



*“March 31st, 2025”*

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## COCOCO de WB8LCD

I'm working my way through the Ohio Section Cabinet, making sure you know who all the cabinet members are, what their responsibilities are, and how they can help all hams in the Ohio Section to be more proficient at their craft. Although Amateur Radio is a hobby, it is also a “Service” as defined in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Title 47: Telecommunication; Part 97 – Amateur Radio Service (updated, 16 January 2024). A PDF of Part 97 is available [here](#). From that document, very first section, titled “Basis and Purpose” reads as follows:

### **“§97.1 Basis and purpose.**

The rules and regulations in this part are designed to provide an amateur radio service having a fundamental purpose as expressed in the following principles:

(a) Recognition and enhancement of the value of the amateur service to the public as a voluntary noncommercial communication service, particularly with respect to providing emergency communications.

(b) Continuation and extension of the amateur's proven ability to contribute to the advancement of the radio art.

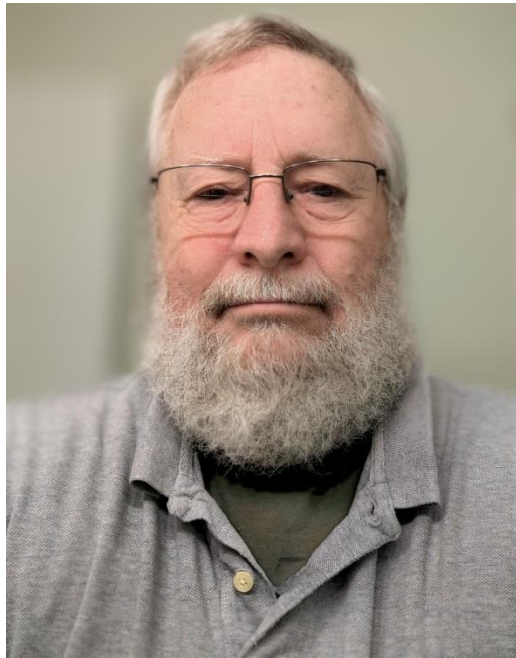
(c) Encouragement and improvement of the amateur service through rules which provide for advancing skills in both the communication and technical phases of the art.

(d) Expansion of the existing reservoir within the amateur radio service of trained operators, technicians, and electronics experts.

(e) Continuation and extension of the amateur's unique ability to enhance international goodwill.”

You'll notice that 4 times in that definition we are labeled specifically as providing a service to the public. All 5 of those purposes are services to the citizens of the United States. It is in our best interests to always be aware of each of those 5 areas of service and make sure that we are making the Public, and the Congress, aware of how we are meeting the expectations of our

mandate. I want to thank, and congratulate, Cuyahoga County ARES for their service, and most especially for their publication of their service through local media! Check it out here: <https://spectrumnews1.com/oh/cleveland/news/2025/03/22/ohio-severe-weather-storms-emergency>



The next Ohio Section Cabinet member I want to point out is Dan Rinaman, AC8NP. Dan is the Ohio Section Traffic Manager (STM). Again, per the ARRL, the responsibilities of the Section Traffic Manager are as follows:

### **Section Traffic Manager (STM)**

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The STM is appointed by the [Section Manager](#) to supervise traffic handling organization at the section level--that is, to coordinate all traffic efforts within the section, regardless of mode or National Traffic System affiliation, so that routings within the section and connections with other networks and digital traffic nodes will result in orderly and efficient traffic flow.

**Requirements:** Familiarity with traffic handling on all modes; Technician class license or higher; Full ARRL Membership

**Responsibilities:**

- Establish, administer, and promote a traffic handling program at the section level, based on, but not restricted to, [National Traffic System](#) networks.
- Develop and implement one or more effective training programs within the section that address the needs of both traditional and digital modes of traffic handling. Insure that [Net Managers](#) place particular emphasis on the needs of amateurs new to formal network traffic handling, as well as those who receive, send, and deliver formal traffic on a "casual" basis, via RTTY, AMTOR, and Packet based message storage and bulletin board systems.
- Cooperate and coordinate with the [Section Emergency Coordinator](#) so that traffic nets and emergency nets in the section present a unified public service front.
- Recommend candidates for Net Managers and [Official Relay Station](#) appointments to the SM. Issue appointments/cancellations and appropriate certificates. At the SM's discretion, the STM may directly make or cancel NM and ORS appointments.
- Insure that all traffic nets within the section are properly and adequately staffed, with appropriate direction to Net Managers, as required, which results in coverage of all Net Control and liaison functions. Assign liaison coverage adequate to insure that all digital bulletin boards and message storage systems within the section are polled on a

daily basis, to prevent misaddressed, lingering, or duplicated radiogram-formatted message traffic.

- Maintain familiarity with proper traffic handling and directed net procedures applicable to all normally-used modes within the section.
- Collect and prepare accurate monthly net reports and submit them to ARRL Headquarters, either directly or via the Section Manager, but in any case on or prior to the established deadlines.
- Encouraged to earn certification in Levels 1, 2, and 3 of the [ARRL Emergency Communications Course](#).

While some might not think of the Traffic Nets as being “State of the Art” in the realm of communications, in times of disasters, they might be the only “art” available for moving information in and out of a disaster area! The important thing is that they are always one more way to get things done when the conventional ways have been obliterated. As you read through the responsibilities of all these cabinet positions you’ll begin to notice an “overlap” where they all work together to enhance our ability to serve the public, and each one on their own provides a valuable service to the Hams that participate by broadening their knowledge and abilities as an Amateur Radio Operator.

I want to encourage you to learn about and participate in your local traffic nets. Since most of the local nets operate on VHF, they are open to ALL license classes! Want to get proficient with CW? Traffic nets are a really good place to build those skills.

Remember, when you look back on your Ham Radio experiences, there’s a HUGE difference in being a Ham with 50 years of experience versus being a Ham with 1 year of experience repeated 50 times.

Share the Magic of Radio.

