



“April 8th, 2024”

- [National News](#)
- [DX This Week](#)
- [Upcoming Hamfests](#)
- [VE Testing](#)
- [Club Corner](#)
- [Contest Corner](#)
- [One Question Questionnaire](#)
- [South 40](#)

CQ CQ CQ de WB8LCD

I want to start out here with a big “Thank You” to all of you have spent your time and energy planning, practicing and being prepared for events such as the one of this weekend. At this point, as I'm writing this, we don't know what's going to happen this weekend and this coming Monday. But whatever it is, many of you are willing, ready, and capable to assist in your communities should that help be needed. From part 97 of the FCC's rules and regulations is the following:

“Subpart A—General Provisions §97.1 **Basis and purpose.**

The rules and regulations in this part are designed to provide an amateur radio service having a fundamental purpose as expressed in the following principles: (a) **Recognition and enhancement of the value of the amateur service to the public as a voluntary noncommercial communication service, particularly with respect to providing emergency communications.**” (my emphasis)

This is the first of 5 bullet points that qualify our existence. Many of the ARES groups throughout the state will be “at ready” should they be needed. Our hope is that this is a wonderful weekend for all, and everything goes without a glitch. But, we (Amateur Radio Operators), are ready to respond if and when called upon.

With that in mind, next week I would like you to send me your stories of how *you* were prepared and ready to respond, either as a part of your ARES group or as an individual. Obviously, if you are pressed into service, I would like to hear about that too. Over the next few weeks I want to accumulate your stories and spread them through as many different types of media as possible. The public at large needs to know that we exist to serve their needs! We are definitely an under-reported asset.

Right now, the Ohio Section Website is being revamped and moved to a new hosting service. Thanks to Scott – N8SY and John – WG8X for working on that project.

I also want to send out a Thank You to DARA. With the move to Xenia and then COVID, a lot of work went into keeping Hamvention one of the Premier Amateur Radio events in the world! All hams in the Ohio Section benefit from having this event in our own “back yard”. I hope to see you there.

Thank you to ALL the Clubs in the Ohio Section! Clubs really form the basic unit of the “organization” of Ham Radio. Clubs are where we go to meet and get to know our peers. Clubs organize and sponsor the license classes, the VE sessions, the group activities that bring us all together. Without CLUBS we would probably cease to exist because we would not fulfill our reasons for existence as described in Part 97’s Basis and Purpose for Amateur Radio!

My point is, Amateur Radio has a position for, and needs every one of us in one way or another. A lot of people before us, now and into the future have, and will, do extraordinary things for the benefit of all. Step up and do your part – we all thank you for it.

Share the Magic of Radio.

73,

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



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.

*** Sunday April 14, 2024 ***

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!

National News

(from ARRL and other sources)

Register Now for the 2024 ARRL Youth Rally!

As part of the fun at Dayton Hamvention®, youth attendees are invited to participate in the 2024 ARRL Youth Rally on Saturday, May 18. The day will include a special agenda of activities and presentations intended to engage and inspire young hams and young newcomers to amateur radio.

Member-volunteer Cyndi Goodgame, K5CYN, with student member Liam Gazeley, KI5JXQ, at the 2023 ARRL Northwestern Division Convention, SEA-PAC.

The Youth Rally is intended for students who are 11 to 21 years of age. While Hamvention offers free tickets for junior high and high school students, advance registration for the Youth Rally is recommended. A preliminary Youth Rally agenda and registration instructions are on the ARRL website, at www.arrl.org/expo. The Youth Rally registration fee is \$20 and includes a tee shirt (to wear on Saturday), a badge, a lanyard, and a reusable tote bag.

The Youth Rally promises a full day of activities, discovery, sharing, and fun. Rally day begins at 9:15 AM on Saturday with the annual Dayton Youth Forum -- open to all Hamvention attendees -- moderated by well-known amateur radio educator Carole Perry, WB2MGP.

The forum includes presentations from young hams covering a variety of amateur radio activities, topics, and technology.

After lunch (on your own), Youth Rally registrants will gather in Forum Room 3 to get to know each other and explore a variety of amateur radio interests and activities. Learn about satellite communications, participate in a short sprint contest, contact a parachute mobile station, and participate in other fun! Bring a 2-meter handheld if you have one. The afternoon activities will be led by ARRL Education and Learning Manager Steve Goodgame, K5ATA, and will include other guests representing well-known amateur radio youth programs.

The Youth Rally will wrap up on Saturday with a forum for the ARRL Collegiate Amateur Radio Program (CARP).

The 2024 ARRL Youth Rally is just part of the fun planned for the 2024 ARRL National Convention at Hamvention. Visit www.arrl.org/expo, where you can find the full listing of ARRL-sponsored forums, exhibits, and activities. Hamvention is May 17 - 19, 2024, at the Greene County Fair and Expo Center, in Xenia, Ohio; hamvention.org.



Students with a homemade antenna.



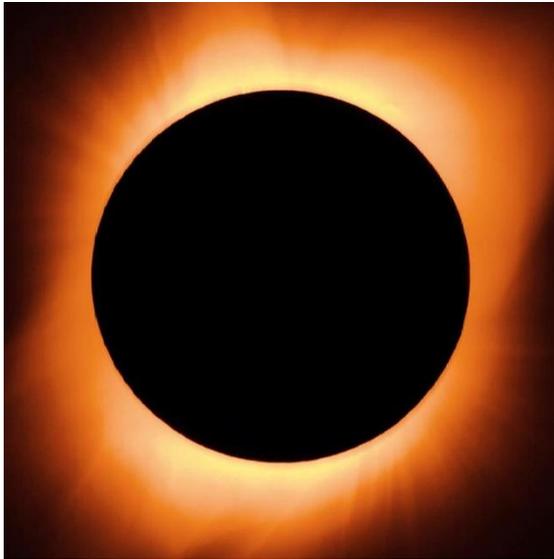
THE 2024 SOLAR ECLIPSE

Through the Eyes of NASA



Join NASA as a total solar eclipse moves across North America on Monday, April 8, traveling through Mexico, across the United States from Texas to Maine, and out across Canada's Atlantic coast. Tune in to the official NASA broadcast at 1 p.m. EDT for live views from the eclipse path, expert commentary, and live demonstrations.

