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CQCQCQ de WB8LCD



Here's another guy I'm pretty sure you all know – Bret Stemen – KD8SCL - our Ohio Section Emergency Coordinator (SEC). Bret took the job of SEC shortly after I had become Section Manager, and has been doing a great job and working through a lot of changes in ARES and the whole concept of Emergency Communications. Again, per the ARRL description of the job:

"Section Emergency Coordinator

The Section Emergency Coordinator (SEC) is the assistant to the Section Manager (SM) for emergency preparedness. The SEC is appointed by the SM to administer all matters pertaining to emergency communications and the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES®) on a Section-wide basis. There is only one SEC appointed in each Section of the ARRL Field Organization.

Requirements:

Technician-class license or higher; full ARRL membership, and achievement of Level 3 qualifications. (Must, within the period of 1 year, from the issuance of this document or appointment as SEC, whichever comes later, or such further time period as authorized by the SM, complete all of the requirements for Level 3 qualification.)

Responsibilities:

- •Promote and encourage the development of local ARES groups.
- •Advise the SM on all Section emergency policy and planning, including the development of a Section emergency communications plan.
- •Cooperate and coordinate with the Section Traffic Manager (STM) so that emergency nets and traffic nets properly route welfare traffic in disasters and emergencies. Cooperate and coordinate with other Section leadership officials.
- •Recommend candidates for Emergency Coordinator and District Emergency Coordinator appointments (and cancellations) to the Section Manager and determine areas of jurisdiction of each amateur so appointed. Verify that candidates meet training requirements. At the SM's discretion, the SEC may be directly in charge of making (and cancelling) such appointments.
- •Promote ARES membership drives, meetings, activities, tests, procedures, etc., at the Section level.
- •Serve in support of local ECs during a communications emergency; to ensure the local ECs have the necessary resources to sustain their mission.
- Collect and consolidate Emergency Coordinator and/or District Emergency Coordinator monthly reports, and submit monthly progress summaries to the Section Manager and ARRL Headquarters. Provide timely reporting of emergency and public safety communications rendered in the Section for potential inclusion in ARRL media relations activities.
- •Maintain contact with other communication services and serve as liaison at the Section level with all agencies served in the public interest, particularly in connection with state government, emergency management officials, state and regional Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD) organizations, and similar agencies. In states with multiple ARRL Sections, the SECs

shall work as a team to develop and maintain an appropriate ARES Emergency Communications Plan in conjunction with state officials. Maintain cooperation with the State Government Liaison.

Recruitment of new hams and ARRL members is an integral part of the job of every ARRL appointee. Appointees should take advantage of every opportunity to recruit a new ham or member to foster growth of Field Organization programs, and our abilities to serve the public."

I know that Bret would be willing and able to talk to your club about ARES and why you might want to be a part of your local county's ARES group! You can contact Bret at kd8scl@earthlink.net. You can get a lot more information on ARES in Ohio by going to the Ohio Section website - ARRL-Ohio.org – then drop down to the bottom of the landing page to find the link for "Ohio Section ARES". One of the first things you'll notice when you click on that link is an Ohio map divided into the 10 Ohio ARES districts. Clicking on that map will enlarge it so you can pinpoint which district your county is in. Close that page with the map, and just above the small Ohio map is a link called "ARES Contact Form". Clinking that link will take you to a listing, by ARES district, of each District EC (DEC) and the county Emergency Coordinator (EC) for each of the counties in that district. Your local ARES group is organized by county.

If you're interested in joining ARES (and you should be!), you can contact the DEC or the EC directly to become a part of their organization. There is a lot of information you can get from the site, one which I find particularly interesting is the Ohio Section ARES Training Status Report which you get to by following the link "ARES NIMS (ICS) Training Listing". Again, arranged by county, it lists the hams in the county who are active in EMCOMM and the training certificates they have submitted. I can't begin to tell you the hours that Ohio Section hams have spent learning to be prepared to participate in emergency communications!

There are lots of ways to be involved. Be a part of what we contribute to the readiness of our communities in times of disruption.