73,

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

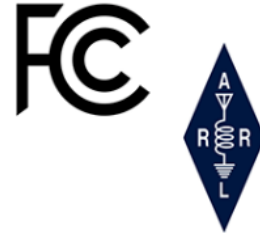


# *National News*

## *(from ARRL and other sources)*

### **FCC Initiates Broad Inquiry on Rules to Delete or Amend**

In a [Public Notice](#) titled “In Re: Delete, Delete, Delete,” issued on March 12, 2025, the FCC is soliciting public input on any FCC rules in any service that members of the public believe should be deleted or modified “for the purpose of alleviating unnecessary regulatory burdens.” This is the latest in a series of similar proceedings going back to 1996, when the Communications Act was amended to require the FCC to periodically review its rules.



[ARRL](#), through its Executive Committee and FCC Counsel, is conducting a review of the provisions in Part 97 and other related rules that apply to radio amateurs. ARRL is also soliciting feedback from its members. Rules identified as outmoded, obsolete, or that for other reasons should be repealed or modified, will be included in ARRL’s filing to be submitted no later than the FCC deadline of April 11, 2025. The deadline for filing reply comments is April 28, 2025.

It is expected that the Commission will incorporate suggestions that it decides worthy of its consideration in a future Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) that could be issued later this year. There will then be an opportunity for public comment on the specific rules that the Commission proposes for deletion or modification.

A PDF of the FCC Public Notice is available here: <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DA-25-219A1.pdf>.

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### **Five Steps to Get Ready for April’s Ham Radio Open House**

We’re only days away from April and ARRL’s month-long [Ham Radio Open House \(HROH\)](#). Radio clubs, schools, and other groups that operate a shared ham radio station are urged to join the nationwide event to raise the visibility of amateur radio and related technology. April is also Science Citizen Month, and April 18 is World Amateur Radio Day. It’s also the 100th anniversary of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU), making the month a perfect backdrop for engaging the public in an introduction to ham radio.



You know the experience when a newcomer visits your amateur radio station: they have a bit of overwhelmed amazement, taken back by all the new sights and sounds. You explain to them what each component does, but oftentimes they're gripped in a wide-eyed wonder about all the exciting technology in front of them; the gear, displays filled with radio signal waterfalls and other graphical interfaces, and the variety of sounds, from Morse code and digital to the voices of faraway people. Look out the window, and eyes are gazed on antennas of all shapes and sizes. In the best of situations, that sensory overload turns into getting on the air, turns into a new member of this hobby-of-hobbies, turns into a new radio amateur! That's the energy we are tapping into for ARRL Ham Radio Open House.

Show off all the cool things that can be done in amateur radio — leading with our technological innovations, how radio works, and what we can do with our signals. Follow up with getting the visitor hands-on — let them participate in several of the 1 million acts of science that [SciStarter](#) is working to document as part of April being Citizen Science Month. Get the visitor on the air! Make them feel a part of it, from the moment they walk in.

ARRL wants your club to be successful. Here are the steps to prepare for your club's ARRL Ham Radio Open House:

#### 1. **Pick a date**

Select a date (or dates) any time in the month of April to host your club station's open house to maximize visitor traffic to your operation.

## 2. Use the media kit

ARRL has created a comprehensive [media kit](#) prepared by veteran PR professionals on the ARRL Public Relations Committee. These pros want to help you shine and have given you a turn-key solution. Use as much or as little of it as you'd like – but its all there: Sample press release, PR tip sheet, media outreach timeline, and more. Find it on [www.arrl.org/world-amateur-radio-day](http://www.arrl.org/world-amateur-radio-day).

## 3. Location, Location, Location!

The ARRL Ham Radio Open House locator tool is available at [www.arrl.org/Open-House](http://www.arrl.org/Open-House). It is a two-way street. Add your club's information to the interactive tool or use it to find an activation already planned in your area. This is the same tool many are accustomed to using to find ARRL Field Day sites.

## 4. Be a social media superstar

Social media is how many people find activities. Make sure your club is using the power of this outreach tool to spread the word of your event. In the HROH media kit, you'll find a section devoted to social media best practices.

## 5. Be ready for next steps

You've planned for weeks, visitors are showing up in droves, they're having a great time getting on the air. Don't leave them hanging on what's next! Have a plan to get back in touch with them and welcome them to your next club meeting. Prepare a licensing class to enable them to dive right into becoming a ham. Let them know about your club's ARRL Field Day plans and have them be a part of them.

The majority of active hams are ARRL members, so let them know the value you get from an ARRL membership and encourage them to join. Don't forget about the free student membership for those aged 21 and under. [www.arrl.org/membership](http://www.arrl.org/membership).

*ARRL thanks [HamSCI](#) -- Ham Radio Science Citizen Investigation -- and [SciStarter](#) for help preparing and promoting this event.*

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## ARRL Student Membership

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



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

Student Membership options:

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

Become an ARRL student member today!

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

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## Sign Up Now for the ARRL Youth Rally at Dayton Hamvention!



Registration is now open for the ARRL Youth Rally at Dayton Hamvention®. This amazing event is set to be a great day full of hands-on radio activities for people aged 11 to 21.

Join fellow young people who are interested in ham radio, led by volunteers from the ARRL Collegiate Amateur Radio Program, as they make a fun day out of getting to know radio – and each other. There will be

an on-the-air sprint, contacts with a parachute mobile station, a kit built in the youth lounge, and a fox hunt!



2024 ARRL Youth Rally group at Dayton Hamvention

While Hamvention offers free tickets for youth aged 12 through high school, [advance registration for the Youth Rally is recommended](#). The Youth Rally registration fee is \$20 and includes a t-shirt (to wear on Saturday), badge, lanyard, and reusable tote bag.

The event is led by ARRL Education and Learning Manager Steve Goodgame, K5ATA, a former teacher. Young people are empowered to take leading roles in the hobby by participating in the ARRL Youth Rally. In 2024, then-sixth-grader Cameron Frey, KD9VGV, talked about his success as a Parks on the Air® operator. “I’ve done more than 100 activations, and more than 40 different parks. I’ve also hunted more than 700 different parks,” he said.

The ARRL Youth Rally is always a day full of smiles, fun, and empowerment — make sure your young ham joins us in Dayton!





