



# September 2024

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## *From the Technical Coordinator*

**Jeff Kopcak – K8JTK TC**  
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Hey gang,  
Despite the severe weather briefings for August 5th in northern Ohio showing a slight risk of severe storms throughout the area, didn't have storms near me. The August 6th briefing was shaping up about the same.



Though there was a chance of tornadoes, it was under 10%.

On an otherwise bright, sunny, and warm day, I left work ordering food to be picked up 30 minutes later on the way home. As I was driving home, with the windows open, on I-90 to the west side of Cleveland, a tornado warning had been issued. As I approached my exit, a stark contrast to the current sunny conditions, I was facing a blackened sky looking west. “Oh, this isn’t going to be good” I thought. Hoping it was far enough away that I could pick up my pizza and make it home before the storm hit.

After getting off at my exit, still a half-mile away from the pizza shop, I was stopped at the intersection of Hilliard and Canterbury near my house. The wall of rain hit just about 3:52pm. Hurrying to pick up my food, quickly running in an out, I was drenched. In the 3, to maybe 5, minutes I was on Hilliard, picked up my pizza, and made it back to that same intersection, a large tree had come down across Hilliard Blvd.



*Tree down on Hilliard Blvd at Canterbury Road (Westlake, Ohio – taken 8/9/24)*

Not only was there debris from trees and branches being blown around all over the place, trash and trash buckets were being blown around too as some residents had already put their trash out to the curb in anticipation of pickup the next day. I made it safely home as I only had to travel a block and a half. The intense part of the storm blew through in less than 15 minutes. Staying in my car, the worst had yet to be discovered. As I made my way from the car into the house, I discovered many large tree branches had come down in my backyard.





*After storm, before cleanup*

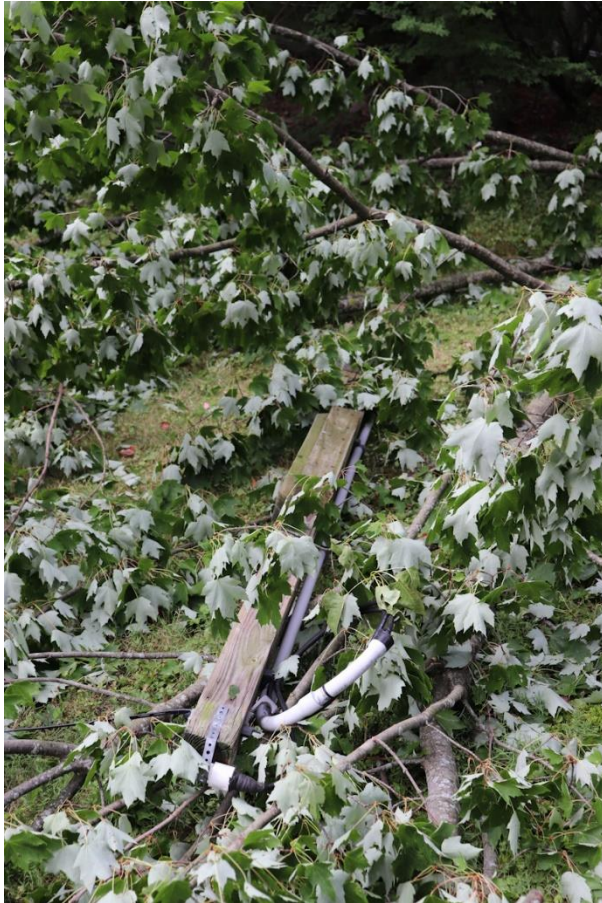


*After cleanup*

My wire HF antenna was about 100 feet long strung between two trees across the backyard. I figured it was a goner. Maybe the branches were far enough in the back of the yard that it somehow missed it. Even if it was brought down, wouldn't be the first storm where I've had to replace my antenna. I didn't get lucky twice in one storm. Without going to survey the damage just yet, I could see pieces of wire dangling so I knew it was not in one piece anymore. A little while later going out to look, the fence post used to connect the coax feedline to the antenna feed point was snapped off at ground level, brought down by a tree branch coming off a neighbor's tree. Landing perfectly on the post like those branches were placed there. Don't know if my antenna was ripped down by the fence post being destroyed or from being in-path of



a large tree branch flung across the yard, which would have been no match for a wire antenna. Between trees in my yard and the neighbors, there were 4 to 6 large branches sheared off from the upper parts of 70' trees.



*RIP feedline and antenna*



*Branches sheared off*

Luckily, no damage to any other property and no one was injured or worse. Damage to my HF antenna and setup is extensive. The post would need to be dug up and replaced, the entire run of coax from the shack replaced, and a portion of the PVC housing needs to be replaced. There was also some electrical in a separate run out to the post. Dad (SK) and I worked to install all of this about a decade ago over a summer. To make matters worse, I may lose my antenna supports as at least one tree is severely damaged and need to be assessed.

In my completely amateur observation, seems like straight line winds, if nothing else. There weren't any branches twisted off trees so I don't think it was a tornado. In the coming days, many in the area had trees removed and debris cleared.

My street had power throughout but the opposite side of the block was without until the weekend. By night time, it was obvious many did not have power because there was a hum of generators running in the distance. That area lost power due to the tree that fell where I was minutes earlier and [other significant damage not far away](#).

Reports released by the National Weather Service office in Cleveland on [the August 6, 2024 storms](#) show [one tornado dissipating a half-mile from my house](#). Would it have kept going, it



would have passed over my house and probably a contributing factor to the damage in my yard, others on the street, and damage seen on Hilliard. A second tornado kept along the shoreline but came within a mile and a half of the QTH. There is a [quite impressive video from a beach cam in Vermilion](#) showing the approaching storm and fury as it makes landfall.

The shack itself was not damaged by the storm, though it has been on my to-do list to replace. Not sure when I'll be able to rebuild but will be off the air indefinitely.



*Damage on Hilliard Blvd, east of Columbia Rd (Westlake, Ohio – taken 8/9/24)*

As posted on the ARRL website and highlighted in my [June article](#), the ARRL fell victim to a ransomware attack in May. It was revealed the [payout was a \\$1 million ransom](#). Well, not so much the ARRL but their insurance paid out. Initial asking was a multi-million-dollar ransom. Since the ransom holders did not have access to any significant compromising data, it was reduced to \$1 mill.

It has been stated the ARRL does not collect any data that's not already public (largely data the FCC has on file for our licenses) information on its members, we're not at risk in this compromise. However, the article notes, employees of the ARRL may have had their private data leaked (such as social security numbers) in records kept as part of employment.

For all the benefits pitched to get companies 'moving to the cloud' and using 'AI,' not the least of which include user credential protection - knowing when bad guys are attempting to gain access using employee credentials to compromise systems - and malware protection for cloud services and endpoints. It is good knowing those protections stopped and prevented the spread

of malware. *Wait, what... the ARRL's cloud systems were compromised too?* Well, that worked out well. These features are smoke and mirrors and provide little to no actual protection. Thanks for reading and 73... de Jeff – K8JTK

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***From the Section Emergency Coordinator***  
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### **Again, Thank You!**

Thank you for your thoughts and prayers as we travel between Florida and Ohio and for my wife's (Jinny) family, it is greatly appreciated. UPDATE: Her mother is home and getting stronger every day and is much happier, she is not out of the woods yet and still has a long road ahead her. Please continue to keep my wife's family in your thoughts and prayers.

### **Speaking of traveling**

How many of you when traveling by personal vehicle that have a radio installed, reprogram your radio for the states that you will be traveling to and through? I reprogrammed my mobile and I'm glad I did for several reasons, while in Florida I received an alert for severe weather and happen to hear a local severe weather net for the area I was in and was able to check in to the net. After the net was cleared, the NC called for me and asked if I was from Ohio due to my call sign. I told him that I was from Ohio and was visiting for a short time, he to was from Ohio and moved to the Daytona Beach area sometime ago. We had a lengthy QSO.

While traveling through Virginia, there was a fatal accident that had closed the freeway. My radio was scanning and came across a couple of locals rag chewing, I through my call sign out and one of the them acknowledged me and I explained to them that the freeway was blocked. They had heard about the accident and was kind enough to give me directions to get around the closure. These directions were completely different than what my GPS wanted to send me and as a result, this saved me about an hour of travel time.

I am glad that I added frequencies to my radio. Yes, it may have some time to figure out the best route and frequencies to program, I feel it was well worth it, I had to adjust the PL Tone for a couple of frequencies. You never know when it will come in handy for any emergency or help.

