



Pre-Election Day Edition

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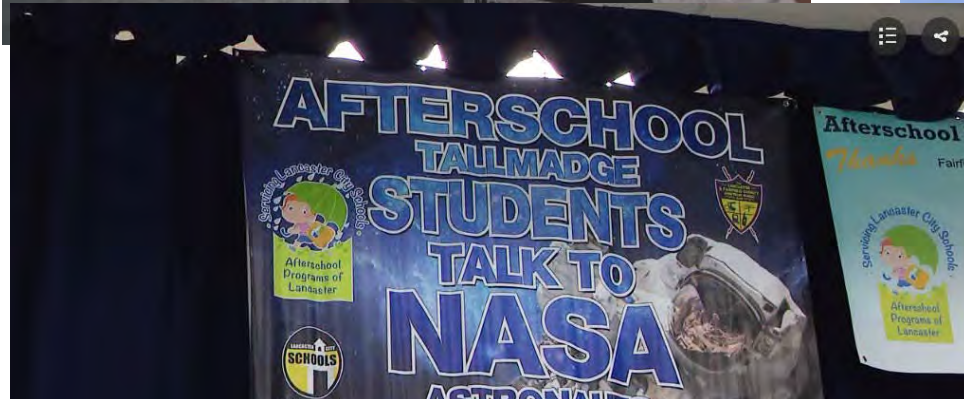
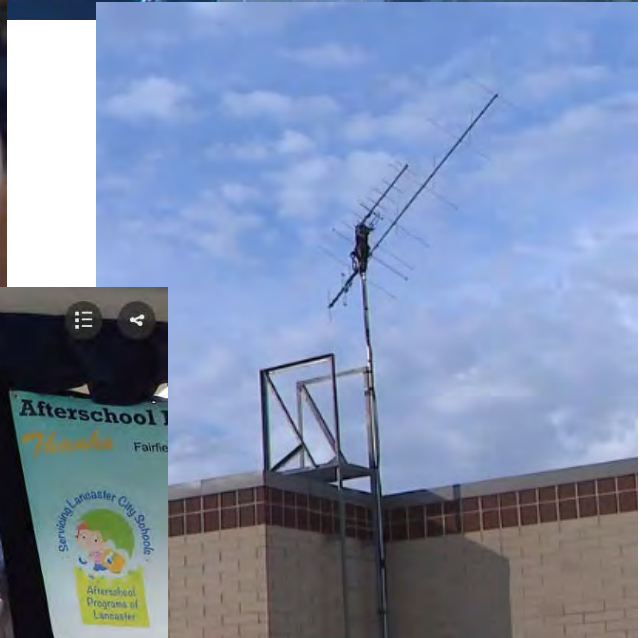
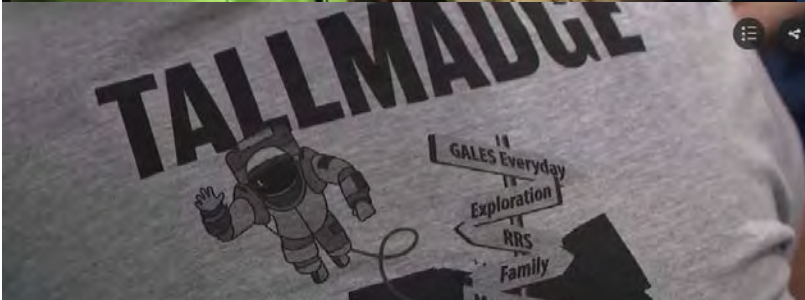
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National News

(from arrl and other sources)

New CEO Wants ARRL to Serve All Ages and Amateur Radio Interests

Newly elected ARRL CEO Howard Michel, WB2ITX, is still on the uphill side of the learning curve as he acquaints himself with ARRL Headquarters and the nearly 90 staffers who work there. The New Jersey native arrived at HQ on October 15 and has spent much of his time since meeting with department managers and others to get his bearings, with an eye toward building consensus and aligning people, programs, and services in the same direction.

“I’m still trying to understand what is working and where the challenges are,” Michel said. “Once I understand where the challenges are, I need to understand *why*. Before I make any changes in what we’re doing, I need to make sure the change is a step in the right direction and for the right reasons, and not kind of a random process.”



Michel would like to see ARRL focus on the future of Amateur Radio and not become the redoubt of a particular generation of radio amateur or interest group. He said, “Ham radio shouldn’t abandon the old guardians of the hobby, but at the same time, it needs to have new things that appeal to people who have different interests and different passions.”

Ham radio appears currently entrenched with opposition often expressed to FT8 and other digital modes and protocols that bend Amateur Radio traditions and conventions, Michel observed. However, as he sees it, technology for the whole of Amateur Radio has been changing, and detractors to advances have always been present. He’d like ARRL to encourage more technological diversity without creating controversy.

