



The Mount Vernon Amateur Radio Club April, 2014 Newsletter



Meetings are held the 2nd Monday of each Month at 7:00 PM at the Knox County Chapter of the American Red Cross, 300 N. Mulberry Street, Mt. Vernon, Ohio



Ham Radio Rocks

Local Ham Community

K8EEN Repeater: 146.790 Mhz (-600 Khz With PL of 71.9 Hz)
KD8EVR Repeater: 442.100 Mhz (+5Mhz With PL of 71.9 Hz)

Sunday Night ARES Net at 9:00 P.M. on The K8EEN Repeater
Wednesday Night Social Net at 9:00 P.M. on the KD8EVR Repeater



FCC TO REINSTATE MORSE CODE TEST

"It was a big mistake eliminating the Morse Code test,"
admits FCC official.



By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

Washington, D.C. – April 1, 2014 - Today, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) approved Report and Order 14-987af which reinstates the Morse Code test for General Class and Amateur Extra Class licensees. "It was a big mistake eliminating the Morse Code test," admits Dotty Dasher, the FCC's director of examinations. "We now realize that being able to send and receive Morse Code is an essential skill for radio amateurs. As they say, it really does get through when other modes can't."

Not only will new applicants have to take the test, but General Class licensees who have never passed a code test will have one year to pass a 5-wpm code test. Similarly, Amateur Extra class licensees that never passed a code test will have one year to pass a 13-wpm test. Those amateurs that fail to pass the test will face

The next meeting of the Mt. Vernon Amateur Radio Club will be Monday, April 14, 2014 at 7:00 P.M. in the Red Cross Training Center, 300 North Mulberry Street, Mt. Vernon, Ohio.

Please remember to check into the long running Sunday Night ARES net at 9:00 P.M. on the K8EEN 2-meter Repeater.

Every Wednesday at 5:00 PM, MVARC club members meet at Wendy's, 522 South Main Street, Mt. Vernon, Ohio. Dinner Coordinator Dick Huggins, N8RDH, reports good turnouts for this event. Come share dinner with friends, or make new friends, by attending one or all of these events.

Retired club members meet each Friday at 10:00 AM for a breakfast at Hardy's, 998 Coshocton Ave., Mt. Vernon, Ohio.

Come enjoy some good Ham Radio Fellowship and conversations. Oh, you don't have to be retired to join us. Contact Emery Bennett W8TW or David Byrd KD8RST for more information.

Join MVARC club members every second Saturday of the month for breakfast. Breakfast Coordinator Arlin Bradford, KD8EVR, reports good turnouts for this event.

The next Breakfast will be Saturday, April 12th at 9:00 AM at Allison's Finer Diner, 11587 Upper Gilchrist Road, Mt. Vernon, Ohio

revocation of their operating privileges. Materials for administering the examinations will be distributed to Volunteer Examiner Coordinators by the end of April, so that they can begin the testing on May 1, 2014.

"This isn't going to be one of those silly multiple-choice type tests," noted Dasher. "We're going to be sending five-character random code groups, just like we did in the old days. And, applicants will have to prove that they can send, too, using a poorly adjusted straight key."

Technician Class licensees will not be required to take a Morse Code test, nor will a test be required for new applicants. "We discussed it," said Dasher, "but decided that since most Techs can't even figure out how to program their HTs, requiring them to learn Morse Code seemed like cruel and unusual punishment."

When asked what other actions we might see from the FCC, Dasher hinted that in the future applicants taking the written exam may be required to draw circuit diagrams, such as Colpitts oscillators and diode ring mixers, once again. "We're beginning to think that if an applicant passes an amateur radio license exam it should mean that he or she actually knows something," she said.

For further information, contact James X. Shorts, Assistant Liaison to the Deputy Chief of Public Relations for the FCC at (202) 555-1212 or jim.shorts@fcc.gov. For more news and information about the FCC, please visit www.fcc.gov.

This April Fools article was brought to you by KB6NU. Repeat:

April Fools!!

