



“August 7th, 2023”

→ [National News](#)

→ [DX This Week](#)

→ [Upcoming Hamfests](#)

→ [VE Testing](#)

→ [Club Corner](#)

→ [Contest Corner](#)

→ [One Question Questionnaire](#)

→ [South 40](#)

CQ CQ CQ de WB8LCD



As you can see here, the WINNER of the 2023 Ohio Section Newsletter Contest was “The Radiogram” – the monthly newsletter of the Portage County Amateur Radio Service (PCARS).

Congratulations to all of the PCARS members who have contributed to the newsletter over the year, and especially to the editor “Parky – KB8UUZ”. Parky has been the editor of The Radiogram since it’s inception and will be retiring from that position at the end of this year. Thank you Parky for your dedication to your club in

this position and for turning out a consistently excellent monthly newsletter!

I also want to recognize the second-place winner – “Cliff Hanger” of the All Things Amateur Radio Association and it’s editor Jim Breibach – KE8SWY. The third-place winner – “Full Quieting” of the Bellbrook Amateur Radio Club and it’s editor Ray Hitt – N8VMX; and the fourth place winner – “Mount Vernon Amateur Radio Club” and the editors Terry Windsor –

KI8N and Frank Counts – KC8EVS. Thank you to you all for providing excellent coverage for your club members!





I especially want to thank our Section Public Information Coordinator (PIC) – Liz Kline – KE8FMJ for her work in conducting the Newsletter Contest. She did an excellent job looking at

each of the newsletters and scoring them on 5 separate attributes using a point system. I believe it was a very impartial way of looking at all of the newsletters and ranking them.

Now I want to encourage all Ohio Section newsletter editors to go to the Ohio Section Web Payer (www.arrl-ohio.org) and take a look at the top-4 for this year to see what they are doing that you may (or may not) want to incorporate into your own publication! Congratulations to all of you for a job well done and appreciated by your clubs!

Many of you have asked about this bit in the news lately. I wanted to repeat it here because it illustrates a very good example of what ARRL is doing on your behalf, and also how the approach issues like this. If you're not aware of it, please note how deliberately the ARRL researched the issue and responded to the FCC:

ARRL Files Comments Against "Seriously Flawed" Shortwave Rules Petition

ARRL, as part of its mission to protect Amateur Radio, has filed [comments against a proposal](#) that would introduce high-power digital communications to the shortwave spectrum that in many instances is immediately adjacent to the Amateur HF bands.

The "Shortwave Modernization Coalition" (SMC), which represents certain high-frequency stock trading interests, filed [the petition](#) with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). **(Previous coverage can be found on [ARRL News](#).)** ARRL responded on behalf of its members and the 760,000 licensees of the Amateur Radio Service in the US.

The ARRL Laboratory performed a detailed technical analysis over several months to determine if the proposed rules would affect operations on the bands allocated to Radio Amateurs that are inter-mixed with the Part 90 bands in the spectrum in question.

ARRL's analysis determined that, if the proposed rules are adopted, the new operations inevitably will cause significant harmful interference to many users of adjacent and nearby spectrum, including Amateur Radio licensees. Ed Hare, W1RFI, a 37-year veteran of the ARRL Lab and internationally recognized expert on radio frequency interference, was the principal investigator on the study. Hare concluded the petition should not be granted. "This petition seeks to put 50 kHz wide, 20,000-watt signals immediately next to seven different amateur bands with weaker protections against interference than required in other services," said Hare.



In its formal opposition, ARRL stated, "That destructive interference would result if operations commenced using anything close to the proposed maximum levels."

ARRL's filed comments highlight flawed analysis and incomplete data submitted by the petitioners. It noted the petitioners "...significantly understate the harmful interference that is not just likely, but certain, if the rules proposed by SMC are adopted as proposed. It is noteworthy that SMC's proposed rules would provide less protection than the much-lower power amateur radio transmitters are required to provide Part 90 receivers." ARRL's opposition also noted that there was no reported tests conducted with Amateur or other affected stations, but referenced a spectrum capture in the Comments filed with the Dayton Group that showed actual interference into the Amateur 20-meter band from one of the High Frequency Trading experimental stations.

Part 90 HF rules currently authorize a maximum signal bandwidth equal to a voice communications channel, at up to 1000 W peak envelope power (PEP). The petition seeks multiplication of signal width, greater transmitted power, and weaker rules that protect users of adjacent spectrum. ARRL's comments expose the likely fallout:

"Incredibly, notwithstanding the significant increase in potential interference that would result from using digital schemes with 50 kHz bandwidths and 20,000 watts of power, SMC also proposes to substantially lessen the protections required to protect adjacent and neighboring licensees. SMC proposes [out-of-band emissions] limits that offer less protection than the existing Part 90 limits and would actually permit no attenuation (0 dB) at the edge of adjacent allocations, many of which are bands allocated to and heavily used in the Amateur Radio Service. Consistent with lessening protections while increasing the potential for harmful interference, SMC also proposes a lower limit for spurious emissions. SMC would reduce the existing protection of -73 dB for the applicable 1000-watt power limit to just -50 dB protection for their proposed 20,000-watt limit. Due to the much wider 50 kHz proposed bandwidth, the resulting interference would penetrate deep into the adjacent Amateur bands."

The proposal has been assigned FCC Docket No. RM-11953. While the period for commenting on the petition has now closed, replies to comments in the record may now be submitted.

Hundreds of licensed Radio Amateurs filed comments in the Docket, expressing overwhelming opposition to the proposal. Those interested may read ARRL's full comments and the results of the technical analysis, which are included in the filing. "If granted as written, this would be devastating to Amateur operation for many tens of kHz into our bands," said Hare.