## SET 2024:

The Simulated Emergency Test will be October 5<sup>th</sup> 2024, the SARGE will be open for those of you that will be operating on the 5<sup>th</sup>. As I had mentioned earlier this year, each county may conduct an exercise and use the exercise as their SET any time they chose. Each county will be creating their SET/Exercise based on their county's needs. Check with your EM Director, they may give you some ideas based on their needs. Your SET report will still need to be submitted by the end of the year. The 2024 SET forms will be available soon.

Here are a couple of articles from the ARRL website I found interesting and helpful.

### **Estate Planning for Hams (What happens to all your stuff?)**

08/30/2024

August is National Make-a-Will month. Some estimates show that nearly two-thirds of Americans don't have a plan. For some, it's procrastination. Others don't know where to start. "So many times we hear from the family of a Silent Key who are overwhelmed with what to do with a lifetime worth of amateur radio gear," said ARRL Director of Development Kevin Beal, K8EAL. "Simply thinking through what needs to be done ahead of time can prevent the stress on our loved ones after we are gone."

ARRL this week [held a webinar](#), hosted by Beal and Dino Papas, KLØS, to discuss the first steps of planning. "It is something that, unfortunately, doesn't get a lot of attention. The bottom-line up front is, 'what happens to all our beloved ham gear when that inevitable day comes along that we become a Silent Key?'... Unfortunately, that day may arrive unexpectedly – so we need to prepare ahead of time to make it as simple as possible for our families," said Papas.

On the ARRLHQ YouTube channel, you can see a [replay of the 52-minute presentation](#), along with the question-and-answer section at the end.

"Your station is an asset, just like anything else you've built and put resources into. Deciding now what happens when you become a Silent Key can help solidify your legacy to ham radio," said Beal. [The ARRL Legacy Circle](#) recognizes the generosity of individuals who have planned support for ARRL through wills, trusts, life insurance gifts, and other ways. The ARRL Legacy Circle ensures that ARRL and amateur radio will continue to thrive for generations to come.

### **Resilience Through Amateur Radio for National Preparedness Month**

08/30/2024

Amateur radio is an excellent tool for community resilience in times of crisis. The utility value of the critical communications it provides is enhanced by having well trained local [Amateur Radio Emergency Service® \(ARES®\)](#) groups and other teams. However, to maximize the value to yourself, your family, and your community; an operator must be prepared. September is National Preparedness Month. ARRL's partners at the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)



are sharing tips to help you be prepared. They are centered around the theme of [“Start a Conversation”](#).

ARRL Director of Emergency Management Josh Johnston, KE5MHV, is starting the conversation with radio amateurs to help make sure you, your station, and your family are ready for whatever may come your way. “It’s important that we take steps to ensure that not only are we ready to provide assistance to our served agencies, but that we have a plan for our families as well,” he said.

Over the month of September, ARRL will share best practices to help prepare you, your station, your family, and your local ARES® group to thrive in times of emergency. “There are times when hams may be activated to serve when all aspects of your life, your station, and your environment are under stress. That’s not the time to start planning or to discover shortcomings,” said Johnston.

Johnston encourages any radio amateur who is interested in participating in ARES® to check out the “Join ARES” [flyer](#), then reach out to their local ARRL Emergency Coordinator. If you don’t know who that is, find your local [ARRL Affiliated Club](#), or reach out to your ARRL Section Manager or Section Emergency Coordinator, whose contact details you can find on page 16 of QST or on [www.arrl.org/sections](http://www.arrl.org/sections).

Find resources for ARES® at [www.arrl.org/ares](http://www.arrl.org/ares) and tools to help plan your family’s resilience at [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov).

I sincerely appreciate all you do for your neighbors, and for the Ohio Section!

Bret KD8SCL, SEC

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District Emergency Coordinator, D3 Ohio ARES  
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ARRL - The National Association For Amateur Radio™

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*From the Section Youth Coordinator*  
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*From the Section Traffic Manager*  
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## Duties of Section Traffic Manager (STM)

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The STM is appointed by the Section Manager to supervise traffic handling organization at the section level--that is, to coordinate all traffic efforts within the section, regardless of mode or National Traffic System affiliation, so that routings within the section and connections with other networks and digital traffic nodes will result in orderly and efficient traffic flow.

**Requirements:** Familiarity with traffic handling on all modes; Technician class license or higher; Full ARRL Membership.

**Responsibilities:**

- Establish, administer, and promote a traffic handling program at the section level, based on, but not restricted to, [National Traffic System](#) networks.
- Develop and implement one or more effective training programs within the section that address the needs of both traditional and digital modes of traffic handling. Ensure that Net Managers place particular emphasis on the needs of amateurs new to formal network traffic handling, as well as those who receive, send, and deliver formal traffic on a "casual" basis, via RTTY, AMTOR, and Packet based message storage and bulletin board systems.
- Cooperate and coordinate with the Section Emergency Coordinator so that traffic nets and emergency nets in the section present a unified public service front.
- Recommend candidates for Net Managers and Official Relay Station appointments to the SM. Issue appointments/cancellations and appropriate certificates. At the SM's discretion, the STM may directly make or cancel NM and ORS appointments.
- Ensure that all traffic nets within the section are properly and adequately staffed, with appropriate direction to Net Managers, as required, which results in coverage of all Net Control and liaison functions. Assign liaison coverage adequate to ensure that all digital bulletin boards and message storage systems within the section are polled on a daily basis, to prevent misaddressed, lingering, or duplicated radiogram-formatted message traffic.
- Maintain familiarity with proper traffic handling and directed net procedures applicable to all normally-used modes within the section.
- Collect and prepare accurate monthly net reports and submit them to ARRL Headquarters, either directly or via the Section Manager, but in any case on or prior to the established deadlines.
- Encouraged to earn certification in Levels 1, 2, and 3 of the [ARRL Emergency Communications Course](#).

Recruitment of new hams and ARRL members is an integral part of the job of every ARRL appointee. Appointees should take advantage of every opportunity to recruit a new ham or member to foster growth of Field Organization programs, and our abilities to serve the public.

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clearly understood. A set of Appendixes furnish the details on various topics . . . not the main text. The purpose of this manual is to provide a simple teaching tool for you to use in learning about the National Traffic System (NTS)

## **PREFACE** by John Freeman, KB8ZDX

The National Traffic System (NTS) seems, to a lot of operators, to be this big, huge, complex operation that is very difficult to understand. Some of you may feel that you have to be an Extra with 20 years experience as a Ham to get involved in NTS because its all done on the HF bands and they use a language . . . so different that you need 20 years of just listening to understand it. **WRONG!!** After going over this material, you will understand that it is *not* complicated or difficult to be involved in the NTS. Its' members are operators just like yourself. You do *not* have to hold an Extra, Advanced, or General License. There is a place for everyone in the NTS. These materials are designed to teach you not only how to get involved, but how to be effective once you do get involved. This subject will be broken down simply. As you go through the manual, it will become more complex only because we put most of the details at the end. If you start at the beginning and work your way through, you will have absorbed enough simple background information to make sense out of the rest. The most important part of the NTS and this manual, is the part that the authors cannot include. That part is you. This manual means nothing unless you use it to improve yourself and your operating skills. We welcome the opportunity to help you do that.

## **NATIONAL TRAFFIC SYSTEM (NTS) TRAINING MANUAL PART ONE I. What is NTS?**

The NTS is a relay messaging system developed for *content accuracy*. Whatever message is sent by way of the NTS, is received *exactly* as it was originated. There is no margin for error. The National Traffic System consists of ARRL affiliated and independent amateur radio networks ('nets') which pass non-commercial messages on behalf of third parties as a *public service*. That's it in a nutshell. NTS has been in operation since 1949. It was established by the ARRL in response to membership demand. It carries on a tradition of message relaying, established by Hiram Percy Maxim when he founded the ARRL for the purpose of handling message traffic in 1914.

### **II. Traffic – What is it?**

NTS messages are formalized utilizing the "RADIOGRAM" format. Once a message has been formalized and entered into the NTS it is called "Traffic". Non-formalized messages relayed over Amateur Radio frequencies are *not* "traffic" as defined within the NTS. NTS messages may be sent to, or by, anyone. You do not have to be a ham to initiate or receive a message. A licensed ham must, of course, handle the transmission of the traffic.



