



October 2024

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(Photo credit – Nebraska ARES)

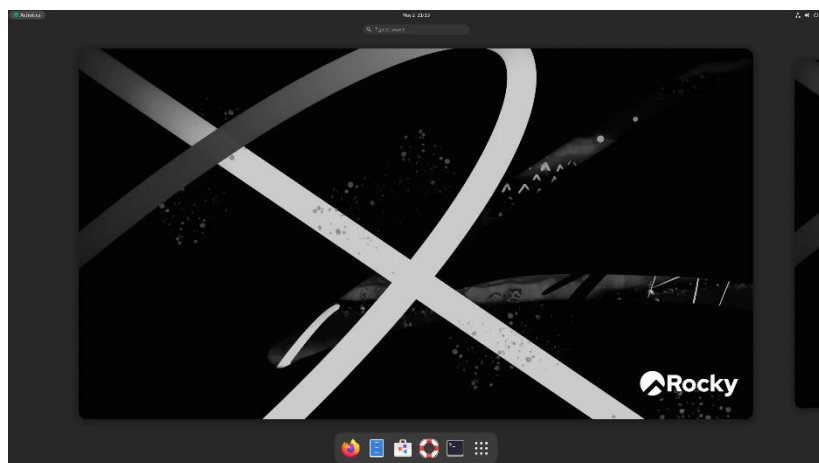
***From the Technical
Coordinator***

Jeff Kopcak – K8JTK TC
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Hey gang,
Tech companies can't seem to figure out how to make money on perpetual licenses. Shareholders still want a return on their investment and those companies remain full steam ahead on subscriptions. In a rough economy, companies are refocusing limited resources on efforts that will make money versus directly improving offerings available for free or nearly free.

[CentOS](#) was a community developed and supported enterprise operating system forked from Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL) in 2004. Similar to Fedora, CentOS was an upstream source to Red Hat but without licensing fees. An upstream source means features are available in lower Linux operating system distributions first, then picked up by ones like Red Hat Enterprise Linux. This method offers more stability as features would have been deployed on and issues fixed with a significant number installs in a community-based operating system before being added to an enterprise class operating system.

In Ham Radio, the IRLP project used various versions of Red Hat including Fedora Core and CentOS most recently. CentOS, at the end of 2020, announced the distribution would be [discontinued to focus on CentOS Stream](#). The community's response was overwhelmingly negative. Many enterprise systems were based on CentOS to avoid licensing and subscription fees now prevalent in Red Hat Enterprise Linux (though individuals can obtain a [development subscription at no-cost](#)). IRLP moved to another known stable distribution, Debian. What's the difference between CentOS and CentOS Stream? I'm still not quite sure. The [Wikipedia article](#) on the 5-year-old operating system doesn't say much other than it's a "midstream" between Fedora and Red Hat. That's what the original CentOS distro basically was. Midstream isn't an officially recognized term referring to

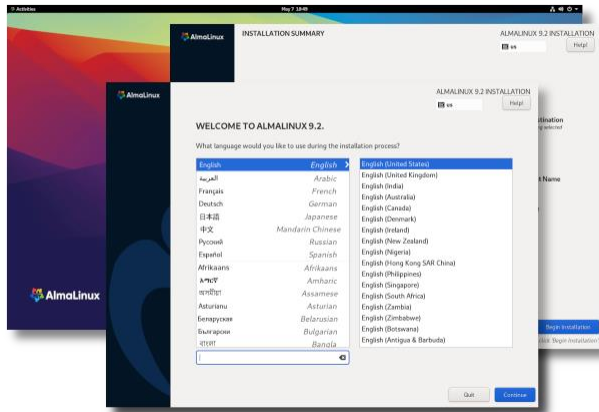


Rocky Linux (rockylinux.org)

flow of packages and features. My searching of the term kept bring up the oil and gas industry. I did find Stream being noted as a “rolling release” operating system in an [old Wiki entry](#) now on Archive.org.

A rolling release operating system is continually updated compared to fixed versions or release cycles. This is similar to how Microsoft is updating their [Windows 10 and later](#) “operating system as a service” platform with ongoing release updates. These are the numbered versions “YYMM,” later the “YYH1” and “YYH2” versions. No enterprise appliances I’m responsible for migrated to Stream. They all went to Red Hat.

One of the CentOS founders, Gregory Kurtzer, shortly after the announcement of development termination, launched a successor to CentOS called [Rocky Linux](#). I like their “about” line on their website: Rocky Linux is an open-source enterprise operating system designed to be 100% bug-for-bug compatible with Red Hat Enterprise Linux®. An operating system touting their bugs. *Didn’t see that one coming.* Not that I’ve been looking for bugs, but I’ve been using Rocky as a way to test application deployment and configurations before I break our QA environments and need the VM (virtual machine) team to redeploy the Red Hat appliance.



AlmaLinux (almalinux.org)

Another alternative is [AlmaLinux](#). Both Alma and Rocky are binary-compatible releases for Red Hat providing freely available production-grade enterprise operating systems. “The Rocky Enterprise Software Foundation (RESF) has been created to organize a community around enterprise, research, academia, individuals, and other institutions to collaborate on building and maintaining the open source tools that these organizations need.” AlmaLinux OS Foundation is a 501(c)(6) non-profit. The 501(c)(6) non-profit classifications are business leagues, chambers of commerce, and

real estate boards.

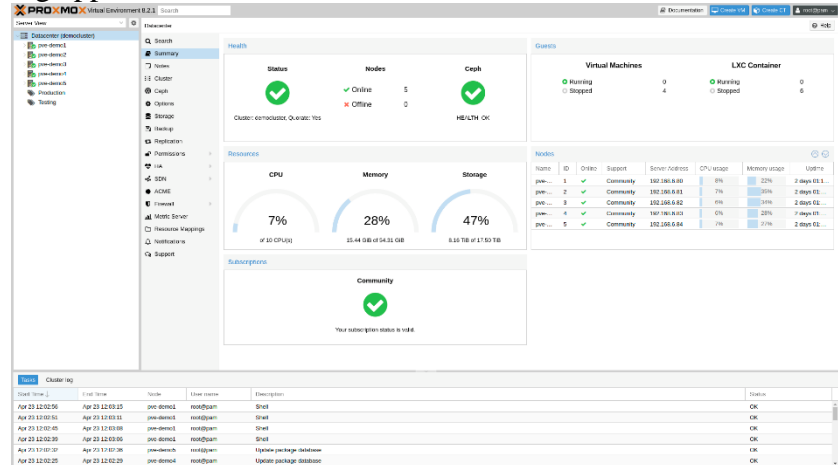
In another subscription move (and major show), [Broadcom purchased VMware](#). VMware, known for its virtualization technology, is also largely used in the enterprise. Though a free, but limited, tier was available for those whom prefer it as their virtualization platform at home. Virtualization allows multiple operating systems, instances, and containers of different operating systems and applications to be virtualized and run on the same physical machine. Physical machine specifications are often beefier with more CPU, RAM, and storage but allow those to be carved off for applications that need only a fraction of those resources. Those applications could be remote access, network controller, monitoring, web servers, personal storage, media, mail, databases, etc. All run on the same physical hardware but do not affect other virtual machines or other applications running on the same hardware.

Broadcom re-positioned the VMWare brand and its products to the largest businesses through rapid transitions to [subscriptions](#) and outrageous subscription pricing. In addition to high-cost subscriptions, they are no longer issuing or honoring [perpetual licenses](#) previously purchased by businesses.

Perpetual licenses are licenses obtained by making a one-time purchase upfront and are valid indefinitely. In contrast, fees are collected the entire time you want to continue using a service, often yearly, for a subscription. This is also a way to control – vendor doesn't want to offer or maintain a product anymore or subscriber takes a position the vendor doesn't agree with: subscription terminated.

Though, at the end of May, Broadcom reversed course [announcing](#) VMware Workstation Pro and VMware Fusion Pro are available for free personal use once again. Being a favorite of self-hosting and homelabbers, including hams, many use VMware at the core of their server and virtualization needs. A Homelab is running a server (or multiple) in the home, hosting several applications and/or used for testing applications.

