



May 7, 2025

WWW.ARRL-Ohio.org

April Handbook Giveaway Winner - AD8MQ John Chlebus

April 1 question questionnaire – Will you participate in NVIS Day?

22 Yes and 42 No

From the Technical Coordinator

Jeff Kopcak – K8JTK TC
K8JTK@arrl.net

Hey gang,
What happened to RFinder? That is the question. Recent findings indicate it's not going well. RFinder World Wide Repeater Directory (WWRD) was the ARRL's pick for the online Repeater Directory and data source for the printed edition. That partnership was [announced in early 2016](#). Back in August (2024), [it was announced](#) that two LLC's (limited liability company) acquired majority ownership of RFinder, LLC, essentially taking it over.

[I liked features of RFinder](#) and the Android app but it suffered from "paper repeaters" - repeaters that only exist on paper (coordinated) but haven't been on the air in some time or were never on the air. In addition, there were outdated repeater records that were decades old stale data. I had submitted many corrections multiple times yet old data remained. That kept me from regularly using the service as my source for radio programming information. The subscription price seemed steep for the quality of data, too. I had a lifetime subscription, which was later removed as an option.



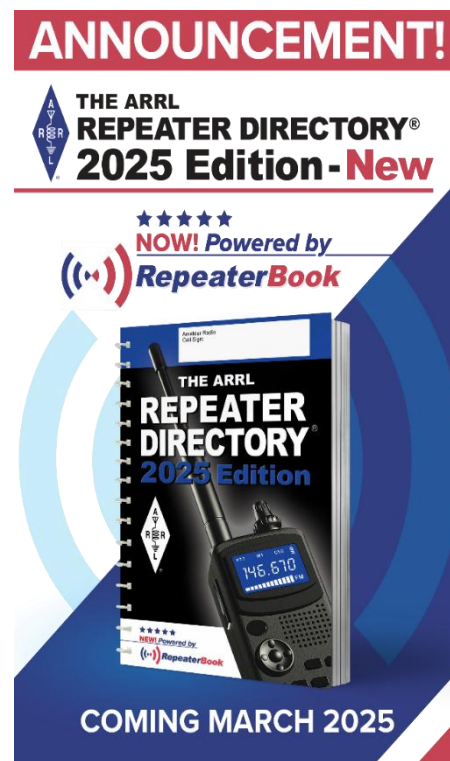
It got overly confusing when RFinder started selling Android cell phone devices with built in FM and DMR transmitters integrated with their WWRD app. With a few taps, the radio would be programmed for a nearby DMR repeater or use Brandmeister over the cell network or WiFi network connection. Though the RFinder Shop heavily promoted their radio products, it was obvious they were not pushing RFinder WWRD subscriptions. I have been getting newsletters from company name variations like Network-Radios[dot]com, RFinder[dot]shop, Inrico[dot]shop - promoting different radio products.

Should have known something was up when I opened a ticket at the end of May last year (2024), then their Help Desk system disappeared. After a few clicks on old RFinder URLs, a new directory branded “Unified Radios Directory” appears though it doesn’t seem to work. After accepting prompts to allow geolocation: “Error getting location. Unable to determine your location.” Guess the focus on “on innovation, customer trust, and enhanced product offerings” hasn’t yet happened. Recent announcements indicate the ARRL is no longer expecting much from the RFinder WWRD partnership.

Within the last few months or so, [a Unified Radios site](#) indicates pending legal action with accusations of “willful violation of a binding settlement agreement” and intellectual property accusations against Bob Greenberg and RFinder, LLC. Unified Radios suggests canceling existing RFinder [active subscriptions through PayPal](#) and disputing charges made since September 2024. More information at the Unified Radios link above.

Recent ARRL mailings and ads show the 2025 edition of the Repeater Directory now has

[RepeaterBook](#) on the front cover! I’m very happy to hear of this change. I’ve long relied on and submitted information to RepeaterBook. Their data is mostly crowdsourced – users provide new repeaters or updates to existing repeaters for things such as offsets, PL tones, location, sponsor, highway converge, digital mode, and Internet linking configurations. I know the Ohio administrator will verify certain submission data with the repeater trustee and validates repeaters are still on-air every few years. Most effort I’ve seen put into accurate repeater records since I’ve been licensed. I wish the site looked more unified because different features of the website look “bolted on” (have a different look/functionally different from the rest of the site). The RepeaterBook app is pretty basic. No maps showing current position and nearby repeaters, for example, which is a must-have feature for me. It’s useful to me seeing repeaters in the direction I’m headed and not care so much about the ones I’ve already passed. These are minor issues knowing there are like two guys coding the site. Both the site and app are otherwise functional. The few times I’ve found issues with the site, I message KD6KPC (RepeaterBook owner) and he fixes it quick.



2025 Repeater Directory powered by RepeaterBook (repeaterbook)

RepeaterBook is free to use though an account is required to submit information and export data (to a radio programmer, for example). I welcome this change and hope this results in a more accurate Repeater Directory with minimal stale data and minimal paper repeaters. The [2025 ARRL Repeater Directory using RepeaterBook](#) is available now in the ARRL Store.

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

From the Section Emergency Coordinator

Bret Stemen – KD8SCL EC

KD8SCL@gmail.com



Perk Up!

Take a look at volunteer organizations around you. Some are vibrant, active, and the people are busy but they love it. Others are shrinking, slow to react, and the people are...well...kind of tired of it. There's a disease that affects volunteers no matter the noble purpose of their groups. It is called lethargy.

In amateur radio, either ARES or a club, you can count on the 80/20 rule: 20% of the people do 80% of the work. And it's easy to get burned out. You've probably seen the meeting: a half dozen of the 'old guys' file into the room, talk about what they did over the past month, then pretty much wander back home. How do we stop this? How do we get the folks who've been doing this longer than some others have been alive, to perk back up?

The answer is an interesting opposite to what you might think. The way you get the members back, and even build something that other hams want to get involved with, is to DO STUFF! That's right- the more active a group becomes, the more interested its members tend to be. ARES is all about being a resource during a real emergency. How do we get ready, and how do we stay ready? We train. Serious, meaningful training. What happens if we're activated to help search for a missing person? What happens if there's a flood? What really goes on inside that EOC, and who are the players? How do I work one of those MARCS radios? How is our county's communications divided?

We don't live in an area where things hit the fan...we don't do wildfires, don't have hurricanes, earthquakes are rare, floods are usually very localized. That's true, but take a look at the safety agencies. THEY have the same issues- stuff just doesn't happen a lot around here. But they realize the need to stay ready! They train, they practice just as if the next call will set everything off. WE need to be the same way- trained, practiced and ready. If you're in leadership and don't feel qualified to provide that training, don't fret. Nobody expects you to be a wizard! The secret

to good management is not to know all the answers, but to know the people who DO! Find someone on a department who can take you through these topics and more! They'll be happy to do that. Face-time and getting to know each other and your capabilities will join together to make life really interesting and worthwhile in the ARES world. You'll see over a period of months that your attendance will grow and people will come back!

Another aspect of being ready and trained is being able to show somebody you're qualified. Thus, the requirement for the four FEMA classes. Yes, amateur radio and ARES are a part- not only with other agencies on the outskirts who are planning to be ready for anything.

Bret KD8SCL

Elizabeth Kline, KE8FMJ
OHIO Section Public Information Coordinator
ke8fmj@gmail.com



Next in our PIO series is the chapter on Extending PR Into the Community. From ARRL's PIO [Handbook](#):

[Note: ARRL has replaced the PIO handbook with the PR-101 course. It is a large downloadable file with a lot of good information. I suggest checking it out.]

Other Public Relations Ideas

Articles in newspapers and magazines, or news stories on TV or radio, aren't the only ways to promote amateur radio in your community. Here are a few additional public relations tips you might try in getting your message through. Feel free to adapt them to your situation.

Letters to the Editor

Nearly every newspaper and magazine prints readers' letters. This can often be an

excellent forum to thank a community organization or leader for helping your group, or to offer recognition for your group's activities (ask served organizations to write letters to the editor, thanking your group for its help). Letters to the editor can be especially useful for setting the record straight if an article or another letter has unfairly painted Amateur Radio in a negative light. Be sure to write calmly and rationally, and avoid the urge to get into ongoing debates in the "Letters" column.

Amateur Radio Public Awareness Day

To make the public more aware of the existence, purposes, and benefits of Amateur Radio, clubs and Field Organization members set up public displays across the nation, in schools, libraries, town halls, parks - anywhere an imaginative group can think of - on Amateur Radio Public Awareness Day. The special day is held each September on the third Saturday. Why September? It's a time when no other major Amateur Radio event is taking place. Schools are back in session, and clubs are looking for a good kick-off for their fall seasons. The weather is generally good enough for outdoor exhibits at fairs and town parks.

For a comprehensive tutorial on putting together a good exhibit, see the ARRL Special Events Communications Manual.

Club "Fact Sheet"

If your club or organization doesn't already have one, prepare a brochure or "fact sheet" giving a little of its history, describing its mission, listing its officers and outlining the programs and events it sponsors. This is a great handout to use when you meet with the media or with government and emergency management officials. It can also be a neat thing to use in recruiting or orienting new members.

Public Service Events

Public events present unique settings for a "captive" audience to become more aware of Amateur Radio. They are ideal for attracting inquiries and promoting interest in our hobby.

After a club has committed to providing communications for an event, ask for support for the public information and public relations effort. Most event sponsors are eager to help us promote Amateur Radio at their events.

Ask for space for a paragraph on Amateur Radio in the event brochure, program and Press Kit. Depending on the event and the circumstances, this can range from mere acknowledgment of Amateur Radio operators to a brief description of our hobby and contact information such as the ARRL (for the prospective ham mailing with list of local clubs, classes and exam sessions).