ARRL will continue to advocate for its members and the Amateur Radio Service in this proceeding.

Read ARRL's Opposition and the ARRL Lab's technical analysis [here](#).

And finally, it's the Ohio Section's second chance at being W1AW/8!

W1AW/8 Activation ARRL Ohio Section

August 30 to Sept 5, 2023

Share this information using - tiny.cc/w1aw8-info

Ohio operators will get their second opportunity to active W1AW/8 from August 30 through September 5th as part of the year-long ARRL VOTA (Volunteers On The Air) operations. For additional information on VOTA, visit- <https://vota.arrl.org>.

The W1AW/8 activation will take place on 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 and 6 Meters using CW, Phone and Digital (FT8/FT4, RTTY, etc.). If you would like to operate using the special callsign, you must meet a few guidelines and agree to follow a few rules:

- Currently valid FCC Amateur Radio license
- Operate from within the state of Ohio
- Agree to:
 - Follow all US Amateur Radio rules and licensing class restrictions (including **operating only on frequencies and modes allowed by YOUR LICENSE**)
 - Follow [Radio Amateur's Code](#) and [Considerate Operators Guide](#) and other accept Amateur Radio Etique. Remember you are representing the ARRL and the Ohio Section
 - Accurately log all contacts using computer logging software
 - Export an ADIF file of all contacts and submit it via email to Anthony Luscre, K8ZT (k8zt73@gmail)

If you meet the above requirements, you can apply for time slots by submitting an online form- tiny.cc/w1aw8-form. You will receive a confirmation email with your time slots, if available. Please refer to schedule- tiny.cc/w1aw8 to confirm your time slots.

A publically available schedule of operating slots will be available at tiny.cc/w1aw8. In addition to using this schedule to find available operating band/mode time slots to apply to fill, please share the link with fellow hams interested in working W1AW/8.

We will also have a live Zoom meeting on the W1AW/8 Operation Wednesday, August 16th, at 8 PM. The meeting will also be recorded for later viewing. Zoom session will cover scheduling, operating practices, logging contacts (including examples of common logging programs), extracting .ADIF files from logging software or from WSJT-X to submit your contacts and Q&A.

Thomas Sly is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting:

Topic: VOTA - W1AW/8

Time: Aug 16, 2023 08:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83268569006?pwd=YUFYaytsbkpOdXZEYis1K2hLL1A3QT09>

Meeting ID: 832 6856 9006

Passcode: 166932

There's an awful lot of fun Amateur Radio activities going on in the next couple of months! Get off the couch and get on the air!

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)



What's Up for August? Your Personal NASA Guide to the Night Sky

What's up for August? See Saturn at dusk and dawn, the Perseid meteors return, and a "super blue moon."

We've lost Venus and Mars from the evening sky, but we'll have great views of [Saturn](#) all night. Look for the giant planet low in the eastern sky by mid-month, appearing a bit higher each evening as August continues.

August brings one of the best-known annual meteor showers, the [Perseids](#). And this year the stage is set for a good show, as the peak night – Saturday, Aug. 12 – is near the new moon.

August begins and ends with a full [moon](#), making for a special occurrence that only happens every couple of years, commonly known as a "blue moon." The blue moon on Wednesday, Aug. 30 is also a supermoon. The combination of these two special full moons, making for a "super blue moon," occurs about every 10 years – though the time between any two occurrences can vary from two months to two decades or more.

[Download Skywatching Tips & Guides](#)

Amateur Radio Operators Can Help with HAARP Experiment

The High-frequency Active Auroral Research Program (HAARP) will host more than 50 researchers at their Alaska facility from August 1 -14, 2023, for the resumption of a science summer school that will conduct 30 experiments over a span of two weeks.



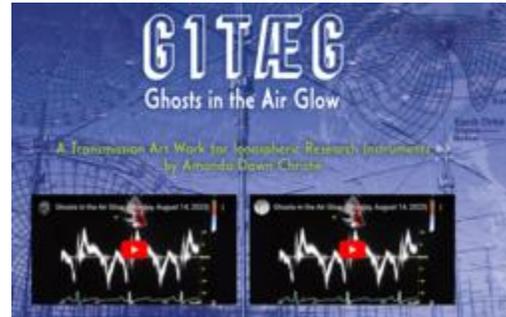
The HAARP antenna array at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. (Photo courtesy of

The Polar Aeronomy and Radio Science (PARS) summer school was last held more than 10 years ago.

HAARP)

Its return is part of a 5-year, \$9.3 million National Science Foundation grant awarded to the University of Alaska Fairbanks in 2021. PARS is a group of more than 50 researchers committed to meeting the growing demand for skilled scientists and engineers with knowledge of the special effects that occur in the ionosphere at high latitudes.

One of the experiments, Ghosts in the Air Glow by Canadian artist Amanda Dawn Christie, will give amateur radio operators and shortwave listeners an opportunity to help with on-going geospace research. This transmission art project will begin on Monday, August 14, 2023, and use the HAARP Ionospheric Research Instrument to mix audio and images from the transition between Earth's atmosphere and outer space. They will then be received and decoded via software-defined radio. Amateur radio operators and shortwave radio listeners around the world are invited to tune in and submit reception reports.



Ghosts in the Air Glow [website](#).

Event information, including transmission times, frequencies, modes, and report submission guidelines, is available at the project's website, [Ghosts in the Air Glow](#). Each experiment participants will receive a QSL card.

"The return of PARS and these experiments marks a milestone for HAARP and the geospace communities," said HAARP Director Jessica Matthews.

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 send it to: webmaster@arri-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.

Air Force Marathon September 16 @ 5:00 am - 2:00 pm (Registration required during August!)

