



“December 19, 2022”

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GET ON THE AIR!



CQ CQ CQ de WB8LCD

I know you all haven't got too far into the newsletter yet, but, I want you to STOP what you're doing right now, go grab your January 2023 copy of QST. Turn to page 9 and read Dave Minster's (NA2AA) editorial. I'll wait.....(Jeopardy music softly in the background)

This should dispel any doubts you may have had that our CEO at ARRL was out of touch with what we are facing as the institution of "Amateur Radio". In one page he points out that:

- 1) We are a volunteer organization
- 2) We *all* have a responsibility to do our part as a volunteer
- 3) Sometimes we might be required to do *more* than our part
- 4) We need volunteers at all levels
- 5) If we want to be effective volunteers, we need to be *active participants* in our hobby!

I think that last point is a perfect place to start. If you're not on the air, and having fun, then you're not really an active participant in our hobby. Getting our members on the air and having fun with our hobby is the first part to leading them to be effective volunteers and advocates for our hobby. Creating opportunities to do that in ways that are fun, competitive, and open to all is a good first step, and that's where VOTA (rhymes with POTA) fits in. Volunteers On The Air. You can get all the information you need to participate here: [Volunteers On the Air \(arrl.org\)](http://Volunteers On the Air (arrl.org)) . I'll be talking about points 1-4 above in more detail over the next few weeks coming up, but for now, I want you to get ready, and get started in the VOTA program. You can look for the OHIO SECTION to be listed soon on the State Activations Schedule. If you're not active with LoTW – get set up and start using it. There will be some "Ohio Section" awards as we progress through the year (meaning you must be an ARRL member living in the Ohio Section). Get your but in the chair and get on the air!



Youth Net

When: The second Sunday of every month at 7:30 PM EST

Where: The K8IV repeater located in Kent, Ohio (Echolink node K8BF-L) RF: 146.895 Mhz with PL 118.8

Who: Any licensed amateur radio operator who wishes to participate. Priority will be given to youth stations and those located in Ohio.

The purpose of this net is to encourage youth activity in amateur radio and to help new hams get more comfortable on the air.

Next Net is Sunday January 8th
****The January 8, 2023 Net will be held as a ZOOM Meeting! Watch for Details****

If you are a young ham, in the Ohio Section or elsewhere, please check in and say “Hello”! Even if you’re far away from OHIO you can check in via Echo-Link. Echo-Link is a good tool to have, and it can be accessed from your laptop, tablet or cellphone. But there is a process to get validated to the Echo-link system. It’s simple to do, but you need to get it done before the day of the net! Go to [Introducing EchoLink](#) for more information on getting started. If you’re an “Old Guy” (a gender neutral term meaning not a youthful operator) and you have some kids, grandkids, nieces, nephews or even some neighborhood kids who you would like to give a chance to talk to other kids about Ham Radio, this might be an excellent opportunity to give them that small nudge that could be the start of something positive they will carry with them through life!

Antenna weather is now officially behind us. If you didn’t get it done, it’ll be your excuse for not being on the air for the next few month – your mileage may vary depending on how north or south you are of 70 as it crosses the state. My advice to you is not to forget about it, but make a plan, order the parts and be ready to get on it at the first signs of warm weather. And, as some retailers would say, get that stuff on your Christmas Wish List as soon as you can! It’s not all about antennas though. Maybe the next couple months would be a good time to clean up your radio room. If someone needs to pass through a small walkway between piles of “stacked up stuff” to get to the operating table or the workbench, maybe you need to take a look at everything you’ve got and decide if some of it needs to reside in someone else’s basement! Earlier I asked you to read page 9 in the current issue of QST, when you were done reading, and there was no flat, horizontal surface anywhere that you could lay the magazine on, it’s time to tidy up a bit. The XYL will certainly be impressed..... Winter weather can bring with it power outages, now might be a good time to get all those HT batteries charged and ready. Have you got an alternative power system for the rest of your station / house? If you haven’t fired up your portable generator, now might be a good time to give it a test run. Check the oil, fill it up with fresh gas, get all the power cords you’ll need organized so when you need them, they’re ready to go. Make sure your gas can is full, and, extra milk and toilet paper might not be bad things to have around. Remember the Boy Scout motto – Always Be Prepared.

73,

Tom Sly - WB8LCD
Ohio Section Manager
wb8lcd@arrl.org
330-554-4650

National News

(from ARRL and other sources)



Launched: International Mission to Survey Earth's Water

The first satellite mission to [survey nearly all water on Earth's surface](#), Surface Water and Ocean Topography (SWOT), lifted off on its way to low-Earth orbit early this morning. Its instruments will measure the height of water in the planet's lakes, rivers,

reservoirs, and ocean in higher definition than ever before.

[Explore the SWOT Mission](#)

Image Spotlight

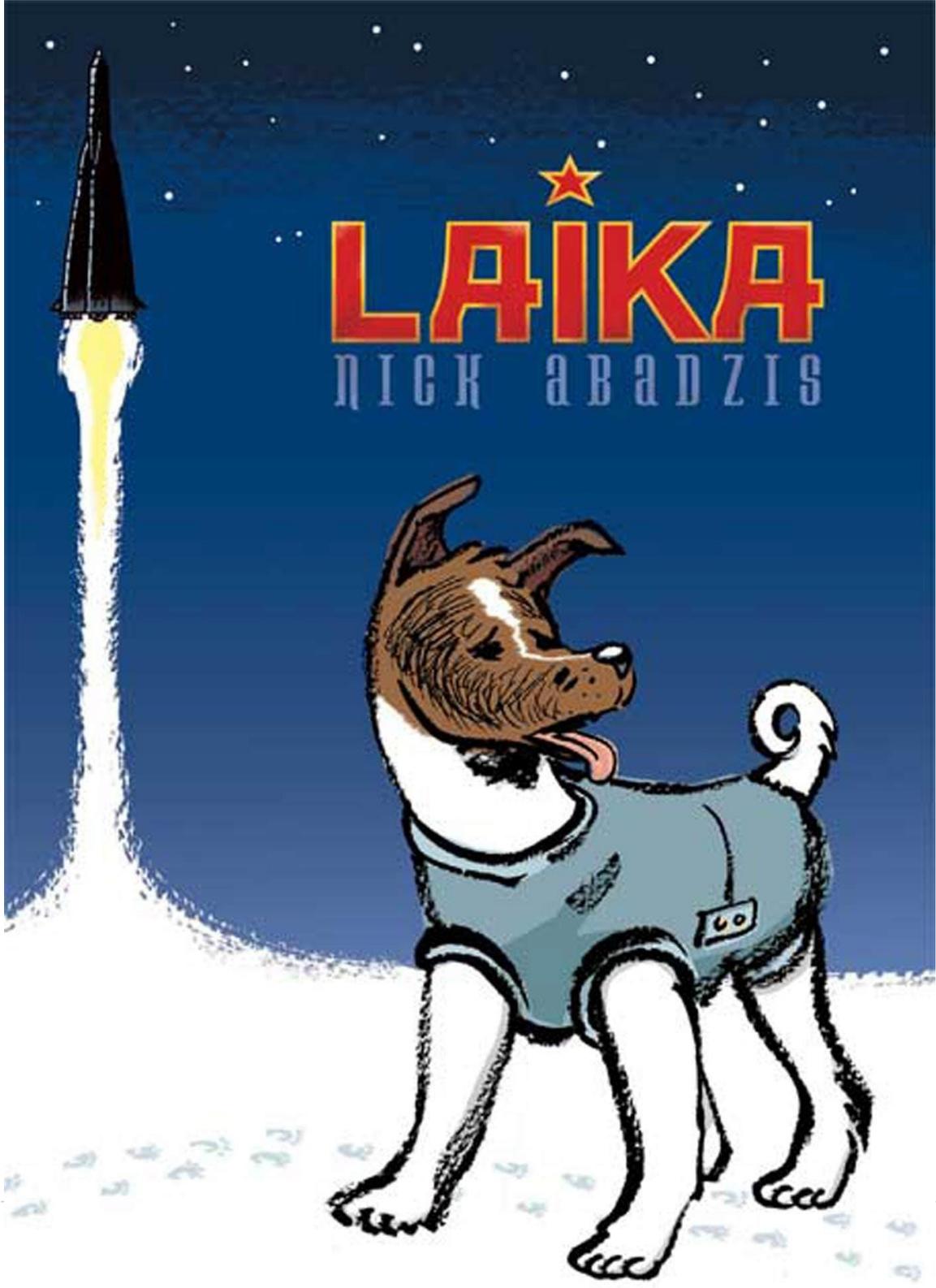


On flight day 20 of the Artemis I mission, Dec. 5, 2022, Orion captured the Moon on the day of return powered flyby, the final major engine maneuver of the flight test. The burn, which used the spacecraft's main engine on the European-built service module, lasted 3 minutes, 27 seconds, and changed the velocity of the spacecraft by about 655 mph (961 feet per second).