In most cases, it is better for the promotion of Amateur Radio to refer to the group

"generically" as Amateur Radio Operators or Ham Radio rather than using your club or group name (if you have one). The idea is to get the words "Amateur Radio" or "Ham Radio" in front of the public eye as much as possible. The Wireless Association of Greater Norfolk County may be a super club but the name doesn't convey Amateur Radio to the general public.

Make your activity and participants visible! Position a station in a highly visible and well traveled location (with regard to spectators and participants). The Net Control Station (when feasible) or an Information station with a LARGE sign or banner displaying Ham Radio or Amateur Radio is a good attention getter. You may find someone in your area or club who has one to loan or who can generate one with computer banner or sign programs.

Ask to have the Public Address Announcer make a few announcements regarding Amateur Radio. Have "prepared" copy to be read, thanking the amateurs for their participation and inviting people to get more information about Amateur Radio. You or one of your crew can hand this directly to the Public Address Announcer.

Ask for space on the event information table or for your own info table. Handouts can include: Address of ARRL for prospective ham mailing, list of local clubs or classes, and a brochure describing Amateur Radio. You may want to collect names and addresses of interested persons and forward them to ARRL for the prospective ham mailing (using sign-up slips and a "bucket" or other methods). Arrange for visible means of identifying each ham participant and station. Signs on mobile communications vehicles and caps with the words Ham Radio on them are excellent. The general public should be able to read these from a distance. Buttons, ribbons, vests, arm-bands, sashes and badges are also good, but in a crowded environment, baseball caps stand out well. Some event sponsors find it to their advantage to have the hams easy to locate in a crowd and may provide reimbursement for such items. Ask them!

Do arrange for a news release of some sort to the local media before and after the event. Again, this is to get the words Amateur Radio in front of them. Who knows? You may find that someone wants to get more of the story on the Amateur Radio involvement at the event.

Invite Local Officials To Field Day, Club Meetings

Adopt selected key government officials and invite them to attend a Field Day exercise or other activity where you can show off your capabilities. Invite them to a club meeting to talk to your members about the community's emergency planning.

Invite local emergency management officials to your meetings, too.

Proclamations

If your club or organization has a significant anniversary like, "The Hamrad Amateur Radio Club's 25th year," ask the town fathers or even the state's Governor to issue a proclamation commemorating the event. They are usually happy to oblige. Follow up with a news release. These are considered newsworthy events: Don't miss the opportunity.

Recognition Awards

Give a recognition award of your own. If you can identify a local government or emergency planning official in your community who deserves recognition, give him or her an award. A classy-looking certificate can be made up easily by one of your computer-literate members with a laser printer, a decent piece of paper and a suitable frame. Invite your honoree and the media to a club meeting for the presentation. If the local garden club can do it, so can you!

Other Organizations

If your club meets in a church, a firehouse or a lodge hall, these organizations may be willing and interested in including your club's meeting announcements or other information about your activities in their newsletters or other publications.

The Workplace

If any of your members works for a company or entity with a company house organ, consider communicating with its editor to suggest an article on the employee's amateur activity. Many company house organs often feature unusual employee hobbies.

Speakers Bureau

Help your club start a speakers bureau and then promote it. Let your local schools and community service groups know it exists and that you have people willing to present a program. These groups need program material, too, to keep their meetings interesting.

Public Programs

Consider having your club work on a project to develop a really interesting program about Amateur Radio using slides or a video format. This is a great idea for clubs looking for something interesting to do that will help them grow.

Use the slide or video program you developed above to meet with your local service clubs and present programs to them on local Amateur Radio activity.

These are just a few of the things you can do. With a little effort, you could easily add to this list of projects that have a positive public relations impact.

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Elizabeth Klinc, KE8FMJ AuxC

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

From the Ohio Section Youth Coordinator

Anthony Luscre, K8ZT - SYC

k8zt73@gmail.com

Summer Camp, ARRL Field Day & Hamvention-

Summer Camp

The Youngstown State University College of STEM will host a week-long **STEM Wireless**

Communication Day Camp for rising 6th—9th grade students June 9-13, from 9 AM to 3 PM. This is an excellent opportunity for youngsters, and I need you to get the word out to friends, family, schools and organizations. The brochure is below,

but you can share it with others using this simple shortcut - [tiny.cc/ysu-](https://tiny.cc/ysu-rc)

[rc](https://tiny.cc/ysu-rc). Please forward this link to anyone who might have students who would be interested.



Wireless Communication Camp

at Williamson Innovation Park

Youngstown State University College of STEM will host a week-long STEM Wireless Communication Day Camp for rising 6th—9th grade students **June 9-13**, from 9 AM to 3 PM.



[tiny.cc/ysu-](https://tiny.cc/ysu-radio-camp)

[radio-camp](https://tiny.cc/ysu-radio-camp)

Do you know how information travels from place to place? Learn about this ever-advancing technology from the Morse-code beginnings to radio communication and now to advanced wireless and 5 G. Prepare for a future career in wireless communication!

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

Camp is Monday through Friday from 9 AM to 3 PM. Registration closes two weeks before the start of camp or when the camp is full. Space is limited! The cost is \$175 per attendee, which includes all supplies, activities, take-homes and lunch. The Williamson Innovation Park is at 8399 Tippecanoe Rd, Canfield, OH 44406. We hope to see you there!

“ARRL FD Update” Ohio Section Zoom Session



On Thursday, May 22nd, at 8:00 PM, the ARRL Ohio Section will hold the first of its new online training sessions with the topic of “2025 ARRL FD Update.” The link to join the session will be available on the Ohio Section website (<https://arrrl-ohio.org/>) before the event. All hams are welcome to attend. I will give an overview of ARRL FD, update on rule changes, entry categories, club or individual operations, planning and operating tips, GOTA stations, logging software, bonus points, public relations and education opportunities and operating resources. We will also have time for Q&A. You can preview the slideshow at tiny.cc/fd-2024.

Hamvention

I will be at the Dayton Hamvention® next week and would love to chat with you. On Thursday, I will attend Four Days In May with the QRP-ARCI group. On Friday through Sunday, I will split my time between visiting vendors, shopping, assisting at Long Island CW Club, and manning my flea market spot (#9904). If

you see me, please introduce yourself. I would love to meet Ohio Section members.

That's it for this month; if I don't see you at Hamvention, I hope to work you on the air soon!
73,
Anthony, K8ZT
(k8zt@arrl.net)



For Teachers & Educators- 2025 ARRL Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology

2025 program dates are now listed:



| Programs of 2025 | Location | Dates |
|--|---------------|----------------------------------|
| TI-1 Staten Island Local Teachers ONLY | NY | Jan |
| TI-1 Introduction to Wireless Technology | Newington, CT | June 9-12 |
| TI Balloons and Amateur Radio | Newington, CT | June 16-19 |
| TI Space Comms & Radio Astronomy | Newington, CT | June 23-26 |
| TI Remote Sensors and Data Gathering | Newington, CT | New Dates: June 30-July 3 |
| TI Balloons and Amateur Radio | Newington, CT | July 14-17 |
| TI-1 Introduction to Wireless Technology | Newington, CT | July 21-24 |
| TI Space Comms & Radio Astronomy | Newington, CT | July 28-31 |
| TI-1 Introduction to Wireless Technology | Newington, CT | Aug 4-7 |
| TI-1 Introduction to Wireless Technology | Newington, CT | Oct 6-9 |
| TI-1 Introduction to Wireless Technology | Newington, CT | Oct 20-23 |

Applications for *TI-1 Sessions* and *TI-1 Electives* are now available on the ARRL website.

For more information on the program, check out the *Teachers Institute*.

[*CLICK HERE to Apply Now*](#)



About ARRL's Teachers Institute: Our goal for the TI program is to equip each teacher with the necessary foundational knowledge through hands-on learning and demonstrations to inspire teachers to continue exploring wireless technology and adapting relevant content into their classroom instruction.

73,
Anthony, K8ZT (k8zt@arrl.net)

From the Section Traffic Manager
Dan Rinaman, AC8NP – STM

AC8NP@AC8NP.COM



Greetings!

I received this from Keith Cook KD8GXL the Net Manager of the Burning River Traffic Net:

50th Anniversary of the Burning River Traffic Net: A Half-Century of Amateur Radio Service and Tradition

ELYRIA, OH – April 15, 2025 — The Burning River Traffic Net (**BRTN**), a local network on the Amateur Radio Relay League's (**A.R.R.L.**) National Traffic System (**NTS**), will celebrate its 50th anniversary in June. Since its inception in 1975, the BRTN has been an active player in the NTS's nationwide network for relaying formal written messages to the Cleveland area and all of north central Ohio, as well as fostering a strong sense of community among amateur radio operators.

A History of Service and Communication

The net was conceived by a group of Cleveland area ham operators needing outlets for messages destined for communities outside the local telephone exchange. At that time, it was a long-distance phone call to counties surrounding Cleveland. Hoping to provide a

'frequency' for Northern Ohio ham operators to meet and exchange 'local traffic': Jerry Spencer- WB8OZA / K8OZ (SK), John Thomas- WB8JSC / AB8Z, Lou Myde - WN8PSO (SK) and Jeff Dettmer - WB8PIY started the net on 146.46 simplex. Looking to associate the net with its service area, John suggested the name "Burning River" in reference to the 1969 fire on the Cuyahoga River in Cleveland. To increase the nets coverage area, it was later moved to the Lorain County Amateur Radio Club's repeater KC8BED (147.150/R).

