

The Ragehewer



Antenna farm on [Sandia Peak](#) near [Albuquerque](#), New Mexico, USA

September 2025



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



Lancaster-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/ARES Net:

146.700 Repeater with 94.8
Hz tone Monday at 7:00 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>

2025 Officers

President:

John Hilliard, W8OF

Vice President

Eric Fox, KE8BZZ

Secretary:

Mary Travis, KD8EEI

Treasurer:

Guy Ingram, W8AGI

Trustee:

John Hilliard, W8OF

Station Engineer:

John Hilliard, W8OF

Volunteer Examiner:

Walt 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

Minutes of September 4, 2025



K8QIK Meeting Minutes September 4, 2025

The meeting was called to order by John at 7:03 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance. There were 8 members present and 4 on zoom.

Mathew Schouppe, KE8ZFS	Robert Northup, KC8PSW	Guy Ingram, W8AGI
Eric Fox, KE8BZZ	Timothy Lentz, KD8QCA	Paul Bohm, KE8WGZ- Zoom
John Hilliard, W8OF	Lowell Miller, W8QIH- Zoom	Mark Urbine, KC8TUW- Zoom
Steve Anderson, W8JLA- Zoom	Scott Snook, WD8IXO	Walter Callahan, W8ALT

There was a new person KA8LCN, Rick Segal. Has been a ham a for a long time since late 80's or early 90's. Was looking for a club and found us interesting. Each member introduced themselves.

There was one application for first review, Rick Segal.

Secretary's report. Mary was not present due to illness so there was no secretary's report.

Guy provided the treasure's report. There was a motion to approve by Eric, KE8BZZ, seconded by Tim KD8QCA. The motion passed. Guy the discussed the funds we receive from Kroger's. Once a quarter the club gets a check from Kroger. We get funds if you tell Kroger you are part of our club and that gets you set up. It is free money to us.

VP report: Eric Fox, KE8BZZ: Nothing to report

Volunteer Trainer, Tim Lentz: Nothing to report

Volunteer Examiner: Walter Callahan: We have 2 people scheduled to test this coming Saturday. I have contacted our volunteer examiners and have enough to run the session.

Trustee's report, John W8OF: nothing to report

Walter reported no updates on the website. However, he got an email from Rick Segal this week regarding the date and time for our meeting. The website shows the first Thursday of the month at 7pm. The brochure under "more information" says the first Saturday of the month at 10 am. Reviewing the Google Drive brochure it does show Saturday at 10 am. Will be updating the website to correct what shows there.

The following people volunteered to run the Monday night net: September 8th Robert KC8PSW, September 16 Guy W8AGI, September 22 Eric KE8BZZ, and September 29 Mark KC8TUW.

Ralph was not present so there was no Rag Chewer report.

John W8OF Station engineer: We have repeater on waterworks hill. We have receivers at 37 & I 7 and another at Stoutsville. The Stoutsville site has about 220' tower. An antenna up about 2 1/2 years ago. The receiver is okay, but there is a problem with the antenna. He went out there. EMA has a new empty cabinet. He checked if could use the cabinet and coax they had and was given go ahead. Talked to Matt who does climbing and he suggested a Tram antenna for \$80. He had him order it. Robert moved to reimburse the \$80. Tim seconded the motion. The motion passed. John will work with Matt to install.

Activities Manager: Mark. Nothing to report.

Old business: We continued the discussion from last month regarding presentations at the club meetings.

Suggestions for presentations. FT8, Slow scan TV, DMR (new person is having an issue), Wiresx, CW, how to program radios, terms and how to use, software defined radio, antenna building.

Guy mentioned he and Mary had a conversation and recommend the presentation should be 15-20 minutes, not an hour long. Longer presentations could be done over multiple meetings.

New Business: Robert mentioned he didn't get email about zoom meetings for tonight's meeting. Guy said Ralph forwarded the email that day. He will send it a few days ahead in the future.

The following were nominated for officers for next year:

President: Mark Urbine, KC8TUW
Vice-president: Eric Fox, KE8BZZ
Secretary: Mary Secretary, KD8EEI
Treasure: Guy Ingram, W8AGI
Activities: Mark Urbine, KC8TUW

Walter raised the issue that we are not getting any new officers for over the past 3 years since joining the club. Eric is the only new officer during that time. Other than that, it is the same people who change position. Guy said we have over 60 members with 13 new members in the last year. The same core few people come to the meetings and do the events like the parades. We more members to get involved.

There was a motion to adjourn by Guy W8AGI, Seconded by Tim KD8QCA

Submitted by *Walter Callahan*, W8ALT
for Mary who was ill.