Credit: NASA

The Sad, Sad Story of Laika, the Space Dog, and Her One-Way Trip Into Orbit

A stray Moscow pup traveled into orbit in 1957 with one meal and only a seven-day oxygen supply



LAIKA
NICK ABADZIS

I'm pretty much a fan of the US Space Program and everything that led up to where we are today. The story of Laika is one that particularly catches my attention because some of my best friends are dogs! In Russia, Laika became a Folk Hero. It's an interesting story and if you want to learn more, you can start here: [The Sad, Sad Story of Laika, the Space Dog, and Her One-Way Trip Into Orbit | At the Smithsonian| Smithsonian Magazine](#) . By the way, one of the first animals the US put into space (and returned alive) was a monkey named "HAM". Another interesting story you might want to follow up on.

Youth on the Air Camp 2023 Application Period Now Open

Applications are now being accepted for campers interested in attending Youth on the Air (YOTA) Camp 2023.

Licensed amateur radio operators ages 15 through 25 are encouraged to apply online at YouthOnTheAir.org. The Radio Amateurs of Canada will be the local host for the 2023 YOTA Camp. It is scheduled to take place July 16 – 21, 2023, at the Carleton University campus in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.



Applications will be accepted through May 31, 2023, but for the best chance at being selected, applications should be submitted by 2359 UTC on January 15, 2023.

The application process is free. However, a \$100 deposit is required upon acceptance. If a camper is unable to pay the deposit, they may be able to apply for a scholarship or waiver. Camp Director, Neil Rapp, WB9VPG, said campers are responsible for their transportation to the camp location, though some assistance may be available. Travel during camp events is provided.

Campers will be selected by the working group and notified by February 1. To encourage attendance from across the Americas, allocations for campers are being held open for various areas of North, Central, and South America. If countries do not use their allocation, or should someone within an allocation decline acceptance, those positions will be filled from the remaining pool of applicants. As this will be an ongoing process, everyone will not receive notification of acceptance at the same time. Preference will be given to first-time attendees.

COVID-19 guidelines are still in effect and may have an impact on offering the camp. Currently, the outlook on offering the camp in July 2023 is positive. If the camp cannot be hosted, or would need to reschedule, all applicants will be notified as soon as possible. Appropriate requirements on masking and vaccination statuses will be announced as needed.

A [YouTube](#) video is now available about the 2023 YOTA Camp. For details and additional information, contact the Camp Director Neil Rapp, WB9VPG, at director@youthontheair.org.

Call For Instructors

ARRL is embarking on a journey of training for club officers and members. The new club development webinar series will include live Q&A, and the live sessions will be available to everyone. The webinars will be recorded and available to ARRL members through the ARRL Learning Center. We're looking for ARRL members to help us produce, create, and deliver the webinars.

The purpose of this program is to offer a series of short webinars that offer training for the skills needed to build and run a successful club. Topics will include leadership, activities, finance, and recruiting. Envisioned is a series of 10 or more webinars, all lasting from 20 to 30 minutes.

The hope is that club officers and members will view the series as an opportunity to learn from others that have been able to put those skills to use. To do this, we need the help of membership. We're looking for instructors to help with building the training. We're also looking for members that can present in a standard format and have the skills necessary to do the training. If this sounds like something that you are interested in, please contact Mike Walters, W8ZY, at mwalters@arrl.org for further details. We hope to start this series in late January 2023.

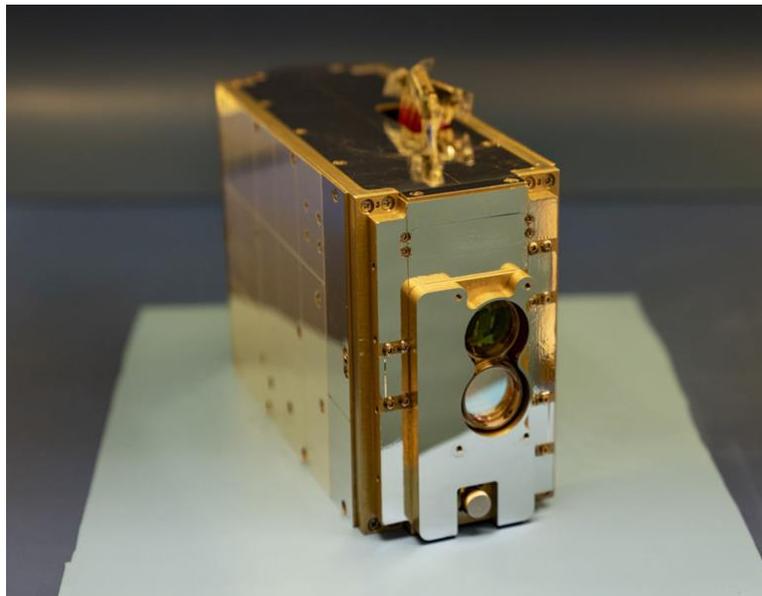


Image Credit MIT Lincoln Laboratory

A small satellite developed by MIT's Lincoln Laboratory has achieved the fastest laser link from space.

The satellite TBIRD (TeraByte InfraRed Delivery) used the laser to beam a record data transmission rate of data at up to 100 gigabits per second (Gbps) to a ground-based receiver in California.

In comparison, SpaceX's Starlink satellite internet averages between 20-100 Mbps, and even the International Space Station's data transmission speed tops out at around 600 Mbps.

That makes TBIRD around 200 times faster than other satellites in the orbit

The fastest laser link from space means future satellites will be able to communicate many times faster than today. Interestingly, this record-setting speed is achieved by a communications payload around the size of a normal tissue box.

Jade Wang, the Lincoln Laboratory's program manager for the TBIRD payload said "We've demonstrated a higher data rate than ever before in a smaller package than ever before. While sending data from space using lasers may sound futuristic, the same technical concept is behind the fiber-optic internet we use every day. The difference is that the laser transmissions are taking place in the open atmosphere, rather than in contained fibers,"

"In just a few weeks of operations, we have already accomplished this goal, achieving unprecedented transmission rates of up to 100 gigabits per second. Next, we plan to exercise additional features of the TBIRD system, including increasing rates to 200 gigabits per second, enabling the downlink of more than 2 terabytes of data — equivalent to 1,000 high-definition movies — in a single five-minute pass over a ground station."



Nidhi Goyal

Deadline for 2023 ARRL Foundation Scholarship Program is January 4, 2023

The application deadline for the 2023 [ARRL Foundation Scholarship Program](#) is January 4, 2023, at 12 PM Eastern Time. More than 100 scholarships ranging from \$500 to \$25,000 will be awarded in 2023 to radio



amateurs who are pursuing higher education. While the terms of each scholarship vary, many of the awards may be applied to tuition, books, fees, and other educational expenses.

Applicants must be active, FCC-licensed amateur radio operators. Active foreign amateur radio operators are eligible for scholarships established by Amateur Radio Digital Communications (ARDC) and administered by the ARRL Foundation. Every applicant must submit a completed online application by the deadline.

The ARRL Foundation will be utilizing the same scholarship management platform for 2023 scholarships that was used for 2022 scholarships. Transcripts and additional required documents must be submitted with the online application and not emailed separately. Some scholarships require additional documents, such as a letter of recommendation from a sitting officer of an ARRL Affiliated Club. **Applications without accompanying transcripts and additional required documents (if applicable) will not be considered.**

Additional information and a link to the application can be found at www.arrl.org/scholarship-program.

The ARRL Foundation Scholarship Committee will review all applicants for eligibility and award decisions. Recipients will be notified in May 2023 via USPS and email. Awards are mailed directly to recipients' schools.

In 2022, there were 139 Foundation Scholarships [awarded](#), totaling \$921,250.



