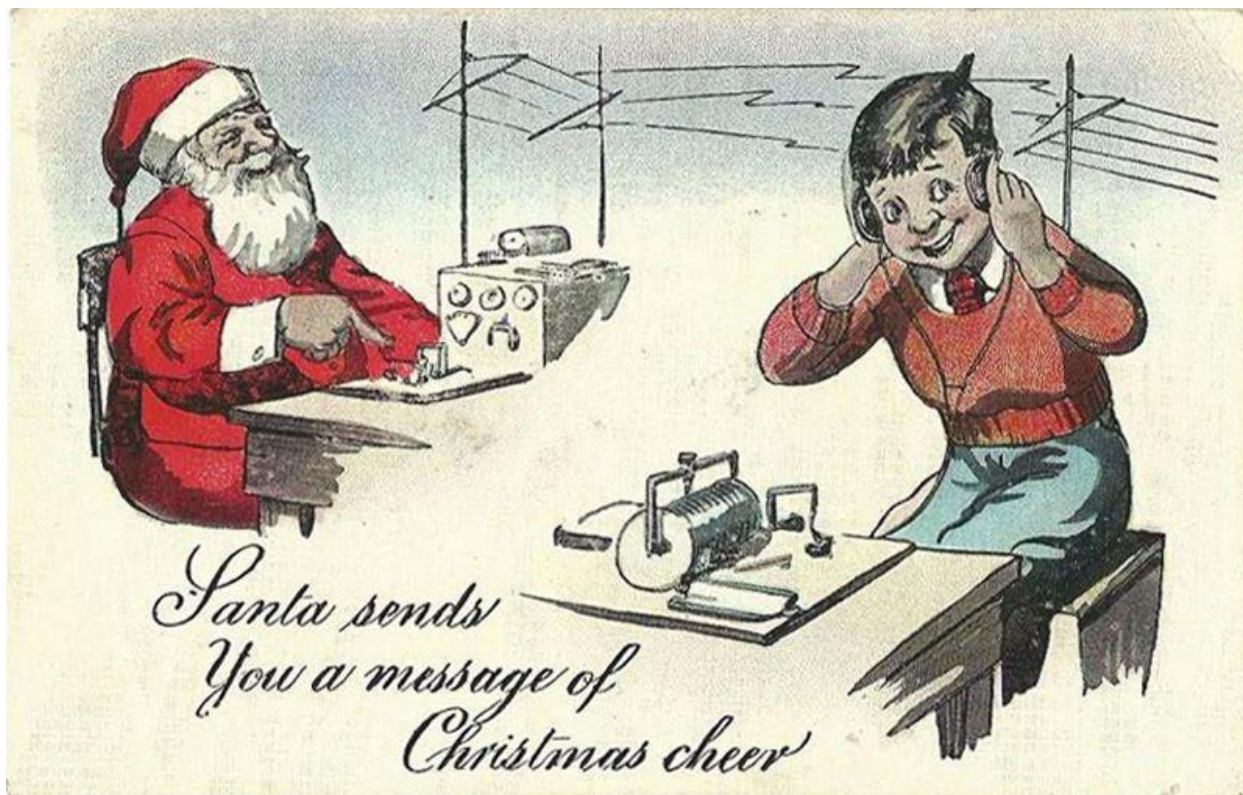




December 2024

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***From the Technical
Coordinator***

Jeff Kopcak – K8JTK TC
K8JTK@arrl.net

Hey gang,

I went back and looked. It has [been quite a while](#) since I've ragged on Baofeng radios in the OSJ. If you're a new ham or new reader, Baofeng radios sucked in terms of spectral efficiency. Like most things, the

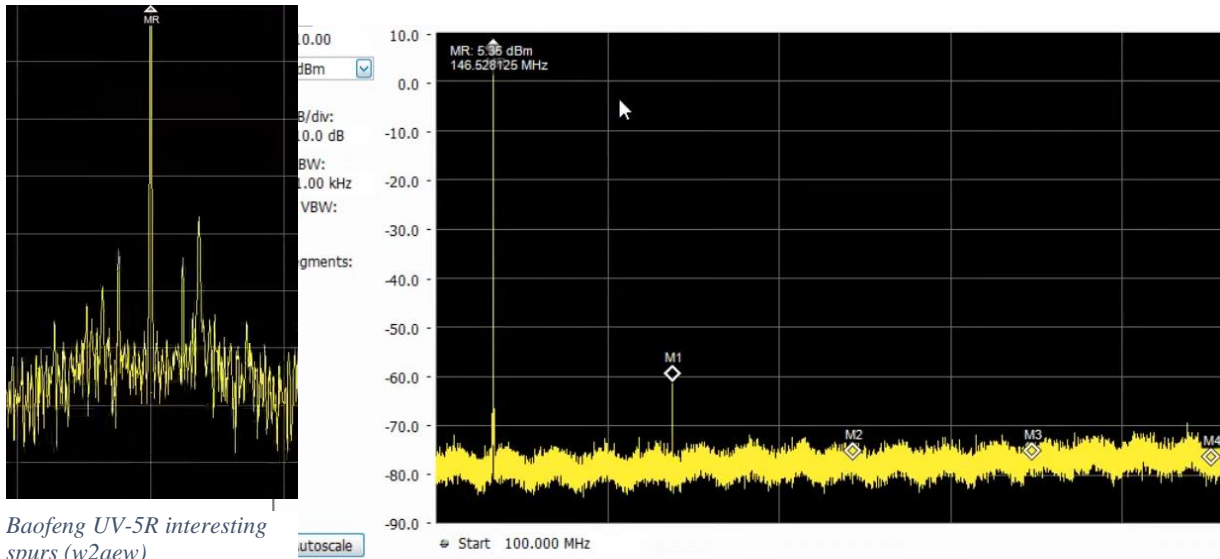
market is being flooded by cheap Chinese alternatives. The thought of a \$30 radio (back then, the big A now has for \$17 as of this writing) is very appealing to many hams. Whether due to price consciousness or that the radio can be trashed if it gets damaged. No one is going to lose sleep if it goes missing or gets destroyed.

The radio works pretty well. The battery lasts a long time on a charge. Audio reports were good. Sure, programming was a pain because the menu made little sense, and two radios likely didn't operate the same. Everybody and their brother was (and still is) saying how great Baofengs are.

When the output of the transmitter was analyzed, they were not so great. Baofengs had this nasty habit of transmitting everywhere at once. They had spurious emissions up and down the RF spectrum which interferes with other licensed services. Part 97 specifies spurious emissions for radios must be 40 dB below the fundamental emission. Some [videos show](#) spurious emissions only -19 dBm from the fundamental. Clean spectrum and self-regulation be damned but zOMG, \$17!!!

I have not bought any more or transmitted using the ones I have since they gained their poor reputation for harmonics and emissions. Some YouTube videos I've seen recently say UV-5R RF performance is 'better.' I don't believe it, but color me intrigued. Maybe they've finally cleaned up their act.





Baofeng UV-5R interesting spurs (w2aew)

Alan - W2AEW, Technical Coordinator for the Northern New Jersey section, has his own [YouTube channel](#) and it is fantastic.

Marker	Frequency	Δ Frequency	Spectrum 1	Δ Spectrum 1
MR	146.528125 MHz		5.35 dBm	
M1	293.046875 MHz	146.51875 MHz	-60.77 dBm	-66.11 dB
M2	439.565625 MHz	293.0375 MHz	-76.57 dBm	-81.92 dB
M3	586.084375 MHz	439.55625 MHz	-76.41 dBm	-81.76 dB
M4	732.603125 MHz	586.075 MHz	-77.71 dBm	-83.06 dB

Baofeng UV-5R spectral analysis on 2m (w2aew)

Very detailed videos on many technical topics including antenna building and tuning, using NanoVNAs, demos, tips, and electronic components. His [latest video](#) (as of this writing) analyzes the RF characteristics of a recent Baofeng UV-5R purchased about a year and a half ago.

His video shows RF performance is actually compliant. On 2m, he shows the second harmonic is -60 dBm down. The third and remaining harmonics are all in the noise floor (-77 dBm or greater). On 440 shows the second and third harmonics in the noise floor. Much better than I expected. Alan goes on to do additional analysis. RF output vs time is clean. His radio stabilizes on the final output frequency cleanly within +/- 30ms. PL tone is stable and clean too.

Alan did find spurious sidebands 75 kHz away from the carrier, which is outside the passband of narrowband FM. He speculates there is a switching supply or regulator internal to the radio causing the wideband FM modulation.

