



October 29th Edition



→ [National News](#)

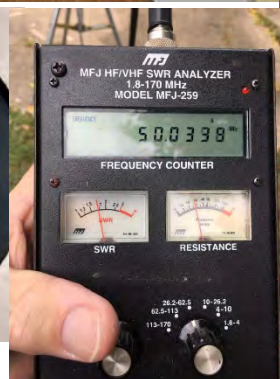
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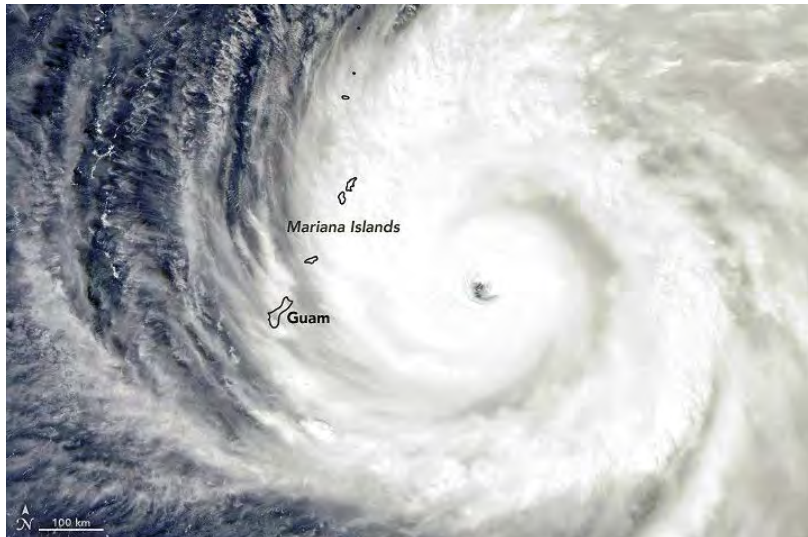
→ [Final.. Final..](#)



National News

(from arrl and other sources)

Ham Aid Kits Positioned to Deploy as Typhoon Yutu Ravages Central Pacific Islands



In a little more than one day, the cyclone that became Super Typhoon Yutu grew from tropical storm to a Category 5 monster. Yutu is said to be the strongest storm on record to hit the Northern Mariana Islands, home to about 55,000 people. The storm made landfall on Wednesday evening (October 24), destroying homes, wreaking severe wind and storm-surge damage and flooding, and knocking out water, power, and telecommunications on the islands. Utilities could remain down for an extended period.

Before reaching the islands, Yutu's sustained winds were reported to be 175 MPH. The storm is now tracking northwest toward the Philippines and Taiwan.

ARRL Emergency Preparedness Manager Mike Corey, KI1U, said that four ARRL HF/VHF [Ham Aid](#) kits in Guam are available for use in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), a US territory. Another seven kits are positioned in Hawaii. Corey said that radio amateurs in Guam and Hawaii are attempting to get in touch with hams who can assist on Saipan, part of the CNMI. Amateur Radio teams that had planned to operate in the CQ World Wide DX SSB Contest from Saipan this weekend have cancelled their trips.

“There is a small group of radio amateurs on Saipan who do VHF work,” Corey said. “We are in process of reaching out to them, as well as to radio amateurs who go to Saipan and Tinian for the CQ WW DX SSB event.”

While Guam is reporting no serious communication issues, public service communication on Saipan is offline. Several stations in Hawaii, including large contest stations, have HF capability to Guam and Saipan, and three stations have agreed to pass traffic to Guam/Saipan if needed, Corey said. These include the five-position contest station of Lloyd Cabral, KH6LC, on Hawaii's Big Island; the station of Doug Morgan, KH6U, on Oahu, and the six-position contest stations of Kimo Chung, KH7U, and the Koolau Amateur Radio Club, KH6J, on Oahu. According to information received by ARRL from the Amateur Radio community in Hawaii, Guam, and Saipan, one station was showing up on DMR, but that would likely be of little use if the internet is down. One PACTOR-4-equipped station is available on Guam, and Winlink (radio email) gateways exist in Hawaii.

“There are no transportation arrangements available to ARRL at this time to move Ham Aid kits from Hawaii to Guam,” Corey said. “We don't intend to move them unless we have operators in Guam/Saipan to use them.” The Marianas Amateur Radio Club (AH2G) in Guam has [posted photos and updates](#) from Saipan on its website.

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Homes raided, stolen police radio data put officers at risk

(from the Canton Repository Newspaper – October 23rd edition)

Someone has downloaded pilfered police radio templates (Code Plugs) onto several other black-market radios, putting police and firefighting lives in danger, authorities say.

Federal and local authorities raided seven homes Monday, seizing weapons and cloned police radios. Someone with templates (Code Plugs) of stolen or borrowed police or fire radios used those templates (Code Plugs) to hack into the public safety radio system by cloning the information and duplicating it onto police radios sold on the black market, Stark County Sheriff George T. Maier said Tuesday.

Authorities believe the people using the cloned radios also were armed. Stark County Sheriff's deputies and Canton police, along with the U.S. Department of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, raided seven homes Monday seizing weapons and dozens of radios and other evidence as a result of their investigation into the stolen police radio data, the sheriff said.

