



“July 24th, 2023”

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CQ CQ CQ de WB8LCD



Another Field Day Photo! This was out with the Seneca Amateur Radio Club. You know, it's too bad we only do Field Day once a year....

So I want to talk a bit more about the ARRL this week, and I'll be concentrating on the field organization, most specifically, the Ohio Section. There are a total of 71 Sections in the ARRL, and by number of active Amateur Radio licenses, The Ohio Section is the largest section in the ARRL. (If you just looked at number of licenses on a state-by-state basis, Ohio is number 5. California is number one, but it's divided into 9 ARRL Sections)

The Ohio Section belongs to the Great Lakes Division, which also includes Michigan and Kentucky. (Don't ask, I don't know, it was way before my time) The Ohio Section has quite a bit to brag about: Home to HAMVENTION, one of the largest, if not THE largest Ham Fests in

the World! Also home to several of the world's largest and best Amateur Radio Products retailers. At last count over 115 local Amateur Radio clubs and I believe (I haven't looked it up) the largest number of ARRL Special Service Clubs of all the ARRL Sections. I also know from personal experience that there are an extremely large number of really smart, active and engaged hams as you will find anywhere. It's usually the *people* that will make, or break, any great organization, and I know that in the Ohio Section the Hams we have here make the Ohio Section one of the best places to be a Ham in the country! To all of you I say "Well done and thank you".

I became the Ohio Section Manager in January of 2021. While I don't plan to make it a career, I do plan to be around a bit longer, presuming I deserve it. But what I do want to say is that stepping into the position has changed my perception of the position drastically. I know now it's a whole lot more involved than I ever thought it to be. It takes a lot of time and it covers a lot of ground. And I know for a fact that that is what happens in all of the other ARRL Sections. The ARRL has a lot of dedicated people in positions in all levels across the country. And it's an all-volunteer organization. I am still motivated by my original goals I've set for myself as an ARRL volunteer:

1. To help and motivate every Ham in the Ohio Section to get the most fun and enjoyment out of the hobby as possible.
2. To make more Hams in the Ohio Section, and
3. Increase the public's awareness of Ham Radio and all that it does.

I'm fortunate to have the Ohio Section Cabinet working with me. They are (in no particular order);

Technical Coordinator - Jeff Kopcak K8JTK

Section Emergency Coordinator – Bret Stemen KD8SCL

ARES Data Manager – Jim Yoder W8ERW

Section Traffic Manager – David Maynard WA3EZN

Section Youth Coordinator – Anthony Luscre K8ZT

Public Information Coordinator – Elizabeth Klinc KE8FMJ

Affiliated Clubs Coordinator – Amanda Farone KC3GFU

Each of whom are working hard to keep the Ohio Section looking and operating Fantastic!

Also, although he holds another title now Scott Yonally N8SY is still involved with helping keep the Ohio Section websites going and keeping me up to date with all of the minutia of the ARRL that it'll probably take me a lifetime to discover and remember!

We can add to that by recognizing all of the District and County ARES coordinators and volunteer members, all of the VE's, the individual club presidents and board members.... It takes a lot of good people to keep all of this going, and I'm happy to report that we do have a lot of good people in the Ohio Section who are active and engaged. The Ohio Section is truly a great place to be a ham!

The OHIO SECTION Newsletter Contest is now completed for 2023. The winners will be presented at the Columbus Hamfest on August 5th at 10:15 AM. I hope you'll be there to support your club. Just because the contest is now completed for 2023, it's not over. Now is the time to start upping your game for the 2024 contest! We'll be having an OH Section "Clubs" Conference this Fall (more details to follow soon) that will include a session on building your club newsletter. The Conference will be a ZOOM conference so everyone who wants to participate will be able to.

73,

Tom Sly - WB8LCD
Ohio Section Manager
wb8lcd@arrl.org
330-554-4650



Youth Net

When: The second Sunday of every month at 7:30 PM EST

Where: The K8IV repeater located in Kent, Ohio (EchoLink node K8BF-L) RF: 146.895 Mhz with PL 118.8

Who: Any licensed amateur radio operator who wishes to participate. Priority will be given to youth stations and those located in Ohio.

The purpose of this net is to encourage youth activity in amateur radio and to help new hams get more comfortable on the air.

Next Net is Sunday August 13th

If you are a young ham, in the Ohio Section or elsewhere, please check in and say "Hello"! Even if you're far away from OHIO you can check in via Echo-Link. Echo-Link is a good tool to have, and it can be accessed from your laptop, tablet or cellphone. But there is a process to get validated to the Echo-link system. It's simple to do, but you need to get it done before the day of the net! Go to [Introducing EchoLink](#) for more information on getting started. If you're an "Old Guy" (a gender neutral term meaning not a youthful operator) and you have some kids,

grandkids, nieces, nephews or even some neighborhood kids who you would like to give a chance to talk to other kids about Ham Radio, this might be an excellent opportunity to give them that small nudge that could be the start of something positive they will carry with them through life!

National News

(from ARRL and other sources)

Slow-Scan TV Experiment with ARRL Planned for Amateur Radio on the International Space Station

Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS), in collaboration with [ARRL](#), plans to carry out a special slow-scan TV (SSTV) experiment from the ISS on Wednesday, July 26, 2023. During the event, the Columbus Module Repeater, transmitting at 437.800 MHz, will carry a message to be received by teachers attending the [ARRL Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology](#) professional development class.

The pass will be over the Mid-Atlantic and New England area, with transmissions scheduled to begin at 20:05 UTC (16:05 ET) and end at 20:20 UTC (16:20 ET). If necessary, a backup window is scheduled from 21:40 UTC (17:40 ET) to 21:55 UTC (17:55 ET).

Radio enthusiasts are welcome to download the message and follow along with the event, but it is asked that all hams refrain from using the repeater for voice contacts during the event. This is a special experiment conducted through ARISS and ARRL. After the experiment has concluded, normal operations of the repeater should resume in voice mode only.

The ARRL Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology is a donor-funded professional development program designed to help classroom teachers elevate their STEM programs through the use of wireless technology. As a part of the ARRL [Education & Technology Program](#), several sessions are conducted each year, and the program continues to grow.

The primary goal of the ARISS program is to promote



NASA Astronaut Kjell Lindgren, KO5MOS, participates in ARRL Field Day 2022 aboard the International Space Station. [NASA photo]



exploration of science, technology, engineering, the arts, and mathematics topics (STEM/STEAM). ARISS does this by organizing scheduled contacts via amateur radio between crew members aboard the ISS and students. The next scheduled ARISS contact is with scouts at Camp William B. Snyder in Prince William County, Virginia. The contact is scheduled for Friday, July 21, 2023 at 1754 UTC (13:54 EDT). Scouts will ask their questions of Astronaut Sultan Al Neyadi, amateur radio call sign KI5VTV, who will use the ARISS radio station on the ISS to talk. The downlink frequency for this contact is 145.800 MHz and may be heard by listeners within the ISS footprint.

ARISS is a cooperative venture of international amateur radio societies and the space agencies that support the ISS. In the US, participating organizations include NASA's Space Communications and Navigation program (SCaN), the ISS National Laboratory -- Space Station Explorers, [ARRL](#), and AMSAT.

ARRL CEO interviewed on "WIDED in Maine"

ARRL CEO David Minster, NA2AA, was [interviewed on the "WIDED in Maine" YouTube channel](#). In the nearly hour-long chat with host Kevin Thomas, Minster shared quite a bit about things going on at ARRL. He talked about the culture within the organization, the impact social media has on amateur radio, and how he approaches listening to members. The pair also covered the results of the recent ARRL dues survey.

