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## CQ CQ CQ de WB8LCD

The BIG news this past week has been Hurricane Helene. I heard on the news this morning (Saturday) that there were over 3 million homes and businesses without power. Yesterday I had read that the “Hurricane Net” had officially been closed down. Let’s go back and look at Part 97.1, the “Basis and purpose” of the Amateur Radio Service:

### **Subpart A—General Provisions**

#### **§97.1 Basis and purpose.**

The rules and regulations in this part are designed to provide an amateur radio service having a fundamental purpose as expressed in the following principles:

- (a) Recognition and enhancement of the value of the amateur service to the public as a voluntary noncommercial communication service, particularly with respect to providing emergency communications.
- (b) Continuation and extension of the amateur's proven ability to contribute to the advancement of the radio art.
- (c) Encouragement and improvement of the amateur service through rules which provide for advancing skills in both the communication and technical phases of the art.
- (d) Expansion of the existing reservoir within the amateur radio service of trained operators, technicians, and electronics experts.
- (e) Continuation and extension of the amateur's unique ability to enhance international goodwill.

Perhaps your local EMA did not activate you local ARES group. No more “hurricane net”. Do we have any *ongoing* responsibilities to the public to fulfil the obligations we have enumerated as the basis of our existence? I believe the answer is YES. In section (a) of the basis and purpose we are described as a voluntary, non-commercial communications service. That service is to be provided to the “public”, particularly with respect to providing emergency communications. Although EMA’s and other Disaster Services are considered Public Service

entities, I don't believe they are the "public". The "public" could best be described as "We the People" – individually.

Personal communications have become a ubiquitous component of our society. The systems that support personal communications have become "hardened" utilities, but, not unlike other utilities (power distribution, for example) they are not exempt from disruption. Still, the bigger disruption comes at the "user" end of those systems. The bigger the event, and the longer the power is out, the more disruption there is apt to be for "personal" communications, especially in the days, and perhaps weeks, that follow the big event rather than during it. Amateur Radio can, and should, provide a valuable service in this area.

From our location, we can often do this best via the local "traffic nets". Our participation will require that Amateur Radio operators *in the affected areas* set-up and promote their communications services to the local populace. (Best done before the event) They can then be a valuable connection for "Health & Welfare" traffic from the affected area to family and friends throughout the rest of the country.

So here's my action plan for *every licensed Amateur Radio operator* in the Ohio Section. (1) In the coming week brush up on your traffic handling knowledge & skills. If you have none of those skills – study up and then listen to your local traffic net to gain those skills. If you have at least some knowledge and skill, participate in the nets and take traffic for your area as you are able. (2) In the following weeks let your neighbors, local churches and other organizations know, that if the "Big One" happens in your area, how individual hams and/or ARES groups would be available to help with their "personal communications" needs. If your local ARES group wants to be of service, how about using those EmComm generators for a "portable cell-phone" charging station, set up at some convenient local location? We don't actually have to pass the traffic if we can help someone keep their personal communications device running. We could even provide some simple information most people don't realize – SMS text messaging might help their batteries last longer than voice calls, or FB messenger for example.

I know, I haven't been talking about the "glamorous" side of EmComm, but I am talking about serving the needs of people. And, if we do it right, it will also satisfy the first part of basis (a) – "Recognition and enhancement of the value of the amateur service to the public". Sometimes the little things, done consistently, amount to a big deal. On the other hand, something is always better than nothing! I'm open to your ideas on this – serving the needs of the public on an individual basis. Let me know what you think. [wb8lcd@arrl.org](mailto:wb8lcd@arrl.org)

Share the Magic of Radio.

73,

Tom Sly - WB8LCD  
Ohio Section Manager  
[wb8lcd@arrl.org](mailto:wb8lcd@arrl.org)  
330-554-4650



## *National News*

*(from ARRL and other sources)*

### **Final Prep Underway for Vanuatu DXpedition**



Four hams are packing over 500lbs of equipment in suitcases and making their final plans for a DXpedition to Vanuatu, a small island nation between Australia and Fiji. Expect to hear them on the air from October 16 through October 29. They will be operating two high power stations with a choice of seven antennas. There is room for one or two more hams in their luxury villa located on a South Pacific beach. If interested please contact Van as soon as possible at [vanherridge@gmail.com](mailto:vanherridge@gmail.com).