One more thing I want to make you aware of: the ARRL Teachers Institutes. This is an *amazing* opportunity for teachers to get some of the "continuing education" credit they need to keep their teaching certificate current. It costs them *very little* to participate in (most expenses are picked up for them) and the value of what they experience and learn definitely adds to their ability to bring pertinent information into the classroom. We've seen from previous participants that they also encourage their students to consider Amateur Radio as something they might find value in. And they are front and center to what we consider our "Target Market" for new hams to be: young people! Teachers Institutes are growing. In past years there have been approximately 5 per year. Last year there were 7. The planning for 2025 is for approximately 20 Teacher's Institutes! Keep your eyes and ears open, you'll be hearing more about them soon. More importantly – make a list of the folks you know that are teachers who could benefit from participating in the program.

Share the Magic of Radio.

73,

Tom Sly - WB8LCD Ohio Section Manager wb8lcd@arrl.org 330-554-4650



National News (from ARRL and other sources)



MISSIONS

Answering Cosmic Questions:The Launch of SPHEREx

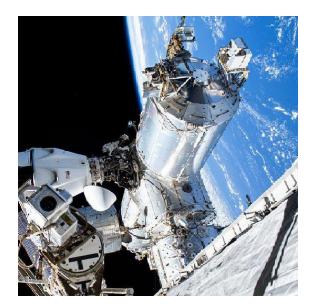


Live launch coverage of SPHEREx (Spectro-Photometer for the History of the Universe, Epoch of Reionization and Ices Explorer), the agency's newest space telescope, will begin at 9:15 p.m. EST on Friday, Feb. 28.

Over a two-year planned mission, SPHEREx will provide an all-sky spectral survey, collecting data on more than 450 million galaxies along with more than 100 million stars in the Milky Way, in order to explore the origins of the universe.

SPHEREx will lift off with another NASA mission, PUNCH (The Polarimeter to Unify the Corona and Heliosphere), a constellation of four small satellites that will make global, 3D observations of the Sun's outer atmosphere, the corona, and help the agency learn how the mass and energy located there become solar wind.

STREAM ON NASA+



HUMANS IN SPACE To and From the Space Station

NASA and SpaceX are accelerating the launch and return dates for crew rotation missions to and from the International Space Station. The agency's Crew-10 launch is targeted for Wednesday, March 12, followed by the Crew-9 mission's return to Earth.

MISSION UPDATES

YLRL Scholarships Available for Students

The Young Ladies Radio League (YLRL) has announced its Memorial Scholarship program for 2025. The scholarship program is aimed at female amateur radio operators studying radio, communications, electronics or amateur radio related arts and sciences.



There are three Memorial Scholarship award categories:

- The Ethel Smith, K4LMB, Memorial Scholarship \$2,500 award
- The Mary Lou Brown, NM7N, Memorial Scholarship \$2,500 award
- The Martha "Marte" Wessel, KØEPE, Memorial Scholarship \$1,500 award

"YLRL is committed to investing in women in amateur radio, and we believe that every act of volunteerism through amateur radio, even a small one, helps turn the world into a better place," said Vicki Zumwalt, N6KLS, President of YLRL. "We hope that our scholarships will not only encourage students to learn more about science, technology, and engineering but also inspire them to take pride in being an amateur radio operator and to encourage others to do so as well."

The YLRL believes that education in the fields or radio, communications, electronics, and amateur-related arts and sciences will play an important role in shaping the world's future. Through these memorial scholarships, YLRL hopes to encourage female students to learn more about amateur radio.

To qualify, students must be female, have an amateur radio license, meet the requirements listed on the <u>YLRL website</u> and apply using the <u>online application</u>. Applications are due by April 30, 2025. Winners will be announced in July 2025.

The Young Ladies Radio League (YLRL) is an international non-profit organization of female amateur radio enthusiasts. It was founded in 1939 and is the longest-running YL club in the world.

High School and a Sci-Fi Movie Spark Interest in Amateur Radio

Steve Schickel was a young high school student in the late '80s and was introduced to amateur radio through his electronics classes. He also spent time working at a local RadioShack and watching science fiction movies at a nearby theater in his hometown of Pensacola, Florida.

Amateur radio's next biggest influence on Steve came in 1997, on opening night of the movie "Contact," about a scientist who finds evidence of extraterrestrial life and is chosen to make first contact.

"I remember the entire theater erupted when, in the opening scene, amateur radio operator K4WLD responded to a call from W9GFO and stated his location was Pensacola," said Schickel. "It sounded like the home team had scored in overtime to win the game; it was so loud!

