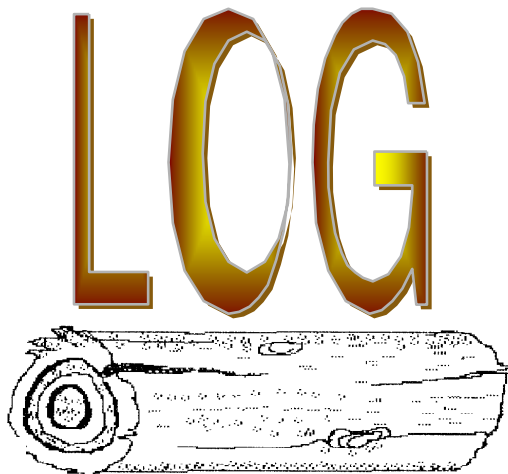




FOUNDED 1947



Web:

<http://www.westparkradiops.org>

Email: w8vm@arrrl.net

CLUB'S W8VM SKCC #12111

April – May
VOL. LXI

2026
No.3

WEST PARK RADIOPS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



WEST PARK NEWS *

Monday night nets are on the NODXA's repeater at 8 p.m. Listen or check in. Join the fun. We thank the Northern Ohio DX Association for our use of their repeater, W8DXA, 147.36+ (PL 107.2). Our meeting schedule varies. Pay attention to our opportunities to announce meeting changes.



UPCOMING CONTESTS AND ACTIVITIES*...

(sourced from WA7BNM and ARRL information)

* Subject to Change,
Including order of events,
locations and times.

Apr 3 NCCC Sprint
Apr 11 SKCC Weekend Sprintathon
Apr 18 Michigan QSO Party
Apr 25 Florida QSO Party
May 2 New England QSO Party
May 9 Canadian Prairies QSO Party
May 16 Feld Hell Sprint
May 23 K1USN Slow Speed Test
May 30 CQ WW WPX Contest, CW

LOOK FOR 6M OPENINGS

Thursday Evenings FT4 Contest

*Subject to change



WEST PARK RADIOPS MEETINGS & PROGRAMS FOR 2026*

Apr 21 } Canary's Restaurant 11:30 a.m.*
May 19 } Lunch and short business meeting

DAN, W8AJF, DESCRIBES POTA REQUIREMENTS...

by W8AJF

“There is no minimum time but you must have at least 10 non-dupe contacts. It must be a state or national park listed on the park number map. The ADIF log must be downloaded to the POTA data base. I also post on the spot page to bring in hunters. Needless to say you need a login with password. Log must contain contact info like call, band, date, time, mode.”

FCC ULS STORY...

(.FCC Website)

The FCC Universal Licensing System allows electronic filing of applications processed by the Commission. The ULS allows you to indicate the application purpose and radio service code and guides you through the filing process until the application is submitted. The ULS also provides the ability to search for applications by providing information such as a file number, applicant name or application purpose or to search for licenses by providing information such as a call sign, licensee name or radio service. Other features of the ULS include the ability to download, in pipe delimited format, application and license data as well as the ability to use mapping software to visually display the specific location or overall geographic area of wireless licenses.

FCC CORES STORY...

(.FCC Website)

(Acronym for COmmission REgistration System)

CORES allows you to:

Register and Manage the 10 digit FCC Registration Number (FRN).

View financial standing (RED or Green Light Status) with the FCC and make payments.

Retrieve payments awaiting completion.

Enter and pay Application fees manually.

Retrieve and pay ULS fees.

FCC LICENSE STATISTICS FOR TOP 12 STATES...

(FCC page screen grab by AF8C)

This table shows the count of active FCC licenses held by individuals, as reported in the FCC's public data files for the top 12 states.						
Report includes FCC actions through Saturday, 07-Mar-2026						
State/Territory	Novice	Tech	General	Advanced	Extra	Total
California	529	53830	18354	2724	15392	90829
Texas	201	26073	13440	1875	11488	53077
Florida	326	17671	11698	2100	10084	41879
Washington	154	17921	7973	915	5755	32718
Ohio	234	11779	7286	1040	6214	26553
New York	276	11602	6662	1088	5970	25598
Pennsylvania	205	10327	6160	1116	5715	23523
North Carolina	107	10732	6105	828	5399	23171
Arizona	89	10484	5012	844	4636	21065
Michigan	122	9486	5351	817	4666	20442
Virginia	133	9136	5295	742	4934	20240
Tennessee	84	9354	5341	694	4562	20035
TOTAL OF ALL 50 STATES	4401	362501	185186	27055	157879	737022

YLRL SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE IF YOU KNOW OF SOMEONE...

(ARRL NEWS 02/21/2025)

The Young Ladies Radio League (YLRL) is an international non-profit organization of women amateur radio enthusiasts. It was founded in 1939 and is the longest running YL club in the world. They are sponsoring three memorial scholarships.

The Ethel Smith, K4LMB, Memorial Scholarship awards \$2,500.

The Mary Lou Brown, NM7N, Memorial Scholarship awards \$2,500.