[WATCH LIVE](#)



What to Expect

A total solar eclipse happens when the Moon passes between the Sun and Earth, completely blocking the Sun's face. People viewing the eclipse from locations where the Moon's shadow completely covers the Sun—known as the path of totality—will experience a total solar eclipse. The sky will become dark as if it were dawn or dusk.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Eclipse Solar Total: Transmisión en Español

Observa imágenes en directo del eclipse solar total el 8 de abril de 2024 mientras recorre Norteamérica, desde Mazatlán hasta la costa este de Canadá. Un experto de la NASA te acompañará durante esta experiencia y responderá a tus preguntas.

[SÚMATE A NUESTRA
TRANSMISSION](#)





Eye Safety

Except during the brief totality phase of a total solar eclipse, when the Moon completely blocks the Sun's bright face, it is not safe to look directly at the Sun without specialized eye protection designed for solar viewing.

[LEARN MORE](#)



DIY a Box Pinhole Projector

Want to view a solar eclipse but don't have eclipse glasses? No problem! An easy way to safely view a solar eclipse is with a box pinhole projector. With a few simple supplies, you can create a safe and fun way to experience the magic of an eclipse from anywhere.

[WATCH](#)



Where and When to Watch

The total solar eclipse will begin over the South Pacific Ocean. Weather permitting, the first location in continental North America that will experience totality is Mexico's Pacific coast at around 2:07 p.m. EDT. The path of the eclipse continues from Mexico, entering the United States in Texas, and traveling through Oklahoma, Arkansas, Missouri, Illinois, Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine.

[VIEW ECLIPSE MAP](#)



5 Tips for Photographing a Total Solar Eclipse

A total solar eclipse is the perfect opportunity to capture unforgettable images! Whether you're an amateur photographer or a selfie master, try out these tips for photographing the eclipse.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Here Comes the Sun

Meet the Sun. Even if you think you know our star, the new podcast series from NASA's Curious Universe will show you why Sun science is heating up in 2024—and why NASA experts have so much more to discover.

[LISTEN](#)



Hands-On Eclipse Science

Solving some mysteries takes a solar eclipse—and a nation of curious observers. On April 8, scientists and volunteers will tackle a number of mysteries in a variety of projects. The



Studying the Eclipse

As the total solar eclipse darkens a swath of North America when the Moon blocks the light of the Sun for a few minutes on Monday, April 8, scientists on and off the path of

SunSketcher project will be used to determine the true shape of the Sun; the Dynamic Eclipse Broadcasting Initiative and Eclipse Megamovie are collecting video and images to measure how fast the material in the Sun's corona moves; and Citizen CATE 2024 is investigating how magnetic energy gets converted to heat in the Sun's Corona.

totality will study the Sun's outer atmosphere, called the corona, and the eclipse's impact on Earth's atmosphere.

[EXPLORE ECLIPSE RESEARCH](#)

[WAYS TO PARTICIPATE](#)

2024 ARRL Field Day Poster Released

A poster promoting 2024 ARRL Field Day has been released on the Field Day web page, www.arrl.org/field-day. The two-sided informational poster features this year's theme "Be Radio Active". It includes a space for clubs to fill in information about their planned activation so that members of their community can come visit the site.

More resources for promoting 2024 ARRL Field Day are being developed and will be available soon. ARRL Field Day always occurs on the fourth full weekend in June. This year, it happens on June 22 – 23.



GET ON THE AIR!

Be a part of the most popular on-the-air operating event in amateur radio.

Join your local community and get in on the action!

**PARTICIPATE IN YOUR LOCAL
ARRL FIELD DAY JUNE 22-23, 2024**

Get Ready for the 2024 ARRL National Convention and Youth Rally

A full slate of programming has been committed for the 2024 ARRL National Convention, which will be hosted by Dayton Hamvention®, May 17 - 19, in Xenia, Ohio. Hamvention is the largest



annual gathering of radio amateurs in the world.

Coupled with the National Convention, this year promises to be a Hamvention not to miss. Building on a yearlong theme to "Be Radio Active," ARRL has planned exhibits, forums, panels, and activities that promise to engage and inspire attendees in a wide range of amateur radio interests.

Hamvention has committed one of its four forum rooms to a track of ARRL National Convention presentations with topics that span public service, technology, on-air activities, instruction, and youth outreach.

- In the **Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES®)** forum, ARRL Director of Emergency Management Josh Johnston, KE5MHV, will discuss the role of SAFECOM in supporting the public safety community to improve the emergency communications ecosystem, as well as the importance of building mutually beneficial relationships with local emergency management officials.
- ARRL National Instructor Gordon West, WB6NOA, will lead an **Instructor Academy**, showing off many new training tools to help lead lively ham radio license classes.
- ARRL Education and Learning Manager Steve Goodgame, K5ATA, will cover **Youth Outreach through Amateur Radio STEM Education**, covering ways to inspire students to pursue higher education and careers in technological fields.
- **Enhancing Transmitter Performance** will examine the ARRL Clean Signal Initiative, and presenters include ARRL Second Vice President Mike Ritz, W7VO; Rob Sherwood, NC0B, of Sherwood Engineering Inc., and ARRL Laboratory Manager George Spatta, W1GKS.
- Kyle Krieg, AA0Z, will present, **How to Control Your Ham Shack with A Node-RED Dashboard**, offering a tutorial for this easy-to-learn flow-based programming language that ham radio operators can use to build simple web-based dashboards that provide command, control, and automation in their ham shack.

- ARRL First Vice President Kristen McIntyre, K6WX, will examine the theory of ground, discussing dc grounds, RF grounds, and even talking about gravity, in her presentation, **Ground is a Myth!**
- ARRL CEO David A. Minster, NA2AA, will delve into the world of **Gaming the Amateur Radio Modes**, offering tips and tricks covering station design, operating, instruction, and mastering the art of amateur radio modes, including FT8.
- **Five Steps to a Successful POTA (Parks on the Air®) Activation** will be presented by Michael Martens, KB9VBR, of KB9VBR Antennas on YouTube.
- ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, will moderate a panel on **Good Operators and Interference** that includes Lark Hadley, KA4A, Director, Region Three, FCC Enforcement Bureau; ARRL Volunteer Monitor Program Administrator Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, and ARRL Laboratory Manager George Spatta, W1GKS.
- ARRL Field Services Manager Mike Walters, W8ZY, will present, **Tips for Successful Radio Clubs**.
- ARRL Radiosport Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, and Contest Program Manager Paul Bourque, N1SFE, will provide an **ARRL Contest Program Update**.
- Explore the full scope of operating privileges and ham radio activities that can be done with a Technician - class license, in the forum **Beyond Repeaters: See How Far Your Tech License Will Take You**, presented by ARRL Laboratory Digital RF Engineer John McAuliffe, KD2ZWN.