The "[WIDED in Maine](#)" YouTube channel is dedicated to the core principle of asking for advice, perspective, and inspiration from experienced amateur radio operators around the world. The concept of sharing experiences is fundamental to ham radio, and through this channel, viewers can connect with experts in their particular niche, gain knowledge from their point of view, and seek help with issues that can't always be solved through trial and error or found in a book.

The channel started when Thomas was trying to get back into the hobby. "I did what hams have been doing forever -- I reached out to other hams to ask questions. I then realized I should be recording the conversations because the perspective might be useful," said Thomas.

Click here to view the video: <https://youtu.be/f-ltELsO9gE>



On the Air

Sponsored by [Icom](#)

When Messages Matter: Passing Traffic

Passing traffic is a ham radio activity that's nearly as old as ham radio itself, and getting accurate messages to their destination in a timely manner takes training and skill. In addition to participating in nets, hams also have the opportunity to take on ARRL Field Organization positions that are responsible for traffic. In this episode, we talk to Ethan Hansen, KC1OIP, who fulfills one such position, Official Relay Station, in ARRL's National Traffic System. Listen in to learn about what it takes to become an Official Relay Station, how the position makes a difference in the community, and how it benefits your amateur radio skills and experience.



ARRL Audio News

Listen to [ARRL Audio News](#), available every Friday. ARRL Audio News is a summary of the week's top news stories in the world of amateur radio and ARRL, along with interviews and other features.



The On the Air podcast is available on iTunes (iOS) and Stitcher (Android). The On the Air podcast and ARRL Audio News are also on blubrry -- [On the Air](#) | [ARRL Audio News](#).

The 2023 W3Y Dave Kalter Youth DX Adventure team has been assembled.

The youth operators are Katherine (Katie) Campbell KE8LQR, Grace Papay KE8RJU, Lilly Colon W8LIL, Agnes Wagner AD8IR and Ben Wagner AD8FQ. They will be operating on July 29 in the RSGB IOTA contest as a World Station from the K3LR Super Contest Station.

They are joined with their parents Collen Campbell KB8VAQ, Doug Papay K8DP, Karl Colon KC2GTR and Nick Wagner AC8QG. The leaders are Michael Kalter W8CI and Jim Storms AB8YK. Station representatives Amy Leggieri N8AMY, Teri Grizer K8MNJ and Tim Duffy K3LR.

The Dave Kalter Youth DX Adventure announces their new website at youthdxa.org and is now the only official site of the YDXA. Check it out as it is being updated daily.

Again, our thanks to Amy N8AMY, Teri K8MNJ, Tim K3LR and the K3LR Contest Group for hosting us for this event. Additional thanks to DXEngineering and Dayton Amateur Radio Association (DARA) for their financial and other support for this effort. Contributions already received from other organizations and people will be used for our 2024 trip.

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 your club is up to. Are you going to have a special guest at your meeting or are you having a special anniversary?

Just send it to: webmaster@arrl-ohio.org

Please! Format as below:

If you want me to publish your club information, or even an article you have written, please send it in WORD format (.docx). Please use Times New Roman font size 12 for the body of the



article. Any photos please include as a .jpg or .bmp – the time you save me in doing all the conversions will be greatly appreciated.

This past week HARA members returned to the local cemetery to remove the flags placed prior to Memorial Day on the graves of veterans. Although email reminders, announcements on the Net and a Facebook notation were used to notify the members, only a hand full showed. Less than half the usual 12 to 15.

But it was the local scout leader who caught some of our attention. Her scouts were asked to assist. But not the first one showed up! Boy did she go off. She is a teacher who is in her mid to late 50s and works with kids not only in school, but in scouting. She directed her comments to youth sports and the parents who think there is nothing beyond sports in life. She said kids are either playing some type of sport or playing games and the parents are letting them get away with it. The kids are not giving back to the community through 4-H, scouting or church youth groups.

Before she got calmed down, she got onto the parents and how their parents gave them anything they wanted and didn't make them work for it. This included not being involved in organizations or in community events. She said most likely the parents didn't give back either.

Earlier this year I attended a public meeting and the leader had no idea of how to conduct a meeting. It was a mess and nothing was accomplished.

Just thought I'd let you know that our concerns aren't just tuned to ham radio. It appears to be all over the spectrum. However I thought this lady's insight was interesting.

Want to know where to go to get the courses you need? It's all Right Here!

- [Ohio EMA Training Calendar](#)
- [Login to the DPS Training Campus](#)
- [Create a new account on the DPS Training Campus](#)

NOTE:

- Most courses are in-person but some course may be hosted virtually (this will be noted).
 - Seats available listed are as of the release of this update and will change quickly.
 - All classes will be posted on the DPS training campus at least 60 days prior to the start of the course.
 - Please read the [Training Policy & Catalog](#) for more information on Ohio EMA trainings.
-

How to Plan and Apply for an ARRL Hamfest or Convention

If your amateur radio club is planning to host a convention, hamfest, tailgate, or swapfest, please consider applying for ARRL sanctioned status for your event. To learn what it means to be an ARRL sanctioned event, and to get some ideas on how to prepare for and conduct a hamfest or convention, visit www.arrl.org/arrl-sanctioned-events.

To apply for ARRL sanctioned status for your event, go to www.arrl.org/hamfest-convention-application.

The ARRL Hamfests and Conventions Calendar can be found online at www.arrl.org/hamfests. In addition, the Convention and Hamfest Calendar that runs in *QST* each month also presents information about upcoming events.

VE Sessions

The following information is for ALL exam sessions:

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

Effective April 19, 2022, the FCC will charge a \$35.00 application fee for amateur radio licenses. The fee will apply to new, renewal, rule waiver, and modification applications that

request a new vanity call sign. License upgrades will not have a fee applied. The fee will be per application. *VE's will not collect the fees at exam sessions.*

All Things Amateur Radio Association (ATARA)

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

Butler County Amateur Radio Association W8WRK

Laurel VE Testing Session - hosted by DIAL amateur radio club
Amateur Radio License Examinations at 9:00AM on Sunday April 29th at Fairfield Township Administration Building 6032 Morris Rd. Hamilton, OH 45011. Pre-Registration is required, go to: www.qsl.net/w8blv click on Exams and follow the instructions. Additional info may be obtained from Thurl Golden, KD8VLU (513) 939-4891 tgolden@fuse.net or Ron Spaulding, N8QF, (513) 617-6181 or n8qf@roadrunner.com. There are no Exam Fees!

CARS

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

Clark County Amateur Radio Association (CLARA)

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

When: On every second Saturday of each even numbered month starting at 10:00 AM
Feb 11th; Apr 8th; Jun 10th; Aug 12th; Oct 14th; and Dec 9th, 2023.

Where: Springview Government Center - Emergency Operations Center; 3130 E Main St; Springfield OH 45503 This is US-40 aka "old national road". From Route 40 enter Old Columbus Road, at the fork stay left driving straight onto Ogden Rd, then immediately turn left into the parking lot behind the EMA. Walk to the door with the "Employees Only" sign.

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

buzz@baylorhill.com

Dayton Amateur Radio Association (DARA)

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

Dial Radio Club, Middleton, OH

Will offer Amateur Radio License Examinations at 6:00PM on Wednesday March 1st at St. John XXIII Elementary School, 3806 Manchester Rd., Middletown, OH 45042. Pre-Registration is required, go to: www.qsl.net/w8blv click on Exams and follow the instructions. Additional info

may be obtained from Dave Williamson, KD8W, (513) 424-5819 or kd8w@ARRL.net or Ron Spaulding, N8QF, (513) 617-6181 or n8qf@roadrunner.com . There are no Exam Fees!

