

*PostScript*



Ohio  
Section

# *“November 11th, 2024”*

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



## **CQ CQ CQ de WB8LCD**

Thank you to all who have served in the US Military and are now Veterans. We're honored to have you here among us.

2024 is just about behind us now – just about a month and a half left of it. Have you fulfilled all of your Amateur Radio goals for 2024? You better get on it – the clock is running out! If you put your mind to it, and follow that up with action – you might be surprised what you could accomplish in these final days of 2024. Whatever you do, just please do it in a prudent and safe manner. We want you all to be here with us on New Years Day 2025!

My neighbor (a long time ago!) Stan Hillman – W8FZS (SK) was out the night that Sputnik flew over. We heard it! I was hooked on both Ham Radio and Space exploration at a very early age. Became a Ham while I was still in high school. Never did make it into the Space business though. (When I was in college, my parents actually thought I might become an astronaut! Apparently one of my proffs told them that I was mostly “taking up space” in the classroom.) I've always been interested in the vastness of space and the NASA programs to explore space ever since. A little later on are two articles about space exploration – one about the NASA Voyager satellite and the other about AO-7. I'm pretty sure I'll never make it into space, but there's plenty to be done right here on terra firma.

This Monday, November 11, my home club, Portage County Amateur Radio Service (PCARS) will be holding it's annual 50/50 for the benefit of The Center of Hope – a local charity that provides Food Assistance to Portage County residents in need. **YOU ARE INVITED!** If anywhere near Kent on Monday evening, stop in at the Kent American Legion and participate in what is one of the largest 50/50 raffles you'll ever see at an Amateur Radio Club! We'll have a whole bunch of door prizes and the 50/50 is usually quite substantial! What would normally be the club's share of the 50/50 is added to the other donations we have collected from members and friends for the Center of Hope. It's a fun evening and a worthy cause. If you're unable to attend but would like to join us in supporting the Center of Hope, you can make a donation via PAYPAL on the PCARS website – [www.portcars.org](http://www.portcars.org) . Last year we raised over \$8000 and over the life of this program (which was started in 2006 by Jim Aylward – KC8PD (SK)) we have contributed over \$80,000 to Center of Hope! Any and all donations of any amount are appreciated.

I know that many other clubs in the Ohio Section are supporting their communities in similar ways. Let's not be shy about this, make sure you publicize what you've done for your

community! And that means getting your PIO's busy getting the word out. Any positive exposure we can get is helpful. That goes for all of your club's activities. Let's make a collective "New Years Resolution" to become more visible in 2025! More on that to follow....

Last weekend was the Ohio Section ARES Convention. After a hiatus of a few years, it was a good start at bringing back this activity and I know Ohio Section Emergency Coordinator Bret – KD8SCL – is already making arrangements for next year. One of the presenters was the EMA and Regional 911 Director from the Licking County EMA – Sean Grady. Mr. Grady made a compelling case for the part that Amateur Radio plays in local Emergency Communications. Your participation in ARES is recognized and appreciated!

Share the Magic of Radio.

73,

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



---

## *National News*

*(from ARRL and other sources)*

---

THE SOLAR SYSTEM

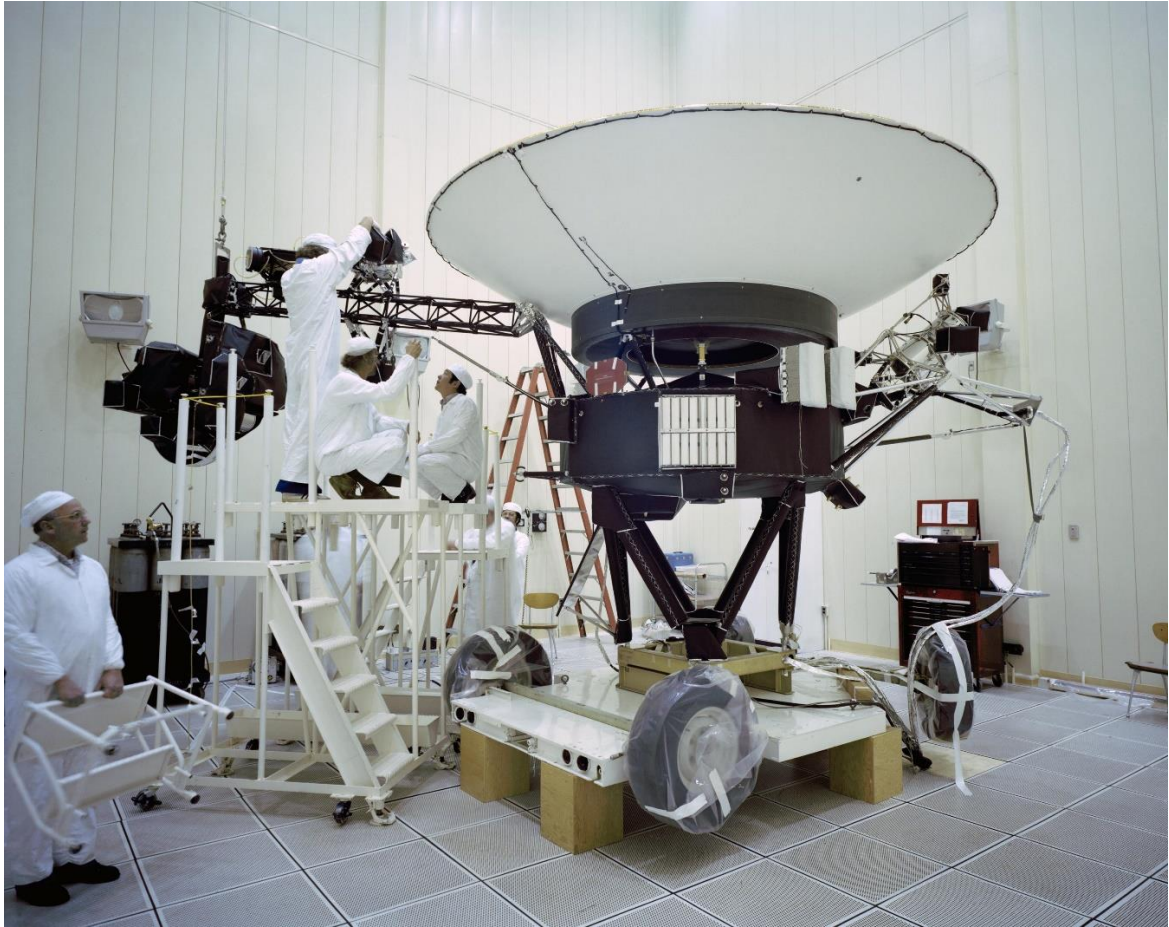
## **What's Up? Skywatching with NASA**



This month, catch planetary views of Saturn, Jupiter, and Mars; witness a close pass of the Parker Solar Probe by Venus; and get ready for an occultation of the bright star Spica by the Moon.