"We've identified eight to 10 people that are involved in this, people that we believe are the ones who did the cloning and the selling," he said. They remained "persons of interest" on Tuesday and had not yet been charged. All of them are adults. Investigators do not yet know how long people with these pilfered radio codes have been listening in on local law enforcement activity. People with these radios downloaded with those codes can even transmit.

"We just learned about it a week ago," Maier said. Officials with the Multi-Agency Radio Communication System, referred to as MARCS, watch the system to see where all law enforcement radios on their system are being used. Maier said they found extra radios using the system with the same code or "key" that is supposed to be used by radios already registered to the current system. By using a radio that has been coded with a police or firefighter's radio key, an officer's plea for help at an emergency may never be heard. If an officer in an emergency is trying to use his radio and the person with the cloned radio is using his signal, the officer's radio could be blocked, Maier said.

"That's the sense of urgency related to this crime. They are disrupting public service on a large-scale level," he said. Where did they get the radio key (MARCS I.D.)? Maier said one radio was stolen from the Canton Police Department and the investigation has revealed some duplicate keys were made of templates (Code Plugs) on radios used by the sheriff's department. But the culprit only needs the radio for a minute to download the key and clone it. It can then be replicated onto several other radios. He or she could have returned the registered radio undetected. "Once they get one, they don't need any more. They can duplicate it onto several other radios. The problem is, it's a safety issue and they're infiltrating a public safety radio system," the sheriff said.

The radios aren't new. "These are all old radios. The radios that were stolen are radios that are used right now. They're not the new radios that we're getting. None of the new radios are missing," Maier said.

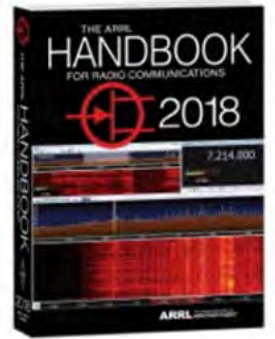
And while the thief or thieves could "share" across state lines, Maier said investigators believe the issue is still just a local one. "We think it's between us and maybe Summit County, and they have been contacted," he said. "We're still investigating. We'll have those answers soon."

The Handbook Give Away

Hey Gang,

Have you registered for the “Handbook Giveaway” drawing for this month yet? If you haven’t, go to: <http://arrl-ohio.org/handbook.html> and get registered.

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



Many of you ask me just how do I know when the drawing is on? Well, that’s easy all you need to do is check in on the Ohio Section Website on a regular basis and watch for the big **RED** Arrow that will appear on the left side of the page. This is the sign that the drawing is on and you need to get registered. So, keep a sharp eye out on the website and check in often! <http://arrl-ohio.org>

Club Corner

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

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



OH-KY-IN Special Club Event

The OH-KY-IN Amateur Radio Society will be hosting a special event station to celebrate the 175th anniversary of the founding of the Cincinnati Observatory Center. Look for the K8SCH callsign on the HF bands between **Friday, November 9th** starting at 6:00 PM ET through **Sunday, November 11th** at 11:59 PM ET. The club will operate on site at the Cincinnati Observatory Center on Friday, November 9th from 6:00 PM ET to 9:00 PM ET. Please see the club's website at <http://ohkyin.org/wp/> for more information.

Technician Class Slated

A six-week class to prepare for the Technician license will be held starting **November 1st**, on Thursday evenings at 6:30 pm. The location is the Bowling Green FabLab in Woodland Mall. The only course material required is the ARRL License Manual- 4th edition. This can be obtained from ARRL at arrl.org.

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The course will end with a review and VE exam session on December 20th. For further information, contact Bob, N1RB, at: boughton@bgsu.edu

DMR Class Planned

We will be having an introductory class for those of us that would like to learn about DMR radios and how the system works. The class will be **November 10, 2018 at 10:00 am** in the Lawrence County EOC, 515 Park Avenue, Ironton. For more information contact Eddie Jenkins, N8URU at: mr.eddie.jenkins@gmail.com

NEW HAMS SEMINAR “I GOT MY LICENSE, NOW WHAT?”

Congratulations, you have studied and passed your element and received your first Amateur Radio License. NOW WHAT?



What Radio should I buy? Should I buy new or used Equipment? What Aspects of Ham Radio should I get involved in? What Activities should I get involved in? What Club should I join, or should I join one at all? And many other Questions.

Welcome to The HUGE world of Ham Radio, this hobby has so many aspects that the new Ham can explore. This 4-hour Seminar is designed to help you gain clarity and hopefully answer some of the questions new Hams have.

We hold this Seminar two times a year, within a few weeks of the completion of our Spring and Fall Tech Class. Everyone is welcome to attend.

This is a **FREE** Seminar. There will be Equipment and experienced Hams on-site. Come on out and meet the Club Members and get a look at some of the radios and bring your questions. We will get them answered and help get you on the road to the world of Amateur Radio.