III. THE *MYSTERIOUS* RADIOGRAM NOTICE!!! Explanations of this simple form have probably stopped more people from participating in the NTS than anything else. — It is just a piece of paper! — This is *not* a confusing IRS tax form! — It's simple! — If you can remember your name and callsign, know what you want to say, and who you want to send it to, you are already 3/4 done with this form. — No Mysticism or Rocket Science is involved.

**THE FOUR PARTS OF A RADIOGRAM and the basics of what to do with each one of them. This is dealing with the very top of the Radiogram form. You should have a copy of the Radiogram in front of you. This won't make much sense without it.**

**1. Preamble:** The top part of the form, with all the little boxes, is called the Preamble. The different parts of the preamble are highlighted below. Look for the heading on the Radiogram form and read the description for that area.

**Message Number This is the number assigned by the first Amateur putting the traffic into NTS. It never changes, no matter how many other operators handle the message.**

The message has to have a number. If you are originating the message, you can put any number in this box. What number it is does not matter. What numbering sequence you use doesn't matter. If you are receiving the message, you *must* use the number given to you by the sender. DON'T say the words "my number 001". DO say "*Message Number Zero, Zero, One*". Note: there is no such number as "Ohh".

**Precedence This tells the importance, or how urgent the traffic is.**

99% of all traffic is listed as "Routine." Put an "R" here. Don't worry about this right now. There is a more detailed discussion of this further on in the manual.

**Handling Instructions This is just an Optional set of specific instructions dealing with methods of delivery.**

Most of the time, this area is ignored. Don't worry about it! We will do some details later on. See Attachment "A" at the end of this document.

**Station of Origin This is the Call-Sign of the Amateur who first put the traffic into the NTS system**

**Check This is a count of the number of words in the text area of the form, (the area with all the little horizontal lines).**

This does *not* include anything in the preamble, address and signature. Note: **When you use the word "X-Ray" to indicate punctuation, it counts as a word.** When you use the word "Break" it is a courtesy to the receiving operator and it does not count as a word. DON'T say "Check 25,

Station of Origin KB8ZDX". It is bad form to say the headings. DO say "25, KB8ZDX". Please note that whatever your call is or the proper information received is what will go in these spots, please do not take "25, KB8ZDX" literally (thanks!).

**Place of Origin This is the City and State of the party who initiated the traffic, *not* the Station of Origin location.**

**Explained:** If you are initiating a message for someone in Bozoville, Montana and you live in Ohio, then Bozoville, Montana would be the *Place* of origin.. Your callsign would be the *Station* of origin.

**Time Filed: This is the UTC or ZULU time the traffic is placed into the NTS system, not the time written.** You could have written the message last week. What is important here is the time you actually put it into the NTS. Many NTS operators ignore this field on the form for Routine traffic.

**Date: This is the date the traffic is first placed into the NTS system.**

DON'T say "12/4" for the date. DO say "December 4". You do not *have* to use the year. If the person taking your message doesn't know what year it is, perhaps you should find someone else?

**Address This is the address of the individual to whom the traffic is supposed to be delivered. It goes under the word "TO" on the form.**

#### **Name**

Full name (including Jr., Sr., or callsign if there is one)

#### **Street address or P.O. Box**

(complete as possible) DON'T send numbers as 12345. DO say "*figures* 12345".

#### **City, State, Zip**

DON'T say "Zip Code 12345". DO say "Zip figures 12345".

**Phone number: This is important because most traffic is ultimately delivered via local phone calls**

DON'T say "phone number 290-456-7890". DO say "phone figures 290 456 7890".



DON'T say "Text to follow" after the address. DO say "Break" after the address before giving the "text". .

## **Text**

Keep it all brief and to-the-point

DON'T say "ARL figure 61". DO say "ARL sixty one". (More on this "ARL" stuff later.) 25 words or less (if possible) May contain ARRL Numbered Radiograms (i.e. "ARL One") Attachment "C" lists all of these Use "X-Ray" in place of periods, commas."X-Ray" counts as a word. DON'T send "period" at the end of sentences. DO send "X-Ray" in place of punctuation. DON'T say "End of message" after text. DO say "Break" after giving the text of the traffic. .

**Signature: This can be a single name, a name and callsign, or a name and title. Just enough information to enable the receiver to identify the sender.**

**The Originating amateur should provide enough information that a reply can be sent.** DON'T say "Signature or Signed "John". DO say "John".

(NOTE: Amazingly, on the ARRL Form, FSD-244, RADIOGRAM there is no mention of this fourth part of the form! [It's there ... just in invisible ink] Put it anywhere you want.) .

**OK, You are done . . .**

**NOW WHAT?**

**Say, "End . . . No More."**

That's all there is to filling out a basic NTS Routine message on a Radiogram form. It really is simple when you don't get bogged down in all the fine little details right away. Go over this a few times and actually fill out a blank form while you are doing it. To get used to how it feels to actually put your voice to it, go to Appendix "C" where you will find a message all written out. Just read it out loud several times.

**OK, You are done . . .**

**NOW WHAT?**

**Say, "End . . . No More."**

That's all there is to filling out a basic NTS Routine message on a Radiogram form. It really is simple when you don't get bogged down in all the fine little details right away. Go over this a few times and actually fill out a blank form while you are doing it. To get used to how it feels to actually put your voice to it, go to Appendix "C" where you will find a message all written out. Just read it out loud several times.

### **Sending Procedures**

The biggest mistake that all newcomers make is **sending too fast**. Those who seem to be aware of this fact go too far in the opposite direction and send too slowly. Listen to the sending pace of the experienced operators and try to emulate what they do. DON'T just keep going from one end of the message to the other. DO pause between each section to allow the receiver to "Break" if necessary for fills. (A "fill" means a repeat of a certain section.) DO send it clearly and slowly, but not dragging it out. Practice writing your own message down as you send it. This will give you an idea how fast you can reasonably expect someone else to copy it down.

### **How a "Fill" works.**

If a receiving operator misses copying part of a message, he/she can request that you repeat part of it by breaking back to you during one of your pauses and saying, "Break...fill from [last word of a string that he got ] to [the next word that he got]". Just back up and give him the part he missed by saying "Fill . . . [give him what he missed] *pause* and go on with your message.

### **When and Where to send a "Radiogram"**

**Local Traffic** (In-town/county), send it: During a Net on your local repeater Anytime on the repeater or via local telephone

**Out of town** or county traffic During any Net on your local repeater ask for a station who may take "traffic" for the area it needs to go into. Check with your Local Net Manager or Emergency Coordinator for stations who take relays of traffic for other areas and counties.

**Long distances within same state** During a Net on your local repeater, see if there are any relay stations to the HF Nets operating within the state that can pass to a "Higher Net" If you have the privileges, check in to one of the state wide nets and pass traffic to a station who is local to the intended receiver Check with your Local Net Manager or Emergency Coordinator to find who is the Local Liaison for HF Nets if you do not have the privileges or the equipment. (A Liaison is an operator who has agreed to help pass NTS traffic for others.)

### **Out of State or Country**

Pass it to an NTS Net that you have the privileges to Pass your traffic to the Local Liaison via repeater or telephone If the message is going out of the Country, check to ensure that the US has

a third party agreement with the country it is going to. If not sure, check with your Emergency Coordinator or your local Net liaison

#### IV. METHODS OF PASSING “TRAFFIC”

RADIOGRAMS may be passed via any means available to an Amateur Radio Operator . . . voice, phone. Repeaters, simplex, VHF, UHF, HF, as long as you have the privileges to operate on a frequency, you can pass messages there.

You may use:

**Phone (Voice)** anywhere it is legal for you to operate.

**CW.** NTS messages can be passed using CW on VHF, UHF, HF, any frequency that the operator is authorized to use

**Packet.** VHF and HF are the most common. Packet can be the ideal means of passing formalized message traffic in certain circumstances. It is especially useful when a “secure” method is necessary to safeguard the privacy of disaster victims. It is also very handy whenever a “hard copy” is needed for record keeping.

Packet BBSs provide a looser structure for getting messages from the sender to the area of destination. This looseness has its advantages and disadvantages. An advantage is that participants can have more flexible schedules – one does not have to set aside a specific time for a regularly scheduled net. A disadvantage is that the sender does not know if there is a human-receiver on the other end that will deliver the message. For the system to work efficiently, each BBS should have someone (or some group) responsible for delivering NTS messages.