#### [TIPS AND GUIDES](#)

## **Still Kickin' Since the '70s: NASA's Voyager Mission Keeps Exploring**



This archival photo shows engineers working on NASA's Voyager 2 spacecraft on March 23, 1977.

NASA/JPL-Caltech

NASA's Voyager mission launched in the 1970s. Today, it's making history as it conducts new science. But how are two spacecraft from the '70s not just surviving, but thriving farther out in space than any other spacecraft has been before?

### **A Little Mission Background**

Voyager is a NASA mission made up of two different spacecraft, Voyager 1 and 2, which launched to space on Sept. 5, 1977, and Aug. 20, 1977, respectively. In the decades following launch, the pair took a grand tour of our solar system, studying Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune — one of NASA's earliest efforts to explore the secrets of the universe. These twin probes later became the first spacecraft to operate in interstellar space — space outside the heliosphere, the bubble of solar wind and magnetic fields emanating from the Sun. Voyager 1 was the first to enter interstellar space in 2012, followed by Voyager 2 in 2018.



Today, Voyager continues not just because it can, but because it still has work to do studying interstellar space, the heliosphere, and how the two interact. "We wouldn't be doing Voyager if it wasn't taking science data," said Suzanne Dodd, the mission's current project manager and the director for the Interplanetary Network at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

But across billions of miles and decades of groundbreaking scientific exploration, this trailblazing interstellar journey has not been without its trials. So, what's the Voyager secret to success?

In short: preparation and creativity.



As NASA's two Voyager spacecraft travel out into deep space, they carry a small American flag and a Golden Record packed with pictures and sounds -- mementos

of our home planet. This picture shows John Casani, Voyager project manager in 1977, holding a small Dacron flag that was folded and sewed into the thermal blankets of the Voyager spacecraft before they launched 36 years ago. Below him lie the Golden Record (left) and its cover (right). In the background stands Voyager 2 before it headed to the launch pad. The picture was taken at Cape Canaveral, Fla., on Aug. 4, 1977.

NASA/JPL-Caltech

### **We Designed Them Not to Fail**

According to John Casani, Voyager project manager from 1975 to launch in 1977, "we didn't design them to last 30 years or 40 years, we designed them not to fail."

One key driver of the mission's longevity is redundancy. Voyager's components weren't just engineered with care, they were also made in duplicate.

According to Dodd, Voyager "was designed with nearly everything redundant. Having two spacecraft — right there is a redundancy."

"We didn't design them to last 30 years or 40 years, we designed them not to fail."



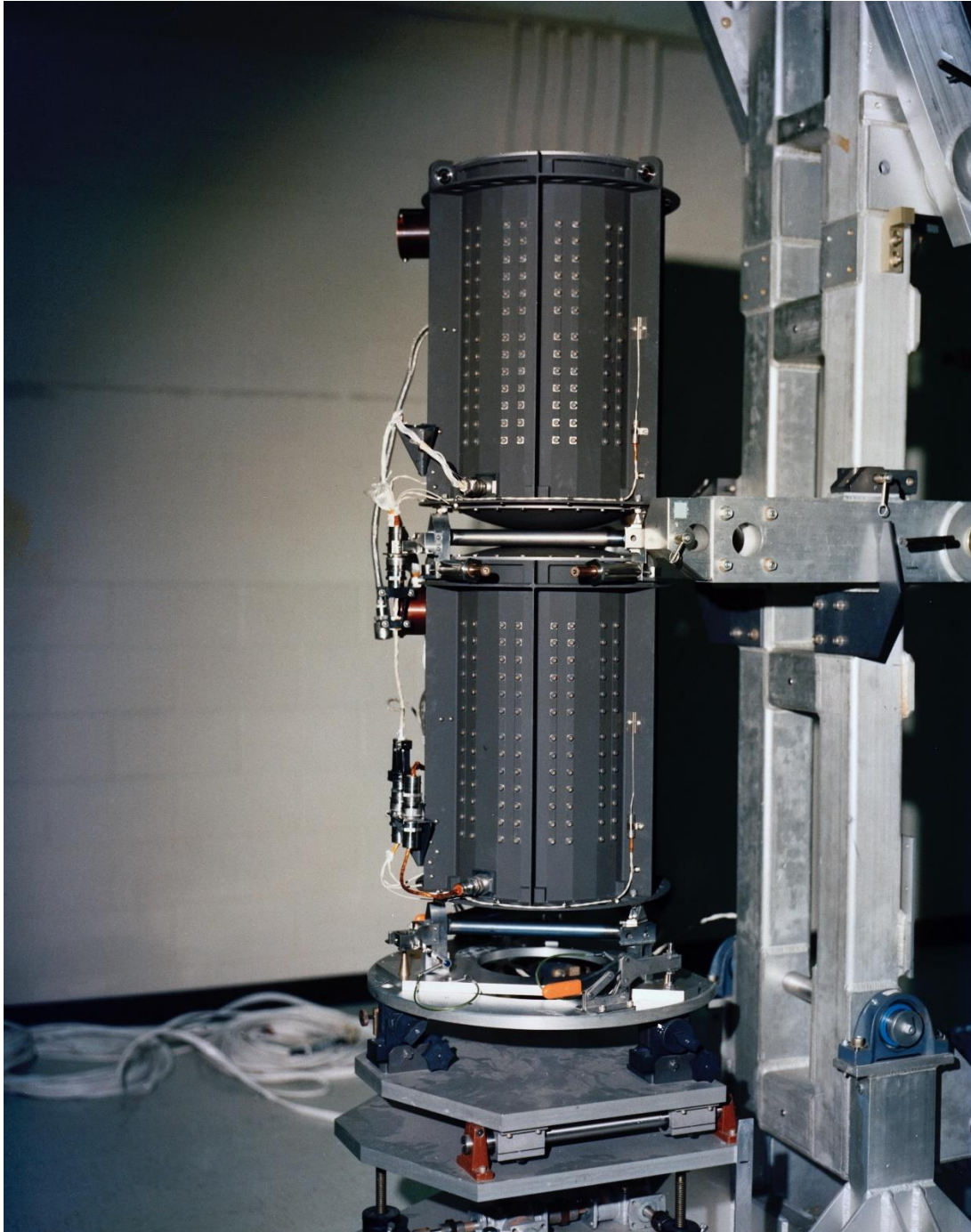
**JOHN CASANI**

Voyager Project Manager, 1975-1977

### **A Cutting-Edge Power Source**

The twin Voyager spacecraft can also credit their longevity to their long-lasting power source.