The hams are John Schroeder, K4QQG, from Hilton Head, SC; Nick Maslon, K1NZ / YJ0NZ, from Monson, MA; William “Savo” Savacool, K2SAV / YJ0SA from Schenectacy, NY; and Van Herridge, the team leader, N4VGE / YJ0VV from Charleston, SC. The QSL Manager is Nathan Wood, K4NHW, who will oversee live uploads to Clublog and coordinate QSL cards.

Planning for this DXpedition started in 2022 with plans to concentrate on SSB and participate in the 2024 CQ WW SSB Contest on October 26-27 as a high power M2 designation using the callsign YJ0VV. Antennas are: 10-160m full size inverted V, 6-20 BuddiHex, 40m phased vertical array, 15m 5/8 wave vertical, 80-160m receive only pennants, 160m sloper, and a 1040m DX Commander Expedition.

In addition to operating as a DX station we will have the opportunity to operate at several POTA and IOTA locations. If interested contact Van, N4VGE / YJ0VV, as soon as possible.

Van Herridge N4VGE / YJ0VV  
843-303-1885 vanherridge@gmail.com

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## **Volunteers – The Heart and Soul of ARRL Headquarters**

ARRL is quite privileged to have the service of many member-volunteers. Your national association could not function without the tens of thousands of dedicated hams who give freely of their time and talents to serve the greater amateur radio community.

The ARRL Field Organization is comprised entirely of volunteers – Section Managers, Affiliated Club Coordinators, Emergency Coordinators, and all other positions are all filled by those who have stepped up for the task. In central Connecticut, where ARRL is based, we enjoy a dedicated group of volunteers who come to ARRL Headquarters to serve.

“The volunteers really keep this place functioning,” said ARRL Member Services Representative Chanel Holley. Holley coordinates the volunteers in her role as ARRL’s receptionist. “They’re always happy to be here and bring so much dedication to their service,” she said.

ARRL is sincerely grateful to the HQ volunteer team. If you come to visit ARRL Headquarters, and the Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Station, W1AW, join us in thanking this great crew who serve in many different functions including W1AW, ARRL Library, QSL Bureau, and the ARRL Lab.



Our HQ volunteers include: Tom Brooks, KE1R; Skip Colton, W1FTE; Marc Goldstein, K8LSB; Joe Poland, N1EAI; George Carbonell, N1RMF; George Papp, K1YBO; Gary McManus, NQ1G; Dave Lesso, AC1K; Dan Wall, W1ZFG; Richard Lawrence, KB1DMX; Ray Thornton, W1YFF, Peter Turbide, W1PT; Paul Cianciolo, W1VLF; Martin Ewing, AA6E; Gregory Matthaey, KA2MKM; Harold Kramer, WJ1B; Ed Hare, W1RFI; Walter Styslo, W1WMS; Liz Karpiej, KA1DTU; John Pelczar, KA1DLM, and Robert Woodtke, W1RWW.

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ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio®

## **ARRL Student Membership**

ARRL Student Membership was established to increase youth participation and long-term involvement in amateur radio. Student members can access ARRL membership benefits including the digital versions of ARRL magazines, and the extensive courses and training materials available through the ARRL Learning Center.

Please note: ARRL requires age verification for all student members. Parental/Guardian consent



is required for applicants under 18 years of age. Student memberships are not eligible for add-on printed membership magazine subscriptions. Student membership benefits are subject to other restrictions and exclusions.