Additionally, an ARRL Membership Forum will be held on Saturday, May 18, covering several



key areas of membership interest.

The forum will be moderated by ARRL Great Lakes Division Director Scott Yonally, N8SY, and panelists include ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR; First Vice President Kristen McIntyre, K6WX, and CEO David A. Minster, NA2AA.

On Saturday, May 18, a **2024 ARRL Youth Rally** will be a special feature of the National Convention at Hamvention. The Youth Rally is intended for students who are 11 to 21 years of age. While Hamvention offers free tickets for youth aged 12 through 18, advance registration for the Youth Rally is recommended. A preliminary Youth Rally agenda and registration instructions are on the ARRL website, at www.arrl.org/expo. The Youth Rally registration fee is \$20 and includes a tee shirt (to wear on Saturday), badge, lanyard, and reusable tote bag.

Youth Rally participants will enjoy a full day of activities, discovery, sharing, and fun. Rally day begins at 9:15 AM on Saturday with the annual Dayton Youth Forum -- open to all Hamvention attendees -- moderated by well-known amateur radio educator Carole Perry, WB2MGP. The forum includes presentations from young hams covering a variety of amateur radio activities, topics, and technology. After lunch (on your own) Youth Rally registrants will gather in Forum Room 3 to get know each other and to explore a variety of amateur radio interests and activities. Learn about satellite communications, participate in a short sprint contest, contact a parachute mobile station, and participate in other fun! Bring a 2-meter handheld radio if you have one.

The Youth Rally will wrap up on Saturday with a presentation from the ARRL Collegiate Amateur Radio Program (CARP).

Learn more about the 2024 ARRL National Convention at www.arrl.org/expo, where you can find the full listing of ARRL-sponsored forums, exhibits, and activities.

Hamvention is held in Xenia, Ohio, on the sprawling grounds of the Greene County Fairgrounds and Expo Center. Visit the event's website at www.hamvention.org, where you can also purchase tickets, find the complete list of Hamvention forums, and learn more about the event.

Registration for [Contest University](#) (to be held May 16, 2024, at the [Hope Hotel](#) in Dayton, Ohio) is now open. Now in its 15th year, this event is held the day before the opening of the annual [Hamvention](#) and is popular enough to suggest early registration to be able to receive the day's printed handouts. Materials from previous years are available on the Contest University website.

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.

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.

VE Sessions:

The following information is for ALL exam sessions:

It is now an FCC requirement to have an FCC FRN; active email address and active phone number before taking any exam. Please bring your FCC FRN, original license, a copy of your license (if a licensed ham), a valid photo ID and \$15.00 - Cash preferred.

Effective April 19, 2022, the FCC will charge a \$35.00 application fee for amateur radio licenses. The fee will apply to new, renewal, rule waiver, and modification applications that request a new vanity call sign. License upgrades will not have a fee applied. The fee will be per application. *VE's will not collect the fees at exam sessions.*

AE8FP Amateur Radio Test Team administers ARRL-VEC testing in the Central Ohio area. Our test dates for 2024 are as follows: January 20, April 27, June 22, July 20, and October 19. Time and location for these dates are 10:00am at the Westerville Fire Station #111, 400 W. Main St in Westerville, Ohio. The listed dates are co-sponsored by the Central Ohio Radio Club (CORC).

Pre-Registration is required, and open the 1st of each testing month. All information is available at www.ae8fp.net <<http://www.ae8fp.net/>>

Alliance Amateur Radio Club

The Alliance Amateur Radio Club holds quarterly VE testing, at the Christ United Methodist Church in Alliance. The address is 470 E. Broadway St, Alliance, OH (<https://maps.app.goo.gl/prDyEPp6siJun2ibA>).

Upcoming Exam Dates are
Saturday, March 16th, 2024
Saturday, June 15th, 2024
Saturday, August 10th, 2024
Saturday, October 19th, 2024

We begin registration at 8 AM, with testing at 9am.

More information can be found at www.w8lky.org/licensing/ve-exams/.

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

Clark County Amateur Radio Association (CLARA)

What: CLARA sponsored A.R.R.L. VE Testing - Walk-ins allowed. Pre-Register via email preferred.

When: On every second Saturday of each even numbered month starting at 10:00 AM Feb 10th; Apr 13th; Jun 8th; Aug 10th; Oct 12th; and Dec 14th, 2024. Where: Springview

Government Center - Emergency Operations Center; 3130 E Main St; Springfield OH 45503
This is US-40 aka "old national road". From Route 40 enter Old Columbus Road, at the fork stay left driving straight onto Ogden Rd, then immediately turn left into the parking lot behind the EMA. Walk to the door with the "Employees Only" sign.

For more information contact Roland W. Ude, W8BUZ, (937) 605-4951 Email:
buzz@baylorhill.com

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

The Findlay Radio Club

The Findlay Radio Club sponsors an Exam Session the second Saturday of every month except September when we have our Hamfest. The Exam Session takes place at the Findlay Radio Club, 1333 West Sandusky St., Findlay Ohio 45839. The session begins at 9 AM. Pre-registration is recommended, but not required. You can pre-register at hamstudy.org. We can also give Exams remotely on-line on your schedule if you can't make to a session.

The club has meetings on the first and third Thursdays at the clubhouse at 7:30 PM. The meetings are also available on Zoom. Contact N8ET if you would like to log in. All are welcome.

We also meet at the club on Sunday afternoon from 2 until 5 (or later!) to talk about anything Ham Radio. The sessions are geared toward new Hams. Everyone brings their questions and equipment they would like to show off or learn how to use. This Sunday we are going to install and learn to use Flgigi, Flmsg, and Flamp. In past sessions we have built antennas, fired up new rigs, and generally had a good time!

The next meeting (Feb 15) will cover the same topic. Bring your laptop!

Geauga Amateur Radio Association (GARA)

Amateur License exam sessions are offered for all license classes (Technician, General, Extra). Walk-ins are always welcome - no prior registration is required. No fee for the exam.

The GARA schedule of exams are these Sundays at 2pm. Dates for 2024 are Jan 14, March 10, May12, July 14, Sept 15, and Nov 17, 2024. All sessions are at 2:00PM each month



Exams are held at the Geauga County Department of Emergency Services and Emergency Operations Center, 12518 Merritt Road, Chardon, Ohio 44024. The EOC is located just south of the University Geauga Hospital and just east of the Geauga County Safety Center (Sheriff's Office), off of State Route 44 between State Route 322 and State Route 87 on Merritt Road.

