfTeIB82A2IHMj8BtVE/edit?usp=sharing>
3. Introduction to Buckeye Net (Rev B).
<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1jzEIBYkZg6Va5QJhudQyYwhBAjwFyaFCsX8snuEjrnE/edit?usp=sharing>

Quite a few people made use of the resources available. Reading documentation like objectives, translating that into directions for ARES volunteers, and tasks to be accomplished during the operation are skills every bit as important as knowing how to operate a radio, deploy an antenna, and run from solar power. Was this a strength in your operation? How would you improve how your group and you individually responded?

Did you find the documentation clear? What were the strengths in the documentation? How could it have been improved, especially if it could have been improved in such a way that it made your own operation better? Finally, what capabilities would you like?

Watch for training opportunities from the Ohio Section that not only build upon our experiences to date and this most recent exercise, but that will prepare for operation in the Simulated Emergency Test (SET), held as always, in the first week of October.

I want to hear from you! Reach out to me with your comments on exercise and training! Email: kd8tte@pm.me.

One Question Questionnaire



Hey Gang,

“Survey Says”..... about 86% of you had the correct answer for the Extra Class License test question. Congrats to you, especially if you don’t already hold an Extra Class license, maybe you should consider it! Oh yes, the answer is (for those who don’t know) B. 20 Meters.

Now, on to next question. I don’t want you to cheat and look up the correct answer, either you know it or you don’t. If you don’t, you need to start reading for sure.

Which of the following modes is most commonly used for voice communications on the 160-meter, 75-meter, and 40-meter bands??”

You’ll find the “One Question” questionnaire on the Ohio Section Website! <http://arrloho.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

Many V.E.’s have decided to start testing once again, but with restrictions that need to be adhered to for sure.

Here’s the link to find that V.E. Test session and what is expected of YOU before going.

<http://www.arrl.org/find-an-amateur-radio-license-exam-session>



Final.. Final..



Hi Gang,

This has been some week for sure. Oh, it started out ok, but on Monday I got the bright idea of mowing the yard, that's when I realized that it really needed to be trimmed first, so I got out the weed whacker and started in. Wouldn't you know it, the trimmer line ran out just as I was getting started. So, it was off to the local hardware store for some line. Got it and now to get back home. I started whacking the weeds and then the battery died. No problem, I'll get the spare out and use it. Ha.. ha.. I thought I had charged it, but I guess I didn't. It was deader than the one that I just took off. Oh well, no problem, I'll just mow some while the battery gets charged up, then go back over the areas where the trimmings are to clean it all up. Well, I got about 3 / 4's of the way through when the mower decided to throw the drive belt. So, off into the garage to put it up on the lift. I got it all raised up and

found that I can't reach the drive belt because the mower deck is in the way. So, with Janie's help we got the mower deck removed and quickly discovered that when I had it serviced a couple of years back, they tightened the guard bolts down so tight that even my 400 foot pound air impact driver would budge them. Now what? Well, after some well uttered adjectives were said, I got the bright idea that I would load up the mower and just take it out to the repair shop and let them fix it. Now getting the trailer out from the bottom of the backyard to where I can load the mower onto it was like a scene out of the old Keystone Cops movie. With my bum knee and with all the strength that Janie could muster we tugged and tugged at getting the trailer to move out from the weeds, and that's when we discovered that the trailer had two flat tires! Yes, I have a portable air compressor so out it comes to pump up the tires enough so that they are once again somewhat round. Now, once all of that was done, we did manage to get the trailer up the hill and out to the front of the garage. Now I can at least pump up the tires to the proper tire pressure with my big air compressor. Now that the tires have the right amount of air in them, I got the trailer hooked up to the car and pulled the pin on the bed to tip it back. This way we could run the mower up and inside of the trailer without having to try to lift it. That's where we both quickly discovered that the mower was way heavier than either one of us thought. Again, here comes the Keystone Cops trying to run this mower up about a 30-degree incline far enough to get it over the axel so that we can safely tip the bed back down. After 5 tries we finally got it in the bed of the trailer far enough so that we could let the bed back down and get the mower tied off. Ok, now we're cooking right? Wrong, I drove clear across town to the mower repair show where I was promptly told that I could leave the mower and in about a month or two, they would get to it. Wow.. Well, I couldn't see going back home with the mower since there was no way for me to fix it, so I left it. So, does anyone have a goat I could rent for a month or so!