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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, Station Engineer

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PLEASE NOTE: The Weather Spotters net will now include the ARES group also. The net will now be called The Weather Spotter/ ARES net and will continue on 146.700 Repeater with 94.8 Hz tone Monday at 7:00 Pm. Also note the time is 7:00pm not 7:30.

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** Monthly Club Breakfast **



NEW Location: Scramblers

1377 Ety Rd, Lancaster, OH 43130 (across from Panera's)

Time: 9-11 am; 3rd Saturday of each month.

Next breakfast is [9-20-25.] in Pickerington.

- *We will have our club breakfast at Scramblers in Pickerington, OH once per Quarter. (Same time) We will remind you prior to the Pickerington Breakfast. This is to share the driving with some of our members in the Pickerington area.*

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The Lancaster and Fairfield County Amateur Radio Club (LFCARC)



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.



Scott's Stuff



Greetings fellow amateur radio community! It's time once again to gather 'round the digital campfire and delve into 'All Things Ham Radio' – from exciting new technologies to the timeless joy of making connections across the airwaves. What an absolutely wild and unforgettable August we've just navigated! The relentless grip of summer truly made its mark, with sweltering heat and oppressive humidity blanketing much of the Great Lakes Division. It felt like every day brought a new record, transforming this past month into one for the history books – a testament to the sheer power of Mother Nature and a challenge for even the most air-conditioned shacks.

With September here now, a new kind of excitement electrifies the air: Football season is officially upon us! The gridiron action returns with a vengeance, bringing a bunch of exciting games back into our lives. From the raw, local passion of high school rivalries – always a personal favorite of mine – to the storied traditions and fierce competition of college football, and finally, the elite plays of the professional leagues, there's something for every fan. Early projections and the buzz from training camps suggest this year's matchups across all three tiers will deliver some truly captivating, "real" football (Well... I'm keeping my fingers crossed that the Browns finally wake up and actually play some good football). So, hang on to your hats and let's get rolling into a season of thrilling touchdowns and unforgettable plays!



Amidst all this excitement, and as we embrace the back-to-school season,



a crucial reminder is in order. Those iconic big yellow school buses are back on the roads, making their essential rounds. Please, everyone, exercise extreme caution when driving. Always be mindful of their flashing red lights and extended stop signs – they're there for a reason. Grant these buses ample space as children embark and disembark, and when they're crossing streets. The safety of our youngest community members is paramount, and a moment of patience can prevent a lifetime of regret for everyone involved.

True to form, August and September have proven to be incredibly dynamic and fulfilling months on my calendar. I've had the distinct pleasure and genuine 'blast' of immersing myself in our vibrant ham radio community. This has involved crisscrossing the region to attend lively hamfests – where the air buzzes with deals, camaraderie, and technical discussions – participating in engaging club meetings and even enjoying several wonderful social picnics with fellow operators. At one particularly memorable picnic, (MVARA) near Youngstown, it was my honor and a true privilege to present this great club with their 100th-anniversary plaque from the ARRL. Witnessing a century of dedicated amateur radio service is truly inspiring, and it's a testament to the enduring spirit of our hobby.

Crucially, these trips aren't just for socializing; they're an invaluable opportunity to connect with you, our dedicated members. My trusty notebook is fast becoming filled with page after page of your insightful thoughts, innovative ideas, and constructive feedback regarding the state and future of amateur radio and the Great Lakes Division. Rest assured, these vital contributions will be shared with the relevant standing committees as they convene over the coming months. Your voice matters!! It helps shape the direction of our organization. Thank you, not just for sharing your wisdom, but for your continued commitment as a valued ARRL member! Speaking of member feedback, I've recently become aware of some common frustrations regarding the digital experience with our flagship publication, QST magazine. Specifically, members have expressed challenges with navigating the digital editions and finding them difficult to read or fully utilize once accessed. I want to assure everyone that these concerns are heard, and thankfully, there's an excellent, long-standing resource designed to address these very issues. Many members may not be aware that the ARRL offers a comprehensive video guide specifically created to help you master the digital magazine platform.

