

Ohio Section – November 2024

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(Photo credit – KB6NU)

From the Technical Coordinator Jeff Kopcak – K8JTK TC K8JTK@arrl.net

Hey gang,

It's been nearly ten years since <u>I</u> <u>first registered an AllStar Link</u> <u>node</u> and what a ride it has been. From political issues, to software and network forks, and



license violations. Through all of it, I've been fascinated with the potential options and flexibility of Asterisk, a SMB (small/medium business) phone system, being turned into a multifunction amateur radio system. It suffered from a lack of the 3-T's: time, talent, and treasure. Finding time to work on the project with all their other responsibilities. Talent – developers, system administrators, coordinators with good working knowledge of best-practices getting things up and running and sustaining that level of effort. Treasure – donations to help the open-source project with costs associated with running a network and improving integrations, upgrades. With the release of "ASL3," AllStar Link has made a huge leap forward with help from one of Ohio's Technical Specialists.

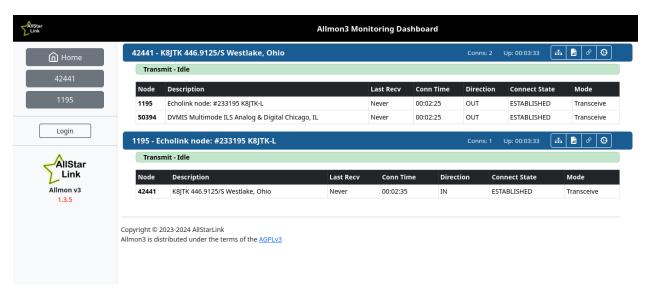
AllStar Link, often called AllStar or ASL, is an Amateur Radio linking system on a Linux computer running on top of the open-source PBX telephone switching platform called Asterisk. An AllStar module called app_rpt turns Asterisk into a powerful, full featured, Ham Radio repeater controller and linking package. It is theoretically capable of controlling hundreds of nodes at a time. Jim Dixon – WB6NIL (SK), developed app_rpt and is considered the father of AllStar.

Like other analog Voice over IP systems (VoIP), such as EchoLink or IRLP, AllStar Link links radio systems together. AllStar is flexible enough to link other infrastructures together as well. I, for example, have a connection to a VoIP phone provider. This allows the ability to add autopatch and reverse-autopatch to my node. For the younger hams, this is the ability to make phone calls from your radio when you don't have cell phone coverage. Or don't want a cell phone. It offers the ability to make emergency calls or issue node control commands over the phone. Though my node barely covers the block I live on, accomplishing this was more of a "can I do this?" exercise.

AllStar nodes can be:

- Repeater: full duplex node and user functions accessed by DTMF or webpage (when given access)
- Simplex node: "hotspot" half-duplex node, also with user functions available by DTMF
- Remote Base node: a half-duplex, frequency agile HF, VHF, UHF remote base, or connected to a repeater controller. Will not respond to DTMF on the RF side of the remote link.
- Radioless node: without any RF hardware. Uses a mic and headphones, speaker, or Bluetooth. Can also be a "Hub node," a common connecting point (similar to Conference or Reflector) with plenty of Internet bandwidth to handle many connections at one time.

Nodes can be public, private, or a combination of both. A public node would be accessible by any other public node on the AllStar network. These nodes require Internet access to the AllStar network for the phonebook of other public nodes. Private nodes can be limited to select users or on a completely private network. Great for connecting repeaters at different sites over a mesh network, point-to-point link, limited bandwidth, VPN, or even over the public Internet.



Allmon v3 running on AllStar Link node 42441

Getting AllStar Link to work on modern operating systems was painful especially if you couldn't necessarily control the operating system, in the cloud for example. System design could have been better. The system that provides routing and mixing of audio streams between Asterisk and physical systems, <u>DAHDI</u>, always seemed to cause problems on newer Linux kernels and operating systems. The full list of AllStar public nodes is downloaded every 10 minutes by each and every node on the network.

This drove me nuts one evening. My home node, 42441, just came back online after being offline for a couple days. Having just booted the node, wanted to connect to a remote node, 2000

for example. It could take 10 to 15 minutes (on average) before that link could be established. 42441 needs to successfully register with the AllStar Link servers notifying them it is online. Once registered, both nodes (42441 & 2000) need to have downloaded the public node list and have each other's information available before the two can connect. On average, this cycle took about 15 minutes. I had no idea this was a thing until I encountered this scenario.

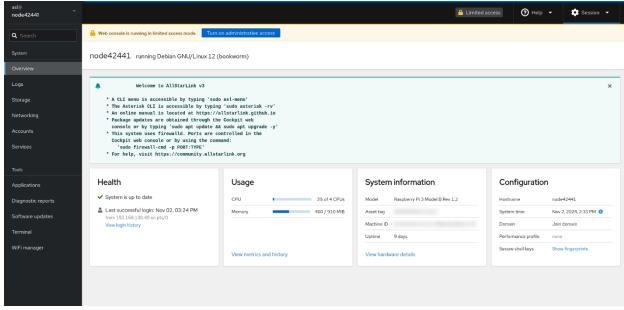
Those are just a couple issues with legacy AllStar. Technical Specialist Jason – N8EI published news about AllStar Link version 3 being released in the <u>August edition of the Ohio Section</u> <u>Journal</u>. He decided to help the AllStar project by providing a newer, modern, web interface called Allmon v3. Jason became more involved as the project received a grant from ARDC, a programmer was hired, and a community of hams stepped up to support the project. These ARDC grants are a result of <u>selling one-fourth of network 44</u>.

Shortly after ASL v3 was released, my QTH node died. It appeared to be the Raspberry Pi itself because it can't seem to boot from any SD card. I was running the downloaded Raspberry Pi ASL v2 image which was quite outdated. I kludged it together by manually compiling the latest ASL v2 code from GitHub. Armed with a replacement Pi, I started to look at the newly released version of ASL 3 and I am quite impressed with the modernization.

Version 3 improvements start with using the standard <u>Raspberry Pi Imager</u> allowing configuration of the image, including user name, time zone, and Wi-Fi settings, to be customized when written to the SD card. The base OS is Debian 12, a currently supported operating system. Asterisk was pushed from version 1.4 (released in 2006, <u>end-of-life</u> in 2012) to Asterisk 20.9.3. One new pre-installed app includes Cockpit, a web-based administration tool for Linux. Cockpit can view logs, configure network settings, update the system, and handle SSH sessions – all through the web browser. In addition, Asterisk no longer runs as root which increases security in case of compromise through Asterisk.

Configuration files from previous ASL versions cannot be restored because of changes in upgrading to version 20. One reason is 16 years of Asterisk and changes in that time. I document all my node config changes which made it easier to identify changes needed when merging them into the new configuration. It wasn't quick but what migration is? Another change is node lookup can now use DNS which affords instant connections for recently powered on nodes. No more waiting before links can be established.

Node configuration is largely done through asl-menu, though, obviously, specific owner configurations need to be added manually. app_rpt supports templates. This means node configs can import a template with common settings. Specific settings can be overridden from the template by setting these values at the node level. This is useful for devices with two or more nodes having the same or similar configuration settings, such as a hub node. This drastically cuts down on the lines needed in rpt.conf, file size, and sanity of finding where you are making changes in a large configuration.