For five decades, the Burning River Traffic Net has been a reliable communication lifeline standing ready to serve as a vital link when other forms of communication fail. The net, which now operates primarily on the local **W8HF** repeater (145.230/R), serves as a local hub for handling messages or traffic west of the Cuyahoga River and all of north central Ohio. Members of the net relay both formal ARRL messages—such as greetings, congratulations, and personal communications, as well as health, welfare and emergency information, providing a vital service to the community as a whole. During the hurricane Katrina disaster one net member Lew Parson - N8IXF (SK) passed thousands of health and welfare messages from those affected by the calamity to worried friends and family in the north central Ohio area.

Since its start, the net has played an active role in radio communications. Net members operate their own equipment with many having backup power sources. This redundancy provides a network of amateur radio stations that can stay on the air ensuring that critical messages get through. Members of the BRTN meet every Monday, Thursday and Saturday at 9:30 PM local time or whenever amateur radio communications are needed for disasters or public service events. The net is a reliable avenue of communication for the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) as well as other public service organizations in times of disaster who find themselves in need of additional communication alternatives.

The National Traffic System is a daisy chain of networks that relay messages one to the other. The BRTN is the last stop in the north central Ohio area for traffic addressed to locations west of the Cuyahoga River. Messages addressed to areas east of the river go to the BRTN's good friends at the Tri-County Traffic Training Net (TCTTN). The two nets work together to make sure messages get to their final destination. The coverage was originally set up by telephone area codes and station locations so that traffic could be passed without making a toll call. Today with cell phones they still make an effort to deliver messages within their designated areas unless an operator is unavailable to handle the traffic. Up from the Local net is the Section net. These messages are handled by High Frequency radio operators at the Ohio Single Side Band Net. Several HF net liaisons check into the BRTN. Operators such as Don Zickefoose- WB8SIQ, Ron West- N8OD, David Kazdan- AD8Y and Dave Gulyas- W8DJG.

A Commitment to Education and Training

In addition to its role in message handling and emergency communications, the BRTN has been a cornerstone for training and mentorship. Many amateur radio operators, especially those new to the hobby, have learned the ropes of message handling and net operation by joining the BRTN. The net is known for its welcoming and supportive atmosphere, where operators of all skill levels are encouraged to participate. The net even gets a check in from time to time from the Case Amateur

Radio Club's station W8EDU with newly licensed hams sending their first messages. The Burning River Traffic Net has been an excellent place for new hams to learn about formal message handling and to get a feel for net operations on a directed net.

A Community Celebration

To commemorate the 50th anniversary, the Burning River Traffic Net will host a special celebration on Saturday June 21st, 2025, at the Lorain County Metroparks Duck Pond Picnic Area pavilion #1 at 12550 Diagonal Road Lagrange, Ohio at 1 PM. All radio amateurs and those interested in learning more about the amateur radio service are invited.

"We're excited to celebrate this important milestone and reflect on all that we've accomplished," said Keith Cook- KD8GXL, the current net manager for the BRTN. "This is more than just a celebration of the past—it's an opportunity to look forward to the next 50 years of the Burning River Traffic Net and the continued importance of amateur radio in serving the public."

Looking Ahead

As the Burning River Traffic Net looks ahead to its next 50 years, its mission remains the same: to provide a reliable, efficient, and welcoming environment for amateur radio operators to practice message handling and support their community. With new technologies and networks continuing to emerge, the BRTN is poised to adapt and continue its legacy as a vital part of the ARRL's message handling system.

The net's longevity is a testament to the dedication and passion of amateur radio operators who have devoted countless hours to ensuring the flow of communication across the country, regardless of conditions or circumstances.

As the sun sets on its golden anniversary, the BRTN stands not only as a symbol of the past but also as a beacon for the future of amateur radio.

This is a new NTS Training Program from ARRL NTS

Virtual NTS Traffic Net

Many Technician class amateurs miss out on fun and skills learning of traffic handling because they reside in areas of the country where local traffic nets on VHF repeaters don't exist. The Virtual NTS Training Net (VNTN) seeks to address this problem with the creation of a Zoom-based local traffic net that can be accessed by anyone with an internet connection.

VNTN will accept check-ins and radiogram traffic utilizing standard phonetics and pro-signs; in short, participants will enjoy the same experiences as those who check into conventional “RF” traffic nets. The net will incorporate a “hands-on” training approach in traffic procedures, radiogram creation, and relay.

“It is our hope that new amateurs who participate in VNTN will be motivated to join section and region nets on HF after upgrading to a higher license class,” says Phil Temples, K9HI, who chairs EC-FSC’s NTS Subcommittee.

The Net meets Wednesdays at 7:00 PM ET. In future, it is hoped that a west coast version will be established at around 7 PM PT.

The latest VNTN URL can be found at <<https://nts2.arrrl.org/virtual-nts-training-net/>>.

Send a Radiogram

What’s a *Radiogram*?

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

But, you might **not** know that amateur radio operators are primed and ready to step in and provide valuable communications to the general public, when all else fails. Even if Internet service, power lines, and phone lines are all down, amateur radio still can get the message through. To be ready for this, many amateurs have joined a network called the National Traffic System (NTS), which is like a telegraph office over radio. NTS volunteers spend their free time relaying messages, called **Radiograms**, entirely by amateur radio, completely free of charge. This is great practice to be sure they can serve the public during a true emergency!

Send a Radiogram Now — It’s Free!

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

Go to this website to send a message today:

<https://nts2.arrrl.org/radiogram/>



National Traffic System

Traffic and Message Handling

For Skill, Service, and Fun!

The ARRL got its start to organize message delivery to get messages delivered efficiently, accurately to its destination by different radio stations. This tradition continues today using CW, voice, and digital.

- Why practice traffic handling?
- It teaches operator good skills.
- It gives you valuable skills in times of emergency passing health and welfare messages.
- You learn how to operate under adverse conditions without power.
- You create friendships and camaraderie.

Any license class can handle traffic even with a basic HT. Ask a mentor, club, or go to nts2.arrl.org for more information. There are nets you can join to learn and practice this skill. Consider Traffic Handling as part of your Ham Radio experience!

Ohio Section Nets

If you have traffic you need to move, take it to a VHF net or HF via the OSSBN. Here is WHERE TO FIND AN HF OR VHF TRAFFIC NET IN OHIO.



OHIO SINGLE SIDEBAND NET

| | | | |
|-------------------|----------|------------|-----------|
| Morning Session | 10:30 AM | 3972.5 kHz | Every Day |
| Afternoon Session | 4:15 PM | 3972.5 kHz | Every Day |
| Evening Session | 6:45 PM | 3972.5 kHz | Every Day |

OHIO HF CW TRAFFIC NETS

| HF CW NETS | NET TIMES | FREQUENCY | NET MANAGERS |
|---------------|-----------|-------------|--------------|
| Buckeye Early | 6:45 PM | 3.580 MHz | N2LC |
| Buckeye Late | 10:00 PM | 3.590 MHz | WB9LBI |
| Ohio Slow Net | 6:00 PM | 3.53535 MHz | N2LC |

All CW net frequencies plus or minus QRM

OHIO LOCAL VHF TRAFFIC NETS

| VHF NETS | NET TIMES | FREQUENCY | NET MANAGERS |
|----------|-----------------------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| BRTN | Monday, Thursday Saturday 9:30 PM | 145.230 MHz PL 110.9 | KD8GXL |
| COTN | 7:15 PM DAILY | 146.970 MHz PL 123.0 | KV8Z |
| TCTTN | 9 PM Sun, Tues, Fri | 147.015 MHz PL 110.9 | WB8YYS |
| TATN | 8:00 PM DAILY | 146.670 MHz PL 123.0 | WG8Z |

If you have a net in Ohio, you would like to list here please send me the information.
ac8np@ac8np.com.

Thanks For All You Do!

Dan AC8NP
Section Traffic Manager

John Myers, WG8X

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

Welcome to May! I don't know about you, but it seems like once May 1st arrives, life kicks into high gear, and doesn't slow down until fall. No complaints though. This month, will be taken up mostly with the big show. Of course I mean Hamvention. I'm



looking forward to seeing some old friends, and meeting some new ones.

This month, I'll do more on the series about club websites, but I have other things I'd like to squeeze in too, so we'll see how far I get. To be honest, between Hamfests, POTA, and setting up a new toy in the workshop, I became a bit like the butcher who backed up into the meat grinder. Yep, I got a little behind in my work. I know; BOOO!

So, when posting to a WordPress site, you are usually creating a page or a post. I'm not talking about sidebars, but rather the main content.

Pages are pretty much a no brainer. When you go to a page, you everything you see was designed as a part of that page. The page is made up of blocks. There are several types of blocks; which type you use depends a lot on what type of information you want to put on the page, and how much control you want over the formatting.

For instance, I have a fair amount of experience in HTML, & CSS, so I use the HTML blocks almost exclusively. But there are times when I need to do something different.

One of those times, is when working with the One Question Question. For that, we use the Ninja Forms plug-in. Every month, I change it out by deleting the block with last month question, and insert a block with the news question for the month.

Blocks give so much control over the look of the site. Bit, I haven't even scratched the surface of what is possible.

Posts are like a blog entry. Several posts can be placed on a single page, and can be different from each other. PCARS, in Portage Cty for example uses a blog format for their home page. It consists of several posts covering assorted club news. Each email to club members is posted to this page.

I hope this helps whet your appetite for starting a web page for your club or group. If you have comments, or questions, feel free to reach out. I can be reached at webmaster@arrrl-ohio.org.

So moving on, there was a first this month in the web stats. Ordinarily the home page is the most visited page in a given month. This month however, the home page slipped to 2nd place in the rankings. So instead of the top 4 pages, I'm going to start documenting the top 5. So let's have a look.