The Fall New Ham Seminar - **Saturday November 17th** from 0800 till 1200. It may go past 12:00 if there's a lot of questions or if there's a good discussion going on a certain topic. We will meet at the Maumee Fire Station 2 - 450 west Dussel Drive, Maumee. Look for the Big Blue Water Tower, parking in the rear

Incident Command System (ICS) Training Schedule

All current trainings are listed on the Ohio EMA training calendar located at:
<https://webeoctraining.dps.ohio.gov/TrainingAndExercise/courselist.aspx>

I've been asked to also include a link to the Kentucky EMA training calendar as well..
<https://kyem.ky.gov/training/Pages/default.aspx>
<https://sites.google.com/site/ccoemtraining/home>

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

I would like to remind any of you that are going to take any of the in-class training sessions that you dress appropriately.

Please don't go into these classes with attire that doesn't represent you, and Amateur Radio in the best of light. I'm not setting a dress code, but if you wouldn't take your wife out to a nice restaurant in these clothes, you may want to reconsider what you are wearing. Remember, you will be in class with fire / police chiefs, mayors, township trustees and a whole host of other government and civil officials that will remember how you represented Amateur Radio while you were in these classes together.

We do recognize that IS-300/400 requires multiple days of actual classroom training that is not easily obtained. So, if you just can't find the time to fit these class room courses in, we do have an alternative method for getting you to Level 3. Completing the following "FREE" and "ONLINE" courses will act as substitute for you FEMA Leadership Development Course requirements. You absolutely will need to complete all 7 of these courses to get your ICS 300/400 credit. Here are the courses that you need to take: **IS-120, 230, 240, 241, 242, 244 & 288.**

[Upcoming Hamfests](#)



11/03/2018 | GARC HAMFEST
Location: Georgetown, OH
Sponsor: Grant Amateur Radio Club
Website: <http://garcoho.net>

12/01/2018 | FCARC WinterFest
Location: Delta, OH
Sponsor: Fulton County Amateur Radio Club
Website: <http://k8bxq.org/hamfest>

01/27/2019 | Tusco ARC Hamfest, Electronics & Computer Show
Location: Strasburg, OH
Sponsor: Tusco Amateur Radio Club
Website: <http://tuscoarc.org>

01/20/2019 | S.C.A.R.F. Hamfest
Location: Nelsonville, OH
Sponsor: Sunday Creek Amateur Radio Federation
Website: <http://www.qrz.com/db/kc8aav>

02/17/2019 | InterCity ARC Hamfest
Location: Mansfield, OH
Sponsor: InterCity Amateur Radio Club
Website: <http://www.w8we.org>

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V.E. Test Sessions

(from arrl)

11/01/2018 | [London OH 43140](#)
Sponsor: MCARC
Location: Madison County Engineer's Office
Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
[Learn More](#)

11/01/2018 | [Youngstown OH 44505-1400](#)
Sponsor: Mahoning ARA
Location: Red Cross
Time: 6:30 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
[Learn More](#)

11/03/2018 | [Bryan OH 43506-8410](#)
Sponsor: Williams County ARC
Location: Williams County 911/EMA
Time: 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
[Learn More](#)

11/04/2018 | [Marion OH 43302-1523](#)
Sponsor: Marion ARC
Location: TV 39
Time: 2:30 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
[Learn More](#)

11/04/2018 | [Akron OH 44326-1000](#)
Sponsor: Cuyahoga Falls ARC
Location: Akron Summit Co Library
Time: 2:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
[Learn More](#)

11/08/2018 | [Milford OH 45150-1427](#)
Sponsor: Milford ARC
Location: Faith Church
Time: 6:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
[Learn More](#)

11/10/2018 | [Findlay OH 45840](#)
Sponsor: Findlay Radio Club
Location: Findlay Radio Clubhouse
Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
[Learn More](#)

11/11/2018 | [Dayton OH 45434-7154](#)
Sponsor: DARA
Location: Beavercreek TWP Fire Station #61
Time: 6:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
[Learn More](#)

11/11/2018 | [Independence OH 44131-4841](#)
Sponsor: Cuyahoga ARS
Location: Old Elmwood Recreation Center
Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
[Learn More](#)

11/13/2018 | [Lancaster OH 43130-3014](#)
Sponsor: Lancaster & Fairfield Cnty ARC
Location: American Red Cross
Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
[Learn More](#)

Special Events

- **12/08/2018 | 105th Anniversary of Founding of Cambridge Amateur Radio Association**
Dec 8, 1600Z-2200Z, W8VP, Cambridge, OH. Cambridge Amateur Radio Association. 14.245 7.235. QSL.
CARA, P.O. Box 1804, Cambridge, OH 43725. www.w8vp.org

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ARRL Contest Corner

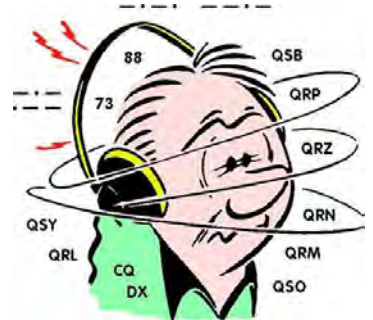


Want to know about ARRL contests? >> [Click Here](#) << for the latest information from ARRL about contests. A generic ARRL contest calendar is also provided there that gives the weekends for all our events, to assist with long-term planning of your contest operations. The Contest Corral files include non-ARRL events.

