

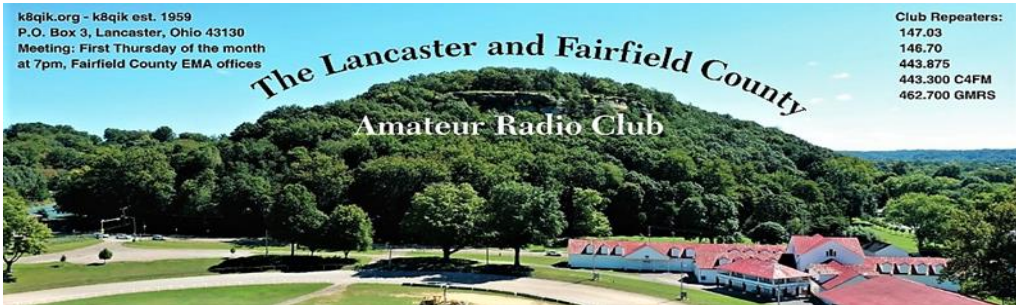
The Ragchewer



February 2026



**K8QIK = The "Voice" of Amateur Radio in
Fairfield County**



Fairfield County's Amateur Radio Club Since 6-3-1959

Club Meetings:

1st Thursday of every month at 7:00 PM. Location: **EMA building 240 Baldwin Dr, Lancaster, OH 43130.**

Nets:

MONDAY

NEWSLINE: 8:00pm
CLUB NET at 9:00pm
Monday AM Net at 9:00am
 147.03 MHz (+.6)
 146.70 MHz (-.6) Alt. Freq.

Packet:

BBS 145.53MHz
 K8QIK-1 BBS
 K8QIK-2: Ohio53

Weather Spotter Net:

146.700 Repeater with 94.8 Hz tone Monday at 7:30 Pm

GMRS REPEATER

Transmits on 462.70 MHz
 Receives on 467.70 MHz
 PL code 77Hz

FACEBOOK LINK

[Club Facebook Link](#)

www.k8qik.org

ARRL Membership

When you join the ARRL, or renew your membership through the club, we retain \$15 for each new membership OR lapsed membership (of two years or more), and we retain \$2 for each renewal. Please support our club, it doesn't cost any more. Send or give all paperwork to Treasurer with your money.

Free Swap and Sell

If you have anything ham radio related, you can swap it or sell it here. List your items for free. Give a price and how to contact you. Send the list to Webmaster@K8QIK.ORG or Ragchewer Editor at ragchewerk8qik@sbcglobal.net

HAMFESTS

To find a convention or hamfest near you, click [here](#)

Special Event Stations

<http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>

2026 Officers

President:

Mark Urbine, KC8TUW

Vice President:

Eric Fox, KE8BZZ

Secretary:

Mary Travis, KD8EEI

Treasurer:

Guy Ingram, W8AGI

Trustee:

John Hilliard, W8OF

Station Engineer:

John Hilliard, W8OF

Volunteer Examiner:

Walter Callahan, W8ALT

Trainer:

Tim Lentz, KD8QCA

Activities Manager:

Mark Urbine, KC8TUW

Public Relations:

Jim Mills, KE8IID

Safety Officer:

Mark Urbine, KC8TUW

Web Master:

Walter Callahan, W8ALT
webmaster@k8qik.org

News Editor:

Ralph Howes, W8BVH
ragchewer@sbcglobal.net

February 5, 2026 Meeting Minutes



At 7:00 p.m., Mark called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance. There were 6 members, 5 on zoom for a total of 11.

One application for 1st review Rick Osborn, KF8DEI.

Steve Anderson W8JLA Zoom Stanley Boch KD8QVS Walt Callahan Jr. W8ALT Zoom John Hilliard W8OF	Guy Ingram W8AGI Paul Kidwell W8PDK Zoom Devon Marshall KE8CVP Zoom	Robert Northrup KC8PSW Scott Snoke WD8IXO Zoom Mary Travis KD8EEI Mark Urbine KC8TUW
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Minutes from the December 2025 were posted in Ragchewer and motion to approve with change on Boch approved for membership by Guy W8AGI and seconded by Robert KC8PSW. All were in favor.