Please arrive a few minutes before 14:00 to allow adequate time to process the necessary paper work and take your test. Bring your 1) photo ID, 2) email address, 3) FCC FRN, 4) a printout of your current license if taking the General or Extra exam.

Additional info may be obtained from Jackie Welch, N8JMW by email n8jmw2@gmail.com or calling at 440-228-2716. More information is available from the Geauga Amateur Radio Association website <https://geaugaara.org>

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 holding its **2024** Amateur Radio license exams at the **Kirtland Library**, 9267 Chillicothe Road, on the following dates:

Saturday, February 3	Saturday, August 3
Saturday, April 6	Saturday, October 5
Saturday, June 1	Saturday, December 7

This bi-monthly schedule is the first Saturday of every even-numbered month (e.g., February being the second month, etc.). They are held at the Kirtland Library, 9267 Chillicothe Road. It is 1.7 miles south of I-90 on Route 306 (Chillicothe Rd). The library is on the left, just beyond the Marathon gas station. The tests will start at **12 noon**. Please arrive a few minutes earlier.

To register, you will need a NCVEC 605 Form, which will be available at the test. If you would like to complete one ahead of time, be sure it is the Sept 2017 version or later. You can find it by Googling “NCVEC quick-form 605” and clicking on the url for a pdf of the form. Please note **the FCC requires you to provide a FRN** (FCC Registration Number). Social Security Numbers are no longer accepted. If you are new to ham radio and don’t have a FRN, Google “New FRN” and follow the fcc.gov link.

If you are currently licensed, be sure to **bring a copy of your license to the exam.** The cost of the exam itself is \$15.00, and if you wish to pay by check, it should be made out to the ARRL/VEC. Identification with your picture is also necessary, such as a driver's license. If you have any questions, please contact Scott Farnham, KO8O, at (440) 256-0320, or scottfarnham@roadrunner.com

In addition to the \$15 test fee, the FCC now charges \$35 to add you to the Amateur Radio database. The FCC will e-mail successful candidates instructions for payment directly to them. Payment must be made within 10 days of the e-mail. This charge does not apply to upgrades.

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.k8qik.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@k8qik.org to register.

Lisbon Area Amateur Radio Association

LISBON AREA AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION (LAARA) 2024 SCHEDULE.

VE TESTING IS AT THE COLUMBIANA COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY
AT 215 SOUTH MARKET STREET, LISBON, OH 44432.

SIGN IN AT 1 PM AND TESTING AT 1:30 PM.

VE TESTING DATES FOR 2024

JAN 13; FEB 10; MAR 9; APR 13; MAY 11;
JUN 8; AUG 10; SEP 14; OCT 12; NOV 9; DEC 14.

WE CAN ALSO GIVE THE TEST AT OUR REGULAR MEETINGS THAT ARE NORMALLY ON THE 3RD THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH. LAARA MEETINGS ARE HELD AT THE COLUMBIANA COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY AT THE SAME ADDRESS AS ABOVE. SEE THE K8GQB.COM WEB SITE FOR UPDATES. MEETING TIME IS 6:30 PM.

WE HAVE ACTIVITY MEETINGS ON THE ODD MONTHS AND BUSINESS MEETINGS ON THE EVEN MONTHS.

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)

VE testing is held 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)

Six VE testing sessions in 2024. Registration is appreciated but walk-ins are welcome. Contact Elaine, KC8FOS for more information or to register. ewilkinson1951@gmail.com or 216-337-4235

Saturday, Jan 6. Fairview Park Library. 21255 Lorain Rd., Fairview Park. 10 AM.

Sunday, March 10. NOARS Hamfest. Lorain County Community College. 1005 Abbe Rd. N., Elyria. 9 AM.

Saturday, May 4. Fairview Park Library. 21255 Lorain Rd., Fairview Park. 10 AM.

Saturday, July 20. NOARSfest. Lorain County Community College. 1005 Abbe Rd. N., Elyria. 9 AM.

Saturday, September 7. Fairview Park Library. 21255 Lorain Rd., Fairview Park. 10 AM.

Saturday, November 2. Fairview Park Library. 21255 Lorain Rd., Fairview Park. 10 AM.

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

Tusco Amateur Radio Club W8ZX

VE Testing sessions are held on the second Saturday of every even numbered month at the Dover Faith Church, 420 N Wooster Ave, Dover, OH 44622. Pre-registration is not necessary. Doors open at 0830 for registration, exams begin at 0900. Cost is \$15. You are required to have

an email address and a copy of your FRN or current ham radio license. For more information please go to www.w8zx.net/exam or email VETEAM@N8BAG.NET.

Silvercreek ARA (SARA)

Hold six exam sessions per year for all license classes. Pre-registration requested but not required. Exam sessions for 2024:

Saturday, February 3rd - Wayne County Justice Center (Wooster)
Saturday, April 6th - Sharon Center UMC (Wadsworth/Medina)
Saturday, June 1st - Sharon Center UMC (Wadsworth/Medina)
Saturday, August 3rd - Wayne County Justice Center (Wooster)
Saturday, October 5th - Sharon Center UMC (Wadsworth/Medina)
Saturday, December 7th - Sharon Center UMC (Wadsworth/Medina)

All sessions begin at 10:00am. For directions and test information visit <https://w8wky.org/license-exams/>. Pre-Registration to expedite paperwork is requested, but not required at <https://w8wky.org/sara-ve-registration-form/>. Sign up and if you aren't ready or can't make it, just notify the VE team lead.

West Chester Amateur Radio Association (WC8VOA) Exam sessions are held one Saturday each month at 10:00 AM-Noon at the VOA Bethany Relay Museum located at *8070 Tylersville Rd, West Chester, Ohio 45069*. For more information and links to register, please see our website: <https://wc8voa.org/licensing/>

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

ARLD014 DX news

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by IK1QBT, The Daily DX, 425 DX News, DXNL, Contest Corral from QST and the ARRL Contest Calendar and WA7BNM web sites. Thanks to all.

MALDIVES, 8Q. Tev, TA1HZ will be QRV as 8Q7HZ from Dharandvanhoo, IOTA AS-013, from April 6 to 15. Activity will be on 30 to 10 meters using SSB, FT8, and FT4. QSL via LoTW.

