



December 16th Edition

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National News

(from arrl and other sources)

Dare to Imagine

(from Howard Michel, WB2ITX – ARRL CEO)

(Ed Note... I don't usually print the message from the CEO of ARRL, but this week I'm making it the exception. I really want you to read his column carefully. Why? This I believe will help answer the most common question I get from folks when I'm traveling around "**What's the League doing for me?**")

Are you imagining monthly meetings of local clubs, hamfests with flea markets, hams reading QST cover to cover, and on-air rag-chewing or contesting – all with fellow hams that look like you? Maybe you're imagining all of those familiar activities being done by younger versions of yourself.

The world has changed. People are busy with many activities – establishing careers, building families, giving back to their communities. Free time is scarce. People are used to customization. They expect to engage with the world on their own terms, on their own schedule, and in their own way. Younger hams are not just younger versions of you and me. They have grown up in a different world.



Data tells us that 54% of our current members have an Amateur Extra-class license, but in the pool of non-member amateurs 75% are Technicians. But more than license class, their interests are different. Their demographics are different. They *are* different, and they want different things.

I get emails from members who complain that QST is too technical, and other emails telling me it is not technical enough. Members complain to me that contesting takes over “their” bands. I get other emails suggesting that we expand contests and awards. I'm sure you get the picture.

We can try to mold the future generation of hams to our image, or we can embrace new hams for what they are. ARRL needs to do the latter. We are now organizing our thinking around the concept of verticals – narrow markets or target niches – that will allow ARRL to provide each member what they want.

I've already talked to you about some initiatives *On The Air* magazine, and Lifelong Learning – that ARRL is taking to engage new hams. We intend to continue developing new products and services for this vertical.

Other verticals I'll be proposing to the Board in January are Radiosport, Experimenters, and Emergency Communications (*these are just working titles at this time*). ARRL Needs to develop products and services in these verticals.

One product we are recommending to the Board is to create a family of “mini-magazines” that will span the various verticals. To jump start the “mini-mag” revolution, considering the business case, we will offer *NCJ* and *QEX* in digital form to everyone as a new member benefit in early 2020. We hope the digital editions will generate interest in their respective areas. Paper editions would still be available as a paid subscriber.

Another way we plan to engage hams is through local clubs. ARRL will be hiring a national club coordinator in 2020, who will be charged with developing new ways for clubs to organize and operate.

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We will continue to support traditional clubs, clubs that meet monthly for business and social events, organize Field Day activities, etc. But traditional clubs are not the future of clubs. Young people now join causes, not clubs.

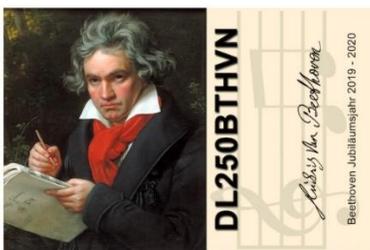
Our focus will be on developing ways, and an infrastructure, that members can use to organize themselves in ways they want, to do things that they consider meaningful. I can see these new clubs organized to support special events such as a marathon; to engage in STEM education; or prepare for disasters. These types of clubs exist now, but they may need to conform to a set of rules designed for traditional clubs. Can we scrap the rules and provide meaningful support? To aid in this, club leadership could be another vertical. ARRL could provide training in soft skills, such as how to run a meeting or give an effective presentation.

These are just my thoughts. To implement them, the ARRL Board needs to agree. If you think we are on the right track, if you think the vision I have outlined for 2020 is on the right track, let your Director know.

I encourage your comments to me at ceo@arrl.org

#####

Year-Long German Special Event to Honor Beethoven

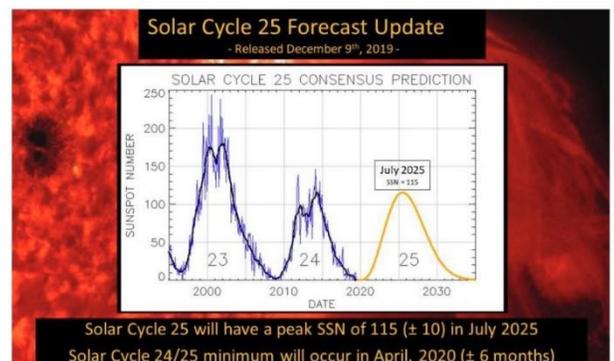


German special event station [DL250BTHVN](https://www.arrl.org/callsigns/250BTHVN) will be active between **December 16, 2019, and December 17, 2020**, to honor the 250th anniversary of the birth of famed composer Ludwig van Beethoven. The Beethoven anniversary year will take place under the auspices of Germany’s Federal President Frank-Walter Steinmeier. Beethoven was born in December 1770 in Bonn, Germany, and lived there for the first 22 years of his life. The anniversary event is aimed in part at highlighting Beethoven’s extensive oeuvre as a composer and to boost Bonn’s reputation as a “Beethoven city.” QSL via direct or by the bureau.

#####

NOAA/NASA Panel Concur that Solar Cycle 25 will Peak in July 2025

The NOAA/NASA-co-chaired international Solar Cycle Prediction Panel has released its [latest forecast](#) for to forecast Solar Cycle 25. The panel’s consensus calls for a peak in July 2025 (± 8 months), with a smoothed sunspot number of 115. The panel agreed that Cycle 25 will be of average intensity and similar to Cycle 24. The panel additionally concurred that the solar minimum between Cycles 24 and 25 will occur in April 2020 (± 6 months). If the solar minimum prediction is correct, this would make Solar Cycle 24 the seventh longest on record at 11.4 years. In its preliminary forecast released last April, the scientists on the panel forecast that Solar Cycle 25 would likely be weak, much like the current Cycle 24.



“Solar Cycle 25 may have a slow start but is anticipated to peak with solar maximum occurring between 2023 and 2026, and a sunspot range of 95 to 130.

This is well below the average number of sunspots,” the panel said last spring, adding with “high confidence” that Cycle 25 “should break the trend of weakening solar activity seen over the past four cycles.” The panel said the expectation that Cycle 25 would be comparable in size to Cycle 24 suggests that the steady decline in solar cycle amplitude seen from Cycle 21 through Cycle 24 has ended and that there is no indication of an approaching “Maunder-type” minimum. Cycle 24 peaked in April 2014 with an average sunspot number of 82.

