



The Ohio Section Monthly Journal (OSJ) April 2026



April showers bring may flowers! Let's hope for a warm spring, March seemed to have fooled us with some warmer weather and then Mother Nature slammed the door shut with colder temperatures. WOW! What a tease that was. Local weather forecast says warmer temps and wet for the first week of April, but warmer temperatures are on the way!

ARRL Field Day

ARRL Field Day is the most popular on-the-air event held annually in the US and Canada. On the fourth weekend of June, more than 31,000 radio amateurs gather with their clubs, groups or simply with friends to operate from remote locations. Is your club getting ready and making plans for Field Day 2026? If your club is planning a Field Day event, make to registrar your FD 2026 site on the Field Day Locator page and your site may receive a visit from an Ohio Section official. <https://www.arrl.org/field-day-locator>



AMATEUR RADIO
FD★26
A NATIONAL RESOURCE

Year of the Club:



I just want to remind everyone that ARRL's [Year of the club 2026](#) is underway. It would be a great time to submit a photo of your club, a brief history, include the date the club started and membership size and the club's biggest accomplishment and a website if you have one. I may include your club in the coming months of the OSJ. I will be featuring a club or two every month.

Please send your club's information as a PDF or Word docx.

Send your club's information to, kd8scl@arrl.org

March Handbook Giveaway Winner – Cathy Willeford, K8IYO!
Congratulations – your Handbook is on the way..... There were 130 entries this month. Get out to the Ohio Section website and get yourself in the game!
Go to the website www.arrl-ohio.org to enter!

March One Question Questionnaire –
Have you tried the new FT-2 Mode?

Out of 114 responses, 4 said “Yes”; and 110 said “No”. I guess what we see from this is that there are many reasons folks get into Amateur Radio! We have many interests in the use of “RADIO” in our lives that draw us all to this hobby. Everyone’s reason is valid!

This month's “One Question Questionnaire” aka 1QQ -

Go to the website www.arrl-ohio.org to submit your answer!

Ohio Section Club Highlights: ATARA!

ATARA – All Things Amateur Radio Association: A Family First Beacon of Learning, Service, and Fun

In the rolling hills of Fairfield County, Ohio, a modest yet powerful movement took root on June 22, 2021. ATARA – All Things Amateur Radio Association —known on the airwaves by the friendly call sign W8ATR — has quickly become a model of how a hobby can blossom into a communitywide lifeline, a classroom on wheels, and a source of pure, intergenerational joy.

From its first meeting, ATARA declared a simple, yet ambitious, purpose: “to have fun with all aspects and modes of operation for amateur radio.” That fun is not limited to a handful of seasoned hams; it is deliberately inclusive. The club welcomes licensed operators, non-licensed operators, curious non-amateurs, and every family member who wants to press a button, spin a knob, or simply listen to the crackle of a distant transmission.

Because the club's heart beats as loudly as its transmitters, its activities span a wide variety of different modes of communication. Whether having a picnic while activating POTA, operating Field Day at a local park, or teaching campers about amateur radio, the call sign W8ATR is there.



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When disaster strikes, the airwaves become lifelines. ATARA's commitment to emergency communications is reflected in its active participation. The Off-Grid Radio Team members regularly train for real-world scenarios, honing skills that can deliver critical information when conventional networks fail. Their focus is to be prepared to provide off-grid emergency communications from any location in case of a natural or grid-down emergency, including emergency and disaster preparedness and response.

Their willingness to volunteer has earned them a reputation as a reliable Special Service Club under the auspices of the ARRL (American Radio Relay League). Their partnership not only validates their technical expertise but also reinforces a deeper promise: when the community needs a voice, ATARA will be there, amplified by the enthusiasm and dedication of its diverse membership. This includes serving friends and neighbors in need as well as training at parks, camps, schools and churches. ATARA supplied the local police and fire departments with critical maps to assist them in an emergency event if all communications are down. Their STEM Trailer is a mobile classroom with a mission. Perhaps the most striking testament to ATARA's innovative spirit is the one-of-a-kind STEM trailer built with an ARRL grant. Designed as a traveling teaching platform, the trailer carries a suite of radios, antennas, and demonstration kits that transform ordinary road trips into interactive lessons.

Each year the trailer travels to community events, camps, afterschool programs, and the Ohio State University's West Fest. Inside, people of all ages are invited to build an FM radio using Snap Circuits, try Morse code on a replica of a Spark Gap Transmitter and Cohere Receiver, test conductivity, and build circuits using play dough. They have also inspire students to explore space through the use of amateur radio and promoting ARISS, Amateur Radio on the International Space Station

Parents and teachers discover a new way to engage their children in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) all through the lens of ham



Field Day has always been a cornerstone event for amateur radio clubs, and ATARA has turned it into a spectacular public showcase. ATARA operates from a busy local park where families come to hike, fish, and picnic. The club’s STEM trailer is set up along with a radio communications tent. Park visitors can tour the STEM trailer, visit the communications tent, and if interested, get on the air. The radio tent has volunteers called, “radio buddies” to assist getting non-hams and new hams on the air.

ATARA invites anyone with curiosity, a spirit of service, or simply a love for gadgets that beep and chirp, to join the adventure. The club’s calendar, packed with community events, building projects, VE testing sessions, emergency communication trainings, summer camps, and multiday Field Days, offers countless entry points. Membership is open, fees are modest, and the rewards are priceless: friendships forged over a shared frequency, the satisfaction of knowing you can help a neighbor in crisis, and the joy of watching a child’s face light up when they make their first successful contact.

In the words of the club’s founders, “We want to make amateur radio fun for the young and the old!” As the STEM trailer rolls toward its next destination, ATARA continues to prove that ham radio is more than a hobby—it’s a family first, communitywide, lifelong learning journey. If you’re in Fairfield County, Ohio, or anywhere within a radio range of W8ATR, tune in, drop by a meeting, or simply say “Hello” on 2 meters. The airwaves are waiting, and the ATARA family is ready to help you get your license, answer your questions and welcome you aboard.

ATARA-W8ATR.fun

From the Technical Coordinator

Jeff Kopcak – K8JTK TC

K8JTK@arrl.net

Hey gang,

An abbreviated article this month. Storms that rolled through Cleveland on March 31st took out the power for over two days. Neighbor had a rotted tree. The wind did the work taking out the tree and power for four houses. Then found appliances that didn't make it out the other side after power was restored. Followed by Easter.

After an E-mail from Technical Specialist Bob – K8MD it is good time to remind everyone about “Line A.”

What is Line A? It is an approximate border between the U.S. and Canada that varies in exact location but is most often 75 miles (about 120 km) from the border.



Line A. Begins at Aberdeen, WA, running by great circle arc to the intersection of 48° N, 120° W, thence along parallel 48° N, to the intersection of 95° W, thence by great circle arc through the southernmost point of Duluth, MN, thence by great circle arc to 45° N, 85° W, thence southward along meridian 85° W, to its intersection with parallel 41° N, thence along parallel 41° N, to its intersection with meridian 82° W, thence by great circle arc through the southernmost point of Bangor, ME, thence by great circle arc through the southernmost point of Searsport, ME, at which point it terminates. [47 CFR 97.3\(a\)\(30\)](#)

This is the same wording in [47 CFR 90.7 “Line A.”](#) Complement to Line A is Line B on the Canadian side. Line C exists in Alaska and Line D exists along the Alaskan border in Canada.

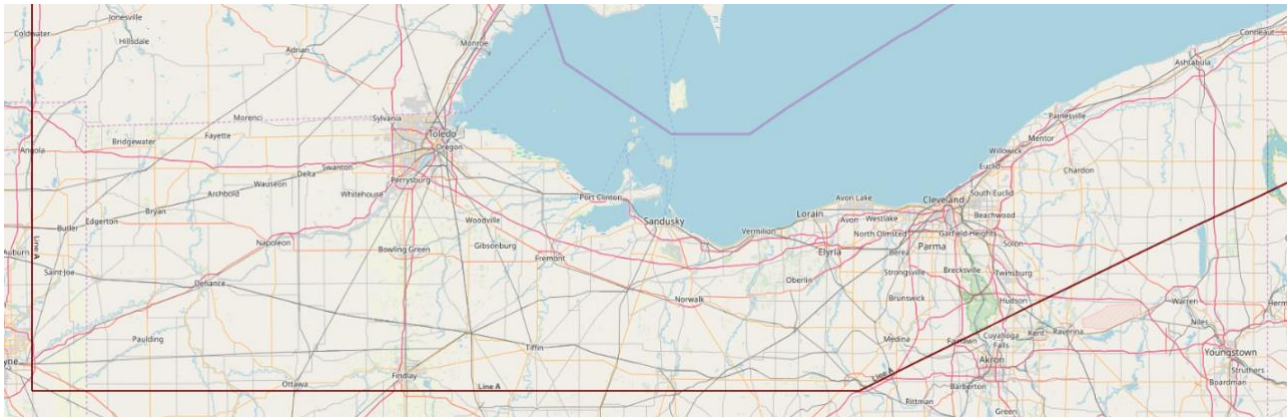
These imaginary borders were established in a Terrestrial Radiocom Agreements and Arrangements (TRAA) titled “[Telecommunication: Coordination and Use of Radio Frequencies Above 30 Megacycles per Second](#)” signed in 1965. Established between the Canadian Department of Transport and the U.S. FCC, it is an agreement on frequencies below 470 MHz established to avoid cross-border interference.