DX This Week

(from Bill, AJ8B)

Have you been able to work Ducie Island? (VP6D) I spent a bit of time listening over the weekend, but, with the grandkids at the house, Sunday was out. I hope to get a couple of band slots soon. Uncle Frank and I were chatting on the way to work Monday morning via 75 meters. He mentioned that he did work them several times, but, not as easy as he thought it would be. Ducie is SSW from my QTH in Waynesville and about the same distance as Northern Argentina. Not a chip shot, but, not Vietnam either! I made a comment about sunspots and the K-index. Of course, Uncle Frank took that as an invitation to school me on the finer points of these terms and how they relate to propagation. When asked how he learned this in so much depth, he mentioned our mutual acquaintance, K9LA, Carl. Carl is an authority on propagation, sunspots and all things solar! With his permission, I am including part 1 of Carl's article on what the solar numbers mean. Part 2 will be included in the next Oh Section Newsletter. Carl has several resources on various topics located on his website, www.k9la.us. Thanks to K9LA for allowing me to reprint these articles.



By the time you read this, three major events will have occurred. The first will be the time change on 11/4. Your log program should automatically adjust – make sure it does. Secondly, the Grant ARC Hamfest will have happened on 11/3. SWODXA will have a booth at this event and plenty of us there to discuss DX. PLEASE stop by and say Hello! Finally, the SWODXA newsletter will be out. You can check the Newsletter section of the SWODXA.com website after 11/1.

If you are having DX success just drop me a line and let me know what you are doing! (aj8b@arrl.net)

From our friend at the DailyDX and the WeeklyDX, Bernie has this to report:

- VP6 – Pitcairn Island - "Let's have some fun" says K0IR, Dr. Ralph Fedor, who will be part of a 14-man DXpedition team heading to Pitcairn Island in October of next year. The team of AA7A, EY8MM, JR4OZR, K0IR, K0PC, K9CT, N2TU, N4GRN, N6HC, W0GJ, W0VTT, W6IZT, W8HC and WB9Z will be there for two weeks operating on all bands and modes. The team is currently working on constructing their website and hope to have it live "soon with more details".
- 5H - Tanzania - 5H3MB, Maurizio, will be in country October 24 to November 28 doing mission work at the Ilembula Orphanage and Hospital. For QSO confirmation, go bureau, direct, or OQRS.

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- CE9 - Antarctica – Last week, after a 15-day weather delay, ZL4ASC, Adam, finally departed Christchurch, New Zealand heading to Scott Base, Antarctica. If all went well, he should now be on Scott Island (AN-011). "No doubt he will need some time to settle in before he activates ZL5A", says ZL4AS, Cliff Gray. Adam will be posting update at www.adamcampbell.co .

More details can be found at www.dailydx.com

DX Topic of the Week: Solar Numbers – What they Mean Part 1:

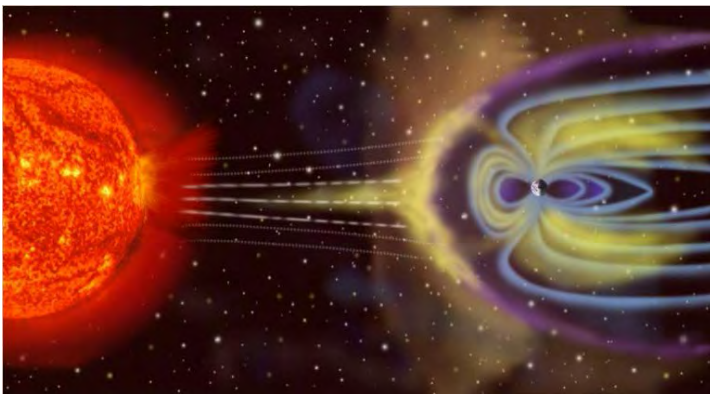
By Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA

http://k9la.us/Propagation_101_23Sep07.pdf

The sun emits electromagnetic radiation and matter because of the nuclear fusion process. Electromagnetic radiation at wavelengths of 100 to 1000 Angstroms (ultraviolet) ionizes the F region, radiation at 10 to 100 Angstroms (soft X-rays) ionizes the E region, and radiation at 1 to 10 Angstroms (hard X-rays) ionizes the D region. Solar matter (which includes charged particles--electrons and protons) is ejected from the sun on a regular basis, and this comprises the solar wind. On a "quiet" solar day the speed of this solar wind heading toward Earth averages about 400 km per second.

The sun's solar wind significantly impacts Earth's magnetic field. Instead of being a simple bar magnet, Earth's magnetic field is compressed by the solar wind on the side facing the sun and is stretched out on the side away from the sun (the magnetotail, which extends tens of earth radii downwind). While the sun's electromagnetic radiation can impact the entire ionosphere that is in daylight, charged particles ejected by the sun are guided into the ionosphere along magnetic field lines and thus can only impact high latitudes where the magnetic field lines go into the Earth.