The Solar Cycle Prediction Panel forecasts the number of sunspots expected for solar maximum, along with the timing of the peak and minimum solar activity levels for the cycle. It is comprised of scientists representing NOAA, NASA, the International Space Environment Services, and other US and international scientists.

The Handbook Give Away

Hey Gang,

It’s Christmas... and I’m going to be Santa and give someone a really neat Christmas Gift! Yup.. I’m going to Give-Away a Handbook just for Christmas!

Go to: <http://arrl-ohio.org/handbook-christmas.html> and get registered NOW.

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,



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



#####

Alliance Amateur Radio Club to Hold General Classes

The AARC plans to initiate classes starting on **08 January 2020**. It will be held in the cafeteria conference room starting at **6PM**.

The classes will be over a 12-week time span and will be two hours a session.

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It is suggested the students bring a SD card or thumb drive with at least one gigabyte of free space to receive all the information needed to get the license. It can be used for home study and also holds the Technician class information as well as the General class.

Contact Frank, WA8WHP for more information. He can be reached at wa8whp@gmail.com

#####

Amateur Radio Extra License Class 2020

The Franklin County Ohio Amateur Radio Emergency Service group will offer classes to achieve an Extra Class license. Classes will be held at the Whitehall Branch public library at 4445 E. Broad Street, Whitehall, OH. You do not need to be a member of the FCOHARES to participate. .

This is a no cost course of study. **Classes begin January 2 through February 27, Thursdays from 6 to 8:30 PM.** Your only cost may be for a study guide and testing fee, depending on which organization you choose to test with, and which study guide you select.

Each student should acquire a study guide to begin familiarization with the material prior to starting the class. Although this is an advanced level technology course no advanced level math is involved. Some demonstrations will be presented during classes.

Pre-registration is recommended. To register, send an email to John Buck at kd8rtp@arrl.net. Please include name, email address, phone/text number.

Technician and General level classes will also be offered as requested. Dates and times to be determined. Contact John Buck at kd8rtp@arrl.net

#####

Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club to Hold General Class

CFARC will hold its fifth annual General Class Licensing Course starting **16 February 2020** running for 5 weeks of instruction and a 6th week of a public VE session.

The class will be held in the main branch of the Akron-Summit County Public Library. The meeting time is 1:15 PM to 4:45 PM each Sunday for the 6 weeks. For detail contact Jim, N8PZL at education@cfarc.org.

Additional details and the course web page can be found at j-grover.com/general.

#####

Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society (CARS) 2020 Winter Ham Radio Classes!

Thursday evenings starting **February 20, 2020** and ending April 2, 2020 at 6:30 pm. April 2nd will be a special VE Test session for all license classes.

To register, please follow the link at: www.2cars.org and complete the on-line application.

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Classes will be held at the Seven Hills City Hall, 7325 Summit View Dr, Seven Hills, OH 44131 in room “C” at 6:30 pm every Thursday. All class materials are provided.

####

Santa Claus Net

The Mahoning Valley Amateur Radio Assn. in conjunction with Akron Children’s Hospital, Boardman Campus will be hosting the annual Santa Claus Net on **Wednesday December 18, 2019** at 7:00 PM on the 146.745 repeater.

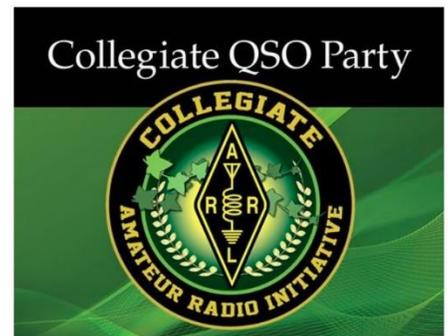
For those who are new, MVARA members take 2-meter radios into Akron Children’s Hospital and let the kids talk to Santa over the air. We would love to have you, your children, grandchildren, neighbors or anybody that wants to talk to Santa also check-in. For more info contact: DEAN DeMAIN, W8YSU - W8YSU@ARRL.NET 330-788-4271

####

Collegiate QSO Party 2018 and 2019 Plaque Recipients Announced

The ARRL Collegiate Amateur Radio Initiative has announced plaque winners from the 2018 and 2019 rounds of the Collegiate QSO Party. They are:

K4FAU [Florida Atlantic University](#) Amateur Radio Club, 2018 First Place, High Power; W0QQQ Amateur Radio Club at [Kansas State University](#), 2018 Second Place, High Power; W0YQ [University of Colorado Boulder](#) Amateur Radio Club, 2018 First Place, Low Power; W0EEE [Missouri S&T](#) Amateur Radio Club, 2018 Second Place, Low Power; K1EEE, Michael R. Rancourt, 2018 First Place, Employee, High Power; W4ATL, Sherman Banks, 2018 First Place, Alumni, High Power; W2RS, Ray Soifer, 2018 First Place, Alumni, Low Power; N8FM, Frank Maynard, 2018 Second Place, Alumni, Low Power; K4VBM, Robert G. Hensey, Jr., 2018 First Place, Individual, Low Power; N1SOH, Ethan Handwerker, 2018 Second Place, Individual, Low Power, and 2019 First Place, Individual (Ops N1SOH, W1FM).



W1RMC [Middlebury College](#) Amateur Radio Club, 2019 First Place, High Power; W8LT Student Radio Club of [The Ohio State University](#), 2019 First Place, Low Power, and KN4WZX [Augusta University](#) Amateur Radio Club, 2019 Second Place, Low Power.

Thanks to organizers Andy Milluzzi, KK4LWR, and Tony Milluzzi, KD8RTT. The plaques are sponsored by ARRL and the W1YSM Snyder Family Collegiate Amateur Radio Endowment Fund, established in 2017.

The Collegiate QSO Party will return in September 2020.