Geauga Amateur Radio Association (GARA)

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

The GARA schedule of exams are these Sundays at 2pm. Dates for 2023 are January 15th, March 19th, May 21st, July 9th, September 10th, and November 12th.



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

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

Additional info may be obtained from Jim Mekeel, KE8EMP, email KE8EMP@gmail.com or the Geauga Amateur Radio Association website <https://geaugaara.org>

Huber Heights Amateur Radio Club

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

The Lake County Amateur Radio Association

The Lake County Amateur Radio Association is holding its **2023** Amateur Radio license exams at the **Kirtland Library**, 9267 Chillicothe Road, on the following dates:

Saturday, February 4
Saturday, April 1
Saturday, June 3

Saturday, August 5
Saturday, October 7
Saturday, December 2

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

The tests will start at **12 noon**. Please arrive a few minutes earlier.

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

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

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

The Lancaster and Fairfield County Amateur Radio Club (LFCARC)

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

Lisbon Area Amateur Radio Association

Beginning Feb 11, 2023 Testing on the 2nd Saturday of each month at the Columbiana County EMA located at 215 S Market St. Lisbon, OH 44432. Walk-ins OK. Check in at 1:00PM. For more information go to www.K8GQB.com or contact NN8B at nn8b.oh@gmail.com

Madison County

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

The Milford Amateur Radio Club (MARC)

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

Please pre-register at www.milfordhamradio.org

Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society (NOARS)

VE sessions are held the first Saturday of odd-numbered months (EXCEPT FOR March and July) at 10 AM in the North Olmsted Library, 27403 Lorain Rd., North Olmsted. Registration is preferred, but walk-ins are welcome. For more information or to register, contact Elaine, KC8FOS at ewilkinson1951@gmail.com. There will be a VE session held March 12th at the NOARS Winterfest held at Lorain County Community College in the John A Spitzer Conference Center, 1005 Abbe Rd N, Elyria, OH 44035. Please email Elaine – KC8FOS at ewilkinson1951@gmail.com to register.

Portage County Amateur Radio Service (PCARS)

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

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

Tusco Amateur Radio Club W8ZX

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

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

Attention all emergency communicators!

C. Matthew Curtin KD8TTE

kd8tte@pm.me

An agency of the State of Ohio will be conducting a field exercise in the coming weeks and will be looking for observations "from the field." This is not a free-form or general request: it is information in a specific format that may be transmitted by voice or print (digitally). You can even participate via email.

Participation is easy, fun, and helps to develop and maintain critical emergency communications skills.

1. **Install the FLMSG application.** You need this to organize the information, even if you are not going to transmit it digitally. FLMSG is available for MacOS, Windows, and Linux systems. <https://sourceforge.net/projects/flmsg/files/flmsg/>
2. **Install the FIELDSITREP Custom Form.** You can get the FIELDSITREP Custom Form. Find the ZIP file with the form at <https://www.blackswancomex.org/net/fieldsitrep>. If you need help installing a custom form, you can get step by step instructions online. <https://groups.io/g/QTC/message/987>
3. **Send your FIELDSITREP.** Step by step instructions are available online. <https://groups.io/g/QTC/message/938> Address your FIELDSITREP to KD8TTE. You can send via BLACK SWAN Net or Winlink. If you do not have either option you may use Internet email addressed to KD8TTE@Winlink.org, with the subject: //WL2K P/ FIELDSITREP.

Thank you for supporting the security and resilience of your communities and the State of Ohio.

Six Meter Repeater

Once an obscure band for fear of interference with TV is the SIX METER band.

A few years back Toledo Mobile Radio got the idea to put up a SIX METER repeater.

Why?

One of the biggest reasons is the band is not often used.

Many if not all newer HF rigs have SIX METER FM capability so those with newer radios already have a SIX METER radio.

You can use a 2 meter 5/8 wave antenna on six. It is a good match and SIX METER mobile radios are available.

SIX METERS is "The Magic Band" and you never know when the magic will happen. It is also a very good band for repeater use. Entry level licenses can use the band. The repeater antenna does not have to be very high in order to make it a useful repeater. Yes, the cans are large but there are ways around that. Even so, simplex works well on SIX METERS as well. In Northwest Ohio there are SIX METER nets held on Wednesdays weekly. the Toledo Mobile Radio has a repeater on the frequency of (Monitor:53.110) (Transmit: 52.110) it uses a PL of 103.5.

NORTHWEST OHIO 6 METER NETS

Wednesdays at 9:00 pm

1st Wednesday of the month is on 50.400 AM mode.
2nd Wednesday of the month is on 52.525 FM mode.
3rd Wednesday of the month is on 50.125 USB mode.
4th Wednesday of the month is on 52.525 FM mode.
5th Wednesday of the month is on 52.525 FM mode.
PLEASE JOIN US...on the air

Additional...

Thursdays at 9pm

50.255 USB net.

Six Meter Repeater in Downtown Toledo.

Transmit 52.110 w/103.5 pl and receive 53.110.

73,

W8TER



Cincinnati HamfestSM

The Milford ARC is hard at work preparing for the [Cincinnati Hamfest](#) on Saturday, August 12. Door prizes given away at least every 15 minutes. Free parking, air-conditioned seating, onsite food and courtesy transportation.

Free license testing ([pre-registration](#) requested) 9 am to 11 am.

Proceeds from raffles for Yaesu FT-710 and FTM-300DR radios support the club. Need not be present to win major door prizes or raffles. Tickets are available at

CincinnatiHamfest.org

Lucas County ARES has been asked to help with the Sylvania events again this year. The Sylvania SuperKids is Saturday, July 29th and the Sylvania Triathlon is Sunday, July 30th. Both have a start time of 7:30 AM and take place in and around Olander Park. The SuperKids is usually finished before 10:30 and the Triathlon finishes at 1:00 PM. Most of the positions for the Triathlon do not last the whole time.

If you'd like to volunteer or want more information, please contact me at either k8rks@arrl.net or 419-471-0573.

Please consider giving some of your time to one or both of these great events!

Here are the websites for the events that will provide you information

Super Kids <https://runtoledo.com/sylvania-superkids-triathlon-duathlon-fun-run-olander-park-sylvania-ohio/>

Sylvania Triathlon <https://runtoledo.com/toledo-triathlon-sylvania-olander-park-ohio/>

Thanks for your Consideration.

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Vern Snow W8VHS
Lucas County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES)
Emergency Coordinator
Sylvania, OH 43560
419-619-8600
VSNOW483@gmail.com

Portsmouth Radio Club 2023 HAMFEST



Saturday August 19th, 2023

8:00am to 1:00pm

At the New Boston Village
Community Center
3982 Rhodes Ave New Boston, Ohio



Admission \$5.00 at the door
(includes 1 vendor table. Additional tables \$3 each)
Children under 12 free!

2023 Grand Prize \$200 cash
(extra prize tickets may be purchased for \$3 each)

**Sponsors: ARRL, Jett Fire Equipment, Shawnee Computer, Hanes Chevrolet,
Skeens Excavating, Shoemakers Sunoco, Conley Motor Sports, Gampps Power
Equipment, and more!**

New + Used amateur radio equipment, dealers welcome
Lots of door prizes + 50/50 Raffle

Laurel V.E. testing at 10:00 am

Pop, food, coffee will be available.

