



August 14<sup>th</sup> Edition

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## Handbook Give Away

Hey Gang..

Just wanted to remind you all that a new drawing for the 2017 ARRL Handbook is up and running!!

If you haven't entered yet, why not? What have you got to lose? It's FREE and you can't get anything better than that!!

What's the catch? There isn't any. If you live in Ohio, all you have to do to be entered is to fill out the form.

You'll even be emailed a copy of the completed form back to you as your confirmation that you're entered. It won't cost you anything!! And no, you don't have to be an ARRL member to participate! A new drawing is held each month, and in order to be eligible, you do have to enter each month. You can't win if you don't enter. So what have you got to lose!!

The next drawing for the 2nd Handbook will be announced on New Year's Day. Each winner will be notified by email, so PLEASE use a valid email when completing the form, this is the only way I have of contacting you if you win.

Please only hit the submit button once. It will take the server several seconds to process the form. Once completed and accepted you'll be directed back to the main page of the website.

Here's a link to help you... <http://arrl-ohio.org/handbook.html>

73, and good luck to all..

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## One Question Questionnaire

Hey Gang, there's another NEW – one question – questionnaire on the Ohio Section Website! This question asks about your Hamfest attendance, and is something that I really want to know. It will only take about 2 seconds for you to answer it, and you can see how your answer stacks up with others instantly. If you haven't done it yet, please do. I really want to hear from you. And, if you have a question that you'd like to see on our questionnaire, please send it to me! I have had several of you already do that and I would love to see more!!

<http://arrl-ohio.org>

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## Amateur Radio Participation is Key to University Solar Eclipse Experiment

(from ARRL Bulletins)



[Virginia Tech](#) electrical engineering professor Greg Earle, W4GDE, is heading up a National Science Foundation (NSF)-funded solar eclipse experiment dubbed CEDAR — Coupling, Energetics, and Dynamics of Atmospheric Regions. The experiment proposes to study the effects on the ionosphere of the August 21 total eclipse of the sun, using a combination of GPS receivers, the university’s [SuperDARN](#) (Super Dual Auroral Radar Network) radar system, HF Amateur Radio, and plasma modeling. Several graduate students and researchers, as well as the Virginia Tech Amateur Radio Association (K4KDJ) and the Amateur Radio community at large have been recruited

to help.

“We want to understand how the ionosphere is affected by blockage of sunlight over a relatively short interval (~2 hours), understand how man-made systems are affected by the changes in the ionosphere, and use the data to improve our numerical models,” Earle told ARRL, noting that the “plan has morphed a bit” since the initial proposal of more than a year ago. Virginia Tech students Magdalena Moses, KM4EGE, and Xiaoyu “Harry” Han, KM4ICI, along with Tech electrical engineering professor Bob McGwier, N4HY, are among those pitching in.

Earle and his team will use the data they collect to characterize ionospheric plasma density variations caused by the eclipse, measure HF scintillation — rapid fluctuation of signal phase and/or amplitude — during the eclipse, study the motions of plasma irregularities produced in both the E and F layers, and use numerical models to test cause-and-effect scenarios to compare with empirical data.

“The proposed study will utilize diagnostic capabilities that have never before been used to study a mid-latitude eclipse,” the CEDAR abstract explains. “Through this work we will answer several fundamental questions that remain unresolved, despite previous eclipse studies, and we will engage a huge cohort of non-scientists in gathering data that will constrain our models and enrich our understanding of ionospheric behavior.”

That “huge cohort” includes participants in the Solar Eclipse QSO Party ([SEQP](#)), sponsored by ARRL and HamSCI. “During this event, radio operators will actively communicate throughout the eclipse interval over paths that transect the eclipsed region of the ionosphere,” the CEDAR proposal outlines. “These data will include information on the signal strength and maximum usable frequency in various HF bands, which are directly related to the density and altitude of the ionosphere.” The experiment will also draw on data generated by [WSPR Net](#) and the Reverse Beacon Network ([RBN](#)). “Thus, we expect this proposed effort to have wide-ranging impact on the Amateur Radio community, and exceptionally broad involvement of non-scientists ingathering the data required.”