ARRL intern Jherica Goodgame, KI5HTA, was among the 2022 ARRL Foundation Scholarship winners. She attends the University of Mississippi.

***** Editor's note: That's a lot of money to a lot of recipients! Don't let this get by you – if you are a young ham, or know a young ham, get an application submitted. This could make a BIG Difference in your educational experience.

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 your club is up to. Are you going to have a special guest at your meeting or are



you having a special anniversary?
Just send it to: webmaster@arrl-ohio.org

Please! Format as below:

If you want me to publish your club information, or even an article you have written, please send it in WORD format (.docx). Please use Times New Roman font size 12 for the body of the article. Any photos please include as a .jpg or .bmp – the time you save me in doing all the conversions will be greatly appreciated.

Free Amateur Radio License Update Classes

General Class

The Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club will again offer online classes to pass the FCC General Class Exam. The classes will be held via Zoom on six Sunday afternoons from 1:30 to 4:00 PM. The first class will start on Jan 15th. The classes are free and available to all interested hams with Tech licenses or studying to complete their Tech license by the end of the classes. Class materials will be distributed via Google Classroom, and the suggested book is “*General License Course Study Guide*” (2019-2023 edition), available from HamRadioSchool.com.

For more information and to register for the class, visit tiny.cc/cfarcgeneral or scan the barcode ----->>>
Please share this information with your friends.



Extra Class

“A free, weekly, live *Amateur Radio Extra Class Licensing* course on Zoom will begin on Thursday, January 12, 2023, and run through Thursday, March 23. Sessions will start at 6:30 PM Eastern Time. Sessions will be recorded. Those attending should hold the General Class Amateur Radio License. These classes have been held for years and are sponsored by the National Electronics Museum.

The text for the course is "*The ARRL Extra Class License Manual*," 12th Edition, and students are asked to purchase and begin reading before the first class. As of Dec 2022, this text is \$32.95 from ARRL or the *Kindle Edition for \$19.95. from Amazon.com.*

For those who don't know Rol Anders (K3RA), he may be the premiere instructor for this course anywhere. Rol Anders chairs the committee that selects questions for the question pools for all classes of Amateur Radio License in the USA. Along with his assistant instructor Tom Christovich (K3YH), Rol Anders has helped hundreds of amateurs achieve Amateur Extra class licenses over the years.

To pre-register for the course (preferred) or obtain more information, you can email Rol Anders (K3RA) at roland.anders@comcast.net or reach him by phone at 410-796-4792".

Free Live Online Class to get your General License

Sundays, Jan 15 to Feb 19, 1:30 to 4:00 PM
Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club-
www.cfarc.org



WHY YOU SHOULD GIVE AMATEUR RADIO A TRY



Make Global Connections

Meet great people all over the world, from every walk of life and every generation. Over 2 million smart and inspiring people are on the amateur airwaves and eager to talk to you!



Get Involved in Public Service

Community events, such as parades and road races, require radio communications along their routes for logistic support, scoring, and first aid.



Explore Technology

Discover how radio works by building projects and experimenting. Build a simple radio receiver and make a wire antenna to listen for far-away signals.



Compete & Win

From "foxhunting" for hidden radio signals to on-the-air contests for awards, amateur radio offers many challenging & fun ways to compete.



Make a Difference

When cell phones, the internet, and other systems are down, amateur radio still gets the message out. It is a vital service that can save lives when regular communication systems fail.



Expand Your World

Talk through satellites and with astronauts on board the International Space Station
xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx



Get Creative

Design, build, and test your gear, whether from scratch or a kit. Challenge yourself to make a one-of-a-kind electronic project.



Develop New Skills

Don't be afraid to try new things and learn new skills. Through amateur radio, you can develop communication skills to improve your career, friendships, and life!

What is Amateur Radio?

Amateur Radio (ham radio) is a popular hobby and service that brings people, electronics, and communication together. You can use ham radio to talk across town, around the world, or even into space, all without the internet or cell phones. It's fun, social, educational, and can be a lifeline during times of need.

Who are Hams?

There's no one type of person who becomes a "ham"—from doctors to students to celebrities, all ages and lifestyles are linked by their interest in wireless communications and technology.

Get Started — Get Licensed!

There are three classes of amateur radio licenses in the US—Technician, General, and Amateur Extra, each with increasing airwave privileges. The Technician-class license is the entry-level license and requires passing an exam with 35 questions on radio theory, regulations, and operating practices.

With this license, you can communicate locally and often throughout North America. It also allows for some limited privileges on the HF (also called "shortwave") bands used for international communications.



Jeff Klein – Director of Wood County EMA –

Jeff sent a reminder for the ComL course (L969) being held in Hamilton County March 13-16, 2023 at the Hamilton County Educational Services Center in Cincinnati, OH. Complete information can be found on the OH EMA Training Calendar listed below.

Want to know where to go to get the courses you need? It's all Right Here!

- [Ohio EMA Training Calendar](#)
- [Login to the DPS Training Campus](#)
- [Create a new account on the DPS Training Campus](#)

NOTE:

- Most courses are in-person but some course may be hosted virtually (this will be noted).
 - Seats available listed are as of the release of this update and will change quickly.
 - All classes will be posted on the DPS training campus at least 60 days prior to the start of the course.
 - Please read the [Training Policy & Catalog](#) for more information on Ohio EMA trainings.
-

How to Plan and Apply for an ARRL Hamfest or Convention

If your amateur radio club is planning to host a convention, hamfest, tailgate, or swapfest, please consider applying for ARRL sanctioned status for your event. To learn what it means to be an ARRL sanctioned event, and to get some ideas on how to prepare for and conduct a hamfest or convention, visit www.arrl.org/arrl-sanctioned-events.

To apply for ARRL sanctioned status for your event, go to www.arrl.org/hamfest-convention-application.

The ARRL Hamfests and Conventions Calendar can be found online at www.arrl.org/hamfests. In addition, the Convention and Hamfest Calendar that runs in *QST* each month also presents information about upcoming events.

Go Fully Electronic in 2023!

By Maria Somma, AB1FM, ARRL VEC Manager

Online Examinations and Remote Testing

Your club's VE team can become part of the fun and excitement of remotely administered Online Examinations.



The remote exam sessions are conducted using an online video conferencing platform and a web-based examination system with on-screen tests. ARRL VE teams have had the option to be completely electronic since June 2020 by using online exams. The online exams can also be utilized at in-person sessions automating most of the process, for a fully electronic in-person session experience.

VE teams have been using the [Exam.Tools](#) Online Examination system for remote video and in-person sessions. Over 25,000 applicants have been tested through the Online Examinations system in the past two years. The system works well for online or printed examinations and includes registering and tracking candidates throughout the session, on screen exams and grading, online signing of CSCE and 605 forms by the candidate and examiners, logging and compiling session stats and VE participation list (test report summary), and output files for upload to the coordinating VEC. The program manages and handles almost everything needed to conduct a test session. Time and experience with in-person exam sessions is invaluable when transitioning to remote video-supervised online exam sessions.

Interested ARRL VE teams must contact the [VEC department](#) to receive the online exams instructions and remote video session procedures.

Not a VE? Become one today!

Visit <http://www.arrl.org/become-an-arrl-ve>

Electronically File Exam Session Documents for Quicker Service

After the session has concluded, VE teams can upload in-person documents or remote video session files via ARRL VEC's secure web page (program service option since 2018).

New and upgraded licenses are issued within 1 to 2 business days for weekend sessions and are usually issued on the same day for weekday sessions.

Please contact the [VEC department](#) for the information and instructions on electronically filing exam session documents through our upload page. Authorized VEs will be sent the upload page URL which, is hidden from the public.

Resources for ARRL VEs

The [ARRL VEC VE Resources](#) page offers the information you will need to help conduct exam session business. Our support page offers easy access to session forms and information, online examinations, remote video session instructions, VE Manual supplemental information, FCC rules, basic qualification question procedures, and much more. There is also some helpful information for the community, such as preparation resources for candidates, in-person and remote video exam session search, vanity call sign information, and more.

The ARRL VE Newsletter relays important updates relating to FCC rule or policy changes, exam session document or procedural changes, video sessions, and other topics. VEs can sign up for the newsletter at <https://reflector.arrl.org/mailman/listinfo/ve-list>

VE Sessions

All Things Amateur Radio Association (ATARA) We host testing sessions every second Tuesday of the month in Lancaster. To sign up please visit our website <https://atara-w8atr.fun> and contact us at hamexams@atara-w8atr.fun.