Talk-in on 145.390 with 136.5 tone or Echo link N8QA-R

**Contact WX8G Gary Caldwell at 740-250-4955 or
garcaldwell@yahoo.com
or visit www.portsmouthradioclub.com**

Get on The Air as Rare DX with No Travel Costs

Well, not really Rare DX, but no travel costs, and you will be in demand as a multiplier if you join us for the annual [Ohio QSO Party](#) (OQP) on August 26th. As an Ohio station, stations from Ohio, the USA and the world will want to work **you!**

For more information on the QSO Party, join me on Wednesday, July 26th, live in person or via Zoom as I present to the Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club (CFARC). Visitors are always invited to CFARC meetings, and they would love to have you join them for this special presentation- "Ohio QSO Party, Other State QSO Parties & the State QSO Party Challenge". I will give you background on QSO Parties in general, then focus on the Ohio QSO Party. Find out everything you need to know to set up and operate in this event. I will also discuss other State QSO Parties you might want to try and how your entries can count double if you participate in the [State QSO Party Challenge](#). I will also have tips if you are just getting started on HF (High Frequency) Operation. I will cover methods for logging, including computer logging. We will leave plenty of time to address questions.

If you want to attend in person, the meeting is held at Pilgrim United Church of Christ's Social Hall at 130 Broad Blvd, Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221, conveniently just off Route 8. If you want to join via Zoom, please use the Activity Meeting link at the CFARC website- www.cfar.org. For questions, please email k8zt@cfarc.org.

Why Participate in State QSO Parties?

- **Friendly**
 - Atmosphere of friendly laid back competition
 - Chance to connect with old friends around state
 - Make for great club competitions both between club members and between local clubs
- **Great Activity for New Contesters**
 - More laid back atmosphere than many higher pressure major contests
 - Both SSB & CW options to work (some have been adding Digital option)
 - Shorter duration contests
 - Many opportunities throughout year



Your Club news should be listed here!

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

ARLD029 DX news

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by HK3EA, The Daily DX, 425 DX News, DXNL, Contest Corral from QST and the ARRL Contest Calendar and WA7BNM web sites. Thanks to all.

EQUATORIAL GUINEA, 3C. Ersoy, TA2OM is QRV as 3C3CA from Bioko Island, IOTA AF-010, until July 31. QSL via LoTW.

CROATIA, 9A. Stations 9A7YY, 9A/S53Z, 9A/S54W, 9A/S58MU, 9A/S50O and 9A/S50X will be QRV from Vis Island, IOTA EU-016, from July 24 to August 1. Activity will be on 80 to 10 meters using CW and SSB. This includes being active in the upcoming RSGB IOTA contest. QSL direct to home calls.

AZORES, CU. Chris, DL2MDU and Heike, DL3HD are QRV as CT8/home calls from Sao Miguel Island, IOTA EU-003, until July 26. QSL to home calls.

ISLE OF MAN, GD. Keith, G3TTC plans to be QRV as GD3TTC near Onchan from July 26 to 29. Activity will be holiday style on 40 to 10 meters using SSB. This includes being an entry in the upcoming RSGB IOTA contest. QSL to home call.

REPUBLIC OF KOREA, HL. Wouter, PB1WL is QRV as HL4/PB1WL until August 16. QSL to home call.

SARDINIA, IS0. Giuseppe, IK5WWA is QRV as IM0C from San Pietro Island, IOTA EU-165, until July 30. Activity is on 40 to 2 meters, and possibly 80 meters. QSL to home call.

MINAMI TORISHIMA, JD1. Take, JG8NQJ is QRV as JG8NQJ/JD1 until October 19. Activity is in his spare time on 17, 15, 12, and 10 meters. When active using FT8, send his signal strength report, not the grid square. QSL via JA8CJY.

CZECH REPUBLIC, OK. Special event station OL300SANTINI is QRV until December 31 to commemorate Czech architect Jan Blazej Santini-Aichel who was famous for what came to be known as the Czech Baroque Gothic architectural style. QSL via operators' instructions.

FAROE ISLANDS, OY. Przemek, SP7VC and Katarzyna, SQ7OYL will be QRV as OY/home calls from July 23 to 27. Activity will be on 20, 6, and 4 meters. QSL via SP7VC.

BONAIRE, PJ4. Robert, PD2V is QRV as PJ4/PD2V from Kralendijk until August 11. Activity is on 40, 30, and 20 meters using SSB and FT8. QSL via LoTW.

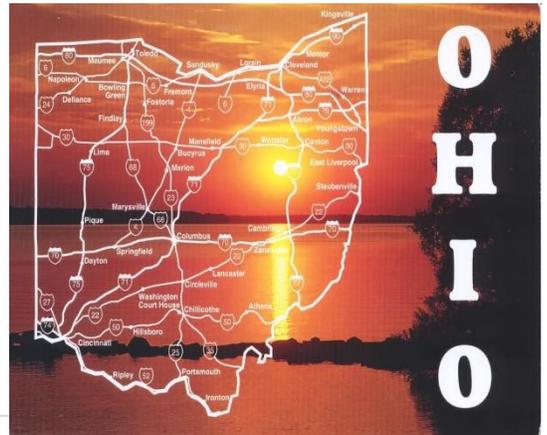
NORFOLK ISLAND, VK9N. David, VK5DG is QRV as VK5DG/9 until July 27. Activity is holiday style on Satellites IO-117, AO-91, PO-101, RS-44, and AO-7. QSL via LoTW.

MYANMAR, XZ. Akio, JE2QIZ is QRV as XZ2B from Yangon until the end of September. Activity is on 15, 12, 10, and 6 meters using CW. QSL via JH3SIF.

The K1USN Slow Speed CW Test, ICWC Medium Speed CW Test, OK1WC CW Memorial, Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest, SKCC CW Sprint, A1Club AWT, CWops Test, Mini-Test 40 CW and Mini-Test 80 CW are on tap for July 24 to 26.

Upcoming *Hamfests*

We **DO** have some hamfests scheduled for 2023!!



Ohio Hamfests

2023

07/22/2023 - [Ashtabula County Hamfest 2023](#)

Location: Pierpont, OH

Sponsor: Amigos Radio Club Ashtabula

Website: <https://sites.google.com/view/arca-home/>

[Learn More](#)

08/05/2023 - [2023 Columbus Hamfest](#)

Location: Grove City, OH

Sponsor: Aladdin Shrine Audio Unit

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

[Learn More](#)

08/12/2023 - [Cincinnati Hamfest](#)

Location: Owensville , OH

Sponsor: Milford ARC

Website: <https://CincinnatiHamfest.org>

[Learn More](#)

08/19/2023 - [Portsmouth Radio Club Hamfest](#)

Location: New Boston, OH

Sponsor: Jett Fire, Shawnee Computer,

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

[Learn More](#)

08/20/2023 - [WARA Tailgate Swap Meet](#)

Location: Cortland, OH

Sponsor: Warren Amateur Radio Association

Website: <http://w8vtd.org>

[Learn More](#)

09/10/2023 - [Findlay Hamfest](#)

Location: Findlay, OH

Sponsor: Findlay Radio Club

Website: <http://findlayradioclub.org>

[Learn More](#)

09/24/2023 - [Cleveland Hamfest](#)

Location: Berea, OH

Sponsor: Hamfest Association of Cleveland

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

[Learn More](#)

10/29/2023 - [Massillon \(OH\) Hamfest \(& auction\)](#)

Location: North Canton, , OH

Sponsor: Massillon Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.w8np.net>

[Learn More](#)