Guy gave the Treasurer report. Walt W8ALT made motion to approve treasurer's report and seconded by Robert KC8PSW. All were in favor

No Volunteer Trainer report since Tim was absent.

Walt W8ALT reported there were three applicants for January's test. One passed Tech, two passed General and one passed Extra. There are five people scheduled as of this time for Feb, test. Robert KC8PSW, Guy W8AGI, Matt KE8FSE on site and Walt W8ALT remotely.

The following people volunteered to run the net: Feb. 9th Guy, W8AGI; Feb, 16th Mark, KC8TUW; Feb, 23rd Eric/Mark, KE8BZZ; and March 2nd Paul, W8PDK.

John W8OF reported with the death of Geoff Bronzy KD8GRN the future of Wires X is unknown since everything was operated out of the business that Geoff worked for and the system was shut down right after his death. John will keep everyone informed if he hears of anything new with Wires X.

Mark KC8TUW asked everyone to be safe with this winter weather.

Mark KC8TUW has contacted LHS and they are interested in sponsoring contact with ISS and much discussion followed and it was decided to table this until new high school building is ready.

Mark KC8TUW stated he will get the safety vests with our club logo on right hand side and asked if we wanted our call sign on left side of vest for those who won the vests at the Christmas party. Stanley KD8QVS and Mary KD8EEI said yes and Mary also spoke for Patricia Jackson that she would be okay with it. Mark further asked if the club would want to consider having some vests done by the club for members who volunteer to work the community events such as parade, and they would be handed out at

the beginning and the workers would turn in at the end of the event. These vests would only have our logo on but we would then have something that defines those working the events.

There was discussion on selling rotor and antenna which have been stored at Paul W8PDK's garage since we had our 2018 ISS contact at Talmadge School. It was decided to give Paul permission to use the rotor and antenna rather than sell at this time. John W8OF also asked Paul if he does get the rotor and antenna working to get the radio from EMA building and see if it is in working order.

Devon KE8CVP thanked Paul W8PDK for helping him run the ARES Net when Devon has not been available. Devon stated Paul's willingness to step up and assist has been very much appreciated.

Guy W8AGI made motion to adjourn, seconded by Robert KC8PSW. All were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Mary Travis, KD8EEI

Secretary

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Currently the K8QIK Radio Club in Lancaster, Ohio installed a GMRS repeater that transmits on 462.70 MHz and receives on 467.70 using PL code 77Hz. The repeater is located on a 60-foot tower at a ground elevation of 1,100 on the north end of the city. Range has been exceptionally good with hand-held coverage to most of the county. The repeater is open to anyone that has a current GMRS license and uses it to identify themselves every 15 minutes of use.

John, W8OF

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The Lancaster and Fairfield County Amateur Radio Club (LFCARO)

Exam sessions will be at the Fairfield County EMA, 240 Baldwin Dr in Lancaster Ohio, 43130, *on the first Saturday of each month at 10:00 am*. Please visit our website at <http://www.k8qik.org> for exam dates on our calendar and navigate to our Learning Center/Taking the Exam link for information and requirements. Our VE team looks forward to serving the Amateur Radio community in Central Ohio and across our nation. We have an experienced team which has tested candidates from Alaska, Florida, Texas and points in between!

Contact me at ve_testing@k8qik.org to register.