## **A 2-hour interview with ARRL CEO David Minster, NA2AA, is available on The DX Mentor Podcast, hosted by Bill Salyers, AJ8B.**

Minster talked about a wide range of topics from how [he got started in amateur radio as a shortwave listener](#), to the [importance of mentoring new licensees](#). He also answered many questions from Salyers about [ARRL membership](#), matters involving the [Board of Directors](#), and last year's [cyber-attack](#) which disrupted many systems and services. Minster also talked about the organization's work [promoting and protecting amateur radio in Washington, D.C.](#), and ARRL's new strategy to [develop the next generation of hams](#) and to inspire youth. The DX Mentor can be found on your favorite podcast platform, and on [YouTube](#).



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## ***Club Corner***

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

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

Just send it to: [webmaster@arrl-ohio.org](mailto:webmaster@arrl-ohio.org)

**Please! Format as below:**

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



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## **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 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 [www.ae8fp.net](http://www.ae8fp.net) <<http://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, 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/](http://www.w8lky.org/licensing/ve-exams/).

**All Things Amateur Radio Association (ATARA)** hosts testing sessions every second Tuesday of the month in Lancaster. Our testing sessions use Examtools, a digital testing platform, and administers the exams on tablets. Simply sign up for a free account at <https://hamstudy.org/register> and then search for our session and register

through the Hamstudy website. Reach out with any questions to Jarrod – KE8MBL at hamexams@atara-w8atr.fun.

### **CARS**

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

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

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

When: On every second Saturday of each even numbered month starting at 10:00 AM Feb 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](mailto:buzz@baylorhill.com)

### **Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club VE Testing**

Exam sessions are held on monthly. For a complete list of upcoming sessions, locations and registration, visit <https://cfarc-edu.org/registration>.

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

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

### **The Findlay Radio Club**

The Findlay Radio Club sponsors an Exam Session the second Saturday of every month except September when we have our Hamfest. The Exam Session takes place at the Findlay Radio Club, 1333 West Sandusky St., Findlay Ohio 45839. The session begins at 9 AM. Pre-registration is recommended, but not required. You can pre-register at hamstudy.org. 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.

We have recently acquired a large amount of equipment from a local ham's estate. As a result, our operating room is undergoing a rather extensive upgrade!

### **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.com](mailto:n8jmw2@gmail.com) or calling at 440-228-2716. More information is available from the Geauga Amateur Radio Association website <https://geaugaara.org>

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

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

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

The Lake County Amateur Radio Association is holding its **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](http://fcc.gov) link.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

LISBON AREA AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION (LAARA) 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](mailto:nn8b.oh@gmail.com) for any further information.

Our Meetings are the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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@mcarco.org](mailto:Exams@mcarco.org) .

### **The Milford Amateur Radio Club (MARC)**

No charge VE exams are normally given the third Thursday of each month at 6:00 PM. Miami Township Civic Center 6101 Meijer Drive, Milford, OH 45150 The facility is handicapped accessible. Map and further details are on our website. Pre-registration is required:

<https://milfordhamradio.org/license-exams>

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

Six VE testing sessions in 2025. Register at [hamstudy.org](http://hamstudy.org). Contact Elaine, KC8FOS for more information. [Ewilkinson1951@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://www.portcars.org) .

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact me at [KB8UUZ@gmail.com](mailto:KB8UUZ@gmail.com)

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

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

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

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 2<sup>nd</sup> - Smithville Brethren Church (Smithville/Wayne Co.)

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

Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup> - 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/>

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## **DARA University Classes**

Is it time to upgrade your license? DARA has scheduled classes. 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.

The General class will begin at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday April 19th at the DARA clubhouse, 6619 Bellefontaine Rd, 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

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## 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 12/14/25 Starting 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](mailto:k8dob@outlook.com)

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

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## Silver Creek Amateur Radio Association

Greetings,

We're excited to invite you and your club to participate in the **2025 Northeast Ohio Multi-Club Parks on the Air (POTA) Event on Saturday, May 31st, 2025!** This all day event, sponsored by The Silvercreek Amateur Radio Association, is an opportunity for hams across **Northeast Ohio** (and beyond) to get on the air, showcase amateur radio, and collaborate with fellow clubs.

### Why Participate?



**Promote Ham Radio, Your Club, & POTA** – A great chance for individuals to see POTA/ham radio in action and visit multiple club activations.



**Encourage Club Collaboration** – Clubs can coordinate special inter-club operating activities with other interested clubs. Ideas include satellite, NVIS, VHF/UHF simplex, digital simplex contacts (D-Star, C4FM, M17, etc.), and even fully portable hike in activations or aeronautical mobile contacts!



**No Extra Effort Required** – Simply activate a park! But, if your club wants to participate in or coordinate a special activity, we're here to help!

## How Can You Get Involved?

1. **Basic Park Activation:** Choose a park and let us know where your club will be operating via the sign-up sheet. If interested, we'll place your activation on our *Participating Clubs List* on the SARA club website (<https://w8wky.org/neo-pota/>) which details which clubs are doing what, and where. Then, activate a park as you normally would and have fun! No other additional commitments!
2. **(Optional) Participate in Special Inter-Club Operating Activities:** If your club is interested in leading or joining a unique operating activity, we'd love to coordinate time frames so we can maximize participation.
3. **(Optional) Join the Planning!** We'll be hosting an Initial Coordination Meeting online to outline the event as well as gauge interest and get ideas for different Special Inter-Club Operating Activities. As we get closer to the date of the event, we'll hold additional meetings for planning these individual Inter-Club Operating Activities.

If your club is interested in participating, please reply to this email, fill out the sign-up form, or reach out to **Josh Van Dyke** - [ke8vka@gmail.com](mailto:ke8vka@gmail.com).

To help with coordination during the event, we will be using the AllStar node 48496 (Echolink W8WKY-R) as a central hub for clubs and operators to connect in real-time. For those in the area that is the W8WKY repeater 147.390MHz+ PL 114.8 and W8OKE 147.015MHz+ PL110.9.