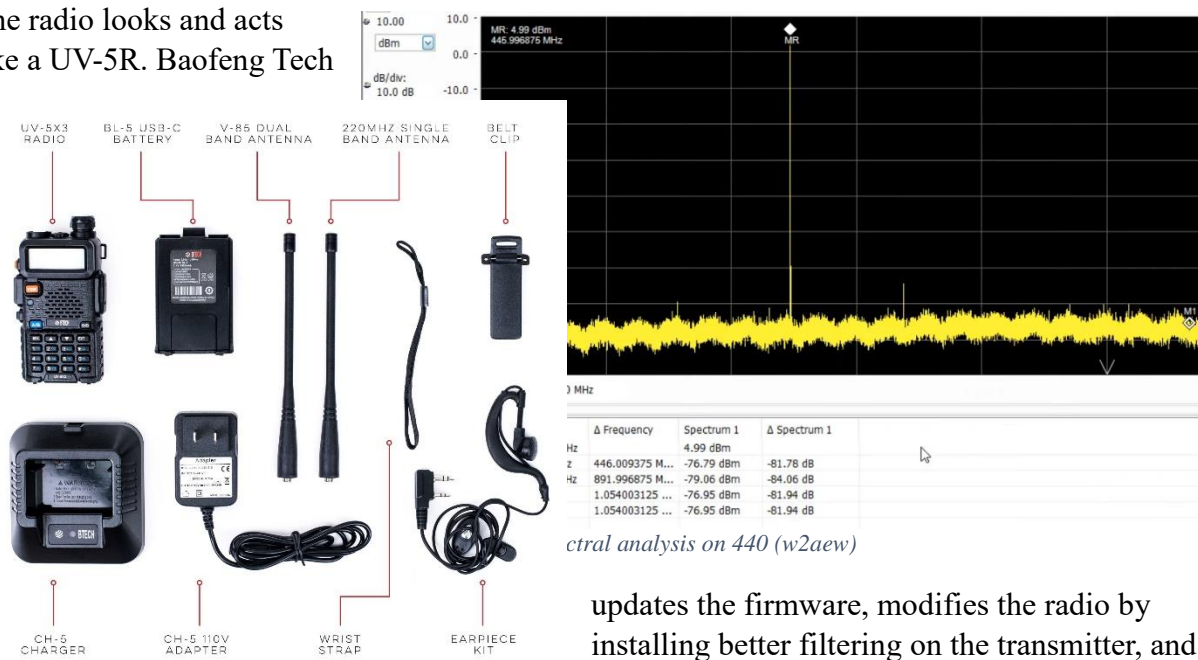
Before everyone goes stockpiling UV-5Rs because of this news, this is a sample size of one radio. Maybe the radio Alan tested is one of the 'good ones' and the rest still stink. Don't know. Other recent videos, where they put the radio on an analyzer, seem to indicate newer UV-5Rs are cleaner than previous generations. This result also does not mean ALL Baofeng models have clean RF output. [A video by K8MRD](#) shows the UV-5RM is as bad as the old UV-5Rs, in more ways than just RF performance.

What radio should someone buy that definitely meets Part 97 RF requirements and doesn't break the bank? DX Engineering has three dual-band HT options for under \$100 at the moment: a

Yaesu FT-4XR for \$85, an Alinco DJ-VX50T for \$90, and a Yaesu FT-65R for \$99. I'm sure others can be found as part of Black Friday deals as well.

For something a little cheaper, a company called "Baofeng Tech," or BTEch, is a US based company offering the [UV-5X3](#) for \$65! They have comparable offerings to other Baofeng models too. Baofeng Tech not only sells improved Baofeng radios but they also directly support their products.

The radio looks and acts like a UV-5R. Baofeng Tech



Baofeng Tech UV-5X3 radio and accessories (baofengtech.com)

central analysis on 440 (w2aew)

updates the firmware, modifies the radio by installing better filtering on the transmitter, and includes an easy-to-read, nicely printed, 85-page manual. The UV-5X3 comes with the same accessories including belt clip, antennas, charger, and ear piece. All original Baofeng

accessories work too. To my surprise, they even squeezed in the 220 MHz (1.25m) band into the radio making it a tri-band radio!

Baofeng Tech assured me their radios meet spectral requirements for Part 97. The one I picked up tested good on VHF and spot-on for UHF. I feel very comfortable transmitting with this radio knowing it is compliant. The CHIRP free programming software will program the UV-5X3. If you're into the RT Systems programmers, the BTS-5X3 programmer is needed. The RT UV-5R programmer (BAO-5R) will not work with the UV-5X3. However, the same cable (USB-K4Y) is needed and will work on both radios.

The [West Chester Amateur Radio Association](#) – WC8VOA, was not able to hold their club meeting at the VOA faculty for November as construction projects are in full swing, including redoing the blacktop. Their original presenter for November didn't want to present over Zoom so they were looking for a last-minute fill-in. I filled in giving my presentation on Ham radio VoIP (Voice over IP) modes and my system used for their weekly net. This presentation covers the history and current state of Internet linking systems in Ham Radio, both analog and digital.

The second half covers my DVMIS system and how I link 13 Ham Radio VoIP systems together. Join [WCARA's weekly net](#) Monday evenings at 8pm.

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

From the Section Emergency Coordinator
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ICS Structure and ARES

In the early 1970s, a disorganized and ineffective multi-partner response to a series of major wildfires in Southern California prompted municipal, county, state, and federal fire authorities to form an organization known as Firefighting RESources of California Organized for Potential Emergencies (FIRESCOPE). FIRESCOPE identified many specific problems involving multi-partner responses. These included poor overall organization, ineffective communication between agencies, lack of accountability, and lack of a single, universal, and well-defined command structure.

Their efforts to address these difficulties resulted in the development of the original Incident Command System. The system ultimately evolved into an all-risk system appropriate for all types of fire and non-fire emergencies.

There are other versions of the ICS in use, but the ICS, as developed by the National Fire Academy (NFA), has been widely recognized as a model tool for the command, control, and coordination of resources and personnel at the scene of an emergency, and is used by most fire, police, and other agencies around the country. The use of the ICS is now required by various federal laws for all hazardous material incidents and, in other situations, by many state and local laws. The ICS has also been adopted for use in many other countries.

Looking at a larger scale, the success of the ICS also led to the development of protocols that would guide whole regions of the country, including non-government responders. This became NIMS.

NIMS

NIMS provides a systematic, proactive approach to guiding departments and agencies at all

levels of government, nongovernmental organizations, and the private sector to work seamlessly to prevent, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate the effects of incidents,

regardless of cause, size, location, or complexity, to reduce the loss of life, property, and harm to the environment.

NIMS works hand in hand with the National Response Framework (NRF). NIMS provides the template for managing incidents, while the NRF provides the structure and mechanisms for national-level policy for incident management.

The ICS is a management tool designed to bring multiple response agencies, including those from different jurisdictions, together under a single overall command structure. Under ICS, each partner recognizes one lead coordinating partner, and that person will handle one or more tasks that are part of a single overall plan and interact with other agencies in defined ways.

The ICS is based upon simple and proven business management principles. In a business or government partner, managers and leaders perform the basic daily tasks of planning, directing, organizing, coordinating, communicating, delegating, and evaluating. The same is true for the ICS, but the responsibilities are often shared among several agencies. These tasks — or functional areas, as they are known in the ICS — are performed under the overall direction of a single Incident Commander (IC) in a coordinated manner, even with multiple agencies and across jurisdictional lines. The ICS also features common terminology, structure scalability, and clear lines of authority.

What the ICS Is Not

ICS is not:

- A fixed and unchangeable system for managing an incident.
- A means to take control or authority away from agencies or departments that participate in the response.
- A way to subvert the normal chain of command within a department or partner.
- Always managed by the fire department or the first partner to arrive on scene.
- Too big and cumbersome to be used in small, everyday events.
- Restricted to use by government agencies and departments.

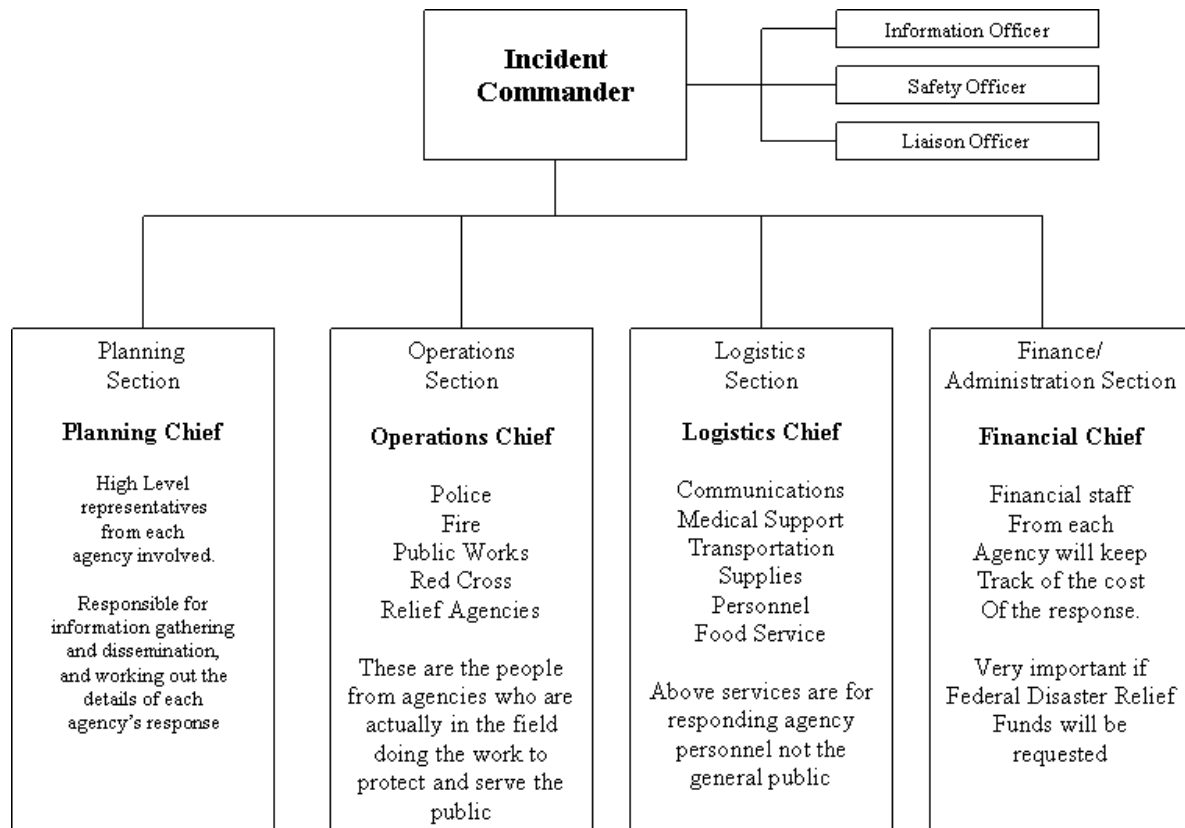


Diagram of Incident Command Organizational Structure (ICS)

The ICS Structure:

The ICS has two interrelated parts. They are management by objectives and the organizational structure.