The Solar Eclipse QSO Party on August 21 runs from 1400 until 2200 UTC. Stations will exchange a signal report and six-character grid locator on 160 through 6 meters (excepting 60, 30, 17, and 12 meters). Participants may work the same station again after 10 minutes have passed. Preferred modes are CW, RTTY, and PSK31, because automated receiving networks will record the contacts, but phone and digital contacts are okay too.

Virginia Tech teams at the start, middle, and end of the eclipse footprint in the US also will measure the phenomenon's effect on low-frequency radar waves. The scientists will measure how long the waves take to go up and down off of the ionosphere and compare it to normal conditions.

Understanding the data and comparing it to models can help scientists better analyze the effects of space weather events on Earth, Earle said.

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## 2017 Scholarship Award Winners



The Ohio Section wants to congratulate all the 2017 ARRL Foundations Scholarship winners. A very special “Congrats” go out to Ohio’s own.. Emily Boban, KE8ERE from Madison, winner of the W8FDR Scholarship. Joshua Niemann, KD8SYF of Chagrin Falls, winner of the Ted, W4VHF and Itice, K4LVV Goldthorp Scholarship. Cami Price, KD8ILG of Wickliffe, the winner of the Dayton Amateur Radio Association Scholarship.

Our hats are off to all of you. Make us proud!

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## Highland Amateur Radio Association HONORED BY OHIO SENATE

*(from the Highland County Press)*



Highland County’s Highland Amateur Radio Association was recently honored by the Ohio State Senate on the observation of the club’s 40th anniversary.

According to Association President Dave Tourtelot, the surprise proclamation states “The accomplishments of this organization are an excellent reflection not only on the association itself, but also on every member who has banded together to educate both one another and the community on the benefits – and in many ways necessities – of ham radio in today’s world.”

The proclamation was signed by Senate President Larry Obhof and President Pro Tempore Bob Peterson. It was presented at the club’s Aug. 8 meeting.

Highland Amateur Radio Association information officer John Levo states that although the club was recognized for its 40 years of existence, area amateur radio operations have been traced back to the early days of the 1900s when wireless communication was in its infancy and all communication was by Morse Code.

Area amateurs were taking to the airwaves well before the government had a license process in place. However, in 1934, the late Virginia Barrett Layman became the first Highland County resident to earn an amateur radio license issued by what is now the Federal Communications Commission.

Today, there are close to 500 licensed “ham radio” operators in Highland and the surrounding counties. The local club has more than 100 members, is very active and is acknowledged as one of the leading amateur radio clubs in Ohio. Their award-winning “Monday Morning Memo” newsletter is distributed weekly to hundreds of hams throughout south-central Ohio, northern Kentucky and northwestern West Virginia and features news about the various amateur radio clubs throughout the region.

Although most people think of hams just talking to all corners of the earth with simple radios and weird contraptions for an antenna, hams were in the forefront creating things we take for granted. According to the American Radio Relay League, hams were leaders developing ways to transmit voice instead of code over the air. Their inventions led to the development of radio for the delivery of news, entertainment and two-way communications in the 1920s and 30s.

Amateurs helped win World War II through the creation of radar, the walkie-talkie and single sideband radio transmissions as well as providing a pool of people with electronic knowledge to the armed forces. After the war, the invention of the transistor and technology developed by a Cleveland ham led to today's cell phone.

During the Vietnam War, it was through ham radio and the MARS Program many serving abroad in the military were able to keep in contact with loved ones stateside. Today's ham is just as likely to use some sort of a digital mode to make a contact as he is to use voice or code and some elect to make contacts through satellites circling high above the earth.