=====

Dan, KB6NU, is the author of the "No-Nonsense" amateur radio study guides and a leading amateur radio blogger. You can find his study guides by going to his blog at www.kb6nu.com. You can contact Dan by e-mail at cwgeek@kb6nu.com, or, after you pass the test, by CW. Look for him at the bottom of just about any HF band.

MESSAGE TRAFFIC: SOME MORE INFORMATION

Hello again. I have been ask to submit more information covering message traffic and the National Traffic System. Initially, I did not think this would be a very involved project. However, after doing some re-reading of my training information, I find this is going to be a little more involved than I had originally thought. So I am going to present a series of 3 to 4 articles in our newsletter over the

The Mt. Vernon Amateur Radio Club

President: Jim Jennessee, KD8UT
kd8ut8@gmail.com
Phone: 740-397-0725

V. President: Frank Counts, KC8EVS
fcunts@gmail.com
Phone: 740-393-3002

Secretary: Jim Williams, N8IBR
n8ibr51@centurylink.net
Phone: 740-967-0627

Treasurer: Tony Spiegel, KC8UR
tony516@embarqmail.com
Phone: 740-392-7586

Trustees: Don Russell, W8PEN
W8pen@arrl.net
Phone: 740-397-0249
Call & Repeater Trustee

Barry Butz, N8PPF
n8ppf@mvarc.net
Phone: 740-397-7540
Equipment Trustee

Directors:

Emery Bennett, W8TW
eabenn2002@hotmail.com
Phone: 740-397-8127

David Byrd, KD8RST
dbryd@roadrunner.com
Phone: 740-392-6325

Barry Butz, N8PPF
n8ppf@mvarc.net
Phone: 740-397-7540

Jeff Butz, N8SMT
jaylynn4@gmail.com
Phone: 740-965-9368

Don Russell, W8PEN
w8pen@arrl.net
Phone: 740-397-0249

Don Blizzard, W8UMH
w8umh@yahoo.com
740-392-9753

Newsletter Editor: Don Russell, W8PEN
w8pen@arrl.net
Phone: 740-397-0249

spring and summer months describing how to write, receive, and pass message traffic.

I have been involved in the National Traffic System in Ohio for almost 15 years, and what seems simple to me now, was probably intimidating in the beginning. However, as with anything else, it does become easier the more you do it.

In this series of articles, I am going to try to give you information about message traffic, while trying to make it simple to understand. I have had some very good instructors during my involvement in the National Traffic System over the years, and believe me when I say that I am still learning things from them as time moves on.

Also, please don't let the amount of information presented scare you. Each of these articles will be 2 to 3 pages long.

There are many forms of message traffic. However, Tactical Traffic, Informal Traffic, and Formal Traffic are the most common ones encountered. My articles are going to focus on Formal Traffic, as this what you will see over 99% of the time.

A brief explanation of Tactical and Informal Traffic follows:

Tactical Traffic messages are first response communications in an emergency situation. It may be instructions or inquires such as request for emergency services, or for information about needed equipment or supplies in an emergency situation. This traffic is usually unformatted and seldom written down by the sending stations. Any stations receiving or passing this traffic should keep an accurate log of it. These logs may be important to local emergency services and any other public service organizations involved at a later date. They can even serve to protect any Amateur Stations involved.

Informal Traffic messages are usually verbal messages sent to save time. Some emergency messages are best sent informally. An example would be if you need emergency services for an injury victim, you do not have the time to write a written message. The time you would lose writing a message could delay needed life-saving services.

Also, letting a net control station know you are at your assigned location does not require a written message and would be considered an Informal Traffic message. However, this does not mean that accuracy is not important. If you are relaying a Tactical Traffic or Informal Traffic message, it is important to relay the information as closely to the original message as possible. And, messages being relayed more than once should be handled in A Written format.

NOW we will begin the discussion of Formal Traffic; Formal Traffic has a specific written format that is used so stations handling these messages know what to expect. This increases the speed and accuracy with which messages can be handled.