The Martha “Marte” Wessel, K0EPE, Memorial Scholarship awards \$1,500.

Scholarship Requirements:

- Applicant must be female.
- Applicant must have an Amateur Radio License.
- Preference will be given to students studying communications, radio, electronics, or Amateur Radio related arts and sciences.
- There are no residency restrictions. Non-U.S. Amateurs are eligible.
- Preference will be given to YLRL members.
- The Ethel Smith, K4LMB and Mary Lou Brown, NM7N scholarships are intended for full-time students. For these scholarships, applicants must intend to seek a Bachelor’s or Graduate degree from an accredited college or university.
- The Martha “Marte” Wessel, K0EPE scholarship is intended for a part-time student of an accredited educational institution* who is working full-time. Full time work includes a stay-at-home parent or caregiver. High School students are exempt from the full-time work requirement.

*What qualifies as educational institution? Qualifying educational Institutions/programs include: Any accredited technical or vocational school. A two or four year college or university.

73, Diane K2DO
president@ylrl.org
Young Ladies Radio League - Our 87th Year
hamyl@aol.com
Diane Ortiz - 917-364-9127
www.YLRL.net

RARE DX IS LIVE ON WEBCAM...

Macquarie Island is way up on the DX most wanted lists. While you may never be able to work this VK0, it is possible to view what is apparently a live webcam of the island.

<https://www.antarctica.gov.au/antarctic-operations/webcams/macquarie-island/>

HAMCLOCK LIVES ON...

The original post on REDDIT said:

“Elwood Downey WB0OEW creator of HAMCLOCK is deceased.

According to auto responses to emails to him Elwood Downey WB0OEW creator of HAMCLOCK is a SK. Also the HAMCLOCK website says the program will cease to operate June of 2026. A huge blow to the ham radio community. May

he rest in peace and prayers to his family.”

<https://clearskyinstitute.com/ham/HamClock/>

Now we know that HAMCLOCK is not dead. Screenshots are on
<https://qso365.co.uk/2026/02/hamclock-is-not-dead/>

Last Updated on March 9, 2026 by G6NHU:

“In order for your HamClock to work after June 2026, you must switch to a different backend server. Since my original post on the future of HamClock, a number of very talented people have been hard at work in examining the traffic to and from HamClocks and the host server and reproducing it.”

[Use the links above to get the whole story. But you must be a “techie” proficient in setting up a Raspberry PI or Linux system. – de AF8C]

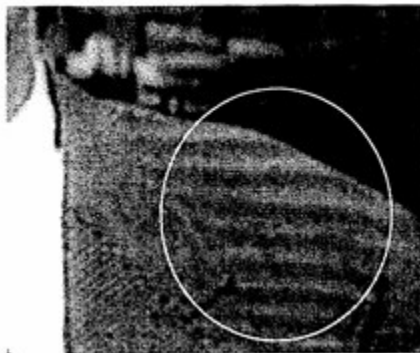
NEWSLETTER CAN BE HIT BY “TWO SCREEN EFFECT”...

(BAXAR WIRE San Antonio RC, W5SC, September 2025)

Their amateur radio club newsletter discussing the November 2001 QST article about 9/11, and including a scan of a photo of KC2IKT Beverly Holtz from the QST page, points out a problem in the digital world that is similar to digital signal sampling and aliasing. This is for demonstration only, not as a criticism. Here’s the image:



I call it the “two screen effect”. Hold two pieces of window screen material on top of each other in some manner so that you are looking through the two screens, and see how hard it is to not have broad or narrow swimming bands of light and dark. In a similar manner, a video camera, which has a fixed number of pixel resolution specifications, is like a screen with tiny wires and openings. When that camera is imaging an object that has a fine structure of horizontal or vertical elements, there might be bands of interference showing in the resulting image, such as below, taken from a live color TV news program years ago. The actual TV image was in color (all I have is an ancient monochrome photo copy) and was showing the male speaker’s tweed suit jacket beating against the TV camera’s sensor pixel array. In 2026, while viewing TV, especially interviews, you might see these live color bands in someone’s clothing. (de AF8C)



USB HARDWARE CHECKS...

If you use a USB cable from your computer to your rig or intermediate audio device for linking to WSJT-X FT8, here are a couple of notes about such operations.

The USB interfaces in the PC or rig do not have micro-transformers to isolate your two pieces of equipment from each other. There can be a direct connection from chip-in-PC to chip-in-rig. If you have any issues with voltage transients on your ac power line in your home/shack it is possible to have a voltage difference spike between PC and rig in a manner which will blow a chip depending on the power grounding you have for the equipment. (Do you have knob-and-tube wiring, for example?) That would permanently ruin your day(s) operating.

So, one, before it's too late, purchase a USB dongle for your PC. The dongle should be of the type "isolating" to, say, "1500 volts". These do not cost all that much on an Internet purchase and can give you peace of mind. I use one of these for FT8 without any problems. Two, there are USB cable testers, also for not too much money, which you plug both ends of the cable into, and the tester will reveal if there are any issues with the end-to-end connections.