Each spacecraft is equipped with three radioisotope thermoelectric generators. These nuclear "batteries" were developed originally by the U.S. Department of Energy as part of the Atoms for Peace program enacted by President Eisenhower in 1955. Compared to other power options at the time — like solar power, which did not have the reach to work beyond Mars — these generators have allowed Voyager to go much farther into space.



Each of NASA's Voyager probes are equipped with three [radioisotope thermoelectric generators \(RTGs\)](#), including the one shown here at NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida. The RTGs provide power for the spacecraft by converting the heat generated by the decay of plutonium-238 into electricity.



Launched in 1977, the Voyager mission is managed for NASA by the agency's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, a division of Caltech in Pasadena, California.

#### NASA/JPL-Caltech

Voyager's generators continue to take the mission farther than any before, but they also continue to generate less power each year, with instruments needing to be shut off over time to conserve power.

#### Creative Solutions

As a mission that has operated at the farthest edges of the heliosphere and beyond, Voyager has endured its fair share of challenges. With the spacecraft now in interstellar space running on software and hardware from the 1970s, Voyager's problems require creative solutions.

Retired mission personnel who worked on Voyager in its earliest days have even come back out of retirement to collaborate with new mission personnel to not just fix big problems but to pass on important mission know-how to the next generation of scientists and engineers.

"From where I sit as a project manager, it's really very exciting to see young engineers be excited to work on Voyager. To take on the challenges of an old mission and to work side by side with some of the masters, the people that built the spacecraft," Dodd said. "They want to learn from each other."



After receiving data about the health and status of Voyager 1 for the first time in five months, members of the Voyager flight team celebrate in a conference room at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory on April 20. Credit: NASA/JPL-Caltech

NASA/JPL-Caltech

Within just the last couple of years, Voyager has tested the mission team's creativity with a number of complex issues. Most recently, a fuel tube inside of Voyager 1's thrusters, which control the spacecraft's orientation and direction, became clogged. The thrusters allow the spacecraft to point their antennae and are critical to maintaining communications with Earth. Through careful coordination, the mission team was able to remotely switch the spacecraft to a different set of thrusters.

These kinds of repairs are extra challenging as a radio signal takes about 22 ½ hours to reach Voyager 1 from Earth and another 22 ½ hours to return. Signals to and from Voyager 2 take about 19 hours each way.

### **Voyager's Interstellar Future**

This brief peek behind the curtain highlights some of Voyager's history and its secrets to success.

The Voyager probes may continue to operate into the late 2020s. As time goes on, continued operations will become more challenging as the mission's power diminishes by 4 watts every year, and the two spacecraft will cool down as this power decreases. Additionally, unexpected anomalies could impact the mission's functionality and longevity as they grow older.

As the mission presses on, the Voyager team grows this legacy of creative problem solving and collaboration while these twin interstellar travelers continue to expand our understanding of the vast and mysterious cosmos we inhabit.

### **Read More**

- [The Story Behind Voyager 1's Pale Blue Dot](#)
- [The Story Behind Voyager 1's Family Portrait](#)
- [Pale Blue Dot Poster](#)
- [Voyager 1 Mission Page](#)
- [Voyager 2 Mission Page](#)

**Throughout the month of November, AMSAT will celebrate the 50th anniversary of amateur satellite AMSAT OSCAR 7 (AO-7), a SmallSat launched on November 15, 1974.** AO-7 is still working and has been nicknamed the “sleeping beauty” of satellites because it came back to life after years of “sleeping.” Designed by radio amateurs, the final assembly occurred in a basement laboratory not far from the Goddard Space Flight Center in Maryland. AO-7 lived a very healthy lifetime of 6.5 years but in late 1980, AO-7’s NiCad battery began to show serious signs of increased series resistance. This was a sure sign to AMSAT command stations that the end was in sight for AO-7. The cells had been originally matched for capacity by NASA and they all failed within a matter of weeks of one another. AO-7 stayed asleep for 21 years, but then one day in June 2002, the satellite woke up again. This was only possible if something caused an open circuit in the battery. On June 21, 2002, a very active user of AO-7, Pat Gowain, G3IOR, from the UK, made a telephone call to Perry Klein, W3PK, the first AMSAT president and designer of the VHF/HF transponder. Gowain was wondering if a new low-Earth-orbit (LEO) spacecraft had been launched. He was hearing Morse Code telemetry again on AO-7’s old beacon frequency. He played Perry a tape recording and it turned out to be AO-7 telemetry! AMSAT will honor this historic achievement with a series of short articles highlighting the life of AO-7. You can visit a special page on the AMSAT website where you will find a collection of AO-7 articles and links at <https://www.amsat.org/amsat-ao-7-a-fifty-year-anniversary/>.

---

## **Rare California Island to be Activated for Armed Forces Day, First Time in 53 Years**

On Armed Forces Day, May 1971, 53 years ago, two amateur operators working as WZ6SNI, activated San Nicolas Island, IOTA NA-066. At 61 miles, San Nicolas is the most remote of the Channel Islands off the coast of Southern California and is owned by the US Navy.



Now, weather permitting, Will Costello, WC6DX, has been authorized to be active from San Nicolas Island November 8 - 12, 2024. He is taking a Buddihex antenna for 6 - 20 meters and a 100 watt rig.