As it pertains to the Amateur Radio service

No amateur station shall transmit from north of Line A in the 420-430 MHz segment. See § [97.3\(a\)](#) for the definition of Line A. [47 CFR 97.303\(m\)\(1\)](#)

For us in Ohio, stations must not transmit between 420-430 MHz in the western part of the state north of 41° N. This includes the cities of Ottawa, Findlay, Tiffin, Willard, New London, Lodi, and cities north. Close to the intersection of State Route 83 and Interstate 71, near the cities of Lodi in Medina County and Burbank in Wayne County, is where 41° N and 82° W intersect. From that location Line A takes a northeast trajectory to

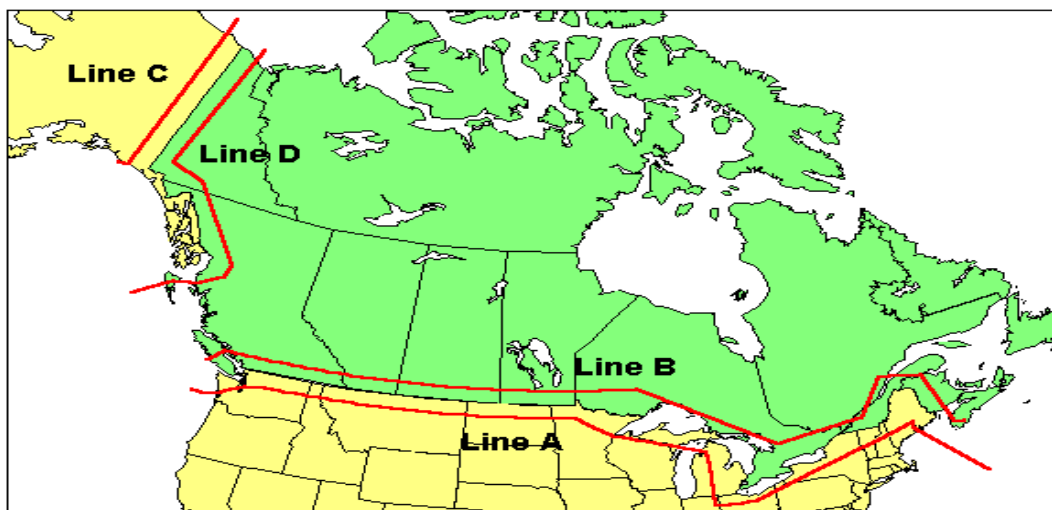
Bangor, ME. North of Line A constitutes Medina, much of the Cuyahoga Valley, Hudson, bisects Streetsboro and Mantua, Hiram, West Farmington, North Bloomfield, and Andover.
 Part 97 does not mention Line C. This is likely due to the sparse population in that area resulting in little to no interference issues.



Line A (maroon) overlay in Ohio. (FCC)

Land Mobile Service (LMS) is defined by the ITU as communications between base stations and mobile stations or between mobile stations. These would be public service agencies and private companies to coordinate people, resources, safety, or security. Land mobile stations licensed north of Line A or east of Line C require additional coordination with Canadian authorities.

The FCC has tools to [map Lines A-D](#) and [check Line A \(and C\) coordinates](#) to determine if they fall north or south of Line A. Unfortunately, none were working as of this writing. Since the FCC tools were not functioning, I found a generalized [map depicting Lines A, B, C, and D](#) on the Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club's website. I had a copy of the Ohio map I published last time an article ran on this topic. Additionally, all amateurs must not cause interference to authorized land mobile stations in the 440 MHz band:



Line A, B, C, and D (Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club)

Amateur stations transmitting in the 420-430 MHz segment must not cause harmful interference to, and must accept interference from, stations authorized by the FCC in the land mobile service within 80.5 km of Buffalo, Cleveland, and Detroit. See § 2.106, footnote US230 for specific frequencies and coordinates. [97.303\(m\)\(2\)](#)

Amateur stations transmitting in the 420-430 MHz segment or the 440-450 MHz segment must not cause harmful interference to, and must accept interference from, stations authorized by other nations in the fixed and mobile except aeronautical mobile services.

[97.303\(m\)\(3\)](#)80.5 km is a little more than 50 miles. This is called out separately in the rules because 50 miles south of Cleveland is farther than Line A. There are FCC licenses issued for private EMS, hospitals, colleges, private security, TV stations, venues/ball parks, law enforcement, fire departments, public works, and schools between 420 and 430 MHz in the Cleveland and Toledo areas of the state. A check of the FCC or Radio Reference database can help validate a particular frequency is not in use by a licensed service.

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

From the Section Emergency Coordinator

Mat Nickoson – KC8NZJ, SEC

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Planned Events as Training Opportunities

We've probably all heard the term, "Spandex Watchers". It's the term often bestowed upon our ARES volunteers who choose to volunteer their time at planned events such as marathons and bicycle rides. It's a term often wielded by people who are of the opinion that as emergency communications volunteers, "spandex watching" is beneath us. It's sometimes paired with comments like "we train for emergencies, not <insert planned event of your choosing>"

Unfortunately, this thinking can be flawed. If ARES groups sit around waiting only for "the big one" the facts and statistics suggest that they will spend far more time waiting. And volunteers who aren't utilized tend to stop showing up.

So, where does this leave "spandex watching"?

Working planned events can be a huge training opportunity when executed properly. Although the overall job that we are doing at a planned event is not identical to the job we would be doing at an actual emergency, it can be very similar if we think about it the right way.

To get into the right state of mind, let's begin by breaking down the primary jobs that will exist with almost every single emergency activation.

Emergency Activation

- Net Control Station
 - A station set up somewhere near the served agency with sometimes permanent, sometimes temporary equipment depending on the location. Antennas, Radio, Computers, etc.
- Net Control Operators
 - Trained radio operators who are capable of operating a net control station, effectively controlling the information coming in and going out, relaying info to the served agency as necessary, and accurately documenting.
- Field Stations
 - Trained radio operators who are capable of deploying to a location, setting up their own radio equipment, and making contact with the net control station to relay appropriate information from out in the field.

Obviously, there will be additional jobs depending on the emergency, but these should exist at almost every activation.

Next, let's break down the primary jobs that will exist with almost every single planned event.

Planned Event

- Net Control Station
 - A station set up somewhere near the event organizer with sometimes permanent, sometimes temporary equipment depending on the location. Antennas, Radio, Computers, etc.
- Net Control Operators
 - Trained radio operators who are capable of operating a net control station, effectively controlling the information coming in and going out, relaying info to the event organizer as necessary, and accurately documenting.
- Field Stations
 - Trained radio operators who are capable of deploying to a location, setting up their own radio equipment, and making contact with the net control station to relay appropriate information from out in the field.

Are you starting to see the similarities yet?

It becomes very obvious that the equipment, skills, and processes utilized for planned events are actually IDENTICAL to those that will be utilized when an emergency activation occurs. Practicing with setting up at a marathon is a great place for operators to figure out what equipment works, what doesn't, and what's easier and more practical to transport and set up BEFORE an emergency happens.

Next, let's break down some of the kinds of documentation that will be required for both instances and compare.

Emergency Activation

Incident Action Plan (IAP) probably containing some of the following ICS forms

- ICS-201 Incident Briefing
 - Provides the Incident Commander (and the Command and General Staffs) with basic information regarding the incident situation and the resources allocated to the incident. In addition to a briefing document, the ICS 201 also serves as an initial action worksheet. It serves as a permanent record of the initial response to the incident.
- ICS-202 Incident Objectives
 - Describes the basic incident strategy, incident objectives, command emphasis/priorities, and safety considerations for use during the next operational period.
- ICS-204 Assignment List
 - Informs Division and Group supervisors of incident assignments. Once the Command and General Staffs agree to the assignments, the assignment information is given to the appropriate Divisions and Groups.
- ICS-205 Communications Plan
 - Provides information on all radio frequency or trunked radio system talkgroup assignments for each operational period. The plan is a summary of information obtained about available radio frequencies or talkgroups and the assignments of those resources by the Communications Unit Leader for use by incident responders. Information from the Incident Radio Communications Plan on frequency or talkgroup assignments is normally placed on the Assignment List (ICS 204).
- ICS-205A Communications List
 - Records methods of contact for incident personnel. While the Incident Radio Communications Plan (ICS 205) is used to provide information on all radio frequencies down to the Division/Group level, the ICS 205A indicates all methods of contact for personnel assigned to the incident (radio frequencies, phone numbers, pager numbers, etc.), and functions as an incident directory.

Again, the actual extent of forms utilized will vary based on the size and complexity of the incident. Let's again compare this to what should be provided to volunteers working a planned event.

- A document summarizing the event, and what the overall objectives of our participation are.
 - Can be put in the format of ICS-201 and 202
- A document that lists each volunteer and their assignment
 - Can be put in the format of ICS-204 and/or ICS-205A or also included in the ICS-201
- A document outlining what radio frequencies volunteers will need to have accessible
 - Can be put in the format of ICS-205
- A list of all volunteers and how to contact them via radio and cell phone to be kept by net control
 - Can be put in the format of ICS-205A

With a little bit of work and preplanning, it becomes very easy to substitute your spreadsheets and word documents with applicable ICS forms. This helps you as an event coordinator organize your information better, make it more complete, and at the same time familiarizes you with the ICS forms that you are likely to see during an event.