SOUTH COOK ISLANDS, E5. Tom, K7TLM and Leslie, KD7YZE will be QRV as E51TLM from Rarotonga, IOTA OC-013, from April 7 to 13. Activity will be on 10 meters using CW and SSB, with 5 watts, between 1900 and 0100Z each day. QSL via K7TLM.

LIBERIA, EL. Members of the Czech DXpedition Team will be QRV as A8OK from April 9 to 16. Activity will be on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY, PSK, FT8, FT4, and on various Satellites. QSL via OK6DJ.

FRENCH GUIANA, FY. Operators at club station FY5KE are QRV as TO60CSG each weekend in April, May, and June to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Guiana Space Centre. QSL direct to home call.

ITALY, I. Special event station IY1EY is QRV until April 14 to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the birth of Guglielmo Marconi. Activity is on all HF bands and modes. QSL direct.

SOMALIA, T5. Alex, IT9HRK is QRV as T5/IT9HRK from Mogadishu. Activity is on 80 to 10 meters using all modes. His length of stay is unknown. QSL via operators' instructions.

TURKEY, TA. Special event station TC3WRD is QRV during April to commemorate World Amateur Radio Day. QSL via operators' instructions.

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA, V2. Michael, DF8AN is QRV as V26MN from Antigua, IOTA NA-100, until April 9. Activity is on the HF bands using mostly FT8 and FT4, with some CW and RTTY. QSL to home call.

MONTSERRAT, VP2M. After his Antigua activity, Michael, DF8AN will be QRV as VP2MMN from April 9 to 17. QSL to home call.

PITCAIRN ISLAND, VP6. Gerben, PG5M is QRV as VP6G until April 14. Activity is on 40 to 10 meters using CW and FT8 with two stations. QSL via M0OXO.

MEXICO, XE. Members of the Asociacion de Radio Aficionados de la Republica Mexicana will be QRV with special call sign 6D2SOL on April 7 to 9 during the Great American Eclipse on April 8. QSL via XE2M.

VANUATU, YJ. Operators VK3HJ, VK3QB, VK6CQ and K0BBC are QRV as YJ0VK until April 11. Activity is on 40 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, and FT8. QSL via M0OXO.

Please see April QST, page 76, and the ARRL and WA7BNM contest websites for details.

Upcoming *Hamfests*



Ohio Hamfests

2024

04/13/2024 - [Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club 68th Hamfest](#)

Location: Cuyahoga Falls, OH

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Website: <http://www.w8vvpv.org/hamfest>

[Learn More](#)

04/13/2024 - [Mid-Ohio Valley Amateur Radio Club](#)

Location: Bidwell, OH

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Mid-Ohio Valley Amateur Radio Club

[Learn More](#)

<p>04/27/2024 - Tusco Amateur Radio Club Hamfest, Electronics, and Computer Show Location: Dover, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Tusco Amateur Radio Club W8ZX Website: http://www.w8zx.net/hamfest Learn More</p>	<p>04/28/2024 - Athens Hamfest Location: Athens, OH Sponsor: Athens County Amateur Radio Association Website: https://www.ac-ara.org/ Learn More</p>
<p>05/05/2024 - Lucas County ARES Trunk Sale & Swap Meet Location: Toledo, OH Sponsor: Lucas County ARES Website: http://lucasares.org Learn More</p>	<p>05/11/2024 - 05/16/2024 RV Radio Network Location: Millersburg, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Rv Radio Network Learn More</p>
<p>05/16/2024 - 05/19/2024 Four Days In May Location: Fairborn, OH Type: ARRL Convention Sponsor: QRP Amateur Radio Club International Website: http://qrparci.org/fdim Learn More</p>	<p>05/17/2024 - 05/19/2024 Dayton Hamvention, ARRL National Convention Location: Xenia, OH Type: ARRL Convention Sponsor: Dayton Amateur Radio Association Website: https://hamvention.org Learn More</p>
<p>06/01/2024 - FCARC Summer Hamfest Location: Wauseon, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Fulton County Amateur Radio Club Website: https://k8bxq.org/hamfest Learn More</p>	<p>07/06/2024 - Mansfield Mid Summer Trunkfest Location: Mansfield, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Intercity Amateur Radio Club Website: http://W8WE.ORG Learn More</p>
<p>07/20/2024 - Ashtabula County Hamfest 2024 Location: Pierpont, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Amigos Radio Club Ashtabula Website: https://sites.google.com/view/arca-home/ Learn More</p>	<p>07/21/2024 - Van Wert Hamfest Location: Van Wert, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Van Wert Amateur Radio Club Website: http://w8fy.org Learn More</p>

<p>08/03/2024 - 2024 Columbus Hamfest Location: Grove City, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Aladdin Shrine Audio Unit Website: http://www.columbushamfest.com Learn More</p>	<p>08/10/2024 - Cincinnati Hamfest Location: Owensville, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Milford ARC Website: https://CincinnatiHamfest.org Learn More</p>
<p>08/18/2024 - Warren Hamfest Location: Cortland, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Warren Amateur Radio Association Website: https://www.w8vtd.com/ Learn More</p>	<p>09/08/2024 - Findlay Hamfest Location: Findlay, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Findlay Radio Club Website: http://w8ft.org Learn More</p>
<p>09/22/2024 - Cleveland Hamfest Location: Berea, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Hamfest Association of Cleveland Website: https://www.hac.org Learn More</p>	<p>10/05/2024 - Northwest Ohio Amateur Radio Club (NWOARC) Hamfest Location: Lima, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Northwest Ohio Amateur Radio Club, Inc. Website: http://www.nwoarc.com Learn More</p>
<p>10/27/2024 - 2024 MARC Hamfest at MAPS Location: N. Canton, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Massillon Amateur Radio Club Website: https://www.w8np.net Learn More</p>	<p>12/07/2024 - Winter Hamfest Location: Archbold, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: FCARC Website: https://k8bxq.org/hamfest Learn More</p>

Plenty of Ohio Section Hamfests on tap for 2024! If you haven't got yours submitted to ARRL as of yet – go back up a couple pages to the top of the “Clubs” section for complete instructions on how to get your fest ARRL Sanctioned!