During the month of April, the top 5 pages at arrrl-ohio.org were:

- 1) Hamfests (arrrl-ohio.org/hamfests/) 391 Views
- 2) Arrrl-ohio Home Page (arrrl-ohio.org/) 352 Views
- 3) Section Swap & Shop (arrrl-ohio.org/section-swap-shop/) 272 Views
- 4) NVIS Day (arrrl-ohio.org/nvis-day/) 145 Views
- 5) NVIS (arrrl-ohio.org/nvis/) 108 Views

Another interesting item is that the Hamfests, swap & shop, and NVIS pages have a relatively high bounce rate. I admit I didn't know what this was, and had to look this up. A bounce indicates a single page session on a website. For instance, the Hamfests page has an 85.9% bounce rate, meaning that people came straight to that page, and left the site from there without exploring. Perhaps some of you are bookmarking the page, or sharing the links. That is great.

Now my job is to entice you to hang around a while, and explore the rest of the site.

And that's it for this month. I hope everyone has a great month, and if you are going to Hamvention, check out the forums. Hamvention is about so much more than the flea Market, and vendor displays. 73 DE WG8X

National News

(from ARRL and other sources)

Join the Fun in Xenia, Ohio



DAYTON HAMVENTION®

Radio Independence

Dayton Hamvention® 2025

Sponsored by the Dayton Amateur Radio Association
Greene County Fair and Expo Center

210 Fairground Road, Xenia Ohio 45385

May 16, 2025 | 9 AM to 5 PM

May 17, 2025 | 9 AM to 5 PM

May 18, 2025 | 9 AM to 1 PM

www.hamvention.org

Exhibits | Flea Market | Forums | Activities | Networking | Friends & Fun!

Hamvention is the world's largest annual gathering of radio amateurs and has been sponsored by the Dayton Amateur Radio Association (DARA) since 1952.



Download the ARRL Events app

The app includes Hamvention's full program, so attendees can browse and schedule forums, preview the list of exhibitors, and navigate the fairgrounds with site maps. During the event, follow the hourly prize drawings, connect with other attendees, and more.

Download the [ARRL Events App](#) now. Available for [Apple](#) and [Android](#) devices, or use the [browser version](#).



Tickets

[Tickets](#) are \$30 and valid for all 3 days. Age 12 years and under are admitted FREE without a ticket if accompanied by a valid ticket holder.

Visit www.hamvention.org/purchase-tickets.

Forums

Hamvention attracts presenters from across ham radio interests and activities, from antenna topics to remote radio operating. The forums schedule has been posted: www.hamvention.org/event-details/forums.

Get There!

For more information visit www.hamvention.org.

Join ARRL at Hamvention

ARRL will feature a spotlight on radio clubs and youth, special exhibits, presentations, a collegiate amateur radio meetup, resources for education, and more!

Youth Rally -- Register Now

Take part in the 2025 ARRL Youth Rally on Saturday, May 17, for hands on activities, discovery, sharing and fun! The Youth Rally is intended for students who are 11 to 21 years of age. While Hamvention offers free tickets for youth aged 12 through high school, advance registration for the Youth Rally is recommended.

Visit www.arrl.org/expo to register.

HAMVENTION!

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

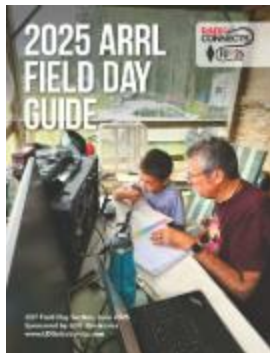


Registration is now open for the 2025 Dayton ConTest University (CTU) to be held all day on Thursday May 15, 2025, at the [Hope Hotel](#) on Wright-Patterson Air Force Base the day before

Hamvention® opens in Xenia, Ohio. 2025 will be the 16th year for CTU Dayton. Eight different countries have hosted CTUs, including the USA, Australia, Russia, Germany, Italy, England, Brazil, and Finland. Over 10,000 students have attended these CTUs with more than 100 CTU professors sharing their contesting experiences. The 2025 CTU Dayton course outline will be posted once all have been confirmed. Each presentation is carefully prepared with up-to-date information. CTU professors are experienced contesters who will share their knowledge, and participants can ask questions and learn new ways to enjoy contesting. Videos and PDF presentations from past CTUs can be viewed at contestuniversity.com. There are scholarships (registration fee paid) available for CTU through a grant from the Northern California DX Foundation for students aged 25 or younger. Student registration information is on the CTU website, contestuniversity.com.

[Read Digital Issues Now](#)

May QST



Special Section for ARRL Field Day 2025

The special Field Day section in the June issue of QST is full of practical advice on tower deployment, logging, public relations outreach, and more to help you have a fun, successful, safe Field Day weekend. [Read QST](#)

May/June On the Air

Planning for Field Day Success

A little bit of planning goes a long way to ensure Field Day fun. Get tips on antennas, setup, operating and more in “Planning for Field Day Success” by David L. Schneider, N8ERL. [Read On the Air](#)



May/June QEX



Calibration of ENR Noise Sources

Take a step toward eliminating your noise problems by learning how to calibrate your Excess Noise Ratio (ENR) noise sources. [Read QEX](#)

May/June NCJ

Operating 2024 CW Sweepstakes QRP @WØECC

Jim Smith, KKØU, did something a little different for ARRL Sweepstakes 2024 — instead of roughing it outdoors, he accepted an opportunity to operate at club station WØECC in Missouri. Read all about his experience in this issue. [Read NCJ](#)



On the Air Podcast



Simple HF Antennas for Field Day

ARRL Education Specialist Wayne Greene, KB4DSF, returns to the podcast to walk readers through his May/June 2025 *On the*

Air article, "Building Simple Antennas for 10 and 15 Meters." [Listen May 8](#)

On the Air Live



Up Next: FT8 and FT4 for ARRL Field Day

Discover how to set up WSJT-X for FT8 and FT4 along with homebrewed 10 and 15 meter antennas to participate in this year's ARRL Field Day.

We'll cover:

WSJT-X installation and setup. How to operate FT8 and FT4. A demonstration of each with a homebrew 10-meter antenna as featured in the

May/June issue of *On the Air* magazine. WSJT-X specific setup for ARRL Field Day.



Date: May 27, 2025



Time: 8 PM Eastern / 5 PM Pacific



[Register Now](#)

ARRL and RRI – Toward One National Traffic System

During the past few weeks, representatives from the NTS subcommittee of the ARRL Board's Emergency Communications and Field Services Committee (EC-FSC) and Radio Relay International (RRI) have been meeting with the intent of finding commonality with

a goal of presenting to the public and public service organizations a National Traffic System with joint oversight, under the leadership and guidance of the reestablished area staffs, reporting to both organizations. A memorandum of agreement has been under discussion and is near finalization. One of the provisions will include a monthly column in *The NTS Letter* by James Wades, WB8SIW, author of RRI's popular *QNI* newsletter. The first article is found below.

Why Participate in NTS?

Does an amateur radio license qualify one to provide emergency communications services to relief or government agencies? Does possession of two-way radio equipment ensure that the radio amateur is an asset to his community?

A strong argument can be made that the answer to both questions is an unequivocal “no.” In fact, one might even argue that important operational messages in the hands of an inexperienced operator can cause major disruptions to a disaster operation.

Just as a soldier or hunter must practice with a rifle, a radio operator must practice conveying third-party messages on nets. The proper use of procedural phrases (prowords), the ability to convey and clarify complex terms using the standard phonetic alphabet, and the ability to achieve the brevity and efficiency of net operation does not come naturally, nor can it be learned “on the fly” in times of emergency.

The National Traffic System exists to provide the knowledge and opportunities needed to develop efficient radio communications skills. Whether one is relaying a routine radiogram or transmitting an important message during a disaster, the process remains the same. In other words, one should not measure the value of the National Traffic System based on the content of routine radiograms. Instead, one should measure the value of NTS based on the training it offers. The skills needed to convey an unfamiliar address, text, or signature are the same skills needed to spell a complex pharmaceutical term or request a quantity of disaster supplies.

Regular participation in NTS and allied traffic nets builds important infrastructure and relationships that can be leveraged as an effective asset in time of emergency. The

procedures used translate seamlessly to “tactical” style nets, such as those common to local ARES® and similar nets.

One needn’t be an “iron-man (or woman)” operator to reap the benefits of NTS participation. Make a commitment to check into one or two nets per week to represent your area. Originate a radiogram or radiogram ICS-213 message once or twice per month. Eventually, proper, standardized procedures will become automatic.

Standardization and practice are essential. When your house is on fire or a medical emergency occurs, it is reasonable to expect that agency volunteers have the necessary training and practice needed to perform their job safely and adequately. Likewise, when your community calls upon the Amateur Radio Service to provide supplemental communications or fill in a gap during a communications outage, it has a reasonable expectation that those reporting to assist have the necessary skills to communicate accurately and effectively. NTS nets provide that training and experience.

There is a renewed interest in organized traffic-handling network operations. Jump in and assist with the ongoing NTS renaissance while preparing yourself to be of service to your community when the time comes. – *James Wades, WB8SIW*

Field Day 2025 and the NTS Traffic Handler

Field Day is said to be the highlight of the year for amateur radio operators. It is held annually on the fourth weekend in June, which this year falls on June 28 and 29. There is something for almost any amateur radio operator. It is perhaps foremost an exercise in emergency preparedness, one of the primary reasons for the existence of the Amateur Radio Service. It takes great skill to be able, within a short period of time, to set up multiple stations capable of various modes, and operate without public infrastructure. While not an official contest, it offers the contesteer the thrill of making multiple contacts, scoring many points for their club or group. For those who enjoy outdoor activities such as POTA and SOTA, it is an opportunity to show off their skills in setting up portable stations. For many, this is also a big social event, offering cookouts and early morning breakfasts.