From the volunteer perspective, it gets them used to seeing ICS forms and understanding what kind of information will be contained on them, as well as how to properly utilize them, so that the first exposure to ICS documents is not in the middle of an emergency.

When you think about planned events as what kinds of skills and equipment are needed to be successful, and focus less on WHAT you will actually be doing, it becomes clear that they are probably one of the best training opportunities around. And best of all, we don't need to bother our served agencies to be involved in them. So, I encourage all ARES groups and volunteers to get out and watch a little spandex this summer. It will be a great low stress opportunity to hone your skills and equipment before it's too late and "the big one" happens. I would be happy to hear YOUR comments about what YOU would like to see from ARES. Feel free to visit the Ohio ARES site <https://arrl-ohio.org/ohio-ares/> and click "contact me" or utilize the contact form at www.n8esg.org and check out what we have going on in the Cleveland area while you are there.

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OHIO Section PIC and ASEC
District Emergency Coordinator, D3 Ohio ARES
Assistant Emergency Coordinator, Greene
County

ARRL - The National Association For Amateur
Radio

Three Proven Ways to Thrive as a Public Information Officer

From: <https://www.govloop.com/community/blog/3-proven-ways-to-thrive-as-a-public-information-officer/>

For those in any type of communications role, you could be called to serve as your agency's PIO at a moment's notice. Are you prepared?

Public information officers, or PIOs, are the communications coordinators or spokespersons of certain governmental organizations — particularly during an emergency. They are typically a “one-man-band” or serve their agency as a PIO part-time.

In the event of a communications crisis, PIOs are often expected to arrive quickly on the scene, gather facts and then distribute those facts to the media, who are usually first on the scene of an incident. Like many other industries, PIOs can sometimes work late nights and early mornings during a crisis or natural disaster. The only difference is that their off-hours may include the added pressure of being camera-ready.

Here are three proven ways to thrive as a public sector PIO:

1. Provide sources relevant info. Media pros are busy and usually work under tight deadlines. Make their job easier by being a valuable resource to them. A few examples may include:

- Sharing contacts of those who may be good additional sources for a story
- Providing quality, high-resolution graphics as appropriate for story packages
- Being responsive and forthcoming with information, yet not allowing the media to control your timeline or message

2. Develop a message; deliver it clearly.

- Have three points. Know your points and refer to them in a pinch. Remain relaxed and personable, but don't get too comfortable.
- Speak clearly and succinctly. Don't over-explain. Remember your TV and digital media outlets only need a clip of sound, so speak in brief yet complete statements.
- At the end of the interview when you're asked: “Is there anything I forgot to ask, or anything you'd like to add?” Say something! This is your opportunity to drive home what you want viewers to walk away with. Clearly and succinctly reiterate your three points, keeping in mind this ending of the interview may be the clip used in the reporter's story package.
- If you don't know, don't guess. Let the reporter know you'll check into their question and follow up soon after the interview.

3. Prepare a 'go-kit'. You're always on the go as a PIO. Keep the essentials on hand to make life easier, especially when you're working a crisis. These may vary by person, but most kits should include:

- Electronics: laptop, camera, cell phone, audio recorder, extension cord, earbuds, cell phone camera mounts and speakers. Don't forget the chargers and batteries, including a juiced-up portable charger.
- The basics: Notepads, pens, business cards.
- Loaded flash drive: Easily store important documents, media kits, fact sheets and contact lists on a portable device.
- Apparel: Change of clothes, rain jacket, hat, sneakers, socks.
- Personal: Cleansing wipes, hair ties, comb/brush, tissues, a painkiller.

- Food and drinks: Bottled water, granola bars, trail mix, dried fruit. Throw in peppermints or cough drops to help prep your speaking voice.



Remember: when it's go time, channel the public speaker or spokesperson you'd like to emulate and deliver our message with confidence.

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

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419.618.0330

Hams Over IP #101918



2025 Ohio Section Traffic Report

I am presenting our 2025 Ohio Section Nets Activity Report, covering eleven amateur radio nets over the full calendar year. This data tracks operator participation, message traffic, and net operating time across the Ohio section.

Here are our headline figures for 2025.

- 26,149 total check-ins across all nets.
- 8,528 messages relayed.
- 830 hours of total net operating time.
- 2,894 net sessions conducted.

That averages out to be about 2,400 check-ins per net and eight sessions per week section wide. Our standout performer is OSSBN — the Ohio Single Sideband Net. They account for:

- Fifty-eight percent of all check-ins (over 15,000)

- Sixty-one percent of all traffic relayed (5,232 messages)
- 406 hours of operating time

OSSBN is clearly the backbone of our section's traffic handling. OSSBN has liaisons to and from all the other nets in the Ohio Section and is a hub for moving traffic around to the various local nets.

The Ohio section is fortunate to have a strong traffic handling crew made up of resolute message handlers.

- 3 CW nets meet daily which move traffic in and out of the section.
- 6 DTN Operators monitor the DTN hub.
- 1 Section wide voice net meets three times a day.
- ODMR exercises once a week.
- 5 Local nets meet at least three times a week up to daily.
- Multiple Winlink nets.
- District nets.

I do not receive reports from all the nets across the Ohio section but would like to.

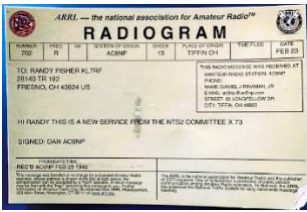
Although ODMR Shows zero traffic count. Traffic is not the point of this net. This net is an exercise net to provide a link between all the districts in the Ohio section. With 50+ check-ins a week this net shows a good connection between the districts across Ohio section.

Here are the totals for the year 2025 from the nets which reported. As a section we can be immensely proud of what we are doing here in the Ohio section.

Net	Total QNI	Total QTC	Total Minutes	Sessions	Primary Net Manager
BNE	1631	326	2814	364	N2LC
BNL	640	750	3149	328	WB9LBI
BRTN	1321	448	2756	159	KD8GXL
COTN	3290	640	5527	358	KV8Z
NOATTN	839	690	2929	131	KE8VJP
ODMR	1655	0	1182	33	WB8YYS
OSN	587	133	4074	259	N2LC
OSSBN	15214	5232	24361	1094	KC8WH/K8MDA
TATN	3441	938	3973	365	WG8Z/K8KRA
TCTTN	866	289	2756	155	WB8YYS
Totals	29484	9446	53521	3246	

Thank You All for All You Do!

Print and Mail a Radiogram Postcard



So, have you had a situation where you wanted to deliver a Radiogram via USPS? You would need to print out the Radiogram and stuff it in an envelope, then address it and add a stamp.

Well you have another choice the NTS2 committee now has on their [website](#) a service which you can use to send out a Postcard.

To deliver a Radiogram to its recipient, you can order a 4×6-inch Radiogram Postcard to be automatically printed and mailed. Send a Radiogram Postcard as a courtesy confirmation copy, or in cases where the recipient has been unreachable by telephone or e-mail.

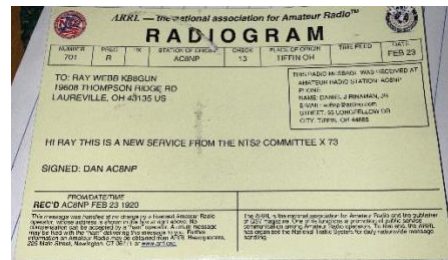
There is a modest cost (about 1 US dollar) for each postcard, which covers the cost of printing, postage, and mailing. You cover this cost by pre-loading your Radiogram Postcard Wallet, using PayPal or a credit card, with enough Postcard Credits to cover the postcards you expect to send in the near future. One credit is deducted from your Wallet each time you send a postcard. (You can add credits to your Wallet each time you fill out a Radiogram Postcard).

I tried it out and you can see the results in the photos in this article.

So, if you want to try this service out head over to nts2.arrl.org/postcard-entry.

PSHR, SAR and Net Activity Reports

Public Service Honor Roll, Station Activity Reports and Net Activity Reports may be sent via NTS messages, Winlink messages to my station. Also, there is a form on the ARRL-Ohio.org website. [Form](#) These to be in by the 5th of each month.



forms need

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 on 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.arrl.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.arrl.org/radiogram/>



National Traffic System
Traffic and Message
Handling
For Skill, Service, and
Fun!



The ARRL got its start by organizing 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 if it is going out of Ohio you can also take it to 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
NWOATT	Mon, Tue, Thu, Sat at 07:30 PM	147.375 MHz PL 103.5	KE8VJP
ODMR	Monday 8:30 PM	TG 3139	WB8YYS
TCTTN	9 PM Sun, Tues, Fri	147.015 MHz PL 110.9	WB8YYS
TATN	8:00 PM DAILY	146.670 MHz PL 123.0	K8KRA

BRTN - Burning River Traffic Net (serving the Cleveland area and all North Central Ohio)

COTN – Central Ohio Traffic Net (serving Columbus and Central Ohio)

NWOATT – Northwest Ohio ARES Traffic and Training Net (serving Northwest Ohio)

ODMR – Ohio DMR Net (serving Ohio)

TCTTN - Tri-County Traffic and Training Net (serving Northeast Ohio)

TATN - Tri-State Amateur Traffic Net (serving Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana)

Dan Rinaman AC8NP
Ohio Section Traffic Manager
419-618-0330 HOIP 101918
ac8np@ac8np.com

NTS® Resources

The National Traffic System® (NTS®) is a network of amateur radio operators who move information during disasters and other emergencies. General messages offering well-wishes also move through the NTS® to help test the system and to help amateur radio operators build traffic handling skills. While the NTS® is primarily set up to serve the United States and Canada, it is possible to move traffic internationally through the NTS® via various local, regional, area, and international network connections.