This invaluable resource doesn't just show you how to get to your digital publications; it expertly walks you through the features that allow you to truly leverage your membership benefits, including the ability to seamlessly download and permanently archive these high-quality editions for your

personal library. This helpful tutorial has been assisting our members for several years, empowering them to unlock the full potential of their digital magazine experience. It's also a great opportunity to remind everyone that your ARRL membership grants you exclusive digital access to four high-quality, specialized magazines: the renowned QST, the engaging On The Air, the technically deep QEX, and the contest-focused NCJ. If you have any lingering questions or concerns about maximizing your enjoyment and utility of these fantastic digital editions, this dedicated video, readily available on the official ARRLHQ YouTube channel, is your ultimate guide. This



insightful video, skillfully hosted by the knowledgeable Jherica Goodgame, KI5HTA, offers a step-by-step exploration of numerous powerful features. Viewers will learn how to effortlessly switch between the various magazine titles, how to save entire editions or specific articles as downloadable PDFs for offline reading, how to effectively search for specific content across all publications, how to utilize bookmarks for quick reference, and how to zoom in to content for enhanced readability on any device. The tutorial thoughtfully covers access methods across various platforms, demonstrating its functionality not only for the web browser version but also for the dedicated ARRL Magazines applications available on both Android and iOS devices.

For those who prefer mobile access, a particularly convenient feature of the ARRL Magazines app for Android or iOS is the push notification system. By downloading and installing the app, you'll receive an automated alert directly to your device the moment a new edition becomes available, ensuring you never miss out on the latest amateur radio news and articles. To access this comprehensive guide and enhance your digital magazine experience, simply visit the following link: <https://youtu.be/vmZfIC2IUls>.

As time continues its swift passage, we're rapidly approaching another critical event on the amateur radio calendar. Mark your calendars, because the annual Simulated Emergency Test (S.E.T.) is scheduled for October 4-5! This vital exercise stands as one of the busiest and most significant periods for ham radio operators, second only to the beloved Field Day. It's imperative to ask: Is your ARES® group or club already deep into the planning stages for S.E.T.? If not, now is absolutely the time to start! Just like Field Day, S.E.T. offers an invaluable opportunity – a live demonstration – to our served agencies and the broader public of precisely what amateur radio is truly all about: reliable, resilient, and crucial emergency communications. It's a chance to hone our skills, test our equipment, and prove our readiness to serve our communities when conventional systems fail.

Well, that brings us to the end of this update – this has been a quick rundown of what's been occupying my time and thoughts. I genuinely look forward to the continued privilege of connecting with many more of you, whether virtually or in person, as we move through the remainder of this active season and beyond. Until we meet again, remember to keep those

transceivers humming, your antennas pointed skyward, and that infectious amateur radio enthusiasm burning brightly!

Please continue to stay safe and vigilant in all your endeavors. I eagerly anticipate the chance to "Catch You On The Air," perhaps at a forthcoming club meeting, or at an exciting hamfest in the near future! But above all, regardless of your preferred mode or band, remember the golden rules of our incredible hobby: Have FUN, and most importantly, Get On The Air!

73, Scott...

Scott Yonally, N8SY

Director - Great Lakes Division

n8sy@n8sy.com

Grant Amateur Radio Club - New Release

Subject: Upcoming Hamfest

The Grant Amateur Radio Club is again hosting the Georgetown Hamfest. This one-day event will be November 8, 2025 at 8AM. It will be located at the same location as recent years which is ABCAP Building, 406 West Plum St. Georgetown, Ohio 45121. Everyone is Welcome. Admission: \$5.00. No Limit on tickets, the more tickets you buy the better chance of winning a prize! Main Door prize is a \$600 gift Certificate from R&L Electronics. Amateur radio license testing will be conducted during the hamfest with assistance from Highland ARA.

The table setup is 6AM day of the event. Talk in frequency is: 146.730 PL 162.2hz For more information you can contact Ken Klosterman at 513-515-6726 / KD8FKU@gmail.com or check out the club webpage (<https://grantamateurradioclub.yolasite.com>) Hope to see you there. Where amateur radio friends meet!

License test section:

Grant Amateur Radio Club will be conducting testing during their Hamfest on November 8, 2025, with assistance from Highland ARA. For more information you can contact Ken Klosterman at 513-515-6726 / KD8FKU@gmail.com or check out the club webpage (<https://grantamateurradioclub.yolasite.com>)

RFI – Did you hear that??

Ah, the halcyon days, back when the airwaves were a pristine, albeit sometimes static-laced, canvas of possibilities, a wild frontier just waiting for my eager antenna to explore. I remember tuning in, the dial twirling beneath my fingertips, searching for that elusive DX, a faint whisper from across continents, only to have it savagely assaulted by some grotesque, unidentifiable squawk, a rhythmic

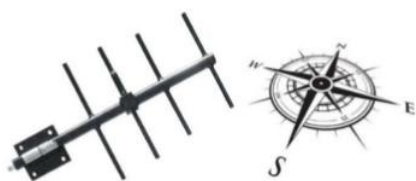


hum of doom, or a truly unholy buzz that would make a banshee sound harmonious. It's a distinct sensation, that moment when your hopeful signal morphs into a chaotic mess, a pure cacophony of electronic frustration, and you just know, deep in your amateur radio soul, that it isn't atmospheric; no, this, my friend, is the unmistakable, soul-crushing sound of Radio Frequency Interference, or RFI, a truly spectral nemesis from your own neighborhood that arrives without warning.