An important factor, however, may be overlooked, and that is the opportunity to demonstrate the messaging service capabilities of the National Traffic System, especially in an emergency. NTS operators, as all amateurs, can show off this capability first by publicizing the event, encouraging people to come and see hams in action. Welcome them and offer information about amateur radio and how it is still very active in today's world of technology. A second way is to demonstrate our messaging services that can be available in a disaster or situation when public infrastructure is unavailable. ARRL encourages this by offering extra points for transmitting formal written messages in the form of radiograms from any Field Day site. One hundred points can be counted for a radiogram to the Section Manager or Section Emergency Coordinator and another 100 points for 10 radiograms to friends and families, all sent over radio frequencies from the Field Day site. NTS traffic handlers have a big part in this activity. Beginning now, when clubs and groups are making their Field Day plans, traffic handlers can reach out to their clubs, encouraging them to take advantage of this activity, not only to gain points but also to help spread the word about amateur radio to others in their communities and beyond. Offer to help on Field Day, either from the site or from home relaying to traffic nets, or teach club members how to format radiograms, find traffic nets or digital outlets, and how to send these radiograms over the air.

Club Corner

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

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

Send it to: webmaster@arrl-ohio.org



50th Anniversary of the Burning River Traffic Net: A Half-Century of Amateur Radio Service and Tradition

ELYRIA, OH – April 15, 2025 — The Burning River Traffic Net (**BRTN**), a local network on the Amateur Radio Relay League's (**A.R.R.L.**) National Traffic System (**NTS**), will celebrate its 50th anniversary in June. Since its inception in 1975, the BRTN has been an active player in the NTS's nationwide network for relaying formal written messages to the Cleveland area and all of north central Ohio, as well as fostering a strong sense of community among amateur radio operators.

A History of Service and Communication

The net was conceived by a group of Cleveland area ham operators needing outlets for messages destined for communities outside the local telephone exchange. At that time, it was a long-distance phone call to counties surrounding Cleveland. Hoping to provide a 'frequency' for Northern Ohio ham operators to meet and exchange 'local traffic': Jerry Spencer- WB8OZA / K8OZ (SK), John Thomas- WB8JSC / AB8Z, Lou Myde - WN8PSO (SK) and Jeff Dettmer - WB8PIY started the net on 146.46 simplex. Looking to associate the net with its service area, John suggested the name "Burning River" in reference to the 1969 fire on the Cuyahoga River in Cleveland. To increase the nets coverage area, it was later moved to the Lorain County Amateur Radio Club's repeater KC8BED (147.150/R).

For five decades, the Burning River Traffic Net has been a reliable communication lifeline standing ready to serve as a vital link when other forms of communication fail. The net, which now operates primarily on the local **W8HF** repeater (145.230/R), serves as a local hub for handling messages or traffic west of the Cuyahoga River and all of north central Ohio. Members of the net relay both formal ARRL messages—such as greetings, congratulations, and personal communications, as well as health, welfare and emergency information, providing a vital service to the community as a whole. During the hurricane Katrina disaster one net member Lew Parson - N8IXF (SK) passed thousands of health and welfare messages from those affected by the calamity to worried friends and family in the north central Ohio area.

Since its start, the net has played an active role in radio communications. Net members operate their own equipment with many having backup power sources. This redundancy provides a network of amateur radio stations that can stay on the air ensuring that critical messages get through. Members of the BRTN meet every Monday, Thursday and Saturday at 9:30 PM local time or whenever amateur radio communications are needed for disasters or public service events. The net is a reliable avenue of communication for the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) as well as other public service organizations in times of disaster who find themselves in need of additional communication alternatives.

The National Traffic System is a daisy chain of networks that relay messages one to the other across the nation and around the world. The BRTN is the last stop in the north central Ohio area

for traffic addressed to locations west of the Cuyahoga River. Messages addressed to areas east of the river go to the BRTN's good friends at the Tri-County Traffic Training Net (TCTTN). The two nets work together to make sure messages get to their final destination. The coverage was originally set up by telephone area codes and station locations so that traffic could be passed without making a toll call. Today with cell phones they still make an effort to deliver messages within their designated areas unless an operator is unavailable to handle the traffic. Up from the Local net is the Section net. These messages are handled by High Frequency radio operators at the Ohio Single Side Band Net. Several HF net liaisons check into the BRTN. Operators such as Don Zickefoose- WB8SIQ, Ron West- N8OD, David Kazdan- AD8Y and Dave Gulyas- W8DJG.

A Commitment to Education and Training

In addition to its role in message handling and emergency communications, the BRTN has been a cornerstone for training and mentorship. Many amateur radio operators, especially those new to the hobby, have learned the ropes of message handling and net operation by joining the BRTN. The net is known for its welcoming and supportive atmosphere, where operators of all skill levels are encouraged to participate. The net even gets a check in from time to time from the Case Amateur Radio Club's station W8EDU with newly licensed hams sending their first messages. The Burning River Traffic Net has been an excellent place for new hams to learn about formal message handling and to get a feel for net operations on a directed net.

A Community Celebration

To commemorate the 50th anniversary, the Burning River Traffic Net will host a special celebration on Saturday June 21st, 2025, at the Lorain County Metroparks Duck Pond Picnic Area pavilion #1 at 12550 Diagonal Road Lagrange, Ohio at 1 PM. All radio amateurs and those interested in learning more about the amateur radio service are invited.

"We're excited to celebrate this important milestone and reflect on all that we've accomplished," said Keith Cook- KD8GXL, the current net manager for the BRTN. "This is more than just a celebration of the past—it's an opportunity to look forward to the next 50 years of the Burning River Traffic Net and the continued importance of amateur radio in serving the public."

Looking Ahead

As the Burning River Traffic Net looks ahead to its next 50 years, its mission remains the same: to provide a reliable, efficient, and welcoming environment for amateur radio operators to practice message handling and support their community. With new technologies and networks continuing to emerge, the BRTN is poised to adapt and continue its legacy as a vital part of the ARRL's message handling system.

The net's longevity is a testament to the dedication and passion of amateur radio operators who have devoted countless hours to ensuring the flow of communication across the country, regardless of conditions or circumstances.

As the sun sets on its golden anniversary, the BRTN stands not only as a symbol of the past but also as a beacon for the future of amateur radio.

Student “Ham Radio Open House” was a NW Ohio community affair

Clubs from the very corner of northwest Ohio held a “very open” Ham Radio Open House event outside of Northwest State Community College south of Archbold. Standing by a tent erected on the college lawn, Stan DeGroff, W8SRD, enthusiastically addressed a group of students saying, “Amateur radio is full of career choices! It can lead you in so many directions.”

DeGroff, who is president of the Williams County Amateur Radio Association (WCARA), reminded them that so many facets of amateur radio can lead to fascinating careers in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. He explained how his own interest in amateur radio and computer programming led him to some interesting applications in his own career.

The students were there to meet with area ham radio operators as a part of an open house in celebration of World Amateur Radio Day. One of the club members, Mike Kwiatkowski, KE8YUJ, an instructor at the college and a recent graduate of the ARRL Teacher’s Institute, has been working with other WCARA club members to plan experiences that can stir more interest in young people about amateur radio.

After getting the go-ahead from the college to hold the Ham Radio Open House on April 22, the group set up a tent with some working radios, antennas and remote solar-powered equipment. Kwiatkowski also spoke with a colleague, Matt Geiger, WB3AK, an instructor at the Four County Career Center, which is next door to the college, and he said he would bring over a couple of classes of his high school students to the tent.

Since the students from both schools are largely from Williams, Fulton, Defiance and Henry counties, the club also put out the word to some members of the neighboring county amateur radio clubs to see if they would like to come that day.

Gretchen Arno, KE8OKA, secretary of the Fulton County Amateur Radio Club, made an impactful presentation as she contacted a man who was operating his radio in a Parks On The Air contest in New Jersey. It opened up a slew of questions about how amateur radio operators make contacts, participate in contests, what equipment they use, how it helps

people, and more. Randall Schad, WZ8Q, president of the Defiance County Amateur Radio Club, also stopped by during the day.

The students asked which antennas were better to use than others. DeGroff spoke about the antennas on hand, saying how the best antenna often depends upon what you are trying to accomplish but also elaborated that different antennas have been created due to the experimentation that amateur radio operators are known for. Ham radio operators have a reputation for their ingenuity as they try to find new and different ways to make communication breakthroughs. To demonstrate, he showed the students an antenna he made out of a tape measure used for searching for the direction of a signal.

Bill Priest, W8BNO, demonstrated a radio with waterfalls on the screen to indicate places where people were talking. He stopped at one of the waterfalls to make a contact and ended up talking with W5LEX, the radio room of the USS Lexington on the Gulf coast of Texas!

He also pointed out that many operators are using computers attached to their radios to make digital contacts around the world, and in other cases some amateurs are setting up cutting edge communications systems, such as mesh networks, to provide communications in communities during emergencies.

Still others, he pointed out, use their equipment to make special contacts with astronauts in space and in the International Space Station. Mr. Geiger said he knows there is interest in working on a class project to do just that in his class, perhaps next year.

Eventually, the Williams County club would like to offer some training classes that help young people and other interested people become new ham operators. All the people who coordinated the event agreed they would like to see it repeated next year.

And Mr. Geiger said that after one of the classes returned from the tent that day, a student asked to borrow a technician class license manual from the group of ARRL manuals he keeps on hand. He said he hopes she will soon be able to join the growing group of young amateur radio operators as a result.

VE Sessions

The following information is for *ALL* exam sessions:

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

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

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

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

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/.