[NTS 2.0](#)

[NTS Manual](#)

[NTS Methods and Practices Guidelines](#)

[Handling Instructions](#)

[Numbered Texts](#)

[Form Encoding Rules for Form](#)

Sign Up to Receive *The NTS Letter*

The NTS® Letter is published monthly and is free of charge to ARRL members.

Subscribe: www.arrl.org/opt-in-out

Assistant Section Manager

Anthony Luscre, K8ZT - SYC

k8zt73@gmail.com

W1AW/Portable (Ohio May 6- 12)

One aspect of the ARRL America250 Worked All States will be week-long activations of portable W1AW/portable stations in all 50 states, generating on-air activity to achieve this unique WAS Award. For this operating event, ARRL will provide a listing of all W1AW/portable stations, who will each operate for 7 days (from a Wednesday [UTC] through the following Tuesday) for 2 separate weeks in the year (an early week between January and July, and a late week between July and



December). A few weeks will be listed as non-W1AW/portable weeks due to contests and ARRL Field Day. The [complete list is available at this link](#).

Ohio's W1AW/8

W1AW/8 Ohio will be on the air for two weeks:

- 05/6/2026- Starts 00:01 UTC Wed, May 6th to 23:59 Tues, May 12th (EST- 7 PM Tues, May 5th to 7 PM Tues, May 12th)
- 08/12/2026- Starts 00:01 UTC Wed, Aug 12th to 23:59 Tues, Aug 18th (EDT- 8 PM Tues, Aug 11th to 8 PM Tues Aug 18th)



The W1AW/8 activation will take place on 2200 Meters LF through all of HF (excluding 60 Meters) and VHF/UHF using CW, Phone and Digital (FT8/FT4, RTTY, etc.) modes.

If you would like to apply to operate during the May week, using the special callsign, you must meet a few guidelines and agree to follow a few rules:

- Currently valid FCC Amateur Radio license (all license classes are welcome to operate, within their allocated frequencies/modes)
- Operate from a location within the state of Ohio
- Agree to:
 - Follow all US Amateur Radio rules and licensing class restrictions (**operate only on frequencies and modes allowed by your personal Amateur Radio License**)
 - Follow the [Radio Amateur's Code](#) and the [Considerate Operator's Guide](#) and other accepted Amateur Radio Etiquette. Remember, you are representing the ARRL and the Ohio Section.
 - Accurately log all contacts using computer logging software
 - Export an ADIF file of all contacts and submit it in a timely fashion via email to **Anthony Luscre, K8ZT (k8zt73@gmail.com)**

If you meet the above requirements, you can [apply by submitting an online form- tiny.cc/w1aw8-app](#). If accepted, you will receive a confirmation email. Later, you will receive complete operating information and access to an online schedule of time slots. A pre-event training session will be held via Zoom, and if needed, assistance will be provided on setting up computer logging software.

If you are interested in making contacts with W1AW/8 Ohio during the week, an online schedule will be available before and during the event.

I will hold an online prep session for all operators during April (you will receive an email invitation). The session will also be recorded for those who cannot attend live. We will go over:

- Scheduling process

- Operating procedures
- Logging software and procedures
- Export of ADIF files
- Announcing/spotting your operations during the week
- Q&A

Dayton Hamvention®

It is less than six weeks to the biggest in-person ham radio event of the year-- the Dayton Hamvention. If you have never been there, you are missing out on a great adventure. If you are a regular attendee, you know what I am talking about, but are you also aware of two great events that take place on the Thursday before the Hamvention begins?

The QRP ARCI holds its *Four Days In May* (FDIM), with four days of events. “It is held in the Fairborn, Ohio DoubleTree Hotel, May 14 - 17, 2026, beginning the day before the opening of the Dayton/Xenia Hamvention, and has events that take place during the evening of the Hamvention weekend. Hams who come to Dayton for the Hamfest can come one day early and enjoy all that both events have to offer.”

- Thursday:
 - All-day Symposium (I will be one of the speakers) beginning at 8:00 AM
 - Ashhar Farhan, inventor of the BiTX radio, will then be giving a presentation at 7 PM
 - Vendor Night begins at 8:00 PM, where you will have the opportunity to see and purchase new kit offerings from our QRP community.
- Friday:
 - Hans Summer will be presenting a technical topic
 - Club Night, where our QRP clubs will have representatives present to answer your questions about their activities and offerings
 - The FDIM Transmitter Efficiency Challenge takes place.
- Saturday
 - Awards Banquet.

The second event is *Contest University*. “Contest University will be held on Thursday, May 14, 2026, from 7:00 am to 5:00 pm, at the Hope Hotel in Dayton, Ohio. Don’t miss this rare opportunity to gain knowledge that may take you years of practice, trial and error or lost time to learn otherwise. Get the edge to improve your scores and put your station in the winners' circle today!”

Presentation “Engaging High School Students with Amateur Radio”

Gordon Gibby, KX4Z, did a very interesting presentation- “Engaging High School Students with Amateur Radio” on March 25, and there is a recording available- <https://youtu.be/yjqFusWKg6s>.

Dan Beard Council Radio Scouting Committee

Read the latest newsletter- [here](#).

That’s it for this month for me; I hope to work you on the air soon, maybe as W1AW/8 OH!

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

From the Affiliated Clubs Coordinator

Terry Windsor, KI8N

ki8n.tw@gmail.com

Have you or your club started antenna plans, repair, replacement, or new installation? With the change in seasons, this seems like a good time to make plans and get materials ready in time for upcoming ham radio events and contests. I recently had to repair my Off-Center-Fed (OCF) dipole that came down during the high winds on March 12. A large tree branch fell from another tree, got tangled in the line holding the OCF wire, and pulled it down. I replaced the wire and rehung it.



With over three months of this year gone, there are still a majority of Ohio Affiliated clubs that have not completed their annual reports for 2026. Checking ARRL club records, I also see that most clubs need to renew their Special Service Club (SSC) endorsements. Note, this must be done yearly, in January, to maintain your club’s endorsement. Please take a few minutes to update your club information at <http://www.arrl.org/find-a-club> and renew your SSC at <https://www.arrl.org/ssc-application>. If you need assistance accessing your club’s information or filling out the application, please let me know and I will be happy to assist.

Has your club scheduled an Open House in April? The second annual ARRL Ham Radio Open House in April offers a chance to show off your club’s meeting location, equipment, and skills to your community! My home club, Mount Vernon Amateur Radion Club (MVARC) had their open house in conjunction with the ARRL

International DX Contest in March so we could show visitors an actual operating environment. The PIO, Evan, KF8APC advertised the open house via social media and flyers to ensure the public knew when and where the event was occurring. We had 18 visitors and gained three new members.

One item that worked well was a varied display of ham radio equipment the visitors could see. Don, W8PEN the organizer, placed printed sheets describing the equipment next to all items on display. He also arranged refreshments for both the visitors and club members in attendance.



I want to remind everyone that ARRL's [Year of the club 2026](https://www.arrl.org/year-of-the-club-2026) is underway. Another activity is working the W1AW portable stations as they are scheduled in all states including Washington D.C., Puerto Rico and other DX areas throughout the year. You can find the scheduled activation dates for each state here: <https://www.arrl.org/america250-was>.

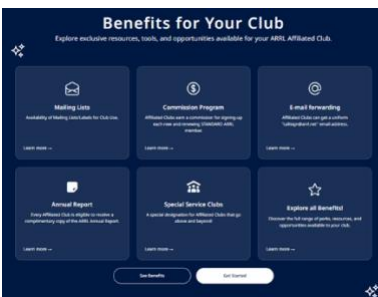
Is your club intending to participate in NVIS day April 25? A description of this event is on the ARRL Ohio Section website; <https://arrl-ohio.org/nvis/>. This is a great time to build and test NVIS antennas that could be used in ARES or portable activations. Your club could set up in a park, at your gathering location, or at individuals' homes. It is a good activity for club members to get together and show the public how ham radio communicates.



The next HUGE amateur radio club event is ARRL Field Day 2026. Has your club started preparing, has an organizer and location, and making antenna and operating plans? Information and rules are here: <https://www.arrl.org/field-day>.

I encourage your club to list their Field Day location in the Field Day Locator. <https://www.arrl.org/field-day-locator>. Last year I used this map to find Ohio Field Day locations I could visit and this is my plan again this year. I am planning to visit at least four club sites this year, two of which I have already committed to.

However, I am open to two or three more based on time needed to get to these club operating sites. I was happy how well I was greeted and allowed to attend and operate at locations I visited in 2025.



The ARRL has a new Affiliated Clubs website: <https://affiliatedclubs.arrl.org/>. This web page is a central location for resources your club can access. Whether your club is affiliated or not, you are encouraged to check this web site out. If your club is affiliated, then especially check that your club's information is up to date. And, if your club is not affiliated, or you cannot update your information, then please contact me via the email under my photo.

Last month I attended an online training session presented by the RATPAC (*Radio Amateur Training Planning and Activities Committee*) group. I was impressed with the quality of their presentation and believe their recorded videos, documentation, and slide shows would be a great resource for clubs to use for various member presentations. I encourage you and your club to check their web page for upcoming presentations and links to their materials; <https://www.ratpac.us/>.