There is even a ham radio set up aboard the International Space Station. It is often used to give school students an opportunity to ask a question directly to an astronaut.

According to club vice president Jeff Collins, a successful 2016 license class resulted in more than 25 area people earning their first license or upgrading to an advanced license. Therefore, the club is considering holding another class in early 2018 that will cover the technician and general class licenses.

Anyone interested in learning more may contact Levo at 393-4951, Collins at 393-3115 or go to [highlandara@yahoo.com](mailto:highlandara@yahoo.com).

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## Fun Things To Do

(from various newsletters)



The Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS) announces the 10th annual Ohio State Parks On The Air contest.

When: Saturday, September 9, 2017, from 1400 UTC to 2200 UTC (10 am to 6 pm Eastern Time). There are 74 Ohio State Parks, so there's plenty of parks to make a day of it, and join us in the FUN!

Rules? Entry Forms? Log Sheets? Ohio State Park Information? Check out all the details at: [www.OSPOTA.org](http://www.OSPOTA.org)

***NOTE: LAKE WHITE CLOSED** — it was recently announced that Lake White would not be considered "Open" for the 2017 Ohio State Parks on the Air operating event. Construction is not due to be completed until sometime late this month. The Park should be back as active for the 2018 edition of the contest.*

(from Monday Morning Message)

NVIS ANTENNA TEST—You may not think of it as a test, but the Ohio QSO Party really is because its objective is to work as many Ohio counties and Ohio stations as possible. Therefore, you are thinking of using antennas designed for close in communications. It is also an excellent opportunity for someone interested in County Hunting to make contact with those evasive Ohio counties. The OQP starts at noon on Saturday, August 26 and runs until 11:59 that evening. To the moment, over half of Ohio's 88 counties have posted planned activations to the event's web site. However, a number of those activations are by rover or mobile stations. Therefore, they will be in a particular county only a short time and usually only once. Go to the web ([www.ohqp.org](http://www.ohqp.org)) for the rules, planned county activations and other details. Although a station may state they will activate a county, it does not keep someone else from activating it too. It would be sad for a station to work 87 of Ohio's 88 counties only to fail to make a contact with another HF station from the same county.

NOARS PicNc at the Duck Pond , On August 21st. Eat at 6:00PM, but come early, NOARS provides the Meat from the grill and Corn-on-the-cobb. Where: Lorain County Metropark Duck Pond – first Metropark driveway as you come southwest on Nickle Plate Diagonal road from Route 301 just south of 10-20-480.

Go to <http://www.noars.net/picnic/> for map and directions

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## My Final..

Hey Gang,

I really hope that everyone is enjoying this fantastic weather we are having these past several weeks. It's been great, but I'm sure that we'll pay the price for it somewhere later this year or early next year.

Update on my condition... I'm still healing from the accident, but getting stronger every day. I was very lucky, as that I didn't sustain more serious injuries. If you'd see my helmet, you'd understand why I said that. It's a mess for sure, and I'll have to get a new one before I start riding once again. A lot of motorcycle accidents are very severe with the motorcycle rider usually being the one getting the worst of it. Statistically riding a motorcycle is not as dangerous as riding some other recreational vehicles, but it still has its consequences none the less. I'm getting better, but believe you me, I've learned just how hard it is to heal as we get a little older, and I'll be taking that into consideration when I go to get back on the bike a little later this year! By the way, my wife is still picking road cinders out of some of my wounds. It's not pretty for sure.



Some areas of our state have school starting back already, please, watch out for the kids and be very aware of the school zones.



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

This question asks about your attendance at hamfests. I really want to know. It will only take about 2 seconds for you to answer it, and you can see how your answer stacks up with others instantly. If you haven't done it yet, please do. I really want to hear from you.

Got a question that you'd like to see on our questionnaire, please send it to me! I have had several of you already do that and I would love to see more!!

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

73,

Scott, N8SY..

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