For island chasers in southern California, Arizona, and southern Nevada who may not be able to hear because of skip, he will also take a Buddipole antenna for 40 - 30 meters daytime use. Operations will be primarily SSB, and CW if conditions deteriorate due to solar flares.

QSL instructions will be on WC6DX's QRZ.com after the operation.

---

## ARRL Student Membership

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

Please note: ARRL requires age verification for all student members. Parental/Guardian consent is required for applicants under 18 years of age. Student memberships are not eligible for add-on printed membership magazine subscriptions. Student membership benefits are subject to other restrictions and exclusions.

Student Membership options:

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

Become an ARRL student member today!

**To JOIN with a Student Membership** - <https://form.jotform.com/241074273604047> **or**  
**To RENEW a Student Membership** - <https://home.arrl.org/action/My-Account/Pay-Balances>



---

## **The fifth Youth on the Air Camp for the Americas has been scheduled for June 15 - 20, 2025.**

The camp will be held in Thornton/Denver, Colorado, and welcomes young amateur radio operators from North, Central, and South America. The camper application period will open online December 1, 2024, at [youthontheair.org](https://youthontheair.org). Eligible youth are licensed amateur radio operators between ages 15 and 25. Up to 50 campers will be accepted and priority will be given to first-time attendees and to youth residing outside of the USA. Past campers may apply to be considered to serve as leaders during the camp. Potential campers residing outside of the United States are encouraged to immediately begin the process of obtaining the necessary passport (and appointment to obtain a tourist visa, where applicable) as processing times may extend for several months. For details about the camp and/or to sign up for updates by email, visit the camp web page at [youthontheair.org/denver2025](https://youthontheair.org/denver2025). Dates and locations for the inaugural 2025 subregional camp(s) and the inaugural 2025 YOTA Junior USA camp (for under age 15) will be announced as soon as they are available. For additional information, please contact Camp Director Neil Rapp, WB9VPG, at [director@youthontheair.org](mailto:director@youthontheair.org).

---

**Throughout November, members of [Radio Club Limburg](#) (RCLB) in the North Limburg region of the Netherlands, will activate special event station PF16F.** The event marks the retirement from the Royal Netherlands Air Force of the F-16, or Fighting Falcon, aircraft after 45 years of service, from 1979 to 2024. RCLB members hope to contact amateur radio operators around the world in November. QSL information is available from QSL Manager [PD8RW](#). For additional information, visit the club's website.

---

## ***Club Corner***

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

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



**Please! Format as below:**

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

---

## **VE Sessions**

### **The following information is for ALL exam sessions:**

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

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

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

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

**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](mailto:hamexams@atara-w8atr.fun).

### **CARS**

VE testing from CARS - Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society - at Elmwood Recreation Center, 6200 Wisnieski Parkway in Independence, Ohio 44131 Time: 9:15 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

Always the 2nd Sunday of the odd month. Go to CARS [www.2cars.org](http://www.2cars.org) for detailed map of location. Call Metro W8MET 216-520-1320 for details

### **Clark County Amateur Radio Association (CLARA)**

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

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

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

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

[buzz@baylorhill.com](mailto:buzz@baylorhill.com)

### **Dayton Amateur Radio Association (DARA)**

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

### **The Findlay Radio Club**

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

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

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

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

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

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

The GARA schedule of exams are these Sundays at 2pm. Dates for 2024 are Jan 14, March 10, May 12, July 14, Sept 15, and Nov 17, 2024. All sessions are at 2:00PM each month



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

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

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

### **Huber Heights Amateur Radio Club**

Huber heights amateur radio club does ARRL VE testing the second Saturday of each even numbered month. Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec. 10:00AM til Noon. For more information contact Jim Storms – AB8YK at [ab8yk@hotmail.com](mailto:ab8yk@hotmail.com)

### **The Lake County Amateur Radio Association**

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

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

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

To register, you will need a NCVEC 605 Form, which will be available at the test. If you would like to complete one ahead of time, be sure it is the Sept 2017 version or later. You can find it by Googling "NCVEC quick-form 605" and clicking on the url for a pdf of the form. Please note **the FCC requires you to provide a FRN** (FCC Registration Number). Social Security Numbers



are no longer accepted. If you are new to ham radio and don't have a FRN, Google "New FRN" and follow the fcc.gov link.

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

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

### **The Lancaster and Fairfield County Amateur Radio Club (LFCARC)**

The Lancaster and Fairfield County Amateur Radio Club (LFCARC) hosts exam sessions on the first Saturday each month at 10:00 am in Lancaster Ohio at the Fairfield County EMA, 240 Baldwin Dr., Lancaster Ohio.

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

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

### **Lisbon Area Amateur Radio Association**

LISBON AREA AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION (LAARA) 2024 SCHEDULE.

VE TESTING IS AT THE COLUMBIANA COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

AT 215 SOUTH MARKET STREET, LISBON, OH 44432.

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

VE TESTING DATES FOR 2024

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

WE CAN ALSO GIVE THE TEST AT OUR REGULAR MEETINGS THAT ARE NORMALLY ON THE 3RD THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH. LAARA MEETINGS ARE HELD AT THE COLUMBIANA COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY AT THE SAME ADDRESS AS ABOVE. SEE THE [K8GQB.COM](http://K8GQB.COM) WEB SITE FOR UPDATES.

MEETING TIME IS 6:30 PM.

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

### **Madison County**

The 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@mcarch.org](mailto:Exams@mcarch.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](http://www.milfordhamradio.org)

### **Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society (NOARS)**

Six VE testing sessions in 2024. Registration is appreciated but walk-ins are welcome. Contact Elaine, KC8FOS for more information or to register. [ewilkinson1951@gmail.com](mailto:ewilkinson1951@gmail.com) or 216-337-4235 Saturday, Jan 6. Fairview Park Library. 21255 Lorain Rd., Fairview Park. 10 AM. Sunday, March 10. NOARS Hamfest. Lorain County Community College. 1005 Abbe Rd. N., Elyria. 9 AM.

Saturday, May 4. Fairview Park Library. 21255 Lorain Rd., Fairview Park. 10 AM. Saturday, July 20. NOARSfest. Lorain County Community College. 1005 Abbe Rd. N., Elyria. 9 AM. Saturday, September 7. Fairview Park Library. 21255 Lorain Rd., Fairview Park. 10 AM. Saturday, November 2. Fairview Park Library. 21255 Lorain Rd., Fairview Park. 10 AM.