“My kick is seeing the technology advance,” the former IEEE president and CEO said. “I want to see hams embrace the new technology — as long as we do that in a way that those who *don’t* adopt the new technology won’t feel abandoned.” In his view, the real reason behind the continued enthusiasm for CW “is not the technology; it’s the legacy.”

At the same time, resources should reflect usage and interest, with respect to the spectrum and with respect to how many pages *QST* devotes to a particular interest area. “Everything should reflect the growth and change, without abandoning the legacy interests.”

Acknowledging the incessant push to get more young people into Amateur Radio, Michel wants to explore ways “to morph some of the League’s processes and services and products into something that would appeal to the newer generation of hams.”

“Young people in general don’t join organizations, but they join causes,” he said. “With that kind of attitude, how do we develop the same kind of ability for people interested in Amateur Radio to self-organize around causes?”

And if we can design the infrastructure around that, maybe they'll see value in ARRL and become a new type of member — not one who necessarily comes to ham club meetings once a month but finds the League can facilitate what they want to do.”

Michel said he's always enjoyed tinkering with ham gear, building it, modifying it, and repairing it, and then making it do something new or different. He concedes that while he has not had an opportunity to do much hamming as he's moved around with the military and for academic and business pursuits, he'd like to become more active, and he is presently exploring his options as an apartment dweller. As for FT8, he'd like to try it, if for no other reason than the novelty.

Michel said he definitely wants to encourage partnerships with other organizations with which ARRL might share some common ground, including IEEE.

“We can't do everything ourselves. We have to find partnerships,” he said. Some IEEE operating units would be applicable to Amateur Radio, and he's already heard from two unit heads that are both hams.

Michel also feels that radio amateurs need to extend their gaze beyond the everyday nuts and bolts of Amateur Radio operating. “What we need to do is protect the spectrum from competition, develop interest in the various facets of Amateur Radio, and not try to pick fights ‘in house,’” he said. “Spectrum is the gold of the 21st century.”

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FCC Fines Amateur Radio Licensee \$25,000 for Operating Unlicensed FM Station



In an FCC Enforcement Bureau case going back to early 2015, a Paterson, New Jersey, Amateur Radio licensee has been penalized in the amount of \$25,000 for allegedly continuing to operate an unlicensed FM radio station. The FCC issued a [Forfeiture Order](#) on October 30 to Winston A. Tulloch, KC2ALN, a General class licensee. The fine followed an April 2018 *Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture* ([NAL](#)) issued to Tulloch for alleged “willful and repeated violation” of Section 301 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, by operating an unlicensed FM radio station on 90.9 MHz in Paterson. Tulloch did not respond to the *NAL*, the FCC

indicated.

“Commission action in this area is essential because unlicensed radio stations do not broadcast Emergency Alert Service messages and therefore create a public safety hazard for their listener,” the FCC said in the *Forfeiture Order*. “Moreover, unlicensed radio stations create a danger of interference to licensed communications and undermine the Commission’s authority over broadcast radio operations.”

Following up on February 2015 complaints regarding pirate radio operations in Paterson, FCC agents spotted a signal on 90.9 MHz that “appeared to be an unauthorized radio station.” Agents determined the signal was emanating from a multi-family dwelling and noticed an FM antenna on the structure. The measured field strength exceeded the limits allowed for Part 15 unlicensed devices.

Through a solicitation broadcast on the station for advertisers and a vehicle parked outside the building, the FCC agents were able to determine that the telephone number in the announcement belonged to Tulloch, and the car was registered in his name. FCC agents made several visits to Paterson in late 2015 and early 2016.

In October of 2016, agents returned to Paterson and determined that the signal source had relocated to another nearby multi-family structure. A *Notice of Unlicensed Operation (NOUO)* was posted on the door of the building and the following month, the FCC mailed an *NOUO* to Tulloch.

Subsequent visits revealed that the station was still in operation, and, at some point, had moved back to its prior location. Additional *NOUOs* were issued. Finally, on September 15, 2017, two agents returned to Paterson and determined that the station no longer was on the air.

In the *Forfeiture Order*, the FCC incorporated by reference the details of the investigation spelled out in the earlier *NAL*.

The Tulloch case is among dozens that the FCC Enforcement Bureau has initiated in the past couple of years in efforts to shut down pirate broadcasters across the US, the vast majority of which are *not* FCC amateur licensees.

The Handbook Give Away

Hey Gang,

We had another fantastic response this month, but I'm sure you're more interested in knowing just who won the Handbook this month... And the winner is....

Russell Grandon, K8HGK!

Since we've had another month of great response with the Giveaway, and it's getting a lot colder outside, I added a really neat new gift to the list. I added an official "Ohio Section Logo Sweat-Shirt" !! AND.... that winner is... ***David Rose, KE8KQB!***



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>

You just never know.. You just might be the next winner!

Club Corner

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

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



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Lawrence County ARES Gets More Training



Lawrence County, Ohio Amateur Radio Emergency Service and Southern Ohio Amateur Radio Association members participated in medical training today October 27, 2018 at the Lawrence County, Ohio Emergency Management Agency's EOC Ironton, Ohio. The instructor was Daniel Heuchert, Training Coordinator for Lawrence County, Ohio Emergency Medical Service. The certified instruction was excellent and covered a wide range of emergency medical care topics.