Management by Objectives:

Four essential steps are used in developing a response to every incident, regardless of size or complexity:

- Understand the policies, procedures, and statutes that affect the official response.
- Establish incident objectives (the desired outcome of the agencies' efforts).
- Select appropriate strategies for cooperation and resource utilization.
- Apply tactics most likely to accomplish objectives (assign the correct resources and monitor the results).

The complexity of the incident will determine how formally the management by objectives will be handled. If the incident is small and uncomplicated, the process can be handled by oral communication between the appropriate people. As the incident and response become more complex, differences between the individual agencies or departments' goals, objectives, and methods will need to be resolved in writing.

The ICS Structure: Organizational Structure

The ICS supports the creation of a flexible organizational structure that can be modified to meet changing conditions. Under the ICS, the one person in charge is always called the Incident Commander (IC). In large responses, the IC may have a Command Staff consisting of the Information, Safety, and Liaison Officers. In a smaller incident, the IC may also handle one, two, or all three of these positions if they are needed at all.

Various other tasks within the ICS are subdivided into four major operating sections: Planning, Operations, Logistics, and Finance/Administration. Each operating section has its own chief and may have various branches or units working on specific goals.

These operating sections may be scaled up or down, depending on the situation. In a small, single-partner response, the IC may handle many or all functions. As the size and complexity of a response increase, and as other agencies become involved, the various tasks can be reassigned and subdivided. For instance, if the only responding partner is the fire department, communications will be handled according to existing department policies. If the incident expands, more agencies become involved, and other communication assets are required. A Logistics Chief may handle communication decisions along with other tasks or assign the job to a communication unit leader directly or through a service branch director as his own workload increases.

The Incident Commander

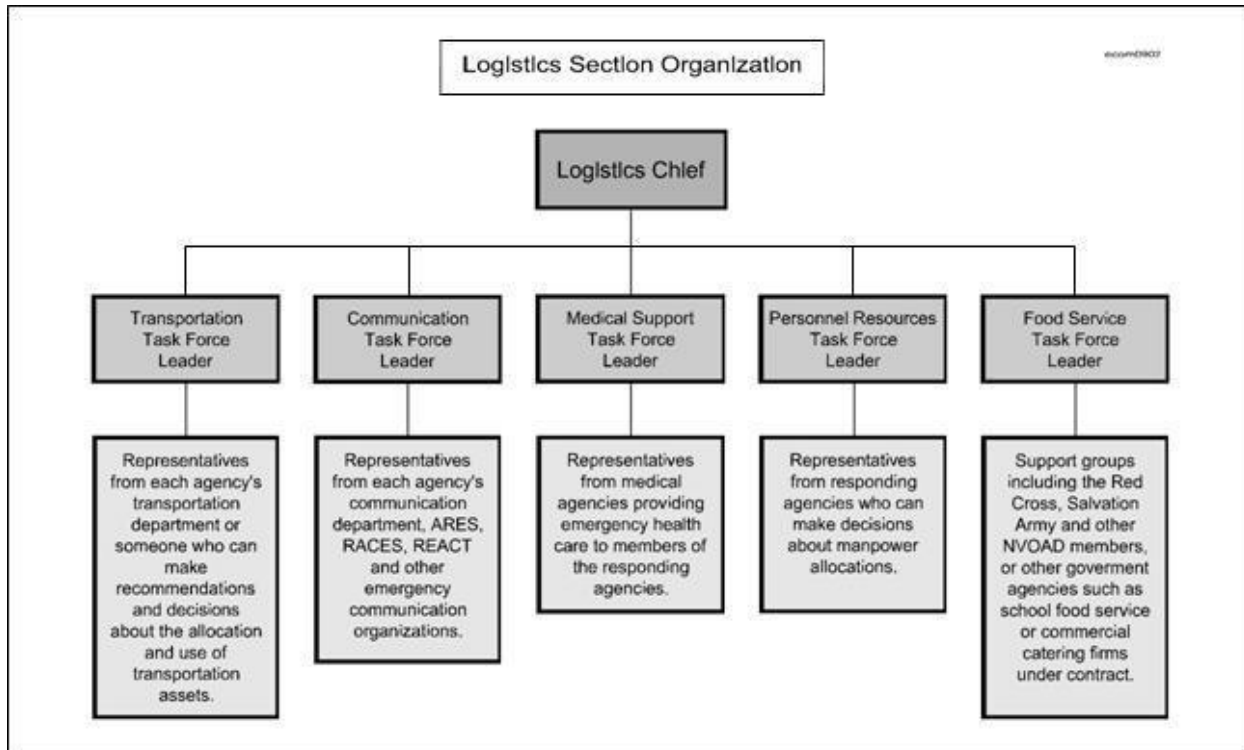
The initial IC is usually the most senior officer on the scene from the first responding partner. The IC is responsible for managing the incident and starts the process by helping to set initial incident objectives, followed by an Incident Action Plan (IAP). In a small incident, the IC may perform all the ICS functions without aid, but in a larger incident, he or she will usually delegate responsibilities to others. The IC is still responsible for the incident, regardless of any duties delegated.

The persons filling certain ICS positions may change several times during an incident as the needs of the response change.

How Does an Emergency Communications Group Fit into the ICS?

ICS is used by invitation only in any incident. There are no roles for off-the-street volunteers.

The relationship of an emergency communications group to the ICS structure will vary with the specific situation. If your group is providing internal communication support to only one responding partner and has no need to communicate with other agencies that are part of the ICS, you may not have any part in the ICS structure itself except through your partners. If your group is tasked with handling inter-partner communications or serves more than one partner's internal communication needs, it is likely your group will have a representative on the Logistics Section's communication unit. In certain situations, an emergency communications group might serve one or more agencies simultaneously. As the responsibility for managing the incident shifts from one partner to another, the emergency communications group's mission may shift to assisting the new lead partner or simply end. In some cases, your group might begin by supporting your own partners and end up supporting a new and unfamiliar partner. The choice of whether to use your emergency communications group's services may be made by the partners, Communication Unit Leader, Service Branch Director, Logistics Chief, or IC, depending on the specific situation and the degree of ICS structure in use.



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

From the Section Youth Coordinator
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Ham Holiday Ideas & New Year's Resolutions

It's time to assemble your New Year's resolutions as we end another year. Let me make a few Ham Radio suggestions (with strained Initialisms/Acronyms):



- **NBCHRS-** Night Before Christmas Ham Radio Style. End December on a fun note with a short video https://youtu.be/c_9REVC4dte. Make sure you share it with your ham radio friends and family.
- **GOTAMO-** Get On The Air More Often! You will not regret it, as you meet new friends, learn more and have more fun.
 - If you are recently licensed, I co-present two programs for new VHF/UHF Operators and new HF Operators. Each has 4+ hours of recorded video. For more details, visit- tiny.cc/bghfvhf.
 - **If you are interested in VHF/UHF-**

- Consider a local net. I have a list of Northeast Ohio Nets- tiny.cc/nehnets. You can use the [ARRL Online Net Directory](http://www.arrl.org/online-net-directory) to find nets in your specific area or around the country.

An attempt to provide an organized list of local (Northeast Ohio) Amateur Radio nets in the 70 cm, 2, 6 and 10 meter bands
The list below is a start, but it is far from complete. Please help us add new nets and update changes.
If you are aware of corrections or wish to submit additions to this list, please e-mail them to: k8zt@arrl.net and they will be included. Thanks and 73! - Anthony, K8ZT & Frank, W8EZT - last updated 2023-12-12

Share page with this link tiny.cc/nehnets

For additional nets around the state and country use the [ARRL ONLINE NET DIRECTORY: www.arrl.org/online-net-directory-search](http://www.arrl.org/online-net-directory-search)

Day of Week	Time (Local)	Time (GMT)	Frequency	Call	Type	Description	Website
Monday	7:00 AM		147.39+ (114.8Hz)	WBWKY	General	Barometer Net in Doylestown, Ohio	https://webku.org/barometer-net-70cm-147.39/
	7:30 PM		147.030+ (444.925+ linked)	WBEOC	General	Medina 2 Meter Group Net	http://w8eoc.org
	7:30 PM		444.55+ (Backup 442.5+) See website for Times	W8ODJ	ARES	Summit County ARES Net	http://www.summitares.org/repeater.php
	7:30 PM		147.21+	N8BC	ARES	Lake County ARES Training Net	www.lcara.org
	7:30 PM		145.410- (224.48-[141.3], 442.225+[131.8] linked)	W8PRC	General	Parma Radio Club (1st and 3rd Monday of the month)	www.parmaradioclub.com
	8:00 PM		145.15-	W8BIQJ	Specialized	Digital Discussion Roundtable (trends in digital modes)	
	8:00 PM		146.73-		General	TUSCO ARC	http://tuscoarc.org
	8:00 PM		147.27+ (444.200+ linked)	W8VPV	News	CFARC presentation of Amateur Radio Newsline	www.cfarc.org
	8:30 PM		147.27+ (444.850+ PL 100.8 is linked)	W8VPV	General	CFARC 2 meter net	www.cfarc.org
	8:30 PM				ARES	Ohio ARES DMR Net (TG: 3139)	
	9:00 PM			147.015+	W8OKE	General	Newberry Net
9:30 PM			Rotates by Week of Month 1st. 58.278 (6M) 2nd. 28.368 (18M) 3rd. 7.187 (48M) 4th. 3.827 (88M) When there is a 5th Monday band rotates see website)	W8VPV	General	CFARC HF Net (starting in Sept 2020 the HF net band will rotate each week, see calendar for frequencies)	www.cfarc.org
9:30 PM			147.150+	K8BED	Traffic	Burning River Traffic Net (Elyria)	www.qsl.net/brtn
Tuesday	7:00 AM		147.39+ (114.8Hz)	WBWKY	General	Barometer Net in Doylestown, Ohio	https://webku.org/barometer-net-70cm-147.39/
	7:00 PM		147.12+	W8SAYE	ARES	Stark County AES & Newsline (Check in twice a month to stay on roster)	www.wd8aye.net
	7:45 PM		146.94-	W8CWO	Weather	Steubenville-Weirton area Skywarn Weather Net (approx. 15 minutes duration)	www.swarc.net
	8:00 PM		145.41 (224.48-[141.3], 442.225+[131.8])	K8BWLW/ K8BRS	General	Cuyahoga County ARES (1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month)	https://ccares.us
	8:00 PM		147.39+	AB8GO	News	Silvercreek Amateur Radio Club - Newsline	https://w8wky.org
	8:00 PM		147.51	K8OMO	Specialized	Homeland Security Net Monthly Net (LAST Tuesday of each month) WBLKY Alliance Amateur Radio Club	http://w8lky.org
	7:00 PM		3.902 LSB +/-			Ohio ARES HF	
	8:30 PM		147.39+	AB8GO	General	Silvercreek Amateur Radio Club Net	https://w8wky.org
	8:00 PM		444.68	ARES	ARES	Portage Emergency Net (simplex) ??? STA# US232	