**

Print an Official or Unofficial Copy of Your Amateur Radio License *(By Anthony Luscre, K8ZT)*

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

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



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Need ideas or a place to discover those billions of other things in ham radio? The ARRL has [four online publications](#) (or in some cases print):

- [QST](#) – monthly publication including news, reviews, technical tips, and projects
- [On The Air](#) – for beginners and experts alike covering a wide range of operating interests and topics
- [QEX](#) – bimonthly technical publication featuring experimentation, technical articles, and columns for hams and radio professionals
- [NCJ](#) – bimonthly contesting journal with hints, stats, scores, and QSO parties

Current ARRL members have access to the latest issues online through the links above or can [search past articles](#). Non-members can find these resources on the ARRL Periodical DVD available for the last couple years via the store (under [Station Resources](#)), try the local library, or ask a member to borrow theirs

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ARRL Youth Licensing Grant Program

The ARRL Youth Licensing Grant Program, in effect since April 19, 2022, will cover the one-time \$35 application fee for new amateur radio license candidates younger than 18 years old for tests administered under the ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC) program.

"We are thrilled that we are able to provide this opportunity to our youth candidates," said ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM.

The \$35 Federal Communications Commission (FCC) application fee will be reimbursed after the ARRL VEC receives the completed reimbursement form and after the new license has been issued. The reimbursement check will be mailed to the fee payer. Also, candidates younger than 18 years old would pay a reduced exam session fee of \$5 to

the ARRL VEC team at the time of the exam. The \$5 fee is for all candidates under the age of 18, regardless of the exam level taken. Proof of under 18 status is required at the session.

The ARRL Board approved the Youth Licensing Grant Program at its July 2021 meeting in Hartford, Connecticut, expanding on the scope of the original motion proposed by ARRL Southeastern Division Director Mickey Baker, N4MB.

The Board believes the recruitment and training of young amateur radio operators is a necessary and proper mission of the ARRL and subsidization of the \$35 fee will reduce the number of new amateurs that would otherwise be lost from these groups. Initially the new program would serve up to 1,000 new license applicants under 18 years old. The program length is indefinite; it may be renewed or terminated by the Administration and Finance Committee or by the Board of Directors.

Visit the ARRL website for the program instructions and reimbursement form at www.arrl.org/youth-licensing-grant-program.

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Estate Planning for Hams (What happens to all your stuff?)

August is National Make-a-Will month. Some estimates show that nearly two-thirds of Americans don't have a plan. For some, it's procrastination. Others don't know where to start. "So many times we hear from the family of a Silent Key who are overwhelmed with what to do with a lifetime worth of amateur radio gear," said ARRL Director of Development Kevin Beal, K8EAL. "Simply thinking through what needs to be done ahead of time can prevent the stress on our loved ones after we are gone."

ARRL this week held a webinar, hosted by Beal and Dino Papas, KLØS, to discuss the first steps of planning. "It is something that, unfortunately, doesn't get a lot of attention. The bottom-line up front is, 'what happens to all our beloved ham gear when that inevitable day comes along that we become a Silent Key?'... Unfortunately, that day may arrive unexpectedly – so we need to prepare ahead of time to make it as simple as possible for our families," said Papas.

On the ARRLHQ YouTube channel, you can see a replay of the 52-minute presentation, along with the question-and-answer section at the end. "Your station is an asset, just like anything else you've built and put resources into. Deciding now what happens when you become a Silent Key can help solidify your legacy to ham radio," said Beal. The ARRL Legacy Circle recognizes the generosity of individuals who have planned support for ARRL through wills, trusts, life insurance gifts, and other ways. The ARRL Legacy Circle ensures that ARRL and amateur radio will continue to thrive for generations to come.

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Our New Ohio Section Manager

Hope everyone had a great holiday season, spending time with family and friends.

What an incredible journey I have had since becoming licensed in 2012, from becoming an Assistant Emergency Coordinator in Licking Co. to now the Section Manager. As I mentioned, I started out as an Assistant Emergency Coordinator for Licking Co. to the Emergency Coordinator, I then became an Assistant District Coordinator and then to District Emergency Coordinator when the previous DEC became a SK. Stan N8BHL was ready to retire and I was approached to replace him as Section Emergency Coordinator and accepted. Tom WB8LCD was ready to retire from his position as Section Manager, I was approached to finish his term as SM and agreed.