Once again, I want to remind everyone about the resources on the Ohio ARRL section web page where there is a list of speakers and topics available for your club meetings. If you are looking for someone to present at a club meeting, contact the individuals on the list via email or call them regarding setting up a date/time. <https://arrl-ohio.org/ohio-section-speakers-bureau/>. You can also contact me if you need assistance.

One last thought. I watched a video on YouTube from “Ham Radio Perspectives” regarding seven topics related how to sell equipment at a hamfest and wondered if clubs and sellers might find this interesting? We have all been to hamfests where the items were filthy, not well organized, stuff was piled on the table, prices were a mystery, or the seller was nowhere to be found. Their seven items were:

1. Clean your equipment – remove the grunge from your items.
2. No junk on the table in front of your best items. Junk should be moved to the far side of the table. We all know what is meant by “junk”.
3. Space items on your table(s) so it is easy for people to see what you have.
4. List the prices and specifications on printed sheets.
5. Stay at the table and be available. Greet people as they walk by.
6. Provide QSL cards to show your call sign and information so buyers can contact you.
7. Talk to people about the items they are looking at. Let them know the last time the item was used and how it was used (in your shack, portable, mobile etc.).

This month I end the column with a couple of jokes.

“How do you start a war at a hamfest? Have one person say, ‘I like Baofeng’ and another say, ‘I like FT8’ – then move out of the way and watch the incoming conversation!

Ham 1 -- Hey, I hear Old Megawatt is retiring from Ham Radio

Ham 2 -- Yeah, I heard him say that before

Ham 1 -- I know, but this time the FCC said it!

Till next month, Stay “Radio-Active” and Ham It UP!

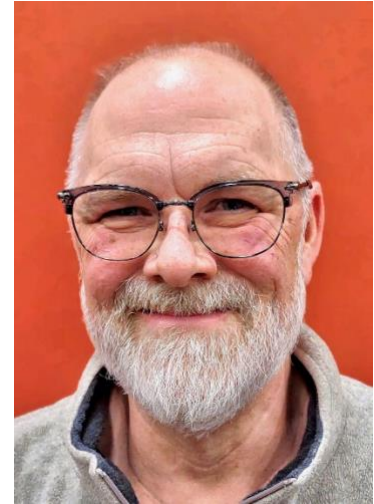
73

Terry, KI8N

Assistant Section Manager

Al Andress – KD8ZBS

KD8ZBS@gmail.com



Maximizing Your Club's Community Opportunities

I thought I would take the opportunity to ask radio clubs how do you engage your community with our hobby?

Does your local club show up at the local outdoor festivals with a portable setup demonstrating radio communication around the globe? Or even at a local gun show or such? These opportunities, and many many others like these, serve to help with the promotion of Amateur Radio in our local communities and create an opportunity to increase our influence through the use of Amateur Radio in these communities.

The local Amateur Radio clubs have many opportunities to connect with our local communities throughout the year to provide assistance and educational awareness of what Amateur Radio is all about. And many times clubs are not able to seize those opportunities for a variety of reasons; one of those reasons could be a lack of available funds.

We know that club membership fees barely keep the repeater on the air some years much less being able to accomplish anything else. I also understood that many may not have extra personal funds that could be used to help promote Amateur Radio, fear not, there are many ways available for the local club to help with the cost associated with their community outreaches. The idea of fund raising and local community grants comes to mind.

I get it; we are radio operators more likely capable of knowing the difference between a HT radio and an antenna; and not being a salesperson. But as in any effort that is worthwhile, the idea of promoting and marketing is necessary for the future of any organization. I believe that in every club there is at least one person who is not only a radio operator, but deep down they have that salesman gift of "gab" in them just waiting to be released.

It has been my experience in my community, there are organizations that WANT to help other organizations maximize their community engagement and are willing to assist them in doing so by making funds available to those organizations in order to make that dream become a reality. The work comes in searching for those who are willing, and approaching them to see what is required to seek their assistance.

If your local club has not taken the time to establish itself as a non-profit corporation now is the time to do so. Many may not realize that Amateur Radio Clubs can be incorporated as a non-profit organization for the purpose of educational and scientific experimentation. The non-profit status of an Amateur Radio club opens doors to access funding for its various community engagements that would not be available any other way. I ask if there are licensed Amateur Radio operators reading this who are also an attorney and would like to help radio clubs in this pursuit, please reach out me so I may get your information in order to share with others as they may ask.

Start today looking at how your local club can be an asset to its local community, and take that next step to making it happen.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at. I look forward to hearing how your local club made a difference in your community.

Alan Andres, KD8ZBS
Assistant Ohio Section Manager-ARRL
Williams County Amateur Radio Association, Treasurer

John Myers, WG8X

wg8x.radio@gmail.com

330-936-5021

Well, we finally made it—spring has arrived! The days are getting longer, the temperatures are climbing, and it's time to start thinking about antennas, radios, and getting back outside. I have to admit, my own antenna work hasn't actually begun yet. Every year I tell myself I'll get an early start, and every year something else seems to get in the way. Sound familiar?



That said, progress *is* happening—just not always in the direction I expected. I've been spending some time in the workshop getting things organized and working on a few radio-related projects. Of course, it seems like for every step forward I make, I take two steps backward while digging through boxes, rediscovering half-finished projects, and finding tools I forgot I owned. I suppose that's just the nature of the hobby: there's always another project waiting.

April is also shaping up to be a good month for hamfests here in Ohio. According to the hamfest listing on the American Radio Relay League Ohio Section website, we have several coming up that many of you may want to put on your calendar. The **Cuyahoga Falls Hamfest** will be held on April 11, followed by the **Tusco Amateur Radio Club Hamfest** on April 25, and then the **Athens Hamfest** on April 26. All three are excellent events with plenty of vendors, tailgaters, and opportunities to meet up with friends from around the region. If you've been looking for that next radio, antenna, or mysterious box of parts you didn't know you needed, these are great places to start.

If you—or someone you know—are studying for an amateur radio license exam, this is also a good time to check the list of upcoming VE testing sessions. Volunteer Examiner teams around the state regularly host exam opportunities, and the schedule is posted in this issue of the OSJ. I also make a point of sharing those sessions on the Section Calendar so they're easy to find. Whether someone is working toward their first license or upgrading to the next level, there are plenty of opportunities available.

With the weather improving, many operators are also heading back outdoors for **Parks on the Air (POTA)** activations. If you're planning a park activation this spring, consider inviting a few fellow club members along. It's a great way to introduce others to the activity and to spend some time enjoying both radio and the outdoors.

Many hams are curious about POTA but may feel more comfortable trying it for the first time with someone who has already done an activation or two. A simple invitation can turn into a fun day of operating, learning, and fellowship.

That's about all for this month. I hope you have a great April, get on the air, and maybe even make it out to a hamfest or a park activation.

Until next time—

73 de WG8X

New Facebook Group

The **ARRL Ohio Section** has a new **Group Page** on **Facebook**. You are invited to join this public group. Group members will be able to post local club activities, share technical or operating information, announce Amateur Radio Licensing Classes and or VE Testing. You can also ask questions of other group members, share operating experiences, etc. You can post pictures of Ham Radio Activities and Events. We especially welcome Ohio Amateur Radio Clubs to share meeting dates, presentations, activities, etc.

You do need a Facebook account to join. If you already have one visit www.facebook.com/groups/oharrlsection to join the group. Answer the short questionnaire and your membership in the group should be confirmed in a day or so. You can then start posting to the group. If you do not have a Facebook account you will first need to sign up for a free account. If you are hesitant to join Facebook, because you have heard horror stories about social media, you are able to limit your activities to just membership of this or other similar groups. Some people choose not to use Facebook for privacy concerns, while others may find it time-consuming, distracting, or simply not interesting, but you can choose your own personal activity and involvement level. Facebook's

privacy settings allow users to control who can see their posts, profile information, and other content, as well as who can find and contact them. Users can manage these settings through the "Settings & Privacy"



ARRL Ohio Section

Public group · facebook.com/groups/oharrlsection

menu and "Privacy Checkup". Key areas to review include who can see your posts, who can send you friend requests, and who can look you up using your email or phone number. Additionally, users can limit who can see their past posts and control ad preferences. You can control a variety of privacy and other settings for your account, including "[Stopping people from posting on your Facebook profile](#)" and "[Manage the About section of your Facebook profile](#)."

National News

(from ARRL and other sources)

ARISS Outlines Opportunities for Space Station Contacts in 2027

04/03/2026

The Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) program is seeking formal and informal educational institutions and organizations, individually or working together, to host an amateur radio contact with a crew member on board the ISS.

Crew members will participate in scheduled amateur radio contacts. These radio contacts are approximately 10 minutes in length and allow students to interact with the astronauts through a question-and-answer session. ARISS anticipates that the contact would be held between January 1 and June 30, 2027. Crew scheduling and ISS orbits will determine the exact contact dates. To maximize these radio contact opportunities, ARISS is looking for organizations that will draw large numbers of participants and integrate the contact into a well-developed education plan.

The deadline to submit a proposal is May 22, 2026, 11:59 PM Pacific Time. Proposal information and necessary details are at ariss-usa.org/proposal-overview/.

An ARISS Introductory Webinar session will be held April 30 at 8 PM ET. The Zoom link to sign up is: us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/3yid9dxzRkmYfVroIP0nWA.