If you're (still) looking to move off VMware or just looking for a virtualization platform, like everything else, there are options. [Proxmox Virtual Environment](#) or [XCP-NG](#) are Free and Open-Source alternatives. I have been using Proxmox for over three years and haven't looked back. At first, I needed tutorials for attaching network attached storage shares and how to setup VLANs in the GUI. It's been a breeze after that. I've been impressed how easy it is to do backup & restores and snapshots for easy rollback of changes. Often, I'll take a backup from one instance and deploy it on another instance for testing or upgrades.



Proxmox Cluster (proxmox.com)

I haven't used XCP-NG but know it is a fork of Citrix XenServer, which maybe familiar to those whom have worked on Citrix systems. The interface is modern looking and a favorite of Tom Lawrence of Lawrence Systems. Tom puts out a ton of excellent tutorial and review videos on his [YouTube channel](#). Most of this content also apply to homelabbers.

Arguments are made that subscriptions work better for business and not so for individual consumers. However, consumers seem to favor subscriptions on music, video, and gaming services – not when it comes to software platforms and operating systems.

There have been rumblings of Microsoft turning [Windows into a subscription-based operating system](#). Microsoft keeps pushing things to the cloud while companies are starting to [shift back to on premise](#). I think a Windows OS subscription is sustainable for businesses but not for consumers. Consumers still think the OS is free – just look at the amount of advertising in consumer versions.

Lastly, in an evolving story, Microsoft wants to use their AI (artificial intelligence), called Copilot, to create a searchable history of everything done on a Windows computer, dubbed Windows Recall. *Great, another attack and spying vector.* It's not like Microsoft has the best [security track record](#). Windows Recall was intended to be turned on by default. However, after

consumer and privacy advocates pushed back, MS re-engineered this feature to be opt-in with better data protection and access controls or it can simply be [removed](#). Still creepy. Thanks for reading and 73... de Jeff – K8JTK

***From the Section Emergency Coordinator
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From the ARRL Letter:

Ham Radio Serving Southeast US Recovery Efforts

Amateur radio is proving critical in areas hit hard by Hurricane Helene, especially in North and South Carolina, portions of Tennessee, and beyond. In the hardest-hit Asheville, North Carolina, area, homes and entire towns have been swept away by flood waters and mudslides. Over 200 people have been killed, and many more are still missing.

Widespread devastation has damaged the power grid and roads, and many residents are without cell phone service and other utilities. For several days, radio communications were the only means of passing information. Ham radio continues to play a significant role in this situation.



Flood waters in North Carolina. [Photo: 1SG Leticia Samuels, NCNG)

In North Carolina, all official emergency radio communications are done through NC AUXCOMM. NC Division of Emergency Management Senior External Affairs Specialist Brian Haines says hams are deployed. “Amateur radio operators are working side by side with first responder communications personnel all over Western North Carolina. Needless to say, we are interested in highlighting all they are doing but at this point they are heavily involved in response efforts, which is where we need to focus,” he said.



A roadway in North Carolina.
[Photo: U.S. Customs and Border Protection Special Response Team]



A visualization of Winlink traffic. The amount of activity is unusually high, due to the emergency.

Winlink, which provides email over amateur radio, has been used significantly in the recovery. ARRL Director of Emergency Management Josh Johnston, KE5MHV, says the recent FCC removal of symbol rate restrictions has allowed a streamlined response using modern technology. “Winlink is an example of how modern tools work well within the Amateur Radio Service. Not having to petition the FCC for a waiver of the old rules allowed Winlink to be used immediately during this emergency,” he said. ARRL had advocated for the change, [which was implemented in 2023](#).

Significant stories of the response from individual hams is emerging, particularly from those who have created pop-up nets to pass health and welfare traffic. Using mountaintop repeaters that have robust power backups, HF frequencies, and Winlink, ham radio operators are putting in their time, talents, and personal gear to good use.

The local news media in affected areas has connected with several radio amateurs to highlight their work. CBS 17 in Raleigh reported on [Van Lee, KM4TC, who helped families](#) trying to get information on loved ones. In Charlotte, Queen City News told the story of [Dan Gitro, K2DMG, who has been providing information to hams about current conditions](#) as well as passing along messages to loved ones.

Countless other hams have stepped up by passing traffic and providing information. ARRL seeks to tell those stories of selfless service as the operators find time.

Amateur radio has been serving communities even before the storm hit. The Hurricane Watch Net, VoIP Hurricane Net, and WX4NHC, the amateur radio station at the National Hurricane Center, were all active as the storm churned towards Florida. In the 25 hours that the net was active, hams passed along over 100 surface reports that were used by forecasters to make more informed decisions about the storm. Hurricane Helene made landfall near Perry, Florida, on the evening of Thursday, September 26, as a Category 4 storm. With winds of 140 miles per hour, it was the strongest hurricane on record to slam into Florida’s Big Bend.

In Florida, [Amateur Radio Emergency Service® \(ARES®\)](#) volunteers were embedded with county officials and at the State Emergency Operations Center.

As the storm moved north, the worst impacts were felt. Officials have classified the rainfall near Asheville as a 1,000-year event. The impact started to emerge over the weekend of September 28—29.

ARRL leadership was in touch with field organization volunteers in the impacted area throughout the weekend. On Monday, a call was held to see what resources may be needed. A clear challenge of logistics emerged. Entire road networks are unpassable. General aviation pilots have been working, as they do during major disasters, to use donated aircraft to ferry in relief supplies. Ham radio operators have been working with Operation Airdrop and other volunteer groups to help provide communications support. Dozens of private helicopters have been flying in supplies, as have military assets.



Batteries being delivered for the repeater.

In Tennessee, hams have rallied to return repeaters impacted by the storm to service. Section Manager of the ARRL Tennessee Section David Thomas, KM4NYI, reports that a request for help on the TN ARES net resulted in batteries being donated and delivered to return the W4KEV repeater system to service, including the 145.410 machine located on Viking Mountain in Greene County, Tennessee, which covers much of the area in North Carolina and Tennessee that was decimated.

As connectivity via phone and data networks continues to return, ARRL expects more stories of amateur radio serving communities will emerge. Stories and local media coverage can be shared with ARRL via newsmedia@arrl.org.

While commercial communications networks and utilities are increasingly more resilient, Hurricane Helene has demonstrated that amateur radio is a critical partner that works When All Else Fails®.

Related Media Coverage:

Asheville

<https://thecitizen.com/2024/09/29/how-to-stay-in-touch-when-the-grid-goes-down/>

Charlotte

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/us/ham-radio-operators-help-reunite-loved-ones-after-helene/ar-AA1rBGPg>

<https://www.qcnews.com/severe-weather/how-old-tech-is-being-used-to-remotely-help-in-wake-of-helene/>

<https://www.wbtv.com/2024/10/01/times-devastation-many-turn-old-school-tech-keep-communication-lines-open/>

Raleigh

<https://www.newsobserver.com/news/state/north-carolina/article293361644.html>

<https://www.cbs17.com/news/local-news/triangle-families-desperate-to-reach-loved-ones-missing-after-helene-ham-radio-operators-help-relay-messages/>

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Getting back into our PIO series after a long break, we come to “Breaking News.” This is especially notable after the tragedies that just occurred in North and South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia as well as Georgia and Florida. Helene is the second-deadliest hurricane to strike the United States mainland in the past 50 years, following Hurricane Katrina, which killed at least 1,833 people in 2005.

An excerpt from the ARRL [PIO Handbook](#):

So far, we've covered subject matter that will assist you in handling most routine stories and given you an idea of how to be proactive on behalf of Amateur Radio. What about the "Big Story?" Breaking news - and for our purposes that's usually going to be some form of disaster or emergency in which communications are disrupted - is often a trigger for media coverage of Amateur Radio. From your perspective as a PIO, breaking news comes in two flavors:

- News that's happening somewhere else.
- News that's happening here.

News that's happening somewhere else

Local news operations love local tie-ins to big national and international stories. So disasters like an earthquake, a hurricane, a flood or large-scale fire provide an opportunity for Amateur Radio to get some coverage by adding local interest. Or at least that's what the editors think. The truth is that -- with a few exceptions -- there generally isn't much going on among your town's hams that's related to the distant disaster. But if the media are going to come calling anyway, we might as well give them what we can, and get something out of it.

If the editors are aware of you and your connections to the Amateur community, there's a pretty good chance they'll call you. And even if they don't, your odds of attracting their attention when you call them are way up. And do call them. Fast breaking stories can't wait for a news release.

What will they want when they call?