The main focus was the American Heart Association standards for Adult and Infant CPR. We also covered the use of an AED. Additionally, there was instruction on basic first aid, the Heimlich maneuver, use of an EpiPen, how to administer Narcan for a drug overdose, as well as other important topics. In every case we had hands-on experience.

The class started at 9 o'clock and ended about 4:00 with 45 minutes for lunch. This was an exciting jam-packed day of Life Saving instruction. Ham Radio operators make a difference in many ways in their community. Certification in this specialized medical training is an example of only one.



Mike Love, WB8YKS - SOARA / ARES - Ohio Section PIO

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.

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

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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

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FALL TECHNICIANS CLASS

The TMRA Education Committee has released the schedule for the Fall Technicians Class. The class schedule will follow our traditional style. Two classes held two weeks apart and a V.E. Testing Session after the final class. The Class is FREE, you will have to provide your own book, or one can be purchased from the TMRA (\$25.00). The testing session will cost \$15.00 which is the standard fee set by the ARRL.

The class will be on **Saturday, November 10th** from 08:00 TILL 17:00 (This includes the V.E.Session)

Class will be held at: LUCAS COUNTY EMS TRAINING CENTER - 2127 JEFFERSON AVE - TOLEDO

To Enroll in the Class, or for more Information please contact: STEVE STALKER / KC8TVW at: 419-467-3734 or kc8tvw@arrl.net

Help Needed

Once again, the Mound Amateur Radio Association will be providing race course radio communications for the 40th Annual Turkey Trot in Miamisburg on Thanksgiving morning. It is anticipated that there will be in excess of 10,000 runners for this 5k run/1k walk.



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MARA wants to have hams within sight of each other over the entire course. It is anticipated that volunteers will need to be in Miamisburg, and on the course, from approximately 0700 until no later than noon.

If you would like to volunteer, please contact Jack KM8N at triton48@woh.rr.com. This is a fun event and the organizers really appreciate amateur radio help in its success and safety.

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>



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

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



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2019

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>

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

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

V.E. Test Sessions

(from arrl)

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: Beaver Creek 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](#)

11/14/2018 | [Middletown OH 45042](#)
Sponsor: Dial Radio Club
Location: Miami University-Middletown
Time: 6:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
[Learn More](#)

11/17/2018 | [Greenville OH 45331-1038](#)
Sponsor: Treaty City ARA
Location: Beehive One Room School
Time: 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
[Learn More](#)

11/17/2018 | [Lisbon OH 44432-1233](#)
Sponsor: Lisbon Area Amt Radio Assoc
Location: Columbiana County Emergency
Management
Time: 1:30 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
[Learn More](#)

11/18/2018 | [Elyria OH 44035-1343](#)
Sponsor: American Red Cross
Location: American Red Cross
Time: 12:50 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
[Learn More](#)

11/20/2018 | [Sandusky OH 44870-1926](#)
Sponsor: Sandusky, Ohio VE Team
Location: Sandusky Radio Club
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

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.

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.

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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.*

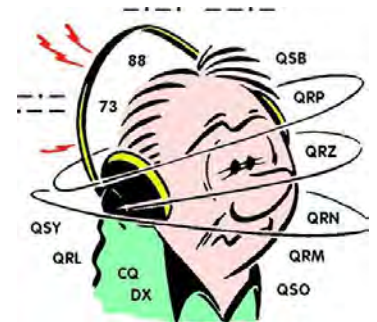
Off-times must consist of a minimum of 30 consecutive minutes without operating. Listening time counts as operating time.

DX This Week

(from Bill, AJ8B)

If you have an interest in DX then I hope you have worked VP6D, Ducie Island. This DXpedition to Ducie has had over 113,642 QSOs. As of October 30th at noon, they had worked:

- 63,932 on CW
- 28,512 on SSB
- 21,022 on Digital



These 12 operators have really been busy, and it would seem to be one of the most successful DXpeditions in history! They will be off the island on November 3rd and there may never be an operation from there again! Congrats to the DXpedition team. You can learn more at www.vp6d.com.

Below is part 2 K9LA's article on what the solar numbers mean. Thanks to K9LA for allowing me to reprint these articles. I have heard from several of you that you have found these to be interesting.