The Air Force Marathon will be held on Saturday, September 16. We are forming a team of ham radio volunteers to support the event by operating several networks for logistics, medical information, monitoring and tracking of runners, shadowing of race officials, and support of finish line operations. We need in excess of sixty volunteers to make all of this happen. As this is being written, only 75% of the required number of volunteers have signed up; we could use your help. Most of the race takes place on Wright-Patterson Air Force Base (near Dayton) which adds a couple of security complications: registration needs to be completed before the end of August and race day entry to the base requires arrival by 5:30 AM to accommodate ID checks and road closures.

To volunteer, go to the web page usafmarathon.com/volunteer/ and select VOLUNTEER NOW. You will be redirected to the portal at raceroster.com where you will need to create an account. Select VOLUNTEER and sign in. Select the pull-down list under "Volunteer With Us", scroll down and select "Volunteer on Saturday, September 16th, 2023". Continue to scroll down and fill out the required information. Be sure to include your Call Sign in the appropriate box. Below that box, under "Amateur Radio Operator" click the box for "Add to order". Continue to the bottom of the page and select your t-shirt size. "CONTINUE" to submit your registration.

Also, please report that you have signed in by sending a message with your name and callsign (and preferred email, if different from the account you sent it from) to AFM.Hams@gmail.com

If you have questions, use AFM.Hams@gmail.com.

As the race date nears, you will receive an invitation to a training session and a link to the training materials, assignment list, and communications plan.

Bob Baker N8ADO

Greene County EC

Volunteer Lead for Amateur Radio Support to the Air Force Marathon

The Ottawa County Amateur Radio Emergency Service

(OCARES) is a small group of dedicated people who want to help our community. Like many other groups across our country, we have struggled with membership, but we decided that would not stop us from doing what we can to help and be as active as we can be. Our group has members that are active in law enforcement, a paramedic, a nurse, a retired Marine veteran, seasoned General class hams and storm spotters, and even a member who works in the TV broadcast industry.

During the week of July 16- 23, 2023 the Ottawa County fair was going on at the county fairgrounds just east of Oak Harbor. The fair draws thousands of visitors to the area and features a camping area where hundreds of campers set up while families enjoy the fair festivities. Leading up to the fair week, James, W8CEN, Ottawa County's Emergency Coordinator made up an Incident Radio Communications Plan (ICS 205) for the span of the fair and distributed it to the members. Being prepared is the key. After the start of the fair, we learned that Thursday, July 20, 2023 could bring severe weather to the area. Therefore, our preparations kicked into over drive. That night, the fair featured a rodeo that would attract many people to the grandstand area. We needed to be ready.

Mike, W8MAL is a member of Lucas County ARES and is always willing to help OCARES any chance he gets. He was staying at the fair that week and offered to be the operator on the ground in case anything happened. He, along with our EC attended a webinar at 1400 hours on July 20 hosted by the National Weather Service in Cleveland. This webinar talked about the enhanced risk of severe weather in our area with high winds, tornadoes, and large hail possible. W8CEN then made assignments in case a net was to take place that evening and distributed it to the membership. Tony, KE8OOE would be net control and help with observations from the east end of the county. Mike, W8MAL would be fairgrounds IC, James W8CEN would be posting one half mile north of the fairgrounds to watch radar and encroaching weather including lightning. Ryan, KE8WAY would provide live weather conditions from the west end of the county. Jake, who is laid up from a work injury would provide reports from his home in Oak Harbor. Brandon, WX8MBC would provide radar overwatch from his location in Indianapolis.

Mike, W8MAL took what he learned from the NWS webinar and contacted the fair board who is ultimately in control of the happenings at the fairgrounds. He was put in contact with a member of law enforcement and a member of the Emergency Medical Services command. The county EMA director was also advised of the impending weather and was keeping an eye on things. Mike was invited to be in the fair board office during the severe weather so he could pass all information learned from the Skywarn net to the fair officials.

Around 1440 hours, the thunderstorm warnings began to fire up. It turns out we had another station, Dean N8KPO reporting from Oak Harbor. Jeff, KD8ERV from Sandusky County Skywarn moved up to help cover the southwestern portion of the county. After all was said and done, the weather warnings lasted around three hours. Reports of lightning and other severe events were passed through net control and on to District 1 Skywarn in Lucas County and simultaneously to the fair board members who were closely monitoring this valuable information. They were using this information to make decisions on keeping bystanders in the metal grandstands, or evacuating them to safer places. All of our Skywarn traffic was passed using the 442.250 repeater provided by the Ottawa County Amateur Radio Club (K8VXH) and through our Zello channels that we use for coordination. Luckily, even though we received some severe weather that day, there were no injuries and no property damage at the fairgrounds.

With every activation or drill, many lessons are learned and many things improved upon. The fair board was very impressed by the timely information they received and could become a permanently served agency in our county. We learned the value in preparation. Even though we are a small group, great things can still be accomplished, and preparation is the key. The ICS 205 form was key in making sure our guys were all prepared and knew what channels to be on during normal operations and even if we lost our main repeaters. The value of assignments being prepared prior to the event took the guesswork out of who should do what when things got more intense. In emergency medicine, we assign roles to providers before an emergency happens, that way when it does happen, everyone can get right to work and things flow smoothly. This can be carried over to ARES and Skywarn for optimal performance and outcomes.

We have a long way to go. However, we are proud that we were prepared and ready on July 20 when thousands of lives were at risk. We are proud that even though we are a small group, we had an incident commander on the ground, a net control, our EC was on site staged and observing, we had a liaison station to District 1 Skywarn, and we had several reporting stations throughout the county. We feel that during this day and age, ham radio plays a major role in emergency preparedness and still provides a valuable service to the community. A huge “thank you” goes out to all the members who helped out that day. It is great being part of such a wonderful and dedicated team.