DX This Week – K9LA - Validating Propagation

Bill AJ8B (aj8b@arrl.net, @AJ8B, or
www.aj8b.com) CWOPs Member #1567

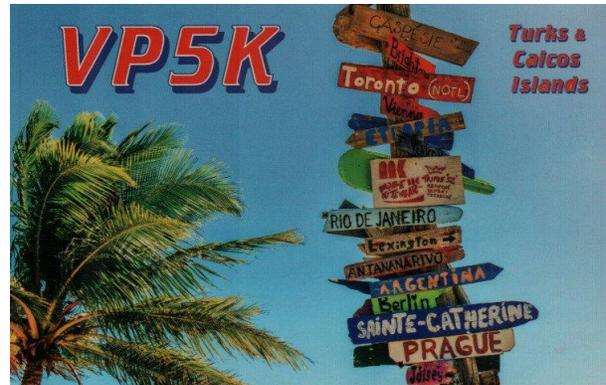
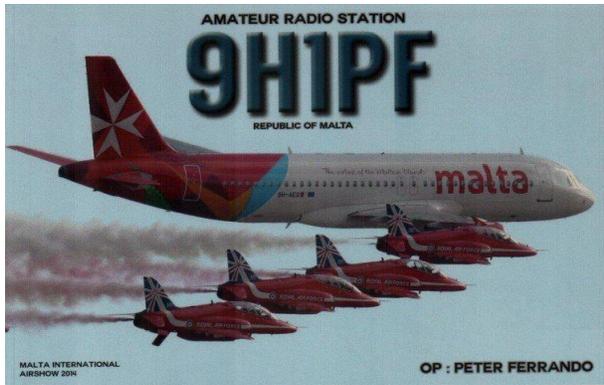


The DX word of the week is “spots”. In the old days, say the late 1970s, many DXers would participate in a phone chain. When a DXer worked or heard a new or a rare country, they would call one or two people with details such as callsign, frequency, mode, and any other pertinent information that would be needed to work the DX station. Each of those hams would then call 2 others to let them know that a specific entity had been spotted and the process would continue until all those hams who agreed to participate would be contacted. I was part of this chain years ago and my family would not be thrilled for me to get a call at 2 AM, even though I was!

Into the early 80s we go, and the process moved from landline phones to 2-meter simplex frequencies and/or repeaters. Eventually, special software for computers was utilized that would allow the lucky ham to enter all the appropriate information into a screen and then it would be passed along as a spot to any other hams who happened to be connected to this special spotting network. In this way, thousands of hams in a large geographic area would be notified of the DXer.

Each of these DXers who were heard, or spotted, would be called spots. Today, it is much simpler. My logging software collects spots from all over the country and compares it against my logbook to determine if I need this or not for an award(s). If so, an announcement is made at my home station and a text message is sent to my phone. The software also checks the origination of the spot. It would not benefit me to know that a DX station in Mali was heard in England!

I did get two cards this week. The first was from Malta, 9H1PF and the second was from the Turks and Caicos Islands. Let me know what you received.



This week I have included another article from Carl, K9LA, discussing how to Validate a Propagation prediction. Enjoy and thanks Carl for permission to reprint.

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Validating Propagation Predictions

Carl Luetzelschwab K9LA

Since the model of the ionosphere in our propagation prediction programs is a monthly median model, we shouldn't just listen on one day and use that data to validate a prediction. Even listening over a weekend (for example, during a DX contest) doesn't really validate a prediction.

To do it properly, we need a month's worth of data. And we need data to validate the MUF prediction and data to validate the signal strength prediction. Let's walk through a validation process to see what it entails.

Let's assume we want to validate a prediction from K9LA (41N/85W) to 5Z (1S/37.4E) at 1500 UTC on 12m (24.9 MHz) during the month of December at a smoothed sunspot number of 25. Under those conditions, along with assumptions about transmit power and antenna gains, VOACAP gives the following prediction:

Time (UTC)	Median MUF (MHz)	12m MUF/day parameter	12m signal strength (dBm)
1500	26.8	0.79	-95

The 12m MUF/day parameter tells us that VOACAP predicts 12m to be open (enough ionization to get an electromagnetic wave from K9LA to 5Z) on 0.79 days of the month (that's 24 days when rounded to the nearest whole number). Note that we don't know which

days will be the “good” ones with respect to MUF and which days will be the “bad” ones with respect to MUF.

The predicted signal strength is a median value. That means on half of the days of the month the actual signal strength will be below -95 dBm. On the other half of the days of the month, the signal strength will be above -95 dBm. Again, we don’t know which days will be the “good” ones with respect to signal strength and which days will be the “bad” ones with respect to signal strength.

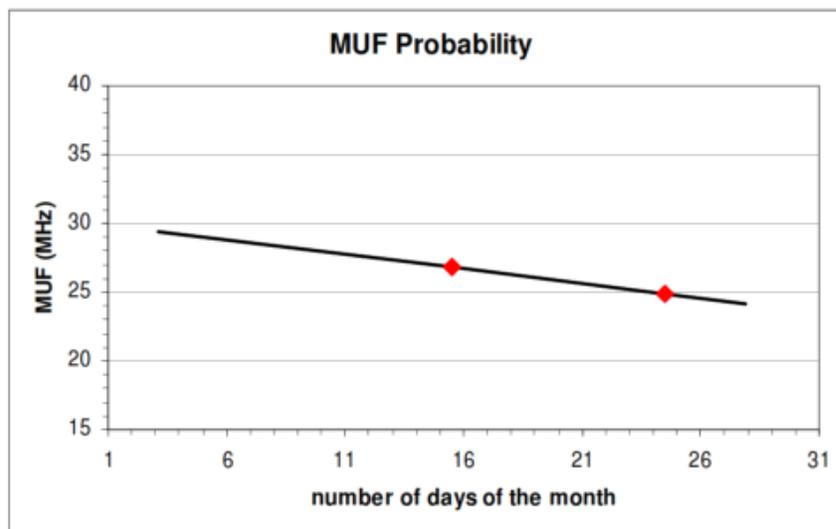
It should be obvious that we need an entire month’s worth of data to validate these predictions. For this example, the best way to do that would be to monitor the 5Z4B NCDXF/IARU beacon on 24.930 MHz every day in December at 1500 UTC. For details about the NCDXF/IARU beacon system, visit www.ncdxf.org/beacons.html.

After a month’s worth of listening, you’ll end up with the number of days you heard 5Z4B, and a signal strength measurement on each of those days.

To validate the MUF/day prediction, simply divide the number of days you heard 5Z4B by 31 and compare that decimal number to the prediction.

To validate the signal strength prediction, order all your signal strength measurements in ascending order (lowest signal strength first). Then pick out the value that has half the data above it and half the data below it. That’s the actual median signal strength on the path. Compare it to the prediction. It’s essential to know the calibration of your S-meter for signal strength validation, so you need to use a signal generator to do this. Lacking that, you could build (or buy) a test oscillator of known output power and use a step attenuator to calibrate your S-meter.

What does the Median MUF column tell us? Knowing the 12m MUF/day parameter and the median MUF allows us to estimate the MUF probability curve since median implies 50% (0.50 in decimal). Thus, we can plot two points: 26.8 MHz is 15.5 days (0.50 times 31) and 24.9 MHz is 24.49 days (0.79 times 31). These are the red data points in the following plot.



Assuming the mode is the same on the higher frequencies (an F2 mode in this case), the plot indicates that 10m should be open on 9 days of the month. It also says 15m (and lower) should be open on all the days. The lower frequencies should have less signal strength, though, due to ionospheric absorption being inversely proportional to the square of the frequency (which would be reflected in the VOACAP prediction).