**RTTY/AMTOR.** HF is the most common. Another digital mode(s) available for passing of traffic

#### Traffic Nets

There are specific times, days of the week and a variety of frequencies available for formal “Traffic Nets”. Check with your local Net Manager, Emergency Coordinator or Net Liaison to find out when and where they meet. The ARRL *Net Directory* is a good source of information. We have also included several Appendices at the end of this manual which are lists of various nets at different levels. During a Club Net, ARES Net, District Net, etc. is the perfect time to pass some traffic, even if just for practice. You can usually locate someone who will receive the traffic and will also work with you on your technique. Don’t worry about getting everything perfect. Practice makes us all better. If you listen to an NTS net for ten minutes, you will hear some of the old-timers make some blunders. It’s no big deal! The most important part is to listen



to how the traffic is handled and passed, then practice what you know is correct out of what you hear. People who are involved in the NTS nets welcome newcomers. Just tell them you are new to the system and they will coach you. Of course, there is always the net “Grump”. Don’t worry about him.

**If you never learn any more than this about the Radiogram, you will do just fine passing traffic in the NTS with what you have learned so far.**

**By the time you compose and send 10 or 12 messages, the Radiogram form, these simple procedures, and what to say, will be permanently imprinted on your brain.**

### **SPECIAL HANDLING INSTRUCTIONS**

This information applies regardless of any mode of message transmission or mix thereof. This section is to explain what can go in the little box marked “HTX” in the Radiogram Preamble. Again, there is no mystery to this if it is presented simply. Sometimes there are some special things that need to happen to a message. Have you ever gotten a letter from the Post Office that you had to sign for? Someone wanted to make sure that their message was delivered. Have you ever sent a letter or package “Second-Day Air” so that the Post Office would rush it through? You can do exactly the same type of thing with an NTS message by plugging in some standard coding in the HTX box of the Radiogram. The codes are pretty self-explanatory and can be found in Attachment “B” at the end of this manual.

#### **PRE-FORMATTED MESSAGES (The “ARL” Stuff we promised to explain.)**

If you listen very long to NTS nets, you will soon discover that many messages that you hear are very common and identical. To cover this fact, the NTS uses sixty-nine different pre-formatted messages. The first 26 are emergency related messages. Numbers 46 through 69 are common greetings. Using the ARL messages saves everyone time. The next time you want to send Grandma a “Merry Christmas” greeting, instead of putting “Wishing you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year” in the text area of a Radiogram, you would simply put “ARL Sixty One”. The person who eventually takes the message for delivery to Grandma has to dig out his little chart of ARL numbered messages, call Grandma, and read the words of the message to her over the telephone. Simple. (Except that most Grandmothers will send a return message ARL 12). Multiples of the AR

L messages can be strung together in sequence on a single Radiogram to form a pretty impressive message that would be much longer than the recognized maximum of 25 words.

**OK, that’s neat. But how do I put it on the Radiogram . . . What do I say?**

First, when you are using ARL messages you always put “ARL” in the “Check” Box of the Preamble. No numbers. Just “ARL”. In the “Text” area of the Radiogram you would put (and say) “ARL sixty four Detroit ARL fifty seven ARL sixty eight love Dad.” to say at the other end, “Arrived safely at Detroit/ wish we could be together/ sorry to hear you are ill. Best wishes for a speedy recovery/ Love Dad. You send 12 words . . . they get 23. Everything else in the Radiogram is the same as before. A list of the standard ARL messages can be found in Attachment “C” at the end of this manual.

## PRECEDENCES

Let’s again go back to the Radiogram form. This time we will look at the “Precedence” box in the Preamble. We stated that over 90% of NTS messages passed carry a “Routine” precedence. This is true. There are some other designations that can go in this box.

**Welfare Messages:** These messages are either an inquiry as to the health and welfare of an individual in a disaster area or an advisory from the disaster area that indicates the condition of an individual, family, or group. From a Disaster scene, Outgoing welfare messages usually are handled first, with Incoming welfare inquiries being handled second. Welfare traffic is handled *only* after all emergency and priority traffic is cleared. If there has been a disaster somewhere in this country, you will hear Welfare messages being passed. You will also hear them during emergency drills and tests. If the message is for real, you will hear something like this: “zero one two, welfare, [call sign], ARL, etc”. If it is a test, the first thing you will hear is “Test Message”. If you are dealing with Welfare messages, you will probably be using another form of the Radiogram, titled “Amateur Radio Disaster Welfare Message”. This form is even simpler than the Radiogram. For the parts that are the same as on the Radiogram, it is filled out following exactly the same procedures as the Radiogram

**There is one very important exception. The originating station must be working from a form that has actually been signed by the person who is requesting that the message be sent!!**

The originating station is usually asked to turn these signed message forms in to someone of authority on a disaster scene.

## Emergency Messages:

An Emergency Message is any message having life and death urgency to any person or group of persons, which is transmitted by Amateur Radio in the absence of regular commercial facilities.

**Emergency messages have top priority and must be handled before any other message is processed.**

These messages can include official messages of welfare agencies during emergencies requesting supplies, materials, or instructions vital to relief to stricken populace in emergency areas. During normal times, it will be very rare to hear one of these messages, as they are usually used in areas very close to the disaster scene, and on local nets.

### **Priority Messages:**

This is a second level priority used for important messages having a specific time limit, official messages not covered in the emergency category, press dispatches and emergency-related traffic not of the utmost urgency. This is where the “Time Filed” box on the Radiogram form becomes important to use. Routine: Most traffic during normal times. In disaster situations, traffic should be handled last, or not at all when circuits are busy with higher-precedence traffic.



**Amanda Farone, KC3GFU**  
ARRL Ohio Section | Affiliated Club Coordinator  
[Afrone926@gmail.com](mailto:Afrone926@gmail.com)  
330-509-4095

The leaves are changing, and amateur radio activities are slowing down. I encourage ALL clubs to use this time to plan for future activities and events. One of my most significant pieces of advice is to plan ahead as early as possible for a successful outcome. One of the things on your list should be to ensure your ARRL club information is up-to-date by the first of the year. I cannot stress enough how IMPORTANT this is! More times than not, I have attempted to contact a club but

have gotten no response. You are missing out on opportunities! Not just opportunities by me but also by prospective hams, other clubs, the general public, etc. There are MANY opportunities out there, but they must be able to contact you.

On another note, as you learn to navigate the new-ish ARRL Ohio Section page, take a look at the Ohio Section Speakers Bureau page. This is a fantastic addition to the website that can be an asset to your club. These individuals are willing and able to provide your club with a



presentation that harnesses invaluable information. If you know of a speaker who would be interested in being listed on this page, please reach out to Tom Sly WB8LCD via email. The goal is to see that list grow and provide various topics to our excellent Ohio (and beyond) clubs!

The final topic I want to discuss this month is the ARRL Club Grant Program. I hope many of you have taken advantage of this excellent opportunity. The deadline has passed, and the results will be announced in November.

Lastly, I want to apologize for being a bit absent lately. There have been many changes in my life over the past few months. Since earlier this year (around Spring), I have had three career changes (all for the better!) and enrolled in college full-time. Life has been hectic and unexpected. My newest job position will allow me to be more present and actively involved with YOU GUYS! As I settle, I plan to attend more meetings, activities, hamfests, etc! I plan to continue making eyeball QSOs and supporting your club endeavors. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or need help! I also enjoy it when you send me your club newsletters!

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## *National News*

*(from ARRL and other sources)*

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### **National Preparedness Month: Have a Go Kit**

September is National Preparedness Month, and ARRL is working to help radio amateurs have a plan for family resilience. Many hams enjoy public service as part of their operating. Being ready to activate for a served agency through the ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES®) involves not only being licensed and trained, but also prepared and equipped.

ARRL Director of Emergency Management Josh Johnston, KE5MHV, suggests that hams and their families have a “go-bag”. He says there are a few things to consider: “You need to be able to function while activated, so that means you need a kit for your needs and a kit for your radio needs. If your family is impacted by the situation, they also need to have some gear at the ready.”

On the ARRL website, there’s an [Emergency Prep Kit Checklist](#). It lists the common items such as food and water for several days, a first aid kit, medications, chargers for your devices and other useful items.

Having a kit for your radio is useful as well. “Go kits will vary based on function and need for the field,” said Johnston. “Most kits should include a dual band HT and/or mobile radio with antenna, a power supply and all necessary cables and connectors. Every kit should include note pad or paper of some type as well as pens or pencils. You should have a power source and power cables. If you are working HF then you will need an HF radio and antenna, and if you want digital capabilities, then a computer with software preloaded will be desired.”