Cockpit on AllStar 3 node 42441

Documentation notes the EchoLink module has been rewritten for stability and now include features such as chat, timeout timer, and doubling prevention. I've used the EchoLink module but haven't checked for issues I knew existed previously verifying they've been resolved.

All these changes are welcome. I'm finding lingering issues and edge cases. To the project's credit, they have been diligently working out issues, resolving them in short order, and pushing out frequent updates – faster than any previous version of ASL.

Some of the <u>autopatch issues have been resolved</u>, though my configuration still requires quiet = l be added to the autopatch string because some autopatch bugs with <u>half-duplex nodes</u> remain. I also can't get autopatch working with my provider, voip.ms, using SIP. This was an issue in previous versions too. I'm not sure where the issue lies but the provider recommended configuration is SIP. I can only get IAX to work. I'm not spending a lot of time tracking this down because I don't see others having the same issue and don't ever really expect autopatch to be used on my node.

Tuning menu options don't include rxsquelchdelay or rxaudiodelay for squelch tail elimination in USB Radio. This is <u>being added</u>. I still have to manually add *invertptt* = no for my URIx and radio configuration, also not present in the tuning menu. This option exists in Simple USB but not USB Radio tuning menus.

Kudos to Jason and the rest of the AllStar Link team for the monumental work that's been done to modernize the project and the work they continue to do. I'll reiterate Jason's pitch for support. Support the project through using ASL and reporting issues. Download the Raspberry Pi image or add the package repo to install ASL on a server or Virtual Machine. Supporting the project financially <u>by donating</u> keeps the system running and supports future improvements.

AllStar Link - <u>https://www.allstarlink.org/</u> AllStar Link v3 manual - <u>https://allstarlink.github.io/</u> Community forum/support - <u>https://community.allstarlink.org/</u> GitHub code repositories - <u>https://github.com/allstarlink</u>

Thanks for reading and 73... de Jeff - K8JTK

From the Section Emergency Coordinator Bret Stemen – KD8SCL EC KD8SCL@gmail.com

ARES Conference 2024:

The ARES Conference was successful after 5 years of being stalled due the pandemic as well as other issues.

I would like to send out a huge thank you to those of you that attended the conference and for your

suggestions for the next conference. I would like to also thank the guest speakers for taking the time to give their presentations and Q&A.

Those speakers include:

Roy Hook, W8REH, Vice Director of the Great Lakes Division

Tom Sly, WB8LCD, Ohio Section Manager

Sean Grady, W1GDY, Licking County EMA Director

Matthew Smith, KE8GTP, Licking County ARES AEC



Scott Yonally N8SY, Director of the Great Lakes Division, had intended to attend, but had to cancel at the last minute due to an illness. Hope you feel better soon Scott.

I would like to send out a huge thank you to the Ohio Fire Academy for allowing us to hold the conference at their facility and to the Licking County ARES Team for their help to make it a success.

Topics that were discussed included:

EMA & ARES Volunteer Ham Net Control EC Duties & Responsibilities

Net Control.

From ARES Nets, traffic nets and club nets. These nets are a great time to practice your NC skills and not during an actual emergency. I'm sure that the local net manager would be happy to add you to the net control list. If you think that you would not be a good NC operator or afraid to, those of us that have experience as NC also mess up from time to time. This is why we have practice nets.

Volunteer Ham.

Volunteer Ham is a great site that was built to replace the previous ARES Connect by a local ham (Licking Co) Matthew Smith KE8GTP that took on the task and has done an outstanding job to make it user friendly.

https://volunteerham.com/landing/

EC Duties & Responsibilities.

Promote and enhance the activities of Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) for the benefit of the public as a voluntary, non-commercial communications service. *Manage and coordinate the training, organization and emergency participation of interested amateurs working in support of the communities, agencies or functions designated by the Section Emergency Coordinator/Section Manager.

Submit regular reports to the SEC/DEC (as directed).

Thanks again for making the 2024 ARES Conference a success. Planning for the 2025 will be starting soon.

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

Bret KD8SCL, SEC

Elizabeth Klinc, KE8FMJ OHIO Section Public Information Coordinator <u>ke8fmj@gmail.com</u>

Next in our PIO series is Electronic Media. From ARRL's PIO <u>Handbook</u>:



Radio, TV and Cable

Nearly everything we have covered so far applies equally well to each of the various types of media but the electronic media -- radio, TV and cable -- have some unique needs, which means there are some differences in our approach. These differences are not so much in the way we deal with radio and TV but in the ways they communicate with their audiences. The print media appeal to our eyes, radio to our ears and television to our eyes and ears. Therein lie the principal differences between them.

Operating in worlds measured in minutes and seconds of expensive airtime, radio and TV are tougher to break into. Fortunately, it's not impossible. Once again, however, much of your success is going to depend on where you live. Small town stations are easier targets than large urban broadcast facilities.

Whether you live in a small town or a large one, start by analyzing your local station or stations and their programming. Like newspapers, radio and TV station programming

consists of parts, including news programs and segments of news programs, panel shows, interviews, documentaries and a whole host of others. There are also different types of stations - commercial, cable and public broadcast stations.

News releases may be less helpful with the electronic media than with print media, but send them anyway. Some stations, particularly smaller ones, will rewrite your news release in a broadcast format as a "tell" story (no reporter in the field); others may use your release as background information for the radio or TV station to use in evaluating your story's potential. A word of caution: Don't try to write and present your own script. These are a whole different matter, one best left to station personnel.

Emergency situations are the most likely subjects to receive coverage from the electronic news media. Field Day events may be another possibility, especially in smaller communities, plus human interest stories such as school contacts with astronauts in orbit. There are others, of course, such as public access programs on cable TV, but the points to keep in mind are that the kinds of stories that will appeal most to the electronic news media are those with dramatic impact which appeal to the ears and/or eyes and those which can be told in a short time. Remember, TV is a visual medium!

One of the frustrations in dealing with the electronic media is the fact that only rarely are they willing to promise coverage in advance for a particular event. The reason for this is obvious if you think about it: They need to be ready to cover breaking news. Camera and radio remote crews may have to be pulled from one story to cover another, more important story.

On most weekends, however, there is a dearth of news. The electronic media's usual newsmakers are at home, hopefully staying out of trouble. Politicians are usually relaxing, legislatures are not usually in session and there is generally less going on. Weekend news programs are often scratching for stories to fill the available airtime. Weekends offer an opportunity for you to get coverage for your story. Most stations keep "HFA," or " Hold for Air stories" to draw on as the need arises to fill airtime on weekends. There are real opportunities for you to exploit on weekends.

As mentioned earlier, radio stations offer interviews and television has panel show formats, which may offer possibilities to explore. In many communities, you can produce your own "public access" cable TV program. Contact your cable operator for details.

The local Public Broadcasting System channel is another possibility. In Philadelphia not long ago, the PBS channel ran the ARRL film, "New World of Amateur Radio," as a result of the efforts of an area Amateur Radio operator.

Many local radio stations run talk shows and call-in programming through the week. Again, nights and weekends are good times for programming devoted to leisure-time activities such as ham radio. Many stations also pre-record public service programs for airing on weekends. Ask your local operators if participating in such programs is a possibility.