The **ARRL RADIOGRAM** is written in a Formal Traffic format, and this is the format required when passing message traffic through the ARRL National Traffic System. This format may not be perfect for all applications, but it serves as a baseline that can be adapted for use within many different agencies.

The **ARRL FORMAT** consist of 4 basic parts. All messages start with a **PREAMBLE** which may also be referred to as the **HEADER**. The next item is the **DELIVERY ADDRESS**. This is followed by the MESSAGE BODY, called the "**TEXT**". And, lastly the **SIGNATURE**. I will be describing this **FORMAL TRAFFIC FORMAT** in my following series of articles.

During emergency situations, there are some additional specific message formats that various government agencies use and you may be expected to handle them during an emergency situation. So be prepared to see and handle some of them if you are assisting one of those government agencies.

Remember, being familiar with the **ARRL FORMAT** will help you when handling these types of traffic, as you will already have a basic understanding of formatted traffic.

Well, enough for this month.

If you have any questions, feel free to ask me on our weekly Sunday night nets, or e mail me at n8ibr51@centurylink.net. If I do not know the answer to your question, I will contact someone who does, and get that information to you.

73

Jim Williams N8IBR/ORS

WN8PLS

My Novice Adventure

Membership profile: KD8UT

A mind, or should I say a memory, is a terrible thing to loose. But I am afraid a lot of water has gone under the bridge since 1964. I was 15 years old when I made a decision to get my Novice Amateur Radio license. I didn't realize that my life was about to turn upside down at the same time I began this adventure. Economic times were difficult in the steel mill town I lived in, Weirton, WV. My father's insurance business had failed and we were losing our home. This is where it gets fuzzy. I don't remember if I took the Novice exam before moving to the Orlando, FL area or when I returned home five months later. In both cases I was living with my grandparents and I remember with absolute clarity building my first receiver from a kit... a [Knight Kit R55A](#).

I set up a card table in the basement under a light that I am sure wasn't as bright as it should have been for the assembly task and reading of instructions. I remember using a red handled, pistol grip shaped soldering iron for making electrical connections. An AM broadcast band

radio played the latest rock-n-roll music in the background. I still have flashbacks to that time, including the distinct aroma of solder flux vapors, when hearing certain "oldies" playing.



My First Receiver (Knight Kit R55A)

I am getting ahead of myself. How did I get to this point... getting a ham radio license? Two things influenced me. In the spring of each year the Ohio River would flood in the Empire, OH area. In our home we had an old cabinet style multiband radio that would cover the 80 Meter amateur frequencies. During the flooding season I would listen to local hams assisting the Red Cross and local authorities with identifying and moving affected persons to area shelters. I remember making a decision during one of those times to become a Ham radio operator. The second influence on me was two buddies that were also in to 100mW CB Walkie Talkies. We would each ride our bicycles in different directions to test the limits of our communications. It was great fun!

I guess you might say that there was a third influence in my decision, and a very important one. One of our Boy Scout leaders just happened to be a Ham. Mr. Degenkolb, Bob -W8IMX (SK) took the three of us boys under his wing and became our Elmer. He was rough and gruff on the outside but unselfish with his time, his knowledge, and his tools. He gave each of us our Novice test. Eric was first as WN8MHF followed by Rick, WN8NLX. Obviously my WN8PLS call came later which lends me to believe that I took the test after returning from Florida and probably late in 1964. I still keep a regular radio schedule with Rick and Eric and we get together for eyeball QSOs a couple of times a year. Their call signs today are WE3X and WA8NLX.