Although I did this exercise using a VOACAP prediction, I could have done this with a W6ELProp prediction. W6ELProp defines the MUF/day parameter as availability, and the availability value is in the Advanced option screen. Signal strength predictions are in terms of dB above 0.5 uv, so you'd have to convert this to dBm to compare to your S- meter calibration chart. The MUF column (to the right of the time column) on the main prediction screen in W6ELProp is the median MUF \hat{n} just like in VOACAP.

Going through this exercise has validated a prediction for one time of day for one month on one band at one smoothed sunspot number. You can understand why it takes a lot of work to validate predictions on several bands throughout the day during all twelve months for all phases of a solar cycle.

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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:

You will have at least four opportunities to log stations in the Federated States of Micronesia, V6, this fall. I have not worked V6 since 1990 so I will be ready.

Miki, JJ2CJB, will be on Pohnpei Island (OC-010) October 27-31. He will be on 40-10M SSB “with some CW and FT8,” using a Yaesu FT-991 and Elecraft KPA500 amplifier. QSL direct to W1CJB, LoTW, or Club Log.

Cezar, VE3LYC, has a website for his planned IOTA DXpedition to the West Chuuk Group (OC-155) and the Yap East Group (OC-299), which he expects to take place this October and November.

A group of Germans are going to Chuuk Island (OC-011), with callsign V6EU, November 15-28. Their gear is an IC-7300 and amplifier, and they will be on 160 through 10M, and "maybe 6M" using verticals. Their modes will be SSB, CW, RTTY, and FT8. QSL via DL2AWG, Club Log, LoTW, or the bureau.

The Yokohama DX Club (YDXC) will operate from Chuuk State (OC-011) as V6SX October 25-31, commemorating the 50th anniversary of the club's founding. This year is also the 50th anniversary of YDXC's first DXpedition as KC6SX, Truk Lagoon.

The team leader is JA1WWO, Kiyoo. Plans are to operate on 80-6M, and possibly 160 and 60M, on CW, SSB, FT4, and FT8, with an ICOM IC-7300 and an SPE Expert linear amplifier, with several antenna options. They plan to be active during the CQ Worldwide SSB DX Contest October 28-29. QSL via LoTW or Club Log.

Last week I mentioned that there was a major effort to activate Temotu, H40. Here is a Temotu Update.

Paul, N6PSE, and Rob, N7QT, reported late last week that the Intrepid DX Group has shipped its gear via air cargo to the Solomon Islands, where it will be loaded onto a barge headed to Temotu Province (#44 on Club Log's DXCC Most Wanted List).

H4ØWA will be active from October 26 to November 9 on 160-6M CW, SSB, and FT8 Fox/Hound, with a “significant effort” and 1500W on 160 and 80M. They plan to be active during the CQ Worldwide SSB DX Contest October 28-29.

The Intrepid DX Group has a website and a Facebook group and appreciates “any and all support for this project.”

Here is some info on Zimbabwe, Z2 - Continuing his African tour, Eddy, OE3SEU, is now traveling through Zimbabwe and is QRV as Z21MV through August. He is QRV on satellite QO-100 using five watts from an ICOM IC-7000 and 70 cm dish. He will be on SSB only. QSL via LoTW.

We have an update on ZL7, Chatham Islands - Jacek, SP5EAQ, will be staying in Waitangi, on the west side of Chatham Island, for two weeks starting October 20. This will include the CQ Worldwide SSB DX Contest. He will be active on SSB only on 80-10M as ZL7/SP5EAQ. QSL via SP7DQR.

If you need JD1/M, Minami Torishima, this is for you. JG8NQJ, Take, is expected to be back on Minami-Torishima working for three months while being QRV in his spare time starting July 20th. JD1/M currently ranks number 34 on Club Log's Most Wanted DXCC List. When he is on FT8 he does not want your grid. Your first transmission to him should be his signal strength, not your grid. QSL via JA8CJY.

One of my favorite contests is coming up in the middle of August. For me, this is the start of my contest year. It is the WAE DX CW or Worked All Europe CW contest. This contest will be held on 8/12 and 8/13. The contest exchange is RST + Serial Number. More information can be found on the WA7BNM website.

I have three major sources of contest information. The first is the Daily DX Bulletins. What I look for are statements like “W8GEX” will be operating from Tasmania in Oct through the CQWW SSB contest.

Secondly, the WA7BNM website. This is a great source of upcoming contests and all of their details. Also, if you stumble across a lot of contest-like activity, it is likely that the WA7BNM site will have all of the details of what you are hearing.

Finally, if you are an ARRL member, The ARRL Contest Update is published every other Wednesday. ARRL members may subscribe at no cost by editing their Member Data Page on the ARRL Website.

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CONTEST CORNER

Below is a list of upcoming contests in the “Contest Corner”. I think this is important for someone who is trying to move up the DXCC ladder since entities that are on the rarer side and easiest to work in contests. Some of my best “catches” have been on

the Sunday afternoon of a contest when the rarer entities are begging for QSOs. Of course, the gamble is that if you wait until Sunday, conditions may change, or they simply won't be workable. However, it is not a bad gamble. Of course, why not work the contest and have some fun!

Check out the WA7BNM Contest Calendar page (<https://www.contestcalendar.com/>) and CQ Magazine for more contests or more details. I also have a comprehensive list that can be imported to your calendar at www.aj8b.com/files

The contests in **red** are those that I plan to spend some significant participation time on. PLEASE let me know if you are working contests and how you fared.

Thanks!

Date(s)	Event	Info
All Year	CQ DX Marathon	http://bit.ly/3FyPiui
July 22-30	Maidenhead Mayhem Sprint	https://w9et.com/rules.html
July 22	YOTA Contest	https://www.ham-yota.com/contest/
July 27	RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data	http://bit.ly/3TxCrxl
July 29	WAB 144 MHz Low Power Phone	http://bit.ly/31yE4kT
July 29-30	RSGB IOTA Contest	http://bit.ly/3TxCrxl
July 30	ARS Flight of the Bumblebees	http://arsgrp.blogspot.com/
Aug. 2	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest	http://www.ft8activity.eu/index.php/en/
Aug. 5	European HF Championship	https://euhf.s5cc.eu/euhfc_rules/
Aug. 5-6	10-10 Int'l Summer Contest SSB	http://bit.ly/1FrFeBc
Aug. 5-6	ARRL 222 MHz and Up Distance Contest	http://bit.ly/2IJZcy9
Aug. 5-6	Batavia FT8 Contest	https://batavia-ft8.com/
Aug. 5-6	North American CW QSO Party	http://ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf
Aug. 6	SARL HF Phone Contest	http://bit.ly/H0IqQf
Aug. 9	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest	http://www.ft8activity.eu/index.php/en/
Aug. 12	FISTS Summer Saturday Sprint	http://www.fistsna.org/operating.html
Aug. 12	SARL Youth Sprint	http://bit.ly/H0IqQf
Aug. 12-13	Maryland-DC QSO Party	https://www.w3vpr.org/node/325
Aug. 12-13	Worked All Europe CW Contest	https://bit.ly/36ubggF
Aug. 16	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest	http://www.ft8activity.eu/index.php/en/
Aug. 19-20	ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest	http://www.arrl.org/10-ghz-up
Aug. 19-20	International Lighthouse Lightship	
	Weekend – ILLW	https://illw.net/
Aug. 19-20	SARTG RTTY Contest	http://www.sartg.com/index.html
Aug. 19-20	North American SSB QSO Party	http://ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf
Aug. 20	ARRL Rookie Roundup RTTY	http://www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup
Aug. 20	FISTS Summer Sunday Sprint	http://www.fistsna.org/operating.html

Aug. 25-27	Hawaii QSO Party	http://hawaiiqsoparty.org/
Aug. 26-27	ALARA Contest	http://www.alara.org.au/contests/
Aug. 26-27	Kansas QSO Party	http://www.ksqsoparty.org/
Aug. 26-27	Ohio QSO Party	http://www.ohqp.org/index.php/rules/
Aug. 26-27	YO DX HF Contest	https://www.yodx.ro/en/
Aug. 26-27	World Wide Digi DX Contest	https://ww-digi.com/
Aug 26-27	W/VE Island QSO Party	https://usislands.org/qso-party-rules/
Aug. 27	SARL HF CW Contest	http://bit.ly/H0IqQf
Sept. 23-24	CQ WW RTTY DX Contest	http://www.cqwwrtty.com

OHIO'S



It seems the Dog Daze of Summer are already upon us. Even our four legged beagle Pete, K9DOG, doesn't want to venture out of the air conditioning any more than nature calls him to.