CARS

VE testing from CARS - Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society - at Elmwood Recreation Center, 6200 Wisnieski Parkway in Independence, Ohio 44131 Time: 9:15 AM (Walk-ins allowed) Always the 2nd Sunday of the odd month. Go to CARS www.2cars.org for detailed map of location. Call Metro W8MET 216-520-1320 for details

Dayton Amateur Radio Association (DARA)

If you are interested in testing for a new or upgraded license, please come see us at the DARA Clubhouse. If you have questions about testing, please email exams.w8bi@gmail.com

Huber Heights Amateur Radio Club

Huber heights amateur radio club does ARRL VE testing the second Saturday of each even numbered month. Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec. 9:30-11:00 For more information contact Jim Storms – AB8YK at ab8yk@hotmail.com

The Lake County Amateur Radio Association

The Lake County Amateur Radio Association is once again holding its **2022** Amateur Radio license exams at the **Kirtland Library**, 9267 Chillicothe Road, on the following dates: Saturday, October 1, and December 3.

The tests will start at **12 noon**. Please arrive a few minutes earlier.

The Lancaster and Fairfield County Amateur Radio Club (LFCARC) hosts exam sessions at the FAIRFIELD County EMA, 240 Baldwin Dr in Lancaster Ohio, 43130, on the first Saturday each month at 10:00 am. Please visit our website at <http://www.k8qjk.org> for exam dates on our calendar and navigate to our Learning Center/Taking the Exam link for information and requirements. Our experienced VE team looks forward to serving the Amateur Radio community in Central Ohio. Contact me at ve_testing@k8qjk.org to register.

Madison County

The Laurel testing group will offer testing on the first Thursday of January, March, May, July, September and November. Tests are held at 7:00PM at the Madison County EMA located at 271 Elm St. London, OH. No fee.

The Milford Amateur Radio Club (MARC) is now doing VE testing on the third Thursday of each month at 6:00 PM. Location; Miami Township Civic Center located at 6101 Meijer Drive, Milford, OH 45150.

Please pre-register at www.milfordhamradio.org

Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society (NOARS)

VE sessions are held the first Saturday of odd-numbered months at 10 AM in the North Olmsted Library, 27403 Lorain Rd., North Olmsted. Registration is preferred, but walk-ins are welcome. For more information or to register, contact Elaine, KC8FOS at ewilkinson1951@gmail.com.

Portage County Amateur Radio Service (PCARS)

The first Saturday of every even numbered month -10 am – at the PCARS club site in Ravenna. Please visit the PCARS web site and check out the information about VE testing in the latest newsletter at www.portcars.org .

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact me at KB8UUZ@gmail.com

Amateur radio donation impacts local food center during time of need



Anne Face, Associate Director of Family & Community Services, Greg Ash, PCARS Treasurer, and Nick Wagner, PCARS President.

For the 17th year in a row, Portage County Amateur Radio Service (PCARS) has raised funds for the local food program, the Center of Hope, a program of Family & Community Services (FCS).

This year, their contribution has made an especially large impact, as the center faces struggles with rising food costs and increased need. The donation, which totaled \$10,870, will be used to help with the center's distribution that provides toys and food for Ravenna families this holiday season.

PCARS President Nick Wagner, and treasurer Greg Ash, were present for the check presentation, which was accepted by Anne Face, Associate Director of Family & Community Services, Inc. The donations were collected from club members and the community.

Each year, the Center of Hope assists hundreds of families in Portage County by providing hot meals five days a week through its congregate dining center, as well as emergency groceries through its choice pantry. Services are free of charge and dependent on an individual's income.

“Our small community programs like the Center of Hope depend on local donors like PCARS. Their annual support helps make our programming possible and we thank them for their continued generosity,” said Mark Frisone, Executive Director of FCS.

For more information about the Center of Hope, visit www.fcsserves.org/program/center-of-hope, or Portage County Amateur Radio Services, visit www.portcars.org.

Your Club news should be listed here!

I know you're out there doing things! Send me a write-up (MSWord please) and some photo's (.jpg please) and we'll get your club hi-lited here for the other OH Section Clubs to see! Send to WB8LCD@ARRL.ORG

DX This Week – CQ Marathon

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



I am very excited about 2023. There is a big announcement from the Southwest Ohio DX Association regarding DX Mentors. If you are a DX Mentor or have a ham who has been a real DX Mentor to you, this could be the best opportunity to get recognition. SWODXA is working with Icom® on this so you know that the reward will be great!

SWODXA is also starting to ramp up for the DX Dinner. The Keynote speaker will be fresh from Bouvet Island! This will be a great gathering of hams. You will also have a chance to win a week at the VP5M villa in the Turks and Caicos Islands. More information on all of that is coming up.

Finally, there is a new DX podcast on the horizon. It will launch on January 8th, 2023, via most major Podcast apps. It is called The DX Mentor and the intro episode is already available. Give it a listen and pass along your feedback.

As the end of the year is fast approaching, I wanted to pass along some information about my favorite contest, the CQ Marathon. This is truly a Marathon, as it lasts from 1/1/2023 at 0000Z to 12/31/2023 at 2359Z. You really can get serious about it any time during the year, but the sooner you start the better your chances are.

Below is a message from my friend across the pond, G3ZPF:

*From: David (G3ZPF) <g3zpf@raota.org>
Subject: 'across the years' challenge*

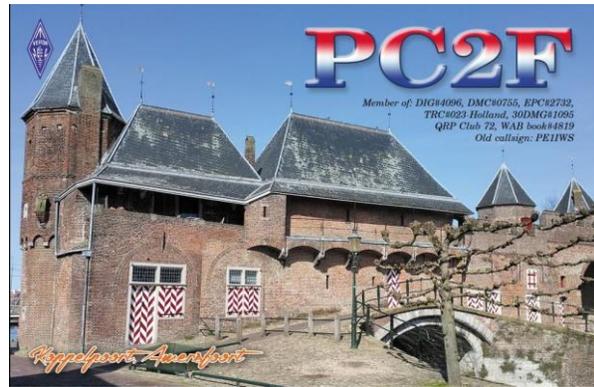
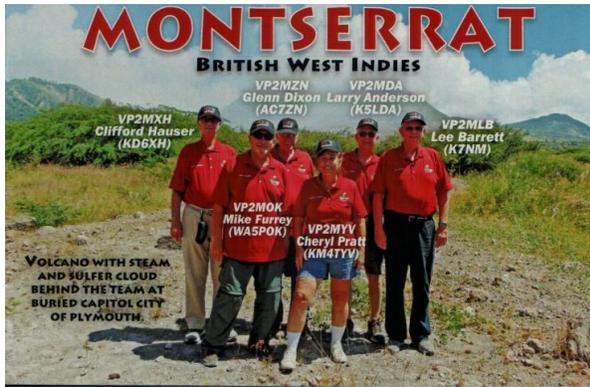
Bill,

Thought your members might be interested in a personal challenge I set myself every year. Just before UK midnight I try to work someone to the east for whom it is already the next year. Then, just after midnight I try and work someone to the west of us for whom it is still last year.

First part is easy for me. Lots of EU on, but the second part relies on me finding someone in USA/Canada/Caribbean who is in their shack on New Years eve, and that gets tricky.

*regards
David G3ZPF
RAOTA President*

Bernie, W3UR, of the DailyDX, passes along a message from Santa Claus. Check it out at the end of the column. I received nice cards from VP2MLB – Lee on DXPedition to Montserrat, PC2F – Frans in the Netherlands, and 9H1JQ – Joe in Malta. What did you get?



DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH

This article from Bob, W9KNI, first appeared in the NCJ from Nov/Dec 2012. I have updated it for 2022. Bob wrote an excellent book entitled "A Year of DX". This best seller was published in 2010 and I have found copies of it at Hamfests and on eBay. I read it every other year, or any time my enthusiasm starts to wane. Hope you enjoy this and hope you participate in the 2023 Marathon!



The CQ DX Marathon – A Different Kind of Competition

W9KNI – Bob Locker

Imagine a DX competition that does not require a North Atlantic rim location to win the world. A contest that is 365 days long instead of 2 days. A contest that does not require a superstation to compete seriously. A competition where the QSO rate is less than one per day instead of 200+ per hour. That contest is the CQ DX Marathon (www.dxmarathon.com).