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

CARS

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

Clark County Amateur Radio Association (CLARA)

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

When: On every second Saturday of each even numbered month starting at 10:00 AM Feb 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

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

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!

Geauga Amateur Radio Association (GARA)

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

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



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

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

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

Huber Heights Amateur Radio Club

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

The Lake County Amateur Radio Association

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Lancaster and Fairfield County Amateur Radio Club (LFCARC)

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

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

Questions: Contact me at ve_testing@k8qik.org.

Lisbon Area Amateur Radio Association

The Lisbon Area Amateur Radio Association VE schedule for 2025.

Feb 8th; Mar 8th; Apr 12th; May 10th; Jun 14th;
Aug 9th; Sep 13th; Oct 11th; Nov 8th; Dec 13th.

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

Make sure you have your FRN number from the FCC.
Contact NN8B at nn8b.oh@gmail.com for any further information.

WE CAN ALSO GIVE THE TEST AT OUR REGULAR MEETINGS
THAT ARE NORMALLY ON THE 3RD THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH.
LAARA MEETINGS ARE HELD AT THE COLUMBIANA COUNTY
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY AT THE SAME ADDRESS AS ABOVE. SEE
THE K8GQB.COM WEB SITE FOR UPDATES.
MEETING TIME IS 6:30 PM.
WE HAVE ACTIVITY MEETINGS ON THE ODD MONTHS AND
BUSINESS MEETINGS ON THE EVEN MONTHS.

Madison County

The Madison County Amateur Radio Club Laurel testing group offers testing on the first Thursday of January, March, May, July 10, 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 proper ID, 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@mcarcho.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. Registration is appreciated but walk-ins are welcome. Contact Elaine, KC8FOS for more information or to register. 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 at <https://wc8voa.org/licensing/>

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

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

Win a Kenwood TS-590SG



Tickets are now on sale.

For more information, or to purchase tickets, please go to

https://www.w8lky.org/fundraisers/hf_rig_raffle/

AUXCOMM Class in Dayton Area to be held immediately prior to Hamvention.

The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency's (CISA) nationally recognized AUXCOMM course returns to the Dayton area in May. The class will be held in Beavercreek, Greene County, Ohio at a location just 9 miles from the Hamvention site. The class will be held on Tuesday, May 13 through Thursday, May 15, 2025.

Requirements:

Valid Amateur Radio License

Successful Completion of IS-100, IS-200, IS-700, IS-800.

To receive further information by email, send a message to OHAUXCOMM@gmail.com expressing your interest. Be sure to include your name, callsign, and contact information.

Bob Baker N8ADO AUXC

Greene County Ohio ARES Emergency Coordinator

Southwest Ohio DX Association

The DX Forum at the 2025 Dayton Hamvention is set to be an exciting event for amateur radio enthusiasts, featuring presentations from renowned DXpeditions and special awards. Moderated by Brian Bathe, AD8FD, and sponsored by the SouthWest Ohio DX Association (SWODXA), the forum will provide valuable insights and experiences from the world of DXing. This year's featured DXpeditions include: • 3D2Y to Rotuma presented by K4NHW, KD9LSV, LY7J, W2FQ • 7O2WX to Yemen presented by OK2WX • XT2MD to Burkina Faso presented by KB2FMH • V73WW to Marshall Islands presented by DK6SP • N5J to Jarvis Island presented by N1DG In addition to these exciting presentations there will also be a raffle drawing for an Icom IC-705, giving attendees a chance to win this highly sought after radio. Join us at the DX Forum to connect with fellow amateur radio operators, learn from experienced DXers, and celebrate the achievements within our community. The forum will be held in Room 1 on Saturday, May 17th, from 11:15 AM to 1:25 PM. For more information, please visit Hamvention's official website. You may also consider attending the DX Dinner held at the Marriott Hotel at the University of Dayton Friday night. There will be a cash bar starting at 5:30 p.m., with dinner served at 7:00. The keynote speaker will be W8HC, Hal Turley. This is an excellent opportunity to meet new hams and to renew old acquaintances as well as to learn about past DXpeditions and those in the planning stages. Tickets are going fast, so don't wait too long. Go now to <https://swodxaevents.org/dinner-tickets/> to secure a seat.

Your Club news should be listed here!

I know you're out there doing things! Send me a write-up (MSWord please) and some photo's (.jpg please) and we'll get your club hi-lited here for the other OH Section Clubs to see! Send to WB8LCD@ARRL.ORG

Important Links

ARRL Home: www.arrl.org

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

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

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

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

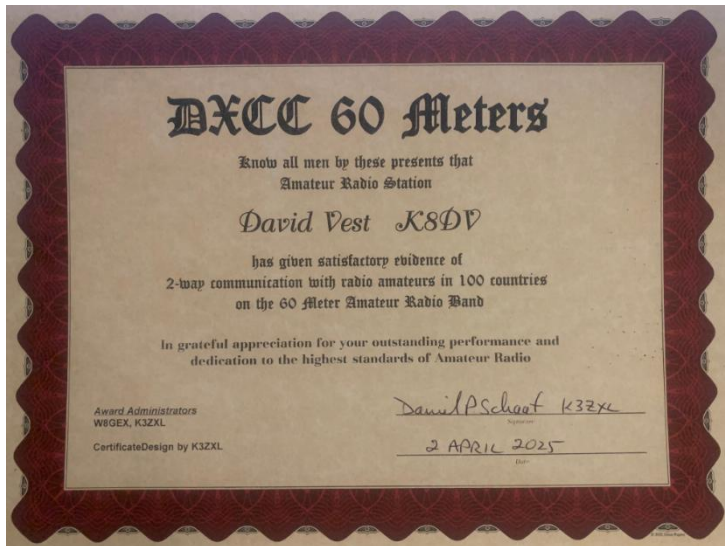
Find a Hamfest or Convention: www.arrl.org/hamfests

Email ARRL Clubs: clubs@arrl.org

DX This Week – #330

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

Congratulations to my friend and one of my mentors, K8DV, Dave Vest. Dave earned the 60M DXCC award with hard work and patience. Congratulations to Dave.



Also, if I may, I wanted to mention that I have earned, finally, WAZ CW. I was able to get Zone 24 on CW when I logged BI4KVT last week. It takes some time and effort but it is worth it! Let me know what you have achieved!

Each week I am trying to focus on those entities that will be available in the next 7 days. There is so much data to sift through that I thought a focus on the next week might be helpful. Here is what should be on in the coming week.

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.

ZS8W, Yuris, continues to hand out the QSO from Prince Edward and Marion Islands! After 3 days of operating, he had 7,241 QSOs in the log. Yuris is currently focusing on FT8 95% of the time based on the results in Clublog. AD8FD, Brian, was one of the first to get him in the log, maybe one of the first

10. Brian said, "Right place at the right time!" Congratulations to Brian and all the other hams who have worked ZS8W for an all-time new one!

I have this update from FO/A – the Austral Islands. DK8ZZ reports that the TX9A team "is still ready for new challenges." During one of the most recent operating shifts, they had good 6M activity from Central America and Brazil, plus North America. They got 80 European stations on 80M and plan more 80M activity before their sunrise today. With rain in the forecast for the next few days, they think that could cause some QRN. The log was updated on Club Log, with 9,000 dupes, and the log will be "sorted out" when the operation is over, and OQRS will be "activated" then too. <https://clublog.org/logsearch/TX9A>

To celebrate the 80 years since the end of World War II in Europe, TM45END, in France, will be QRV until May 31. QSL to F5JYD.

The North West Group, MN0NWG, from Northern Ireland, will be QRV with a special call, GB0AEL, until May 31. They are commemorating Amelia Earhart's transatlantic flight. It was May 20-21, 1932, that Earhart was the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic, nonstop. She flew from Harbor Grace, Newfoundland, Canada, 15 hours to Londonderry, Northern Ireland. QSL to MI0HOZ direct or bureau.

The Guernsey group will be QRV until May 14 using GU6EFW. The ops are ON1BN, ON4AML, ON6EF, ON6VJ, ON7TA, ON7VM and ON9DJ. They play 160-6 SSB, CW and digital and will try the QO-100 Satellite and 2.3 GHz EME. QSL to ON6EF. <https://hamradioexpedition.com/>

Until May 10th, Kazakhstani amateur radio operators will conduct a commemorative activity marking the 80th anniversary of the Victory in World War II and recognizing the Republic's contribution to the fight against Nazism.

The D84C team is going to Chuja Island, Korea, AS-084, for an operation until May 6th. There will be four ops, with ICOM radios, a 7610, 7300 and 756PRO3, plus IC-2KL and IC-PW1 amps. For antennas it's a K4KIO hexbeam, a homebrew hexbeam, and Cushcraft R7 vertical. Op 6K2CFI will do CW, 6K2GRX will do the FT8 and DS3HWS will also focus on CW. DS4NYE will do SSB and RTTY.

MDXC will conduct their next DXpedition to Bioko Island, Equatorial Guinea October 30-November 10. A team of 14 operators will use the callsign 3C2MD and operate on 160-6M, all modes. Specialists will activate EME (DL8JJ) and QO-100 (GI4DOH) from this DXCC entity for the first time. Equatorial Guinea ranks #127 on Club Log's Most Wanted DXCC List but is semi-rare on "human modes," ranking #66 on CW and #43 on SSB. QSL via IK2VUC. More details will follow.

The most recent DX Mentor Podcast episode is available this weekend. Dan, KB6NU, was the guest. Dan talked about his blog, his mission statement and all of the training materials that he has developed as well as the successful classes he has given.

If you are interested in DX Podcasts and YouTube channels, you should check out the DX Mentor Facebook page and subscribe to be kept up to date on all of the DX activities.

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!

Please send me an email if you need any details.