For continued updates, please see the event webpage on the SARA club website: [2025 NEO Multi-Club POTA Website](#)

Sign-Up Form: [2025 Northeast Ohio Multi-Club POTA Activation - Club Sign-Up Form](#) Looking forward to hearing you on the air,

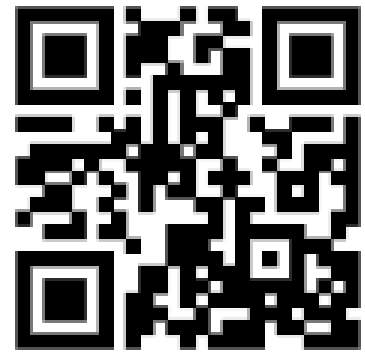
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# STEM Radio Day

at Williamson Innovation Park

Free Northeast Ohio Event for 5th to 8th Grade Students-

The Youngstown State University College of STEM will host a free Radio Day STEM event for 5th-8th grade students on **Saturday, April 26th**, from 10 am-3 pm at the Williamson



Innovation Park!- [tiny.cc/ysu-radio-day](https://tiny.cc/ysu-radio-day)

Through fun and hands-on activities, attendees will examine how radios work, learn different ways to use them, and get an introduction to the electromagnetic spectrum. Activities include building a Morse Code Key to take home, learning Morse Code and tuning in radio signals from around the world to make two-way radio contact using Amateur (Ham) radios!



This program is free, but students must pre-register to attend. The Williamson Innovation Park is located at 8399 Tippecanoe Rd, Canfield, OH 44406. We hope to see you there!

**Also, mark your calendars for the  
Wireless Summer Day Camp from June 9 to 13th.  
Details will be available later this spring.**

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### **VHF Activity Day for Sunday, June 15, 2025**

In a nutshell, it is designed to engage folks who are largely VHF bound (predominantly Techs) to experience simplex operation on 146, 223, and 446 MHz when there is a critical mass of other stations active at the same time.

I'm promoting this to POTA, SOTA, and the VHF contesters in WNY but would like to invite those in range of WNY (Ohio, WPA, Ontario Canada) to join in.

For more information contact Ev Tupis – W2EV at [w2ev@yahoo.com](mailto:w2ev@yahoo.com)

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### **ARLD013 DX news**

This week's bulletin is made possible with information provided by AA3B, 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. A group of operators are QRV as 3B9DJ until April 5. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, and FT8. QSL via OK6DJ.

FIJI, 3D2. Dom, 3D2USU is QRV as 3D2AJT from Nadi until the end of April. QSL via LoTW.

AZERBAIJAN, 4K. A group of operators will be QRV as 4K0T as a Multi/Single/Low Power entry in the CQ World Wide WPX SSB contest. QSL via LoTW.

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BARBADOS, 8P. Dave, G4OSY is QRV as 8P9EI until April 6. Activity is on 40 to 10 meters using CW and SSB. This includes being an entry in the CQ World Wide WPX SSB contest. QSL direct to home call.

CROATIA, 9A. Special event station 9A100IARU will be QRV from April 1 to 30 to celebrate the centenary of the International Amateur Radio Union. QSL via operators' instructions.

BAHAMAS, C6. Paul, WA4PAW will be QRV as C6APS from Great Abaco, IOTA NA-080, from March 29 to April 19. Activity will be on 40 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, and FT8. QSL via LoTW.

URUGUAY, CX. Special event station CX100IARU will be QRV from April 1 to 30 to celebrate the centenary of the International Amateur Radio Union. QSL via CX1AA.

PHILIPPINES, DU. A large group of operators are QRV as 4I2I from Itbayat Island, IOTA OC-093, until March 31. Activity is on the HF bands. QSL via VE3GJP.

THAILAND, HS. Special event station HS100IARU will be QRV from April 1 to 30 to celebrate the centenary of the International Amateur Radio Union. Activity will be on the HF bands, 2 meters, and various Satellites. QSL via OQRS and LoTW.

ST. LUCIA, J6. A group of operators will be QRV as J62K in the CQ World Wide WPX SSB contest. QSL direct to K9HZ.

SINT MAARTEN, PJ7. Gary, KC9EE is QRV from PJ7EE until April 6. This includes being an entry in the CQ World Wide WPX SSB contest. QSL via LoTW.

SURINAME, PZ. A group of operators will be QRV as PZ5IP from Papegaaien Island, IOTA SA-092, from April 1 to 4. Activity will be on 40 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, and various digital modes. QSL via operators' instructions.

GREECE, SV. Special event station SZ100IARU is QRV from April 1 to 30 to celebrate the centenary of the International Amateur Radio Union. QSL via the bureau.

TURKEY, TA. Special event call sign TC0DUMLU will be QRV from April 1 to 6 to honor the 81 seamen who died when the submarine Dumlupinar sank in 1953. QSL via LoTW.

BENIN, TY. Red, DL1BUG is QRV as TY5FR from Cotonou until April 9. Activity is on 80 to 10 meters, including 60 meters, using CW and SSB. QSL via LoTW.

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA, V2. Bud, AA3B will be QRV as V26K from Antigua, IOTA NA-100, from March 25 to April 2. Activity will be on the HF bands using mostly CW. This includes being an entry in the upcoming CQ World Wide WPX SSB contest. QSL to home call.

MARSHALL ISLANDS, V7. Randall, KX4QD is QRV as V73HW for the next two years. Activity is in his spare time on 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters using SSB and FT8. QSL direct to home call.

BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS, VP2V. Some members of the Bavarian Contest Club will be QRV as VP2VI during April. Activity will be on the HF bands. QSL via DJ4MX.

INDIA, VU. Special event station VU1IARU will be QRV from April 1 to June 29 to celebrate the centenary of the International Amateur Radio Union. QSL via VU2ZH.

INDONESIA, YB. Special event station 8A100IARU will be QRV from April 1 to 30 to celebrate the centenary of the International Amateur Radio Union. QSL via N2OO.

VANUATU, YJ. Chris, VK2YUS is QRV as YJ0CA from Port Vila, IOTA OC-035, until April 3. Activity is on 40 to 10 meters using SSB. This includes being an entry in the CQ World Wide WPX SSB contest. QSL direct to home call.