It's pretty rare today for the newsroom to need Amateur Radio to find out what's happening. But in the very early stages of a disaster in a remote area, that's possible. And if you or one of your resources can actually listen in on amateurs communicating from the stricken area, you have a golden opportunity to fascinate your local media and their audience. It's going to be tricky, though. You'll have to be in range of the traffic, but most of the direct emergency communications will be on local bands, VHF-FM or perhaps 80 meters. Chances are you can't hear actual tactical communications going on in the disaster area.

You'll have better luck with information and relief nets operating on 20 meters. The Hurricane Watch Net, SATERN (Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network), and other long-range nets provide some interesting listening. ARRL bulletins usually publicize emergency net frequencies. You might need to give a reporter some very brief, simple background on propagation and why you can't just tune in radio traffic anywhere in the world it's happening.

The biggest bang will come if a reporter or crew is on hand to witness and record whatever communications you can hear. That's going to require a lot of luck, since the reporters and crew can't camp out at your station. If nothing's available "live", they may be interested in a recording you made, but they'll probably be happy with an interview in which you summarize what you heard. You can also talk about the kind of activity that is likely to be happening on the scene by comparing it to your local emergency communications preparations.

A reporter may expect you to be able to communicate with a ham in the disaster area. Most of us won't have the contacts, the station or the luck to pull that one off. And we would hope that a ham who can get on the air from the middle of a disaster would be helping cope with the emergency, not roaming the bands for a ragchew. That kind of contact happens now and then, but the chances of your stumbling across that ham while the reporter is in the shack are pretty small.

Then there are the people in your town who are distraught because they can't get through to family members in the disaster area. Can ham radio help? Once again, a reporter may have unrealistic expectations. The first rule of emergency communications is that inbound health and welfare traffic is restricted for the first 24 to 48 hours of an emergency. Outbound traffic is supposed to be given priority, but you probably won't hear any of it on your local traffic nets (the traffic should be delivered by the first ham with a working phone, not delayed 24 hours as it transits the traffic nets to finally be delivered by a local ham). So what do you do?

Explain the difficulty of sending inquiries into trouble spots. Make an example of your local situation, where you're better prepared to send messages out than accept them from outside. If local phone lines are down and people have been relocated to hotels or shelters, finding them will be nearly impossible. But hams inside the disaster area will be trying to send messages out to concerned relatives. There is the occasional heroic attempt to find someone through the disaster maze. If you've got one of those stories (especially if it's successful), you can play it up. But don't make it sound like an everyday occurrence.

Sometimes, though, the situation isn't all that grim. When earthquakes hit near Seattle in

February 2001, it was impossible to make a phone call into the area. But most local phones were working, so hams there set up a net on 20 meters taking inbound inquiries and quickly relaying responses. Most of the people taking advantage of that net were other hams, but if you learn of such a net and have some hams in your area willing to take a minor flood of phone calls, you can publicize that service.

A better idea is to point the media to agencies who are set up to handle inbound welfare inquiries. The Red Cross and Salvation Army will collect messages and forward them (often using Amateur Radio) when channels are clear enough. Check with your local office first.

It's tempting to over-promise Amateur Radio's ability to communicate into a disaster area. If Amateurs in your town are providing emergency assistance to a stricken area, you should know about it and promote it. But most of the time, the best local angle is to tell the press what we'd be doing if the emergency were happening here.

News that's happening here.

And one day, the news will be happening here. You've got a local disaster on your hands, and Amateur Radio is doing its part to help the community cope and recover.

If you're an EC who does the PIO job on the side, you've got a problem. You're too busy right now to handle the media. But, as one Section Manager frequently told his Field Organization troops, if Amateur Radio doesn't get credit for the job it's doing, it almost might as well not do the job. That's pretty extreme, and you'd discount it if a PIC were saying it. But this was a Section Manager. His point was that the PR job requires more than the part-time effort of an EC or anyone else more concerned with operational responsibilities. When you're in the middle of a disaster, being a PIO is a full-time job.

So, you're a PIO, and your wise EC has you dedicated to just that job. Swirling around you is a large-scale disaster. You're even more fortunate because you are totally plugged into your ARES or RACES operation. You know what frequencies will be in use. You have access to the EOC and remote command posts and staging areas. You know who the hams are, where they'll be and what they'll be doing there. It's time to get the word out.

Assuming that you are safe and your family's needs are met, you probably need to be on the scene yourself. That is, you need to be where hams are doing their jobs, and where the media are. Once you get there, get yourself up to date on the situation, sort out the rumors from the facts, and find some reporters.

For the media, especially the broadcast media, many disasters happen in slow motion. A hurricane is a good example. TV stations begin covering a hurricane full-time hours before landfall. The hurricane takes a few hours to pass, and coverage continues for hours or days once it's passed, especially if there was a lot of damage. If the disaster was quick, like an earthquake, the recovery is still a drawn-out affair.

The point is that there is a lot of airtime to fill, and the event will be covered from every possible angle. Amateur Radio is one angle, and we'll get our share of coverage if you are there to make it happen. We'll get coverage if you're not there, too. The reporters will find the hams. But once again, the reporter's knowledge is limited and his/her expectations may be unrealistic. Hams who are busy operating stations won't have the time or inclination to give a thoughtful interview. So you may not like what gets reported.

Finding the reporters

Before you dig out the reporters, you need to get some permissions in order. One of the preparations you should have made well in advance is making contact with the Public Information Office for your city, county or state Emergency Management, the Red Cross, or whatever agency the hams are serving. In this situation, Amateur Radio is not independent. We are part of their bigger story. And while they will generally not object to our getting some coverage, they should be aware of our PR efforts, and give you permission to bring reporters into restricted areas to observe Amateur Radio in action.

So whether you've introduced yourself before or not, go visit the Public Information officials first and get those permissions. If they learn from you what ham radio is doing, they'll probably include our activity in their press briefings, or even invite you to speak yourself on behalf of Amateur Radio.

You should limit the information you deliver to just what the radio operators are doing. You're not a spokesman for the agencies we're serving. And you'll even need to be discreet about the ham information. If your hams just received a report that a major bridge collapsed, it's not your job to grab a reporter and pass it on. True, if some reporters are astute enough to be monitoring our frequencies, they could have gotten that information directly. Maybe they overheard it while observing our operation. But let them go to the authorities for confirmation.

Now, go get that reporter. For you, this is probably not news release time - it's time to snag them in person. If you're on the scene or at an EOC, there are bound to be reporters around. Sometimes they'll be corralled in a media-briefing center. Sometimes they'll be roaming around more or less freely. Find them and introduce yourself. Tell them that there is an Amateur Radio operation providing communications support, and offer them a guided tour. All the interview techniques reviewed in the other chapters of this manual come into play here.

Three stages of the disaster story

You'll probably have more than one opportunity to provide information. Initially, you may only be able to report what preparations have been made, where hams are stationed and what they are expecting (or expected) to do. At this early stage, there may be more rumors than facts flying around, so be careful what you pass along.

As the event unfolds, you should be able to gather stories of our activities and check them out for accuracy. Once that bridge collapse story is old news (30 minutes might be "old" in this context), you can pass on how ham radio operators got the information and passed it to the EOC. Getting details like this is going to be hard, and now is probably not the time to break into the Amateur Radio net to ask the ham who filed the bridge report to tell you all about it. Keep in touch with the EC and anyone who can fill in the picture for you.

When the emergency is over and cleanup is in progress, you have the chance to get details from the hams involved and complete some stories from the field. The press will be looking for those stories, especially if they're still in "total coverage" mode. The more human-interest you can get into your information, the better.

Finally, notable Amateur Radio activity in a big emergency will be reference material for years, until it's eclipsed by a more recent disaster story. Every Field Day you'll be able to talk about how the weekend exercise keeps hams ready to help "like we did during that big flood last year." And as the event fades into the past, remember that news media outlets observe anniversaries of big stories. By working your contacts properly, Amateur Radio can have a prominent role. "It was just a year ago that Hurricane Ralph devastated our area. Ham Radio operators Mary and Joe Smith not only remember their roles in the relief efforts, they also say they've learned from the experience and are now more prepared than ever if they are called on again..."

Rules and Regs on Hams and Media

In an emergency with a really widespread communications blackout, your media contacts may ask you to do more than just tell what you know about the situation. If your hams are in contact with a first-person source on the scene, they may want to ask questions through your station. They may even ask you to send a message to their reporter or crew. How far can you go?