I must have been building the R55A receiver before passing the Novice test. I remember my Elmer helping me align the radio for better performance. I used the radio to build my 5 word per minute Morse code skills required to pass the Novice test. I also remember the day of the test. I was very nervous about the code and I'm sure Mr. D. could sense that. He had me sit down and do a little practice copying before the real test just to relax me a little. He took my scribbling after a few minutes of sending "practice" code and began counting the required number of correctly recorded letters and

numbers. I remember him looking up from the paper and exclaiming "YOU PASSED!". The written portion of the exam was a breeze and now the waiting would begin. In those days, before computers, internet communications, and iPhone Apps, you waited 6 to 10 weeks to receive your "ticket" from the FCC in the mail.



Eico 723 CW Transmitter - 1st Transmitter

While waiting for my license to arrive, I began to assemble my station in the coal cellar room in my grandparent's basement. A coal cellar was a closed off section of the basement where coal was stored for use in the home's coal fired furnace. The furnace had been replaced by a natural gas fired unit several years earlier. My grandfather now kept his fox hunting clothes and dog maintenance paraphernalia in this room and it smelled like it! Eric had graduated to a Heathkit DX60 transmitter and I purchased or stole, I don't remember which, his Eico 723 transmitter. This was a crystal controlled 60 Watt CW transmitter with no frills but jam packed with thrills!

My first antenna was a 40 Meter folded dipole that was wired into a low-tech T-R switch. By



High Tech Antenna Switch

flipping the knife switch contacts back and forth I would switch the antenna from receive to transmit and back. The whole design was very basic and prone to producing RF burns if you touched the receiver or transmitter or any other metal object in the shack with the key down... but it worked!

As anxious as I was to have my license arrive I was twice as nervous about making my first contact. I remember shaking like a leaf in a hurricane and was both excited

and relieved to have that first QSO come to an end! I wish I could remember the details of that first contact but my old logbook, like my memory, disappeared a long time ago.

73,
Jim, KD8UT

Items for Sale

Steve Cochran KD8SWJ has the following items for sale:

1. **Gonset GSB-100 SSB transmitter model 3233, with manual**
2. **Hammarlund Super-Pro receiver with power supply.**

Both of these are boat anchors (very heavy and very antique). Would make any collector proud. From the 1945 – 1955 era I believe.

If interested please contact Steve at:
castit42@icloud.com

MINUTES FEBRUARY 10, 2014 MVARC MEETING

The meeting was called to order by President KD8UT at 7:03 PM.

We watched a short video showing the on air operation of an emergency net operated during a 1967 blizzard in Illinois and broadcast live on TV in the Chicago area.

W8TW gave a short report on the health condition of KD8RST. David's health is not good, and at present he is staying with his son in the Columbus area. David is considering selling his amateur radio equipment, and has arranged for W8TW to handle this. A get well card to be sent to David was passed around for the group to sign. We all wish David well and a speedy recovery.

The Treasurer's January report was read and approved. Motion-KC8EVS 2nd-W8PEN Approved

The Secretaries January meeting minutes were read and approved. Motion-W8PEN 2nd-K8ACE Approved.
Committee reports:

Repeater- W8PEN. Don reported the repeater was doing well. Also said that he set the Echolink up to re-boot daily and this appears to have taken care of the problems it was experiencing.

TECHNICIAN Class-W8PEN. Don reported all was progressing well.

ARES-KB2SAI. Ruben ask members to review their ARES information forms to make sure all information was correct. If you were not enrolled, he ask that you fill out a form and turn it in if you desired to be an ARES member.

FIELD DAY-KD8UT. Jim stated he would not be present for field day this year, but the membership needed to appoint a committee and start planning for the clubs operation this year.

Old Business:

The ENCOMM ONE vehicle status is still pending. At present we will hold onto it and look to the city to see if they have anyplace for us to store it.

It was suggested that modifications be made to the club website. A committee consisting of KB2SAI, KD8UT, and K8ACE was appointed to look into this.

A motion was made by KB2SAI and seconded by W8TW to appoint W8UMH as a director effective starting with the February 10th, 2014 meeting and have a standard term running 2 years. Motion passed.

New Business:

W8TW stated he had a list of equipment that KD8RST was wanting to sell, and anyone interested should contact him.