HAM RADIO CLASSES ONLINE...

< <https://oahuarrlnews.wordpress.com/2026/03/20/free-on-line-amateur-radio-operating-class/> >

"A free, weekly, 3-hour Amateur Radio Operating Class on Zoom will begin on Thursday April 2 and run through June 18. Sessions will be 2 to 3 hours long beginning at 6:30 p.m. EASTERN time, 12:30 Hawaii Standard Time. Typically, two topics are covered per evening. The presenters will be folks very experienced in the various subjects.

A detailed syllabus will be published before the classes begin. Attend them all, or any that you like, but you must register for the classes. To receive registration information, contact Rol Anders, K3RA, at roland.anders@comcast.net."



THE DX SCENE...

(Courtesy of the NG3K website <https://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html>)

Call, Start Date End Date, DXCC Entity

JD1,2026 Feb26,2026 May15,Minami Torishima
 TY5FR,2026 Mar06,2026 Apr02,Benin
 PJ7AA,2026 Mar08,2026 Apr04,Sint Maarten
 C6APS,2026 Mar09,2026 Apr12,Bahamas
 FG,2026 Mar14,2026 Apr03,Guadeloupe
 YJ1JXZ,2026 Mar15,2026 Apr03,Vanuatu
 YJ0CA,2026 Mar18,2026 Apr02,Vanuatu
 S21WD,2026 Mar20,2026 Apr01,Bangladesh
 V4,2026 Mar22,2026 Apr01,St Kitts & Nevis
 V4,2026 Mar23,2026 Apr18,St Kitts & Nevis
 HD8R,2026 Mar25,2026 May31,Galapagos
 CT9,2026 Mar25,2026 Apr01,Madeira
 FM,2026 Mar25,2026 Apr02,Martinique
 S09S,2026 Mar26,2026 May31,Western Sahara
 PJ7KB,2026 Mar28,2026 Apr04,Sint Maarten
 FO,2026 Mar28,2026 Apr10,French Polynesia
 CE0Y,2026 Mar28,2026 Apr11,Easter Is
 EA8,2026 Mar30,2026 Apr06,Canary Is
 3B9N,2026 Apr03,2026 May20,Rodrigues Is
 JW,2026 Apr08,2026 Apr08,Svalbard
 V47EM,2026 Apr11,2026 May01,St Kitts & Nevis
 VP9KF,2026 Apr16,2026 Apr30,Bermuda
 3D2JK,2026 Apr17,2026 Apr22,Fiji
 TX9W,2026 Apr19,2026 Apr30,Marquesas
 7P8WR,2026 Apr23,2026 May01,Lesotho
 C5,2026 Apr25,2026 May08,Gambia
 JT0LR,2026 Apr25,2026 Apr30,Mongolia
 FO,2026 May05,2026 Jul20,French Polynesia
 V49B,2026 May13,2026 May21,St Kitts & Nevis
 A31AA,2026 May14,2026 May22,Tonga
 V5,2026 May20,2026 Jun19,Namibia
 V4,2026 May24,2026 Jun01,St Kitts & Nevis
 TO3E,2026 May26,2026 Jun02,Martinique
 PJ4CB,2026 May27,2026 Jun08,Bonaire
 8Q7QR,2026 May28,2026 Jun01,Maldives
 5H1KB,2026 Jun03,2026 Jun12,Tanzania
 T88AR,2026 Jun10,2026 Jun18,Palau
 FS,2026 Jun10,2026 Jun24,St Martin
 PJ2,2026 Jun12,2026 Jun29,Curacao
 T88TB,2026 Jun19,2026 Jun22,Palau
 EK,2026 Jun20,2026 Jun22,Armenia
 FP,2026 Jun27,2026 Jul14,St Pierre & Miquelon
 E51KEE,2026 Jul22,2026 Aug14,South Cook Is
 4K,2026 Jul23,2026 Aug08,Azerbaijan
 E51CZZ,2026 Jul26,2026 Aug06,South Cook Is
 C6AYM,2026 Aug05,2026 Aug10,Bahamas
 J68TT,2026 Aug15,2026 Aug22,St Lucia
 9T0MD,2026 Sep30,2026 Oct11,Dem Rep Congo

2026 ELECTED CLUB OFFICERS

President
 Kevin Brandstetter **K8VUS**
 (216) 672-2289
Vice President
 Vicki Mate **K8VGM**
Secretary
 Glenn Williams **AF8C**
 (440) 934-5566
Treasurer
 Ann Wadsworth **KA8ZEP**

Fifth Board Member
 Stephen Kinford **N8WB**
 (216) 702-8384

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 Safety Officer
OPEN
 W8VM License Trustee
N8WB
 ARRL VE'S
AF8C, N8WB, W8MET, KC8FOS
 NET MANAGER
Need a Volunteer
 CONTESTS, SATELLITES
N8WS and N8WB
 PROPERTY CUSTODIAN
N8WS
 8TH AREA BURO LETTER MGR.
AF8C (8V)
 PROGRAMS
OPEN
 EDITOR, WEBMASTER
AF8C