Here's the rule (as of July 2001 - check the rules on the ARRL web page for updates)

§97.113 Prohibited transmissions.

(b) An amateur station shall not ... engage in any activity related to program production or news gathering for broadcasting purposes, except that communications directly related to the immediate safety of human life or the protection of property may be provided by amateur stations to broadcasters for dissemination to the public where no other means of communication is reasonably available before or at the time of the event.

So unless the interview is with someone who is providing information that will safeguard life or protect property, and there's no other way to communicate, you can't do it. But if those conditions are met, you certainly can. Same with passing a message to the reporter.

If letting them talk to him will somehow protect life or property, it's OK.

If you have to say "no", you may have to be hard-nosed about it. Media folks can be intensely focused and driven, and they won't care much about the subtleties of Amateur Radio rules. Tell them your license is on the line.

The media is permitted to broadcast live, record and replay any Amateur Radio communication without permission, either from your station or recorded off-air themselves. Back in 1985, Amateur Radio was exempted from the secrecy of communications provisions of Section 705 of the Communications Act of 1934.

Guidelines

We cannot anticipate every situation in which you might find yourself during an emergency but there are a few simple guidelines that should be universally applicable:

1. **Move quickly** to get on the scene once an emergency occurs. The more time you have to find out what's happening, the better prepared you will be to deal with the questions you might be asked.
2. **Move slowly** enough, once you get there, to be sure about anything you do say. Don't let a reporter lead you or your news source into saying something you didn't intend to say.
3. **Know who you are speaking for.** You may be the spokesperson for your local ARES group, for example, but not for the Red Cross Chapter with which you are closely working. Know where the boundaries are and recognize your limitations: If you are not the designated Red Cross spokesperson, don't presume to speak for it. Be very careful about not "trespassing" on the media liaison roles of the professional responders. In recent years, most, if not all response agencies have a PIO function. Be sure you are familiar with these persons and that they are aware of you.
4. **Check your facts.** This may be the fourth on this more or less chronological list but it is really first in importance. Unconfirmed rumors abound in nearly every disaster situation and they spread with remarkable speed and persist with great tenacity. Become a tyrant with regard to facts; insist on confirming every bit of news and pass along only those you know to be true.
5. **Check the rumors.** Rumors may simply be facts reported early, before they can be properly confirmed. Check out each one until you can speak with authority to either dismiss those that prove to be unfounded or confirm those which prove to be true.
6. **Know the limits of your authority.** In the wake of Hurricane Hugo in 1989, one Amateur Radio operator's transmission from devastated St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands was rebroadcast on network TV demanding that the National Guard be activated to help stop looting. The looting turned out to be relatively minor but less clear was on whose authority, if anyone's, the amateur was acting? This type of request is clearly in the domain of civil authorities and not that of an individual

Amateur Radio operator.

7. Be prepared for News Conferences and Media Briefings. Emergency management techniques often call for periodic news briefings. Know who is conducting those briefings and be prepared to participate from the standpoint of the group you represent. If asked a question that you do not know the response to, say, "I'll have to get that information for you," get the reporter's contact information and follow-up as soon as possible as they are probably on deadline.

Now Go Have Fun

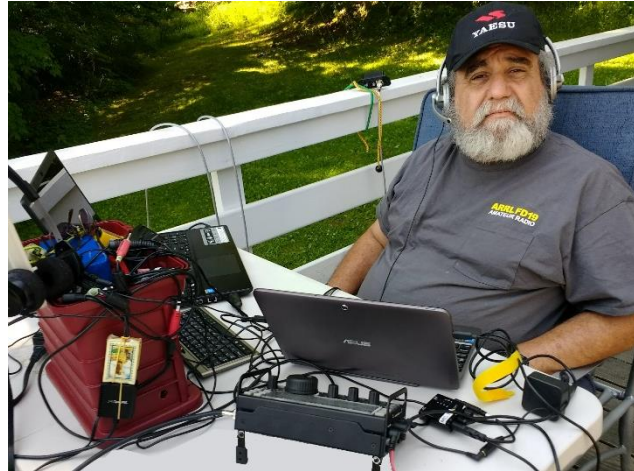
Participating in a Breaking News event is exciting. Ham radio has an important role to play, even if all we do is get ready and stand by. The PIO gets to see more of it than anyone else, maybe even more than the EC. Enjoy it!

Elizabeth Klinc, KE8FMJ AUXC

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ARRL - The National Association For Amateur Radio™

From the Section Youth Coordinator
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Don't Delay Get On 10 Meters

HF Operating Opportunities for all Licnese Classes Including Technicians

I will keep this article brief but give you hours of things to do.

Great news for all Hams, especially Technician Licensees- high sunspot activity, fall propagation, and 10 meters wide open. Get On The Air Now!

Here are a few video recordings to watch to help you get on the air and have fun on the HF Bands:

- 10 Meter Band Fun For All- <https://youtu.be/im3dbYRkvGo>

10 Meter Band Fun For All

Anthony Luscre, K8ZT

10 Meter Considerate Operator's Guide							
All Licenses (Technician)		General, Advanced & Extra					
CW & Data		Phone (SSB Only)		Phone & Image		AM, FM Simplex & FM Repeaters	
28.000-28.299		28.300-28.499		28.500-28.899		29.000-29.699	
28.000-28.070	CW	28.300-28.499	SSB	28.500-28.899	SSB	29.000-29.200	AM
28.074	FT8	28.380	10-10 Nets	28.680	SSTV	29.200-29.510	FM Simplex
28.080-28.120	RTTY	28.385	ORP SSB Calling	28.800	10-10 Nets	29.520-29.580	Repeater Inputs
28.180	FT4					29.585-29.685	FM Simplex
28.130-28.150	PSK					29.680	FM simplex Calling
28.130-28.189	Automatically controlled data stations					29.620-29.680	Repeater outputs
28.190-28.225	Beacons						
28.200	NDXF Beacons						

- Getting Started in Amateur Radio- Making HF Contacts- <https://youtu.be/rtum0RYT6H0>

Making HF Radio Contacts



- Beginners Guide to HF (four-part series)
 - Week 1- The HF Bands, Operating & Making Contacts- <https://youtu.be/cjZZjfKYPak>
 - Week 2- Equipment & Antennas- <https://youtu.be/dH5gsA1CZSc>
 - Week 3- Putting It All Together <https://youtu.be/eG3kFbCZEM8>
 - Week 4- Operating HF & Your HF Persona- <https://youtu.be/FOgoAYkKveA>
 - A slideshow from the presentations, including clickable links and resources, is available at tiny.cc/bghf.

Help Someone Get On The Air

Here is where I appeal to those who already participate in these activities. Go through your club's roster and identify Tech licensees, new hams, youth, inactive hams, etc. Once you have identified your target audience, contact them personally and invite them to participate in activities with you. Alternatively, your club may want to put together some group activities.

That's it for this month. I hope to hear you on the air operating on 10-meter HF!

73,

Anthony, K8ZT (k8zt@arrl.net)

From the Section Traffic Manager

Dan Rinaman, AC8NP – STM

AC8NP@AC8NP.COM

Hello!

As this is my first Ohio Section Journal, I will introduce myself.

I live in Tiffin located in Seneca county with my wife Deb. We raised three boys here and have two grandchildren.

My introduction to amateur radio started when I was in the USMC repairing and maintaining F4B aircraft. I was in a group of CB radio operators and in this group, I meet the MARS radio operator for Kaneohe Bay Marine Corps Air Station Hawaii. He took me into the radio station and taught me how to use the teletype (MARSGRAMS) and operate phone patches on HF radio. His wife was friends with a young lady who came out for a visit. That visit developed into she and I getting married. My unit deployed to Japan, I then used the message and phone patch system of MARS to stay connected with my wife.

Fast forward 34 years I found myself as a Boy Scout leader in need of an Emergency Preparedness Drill for my scouts to earn the badge. I found the Seneca County ARES group and that worked out great we had a weekend of fun and education. I was reintroduced to amateur radio. In 2011 I started my amateur adventure. I have worked up to amateur extra. The Seneca Radio club and Seneca County ARES have great at showing all the great opportunities amateur radio has to offer. I have served in all position in our club and hold an AEC position in Seneca county ARES. I serve as the Database manager for both the Ohio Single Sideband Net and Ohio ARES Training. I have been a traffic handler with OSSBN since 2015 and became an DNTS station in 2023. During the past two years I have been on the ARRL NTS2.0 committee helping look for ways to improve the NTS.