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:

- VK9/C & VK9/X - Cocos & Christmas Due to a flight change DF8AN's, Mike's, trip to Cocos (Keeling) is going to be one day shorter than originally announced. He will now fly from Cocos (Keeling) to Christmas on November 9th instead of the 10th cutting his VK9CH operation by a day. This will increase his VK9XQ operation on Christmas by a day. Mike "will try to work FT8 on the regular [FT8] frequencies". If the pile up gets to big he will switch to the FT8 DXpedition frequencies that VP6D has been using, as they will be done by then. Christmas - VK9XQ - November 3-6 Cocos (Keeling) - VK9CH - November 6-9 Christmas - VK9XQ - November 9-17
- 8Q - Maldives 8Q7JX by JR3RIU, Masa, will be on the air November 23-25 including the CQWW CW, 40-10 meters. The log will be uploaded to LoTW, Club Log and eQSL, no bureau cards. Stations can send direct to: Masayuki Kawamoto 3-16-18 Hibariga-oka, Takarazuka HYOGO 665-0805 JAPAN. For a direct card send with SAE and 2 USD or 1 IRC. His card is 100x148mm so be sure your envelope is large enough. Do not send to the JARL bureau, or the Maldives bureau, or the Maldives address.

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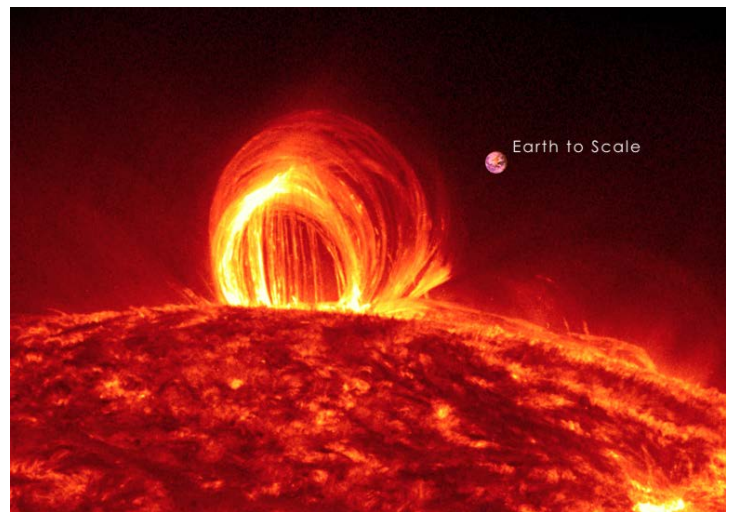
- 4W - East Timor 4W/HL1AHS, Sookun Chae, and 4W/DS3EXX, Tae-Su Song, plan to be on the air from East Timor November 26 to December 3. They will have an IC-7610 and KX3 to an Expert 1.3K (or 2K), a VDA, delta loop, hexbeam and longwire. The ops plan to be on 160-10M SSB, CW and FT8 from the Caimeo Beach Resort. This is the QTH where 4W/HB9FLX operated back in 2014. QSL info is on: <http://www.qrz.com/db/hl1ahs> and <http://www.qrz.com/db/ds3exx> .

More details can be found at www.dailydx.com

DX Topic of the Week: Solar Numbers – What they Mean Part 2:

By Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA http://k9la.us/Propagation_101_23Sep07.pdf

A CME is an explosive ejection of a large amount of solar matter and can cause the average solar wind speed to take a dramatic jump upward--kind of like a shock wave heading toward Earth. If the polarity of the sun's magnetic field is southward when the shock wave hits Earth's magnetic field, the shock wave couples into Earth's magnetic field and can cause large variations in Earth's magnetic field. This is seen as an increase in the A and K indices.



In addition to auroral activity, these variations to the magnetic field can cause those electrons spiraling around magnetic field lines to be lost into the *magnetotail*. With electrons gone, maximum usable frequencies (MUFs) decrease, and return only after the magnetic field returns to normal and the process of ionization replenishes lost electrons. Most of the time, elevated A and K indices reduce MUFs, but occasionally MUFs at low latitudes may increase (due to a complicated process) when the A and K indices are elevated.

Solar flares and CMEs are related, but they can happen together or separately. Scientists are still trying to understand the relationship between them. One thing is certain, though--the electromagnetic radiation from a big flare traveling at the speed of light can cause short-term radio blackouts on the sunlit side of Earth within about 10 minutes of eruption.

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Unfortunately, we detect the flare visually at the same time as the radio blackout, since both the visible light from the flare and the electromagnetic radiation in the 1 to 10 Angstrom range from the flare travel at the speed of light--in other words, we have no warning. On the other hand, the energetic particles ejected from a flare can take up to several hours to reach Earth, and the shock wave from a CME can take up to several days to reach Earth, thus giving us some warning of their impending disruptions.

Each day the Space Weather Prediction Center (a part of NOAA, the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration) and the US Air Force jointly put out a Solar and Geophysical Activity Report. The current and archived reports are at [SWPC page](#). Each daily report consists of six parts.

Part IA gives an analysis of solar activity, including flares and CMEs. Part IB gives a forecast of solar activity. Part IIA gives a summary of geophysical activity. Part IIB gives a forecast of geophysical activity. Part III gives probabilities of flare and CME events.

These first three parts can be summarized as follows: normal propagation (no disturbances) generally occurs when no X-ray flares higher than class C are reported or forecasted, along with solar wind speeds due to CMEs near the average of 400km/sec.