As we embark on our journey in 2026, I eagerly anticipate assuming the leadership role and attending Hamfests to connect with everyone. Last year, I had the opportunity to attend some of these events and was able to meet individuals whose names I had previously only heard. I am particularly excited about the prospect of meeting and engaging in conversations with you in 2026.

I kindly request your patience as I am currently processing a substantial amount of information, and it will take me some time to fully comprehend it.

On a side note, the staff of the SARGE will be taking a break for January and February. The Ohio HF Net will resume on Tuesday March 3rd at 19:00 on 3.902 +/-

Bret KD8SCL

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From the Technical

Jeff Kopcak - K8JTK TC
K8JTK@arrl.net

Hey gang,

Have you recently built
Came up with a solution to
the shack? Experienced
Operating HF for the first
were to ask your club
editor (or even our own
Manager) are they looking
from club members, I'll bet

“yes!” Hams are interested in good articles written by others sharing their experiences with projects and adventures. You'll be surprised to find many other hams interested in the same thing or looking for motivation to take that leap. It happens. Not sure what to do or where to start? Contact the newsletter editor first. Let them know your intent to write an article. They should provide guidelines and requirements. Deadline for submission and how much space is available for example. They may ask questions to help jump start the thought process which will aid getting details down in written form. Write down those questions or refer back to the E-mail if... when... you get writer's block.

Think about your audience. Is this a general interest club or newsletter? Is it a more technical forum? For general interest audience, keep the concepts broad.

“Raspberry Pi 4 with a high-quality SD card” is good because most people have heard of or used an SD card and a Raspberry Pi. Maybe a sentence or two to describe them further for those whom haven't used that particular device. As opposed to:

“Raspberry Pi 4 with the Broadcom BCM2711, Quad core Cortex-A72 (ARM v8) 64-bit SoC @ 1.8GHz with a C10 SD card” where only a small percentage of readers will have an idea what any of that means. A technical newsletter, web post, group, or online platform



Coordinator

something?
a problem in
something new?
time? If you
newsletter
Section
for content
they say

maybe interested in those details. Majority of readers won't care, leave those details to an appropriate forum.

Organize your thoughts and come up with some logical order to them. Chronological often works best. Jumping around and referring to events you haven't yet described will leave the reader confused and likely to move on.

Introduction & problem

Answer the question "what did you try to tackle or what problem did you solve?" Wanting to build an interface for digital operation, build a portable direction finding antenna, evaluate mobile antenna mounts, establish a mesh network, learn Linux or Raspberry Pi, learn a programming language, build a timer circuit, add a spectrum analyzer and waterfall to an older radio using a Software Defined Radio, work a satellite contact, used an SDR to track down a noise source, find an elusive noise source on 40 meters. These are examples of something set out to be accomplished.

Researching & finding a solution

How did you research the topic or how did you find out how to get started? Watch YouTube videos, read online posts or blogs, research in the ARRL Handbook or other publication, consult with friends or club members, attend a club meeting, training session, or hamfest forum? Include a few outstanding resources utilized, such as a website that has a calculation tool for antenna length, tracking satellite passes, finding 6-meter openings, a detailed setup/walk through video, or GitHub repository.

Implementation

This should be the main focus of the article. After all, it's what readers came to learn about. This section should include acquisition of parts & materials, alternatives that were cheaper/more expensive, better/lesser quality, substituted better parts than those in your research, design changes, testing methods, and trial and error antidotes.

Diagrams, schematics, flow charts, reference tables, and pictures are good as long as there is space for those. If there is not a lot of space and highly detailed versions of diagrams or images exist, upload those to Dropbox or a Google Drive folder. Create a read only sharable link to that folder. Include that link in the article or put it at the end of the article for more information.

Installation

Steps taken to get the project ready for final assembly and results of initial testing. How did you make the project look clean and professional? Mounting methods for the project - housing or risers/standoffs, installation issues, cable management, or batch file/shell script/system code snippets to automatically start the program. Initial test results? Did they indicate a good build, point to any issues, or did you miss something along the way?