So on to Handling Traffic.



National Traffic System

Traffic and Message Handling
For Skill, Service, and Fun!

The ARRL got its start to organize message delivery to get messages delivered efficiently, accurately to its destination by different radio stations. This tradition continues today using CW, voice, and digital.



- Why practice traffic handling?
- It teaches operator good skills.
- It gives you valuable skills in times of emergency passing health and welfare messages.
- You learn how to operate under adverse conditions without power.
- You create friendships and comradery.

Any license class can handle traffic even with a basic HT. Ask a mentor, club, or go to nts2.arrl.org for more information. There are nets you can join to learn and practice this skill. Consider Traffic Handling as part of your Ham Radio experience!

Ohio Section Nets

If you have traffic you need to move, take it to a VHF net or HF via the OSSBN. Here is WHERE TO FIND AN HF OR VHF TRAFFIC NET IN OHIO.

OHIO SINGLE SIDEBAND NET

Morning Session	10:30 AM	3972.5 kHz	Every Day
Afternoon Session	4:15 PM	3972.5 kHz	Every Day
Evening Session	6:45 PM	3972.5 kHz	Every Day

OHIO HF CW TRAFFIC NETS

HF CW NETS	NET TIMES	FREQUENCY	NET MANAGERS
Buckeye Early	6:45 PM	3.580 MHz	N2LC
Buckeye Late	10:00 PM	3.590 MHz	WB9LBI
Ohio Slow Net	6:00 PM	3.53535 MHz	N2LC

All CW net frequencies plus or minus QRM

OHIO LOCAL VHF TRAFFIC NETS

VHF NETS	NET TIMES	FREQUENCY	NET MANAGERS
BRTN	Monday, Thursday Saturday 9:30 PM	145.230 MHz PL 110.9	KD8GXL
COTN	7:15 PM DAILY	146.970 MHz PL 123.0	KV8Z
TCTTN	9 PM Sun, Tues, Fri	147.015 MHz PL 110.9	WB8YYS
TATN	8:00 PM DAILY	146.670 MHz PL 123.0	WG8Z

If you have a net in Ohio, you would like listed here please send me the information. ac8np@ac8np.com.

Ohio Traffic for September

Ohio Section Nets Report

Net	QNI	QTC	QTR	Sessions	NM/ANM
BNE	145	43	303	30	N2LC
BNL	95	70	286	30	WB8LBI
OSN	55	17	375	21	N2LC
OSSBN	1310	322	2194	90	K8MDA

Ohio Local Nets Report

Net	QNI	QTC	QTR	Sessions	N/M
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TCTTN	89	22	198	13	WB8YYS
TATN	292	62	285	30	WG8Z
BRTN	80	33	167	13	KD8GXL
COTN	237	58	405	30	KV8Z

Ohio PSHR Reports

Call	Nets	Traffic	Vol Pos	PSH	EPSH	PM DS	Total
AC8NP	40	40	20	150	10	40	300
N2LC	40	40	30	140	0	20	270
WB8YYS	40	37	10	10	60	10	167
KF8ATJ	40	40	0	75	0	0	155
N8SY	40	10	30	20	0	50	150
W8MAL	40	40	10	50	0	0	140
KD8UUB	40	33	10	30	20	0	133
K8MDA	40	38	30	0	0	20	128
KE4RS	40	40	10	30	0	0	120
KE8ANW	40	10	0	70	0	0	120
KV8Z	19	35	10	30	0	10	104
KB8GUN	40	40	10	0	0	10	100
N8MRS	40	40	10	0	0	10	100
WB8SIQ	40	40	10	10	0	0	100
KL7RF	40	40	10	0	0	0	90
K8KRA	40	40	10	0	0	0	90
N8OD	40	40	10	0	0	0	90
KB8HJJ	40	40	10	0	0	0	90
W8GSR	40	40	10	0	0	0	90
KA8BJA	40	40	0	0	0	0	80

Individual Traffic Reports

AC8NP	160	KE4RS	64	N8TNV	16
K8KRA	62	KE8ANW	10	W8GSR	104
K8MDA	38	KF8ATJ	43	W8MAL	331
KA8BJA	67	KL7RF	44	WB9LBI	84
KB8GUN	188	KV8Z	35	WB8SIQ	80
KB8HJJ	43	N2LC	64	WB8YYS	37
KD8GXL	32	N8BV	44		
KD8GYI	29	N8MRS	116		
KD8HB	93	N8OD	73		
KD8UUB	33	N8SY	10		

	Totals	26	1900		

The traffic reports are not complete currently.

I look forward to this new challenge to help the Ohio Section as the Ohio Section Traffic Manager.

Thanks For All You Do!

John Myers, WG8X

wg8x.radio@gmail.com

330-936-5021

Wow, the summer sure flew by. I've been making some progress on the section website, but I'm not where I want to be yet. Then again, are we ever?

Since my last submission to the Section Journal, I've made some progress. The ARES page continues to be updated. We have the ARRL Handbook give-away running again. The one Question Survey, and an automated sign-up page for the section newsletter are coming.



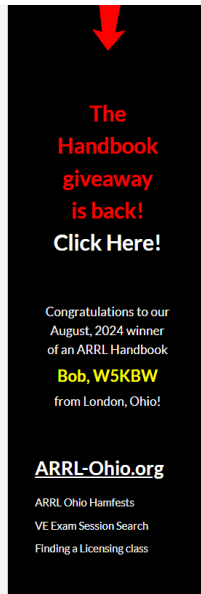
From August 1st till mid-October, I scale back the amount of the time I spend on the websites. There's so many things on the agenda. Fairs, QSO Parties, get-togethers, etc.

ARRL-Ohio.org is not on autopilot tough. There's newsletters to upload, hamfest announcements and Swap & Shops to deal with, and of course traffic. My daily routine is to analyze the site traffic to see how you're doing. Are you finding everything? Are there any roadblocks? For the most part, everything runs smoothly, but there some things I need your help.

First, if you have bookmarks in your browser for ARRL-Ohio.org that are older than 6 months, please update them. They'll stop working eventually as I continually update the code in the back-end. I review the site re-directs on a regular basis, and delete those that are no longer being used.

Second, there is the club newsletters page (<https://arrl-ohio.org/ohio-club-newsletters/>). In case you've not visited, this is an archive of club newsletters from all over the state. They stay posted

for 12 months. There's a search box near the top of the page. You can search newsletters by name (newsletter, or club), or by month. There's also a link on each line that points to the club that generated the newsletter.

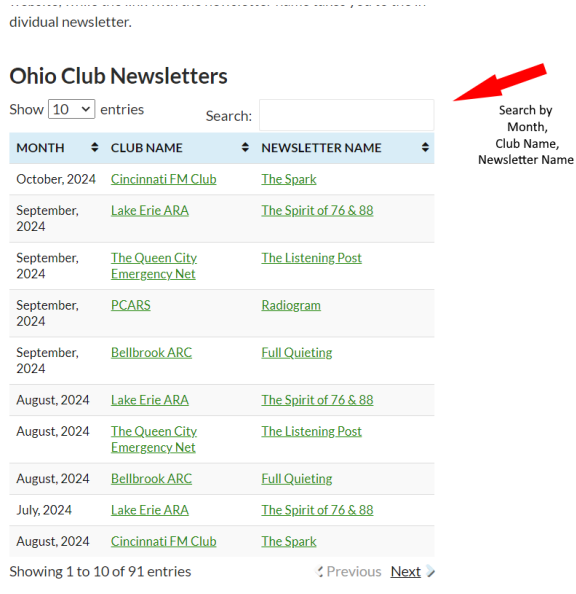


The Handbook giveaway is back! Click Here!

Congratulations to our August, 2024 winner of an ARRL Handbook **Bob, W5KBW** from London, Ohio!

ARRL-Ohio.org

[ARRL Ohio Hamfests](#)
[VE Exam Session Search](#)
[Finding a Licensing class](#)



individual newsletter.