The ways you might use to get to your local electronic media are as straightforward as the ones you would use to get to the print media. In addition, radio and TV stations are run by engineers, some of whom may be Amateur Radio operators. If you have one of them as a member of your club or organization, discuss your story possibilities with him and ask the best way for you to make an approach to the station's programming people.

If your local station nibbles at your bait or pulls the line off your reel, be ready to follow through quickly, intelligently and with as much prior preparation and professionalism as possible.

Prior preparation is important in all of the contacts you will have with any of the media. In the electronic media, especially in "live" shows, it is absolutely imperative. Put your very best spokespeople forward and prepare them as completely as possible. Fumbling, erratic, unprepared or hesitant performances compound greatly in front of these media and you need someone who will be able to cope with the pressures and function well in these circumstances.

You will be on your mettle in these situations and you may well have to be ready to improvise quickly to meet whatever challenge you are presented with. But, more than just a challenge, these are golden opportunities. Use them well.

Cable TV

Cable television has become commonplace. In fact, many of us would be lost without cable. Few realize that there are many aspects of cable TV that are available to the subscriber aside from more channels to watch.

Your meeting announcements, club auction date or an invitation for the public to attend your Field Day exercise could be sent to your local cable TV system's "Community Bulletin Board." All the cable companies offer this service by one name or another and most of them would be delighted to carry your message.

But there's another option available from your cable system that gives you an even greater ability to get your message out to the public. Cable TV comes into a community by way of a franchise agreement. Cable companies bid for a franchise and one is selected on the basis of cost per customer, quality of programming and services to be provided to the community. Many subscribers do not realize that one of the services almost always a part of each franchise agreement is called "Public Access."

Public Access is a channel reserved for residents' own programs. Some franchises provide production assistance including equipment and training. The best part is that Public Access costs nothing to the group putting on a program.

Consider promoting your ham radio club or running a series of license classes on TV. Show the "New World of Amateur Radio" videotape. Show your recent hamfest

videotape! Televise your Field Day or demonstrate OSCAR. These are all great ways to reach thousands of potential hams.

By calling or stopping by your local cable TV company, you can easily get the information you'll need to get started. Instead of sitting home and watching all of those channels with color bars go by, why not see if you can activate one and bring ham radio into your community.

Public Service Announcements (PSAs)

Another effective way of getting the Amateur Radio message to the public via the broadcast media is through the use of Public Service Announcements (PSAs). PSAs are short, 10-second to 60- second announcements about the excitement of Amateur Radio. The ARRL HQ has PSAs available to PIOs for broadcast by local TV and radio stations (write for copies). Your local TV station may be willing to work with you on producing your own PSAs customized for your club. Getting PSAs is the easy part; the harder part is getting local TV and Radio stations to air them. Here are some tips that may help you:

When presenting your PSA (and do it in person if possible) to a local TV or Radio station representative, show him a triple-spaced hard copy of the script. This way, he'll know immediately what's on it, that it's appropriate, and that it won't need any special alteration. He'll be less likely file it in the circular file.

Give him a brief, one-page, triple-spaced outline of Amateur Radio and ARRL. Cover the five bases and purposes of Amateur Radio described in the FCC Rules. Explain that ARRL is a national scientific and educational, non-profit organization of, by and for Radio Amateurs, founded in 1914, that you are an ARRL appointee and (assuming it's the case) that your club is ARRL-affiliated..

Give him a brief cover letter describing your particular campaign. Give him a list of local contacts; i.e., you, the PlOs, and/or the Section Manager.

Give him a brief list of local Amateur Radio happenings; cover last month's storm communications, parade effort, and Operation Santa Claus.

Follow these tips, and you'll improve your chances of getting your local TV/Radio station to air your PSA. It will bring the good message of Amateur Radio to millions of potential hams.

ARRL HQ PSA Library

Listed below are public service announcements available from League Headquarters:

Television Spots:

1.

"They're All Hams" :30 2. 3. "Hams on the Air" :30 4.

Television spots are currently available in three-quarter and one-inch formats. Other formats will be added as the technology changes.

If you're not sure which format you need, please contact the TV station and ask the public service director which format is preferred.

Radio Spots:

1. "They're All Hams" :30 ARRL's radio spot is available on CD

Elizabeth Klinc, KE8FMJ AUXC

OHIO Section Public Information Coordinator District Emergency Coordinator, D3 Ohio ARES Assistant Emergency Coordinator, Greene County

ARRL - The National Association For Amateur Radio™

From the Section Youth Coordinator Anthony Luscre, K8ZT - SYC <u>k8zt73@gmail.com</u>

Calling all Youth, Technician Licensees (and everyone else new to HF)



Calling all Technician Licensees. Work dozens of US States in one weekend:

1. 10 Meters is wide open due to current sunspot

activity

2. You have SSB privileges from 28.3 to 28.5 MHz (If

you have a General or Extra Class license, you have

many more SSB band privileges; see chart below.

3. The ARRL Sweepstakes SSB Contest will have thousands of stations on

the air (hopefully many on 10 Meters).

- 4. The exchange you will give is a
 - Serial # (start with 1 and increment up with each new contact 2, 3, etc.)
 - Your station's Precedence-
 - "Q" for Single Operator, QRP
 - \circ "A" for Single Operator, Low Power
 - "B" for Single Operator, High Power



- "U" for Single Operator Unlimited, High Power, Single Operator Unlimited, Low Power and Single Operator Unlimited, QRP
- "M" for Multioperator, High Power or Multioperator, Low Power
- "S" for School Club
- Your Callsign
- Check (the last two digits of the first year you were licensed
- Section (Ohio)
- So my full exchange might be 133 Q K8ZT 81 OH

5. Watch the video on making SSB Contacts -

https://youtu.be/rtumoRYT6Ho

6. Get on the air Saturday afternoon (2 PM Eastern) (2100 UTC) through

0259 UTC Sunday. Full Sweepstakes Rules at

www.arrl.org/sweepstakes.



If SSB is not your style, give FT8 & FT4 a try on 10 Meters (this is the only HF band for FT8/FT4 available for Techs) or give CW a try.

For more information on Contesting- https://youtu.be/-n5CLGoI1Yw



For More Information on 10 Meter- https://youtu.be/im3dbYRkvGo



For more information on Logging- *www.qsotodayhamexpo.com/player-august.html?link=NTk2ODIxMDQy*



If SSB is not your style, give FT8 & FT4 a try on 10 Meters (this is the only HF band for FT8/FT4 available for Techs).www.youtube.com/watch?v=tboYH34-BLo

From the Section Traffic Manager Dan Rinaman, AC8NP – STM AC8NP@AC8NP.COM

Greetings!

Third Party Traffic



Third party traffic what is it and what do we do with it. Greg Reichenbach W8GSR investigated the subject and reported in an email to the OSSBN net manager Mike Hayward KC8WH and training officer Don Zickefoose WB8SIQ. I found it very enlightening.

Greg's email follows:

Hi Mike and Don. Hey, I think I finally found a use for my professional skills in ham radio. Last night, there were about 25 people with 35 different opinions about third party traffic going to and from other countries. (Ok, I'm exaggerating a little.) So I looked at the actual FCC regulation. It's

at https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/CFR-2022-title47-vol5/xml/CFR 2022-title47-vol5-sec97-115.xml

47 CFR § 97.115. Here's the whole text of the rule:

Third party communications.