Respectfully,
James Garber, W8CEN
Emergency Coordinator- Ottawa County
Ohio ARES District 1

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.k8qik.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@k8qik.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/>

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](#)

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.cfarc.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

ARLD031 DX news

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by 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 continues to be QRV as 3C3CA from Bioko Island, IOTA AF-010, until August 30. QSL to home call.

TAIWAN, BV. Special event station BU0SAR is QRV until August 31 to mark the 10th anniversary of New Taipei's Urban Search and Rescue Unit. QSL via BV5OW.

NAURU, C2. Phil, 3D2TS is QRV as C21TS from a temporary location. Activity is in his spare time. He is currently active on 10 meters but plans other bands as well. QSL to home call.

SAINT BARTHELEMY, FJ. Burt, FG8OJ will be QRV as FJ/FG8OJ from August 6 to 8. Activity will be on 10 and 6 meters. QSL to home call.

FRENCH POLYNESIA, FO. Eric, F4FJH is QRV as FO/F4FJH from Tahiti, IOTA OC-046. Activity is holiday style, and he has been active on 20 meters using SSB. QSL via LoTW.

HUNGARY, HA. Special event station HG23YOTA will be QRV beginning August 5 for one week to mark the 11th annual YOTA Summer Camp. QSL via operators' instructions.

MINAMI TORISHIMA, JD1. Take, JG8NQJ is QRV as JG8NQJ/JD1 until October 19. Activity is in his spare time using CW and FT8. Lately he has been active using FT8 on 17 meters around 2100z. QSL via JA8CJY.

FAROE ISLANDS, OY. Laurens, PF3X will be QRV as OY/PF3X from August 7 to 9. Activity will be holiday style on 160 to 6 meters using SSB and various digital modes. QSL via LoTW or direct to home call.

GREENLAND, OX. Bo, OZ1DJJ is QRV as OX3LX from Tasiilaq Island, IOTA NA-151, Grid Square HP15eo, until August 15. Activity is holiday style mainly on Satellite QO-100, but also on 6 and 4 meters, and possibly on the HF bands. QSL via OZ0J.

NETHERLANDS, PA. Special event station PA14JAMBO is QRV until August 17 to mark the Haarlem Jamborette, an international scout meeting hosted every 4 years in Spaarnwoude. This event welcomes about 3500 scouts hailing from more than 15 different countries. QSL via PA9LUC.

SABA, ST. EUSTATIUS, PJ5. Burt, FG8OJ will be QRV as PJ6/FG8OJ from Saba, IOTA NA-145, from August 8 to 11. Activity will be on 10 and 6 meters. QSL to home call.

POLAND, SP. A group of operators will be QRV as SP88YL from August 6 to 12 from various SOTA and WWFF references. QSL via HB9FPM.

NAMIBIA, V5. Dieter, DL5GAN is QRV as V5/DL5GAN from multiple locations until September 7. Activity is with QRP power on 40, 30, 20, 17, 15, and 10 meters using CW, SSB, and FT8. QSL to home call.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS, VP5. Josiah, KI5UBT and John, N5VOF are QRV as VP5/KI5UBT and VP5/N5VOF, respectively, from Providenciales, IOTA NA-002, until August 14. Activity is on 40 to 2 meters using SSB and FT8. This includes being active from POTA references VP5-0001, VP5-0002, and VP5-0003. QSL direct to home calls.

MEXICO, XE. Special event station 4A2MAX is QRV during August to honor the memory of Saint Maximilian Kolbe. QSL via LoTW.

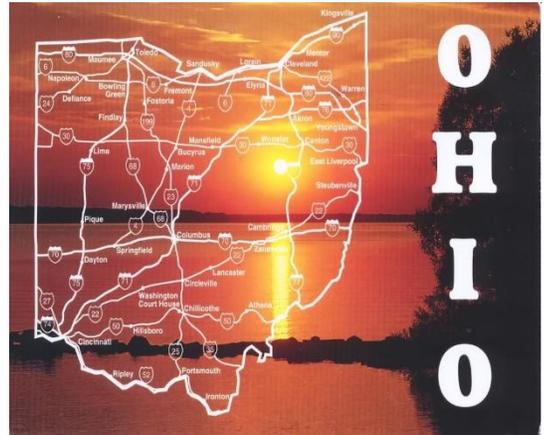
MYANMAR, XZ. Akio, JE2QIZ is QRV as XZ2B from Yangon until the end of September. Activity is on 15, 12, 10, and 6 meters using CW. QSL via JH3SIF.

ZIMBABWE, Z2. Eddy, OE3SEU is QRV as Z21MV until the end of August. QSL via LoTW.

The K1USN Slow Speed CW Test, ICWC Medium Speed CW Test, OK1WC CW Memorial, ARS Spartan CW Sprint, Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest, ZL 80-Meter Sprint, DARC FT4 Contest, NAQCC CW Sprint, Phone Weekly Test, A1Club AWT, CWops Test, VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest, Mini-Test 40 and Mini-Test 80 are on tap for August 7 to 9.

Upcoming *Hamfests*





Ohio Hamfests

2023

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 – Splits

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



By the time you read this, several things will have happened. We will be past the mid-point of the summer (August 3rd), you may be somewhat tired of summer and its' heat, you will realize that we are approximately 140 days from Christmas, and if you have been reading DX bulletins, you will realize that there is quite a bit of good DX coming up in the October/November timeframe. Take advantage of the weather NOW and improve your antennas and feedlines, add an antenna and at least pick a few contests or QSO parties and start honing your skills. Several weeks ago, I started the DX Term of the Week. This week it is Q-Signals. I received an email from Teresa, KA9IFQ who asked about the various Q signals I have used in the DX Corner. Where did they come from? What are common Q-signals that I will hear DXers use?