Upcoming Hamfests for 2020

01/19/2020 | Sunday Creek Annual Hamfest

Location: Nelsonville, OH

Sponsor: Sunday Creek Amateur Radio Federation

01/26/2020 | Tusco Amateur Radio Club's 30th Annual Hamfest, Electronics and Computer Show

Location: Strasburg, OH

Sponsor: Tusco Amateur Radio Club

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

02/16/2020 | Mansfield Mid-Winter Hamfest

Location: Mansfield, OH

Sponsor: Intercity Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://WWW.IARC.CLUB>

03/01/2020 | WinterHamFest

Location: Elyria, OH

Sponsor: Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society

Website: <http://noars.net>

03/14-15/2020 | Toledo Hamfest, ARRL Great Lakes Division Convention

Location: Perrysburg, OH

Sponsor: Toledo Mobile Radio Association

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



DX This Week

(from Bill, AJ8B)

DX This Week – DX Spots

Bill AJ8B (aj8b@arrl.net, @AJ8B, or www.aj8b.com)

CWOPs Member #1567

DX Spots that originated in the Midwest included Afghanistan, Asiatic Russia, Australia, Belarus, Cayman Islands, China, Croatia, Dem. Rep. of the Congo, Estonia, European Russia, Finland, Iceland, India, Ireland, Japan, Kaliningrad, Mariana Islands, Midway Island, Mongolia, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Peru, Poland, Republic of Korea, Sint Maarten, Slovenia, St. Martin, Suriname, and Ukraine. I hope you took part.

This week, the mailman KH0/KC0W – Mariana Islands, J68HZ – St. Lucia, TF2CT – Iceland, and 3G3G – Chile (Pictured). What did you get? Send me an image and some details!



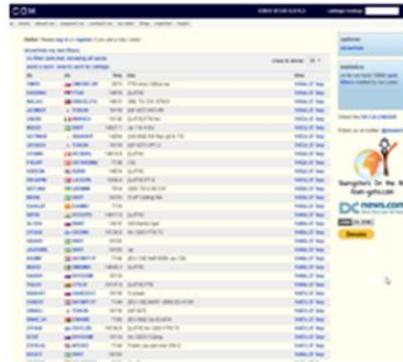
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I received an email regarding the weekly “DX Spots” list. They sender wanted to know how I was able to retrieve that information. Below is information that we published last year about the dxsummit.fi website. This is a great site that posts spots from all around the world! Once you are on the site, just go to “Spot Search” /

“Time Filtering” and you can specify a time frame and the number of spots to examine.



www.dxsummit.fi

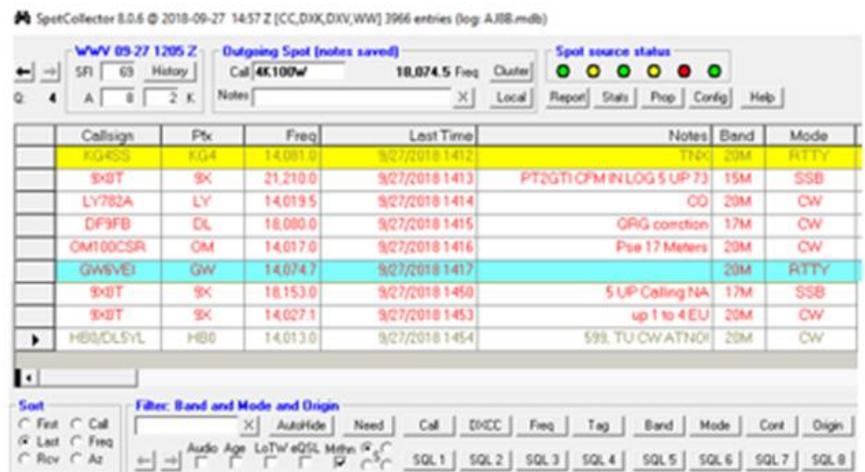


www.dxwatch.com

I thought it would be a good idea to provide a bit more information on this site. Years ago, we had a local “spotting network”. If there was some rare DX that was showing up, we had a group of hams that would call each other – independent upon the time of day (or night).

As technology developed, we started using 2-meter repeaters and 2-meter clusters to share the same information. One of the advantages of this approach was that you could load your local country needed list and the 2-meter clusters would beep your terminal when a country was “spotted” for a band or mode that you needed. These spots usually consist of quite a bit of information: Callsign, Prefix, Frequency, Mode and Comments. The comments field varied from a signal report to what frequency the station was worked at to QSL information and any other information the person who entered the data (the spotter) wanted to provide. As the internet became a standard piece of our equipment in our hamshack, websites sprang up with “spotting pages” such as these.

Logging programs have also taken advantage of the spotting network. This picture is from my logging software spots received window. Each spot is color coded indicating that it is a new mode, band, country, or zone, or some combination of these. It will also indicate that the station uses Log Book of the World and/or eQSL.cc. It also gives you the ability to search on various criteria as shown on the buttons at the bottom of the screen. Clicking on the spot of interest will set your rig to the correct frequency and mode and can also set up a split frequency if applicable. You can also configure this software to automatically turn the rotor to the appropriate heading; something that Uncle Frank takes advantage of, but I don’t need with my vertical.



DX Lab Logging Software Spot Window



Here is an update from Bernie, W3UR, of the DailyDX and the WeeklyDX, the best source for DX information. <http://www.dailydx.com/> Bernie has this to report:



South Orkney Island DX-pedition Press Release #8
By K5GS, Gene Spinelli
Dec. 3, 2019
South Orkney Islands DX-pedition
VP8/VP8DXU (AN-008)

Team Staffing: We're sorry to report that Dave WD5COV had to leave the project, replacing Dave is Alan Cheshire VK6CQ.

Originally from Scotland, Alan has lived in Perth, Western Australia for many years and was first licensed as G4EEL in 1975 whilst studying for his commercial Merchant Marine Radio Officer ticket. He holds degrees in Physics & Telecoms Engineering and is a consultant telecom engineer in the offshore oil and gas industry.

He has over 5 years Antarctic and sub-Antarctic experience with the British Antarctic Survey, Australian National Antarctic Research Expeditions and Antarctic Logistics & Expeditions and has over-wintered four times with the call signs VP8PJ and VKØLD. Other DX calls over the years: A4XYF, VS5AC, V85AC, P29AC, VK8AC, 9V1DX, 9VØA, CE9/VKØLD.

An A1 CW Op, he gave many an all-time new one as VKØMM from Macquarie Island over the year 2000 and was also a member of the 2016 VKØEK Heard Island team. When not pounding away on a Morse key, Alan plays a mean bluegrass banjo.

Equipment Shipping: After a short delay the equipment was accepted by our freight agent, placed on pallets, shrink wrapped and loaded into a sea container. The container was trucked to Oakland, California and after US Customs formalities it began its journey to Coronel, Chile. Expected arrival is December 21st. Subsequently, the shipment will be taken to Punta Arenas, Chile.