Student Membership options:

- Option 1: **Full Student Membership.** Dues rate \$30 per year. This low-cost membership option is available to US Amateur Radio licensees under the age of 26 years. Applicant must be a resident of the US, its possessions, or Puerto Rico. A full member may vote in ARRL elections for Division Director, Vice Director, and Section Manager. Other restrictions and exclusions may apply.
- Option 2: **Free Student Membership.** This no-cost, Associate membership option is available to full-time students aged 21 years or younger. Applicant must be a resident of the US, its possessions, or Puerto Rico. Free Student Membership excludes access to the ARRL E-mail Forwarding Service, and Associate members may not vote in ARRL elections. Other restrictions and exclusions may apply.

Become an ARRL student member today!

**To JOIN with a Student Membership** - <https://form.jotform.com/241074273604047>

or

**To RENEW a Student Membership** - <https://home.arrl.org/action/My-Account/Pay-Balances>

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## Get Ready for JOTA/JOTI

[Jamboree On - The - Air \(JOTA\)](#) and [Jamboree On - The - Internet \(JOTI\)](#) is the world's largest digital Scout event using amateur radio and the internet. The event, to be held October 18 - 20, 2024, connects scouts worldwide for a full weekend of online activities that promote friendship and global citizenship.

Millions of scouts participate and during the 2014 event, worldwide Scouting participation included 1.1 million Boy Scouts and 200,000 [Girl Guides/Girl Scouts](#), for a total participation of over 1.3 million--the largest Scouting event in the world.

Amateur radio operators use their stations to allow the scouts to make contacts. While many scouts are licensed radio operators, the majority participate in JOTA/JOTI through stations operated by local radio clubs and individual radio amateurs. Some operators use television or computer-linked communications.



Throughout the years, JOTA/JOTI amateur radio stations have been set up in unusual locations including the top of a mountain or on a boat. The event also features a variety of informal education activities, including webinars, global campfires, talent shows, live shows, fun challenges and more through an interactive 3D campsite.

More information about JOTA/JOTI, including rules, regulations, callsigns and worldwide frequencies can be found at [Jamboree on the Air \(JOTA\) \(arrl.org\)](http://www.arrl.org). Additional information is available in the [JOTA-JOTI Ham Radio Handbook](#).

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## *Club Corner*

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

Let me know what your club is up to. Are you going to have a special guest at your meeting or are you having a special anniversary?  
Just send it to: [webmaster@arrl-ohio.org](mailto:webmaster@arrl-ohio.org)

**Please! Format as below:**

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



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## **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: Januray 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 Flgigi, Flmsg, and Flamp. In past sessions we have built antennas, fired up new rigs, and generally had a good time!

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

### **Geauga Amateur Radio Association (GARA)**

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

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

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



off of State Route 44 between State Route 322 and State Route 87 on Merritt Road.

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

Additional info may be obtained from Jackie Welch, N8JMW by email [n8jmw2@gmail.com](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)**

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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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## What Comes After DHS AUXCOMM Course?

C. Matthew Curtin, KD8TTE

Are you ready to build on your training to qualify individually to the Auxiliary Communicator standard and complete the Position Task Book? Now is the time to register for the twenty-three week qualification course that turns the theoretical into the practical!

When it's time to use our radio equipment and skills for the benefit of served agencies, we have learned and expect to use the Incident Command System (ICS) and the structure of the National Incident Management System (NIMS). Part of that includes our service as volunteers to the agency, not as members of a non-government agency, but as individuals qualified to standards expected by the agency.

Many of us have completed the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Auxiliary Communications (AUXCOMM) course to carry a qualification recognized in the world of NIMS. The course is great for giving practical hands-on exposure to planning communication circuits and integrating into agencies to fit the needs of the task ahead.

When it comes to the individual qualification for the Auxiliary Communicator (AUXC), DHS helpfully published a Position Task Book (PTB) that spells out the tasks that agencies can expect AUXCs to be able to perform. NIMS doctrine allows for this to be augmented with additional tasks to be standardized at state and local levels.