Ohio Club Newsletters

Show entries Search:

Search by Month, Club Name, Newsletter Name

MONTH	CLUB NAME	NEWSLETTER NAME
October, 2024	Cincinnati FM Club	The Spark
September, 2024	Lake Erie ARA	The Spirit of 76 & 88
September, 2024	The Queen City Emergency Net	The Listening Post
September, 2024	PCARS	Radiogram
September, 2024	Bellbrook ARC	Full Quieting
August, 2024	Lake Erie ARA	The Spirit of 76 & 88
August, 2024	The Queen City Emergency Net	The Listening Post
August, 2024	Bellbrook ARC	Full Quieting
July, 2024	Lake Erie ARA	The Spirit of 76 & 88
August, 2024	Cincinnati FM Club	The Spark

Showing 1 to 10 of 91 entries [Previous](#) [Next](#)

Obviously, In order to get your newsletter included, I first need to have it. Please add [newsletter@ arrl-ohio.org](mailto:newsletter@arrl-ohio.org) to your newsletter distribution list. Absolutely, you want to add Elizabeth Klinc, KE8FMJ (ke8fmj@gmail.com) to your e-mail list; that's how you join the Section Newsletter contest. But also send one to me.

Lastly, please reach out to me with any questions, comments, or suggestions. I would love to know what everybody wants to see on this site. I can be reached at webmaster@arrl-ohio.org.

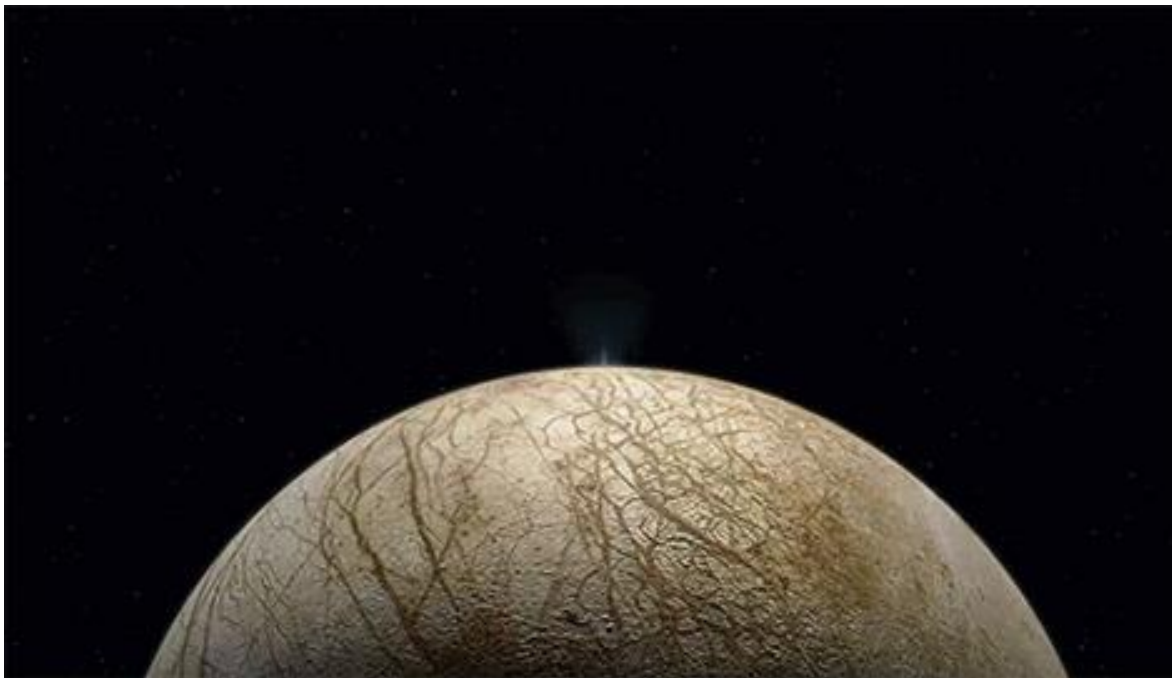
My top priority for this month will be to get the rest of the SEC and digital stuff posted so that it's easily found. I'll keep you posted on the progress not only here in a monthly column, but also on the site's [Website Maintenance Blog](#). If I have something to important to pass along, I'll normally post it there.

National News

(from ARRL and other sources)

NASA'S EUROPA CLIPPER

Beyond Earth



On Thursday, Oct. 10, at 12:31 p.m. EDT, the agency's Europa Clipper spacecraft will launch aboard a SpaceX Falcon Heavy rocket from Launch Complex 39A at Kennedy Space Center in Florida.

Beyond Earth, Jupiter's moon Europa is considered one of the solar system's most promising, potentially habitable environments. After an approximately 1.8-billion-mile journey, the Europa Clipper will enter orbit around Jupiter in April 2030, where the spacecraft will conduct a detailed survey of Europa to determine whether the icy world could have conditions suitable for life. Europa Clipper is the largest spacecraft NASA has ever developed for a planetary mission. It carries nine instruments and a

gravity experiment that will investigate an ocean beneath Europa's surface, which scientists believe contains twice as much liquid water as Earth's oceans.

Live coverage of prelaunch and launch activities will begin streaming on Tuesday, Oct. 8 on NASA+.

MISSION COVERAGE



NASA'S EUROPA CLIPPER Mission Updates

The official blog for NASA's Europa Clipper mission will keep you up-to-date on pre-launch, launch, and post-launch activities—and beyond.

LATEST NEWS

The ARRL Foundation is Now Accepting Grant Applications Through October 31, 2024

There is funding available to organizations for eligible amateur radio-related projects and initiatives, particularly those with a focus on educating, licensing, and supporting amateur radio activities. Youth-based projects and initiatives are especially encouraged. The ARRL Foundation grants program accepts proposals on a cyclical basis three times a year, in February, June, and October. Awardees are notified approximately 1 month after the closing of each cycle.

Recently, the ARRL Foundation provided funding for instructional materials to the Montgomery Amateur Radio Club (MARC), in Montgomery County, Maryland. MARC, led by David Bern, W2LNX, and John O'Brien, K3LO, held a Radio Merit Badge program on Saturday, June 22, 2024, at the MARC/Damascus Emergency Communications Team (DECT) Field Day site. This program provided Scouts an opportunity to earn the Radio Merit Badge by completing requirements which included conducting a QSO.



David Bern, W2LNX, shows Pierce Pollard and Weston Pollard how to operate an amateur HF radio and how to make contacts. [Photo courtesy of David Bern, W2LNX]

There were three amateur HF stations and one VHF-FM station on site, and another HF station in the MARC emergency communications trailer. Members explained how the stations worked and mentored the Scouts as they made QSOs. A total of 58 Scouts completed all requirements for the Radio Merit Badge.

The ARRL Foundation carefully manages a portfolio of endowments in which donors have provided specific goals for their gifts, and that portfolio is invested and managed so that it can continue to support those goals for many years to come.

Additional information and a link to the grant application form can be found at <http://www.arrl.org/amateur-radio-grants>.

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



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/>>

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/.

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 for detailed map of location. Call Metro W8MET 216-520-1320 for details

Clark County Amateur Radio Association (CLARA)

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

When: On every second Saturday of each even numbered month starting at 10:00 AM Feb 10th; Apr 13th; Jun 8th; Aug 10th; Oct 12th; and Dec 14th, 2024. Where: Springview Government Center - Emergency Operations Center; 3130 E Main St; Springfield OH 45503 This is US-40 aka "old national road". From Route 40 enter Old Columbus Road, at the fork stay left driving straight onto Ogden Rd, then immediately turn left into the parking lot behind the EMA. Walk to the door with the "Employees Only" sign.

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

Dayton Amateur Radio Association (DARA)

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

The Findlay Radio Club

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

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

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

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

Geauga Amateur Radio Association (GARA)

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

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



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

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

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

Huber Heights Amateur Radio Club

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

The Lake County Amateur Radio Association

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Lancaster and Fairfield County Amateur Radio Club (LFCARC)

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.

Lisbon Area Amateur Radio Association

LISBON AREA AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION (LAARA) 2024 SCHEDULE.

VE TESTING IS AT THE COLUMBIANA COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

AT 215 SOUTH MARKET STREET, LISBON, OH 44432.

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

VE TESTING DATES FOR 2024

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

WE CAN ALSO GIVE THE TEST AT OUR REGULAR MEETINGS THAT ARE NORMALLY ON THE 3RD THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH.