### **Portage County Amateur Radio Service (PCARS)**

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

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

### **Tusco Amateur Radio Club W8ZX**

VE Testing sessions are held on the second Saturday of every even numbered month at the Dover Faith Church, 420 N Wooster Ave, Dover, OH 44622. Pre-registration is not necessary.

Doors open at 0830 for registration, exams begin at 0900. Cost is \$15. You are required to have an email address and a copy of your FRN or current ham radio license. For more information please go to [www.w8zx.net/exam](http://www.w8zx.net/exam) or email [VETEAM@N8BAG.NET](mailto:VETEAM@N8BAG.NET).

### **Silvercreek ARA (SARA)**

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

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

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

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

---

## BLACK SWAN Net Operations: Three Years In

C. Matthew Curtin, KD8TTE

Government agencies serving the public in the aftermath of a disruptive event have a straightforward need from the amateur radio service and the volunteers working in it: A viable and modern communication network for contingency and emergency use.

As easy as it is to say, envisioning just what that looks like is not easy. Emergency managers understand their operational needs but rarely have insight into the information technology they rely on to conduct those operations. Computer specialists rarely understand the technology of

radio that allows them to build and use a network where Internet Protocol (IP) is not available. Radio amateurs often have high interest but little working experience in professional emergency management.

Can't we all just get along? We're all trying! *Quelque chose ne va pas.* Никто никого не понимает. We all need each other to make this work but what we had been doing was useful in one way above all: it showed what not to do.

We started the BLACK SWAN annual communications exercise (COMEX) in 2017 with the idea of providing an operation framework in which radio amateurs could work, in particular so ARES and NTS volunteers could do "radio stuff" for their Simulated Emergency Test (SET) rather than exercise planning and management. By running the exercise from the perspective of an agency of the State of Ohio, we hoped to bring the disparate worlds of expertise together.

Throughout each exercise we learned a lot about technologies, operating contexts, and capabilities of the various organizations, agencies, and services that we would need to work through the kind of very-rare but very-high-impact events that have come to be known as "black swans." A kind of chronicle of our journey can be found on the web site [www.blackswancomex.org](http://www.blackswancomex.org).

At the start of July 2021, we launched a new HF network dubbed BLACK SWAN, taking what we learned in our first four years and establishing a system that stressed performance, interoperability, and reliability. We announced the changes and the multi-prong training program in these pages. (C. M. Curtin. "Farewell, Buckeye Net Mixed; Hello, BLACK SWAN Net!" *PostScript*, July 4, 2021) Three months later we delivered a kind of report card. (C. M. Curtin. "First Three Months of BLACK SWAN Net Operation." *PostScript*, November 1, 2021)

Now three years after that I can confirm that we have discovered a lot more of what not to do. Sometimes the way to find the right solution is just a matter of brute force and a program to learn from it. That program included keeping statistics of our operations. Our report of our first three months showed that we were going at a pace that would result in an annual rate of over 48 hours of on-air operation on two bands and 588 relays of messages of various precedence. Pretty respectable.

Just this week I completed the annual report of operations for the BLACK SWAN Net. The Adjutant General's Department of the State of Ohio runs from October through September, and I can now report that the most recent training year's numbers show steady and significant improvement over last year's, which were already well past "respectable."



<b><i>Metric</i></b>	<b><i>TY 2024</i></b>	<b><i>TY 2023</i></b>
HF Network Operating Time	194 hours, 19 minutes	166 hours, 18 minutes
Volunteer Hours	1534.95	1074.33
On-air contribution value	\$51,405.48	\$34,163.80
Stations reporting into the net	1406	1040
Unique stations in the net	65	30
Messages Relayed (total)	5115	4191
...precedence Z/Flash (delivery within 10 minutes of origination)	19	14
...precedence O/Immediate (delivery 30-60 minutes of origination)	272	139
...precedence P/Priority (delivery within 1-6 hours of origination)	563	356
...precedence R/Routine (delivery by start of next working day)	4261	3682

This report does not capture the many hours of training, preparation, and administration that goes into making the on-air operation work so well. In TY 2024, we conducted a 23-week training program to qualify volunteers to the Auxiliary Communicator (AUXC) standard that defines a resource specified by the National Qualification Standard (NQS) and available under the National Incident Management System (NIMS).

We just launched the next round of AUXC qualification as announced in these pages. (C. M. Curtin, “What Comes After DHS AUXCOMM Course?” *PostScript*. September 23, 2024) And we’re still running other parts of the training open to all announced back in July of 2021:

- QTC Mailing List: weekly training topic and discussion. <https://groups.io/g/QTC>
- Saturday, Sunday, Monday: on-air operations. <https://www.blackswancomex.org/net/>
- Monday: Release of the QSP Letter (sourced and distributed all by radio, now in its fourth year!) <https://www.blackswancomex.org/qsp>

My sincere thanks and appreciation go to everyone who has been part of this effort. I am happy to be training with you to enhance the security and resilience of our communities, the state of Ohio, and the nation.

---

## **ARLD042 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.

FIJI, 3D2. Theo, PA3CBH is QRV as 3D2TP from Viti Levu, IOTA OC-016, until December 12. Activity is on the HF bands using QRS CW and SSB with QRP power. QSL to home call.

PAKISTAN, AP. Tariq, AP2TN has been active on 10 meters using FT8 around 1300z. QSL to N4BAA.

SOUTH COOK ISLAND, E5. Operators LZ1GC and LZ5QZ are QRV as E51SGC from Rarotonga, IOTA OC-013, until November 24. Activity is on the HF bands. QSL via LZ1GC.

REUNION ISLAND, FR. Jean, F5SGI is QRV as FR/F5SGI until November 18. Activity is on 40 to 10 meters using CW. QSL via bureau.

SAINT MARTIN, FS. Aleksandr, EA8DBM will be QRV as FS/EA8DBM from November 10 to 13. Activity will be on the HF bands using CW and FT8. QSL via LoTW.

GUAM, KH2. Bob, N2OEF is QRV as KH2/N2OEF until November 13. Activity is on the HF bands from various POTA locations. QSL to home call.

SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE, S9. A large group of operators will be QRV as S9Z from Sao Tome, IOTA AS-023, from November 11 to 20. Activity will be on 160 to 6 meters, 70 centimeters EME, and on Satellite QO-100, using CW, SSB, and various digital modes. 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.

ST. KITTS AND NEVIS, V4. John, W5JON is QRV as V47JA from St. Kitts, IOTA NA-104, until November 15. Activity is on the HF bands using SSB and FT8. QSL direct to home call.

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

INDONESIA, YB. Special event station 8F01LMD will be QRV from November 9 to 10 for the 1st local conference of ORARI local Lamandau. Activity will be on 40 meters using SSB and on 2 meters using FM. QSL via operators' instructions.

KOSOVO, Z6. Rene, DL2JRM will be QRV as Z68XX during the Worked All Europe DX RTTY contest and as Z66BCC during the upcoming CQ World Wide DX CW contest. QSL both calls via DL2JRM.

ST. HELENA ISLAND, ZD7. Operators JM1GDA and JF3SFU are QRV as ZD7G and ZD7SFU, respectively, until November 24. Activity is on 30 to 10 meters using mostly FT8 and SSB with some CW. QSL direct to home calls.

CAYMAN ISLANDS, ZF. Andriy, W9KM is QRV as ZF2KM from Grand Cayman, IOTA NA-016, until November 12. Activity is holiday style on 30, 17, and 12 meters using CW and various modes. QSL via LoTW.

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

---

## Upcoming *Hamfests*



# Ohio Hamfests

## 2024& 2025

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

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

---



## DX This Week – #308

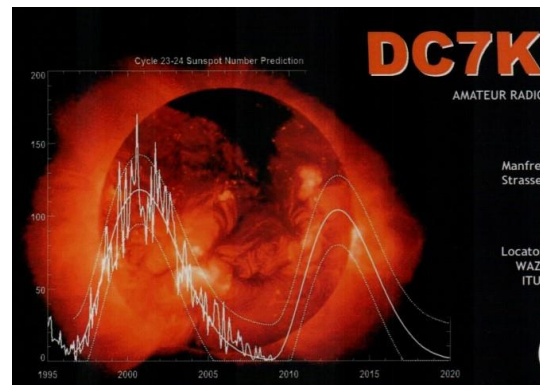
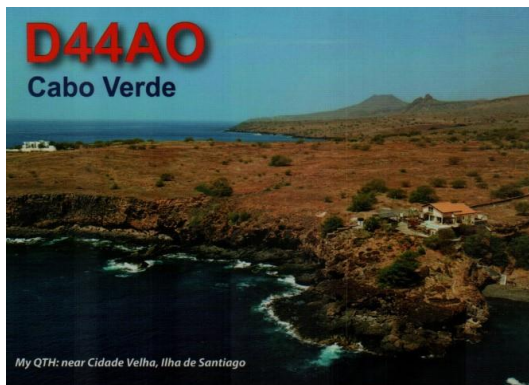
Bill - AJ8B ([thedxmentor@gmail.com](mailto:thedxmentor@gmail.com) / [www.aj8b.com](http://www.aj8b.com) )

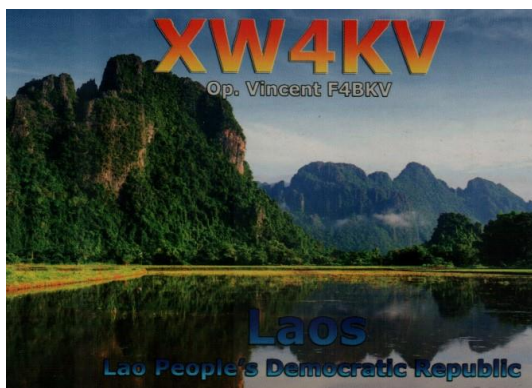
I received an email Bill, KB8DF. Bill asks “You have passed along some techniques for breaking through a pileup and it sounds like they mostly apply to CW. Is there a technique I should pay attention to for SSB?”

Great question Bill. What I had previously passed along works equally well for CW or SSB. However, there is one thing you might try for SSB only. Try alternating your phonetics. I have found that many times I will use Alpha Japan 8 Bravo and that is fine. However, there are times when a “harder” sound will work – something like Alpha Japan 8 BaKer. Give that a try and let me know!

I hope that helps! If you have a question, please send me an email at [TheDXMentor@gmail.com](mailto:TheDXMentor@gmail.com).

I received some cards from the QSL buro. They included D44AO from Cape Verde, Africa, DC7KM from Germany, XW4KV from Laos, and ZB2MD from Gibraltar. What did you receive?





DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH

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

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

Let's start off with an update on **VK9CV, Cocos (Keeling)**, which is currently QRV until November 15<sup>th</sup>. Activity will be on 160-6M using modes CW, SSB, RTTY, FT8, FT4, and PSK, as well as the QO-100 satellite. They are at three geographically dispersed locations, about 700 meters apart, so they can be on multiple bands at once. Per their website, they will upload logs to Club Log once per day. They will not be using Club Log Live Stream.

Since last night (Monday night), the wind has been intensifying. We need to take down some antennas (including the vertical for 160m and at least one Spiderbeam) because a major storm is approaching, and they are reinforcing the embankment where the antennas are set up. Therefore, it's very likely that only a few signals will be on the air in the evening and at night.

Two members have coughs and fevers (not COVID). They probably caught something on the plane.

Secondly, we have an update on the **XT2MD** Dxpedition to **Burkina Faso**. Now through November 10. They became QRV on October 31 around 2130 UTC, and The Daily DX reported in its November 1 issue that XT2MD has been reported on 80 and 10M FT8 and 40M CW. Their official spokesperson and social media content contact is MØOXO, Charles. Go to their QRZ page or their website for the latest information.

If you are chasing Islands on the Air, IOTA, then this is for you. From November 8-12, IOTA NA-066: San Nicolas Island, California will be activated. Weather and military flight priorities permitting, WC6DX, Will, plans to be active from San Nicolas Island (IOTA NA-066) November 8-12. San Nicolas Island is 98 kilometers from the mainland, making it the most remote island in California. Will notes that “While NA-066 is relatively common, San Nicolas is arguably the rarest California island, due to its status as a sensitive U.S. Navy facility.”