This isn't a replacement for the League's Field Organization or its programs—it's a means to train and qualify individual volunteers to meet standards articulated by agencies to work at a

statewide level. Over the course of twenty-three weeks there are five in-person meetings (once monthly) in Columbus, weekly task assignments, ample opportunity to discuss the task in an email group and in video conference, and three opportunities to participate in the statewide communication network each week. On a task-by-task basis, volunteers are qualified by a state agency. Some complete the entire task book, and others get started in the journey. Either way, there is learning and achievement.

AUXC candidates and those who have completed the qualification have made a few remarks about what to expect.

- “Excellent course to be able to "put it all together" in Auxcomm terms. The more exposure and experience to digital comms and non ham protocols/signals etc the better. Not focused on casual operator who just wants to feel like he is a part of Emergency comms.”
- “Practical and effective. Focused/Immersive.”
- “Takes you from talking about it to doing it.”
- “Good at amateur radio? Good at EmComms? Good on public safety radio? Like, really good? Come get even better, train up to military standards. You'll need the right knowledge, skills, attitude, equipment: train to get the communications tasks accomplished. Major time and effort commitment: totally worth it.”
- “Difficult, but well worth the effort.”
- “The best thing about the course is the no fault training environment. No one was belittled for failing a task; rather, they were encouraged to tackle it again. Along this line, I felt that only those things that were truly mastered were marked as "trained", i.e., there was no pencil whipping. Consequently, I believe such training creates confidence.”
- “This was an awesome experience and I am better for the experience and proud of my achievement.”

Register now to apply for the Ohio AUXC Qualification Course!

<https://www.blackswancomex.org/net/auxc>

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## **Cuyahoga Falls ARC Online Tech License Classes Start Oct 6th**

The Cuyahoga Falls ARC will sponsor Technician and General Licensing Classes this fall and winter. The Tech class starts on Oct 6 and will run for six weeks. Time is 1:30 to 4:00 PM, and the classes will be held online via Zoom and Google Classroom. For more information, you can visit [tiny.cc/beaham](http://tiny.cc/beaham).



I know what you are thinking: “Why would I be reading this if I didn’t already have my Tech License?” That’s partially true; we are running this article because we need your help. Potential Hams do not know about licensing classes or how Amateur Radio Licensing works. So we need you to find potential new Hams and inform them about the class.

Here are some suggestions on how to do this:

1. **Tell someone-** give them this link - [tiny.cc/beaham](http://tiny.cc/beaham) (email it to them, print it out, text it to them, call them on the phone, send it in a letter or card, attach it to a small gift or snack, etc.) and if they ask, “What is Amateur Radio?” give them this link [tiny.cc/wiar](http://tiny.cc/wiar).
  - a. Do you have a spouse, child, parent, or other family member who is interested in getting started in Amateur Radio?
  - b. Do you have friends or neighbors interested in getting started in Amateur Radio?
  - c. Do you have co-workers interested in getting started in Amateur Radio?
2. **Do you have a place to put up a flyer** (work, school, library, restaurant, store, etc.)? Here are links to two printable flyers: [Flyer A](#) & [Flyer B](#)

**What’s different about these classes? In addition to teaching the material you need to pass the exam, we will devote time to things that will get you one the air and operating!**

This year, we will be working in conjunction with the [M.O.R.E. Project](#). Students who complete the class and pass the license exam will be eligible to receive a GOTA (Get On The Air) package of free equipment, including a VHF/UHF HT.

Because we draw attendees from around the country, we always recommend they join a local radio club. If you recommend this class to someone, please let them know about your local club so they can find mentors in their area.





## Fall 2024 Technician Licensing Classes

INTRODUCTORY Amateur Radio Classes \* No Morse code required \* Will prepare you for the FCC Element 2, Technician Class License exam—35 multiple choice questions to get YOU on the air!

October 9, 2024 begins seven Wednesday classes, 7:00-9:00pm  
at the Medina County Career Center (JVS)

No charge for classes.

Last class is exam session – walk away with a Technician License.