An ARISS contact is a voice-only communication opportunity via amateur radio between astronauts and cosmonauts aboard the space station and classrooms and communities. ARISS contacts afford education audiences the opportunity to learn firsthand from astronauts what it is like to live and work in space and to learn about space research conducted on the ISS. Students also will have an opportunity to learn about satellite communication, wireless technology, and radio science. Because of the nature of human spaceflight and the complexity of scheduling activities aboard the ISS, organizations must demonstrate flexibility to accommodate changes in dates and times of the radio contact.

Amateur radio organizations around the world, with the support of NASA and space agencies in Russia, Canada, Japan, and Europe present educational organizations with this opportunity. The ham radio organizations' volunteer efforts provide the equipment and operational support to enable communication between crew on the ISS and students around the world using amateur radio. Please direct any questions to education@ariss-usa.org.

Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) is a cooperative venture of international amateur radio societies and the space agencies that support the International Space Station (ISS). In the United States, sponsors are ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio, Amateur Radio Digital Communications (ARDC), Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation (AMSAT), NASA's Space Communications and Navigation program (SCaN) and the ISS National Lab—Space Station Explorers.

ARRL Call for Technical Manuscripts

Call for Manuscripts: Share your technical insights on your Field Day setups. *QST* invites submissions of technical manuscripts from licensed amateur radio operators for upcoming issues focused on **ARRL Field Day operations**. We're looking for educational, how-to pieces that help fellow hams improve their setups, strategies, and technical know-how.

What We're Looking For:

- Technical solutions for Field Day operations—power, antennas, logging, digital modes, etc.
- Integration of new technologies (e.g., SDR, mesh networking, solar power) in field scenarios.
- Examples of how the popularity of Parks on the Air (POTA) portable activations has changed your approach to setting up Field Day stations.
- Examples of how portable antennas and LiFePO batteries have replaced base station antennas and generators.
- Manuscripts should have a strong “how-to” component. Tell us what you did, but more importantly, tell us how you did it.

Submission Guidelines:

- **Audience:** Licensed amateur radio operators.
- **Length:** 1,000 –1,800 words, plus high-resolution images with caption and photo credit information (name and call sign of photographer).
- **Tone:** Educational and collaborative—share what works!
- **Format:** Plain text or Word document.
- **Deadline:** January 31, 2026
- **Submit to:** qst@arrl.org

Why Contribute? Your article could be published in *QST*, ARRL's membership journal, which reaches thousands of fellow amateurs across the country and beyond. It's a great way to give back to the community and inspire others with your experience.

That's all for this time. Remember to send contesting-related stories, book reviews, tips, techniques, press releases, errata, schematics, club information, pictures, stories, blog links, and predictions to contest-update@arrl.org.

73, Paul, N1SFE

Club Corner

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

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

Send it to: webmaster@arrl-ohio.org



VE Sessions

The following information is for ALL exam sessions:

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

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

DeForest Amateur Radio Club offers Exam Testing (Adams County)

Exam Session for 2026: February 12, 2026, April 9, 2026, June 11, 2026, August 13, 2026, October 8, 2026, December 10, 2026

Sponsor: DeForest Amateur Radio Club

Time: 6:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

Contact: William E. Hablitzel @ (513) 310-3541

Email: K8WEH@arrl.net

VEC: LAUREL VEC

Location: Adams County EMA Office, 33 / 31 Logans Lane (lower level in rear of building)

West Union OH 45693-1186

Alliance Amateur Radio Club

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

2026 dates:

March 21, 2026

June 20, 2026

Sept 26, 2026

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 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

The Central Ohio Radio Club (CORC)

Administers ARRL-VEC testing in the Central Ohio area.

Our test dates for 2026 are as follows: January 17, April 18, July 18, and October 17.

Time and location for these dates is 10:00am at the Westerville Fire Station #111, 400 W. Main St in Westerville, Ohio.

Pre-Registration is required, and open the 1st of each testing month. All information is available

at www.ae8fp.net

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

DeForest Amateur Radio Club offers Exam Testing (Adams County)

Exam Sessions for 2026:

February 12, 2026, April 9, 2026, June 11, 2026, August 13, 2026, October 8, 2026, December 10, 2026

Time: 6:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed) Contact: William E. Hablitzel @ (513) 310-3541 Email: K8WEH@arrl.net
VEC: LAUREL VEC

Location: Adams County EMA Office 33 / 31 Logans Lane (lower level in rear of building)

West Union OH 45693-1186

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.

Watch for 2026 dates

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 Amateur Radio license exams

Watch for 2026 dates

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 NCVET 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

All VE sessions for 2026 will be on the 2nd Saturday of each month except for July. No testing in July. Check in (with FRN) at 1:00PM and testing at 1:30 PM.

We are located at the Columbiana County EMA, 215 south Market St., Lisbon, OH.

Contact Don Kemp, NN8B at nn8b.oh@gmail.com.

No phone calls.

We can usually have a VE session at our monthly meetings each month. We are currently meeting on the 2nd Tuesday (except for June, we have a Nuke drill that day) at 6:30 PM at the Columbiana County EMA. The meeting day may change so email for details.

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.

Saturday Jan 3, Saturday March 7, Saturday May 2, Saturday September 5, and Saturday November 7.

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 (Jim Wilson – AC8NT) at jawilson@j3solutions.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.

Watch for 2026 dates.

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/>

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 KD8SCL@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 Month – #357

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



Welcome to the April 2026 edition of DX This Month. As

this is now a monthly column, I will focus on updates from upcoming DXpeditions, results from recently finished DXpeditions, as well as

pending contests and events. If you would like weekly updates as to what you should find on the bands, check out the *This Week in DX* program which is available every Saturday morning at 1200Z. This 10-minute overview of what you should expect on the bands in the coming week is available in podcast and YouTube format. Just search for The DX Mentor. Check it out and let me know what you think.

Also, I have found an internet radio station that is managed by hams and has hams as DJs, as well as a bi-weekly one hour show on DX. Check it out at www.w2phradio.com

Let me know if you have any questions.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NA2AA – David Minster to be the Keynote Speaker

Chief Executive Officer of the ARRL, David Minster, NA2AA, will be the keynote speaker at the SWODXA DXDinner.

David will speak on “Radiosportsmanship! - The DXCC program and elements related to pursuing DXCC, DXCC Honor Roll, DXCC Challenge, along with how the programs and the competition for new ones has evolved.”

This is an excellent opportunity to hear about the DXCC program from the CEO who is also a DXer, Contester, and remote Operator.

The dinner is a great opportunity to meet new hams and to renew old acquaintances as well as to learn about past DXpeditions and those in the planning stages.

The dinner, held in conjunction with the 2026 Dayton Hamvention®, will be held on Friday, May 15th, 2026, at The Marriott at the University of Dayton, 1414 S. Patterson Blvd., Dayton, OH 45409.

There will be a cash bar starting at 5:30 p.m., with dinner served at 7:00.

Following the event, there will be a separate room and cash bar available for more fellowship. This is an excellent opportunity to meet new hams and to renew old acquaintances as well as learning 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.

*Icom is not responsible for ticketing or event execution

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The following DX information 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

J51A – Guinea-Bissau Update

The 2011 T32C DXpedition QSO record of 213,022 has been broken by the German five-man team at J51A. As of 1320Z today, March 11, the J51A team had 217,671 contacts in just 16 days. T32C was back in the day before the current digital modes of FT4 and FT8. During their DXpedition the 41-man team operated for 30 days and had 48,966 unique contacts, a record that still stands. Congrats to the new QSO record team at J51A. They still have four more days on the air.

254,200 QSOs and 49,600 different callsigns after 19.7 days of operation. "The end is near!" - the final hours of the J51A activity are running. We will take down antennas after breakfast (around 1200z) and start packing our equipment. Remember, we are five people travelling with 18 suitcases, two oversize ski-bags, six pieces of hand luggage (containing the Band Pass Filters and Triplexers) and five backpacks (containing the radios and power supplies). That sums up to 600 kg gross weight.

3Y0K – Bouvet Island Update

The whole 3Y0K team is safely back on the vessel after a successful expedition to Bouvetøya. We made more than 100.000 contacts and achieved our goals. It was an extraordinary undertaking, involving years of planning, complex logistics and determination needed to succeed. The team worked well together under harsh conditions, cold, snow and windy. Bouvetøya is known for its remoteness and unpredictable weather, and while it is a beautiful island, any attempt going onshore involves a risk. Despite all the challenges we encountered the team has stayed focused on our goals, determined, and the result is due to real teamwork!

We have been working with professional expedition guides, pilots, crew and vessels who have all contributed to the success.

We wish to thank everyone who believed in us, supported us and made this a great expedition. Thanks to all our individual sponsors, clubs, organizations and corporate sponsors for their contribution!

Our logs will soon be open for OQRS.

73, 3Y0K

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FO/A - Austral Islands – Update -

The TX5EU DXpedition to the Austral Islands has officially ended operations. On March 24, the team began dismantling most antennas, keeping only one station active until the evening. By 6 p.m. local time (March 25, 5 a.m. GMT), they went QRT. Despite challenges posed by weather and antenna limitations, the expedition achieved a total of 59,000 QSOs. Early the following morning, the team planned to depart their location and head to the airport, marking the start of their journey home.