Part IV gives observed and predicted 10.7-cm solar flux. A comment about the daily solar flux--it has little to do with what the ionosphere is doing on that day. This will be explained later.

Part V gives observed and predicted A indices. Part VI gives geomagnetic activity probabilities. These last two parts can be summarized as follows: good propagation generally occurs when the forecast for the daily A index is at or below 15 (this corresponds to a K index of 3 or below).

WWV at 18 minutes past the hour every hour and WWVH at 45 minutes past the hour every hour put out a shortened version of this report. A new format began March 12, 2002. The new format gives the previous day's 10.7-cm solar flux, the previous day's mid-latitude A index, and the current mid-latitude three-hour K index. A general indicator of space weather for the last 24 hours and next 24 hours is given next. This is followed by detailed information for the three disturbances that impact space weather: geomagnetic storms (caused by gusts in the solar wind speed), solar radiation storms (the numbers of energetic particles increase), and radio blackouts (caused by X-ray emissions). For detailed descriptions of the WWV/WWVH messages, visit www.swpc.noaa.gov/noaa-scales-explanation.

Normal propagation (no disturbances) is expected when the space weather indicator is minor. A comment is appropriate here. Both the Solar and Geophysical Activity Report and WWV/WWVH give a status of general solar activity. This is *not* a status of the 11-year sunspot cycle, but rather a status on solar disturbances (flares, particles, and CMEs). For example, if the solar activity is reported as low or minor, that doesn't mean we're at the bottom of the solar cycle; it means the sun has not produced any major space weather disturbances.

In order to predict propagation, much effort was put into finding a correlation between sunspots and the state of the ionosphere. The best correlation turned out to be between SSN and monthly median ionospheric parameters. This is the correlation that our propagation prediction programs are based on, which means the outputs (usually MUF and signal strength) are values with probabilities over a month time frame tied to them. They are not absolutes; they are statistical in nature. Understanding this is a key to the proper use of propagation predictions.

Sunspots are a subjective measurement. They are counted visually. It would be nice to have a more objective measurement, one that measures the sun's output.

The 10.7-cm solar flux has become this measurement. But it is only a general measure of the activity of the sun, since a wavelength of 10.7-cm is way too low in energy to cause any ionization. Thus 10.7 cm solar flux has nothing to do with the formation of the ionosphere. The best correlation between 10.7-cm solar flux and sunspots is the smoothed 10.7-cm solar flux and the smoothed sunspot number--the correlation between daily values, or even monthly average values, is not very acceptable.

Since our propagation prediction programs were set up based on a correlation between SSN and monthly median ionospheric parameters, the use of SSN or the equivalent smoothed 10.7-cm solar flux gives the best results. Using the daily 10.7-cm solar flux--or even the daily sunspot number--can introduce a sizable error into the propagation predictions outputs since the ionosphere does not react to the small daily variations of the sun. Even averaging 10.7-cm solar flux over a week's time frame can contribute to erroneous predictions. To reiterate, for best results use SSN or smoothed 10.7-cm solar flux and understand the concept of monthly median values.

For short-term predictions, the use of the effective SSN (SSNe) may be helpful. In this method, an appropriate SSN is input to the propagation prediction software to force it to agree with daily ionosonde measurements. Details of this method can be found at <http://www.nwra.com/spawx/ssne24.html>

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

ARLD045 DX news

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by IZ8EDJ, 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.

SRI LANKA, 4S. Peter, DC0KK is QRV as 4S7KKG form Moragalla, IOTA AS-003, until April 2, 2019. Activity is on the HF bands. QSL to home call.

MADAGASCAR, 5R. Eric, F6ICX will be QRV as 5R8IC from Sainte Marie Island, IOTA AF-090, from November 5 to February 2019. Activity will be holiday style on the HF bands using CW, SSB, some RTTY, and PSK. QSL to home call.

KENYA, 5Z. Scott, WA5A is QRV as 5Z4/WA5A from Ruaka until November 7. Activity is on 40, 20, and 17 meters. QSL to home call.

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, DA. Some members of the European DX Foundation are QRV as DL32EUDXF during November to celebrate the EUDXF's 32nd anniversary. QSL via DJ8NK.

LIBERIA, EL. Eric, EL2EF, Col, MM0NDX and Jonathan, MM0OKG will be QRV as EL2EL/4 from Telengbe Island, IOTA AF-111, a new IOTA, from November 5 to 9. Activity will be on 40, 30, 20 and 17 meters using SSB and FT8 with three stations. QSL via M0SDV

ENGLAND, G. Special event station GB100ARM is QRV during November to commemorate the armistice at the end of World War I. QSL via G0TOC.



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ANTARCTICA. Danilo, IZ1KHY is QRV as IA0/IZ1KHY until the end of February 2019 while involved in several scientific missions and research projects at some of the remote camps. QSL via operator's instructions.

ITALY, I. Special event station IO8MQP is QRV until November 6 to commemorate the first Mario Ambrosi, I2MQP Memorial Days. Activity is on the HF bands. QSL via bureau.