The only documented operation from San Nicolas Island was by two California radio amateurs operating as WZ6SNI for Armed Forces Day in, May 1971, 53 years ago. Will expects to be on 40-6M SSB, but may operate some CW. He will not use FT8 or any other digital modes. He plans to use guyed Buddipoles, owing to the strong winds blowing across the island. QSL instructions will be on his QRZ page AFTER the operation; that is, they are not yet posted. He says, however, that he will only send paper QSLs. “An island activated after 50 years deserves a paper card,” he says. Those who attend the IOTA Dinner at the International DX Convention in Visalia, California in April 2025 will hear the full story and see exclusive photos from this operation.

Starting in late November and lasting to mid-December: **VU4A, Andaman and Nicobar Islands** will be activated. W4VKU, Krish, is heading back to the Andaman Islands later this month into mid-December. He is hopeful to avoid the noise issues that plagued his VU4N DXpedition in January. Activity will be on SSB and FT8. “Equipment is about the same as the last trip; [I] may change the antenna plans slightly.” Krish has posted his targeted transmit frequencies on his QRZ page, along with more details about his operation and QSL policy.

The **3DAØDL** DXpedition to **Eswatini** experienced a storm on October 27: “rain and thunderstorms like we've never seen before” that caused a power outage

of several hours' duration. The QTH owners were worried about the antennas, but both spider beams came through fine. The team is posting periodic updates.

We have installed a monitoring system so that we don't miss any band openings. For this purpose, we have installed an SDR TRX on every antenna that is not currently connected to an active station making QSOs. This listens to the usual FT8 frequencies. The evaluator is an RPI with MSHV. Everything that happens on the FT8 frequencies is recorded. So it makes sense for us to be called regularly when band openings are observed at the respective location. We will then react immediately if our monitoring system displays signals.

In summary, call us regularly on the FT8 frequencies, then the monitoring system will be a success and hopefully many stations will come into the log, especially on 6 m.

OE1TRI, Tom, should be QRV from the **Maldives** until November 7. He will be operating with the temporary callsign **8Q7RI** from Kagi Island in the North Male Atoll. Tom is running QRP (5-8W) on 20, 15, and 10M SSB. QSL via the bureau, qrz.com, and eQSL.

As reported last week, 7M2SJE, Mick, plans to operate as **9M2/7M2SJE Malaysia** this month, using an ICOM IC-705 at 5W (and sometimes more) into a fishing rod antenna. He will be on the HF bands on SSB, CW and FT8. QSL via eQSL, Club Log, and LoTW.

We have three opportunities for you to work Antarctica. Here is the first.

Oleg Sakharov in Cape Town is prepping for the next season in Antarctica. He will leave South Africa on November 5 and will be at Wolf's Fang Runway (WAP MNB-12) as ZS7ANF. He may activate several new White Desert sites as well. Oleg will have a Yaesu FT-710, thanks to ZS2DL, Donovan, as ZS1ANF operates as ZS7ANF. He will also have a HLA-300 amplifier, a SteppIR vertical, and a City windom. Activity will be on 80-10M through February, with a two-week break during the New Year holiday. Most operation will be on CW; SSB schedules can be arranged. QSL via DL5EBE or RK1PWA; logs will be uploaded to LoTW.

The second chance is from FT4YM, David, who is also on his way to Antarctica, where he may be on the air in the beginning of this month.

Finally, the amateur radio “population explosion” on Antarctica continues as IZ1KHY/IAØ, Danilo Collino, is also heading down to the White Continent.

A few weeks from now HS0ZIB, aka XW0LP, G6JFY, Simon, returns to **Myanmar** where he has had the **XZ2A** callsign, to teach and do educational volunteer work. He will live in the city of Mandalay. Simon will apply for a renewal of the XZ2A operating permit but says "with the current civil war in Myanmar, I do not expect the military authorities to agree to this!" Attacks in Mandalay may be likely "some time early next year," with forces close to the city. He says teachers and most foreigners have already left. Simon concludes, "as an old man (!), I prefer to help others rather than sit on a sunny beach in Thailand."

Again, Andy, 5Z4VJ, expects to be on from **St. Helena**, as **ZD7VJ**, November 16-30 and is thinking of going single op single band 10M in the CQWW CW weekend. Outside the weekend he will also be mainly CW and "hopefully some low bands."

Updating his August info, F2DX, Patrick, says the F6KOP club expedition will be November 27 to December 8 with a team of eight: (Both F2DX and HB9GWJ as the leaders, F1ULQ the co-leader, and F4AZF, F8AAN, F5NTZ, F8EFU, F4FET, F8GGV, ON7RN, F5AGB, F4HHL, F4HAU, F1DHX and F4HRG) using the callsign **9L5A** in **Sierra Leone**. They plan 160-6M with six stations, plus one satellite station, all running on generator power. He says they will emphasize what he calls the "human modes," CW and SSB. The group has a cool logo, which perhaps will be on their QSL, featuring a "pygmy hippopotamus," that Patrick says "is found in only four African countries, including Sierra Leone."

If you are someone who likes podcasts and/or YouTube episodes, The DX Mentor has a new podcast featuring Ralph, K9ZO. Ralph is a great DXer and a great geographer. He shares some excellent insights into DX and geography.

## 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!

In preparation for the CQWW DX CW contest at the end of November, I thought I would share some CW help. Here is some information from the CWOPs organization website.

“In late 2009 a small group of CW operators – ragchewers, testers, and DXers – began talking about founding a new club. As these operators were from all three ITU regions, they decided from the outset that this club, unlike many, would be an international club from day one.

The CW Operators Club (CWops) was launched in January 2010. During those three years, the club grew from a handful, to a few hundred, to over 1000 members in over 70 countries. CWops, from the outset, was meant to be inclusive. Whether your preference was using CW for ragchewing, testing or chasing DX, you would find kindred spirits among the club's members.

At first, we established monthly on-air activities (CWTs), but today CWTs are held weekly on Wednesday. There are three 60-minute sessions each Wednesday at times that favor different geographic areas. By 2011, we had also



crafted a worldwide CW contest with many novel features (CW Open). The goal has been to stimulate worldwide weekly CW activity and to conduct an annual contest that could be won on a single band using modest power and wire antennas with a time commitment of only four hours! These events are open to CW operators whether members of the club or not.