- Monitor 146.520 Nation FM Calling frequency
- Try ARRL VHF/UHF Contesting-
 - *January VHF*
 - *June VHF*
 - *September VHF*
- **If you are interested in HF (even as a Technician)-**
 - Making QSOs
 - SSB
 - Digital
 - CW
 - 10 Meters Fun For All

- **HAYGOTA-** Help a Youth Get On The Air (see below).
- **GANAL-** Get A New Amateur License.
 - If you have your Tech License, join us for a free online General License upgrade class starting Jan 14th. For more details, visit this link tiny.cc/beahamg.
 - Also, take a look at tiny.cc/new-ham for “Ham Radio Intro & Quick Start Guide.”
- **MANARO-** Mentor A New Amateur Radio Operator. Invite a newly licensed or upgraded ham to your shack to make their first QSOs with their new privileges. Help install a new antenna, set up a new radio, interface a radio to a computer, set up a new mode, help them learn to contest, etc.
- **LOGGING-** If you are not using an electronic log or keeping any log at all, now is the time to get started. Visit my presentation “Logging- General & Contesting” video youtu.be/rosWKUNop7Q & slideshow tiny.cc/logsw.
- **QSLing-** Handle your outstanding QSLs. If you are not set up for online QSLing visit my presentation “Online QSLing” video <https://youtu.be/VqOFt3wyETk> and slideshow <http://tiny.cc/qx3>.
- **PROGRAM-** Schedule a program for your local club with me. I would happily do any of the sessions from my list at tiny.cc/k8zt-p either in person or via Zoom or other online tools, depending on your location and my schedule.
- **ATTEND / JOIN / MINGLE-** Join a local radio club, attend a meeting of a club you already belong to and find clubs & hams in your area. Video- youtu.be/MxLcg_fKAYY & slideshow- tiny.cc/findar.
- **Ham Radio Holiday Gift Ideas**
 - Ham Radio Youth Resources Website- www.k8zt.com/youth
 - RATPAC Holiday Gift Guide- includes youth including books & other ideas
 - Join us live via Zoom at 9 PM on Wednesday, December 4th at www.k8zt.com/youth



- Video Recording tiny.cc/ratpac-list
- Slideshow- tiny.cc/argifts24



- **CQ DX MARATHON-** This annual, year-long contest is a great way to work more DX. If you are a newer HF operator, it is a great way to earn your first [DXCC](#). I think it is even more fun if you already have a high DXCC total, as it is an opportunity to start from zero each year with everyone a new one for the Marathon. Visit the website for details- <https://dxmarathon.com> and watch a live presentation by the program director- Mark, WC3W, at 9:00 PM on Dec 11, 2024, at www.ratpac.us/zoom.



- **SET GOALS-** One of the best ways to increase your Amateur Radio activity for the coming year is to set goals and/or use a checklist of items. Maybe a contact a day, work all states, work DXCC, check into a newt for 12 consecutive weeks, etc. Below is one I created last year. Share it with your club and ham friends; you can even turn it into a friendly competition.

Band Worked	Mode Worked	Activity (or mode of op)
<input type="checkbox"/> - 2,200 M (135 kHz)	<input type="checkbox"/> - SSB	<input type="checkbox"/> - Repeater QSO (2 M and up)
<input type="checkbox"/> - 630 M (472 kHz)	<input type="checkbox"/> - CW	<input type="checkbox"/> - Repeater QSO (10 or 6 M)
<input type="checkbox"/> - 160 M (1.8 MHz)	<input type="checkbox"/> - AM	<input type="checkbox"/> - Simplex FM QSO (VHF/UHF)
<input type="checkbox"/> - 80/75 M (3.5/3.8 MHz)	<input type="checkbox"/> - FM	<input type="checkbox"/> - SSB QSO (VHF/UHF)
<input type="checkbox"/> - 60 M (5.3 MHz)	<input type="checkbox"/> - PSK (31, 63)	<input type="checkbox"/> - CW Contact
<input type="checkbox"/> - 40 M (7 MHz)	<input type="checkbox"/> - FT4	<input type="checkbox"/> - Contest Contact
<input type="checkbox"/> - 30 M (10.1 MHz)	<input type="checkbox"/> - FT8	<input type="checkbox"/> - Satellite and/or EME Contact
<input type="checkbox"/> - 20 M (14 MHz)	<input type="checkbox"/> - Other WSJT- X Modes (FSK441, JT6M, JT65, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/> - Fox Hunt (ARDF)
<input type="checkbox"/> - 17 M (18 MHz)	<input type="checkbox"/> - JS8call	<input type="checkbox"/> - WinLink Contact
<input type="checkbox"/> - 15 M (21 MHz)	<input type="checkbox"/> - Packet (AX25)/APRS	<input type="checkbox"/> - EchoLink Contact
<input type="checkbox"/> - 12 M (24.9 MHz)	<input type="checkbox"/> - SSTV or Fast Scan ATV	<input type="checkbox"/> - WAS (work all 50 states)
<input type="checkbox"/> - 10 M (28 MHz)	<input type="checkbox"/> - Digital FM- DMR, D-Star, Fusion, etc.) or Hotspots	<input type="checkbox"/> - Work 50 countries
<input type="checkbox"/> - 6 M (50 MHz)		<input type="checkbox"/> - Work 100 countries
<input type="checkbox"/> - 2 M (144 MHz)	<input type="checkbox"/> - Pactor, Clover, Olivia, Throb, DominoEX, MT63, Thor, AMTOR, etc.	<input type="checkbox"/> - WAC- Work All Continents
<input type="checkbox"/> - 1.25 M (222 MHz)		<input type="checkbox"/> - POTA (Parks On The Air) or SOTA (Summits On The Air) Chaser Contact
<input type="checkbox"/> - 75 cm (440 MHz)	<input type="checkbox"/> - FAX or Hellschreiber	
<input type="checkbox"/> - 33 cm (902 MHz)	Club	<input type="checkbox"/> - POTA or SOTA Activation
<input type="checkbox"/> - Higher Microwave Bands	<input type="checkbox"/> - Attend an ARC meeting	<input type="checkbox"/> - POTA Activator
Build or Install	<input type="checkbox"/> - Present at ARC meeting	<input type="checkbox"/> - Work you State QSO party
<input type="checkbox"/> - New VHF/UHF Antenna	<input type="checkbox"/> - Head a committee	Build/Test/Repair

<input type="checkbox"/> - New HF Antenna	<input type="checkbox"/> - Attend a Hamfest	<input type="checkbox"/> - Electronics Kit or Homebrew
<input type="checkbox"/> - New Mobile Radio	<input type="checkbox"/> - Teach a Licensing Class or be a VE	<input type="checkbox"/> - Use an Antenna Analyzer or nano-VNA to measure
<input type="checkbox"/> - New Mobile Antenna	<input type="checkbox"/> - Mentor a new ham	<input type="checkbox"/> - Fix non-working Radio
<input type="checkbox"/> - Computer/Radio Interface	<input type="checkbox"/> - Write a newsletter article	<input type="checkbox"/> - Arduino, Rasp Pi microprocess Proejct or Program
<input type="checkbox"/> - New Operating Desk	<input type="checkbox"/> - Volunteer for Public Serv	

Introducing Youngsters to Amateur Radio- Ideas for Interesting Youth in AR

I received an email and subsequent phone call from a ham asking how he could get his kids interested in Amateur Radio. He has a Technician license, so I designed some of these ideas to allow him to share communication experiences with his kids.