Additionally, when electromagnetic radiation from the sun strips an electron off a neutral constituent in the atmosphere, the resulting electron can spiral along a magnetic field line (it spirals around the magnetic field line at the electron gyrofrequency). Thus, Earth's magnetic field plays an important and critical role in propagation.



The Sun's Magnetic Field Meets the Earth's Magnetic Field - Wikipedia

Variations in Earth's magnetic field are measured by magnetometers. There are two measurements readily available from magnetometer data--the daily A index and the three-hour K index. The A index is an average of the eight 3-hour K indices and uses a linear scale and goes from 0 (quiet) to 400 (severe storm). The K index uses a quasi-logarithmic scale (which essentially is a compressed version of the A index) and goes from 0 to 9 (with 0 being quiet and 9 being severe storm). Generally, an A index at or below 15 or a K index at or below 3 is best for propagation.

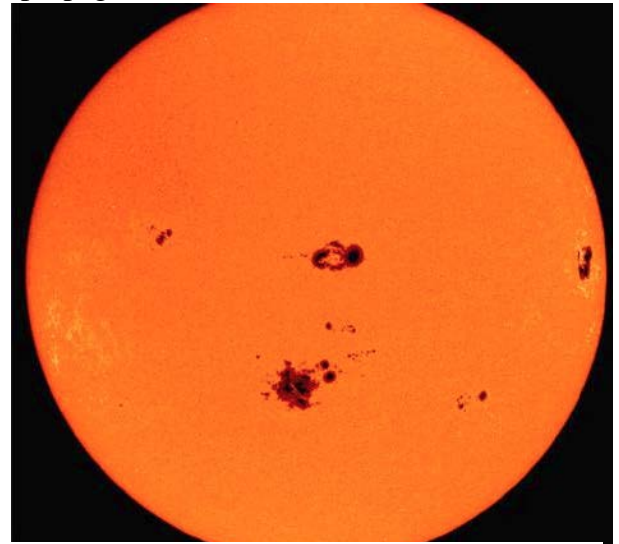
Sunspots are areas on the sun associated with ultraviolet radiation. Thus, they are tied to ionization of the F region. The daily sunspot number, when plotted over a month time frame, is very spiky.

Averaging the daily sunspot numbers over a month results in the monthly average sunspot number, but it is also rather spiky when plotted. Thus, a more averaged, or smoothed, measurement is needed to measure solar cycles.

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This is the smoothed sunspot number (SSN). The SSN is calculated using six months of data before and six months of data after the desired month, plus the data for the desired month. Because of this amount of smoothing, the official SSN is one-half year behind the current month. Unfortunately, this amount of smoothing may mask any short-term unusual solar activity that may enhance propagation.

Sunspots come and go in an approximate 11-year cycle. The rise to maximum (4 to 5 years) is usually faster than the descent to minimum (6 to 7 years). At and near the maximum of a solar cycle, the increased number of sunspots causes more ultraviolet radiation to impinge on the atmosphere. This results in significantly more F region ionization, allowing the ionosphere to refract higher frequencies (15, 12, 10, and even 6 meters) back to Earth for DX contacts. At and near the minimum between solar cycles, the number of sunspots is so low that higher frequencies go through the ionosphere into space. Commensurate with solar minimum, though, is less absorption and a more stable ionosphere, resulting in the best propagation on the lower frequencies (160 and 80 meters). Thus, in general, high SSNs are best for high-frequency propagation, and low SSNs are best for low-frequency propagation.



Sunspots

Most of the disturbances to propagation come from solar flares and coronal mass ejections (CMEs). The solar flares that affect propagation are called X-ray flares due to their wavelength being in the 1 to 8 Angstrom range. X-ray flares are classified as C (the smallest), M (medium size), and X (the biggest). Class C flares usually have minimal impact to propagation. Class M and X flares can have a progressively adverse impact to propagation.



Solar Flare

The electromagnetic radiation from a class X flare in the 1 to 8 Angstrom range can cause the loss of all propagation on the sunlit side of Earth due to increased D region absorption. Additionally, big class X flares can emit very energetic protons that are guided into the polar cap by Earth's magnetic field. This can result in a polar cap absorption event (PCA), with high D-region absorption on paths passing through the polar areas of Earth.

Let me know what you are hearing, working and what QSLs you have received! I am also looking for questions, issues, or topics of the week to be featured – aj8b@arrl.net

More info can be found at www.swodxa.org or www.aj8b.com

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ARLD044 DX news

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by IZ8CCW, ON4EI, W3UR, The Daily DX, the OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX News, DXNL, Contest Corral from QST and the ARRL Contest Calendar and WA7BNM web sites. Thanks to all.

GEORGIA, 4L. Mamuka, 4L2M will be QRV as a Single Band on 20 meters entry in the CQ World Wide DX SSB contest. QSL via EA7FTR.

CYPRUS, 5B. A group of operators will be QRV as C4A from Nicosia in the CQ World Wide DX SSB contest. QSL direct to 5B4KH.

OMAN, A4. A group of operators will be QRV as A44A as a Multi Operator entry in the CQ World Wide DX SSB contest. QSL via A47RS.