VK9/c - Cocos (Keeling) Update

From the Daily DX, VK9BSA on Cocos Keeling Island will be activated by Mark, VK6BSA, along with Deena, VK9DEE, (aka VK6DEE), until May.

Mark confirmed that he is indeed on Cocos and says, "The ship was finally unloaded yesterday!" There were weather delays and the ship could not berth on the island; a barge met the ship at the edge of the lagoon and the shipping containers were lowered onto the barge to be ferried to the port, a long and fro process, all weather dependent. Mark is waiting for the release of the cargo, in port, all required to be checked by "Bio Security."

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CONTEST CORNER

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

Let me know if you participate in this contest and how you do!

Contest	Start Date	End Date
SP DX Contest	4/4/2026	4/5/2026
Louisiana QSOP	4/4/2026	4/5/2026

Georgia QSOP	4/11/2026	4/12/2026
New Mexico QSOP	4/11/2026	4/12/2026
Holyland DX Contest	4/17/2026	4/18/2026
Michigan QSOP	4/18/2026	4/19/2026
Ontario QSOP	4/18/2026	4/19/2026
Quebec QSOP	4/19/2026	
SP DX RTTY	4/25/2026	4/26/2026
Florida QSOP	4/25/2026	4/26/2026
New England QSO Party	5/2/2026	5/3/2026
7th Area QSOP	5/2/2026	5/3/2026
Indiana QSOP	5/2/2026	5/3/2026
Deleware QSOP	5/2/2026	5/3/2026
New England QSO Party	5/2/2026	5/3/2026
SWODXA DXDINNER	5/15/2026	
SWODXA DXForum	5/16/2026	
Arkansas QSOP	5/16/2026	5/17/2026
CQ WW WPX Contest, CW	5/30/2026	5/31/2026

Until next month, 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 month!

OHIO'S



I find it rather hard to believe that when you read this we are already into April and Easter is in the rear view mirror. It seems not that long ago that I was assisting the **Highland ARA** ring in the New Year. I hope you weren't one of those who fell for the annual notice from Dot Ditty of the FCC was bringing back the Morse Code requirement to hold an amateur radio license and thousands would have to test for the code.

Southern Ohio's weather during the first quarter of 2026 has been all over the place. Record high temperatures, lower than normal night temperatures, high rain, snow and wind readings were almost weekly. Pending weather conditions even caused the Wilmington NWS Office to cancel a planned weather spotting program. Check <https://www.weather.gov/iln> for a future date and how to register in order to participate. The questionable weather forecast caused the Ohio Severe Weather Awareness Program to postpone their state-wide tornado siren test. However once the test was held the **Highland ARA** conducted a quickly called net with about 10 stations responding. These conditions caused many of our radio meetings and activities to be cancelled or postponed. One victim of the iffy weather was the date of the test session for the **Athens County ARC** license class. The **Bellbrook ARC** and a good number of other Winter Field Day plans were either scrubbed or modified. I heard the **Portsmouth RC** ended up postponing their March business meeting twice. However the **Sunday Creek ARF**'s hamfest at Shade still went on without a hitch as did Huntington's **Museum of Radio and Technology**'s show.

On Tuesday evening, April 14, the **Highland ARA** will host Ohio's new ARRL Section Manager, Bret Stemen, KD8SCL, with a "Meet and Greet" for one of his first ventures into Ohio's South 40. The event will occur in conjunction with HARA's business meeting which begins at 7 PM at the Highland County EMA Office, 1487 North High Street (US62), Hillsboro. HARA President John Willis, KE8JEM, promises to keep the business meeting short so all attending will have more time to hear what Bret's vision for the Ohio Section is and why ARRL membership should be considered. All amateurs within the region are invited to attend what promises to be an informative evening. Refreshments will be served.

Billy Massie, AK8KY, tells us the newly formed South Forty Net is off and running and for a newly formed net is doing well. He said the purpose behind the net was to create more activity and serve as a newswire for amateurs in the Southern Ohio area. It meets nightly at 9 PM with the **Scioto Valley ARA**'s W8BAP 146.85 repeater as the center of operations. The **Grant RC**'s repeater at Georgetown is also tied into the activity via AllStar. Another newbie to the simplex airwaves is a group that Wilmington's Rick-KD8DFH calls about 9:15 (give or take) on Sunday evenings on 146.59 simplex. Some impressive contacts and distances have so far been achieved with this group.

The **SouthWest Ohio DX Association** announces ARRL CEO David Minster, NA2AA, will be the key note speaker at this year's 39th annual DX Dinner®. The event that is held in conjunction with the 2026 Dayton Hamvention® are going quickly according to officials. It starts at 5:30 with a cash bar and dinner on May 15 at the University of Dayton Marriott Hotel. Last year's attendance neared 400. Tickets can be purchased on the <https://swodxaeventsorg/dinner-tickets/> WSODXA website.

Adams County's **DeForest RC** will conduct upcoming VE sessions on April 9 and June 11 at the County EMA Office, 31 Logan's Lane, West Union. Testing information and registration should be directed to K8WEH at k8weh@arrl.net. Testing starts at 6 PM. If you are unable to make the Adams County session, just up SR 247 in Hillsboro the **Highland ARA** holds a Laurel VE session on Saturday morning, April 25 at the Highland County EMA Office, 1487 North High Street in Hillsboro. Pre-registration is suggested, but walk-ins are welcome at the 10 AM session. The pre-registration website is now up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10CD048ADAC23A7FEC16-63325873-hara>. On April 11, the **Tri-State ARA** will conduct a Laurel test session at the Huntington Radio and Technology Museum. The registration

and testing begining 9 AM. Because this is a Laurel test, there is no charge to take a test for a first license or an upgrade. The **Athens County ARA** will conduct an ARRL test session during their Sunday, April 26 Hamfest in Athens. Please remember you must have an FRN prior to taking an amateur radio license test session.

By the time you read this our friends at the **Athens County ARA** already have held one of a full slate of activities for the month. On April 4 they assisted with the annual Iron Furnace Trail Runs through Lake Hope and Zaleski State Forest. Then on April 19 the Club will provide communications support for the Athens Marathon. The following Saturday, April 25, they will provide communications for the Athens Race For a Reason with the following day the Club's annual hamfest at the Community Center in Athens.

Saturday, April 11 will be another enjoyable morning filled with amateur radio groups gathering for breakfast or coffee topped with a lot of good conversation and fellowship. The morning kicks off with two clubs gathering at 8 AM. The **All Things ARC** will meet at the Scrambler Restaurant at 1377 Ety Road in Lancaster while the **Bainbridge Area Hams** gather at the Dutch Restaurant near Bainbridge. Then it's up US 50 to Hillsboro where hopefully the **Highland ARA** will hold their final Brunch Bunch gathering, until fall, at the Burger King at 10. With luck they will restart Summer gatherings at the Hillsboro Liberty Park Harmony Lake shelter house. If you still have not had enough food and chit-chat, you can continue your US 50 journey into the Cincinnati area where the **OH-KY-IN ARS** will hold their 1 PM Brunch Bunch version at a location to be announced.

My email mailbox has been graced with the newest editions of several area club newsletters. Just in is the "Exchange" newsletter from the **Southwest Ohio DXA**. Club President and Editor Bill Salyers, AJ8B, outdid himself with another outstanding issue. Even if you are not a DXer or contester there are items that almost any ham will find interesting. The publication also calls attention to their upcoming April 9 meeting. The program is "LoTA-Under the Hood" with George Allison, K1IG. Lyn Alfman, N8IMW, did her usual great job editing the **Cambridge ARA**'s "Communicator" newsletter. Within her newsletter she consolidates into a single issue information gathered from a number of reliable sources.

Although not in the South 40 coverage area, or even in Ohio, some of our Southeastern Ohio readers may have an interest attending the **Lincoln County (WV) High**

School ARC's hamfest on April 25 at the High School in Hamlin, WV. The doors open at 7:30 AM with a \$5 admission charge. Flea market tables are \$10 each. More information is at k8vfd.wv@gmail.com. On the following day the annual **Athens County ARC**'s hamfest takes place at the Athens Community Center at 701 East State Street in Athens. The fun starts when the gate opens at 8 AM and continues until noon.

Admission is \$5 with free parking lot flea market set ups. Inside tables are \$10. More info at wd8rif@arrl.net. An ARRL walkin VE session begins at 10 AM.



Speaking of hamfests, I doubt I have to remind many of you that the **Dayton ARA** sponsor's the world's largest gathering of hams from May 15 through the 17th at the Greene County Fairgrounds in Xenia. But did you also realize the world's largest gathering of hams interested in low power (QRP) operating begins on May 14 and continues with seminars and exhibits each evening of Hamvention at the nearby Double Tree Hotel in Fairborn. There are well known speakers, equipment demonstrations, a banquet and loads of prizes. It is sponsored by the **QRP ARC**. For more information check their website at www.qrparci.org.

Until next time, please support your local club and be radio active.

John, W8KIW

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

SB DX ARL ARLD013

SB DX ARL ARLD013

ARLD013 DX news

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

RODRIGUES ISLAND, 3B9. Suvarna, VU3OPT, will be QRV as 3B9N from April 4 to May 22. Activity will be on 20, 15, and 10 meters using QSL via VU3OPT.

GUINEA, 3X. Elvira, IV3FSG, will be QRV as 3X3A from Rouse Island, IOTA AF-051, from April 11 to 25. Activity will be on 80 through 10 meters and 6 meters using CW, SSB, FT8, FT4, and FT2. QSL via IK2WAD.