DX This Week – Mad River Contest Club

Bill - AJ8B (thedxmentor@gmail.com / www.aj8b.com)

I received some excellent feedback on our review of the 40 CQ Zones over the past several weeks. I have a list of topics to review, but I am really interested in what you want to hear. Please drop me a note when you have a minute. My email address is thedxmentor@gmail.com



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Here is an update from Bernie, W3UR, of the DailyDX and the WeeklyDX, and the How's DX Column in QST. The DailyDX the best source for real-time DX information. <http://www.dailydx.com/> . If you would like a free 2-week trial subscription, just send me an email. (thedxmentor@gmail.com) Bernie has this to report:

We will start with two updates on the **FT4GL DXpedition to Glorioso Island**. FH4VVK, Marek, has announced that his FT4GL operation May 24-June 19 will include six meters, "propagation permitting." Glorioso Island is #8 on the Club Log DXCC Most Wanted List. More information is available on the FT4GL Facebook page and a newly launched blog . The Daily DX, and The Weekly DX will continue to carry updates as will I.

Secondly, F8CRS, Dave, will be the guest on an upcoming edition of the DX Mentor podcast and Youtube channel. Dave will discuss all aspects of the FT4GL DXpedition. If you need to get this in the log, you need to check out the DX Mentor.

We have some information from **Pitcairn Island, VP6G**. This is called the saga of the missing suitcase. PG5M, Gerben, plans to be on Pitcairn Island this month, operating as VP6G. He reported that one suitcase was missing upon arrival at Los Angeles International Airport. He hopes to be able to retrieve it in Papeete before leaving for Mangareta. If he is successful, he will be on the air April 4-14. He has posted expected transmit frequencies. His QSL manager is MØOXO, Charles. Visit his website for information about the station setup and VOACAP predictions by OH6BG. I hope he is QRV at the time you are with me.

YJ0VK is now QRV from **Vanuatu**. VK3HJ, Luke; VK6CQ, Alan; KØBBC, Matthew; and VK3QB, Chris are on 40-6M through April 11. They are focusing on CW and SSB the first

week, with FT8 as their backup mode. On CW, they will run an Elecraft KX3 and SPE amplifier. For SSB, they will use an ICOM IC-7300 and 500W amplifier for SSB. Their third radio is an ICOM IC7000 for FT8, and their antennas are a DX Commander Expedition and 40M doublet. Their QSL manager is MØOXO, Charles; refer to their QRZ page for details.

E6SP, or “Echo 6 South Pacific,” is the holiday-style call of ZL3GAV, Gavin, on **Niue**, April 16-28. He will have a Yaesu FTDX10 and a Chameleon MPAS2 vertical running up to 100W on all modes. He plans to emphasize FT8/FT4 on 15 and 10M. He also says that his antenna on 40M and below will be “compromised.”

On SSB, he will start simplex, and if it gets busy, he will listen 5-10 KHz up. He may also operate SSTV. Gavin is hoping to work DXCC on 10M digital, confirming via LoTW. If he has a stable internet connection, he will use Club Log Live Stream and will upload QSOs to Club Log, as well as QRZ.com and LoTW. There will be no paper QSL cards.

We have an **IOTA** Update. Flinders Island (OC-261): A six-operator team is heading to Flinders Island, off the coast of Eyre Peninsula in South Australia. VK5FIL should be on the air April 14 by 0800 UTC. There will be four stations operating at the home base; a number of operators are bringing portable equipment for POTA activations. Requests for schedules, particularly for their satellite operation, can be emailed to vk5fil.dx@gmail.com. They will also be watching 6M TEP, Sporadic E (which is still proving active if this past week is an indication) and hopefully meteor scatter, as well as 2M-23CM for tropospheric contacts around Southern Australia. The usual VK VHF spotting networks will be activated to alert people to their VHF activity. Finally, the special callsign VI60IOTA will be activated for one day at some point during the trip to activate VKFF-1717. The DXpedition website has band plan information and propagation charts, the latter courtesy of the VOACAP team. They hope to use Club Log Live Stream.

HD8MD, Galapagos update. I had a great time operating from Galapagos as HD8MD over the last 9 days. Running only 100 watts to either a Windom or a 2 element 6m Moxon I was able to make 11,941 QSO's from 40 through 6m. My last QSO today was with JE1CSW at 0013z on March 29th. I made "exactly" 1,000 QSO's on 6 meters.

I was able to work 17 new DXCC entities on this trip bringing my DXCC total up to 247 entities from Galapagos. All QSOs should be uploaded to LoTW by now.

QSL cards can be sent to my QSL MGR K8LJG. Color cards will be ordered in mid-April after I return to my NE8Z QTH. I will be back at my HC1MD/2 QTH later today, March 29th.

Here is an update that I just received. From Rick “I am now back at my HC1MD/2 QTH. I have uploaded all of my 11,668 HD8MD QSO's to LOTW. At the request of many hams, I have just created a Club Log account and OQRS has now been activated. The OQRS site is now active for direct QSL requests <https://clublog.org/logsearch/HD8MD> A colorful Galapagos Tortoise QSL is being printed and I will mail them out from my NE8Z QTH. I will be returning to Michigan on April 10th.

73 es TNX for the fun pileups!
Rick NE8Z (HC1MD, HD8MD)”

The Spring 2024 issue of the **INDEXA** Newsletter (#141) is now online. This quarter features a remembrance of K4UEE, Bob Allphin, the 2023 T2C - Tuvalu DXpedition, a message from President NP4G, Otis Vicens, a wrap-up of the 2023 TX7L - Marquesas and more.
<https://indexa.org/documents/newsletters/Newsletter-Issue-141-Spring2024.pdf>

You can learn more about INDEXA by checking out episode 14 of The DX Mentor podcast or Youtube channel. (<https://youtu.be/7wJuPrOuzT4>)

We have Bouvet update to share: From Ken, LA7GIA, “We have made some further adjustments as Allan EA3HSO is replacing Dave WD5COV as a Bouvet operator. Dave has to withdraw due to family reasons.

We will update our website to reflect the latest changes with the removal of the remote radios, the current Bouvet operation is thus planned with only local radios. Our four men support team together with the four crew members will be assisting us setting up and running the camp. This will add operating time for the 3 operators that will seek to have 3-5 radios running simultaneously. We still plan for a 2nd QTH dedicated to running NA stations, this QTH will provide better take off and will contain two stations and bands 40-10m and this will also give us antenna separation to run in band. The main QTH is still a good QTH for 160/80 to North America. Our setup is simple yet powerful enough to achieve a good result, similar to other trips we have conducted. With the sponsored lightweight 1500 W RF Kit amplifiers we will have enough power on all modes.