Oh, and as far as how the rest of the day went? Don't ask.. There are some days that you just know you shouldn't get out of bed, and this was mine..... I decided that I am not going through that again and I bought a boat wench for the next time. Now it will just simply come down to wenching it up into the trailer for sure.

Moving down the band a bit.... Are you on the air?? I've been reading a lot of great information about the band conditions lately and it sounds like it's starting to swing our way for a change. I urge all of you to stay up on the band conditions and get on the air whenever possible.

[TOP ^](#)

I hope that you have all read the great news about the change in Field Day rules. The change will allow many folks to operate Field Day and stay home, obeying the governor's orders. I wish this COVID-19 stuff was all over, but unfortunately it isn't, and it is gonna' be here for a while yet.

Now, as far as Field Day, please keep in mind that it isn't a weekend of "contesting." Field Day was actually designed to be a public display on how amateur radio can be effective when everything else is either overloaded, or non-existent. Now, since we really can't do the public displays without going through all the hub-bub of sanitizing and making sure everyone keeps a safe distance, we're going to have to rethink how we are going to go about this, so let's keep things in perspective. Field Day is actually designed to be an event to show the public that we CAN truly live up to what we advertise everyday... "When All Else Fails..."

So, how to you keep the spirit of Field Day alive? You get on the air! Make those contacts and you take pictures, lots of them! Make posts on Facebook, Twitter and other social media outlets. Don't forget to send me your pictures too. I'll get them posted on a gallery on the website for all to see. Let's let the folks know that you really can operate "When All Else Fails!!!"

Now, let's not forget the ones being hurt the most by all of this separation. The Novices and Technicians... YES Novices... We have over 350 licensed Novices in Ohio still!!!! Let's get down on 10 meters and do some operating too. This way everyone can participate. Oh... and don't forget that 6 meters is really starting to get hot as well

Whelp, my final go around before gong QRT... Stay safe my friends! I want to see all of you soon at a meeting or hamfest! We will get through this and when we do, we'll have so much to talk about. Most of all... have FUN and get on the airwaves!!

73,

Scott, N8SY

A funny thing happened on the way to the mailbox

(from Arnal Cook, N9ACC/8)

You can print this as a 'funny, strange, but true' "to a Ham I know" story.

The real deal about the pictures (attached) is that this 'communications day and experiments' was with a BC-1000 WW II (the first) FM manpack radio. A teacher had bought a working one for his STEM Class to show them the technology of old. (OK, it was a BC-1000, but made after WW II in France as a still-used-when-built NATO radio.) Here's a picture of him with his BC-1000.

The point of the day was to prove his BC-1000 worked with a whopping spec'd 0.3 W RF output. It was more about the communications across the years (~1949 to ~1989 radios!) than any great range. After all, these are tactical radios, made for short range.



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Well, even on the short whips, they worked very well ("full quieting") for the diagonal mile across the Marysville Above Ground Reservoir. When they continued to work that well, I went down the 30' high earthen embankment (remember, it is an "above ground reservoir"!) and we still had good communications. So, HE went down his side of the 30' embankment, still a mile apart. And we STILL had solid full ± 15 kHz FM deviation quieting comms! Somewhere, that RF had to take TWO hard lefts at Albuquerque around the embankments to make that '7 m' link, because above both our heads and short whip antennas were the earthen embankments and a full reservoir!



We have since both put the 10' collapsible military whips on our radios and worked the 2.5 miles between our houses at ground level. Right through the very High School he will be showing his radio to his students. Unfortunately, with my job loss at Honda, I won't be there to make a live demonstration this fall as planned.

SARA's Exam Session a Huge Success

(from Jason, N8EI)



The Silvercreek Amateur Radio Association's license exam session on Saturday, June 6th was a huge success and set a new record for tests given (and passed!) at a single session for our VE team. Left to Right: Doug Hunter KE8JNH, Stephen Kinford N8WB, Gary Shorter AA8CS.

SARA began conversations almost a month ago between our VE Team Lead Stephen Kinford N8WB and the club officers on if and how to have a license exam session. As license exams since March were essentially non-existent in our area due to the pandemic, everyone felt strongly that SARA should hold theirs if at all possible. The biggest challenge was a location where we could have appropriate social distancing and to accommodate a reasonable amount of people. Our usual location at the Wayne-Rittman Library was too small and, in any case, not available as libraries were still closed.

Stephen was able to call on a relationship with Sharon United Methodist Church in Sharon Center who graciously allowed us to hold our exam in their basement activity room. The room was large enough and had enough tables to keep everyone 149.9 MHz apart during exams while being able to have a reasonably-sized group taking a test.