Other things you may want will include tape and tools, spare batteries, headphones, flashlights of some sort, cell phone chargers, and a multimeter. Other items that won’t fit in a bag but may be needed include a generator, a working surface like a small folding table, a chair, and some type of shelter.

Need a bag for your go kit? Consider the [ARRL Gray Canvas Backpack](#). \$30.00 in the ARRL Store.



ARRL Gray Canvas Backpack

# Emergency Prep Kit Checklist

It's hard to think clearly during an emergency, and the last thing you want to do is leave something important behind. Use this checklist to gather essential items and prepare today for what might happen tomorrow.

## IN CASE OF EMERGENCY, HAVE THESE ITEMS READY

- Food and Water**  
A 3-day supply of water and food. Include 1 gallon of water per person per day and non-perishable food items like energy bars, cereal, dried fruit, nuts, peanut butter, and canned meats.
- Utensils**  
Eating utensils, plates, cups, bowls, a can opener, and paper towels.
- Clothing**  
A change of clothes for each person, rain gear, extra shoes, and waterproof boots.
- Day-to-Day Living Items**  
Garbage bags, toilet paper, matches in a waterproof container, a multipurpose tool, dust masks, duct tape, plastic sheeting, Mylar® blankets, a whistle, local maps, and bleach.
- Personal Items**  
Toiletries, an extra pair of glasses/contact lenses, tweezers, and nail clippers.
- First Aid Kit**  
Sterile gloves and dressings, bandages, soap, antibacterial towels, hand sanitizer, burn ointment, antibiotic ointment, eye wash, and a thermometer.
- Medications**  
A 3-day supply of prescription medications, pain relievers, cold and sinus relief, anti-diarrhea medicine, antacids, and laxatives.
- Devices**  
A cell phone, a charging cord, a portable charger or battery pack, a hand-crank radio, an LED flashlight with extra batteries, and a headlamp.
- Important Documents**  
Copies of birth certificates, driver's licenses, insurance cards, medication lists, medical records, proofs of address, passports, wills, bank records, marriage licenses, adoption papers, and emergency contact lists.
- Cash**  
Small denominations and change.

## ADDITIONAL ITEMS

- For Babies**  
Diapers, baby wipes, baby powder, diaper rash cream, baby wash and lotion, formula, baby food, bottles, bibs, burp rags, pacifiers, teething tablets or gel, and blankets.
- For Seniors**  
Medications, hearing aids and batteries, extra eyeglasses, syringes, portable oxygen, mobility supplies, and contact information for doctors and caregivers.
- For Children**  
Books, toys, puzzles, crayons, and comfort items.
- Ham Radio Gear**  
A handheld, a mobile radio, chargers, extra batteries, antennas, power cords, and a laptop.







On the night of Sept. 6, 2013, NASA launched a mission to the Moon from Wallops Flight Facility, and a still camera on a sound trigger captured this photo with an airborne frog photobombing the scene.

## Club Corner

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

Let us 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?

Send it to: [webmaster@arrl-ohio.org](mailto:webmaster@arrl-ohio.org)



## 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, 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) <<http://www.ae8fp.net/>>

### **Alliance Amateur Radio Club**

The Alliance Amateur Radio Club holds 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, 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/](http://www.w8lky.org/licensing/ve-exams/).

**All Things Amateur Radio Association (ATARA)** hosts testing sessions every second Tuesday of the month in Lancaster. Our testing sessions use Examtools, a digital testing platform, and administers the exams on tablets. Simply sign up for a free account at <https://hamstudy.org/register> and then search for our session and register through the Hamstudy website. Reach out with any questions to Jarrod – KE8MBL 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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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 Fligi, 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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)** The Lancaster and Fairfield County Amateur Radio Club (LFCARC) hosts exam sessions on the first Saturday each month at 10:00 am in Lancaster Ohio at the Fairfield County EMA, 240 Baldwin Dr., Lancaster Ohio.

To register for an exam, [Click Here](#).

Questions: Contact me at [ve\\_testing@k8qik.org](mailto:ve_testing@k8qik.org).

### **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](http://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](http://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](mailto: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](http://www.portcars.org) .

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact me at [KB8UUZ@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://www.w8zx.net/exam) or email [VETEAM@N8BAG.NET](mailto: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 3<sup>rd</sup> - Wayne County Justice Center (Wooster)  
Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup> - Sharon Center UMC (Wadsworth/Medina)  
Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup> - Sharon Center UMC (Wadsworth/Medina)  
Saturday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> - Wayne County Justice Center (Wooster)  
Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup> - Sharon Center UMC (Wadsworth/Medina)  
Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup> - 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/>

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### **From Mat KC8NZJ DEC ARES District 10**

I received the below message asking for additional volunteers for the Lorain County Pumpkin Patrol. If anyone is interested in volunteering, or in more information, please contact Keith KD8GXL directly at [kd8gxl@gmail.com](mailto:kd8gxl@gmail.com)

Since 1963 Lorain County Pumpkin Patrol has participated with the Ohio State Highway Patrol and local law enforcement in an effort to protect the citizens of the county from objects being

thrown off bridges. Should we once again be requested to deploy in October it will be our 61st year!

The program not only helps to protect citizens but is a great opportunity to test and train individuals for actual emergencies and to test equipment.

You may have heard that the program has outgrown its usefulness especially with bridges having barriers in place now. I can assure you that the barriers are not high enough to prevent objects from being thrown over and the program is still viable. A homeowner on Vermilion road told me that his garbage cans were thrown onto Rt 2 / 90 last year. One prominent bridge has no protection at all.

I am writing to ask if you would be willing to encourage District 10 members to join forces with LCPP this year.

Many thanks for your consideration of this matter.

Keith Cook / KD8GXL  
Lorain County Pumpkin Patrol Coordinator.  
440-289-7717

73!  
KD8GXL, Keith

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OH-KY-IN and QCEN announce the next round of classes for amateur radio licenses and upgrades. We will start with Extra Class instruction, which will run for 7 weeks because of the nature of the material to be covered. That class will start on Monday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 7 p.m. in the Red Cross building, 2111 Dana Ave. in Cincinnati. It will run until October 28<sup>th</sup>.

Starting two weeks later, Monday September 30<sup>th</sup>, also at 7 p.m. in the Red Cross building, instruction for the General Class, and the Technician Class (the entry-level ham radio license) will be offered. These classes will go for 5 weeks, ending on October 28<sup>th</sup> as well.

A testing session will be held on Saturday, November 2, 2024, at 10 a.m. in the Red Cross building.

To sign up for these sessions, or to get more information, please send an email to [hamtutor@ohkyin.org](mailto:hamtutor@ohkyin.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](mailto:WB8LCD@ARRL.ORG)

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## Important Links

ARRL Home: [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org)

Find an ARRL Affiliated Club: [www.arrl.org/clubs](http://www.arrl.org/clubs)

Find your ARRL Section: [www.arrl.org/sections](http://www.arrl.org/sections)

Find a License Class in your area: [www.arrl.org/class](http://www.arrl.org/class)

Find a License Exam in your area: [www.arrl.org/exam](http://www.arrl.org/exam)

Find a Hamfest or Convention: [www.arrl.org/hamfests](http://www.arrl.org/hamfests)

Email ARRL Clubs: [clubs@arrl.org](mailto:clubs@arrl.org)

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**DX This Week - 09072024**

**Bill - AJ8B ([thedxmentor@gmail.com](mailto:thedxmentor@gmail.com) / [www.aj8b.com](http://www.aj8b.com) )**

CY9C is now QRT and they had a great run! I believe that they passed the 90,000 QSO mark. I was fortunate enough to work them on 160M after several nights of chasing.





The picture on the left is from the CY9C facebook page. It was posted by Lou, N2TU with the caption of “Final sunrise over CY9C camp...packing is beginning ...”

Great Dxpediton and it helped many to an ATNO and to fill band slots.

Safe travels!

DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH

### Here is what is happening in the World of DX:

This section of DX News comes from Bernie, W3UR, editor of the DailyDX, the WeeklyDX, and the How's DX column in QST. If you would like a free 2-week trial of the DailyDX, the only source of real-time DX information, just drop me a note at [thedxmentor@gmail.com](mailto:thedxmentor@gmail.com)

### CY9C, St. Paul Island operation is now QRT.

By all accounts, the CY9C DXpediton to St. Paul Island ran smoothly. As of August 29, at 1904 UTC, they had recorded 50,491 QSOs with 14,204 unique calls: 15,908 on CW, 3,328 on SSB, 31,187 on FT8. 64 on MSK, and 4 on two-meter MSK.