Motion to adjourn by KB2SAI, 2nd K8ACE. Motion passed.
We had 14 people present. 12 members and 2 guest.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Williams N8IBR
Secretary MVARC

AFFILIATED CLUBS COORDINATOR REPORT

It's been a busy end of winter here in Delaware County, we've had a tornado and a train derailment, within two weeks of each other. Luckily, there were no injuries reported from either incident. The tornado took down a barn and did other structural damage, and fortunately, no hazardous chemicals were on the train, just grain..... lots of grain. The reason I mentioned these incidents is that if they were large scale disastrous events Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) may have been asked by local EMA to activate and assist. If you are a licensed amateur radio operator and have an interest in helping your community, I encourage you contact your local

ARES Emergency Coordinator (EC) to learn more about ARES and how to join.

What does your club have planned for spring? Do you participate in community events, Skywarn training, a Hamfest, or maybe have a spring foxhunt? If there is an event, (including club dinners, award ceremonies, events, etc.) that you would like to share with everyone, then write a short "blurb" about it and email it to me (pictures too, if you have them!) and I will share it on my ACC blog (www.n8ys.blogspot.com).

Don't forget to enter your club newsletter in the 2014 Newsletter Contest – Send entries to Ohio Section PIO John Ross, KD8IDJ – E-mail: [john.ross3\(at\)att.net](mailto:john.ross3(at)att.net) 2014 Newsletter Contest info and rules can be found at http://ar1-ohio.org/pic_page/ncr.html

CLUB NEWS DELARA –

The Delaware Amateur Radio Association has the latest edition of The DELARA News available online. I enjoyed reading "Hurry up and Wait" by DELARA member Craig, W8CR. DELARA has a host of club members that write columns for the newsletter. DELARA can also be found on the web: www.k8es.org

20/9 Radio Club

The 20/9 Radio Club is hosting a Spring Craft Show – this email was sent out by club officers: "The 20/9 Radio Club is hosting a Spring Craft Show and Vendor Expo on Saturday April 12, 2014. We are advertising on TV, Radio, Newspapers etc. Cost is \$10.00 per table (electricity is \$5.00 extra per vendor – not space) plus a donation to our silent auction. Great way to get Easter, Mother's Day, First Communion, Wedding or Graduation Gifts. We keep the cost inexpensive to allow the vendors the ability to showcase their talents in their communities. Food will be provided on site by the cooks at the Austintown Senior Center. All handcrafts are welcome.

Vendors are accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis and only one per style, example only one Avon, Party-lite, etc. Come out and join us for a FUN day! We will also have the Easter Bunny there for FREE pictures with the families and children!"

Buckeye Belles

From the Buckeye Burr newsletter: "News of Belles & Associates Marsha Fleming N8FE has agreed to run for Disbursing Treasurer of YLRL! This ought become completely official come April 15, unless another YL enters this race. YLRL candidates for 2014-15 offices were listed in Jan-Feb YL Harmonics which arrived recently. New Associate Belle member declared - Ann M Nutter VE3HAL is recently retired President of CLARA, Canadian

Ladies ARA." The Belles can also be found on the web: <http://www.kc4iyd.com/buckeyebelles> | YLRL: <http://www.ylrl.org>

Massillon Amateur Radio Club, W8NP - The Massillon ARC announced the following club members that were bestowed awards:

The William J North W8NP Amateur Radio Operator of the Year – Carol KB8IMH, MARC Member of the Year – Shirley Treacle (no call), the Bob Rodgers Field Day Award – Chris KD8TNF, Public Service Award – Don W8DEA, Technical Merit Award – Fred KD8SMO, Faithful Service Award – Robert (AC8GE) and Beverly Keller, Radio Amateur Callbook Award 2013 – Chris KD8TNF, Perils of Parking Award – Mike WA8MKH, and the distinguished Massillon Old Buzzard Award – Russ N8PIL. - Congratulations to all those receiving awards, way to go! - Sandy, N8YS

The Massillon ARC can also be found on the web: <http://www.w8np.org>

Include me on your club newsletter distribution list and if you are a social media person, follow me on Twitter, Facebook and on my ACC blog.