Fast-forward to November 2024. Schickel passed the exam for his Technician license and was assigned KQ4YXP on November 11. Then he passed his General license exam and on November 29 changed his to callsign to KQ4ZDR and then again to KZ4OW. After a month of study, he passed his Extra Class license exam. But there was still something missing from his newfound amateur radio hobby.

"To celebrate, I started researching vanity call signs in order to try and reward myself with a 1x2 call sign. I researched everything that had become available, and I was just about to file my application with the FCC with a list of about a dozen 1x2 calls when I paused and wondered if anybody actually had the call sign K4WLD from the movie."

It turned out K4WLD had just fallen out of a two-year grace period hold a couple weeks prior and was now available. Schickel submitted his vanity application and on January 11, 2025, was assigned the new call of K4WLD.

"I can proudly say that K4WLD was awarded to me in January 2025, and I still live in Pensacola! Now, life is imitating art," Schickel concluded, "and K4WLD has come home to Pensacola in real life ... just like in the movie."

All well and good except for one small detail. Most of his equipment has been on back order for several months! Schickel hopes to make his first "contact" in a few weeks. He is also a proud new ARRL member!



Steve Schickel, K4WLD

ARRL Student Membership

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

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

Student Membership options:

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

Become an ARRL student member today!

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

Club Corner

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

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

Just send it to: webmaster@arrl-ohio.org



Please! Format as below:

If you want me to publish your club information, or even an article you have written, please send

it in WORD format (.docx). Please use Times New Roman font size 12 for the body of the aritcle. Any photos please include as a .jpg or .bmp – the time you save me in doing all the conversions will be greatly appreciated.

VE Sessions

The following information is for *ALL* exam sessions:

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

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

<u>AE8FP Amateur Radio Test Team</u> administers ARRL-VEC testing in the Central Ohio area. Our test dates for 2025 are as follows: January 18, April 12, July 19, and October 18. 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 https://www.ae8fp.net/

Alliance Amateur Radio Club

The Alliance Amateur Radio Club holds quarterly VE testing, at the Christ United Methodist Church in Alliance.

Upcoming Exam Dates are: Saturday, March 15th, 2025, Saturday, June 21st, 2025, Saturday, August 16th, 2025 and Saturday, October 25th, 2025.

The address is 470 E. Broadway St, Alliance, OH (https://maps.app.goo.gl/prDyEPp6siJun2ibA).

Registration begins at 8 AM, and testing at 9am.

More information can be found at www.w8lky.org/licensing/ve-exams/.

<u>All Things Amateur Radio Association (ATARA)</u> hosts testing sessions every second Tuesday of the month in Lancaster. Our testing sessions use Examtools, a digital testing platform, and administers the exams on tablets. Simply sign up for a free account at 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 8th; Apr 12th; Jun 14th; Aug 9th; Oct 11th; and Dec 13th, 2025.

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 12, March 09, May18, July 13, Sept 21, and Nov 16, 2025. 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 Clay, N8JMW by email n8jmw2@gmail.ccom or calling at 440-228-2716. More information is available from the Geauga Amateur Radio Association website https://geaugaara.org

Huber Heights Amateur Radio Club

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

The Lake County Amateur Radio Association

The Lake County Amateur Radio Association is holding its **2025** Amateur Radio license exams at the **Kirtland Library**, 9267 Chillicothe Road, on the following dates:

Saturday, February 1 Saturday, August 2
Saturday, April 5 Saturday, October 4
Saturday, June 7 Saturday, December 6

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) 2025 SCHEDULE.

VE TESTING IS At the Columbiana County EMA at 215 South Market St, Lisbon, OH 44432. Check in at 1 PM, testing at 1:30 PM.

VE TESTING DATES FOR 2025:

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

Make sure you have your FRN number from the FCC.

Contact NN8B at nn8b.oh@gmail.com for any further information.

Our Meetings are the 3rd Thursday of each month. WE HAVE ACTIVITY MEETINGS ON THE ODD MONTHS AND BUSINESS MEETINGS ON THE EVEN MONTHS. MEETING TIME IS 6:30 PM.

Madison County

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

The Milford Amateur Radio Club (MARC)

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

Please pre-register at www.milfordhamradio.org

Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society (NOARS)

Six VE testing sessions in 2025. Register at hamstudy.org. Contact Elaine, KC8FOS for more information. Ewilkinson1951@gmail.com or 216-337-4235.

January 4, March 1, May 3, July 5, Sept 6, November 1.