§ 97.115

(a) An amateur station may transmit messages for a third party to:

(1) Any station within the jurisdiction of the United States.

(2) Any station within the jurisdiction of any foreign government when transmitting emergency or disaster relief communications and any station within the jurisdiction of any foreign government whose administration has made arrangements with the United States to allow amateur stations to be used for transmitting international communications on behalf of third parties. No station shall transmit messages for a third party to any station within the jurisdiction of any foreign government whose administration has not made such an arrangement. This prohibition does not apply to a message for any third party who is eligible to be a control operator of the station.

(b) The third party may participate in stating the message where:

(1) The control operator is present at the control point and is continuously monitoring and supervising the third party's participation; and

(2) The third party is not a prior amateur service licensee whose license was revoked or not renewed after hearing and re-licensing has not taken place; suspended for less than the balance of the license term and the suspension is still in effect; suspended for the balance of the license term and re-licensing has not taken place; or surrendered for cancellation following notice of revocation, suspension or monetary forfeiture proceedings. The third party may not be the subject of a cease and desist order which relates to amateur service operation and which is still in effect.

(c) No station may transmit third party communications while being automatically controlled except a station transmitting a RTTY or data emission.

(d) At the end of an exchange of international third party communications, the station must also transmit in the station identification procedure the call sign of the station with which a third party message was exchanged.

So yes, there are a lot of words, but for our purposes on the OSSBN, it's much simpler. Section (a) is the only part that matters to our net, and there are just two sub-parts to it.

(a)(1) basically says that we as US amateurs are allowed to transmit a message for a third party to any station under US jurisdiction. Period. That means that as long as we are talking to another US amateur station, the fact that the message is intended for any third party is fine. Simple. This part of the rule covers any conceivable scenario that should come up on our net.

(a)(2) is what has caused so much confusion. The main thing to understand about (a)(2) is that it only applies when a US amateur is talking to a foreign station. When we are talking to a foreign station, that's when we need to be aware of the list of countries that have a third party agreement with the US. This is why the intercontinental service amateur station in Massachusetts sends and receives radiograms to/from Europe by email. But once she puts it into the NTS, we don't have to worry about it.

There is some further confusion: Does it matter if the third party is a ham? No, it doesn't. That part of the rule, (b), just allows a third party to participate in the conversation when the control operator is present and the third party hasn't lost their license, etc. -- something that just doesn't matter to us on the OSSBN.

Bottom line: On our net, we don't have to worry about third party traffic restrictions unless someone checks into the net from Europe. The rule is the same no matter what mode we are using: digital, voice or cw. There may be some practical reason why we want to route international traffic via digital, but as far as the rule, it makes no difference.

I hope this helps. Greg Reichenbach Stony Ridge OH W8GSR Thanks Greg W8GSR

Here is some news from the NTS2.0 Committee.

What's a Radiogram?

You've probably heard of amateur radio ("ham") operators, and you might know a friend, family member, or neighbor who loves to build radio equipment and talk to thousands of other ham operators around the world!

But you might **not** know that amateur radio operators are primed and ready to step in and provide valuable communications to the general public, when all else fails. Even if Internet service, power lines, and phone lines are all down, amateur radio still can get the message through. To be ready for this, many amateurs have joined a network called the National Traffic

System (NTS), which is like a telegraph office over radio. NTS volunteers spend their free time relaying messages, called **Radiograms**, entirely by amateur radio, completely free of charge. This is great practice to be sure they can serve the public during a true emergency!

Send a Radiogram Now!

Now, there's a way that YOU can try Amateur Radio messaging! Think of a friend or family member you'd like to contact by Radiogram. You can send any short message, as long as it's not business-related, urgent or critical, or too private or personal. Your message will be picked up by an Amateur Radio volunteer operator and relayed across the country to near its destination; finally, the recipient will get a local phone call from a nearby ham, or the message might even be delivered in person. Along the way, ham operators will be relaying your message by voice, digital, or even Morse code, and getting valuable practice in emergency public service.

https://nts2.arrl.org/radiogram/

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. aconp@aconp.com.

Thanks For All You Do!



Amanda Farone, KC3GFU ARRL Ohio Section | Affiliated Club Coordinator Afrone926@gmail.com 330-509-4095

Unfortunately, I missed last month's OSJ. I want to give a giant shout-out to All **Things Amateur Radio** (ATARA) for supporting a STEM event, Silly Science Sunday, in Youngstown, Ohio. Members took quite the trek to bring their STEM trailer to this event, support a library program, and showcase amateur radio to the community and educators alike. ATARA goes above and beyond to utilize their trailer, which was built with grant money



from the ARRL Club Grant Program, exactly how it was intended. This is just another great example of how fantastic our clubs are in the Ohio Section.

Winter Field Day is approaching fast, the weekend of January 25th & 26th. Will your club be operating? This is a great event to get amped up for ARRL Field Day in June. If you haven't participated before, I encourage you to seek out a local club that is participating and join them! Some of the rules have been changed for this year, so be sure to review the guide for 2025.

This month, the ARRL Club Grant Program will release their chosen club grant results. While I do not get to see any of that information, I have heard there was quite the turn out on submissions. This ensures that clubs are actively working to improve and getting involved in more. If your club applied for the grant, I wish you luck! If your club did not apply, I encourage you to look at this option next time around, as it is a fantastic opportunity!

As the year comes to end and the cold settles in, I want to remind everyone that now is a good time to start planning next years activities. It is also a GREAT time to update your club information on the ARRL website. If you have any questions or need any help with updating your club information, please reach out to me!

John Myers, WG8X

wg8x.radio@gmail.com 330-936-5021

Well, here we are again. Another month has flown by. You're checking out the Section website. I can tell this by the stats I look at each day.

Over the last month, the most popular pages at the section website (besides the Home page itself) are:

- 1) Hamfests
- 2) Swap & Shop
- 3) ARES
- 4) Ohio Section Newsletter
- 5) NVIS



This is great news, since it tells me where to put my time. Of course no surprise there. There's plenty of demand for pages concerning DMR & Code plugs. I honestly had planned to have these up and running by now. Hopefully the month of November will be better suited to spending time indoors.

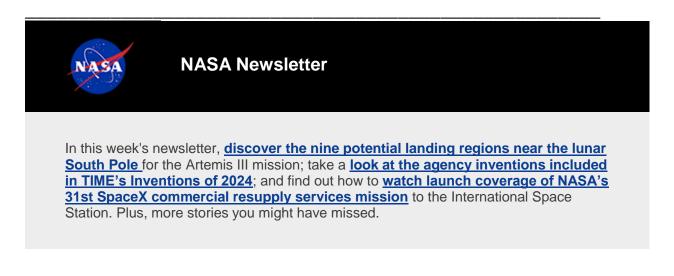
I noticed some were having issues finding the OHDEN page, so I did do some creative redirection to help you out. The URL for the OHDEN page is at <u>https://arrl-ohio.org/ohden/</u>, however if you come close, the redirects that I've installed on the website will probably get you there.