73, Sandy, N8YS
Affiliated Clubs Coordinator
sandymackey@gmail.com

Ohio HamFest Calendar

04/12/2014 | Cuyahoga Falls ARC's 60th Annual Hamfest
Location: Cuyahoga Falls, OH
Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club
Website: <http://www.cfarc.org/hamfest2014.php>

04/26/2014 | Jackson County ARC Hamfest
Location: Jackson, OH
Jackson County Amateur Radio Club
Website: <http://jacksoncountyarcc.org/page3.html>

04/27/2014 | Athens Hamfest
Location: Athens, OH
Athens County Amateur Radio Association
Website: <http://ac-ara.org/>

ARRL Calls for Timely, Visible FCC Amateur Radio Enforcement

From the ARRL Letter, April 4, 2014

In [comments](#) filed in response to the FCC's February 14 Report on Process Reform ([GN Docket 14-25](#)), the ARRL has called for a more visible, responsive



Amateur Radio enforcement program. The League also said it was concerned that FCC policies for adjudicating certain complaints of interference to radio amateurs, especially those involving electric utilities, provide no incentive for the utilities to resolve them. The ARRL was further critical of the fact that FCC petitions for rule making and spectrum allocation proceedings often take years to resolve. But the League confined the bulk of its comments to perceived shortcomings in the Amateur Radio enforcement program.

"[T]he visibility of the Commission's enforcement program for the Amateur Service is wholly inadequate, resulting in a widespread, albeit inaccurate, public perception that there is no active enforcement in our service," the League's comments asserted. The ARRL said "deterrence based on visibility is a critical component of a successful compliance campaign."

The most successful -- and visible -- period of Amateur Radio enforcement in recent years was between 1997 and 2008, the ARRL said. According to the League, compliance during that period was a result of "the visibility in the Amateur Radio community of a single member of the Commission's Enforcement Bureau staff at Amateur Radio events" and of keeping the Amateur Radio media fully informed on what was being done to resolve a particular enforcement issue.

FCC-imposed constraints in the past few years have had "a devastating effect on the entire philosophy of the program and its success," the League told the Commission. Among other factors, the ARRL pointed to the "extensive approvals" required before the release of enforcement correspondence. Enforcement actions that are taken, the League continued, are not released to the Amateur Radio media. "This deprives radio amateurs of the knowledge that the Commission is indeed investigating and responding to a given enforcement

problem," the ARRL said. "The result is the perception that nothing is being done in a given case, and frustration builds rapidly among the radio amateurs who have to endure the rule violator on an ongoing basis."

"[L]imitations imposed on the visibility of enforcement actions in recent years have significantly reduced the effectiveness of the program," the ARRL stressed, and "directly resulted in notable and unacceptable increases in rule violations, most especially malicious interference." Further, the ARRL said, Enforcement Bureau personnel responsible for Amateur Radio enforcement should be empowered with greater autonomy to address problems as they arise.

The League faulted the FCC's websites -- old and new -- for being "woefully out of date" and not well maintained or presented. "The fact that there are two separate listings of Amateur Radio enforcement actions on two separate FCC websites is, frankly, ridiculous in any case," the ARRL concluded.

The ARRL also urged the FCC to make better use of the Amateur Auxiliary -- the ARRL Official Observer Program -- in resolving enforcement complaints. "It is unclear why none of the evidence gathered by OOs is usable other than as a predictor for Commission District Office staff to use in investigating the matter themselves -- if and when their time permits," the League said. "The program is authorized by legislation. It would increase the Commission's efficiency if the work of these volunteers were put to a better use."

The ARRL pointed to cases where chronic rule violators who were the subject of hundreds of hours of OO surveillance and off-the-air recordings have "been allowed to continue those activities for periods of years without more than a warning letter."