Ideas & Gifts for Involving Youngsters in Radio

Share this doc



Anthony Luscre, K8ZT- k8zt73@gmail.com

tiny.cc/yri

- **Receiving - Listening to Amateur & Broadcast Radio**

- Online Software Defined Receivers- tiny.cc/freerx. No Radio or Antenna is needed. High-performance radios are capable of SSB reception with sites around the world. It can also receive commercial broadcasting.
- Cheap Shortwave Radios
 - Ensure it has SSB (Singlesideband) receive capability to listen to Amateur Radio voice communication.
 - You will need a wire antenna, preferably outside, to get good reception from amateurs. It does not need to be fancy.
 - Commercial Radios (I suggest one with knobs, not up/down buttons for tuning)
 - [C. Crane CC Skywave SSB AM, FM, Shortwave](#)

- *Eton - Elite Executive AM/FM/Aircraft/SSB/Shortwave Radio*
 - *Tecsun Digital PL330 AM/FM/LW/SW Worldband Radio with SSB*
 - *Tecsun PL-600 AM/FM/LW SSB Shortwave Radio, Black*
 - *Tecsun PL880 Portable Digital PLL Dual Conversion AM/FM, Longwave & Shortwave Radio with SSB*
- Si4732 Based Radio (It is basically a microprocessor combined with an Integrated Circuit)
 - *ATS-20 all Band Si4732 Portable Shortwave Radio Receiver* (This is just one example on eBay. There are 100s of vendors with similar models in the \$40 to \$65 price range)
 - *ATS-25 Si4732 Full Band Radio Receiver FM LW MW SW with 2.4 inch Touch Screen* (This is just one example on eBay of vendors with models in the \$60 to \$125 price range. Improved version of ATS-20 with touch screen and larger display)
- An SDR (Software Defined Receiver) Note that many of the cheap SDR Dongles are VHF/UHF only; check to ensure freq coverage includes HF (3.5 to 28 MHz). You will also need a computer, software and antenna.
 - RTL-SDR Blog R820T2 RTL2832U 1PPM TCXO SMA Software Defined Radio- [link](#) ~\$30
 - SDRPlay- *RSP1A* ~\$110
 - Nooelec NESDR Smart HF Bundle: 100kHz-1.7GHz Software Defined Radio Set for HF/UHF/VHF Including RTL-SDR, Assembled Ham It Up Upconverter, Balun, Adapters- [link](#).
- Ham Radio Transceiver (used as a receiver). You will also need a power supply and antenna.
 - Many HF Transceivers are available for a few \$100s for a listing of various models- [link](#).
 - A few of the cheapest new HF radios
 - QRP Labs Kits (Single HF band CW Transceiver \$55 QCX+ or QCX Mini) not great for SSB due to narrow filtering but include on-screen CW decoder)
 - Xiegu G106 Sdr Hf Transceiver | 5W QRP Radio | SSB CW ~ \$300
 - Xiegu G90 Hf Radio | Sdr | Qrp | Auto Antenna Tuner | 20W | SSB CW ~ \$450
 - Yaesu FT-891 HF/50MHz 100 Watt All Mode ~\$695
- Crystal Radios

- *Power Crystal Set: No soldering required. New, boxed kit*
- *Grandad Bob's Crystal Radio Set Electronics Project Kit Whizzkits Cat Whisker*
- *Portable Crystal Set Radio Kit of Electronic Parts, Solderless*
- *United Nuclear Standard Crystal Radio Kit*

- **Two-Way Radio (without a license)**

- Handhelds
 - FRS (Family Radio Service- License Free)
 - *BAOFENG BF-88ST Pro Walkie Talkies 3 Pack*
 - *BAOFENG FRS Radio, USB Rechargeable Walkie Talkies*
 - *RADIODDITY FS-T3/PR-T3 [4 PACKS]*

- **Morse Code (CW)**

- Key
 - *\$2 Clothespin Key*
- Complete all-in-one Morse tutor, keyer, paddles, local two-way license free connections, etc. (would require two kits to “talk to each other”)
 - *Morserino*
- Morse Code Classes
 - *Long Island CW Club*
 - Adults \$30 Membership
 - Kids under 18 - Free
- Morse Code Decoders
 - Apps for Arduino or iPhone

- **Cheap Soldering Kits**

- *Pixie 40 Meter Transceiver*
- *Electric Piano DIY Kits, NE555 DIY Electronic Organ Module Electronics Soldering*
- *16-Tone Board Components Accessory Electronic Parts DIY Kit*
- *DIY Metal Detector Electronic Parts Kit 60mm Non-contact Sensor Board*
- *DIY Kit Mini Tesla Coil Plasma Speaker Set Electronic Field Music*
- *FM Stereo Radio Module With Microphone DIY Kit*
- *AM/FM AM Radio Kit Parts CF210SP*
- *AM/FM Radio - DIY Solder Kit - Soldering Required*

- **Satellites (You can work these with your Tech License or just listen with no license).** *See Technicians, Life Beyond Repeaters... (starting around slide #31)*
 - Required
 - Radio or radios capable of receiving and transmitting on 2 Meters and 440. FM is fine for many of the satellites, including the ISS) Dual Band HT will work fine
 - Dual Band Antenna
 - [Arrow Antenna](#)
 - [Elk Antennas](#)
 - Moxon-Yagi Dual band VHF-UHF antenna- [link](#)
 - Vertical dipole, with crossed full-wave loops- [link](#)
 - VE2ZAZ Arrow-Style Portable Sat. Antenna- [link](#)
 - \$4.00 Ham Radio Satellite Antenna- [link](#)
 - \$4.00 Ham Satellite Antenna Modifications- [link](#)
 - WA5VJB- Cheap Antennas for the AMSAT LEO's- [link](#)
 - Way to track Satellites
 - Free Online sites
 - [Heavens Above](#)
 - [N2YO.com](#)
- **Even More Ideas**
 - Ham Radio Youth Resources Website- www.k8zt.com/youth
 - RATPAC Holiday Gift Guide- includes youth including books & other ideas
 - Join us live via Zoom at 9 PM on Wednesday, December 4th at [www.Video Recording tiny.cc/ratpac-list](http://www.VideoRecording.tiny.cc/ratpac-list)
 - Slideshow- tiny.cc/argifts24

That's it for this month; I hope to work you on the air soon, maybe on HF!
 73,
 Anthony, K8ZT (k8zt@arrl.net)

***From the Section Traffic Manager
Dan Rinaman, AC8NP – STM***

AC8NP@AC8NP.COM



Greetings! Hope everyone enjoyed Thanksgiving!

This month I thought I would present the way to voice the preamble of a radiogram on a voice net. This comes from the ARRL NTS Methods and Practices Guidelines.

2.2.4.1 Preamble Voicing Rules

Basic preamble example:

NR	PREC	[HX]	STN-ORIG	CK	PLACE-OF-ORIG	[TIME-FILED]	MON	DAY
65	R		N3XYZ	20	CATONSVILLE MD		JUL	24

And a Test message with HX codes and Time Filed.

NR	PREC	[HX]	STN-ORIG	CK	PLACE-OF-ORIG	[TIME-FILED]	MON	DAY
SVC 66	TEST R	HXA50	N3XYZ	22/ARL 23	CATONSVILLE MD	1800Z	JUL	24

Introductory words are not required since the receiving operator knows the order and type of the Preamble parts. Eligible groups are still voiced as in introduced groups.

Proword “Number”: The message transmission is begun by saying “number” then:

Message Number: Say the word “Service” if the number is preceded by SVC. Say the message number figures one digit at a time.

Precedence: Voice as the full word(s); “Emergency,” “Priority,” “Welfare” or “Routine” (Emergency, P, W, R are written.). Exercise messages may be given a precedence preceded by the word “TEST”; voice as “TEST ROUTINE,” etc.

HX__: Say HX codes phonetically, as in “HOTEL X-RAY CHARLIE,” treated as an initial group, or a mixed group if numbers present, but without being introduced as such. If figures are appended the group is a mixed group, as in “HXA50,” voiced as “HOTEL X-RAY ALPHA FIVE ZERO”

Station-Of-Origin: Say call sign with phonetics without the introducer.

Check: If there is an ARL preceding the check figures voice as individual letters “A R L” (indicating presence of a Numbered Radiogram in the text). Say the check digits one at a time without introduction. If the check is amended as in 22/ARL 23 say “TWO TWO CORRECTED TO A R L TWO TREE” (or “TWO TWO SLASH A R

L TWO TREE,” less often used) without introducers.

Place-Of-Origin: Say the CITY, then say, “I spell,” and follow with letter or phonetic spelling for the city unless it is well known and understood. Say STATE as full name, even though it is written as two letters. (If you feel you must say the state as a letter group, then introduce it as “initials” and voice the letters with phonetics.). If the City/State of origin is not a city/state, as in a message relayed from MARS, the groups such as “VIA MARS NNN0AAA FPO NY” may be voiced using appropriate introducers and phonetics as required.

Time-Filed: Voice as a mixed group, without introduction, as in “ONE EIGHT ZERO ZERO ZULU.” The operator knows the month typically follows the state. Hearing a figure will indicate that a filing time is being sent. Use phonetics for letters such as “Z,” “EST,” etc. (Some operators elect to introduce the filing time as “mixed group figures” as a “heads-up” for the optional filing time, but the first method shown is best practice of the day.)

Month: Say the month as full name, even though written as three letters (JUL = “JULY”).

Day: Say DATE digits one at a time; “TWO FOUR” rather than twenty four.

Add a short pause, then go on to the Address part.

So Keep is simple and brief so we don’t get confused by extra words which are not needed.

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 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. ac8np@ac8np.com.

Thanks For All You Do!



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

Benefits of Joining an Amateur Radio Club

1. Networking Opportunities
 - a. Meet Like-Minded Individuals – Connect with fellow amateur radio enthusiasts who share your interests and passion.
 - b. Build Friendships – Form lasting friendships with people of all ages and backgrounds.
2. Access to Resources
 - a. Equipment Sharing – Many clubs have equipment available for members to use, which can be especially helpful for newcomers.
 - b. Technical Support – Gain access to experienced operators who can provide guidance and troubleshooting assistance.
3. Learning and Skill Development
 - a. Training and Mentorship – Participate in training sessions and workshops to improve your technical skills and knowledge.
 - b. License Preparation – Many clubs offer classes for obtaining or upgrading your amateur radio license.
4. Participation in Events
 - a. Contests and Field Days – Join in on contests, field days, and special events that enhance your operating skills and experience.
 - b. Community Service – Engage in public service events, such as emergency communications, which can be rewarding and impactful.
5. Access to Information

- a. News and Updates – Stay informed about the latest developments in amateur radio through club newsletters and meetings.
 - b. Technical Resources – Gain access to a wealth of knowledge, including books, manuals, and online resources.
6. Social Activities
- a. Fun Events – Participate in social gatherings, potlucks, and outings that foster camaraderie among members.
 - b. Group Projects – Collaborate on projects, such as building antennas or setting up stations, which can be both educational and enjoyable.
7. Enhanced Operating Experience
- a. Practice Opportunities – Gain practical experience by operating alongside seasoned hams during club activities.
 - b. Diverse Operating Modes – Explore different modes of communication (eg., digital, voice, satellite) with club members.
8. Community Engagement
- a. Local Involvement – Get involved in your local community through outreach programs and events that promote amateur radio.
 - b. Emergency Preparedness – Contribute to public safety by participating in emergency communications trainings and drills.