These Dog Daze times seem to have slowed the July ham radio happenings in Ohio's South 40 and for that reason I decided to take a break from last week's column and "chill". This let me head into the woods and pick over 16 gallons of wild black raspberries, helping Kathy (N8ZNR) with our 500 blueberry bushes, catch up on the honey dos at the farm and home and get geared up to head back into the woods to pick the wild blackberries that are beginning to ripen. For those who have inquired about my farm injury, I got lucky and no surgery is needed. Just a need to baby the shoulder and stay away from motorized post hole diggers and buried rocks in the future. N8ZNR is accusing me of "milking it for all its worth!"

Although July was a slow month August does offer a number of amateur radio opportunities to take advantage of. Whether it's attending a hamfest, doing some contesting, operating from one

of our parks or nature reserves (or even a qualified hilltop) or assisting with communications for a community event, there should be something to catch the fancy of anyone with an interest in amateur radio.

Hamfest happenings in July were few and those that were required some lengthy road trips. But August appears quite different as you can hit a hamfest in the South 40 coverage area almost every Saturday morning. The month kicks off with the annual **Columbus Hamfest** on August 5 at the Shrine Center just South of Columbus in Grove City. It is sponsored by the **Aladdian**



Shrine Audio Unit and features both an inside and outside flea market, a food truck and testing opportunities. Then on August 12 the **Milford ARC** will hold the **Cincinnati Hamfest** at the Clermont County Fairgrounds in Owensville. This event too will have an inside and outside flea market and a free VE test session. Visit the www.cincinnatihamfest.org website for more information and see how you might qualify for a free flea market table or win a great radio. Also on the 12th, the **Tri-State ARA** will hold their annual hamfest at the New Baptist Church, 610 28th Street in Huntington, WV. At this time more details are lacking. On the following Saturday morning (August

19) the popular **Portsmouth RC** hamfest will return to the New Boston Community Center on for this year's event. Because it will be earlier in the year it's anticipated the weather will cooperate and there will be an outside tailgate sales area this year. Arrangements have been made with the adjoining Tractor Supply store for additional parking therefore opening up tailgating spaces. Contact Jennifer Bailey, N8JEN, for more info.

We all know hams like to eat and visit and those in the Cambridge area are no different. On Thursday, July 27, members of the **Cambridge ARA** will gather at the Shogun Hibachi, 61600 Southgate Road, at noon to break bread together. Then on August 3 they will meet at Mr. Lee's Restaurant, 2000 East Wheeling Avenue. Any amateur in the Cambridge area is invited to attend and join in on the good times.



Speaking of hams liking to eat and drink, we know hundreds of thousands of amateur radio operators around the world are coffee drinkers. Sometimes when sitting in front of a radio during a contest or when the bands are totally dead, coffee is the only thing that keeps us awake and gives us the will power to keep going. With that in mind, earlier this year Michigan ham radio operator Steve Eilers, W3BIZ, created the Home Brew Coffee Company with a line of over a dozen flavors and blends “catering to the ham radio community”. Some of the blend names are specifically ham radio oriented. Additionally he donates 10% of his profits to the ARRL. www.homebrewcoffee.com



On August 11 through the 13th the **Cambridge ARA** will commemorate the 110th anniversary of the Club's founding by manning a club information booth at the Salt Fork Arts and Crafts Festival in the Cambridge City Park. Lyn Alfman is asking for some additional volunteers to assist with the manning of that booth during the three days of the event. Contact her for more information or to volunteer your services.

Our friends on the Kentucky side of the Ohio River will hold the Fourth Annual Kentucky State Parks on the Air on Saturday, August 12. It runs for eight hours starting at 1400 UTC and is open to any amateur using authorized frequencies and modes. The objective is to contact as many of the State's fifty state parks as possible. Also included in the chase are the nine National Sites within the State. Event information and rules can be found on the **Murry State University ARA**'s website at <https://k4msu.com/kypota>

On August 12 the **Highland ARA** will conduct a free Laurel VE session for the **Milford ARA** at the **Cincinnati Hamfest**. Team Leader Tom Mongold, Jr. (KD8LDS) says registration begins at 9. Although pre-registration is preferred, walk-ins will be accommodated if space permits. The Tri-State ARA will conduct a test session during their August 12 hamfest at the New Baptist Church in Huntington, WV. Testing gets underway at 11:30. Check www.qsl.net/w8va for testing information. On the 19th, tests will be given at the **Portsmouth Hamfest** beginning at 10 AM with all elements available. The **Athens County ARA** will conduct an ARRL VE testing session on August 21 at the Red Cross Building in Athens. It will begin at 7 PM. Contact VE Coordinator Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, for any updated information.

Speaking of testing, the Ohio's South 40 welcomes two new amateurs to the region. Let's give "atta boys" to David Beck and Em N Knotts who each have earned new Technician Licenses. Em hails from Little Hocking and is now KE8YSZ. David lives in Wilmington and now bears the KE8YTU call sign. Also receiving a new Tech is Mark Fouts, Jr. from Goshen. Mark is now KE8YTW. Let's get these fellows on the air and respond to their calls when you hear them. Nothing can turn a new ham off faster than having no response to a call. Even if you are busy, take a few moments to at least let them know their radio is working and commit to getting with them later for a longer chat and getting to know them better.

The **Athens County ARA** will assist with communications for the upcoming August 5 Gravel Run and the 12 Bailey's Run bicycle events. Anyone wishing to assist the Club in either or both events is urged to contact Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, for information.



Ohio has its former reformatory at Mansfield where the Shawshank Redemption was filmed. It has now become a popular tourist attraction. Not to be left out, West Virginia has its historic former state penitentiary at Moundsville that now has become a tourist attraction. On July 29 the **Northern Panhandle ARA** will conduct a special event operation from it. Look for W8ZQ

that day on 40 and 20 meters. The NPARA serves the far reaches of Ohio's South 40 Southeastern Ohio's amateur population in addition to hams in the West Virginia Panhandle and Western Pennsylvania.



For the past several years members of the **Highland ARA** have assisted the Hillsboro Cemetery Association with placing and removing flags from the graves of the approximately 1,000 veterans buried in the cemetery. Those graves represent people who have fought in every one of our nation's war since the Revolution. Hillsboro native Casper Collins (whom Casper, Wyoming is named for) represents the Indian uprisings of the 1860's. His father, William, for whom Fort Collins, Colorado is named is also buried on the family plot.