Q-Signals are three letter combinations that begin with the letter Q that CW operators used in place of common phrases in the “old days.” They are now used in most modes. The reason that the Q is used to identify these abbreviations is that Q is the least used consonant in the English language and would be likely recognized in a weak signal or noisy environment.

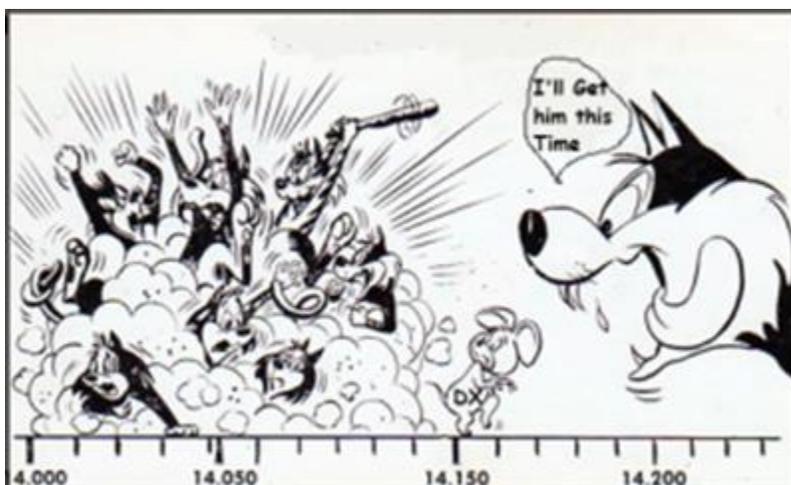
Common Q-signals that DXers would use, using **my** definition, are:
QSO – solid contact such as “thanks for the QSO”,

QSY – change frequency such as “please QSY, the frequency is in use”,
QRZ – is someone calling me? Such as “QRZ from AJ8B”,
QRL – Is this frequency in use?
QRP – Indicates low power, (You may hear a station calling CQ and ending their call with QRP such as “CQ de K8FL QRP”,
QSL – Confirming the last statement or a QSL card, a physical confirmation of the conversation,
QRV – The station is ready which is more likely used like “1A0C is now QRV”
QRT – finished transmitting which is more like “1A0C is now QRT” and finally QRX which means to standby.
Trust me, if the DX station asks you to QRX, don’t continue to call – he may be noting those calls that can’t follow his directions and they will never make it in to his log!

Thanks Teresa for your question. If anyone has a question or a comment, just send an email to TheDXMentor@gmail.com.

Uncle Frank and I were chatting on 40M CW and the topic of operating split came up. This is one of those topics that we all seem to learn about the hard way! If you have ever listened to a pileup you know that there are several things going on. The first is that the DX station is telling you where to listen. Often, they will say “Up 5” or “Up 5 to 10”. This allows the DX station to spread out the callers to make it easier for them to pick out calls and then work the calling station. The rarer the DX, the wider the split. Uncle Frank and I expect HUGE splits will be needed if Korea ever gets activated!

One of the great things about being a member of a DX club is that you get to learn from those who have “been on the other side” of the pileup. I have had the pleasure of discussing this with both Joe, W8GEX, and Jay, K4ZLE. They have been on the DX side of some huge pileups and have taught me several things. The most obvious of which is that if the DX station can’t hear you, they can’t work you! The cartoon shown helps to reinforce this idea. The DX is located around 14.150 and all the callers are between 14.0 and 14.150. (I know this is backwards, but it is just an example!) Sylvester is licking his chops as he will be calling above 14.150 where no one is listening! My gut is that he will work the DX.



For several years I had my FT-897 in the car trying to obtain DXCC Mobile. I thought that I would be restricted in what I could do as I had limited power and limited antenna profile. One thing I could do was to LISTEN. I can't

stress that enough – LISTEN. If you happen upon a decent pileup, it is extremely educational to listen to what the DX station is saying and how the pileup responds. Many hams simply disregard the instructions that are being given. For instance, the DX station may say “Up 5” and people will still call on frequency. The DX Station may say “The station with Bravo in the call” and others will still respond. My favorite is the station who will give the DX station a “solid 59+” and then ask them to repeat their information several times. Others will jump into the pileup, diligently work the station, and then ask what the call is!

Other instructions may include “Full Calls Only”, or areas of the world such as NA or EU. Follow the instructions given. Just because you can hear them clearly doesn't mean they can hear you. Don't make any assumptions.

Two other tricks come to mind. First, try to find the frequency that the current calling station is on and make a note of it. My FT-950 has a TXW button that allows me to listen on the frequency I currently have set for transmit. For instance, you are attempting to work XT2TT in Burkina Faso. He is transmitting at 14.235 and seems to be working a steady stream of stations. Listening for the stations he is working may yield something like 14.240, 14.242, 14.244, 14.246, 14.248, and 14.250. The next station worked is 14.240. This should give you an idea of where he will be listening next based on the current QSO.

The next “trick” is from K8LEE (SK), Wayne. About 4 years ago, I had the chance to meet Wayne and learn about his experiences. There is a great story associated with Wayne about calling for “Full Calls Only”, but

that is beyond the scope of this article. Wayne told me to REALLY listen and note the frequencies that the DX is working people on. What he meant was that if you don't hear a station for a brief period, listen dramatically higher *or lower*. He told me that many DXPeditioners want to make sure that those back home in the club get in the log and may listen below the calling frequency even though they have said "Up 5 to 10". You can be that I do that now!

I am always on the prowl for other sources of information from hams far more experienced than I! In researching this topic, I came across an article by Dave, W8RIT, at https://www.qsl.net/w8rit/working_splits.htm. Dave kindly gave me permission to reprint his article. He has other topics at this site and I would encourage you to check them out. Below is what Dave had to say about Working Splits. (Thanks Dave!)