Joining an amateur radio club not only enhances your technical skills but also enriches your social life and provides a sense of belonging. It's a wonderful way to dive deeper into the world of amateur radio while making valuable connections. If you're considering joining a club, take the leap – you'll be glad you did!

John Myers, WG8X

wg8x.radio@gmail.com

330-936-5021



Hello again! Thanksgiving is behind us, and it's time for Christmas parties, New Years parties, and ultimately setting foot into a brand new year!

I've always been a big believer that when we make plans, God laughs.

I'm still working on a lot of pages on the website, and making progress, but not as much progress as I (or you) would like. The great

thing is that I've reached that time of the year that affords me more time to catch up on things that I would otherwise be putting off.

My big steps forward this month have been a couple forms.

First, we now have a sign-up form that allows you to sign up to have the section newsletter sent right to your in-box each week. You can find it at <https://arrl-ohio.org/ohio-section-newsletter/>.

Also, I just put up the One Question Questionnaire. Each month, we'll post a new one. Vote on your choice, and the answer will be posted in the each months Ohio section Journal, as well as on the page. You can see this month's question at <https://arrl-ohio.org/survey/>

I'd like to remind you about our Swap & Shop page. It is an absolutely free service of the Ohio Section website. There are a few rules, which you can read at <https://arrl-ohio.org/section-swap-shop/>. The big change this year is that we now accept pictures (at webmaster discretion) to go along with your for-sale ads.

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

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

Conversely, the most popular **Page not found** events have been

- 1) Digital.html
- 2) district_map.htm
- 3) ohden/ (This page actually exists; check your links.) The proper url is <https://arrl-ohio.org/ohden/>
- 4) Code-Plugs-and-more.html
- 5) Amateur Radio Digital Hotspot Comparison.pdf

The common thread here is obvious; I need to spend time on the digital side of the site. I'll work on this, and hopefully those stats will look different next month.

Again, please reach out to me with any questions, comments, or suggestions. I would love to know what everybody wants to see on this site. I can be reached at webmaster@arrl-ohio.org.
73 DE WG8X

National News

(from ARRL and other sources)

Hi All,

Today was a very special day for me. I got to present the plaque for Technical Service today to Ed Menasian, N8LPQ (pictures attached)

It was a blast as that I had a room full of his students and they each got up and did a short testimonial on how Ed has helped them in not only getting licensed, but also getting on the air and how he encourages them to upgrade as well. What a day it was.

This is what being a member of the ARRL is all about. Thank all of you for your hard work and dedication. You do make a difference!!

Scott

Scott Yonally, N8SY

Director
Great Lakes Division
ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio (c)
419-512-4445
n8sy@n8sy.com



ARRL Technical Service Award

WHEREAS, The ARRL Technical Service Award is given annually to a licensed radio amateur or to individuals who are licensed radio amateurs whose service to the amateur community and/or society at large is of the most exemplary nature within the framework of Amateur Radio technical activities; and,

WHEREAS, The ARRL's Programs and Services Committee serves as the award panel and reviews the nominations received from the members and selects the winner of this award; and,

WHEREAS, Edward Menasian, N8LPQ, exemplifies the spirit of this award through creating several ways for hams to learn and share technical information including his weekly breakfast meetings and his licensing classes that train both new and current hams; and,

WHEREAS, Ed provides learning opportunities through foxhunts and on the air nets; and

WHEREAS, Ed serves as a mentor for many hams in the area including helping with radio programming and antenna installations.

THEREFORE, the ARRL Board of Directors, with the recommendation of the Programs and Services Committee does hereby bestow the 2024 ARRL Technical Service Award to Edward Menasian, N8LPQ

Presented on this Twenty-Third Day of November Two Thousand Twenty-Four.



HAMVENTION!

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



ARRL 2023 Annual Report Now Available

[ARRL](#)® has published its [2023 Annual Report](#), which includes a summary of the year’s program activities, along with the 2023 and 2022 financial statements and an independent auditor’s report.

ARRL marked 2023 as the Year of the Volunteers, recognizing the nearly 57,000 volunteers who contribute to supporting the organization and the wider amateur radio community. “The future of amateur radio rests on the shoulders of volunteers, and every one of us can be a volunteer,” said ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, in his message in the annual report. The report highlights the involvement of volunteers across program areas, including ARRL Volunteer Examiners and Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES®) volunteers.



“It seems right for an organization like ours, which is fueled by volunteers, to take a moment to recognize the countless individuals who share their time, talent, and treasure with ARRL to advance the hobby we all love,” said ARRL Chief Executive Officer David A. Minster, NA2AA, in his included report. Minster also noted the celebration of the ARRL Foundation’s 50 years in 2023. Its work has benefited the charitable, educational and scientific efforts of the amateur radio community. Minster recognized the generous contributions from Amateur Radio Digital Communications (ARDC), which renewed commitments amounting to more than \$2.1 million to support club grants, education programs, and scholarships. “This represents the largest single commitment ever for our organizations,” said Minster.

Also included in the annual report is ARRL's Report to America, which references the involvement of amateur radio operators during natural disasters that occurred in 2023, in addition to formal partnership agreements with served agencies including the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). In May 2023, ARRL entered into an updated Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with FEMA, to enhance cooperation between ARES® and FEMA in providing disaster communications -- When All Else Fails®.

The ARRL *2023 Annual Report* is available for download at www.arrl.org/annual-reports.

Amateur radio operators ages 25 and younger will be on the air as special event stations around the world throughout December in celebration of Youth on the Air (YOTA) Month in amateur radio.

YOTA Month stations will be on all bands and modes at various times. QSL and award information is at events.ham-yota.com. Last year, young hams worldwide surpassed their goal of 100,000 QSOs in the month of December with a final tally of 103,788. More information about YOTA Month specifically in the Americas can be found at YouthOnTheAir.org, including a link to all YOTA station spots on DXSummit.com. Overlapping with YOTA Month is round 3 of the YOTA Contest, which is on December 30, 2024, from 1000 to 2159 UTC.

ARLX007 25th Annual SKYWARN Recognition Day December 7, 2024

SKYWARN Recognition Day is December 7, 2024. The annual event is celebrating its 25th anniversary. SRD was established in 1999 by the National Weather Service and ARRL to

commemorate the contributions of SKYWARN volunteers. Using amateur radio and other means of communication, SKYWARN spotters provide real time ground truth to NWS offices. The ham-volunteers can also provide vital communications between NWS and local emergency management officials when other means go down.

In a video posted to the SRD web page, National Weather Service Director Ken Graham, WX4KEG, said the information ham radio operators and other SKYWARN volunteers provide is critical. "I, along with the entire National Weather Service, want to acknowledge and thank you for your invaluable service to the communities we serve."

There will be a SRD special event from 0000 - 2359 UTC on the day. The objective is for all amateur stations to exchange QSO information with as many Amateur Radio SKYWARN Spotters and National Weather Service Stations as possible on the 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6, 2-meter and 70-centimeter bands.

ARRL will be on the air during the event from the ARRL Radio Laboratory station, W1HQ, using the call sign WX1AW. ARRL Public Relations and Outreach Manager Sierra Harrop, W5DX, said SRD is a great opportunity to welcome non-ham SKYWARN volunteers to explore amateur radio. "Storm spotting was my original draw into ham radio. I watched a large tornado tear up my community on May 3, 1999, and was listening via my mom's 2-meter mobile radio to spotter reports being relayed to the NWS Norman, Oklahoma, office. I knew I wanted to be a part of that and within months I was licensed. Amateur radio was my path into that community service and has been the hobby of a lifetime ever since," she said.

ARRL has a web page to help those interested with getting licensed. Find details at, www.arrl.org/getting-licensed.

Spotters are encouraged to register for SRD at, www.weather.gov/crh/skywarnrecognition. There will be participation certificates available after the event.

Club Corner

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

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

Send it to: webmaster@arrl-ohio.org



VE Sessions

The following information is for ALL exam sessions:

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

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

AE8FP Amateur Radio Test Team administers ARRL-VEC testing in the Central Ohio area. Our test dates for 2024 are as follows: 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/>>

All Things Amateur Radio Association (ATARA) hosts testing sessions every second Tuesday of the month in Lancaster. Our testing sessions use Examtools, a digital testing platform, and administers the exams on tablets. Simply sign up for a free account at <https://hamstudy.org/register> and then search for our session and register through the Hamstudy website. Reach out with any questions to Jarrod – KE8MBL at hamexams@atara-w8atr.fun.

CARS

VE testing from CARS - Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society - at Elmwood Recreation Center, 6200 Wisnieski Parkway in Independence, Ohio 44131 Time: 9:15 AM (Walk-ins allowed) Always the 2nd Sunday of the odd month. Go to CARS www.2cars.org for detailed map of location. Call Metro W8MET 216-520-1320 for details

Clark County Amateur Radio Association (CLARA)

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

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

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

Dayton Amateur Radio Association (DARA)

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

The Findlay Radio Club

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

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

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

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

Geauga Amateur Radio Association (GARA)

Amateur License exam sessions are offered for all license classes (Technician, General, Extra).

Walk-ins are always welcome - no prior registration is required. No fee for the exam.

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



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

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

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

Huber Heights Amateur Radio Club

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

The Lake County Amateur Radio Association

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Lancaster and Fairfield County Amateur Radio Club (LFCARC)

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

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

Questions: Contact me at ve_testing@k8qik.org.

Lisbon Area Amateur Radio Association

LISBON AREA AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION (LAARA) 2024 SCHEDULE.

VE TESTING IS AT THE COLUMBIANA COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

AT 215 SOUTH MARKET STREET, LISBON, OH 44432.

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

VE TESTING DATES FOR 2024

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

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

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

MEETING TIME IS 6:30 PM.