LAARA MEETINGS ARE HELD AT THE COLUMBIANA COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY AT THE SAME ADDRESS AS ABOVE. SEE THE K8GQB.COM WEB SITE FOR UPDATES.

MEETING TIME IS 6:30 PM.

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

Madison County

The Madison County Amateur Radio Club Laurel testing group offers 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. There is no Fee for testing. Pre-Registration is not required but preferred. Walk-ins are welcome. You are required to have an email address and a copy of your FRN or current ham radio license. For more information or to get pre-registered send email to Exams@mcarco.org .

The Milford Amateur Radio Club (MARC)

VE testing is held the third Thursday of each month at 6:00 PM. Location; Miami Township Civic Center located at 6101 Meijer Drive, Milford, OH 45150.

Please pre-register at www.milfordhamradio.org

Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society (NOARS)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Portage County Amateur Radio Service (PCARS)

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

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

Tusco Amateur Radio Club W8ZX

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

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

Silvercreek ARA (SARA)

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

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

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

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

From Frank – WB8YHD ARES EC Mahoning County

ARES Operators Support Canfield Fair

Last year Mahoning Valley Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) spent one day at the Canfield Fair testing communications support for the many safety services that work the largest county fair in the state of Ohio. The test went so well that the Canfield Fire Dept. and the Canfield Fair Board requested ARES increase its presence for this year, 2024.

Preparations for a bigger ARES effort started a few months prior to this year's Fair, however, just 2 weeks before opening day, the Mahoning County Law Department set strict training requirements for ARES Volunteers. The requirements were so strict the pool of 60+ members who had signed up to work the Fair was reduced to just two that qualified. The good news is that in less than 2 weeks 23 motivated members put the time and effort into meeting those qualifications. It shows just how dedicated our Mahoning County ARES Members are. Thank you all for a great team effort.

The efforts didn't end with training. Over the course of the Fair ARES operators staffed 3 full days of providing backup and background communications for numerous issues. lost kids, EMT calls, Fire and EMT coordination, as well as monitoring Ohio State Patrol, weather, parking and other services were all covered by some very busy ARES members. Our Amateur Radio systems worked exceptionally well providing complete communications coverage of the entire Fair grounds. It was very hot but the work wasn't taxing, in fact it was a great way to combine being at the Fair with helping our community with Amateur Radio.

Our dedicated ARES Team did such a great job that Canfield Fire and the Fair Board are talking about additional opportunities for ARES to help out at other events and the 2025 Canfield Fair will definitely be on the ARES Calendar for next year with expanded coverage. ARES Leadership thanks all operators that signed up and all those that participated in a job well done.

Put the ARES Canfield Fair project on your calendar for 2025. We will be there.

ARRL Division News

Great Lakes Division



Hi Gang,

The latest edition of “Radio Waves” (the Great Lakes Division newsletter) is now ready for you to read. here’s lots of great information for you to read.

https://arrl-greatlakes.org/glnews/2024/10-radio_waves.pdf

Helene - Storm Updates

ARRL leadership has been engaged throughout the weekend with key volunteers in the southeast, especially in hard hit North Carolina, to facilitate any support headquarters can provide to the impacted area. The devastation is widespread and greater than many seasoned emergency responders have ever seen before.

There are ad-hoc health and welfare nets that have popped up, parallel to official emergency communications efforts. Amateur radio operators in the area that have the means to communicate

have been facilitating some level of traffic on several repeaters located on mountaintops in North and South Carolina.

High frequency (HF) ham bands are also being used for health and welfare, specifically 7232 KHz and 3923 KHz.

There are amateur radio operators working with several aviation relief organizations which mobilize general aviation aircraft donated by private owners to ferry in supplies. The challenge is widespread devastation of road networks to get anything in to the “last mile” of distribution.

ARRL remains ready to mobilize HamAid equipment as needed. HamAid is a supply of deployment-ready amateur radio gear that can be dispatched across the country within hours, providing amateur radio communications when local equipment has been lost or damaged due to a disaster.

The September 28th Hocking County Amateur Radio Club FoxHunt was won by first time entrant AF8E John Adams in only 24 minutes. He built his own five element Yagi from aluminum arrow shafts, and proceeded to triangulate on Fox KC8JRV Kirk Greenfield with only two sightings/bearings. Adams said " it was fun, " and was clearly delighted with his win! 2nd place winner was W8NXXB Phil Stanley who described multiple tree falls from former tropical storm Helena as being impediments to his progress.



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

Important Links

ARRL Home: www.arrl.org

Find an ARRL Affiliated Club: www.arrl.org/clubs

Find your ARRL Section: www.arrl.org/sections

Find a License Class in your area: www.arrl.org/class

Find a License Exam in your area: www.arrl.org/exam

Find a Hamfest or Convention: www.arrl.org/hamfests

Email ARRL Clubs: clubs@arrl.org

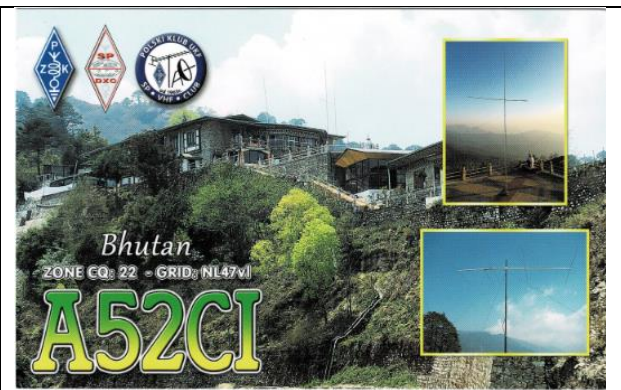
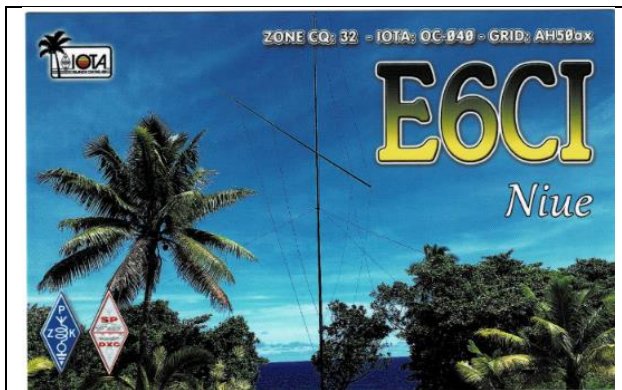
DX This Week – #303

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

Hope you had a good DX Week. I just received a batch of cards from the W8 buro and will get them sorted and out to my "N" hams soon.

From Howard, N8HO, I received the 2 QSL cards shown below. Thanks Howard!

What have you received recently?



I received an email from Bob, K8AAC. Bob had recently sent two emails asking about “tail-ending” and “timing”. Bob wants to know if there might be another strategy to break the pileup.

Another great question Bob. Our analogy has been to imagine that we are at 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. Perhaps several of them utilize “tail ending” and “timing” but that doesn’t help them. So, what else can you do? Try using a slightly higher (or significantly higher) voice when you call out. This doesn’t really lend itself well to this press conference scenario but does on the ham bands. During SSB contests, I have heard many European stations who will record a female voice calling CQ as it is much higher and easier to pick out of a QRN and QRM laden frequency. Then, I always chuckle when they come back to me with a much deeper voice! On CW, just move up the band 400 Hz to try to be heard. Like “tail ending” and “timing”, it doesn’t always work, but it is a tool for the toolbox!

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

6O3T: Operators home safely - The 6O3T team has arrived home safely after its ordeal in **Somalia**. IV3FPP, Fabri, will prepare and disseminate “a very complete and detailed” account of their experience. “To make a long story short, even though we had all the authorizations and licenses signed, the local intelligence services intervened and seized all our materials (about \$US40,000), without any possibility of intermediation,” he says. Stay tuned.

E51D, North Cook Islands: The Magnet is back in the North Cook Islands. E51D/MM was to be QRV beginning Thursday, September 26 from the Suwarrow Atoll waters. Next, they will head to Penrhyn Atoll to launch “a week-long RIB DXpedition” as they will “set up on one of the small cays,” operating as E51D. They plan to be QRV on CW, SSB, and FT8 on 160-10M. Note that only

QSOs with E51D will count for DXCC; (maritime mobile operations from the Magnet do not count). QSL via HA7RY and LoTW.