Many, if not most, serious DX contesters started competitive operating by chasing DX. Over a few years, as their skills improved, they worked most or all the available DXCC entities. At the same time, they strived to collect the QSL cards and confirmations for DXCC and climb to the Honor Roll.

Eventually, with most entities in the log and on the wall, the new worlds left to conquer became fewer and fewer. For many, DX contests renewed the thrill and adrenalin rush that DXing once offered. Thousands of amateurs dedicate much of their discretionary time toward preparing for and then enjoying the thrill -and exhaustion ---that comes from a few 48-hour all-out contest weekends.

But 48-hour contests fail to offer some of the satisfactions of DXing. The competition-minded operator needs to have a reason to turn on the rig midweek. The joy of tuning an open band outside of a contest can be addictive for some. Night watches just before bed, dawn patrols on a frosty morning with that first cup of coffee, the anticipation of a major DXpedition, and stalking the elusive rare ones that would never appear in a 48-hour contest are some of the joys one might miss. These are some of the rewards that entering the CQ DX Marathon offers; it's a chance to return to your ham radio roots.

A Yearlong Event

So, just what is the CQ DX Marathon? It is a yearlong contest that starts January 1 at 0000 UTC and ends December 31 at 2359 UTC. During that period the goal is to work as many entities and CQ zones as possible. Participants may use any band and any mode. Band countries

and band zones do not count extra; you can work for credit an entity or zone only once, regardless of band or mode. The final score is the total of entities and CQ zones worked; there are no multipliers. A really good score would be about 330 the sum of 290 countries and 40 CQ zones worked. Note that the CQ Country list governs, as it does in the CQ Worldwide contests, not the DXCC list. This means that all DXCC entities count as well as such CQ countries as Sicily, European Turkey, the Shetland Islands and the African Italy islands.

The Marathon has several flavors. The Unlimited class allows full legal power and no restriction on antennas. The Formula class allows either an output power level of 100 W and simple antennas, or a maximum output of 10W but allowing the use of Yagis on a single tower of 20 meters maximum height. Also, there are single-band and single-mode categories, and the use of spotting nets and other Internet-based resources is allowed.

History

The DX Marathon actually began following World War II. It proved to be very popular but had to be suspended due to manpower limitations in favor of the CQ WW DX contests. In those days there was no volunteer management of contests, which were administered by CQ Magazine staff.

In 2006 the DX Marathon was revived, and since that time, the DX Marathon world winner has been twice in Ohio, once in Slovakia, twice in Oregon and once in Italy. The number of entries has been growing by about 20 percent a year. The rising enthusiasm level of the DX Marathon is worldwide.

Many DX Clubs have embraced the DX Marathon as the perfect opportunity for intramural competitions or as the basis for challenges to other DX Clubs. In some countries, particularly Brazil, the internal competition is fierce.

World winners of the contest in both divisions receive handsome plaques, and more recently plaques have been awarded for band winners on 80 through 10 meters, as well as for unlimited continental and for mode winners.

Personal Challenge

Many DXers use the DX Marathon as a personal challenge, paying little or no attention to other contestants and instead simply trying to better their score from a prior year. If you get the idea that progress and success in the DX Marathon is pretty much like chasing DXCC all over again, you are right. No QSLs are required, and the contest is finished at year's end and starts all over again.

So, what do you do to enter? First, of course, to read the rules, available online, www.dxmarathon.com. Then, download the spreadsheet entry form. You can use this to enter contacts directly as you make them, or you can use the output from DX Marathon-compatible logging programs. It's a good idea to visit the Web site from time to time throughout the year to take advantage of the useful news and information posted there.

Managing the Madhouse

At 0000 January 1, the fun begins, and you can start working as many countries and zones as you can. New Year's Day tends to be a madhouse - a fun madhouse -especially if

conditions are decent. Working well more than 50 countries and 30 CQ zones the first day is quite possible. Everyone on the bands is full of good cheer and bonhomie.

In the early days of the New Year, triage can be important. Spotting nets will call out many of the countries you need and for which you have propagation; the question is, which DX do you go for first? A few rules of thumb may help. Generally, the first criterion is whether a DX station is a DXpedition that may only be on for a limited time. Here, I am reminded of the adage, "Life is uncertain. Eat dessert first!" The same goes for DXpeditions. Work them first.

After you have logged the current DXpeditions, the next layer would be rare DX stations. Let's say the band is open deep into Asia and the Indian Ocean. You hear AP2NK and 388CF. Which do you after first? Well, if you have spent much time operating over the past year or so, you know that 388CF is virtually a beacon on the bands, whereas AP2NK is only an occasional visitor. Go for the AP! In any case, especially in January and February, concentrate on working the rare ones. If you are in the US, you will easily be able to pick up a lot of commonplace countries during the ARRL International DX Contest phone and CW weekends.

As the weeks and months go by, such conflicts become rarer and rarer. Once you have worked about 100 countries, it is time to start a serious "need list," and you should be well acquainted with its contents. Also, your spotting software's DX alarm list should be carefully crafted. Some operators rely exclusively on their logging programs for this, but that's a good way to end up as an also-ran. Just like the English language, with its many spelling, pronunciation and usage rules, the list of exceptions is long enough to cause complete despair for anyone trying to learn English. So, it is with DX alarm lists. Special prefixes, not to mention multiple prefixes, are more and more the norm, and a simple need list for alarms may let a lot of the DX you need slip past unheralded.

You should be studying the DX bulletins carefully, to be aware of and watching for DXpeditions from needed countries. Make a special note to enter unusual DXpedition call signs to your alarm list. You also should spend as much time as you have available tuning the bands. Not all rare DX gets spotted, and once it is and if it is truly rare - you are going to have to fight the pileup to put it into the log. It is a lot more fun to be the station that finds the rare DX calling "CO," and then posting the spot after you've made your contact- assuming the DX station is agreeable to an instant pileup.

As the year progresses, your totals climb ever more slowly, as fewer and fewer new ones are left to work. You have already picked all the low-hanging fruit. The CO WW contests in October and November typically are an opportunity to add a few new ones and offer a flurry of excitement. But don't relax your efforts just yet. You need to stay active right up to the end. In several years past, the contact that put the eventual winner over the top was worked the last week of the year.

The winning strategy for the DX Marathon is simple: Work as many countries and zones as quickly as you can, and make sure you get everything right. Don't worry about the competition. Worrying is a time waster unless it spurs you to even greater efforts.

Skill Set

The skills required for success in the DX Marathon are not entirely the same as you would need for success in a 48 hour contest. For one thing, unless you are doing a single-mode entry, you need to be reasonably proficient in all modes, and that certainly includes competence

in dealing with pileups. You need to gather all the DX intelligence you can about rare DX stations, using the Internet, DX bulletins, and information gleaned from listening.

The 48-hour contests rarely involve split-frequency pileups, while many of the stations that count in the DX Marathon are worked as a result of split operation. Or CW, not all DX stations use high speed. Some DX even may be found using hand keys or bugs. More and more countries are represented on digital modes. In particular PSK-31 offers up stations that simply are not available in typical contests. Many DX stations do not want brief, high-speed contacts, preferring a slower pace, and, indeed, often a bit of a rag chew. A lot of rare DX stations try to hide on the bands, only becoming active when openings are limited and then operating in parts of the bands away from mainstream DX activity. Simply waiting for the DX alarm to go off will not yield anything like a winning score in the Marathon. You need to do a lot of tuning and hunting on your own.

Higher is Better

A major contest station with stacked arrays for most bands would be ideal for the DX Marathon as well, if the station includes competitive antennas for 30, 17 and 12 meters. As in DXCC, contacts made on those bands count toward your DX Marathon total. For us lesser mortals with simpler antenna farms, a DX Marathon station would generally have higher antennas than the typical contest station. Although higher antennas will not deliver the same rates as antennas optimized for DX runs, they will deliver openings that lower antennas will not. This allows the operator to log additional countries from brief openings. To take advantage of high antennas, however, the operator needs to have a working knowledge of openings, especially regarding secondary paths that no one else is exploiting. High antennas tend to open and close a band, and this is always a potential benefit for the DX Marathon contestant.

This brings us to another difference. In a 48-hour contest, the operator very much wants to be the first contact in the log, once he or she hears a desired station. The dedicated DX Marathon operator too would always love to be the first in the log but is at least satisfied to be the last in the log for a new "counter." In the DX Marathon, being first in the log of a new one is not so important; being in the log is.