ST. LUCIA, J6. Gerd, DL7VOG will be QRV as J68GU from November 3 to 25. Activity will be on the HF bands. This includes being entries in the upcoming Worked All Europe RTTY and CQ World Wide DX CW contests. QSL to home call.

AUSTRIA, OE. Jo, OE4VIE is QRV as OE32EUDXF until November 17 to celebrate the EUDXF's 32nd anniversary. QSL via bureau.

COCOS (KEELING) ISLANDS, VK9C. Michael, DF8AN will be QRV as VK9CH from November 6 to 9. Activity will be on 160 to 6 meters using CW, RTTY, various digital modes, and FT8 in DXpedition mode. QSL to home call.

CHRISTMAS ISLAND, VK9X. Prior to his Cocos Keeling operation, Michael, DF8AN will be QRV as VK9XQ from November 3 to 6, and then from November 9 to 17. Activity will be on 160 to 6 meters using CW, RTTY, various digital modes, and FT8 in DXpedition mode. QSL to home call.

INDIA, VU. The Manic Monkeys will be QRV as AT4DK from Pamban Island, IOTA AS-173, from November 3 to 4. Activity will be on 80 to 10 meters using CW, SSB and FT8. QSL via operators' instructions.

BURKINA FASO, XT. Harald, DF2WO will be QRV as XT2AW during the month of November. He will focus on 160 meters. QSL via M0OXO.

INDONESIA, YB. Operators Burkhard, DL3KZA and Irfan, YE4IJ are QRV as YE4/DL3KZA from Belitung Island, IOTA OC-144, until November 11. Activity is holiday style on 20 and 17 meters, depending on conditions, and using SSB. QSL via DL3KZA.

LATVIA, YL. Special event stations YL100K, YL100L, YL100R, YL100V and YL100Z are QRV until November 18 to celebrate Latvia's independence centennial. QSL via LoTW.

KOSOVO, Z6. Jeremy, EI5GM and Dave, EI9FBB are QRV as Z6/homecalls until November 5. Activity is on the HF bands using CW and SSB. QSL Z6/EI5GM via M0OXO and Z6/EI9FBB via EI9FBB.

THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO. The ARRL CW Sweepstakes Contest, NCCC RTTY Sprint, NCCC CW Sprint, Jakarta RTTY Contest, IPARC CW Contest, Ukrainian DX Contest, IPARC SSB Contest, EANET Sprint and the High Speed Club CW Contest will certainly keep contesters busy this upcoming weekend.

The ARS Spartan CW Sprint is scheduled for November 6. The CWops Mini-CWT Test, UKEICC 80-Meter SSB Contest and Phone Fray are scheduled for November 7. The ARRL International Grid Chase runs during all of 2018.

Please see November QST, page 90, and the ARRL and WA7BNM Contest Web Sites for details.

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One Question Questionnaire



Hey Gang

I'm amazed... Only around 53% of you keep a fire extinguisher in your shack! I really expected that number to be much higher since fire extinguishers are fairly inexpensive (~\$25) and they are the best line of protection for when that awful moment happens.

OK... Here's the next question for you to answer. And this one comes from the guys of the SouthWest Ohio DX Association (SWODXA).

“Do you have a master power cut off switch in your shack??”

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

City of Wyoming Phone Outage - Oct 29

Gang- this is how it's done! I want to share a message with all of you that is a great learning tool for everyone to share and learn by.

Hello Group:

HAMILTON COUNTY ARES
Serving Hamilton County Ohio

Earlier today, Mike KD8ZLB noticed a post on social media stating that the city's phone lines were out of service. Residents were instructed to contact the city departments via email if needed. Mike immediately notified Bryan KC8EGV and John KD8MMY of the situation.

As one of the liaisons to Wyoming, John contacted me to discuss potential further actions from HamCo ARES. We decided to reach out to members in the area as best as we could via email to assess the situation and potential need of our services.

Although we have a formal MOU with Wyoming, we have not been introduced to the new fire chief, so we did not want to assume he knew what ARES is and what our capabilities are. So, we did not want to call him directly on his cell phone. We took a passive response to not 'get in the way'. NOTE: An introduction is being arranged.

Based on the information found, we concluded that the residents in the area and 911 dispatch did not seem to be affected. PSAP is handled by HCCC for Wyoming.

I was busy with work tasks, so John took the lead on the response.

John proceeded with the following actions:

- Emailed members in the Wyoming area for information gathering.
- Gathered response availability from a few ARES members in case an immediate response would be needed. A larger response would be organized if requested by Wyoming.

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- Logged into WebEOC for any indication of a larger incident in the area.
- Obtained outage data from Cincy Bell Telephone.
- Emailed a SetRep to Bryan with updates on the above items.

John was able to eventually make contact with Wyoming PD. He was given the following:

- All department heads had responded to the city building for coordination.
- It appeared that the city phone lines were starting to come back online.
- As far as anyone knew, cell lines and resident landlines were not affected.
- No comms services were needed from ARES.