Fundraising: The estimated cost of this project is \$310,000 - \$325,000(USD), with the most expensive line items being the ship, freight and cold weather shelters. We expect fuel prices to remain within the contracted range, with minimal foreign exchange fluctuation. Our bills are paid in: US and New Zealand Dollars and Euros, we closely follow currency trends.

We appreciate the support from the worldwide DX and amateur radio organizations. Forty-nine clubs / foundations have signed on, and equally important are the over 400 individuals who have already supported the project, especially our 47 Premier Sponsors who each donated \$200(USD), or more. While we still have a long way to go, we continue to make progress towards our goal of the radio team paying 50% of the project cost with sponsorships paying the remainder.

The corporate sponsors: Elecraft, DX Engineering, WIMO, RadioSport, Low Band Systems, Spiderbeam, Rig Expert, Mastrant and Clamcleat are instrumental to the success of this project. We know that Max at ON5UR Print, working with our QSL manager Tim M0URX, will deliver a high quality QSL card.

Our next major milestones include finalizing the radio operating schedule and assigning team member responsibilities for camp setup, radio and antenna installation.

Thanks for your continued interest and support of our project.
Good luck in the pileups.

73,
Team VP8/VP8DXU
Website: <https://sorkney.com/>

Please direct your questions to: info@sorkney.com

DX news

ARLD049 DX news

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by W3UR, W9JJ, 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.

ROTUMA ISLAND, 3D2. 3D2AG/p will be QRV beginning December 17. Activity will be on 160 to 10 meters. QSL via 3D2AG.

GEORGIA, 4L. Tev, TA1HZ will be QRV as 4L/TA1HZ from December 13 to 20. Activity will be mostly on the low bands using FT8 and FT4. QSL direct to home call.

SENEGAL, 6W. A group of operators are QRV as 6V1A from Goree Island, IOTA AF-045, until December 15. Activity is on the HF bands using CW and SSB. QSL via 6W1QL.

BHUTAN, A5. Zorro, JH1AJT, Franz, DJ9ZB, Adrian, KO8SCA, Max, ON5UR and Champ, E21EIC are QRV as A50BOC, A50BPC, and A5B until December 20 as part of a trip here in order to support Bhutan's Olympic and Paralympic Committees with regard to the 2020 Olympic Games in Tokyo. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB and FT8 and FT4. QSL via JH1AJT.

CUBA, CO. Amed, CO2AME plans to be active in the ARRL 10 Meter contest from Havana. QSL to home call.

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ANTARCTICA. Roman, HB9HCF will be QRV as DP0GVN from the Neumayer III station from December 15 to February 29, 2020. Activity will be on 160 to 10 meters. QSL via DL5EBE.

CANARY ISLANDS, EA8. Erich, HB9FIH is QRV as EA8/HB9FIH from El Hierro, IOTA AF-004, until the end of March 2020. Activity is on the HF bands using CW, SSB and various digital modes. This includes various SOTA and IOTA activations. QSL to home call.

ETHIOPIA, ET. Members of the Ethiopian Amateur Radio Society are QRV as ET3YOTA during December. QSL direct to N200.

NEW CALEDONIA, FK. Rudi, DB1RUL is QRV as FK/DB1RUL until December 27 from various IOTAs. Activity is on the HF bands using mainly FT8. QSL to home call.

HONDURAS, HR. Tom, N9EAW is QRV as N9EAW/HR9 from Roatan Island, IOTA NA-057, until December 22. Activity is on the HF bands. QSL to home call.

THAILAND, HS. Brad, VK2BY will be QRV as HS0ZNR from Nam Yuen from December 14 to January 8, 2020. Activity will be on 80 to 10 meters using SSB and FT8. QSL via LoTW.

DENMARK, OZ. Volker, DJ8VW is QRV as 5P8VW from Romo, IOTA EU-125, until December 21. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB and FT8. QSL to home call.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS, VP5. Mark, WQ7X is QRV as VP5/WQ7X from Providenciales Island, IOTA NA-002, until December 21. Activity is on 40 to 10 meters using CW and SSB. QSL to home call.

ANTARCTICA. Seba, SQ1SGB is QRV as VP8HAL from the Halley VI Research Station until February 8, 2020. Activity is in his spare time on 40 and 20 meters using JT65 and FT8. QSL via EB7DX.

CAYMAN ISLANDS, ZF. Vicky, AE9YL and Carl, K9LA are QRV as ZF2YL and ZF2LA, respectively, from Grand Cayman, IOTA NA-016, until December 16. Activity is on the HF bands. This includes being active in the ARRL 10 Meter contest. QSL to home calls.

OPERATION APPROVED FOR DXCC CREDIT. The following operation is approved for DXCC credit: Lakshadweep Island, VU7RI, 2019 operation.

THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO. The ARRL 10-Meter Contest, NCCC RTTY Sprint, QRP 80-Meter CW Fox Hunt, NCCC CW Sprint, PODXS 070 Club Triple Play Low Band Sprint, TRC Digi Contest and the CQC Great Colorado 20-Meter CW Snowshoe Run are all on tap for this upcoming weekend.

The Run for the Bacon QRP CW Contest is scheduled for December 16.

The CWops Mini-CWT Test, Phone Fray, NAQCC CW Sprint and QRP 40-Meter CW Fox Hunt are scheduled for December 18.

The Canadian National Parks on the Air, CNPOTA, operating event runs for the entire year of 2019, with special stations active from Canada's parks and historic sites. During December look for a number of stations active with the YOTA suffix for Youngsters On The Air. QSL via LoTW or direct to M0SDV.