BHUTAN, A5. Operators JH1AJT, OH2BH, DJ9ZB, JF1IST and E21EIC are QRV as A5A, A52BH, A52ZB, A52IST, and A52C, respectively, from Thimphu until October 30. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters. They will be active as A5A as a Multi/2 entry in the CQ World Wide DX SSB contest. QSL A5A via JH1AJT, A52BH via OH2BH, A52ZB via DJ9ZB, A52IST via JA1HGY, and A52C via E21EIC.

QATAR, A7. A group of operators from the Qatar Amateur Radio Society and others will be QRV as A73A from Doha as a Multi/Multi entry in the CQ World Wide DX SSB contest. QSL via M0OXO.

TAIWAN, BV. A group of operators will be QRV as BV2A/3 from DaXI, Tao Yuan City in the CQ World Wide DX SSB contest. QSL via direct or bureau.

CHINA, BY. Look for B4T to be a Multi/Multi entry in the CQ World Wide DX SSB contest. QSL via BA4TB.

CUBA, CO. A group of operators will be QRV as T42T as a Multi Operator/Single Transmitter/High Power entry in the CQ World Wide DX SSB contest. QSL via operators' instructions.

CAPE VERDE, D4. A group of operators are QRV as D4C in the CQ World Wide DX SSB contest. They are also QRV as either D4Z or D41CV prior to the contest. QSL via LoTW.

PALESTINE, E4. Janusz, SP9FIH will be QRV as E44WE in the CQ World Wide DX SSB contest as a Single Band on 20 meters entry. QSL to home call.

ESTONIA, ES. A group of operators will be QRV as ES9C as a Multi/Two entry in the CQ World Wide DX SSB contest. QSL via ES5RY.

MAYOTTE, FH. Willi, DJ7RJ will be QRV as FH/DJ7RJ from October 29 to November 6. Activity will be on 160 to 10 meters using CW and SSB, with a focus on 160 meters. QSL to home call.



FRENCH GUIANA, FY. A group of operators will be QRV as FY5KE in the CQ World Wide DX SSB contest. QSL via LoTW.

FERNANDO DE NORONHA, PY0F. Members of the Noronha Contest Group are QRV as PY0F until October 29. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters using SSB and FT8. This includes being active in the CQ World Wide DX SSB contest. QSL direct to PY7RP.

SURINAME, PZ. A group of operators are QRV as PZ5K until October 30. Activity is on the HF bands using CW and RTTY. This includes being active in the CQ World Wide DX SSB contest. QSL via G3NKC.

GREECE, SV. Nicolas, F1RAF will be QRV as SV8/F1RAF from Poros Island, IOTA EU-075, from October 28 to November 3. Activity will be on 40 to 10 meters using SSB. QSL to home call.

DUCIE ISLAND, VP6. A large group of operators are QRV as VP6D until November 3. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, and various digital modes including FT8. QSL via operators' instructions.

BURKINA FASO, XT. A group of operators are QRV as XT2SZZ from Bobo Dioulasso until October 30. Activity is on the HF bands. This includes being active in the CQ World Wide DX SSB contest. QSL via S59ZZ.

VANUATU, YJ. Chris, VK2YUS is QRV as YJ0CA from Efate, IOTA OC-035, until October 29. Activity is on 40, 20 and 15 meters. QSL direct to home call.

ZIMBABWE, Z2. A large group of operators will be QRV as Z23MD as a Multi/2 entry in the CQ World Wide DX SSB contest. QSL via IK2VUC.

THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO. The ARRL EME Contest, CQ Worldwide DX SSB Contest, NCCC RTTY Sprint and NCCC CW Sprint will certainly keep contesters busy this upcoming weekend.

The UKEICC 80-Meter CW Contest, CWops Mini-CWT CW Test and Phone Fray are scheduled for October 31.

The ARRL International Grid Chase runs during all of 2018.

Please see October QST, page 91, and the ARRL and WA7BNM Contest Web Sites for details.

One Question Questionnaire



Hey Gang

I'm amazed... Only around 25% of you take your Amateur Radio Exam at a hamfest! I would have expected that number to be much higher since most hamfest offer testing.

OK... Here's the next question for you to answer.

“Do you keep a Fire Extinguisher handy in your radio shack??”

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

ARES Training and Certificate Submission

(from Jim Yoder, W8ERW)



The intent of maintaining a database of ARES training which primarily consists of FEMA NIMS courses is to have a readily available verification tool to insure our ARES members can be deployed where and when it becomes necessary. This would avoid unnecessary delays when a served agency requests ARES communications support and especially when there is a desired skill set to be filled. Verification can be quickly completed by having a central registry and copies of the course completion certificates.

As we know, the four NIMS courses, ICS-100, ICS-200, ICS-700 and ICS-800 are required of all who would be called to assist in an emergency by our served agencies. Completion of these initial FEMA courses constitutes Level 2 attainment. Additional training to facilitate a Level 3 attainment include ICS-300 and ICS-400. There are also several further courses which may be desired, dependent upon the needs of the served agency and the specific mission involved. ICS-706 and ICS-802, ARRL courses EC-001 and EC-016, Communications Specialist Courses, COMM(N), COMM(T) and COMM(L), AUX COMM are among these.