The team have self-funded \$280,000 of the trip but we still need \$75,000 to go to Bouvet to finance the entire \$400,000+ budget. We’re seeking further donations to reduce the risk involved for the small 3 men team. A final decision will be made in late April depending on the funds we have raised at that time, and we’re still considering other options. If you want to see 3Y0K Bouvet activated for up to 21 days, please consider making a donation in April.”

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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/>) for more contests or more details.

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.

I searched around a bit and finally joined the Mad River Contest Club (<https://www.madriverradioclub.org/>), or the MRCC. The areas that the MRCC covers is Ohio, Michigan, and the surrounding states. They have bi-monthly ZOOM meetings. I joined and attended my first meeting. Not to be surprised, there were some big-time testers in attendance. I have wanted to upgrade my contesting skills and I think I have found an avenue to do that. I will keep you informed as to what I learn so I can share it!

The first contest to mention is the Japanese International CW DX Contest, or the JIDX. This contest will start at 4/13/2024 0700Z and end on 4/14/2024 at 1300Z. The bands are the standard 5 HF bands with no WARC bands included. The exchange is RST and Prefecture number for JA hams and RST and CQ Zone for all others.

I worked my first JD, Ogasawara, station years ago in this contest. The SSB version is held in the fall.

The next is the OK/OM SSB Contest. This will be held on April 13th at 1200Z to April 14th at 1200Z. The bands are the standard 5 HF bands with no WARC bands included. The exchange is RS and 3 letter county code for OK/OM hams and RS and serial number for all others.

You always need to check two things when operating in DX-hosted contests. The first is when the logs are due. Make sure that you meet the deadline! Secondly, make sure you know what frequencies in the allocated bands you are allowed to operate in.

Thanks!

Contest	Start Date	End Date
Georgia QSOP	4/13/2024	4/14/2024
New Mexico QSOP	4/13/2024	4/14/2024
Holyland DX Contest	4/19/2024	4/20/2024
Michigan QSOP	4/20/2024	4/21/2024
Ontario QSOP	4/20/2024	4/21/2024
SP DX RTTY	4/27/2024	4/28/2024
10-10 Intl. Spring Contest, Digital	4/27/2024	4/28/2024
Florida QSOP	4/27/2024	4/28/2024
10-10 Intl. Spring Contest, CW	5/4/2024	5/5/2024
Arizona QSOP	5/4/2024	5/5/2024
Connecticut QSOP	5/4/2024	5/5/2024
Delaware QSOP	5/4/2024	5/5/2024
Idaho QSOP	5/4/2024	5/5/2024
Indiana QSOP	5/4/2024	5/5/2024
Maine QSOP	5/4/2024	5/5/2024
Massachusetts QSOP	5/4/2024	5/5/2024
Montana QSOP	5/4/2024	5/5/2024
Nevada QSOP	5/4/2024	5/5/2024
New Hampshire QSOP	5/4/2024	5/5/2024
Oregon QSOP	5/4/2024	5/5/2024
Rhode Island QSOP	5/4/2024	5/5/2024
Utah QSOP	5/4/2024	5/5/2024
Vermont QSOP	5/4/2024	5/5/2024
Washington QSOP	5/4/2024	5/5/2024
Wyoming QSOP	5/4/2024	5/5/2024
SWODXA DXDINNER	5/17/2024	
SWODXA DXForum	5/18/2024	
Arkansas QSOP	5/18/2024	5/19/2024
CQ WW WPX Contest, CW	5/25/2024	5/26/2024

OHIO'S



I thought it was March that was to come in like a lion. But apparently climate change has caused this to now fall back to April as the past few days in the Ohio South 40 Region has shown. Hams who participate in the Wilmington NWS Office's Skywarn Program have been active as well as activations of local weather spotting nets. It's rather hard to believe it has been 50 years since tornadoes raced through the western part of the region with death and destruction and hitting areas around Cincinnati and especially Xenia hard.

The recent NWS Spring Storm Spotting seminars for the Wilmington and Charleston NWS Offices could not have come at a better time. I'm certain those who attended found them very informative and used those newly acquired talents as the storms passed through the region on Monday through Wednesday.

Although the majority of those Spotter training sessions have mostly wrapped up for the year, the Wilmington Office has one remaining. On April 28 a joint session for Fairfield and Pickaway Counties will be presented at the Liberty Center in Lancaster. The Pittsburgh Office to hold an in person training session in Martins Ferry on May 13 at the Belmont County Library. For further information where to find on-line training or other storm spotter information check www.weather.gov/iln for those in the Wilmington Office service area or Tony.Edwards@noaa.gov in the Charleston Office.

April 13 is going to be a busy day with several ham events scheduled. Starting the morning is the annual **Mid-Ohio Valley ARC** hamfest at the Fellowship of Faith Church in Bidwell. Then across the river in Huntington the Museum of Radio and Technology is the site where the **Tri-State ARC** will hold a test session. Also on the 13th the **Bainbridge Ham Group** will meet at 8:30 am at the Dutch Restaurant near Bainbridge, the **Highland ARA** will meet at the Hillsboro Burger King at 10 am and the **OH-KY-IN ARS** will hold their 1 PM brunch at the Sugar 'n Spice Reading Road location.

The **Athens County ARA** finds its usual Spring activities off and running by providing communications support for the annual Iron Furnace Trail Run through Lake Hope State Park and the Zaleski State Forest. A request for at least 10 operators to assist with communications for the April 14 Athens Marathon/Half Marathon has been issued by club officials. That event will take

place on the bikeway between Athens and Nelsonville. The If you can assist, please contact Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, at 740-541-0972. In addition to the races and marathons, they will throw in a hamfest and an antenna building opportunity for good measure.

Judy Taylor, WD8EOP, tells us that **Tri-State ARA** members attending the May club meeting will be treated to a ‘hobo stew’ meal. Those planning to attend the upcoming April 16 meeting are asked to contribute some kind of a can of veggies that evening.

On Sunday the 28th, the ACARA will hold their hamfest at the recreation center in Athens. It will begin at 9 am. VE Team Manager Bud Cyr, KB8KMH, states pre-registration is not necessary and walk-ins are accepted. All test elements will be offered. There is a \$15 fee.

On April 20 the first of three swap meet and auction fund raisers will be held at the **West Virginia Museum of Radio and Technology**. Vendors may start setting up at 7 am with the general public admitted at 8. There is a \$10 fee for the first table. Weather permitting, there will be a free outdoor tail gate area. Admission is free. The well attended auction starts at 12:30. But items going on the auction block are to be registered before noon.