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Special Events

- **12/17/2019 | 52 Years of Amateur Radio**

Dec 17-Dec 31, 0001Z-2359Z, K4Q, St Simons Island, GA. N4XU. 7.037. QSL. Bob Wilson, N4XU, 209 Broadway Street, Saint Simons Island, GA 31522. Will try to operate 3 kHz down from IOTA Meeting Frequencies on cw, and any available spot in the USA General-class portion on ssb. Multi-band/mode contacts are welcome. <https://www.qrz.com/db/K4Q>

- **12/26/2019 | Commemorating the US Revolutionary War – Historic “Battle of Trenton”**

Dec 26-Dec 30, 0000Z-2359Z, W2T, West Trenton, NJ. Delaware Valley Radio Association. 14.225 7.175. Certificate & QSL. Delaware Valley Radio Association, PO Box 7024, Trenton, NJ 08628-0024. www.w2zq.com

- **12/29/2019 | 21st Annual Ham Radio University Educational Conference**

Dec 29-Jan 5, 0000Z-0300Z, W2HRU, Lindenhurst, NY. Ham Radio University. 14.273 7.273 7.074 3.923. Certificate & QSL. Phil Lewis, N2MUN, 22 Belle Terre West, Lindenhurst, NY 11757. Operating at various times on SSB and FT8. Electronic QSL via eQSL and LoTW. Paper QSL via W2 QSL Bureau or direct w/SASE to Phil Lewis, N2MUN, 22 Belle Terre West, Lindenhurst, NY 11757. On-Line printable QSL Certificate available at: https://www.elemcoshopfloor.com/w2hru_cert. hamradiouniversity.org

- **12/31/2019 | Commemorating the US Revolutionary War – Historic “Battle of Princeton”**

Dec 31-Jan 6, 0000Z-2359Z, W2P, Trenton, NJ. Delaware Valley Radio Association. 14.225 7.175. Certificate & QSL. Delaware Valley Radio Association, PO BOX 7024, West Trenton, NJ 08628-0024. <https://www.w2zq.com>

- **01/01/2020 | NCDXA 5th Annual Worked All RST Special Event**

Jan 1-Feb 28, 0000Z-2359Z, KL7RST, Anchorage, AK. North Country DX Association (K7ICE). 14.250 14.075 7.190 7.050. QSL. J. Reisenauer, 2573 Old Georgetown Rd. W., Kershaw, SC 29067. www.qrz.com/db/kl7rst

- **01/02/2020 | 14th Annual Straight Key CW Event**

Jan 2-Jan 31, 0000Z-2359Z, K3Y, various cities. SKCC - Straight Key Century Club. 21.050 14.050 7.055 3.550. Certificate & QSL. SKCC c/o Jeremy Downard, KD8VSQ, 511 W. Pottawatamie St., Tecumseh, MI 49286. K3Y/0 thru 9 plus KH6, KL7, KP4 and DX member stations in six WAC areas operating straight key, bug and cootie keys. QSL card confirms one QSO per area, up to 19 for all-area sweep. See URL for schedule, map, stats, etc. www.skccgroup.com/k3y

Attention ALL Ohio...

Mark January 11 (Saturday) 10AM - 4PM for the ARES VHF Simplex Contest!

This is more important in 2020 as a follow-up to our SET, which was designed to map our simplex footprints. Now, we can exercise that information and get even more by participating! It's a fun event with a purpose.

The purpose of our annual simplex activity is to improve our station and antenna capabilities, and to test our coverage areas on simplex frequencies.

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These may be very important in times of emergency, when repeaters have failed, and simplex is the only method of emergency communication. We are NOT giving any consideration for backup power- this exercise is aimed at testing antennas and determining coverage areas.

We've just gotta' thank Jason McCormick N8EI for setting up a website with the complete rules, scoring and who's operating. <https://ohsimplex.org/#rules>



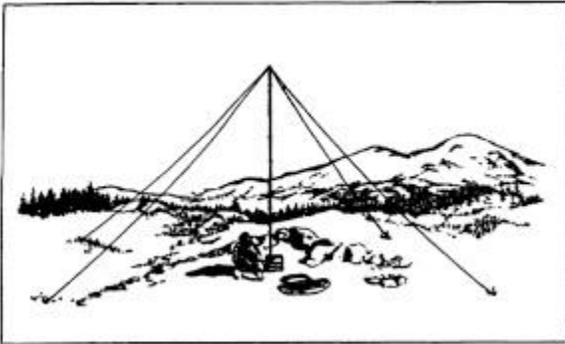
####

Mark April 4, 2020 (Saturday) as our ARES OHIO SPRING CONFERENCE!

We have the Marion Tech lecture hall reserved (THANKS MARION ARES!!!) and we'll begin planning some important topics! More information will be forth coming.

####

NVIS DAY IS COMING!



Is your station ready to establish and maintain high-reliability communication with other stations around Ohio when repeaters, phone, and internet service are impaired?

When infrastructure just isn't there, HF radio using Near-Vertical Incidence Skywave (NVIS) propagation offers the ability to stay in contact on frequencies of 2–30 MHz for distances of about 30–400 miles.

NVIS Day is the ARRL Ohio Section event to test your NVIS antenna designs and builds. Join us on Saturday, April 25th to show how well amateur radio can keep Ohio communicating! This is not a contest: it's an event for Ohio stations to operate with other Ohio stations and understand how well they hear and are heard.

THE DETAILS

Date: Saturday, April 25

Time: Start at 10 A.M., end at 4 P.M.

Power: Up to but no more than 100w

Exchange: six-digit grid, power, and true—measured—signal report

Schedule: This isn't a contest, so take your time! Try different designs! Have lunch!

ARRL Contest Corner

An expanded, downloadable version of *QST*'s [Contest Corral](#) is available as a PDF. Check the sponsor's Web site for information on operating time restrictions and other instructions.



V.E. Test Sessions

For the latest testing site information please >> [Click Here](#) << The ARRL site tracks all of the VE testing sites that register with them, including W5YI and Laurel. ARRL gives you a number of different ways of sorting to find that site that is closest to you as well.



One Question Questionnaire



Hey Gang,

“Survey Says” about 58% of you don’t use Echolink or IRLP. Hey, I’m not really all that surprised. Many of you just haven’t embraced the internet technology that is migrating more and more into the Amateur Radio world yet.

I’ve got another NEW – one question – for you to think about. Since the holiday’s are coming up which will give a lot of you some extra time to work the bands, here’s the next question that all of us just have to know....

“How many Hand-Held radios do you wear on your belt during an event?”

You’ll find the “One Question” questionnaire on the Ohio Section Website! <http://arrlohio.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 Connect

Everyone – please make sure to go into all of the events that you have signed up for and get your hours registered no later than 7 days after the event has ended.