PXØFF – Fernando de Noronha A team of "five experienced contesters" from Germany, Austria, and Brazil will operate PXØFF in October. Activity will be on CW, SSB, and FT8 (MSHV) on 160-6M, including 12M. They plan to use Club Log Live Stream and OQRS. They welcome donations.

Next spring: **TX9A, Austral Islands:** 9A2NA, Mladen; 9A3MR, Rolando; 9A7Y, Livio; and DK8ZZ (aka YT3ZZ), Zik, are planning a DXpedition on Tubuai Island (OC-152) as TX9A April 25-May 7, 2025. They plan a "focus on human modes with some FT8/FT4." QSL via DK8ZZ, LoTW, and Club Log. More details will follow.

9J – Zambia and **A2 – Botswana:** HA5AO, Pista, has wrapped up his 9J2AO operation, which was the second stop of his Africa tour. He amassed about 8,000 contacts, mostly on FT8. Next is A25AO, Botswana. He is already there but is taking some time off to "recharge," and will be on the air September 29-October 14.

E5/S – South Cook Islands and **A3 – Tonga:** LZ5QZ, Ted, and LZ1GC, Stan, are heading to Rarotonga (OC-013) where they will operate as E51SGC November 7-24. Listen for them on 160-6M, including 60M and the WARC-79 bands, on CW, SSB, RTTY, and FT8/FT4. They will emphasize activity on 160, 80 and 60M.

After Rarotonga, Ted and Stan will head to the Kingdom of Tonga, where they will be QRV as A35GC from Nuku'alofa (OC-049) November 25-December 7. Equipment will include two Kenwood TS-480SAT and two Yaesu FTDX10 radios 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 40M, monoband verticals and a DX Commander. On 160M, they will transmit on CW on 1822.5 KHz. On 6M, listen for them on CW on 50102 KHz and watch for them on FT8 on 50313 KHz. They will always operate split o CW,

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

9X – Rwanda: DF2WO, Harald, will be QRV from Kigali (KI48xb), Rwanda as 9X2AW from October 9-23. He'll have a Yaesu 991A, Multiband-Dipole, bamboo hexbeam and four element Yagi for 6 meters. He will also have a dish for QO-100. QSL via M0OXO.

VQ9 - Chagos Islands: The BBC is reporting "UK will give sovereignty of Chagos Islands to Mauritius"
- <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c98ynejg4l5o>. It will be interesting to see what happens as far as DXCC is concerned.

Hotel reservations for the 2025 International DX Convention, held in Visalia, for April 11-13 is now open at <https://dxconvention.com>

If you are someone who likes podcasts and/or YouTube episodes, The DX Mentor has two new podcasts/YouTube segments to review. The first is with the C21MM Dxpediton headed to Nauru. The second is the group headed to Vanautu as YJ0VV. Check it out on YouTube or wherever you get your podcasts by searching for The DX Mentor.

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!

Over the next two weekends, why not try out the Oceania DX Contest? The Phone contest will be held on Saturday 5th October, starting at 0600 UTC and the CW contest will be held on Saturday 12th October, starting 0600 UTC

This is the 79th running of the Oceania DX Contest, and with the solar conditions the way they are, we are expecting some big things from all of our contestants this year! Solar conditions are the best they have been in more than a decade, so your opportunity to make contact with stations in Oceania has never been better! We look forward to seeing you all on the air on both weekends, and expect many stations from Oceania to be calling CQ Contest looking for your calls! The Exchange is RST and Serial Number. Check out the WA7BNM website for more details.

Contest	Start Date	End Date
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

OHIO'S



Helene Sunday 9/29

Just left my sister's in Hendersonville, NC this morning. They are ok but the region is really torn up and a mess. Could be two weeks before some get power or cell service back

Ham Radio was alive and well. Helped deliver a baby, but also discovered a body.

Listened a lot to local health & welfare net and was impressed. Wish that hams in ohio could have heard it.

Should be home Friday.

John Levo, W8KIW

ARLD037 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.

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.

SAMOA, 5W. Pete, ZL4TE is QRV as 5W0TE from Apolina Uta, IOTA OC-097, until October 10. Activity is mostly on 40, 20, and 10 meters with 10 watts. QSL to home call.

MALDIVES, 8Q. Francesco, IK0FUX will be QRV as 8Q7UX from October 6 to 14. Activity is holiday style on the HF bands using CW and FT8. This may include being an entry in the upcoming Oceania DX CW Contest. QSL to home call.

ZAMBIA, 9J. Tom, DL2RMC is QRV as 9J2FI from Lusaka while on work assignment. Activity is in his spare time primarily in contests. QSL via DL1RTL.

RWANDA, 9X. Harald, DF2WO will be QRV as 9X2AW from Kigali from October 9 to 23. Activity will be on the HF bands and 6 meters. He will also have equipment for Satellite QO-100. QSL via M0OXO.

FRENCH POLYNESIA, FO. Fred, DH5FS is QRV as FO/DH5FS from Manihi Atoll, IOTA OC-131, until October 11. Activity is on 20 to 10 meters using CW and FT8. QSL to home call.

REUNION ISLAND, FR. Stephane, F5UOW will be QRV as FR/F5UOW from October 9 to 28. Activity will be holiday style on 17 to 10 meters using only CW. QSL via LoTW.

ST. VINCENT, J8. Special event call sign J8AA is active until January 31, 2025 for contest activity. Look for Franco, J88BTI who will be QRV as J8AA as a Single Op/All Band, except 160 meters, entry in the Oceania DX SSB contest. QSL via EA5GL.

SVALBARD, JW. Stations JW7XK, JW9DL and JW6VM will be QRV from Longyearbyen, IOTA EU-026, from October 9 to 14. This includes being active as JW5X in the upcoming Scandinavian Activity SSB contest. QSL via operators' instructions.

GREENLAND, OX. Bo, OZ1DJJ is QRV as OX3LX until October 15. Activity is in his spare time and from Kangerlussuaq, Qaqortoq and Christian IV Island, IOTA NA-151. QSL via OZ0J.

EAST KIRIBATI, T32. Station T32AZ will be QRV in the Oceania DX SSB contest. QSL via KH6QJ.

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.

NORFOLK ISLAND, VK9N. Nick, VK2DX is QRV as VK9DX and has been active on 10 meters using SSB around 0845 to 0915z. QSL to home call.

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

Upcoming Hamfests

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



Ohio Hamfests

2024

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](#)

Grant Amateur Radio Club November 9th 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**

***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://arrrl-ohio.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/print_your_license.pdf

Final... Final

The Handbook Giveaway is back on! Our second new winner is WO3X – **John** from Cuyahoga Falls, Oh! Congratulations John – 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 .

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

Amateur Radio, more specifically ARES, has had a lot of good press this past week! The training and preparation has helped many in the SE United States after Helene went through. It’s been awhile since I’ve seen the tagline “When All Else FAILS – Amateur Radio Works!”. This makes *Right Now* one of the most opportune times we have to bring Amateur Radio to the front of the general public’s mind. Any “Public Relations” we do now will get amplified attention. Don’t let this opportunity pass you by!

In a world where we continue to become less “self-reliant” and have become more and more dependent on Government to protect us, this is a salient example of why we need to rely on our own resources to provide for our own well-being. Amateur Radio has proven to be a “life saver” in these current events. Don’t let anyone dissuade you of our importance in these days of internet and cell-phones!

I also encourage you to get involved with ARES and Traffic-Handling. POTA, Field-Day, contesting, trying new modes, home-brewing, and yes – even “people skills” are all valuable skills we can learn and improve on by being *active participants* of this great hobby! Get out there, and encourage others to also. It’s good for all of us.

73,
Tom WB8LCD

“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@arrlohio.org

Back Issues of the PostScript and Ohio Section Journal

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

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



Ohio Section Cabinet

Section Manager – Tom Sly, WB8LCD	Section Emergency Coordinator – Bret Stemen, KD8SCL
Technical Coordinator – Jeff Kopcak, K8JTK	Section Traffic Manager – Dan Rinaman AC8NP
State Government Liaison – Bob Winston, W2THU	Affiliated Clubs Coordinator –

	Amanda Farone, KC3GFU
Section Youth Coordinator – Anthony Luscre, K8ZT	Public Information Coordinator – Elizabeth Klinc – KE8FMJ

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 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!!"

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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