Sessions are held at the Fairview Park Library, 21255 Lorain Rd., Fairview Park 44126.

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: https://wc8voa.org/licensing/

Ham Radio License Classes Start March 1 and March 3

The OH-KY-IN Amateur Radio Society and the Queen City Emergency Net will again present training for all classes of ham radio licenses. The sessions for **Technician** and **Amateur Extra** will take place on Saturday mornings starting March 1st and continuing through Saturday April 5th. Tech sessions will run from 9:00 AM until 11:00 AM and the Extra sessions will run from 9:00 AM until noon. For those wishing to upgrade to **General** Class the sessions will take place on Monday evenings from 7:00 until 9:00 PM starting on March 3rd and continuing until April 7th.

An exam session will be held on Saturday April 12th. All of these sessions will be held in the Red Cross building, 2111 Dana Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45207

Additional details:

http://ohkyin.org/wp/club-activities/classes/

Mark Landis KD8ZLD

DARA University Classes

Is it time to upgrade your license? DARA has scheduled classes for all three amateur licenses. The Technician classes will begin on Saturday March 22nd from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the DARA clubhouse, 6619 Bellefontaine Rd, and run for four Saturdays. The textbook will be the ARRL License Manual which can be purchased locally or you can get a copy at the DARA meeting or during the first class meeting.

What about General? The General class will begin at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday April 19th at the DARA clubhouse and will run for four Saturdays. The testing for these classes will be conducted on either Friday or Saturday at Hamvention.

What about Extra? The Amateur Extra classes (called Extreme Boot Camp) will held at Hamvention on Friday and Saturday morning. Registration instructions are found on the Hamvention Web site. The cost is \$100 and includes a copy of the ARRL License manual, a syllabus, and a study schedule. Can you pass the exam with only two days of instruction? Definitely yes, because you'll be following the study assignments prior to the Hamvention classes. The testing will be on Saturday afternoon at Hamvention.

Do you already have your license but would like to expand your knowledge of general radio theory? Plan to attend one or more of the license classes. It's a great way to learn or re-learn some new radio concepts.

73,

Bob Neben/K9BL

Medina County Amateur Radio Club

Upgrade to Amateur Radio General Class License:

PREREQUISITE: FCC TECHNICIAN LICENSE

Pass on to Technician licensed friends...

Amateur Radio FCC General Class Licensing Instruction offered by the Medina County Amateur Radio Club.:

Will prepare you for the FCC Element 3, **General Class License** exam, 35 multiple choice questions to get your upgrade!

March 5, 2025 begins nine Wednesday classes, 7:00-9:00 pm

No charge for classes. Last class is exam session – walk away with an FCC General Class License.

Required purchase of current *ARRL General Class License Manual*, **Tenth Edition**, available on Amazon...

MUST READ CHAPTERS 1-3 BEFORE FIRST CLASS

Jane@K8JGR.radio for more info, or <u>https://www.W8EOC.org</u>

Location:

Medina County Career Center (JVS),

Room 246,

1101 West Liberty St, Medina, Ohio 44256

From the Geauga Amateur Radio Association

Future "Elmer "sessions will be held at the Geauga County EOC, 12518 Merritt Rd. Chardon, Ohio on 4/13/25, 10/12/25, and 12/14/25Starting at 2 PM. There will also be 2 Outdoor sessions held at the Chrystal Lake Picnic Shelter in Headwaters Park, 12265 Old State Rd. in Claridon and Huntsburg townships on 9/8/25 and 8/10/25 also starting at 2 PM.

Everyone is welcome regardless of your radio experience so please join us in sharing the knowledge.

For any questions please contact Dale Byers K8DOB at k8dob@outlook.com

GARA will also be offering a 7 week Tech class beginning April 4th. All classes are Fridays from 6:30 to 9:00PM. Contact Jackie Clay for more info n8jmw2@gmail.com

ARLD008 DX news

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

SRI LANKA, 4S. Members of the Polish DX Team are QRV as 4S7SPG from Nilaveli until March 1. Activity is on 80 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY, and FT8. QSL via SP6CIK.

TANZANIA, 5H. Chas, NK8O is QRV as 5H3DX until March 6. Activity is in his spare time on the HF bands using CW and FT8. QSL via LoTW.