Email [Jane@K8JGR.radio](mailto:Jane@K8JGR.radio) for more info and sign-up

[Click here for Flyer](#)

# **Grant Amateur Radio Club**

## **November 9<sup>th</sup> 2024**

146.730 mhz - Brown County, Ohio - PL 162.2 hz

**This is our 24th Annual Ham Fest!**

Each year in November the club holds its yearly ham fest! The club pulls together to offer many exciting activities as well as an indoor vendor area and flea market. Our great food and lots of other hams to chat with make it a great day!

**Over \$1000 in prizes to be given away!**

The club will be conducting license testing for earning or upgrading your license. Contact the club for more information.

**November 9, 2024 8:00 am – 12:30 pm**  
**406 West Plum Street**  
**Georgetown, Ohio 45121**

**Admission: \$2.00 per person**  
**Advance tickets are available!**

**Vendors and Flea Market:**  
**Tables are first come!**  
**Vendor Setup: Saturday Morning 6 am**

**Contact Ken Klosterman at 513-515-6726**  
**or by email at [KD8FKU@gmail.com](mailto:KD8FKU@gmail.com)**

### **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

## **ARLD036 DX news**

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by ZL4NR, The Daily DX, 425 DX News, DXNL, OPDX, Contest Corral from QST and the ARRL Contest Calendar and WA7BNM web sites. Thanks to all.

ROTUMA ISLAND, 3D2. Members of the Rebel DX Group are QRV as 3D2V and 3D22 until October 30. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters using primarily FT8 in the SuperFox and MSHV modes. QSL via Club log.

TANZANIA, 5H. Vlad, OK2WX is QRV as 5H1WX from Mafia Island, IOTA AF-054, until October 6. Activity is on 80 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, and FT8. QSL via I8KHC.

BOTSWANA, A2. Pista, HA5AO is QRV as A25AO from Chobe National Park until October 14. Activity is on 80 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, and FT8. QSL to home call.

MADEIRA ISLAND, CT3. Operators DJ8NK, DJ7JC, DL6TK, DM2RM, DK4QT, and DF7EE will be QRV as CR3W in the CQ Worldwide DX RTTY contest. QSL via LoTW.

ARMENIA, EK. Artem, R2GEO is QRV as EK/R2GEO from Eriwan. Activity is in his spare time on 20 meters using SSB and digital modes. QSL direct to home call.

REUNION ISLAND, FR. Michal, OM2DX is QRV as TO2DX until October 7. This includes being an entry in the CQ Worldwide DX RTTY contest. QSL to home call.

SCOTLAND, GM. Special event station GB2ZL will be QRV from October 1 to 28 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the first amateur radio contact between Great Britain and New Zealand. QSL via LoTW.

SARDINIA, IS0. Luca, IK5AEQ will be QRV as IM0/IK5AEQ from San Pietro Island, IOTA EU-165, POTA 0033, from September 29 to October 6. Activity will be on 40 to 2 meters using SSB, RTTY, FT8, and FT4. QSL to home call.

GREECE, SV. Dirk, ON5CT is QRV as SV8/ON5CT from Samos Island, IOTA EU-049, until October 6. Activity is on 80 to 6 meters using SSB, RTTY, and FT8. This includes being an entry in the CQ World Wide DX RTTY contest. QSL via LoTW.

COTE D'IVOIRE, TU. Mustafa, TA2IMG is QRV as TU5ML from Abidjan. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters, and on Satellite QO-100, using SSB and FT8. QSL direct to home call.

ST. KITTS AND NEVIS, V4. Dale, W4AUV and Bob, K4RLC will be QRV as V4/homecalls from St. Kitts, IOTA NA-104, from October 1 to 12. Activity will be on 40 meters using CW, and 20 meters QRP CW, respectively, from three POTA sites. QSL via LoTW.

NAMIBIA, V5. Gunter, DK2WH is QRV as V51WH from Omaruru until November 12. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters, including 60 meters, using SSB, FT8, and possibly CW. He will be active as V55Y in various contests. QSL to home call.

Please see September QST, page 73, October QST, page 77, and the ARRL and WA7BNM contest websites for details.