John contacted Bryan with the updates and John give a stand down to everyone contacted earlier.

APPROX. TIMELINE

09:55 - Wyoming Posted on Twitter
 10:14 - Mike Text to Bryan & John
 10:17 - John Call to Bryan to establish a plan
 10:58 - John SetRep via Email
 11:10 - John Call to Bryan with final SitRep
 11:15 - Stand Down Given

I want to thank Mike KD8ZLB for being aware and notifying myself and John KD8MMY of the incident in Wyoming today. I also want to thank John KD8MMY for taking the lead to determine if we could be of service to the City of Wyoming. He also kept me informed on the situation and planned what our response would be if needed.

If the City of Wyoming would have requested our services, I feel we were prepared to assist as asked.

This is why we do this.

Go Team! Be Safe. Bryan Hoffman, KC8EGV, COM-L AuxComm - Emergency Coordinator Hamilton County, OH ARES hamcoares.net

Color-Coded Gear

(from our own Richard Koharik, W8RWK and ARRL Hints and Hacks)



I have eight handheld radios. Because each radio has a microphone, two or three antennas, batteries, a battery charger, a programming cable and belt clips, this makes for a large collection.

Keeping track of it all isn't easy. It is rare that any two radios use the same accessories, and each radio tends to be unique in its programming and operation. After a lot of mismatched antennas and mics, I came up with a simple labeling and storage solution to keep every accessory sorted so they're ready to use in an emergency.



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I started out with a color-coded system using vinyl electrical tape. (Some popular wire markers are made of paper and the color rubs off very quickly, so vinyl was the best option for me.) I used a different color for each radio manufacturer. Packages of 10 rolls in various colors are available at many retail and online sources.

If you own more than 10 brands of radios, you can mark them with two colors. If you have more than one radio from a manufacturer, you can use wire marking number to denote radio – “Blue Brand” 1 and 2. Mark programming and power cords the same way as the radios. You can identify paper documents like quick guides and operating manuals with color markers.

My plan also involves storing antennas, hand mics, batteries, and manuals in one spot. It’s always good to have everything in its place. If you are active in ARES or Skywarn, you know you many not have time to search when the lights go out.

A backpack is great for the soft stuff and snack bars. A water-resistant hard case is best for the radio gear. Label your box and mark it with the same color tape as the radio gear inside. Now that your radios are super organized, you can go ahead and buy that new handheld with a lot less guilt.

The New OpenSPOT-2



It seems that this little critter will do just about everything that a dedicated digital person would want. This is something that we’ve all been waiting for. A unit that is easy to setup and operate, and it doesn’t break the bank.

The openSPOT2 has a lot of features for a standalone unit

Compatible digital radio protocols and networks*

- **DMR** (BrandMeister, DMRplus, XLX)
- **D-STAR** (DCS, REF/DPlus, XRF/DExtra, XLX)
- **System Fusion/C4FM** (FCS, YSFReflector)
- **NXDN** (NXDNReflector)
- **P25** (P25Reflector)
- **POCSAG** (DAPNET)

Supports cross modem modes (example: talk with your C4FM radio on DMR, and with your DMR radio on System Fusion networks). * NXDNReflector, POCSAG and P25 support will be added in a later firmware upgrade (soon). More supported networks and features will be available with new firmware releases.



And now they have finally released the pricing.. It’s only **199,00 €**
Or approximately. \$226.33 US dollars.

No, I’m not selling these, nor am I being paid to advertise them. I’m only letting you know of some of this new units features for no other purpose than to let you all know that it is another way of getting on the radio if you live in an antenna restricted area, or you don’t have any repeaters close to you.

Want more information?? Here’s a link to their website. <https://www.sharkrf.com/products/openspot2/>

Looking for Tower Zoning Approval?

(This information from John, K2SY, K2SY@fairpoint.net and The Exchange)



There was a lot of discussion at the SWODXA meeting I found some resources that might be helpful to other amateurs who need to receive zoning approval for antenna installations.

In our township, even though we live in an agricultural district, I had to obtain a conditional use permit and a height variance to in-stall a tower and antenna system our property.

Shortly before starting the application process and meeting with our zoning inspector, I happened to meet Scott Yonally, N8SY, the ARRL Ohio Section Manager at the Germantown Hamfest. Scott gave me a brochure, “Ohio’s Amateur Radio Antenna Law”, which describes the state law and contains other information that can be helpful when applying for a zoning permit. I found the following resources very helpful when preparing my zoning applications.

The ARRL website has information on antenna zoning. There is also a very good re-port “Antenna Height and Communication Effectiveness” that explains the importance of antenna height. I included the executive summary of this report with my application to help the zoning people understand the reason why I was requesting a variance to the height limitation in the zoning. The ARRL website also has information about RF Exposure limits, the Volunteer Counsel and Consulting Engineer Programs available for help with zoning issues.