ARES Members should keep the FEMA confirmation email with the attached certificate file in .pdf format. A copy should be forwarded to your local EC and submitted to the ARES Training Database via email to w8erw@arrl.net. It is important to send the individual course certificates rather than a large file containing all of your certificates. A single file makes it more difficult to provide the documentation to a served agency when requested. This becomes rather messy when a specific skill set, or course is requested. Please avoid sending a single file with all of your certificates. .pdf is also the desired format. These files are universally readable and are much more compact for storage as opposed to picture formats. Save the FEMA attachment when you receive your confirmation of course completion. The save as function works best and the following format is exactly how each certificate is stored, W8ERW-IS-00100.c.pdf, using the course designation appropriate for the certificate.

Further training which is relevant to ARES can also be submitted and is encouraged. This may be Red Cross certifications and other locally available courses. If you have any doubt, submit your certificates. The specialized training you have completed could be exactly what is being required.

Also, please remember to include your Call, your serving county and county of residence when you submit your certificates. Folks, I have no way of verifying any of this unless you tell me. QRZ is a great tool and I do use it often when I don't have your information handy. It is not perfect however and I have uncovered many errors. I really have no idea of which county you are associating with especially when it is not the county of residence listed on QRZ.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. I am here to help you. I also thank you for your diligence in completing your training and helping me to maintain an accurate and functional record that can be used when our served agencies need our help.

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On The Road Again to ‘Get Your Park On’

(from John, kd8mq and the radiogram newsletter)

John, KD8MQ During the 3rd week of October, in conjunction with Earth Science Week, the North America WWFF program ran an event called “Get Your Park On”. The goal was to get parks activated in each state in the US. I’ve not heard the results yet, but I took a couple vacation days so that I could join in the fun.



I feel that operating portable from a park is some of the most fun you can have on the radio. Not everyone can afford to go on a DXpedition to an exotic location, but just about everyone can swing an expedition to activate a park. And, you can still be home in time for dinner. The event began on October 14th and ran for a week. I was tied up with the PA QSO Party that weekend, but on Monday, I took a trip to Guilford Lake State Park. It was a dreary, rainy day, but what fun I had. Stations were calling in from all over North America, and Europe. I packed it in after an hour or two, and headed home.



On Thursday, I decided to try activating three Ohio State parks. So I got an early start, arriving at Wolf Run State Park around 10 AM. I arrived just a few moments before Buck, N8YRX, from Summit County. Buck was in the area to do some hiking, and we had a great eyeball QSO.



After 21 QSOs, I got back on the road, heading to the newest park in the Ohio state park system; Jesse Owens State Park. I found a high spot to operate near the Big Muskie Bucket. The altitude was around 1000’ ASL.

After another 21 QSOs, I headed for Salt Fork State Park. My operating position left a lot to be desired, as I only made a few contacts. Canada, Belgium, France, and the US were accounted for. But, I plan to return to Salt Fork at some time in the future.



The equipment this time was my trusty Yaesu FT-450, running 50W into my SOTA Beam 3-band linked dipole

(<https://tinyurl.com/y78o7ael>). Power was provided by a pair of 17AH batteries which were charged in advance but topped up by the truck as I drove between locations.



All in all, my “Southern Ohio State Park Rove” covered just shy of 250 miles. I hope to do it again in the spring. 73 All.

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ARRL November Sweepstakes



Objective: For stations in the United States and Canada (including territories and possessions) to exchange QSO information with as many other US and Canadian stations as possible on 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 meter bands.

[2018 Operating Guide \(PDF\) - Including Full Rules](#)

[For Contest Club Updates Go Here](#)

Reminder: the Canadian province of Ontario now consists four RAC sections: Ontario North (ONN), Ontario South (ONS), Ontario East (ONE) and the Greater Toronto Area (GTA). Make sure your contest logging software and "country" (CTY) files have been updated so that those abbreviations are recognized and credited properly. View a [map of the VE3 sections](#).

Operating Guideline: You **must** include your call sign in the exchange information you transmit to the other station. This is generally done between your precedence (A/B/Q/M/S/U) and your check (year of first license) as follows:

- CQing Station: CQ Sweepstakes from W9JJ
- Answering Station: W1AW
- CQer: W1AW 123 A W9JJ 79 CT
- Ans: 43 M W1AW 31 CT
- CQer: Thanks, CQ Sweepstakes from W9JJ



As the answering station, it is not necessary to send the CQing station's call unless you feel there might be some confusion about what station you are responding to.

Logs are due within SEVEN (7) days after the event is over. Paper logs are still accepted, but electronic Cabrillo logs are preferred. Contest clubs are encouraged to help their club members submit their log electronically.

Logs that have been *submitted electronically* are listed on the [Log Received](#) page. Click the year and contest to see a list of submitted logs sorted by call sign.

- **CW:** First full weekend in November (**November 3-5, 2018**).
- **Phone:** Third full weekend in November (**November 17-19, 2018**).
- **Contest Period:** Begins 2100 UTC Saturday and runs through 0259 UTC Monday.