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## Upcoming *Hamfests*



## *Ohio Hamfests*

**2024**

<p><b>10/05/2024 - Northwest Ohio Amateur Radio Club (NWOARC) Hamfest</b>  <b>Location:</b> Lima, OH  <b>Type:</b> ARRL Hamfest  <b>Sponsor:</b> Northwest Ohio Amateur Radio Club, Inc.  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.nwoarc.com">http://www.nwoarc.com</a>  <b>Learn More</b></p>	<p><b>10/05/2024 - Scioto Valley Amateur Radio Club Hamfest</b>  <b>Location:</b> Piketon, OH  <b>Type:</b> ARRL Hamfest  <b>Sponsor:</b> Scioto Valley Amateur Radio Club  <b>Learn More</b></p>
<p><b>10/27/2024 - 2024 MARC Hamfest at MAPS</b>  <b>Location:</b> N. Canton, OH  <b>Type:</b> ARRL Hamfest  <b>Sponsor:</b> Massillon Amateur Radio Club  <b>Website:</b> <a href="https://www.w8np.net">https://www.w8np.net</a>  <b>Learn More</b></p>	<p><b>12/07/2024 - Winter Hamfest</b>  <b>Location:</b> Archbold, OH  <b>Type:</b> ARRL Hamfest  <b>Sponsor:</b> FCARC  <b>Website:</b> <a href="https://k8bxq.org/hamfest">https://k8bxq.org/hamfest</a>  <b>Learn More</b></p>

If you have information for your 2025 hamfest get it into the ARRL! As soon as I see them approved and added to the ARRL site, I'll start getting them listed here.

## DX This Week – #302

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

I received an email from Bob, K8AAC. Bob had sent an email last week asking about “tail-ending”. He now has a slightly different question. He writes “Bill, you also mentioned how important timing is and staying away from the thundering herd. How do you do that?”

Another great question Bob. If you recall our analogy from last week, we envisioned a press conference where a group of reporters were gathered. When the celebrity says, “Next Question”, imagine what he hears. Twenty or thirty reporters all shouting at the same time. All he can hear is





either the loudest or just the din of voices. And maybe several of them listened to the This Week in Amateur Radio Podcast last week and were trying tail-ending. So, what can you do? Try waiting until the din dies down and then ask you question. Just like a pileup, watch how he reacts and see if there is an opening at the end. Ever notice that some reporters will throw a question out as the President has turned away and started to leave the podium? Same theory. Thanks for the email Bob. Just like tail-ending, this works sometimes (more often for me than tail-ending) and sometimes not. Just another tool for the toolbox!

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### **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)

A trip to Rotuma is being planned by the Rebel DX Group, with the callsigns 3D22 and 3D2V. The dates are not yet set but should be "soon." FT8 Super Fox is planned on 20, 17, 15, 12, and 10M, and multi-stream MSHV on 160, 80, 60, 40, and 30M. Planned frequencies and a QRZ page are being worked up. Stay tuned!

The 3YØK team reported early this past week that they are now in the final stage of negotiating the vessel and helicopter contracts for their 2026 Bouvet Island DXpedition. They have agreed on the important price elements in these contracts and will release more information once they have all details completed. They wrote, "This is a challenging project logistics-wise where vessel and helicopter must be coordinated, and the contracts placed a sufficient [amount of] time ahead. We have studied various offers for boat and helicopter services, in line with the scope of this project." Due to the postponement of this trip from 2025 to 2026, they also had to renegotiate the terms. For now, they aim to fully finance

this trip up front. “This is a major DXpedition where we also team up with a small private group to share the cost and risk for this DXpedition. In addition, the funding of this trip significantly depends on us building a team of 20 operators to finance the budget. We have 14 operators now and are actively looking for another six operators to complete the team. As we are approaching the final stage of the negotiations, we are again reaching out to anyone who wants to join our team to participate in this once-in-a-lifetime adventure. We estimate to stay around the island for 21 days and the total duration of the trip should be around 40 days. Should you wish to join our team please contact VE3LYC, Cesar directly or email us at this address.”