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As test day approached, the volunteers for the VE Team were watching the registration count going up and up! The pent-up demand we thought would be out there was definitely there. However, thoughts turned to how we were going to serve a huge group of people with the distance and occupancy requirements by an exam group that handles on average six to eight test takers in a given exam. As of the morning of the exam, SARA had 28 registered attendees and, despite a few no-shows of the preregistered people, ended up giving 32 people exams!

Stephen worked out a good system to keep the crowd moving quickly. Another volunteer, Doug Hunter KE8JNH, was tasked to setup a “registration” desk outside of the test room and control the traffic flow. Stephen also e-mailed everyone who preregistered a copy of the answer sheet blank and the NVEC 605 form and asked them to bring it with the registration information already filled in.

Although the test session wasn’t scheduled to start until 10:30am, an almost-full crowd was already lined up at the door by 9:50am so the team began to have groups sit for their exam as soon as everything was setup. The team was glad they did because the VE team “day” from setup to tear down was almost four and a half hours!

Despite some long waits for the team to score tests and issue paperwork, everyone was happy to be tested and many expressed profuse thanks for having the exam session and volunteering time. In the end, 28 people who came to the exam got what they came for. SARA’s exam resulted in the following:



- 19 new Technician class licensees
- 3 new General class licensees who started the day out unlicensed!
- 3 upgrades to General from Technician
- 2 Extra class upgrades from General

One of our new General class licensees showed up ready to claim his pre-1987 Element 3 credit for the old 50 question Technician FCC exam (FCC Rule 97.505(a)). He proudly pulled out his FCC license from 1966! All in all, it was a terrific day and an extra-special, fun, exhausting treat to give exams to 32 people!

Saturday’s VE Team was Stephen Kinford N8WB, Gary Shorter AA8CS, Doug Hunter KE8JNH, and Jason McCormick N8EI.

Flag Day – Sunday, June 14th

People across the United States celebrate Flag Day on June 14th each year to honor the United States flag and to commemorate the flag’s adoption. On the same day, the United States Army celebrates its birthday.



Flag Day falls within National Flag Week, a time when Americans reflect on the foundations of the nation’s freedom. The flag of the United States represents freedom and has been an enduring symbol of the country’s ideals since its early days. During both events, Americans also remember their loyalty to the nation, reaffirm their belief in liberty and justice, and observe the nation’s unity.

Organizations such as The National Flag Day Foundation are actively involved in coordinating activities centered on the event and keeping the flag’s traditions alive. Following Flag Day is Honor America Days, a 21-day period through to Independence Day (July 4) to honor America. During this period, people hold public gatherings and activities to celebrate and honor the nation.

Although Flag Day is a nationwide observance, it is not a public holiday in many parts of the United States. It is a legal holiday in a few areas in the USA, such as Montour County in Pennsylvania.

Here's a little background about Flag Day

On June 14, 1777, the Continental Congress replaced the British symbols of the Grand Union flag with a new design featuring 13 white stars in a circle on a field of blue and 13 red and white stripes – one for each state. Although it is not certain, this flag may have been made by the Philadelphia seamstress Betsy Ross, who was an official flag maker for the Pennsylvania Navy. The number of stars increased as the new states entered the Union, but the number of stripes stopped at 15 and was later returned to 13.

In June 1886 Bernard Cigrand made his first public proposal for the annual observance of the birth of the flag when he wrote an article titled “The Fourteenth of June” in the old Chicago Argus newspaper. Cigrand’s effort to ensure national observance of Flag Day finally came when President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation calling for a nationwide observance of the event on June 14, 1916. However, Flag Day did not become official until August 1949, when President Harry Truman signed the legislation and proclaimed June 14 as Flag Day. In 1966, Congress also requested that the President issue annually a proclamation designating the week in which June 14 occurs as National Flag Week.

Ohio Section Cabinet

Section Manager – Scott Yonally, N8SY	Assistant Section Manager – John Perone, W8RXX
Section Emergency Coordinator – Stan Broadway, N8BHL	Section Traffic Manager – David Maynard, WA3EZN
Technical Coordinator – Jeff Kopcak, K8JTK	Affiliated Clubs Coordinator – Tom Sly, WB8LCD
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Section Youth Coordinator – Anthony Lascre, K8ZT	

Welcome New Subscriber(s)

Lawrence, KA8UEZ



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Back Issues of the PostScript and Ohio Section Journal

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



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



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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!