Testing

Any additional problems encountered, anomalies you came across, or last-minute changes? Antenna analyzer readings, triangulation techniques for foxhunting, signal strength of the next mesh node, speed tests, or other adjustments? Include any debugging tips that another reader is likely to encounter.

Don't be embarrassed about things you've messed up either. We have all done it. Whether its forgot a ";" at the end of a line of code and it took a half-hour or half-day to debug because the compiler thought the error was somewhere else, looked at a wrong date, didn't realize the time was listed in UTC, let the smoke out, scope was on the wrong scale, knocked over a propane torch... whatever the reason, it will

make you appear human. Your work will stick with your reader and they'll relate to problems from their own experiences. Inject some tasteful humor and you'll show you learned from your mistakes too.

Operation

Did you accomplish what you set out to accomplish? Did you track down that noise on 40, work moon-bounce to an exotic location, work holiday-style from a sought-after entity, snag that DX you were hoping to get, were published in a magazine because someone used your project as part of theirs, or start an industry because it was so fascinating? Final thoughts about the project. Was it worth it, would have done anything differently, did it make things easier or harder? Would have rather spent time doing something else?

Now that your article is written, revise, revise, take a break, and revise again for spelling, grammar, and continuity. Have others proof read and provide constructive criticism. It is hard sometimes when it is your work but they're trying to make it better. Having peers review will help convey your message clearly. Even if you don't consider yourself a writer, it will help avoid making stupid spelling or phrasing mistakes. Still looking for topic examples? Grab any issue of QST and follow the format of a similar article. With a little work, you can become a published author and help your club!

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

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Other Contests

January and February have a plethora of major Amateur Radio Contests (for details and yet more contests visit- www.contestcalendar.com):

- ARRL RTTY Roundup Jan 3 & 4

- North American QSO Party, CW 1800Z, Jan 10 to 0559Z, Jan 11
- North American QSO Party, SSB 1800Z, Jan 17 to 0559Z, Jan 18
- ARRL January VHF Contest 1900Z, Jan 17 to 0359Z, Jan 19
- CQ 160-Meter Contest, CW 2200Z, Jan 23 to 2200Z, Jan 25
- Winter Field Day 1600Z, Jan 24 to 2159Z, Jan 25
- Vermont QSO Party 0000Z, Feb 7 to 2400Z, Feb 8 (the first of 47 State and Regional QSO Parties for 2026. You should also check out the STATE QSO PARTY CHALLENGE- <https://stateqsoparty.com>).
- Minnesota QSO Party 1400Z-2400Z, Feb 7
- British Columbia QSO Party 1600Z, Feb 7 to 0359Z, Feb 8 and 1600Z-2359Z, Feb 8
- CQ WW RTTY WPX Contest 0000Z, Feb 14 to 2359Z, Feb 15
- ARRL Inter. DX Contest, CW 0000Z, Feb 21 to 2400Z, Feb 22
- CQ 160-Meter Contest, SSB 2200Z, Feb 27 to 2200Z, Mar 1

For more information on Contesting and Logging Software:

- Intro to Amateur Radio Contesting- <https://youtu.be/-n5CLG0I1Yw>
- Logging Software for Contesting & General Use- <https://youtu.be/INGMfu4Z114>

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Notes from the Hillsboro ARC

A new two-meter simplex net has been started in the Western part of the South 40 Region. KF8DFH, Rick in Wilmington, is the net control for this Sunday evening 9:15 gathering on 146.59. A recent session saw contacts of 42 and 38 miles made between a station in Warren County and stations in Brown and Highland Counties.