Separately, for their Peter I DXpedition, they are still looking for another three operators to complete the team.

W6IZT, Gregg, says that fundraising continues for a planned 3D2Y operation to Rotuma, November 15 - December 4, but says that “We still have a way to go.” Most of the gear has been shipped ahead and is now on Fiji. It has cleared customs and is in storage, to be transferred to a boat for Rotuma. To keep down the cost of air freight, the team will carry on board a pair of Elecraft K3S radios and three Elecraft KPA500 amplifiers. Donations can be made using PayPal or a debit/credit card at their website, or donors may send a check to: Pacific Islands DXpedition Group, P.O. BOX 73, Elmwood, IL 61529 USA.

LZ5QZ, Ted, and LZ1GC, Stan, are heading to **Rarotonga** (OC-013) where they will be QRV as **E51SGC** from November 7 to 24. Listen for them on 1.8 through 50 MHz, including 60 meters and the WARC-79 bands on CW, SSB, FT8, FT4 and RTTY. They will be emphasizing activity on 160, 80 and 60 meters.

Next, they are heading to the **Kingdom of Tonga** where they will be QRV as **A35GC** from Nuku'alofa (OC-049) from November 25 to December 7.

Equipment will include two Kenwood TS-480SAT and two Yaesu FTDX10 along with an Acom 120S and Acom 700S. For antennas they will use a multi-band ground plane (40- 10m, including the WARC-79 bands) a vertical on 160, 80 and 40 meters, mono band verticals and a DX Commander. On Topband they will be transmitting on CW on 1822.5 KHz. On 6 meters listen for them on CW on 50102 KHz and watch for them on FT8 on 50313 KHz. All activity they will be

operating split. On CW they will listen up 1- 5 KHz, on SSB up 5-15 KHz, and on RTTY up 2-5 KHz.

IM0/IK5AEQ, Luca, will be on the air from San Pietro Island, **Sardinia**, EU-165, September 29 to October 6, SSB, RTTY and FT8/4, 40-2M. A second activity by Luca will be IS0/IK5AEQ from Parks on The Air In the "rare province" of Oristano. For confirmations, it's LoTW, Club Log, or to his home QTH.

The **V7X** DXpedition to the **Marshall Islands** by "the Next Generation DXpedition team," who did 8R7X, are planning this next adventure, expecting to emphasize SSB, RTTY and FT8. 26-year-old DK6SP will lead, with co-lead DJ4MX, who is 22. Also on the team, HA8RT, 25; M0SDV, 24; and E77DX, 50. They expect to have a saltwater-adjacent QTH with plenty of space for antennas. They have a target of 60,000 QSOs and livestreaming, February 11-23, 2025. They are negotiating for the callsigns. Planned are four simultaneous stations, verticals, spiderbeam, DX Commander antenna, and 80M inverted-L. LoTW uploads will be daily, "free bureau," and OQRS available. <https://next-generation-dx.com/>

HA5AO operating **A25AO** in **Botswana**, should be QRV until October 14<sup>th</sup>.

November 1-15, **VK9CB** will be on the air from the **Cocos (Keeling) Islands**. OM5RW has joined the team of OM5ZW, OM3PC, OM4MW, OM4AYL, OM4MM, OK6DJ, OK2ZA and VK5GR. OM5RW will focus on 160M operation. The group will also put in an effort on 6M. No livestream, but they hope to upload to Club Log daily. They plan 160-6M SSB, CW, RTTY and FT8, plus the QO-100 satellite. [www.vk9cv.com](http://www.vk9cv.com)

Weight and fuel restrictions are major factors. The team hopes no gear must be left behind in Perth. If that does happen, that gear will be on a flight four days later. Six antennas and feed lines are being shipped ahead to help on that issue.

We have this update from the **6O, Somalia** Dxpediton. "Good afternoon to all, we apologize for the silence in our communications.

Given the very dangerous circumstances in which the entire team found itself, we decided to wait until we arrived in a safe territory, to send the information that

everyone was waiting for, and obviously to anticipate the return, in agreement also with the institutional contacts we had.