Remember, please send me those club newsletters (AFTER you send them to Elizabeth, our Public Information Coordinator). All that I receive get added to the website where I archive the previous 12 months issues of all that I receive.

While we are at it, check out the site for the up to date Ohio Hamfest list, and the Swap & Shop listings.

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 <u>webmaster@arrl-ohio.org</u>. 73 DE WG8X

National News (from ARRL and other sources)



Humanity's Return to the Lunar Surface



As NASA prepares for the first crewed Moon landing in more than five decades, the agency has identified nine potential landing regions near the lunar South Pole for the Artemis III mission.

"The Moon's South Pole is a completely different environment than where we landed during the Apollo missions," said Sarah Noble, Artemis lunar science lead at NASA Headquarters in Washington. "It offers access to some of the Moon's oldest terrain, as well as cold, shadowed regions that may contain water and other compounds. Any of these landing regions will enable us to do amazing science and make new discoveries."

MOON LANDING REGIONS



MISSIONS The Moon's Icy Secrets

When NASA's Lunar Trailblazer begins orbiting the Moon next year, it will help resolve an enduring mystery: Where is the Moon's water? Scientists have seen signs suggesting water exists even where temperatures soar on the lunar surface, and there's good reason to believe it can be found in permanently shadowed craters that have not seen direct sunlight for billions of years.

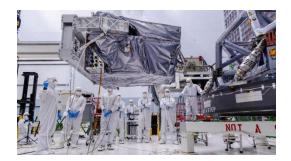
TWO INSTRUMENTS, ONE MISSION

For the Benefit of Humanity

This week, agency inventions that use new structures to harness sunlight for space travel, enable communications with spacecraft at record-breaking distances, and determine the habitability of Jupiter's moon Europa were named among TIME's Inventions of 2024.

INVENTION AND TECHNOLOGY





MISSIONS The Search for Habitable Worlds

The Nancy Grace Roman Space Telescope team has completed integration of the Roman Coronagraph Instrument—a technology demonstration scientists will use to help advance the search for habitable worlds—onto Roman's Instrument Carrier, a piece of infrastructure that will hold the mission's instruments.

LEARN MORE



HUMANS IN SPACE Space Station Resupply Launch Coverage

NASA and SpaceX are targeting 9:29 p.m. EST, Monday, Nov. 4, for the next launch to deliver science investigations, supplies, and equipment to the International Space Station. Filled with nearly 6,000 pounds of supplies, a SpaceX Dragon spacecraft on a Falcon 9 rocket will lift off from Launch Complex 39A at Kennedy Space Center in Florida.

LEARN MORE

Hamvention 2025 Theme: Radio Independence The Hamvention team is pleased to introduce our 2025 Theme, which is Radio Independence. Radio Independence means a great deal to us. In the age of Parks on the Air (POTA), Summits on the Air (SOTA), YouTube, and International Communications, radio is moving beyond its past limitations. In the course of history radio has been heavily regulated and, in some instances, banned altogether. We are fortunate to enjoy these freedoms, and for us at Hamvention we are proud of our Radio Independence. What does Radio Independence mean to you? See you at Hamvention 2025. 73, Hamvention Executive Committee November 1, 2024



\$47,000 Raised for Amateur Radio STEM Education Through

ARRL Online Auction

The 19th annual ARRL Online Auction, sponsored by <u>RT</u> <u>Systems Inc.</u>, went off without a hitch from October 18 -24, 2024. In addition to hundreds of views, the auction saw 329 individual bidders vying for equipment, vintage books, "mystery junk boxes" from the ARRL Lab, and more.

There were 206 items up for bid and more than 1430 bids were recorded with 40 items finishing in overtime bidding. This year's ARRL Online Auction grossed more than \$47,000.



Top three items with the most bids were, both with 25 bids

each, Mastrant rope and ARRL Field Day Cooler Bag surprise, and with 24 bids was one of the mystery junk boxes.

Proceeds from the yearly ARRL Online Auction go directly to ARRL's education programs, including promoting activities to license new hams, strengthening amateur radio's emergency service training, offering continuing technical and operating education, and creating instructional materials.

The ARRL Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology trains educators to incorporate amateur radio and wireless communications into their science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) lessons. This is creating a real impact on the number of new hams across the country. See more about the program at <u>www.arrl.org/TI</u>.

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



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 <u>will not collect</u> the fees at exam sessions*.

<u>AE8FP Amateur Radio Test Team</u> 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 <u>www.ae8fp.net</u> <<u>http://www.ae8fp.net</u>/>

<u>All Things Amateur Radio Association (ATARA)</u> 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 <u>https://hamstudy.org/register</u> 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.

<u>CARS</u>

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 <u>www.2cars.org</u> 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 <u>exams.w8bi@gmail.com</u>

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 <u>hamstudy.org</u>. 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 <u>n8jmw2@gmail.ccom</u> or calling at 440-228-2716. More information is available from the Geauga Amateur Radio Association website <u>https://geaugaara.org</u>

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 <u>ab8yk@hotmail.com</u>

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, April 6 Saturday, June 1 Saturday, August 3 Saturday, October 5 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, <u>Click Here.</u> 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 <u>K8GQB.COM</u> 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@mcarcoh.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. <u>ewilkinson1951@gmail.com</u> 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 <u>www.portcars.org</u>.

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 <u>www.w8zx.net/exam</u> or email <u>VETEAM@N8BAG.NET</u>.

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 sessios begin at 10:00am. For directions and test information visit <u>https://w8wky.org/license-exams/</u>. Pre-Registration to expedite paperwork is requested, but not required at <u>https://w8wky.org/sara-ve-registration-form/</u>. 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: <u>https://wc8voa.org/licensing/</u>

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. There's lots of great information for you to read.

https://arrl-greatlakes.org/glnews/2024/11-radio_waves.pdf

It's been a blast this summer going to your club meetings and hamfests. I've answered a bunch of questions and had a few that



really stumped me, and I thank you for your patience while I'm working on getting answers for you.

I do appreciate the really nice complements and hospitality that you've shown, not only for me, but the Section Managers of the Division as well.

Although hamfest season is rapidly winding down, club meetings are quickly rising so there's plenty of opportunities for all of us to get together and still have a lot of FUN!!





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

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Important Links

ARRL Home: <u>www.arrl.org</u>

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

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

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

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

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

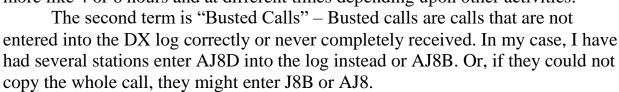
Email ARRL Clubs: clubs@arrl.org

DX This Week - #307

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

I received an email from Savo, K2SAV. Savo asked "You have mentioned the following terms in your recent shows. Can you explain them in further detail?"

The first term is "Holiday Style". Holiday Style is an operating mode where the DX Station is operating at their leisure. They are also doing family activities, sight-seeing, etc. So, instead of trying to operate 16 hours a day, it may be more like 4 or 6 hours and at different times depending upon other activities.



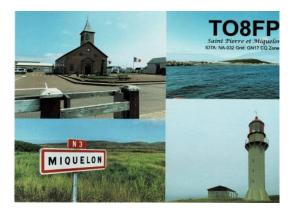
The final term is "All-Time New One" or ATNO. This is an entity that you have never confirmed on any mode or band.