NIGERIA, 5N. Members of the Rebel DX Group are QRV as 5N9DTG. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters using FT8 and FT4 with Superfox and MSHV modes. QSL via OQRS.

MALDIVES, 8Q. Takio, JH3QFL will be QRV as 8Q7FL from February 26 to March 6. Activity will be on 40 to 6 meters using FT8. QSL direct to home call.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, A6. Special event stations A60TET/0 through A60TET/23 are QRV until February 27 for the UAE Emirates Tour Event Bicycle Road Race. QSL via operators' instructions.

CAPE VERDE, D4. A group of operators are QRV with special event call sign D450ICV until December 31 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the independence of Cape Verde. Activity is on all bands and modes. QSL via LoTW.

COMOROS, D6. Elvira, IV3FSG will be QRV as D68Z from Moroni from February 28 to March 18. Activity will be on the HF bands using CW, SSB, FT8, and FT4. QSL via IK2DUW.

ST. PIERRE AND MIQUELON, FP. Freddy, F4HEC is QRV as FP/F4HEC until February 25. Activity is on 80 to 6 meters using CW and SSB. This includes being an entry in the REF SSB contest. QSL direct to home call.

SAUDI ARABIA, HZ. Members of the Saudi Amateur Radio Society are QRV with special call sign HZ1KWT until February 25 to celebrate Kuwait National Day. QSL via operators' instructions.

ST. LUCIA, J6. Steve, NY3B will be QRV as J68SS from February 25 to March 4. He and other operators will be QRV as J62K in the upcoming ARRL International SSB DX contest. QSL via operators' instructions.

WAKE ISLAND, KH9. Allen, KH7AL is QRV as KH7AL/KH9 until February 28. Activity has been on 12 and 10 meters using slow CW. QSL to home call.

COSTA RICA, TI. Members of the Russian Robinson Club are QRV as TI1RRC from Cano Island, IOTA NA-191, and TI1RRC/p from IOTA NA-117, until February 25. Activity is on the HF bands. QSL via MOOXO.

CAMEROON, TJ. Thierry, TK1CX is QRV as TJ/TK1CX until February 28. QSL via EA5ZD.

GABON, TR. Roland, F8EN is QRV as TR8CR until at least April. Activity is on the HF bands using only CW. QSL via F6AJA.

NORFOLK ISLAND, VK9N. Members of the Caboolture Radio Club will be QRV with special event call signs VK9AB, VK9QD, VK9YB, VK9/VK4CJB, VK9/VK4KCA, VK9/VK4KLA, VK9/VK4PBE and VK9/VK4TG from February 22 to March 1. Activity will be on all HF bands. Station VK9YB will attempt to set a new world record distance on 2200 and 630 meters. QSL via operators' instructions.

CHRISTMAS ISLAND, VK9X. A group of operators are QRV as VK9XU until March 4. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY, and other digital modes with three stations active around the clock. QSL via DL2AWG.

INDIA, VU. Datta, VU2DSI and Ajay, VU3LPQ are QRV as AU6LON until February 24 from the shores of Lonar Lake, a lake created by the impact of a meteorite some 570,000 years ago. Activity is on 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters. QSL direct to VU2DSI.

INDONESIA, YB. Operators YB7MP/p, YB7HYK/p and YE7HIO are QRV from Laut Island, IOTA OC-166, until February 23. Activity is on all bands using SSB and various digital modes. QSL via operators' instructions.

THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO. CQ 160-Meter SSB Contest, North American RTTY QSO Party, NA Collegiate RTTY Championship, World Wide Argentina DX Contest, NCCC FT4 Sprint, Weekly RTTY Test, QRP 80-Meter CW Fox Hunt, NCCC Sprint CW Ladder, K1USN Slow Speed CW Test, REF SSB Contest, 22nd Antarctic Activity Week, UBA DX CW Contest, South Carolina QSO Party, High Speed Club CW Contest and the North Carolina QSO Party will keep contesters busy this upcoming weekend.

K1USN Slow Speed CW Test, QCX CW Challenge, ICWC Medium Speed CW Test, OK1WC Memorial, RSGB FT4 Contest, Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest, SKCC CW Sprint, QRP 40-Meter CW Fox Hunt, Phone Weekly Test, A1Club AWT, CWops Test, Mini-Test 40 CW, Mini-Test 80 CW and the UKEICC 80-Meter CW Contests are all scheduled for February 24 to 26.