Missing CW contacts from early days have been accounted for. A full statistical summary is available on Club Log.

CY9C primarily used FT8 SuperFox mode and occasionally switched to FT8 Fox/Hound mode as conditions warranted, particularly on the low bands and for marginal band conditions. Donations to help offset the high cost of the two helicopters and the boat are welcome and most appreciated.

Here is my latest update on the CY9C Dxpediton. As of 1400Z on Monday, Sept 1st, the CY9C team had a total of 81,637 contacts. Band conditions were much improved on Monday and the team took advantage with all six

FlexRadio's in operation. The team continued non-stop until Wednesday evening local time.

73,  
MurrayWA4DAN.

Here is an update on **KH8T, American Samoa**. The KH8T DXpedition to Pago Pago is QRV until September 16. The team – N5DD, Don; KC5DJI, Amy; K5PI, Robert; and VE7KW, Keith – plans to give as many people as possible a chance to work an All Time New One, or a new band or mode country. They will be QRV on 160-6M CW, SSB, and FT8/FT4. Their band plan is shown on their website. W5SJ, Bill, is the KH8T pilot. QSL via MØURX, preferably via OQRS, either direct with US\$3 or via the bureau. Do not send QSLs via the bureau.

The **6O3T** team is finalizing details for their five stations which will be QRV next month in northwestern **Somalia**. All antennas are packed and ready, including a seven-element 6M Yagi. They plan to be on CW, SSB, and FT8 MSHV; they have decided not to use SuperFox. “Having carefully weighed the pros and cons of using SuperFox mode, while recognizing that if developed, it could become a high standard, at the moment we feel [that] it is still too young,” they said. Team leader IV3JPP, Fabri, also emphasizes that contrary to published reports, the precise dates for their trip are not yet decided. As widely reported in the media, Somalia is a dangerous place, especially in the capital, Mogadishu.

Mark your calendars for **C8K, Mozambique** planned for January 2025. Planning is underway for a DXpedition to Mozambique in early 2025, with the callsign C8K. Operators will include OK1BOA, Petr; Petr OK1FCJ, Petr; OK1CRM, Palo; OK1GK, Pavel; OK2ZA, Ruda; OK2ZC, Ludek; OK2ZI, Karel; and OK6DJ, David.

This will be an all-band, all-mode operation, on 160-6M (including 60M) CW, SSB, RTTY, FT8/FT4, and PSK. They will also be on the QO-100, RS-44,

and IO-117 satellites. If local internet is available, they plan to use Club Log Live Stream. QSL via OK6DJ, OQRS, and LoTW. More details will follow.

**VK9CV, Cocos (Keeling) Islands** has announced that they will have three locations. VK9CV is planned for November 1-11. Realizing that conditions to the USA are “very short,” the VK9CV team has "decided to use three QTHs so that [they can] simultaneously be on one band" at the same time to cover CW, SSB and digital modes. These three locations will be about 700 meters apart and they are hoping for “as little QRM as possible.”

MØCFW (aka JK3GAD), Kazu, is heading back to **3B9, Rodrigues Island** for both CQ Worldwide DX Contest weekends. He will be there from October 22-30 and again from November 17-27. During the contests, he will use the callsign 3B9KW as a single-operator, all-band, high-power entry. Outside the contests he will sign 3B9/MØCFW. Antennas will include a BuddiHex for 20-10M, vertical with elevated radials for 40M, vertical for 80M, and Inverted L for 160M. He cautions that he might not install the 160M antenna in time for the SSB contest weekend.

Per CX3ZAN, operators from the Uruguay DX Group, CX2AM, CX3AN, and CX8FB will have the **C91BV** callsign from **Mozambique** October 17-24, holiday style with a pair of 100W stations, one on 40-6M CW and the other on 40-6M SSB. QSL via EB7DX.

**E51EME** in the **South Cook Islands** is QRV on 10 and 6M through September 15. This is grid BGØ8cw. ZL1RS, Bob, will use an ICOM IC-705 to a homebrew kilowatt 6M amplifier into a pair of five-element Yagis stacked on a new, homebrew 11-meter tilt-over mast. Bob has been providing online updates.

(W5ZN, Joel, suggests being alert for E51EME on 10M and on 50313 KHz FT8.) Following this operation, Bob will upload his log to LoTW. Paper QSLs will be available in October through Club Log.



Germany operators DL3RU, Roman, and DL2COM, Leo, are planning a "micro-light" DXpedition to **HB0, Liechtenstein**, at the end of September and beginning of October. They will be on CW only with an "emphasis on JA/VK/ZL on the higher bands." Roman and Leo will be operating from the Augstenberg summit at 2359 meters above sea level. "[This] location has been carefully chosen to allow a good take-off to the target areas," says Roman. They will be running 50-100W on battery power, with directional antennas. Because they will be dependent on good weather conditions, the exact dates will not be announced until very close to the operation.

JP1IHD, Koutarou, has adjusted the dates of his next trip to **JD1BQP, Ogasawara Islands**. Originally it was October 22 to November 9 now it is October 21 to November 3. He expects to be QRV on 1.8 through 50 MHz on SSB, FT4 and FT8. He will be especially active on the higher bands with a focus on 6 meters. He will be participating in the 2024 CQ Worldwide DX SSB Contest. QSL via the JARL QSL Bureau or direct to JP1IHD.

From October 31st till November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024, the Mediterraneo DX Club (MDXC) will be on air with another challenging expedition in Africa.

An international team of 14 operators will operate from **BURKINA FASO** as **XT2MD**. Five stations will be on-air 24/7 on all / any open bands, with focus in the low bands, 6 m and "human modes", including RTTY.

The expedition will be also active in EME this year again (it will be operated by the specialist DL8JJ, Emil Bergmann) and, for the first time, on QO-100 (for this the main operator will be GI4DOH Richard White).

Due to the well-known political-military situation, the entry into the country and the radio operations will be particularly critical and uncertain.

Details on team members, locations, equipment and more are available by visiting the expedition website <https://www.mdxc.support/xt2md/>.

Here you can leave your requests for bands and modes to the team on the SURVEY page- <https://www.mdxc.support/xt2md/survey/>.

In due time, you can also find "ad hoc" propagation forecasts from VOACAP and the LOG ON-LINE.

For those who wish to support us in the adventure, there is a place to leave a small contribution to the Expedition via PayPal, which will help us to ensure you a better service for this and future expeditions.

XT2MD Team

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – September 3, 2024 - **3D2Y - Rotuma Island** update.

Our shipment arrives in Fiji - At about 0900z this morning the tracking devices attached to our shipment came on-line in Nadi, Fiji. The 330 Kg shipment left Atlanta by truck for LAX on August 24 and departed LAX on August 31 on Qantas Airfreight for Fiji via Auckland NZ, and Sydney AU.

Shipment by air freight is expensive shares Gregg W6IZT. To minimize shipping costs, the team will be carrying 2 ea. K3s, 3 ea. KPA500s, laptops, the StarLink terminal, and other gear as checked or carry-on baggage.

Our equipment will be picked up from customs in Nadi and placed in storage by our agent in Fiji in preparation for the trip by boat to Rotuma. The boat runs between Suva, Fiji and Rotuma about once per month. Our shipment will be picked up in Rotuma by our on-island representative for storage at our operating location. The team arrives November 15.

This DXpedition is a partnership with Youth on the Air (YOTA) encouraging youth participation and will feature three young operators who will be active on the Island while there will also be 60 or more hams operating remotely using W6IZT's NexGenRiBs over Starlink.

We will be signing 3D2Y, not 3D2Z as previously planned.

Funding raising efforts continue for the November DXpedition. Please consider supporting the 3D2Y Rotuma DXpedition. Visit our website for details: rotuma2024.com <http://rotuma2024.com/>

We hope to see you on the bands, the op on the other end is likely a young ham experiencing the thrill of a DXpedition pile up for the first time!

PY1SAD will be on as **8R1TM**, from **Guyana**, "frequently from October onwards," he says, taking an IC706 "and accessories." Not a DXpedition, he will

casually be on "all bands and modes." He is getting set up for QSLing through QRZ, LoTW and eQSL, or direct to the PY1SAD QTH.

His QTH is in Georgetown and the antennas a Moxon, delta loop and bazooka, for CW, SSB, digital and satellite. Aldir is a member of CWJF and the MACAE CW DX Group.

If you are someone who likes podcasts and/or YouTube episodes, The DX Mentor has a discussion with Dave, AA6YQ, about his groundbreaking, and FREE, station control suite of software products, otherwise known as DXLab. Check it out on YouTube or wherever you get your podcasts.