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## Upcoming *Hamfests*



## *Ohio Hamfests*

**2025**

<p><b>04/05/2025 - <a href="#">Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club 69th Hamfest</a></b>  <b>Location:</b> Cuyahoga Falls , OH  <b>Type:</b> ARRL Hamfest  <b>Sponsor:</b> Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club, Inc.  <b>Website:</b> <a href="https://www.cfarc-hamfest.org">https://www.cfarc-hamfest.org</a>  <a href="#">Learn More</a></p>	<p><b>04/26/2025 - <a href="#">Tusco Amateur Radio Club's 2025 Hamfest, Computer &amp; Electronics Show</a></b>  <b>Location:</b> Dover, OH  <b>Type:</b> ARRL Hamfest  <b>Sponsor:</b> Tusco Amateur Radio Club  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.w8zx.net/hamfest">http://www.w8zx.net/hamfest</a>  <a href="#">Learn More</a></p>
<p><b>04/27/2025 - <a href="#">Athens Hamfest</a></b>  <b>Location:</b> Athens, OH  <b>Type:</b> ARRL Hamfest  <b>Sponsor:</b> Athens County Amateur Radio Association  <b>Website:</b> <a href="https://www.ac-ara.org/">https://www.ac-ara.org/</a>  <a href="#">Learn More</a></p>	<p><b>05/10/2025 - 05/15/2025</b>  <b><a href="#">RV Radio Network Rally</a></b>  <b>Location:</b> Navarre, OH  <b>Type:</b> ARRL Convention  <b>Sponsor:</b> RV Radio Network  <a href="#">Learn More</a></p>
<p><b>05/15/2025 -05/18/2025 - <a href="#">Four Days In May</a></b>  <b>Location:</b> Fairborn, OH  <b>Type:</b> ARRL Convention  <b>Sponsor:</b> QRP Amateur Radio Club International  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://qrparci.org/fdim">http://qrparci.org/fdim</a>  <a href="#">Learn More</a></p>	<p><b>005/16/2025 - 05/18/2025</b>  <b><a href="#">Dayton Hamvention</a></b>  <b>Location:</b> Xenia, OH  <b>Type:</b>  <b>Sponsor:</b> Dayton Amateur Radio Association  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://Hamvention.org">http://Hamvention.org</a>  <a href="#">Learn More</a></p>
<p><b>06/07/2025 - <a href="#">FCARC Summer Hamfest</a></b>  <b>Location:</b> Delta, OH  <b>Type:</b> ARRL Hamfest  <b>Sponsor:</b> Fulton County Amateur Radio Club  <b>Website:</b> <a href="https://k8bxq.org/hamfest">https://k8bxq.org/hamfest</a>  <a href="#">Learn More</a></p>	<p><b>07/19/2025 - <a href="#">Williams County ARA Hamfest</a></b>  <b>Location:</b> Montpelier, OH  <b>Type:</b> ARRL Hamfest  <b>Sponsor:</b> Williams County ARA  <a href="#">Learn More</a></p>
<p><b>07/19/2025 - <a href="#">NOARSfest</a></b>  <b>Location:</b> Elyria, OH  <b>Type:</b> ARRL Hamfest  <b>Sponsor:</b> Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society  <b>Website:</b> <a href="https://www.noars.net/hamfests/noarsfest/">https://www.noars.net/hamfests/noarsfest/</a>  <a href="#">Learn More</a></p>	<p><b>07/20/2025 - <a href="#">Van Wert Hamfest</a></b>  <b>Location:</b> Van Wert, OH  <b>Type:</b> ARRL Hamfest  <b>Sponsor:</b> Van Wert Amateur Radio Club  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://w8fy.org">http://w8fy.org</a>  <a href="#">Learn More</a></p>
<p><b>08/02/2025 - <a href="#">Columbus Hamfest</a></b>  <b>Location:</b> Grove City, OH  <b>Type:</b> ARRL Hamfest  <b>Sponsor:</b> Aladdin Shrine Audio Unit</p>	<p><b>08/09/2025 - <a href="#">Cincinnati Hamfest<sup>SM</sup></a></b>  <b>Location:</b> Owensville, OH  <b>Type:</b> ARRL Hamfest  <b>Sponsor:</b> Milford Amateur Radio Club</p>

<p><b>Website:</b> <a href="http://columbushamfest.com">http://columbushamfest.com</a>  <b>Learn More</b></p>	<p><b>Website:</b> <a href="https://CincinnatiHamfest.org">https://CincinnatiHamfest.org</a>  <b>Learn More</b></p>
<p><b>08/16/2025 - <u><a href="#">Portsmouth Radio Club 2025 Hamfest</a></u></b>  <b>Location:</b> New Boston, OH  <b>Type:</b> ARRL Hamfest  <b>Sponsor:</b> ARRL, Jett Fire Equipment, Shawnee Computer and More  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.portsmouthradioclub.com">http://www.portsmouthradioclub.com</a>  <b>Learn More</b></p>	<p><b>08/17/2025 - <u><a href="#">Warren Hamfest</a></u></b>  <b>Location:</b> Cortland, OH  <b>Type:</b> ARRL Hamfest  <b>Sponsor:</b> Warren Amateur Radio Association  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://w8vtd.com/hamfest">http://w8vtd.com/hamfest</a>  <b>Learn More</b></p>
<p><b>09/07/2025 - <u><a href="#">Findlay Hamfest</a></u></b>  <b>Location:</b> Findlay, OH  <b>Type:</b> ARRL Hamfest  <b>Sponsor:</b> Findlay Radio Club  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://w8ft.org">http://w8ft.org</a>  <b>Learn More</b></p>	<p><b>09/28/2025 - <u><a href="#">Cleveland Hamfest</a></u></b>  <b>Location:</b> Berea, OH  <b>Type:</b> ARRL Hamfest  <b>Sponsor:</b> Hamfest Association of Cleveland  <b>Website:</b> <a href="https://www.hac.org">https://www.hac.org</a>  <b>Learn More</b></p>
<p><b>10/04/2025 - <u><a href="#">Northwest Ohio Amateur Radio Club (NWOARC) Hamfest</a></u></b>  <b>Location:</b> Lima, OH  <b>Type:</b> ARRL Hamfest  <b>Sponsor:</b> Northwest Ohio Amateur Radio Club  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.nwoarc.com">http://www.nwoarc.com</a>  <b>Learn More</b></p>	<p><b>08/16/2026 - <u><a href="#">Warren Hamfest</a></u></b>  <b>Location:</b> Cortland, OH  <b>Type:</b> ARRL Hamfest  <b>Sponsor:</b> Warren Amateur Radio Association  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://w8vtd.com/hamfest">http://w8vtd.com/hamfest</a>  <b>Learn More</b></p>

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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!