Please see February 2025 QST, page 80, and the ARRL and WA7BNM contest websites for details.

Upcoming Hamfests



Ohio Hamfests

2025

03/09/2025 - Northern Ohio Amateur Radio

Society Winter Hamfest Location: Elyria, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society **Website:** https://www.noars.net/hamfests/winter-

hamfest/ 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

04/27/2025 - Athens Hamfest

Location: Athens, OH **Type:** ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Athens County Amateur Radio

Association

Website: https://www.ac-ara.org/

Learn More

03/16/2025 - Toledo Mobile Radio Association

Hamfest and Computer Fair Location: Perrysburg, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Toledo Mobile Radio Association

Website: http://www.w8hhf.org

Learn More

04/26/2025 - Tusco Amateur Radio Club's

2025 Hamfest, Computer & Electronics Show

Location: Dover, OH **Type:** ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Tusco Amateur Radio Club **Website:** http://www.w8zx.net/hamfest

Learn More

05/10/2025 - 05/15/2025

RV Radio Network Rally
Location: Navarre, OH
Type: ARRL Convention
Sponsor: RV Radio Network

Learn More

05/15/2025 -05/18/2025 - Four Days In May 005/16/2025 - 05/18/2025 **Location:** Fairborn, OH **Dayton Hamvention Type:** ARRL Convention **Location:** Xenia, OH **Sponsor:** ORP Amateur Radio Club International Website: http://qrparci.org/fdim **Sponsor:** Dayton Amateur Radio Association **Learn More Website:** http://Hamvention.org Learn More 08/09/2025 - Cincinnati HamfestSM 07/20/2025 - Van Wert Hamfest **Location:** Van Wert, OH **Location:** Owensville, OH **Type:** ARRL Hamfest **Type:** ARRL Hamfest **Sponsor:** Van Wert Amateur Radio Club **Sponsor:** Milford Amateur Radio Club Website: http://w8fy.org Website: https://CincinnatiHamfest.org **Learn More** Learn More **08/17/2025 - Warren Hamfest** 09/28/2025 - Cleveland Hamfest **Location:** Cortland, OH Location: Berea, OH **Type:** ARRL Hamfest **Type:** ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Hamfest Association of Cleveland **Sponsor:** Warren Amateur Radio Association **Website:** http://w8vtd.com/hamfest Website: https://www.hac.org Learn More **Learn More** 10/04/2025 - Northwest Ohio Amateur Radio Club (NWOARC) Hamfest **Location:** Lima, OH **Type:** ARRL Hamfest **Sponsor:** Northwest Ohio Amateur Radio Club Website: http://www.nwoarc.com **Learn More** 08/16/2026 - Warren Hamfest **Location:** Cortland, OH **Type:** ARRL Hamfest **Sponsor:** Warren Amateur Radio Association Website: http://w8vtd.com/hamfest Learn More

If you have information for your 2025 hamfest get it into the ARRL! As soon as I see them approved and added to the ARRL site, I'll get them listed here. Note: the last Fest listed is in 2026!

DX This Week – #321 Bill - AJ8B (thedxmentor@gmail.com / www.aj8b.com)

What a great experience I had this week. In addition to getting V73WW, TZ1CE, and 5N9DTG in the log, I was honored to give a presentation to a very well kept amateur radio secret. I gavbe a presentation to the RATPAC (https://www.ratpac.us/) group. Anthony, K8ZT, has talked about this group for a long time, but this was my first



interaction with them RATPAC stands for *Radio Amateur Training*, *Planning*, *and Activities Committee*, and they are! Check out the website. Thanks Anthony!

DAH DIT DIT DAH DAH DIT DIT DAH

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, your only source of real-time DX information, just drop me a note at thedxmentor@gmail.com.

The WSJT Development Team is pleased to announce the WSJT-X 2.7.0 General Availability (GA) release. This is the first GA release since version 2.6.1, two years ago. Major enhancements include a new companion program called QMAP, new Special Operating Activities called "Q65 Pileup" and "SuperFox", and a new "Message System" feature designed for sending requests to change to another band or mode. More details can be found in the Release Notes. Check out https://wsjt.sourceforge.io/ for the details on downloading and installing.

Here is a Marshall Islands, V73WW, DXpedition update from Majuro, Republic of the Marshall Islands.