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!

Contest	Start Date	End Date
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ARRL September VHF Contest	9/14/2024	9/16/2024
Texas QSOP	9/21/2024	9/22/2024
New Jersey QSOP	9/21/2024	9/22/2024
CQ WW DX Contest, RTTY	9/28/2024	9/29/2024
Maine QSOP	9/28/2024	9/29/2024
Oceania DX Contest, Phone	10/5/2024	10/6/2024
California QSOP	10/5/2024	10/6/2024
Nevada QSOP	10/12/2024	10/13/2024
Arizona QSOP	10/12/2024	10/13/2024
Oceania DX Contest, CW	10/12/2024	10/13/2024
Pennsylvania QSOP	10/12/2024	10/13/2024
South Dakota QSOP	10/12/2024	10/13/2024
10-10 Intl. Fall Contest, CW	10/19/2024	10/20/2024
New York QSOP	10/19/2024	10/20/2024
Illinois QSOP	10/20/2021	10/21/2024
CQ WW DX Contest, SSB	10/26/2024	10/27/2024
CQ WW DX Contest, CW	11/23/2024	11/24/2024
ARRL 160M contest	12/6/2024	12/8/2024
ARRL 10M Contest	12/14/2024	12/15/2024

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# OHIO'S

It's 2:30 AM on Thursday morning and normally I'm asleep at this time. However ole man COVID has decided some things need changed around the N8ZNR/W8KIW household and disrupting sleep appear to be one of them. Some might think of this as a time to check out the bands for some DX or strike up a QSO with another night owl or two. Years back I would have probably turned to the broadcast band and looked for some West Coast broadcast stations. Back



in the late 60s I actually did this one night and ran across the disc jockey who later became Wolf Man Jack upon moving to the well known South of the Border XERF.

Now that Labor Day is behind us, most of us consider it autumn even though it is not officially here until later in the month. That means the annual Ohio State Parks on the Air operating event/contest is this Saturday and is probably over by the time you read this. For the first time since the event was started, COVID is keeping my participation as either a rover or **Highland ARA** K8HO activator from happening. But if the fellow upstairs allows it, I will be chasing parks from the home station. I hope to have several reports regarding activations next time out.

About three years ago the **Buffalo 10 Meter Net** and the Leavitt Funeral Home in Belpre teamed up with a rather unique project drawing upon a non-radio event to expose people to amateur radio. They combined a vintage and classic car show with a swapfest on the funeral home's grounds in Belpre. It must of worked because it returns this year on September 21. Thanks to **Scioto Valley ARA** President Jesse Stanley, KD8CHP, for letting me know that flyers for the annual hamfest on October 5 at the Pike County Fairgrounds in Piketon are now available. On October 26 the **Vinton County ARA** hosts their first swap fest at the McArthur Community Center in McArthur. Then November 9 finds the **Grant ARA** making a hamfest comeback in Georgetown.

Last column out I told you that Ralph Howes, W8BVH, the excellent editor of the **Lancaster Fairfield County ARA** newsletter, told us of the restored WWII landing boat LST 325's September 5 to 10 visit to Wheeling, WV and then visit Marietta on September 12 to 15. The ship has 2 meters as well as HF on board. You can also track them on 30 meters APRS. Should you wish to tour the ship, tell the tour leader you are an amateur radio operator and you will be escorted to the WW2LST radio room bearing WWII equipment as well as modern. Visit their website at [www.lstmemorial.org](http://www.lstmemorial.org) for more information and the hours and tour prices. This historic restored ship is quite an experience to just see, let alone to get to be on board.

Kirk Groeneveld has provided us with an overview of the recent **Athens County ARA** Trunkfest. Considering a very humid morning, it was a successful event with dozens in attendance and several vendors.

Admission, flea market spaces and other things were free. The Athens Red Cross provided refreshments for a donation. If nothing more, it was another reason for those in the ham community to gather and enjoy the fellowship with others with the same interests.

With the dawning of a new month, we start the rounds of monthly club events, meetings, brunches and other events. On September 12 the members of the **Queen City Emergency Net** will meet at the Red Cross Headquarters in Cincinnati where Regional Red Cross Disaster Director Ken Robinson will be the guest speaker and speak about volunteer opportunities.

Saturday, September 14 appears to be a good day to eat out. Not only can you get a good meal, but also enjoy the company and face-to-face contact with some of your fellow hams. Starting out

the morning is the **All Things ARA** monthly breakfast at the Scramblers Restaurant on Ety Road in Lancaster. It begins at 8 AM. The **Bainbridge Ham Group** will meet at the Dutch Restaurant at 8:30 that morning. For once the **Highland ARA**'s September Brunch Bunch will not fall on the day of the Ohio State Parks on the Air event. Depending on the weather the September 14 BB will be at either Hillsboro's Liberty Park Harmony Lake shelter house at or at the nearby Burger King. It starts at 10 AM. If you are a later Saturday morning riser or breakfast doesn't appeal to you, the **OH-KY-IN ARS** monthly Brunch Bunch might be more to your liking. It will take place at the Alcapulco Restaurant in Fairfield at 1 PM.

Bill Garringer, N8SBT, reminds all amateurs in the Fayette County area of the movement of the **Fayette ARA**'s Tuesday evening net to the new 9 PM starting time. He also calls attention to their relocation of the FARA monthly breakfast gathering to the Ranchers Restaurant in Washington CH. The next gathering will be on Saturday morning, September 21. We're reminded the **Jackson County ARA** meets on the third Saturday of the month at the Faith Lutheran Church, Huron Street, in Jackson. The meeting begins at 6 PM. All area amateurs are urged to attend.

On September 22 the **Bellbrook ARC** will begin a license class leading to a Technician ticket. It is a multi-week course concludes with a test on November 18. Classes run from 7 to 9 each evening at 51 South East Street in Bellbrook. For more information check the [www.bellbrookara.org](http://www.bellbrookara.org) website.

The next **Hocking Valley ARA** Foxhunt will be on September 28. It will start at 10 AM. Normally they retire to a local restaurant at the conclusion of the event to relive the morning's activity.

Quickly we end September and will move into October. Those interested in obtaining their first license or doing an upgrade will have several opportunities throughout the month. Besides those previously listed in this newsletter, some other clubs will have test sessions prior to meetings, at hamfests or on other posted dates. For instance, on October 5 the **Scioto Valley ARA** has a test session during their hamfest at Piketon. Then on October 7 the **Portsmouth RC** will test prior to their monthly meeting at the Portsmouth American Legion Hall. The **Athens County ARA** has scheduled an ARRL test on October 21 at the Southeast Ohio Red Cross Building in Athens. It will start at 7 PM. The **Grant RC** is arranging a test at their November 9 hamfest in Georgetown.

October 12 will be a busy day for the **Athens County ARA**. On that date they will assist with communications for the upcoming Buckeye Trail Runs. They will assist with the 10K and half-marathon events. Jeff Slattery states they still need some volunteers to assist at locations along the way. If you can assist or be on standby, please let Jeff Slattern, N8SUZ, hear from you at 740-541-0972. This year's run will use a revised leg in order for the course not having to cross a busy State highway.

In a previous column I told about the **Highland ARA** accepting Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Program donations in the memory of Tom Archibald, K8TDA. Tom really liked what the program does to provide Christmas gifts to youngster in other parts of the world, but noticed older boys were not receiving items they could keep and use. Therefore he started donating hammers to insert to boxes to be given to those boys up to 14 years old. HARA took note of his past actions and pledged to raise enough funds to donate sufficient funds to a hammer and at least another basic tool to insert in 30 boxes. To date the response has been exceptional and allows for more items to be inserted than planned. For a \$10 donation a young man in some part of the globe will find a hammer, tape measure, roll of duct tape and a 6 feature screwdriver in the box they receive- something they can use after the glow of Christmas wears off. Because the Program is national in scope a local drive can be found almost anywhere. However if you wish to participate and can't find a local church participating, you may make your check payable to the Hillsboro Methodist Church and mail it to HARA Secretary Kathy Levo, 21 Highland Drive, Hillsboro, OH 45133. Therefore if you prefer to donate in your local area, please do so but let HARA know so the Archibald Family can acknowledge your thoughtfulness. The OCC Shoebox Program is a nationally qualified charity and donations can be used for tax deduction purposes. The Church has notified HARA a photo of the Club will be placed in each box that bears the tools.