I hope that helps! If you have a question, please send me an email at <u>TheDXMentor@gmail.com</u>.

I received an email from Howard, N8HO with a few QSL cards that he received. The first was from a DXPedition to Tanzania. The second was from an operation on St. Pierre & Miquelon Islands. Thank you, Howard!







DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH DAH 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 <u>thedxmentor@gmail.com</u>

Here is a summary of the recent **C21MM** to **Nauru**. "Our DXpedition is now QRT. Over 75,000 QSOs are in the log from 160 m to 6 m. It was a rather wild adventure for all of us and it seems that Murphy was with us all the time. We had to check our antennas and guy lines daily and had to repair them often. Last but not least, we had to move our high band beam to slightly lower position. However, our large team is in good spirits, and we are quite satisfied with the results. As always, we learned new things which will be used for further DXPeditions.

Remember that 99,9 % of all QSOs from Nauru have a minimum distance of nearly 2,500 miles. Europe and most of the US is more than 6,200 miles away. We had good TX antennas for the low bands, but the RX situation was quite challenging. High atmospheric noise level as well as some man-made noise heavily affected RX performance. Nearly every night, we tried to improve the low band receiving situation, but it was difficult to eliminate the S9+ noise. The high bands performed generally quite well, but we continued to wait for a good 10 m opening to Europe. The last challenge was the CQ WWDX SSB as M2.

Many thanks for all the serious, friendly and constructive comments. However, some of the comments were a little of the mark.

The upcoming **C5** operation to the **Gambia** is on schedule for November 25-29. They plan to operate C5I from Bijol Island (AF-060) and C5T from mainland The Gambia. They plan to operate from grid locators IK23 and IK33, which are semi-rare and rare respectively. https://www.qrz.com/db/C5T

The **3Y0K Bouvet** and **Peter I** 2026 team are still working on the vessel and helicopter contracts, and we are in the final stage before signing the contracts. We are sorting out the last-minute deals and are still looking for some more operators for Bouvet and Peter I team. Funding of these two DXpeditions also heavily dependent upon us getting a full team of operators onboard that contribute with their participation fee. Should you wish to join our team please contact admin@3y0.no or Cezar VE3LYC directly.

We estimate to stay around the island for three weeks and the total duration should be around 38 days to Bouvet and a little bit less to Peter I. We do have all the helicopter and landing permits issued by NPI to go to onshore Bouvet and Peter I with a full-scale operation. Planning these two DX-peditions is very time consuming where the logistics must be coordinated with other expeditions and that is why it takes time to sign contracts. Our plans are to use the same vessel for both DX-peditions. First the vessel and crew will take us to Bouvet where we will do landing with a helicopter, then our equipment will later be shipped to South America and stored there before we return 1 year later to go to Peter I Island scheduled for departure late January 2027. Our plans are to go onshore Peter I with two helicopters first week of February 2027. This way of running the DX-peditions is a huge advantage for the #7 most wanted DX-pedition to Peter I. Island.

Thank you, 73, team Bouvet and Peter I W4VKU, Krish, is heading back to **VU4**, the **Andaman Islands** late November into mid-December. He is hopeful to avoid the noise he encountered in January of this year during this VU4N DXpedition. Activity will be on SSB and FT8. "Equipment is about the same as the last trip. May change the antennae plans slightly." You can hear about Krish's trip to VU4N last January by checking out Episode 31 of the DX Mentor YouTube channel or podcast.

Tom, NR8Z, will be **VP5/N**R8Z in the **Turks & Caicos Islands** from November 3rd through November 12th. He plans to operate holiday style 40-6M, SSB and CW. QSLs via LoTW on my return.

Our team has been working tirelessly to prepare for the upcoming DXpedition to **Namibia** as **V55LA**. We are pleased to share that the flight tickets are confirmed, our QTH in Namibia is secured, and some of us are updating our vaccinations to ensure a safe journey.

We're also proud to unveil our brand-new V55LA logo, beautifully designed by our longtime friend, Miguel EA5ZD. Stay tuned for more updates as we continue to finalize our preparations

We are departing on October 30th, returning on November 11th. During this period, the V55LA team will be active on all HF bands (CW, SSB, Digi), with a particular focus on the low bands. Our team consists of experienced operators skilled in "human modes", so you can expect to hear plenty of activity on both CW and SSB throughout the expedition where it is needed for most of you.

Our goal is to make contact with as many operators as possible so Digi will be run too of course, and we'll be doing our utmost to make this a memorable and enjoyable DXpedition for everyone.

A group of operators (Lubo OM5ZW, Sylvia OM4AYL, David OK6DJ, Ruda OK2ZA, Joe OM4MW, OM3PC Rudy, Martin OM4MM, Miro OM5RW, and Grant VK5GR) will be operating **VK9CV** from **Cocos** (**Keeling**) from November 1-15. (They should be QRV by now) Activity will be on SSB, CW, RTTY, FT8, FT4 and PSK on 1.8 through 50 MHz as well QO-100 (satellite). Here is an update from the **ARRL**: ARRL DXCC processing resumes. The ARRL, posted an update on its website on October 23 about DXCC processing, as follows: "The ARRL DXCC® System has been returned to service, and our staff is again processing applications for credit toward DXCC awards.

The queue includes nearly 3,000 award applications submitted via Logbook of The World® accounts and mailed paper applications. We are processing the backlog as quickly as possible and will provide additional progress updates. For now, the online DXCC application will remain offline. Any new award applications we receive will experience significant delays as we work through the backlog. As previously reported, LoTW® was returned to service on Monday, July 1, 2024. Since then, the system has been processing log uploads with little or no processing delay. We are grateful for your continued patience and understanding as we continue to make progress on the few remaining services that have required additional attention to bring back online." ARRL will continue to keep the amateur radio community updated.

Polish DXPeditioners SP9FIH, Janusz, and SP6CIK, Leszek, are QRV from Nosy Be Island, **Madagascar**, where they will operate as **5R8WE** and 5R8CI respectively until November 6. Activity will be on CW, SSB, and FT8, including SuperFox on 40-10M. They will have an ICOM IC-7300 and Elecraft K3, along with two Expert 1.3K-FA amplifiers. Plans are to emphasize activity on 12 and 10M.

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 S9Z, the DXpedition to Sao Tome & Principe. The second is the upcoming 3D2Y DXpedition to Rotuma. Check them out on YouTube or wherever you get your podcasts by searching for The DX Mentor. The recap of the DXPedition to 9M1Z, Malaysia, will be dropped this weekend. There will be a "hint" about plans for a DXpedition to the Spratley Islands.

DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH DAH DIT DIT DAH



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!

The next contest to prepare for is the CQWW CW contest November 23rd and 24th. For me, there are two side benefit to this contest. The first is the DX that you can work before and after the contest, and the second is the preparation for the 160M top band season.

Before the contest, contesters are going to remote locations and will spend considerable time on the air testing their rigs, antennas and propagation.

After the contest they often hang around for a few days enjoying the location they are at and spending more time on the air. It is a great time to fill band slots and to pick up an ATNO. Keep your eyes and ears open!