The League said the Report "makes good recommendations" in addressing years-long delays in resolving rule making petitions and open-docket proceedings. As an example it cited the League's 2012 [Petition for Rulemaking](#) seeking a new Amateur Radio allocation at 472-479 kHz. "To date, a year and a half after it was filed, this *Petition for Rule Making* has not been afforded a file number, nor has public comment been solicited on it," the ARRL said.

WRTC-2014 Receives ARRL Colvin Grant Award

From the [ARRL E-Letter](#), April 3, 2014

World Radiosport Team Championship 2014 ([WRTC-2014](#)) has [announced](#) that it is the recipient of what it called "a significant financial contribution" in the form of an ARRL



[Colvin Award](#) grant. WRTC-2014 will take place July 8-14 in New England. The Colvin Award is funded by an endowment established by the late Lloyd D. Colvin, W6KG, and administered by the ARRL. Colvin Award grants are conferred in support of Amateur Radio projects that promote international goodwill in the field of DX.

"We are honored to receive this prestigious award," said WRTC-2014 Chair Doug Grant, K1DG. "More than just a radio competition, the WRTC is a place where competitors from around the world can create or renew lasting friendships."

In the July event 59 teams of top Amateur Radio contest operators from more than 40 countries will compete from equivalent stations for top honors in the event, which typically takes place every 4 years. Eligibility to participate in WRTC-2014 was based on qualifying scores posted in major contests between 2010 and 2014.

A contingent of referees and judges, all well-known contesters in their own right, will oversee the competition and confirm the results.

Recent Colvin Award grant recipients include the 2013 [K9W Wake Atoll](#) and [T33A Banaba Island](#) DXpeditions and the 2014 [FT5ZM Amsterdam Island](#) operation.

Centennial: W1AW Centennial Operations in Pennsylvania, Oregon, until April 9 (UTC)

The ARRL Centennial "[W1AW WAS](#)" operations taking place throughout 2014 from each of the 50 states are now in Pennsylvania (W1AW/3) and Oregon (W1AW/7). They will relocate at 0000 UTC on Wednesday, April 9 (the evening of April 8 in US time zones), to Massachusetts (W1AW/1) and Virginia (W1AW/4). During 2014 W1AW will be on the air from every state (at least twice) and most US territories, and it will be easy to work all states solely by contacting W1AW portable operations.

In conjunction with the 100th anniversary of the ARRL, the [ARRL Centennial QSO Party](#) kicked off January 1 for a year-long operating event in which participants can accumulate points and win awards. The event is open to all, although only ARRL members and appointees, elected officials, HQ staff and W1AW are worth ARRL Centennial QSO Party [points](#). Working W1AW/x from each state is worth 5 points per contact.

To earn the "Worked all States with W1AW Award," work W1AW operating portable from all 50 states. (Working W1AW or W100AW in Connecticut does *not* count for Connecticut, however. For award credit, participants must work W1AW/1 in Connecticut.) A W1AW WAS certificate and plaque will be available (pricing not yet available).

The ARRL has posted an ARRL Centennial QSO Party [leader board](#) that participants can use to determine how many points they have accumulated in the Centennial QSO Party and in the W1AW WAS operations. Log in using your Logbook of The World ([LoTW](#)) user name and password, and your position will appear at the top of the leader boards. Results are updated daily, based on contacts entered into LoTW.

So far this year the W1AW Centennial operations have [posted](#) nearly 685,000 contacts, with uploads awaited from some operations.