The V73WW DXpedition team is pleased to report progress from our QTH on Majuro Atoll. Our operations on the 160m and 80m bands are turning to be successful. We've experimented with various RX antennas to optimize our reception capabilities.

The weather has been favorable, resulting in reduced QRN. However, the constant wind and waves continue to challenge our antenna setups. To ensure optimal performance, we conduct daily antenna maintenance at low tide, reinforcing masts and securing equipment against the elements.

While the DXpedition is focused on radio operations, daily life here includes more than just QSOs. As we are located on our own island, a part of the team recently made another grocery trip to Delap. Cooking various meals a day for 6 hungry operators and cleaning are part of our routine, adding an extra layer of challenge to this expedition.

We are steadily advancing toward our goal of 60,000 QSOs and are eager to make many more contacts with operators worldwide in the remaining days. In line with this objective, we are excited to announce that RTTY operations will start soon. Please refer to our planned frequencies and modes in our detailed band plan available on our website: band plan https://next-generation-dx.com/v7/#bandplan

Our internet connection has become more stable, allowing us to provide real-time updates. The live log is now accessible on Club Log. We are committed to transparency and upload QSOs to LOTW at least once daily. If you notice any missing QSOs or discrepancies, please don't hesitate to contact us at (info (at) next-generation-dx.com), though replies may be delayed.

We extend our gratitude to the global amateur radio community for your continued support and enthusiasm. Your participation fuels our dedication to this DXpedition, and we look forward to making many more contacts in the days to come.

Libya society, seven amateurs strong, joins IARU. The International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) Region I announced last week that the Libyan Communications Amateur Society (LCAS) of Tripoli, Libya, is now an IARU member. This decision was made unanimously. LCAS was founded on May 12, 2024 and has seven licensed amateur members.

DK6AS, Andreas, began his FJ/DK6AS activities earlier this week. He plans to operate in the ARRL International DX Contest, CW, and will remain on St. Barthelemy until sometime in early March. Listen for him on CW and FT8.

The VK9XU team is currently operating from Christmas Island. A lost bag containing fiber poles during their Thai Airways flight hindered the setup of all antennas. They expect the bag to arrive by Friday. Currently, VK9XU has only two antennas available.

The Rebel DX Group are QRV as 5N9DTG on 80, 40, 30, 20, 17, 15, 12 and 10 meters. They report "huge noise on 80, 20, 15, 17" meters. They are operating on two frequencies at the same time on 40 through 10 meters. The standard and DXpedition frequencies.

The 4S7SPG team from Sri Lanka, have installed all the antennas, however half of the team has been sick. Now they are mostly active on FT8. https://4s.dxpeditions.org

5Z4J (ZS5J, C91J, and A25J), John, has recently obtained his 5X1J license. He will primarily operate from Jinja, at the source of the River Nile near Lake Victoria. Currently residing in Nairobi, Kenya, he uses the callsign 5Z4J.

John has an office in Uganda and regularly travels by road from Kenya to Uganda, typically staying for two to three weeks per trip. During these trips, he will use the callsign 5X1J. QSLs should only be sent to LoTW, as there are no postal facilities for QSL cards. John is in the process of applying for ARRL LoTW certification.

The DX India Foundation is embarking on an epic international DX pedition to VU7 at the end of 2025.

Hey fellow hams!

We've got some super exciting news to share! The DX India Foundation is embarking on an epic international DXpedition to VU7 at the end of 2025!

Our team of seasoned operators will be focusing on the lower bands - 160m, 80m, and 40m. We'll have 5 stations covering all bands from 6m to 160m, and our goal is to make a whopping 1,00,000 QSOs during our operation!

To ensure we've got the best possible operating conditions, we'll be setting up shop in a beautiful beachside location, far from resorts and noise-prone areas. Our team will be cozy in separate tents to minimize noise and distractions.

We'll be operating for 10 days, with tentative dates planned - our actual operation schedule will be announced soon! If you're interested in joining us, please get in touch so we can sort out the necessary paperwork.

This DXpedition is part of our bigger plan to create a top-notch setup for future expeditions, IOTA activations, and contest stations.

We Need Your Help! We're reaching out to all DXers, IOTA Chasers, and everyone in the amateur radio community to support this massive project. Your contribution will help us achieve our dream of becoming one of the top 20 most wanted entities on 160m, 80m, and 40m bands!