ARES Connect

[Enter ARES Connect](#)

[ARES Connect Helpful Instructions](#)

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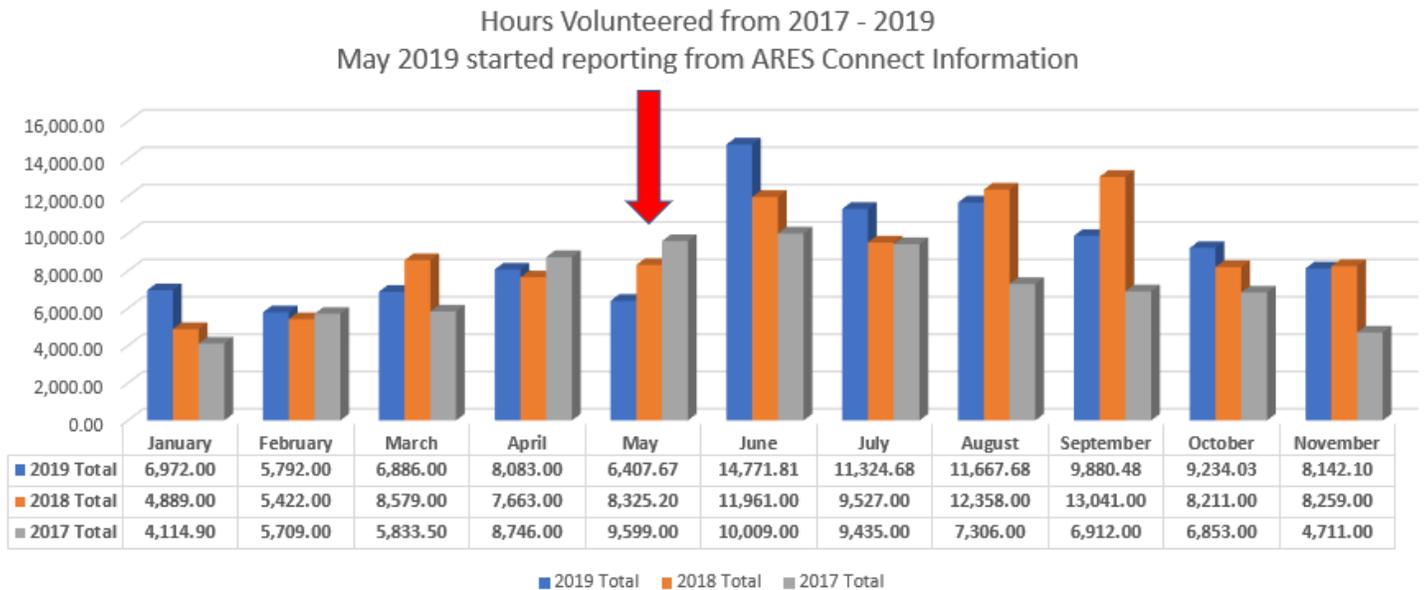
I need you to be as prompt as possible in reporting your hours. I'm noticing a number of events that aren't getting hours credited and that is due to you not going back into your account and registering your hours! Please, don't miss out on your hours just because you missed on very important step, record hours!!

Admins – Make sure that you are as prompt about approving those hours as well. I've set the timer for 7 days after the event, this should be more than ample amount of time to make sure hours are recorded for every volunteer that signed up and get those hours approved.

Here's the top 10 hours earners so far in December:

	Name	Events	Hours
1	James Yoder (w8erw)	15	62.15
2	Bret Stemen (KD8SCL)	17	53.00
3	Dan Stahl (KC8PBU)	30	39.16
4	Steve Wheatcraft (AA8BN)	3	26.25
5	Christopher Domenick (KC8CAD)	8	26.00
6	Michael Lacumsky (w8mal)	19	19.50
7	Alan Rothweiler (N8CJ)	11	19.50
8	Marcel Casavant (AD8CM)	16	15.30
9	Michael Farkas (n8gbu)	19	13.50
10	Elizabeth Klinc (KE8FMJ)	22	13.13

Here's a quick overview of what we report to Headquarters that comes from the data collected by ARES Connect...



The month of May was the very first report with all the data coming from ARES Connect. The Ohio Section was also, and still remaining true today, the only Section where the data collected for the monthly report comes from ARES Connect.

With all of the additions to ARES Connect that we now have, there is absolutely no longer any excuses for all of you to not use the system!!

I'm setting a goal for all of you out there. **Let's get everyone in the Ohio Section on ARES Connect before the end of this year!!!** Simply go to: <https://arrl.volunteerhub.com/lp/oh/> and get yourself registered and using the system.

Why is this so important? Hey, I am just going to say this... The end of the year is coming up fast, and now with the ability to catch yourself up on past events, there's gonna' be a very special "End of the Year" award for the person with the most hours in 2019! . Will that be you? You now can make that happen!

Admins... If you are wondering how to get an overview of all of your events you can simply go into reports and using the new Event by Participation by Event (version 2) you can not only see who registered for your event, but you also can see if he/she has inputted their hours for it as well. Take advantage of this new report to help you get the time entered into your events.

I'm also seeing a number of recurring events created but no activity reported for them. Please, if this event is no longer needed, let me know and I can delete it from the masters. I know that many of you setup recurring events to learn how, but if they aren't going to be used, let's get them cleared out.

Also... If you are setting up events, please don't set a limit for how many folks can sign-up unless absolutely necessary. This causes issues when doing reports. It's also counter-productive since the reason for you to list the event is to get as many volunteers as you can to attend. When you set limits, it discourages folks from signing up.

Special NIMS Training Available

ICS300 INTERMEDIATE ICS FOR EXPANDING EVENTS MGT904

Hosted by: Mahoning County Emergency Management Agency

January 13 – 15, 2020

Application Deadline: December 30, 2019

Course Registration time: 7:30 am – 8:00 am (on day one)

Course Time: 8:00 am to 5:00 pm – All three (3) days One-hour Lunch each day

Training Location: Boardman Fire Department, Station 71 7440 Market Street Boardman, OH 44512

Recommended Participants: FEMA designed this course for individuals who may assume a supervisory role in expanding incidents or Type 3 incidents.

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Required Prerequisites: Individuals must complete the IS-100.c Introduction to the Incident Command System, IS-200.c Basic Incident Command System for Initial Response, IS-700.b An Introduction to the National Incident Management System and IS-800.c National Response Framework courses prior to attending the ICS-300 Intermediate course and provide copies of their certificates of completion to the instructors on day one of the course.

Enrollment: Students must enroll via the Department of Public Safety Training Campus website: <https://trainingcampus.dps.ohio.gov/cm/cm710/pstc/pstc.html> Course registration will generally close 10 working days prior to the course start date and applicants can check enrollment/approval status via the Department of Public Safety Training Campus website.