Are you looking for a ham radio challenge from the comfort of your shack that won't take up a weekend, a week or much longer? If that's something that might catch your interest, check out the upcoming August 26 **Mad River RC's** Ohio QSO Party. This 12 hour operating contest has an objective to work as many of Ohio's 88 counties as possible on the various HF bands using phone and/or CW. A look at last years results show that thanks to some mobile, portable and rover stations all 88 Ohio counties were on the air at some time with 81 of those showing up on phone. Lorain County stations logged a 1,412 contest contact count to Huron's 5. Just shy of 42,000 contacts were made by just shy of the 4,000 amateurs who submitted log entries. Almost 26,000 contacts were on 40 meters. So there are a lot of stations to work. And especially if you are in one of Ohio's "Ham Radio Dessert" counties with few active hams you could find yourself the chased instead of the chasee by not only those in the contest, but those from outside of Ohio and the US who are chasing counties for their CQ Magazine USA-CA Award. The event rules can be found at www.ohqp.org. As of this writing, the list of planned county activations has not appeared on the website.

If the Ohio QSO Party is too long for you, an even shorter event is on September 9 when the 8 hour Ohio State Parks on the Air takes to the airwaves. The 16th annual OQP starts at 10 that morning and runs until 6 PM with the chief objectives to promote Ohio's State Park System through ham radio. Possibly because it's shorter than Field Day it has gained popularity with clubs and individual operators. Some clubs even activate more than one park and hold an intra-club competition between the parks activated. One club activated nine different parks last year! And several people take to the road as a Rover and activate multiple parks. Last years submitted logs showed 11,127 contacts made from 65 parks. Presently 27 parks show planned activity but sadly many of our regions parks indicate no activation plans. By activating one of these lesser activated parks you may find yourself very popular. There is a wealth of information on the www.ospota.org website about planned and past activations plus statistics dating to the first contest and this year's rules. So grab an Ohio roadmap, check where a state park is that you might like to explore and operate from on September 9 and plan to take part in this fun and

enjoyable event. Please note: Ohio's newest State Park (between Xenia and Yellow Springs) is not included in the event this year.

On September 16 the third annual **Buffalo 10 Meter Net's Ham Radio Swap Meet** will be held in conjunction with the Leavitt Car Show in Belpre. The event is totally free and includes door prizes, music, food and drink. Visit the www.buffalo10meter.net website for details.

Getting ready to observe its 70th anniversary, the **Huntsville (AL) Hamfest** kicks off on August 19 and 20 in the South Hall of the Von Huntsville. The event is one of the "big conventions in the United States and is only Hamcation in attendance. The event has and this year will be expanding to use more seminars and flea market. It is totally indoors and I find it one of the easiest hamfests to get to as once you get to your nearest interstate it's four lanes and few traffic lights all the way to the convention center plus there are plenty of things to see and do along the way. There is plenty of paid close-in and covered parking plus nearby hotels and restaurants. And who can forget that GigiParts has its main location near the college in Huntsville. Of course a visit to the birthplace of America's missile and space program at the nearby Redstone Arsenal is a must. Check out www.hamfest.org for info.



According to the **Fayette ARA's** Jim Scott, N8ORJ, a June storm caused loss of cell service in Tulsa, OK and the Mayor and police chief has stated there was no back-up way for citizens to communicate. This has prompted a citizens "grassroots" effort to establish a GMRS network and repeater system in Fayette County. A public information meeting to familiarize residents about GMRS and the purpose for establishing a wireless communications network is going to be held at the Washington CH Carnegie Library meeting room on July 25 at 1 PM and again on July 27 at 4 PM. All amateurs in the Fayette County area are urged to attend.

A tip of the South 40 cap to Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, and his fellow **Athens County ARA** members who took the time to meet and greet Carlos, PT2CFA, during his brief stay in Athens. Carlos is from Brazilia and was in Athens to take an express course at Ohio University. He is scheduled to return to Brazil after the course ends on the 21st.



It's just been learned that Adams County has added to its ham radio population. The Blue Creek community now finds Matthew Owens with a new Technician license. Matthew is the holder of call sign KE8YUU.

Until next time here's hoping each of you have a great and safe week. Plus take some time to get on the air and talk to someone. You just might make their day.

John Levo, W8KIW, jlevo@cinci.rr.com or highlandara@gmail.com, 937-393-4951

Print an Official or Unofficial Copy of Your Amateur Radio License

(By Anthony Luscre, K8ZT)

As of February 17, 2015, the **FCC no longer routinely issues paper license documents** to Amateur Radio applicants and licensees. The Commission has maintained for some time now that the official Amateur Radio license authorization is the electronic record that exists in its Universal Licensing System (ULS). The FCC will continue to provide paper license documents to all licensees who notify the Commission that they prefer to receive one.

Licensees also will be able to print out an official authorization — as well as an unofficial “reference copy” — from the ULS License Manager. I’ve created a set of instructions on how you can request an “official” printed copy of your license*



[Click here to download the instructions](#)

One Question Questionnaire

!!!! I would really like to hear from as many of you as possible. How about going to <http://arrl-ohio.org> and giving me a click? (It’s in the bottom left corner of the page) While you’re there, you can click the Big Red Arrow to enter into this months Handbook Giveaway!

This week’s Question: Is your club planning a club operation in the upcoming Ohio QSO Party?

A) Yes, or B) No



From last week's question - Do you have a memorial brick at ARRL Headquarters with your callsign on it?

I was surprised that the response shows that only 4 out of 65 votes said yes! You might want to think about that, and I might have some suggestions in the near future.

(This is a subliminal message: Go to the Ohio Section Website, on the bottom left of the landing page answer this week's question. AND DON'T FORGET – look for the Big Red Arrow and sign up for the June Handbook give away!)

AND THE June HandBook winner is: Bob Hajdak N8QE !

Ohio Section Cabinet

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



Hey Gang,

Have you taken a look at the **Swap & Shop** page on the Ohio Section webpage yet?? Here's a link that will take you there... <http://arrl-ohio.org/sm/s-s.html>

Do you have equipment that you just don't need or want anymore? Here's a great venue to advertise it, and it's FREE!! Is your club doing a fund raiser to help raise money? After a lot of thought, it was decided that the Swap & Shop webpage could also contain these types of items as well. The same rules will apply as do for the For Sales and Give-A-Ways and will only be posted for a month at a time. Please see the Terms & Conditions on the webpage.

If your club is doing a fund raiser and wants more exposure, please forward the information to me and I'll advertise it on the Swap & Shop webpage for you.

Now, I still want to remind you that it won't be listed in this newsletter because it would take up way too much space, so your ad will only appear on the website. It is there for any individual to post equipment Wanted / For Sale or Give-Away as well as for Club Fund Raisers. No licensed vehicles/trailers or business advertising will be posted. Postings are text only (no pictures or graphics) will be posted for a maximum of 1 month from date posting and require a contact phone number or email within the posting. Send your Wanted / For Sale or Give-Away post to: swap@arrlohio.org

Back Issues of the PostScript and Ohio Section Journal

Hey, did you know that PostScript and Ohio Section Journal (OSJ) are archived on the website? You can go back and look at any edition simply by clicking:

<http://arrl-ohio.org/news/index.html>



Want to Share your Club Newsletter With Others?

We have a webpage where you can download and read all of the newsletters that I get from around the state and even other sections!

Here's the link to the page.... http://arrl-ohio.org/club_news/index.html

Please, if you don't see your club newsletter posted, it's because I'm not receiving it. Just have your newsletter editor contact me and I'll get your club's newsletter listed on the site!!

We all learn and steal (I mean, share) from each other's work. So, get me your newsletter!!! Send it to: webmaster@arrl-ohio.org



Chit – Chat, and All That!

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

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! Occasionally you may find an error or two in this newsletter – be assured, they were put there on purpose to make sure you're reading the newsletter carefully!