As a thank you, we'll give you:

- QSL cards with a special sponsor logo
- A shoutout on our website and social media channels
- A comprehensive expedition report, packed with photos and videos

We believe this project will be a game-changer for DXers worldwide and will help promote amateur radio in India and Asia. Please Support Us! Donations to support our DXpedition can be sent via PayPal to sarath@lven.in. Your contribution will help us cover the costs of this massive project!

Thanks for considering our request! Let's make this DXpedition one for the books!

And the following:

Dear IOTA Chasers/ DXers around the world.

We're super stoked to announce that the DX India Foundation is heading back to Arnala IOTA (AS-169) from May 29th to June 1st, 2025! This time, we'll be operating under the callsign AU2M (Proposed Callsign).

This is a rare opportunity for IOTA enthusiasts around the world to log this highly sought-after entity, currently the most wanted IOTA in India! Our team has worked tirelessly to make this activation happen, and we can't wait to share it with you!

Our Website address: https://vu2rs.com/au2m

We've faced some tough challenges in the past, but we're determined to make this activation a success! "We invite you to join us on this adventure," says Sarath. "Your support means the world to us, and we're grateful for your help in promoting amateur radio in India and Asia."

A new podcast episode of the DX Mentor dropped this week. It was a review of DX Activity in 2024 with Bernie, W3UR, Joe, W1JR, and Joe, W8GEX. You don't want to miss this!

If you want to make sure you won't miss an episode, join TheDXMentor facebook group or follow us on "X".

DAH DIT DIT DAH DAH DIT DIT DAH

CORNER LSHLNON

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!

| Contest | Start | End |
|---------------------|-----------|------------|
| | Date | Date |
| ARRL Inter. DX | 3/1/2025 | 3/3/2025 |
| Contest, SSB | | |
| YB DX RTTY Contest | 3/8/2025 | 3/8/2025 |
| Idaho QSOP | 3/8/2025 | 3/8/2025 |
| Oklahoma QSOP | 3/8/2025 | 3/8/2025 |
| Wisconsin QSOP | 3/9/2025 | 3/10/2025 |
| Virginia QSOP | 3/15/2025 | 3/16/2025 |
| CQ WW WPX Contest, | 3/29/2025 | 3/30/2025 |
| SSB | | |
| SP DX Contest | 4/5/2025 | 4/6/2025 |
| Louisiana QSOP | 4/5/2025 | 4/6/2025 |
| Georgia QSOP | 4/12/2025 | 4/13/2025 |
| New Mexico QSOP | 4/12/2025 | 4/13/2025 |
| Holyland DX Contest | 4/18/2025 | 4/19/2025 |
| Michigan QSOP | 4/19/2025 | 4/20/2025 |
| Ontario QSOP | 4/19/2025 | 4/20/2025 |
| SP DX RTTY | 4/26/2025 | 4/27/20256 |
| 10-10 Intl. Spring | 4/26/2025 | 4/27/20256 |
| Contest, Digital | | |
| Florida QSOP | 4/26/2025 | 4/27/20256 |

OHIO'S



Stay Warm out there! South 40 will return next week.

John Levo. W8KIW

<u>ilevo@cinci.rr.com</u> or <u>highlandara@gmail.com</u> or 937-393-4951 (landline-leave a message)

Print an Official or Unofficial Copy of Your Amateur Radio License

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



Click here to download the instructions

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

Ohio Section Cabinet

| Section Manager – Tom Sly, WB8LCD | Section Traffic Manager – Dan Rinaman AC8NP | |
|---|--|--|
| Asst Section Manager – John Levo, W8KIW | Asst Section Manager – Alan Andres, KD8ZBS | |
| Section Emergency Coordinator – Bret Stemen | Section Youth Coordinator and Asst Section Manager | |
| KD8SCL | - Anthony Luscre, K8ZT | |
| Technical Coordinator – Jeff Kopcak, K8JTK | Affiliated Clubs Coordinator – Amanda Farone – | |
| | KC3GFU | |
| State Government Liaison – Bob Winston, W2THU | Public Information Coordinator – Elizabeth Klinc - | |
| | KE8FMJ | |

Hey Gang,

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

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

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

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



Want to Share your Club Newsletter With Others?

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

Here's the link to the page.... https://arrl-ohio.org/ohio-club-newsletters/

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



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

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



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



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

You can go back at any time and read them.

Just go to: https://arrl-ohio.org/ohio-section-newsletter/

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