Course Costs: There is no charge for participants to attend this course. However, Lodging, Meals, Per Diem and all other travel expenses are the responsibility of the student or the parent organization.
State Point of Contact: Lisa Jones, DSC 2, Ohio EMA, SAA Training Point of Contact, (614) 799-3824
ljones@dps.ohio.gov

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ICS400 ADVANCED FOR COMMAND & GENERAL STAFF MGT905

Hosted by: Mahoning County Emergency Management Agency

March 30 – 31, 2020

Application Deadline: March 16, 2020

Course Registration time: 7:30 am – 8:00 am (on day one)

Course Time: 8:00 am to 5:00 pm – Both days One-hour Lunch each day

Training Location: Boardman Fire Department, Station 71 7440 Market Street Boardman, OH 44512

Required Prerequisites: Individuals must complete the IS-100.c Introduction to the Incident Command System, IS-200.c Basic Incident Command System for Initial Response, IS-700.b An Introduction to the National Incident Management System and the IS-800.c National Response Framework, an Introduction courses. In addition, ICS-300 Intermediate courses prior to attending the ICS-400 Advanced course and provide copies of their certificates of completion to the instructors on day one of the course.

Enrollment: Students must enroll via the Department of Public Safety Training Campus website: <https://trainingcampus.dps.ohio.gov/cm/cm710/pstc/pstc.html> Course registration will generally close 10 working days prior to the course start date and applicants can check enrollment/approval status via the Department of Public Safety Training Campus website.

Course Costs: There is no charge for participants to attend this course. However, Lodging, Meals, Per Diem and all other travel expenses are the responsibility of the student or the parent organization.
State Point of Contact: Lisa Jones, DSC 2, Ohio EMA, SAA Training Point of Contact, (614) 799-3824
ljones@dps.ohio.gov

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G-386 MASS FATALITIES

Hosted by: Franklin County Emergency Management & Homeland Security **February 20 - 21, 2020**

This is an “Elective” course in the Advanced Professional Series (APS) program

Application Deadline: February 10, 2020

Time of Course: Registration: 7:30 am – 8:00 am Course Time: 8:00 am – 4:00 pm

Location: Franklin County EM&HS - 5300 Strawberry Farms Blvd. - Columbus, OH 43230

Supported By: The Ohio Emergency Management Agency

Enrollment: Students must enroll via the Department of Public Safety Training Campus website:

<https://trainingcampus.dps.ohio.gov/cm/cm710/pstc/pstc.html>

Course Costs: This course is free to participants. Lodging, meals and all other expenses are the students' responsibility.

County Point of Contact: Pam Tickle, Franklin County EM&HS (614) 794 – 0213,

pktickle@franklincountyohio.gov

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Below is information on upcoming ICS-300/ICS-400 classes for those interested.

Please be advised that we have listed the following ICS courses on the Ohio EMA Public Safety Training Campus (PSTC) website for students to register for the courses;

<https://trainingcampus.dps.ohio.gov/cm/cm710/pstc/>

Course ID	Name	Session	Location	Enroll
ICS300LorainCoJan2020	ICS-300 Intermediate ICS	January 7 - 9, 2020	Oberlin Fire Department 430 South Main Street Oberlin, OH 44074	Enroll
ICS300PrebleCoJan2020	ICS-300 Intermediate ICS	January 11, 12 & 18, 2020	Eaton City Fire Department, Station 2 391 West Lexington Road Eaton, Ohio 45320	Enroll
ICS400AshtabulaCoJan2020	ICS-400 Advanced ICS	January 13 - 14, 2020	Ashtabula County Engineers Office 186 East Satin Street Jefferson, Ohio 44047	Enroll
ICS300MahoningCoJan2020	ICS-300 Intermediate ICS	January 13 - 15, 2020	Boardman Fire Department, Station 71 7440 Market Street Boardman, OH 44512	Enroll
ICS400OttawaCoJan2020	ICS-400 Advanced ICS	January 16 - 17, 2020	Magruder Hospital 615 Fulton Street Port Clinton, OH 43452	Enroll

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Campbell County Kentucky Office of Emergency Management Upcoming Training



James E. Sparks, Deputy Director of Operations
Campbell County Fiscal Court
Office of Emergency Management, Unit 2152

O: 859-547-3152 · C: 859-743-4136 · F: 859-635-3132

<http://www.campbellcountyky.gov>

Campbell County Kentucky Office of Emergency Management **FREE** Training Opportunities

Working with the Media: A Short Course for Emergency Responders (AWR-209) – January 22, 2020 – RDPC / Register: <https://qrgo.page.link/o2Gs>

Isolation and Quarantine for Communities (MGT-433) – February 19, 2020 – RDPC / ****Tentative/Requested****

Hazardous Weather Preparedness for Campuses (AWR-332) – March 4, 2020 – (NDPTC) / ****Tentative/Requested****

Readiness: Training Identification and Preparedness Planning (MGT-418) – March 11-12, 2020 - TEEEX / Register: <https://train.ncbrt.lsu.edu/Student/Register?ClassID=26374>

Registration Password: NCBRT418 If you have trained with NCBRT before, enter your FEMA SID, Last Name, and First Name. If your training record is found, your registration form will be pre-filled for you. Otherwise, click Register as New Person to fill out a blank registration form.

Evacuation and Re-Entry Planning Course – March 25-26, 2020 / ****Requested through KYEM Training Division****

Pediatric Disaster Response and Emergency Preparedness (MGT-439) – April 8-9, 2020 / TEEEX / Register: <https://qrgo.page.link/GFf4>

Debris Management Planning Course – April 15-17, 2020 / ****Requested through KYEM Training Division****

Intermediate ICS-300 for Expanding Incidents w/Forms (MGT-904) – April 22-24, 2020 / TEEEX / Register: <https://qrgo.page.link/HzT2>

European Space Agency Issues Challenge to Radio Amateurs

The European Space Agency (ESA) is [challenging radio amateurs](#) (or anyone with appropriate receiving equipment) to hear the first signals from ESA's OPS-SAT space software laboratory. The spacecraft is set to launch on December 17 into a low-Earth orbit from French Guiana. Once in orbit, the satellite will deploy solar panels and a UHF antenna and begin transmitting.



OPS-SAT will begin transmitting 15 minutes after deployment and after UHF antenna and solar array deployment has been confirmed. The OPS-SAT flight control team has developed [open-source software](#) that allows anyone to receive and decode the UHF beacon on 437.2 MHz, 9.6 kB GMSK. A [OPS-SAT UHF beacon reception form](#) is available to report.