One definition of a split is to transmit on one frequency and receive on another. There are a few reasons to do this. A 2M FM repeater uses split frequency to avoid desensitization of the transmitter/receiver circuitry; by this I mean it would attenuate the receiver by a strong signal being transmitted on the same frequency it was simultaneously listening on. On HF, a DX station would use a split frequency to avoid interference of those trying to listen for his signal. He operates in split mode by transmitting on one frequency and receiving on another frequency. This way if hams that are in a pileup are still calling him as he wishes to go back to another station; that station he is trying to call can hear him. A split is usually announced by him or on a DX packet spotting cluster as "QSX". Most often the DX station will state during his exchange info like: "UP", "UP 1", "UP 3 to 5", or possibly another frequency like "listening 245". The latter might indicate if he were operating on 40M that he was listening for calls on 7245 kHz. In the case of 40M I have worked DX by listening in LSB mode in the CW sub-portion. Other countries can transmit in voice where we here in the US can only transmit in CW. So, it is quite common to hear a DX station transmitting for example on 7060 kHz and receiving on 7245 kHz. (The frequencies are picked arbitrarily).

Sometimes the DX station is listening for us on a small slice of frequencies, like when he says "5 to 10 up". That is 5 to 10 kHz up from where he is transmitting. There are different techniques to getting a freq to transmit on. You might first want to listen to where you want to transmit. You would do this so as not to interfere with another ongoing communication by other hams. You

probably wouldn't like it if you were talking with another ham and suddenly other ham start transmitting without any regard for your transmission. You would also be listening for a clear (or relatively) clear frequency. At times this may be downright impossible with many other stations in the pileup. If you're quick enough with changing your VFO's you might hear the DX station working W8RIT and then you would listen at the time W8RIT might be transmitting in the portion 5 to 10 up. If you do hear that station, you would then know that is where the DX is/was listening. Different DX stations have their own techniques; some sweep up and down the 5 to 10 portion listening for the stations they will work. Others may listen for a few minutes on one frequency and then move up or down. Some go randomly from one end to another and stop whenever they hear a strong signal.

Everyone makes a mistake now and then. If you make a mistake, you may hear "band cops" say "UP". Sometimes they can be rather unpleasant in their demeanor. Sometimes they create more interference than they're trying to solve. It's only a reflection of that personality, not you. Everyone is human and makes a mistake occasionally. If you feel the need to correct someone in this case, you first might want to think twice...will it really help or will I create more noise? If you do, you may want to state their callsign to attract their attention (not to single them out) that it was them who needs to operate split. You might want to state simply, "W8RIT up please". If you can, transmit at a time when you will not interfere with the DX station as someone else may be trying to get their exchange and you cover it up. It may be a rare thing for them to work a DX station, get through the pileup, only to have you transmit over the top of the DX station. Also, never, ever, transmit where you do not have license frequency or mode privileges. If someone is operating on the wrong split frequency, such as, 7060 in LSB, that does not give you the right to transmit there to inform them. You are then intentionally breaking the law; they are unintentionally doing it.

DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH

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:

Several Weeks ago, I mentioned that **Timor-Leste** would be activated in November of 2023 by a team of 20+ skillful and highly experienced DXers and

Contesters from Germany, Austria, Poland, Hungary and England under leadership of the Lagunaria DX Group using the call 4W8X.

Here is a description of the camp setup from their most recent press release.

“4W8X will have two operating sites which will be 500m apart. The main location, which we had also used for our 4W1A scouting trip in April, will serve all eleven bands from 160m thru 6m. The second location will serve seven bands from 40m thru 10m. The physical separation will enable us to provide two signals on the same band at the same time – one CW and one SSB. Please note that CW and SSB are our preferred modes, followed by RTTY. We’ll give FT8 a chance, but – again – we definitely prefer the man-made operating modes.”

Their intent is to offer the strongest possible signals, the best receiving capabilities, and some of the best and most motivated operators to get you into their log. Let’s hope they achieve that!

A group of 12 German amateurs will activate **Tuvalu**, T2C, in the South Pacific Ocean October 10-30. In their most recent update, they write “...every year our team conducts a serious lightweight DXpedition to rare to semi-rare DXCC entities. These are not vacation trips. We take proper technology – including a PentaPlexer – as well as antennas with us and operate on all bands from 160 to 6M and use the most important and most popular operating modes, CW, SSB, RTTY, and FT8.” They estimate that they need €52,000 for travel, lodging, and meals; donations may be made on their website.

Continuing from their press release, they stated that “We will provide daily online log updates and we respect the rules of the [DX Code of Conduct](#). On our homepage, we offer information about the team, the technology, and more importantly also about propagation, the Online QSL Request Service (OQRS), regular news updates and a way to contact us during the DXpedition.”

After two weeks on the island half of the team will fly back on October 24. The remaining six operators will stay until October 30. In the last week, they will be QRV on 40M and higher and participate in the CQ WW DX SSB contest.

Tuvalu is an independent island nation within the British Commonwealth. It is currently #55 on Club Log’s DXCC Most Wanted List.

I mentioned last week that a DXpedition to the **Glorioso Islands** was in the works. Here are a few more details.

The Glorioso Islands are a group of French islands and rocks totaling five square kilometers. This entity is #7 on Club Log's DXCC Most Wanted List. The last time Glorioso was on the air was October 7, 2009. (and the last time I worked them was 1992)

Marek, FH4VVK, is making plans to activate the Glorioso Islands “in a few months,” using the callsign FT4GL. He is waiting for final approval from the French administration of the island. Monitor @FT4GL on X (formerly Twitter).