The actual state law pertaining to amateur radio, Ohio Revised Code 5502.031 Regulation of amateur radio service communications and structures can be found online at codes.ohio.gov/orc/5502.031. I included a copy of this state law with my zoning applications.

At the FCC website, <http://wireless2.fcc.gov/UlsApp/AsrSearch/towairSearch.jsp> you can input information about your location and height of your antenna system to determine if your antenna system requires registration.

I included a copy of the results from this website with my zoning applications. The brochure Scott, N8SY, gave me, “Ohio’s Amateur Radio Antenna Law”, can be found at: http://arrl-ohio.org/SGL/Ohio_PRB-1_Law.pdf I included a copy of the brochure with my applications.

I would encourage anyone who needs help getting zoning approval for an antenna system to contact Scott. He can be a valuable asset in getting a zoning application ap-proved. In my case, the zoning inspector actually contacted Scott regarding my application and I know his input was helpful getting my applications approved.

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.

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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>

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

Final.. Final..



Hey Gang...

Well, I'd have to say that this week was one of the busiest weeks that I've had in a very long time, and it was one of the most rewarding ones as well. On Wednesday I got to be with an entire grade school. Thanks to all the hard-working folks of the Lancaster / Fairfield County Amateur Radio Club (K8QIK) and the Tallmadge Elementary School Afterschool Programs of Lancaster for hosting an ARISS Contact. They got the backing of not only the school principal and the entire staff, but also the Board of Education as well as the parents of all those wonderful students. It was a day that I will never forget for sure! Just how many of you can say that you have visited a school where ALL of the students stayed quiet for more than 10 full minutes! It happened there and not so much that they were told to, but all of them wanted to be sure to hear every word that astronaut Serena

Aunon-Chancellor had to say to them.

Before the contact was made I got to see all the equipment up close and personal and as I had stepped down from the stage I had a very little on grab my pantleg. I bent down to hear what this little one had to say, and it grabbed me to the core. He said "mister, I get to talk to an astronaut today!" The look in this kids' eyes was absolutely amazing. You would have thought it was Christmas as that his eyes were as big as saucers. He and all the kids were so excited to get to do this very special thing. Now we are always saying how we wish we could get the younger kids interested in Amateur Radio, well my friends, the Lancaster / Fairfield County ARC got the attention of an entire school. These kids had all worked hard for almost a full year at understanding the basics of what this contact meant and just how much science, math and technology it took to make this all happen. And, believe you me, they did appreciate it!

Now, I ask you, just how in the world could you top that! I do want to personally thank Gordon Scannell, KD8COJ; John Hilliard, W8OF; Jeff Payne, KE8AME; Greg DerSarkisian, KD8SSJ; Paul Kidwell, W8PDK; Mary Travis, KD8EEI; Diane Warner, KE8HLD; Kenny Warner, KE8HBN; Jim Mills, KE8IID and Ken Edmonds, KE8HZZ along with Principal Jake Campbell and Executive Director Afterschool Programs of Lancaster Michele Ritchlin for their gracious hospitality.



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Want to see the pictures or the video of the contact? Here's a link.. <http://arrrl-ohio.org/ariss/ariss.html> I will urge you to view the video. It's the best 10 minutes that you'll spend in a very long time!

My week was also filled with several meetings and the Grant Hamfest on Saturday as well. 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.

Now... Let's get down to some other 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!



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://arrrl-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://arrrl-ohio.org/SEC/special/ICS%20Complete%20by%20County%20and%20Name.pdf>

I'm still seeing some 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.

Let's change bands one last time before we go QRT.. We still need help finding some good E.C.'s in a number of counties... Please, help Stan and I out by really considering becoming an E.C.! Now I know that this may be too much for you to handle right now? I have a proposal for you. How's about becoming a person that can just input events and approve hours into the new ARES Connect system. You do not have to be an E.C. for this, although we'd prefer that they would be willing to step up to that challenge someday. If we could just have some folks willing to do the inputting of events and approve hours for now I'd be eternally grateful.

Counties where this is only a RACES program in place. Please.. this is a great opportunity for you as that we will not interfere with any of the programs that you already have in place. In fact, it will help you in getting those valuable volunteer hours recorded as they have never been before!!!

How's about it? Could you spend a little time just working with ARES Connect? Let me know!!! Again, you do not have to be E.C.'s to do this work in ARES Connect. We can give you admin privileges so that you can help with logging events into the system, keeping track of hours or even making sure that certificates get to Jim or I for placement into the statewide database.

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Here are the counties that we really need help with. Allen, Fulton, Henry, Mercer, Paulding, Putnam, Logan, Adams, Brown, Clermont, Carroll, Athens, Jackson, Meigs, Perry, Vinton, Belmont, Harrison, Monroe. This is a great opportunity for anyone that has a little time and is willing to volunteer.

I do want you to start encouraging your ARES membership to also get registered in the ARES Connect system. Here's a quick link for them. <https://arrl.volunteerhub.com/lp/oh/>

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

Scott, N8SY

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!