We realized that there were a lot of hams who wanted to explore the joys of CW operating but felt overwhelmed. Some of them knew Morse but were only able to copy and send at low speeds. Others had not yet learned 'the code,' but were intrigued by the mode and sought ways to learn and practice it. In response to this demand, CWops created CW Academy in 2012, which uses a developed curriculum, proven method of teaching and Skype for a virtual classroom to teach Morse Code.

We truly believe that CW is far more than a nostalgic throwback to the early days of ham radio. It has relevance in many ways to our desire to do things that not everyone else can do; and to provide an efficient, effective mode for communicating with others around the globe. We invite you to explore our Website; to participate in our on-air activities; or if your goal is to learn or improve CW skills, to sign up for CW Academy and join the hundreds of hams who have already done so.”

There is a nomination process as well as a 25 WPM code requirement. Check [www.cwops.org](http://www.cwops.org) for more details! How do you get to 25 WPM? Stay tuned for the next installment!

Contest	Start Date	End 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

# OHIO'S



First and foremost, Veteran's Day is upon us and we should take the time to pause and thank all of those who have served our nation through their service. In addition to those who have served in the military, I personally believe we should extend that appreciation to others who have or are presently serving in other areas. Such organizations as the Volunteers In Service to America, the Diplomatic and the Peace Corps. Thanks to each of you for your service.

When you read this you will note the Ohio's South 40 has seen its final hamfest/swap meet for the year with the **Grant RC**'s hamfest in Georgetown. The region even saw a new one when the **Vinton County ARA** held their first one at McArthur. I fully expect to see a repeat of this one in 2025. The next swap will be one after the first of the year in Shade, OH sponsored by the **Sunday Creek ARF**. If you really want to get another one in before the end of 2024, you might check out the Fort Wayne one this coming weekend. Of course HamCation is always a good one to attend if you want a mix of ham radio and the Orlando's pleasant February weather.



November 16 would normally see the **Lancaster-Fairfield County ARA** meeting at the Lancaster Frisch's. However recent articles in the Cincinnati Enquirer and Columbus Dispatch indicate a lawsuit has shuttered that Frisch's location. Hopefully they will have a new meeting location soon. Also on the 16<sup>th</sup>, at 10 am the **Fayette ARA** gathers at the Ranchers in Washington CH. Hams in the lower Scioto River Valley gather each Friday morning about 9 am at Barlow's restaurant near Lucasville for breakfast.

The **Portsmouth RC** has set their annual Christmas dinner and auction for November 30 at the Gathering Place in Wheelersburg. Gary Caldwell already has plans for his always entertaining

mystery prize auction. The **Clinton County ARA** will observe the season with their annual carry-in. This year it will be on December 5 at Wilmington's Boyd Cancer Center conference room and will get stated at 6:30. 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 catered 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 for a cash prize. You do not have to be a HARA member to attend. In fact, representatives from other clubs are invited to attend.

Pike County now has a new ham. Jacob Pfeifer of Waverly is now KF8CNN. Let's all welcome him.

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 part event spread over two weekends. It is often referred to as the "premier domestic contest in the US and Canada". Saturday, November 2 until Monday November 4 marks the CW part with the Phone portion starting on Saturday, November 16 and ending on Monday the 18<sup>th</sup>. 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 [www.arrl.org/sweepstakes](http://www.arrl.org/sweepstakes) for more information. I hope to see you on the air and in each other's logs.



It's been a busy amateur radio last couple of weeks with attendance at hamfests in Georgetown, McArthur and Massillon. In addition N8ZNR and I attended the meetings of the **Scioto Valley ARA**, the **Portsmouth RC**, the **Highland ARA** and the **Clinton County ARA**. I find it is always enjoyable to get out and visit other clubs and their activities. It is also interesting to see how others conduct their meetings, to hear about events, see some neat programs, but mostly to meet and chat with new hams and those who have been on forever plus see folks not seen for a while. Why not make it a goal in 2025 to get out of that easy chair and the Wheel of Fortune and gather up some of you fellow ham buddies and attend the meeting of the club on the other side of the county line? I think once you do it once, you will do it again.

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

Again, Thanks to our veterans.

John Levo, W8KIW

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

---

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

(By Anthony Luscre, K8ZT) As of February 17, 2015, the FCC no longer routinely issues paper license documents to Amateur Radio applicants and licensees. The Commission has maintained for some time now that the official Amateur Radio license authorization is the electronic record that exists in its Universal Licensing System (ULS). The FCC will continue to provide paper license documents to all licensees who notify the Commission that they prefer to receive one. Licensees also will be able to print out an official authorization — as well as an unofficial “reference copy” — from the ULS License Manager. I’ve created a set of instructions on how you can request an “official” printed copy of your license\*



[Click here to download the instructions](https://arrl-ohio.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/print_your_license.pdf)

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

### Ohio Section Cabinet

Section Manager – Tom Sly, WB8LCD	Section Traffic Manager – Dan Rinaman AC8NP
Section Emergency Coordinator – Bret Stemen KD8SCL	Section Youth Coordinator – Anthony Luscre, K8ZT
Technical Coordinator – Jeff Kopcak, K8JTK	Affiliated Clubs Coordinator – Amanda Farone –

	KC3GFU
State Government Liaison – Bob Winston, W2THU	Public Information Coordinator – Elizabeth Kline - KE8FMJ



Hey Gang,

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

Do you have equipment that you just don't need or want anymore? Here's a great venue to advertise it, and it's FREE!! Is your club doing a fund raiser to help raise money? After a lot of thought, it was decided that the Swap & Shop webpage could also contain these types of items as well. The same rules will apply as do for the For Sales and Give-A-Ways and will only be posted for a month at a time. Please see the Terms & Conditions on the webpage.

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

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

---

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

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

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



---

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

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

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

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

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



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

---

## ***Chit – Chat, and All That!***

Do you know someone that's not getting these Newsletters? Please, forward a copy of this Newsletter over to them and have them "[Opt-In](#)" to start receiving them. Heck, just have them send an email to: [webmaster@arrrl-ohio.org](mailto:webmaster@arrrl-ohio.org) and we'll get them added to the Ohio Section Emailing list.



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





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

You can go back at any time and read them.

Just go to:

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

---

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