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The first three radio amateurs or listeners to receive at least five correctly decoded frames and submit them to ESA get an exclusive invite to the OPS-SAT Experimenter Day next March and a certificate.

See the OPS-SAT [Amateur Radio Information Bulletin](#) page additional details. — *Thanks to ESA*

Final.. Final..



Hey Gang...

Wow, this was a very busy week for me, traveling all around the state visiting with all of you! I had a blast at the annual Christmas dinners from the Mt Vernon Amateur Radio Club (MVARC), Highland Amateur Radio Association (HARA) and the Silvercreek Amateur Radio Association (SARA). I want to thank each and every one of you for being such gracious hosts and inviting Janie and I to attend. We both always have so much fun at these events and we do look forward each year in attending and seeing how much your clubs have grown from year to year and all the different ways you have come up with to inspire new growth in your clubs. It is amazing and it does show why the Ohio Section is the BEST Section in the nation, hands down!

Ok.. Let's slide down the band a bit... The Hamfest Calendar is filling up fast for 2020. I just added another hamfest to the calendar this week, FCARC Summer Hamfest being held on June 6th. You know in 2019 we had 36 hamfests with one of them being a National Convention! Being the hearty Ohioans as we are, we even have 2 Hamfests scheduled for the dead of January! <http://arri-ohio.org/hamfests.html> and 1 in February so far.

Speaking of Hamfests, we have 2 big conventions coming up this next year I want you to save these dates on your calendars now!!! March 14-15 for the Toledo Hamfest and Great Lakes Division Convention and then later on into the summer, August 8th we have the DX Engineering Hamfest and Ohio Section State Convention. We will be announcing the winners of the Ohio Section Newsletter Contest and the Allan Severson, AB8P Memorial Award recipient at our State Convention at the DX Engineering Hamfest.

Switching bands for a moment... Some of you are still are sitting on the fence about getting registered in ARES Connect. I am still hearing that some of you think that it is just for ARES. This is absolutely not so! ARES Connect is for anyone and everyone, plain and simple. So, now that this rumor has been put to bed, let's get yourselves registered in ARES Connect today. My personal goal is to get everyone in the Ohio Section registered and using this new system by the end of this year! Help me out on that and get registered.

We want no one left behind! Let's get it going.... Get registered and start using the system!

Sliding down the band a bit more... Did you read the article from the CEO of ARRL at the top of the newsletter? I do want to strongly encourage you to read it, if you didn't. I always have a few folks that ask me "Why should I belong to ARRL? What have they done for me lately?" Well, that article should definitely answer your questions for sure! Please, if you haven't renewed or joined, maybe now is the time. Here's a great idea for you, ask for it as a Christmas Gift!

Wow, what a wonderful way to enjoy Christmas - 12 months out of the year. With winter here now and the nights coming much faster, all you're going to do is sit on that rocking chair and watch the boob tube anyway, why not spend the time reading and learning something new about Amateur Radio with that subscription to ARRL. Besides, the bands are still not really great in the evenings anyway, might as well take advantage of the extra time and read that QST from cover to cover.

I am still hearing from some of you that you just haven't taken the time yet to do anything with that newly acquired license. Why not? Do you need help? Hey, my best advice for you is to seek out a club and go and listen. You'll be amazed at how much knowledge is floating around that is just looking for a place to land. You got it... ON YOU! Have fun with it! Get on the Air!!!

Don't know where the clubs are? Hey, here's a link to our 117 ARRL Affiliated Clubs in Ohio...
<http://arrl-ohio.org/sm/affiliated-clubs.html>

Is your club doing any special activities that you'd like the Section to know about? As you can see by the posts in the Club Corner, many clubs are already taking advantage of getting the word out to over 8,000 readers every week.

Whelp... That's going to do it for this time around. Stay safe, enjoy the sunshine while we have it, and most of all... have FUN!!

73,

Scott, N8SY Go Bucks!!!

Swap & Shop Has Come to the Ohio Section Website



Hey Gang,

Have you taken a look at the **Swap & Shop** page on the Ohio Section webpage yet??

Here's a link that will take you there... <http://arrl-ohio.org/sm/s-s.html>

There's already been some great activity going on up there. Do you have equipment that you just don't need or want anymore? Here's a great venue to advertise it, and it's FREE!! No, it won't be listed in this newsletter because it would take up way too much space, so your ad will only appear on the website.

It is there for any individual to post equipment Wanted / For Sale or Give-Away. No licensed vehicles/trailers or business advertising will be posted.

Postings are text only (no pictures or graphics) will be posted for a maximum of 1 month from date posting and require a contact phone number or email within the posting.

Send your Wanted / For Sale or Give-Away post to: swap@arrl-ohio.org

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Welcome New Subscriber

Charlie, WA8RUO



Updated Information... Want to Share your Club Newsletter With Others?



We have a new webpage where you can download and read all of the newsletters that I get from around the state.

Here's the link to the page.... http://arr1-ohio.org/club_news/index.html/

Please, if you don't see your club newsletter posted, it's probably because I'm not receiving it, or I just cannot convert it over to Adobe Acrobat. Have your newsletter editor contact me and let's see if we can get your club's newsletter on the site!! We all learn and steal (I mean, share) from each other's work. So, let's give this new webpage a real workout and send me your newsletter!!! Send it to: n8sy@n8sy.com

Murphy's Laws

(You'll just never know when he'll strike!!)

- A working program is one that has only unobserved bugs.
- No matter how many resources you have, it is never enough.
- Any cool program always requires more memory than you have.
- When you finally buy enough memory, you will not have enough disk space.
- Disks are always full. It is futile to try to get more disk space. Data expands to fill any void.
- If a program actually fits in memory and has enough disk space, it is guaranteed to crash.
- If such a program has not crashed yet, it is waiting for a critical moment before it crashes.
- No matter how good of a deal you get on computer components, the price will always drop immediately after the purchase.
- The speed with which components become obsolete is directly proportional to the price of the component.
- Software bugs are impossible to detect by anybody except the end user.



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 newsletter. I want to thank everyone that has contributed articles and ideas to make this an even better news source. I sincerely hope that you have enjoyed this edition and will encourage your friends to join with you in receiving the latest news and information about the Ohio Section, and news and events happening around the world!