Since we are at the end of November with three weeks to go until Winter officially hits, it is a good target for making sure that your 160M transmitting and receiving antennas are good to go.

Contoct	Start	End
Contest	Date	Date
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
EUCW 160M Contest	1/4/2025	1/5/2025
YB DX Contest - SSB	1/11/2025	

North American QSO Party, CW	1/11/2025	1/12/2025
YB DX Contest	1/11/2025	1/11/2025
North American QSO Party, SSB	1/18/2025	1/19/2025
ARRL VHF Contest`	1/18/2025	1/20/2025
CQ 160M CW	1/24/2025	1/26/2025



Well we've turned over the 2024 calendar to the next to last page. It seems the year just started and we are already seeing Christmas decorations in the stores. Where has this year gone?

With the **Grant RC**'s Hamfest just a couple weeks away, it seems hard to believe the Southern Ohio hamfest season is concluding. N8ZNR and I made the past weekend one dedicated to hamfests. I try to make at least one new hamfest a year and this year lucked out with two new ones on the same weekend. The first stop was to set up a flea market table at the **Vinton County ARC**'s first swapfest. Once we found the location, we were in for a pleasant surprise which not only surprised Kathy and me, but also the sponsors. Although publicity was an issue, those who heard about it turned out in good numbers. Those attending seemed to enjoy themselves and some gear and other items changed hands. After leaving our Vinton County friends, we made an antiquing stop in Marietta before overnighting in Caldwell. While at the hotel I was reading the Noble County Visitors Guide and discovered there is a ham club in Belle Valley. I guess I'm going to have to find out more about them.

The following morning it was back on Interstate 77 headed to the Massillon Hamfest at East Canton. Section Manager Tom Sly and John Myers have been after me for a couple years to check this one out. The **Massillon ARC** holds this event at the Military Aviation Preservation Society aviation museum. The hamfest was what both Sly and Myers claimed it to be in size, attendance and vendor numbers. But walking among the approximate 20 airplanes on exhibit was icing on the cake.

Ohio's South 40 finds the final hamfest for the year in Georgetown on November 9. That's when the **Grant RC**'s holds its always popular hamfest at 406 West Plum Street in Georgetown. Flea Market setup begins at 6 that morning with free tables on a first come basis. The Hamfest is well known for its public \$2 admission charge that also covers door prize drawings and a chance for the grand prize. In exchange for conducting a VE session at the hamfest, the **Highland ARA** is selling tickets and HARA members will be at the upcoming **Clinton County ARA** and **Portsmouth RC** meetings with tickets. Tickets also can be arranged for by contacting Kathy Levo at 937-393-4951. Please remember that hamfest tickets are the major fund raiser for a number of radio clubs throughout the nation. The GRC also serves some great chili. The doors open to the public at 8 am..

On the other end of Ohio's South 40 the Ohio Endurance Series Bobcat Trail Marathon takes place on November 9 at Burr Oak State Park. For a number of years the **Athens County ARA** has provided communications for the event and Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, is again requesting assistance. If you have an interest seeing how you can assist, please contact Jeff at 740-541-0972. The event consists of a marathon and a half-marathon with each starting at 8 AM from two separate locations within the Park.

The **Portsmouth RC** <u>WILL NOT</u> hold a VE license testing session prior to their November 4 meeting.



Hams in the lower Scioto River Valley gather each Friday morning at Barlow's restaurant near Lucasville for breakfast about 9 am. This week I learned the **Vinton County ARC** meets for a breakfast in Albany each week. On November 9 the **Bainbridge Area Hams** will gather for breakfast at the Dutch Restaurant near Bainbridge. November 16 has the **Lancaster-Fairfield County ARA** meeting at the Lancaster Frisch's at 9 am. Also on

the 16th, at 10 am the **Fayette ARA** gathers at the Ranchers in Washington CH. I'm certain any ham living in these areas (or those passing through) would be welcome to attend.

Early flyers for the November 9 **Grant RC** Hamfest in Georgetown did not show a VE session, but the **Grant RC** has made arrangements with the **Highland ARA**'s VE team to hold a test session at the hamfest. It will be a Laural session with no testing fee charged. All elements will be available.

During the past few weeks I've noted a good number of new amateur licenses have been issued to people residing in Clermont County. This week is no exception as we welcome Clarence Smith of Goshen to our world. The Commission now says Clarence is KF8CME.

The **Portsmouth RC** has set their annual Christmas dinner and auction for November at the Gathering Place in Wheelersburg. Instead of visiting a local restaurant this year the **Scioto**

Valley ARA will have a catered meal. The event begins at noon on December 7 in the large meeting room at the Pike County Airport. There is a \$16 charge. If a beef tip and/or glazed ham meal with sides, drinks and deserts for only \$6 catches your attention, the **Highland ARA** set that as the menu for their December 10 Holiday Dinner Meeting. The evening also features door prizes, an optional gift exchange and raffle drawing. You do not have to be a HARA member to attend. In fact, representatives from other clubs are urged to attend.

As we move towards the final quarter of the year, several clubs are in Election Gear with the Athens County ARA electing their new officers at this past week's meeting. According to Club Officials the new officers for the year will have Eric McFaddem, WD8RIF, returning as President. Paul Schulz, WD8SCV, will serve as the Vice-President. Tny Peric, KE8VFA will be the Secretary and Drew McDaniel, W8MHV continues to serve as the Treasurer. The **Highland ARA** already has opened nominations and state all positions have been filled, however nominations will be accepted from the floor at the December 10 Holiday Dinner. This month's meeting agendas for the **Tri-State ARA** include election activities and the **Scioto Valley ARA** has started it's search for 2025 officers.

One of my favorite operating events is the ARRL's November Phone Sweepstakes. For those of

you not familiar with the event, it is a two weekends. It is often referred to as the and Canada". Saturday, November 2 until part with the Phone portion starting on



part event spead over two "premier domestic contest in the US Monday November 4 marks the CW Saturday, November 16 and ending

on Monday the 18th. For those of you chasing awards, it is possible to work all states during a single weekend, pick up a few new DXCC credits or even some new counties for those working towards the USA-CA. See page 79 of the October QST or visit <u>www.arrl.org/sweepstakes</u> for more information. I hope to see you on the air and in each other's logs.

We have just learned of the passing of David McCall, KC8RCR, of Lynchburg and Ken Massie, WN8F, of Ironton. Until about 10 years ago Dave was active on six meters and especially enjoyed AM. Besides being a past **Highland ARA** member, Dave was a talented musician and inducted into the Ohio County Music Hall of Fame. Services will be Monday in Highland County. Throughout the Ohio Valley's amateur radio community Ken was well-known and respected. He held an amateur license for over 50 years and was a founding member of the **Southern Ohio ARA** and the **Lawrence County ARES**. He was a long time member of the committee that conducts the annual Ironton Memorial Day Parade and one of the first frequent contributors to this column when it was the *Monday Morning Memo*. Services have been held in Ironton.

In the meantime here's hoping each of you has an enjoyable week and finds some time to be radio active.

John Levo, W8KIW

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

ARLD041 DX news

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by LU4AAO, The Daily DX, 425 DX News, DXNL, OPDX, Contest Corral from QST and the ARRL Contest Calendar and WA7BNM web sites. Thanks to all.