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

Madison County

The Madison County Amateur Radio Club Laurel testing group offers testing on the first Thursday of January, March, May, July, September and November. Tests are held at 7:00PM at the Madison County EMA located at 271 Elm St. London, OH. There is no Fee for testing. Pre-Registration is not required but preferred. Walk-ins are welcome. You are required to have an email address and a copy of your FRN or current ham radio license. For more information or to get pre-registered send email to Exams@mcarco.org .

The Milford Amateur Radio Club (MARC)

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

Please pre-register at www.milfordhamradio.org

Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society (NOARS)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Portage County Amateur Radio Service (PCARS)

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

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

Tusco Amateur Radio Club W8ZX

VE Testing sessions are held on the second Saturday of every even numbered month at the Dover Faith Church, 420 N Wooster Ave, Dover, OH 44622. Pre-registration is not necessary. Doors open at 0830 for registration, exams begin at 0900. Cost is \$15. You are required to have an email address and a copy of your FRN or current ham radio license. For more information please go to www.w8zx.net/exam or email VETEAM@N8BAG.NET.

Silvercreek ARA (SARA)

Holds six exam sessions per year for all license classes. Pre-registration requested but not required.

Exam sessions for 2024:

Saturday, December 7th - Sharon Center UM Church (Wadsworth/Medina Co.)

Exam sessions for 2025:

Saturday, February 1st - Smithville Brethren Church (Smithville/Wayne Co.)

Saturday, April 5th - Sharon Center UM Church (Wadsworth/Medina Co.)

Saturday, June 7th - Sharon Center UM Church (Wadsworth/Medina Co.)

Saturday, August 2nd - Smithville Brethren Church (Smithville/Wayne Co.)

Saturday, October 4th - Sharon Center UM Church (Wadsworth/Medina Co.)

Saturday, December 6th - Sharon Center UM Church (Wadsworth/Medina Co.)

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 at <https://wc8voa.org/licensing/>

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/2024/12-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-listed here for the other OH Section Clubs to see! Send to WB8LCD@ARRL.ORG

Important Links

ARRL Home: www.arrl.org

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

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

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

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

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

Email ARRL Clubs: clubs@arrl.org

DX This Week – #310

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



Happy Thanksgiving to you and your family! As you start to make up your Christmas list, be sure to share those items with me – it will give others’ ideas!

From Howard, N8HO, I received the following: *“I received this card a few days ago. I worked them on most bands, but Saint Paul Island was an ATNO for me on 80 and 160 meters.”*

Thanks Howard. What did you receive?

A QSL card for St. Paul Island. On the left is a photograph of a white lighthouse with a red top, situated on a rocky island overlooking the ocean. The text on the card is as follows:

IOTA NA-094
POTA CA-0122
ARLHS STP-002
VEFF-0122
GRID FN97

CY9C

St. Paul Island

Aug 25 – Sep 5
2024

WA4DAN, WØGJ, WØPR
N2IEN, N2TU, WW2DX
K9CT, K9NW, NE9U
W4DKS, KO8SCA

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

If you have been waiting for the **Central African Republic** DXpedition, I have some bad news. The **TL8ES** DXpedition by IV3SFG, Elvira Simoncini, originally scheduled for November 20th through December 9, has been delayed. Per QSL Manager IK2DUW, Antonello, Elvira's visa arrived after her originally scheduled flight had departed. IKØXBX, Francesco, who is DXpedition pilot (not the airline pilot!), says she expects to arrive in the Central African Republic on Monday November 25.

Krish, W4VKU, is now QRV as **VU4A** from the **Andaman Islands**. VU4A is QRV now until December 11. Op Krish, W4KVU, arrived in Chennai, India Sunday morning and spent the day sorting the gear for shipping. All was ready for shipment to Port Blair by air cargo on Tuesday morning. On Wednesday morning the 27th he left Port Blair and will collect the gear when he arrives. Masts were sent a couple weeks ago. A 5-element Yagi for 6M and Yaesu rotator were packed. W7GJ shipped him a 6M preamp. They hope for "better 6M reach" this time and will try EME and WSJT-X. Krish hopes to be on the air that first day. A 60M vertical will be put up and other antennas too, at least a 40/30 vertical for evening gray line Wednesday, and possibly a 20 through 10 vertical antenna. Antenna installation continues the 28th, including a 160/80 2- element phased array and receiving antennas. Livestream is hoped for, with a cellular wi-fi access point.

The VU4A FT8 will be MSHV, with an "answering filter, based on the farthest DX first." He advises stations to send their grid, which is how distance is calculated. Krish asks DXers to be patient, with SSB starting a day or two later, once everything is set up. There is a generator on site, with "power stability an open issue."

You can learn more about Krish, his DXPeditions, and his accomplishments by tuning into The DXMentor, Youtube channel Episode 31 and podcast Episode 31.

KU1CW, Alex, is living and working in **Saigon** and operating as **3W9A**. This is his second DXpedition there. His stated focus is on the low bands and 10M openings. QSL via KU1CW.

Where in the world is SP9FIH? SP9FIH, Janusz, has wrapped up his **5R8WE** Dxpediton from Madagascar. He is now on his way to the Marshall Islands where he should be QRV as V73WE until December 13. Janusz will use an ICOM IC-7300 with a three- element Yagi for 12 and 10M and a vertical for 40, 30, and 20M.

K7AR, Al, reported earlier this week that “Things are going relatively smooth at **Wallis and Futuna Islands** as **FW7AA**. We have almost 4,000 QSOs in the log. We have two Elecraft K3 transceivers and two Elecraft KPA500 amplifiers, with DX Commander Signature 9 and Classic antennas. We are working on getting 160 inverted L and beverage up. Both W7Yaq, Bob and I agree that band conditions have not been that good, especially to Europe; not nearly as good as our VK9LAA and A31DL trips. This morning at our local sunrise we could copy Europe for the first time on 30M FT8 and had a good run.” As a reminder, Al and Bob will be active as FW7AA through November 29. On their return, they will stop in Nadi, Fiji, and will be active as 3D2NB November 30-December 2. QSL both callsigns via LoTW or Club Log OQRS, or via W7Yaq.

NE8Z, Rick, operating his **HC1MD/2** station from **Ecuador**, will be mostly active on 6M over the next month. “I am watching daily in all directions for six-meter openings,” he says. He will mostly be on FT8 but if the F2 is good, he will try SSB on 50.110 MHz and CW on 50.097 MHz. He is running 500W into a five-

element LFA. You can learn more about Rick, Ecuador, and his accomplishments by tuning into The DXMentor, Youtube Episode 43 and podcast Episode 44.

Last night the **9L5A** team began their journey to **Sierra Leone** spending the night at Charles-de-Gaulle Airport in Paris. Earlier today they departed for Brussels, Belgium with a later flight to the capital of Sierra Leone with a "stopover in Monrovia", Liberia. The team expects to arrive at Freetown International Airport at 0115Z Thursday. Once they arrive and get their gear, they will then travel about 3 hours to their operating QTH. <https://9l5a.wordpress.com>

The **S21DX** group will activate AS-140, Dal Char Island, **Bangladesh**, December 13-19, concentrating on training local young operators, instructing them on HF antennas, propagation and pileups. They expect to be on 160-10M with two stations, at least 20 hours per day. One station will be on FT8 F/H and the second doing RTTY, it seems. QSL to EB7DX or use LoTW and Club Log. <https://s21dx.org/>

If you are someone who likes podcasts and/or YouTube episodes, The DX Mentor has a new podcast featuring Carl, K9LA. Carl discusses all things pertaining to propagation. Check it out.

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CONTEST CORNER

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

The ARRL 160M CW contest is the weekend of December 6th to the 8th. The objective is for Amateurs worldwide to exchange information with W/VE amateurs on 160-meter CW.

DX-to-DX QSOs do not count for contest credit. Stations located in overseas and non-contiguous U.S. Territories may be worked by DX stations. This includes Alaska KL7, the Caribbean US possessions KP1-KP5, and all the Pacific Ocean territories KH0-KH9, including Hawaii KH6. These stations can work BOTH domestic stations (US and VE) as well as DX stations around the world.

The context begins 2200 UTC Friday, ends 1559 UTC Sunday. This is a forty-two hour period with no time limitation. The exchange is signal report and ARRL section.

I have participated in this contest for several years and really look forward to it. The first year for me was 2017. That year I learned why 160 meters is called the “gentleman’s band”. Although rates are important, many hams worked patiently to make sure that exchanges were solid, and information was complete. I had several hams stop by the next day to say Hello and let me know that my signal was better than the day before. A great group of hams!

Contest	Start Date	End Date
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



Since the last time we visited, Thanksgiving has passed but some of us are still eating the leftover turkey, mashed potatoes, cranberry salad and pumpkin pie. Oh, don't forget Aunt Matilda's green bean cassarole.

We in the western South 40 Region have seen and driven in our first real snowfall and the return of more cold, but seasonable weather. Also the first club holiday celebration gatherings have happened. Now we can let our thoughts and actions shy away from ham radio and devote more time to the holiday activities like decorating our homes, putting up a tree, helping other civic and church organizations in their respective community activities and celebrations and spending more time with family and friends.