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DX This Week – #326

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



Welcome to “DX this Week.” Just for fun, I took a minute to review my logbook from 6 years ago. Compared to this week, it was DISMAL! Those days are coming sooner than later so get on the air and work the DX while it is easier to work.

However, don’t get too depressed about the time when the sunspot cycle declines. I have had some of my best DX work on 160 and 80 when the sunspot count is down. Also, FT8 IS a game changer, and the bottom of the cycle is not the death sentence it was in previous years. However, let’s work then while they are easier!

The CQWW WPX SSB contest occurs this weekend. Depending upon when you are listening to this, it may be over, but there is still an opportunity for you. I had kind of forgotten about this but during a presentation that I recently gave entitled “Chasing DX During a Contest”, an important coaching point came to mind.

If you were going to operate from a DX location such as the Turks & Caicos or Andorra, would you fly in the day of the contest and fly out on Monday after? Most likely not.

Many contesters will arrive days early to make sure that the equipment was operational, logistics were set up, and jet lag was dealt with. They would also not leave Monday morning as they have logs to deal with, equipment tear down, and other logistics to deal with. The point is that they will most likely be on the air days before and days after the contest. AND, they typically are on modes that they may not be using during the contest and may be on the WARC bands that are not valid for contacts in the contest. Don’t forget these time periods to get some band slots.

I received an email this past week from Howard, N8HO. Howard wrote:  
*“Hi Bill,*

*I received two QSL cards this week, one of which is an ATNO for me. I have been trying to get Magdi, ST0HQ, card for three years and finally found out why it took so long. Here is an email I received from Florian, PB8DX, explaining the situation.*

*Dear OM/YL,*

*You previously sent a paper QSL request to Magdi (ST2M) for one or more of the following callsigns: ST2M, ST2BSS, ST0HQ.*

*A few months ago, I lent a helping hand to Magdi (ST2M), and thanks to support from VERON (the national Dutch radio association), 2,000 paper QSL cards were printed and shipped to his family address in Egypt. Magdi is currently commuting between northern Sudan and Egypt, as he has been unable to return to his home in Khartoum for several months due to the ongoing civil war. (Basically, if you received an e-mail from me, I have your card and will be sending it to you.)*

*73 !*

*Florian PB8DX.*

*Howard N8HO”*

Thanks Howard – Shows you that many hams have more to worry about than we do!



## DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH DAH DIT 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](mailto:thedxmentor@gmail.com).

Here is what should be on in the coming week. Let me know how many of these you were able to work!

Depending upon when you are listening to this, it could be over. If not, it is a great chance to get a semi-rare ATNO or band slot. A group of operators from Azerbaijan are planning a DXpedition to the rare location of Khizi Mountain as 4K0T on March 29 and 30. Activity will be on SSB and FT8 on 80-10 meters. The team will include 4K7RF, Farid; 4K5RA, Ruslan; 4K6EH, Elgun; and other operators.

A group of hams from the Czech Republic are QRV as 3B9DJ until April 5. They plan to be on 160-10M CW, SSB, and FT8. QSL via OK6DJ and LoTW.

SP9FIH, Janusz, has begun his FJ/SP9FIH operations from St. Barts. Although he is not an avid FT8 user, he will operate this mode due to high community demand. During the first four days of his FJ/SP9FIH operation, he will use Fox/hound and MSHV. Interested parties should learn how to operate SuperFox. Janusz often prefers SSB, his favorite mode, despite hearing difficulties. He has LoTW certificates for both callsigns.

VK2YUS, Chris, will be QRV as YJØCA from Port Vila until April 3, including participation in the CQ Worldwide WPX Contest, SSB as a single-operator entry. He will use an ICOM IC-7300 and a small amplifier with simple wire antennas and verticals on 40-10M. Operating hours are expected to be mostly between 2100 UTC and 1000 UTC due to local nighttime noise levels. He does not

use any electronic logging or QSL systems but maintains paper logbooks and provides high-quality physical QSL cards for confirmations. QSL cards for requested confirmation of contacts will be dispatched by air mail in April from Australia.

ZC4 - UK Sovereign Base Areas on Cyprus – This was a rare one for me for a long time. I still need many band slots for ZC4. G4WXJ, Dave is planning his next intermittent holiday activity from Dhekelia SBA Cyprus (grid locator KM64ux) as ZC4RH from April 6-11.

He'll be running 100 watts into dipoles and an EFHW. Activity will be on 7-50 MHz on CW, SSB, FT8 and FT4.

Paul, GW0NGA, will be from Jamestown, St. Helena as ZD7PG, April 12-19, not on the air every day, he says, because he is looking forward to relaxing on the beautiful island. He says he will still have plenty of time on the air and will sort out QSLing when he's back in the UK. Not active on eQSL or LoTW, he likes real paper QSLs, but might "knock out some eQSLs if asked."

K4HYD, Austin, plans to operate K4HYD/C6A the Retreat National Garden (park BS-0025) in the Bahamas on April 10th on FT8 and/or CW.

IW2NEF, Flavio, is active on HF holiday-style from Filitheyo Island in the Maldives as 8Q7EF April 2-10. QSL via IK2DUW, via HE9ERA, or Club Log OQRS.

There are two opportunities for you to get V7, the Marshall Islands, in the log.