Lord Howe Island is to be active this fall. Bob, W7YAQ, and Al, K7AR, will be active from the Beachcomber Lodge on Lord Howe Island, from September 20 to October 4. They have requested the call VK9LAA although it has not been issued yet.

DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH

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. Below are a few that I would like to point out that are coming up.

International Lighthouse/Lightship Weekend - The event on the air starts at 0000Z August 19 and goes to 24Z August

20. Full info and a list of many of the stations planning to be on the air is on their site: <https://illw.net/>

The Worked All European DX Contest, or the WAEDC, is held the weekend of August 12th through August 13th - Many leading contesters claim the WAEDC to be the most challenging contest of the year. Being a true blue DX contest, only intercontinental QSOs between DX and Europe are counted.

Therefore, the number of DX QSOs here may be similar to the amount of DX usually worked in the CQWW.

Moreover, the unique feature of QTC-traffic adds much fun and another operating challenge to the contest. Here the DX stations transfer real telegrams to the European stations. These telegrams contain data of previously logged QSOs. More details on this fun and challenging event can be found at the WA7BNM website.

Date(s)	Event	Info
All Year	CQ DX Marathon	http://bit.ly/3FyPiui
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



Section Manager Tom moved up our column submission date for last weeks South 40 column allowing N8ZNR and I to break away for a couple days to enable her to return to her Pennsylvania hometown to decorate graves, visit relatives and bring home some locally grown peaches. Although I haven't gotten around to installing the HF rig and antenna in the new car, I did have an opportunity to tune in on some of the 2 meter and 440 machines in the Southern Pennsylvania, Maryland and West Virginia areas we were in. Apparently they too are experiencing the Dawg Daze of Summer because there was little activity heard. The most activity noted was an Elkins, West Virginia storm spotter net and by Ohio standards it wasn't huge. But it's good to be back home even if the grass and weeds grew several inches while we were gone.

As this column is being penned the August 5 **Alladdian Shrine Audio Unit's** Columbus Hamfest is still on the horizon, but by the time you read these writings it will be in the history books. Based on my past experiences with this event since it moved to Grove City and the projected sunny skies and mid-80s for the day, those who attended should have had another great hamfest experience. I hope you were one who supported amateur radio by your attendance.

We're reminded the **Portsmouth RC** will meet on Monday evening, August 7 at the Portsmouth American Legion Hall at 6:30. All members are urged to attend as this will be the final meeting before the upcoming hamfest in New Boston.

Monday, August 7 unofficially marks National Light House Day. Although Northern Ohio has several of these structures, those of us in the Southern Ohio aren't blessed with any. However the Amateur Radio Lighthouse Society lists the nearby Wheeling, WV 'Wheeling Island Foot Light Light' on their list of *World List of Lights*. Since there are several navigation assistance lights along the Ohio River, perhaps those should be added to the list?

On the following evening, August 8, three area clubs will hold their business meetings. In West Union at 7 pm the **DeForest ARA** will meet at the Senior Nutrition Center across from the Adams County Courthouse. K8WEH will present a program demonstrating digital communications will follow the meeting. The **Greater Mason County ARA** will meet at the Mason County EOC training center in Maysville at 7 pm. And up US 62 in Hillsboro the **Highland ARA** will meet at 7 at Liberty Park's Harmony Lake shelter house. With each club involved with various fall activities, all members are urged to attend those meetings.

The **Cambridge ARA** will commemorate the 110th anniversary of the Club's founding by manning a club information booth on August 11 though the 13th at the Salt Fork Arts and Crafts Festival in the Cambridge City Park. Since the event draws thousands of visitors to the park, Lyn Alfman needs additional volunteers to assist with the manning of the Club's booth during the three day event. Contact her for more information or to volunteer your services.

On Saturday, August 12 our Kentucky neighbors will hold the Fourth Annual **Kentucky State Parks on the Air**. Starting at 1400 UTC the eight hour event invites you to try to contact as many of the State's fifty state parks and nine National Sites as possible. Event information and rules can be found on the **Murry State University ARA's** website at <https://k4msu.com/kypota>.

Two clubs at the various edges of the South 40 region will hold hamfests on August 12. On that day the **Tri-State ARA** will hold their 60th annual hamfest at the New Baptist Church, 610 28th Street in Huntington, WV. The event gets underway at 8:30 AM with a \$6 admission charge. On the far western part of the region the **Milford ARC** will hold the **Cincinnati Hamfest** at the Clermont County Fairgrounds in Owensville. The gates open to the public at 8 AM with a \$10 admission fee. Both events will have inside and outside flea market, food, plenty of parking and VE test sessions. Visit the www.cincinnatihamfest.org or www.qsl.net/w8va/ website for general or testing information about either event.

Those not attending one of the hamfests on the 12th are invited to have breakfast or coffee with some fellow hams at one of two monthly gatherings. The **Bainbridge (Ross County)**

Area Hams are urged to meet their fellow area hams at the Dutch Restaurant on SR 41 South at 8 am that morning to discuss a wide range of topics. I understand wives have now taken over a separate table to discuss items of interest to them. Although the **Highland ARA** is assisting at the **Cincinnati Hamfest** that morning, we realize some Hillsboro area hams will not attend. Therefore the monthly Brunch Bunch gathering will still be held at the Liberty Park Harmony Lake shelter house at 10.

Last week I reported the passing of fellow Section Journal columnist Jim Yoder, W8ERW, in Hillsboro. Originally from Northern Ohio, Jim had within the year relocated to the East Monroe area of Highland County in order to be closer to his wife's mother. During his time in Highland County he joined the **Highland ARA** and also attended some **Clinton County ARA** meetings. A memorial service will be held on August 12 at the Grace Community Church in Fremont, OH at 11 am.