As most interference is usually found to be local to the person being interfered with, it has become common place and even encouraged by our national organization (ARRL) for local ham clubs to form RFI Committees to help hams resolved RFI issues on a localized basis. These committees are dedicated to mitigating RFI and serve as critical, often volunteer-run, entities within the amateur radio and broader wireless communication communities.

They function as a primary resource for diagnosis and resolution of electromagnetic compatibility issues, addressing signal degradation and operational disruptions experienced by licensed operators. These committees typically comprise experienced technical enthusiasts possessing a deep understanding of RF propagation, spectrum analysis, and the mechanisms by which man-made and natural noise sources contaminate the radio spectrum.

Their existence underscores the pervasive nature of RFI, which, if unchecked, can render entire frequency bands unusable, thereby impinging upon the utility and enjoyment of wireless activities for a significant demographic of tech-savvy individuals. The initial point of contact for an operator experiencing interference often leads directly to the expertise resident within these specialized local groups, initiating a structured process of investigation.



The core functions of these RFI committees encompass a systematic approach to identifying, locating, and advising on the mitigation of interference sources. This typically involves a multi-stage process commencing with an initial report from an affected station operator, detailing the observed symptoms, affected frequencies, and temporal characteristics of the interference. Subsequently, committee members, often utilizing highly specialized portable spectrum analyzers, directional antennas, and sophisticated noise-locating receivers, embark on field investigations. Their methodology frequently employs triangulation techniques and power-line carrier detection to pinpoint the exact origin, whether it emanates from faulty electrical infrastructure, switching power supplies, LED lighting, or other non-compliant electronic devices.

From the perspective of an affected radio operator, RFI often manifests as an insidious and frustrating phenomenon, ranging from annoying background noise to complete obliteration of desired signals, severely impacting their ability to communicate effectively. When personal troubleshooting efforts prove insufficient, operators should turn to their local RFI committee as a last resort, providing anecdotal evidence and technical observations to aid the investigation. The committee often will request detailed audio recordings or spectrum screenshots to characterize the interference profile accurately. This collaborative engagement between the affected party and the committee is paramount, as the operator's detailed observations can significantly narrow the scope of the investigation, allowing committee members to target their efforts more precisely and efficiently, ultimately moving closer to identifying the specific noise source disrupting the operator's radio environment.

Establishing an RFI committee within your club provides a structured approach to identifying, mitigating, and documenting interference sources, ensuring robust system performance for all members. This proactive initiative is paramount for a technically proficient organization aiming for peak operational excellence.

Such a committee fosters an invaluable learning environment for everyone within the club. Members gain practical, hands-on experience by helping troubleshoot complex RFI scenarios, deepening their understanding of electromagnetic compatibility principles. This collaborative problem-solving cultivates advanced technical aptitude, empowering individuals to confidently tackle future interference challenges within their own projects and beyond. It truly elevates collective expertise. Elevating the club's standing, an active RFI committee positions us as a critical resource within the broader community. Our demonstrated ability to diagnose and resolve insidious interference issues not only benefits our members but also showcases our technical leadership and commitment to public service. This capability strengthens our reputation, attracting new talent and fostering valuable external collaborations based on proven expertise.

Proactively addressing RFI also champions innovation and future-proofing our technological endeavors. By continuously monitoring the RF landscape and evaluating emerging interference sources, the committee ensures the club remains adaptable to new technologies and evolving regulations. This foresight allows for the development of resilient system designs, preparing us for tomorrow's complex electromagnetic environments and inspiring cutting-edge research.

The establishment of an RFI committee is not merely a technical necessity but an unparalleled opportunity for growth and empowerment within the club. It cultivates an environment of operational excellence, ensuring reliable performance across all spectrum-dependent activities. Consider its profound impact: collective expertise flourishes, projects succeed, and our club truly leads the way in technical proficiency and collaborative problem-solving.