Until next week, this is Bill, AJ8B saying 73 and thanks to my XYL Karen for her love and support. I Hope to hear you in the pileups! Have a great DX week!

| Contest | Start Date | End Date |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 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 |
| ARRL International Digital Contest | 6/7/2025 | 6/8/2025 |
| 10-10 International PSK Contest | 6/7/2025 | 6/8/2025 |
| Kentucky QSOP | 6/7/2025 | 6/8/2025 |
| ARRL June VHF Contest | 6/14/2025 | 6/15/2025 |
| All Asian DX Contest, CW | 6/21/2025 | 6/22/2025 |
| West Virginia QSOP | 6/21/2025 | 6/22/2025 |

OHIO'S



Golly sakes! Who can believe it is May already and HamVention is just hours away? I guess the whirlwind of ham radio activities and civic responsibilities has caused time to fly. So without further adieu, let's see what May holds for we who call the Ohio South 40 Region home.

The new month got started with the monthly meeting of the **Clinton County ARA** on the 1st. On the 3rd, the Field Day Committee of the **DeForest ARC** will meet at the West Union McDonald's. The **Highland ARA** will hold a post VE Test meeting of the license study group on the 5th at 7:30 PM at the N8ZNR/W8KIW home to discuss securing your first equipment along with other things pondering to a new ham or someone new to HF. The **Portsmouth RC** will meet at the American Legion Post in Portsmouth for their monthly meeting. Because May 6 is Election Day, the **OH-KY-IN ARS** will meet at a different location. Then the **Highland ARA** will gather on the 8th at the Hillsboro Cemetery to decorate the graves of the veterans in advance of Memorial Day. The 10th will see the usual rounds of breakfasts for the **OH-KY-IN ARS**, the **Bainbridge Ham Group** and the **Highland ARA**. The weather should be such that it will find HARA has moved to its summertime gathering spot at Hillsboro's Liberty Park's Harmony Lake shelter house. On May 13, the Wilmington National Weather Office will hold its final virtual training session to begin at 7 PM. See the NWS website for registration details. Then who can ignore the beginning of **Hamvention** on May 16 and all the various meetings and gatherings that go along with it. It will run through May 18 at the Greene County Fairgrounds in Xenia. For those not attending HamVention, the **Fayette ARA** will hold their monthly breakfast on Saturday morning, May 17, at the Our Place Restaurant in Washington CH. The **Scioto Valley ARS** will sponsor their annual hamfest on Saturday, May 24 at the Pike County Fairgrounds in Piketon. Down in Lawrence County, the **Southern Ohio ARA** will be providing communications and other assistance to the annual Lawrence County/Ironton Memorial Day Parade. Wrapping up the month, the **Clinton County ARA** will have their Last Saturday of the Month breakfast at Sam's Deli and Meats in Wilmington.

Smoke-n-Beans is the hot spot in Vinton County each Sunday morning when the county's ham community gathers there for the **Vinton County ARA**'s weekly coffee. Rusty Perry invites any amateur in the area or just visiting the Hocking Hills to stop in at any time and enjoy time with some down to earth people.

Information from the **Southwest Ohio DX Association** and Bill Salyers indicates the popular DX Banquet held annually in conjunction with Hamvention© looks to be another outstanding event. This year's event takes place at the University of Dayton Marriott Hotel on Friday evening May 16 and gets underway with a cash bar at 5:30 and dinner starting at 7. The meal will be

followed by a program with the well-known keynote speaker W8HC, Hal Turley. The bar will reopen following the program for more socializing. Tickets are going fast. Check the www.swodxaevents.org/dinner-tickets/ to secure a seat or for information.

Another World's Largest Event also coinciding with Hamvention is the popular "Four Days In May" sponsored by the **QRPARC International**. It kicks off on May 15 and goes through the 18th at the Fairborn Holiday Inn. Check out their website for the details at www.qrparci.org.

Another popular activity during Hamvention does require a short road trip down I-75 to the West Chester/Mason interchange where the National Voice of America Museum will have extended hours. The Museum and the **West Chester ARA** will extend their hours daily starting the evening of May 15 through 5 PM on Sunday to accommodate those wishing to explore the Museum as a part of their Hamvention experience.

As previously indicated, because its normal meeting location will be the site for Election Day activities the May 6 meeting of the **OH-KY-IN ARS** will be relocated to the Lockland Church of the Nazarene, 335 West Wyoming Avenue, in Cincinnati. The meeting will begin at the usual time.

Is your wish list being prepared? No I'm not talking about Christmas, but Hamvention. With all the skuttlebut about the economy and the world situation, it will be interesting to see if this years event draws last years nearly 35,000 amateur radio operators and radio technology interested people to the Greene County Fairgrounds in Xenia. This year's Hamvention will be on May 16 to 18. Check it out and plan to attend. www.hamvention.org. Get a good pair of walking shoes and if you are going for the first time, try to go with or meet up with someone who has been there before as you can quickly become overwhelmed. If you are looking for something radio related, it is probably there. Just finding it is the issue.

Should you need a Hamvention withdrawal and get your mind reset from the world's largest event to something of a more reasonal local nature you might consider venturing to the Pike County Fairgrounds in Piketon on May 24. That's when the **Scioto Valley ARC** will conduct its annual hamfest. It's a good location and easy to get to. There's to be a VE session for those who were unable to make Xenia the weekend before. It always has been a smaller, but excellent, event.

Ham radio continues to grow in the South 40 Region. Our FCC data guru Ted Jacobson, W8KVK, rarely goes a week without informing me of a new license, an upgrade or some other indication of ham activity. His efforts are greatly appreciated. His most recent updates have indicated these individuals are newly licensed: usually Gallia and Lawrence Counties don't show up that often, but this time we're happy to announce Christopher Fields from Gallipolis and Mathew Delong from Ironton have been issued licenses. Chris is now KF8DZE and Mathew is KF8DYV. Matthew Daugherty of Loveland is now KF8DYW. The Clinton County area has Rocky Inlow of Sabina becoming KF8DWN and Kermit Whitt of Wilmington as KF8DWP. The **Highland ARA**'s recent study group produced a batch of work for the FCC. Hillsboro's Jane Dixon and Randy Meyers are now KF8DZW and KF8DZV. Reggie Strauss, KE8DUY and Dick Burba, KF8DMU

each stepped up to General. Gary Rockwell not only changed his call sign to W3GWR, but made General. Leesburg's Jerry Lucas, KE8ZYA, now holds an Extra class license and immediately applied to become a part of HARA's VE team. Although not a part of the study group, Bruce Warfield of Hillsboro is now KF8DWR. Four others indicate the hope to test at Hamvention on Friday when they will recognize some of the friendly faces of HARA VEs on the Hamvention VE team.

The **River Cities ARA** will hold a Spring Cookout on May 13 at the Central Park Pavillion A in Ashland, KY from 6 until 8. They will not only eat, but have a GOTA station, offer testing and fox hunt.

I chatted with Billy Massie, AA8KY, at the Athens Hamfest and learned the next meeting of the **Southwest Ohio DX Association** will be on May 10 at the Marion's Pizza in Mason. Their newest newsletter indicates they anticipate alternating between the Mason and the Dayton Mall location.

With Field Day just around the corner some clubs have already firmed their locations and started their planning. On May 3 the **DeForest RC**'s Field Day Committee met to choose their location. The **Athens County ARA** will operate from the Red Cross Building in Athens. The **Cambridge ARA** will return to the Highland Township Grove Park near New Concord at Bloomfield. The **Greater Mason County ARA** will operate from the Mason County (KY) EMA Office in Maysville. The **Highland ARA** will set up at the edge of Hillsboro's historic district at the historic Scott House on West Main Street.

A special tip of the hat to a couple South 40 fellows who have achieved some notable achievements in their ham radio journey. Dave Vest, K8DV, has earned a DXCC certificate for working the minimum 100 countries on 60 meters. Dwight Kelly, K4YJ, has received a plaque for achieving the ARRL's challenge of working at least 1,000 DX country contacts. His plaque has a 2,000 contact endorsement.

In closing I do have a favor to ask on behalf of a good number of people, with and without licenses, who want to learn more about ham radio, local clubs and how to become licensed. Please make sure your websites, Facebook pages and other means of letting people know about your organization is up to date and has some evidence of recent activity. A ham I know recently relocated to another part of Ohio. He went on-line to find out when the next local club meeting was and its location. When he got there that evening no one was there. He found out they had not met at that location for over a year! So take a moment to look at those sites to make sure they are current.

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

John, W8KIW

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

ARLD018 DX news

This week's bulletin is 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.

LESOTHO, 7P. Mark, KW4XJ and Arina, KO4PZT are QRV as 7P8AB and 7P8NB, respectively, until mid-2025. QSL via KW4XJ.

WEST MALAYSIA, 9M2. A group of operators are QRV as 9M4PA from Aman Island, IOTA AS-015, until May 4. Activity is on the HF bands using CW, SSB, and FT8. QSL direct to 9M2HUS.

CHINA, BY. Special event stations B0CRA, B1CRA, B2CRA, B3CRA, B4CRA, B5CRA, B6CRA, B7CRA, B8CRA and B9CRA will be QRV from May 3 to 5 for the annual 5.5 China Amateur Radio Festival. QSL via operators' instructions.

ANGOLA, D2. Bernie, ZS4TX is QRV as D2TX from the Cuatir Nature Reserve until May 4. Activity is mostly on 2 meters, 70 centimeters EME, and on Satellite RS-44. QSL direct to PA3CMC.

CAPE VERDE, D4. Harold, DF2WO and Warren, KN6ZZI will be QRV as D44TWO and D44ZZI, respectively, from Santiago Island, IOTA AF-005, from May 5 to 26. Activity will be on the HF bands using mainly CW and FT8, and with mainly SSB and FT8, respectively. This includes being on Satellite QO-100. QSL both calls via M0OXO.