2026 marks the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States. Already communities across the nation are planning ways and events to celebrate the occasion. Our part of Ohio played an important part in the opening of the frontier to the nation's expansion and its settlement with the Ohio, Scioto and Muskingum Rivers; the National Road, Zane's Trace and US 50; early railroads and canals and the early settlements at Marietta and

Manchester. Plus, Ohio's first capital at Chillicothe and the second at Zanesville. And look at all the famous people who came from Ohio's South 40. What better way to call attention to the existence of amateur radio and the service it provides than for a group of hams or club to conduct some type of a special event operation during the year that calls attention to something unique or historic about your community?

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Up to \$25,000 at Stake in New ARRL Student Coding Competition

Pre-registration is now open for a [Student Coding Competition](#), a new national challenge sponsored by ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio®. The project is designed to engage young radio amateurs in shaping the future of amateur radio through software development. Open to ARRL-member amateur radio operators aged 21 and younger, the competition will invite students to design a mobile app that supports ARRL and the amateur radio community. Cash awards totaling up to \$25,000 will be presented to one or more winning entries.

The competition officially begins on January 1, 2026, when complete rules and application specifications will be released at coding.arrl.org. Participants are reminded not to start coding yet — entries must follow the published requirements. Project submissions will be due by March 31, 2026. Entries will be judged on how well they meet the specifications, user interface design and usability, code quality and stability, and the inclusion of extra features.

Adult ARRL members are encouraged to help spread the word and support the next generation of amateur radio innovators. [ARRL Student Membership](#) is free for full-time students aged 21 and younger, removing a key barrier to participation. Young hams, educators, and mentors are encouraged to pre-register now at coding.arrl.org to receive updates as additional details become available and to prepare for this exciting opportunity to contribute lasting tools to amateur radio.

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The Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club offers free live online classes to get your Amateur (Ham) Radio General Class License. Classes start on Sunday, Jan. 11, 2026.

All sessions are held live via Zoom and are free. For information/to register, visit- [Ohio Section Cabinet](#)



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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

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Two Way Conversations & Announcements

At Ohio ARRL Section we would love to carry on way conversation with our readers, let you make announcements about club or personal activities. can do both by join the ARRL Ohio Section Facebook page.

You do need a Facebook account to join. If you already have one visit



a two-

You

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" 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](#)."

Anthony, K8ZT (k8zt@arrl.net)

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A new two meter simplex net has been started in the Western part of the South Eastern Region on 146.59.

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Ohio Hamfests

2026

01/18/2026 - [SCARF Hamfest](#)

Location: Shade, OH

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: SCARF members

[Learn More](#)

01/31/2026 - [Struthers ROAR Mid-Winter Hamfest](#)

Location: Struthers, OH

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Struthers Regional Operators of Amateur Radio

Website: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61580196127715>

[Learn More](#)

<p>03/08/2026 - Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society Winter Hamfest Location: Elyria, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society Website: https://www.noars.net/hamfests/winter-hamfest/ Learn More</p>	<p>03/15/2026 - Toledo Mobile Radio Association Hamfest and Computer Fair Location: Perrysburg, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Toledo Mobile Radio Association Website: http://www.w8hhf.org Learn More</p>
<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>05/14/2026 - 05/17/2026 Four Days in May Location: Fairborn, OH Type: ARRL Convention 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>07/19/2026 - Van Wert Hamfest Location: Van Wert, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Van Wert Amateur Radio Club Learn More</p>	<p>08/15/2026 - Cincinnati HamfestSM, ARRL Great Lakes Division Convention Location: Owensville, OH Type: ARRL 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>09/27/2026 - Cleveland Hamfest Location: Berea, OH Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Hamfest 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>	

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Final... Final

Well, we've closed 2025. Let's start planning out your 2026 Schedule. Both personal and for your club. Being successful requires planning. Being mediocre does not.

Now it's time to start figuring out which fests 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
Ohio ARRL Section Manager

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

As always, we want to thank the ARRL, QST, ARRL Ohio Section Manager, and, their contributors and also the Scioto Valley ARC, Hillsdale Michigan Amateur Radio Club, Highland ARA for their contributions to our newsletter.