A few days following their hamfest the **Tri-State ARA** will gather to evaluate the event and conduct their monthly meeting. They will meet at the Radio Museum in Huntington at 7 PM on the 15th.

August 19 finds the **Portsmouth RC** holding their hamfest at the New Boston Community Center. This is the same location as last year. Arrangements have been made with the adjoining Tractor Supply store for additional parking therefore opening up tailgating spaces at this year's event. There will be a major prize drawing for cash plus loads of door prizes donated by local merchants. There will be a VE session at 10 AM. Walk-ins are welcome. The doors will open at 8 AM. The \$5 admission charge gives you a free flea market space. Additional spaces are available for \$3 each. Contact Gary Caldwell, WX8G, 740-250-4955 for more info.

August brings several opportunities to earn a first license or upgrade the existing one. On August 10 the **DeForest ARA** will hold a Laurel VE session at the Adams County EOC starting at 6 pm. Anyone wishing more information may contact Bill Hablitzel, K8WEH, at k8weh@arrl.net. As previously mentioned, tests will be given at three of the upcoming hamfests in the South 40 Region. On the 12th the **Highland ARA** will conduct a free Laurel VE session 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. Pre-registration is not necessary. 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. A number of other clubs in the region offer testing opportunities and are listed elsewhere in this newsletter.

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.

One of the remaining charter members of the **Highland ARA** became a silent key this past Saturday. Bob Hodson, WA8KTU, quietly passed away at a Wilmington assisted living facility. He was 95. Bob was instrumental in organizing the Club and used his past FFA teaching experience to draw up the first constitution as well as teach how to use Roberts Rules to conduct a meeting. He had not been active on the ham bands for some time. Hodson had retired some years ago from community banking, but remained active in the local historical society, chamber of commerce, Rotary and other local civic groups. Additionally for some 29 years he was widely known throughout Southern Ohio as the voice of the six morning a week "Community Bulletin Board" heard over Hillsboro's WSRW. Services were held this past week in Hillsboro.

The **Hocking Valley ARA** held a "fox hunt" on July 29 with several individuals and teams participating. It took Dave Brimmer, KB8OTC, only about 17 minutes to triangulate and find the "fox" in the Oak Grove Cemetery near his Logan home. The next hunt is expected to happen around mid-month.

The **Ohio QSO Party** website is now listing those Ohio Counties that indicate planned activity during the upcoming August 26 **Mad River RC's** Ohio QSO Party. To date only four Southern Ohio Counties (Clermont, Meigs, Muskingum and Warren) indicate activity. As pointed out last week, "if you are looking for a ham radio challenge using the comfort of your shack and your own equipment and one that won't take up a weekend, a week or much longer? If so, check out this 12 hour operating contest that 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. Just shy of 42,000 contacts were made by about the 4,000 amateurs who submitted logs. 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."

The FCC has posted a new ham in the region. We'd like to welcome Roger Detty of Washington Court House to the hobby and service. His call sign is KE8YVV.

A mid-week check of the www.ospota.org website indicates 31 of Ohio's State Parks will have some amount of activity during the upcoming 16th annual **Ohio State Parks on the Air** operating event on September 9. The 8 hour activity that will use ham radio to promote Ohio's

State Park System takes to the airwaves at 10 that morning and runs until 6 pm. The above website shows a number of State Parks in the Southern Ohio area that still have no planned activity scheduled.



The **Scioto Valley ARA** was on exhibit this past week sharing a booth with the Pike County Emergency Management Agency at the Pike County Fair in Piketon.

The **Highland ARA** continued its visitation of other ham club meetings with eight members in attendance at the neighboring **Clinton County ARA**'s meeting on Thursday evening.

In order to increase the awareness of amateur radio in the Ironton-Lawrence County area and to grow the number of area amateurs, the **Southern Ohio ARA** is undertaking a project they call "Let's Talk Ham Radio" to promote the hobby and service. Their all out effort will use the local broadcast and print media to promote the Saturday, September 30 event. That day the Patriot Park picnic shelter in South Point, Ohio will be the site for a Field Day type operation where amateur radio will be on display and in operation. Members will be on hand to demonstrate what ham radio is about and to answer questions those wishing to learn more might have. It will start at 10 AM and run until 2.

An interesting and instructive podcast originates from right here in the South 40 coverage area. It's the "DX Mentor". Although geared towards the DXer, its content is informative to any ham regardless of their current level of interest in the hobby and affords a lot of information and tips that can be used with contacts on any band. Each podcast focuses on a particular topic of interest with guests who will analyze it. More information is available at www.dxmentor@gmail.com.

I mentioned in my opening comments about hearing a West Virginia weather net during my recent road trip through heavy rains and strong winds along I-68 through Northern Maryland and West Virginia. One thing mentioned on the net caught my attention in a good way. The net control urged stations throughout the State to monitor 146.52 during a NWS net activation. He stated that sometimes during any type of a weather alert repeaters can fail because of tower/antenna damage, loss of power or lightning damage to the actual repeater equipment. In those cases stations may have to resort to simplex in order to communicate. I thought this was interesting and worthy of passing along. Perhaps the upcoming October SET might be the time to see what your simplex coverage area might be?

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: Did you work W1AW/8 when it was on the air earlier this year?

A) Yes, or B) No



From last week’s question - **DID YOU SEND A RESPONSE TO THE ARRL DUES**

SURVEY?

I was surprised that the response shows that 75% (37 out of 49 votes) said yes! Thanks to those of you who did. If that number would have held true throughout the country, then they would have received approximately 112,000 (+/-) responses! I'm always amazed at the low turnout ARRL receives, especially in Section and Division elections.

(**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!)

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://arrrl-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!