Preparedness

DX Marathon operators will almost surely benefit from having a second receiver in the transceiver. A good spectrum scope offers another benefit. An extremely valuable accessory in the Unlimited class is an "instant-on" linear amplifier. Point-and-shoot rotator control is another big plus in the Marathon station.

Why are these tools so useful? A number of countries in the Marathon will first come to your attention thanks to DX alarms from the spotting net. Once the alarm sounds, you essentially have 3 minutes to log a contact before the cavalry arrives that being all the DXers with amplifiers requiring a 3-minute warm-up. An Indy race car team can change four tires, fuel a car, adjust the chassis trim and have it on its way in 9 seconds. An NFL quarterback can march his team down the field for a winning score in well under a minute's playing time. In some big city neighborhoods trained "professionals" can have the engine and transmission out of your new Corvette in 90 seconds flat. And that's while you are parked on the street.

The proficient DX Marathon operator should be able to have the appropriate antenna closing in on the correct bearing, change bands, tune up the linear (please, on a vacant frequency, not on top of the DX) and be ready to call in less than 30 seconds from entering the shack. If you can't, you need to figure out why not and do something about it. Don't be satisfied until you can.

At the end of a year's campaign, you'll be amazed at how many DX stations you logged within 3 minutes of the first alarm, and I personally guarantee you will be grinning in satisfaction as the pileup gets exponentially larger by the minute when you are already in the log. With practice you will get even better at the 3-minute DX alarm drill, more quickly getting on frequency and nailing the contact.

At the end of an operating session, consider what station you will most likely get an alarm for next perhaps, for example, a T30 from the Central Pacific at 2 AM on a summer night. Position your station for that possibility, leaving the antenna pointing at T30 and the amplifier tuned up on the band where you anticipate the DX will show up. Even a few seconds saved after the alarm calls can make a huge difference.

To be sure, conventional 48-hour DX contests offer a great opportunity to work a lot of new ones in a hurry. Nothing in the DX Marathon rules stops you from all-out efforts in such contests, and, of course, contacts gleaned from these efforts count toward your DX Marathon score as well.

As they do in other contests, many DX Marathon entrants will have errors in their entries that reduce their scores. Several errors are common in the DX Marathon. Many contestants lose one or more CQ zones as a result. Two problem areas stand out: Zones 17, 18 and 19, especially since Siberian call sign blocks have changed, and zones 3, 4 and 5, the US/Canadian zones. In both cases, it is not enough to trust a logging program to get it right - or even for the call sign to be proof of location. US call signs are no guarantee of a station's location either, although Canadian call signs are. You should always take time to confirm the location of a US station you are claiming for a particular zone. For example, CQ zone 2 is a problem for many entrants. All V02s (Labrador) are in zone 2, and a few VE2s are in zone 2, but most VE2s are in zone 5. Some VY0s are in Zone 2 as well, while others are not.

Before you submit your log, always check zones carefully. The contest adjudicator will do it for you, of course, but once you submit your log, you can't change an erroneous entry -even though you might have good contacts in your log to replace the erroneous ones.

Another problem in submitting an accurate log comes from making the presumption that the call sign of a station spotted on the net is correct. Far too often that simply is not the case. You should never count on the spot for identification; always verify the call sign yourself. A special problem is EZ, Turkmenistan. Many operators mistakenly copy the E7 prefix (Bosnia) as "EZ." At this writing, there are no legitimate stations in Turkmenistan, yet each year many stations claim a contact.

Trust, but Verify

You should always check contacts claimed for the Marathon. Was the E51 you worked in the South Cook Islands or in the North Cooks? There are always a few perfectly legitimate call signs that do not correspond with typical practice. XWPA is a good example. It was a legitimate and properly licensed station in Laos that was active last year, but many logging programs will reject that call sign.

So, verify everything possible. Make sure you have correctly entered the call sign. Make sure the DX station got your call sign correct and that the DX station is where you think it is. Many DXpeditions offer online logging, giving you the chance to confirm that you are in the log and giving the DX Marathon judges a chance to check the validity of a claimed contact in such cases. Few things are more disheartening than to find a DX Marathon contact was disallowed, costing a country and perhaps a zone as well, when you had a dozen other contacts in the log that would have been valid. The DX Marathon home page (www.dxmarathon.com) offers guidance in dealing with these issues, and contestants should regularly check the page for recent information.

Commitment

An all-out effort in the DX Marathon requires a major commitment on the operator's part and, indeed, the family's as well. It helps a lot if you're retired or work at home, but some winners have succeeded while burdened with more conventional schedules. If you have a job that requires long hours away from the shack, you might consider a single band effort, on a band where the propagation profile matches your time at home as much as possible.

For many operators, a year in the DX Marathon proves to be one of the most rewarding experiences in our wonderful hobby. As in any other contest, winning is very demanding, yet very rewarding, and, if you love operating, you can't lose!

Anyone who competes is guaranteed to win, even without posting the top score. At the very least you will enjoy hours and hours of excitement and thrills of DXing at its best. Being on the rig on a regular basis will certainly sharpen and maintain your operating skills for 48-hour contests as well and keep your station operating at peak efficiency.

January 1 is just ahead. Visit to the CQ DX Marathon home page, study the rules, download the entry sheet and have a ball!

DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH

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



SANTA RADIO, OF9X, AIRS A JOYFUL CHRISTMAS MESSAGE TO CHILDREN WORLDWIDE

Santa Claus is reborn on every Christmas. As a Goodwill Ambassador in our distressed world, Santa serves our innocent children in their hope for world peace. He brings the Christmas spirit to the hearts of everyone.

It is the Christmas spirit, the joy and the magic that make our children dream and reach for the stars. Every great dream begins with a dreamer. And when they grow older they are ready and have the vision to create a more peaceful and balanced world for all us. Let us not ruin their dream – nor their future.

Santa Radio, OF9X, is Santa's "hamcasting" arm, bringing the Christmas and the "Nielsie spirit" closer to people world-wide. The transmissions come from near the Arctic Circle of the Finnish Lapland, close to the North Pole. The signals sometimes have a sensible flutter, characteristic of the Northern Lights and are broadcasted by the remotely controlled frozen antenna structures of Radio Arcata, OH8X.

Santa's Radio Broadcasting Studios are located in the deep forest of Pussula, and in 2021, they were exclusively operated by members of RCP, The Radio Club of Pussula, OH9W.

The picture below shows Santa together with the former Radio Club Pussula chairman, Raimo Laitio, OH2BC, who was also the President of the Finnish Amateur Radio Association, SRAL, for six years.



OF9X FROM FINLAND, THE LAND OF SANTA CLAUS

Operators:
**Raimo, OH2BC; Martti, OH2BH; Arto, OH2KW;
 Pauli, OH5BQ; Timo, OH5LR and Antti, OH7EA**

Members of RCP: **OH9W; OH2BE; OH2BC; OH2BH; OH2CV;
 OH2FS; OH9KW; OH2LO; OH2LA; OH2CI; and OH5BQ**

Support by Radio Arcata, OH8X: **Juha, OH8NC; Toini, OH2UA & Veijo, OH8KN**

Radio Arcata (OH8X), only a stone's throw from the Arctic Circle, was remotely controlled to reach North America with the help of a stacked 4 x 6 ft array on a 350ft rotating tower.

Five Radio Inc. provided Santa the best remote technology and most modern toys to plug and play.

High quality QSL cards sponsored by LZ1LZ Print, Tony Stoffner, LZ1LZ



From the Desk of Santa Claus, OF9X
Arctic Circle, Finland, Dec.14.2022

SANTA, FROM NORTH POLE IS TO START HIS JOURNEY TO THE WORLD

Santa broadcasting arm, Santa Radio, OF9X will be active again, starting this Friday, at 16.00 UTC on all amateur radio bands and all modes; CW, SSB and Digital, and be active till the year end 2022, 21.59 UTC.

The genuine Santa from Northern Finland, next to North Pole, is about to start his journey to delight the world children of all ages in all parts of our world. The Christmas 2022 is different from the past as Santa is to navigate around the troubled part of Europe and get on his way by-passing the partly closed air space.

Regardless of our turbulent world, the innocent children in their hope for world peace and saving their planet are in the center of Santa's mission every year. For this troubled year Santa has established a special theme to focus the region that will be suffering in this Christmas most. Santa's puzzle is dedicated to those suffering children.