The **Southern Ohio ARC** set off the round of amateur radio holiday dinners and gatherings when they met on November 18 at the Frisch's in Ironton. November's holiday gatherings continued this past Saturday with the **Portsmouth RC** members and friends gathering for a fun filled time featuring good food and an always entertaining auction. On Tuesday evening December 3 the **Hocking Valley ARC** will hold their annual dinner at Chef Mo's (basement of 11 West Main Street) in Logan. The doors open at 5:30. A short meeting will be held at 6 PM and followed by the dinner. On December 5 the **Clinton County ARA** holds their annual

carry-in and club election at Wilmington's Boyd Cancer Center conference room starting at 6:30. December 7 sees the **Scioto Valley ARA** holding a noon gathering at the Pike County Airport. This year features a catered meal with a \$16 charge. Up in Guernsey County the **Cambridge ARA** will hold their annual Awards Banquet at 2:30 on December 7 in the Denny's Restaurant meeting room in Cambridge. Food will be ordered from the menu. Across the River on December 9 the **Parkersburg ARK** will have their annual Christmas Dinner at the Emmanuel Baptist Church starting at 5:30. **Highland ARA** members and friends will have a catered meal at the Methodist Church in Hillsboro on the 10th. The evening also features an optional gift exchange, a raffle drawing for \$200 cash and doorprizes for all. Give N8ZNR a call at 937-760-6070 for information or reservations. Judy Taylor, WD8EOP, says the **Tri-State ARA** will hold its holiday dinner on December 17 at the West Virginia Museum of Radio and Technology in Huntington. The Club will furnish the turkey and ham and asks members to coordinate side dishes with Judy at WD8EOP@gmail.com. The 17th will also see the **Athens County ARA** holding their annual holiday dinner. The dinner will be at either the Athens Applebees or the Ohio University Inn. The final selection will be announced via email. The winner of the annual WC8V Memorial Trophy will be announced during the dinner. The **Marietta ARC** will hold its holiday dinner on December 18 at the DaVinci's in Williamstown, WV at 6PM. The **Lancaster Fairfield County ARC** will hold their Christmas dinner on December 21 at the West Fair Street Pizza Cottage starting at 7 PM.

Diana Stuckey, KB9NPO of Bainbridge, has a rare kidney condition and is in need of a living kidney donor. Should such a donor (18 to 70 in good health) come forward, she could receive the needed transplant within a year. More information can be found at wexnermedical.osu.edu/kidneydonor. Please spread the word.

Word from AJ8B, Bill Salyers, is that because of all the parties ahead of the holidays the **Southwest Ohio DX Association** a restaurant meeting location for the December 11 meeting was unable to be found. Therefore it was decided to hold a completely virtual meeting instead. The topic for discussion will be "DXPedition to Fredonia". Hopefully a location will be able to be found for the January 9 meeting.

Saturday December 7 marks the 25th annual National Weather Service/ARRL SKYWARN Recognition Day. The objective of the day is not only to recognize the contributions that hams and others make to keep us safe from weather related situations, but also as an event to have amateurs make contacts with as many NWS stations as possible. The Charleston, WV NWS Office will activate WX4RLX from their office the entire day. However due to staffing schedules, they are looking for volunteers to fill in. According to **Clinton County ARA** President Mark Atwell, WX8A, the CCARA will activate WX8WIL from the maintenance building at the Wilmington NWS Office that day. It's believed the NWS Offices in Detroit, Indianapolis, Cleveland and Pittsburgh will also participate in the event.

Although not quite Christmas presents, two individuals in the region have entered the amateur radio service by acquiring their Technician licenses. Let's welcome Tim Perkins of Belpre to our ranks. He has been assigned the KF8CTP call sign. Another new call sign has been assigned to the Loveland area. The newest is KF8CRE issued to Robert Velte, Jr. from the Loveland area. New radios under their Christmas trees?

When you read this, two South 40 clubs have already assisted their communities with communications needed for local Christmas parades. The **Lancaster Fairfield County ARA** aided the November 23 Lancaster parade. Lyn Alfman, N8IMW, tells us that the **Cambridge ARA** helped for the 45th year with the November 30 parade. On December 2 the **Southern Ohio ARA** will with communications during the Ironton Lions Club's Christmas Parade. Unfortunately insurance appears to be the reason that for the first time in almost 50 years, the City of Hillsboro told the **Highland ARA** their services were no longer needed for that city's parade as the City would totally use employees this year.

Many of our region's clubs have either already held elections or will be doing so at the upcoming holiday dinner meetings. 2025 will see some new faces in the **Hocking Valley ARC**'s leadership. Bruce Underwood, W8BEU, will become President with John Adams, AF8E, assuming the Vice Presidency. The Club consolidated the roles of Secretary and Treasurer into one position with it being filled by Jared Schoenlaub, KE8WAM. Mike Love, WB8YKS, tells us the **Southern Ohio ARA** is returning Tim Nicely, AC8VQ, as the Club's president. Others being re-elected are Eddie Jenkins, N8URU, as vice president; Dave Bruce, KD8NYN, as treasurer and Jim Reneau, N4REN, as secretary.

Patrick Gilifilen, N8EWH, reports over 18,000 shoeboxes are on their way to the Operation Christmas Child warehouse in North Carolina to be given to children throughout the world. Fifty two of those were donated by **Highland ARA** members in memory of Tom Archibald, K8TDA. Additionally \$200 was raised to cover the \$10 per box shipping expense.

The first 2025 hamfest in Ohio's South 40 Region will be the **Sunday Creek ARF**'s January 19 event in Shade, Ohio.

The **Athens County ARA** will begin their annual Technician License Class on January 13 at the Red Cross Building in Athens. The course will run for nine consecutive Monday evenings with each starting at 7PM. A testing session will take place on March 17. With the uptick of GMRS interest in neighboring Meigs County this class could lead to an increase in the ham population in that part of the state.

Although several months away, a couple South 40 clubs already are planning for special event operations in the upcoming year. The **Highland ARA** anticipates activating K8HO to observe the 220th anniversary of the founding of Highland County. According to the Noble County Historical Society, talks with the **Cambridge ARA** operate a special event station

comemorating the 100th anniversary of the September 3, 1925 crash of the Shenendoah are being finalized.

The **Milford ARC** recently concluded a fund raising raffle with a Yaesu FTM500DR awarded to Tim Wiley, KQ4HBN, from Alexandria, KY. Speaking of raffles, the **Southern Ohio ARA** has one underway with a Glock 19 Gen 3 gun going to the winner. Only 100 tickets will be sold at \$10 each. See the www.W8SOE.org website for details and contacts.

The final scores from September's Ohio State Parks on the Air have been announced. It was nice to see a fair number of South 40 clubs and non-club groups activating parks. However it appears several of the region's state parks were either not activated or activated with entries not submitted. There are 75 parks with activations from 45 of them. However, based upon entries submitted, over 60 parks appeared in logs. A special shout out to Ralph Matheny, K8RYU, who as a rover activated 5 parks. Having been a rover in past years, it takes a special kind of person to do all the set-up and tear down and willing to get lost traveling from one park to another. Ask N8ZNR how I know.

The **OH-KY-IN ARS** will cross the river for their December Brunch Bunch breakfast. The December 14 gathering is at 1PM at the Houston Road Red Robin in Florence, KY.

The December QST bears the final ranking of those clubs and individuals participating in the June ARRL Field Day. A quick look through the tally identified several familiar call signs from the Ohio Section and the South 40 Region. A tip of the cap to the crew from the **Athens County ARA** who just missed the top ten (they were number 11) of 183 entries in class 2F. They placed 1st in the Ohio Section and 2nd in the Great Lakes Division. Congrats to all others who participated in some way.

N8ZNR and I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving with friends and/or family. We now enter the time of the year when around most QTHs things get hectic. I hope that between all the decorating, shopping and other Christmas activities you will find the time to check into a local net or in some other way 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 2025!!



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

05/15/2025 - Four Days In May

Location: Fairborn, OH

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: QRP Amateur Radio Club International

Website: <http://qrparci.org/fdim>

07/12/2025 - Mansfield Mid Summer Trunkfest 2025

Location: Ontario, OH

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Intercity Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://w8we.org>

07/20/2025 - Van Wert Hamfest

Location: Van Wert, OH

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Van Wert Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://w8fy.org>

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 November winner is N8QE– **Bob** from Tallmadge, Oh! Congratulations Bob – your handbook is on the way. Don’t forget to get signed in for the December drawing – you’ll find it at www.arrl-ohio.org .

I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving weekend with family and friends. Two more holidays (Christmas and NewYears) and we’re into 2025!

“And I almost forget, I know we’ll all be thankful for November 6th when all of the TV / Radio ads, postcards, text messages and phone calls stop!” That’s what I wrote last month – **BOY WAS I WRONG!** Being over 65, we are into Medicare Open Enrollment. My cellphone has been practically useless for the past month. Thanks to technology (especially auto-dialers and AI) I will no longer be answering my phone unless you are “white listed” on it! I am rearranging my “contacts” list to be my White List – if you’re in my contacts list, it will show either your name and/or your callsign and I will answer when I see it! If you are not on my contact list, leave me a message, I’ll retrieve it and call you back as soon as possible. Presuming you are a

real person, I will add you to the contacts (white list) and you will get my immediate attention in the future (unless I'm otherwise occupied – and I'll still call you back if you leave a message!)

Finally, I'm thankful for the ARRL! We've all been through a lot together since the beginning. We're now at a point where we need to put our differences behind us and figure out ways that we can all work together moving into the future. It's the only way we come out with Amateur Radio as one of the winners. I've said it before – **NOW IS THE GOLDEN AGE OF AMATEUR RADIO!** I don't want to be known as part of the generation that blew it up and lost it forever. Change is coming fast and it's hard. I hope you'll all be a part of the process – and the first part of the process is being involved! The second part is accepting that *everyone's* observations and opinions are important. Sure, some are right and some are wrong, that's the hard part, sorting through the facts and not getting entangled in "feelings".

2025 is going to be a FANTASTIC year! 73 to all of you.

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



Ohio Section Cabinet

Section Manager – Tom Sly, WB8LCD	Section Emergency Coordinator – Bret Stemen, KD8SCL
Technical Coordinator – Jeff Kopcak, K8JTK	Section Traffic Manager – Dan Rinaman AC8NP
State Government Liaison – Bob Winston, W2THU	Affiliated Clubs Coordinator – Amanda Farone, KC3GFU
Section Youth Coordinator – Anthony Luscre, K8ZT	Public Information Coordinator – Elizabeth Kline – KE8FMJ

Chit – Chat, and All That!

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



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



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

You can go back at any time and read them. Just go to:
<https://arri-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!

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