KZ4V, Tim, is in the Marshall Islands through April 20 for a scientific mission. As V73MT, he will be on Majuro, Mejatoo, Enewetak, and Bikini, and will be on the air, mainly on 40, 20, and 17M SSB and FT8 at various "unpredictable" times. He will also operate aboard his boat. QSL through QRZ.com, Club Log, and LoTW.

KX4QD, Randall, is returning to the Marshall Islands for his second tour, from now until 2027. He will be on Kwajalein Island in the Kwajalein Atoll and will use the callsign V73HW. He expects to be on 80-6M SSB and FT8, using an ICOM IC-7300 at 100W into an inverted vee. QSL direct to PSC 701, Box 307, APO AP 96555, or via Club Log or LoTW.

The most recent DX Mentor YouTube is an interview with NA2AA, David Minster, the CEO of the ARRL. David discusses his amateur radio journey as well as issues that are facing the ARRL.

You can also check out the DX Mentor facebook page to keep tabs on what is current and what is coming.

DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH DAH DIT DIT DIT DAH

## CONTEST CORNER

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

Here are some details on one of my favorite contests, the 2025 CQ Worldwide WPX Contests. The SSB weekend is March 29-30 and CW is May 24-25. The contest starts 0000 Z Saturday and ends Z Sunday.

From the CQWW WPX website, I found this explanation. “Thrill in the chase of thousands of unique callsign prefixes from hundreds of DX entities in the world’s largest everyone-works-everyone radio contests.

The CQ Worldwide WPX (WPX) contests are immensely popular operating activities that enjoy broad participation by amateurs around the globe. The events attract amateurs at all levels of proficiency from beginner to world champion. WPX features a diversity of categories for single operator and multi-operator stations, including the Youth Overlay for entrants 25 years of age or younger, so please come and join the fun!

Here are the basics of the contest. Amateurs worldwide try to contact as many amateurs and prefixes as possible during the period of operation. Single Operator stations may operate 36 of the 48 hours and off times must be a minimum of 60 minutes during which no QSO is logged. Multi-operator stations may operate for the full 48 hours.

Contacts are valid on the 1.8, 3.5, 7, 14, 21, and 28 MHz bands (no WARC bands). Exchange a RS(T) report plus a progressive contact serial number starting with 001 for the first contact. Note: Multi-Two, Multi-Unlimited and Multi-Transmitter Distributed entrants use separate serial number sequences on each band.

With a call like AJ8B, you can probably see why I like these contests.

<b>Contest</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>End Date</b>
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 Contest, Digital	4/26/2025	4/27/20256
Florida QSOP	4/26/2025	4/27/20256



10-10 Intl. Spring Contest, CW	5/3/2025	5/4/2025
New England QSO Party	5/3/2025	5/4/2025
Delaware QSOP	5/3/2025	5/4/2025
Idaho QSOP	3/8/2025	3/9/2025
Indiana QSOP	5/3/2025	5/4/2025
SWODXA DXDINNER	5/16/2025	
SWODXA DXForum	5/17/2025	
Arkansas QSOP	5/17/2025	5/18/2025
CQ WW WPX Contest, CW	5/24/2025	5/25/2025

# OHIO'S



It's officially the hamfest season as the Levo household has just returned from our first 'fest of the year. Traditionally, unless we hit HamCation, we kick off the season at the Cave City, KY hamfest. In a state that does not have the number of hamfests as Ohio, it is said to be Kentucky's largest hamfest. And that could be right. It's always well attended and an enjoyable one. Plus I get to see a lot of treasures I don't see at the Ohio shows. Although I noticed some vacant tables, the flea market vendors overflowed the inside space and several had to set up in the outside farmer's market pavilion.



Speaking of hamfests, the **Athens County ARA**'s annual hamfest is quickly approaching. It will be on Sunday April 27 at the Community Center on East State Street in Athens. With all the planning and effort they have been doing is any indication it should be another top notch affair. As in past years, the admission will remain at \$5.

Of course who can overlook what might be the largest gathering of amateur radio hobbyists from around the globe. I'm speaking of the world respected

Dayton Hamvention. Since the **Dayton ARA** gave birth to it in a downtown Dayton hotel in the 1950s this event now draws nearly 35,000 people who are interested in amateur radio and radio technology to the Greene County Fairgrounds in Xenia for three days. This year's Hamvention will be on May 16 to 18. My personal opinion is that every licensed or want to be ham should attend this event at least once in their lifetime. Another wonderful thing is that while hundreds travel from remote parts of the globe to attend, it is in our own backyard. Check it out and plan to attend. [www.hamvention.org](http://www.hamvention.org).

The **Athens County ARA** recently conducted another successful ARRL License test. Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, reports three people tested with two passing. COVID prevented a fourth from testing. Linda Clark of Albany made Technician and is now KF8DQV with Donald Wirtshafter of Athens going away with a CSCE for General and is KF8DRQ. Although Brian Waibi of Athens did not test at the ACARA session, Ted Jacobson, W8KVK, reports he successfully tested for the Tech and is now KF8DQN. Ted also reports that James Prewitt of Goshen is now KF8DQA.

**Highland ARA** President John Willis, KE8JEM, reports eight individuals are attending the Club's Technician/General license study group each Sunday afternoon at the Hillsboro Methodist Church. The group represents a wide range of ages from a sixth grader to a lady in her 80s. There are at least three folks looking to upgrade to General. On Monday evening, March 31, those in the study group will assemble at the N8ZNR/W8KIW QTH to sit in on the weekly HARA net at 9 PM. It's hoped a good number of hams from throughout the area will check into the net to welcome these prospective hams and encourage them to become active in the hobby. You don't have to be a HARA member to check in and show your support. The net is on the Hillsboro 147.21 repeater with a 100 hz tone. Doctor Dave, K8DG, will be the net control.

An email from **Clinton County ARA** Vice President Mark Atwell, WX8A, reminds hams in that area of the Last Saturday Breakfast on March 29 at Sam's Meats and Deli in Wilmington. 8:30 AM Following it they will adjourn to the Boyd Cancer Center for their monthly Hangout and Build.