SANTA PUZZLE- Three (3) plus Four (4) letters xxAxA xxxAlxl

In this puzzle the letters l and A are presented on multiple times while the other seven (7) single letters are released as part of the report received from OF9X, such as 599RA. First letter is from the operator's name and the second is one of the seven different puzzle letters.

Santa Radio, OF9X is activated by the Radio Club of Pusula, OH9W, plus their associates and Northern Radio Arcala, OH8X.

The operator roster includes many familiar call signs; Rami, OH2BCI (R), Martti, OH2BH (M), Era, OH2CV (E), Arttu, OH2FB (U), Arto, OH2KW ((O), Juha, OH2LQ (J), Pekka, OH2TA (P), Anne, OH2YL (A), Pauli, OH5BQ (L), Timo, OH5LLR (T), Alex, UT5UY (X) and others,

The additional questions and the completed puzzle should be sent to <mailto:of9x@sral.fi> – the top-10 will be presented and awarded on OF9X QRZ.com <<http://qrz.com/>> by Jan.01,2023. Merry Christmas Santa, OF9X, Old Father Nine Xmas

DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH

CONTEST CORNER

Below is a list of upcoming contests in the "Contest Corner". I think this is important for someone who is trying to move up the DXCC ladder since entities that are on the rarer side and easiest to work in contests. Some of my best "catches" have been on

the Sunday afternoon of a contest when the rarer entities are begging for QSOs. Of course, the gamble is that if you wait until Sunday, conditions may change, or they simply won't be workable. However, it is not a bad gamble. Of course, why not work the contest and have some fun!

Check out the WA7BNM Contest Calendar page (<https://www.contestcalendar.com/>) and CQ Magazine for more contests or more details. I also have a comprehensive list that can be imported to your calendar at www.aj8b.com/files

The contests in **red** are those that I plan to spend some significant participation time on. PLEASE let me know if you are working contests and how you fared.

Thanks!

Date(s)	Event	Info
Dec. 21	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity	www.ft8activity.eu/index.php/en
Dec. 25	RAEM Contest	https://raem.srr.ru/rules
Dec. 26	DARC Xmas Contest	https://www.darc.de/?id=820
Dec. 30	YOTA Contest	www.ham-yota.com/contest
Dec. 31-Jan. 1	Bogor Old and New Contest	https://contest.orari-bogor.org
Jan. 1	AGB New Year Snowball Contest	https://tinyurl.com/2bhzx96n
Jan. 1	AGCW Happy New Year Contest	www.agcw.de/contest/hnyc/hnyc-engl
Jan. 1	AGCW VHF/UHF Contest	www.agcw.de/contest/vhf-uhf
Jan. 1	ARRL Straight Key Night	www.arrl.org/straight-key-night
Jan. 1	QRP ARCI New Year's Day Sprint	http://qrpccontest.com
Jan. 1	SARTG New Year RTTY Contest	www.sartg.com
Jan. 4	UKEICC 80 Meter Contest SSB	https://ukeicc.com/80m-rules.php
Jan. 4	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity	www.ft8activity.eu/index.php/en
Jan. 7	PODSX PSKFest	http://bit.ly/2Qv3wkA
Jan. 7-8	Original QRP Contest	www.qrcc.de/contestrules/index.html
Jan. 7-8	WW PMC Contest	http://bit.ly/2y2QWcc
Jan. 7-8	ARRL RTTY Roundup	www.arrl.org/rtty-roundup
Jan. 7-8	EUCW 160m Contest	www.eucw.org/eu160.html
Jan. 8	DARC 10-Meter Contest	http://bit.ly/2pCiRo1
Jan. 11	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity	www.ft8activity.eu/index.php/en
Jan. 14	YB DX Contest SSB	https://ybdxcontest.com
Jan. 14-15	Feld Hell "Low Down" Sprint	https://bit.ly/3eKxi2f
Jan. 14-15	North American CW QSO Party	http://ncjweb.com/nagp
Jan. 14-15	UBA PSK63 Prefix Contest	http://bit.ly/2Oi8fsa
Jan. 18	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity	www.ft8activity.eu/index.php/en
Jan. 21-22	Hungarian DX Contest	www.ha-dx.com/en/contest-rules
Jan. 21-22	North American SSB QSO Party	http://ncjweb.com/nagp
Jan. 21-23	ARRL January VHF Contest	www.arrl.org/january-vhf

Jan. 25	UKEICC 80 Meter Contest CW	https://ukeicc.com/80m-rules.php
Jan. 25-26	AWA Linc Cundall Memorial Contest	https://bit.ly/3iDUm34
Jan. 27-29	CQWW 160M CW Contest	http://cq160.com/rules.htm
Jan. 28-29	AWA Linc Cundall Memorial Contest	https://bit.ly/3iDUm34
Jan. 28-29	BARTG RTTY Sprint	http://bartg.org.uk/wp/contests
Jan. 28-29	REF CW Contest	https://tinyurl.com/p4bbva92
Jan. 28-29	UBA SSB Contest	http://bit.ly/W0gZiE
Jan. 28-29	Winter Field Day	www.winterfieldday.com
Feb. 11-12	CQWW WPX RTTY Contest	www.cqwprrty.com
Feb. 24-26	CQWW 160M SSB Contest	http://cq160.com/rules.htm

ARLD050 DX news

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by G7WKX, The Daily DX, 425 DX News, DXNL, Contest Corral from QST and the ARRL Contest Calendar and WA7BNM web sites. Thanks to all.

ROTUMA, 3D2. Antoine, 3D2AG/p has been active on 17 meters using CW around 2240z, and on 15 meters using CW after 2300z. QSL via 3D2AG.

TANZANIA, 5H. JP, VU2BGC is QRV as 5H5PJ from Iringa. Activity is in his spare time. He has been active on 20 meters using CW. His length of stay is unknown. QSL via LoTW.

NIGER, 5U. Giorgio, IU5HWS is QRV as 5UA99WS until December 20. Activity has been mostly on 15 meters using SSB. QSL direct to EA5GL.

SENEGAL, 6W. Earl, WA3DX will be QRV as 6W1/WA3DX from Dakar and Mbao, and as 6W6/WA3DX from Kaolack and Marloj, from December 22 to January 20, 2023. Activity will be holiday style on 40 to 10 meters using FT8 and some SSB. QSL direct to home call.

MALDIVES, 8Q. Elena, 8Q7CA is QRV from Nalaguraidhoo Island, IOTA AS-013, until December 22. Activity is on 80 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, and FT8. QSL via RC5A.

KUWAIT, 9K. Members of the Kuwait Amateur Radio Society and fellow Gulf state Qatari Amateur Radio operators are QRV with special call 9K9QATAR until December 20 during the Qatari National Day celebrations. QSL via EC6DX.

THE GAMBIA, C5. Andre, ON7YK is QRV as C5YK until February 24, 2023. Activity is in his spare time mostly on 12 and 10 meters, and then on 20, 17, and 15 meters using CW and various digital modes. QSL direct to home call.

BALEARIC ISLANDS, EA6. Simon, G7WKX will be QRV as EA6/G7WKX from December 20 to January 2, 2023. Activity will be on the HF bands from as many POTA sites as possible QSL to home call.

KYRGYZSTAN, EX. Bob, DU7ET is QRV as EX0ET from Bishkek. Activity is in his spare time during his daylight hours on 30 to 10 meters using CW. QSL direct to home call.

SAUDI ARABIA, HZ. Ahmed Hashash Al-Talib, HZ1CY is QRV as HZ1YOTA during December while taking part in the annual Youth On The Air activities. QSL via HZ1SAR.

MINAMI TORISHIMA, JD1. Take, JG8NQJ/JD1 has been active using FT8 on 160 meters between 1000 and 1100z, and then on 17 meters using CW around 0900z, and afterwards on 15 meters using CW. QSL via JA8CJY.

ARUBA, P4. Heli, DD0VR and Bigi, DE3BWR are QRV as P4/DD0VR until December 23. Activity is on the HF bands using CW and SSB with QRP power. QSL via DD0VR.

WILLIS ISLAND, VK9W. Sands, VK4WXW is QRV as VK9WX until April 2023 while working as part of a meteorological team. Activity is in his spare time on 20 meters using SSB. QSL via operator's instructions.

BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS, VP2V. Ron, VP2VAO has been QRV on 40 meters using SSB between 0315 and 0415z. QSL to home call.

ANTARCTICA. Seba, SQ1SGB is QRV as VP8/SQ1SGB/p from Halley VI base until February 1, 2023. Activity is in his spare time on 40 and 20 meters using SSB and FT8, respectively. QSL via EB7DX.

ANTARCTICA. Sunny, VU2CUW is QRV as AT42I from Maitri Station for about one year. Activity is in his spare time. QSL via VU2CRS.

LAOS, XW. Vincent, XW4KV is QRV until December 23. His plans are to activate 12 locator grids via Satellite QO-100. He has also been active on 15 meters using SSB, and FT8 in DXpedition mode, around 0800z and 1030z, respectively. QSL via F4BVK.

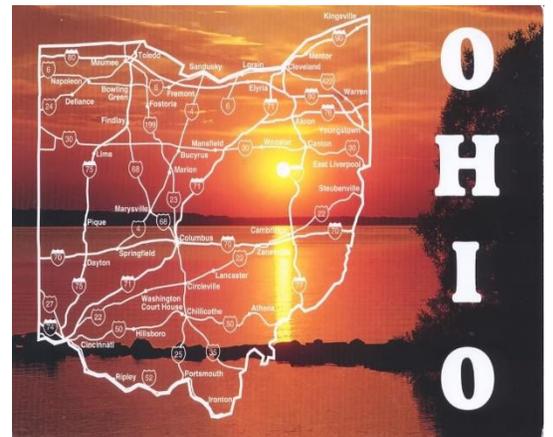
ALBANIA, ZA. Ron, NS5K is QRV as ZA15K from Lushnje for a year while performing missionary work here. Activity is in his spare time on 40 and 20 meters. QSL via operator's instructions.

The K1USN Slow Speed CW Test, ICWC Medium Speed CW Test, OK1WC CW Memorial, Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest, RTTYOPS Weeksprint, NAQCC CW Sprint, QRP 160-Meter CW Fox Hunt, Phone Weekly Test, A1Club AWT, CWops Test, VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest, Mini-Test 40 and Mini-Test 80 are on tap for December 19 to 21. Please see

December 2022 QST, page 59 and the ARRL and WA7BNM Contest web sites for details.

Upcoming *Hamfests*

We **DO** have some hamfests scheduled for 2022!! Yes, take a good look at the list. And YES! They are starting to book up for 2023 already!



2023

<p>01/15/2023 - Sunday Creek Amateur Radio Federation Hamfest Location: Shade, OH Sponsor: Sunday Creek Amateur Radio Federation Website: QRZ KC8AAV Learn More</p>	<p>03/11/2023 - MOVARC Hamfest Location: Bidwell, OH 45614, OH Sponsor: Mid-Ohio Valley Amateur Radio Club Learn More</p>
<p>03/19/2023 - Toledo Mobile Radio Association Hamfest and Computer Fair Location: Perrysburg, OH Sponsor: Toledo Mobile Radio Association Website: http://www.tmrahamradio.org Learn More</p>	<p>05/13/2023 - 05/17/2023 RV Radio Network Location: Berlin, Ohio, OH Type: ARRL Operating Specialty Convention Sponsor: RV Radio Network Learn More</p>
<p>05/19/2023 - 05/21/2023 Dayton Hamvention Location: Xenia, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Dayton Amateur Radio Association Website: http://Hamvention.org Learn More</p>	<p>07/08/2023 - Mansfield Trunkfest 2023 Location: Mansfield, OH Sponsor: Intercity Amateur Radio Club Website: http://iarc.club Learn More</p>
<p>07/16/2023 - Van Wert Hamfest Location: Van Wert, OH Sponsor: Van Wert Amateur Radio Club Website: http://w8fy.org Learn More</p>	<p>08/12/2023 - Cincinnati HamfestSM Location: Owensville , OH Sponsor: Milford ARC Website: https://CincinnatiHamfest.org Learn More</p>

Print an Official or Unofficial Copy of Your Amateur Radio License

(By Anthony Luscre, K8ZT)

As of February 17, 2015, the **FCC no longer routinely issues paper license documents** to Amateur Radio applicants and licensees. The Commission has maintained for some time now that the official Amateur Radio license authorization is the electronic record that exists in its Universal Licensing System (ULS). The FCC will continue to provide paper license documents to all licensees who notify the Commission that they prefer to receive one.

Licensees also will be able to print out an official authorization — as well as an unofficial “reference copy” — from the ULS License Manager. I’ve created a set of instructions on how you can request an “official” printed copy of your license*



[Click here to download the instructions](#)

One Question Questionnaire

!!!! I would really like to hear from as many of you as possible. How about going to <http://arrl-ohio.org> and giving me a click? (It’s in the bottom left corner of the page) While you’re there, you can click the Big Red Arrow to enter into this months Handbook Giveaway! Since we’ve started that up again I’ve mailed out 2 – both in the NE part of the state. Good for me – the postage is cheaper when it’s close to home! I need someone in the CENTRAL or SOUTHERN part of the state to get in there and win this! C’mon – make me spend some hard earned cash getting that Handbook out to you!



This weeks Question:

Do you use LoTW at your station?

- A) YES
- B) NO

From last weeks question:

Well, that was a bust! I had mentioned here in the newsletter that the question was for Tech Class licensee's only, but did not carry that over to the website. Sorry about that. I received several comments from General / Extra class licensee's who said they replied "NO" to the question, which skewed the results to where I don't think they mean anything. I'll learn from that one!

Ohio Section Cabinet

Section Manager – Tom Sly, WB8LCD	Section Traffic Manager – David Maynard, WA3EZN
Section Emergency Coordinator – Bret Stemen KD8SCL	Section Youth Coordinator – Anthony Luscre, K8ZT
Technical Coordinator – Jeff Kopcak, K8JTK	Affiliated Clubs Coordinator – Amanda Farone – KC3GFU
State Government Liaison – Bob Winston, W2THU	Public Information Coordinator – Elizabeth Klinc - KE8FMJ



Hey Gang,

Have you taken a look at the **Swap & Shop** page on the Ohio Section webpage yet?? Here's a link that will take you there... <http://arrl-ohio.org/sm/s-s.html>

Do you have equipment that you just don't need or want anymore? Here's a great venue to advertise it, and it's FREE!! Is your club doing a fund raiser to help raise money? After a lot of thought, it was decided that the Swap & Shop webpage could also contain these types of items as well. The same rules will apply as do for the For Sales and Give-A-Ways and will only be posted for a month at a time. Please see the Terms & Conditions on the webpage.

If your club is doing a fund raiser and wants more exposure, please forward the information to me and I'll advertise it on the Swap & Shop webpage for you.

Now, I still want to remind you that it won't be listed in this newsletter because it would take up way too much space, so your ad will only appear on the website. It is there for any individual to post equipment Wanted / For Sale or Give-Away as well as for Club Fund Raisers. No licensed vehicles/trailers or business advertising will be posted. Postings are text only (no pictures or graphics) will be posted for a maximum of 1 month from date posting and require a contact phone number or email within the posting. Send your Wanted / For Sale or Give-Away post to: swap@arrloho.org

Back Issues of the PostScript and Ohio Section Journal

Hey, did you know that PostScript and Ohio Section Journal (OSJ) are archived on the website? You can go back and look at any edition simply by clicking:

<http://arrl-ohio.org/news/index.html>



Want to Share your Club Newsletter With Others?

We have a webpage where you can download and read all of the newsletters that I get from around the state and even other sections!

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

Please, if you don't see your club newsletter posted, it's because I'm not receiving it. Just have your newsletter editor contact me and I'll get your club's newsletter listed on the site!!



We all learn and steal (I mean, share) from each other's work. So, get me your newsletter!!! Send it to: webmaster@arrl-ohio.org

Chit – Chat, and All That!



Do you know someone that's not getting these Newsletters? Please, forward a copy of this Newsletter over to them and have them "Opt-In" to start receiving them. Heck, just have them send an email to: webmaster@arrl-ohio.org and we'll get them added to the Ohio Section Emailing list.

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



You can always "Opt-Out" at any time if you feel this is not what you were expecting. It's fun and very informative. All of your favorite past newsletters are now archived too. You can go back at any time and read them.

Just go to: <http://arrl-ohio.org/news/>

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