RODRIGUES ISLAND, 3B9. Kazu, M0CFW is QRV as 3B9/M0CFW until November 27. Activity is on the HF bands. He will be active as 3B9KW in the upcoming CQ World Wide DX CW contest. QSL via LoTW.

ESWATINI (KINGDOM OF), 3DA. A group of operators are QRV as 3DA0DL until November 9. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, and various digital modes. QSL via DL7UFR.

MALDIVES, 8Q. Tom, OE1TRI will be QRV as 8Q7TR from Kagi Island, IOTA AS-013, from November 2 to 7. QSL to home call.

MOROCCO, CN. Members of the Association Royale des Radio Amateurs du Maroc are QRV with special call sign CN49MS from Laayoune until November 15 to celebrate the 49th anniversary of the Marche Verte, or Green March. Activity is on various bands and modes. QSL via operators' instructions.

CANARY ISLANDS, EA8. Mike, DF8AN is QRV as EA8/DF8AN from La Gomera, IOTA EU-004, until November 11. Activity is on 80 to 6 meters using CW and various digital modes while here testing antennas. QSL to home call.

ANTARCTICA, David, F4FKT will be QRV as FT4YM from Concordia Base, IOTA AN-017, from November until the end of January 2025. Activity will be on 20, 17, and 15 meters. He also plans to be active from the Zuccheli and Cassey bases on 40 meters. QSL via F5PFP.

ST. BARTHELEMY, FJ. Al, W6HGF, Ed, K4HGF, Sandy, KQ4WBB and Sheri, KK4PHS are QRV as FJ/W6HGF and FJ/K4HGF from November 1 to 6. Activity is holiday style on the HF bands using all modes. QSL to home calls.

FRENCH GUIANA, FY. Sebastien, F8DQZ is QRV as FY/F8DQZ from Macouria until November 8. Activity is in his spare time on the HF bands. QSL direct to F5OZC.

HONDURAS, HR. Alex, K6VHF will be QRV as K6VHF/HR9 from Roatan Island, IOTA NA-057, from November 3 to 9. Activity is on the HF bands using mainly digital modes. QSL direct to home call.

ARGENTINA, LU. Members of the Radio Club QRM Belgrano will be QRV as LU4AAO from November 2 to 10 to commemorate Dia de la Tradicion which celebrates the birthday of Jose Hernandez. Activity will be on the HF, and V/UHF bands using SSB, FM, SSTV, and FT8. QSL direct.

BELGIUM, ON. Members of the ONZ Oostkust Radioclub are QRV with special call sign OT80CLM until November 11 to commemorate the Canadian Liberation March, the annual event that celebrates the liberation of the town of Knokke in November 1944. QSL via operators' instructions.

GABON, TR. Roland, F8EN is QRV as TR8CR until the end of January 2025. Activity is on the HF bands using CW. QSL via F6AJA.

BELIZE, V3. Tom, AK2G will be QRV as V31TL from November 5 to 8. He plans to activate several POTA locations including the Altun Ha Archeological Reserve, BZ-0057, and the Community Baboon Sanctuary Wildlife Area, BZ-0067. Activity will be on 20 to 10 meters using SSB and various digital modes. QSL to home call.

NAMIBIA, V5. A group of operators are QRV as V55LA until November 11. Activity is on the HF bands, with a priority on the low bands, with up to seven stations active. QSL via M0OXO.

COCOS (KEELING) ISLANDS, VK9C. A large group of operators are QRV as VK9CV until November 15. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters, and possibly 6 meters, using CW, SSB, RTTY, and FT8. This includes being active on Satellite QO-100. QSL via OK6DJ.

BURKINA FASO, XT. Members from the Mediterraneo DX Club are QRV as XT2MD until November 11. QSL via IK2VUC.

ST. HELENA ISLAND, ZD8. Operators JM1GDA and JF3SFU will be QRV as ZD7G and ZD7SFU, respectively, from November 2 to 22. Activity will be on the HF bands using mostly FT8 with some CW. QSL direct to home calls.

Please see November QST, page 78, and the ARRL and WA7BNM contest websites for details.

Upcoming Hamfests

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

Ohio Hamfests

2024& 2025

12/07/2024 - Winter Hamfest	01/19/2025 - <u>Sunday Creek Amateur Radio</u>
Location: Archbold, OH	Federation Hamfest
Type: ARRL Hamfest	Location: Shade, OH
Sponsor: FCARC	Type: ARRL Hamfest
Website: https://k8bxq.org/hamfest	Sponsor: Sunday Creek Amateur Radio
Learn More	Federation
	Learn More
04/05/2025 - <u>Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio</u>	07/20/2025 - <u>Van Wert Hamfest</u>
Club 69th Hamfest	Location: Van Wert, OH
<u>Club 69th Hamfest</u> Location: Cuyahoga Falls , OH	Location: Van Wert, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest
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Location: Cuyahoga Falls , OH	Type: ARRL Hamfest
Location: Cuyahoga Falls , OH Type: ARRL Hamfest	Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Van Wert Amateur Radio Club
Location: Cuyahoga Falls , OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club,	Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Van Wert Amateur Radio Club Website: <u>http://w8fy.org</u>
Location: Cuyahoga Falls , OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club, Inc.	Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Van Wert Amateur Radio Club Website: <u>http://w8fy.org</u>

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 <u>KD8FKU@gmail.com</u>

Print an Official or Unofficial Copy of Your Amateur Radio License (By Anthony Luscre, K8ZT)

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

Licensees also will be able to print out an official

authorization — as well as an unofficial "reference copy" —

from the ULS License Manager. I've created a set of instructions on how you can request an "official" printed copy of your license*

https://arrl-ohio.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/print_your_license.pdf

Final... Final

The Handbook Giveaway is back on! Our October winner is KD8EPR- Erik from Georgetown, Oh! Congratulations Erik – your handbook is on the way. Don't forget to get signed in for the November drawing – you'll find it at www.arrl-ohio.org.

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

November is Thanksgiving month, although the holiday isn't until the end of the month. At the ARES conference yesterday, I think the most important thing I had to say was "Thank you" to ALL ARES members, whether you were there or not. Mostly unseen, you put in significant amounts of your time planning and preparing to be a participant in Emergency Communications when the need arises. Hopefully we don't need that expertise, but that doesn't mean we don't practice and prepare for it. It's one of the 5 reasons given in part 97 as the reason for our existence. I know that many of you take it very seriously, and I thank you for your dedication.

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November 11th is Veteran's Day. I hope you get a Thank You from Everyone. And I personally Thank You for the Peace, Freedom and the country we live in on all of the other 364 days in the year.

I hope you all have a blest Thanksgiving day with your family or friends and that you can all find things in your life to be thankful for.

And I almost forget, I know we'll all be thankful for November 6^{th} when all of the TV / Radio ads, postcards, text messages and phone calls stop!

Finally, I'm thankful for the Magic of Radio! It's brought much pleasure, knowledge and friendship into my life, I hope it has to all of you too!

Share the Magic of Radio!

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



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 – E;izabeth 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 "<u>Opt-In</u>" 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: https://arrl-ohio.org/ohio-section-newsletter/



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!

TOP^