At the upcoming April 21 **Athens County ARA** meeting Kirk Groeneveld, KC8JRV, and Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ will conduct two concurrent antenna building programs. Kirk will lead one on building a 2 meter tape measure antenna while Jeff assists those building a 2 meter copper J-Pole. Each build will get underway to 1 pm at the Red Cross Building in Athens on April 21. Those interested in attending one of the builds should contact the appropriate program leader in order for the appropriate materials to be on hand.

As mentioned the 2024 hamfest season is now underway. There is a hamfest within a reasonable driving distance from wherever you live in the South 40 Region. Perhaps you don’t want to be overwhelmed by the size and attendance at Hamvention, so why not support one of the smaller club sponsored ones? For many clubs, this is their largest source of income so your attendance supports the efforts of to maintain repeaters, provide programs and pay the bills to keep the club and its equipment functioning. Hamfests are also great places to meet new people and finally put a face with a voice and call sign. You might even find that treasure you didn’t know you were looking for!

HAMFEST 2024

Mid-Ohio Valley Amateur Radio Club

Saturday, April 13th
8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Fellowship of Faith Church
20344 St. Rt. 554, Bidwell, OH 45614
(Building is Handicapped Accessible)
Talk-in Frequency: 147.060 + pl. 74.4

Admission \$5.00 per person
(Admission ticket entered in Door Prize & Grand Prize Drawings)

50/50 DRAW
Tickets \$5.00 each
6 for \$15.00
Must be present to win



VE TESTING - \$15.00
You must have a
FRN # from the FCC
BEFORE you can test
All License Classes
Walk-ins Welcome
Registration 9:30
Testing 10:00

GRAND PRIZE DRAWING
12:00 p.m.
Tickets are \$5.00 each
Do not need to be present to win

\$250.00

DOOR PRIZES!

Check out the Vendors! Lots of great deals! Wide variety of items!

Consession Area   By Donation

In-door Vendor Tables Available. Items do not need to be radio related.
Tables \$5.00 each, with Electric \$7.00 each
Vendor set up - Saturday 7:00 a.m.

Hamfest Contact: Lester Cardwell, KD8ZU
15422 Hannan Trace Rd., Crown City, OH 45623
(740) 256-1312 docdiesel@hotmail.com

As shown on the attached flyer, the **Mid-Ohio Valley ARC** holds its annual hamfest on April 13. The following Saturday the action shifts to Huntington, WV where the **Museum of Radio and Technology** will hold their Spring Flea Market and Auction. Then on Sunday, April 28, the **Athens County ARA** holds its annual hamfest at the recreation center in Athens. Although not in the South 40 Region, a hamfest several in the eastern portion of the region attend is the **TUSCO ARA**'s hamfest at the Tuscarawas County Fairground in Dover on the 27th. I attended it last year and enjoyed the experience. Then on the 17th the world known and respected **Dayton ARA** HamVention© gets underway at the Greene County Fairgrounds in Xenia for its three-day run. If you can't find it at HamVention then it probably no longer exists! Another out of state hamfest (but worth the journey) finds several hams from the region's

Eastern counties will be the June 9 **Breezeshooter**'s Hamfest. It's at the Farm Show Grounds at Butler, PA. Although we enter a short dormant stage, things heat up again in August. On August 3 the Columbus area Aladdin Shrine hamfest will happen at the Shrine Temple in Grove City. Then on the 10th the **Milford ARC** sponsored Cincinnati Hamfest will take place at the Clermont County Fairgrounds in Owensville. On the following Saturday the annual **Portsmouth RC** hamfest will be held on the 17th in New Boston. They return to the New Boston City Building with an extended space for the flea market area. President Jesse Stanley, KD8CHP, lets us know the **Scioto Valley ARC** has set the date for their annual hamfest as Saturday, October 5. It will return to the Pike County Fairgrounds in Piketon.

Southwest Ohio DX Association President Bill Salyers, AJ8B, reminds us that tickets for the annual Hamvention DX Banquet are now on sale. The banquet is May 17 at the Dayton Marriott beginning with a cash bar at 5:30 and the program and awards presentation beginning at 7. Tickets usually go fast for the event so it's advised to go on line at www.swodxa.org and order them ASAP. Dozens of great prizes are already committed to be awarded during the evening.

There are many events happening during HamVention but another of the most popular starts on May 16 and continues through the 19th. It is the annual **"Four Days In May"** and has grown to be a very popular and well attended event during HamVention weekend. Although mostly geared towards the QRP operator, the event offers a number of good speakers, exhibits, advice and operating pointers any amateur can use. It takes place at the Holiday Inn in Fairborn.

The **Clinton County ARA** is holding a fund raiser raffle with some lucky person soon to enjoy a \$550 package of meat from Sam's Meats and Deli in Wilmington. Tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20 and are available from club members. Only 500 tickets are being sold. The prize drawing will be during the April 27 Last Saturday Brunch, or sooner should all tickets sell quickly. Contact any CCARA member for tickets or more info.

Bill Garringer, N8SBT, reminds hams within the reach of the **Fayette ARA**'s Washington CH 147.27 repeater of the Tuesday evening FARA net at 8 pm.

Three clubs will be holding their business meetings on Tuesday evening, April 9. The **Greater Mason County ARA** will meet at the EOC Office in Maysville, KY. In Adams County, the **DeForest ARC** will hold their meeting at the Senior Nutrition Center in West Union. The **Highland ARA** has moved their meeting to their new Field Day location at the Scott House on West Main Street in Hillsboro.

Pike County has a new Technician. Let's welcome Lauren Heft of Waverly to our ranks. Lauren bears the call sign of KF8ASI.

No Foolin! The **Highland ARA** conducted their second club visitation for 2024 with a visit to the **Portsmouth RC**'s meeting on the 1st. Each club will represent Ohio in the upcoming Lewis and Clark Trail on the Air in June. It's always great to see old friends, hear what other clubs are doing and exchange ideas and information. More clubs need to try visitations because they can put some new life into a club experiencing a "ho-hum" frame of mind.

So until next time, 73.

John Levo, W8KIW

jlevo@cinci.rr.com or highlandara@gmail.com or 937-393-4951 (landline-leave a message)

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](#)

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://arrrl-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. You might want to list your location so that prospective buyers know where you're at. 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@arrlohoio.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://arri-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@arri-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@arri-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://arri-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!

Occasionally you may find an error or two in this newsletter – be assured, they were put there on purpose to make sure you're reading the newsletter carefully!