RADIOGRAM VIA AMATEUR RADIO

NUMBER	PRECEDENCE	HX	STN OF ORIGIN	CHECK	PLACE OF ORIGIN	TIME FILED	DATE

TO:

RX	From	Date
TX	To	Date

TEL:

SIG:

<u>ONE</u>	Everyone safe here. Please don't worry.	Please furnish this information and reply without delay.	<u>SIXTY THREE</u>	Victory or defeat, our best wishes are with you. Hope you win.
<u>TWO</u>	Coming home as soon as possible.		<u>SIXTY FOUR</u>	Arrived safely at ____.
<u>THREE</u>	Am in ____ hospital. Receiving excellent care and recovering fine.	<u>TWENTY THREE</u>	<u>SIXTY FIVE</u>	Arriving ____ on _____. Please arrange to meet me there.
<u>FOUR</u>	Only slight property damage here. Do not be concerned about disaster reports.	<u>TWENTY FOUR</u>	<u>SIXTY SIX</u>	DX QSLs are on hand for you at the ____ QSL bureau. Send ____ self addressed envelopes.
<u>FIVE</u>	Am moving to a new location. Send no further mail or communication. Will inform you of new address when relocated.	<u>TWENTY FIVE</u>	<u>SIXTY SEVEN</u>	Your message number ____ undeliverable because of _____. Please advise.
<u>SIX</u>	Will contact you as soon as possible.	<u>TWENTY SIX</u>	<u>SIXTY EIGHT</u>	Sorry to hear you are ill. Best wishes for a speedy recovery.
<u>SEVEN</u>	Please reply by amateur radio through the amateur delivering this message. This is a free public service.	<u>FORTY SIX</u>	<u>SIXTY NINE</u>	Welcome to the _____. We are glad to have you join us and hope you will enjoy the fun and fellowship of the organization.
<u>EIGHT</u>	Need additional ____ mobile or portable equipment for immediate emergency use.	<u>FORTY SEVEN</u>		
<u>NINE</u>	Additional ____ radio operators needed to assist with emergency at this location.	<u>FIFTY</u>		
<u>TEN</u>	Please contact _____. Advise to standby and provide further emergency information, instructions or assistance.	<u>FIFTY ONE</u>		
<u>ELEVEN</u>	Establish Amateur radio emergency communications with ____ on ____ MHz.	<u>FIFTY TWO</u>		
<u>TWELVE</u>	Anxious to hear from you. No word in some time. Please contact me as soon as possible.	<u>FIFTY THREE</u>		
<u>THIRTEEN</u>	Medical emergency situation exists here.	<u>FIFTY FOUR</u>		
<u>FOURTEEN</u>	Situation here becoming critical. Losses and damage from ____ increasing.	<u>FIFTY FIVE</u>		
<u>FIFTEEN</u>	Please advise your condition and what help is needed.	<u>FIFTY SIX</u>		
<u>SIXTEEN</u>	Property damage very severe in this area.	<u>FIFTY SEVEN</u>		
<u>SEVENTEEN</u>	REACT communications services also available. Establish REACT communication with ____ on channel ____.	<u>FIFTY EIGHT</u>		
<u>EIGHTEEN</u>	Please contact me as soon as possible at ____.	<u>FIFTY NINE</u>		
<u>NINETEEN</u>	Request health and welfare report on _____. (State name, address, and telephone number.)	<u>SIXTY</u>		
<u>TWENTY</u>	Temporarily stranded. Will need some assistance. Please contact me at ____.	<u>SIXTY ONE</u>		
<u>TWENTY ONE</u>	Search and rescue assistance is needed by local authorities here. Advise availability.	<u>SIXTY TWO</u>		
<u>TWENTY TWO</u>	Need accurate information on the extent and type of conditions now existing at your location.			

Handling Instructions

HXA (followed by number) Collect landline delivery authorized by addressee within ____ miles. (If no number, authorized unlimited)

HXB (followed by number) Cancel message if not delivered within ____ hours of filing time; service originating station.

HXC Report date and time of delivery (TOD) to originating station.

HXD Report to originating station the identity of station from which received, plus date and time. Report identity of station to which relayed, plus date and time, or if delivered report date, time and method of delivery.

HXE Delivering station get reply from addressee, originate message back.

HXF (followed by number) Hold delivery until (date).

HXG Delivery by mail or landline toll call not required. If toll or other expense involved, cancel and service originating station.

Designed by Dave, N7YSS