BARBADOS, 8P. Lloyd, K2JVX, will be QRV as 8P9KX from April 6 to 9. Activity will be on 40 and 20 meters using SSB. QSL via K2JVX.

GUYANA, 8R. Renato, PY8WW, is QRV holiday style as 8R/PZ5TW from Corriverton until April 5. Activity is on 80 through 10 meters using CW, SSB, and digital modes. QSL via PY8WW, Club Log or LoTW.

EASTER Island, CE0Y. Max, DJ4EL, is QRV from Easter Island, IOTA SA-001, as CE0Y/DJ4EL until April 11. Activity is holiday style on 20 through 10 meters using SSB. QSL via OQRS.

ANTARCTICA. Ramon, LU1DMZ, is QRV as LU1DMZ/Z from the Orcadas base on Laurie Island, IOTA AN-008, until the end of 2026. Tom, VK2TBC, is also QRV as VK0TBC from the Casey base on the Bailey peninsula, IOTA AN-016. QSL info unknown.

SOUTH COOK ISLANDS, E5. Frank, DJ5NQ, is QRV as E51ANQ from Rarotonga Island, IOTA OC-013. Length of stay is unknown. Activity is holiday-style on 80 through 10 meters using CW and SSB. QSL via DJ5NQ.

ARMENIA, EK. A group of operators will be QRV as EK0W on April 4. Activity will be on the HF bands. QSL info unknown.

GUADELOUPE, FG. Herve, F5HRY, is QRV as FG/F5HRY from Marie-Galante Island, IOTA NA-102, until April 3. Activity is on 80 through 10 meters using CW and SSB. QSL via F5HRY or LoTW.

DOMINICA, J7. Brennan, N4QX, will be QRV as J79QX from April 5 to 11. Activity will be on FM satellites. QSL via LoTW.

WESTERN SAHARA, S0. Naama, S01A, and Azman, S01AH, are QRV as S09S until the end of May to mark the 50th anniversary of Western Sahara. QSL via OQRS or LoTW.

CENTRAL KIRIBATI, T31. A group of operators are QRV as T31TTT on Kanton Island, IOTA OC-043, until April 8. Activity is on 160 through 6 meters using CW, SSB, FT8, and FT4. QSL via Clublog.

CONGO, TN. Darek, HF3GD, is QRV as TN8GD from Brazzaville. Activity is on 160 through 6 meters using CW, SSB, and FT8. QSL via LoTW.

BENIN, TY. Gerard, F5NVE, is QRV as TY5GG until April 6. Activity will be in his free time on 80 through 10 meters using mostly CW and FT8. QSL via F5RAV or LoTW.

ST KITTS AND NEVIS, V4. Janusz, SP9FIH, is QRV as V4/SP9FIH until April 18. Activity is on 30 through 6 meters using SSB, RTTY, and FT8/4. QSL via SP9FIH, Club Log, or LoTW.

THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO. YBDXPI SSB Contest, PODXS 070 New Member Jamboree, EA RTTY Contest, Louisiana QSO Party, Mississippi QSO Party, and SP DX Contest are all scheduled for this upcoming weekend.

K1USN Slow Speed Test, ICWC Medium Speed Test, IRTS 70cm Counties Contest, IRTS 2m Counties Contest, DARC Easter Contest, OK1WC Memorial (MWC), ICWC Medium Speed Test, ARS Spartan Sprint, Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest, ICWC Medium Speed Test, ZL Sprint, Phone Weekly Test, A1Club AWT, CWops Test (CWT), VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest Mini-Test 40, Mini-Test 80, CWops Test are on tap from April 6 to 8.

Please see April QST, page 77, and the ARRL and WA7BNM contest websites for details.

Upcoming Hamfests

We **DO** have hamfests scheduled for 2026!!



Ohio Hamfests

2026

<p>04/11/2026 - Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club 70th Hamfest Location: Cuyahoga Falls, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club, Inc. Website: https://www.cfarc-hamfest.org Learn More</p>	<p>04/25/2026 - Tusco Amateur Radio Club's 2026 Hamfest, Computer & Electronics Show Location: Dover, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Tusco Amateur Radio Club W8ZX Website: http://www.w8zx.net/hamfest Learn More</p>
<p>04/26/2026 - Athens Hamfest Location: Athens, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Athens County Amateur Radio Association Website: http://ac-ara.org Learn More</p>	<p>05/02/2026 - Lucas County ARES Hamfest Location: Toledo, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Lucas County Amateur Radio Emergency Service, Inc. Website: http://WWW.LUCASARES.ORG Learn More</p>
<p>5/14/2026 - 05/17/2026 Four Days In May Location: Fairborn, OH Type: ARRL Hamvention Sponsor: QRP Amateur Radio Club International Website: http://qrparci.org/fdim Learn More</p>	<p>06/06/2026 - FCARC SummerFest Location: Delta, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Fulton County Amateur Radio Club Website: https://k8bxq.org/hamfest Learn More</p>
<p>07/11/2026 - 2026 Mansfield Mid Summer Trunkfest Location: Mansfield, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Intercity Amateur Radio Club Website: http://w8we.org Learn More</p>	<p>07/19/2026 - Van Wert Hamfest Location: Van Wert, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Van Wert Amateur Radio Club Learn More</p>
<p>08/01/2026 - 2026 Columbus Ham Fest Location: Grove City, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Aladdin Shrine Audio Unit Website: http://www.columbushamfest.com Learn More</p>	<p>08/15/2026 - Cincinnati HamfestSM, ARRL Great Lakes Division Convention Location: Owensville, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest / Division Convention Sponsor: Milford Amateur Radio Club Website: https://cincinnatihamfest.org/ Learn More</p>
<p>08/16/2026 - Warren Hamfest Location: Cortland, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Warren Amateur Radio Association Website: http://w8vtd.com/hamfest Learn More</p>	<p>09/22/2026 - Portsmouth Hamfest Location: Wheelersburg, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Portsmouth Radio Club Website: https://www.portsmouthradioclub.com Learn More</p>

<p>09/13/2026 - Findlay Hamfest Location: Findlay, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Findlay Radio Club Website: http://findlayradioclub.org Learn More</p>	<p>09/27/2026 - Cleveland Hamfest Location: Berea, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Association of Cleveland Website: https://www.HAC.org Learn More</p>
<p>10/10/2026 - Williams County ARA Hamfest Location: Montpelier, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: WCARA Website: http://ka8ofe.weebly.com Learn More</p>	<p>11/01/2026 - 2026 Massillon ARC Hamfest at MAPS Location: N. Canton, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Massillon Amateur Radio Club Website: http://w8np.net Learn More</p>

Print an Official or Unofficial Copy of Your Amateur Radio License

(By Anthony Luscre, K8ZT)

As of February 17, 2015, the **FCC no longer routinely issues paper license documents** to Amateur Radio applicants and licensees. The Commission has maintained for some time now that the official Amateur Radio license authorization is the electronic record that exists in its Universal Licensing System (ULS). The FCC will continue to provide paper license documents to all licensees who notify the Commission that they prefer to receive one.

Licensees also will be able to print out an official authorization — as well as an unofficial “reference copy” — from the ULS License Manager. I’ve created a set of instructions on how you can request an “official” printed copy of your license*



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

Final...Final

The Ohio HF Net has resumed on Tuesday March 3rd at 19:00 on 3.902 +/-

Now it’s time to start figuring out which hamfests to get to in 2026. I’m going to start early on this one, and yes, I’ve already bought my tickets for HAMVENTION 2026! If you’ve never been there or you’re a new Ham – GET THERE! It will definitely give you a different

perspective on Amateur Radio. There are a couple BIG Fests worth going to if you can make it, but this one is right in our own back yard! I'll look forward to seeing you there and at many other Fests and Events throughout the Ohio Section this year!

Share the Magic of Radio!

73,
Bret, KD8SCL

“Swap & Shop” on the Ohio Section website - www.arrl-ohio.org

Hey Gang,

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

<http://arrl-ohio.org/section-swap-shop/>



Do you have equipment that you just don't need or want anymore? Here's a great venue to advertise it, and it's FREE!!

Is your club doing a fund raiser to help raise money? After a lot of thought, it was decided that the Swap & Shop webpage could also contain these types of items as well.

The same rules will apply as do for the For Sales and Give-A-Ways and will only be posted for a month at a time. Please see the Terms & Conditions on the webpage. You might want to list your location so that prospective buyers know where you're at.

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

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

Back Issues of the PostScript and Ohio Section Journal

Hey, did you know that PostScript and Ohio Section Journal (OSJ) are archived on the website?



Ohio Section Cabinet

Section Manager – Bret Stemen, KD8SCL	Section Traffic Manager – Dan Rinaman AC8NP
Asst Section Manager – John Levo, W8KIW	Asst Section Manager – Alan Andres, KD8ZBS
Section Emergency Coordinator – Mat Nickoson, KC8NZJ	Asst Section Manager – Anthony Luscre, K8ZT
Technical Coordinator – Jeff Kopcak, K8JTK	Affiliated Clubs Coordinator – Terry Windsor, KI8N
State Government Liaison – Bob Winston, W2THU	Public Information Coordinator – Elizabeth Kline, KE8FMJ

Chit – Chat, and All That!

Do you know someone that’s not getting these Newsletters? Please, forward a copy of this Newsletter over to them and have them “[Opt-In](#)” to start receiving them.



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!