The operations were cancelled but the whole team is in good health, although mentally very stressed by the definitely traumatic experience that happened to us, although all precautions had been implemented.

When you travel the world, the unexpected is just around the corner!!! The team now, is on its way to Europe.

As soon as each operator has arrived home, it will be our pleasure/duty to share with the whole ham radio community, our terrible experience in a land where no one is in charge, but at the same time everyone has a say.

We thank everyone for your messages of support.

W7YAQ, Bob, and K7AR, Al, will be active from the Lausikula Guest House on **Wallis Island** (OC-054) from November 16-29, 2024 with activity in the CQ WW DX CW Contest. They will be active as **FW7AA** on 160-6 meters using two Elecraft K Line stations and amplifiers. They will use a DX Commander Classic, DX Commander Signature 12, and 160 M inverted L antennas. Their 6-meter activity will be casual, occasionally CQing and monitoring FT8 on 50.313 when not busy or out for dinner.

On the return trip home plans are to stay in **Fiji** for 3 days and will be active from Club Fiji as **3D2NB**. QSL both callsigns via W7YAQ through OQRS, and LoTW.

A group of Norwegians (LA9DL, Just; LA6VM, Erling; and LA7XK, Halvard) are heading back to **Svalbard**. They will be operating as **JW9DL**, **JW6VM** and **JW7XK** from October 9 and 14 from the JW5E club station shack (grid locator JQ78tf). During the Scandinavian Activity Contest (SAC) they will be using the call JW5X. Outside the contest they will use their own individual calls. Halvard says, "JW7XK will be QRV on the RS-44 satellite on CW, SSB and FT4".

If you are someone who likes podcasts and/or YouTube episodes, The DX Mentor has a discussion with Elmar, DF4GV, about the recent T32EU Dxpediton to Kiribati. Last spring, they discussed the upcoming DXpediton. In this episode, they review the Dxpediton including the working AC generator from the 1930s,

the broken arm, and the success of the DXpedition. Check it out on YouTube or wherever you get your podcasts by searching for The DX Mentor.

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# CONTEST CORNER

Below is a list of upcoming contests in the “Contest Corner”. I think this is important for someone who is trying to move up the DXCC ladder since entities that are on the rarer side and easiest to work in contests. Some of my best “catches” have been on the Sunday afternoon of a contest when the rarer entities are begging for QSOs. Of course, the gamble is that if you wait until Sunday, conditions may change, or they simply won’t be workable. However, it is not a bad gamble. Of course,

why not work the contest and have some fun!

As I mentioned, I will be ramping up this coming week to participate in the CQWW RTTY contest. I will be on 20 Meters, most nights, to tweak the station, software, and my techniques. Hope to work you this week or in the contest!

Contest	Start Date	End Date
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

## Print an Official or Unofficial Copy of Your Amateur Radio License

(By Anthony Luscre, K8ZT)

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

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



[Click here to download the instructions](#)

[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)

### Ohio Section Cabinet

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



Hey Gang,

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

<https://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.

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

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

[swap@arrl-ohio.org](mailto:swap@arrl-ohio.org)

## ***Back Issues of the PostScript and Ohio Section Journal***

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

<https://arrl-ohio.org/ohio-section-newsletter/>



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## ***Want to Share your Club Newsletter With Others?***

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

Here's the link to the page....

<https://arrl-ohio.org/ohio-club-newsletters/>

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



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

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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) and we'll get them added to the Ohio Section Emailing list.



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



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

Just go to: <https://arri-ohio.org/ohio-section-newsletter/>

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*PostScript is produced as a weekly newsletter. I want to thank everyone that has contributed articles and ideas to make this an even better news source. I sincerely hope that you have enjoyed this edition and will encourage your friends to join with you in receiving the latest news and information about the Ohio Section, and news and events happening around the world! Occasionally you may find an error or two in this newsletter – be assured, they were put there on purpose to make sure you’re reading the newsletter carefully!*