“Improving Your DX Experience” will be the program and topic of discussion at the upcoming September 12 meeting of the **Southwest Ohio DX Association**. The program will be led by Ralph Bellas, K9ZO. The evening starts with a gathering beginning about 5 for food and drink with the business meeting and program beginning in the 6:30 time frame. All takes place at Hunter's Pizza, SR 122 in Franklin.

Although a bit out of the South 40 Region, these hamfests do attract several of our readers and news contributors in their respective part of the Region. The **KY4ARC** Hamfest will be held in Paintsville, KY on September 28 at the Paintsville Recreation Center from 8 AM until 1 PM. Checkout the [www.ky4arc.com](http://www.ky4arc.com) website for details. As our region extends to West Virginia on the East, those in that area may have an interest knowing the **Hancock Auxcom Team** will hold their second H. A. T. fest at the Chester, WV Park on October 5 from 10 AM until 4. Check [www.HATFEST@wv8hat.org](mailto:www.HATFEST@wv8hat.org) for more info.

We've all ordered something and when it's received, we open the container and besides what we ordered we find little packets of silicon dioxide. Not knowing what to do with them, they usually find their way to the waste basket and the dump. The purpose of those packets is to draw moisture away from item being shipped. However you can place those packets in your tool box to keep tools from rusting! You can also be placed in the containers you put sensitive electronic parts and circuits to keep the moisture low. Because we're hams, I'm certain we can find other beneficial uses for these packets around the house or shop instead of them being consigned to the landfill.

Well that's it for this weeks travels down the highways and by-ways of the very dry Ohio's South 40. Here's hoping each of our readers has an enjoyable week and finds some time to be radio active.

John Levo, W8KIW

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

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## **ARLD033 DX news**

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

MONACO, 3A. Col, MM0NDX and Steve, MM0SAJ are QRV as 3A/MM0NDX and 3A/MM0SAJ, respectively, until September 9. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters using SSB, RTTY, FT8, and FT4 with a focus on the lowbands and 6 meters. QSL via EB7DX

FIJI, 3D2. Maxim, OH7O is QRV as 3D2YY from Viti Levu, IOTA OC-016, until September 19. Activity is on 40 to 10 meters, and possibly 80 meters, using QRS CW and SSB from different locations on the island. QSL via LoTW.

GEORGIA, 4L. Stephane, F4JZW is QRV as 4L/F4JZW until September 30. Activity is on 80 to 6 meters. QSL via LoTW.

MALDIVES, 8Q. Michele, IZ8PWN is QRV as 8Q7WN from the Thudufushi Island resort, IOTA AS-013, until September 13. Activity is holiday style on 40, 20, 17, 15, 12, and 10 meters using SSB and possibly FT8. QSL via I8KHC.

IRELAND, EI. A group of operators will be QRV as EJ7NET from the Aran Islands, IOTA EU-006, from September 7 to 11. Activity will be on the HF bands. QSL via EI6FR.

MARQUESAS ISLANDS, FO. Paula, NX1P is QRV as FO/NX1P until October 1. Activity is on the HF bands. QSL to home call.

SOLOMON ISLANDS, H4. Bernard, DL2GAC is QRV as H44MS from Malaita, IOTA OC-047, until September 15. Activity is on 40 to 6 meters using SSB and some FT8. QSL to home call.

GRENADA, J3. Greg, N9GB is QRV as J3/N9GB until September 10. Activity is on 40 to 10 meters using CW. QSL via EB2DX.

AMERICAN SAMOA, KH8. A group of operators are QRV as KH8T from Tutuila Island, IOTA OC-045, until September 16. Activity is on 80 to 10 meters, and possibly 160, 60 and 6 meters if propagation allows, using CW, SSB, and FT8. QSL via M0URX.

SOMALIA, T5. A group of operators will be QRV as 6O3T from Northern Somalia from September 9 to 30. Activity will be on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, and MSHV FT8. QSL via operators' instructions.

PALAU, T8. Nobu, JA0JHQ is QRV as T88PB from Koror, IOTA OC-009, until September 9. Activity is on 80 to 10 meters using SSB. This includes being an entry in the All Asian DX Phone contest. QSL direct to home call.

PITCAIRN ISLAND, VP6. Bill, G0VDE is QRV as VP6WR until September 15. Activity is on 80 to 6 meters using SSB, RTTY, and FT8. QSL via M0URX.

INDIA, VU. San, VU2TT will be QRV in several contests with special call sign AT5T from September 7 to November 28. QSL via LoTW.

BURKINA FASO, XT. Harald, DF2WO will be QRV as XT2AW from September 8 to 22. Activity will be on 80 to 10 meters using SSB and FT4, and on Satellite QO-100. QSL via LoTW.

TRISTAN DA CUNHA AND GOUGH ISLAND, ZD9. Lance, W7GJ will be QRV as ZD9GJ from Tristan da Cunha, IOTA AF-029, from September 12 to October 1. Activity will be primarily on 6 meters EME using Q65-60A in the Q65 Pileup mode. This may include some 6 meter TEP with SSB or FT8 as well. QSL direct to home call.

ZIMBABWE, Z2. Pista, HA5AO is QRV as Z22AO until September 13 from Zambezi National Park. Activity is on 80 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, and FT8. QSL to home call.

SOUTH AFRICA, ZS. Team ZS9KK will be QRV from a farm in the Klein Karoo region during the SARL Field Day weekend. Activity will be on 80, 40, and 20 meters using CW and SSB. QSL via bureau.

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## Upcoming Hamfests

We **DO** have hamfests scheduled for 2024!!



# Ohio Hamfests

## 2024

### 09/22/2024 - Cleveland Hamfest

**Location:** Berea, OH

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Hamfest Association of Cleveland

**Website:** <https://www.hac.org>

**Learn More**

### 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**

### 10/05/2024 - Scioto Valley Amateur Radio Club Hamfest

**Location:** Piketon, OH

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Scioto Valley Amateur Radio Club

**Learn More**

### 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**

### 12/07/2024 - Winter Hamfest

**Location:** Archbold, OH

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** FCARC

**Website:** <https://k8bxq.org/hamfest>

**Learn More**

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## ***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\*



[https://arrl-ohio.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/print\\_your\\_license.pdf](https://arrl-ohio.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/print_your_license.pdf)

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## ***Final... Final***

The Handbook Giveaway is back on! Our first new winner is W5KBW – **Bob** from London, Oh! Congratulations Bob – your handbook is on the way.

What’s made this possible is all the work that John – WG8X has put into updating the Ohio Section website! We’re not done yet, but it’s been moved to a new server and is doing what we need it to do. For the time being there is no “One Question Questionnaire” – all you need to do is go to the website and enter the contest! Make sure you use this URL:

[www.arrl-ohio.org](http://www.arrl-ohio.org) .

If you’ve missed any of my PostScripts or the Ohio Section Journal since May, they are all there.

As I'm writing this (Sunday evening) I have to say I'm terribly sorry that I missed another hamfest today – Findlay. (Always one of my favorites) I've missed a few, and some other activities too due to some recent family health issues that I have to attend to, and it's all long distance, so weekends have been the time I have to look in on things. Much as I hate to miss all the Ham Radio activities I have already, it looks like I'm probably going to be a “no-show” through the month of September too. I'm keeping up as best I can, but family has to come first. Hopefully I'll be back on track early October. I appreciate your understanding.

Effective immediately I have two new Assistant Section Managers: John Levo – W8KIW and Anthony Luscre – K8ZT. And I have another one or two that I hope to have online shortly. Also, I have accepted David – WA3EZN's resignation as Section Traffic Manager (STM) as of September 30, 2024 and have appointed Dan Rinaman – AC8NP as STM effective 10/01/2024. Congratulations and Thank You to all!

73,  
Tom WB8LCD

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### *“Swap & Shop” on the website*

Hey Gang,

Have you taken a look at the **Swap & Shop** page on the Ohio Section webpage yet?? Here's a link that will take you there...

<http://arrl-ohio.org/section-swap-shop/>



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. You might want to list your location so that prospective buyers know where you're at.

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](mailto:swap@arrloho.org)

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### ***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>




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#### Ohio Section Cabinet

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

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### ***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](mailto:webmaster@arrl-ohio.org) to be added.



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/>



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

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*The Ohio Section Journal (OSJ) is produced as a comprehensive look at all the programs within the Ohio Section. I sincerely hope that you have enjoyed this edition of the OSJ and will encourage your friends to join with you in receiving the latest news and information about the Ohio Section, and from around the world!*

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