Even now, as technology marches relentlessly forward, introducing new and ever more complex forms of electronic chatter, the spirit of those local RFI committees endures, a quiet, tenacious presence in the background. While the sources of interference might have evolved from sputtering vacuum cleaners to high-speed data transmission lines, the fundamental challenge remains: keeping our beloved radio spectrum clean and usable for everyone. It's a never-ending battle, a constant vigilance against the unseen electronic pollution of our modern world. But I look back with a genuine fondness, a touch of nostalgic amusement, at those days of amateur sleuthing, the camaraderie, and the quirky dedication of individuals who, simply put, just wanted to hear a clear signal, reminding me that the good fight for quiet airwaves is, indeed, eternal and often quite comically rewarding.



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

DXAC

I'm writing to you today to provide an important update on the ongoing "DXCC 2025" review and to directly seek your input on a particularly nuanced aspect of our rules. As you probably know, the DXAC undertook this comprehensive, top-down review of all current DXCC rules several months ago. It's been an ambitious but necessary endeavor to ensure our foundational award remains clear, consistent, and fair for all amateur radio operators.

I'm pleased to report that we've reached a significant milestone: the initial pass, systematically going through every rule on the list, is now complete. This has allowed us to identify areas for clarification, modernization, and potential improvement across the board.

However, the journey isn't over. Our next several meetings are going to dive deep into an area that often sparks considerable discussion and requires careful consideration: the inactive and deleted country aspect of the current DXCC rules.

This isn't just about current operations; it's about the historical fabric of the DXCC award itself. How we handle entities that are no longer active, or have been deleted due to political or geographical changes, profoundly impacts not only the historical integrity of the award but also the aspirations of DXers around the globe. These rules affect whether an operator can claim a past entity, how we verify contacts, and what constitutes a valid "country" for DXCC credit when its status has changed over time. It requires a specialist's understanding of both history and the operational realities of ham radio.

As we dedicate our next several meetings to this crucial and often complex area, I'm reaching out to our Division membership to seek your valuable input. Do you have specific experiences, concerns, or suggestions regarding how inactive or deleted countries are currently addressed? Perhaps you've encountered ambiguities, or you have ideas for how the rules could be made more efficient, accurate, or easier to interpret.

Your perspective as a dedicated ham radio operator is vital. Clear, consistent, and well-understood rules are essential for the long-term health and credibility of the DXCC program. Your insights help us to "harden" our systems against ambiguity and ensure that the DXCC award remains the pinnacle of amateur radio achievement for generations to come.

Please share your thoughts on the inactive/deleted country aspect of the DXCC rules with me.

Your active participation ensures that the DXCC rules reflect the collective wisdom and

Email me at: dward8@gmail.com
73 Dennis Ward KT8X

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](#)



✿ ✿

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

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.



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."

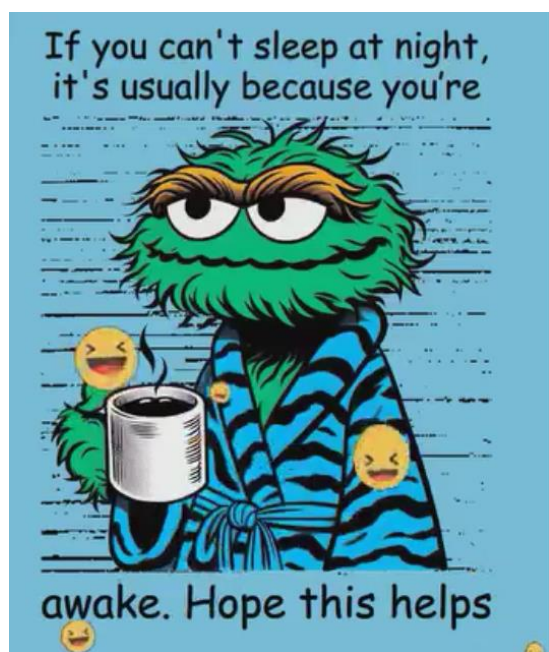
ARRL this week held a webinar, hosted by Beal and Dino Papas, KLØS, to discuss the first steps of planning. "It is something that, unfortunately, doesn't get a lot of attention. The bottom-line up front is, 'what happens to all our beloved ham gear when that inevitable day comes along that we become 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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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.



Ohio Section Cabinet

Section Manager – Tom Sly, WB8LCD	Section Traffic Manager – David Maynard, WA3EZN
Section Emergency Coordinator – Bret Stemen KD8SCL	Section Youth Coordinator – Anthony Luscre, K8ZT
Technical Coordinator – Jeff Kopcak, K8JTK	Affiliated Clubs Coordinator – Amanda Farone – KC3GFU
State Government Liaison – Bob Winston, W2THU	Public Information Coordinator – Elizabeth Kline - KE8FMJ