Bands- 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 meters. No contest QSOs may be made on 12, 17, 30 or 60 meters.

All stations may operate no more than 24 of the 30 hours.

Scores will be calculated from contacts logged during the first 24 hours of operation. *Clarification: the intent of this rule is to limit operating time (listening or transmitting) to 24 hours. Contacts logged after 24 hours of operation will not be counted toward the final score, there is no penalty for including those contacts in a submitted log, and the station contacted is eligible to receive credit for the contact.*

Off-times must consist of a minimum of 30 consecutive minutes without operating. Listening time counts as operating time.

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Time Change – Time to “Fall Back”

I've been hearing a lot of people lately asking, "When do the clocks fall back?"

Not that they're in a particular rush to see Daylight Saving Time 2018 come to an end, especially considering how much earlier and earlier it's getting dark these afternoons.

Fortunately, for those of us who like afternoon daylight, there's another week to go before we return to standard time.

Daylight Saving Time 2018 ends on Sunday, Nov. 4, at 2 a.m. local time. At that time, you should set your clocks and watches back to 1 a.m., if they don't do it themselves.

For those who go to sleep before midnight, you'll want to change your clocks next Saturday night, Nov. 3, before turning in.

Daylight Saving Time is observed everywhere in the U.S. except Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands and Arizona, except the Navajo Indian Reservation, which does observe DST.



Final.. Final..



Hey Gang...

My.. My.. This has been one extremely busy week for me. It seems like it was just yesterday that I was sitting down to write up the newsletter.. Oh, wait a minute... that was last week!!

There's so much going on all over the place that I certainly hope that you got to take a few minutes out of your busy schedule and spend it with your family.

Halloween / Trick or Treat isn't really a big thing in my neighborhood. Most of us have grown children with families of their own now, so there's really no little ones coming

to the door begging for treats. I have to say I really miss that. In our old neighborhood we'd get anywhere from 350 – 500 kids in that one night. It was a blast to see them all dressed up in their costumes, especially the very little ones.



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The little ones especially were the cutest, they could hardly say the words “Trick or Treat,” but they all said “Thank You” when they got their candy.

Now... Let's get down to real business.... Have you gotten yourself registered on ARES Connect yet? I'm sure that all of you are sick and tired of hearing about it, but we still have more than 50% of you that haven't taken the plunge yet and gotten registered! What are you waiting for? No matter how much you resist, it's coming, and we need to make sure that no one is left behind. Don't forget, I'm giving away all sorts of goodies as an incentive to get all of you using this new system. I have a footlocker of really great items that I will be giving away as well!

ARES Connect

Instructions to Register

Enter ARES Connect

Don't know where to get started? We have a set of instructions on how to get registered right above the button to enter ARES Connect. I would strongly suggest that if you haven't registered yet, that you read these instructions first. Here's a link to get you started... http://arrl-ohio.org/ares_connect_directions.pdf

Please, don't just hurry through the questions, read them carefully, if you don't understand something, please ask me, I'm here to answer your questions. We know that you mean well by answering that you do have the needed courses in, but I will let you know that we are verifying what you say you have with what is showing for you in our statewide database when we are completing your registration.

So, how can you find out if you are already listed in our statewide database? Easy, here's a link to it... <http://arrl-ohio.org/SEC/special/ICS%20Complete%20by%20County%20and%20Name.pdf>

I will also say that I'm seeing a lot of folks using their own “User Name” instead of using your call sign. It is mandatory that you use your Call Sign as your User Name. Headquarters has found some that didn't comply and changed it for the user already. So, please be advised.

I just got notified that the Afterschool Programs of Lancaster in partnership with Lancaster City Schools, The Lancaster and Fairfield County Amateur Radio Club, and NASA will be doing their contact with the International Space Station (ISS) this Wednesday... That's right, they will make their contacts with the astronauts on Halloween. Tom Delaney, W8WTD and I will be on hand to watch and share the magic of Amateur Radio with these kids. I will take lots of pictures for sure.

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

Scott, N8SY

Weather Underground and Ham Weather Stations



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

It seems that our list of stations is growing every week, and this week is no exception. I've added another station to the list! Here's a link to it... <http://arrl-ohio.org/wus.html>

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

Back Issues of the PostScript and Ohio Section Journal (OSJ)

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



Chit – Chat, and All That!

Do you know someone that's not getting these Newsletters? Please, forward a copy of this Newsletter over to them and have them "[Opt-In](#)" to start receiving them. Heck, just have them send me an email n8sy@n8sy.com and I'll get them added to the Ohio Section Emailing list.



We now have many thousands of readers receiving these newsletters weekly. Quite impressive, I'd say! I urge all of you to make sure that everyone, regardless of whether they are a League member or not, get signed up to receive these weekly Newsletters.



You can always "[Opt-Out](#)" at any time if you feel this is not what you were expecting. It's fun and very informative. All of your favorite past newsletters are now archived too. You can go back at any time and read them. Just go to: <http://arrl-ohio.org/news/>

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



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

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PostScript is produced as a weekly supplement to the Ohio Section Journal (OSJ). 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 from around the world!