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, DA. Special call sign DM0LIMES is QRV until July 1 for German World Heritage Day. QSL via bureau.

BELARUS, EW. Belarus stations will use the EV80 prefix until May 9 to mark 80 years since the end of World War II.

AUSTRAL ISLANDS, FO. A group of operators are QRV as TX9A from Tubuai, IOTA OC-152, until May 7. Activity is on the HF bands using CW, SSB, FT8, and FT4. QSL via DK8ZZ.

NORTHERN IRELAND, GI. Members of the North West Group ARC will be QRV with special event station GB0AEL from May 5 to 31 to commemorate the anniversary of Amelia Earhart's transatlantic flight. QSL via MI0HOZ.

REPUBLIC OF KOREA, HL. Operators 6K2CFI, 6K2GRX, and DS4NYE are QRV as D84C from Chuja Island, IOTA AS-084, until May 6. Activity is on the HF bands using CW, SSB, RTTY, and FT8. QSL via DS4NYE.

AUSTRIA, OE. Special event call sign OE100OEVSF is QRV until December 31, 2025 to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Austrian Amateur Radio Society. QSL via bureau.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA, P2. Xu, BG5DON is QRV as P29XZ. Activity is in his spare time on the 20, 15, 10, and 6 meters FT8 frequencies. QSL direct to EA5GL.

GREECE, SV. Members of the Thessaloniki Amateur Radio Group will be QRV as special event call sign SX20TARG from May 3 to 17 to celebrate the club's 20th anniversary. QSL via eQSL.

NAMIBIA, V5. Remo, HB9SHD is QRV as V51/HB9SHD until June 15. Activity is holiday style on 40 to 6 meters using SSB and various digital modes. QSL via LoTW.

HONG KONG, VR. Members of the Hong Kong Amateur Radio Transmitting Society are active with special call sign VR100IARU until December 2025 to celebrate the centenary of the IARU. QSL via bureau.

LATVIA, YL. Special event station YL35G will be QRV beginning May 4 to mark the anniversary of reestablished Latvian independence. QSL via YL3GBC.

PRINCE EDWARD AND MARION ISLANDS, ZS8. Yuris, YL2GM is QRV as ZS8W from Marion Island until May 16 while on work assignment. Activity is in his spare time on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, and FT8. QSL via Club Log.

Upcoming Hamfests

We **DO** have hamfests scheduled for 2025!!



Ohio Hamfests

2025

| | |
|--|---|
| | |
| 05/10/2025 - 05/15/2025 <u>RV Radio Network Rally</u> Location: Navarre, OH Type: ARRL Convention Sponsor: RV Radio Network Learn More | 05/15/2025 - 05/18/2025 <u>Four Days In May</u> Location: Fairborn , OH Type: ARRL Convention Sponsor: QRP Amateur Radio Club International Website: http://qrparci.org/fdim Learn More |
| 05/16/2025 - 05/18/2025 <u>Dayton Hamvention</u> Location: Xenia, OH Type: Sponsor: Dayton Amateur Radio Association Website: http://Hamvention.org Learn More | 05/24/2025 - <u>Scioto Valley Amateur Radio Club Hamfest</u> Location: Piketon, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Scioto Valley Amateur Radio Club Learn More |
| 06/07/2025 - <u>FCARC Summer Hamfest</u> Location: Delta, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Fulton County Amateur Radio Club Website: https://k8bxq.org/hamfest Learn More | 07/19/2025 - <u>NOARSfest</u> Location: Elyria, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society Website: https://www.noars.net/hamfests/noarsfest/ Learn More |
| 07/19/2025 - <u>Williams County ARA Hamfest</u> Location: Montpelier, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Williams County ARA Learn More | 07/20/2025 - <u>Van Wert Hamfest</u> Location: Van Wert, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Van Wert Amateur Radio Club Website: http://w8fy.org Learn More |

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|---|--|
| 08/02/2025 - <u>Columbus Hamfest</u> Location: Grove City, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Aladdin Shrine Audio Unit Website: http://columbushamfest.com Learn More | 08/09/2025 - <u>Cincinnati HamfestSM</u> Location: Owensville, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Milford Amateur Radio Club Website: https://CincinnatiHamfest.org Learn More |
| 08/16/2025 - <u>Portsmouth Radio Club 2025 Hamfest</u> Location: New Boston, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: ARRL, Jett Fire Equipment, Shawnee Computer and More Website: http://www.portsmouthradioclub.com Learn More | 08/17/2025 - <u>Warren Hamfest</u> Location: Cortland, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Warren Amateur Radio Association Website: http://w8vtd.com/hamfest Learn More |
| 09/07/2025 - <u>Findlay Hamfest</u> Location: Findlay, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Findlay Radio Club Website: http://w8ft.org Learn More | 09/28/2025 - <u>Cleveland Hamfest</u> Location: Berea, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Hamfest Association of Cleveland Website: https://www.hac.org Learn More |
| 10/04/2025 - <u>Northwest Ohio Amateur Radio Club (NWOARC) Hamfest</u> Location: Lima, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Northwest Ohio Amateur Radio Club Website: http://www.nwoarc.com Learn More | 11/02/2025 - <u>2025 MARC Hamfest at MAPS</u> Location: N. Canton, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Massillon ARC Website: http://www.w8np.net Learn More |
| 08/16/2026 - <u>Warren Hamfest</u> Location: Cortland, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Warren Amateur Radio Association Website: http://w8vtd.com/hamfest Learn More | |

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***

| UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE | | | |
|--|----------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| KEJGK | | | |
| John Q. Amateur 123 Maple Avenue Anytown, State 00000 | | | |
| FCC Registration Number (OR): 00000000 | | | |
| Special Conditions / Endorsements | | | |
| NONE | | | |
| Grant Date | Effective Date | Print Date | Expiration Date |
| 01/01/2008 | 01/01/2013 | 01/01/2008 | 01/01/2013 |
| File Number | | Station Privileges | |
| 00000000 | | ADVANCED | |
| THIS LICENSE IS NOT TRANSFERABLE | | | |
| John Q. Amateur (Licensee's Signature) | | | |
| FCC 000—May 2007 | | | |

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

Final... Final

If you’ve made it this far, just a little bit more to go! Hopefully you get some good, useful information from The Ohio Section Journal and PostScript. I try to make these a useful compendium of unique articles (you’ll only see them here!) and a listing of the most useful information on ARRL and Ham Radio events and activities going on. I appreciate everyone who not only reads these articles, but especially those who put them together for you! That said, I am *always* looking for contributions, especially on activities and events here in the Ohio Section, and the After Action Reports on those events too. PLEASE: send me your information as a .DOCX file and your photo’s as JPEG or Bmp files. I can’t spend too much time reformatting (and I’m not very good at it either). Our new twice a month format is going to help be get the yard work done and hopefully get some more “on air” time too. This looks like fun to me:

50 MHz Spring Sprint

The last 2025 VHF/UHF Spring Sprint, the 50 MHz Spring Sprint, begins at 2300 UTC on Saturday, May 10, and concludes at 0300 UTC on Sunday, May 11. The Spring Sprints are sponsored by the Central States VHF Society. For rules and other information, visit sites.google.com/site/springvhfupsprints/2025-information.

The following week is Hamvention – I hope I'll see a lot of you there. I'll be in the Great Lakes Division booth (In the ARRL Field Services section of the ARRL area) when I'm not wandering around looking at all the new shiny radio things. Be sure to bring one of your QSL cards to put on our bulletin board, and there's an old tradition of taping one of your QSL cards to the door of your hotel room – let everyone know who you are! After Hamvention you might go into withdrawal – check this out:

SCIOTO VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB HAMFEST



PIKE COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS PIKETON, OHIO

May 24th, 8AM – NOON

\$5 per person entry/Free Tailgating
Indoor Tables \$10.00 each. Clubs Free!

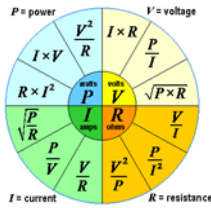


Talk In Frequency: 146.850 PL 74.4

For additional information contact: KD8CHP, Jesse 740-701-8869

KC8WIW, Mike 740-703-7827

Door Prizes throughout the event.



EIN 31-0948059

Laurel VE Test Session at 10 AM.

We've got a lot of good shows to go in the Ohio Section before 2025 is over with – get to as many of them as you can!

Share the Magic of Radio!

73,
Tom WB8LCD

“Swap & Shop” on the website

Hey Gang,

Have you taken a look at the **Swap & Shop** page on the Ohio Section webpage yet?? Here's a link that will take you there...

<http://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. You might want to list your location so that prospective buyers know where you're at.

If your club is doing a fund raiser and wants more exposure, please forward the information to me and I'll advertise it on the Swap & Shop webpage for you. Now, I still want to remind you that it won't be listed in this newsletter because it would take up way too much space, so your ad will only appear on the website. It is there for any individual to post equipment Wanted / For Sale or Give-Away as well as for Club Fund Raisers. No licensed vehicles/trailers or business advertising will be posted.

Postings are text only (no pictures or graphics) will be posted for a maximum of 1 month from date posting and require a contact phone number or email within the posting. Send your Wanted / For Sale or Give-Away post to: swap@arrlohoio.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?



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 |
| | |

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.

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 to



The Ohio Section Journal (OSJ) is produced as a comprehensive look at all the programs within the Ohio Section. I sincerely hope that you have enjoyed this edition of the OSJ and will encourage your friends to join with you in receiving the latest news and information about the Ohio Section, and from around the world!