The flip of the calendar page from March to April resets the schedule of club meetings, breakfasts and other events. The **Clinton County ARA** will have their normal business meeting on Thursday, April 3 at the Cancer Center in Wilmington. On the 7<sup>th</sup>, the **Portsmouth RC** will meet at the American Legion Post in Portsmouth then on the following evening, the **Highland ARA** will meet at the County EMA Office at 7 PM. The **Deforest RC** will also meet that evening at the ABCAP Office in West Union. On Saturday morning the 12<sup>th</sup> the **Bainbridge Ham Group** will meet for breakfast at 8 AM at the Dutch Restaurant in Bainbridge and the **Highland ARA** will gather at 10 AM at either the Hillsboro City Park's Harmony Lake Shelter House or the Burger King restaurant depending upon the weather. On April 19, the **Fayette ARA** and the **Lancaster Fairfield County ARA** will each have their monthly breakfast gatherings at their usual locations and times.

No Foolin'—The **Cambridge ARA**'s Trivia net will observe its fifth anniversary on April 1. The net was established during COVID as a way for members to keep in contact with each other. It is on CARA's 146.85 repeater each Monday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings at 8 PM.

On Saturday, April 5, the **Athens County ARA** will assist the Iron Furnace Trail Run with communications support followed by the annual Athens Marathon on the 13<sup>th</sup> (Palm Sunday). According to Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, on April 26 the Club will provide assistance to the Athens "Race For A Reason". If you are available to assist with any of these events give Jeff a call at his cell 740-541-0972.

Due to medical issues, the starting date for the **Lancaster Fairfield County ARA**'s Technician License class has been changed. It will now start on April 7 and run through April 11. It will run nightly from 6 until around 9 at the Fairfield County EMA Training Center in Lancaster. Registration is required at [training@k8qik.org](mailto:training@k8qik.org) or calling Tim Lentz, KD8QCA, at 740-684-2787.

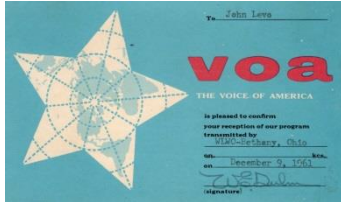
On April 10 the **Deforest ARC** will conduct a Loral VE session at the Adams County EMA Center. Contact K8WEH at [k8weh@arrl.net](mailto:k8weh@arrl.net) for more information or to register to test.

Although the government has cut the number of in-person NWS Weather Spotter Training sessions this year, some are still happening. On April 11 the Charleston Office will conduct a program at the McArthur Fire Department and then on April 14 the Wilmington Office will conduct one at the Atrium Medical Center in Middletown. Wilmington will conduct another on April 15 at the Hocking County EOC in Logan. Pickerington will be the site for an April 28 session at the Fairfield County DD Pickerington Office. All sessions begin at 6 PM. On May 13 there will be a virtual training session at 7 PM.

Mark your calendars for some future hamfests in the South 40 Region. On August 9 the **Milford ARC** sponsored Cincinnati Hamfest will be held at the Clermont County Fairgrounds in

Owensville. The **Portsmouth RC** will have their annual hamfest in New Boston on August 16. On September 20 the **Buffalo Ham** Swap meet will be held at the Leavitt Funeral Home in Belpre.

During a recent conversation with another ham of my approximate age I commented that with all the cuts to federal agencies I wondered how long it would be before the Voice of America shortwave service would become history. Recent reports out of Washington indicate I didn't have long to wait as the axe has fallen and VOA has now gone dark. The VOA and I go back a long way. It was in the late 1950s and early '60s when I got interested in radio and discovered the VOA and its "Yankee Doodle" identification while scanning the shortwave dial on my parents old Philco medium/shortwave kitchen radio. Later I had the opportunity to visit the old Bethany Relay Station several times until it was decommissioned and even was at the Greenville, NC sites a couple of times. Those antenna fields with the Sterba curtin antennas and dozens of towers were just mind blowing. Although the "old way" of telling America's story via shortwave radio is deemed "old fashioned" by today's generation, it was dependable. And who could forget Willis Conover and his weekly "Jazz Hour" that was a VOA staple for over 40 years. It's just too bad you became a victim of politics. Kind of makes me wonder how long WWV and WWVH will be around? RIP VOA.



As stated in the past, I like to end my columns on a happy note instead of a downer like above. Thanks to information from Jennifer Bailey, N8JEN, I can do that. She informs us that Paul Mossbarger, WD8APX, has recently upgraded to General following the recent **Portsmouth RC**'s VE session. Congrats.

Until next time, let's stay safe, happy and radio active. Plus support your local club.

*John*, W8KIW

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

Hello All,

Ham Radio Open House is coming in April and clubs across the country are urged to participate. It's now possible for a radio club or school to add their station open house to the ARRL Ham Radio Open House Locator.

The Open House Locator is linked from the World Amateur Radio Day page at [www.arrl.org/world-amateur-radio-day](http://www.arrl.org/world-amateur-radio-day), or go directly to the locator at [www.arrl.org/open-house](http://www.arrl.org/open-house). Details about Ham Radio Open House are at [World Amateur Radio Day](#)

Let's get the word out.  
Thanks,

Mike

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**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://arrrl-ohio.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/print\\_your\\_license.pdf](https://arrrl-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 KD8SCL	Section Youth Coordinator and Asst Section Manager – 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://arrrl-ohio.org/section-swap-shop/>

<https://arrrl-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](mailto:swap@arrlohio.org)

[swap@arrl-ohio.org](mailto:swap@arrl-ohio.org)

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### ***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/>



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### ***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-section-newsletter/>

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](mailto:webmaster@arrl-ohio.org)

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## *Chit – Chat, and All That!*

How about amending the template with this?

Do you know someone that's not getting these Newsletters? Please, forward a copy of this Newsletter over to them. They can head over to <https://arrl-ohio.org/ohio-section-newsletter/> to sign up. Or, just have them send an email to: [webmaster@arrl-ohio.org](mailto:webmaster@arrl-ohio.org) and they'll be 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/>

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