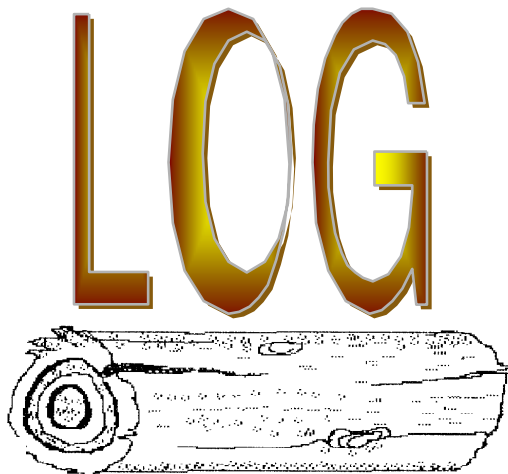




FOUNDED 1947



Web:

<http://www.westparkradiops.org>

Email: w8vm@arrrl.net

CLUB'S W8VM SKCC #12111

June – July
VOL. LXI

2026
No.4

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.

Jun 6 ARRL Inter. Digital Contest
Jun 13 ARRL June VHF Contest
Jun 19 K1USN Slow Speed Test
Jun 27 ARRL Field Day
Jul 4 CQ Worldwide VHF SSB/CW Contest
Jul 11 IARU HF World Championship
Jul 18 CQ Worldwide VHF Digital Contest
Jul 24 K1USN Slow Speed Test

LOOK FOR 6M OPENINGS

Thursday Evenings FT4 Contest

*Subject to change



WEST PARK RADIOPS MEETINGS & PROGRAMS FOR 2026*

June 16 } Canary's Restaurant 11:30 a.m.*
July 21 } Lunch and short business meeting

ARRL FIELD DAY 2026...

The 2026 Field Day rules are on the ARRL website. A quick summary read shows no significant changes from the past few years. Any corrections: let us know.

FCC ALLOWS A U.S. COMPANY TO USE 70cm BAND...

(April 30, 2026, ARRL)

FCC Approves Limited Emergency Use of 70 cm Band by AST SpaceMobile Satellites Outside the US

On April 21, 2026, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) granted AST SpaceMobile limited authorization when not over the United States to use five 50-kHz channels in the 430–440 MHz secondary amateur band for emergency Telemetry, Tracking, and Control (TT&C) operations for its planned satellite constellation (DA-26-391 Docket No. 25-201). The authorization applies only for communication with five specified earth stations, each located well outside of the United States and for which the foreign administration with jurisdiction also must separately authorize the communications.

After considering the filed comments, the FCC narrowed the requested authorization to emergency TT&C only and further provided that:

Use of these frequencies is permitted only in emergencies when no other spectrum is available Each emergency event is limited to no more than 24 hours Transmissions are restricted to five specific center frequencies (430.5, 432.3, 434.1, 435.9, and 439.5 MHz), each with no more than 50 kHz bandwidth

The IARU and ARRL and many other sources filed comments of concern about this decision. In the US, reports of suspected interference to amateur spectrum can be shared with the ARRL Regulatory Information Manager, email reginfo@arrl.org. ARRL will oppose any similar unallocated uses of spectrum used by amateurs that might cause harmful interference to amateur services and in particular will monitor this situation.

(More background is available on YouTube® on

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xtuiYEGDm3k>)

NO CLUB MINUTES SHOWN IN OUR LOG...

Many years ago, when the new editor of this newsletter signed up for the job, the club passed a motion stating that club minutes do not have to be printed in the LOG.

SENATOR TED CRUZ THANKS AMATEUR RADIO SERVICE...

(from ARRL Great Lakes Division newsletter by Director Scott, N8SY)

U.S. Senator Cruz says:

https://arrl-greatlakes.org/Cruz_MSG.mp4

TRACKING THE ORIGINAL SOURCE OF THE NAME “HAM”...

AI Overview: In the context of late 19th and early 20th-century American railroading, a "ham factory" was a disparaging term for a railroad telegraphy school that promised quick training to aspiring telegraph operators. Here is an overview of the "ham factory" and the role of the railroad telegrapher:

Definition of a "Ham": The term "ham" was used within the professional telegraphy community to refer to an unskilled, novice, or incompetent telegrapher, similar to the term "ham actor".

CUSHCRAFT AND HYGAIN SOLD...

<https://www.lintonnews.com/itu-corporation-re-purposes-linton-armory-facility-to-house-iconic-amateur-radio-manufacturing-free-article/>

Martin F. Jue, President and founder of MFJ Enterprises, Inc., is pleased to announce the sale of the renowned Hy-gain and Cushcraft antenna, rotator, and communication product lines to ITU Corporation, a 25 year old Indiana engineering and manufacturing company.

"I am thrilled to pass the torch of these legendary antenna brands to Dave & Kambi Carpenter and their team at ITU Corporation," said Martin F. Jue, President of MFJ Enterprises. "After nurturing these brands for decades it was vital to me that hy-gain and Cushcraft - - premier brands that have served radio operators and stations worldwide for generations - - landed in the hands of someone who understands their legacy."

ITU Corporation has purchased the former Linton, IN, National Guard Armory to serve as the new manufacturing hub for Hy-gain and Cushcraft. The former manufacturing operation is moving up from Starkville, MS.

TEXTING TECHNOLOGY IS EVOLVING...

The wireless telephone industry is saying that plain old texting on cell phones will be soon replaced by newer technologies that have greater security. Plain old texting (SMS) is being replaced by Rich Communication Services (RCS). Go read about it on the Internet. SMS remains for older phones. If you send an RCS message and the recipient's phone or carrier doesn't support it (or if they do not have an active data connection), the message will safely downgrade to traditional SMS.

COLUMBUS EXPEDITIONS...

(Wikipedia® “decimal fractions”)

A forerunner of modern European decimal notation was introduced by Simon Stevin in the 16th century. Stevin's influential booklet *De Thiende* ("the art of tenths") was first published in Dutch in 1585 and translated into French as *La Disme*. John Napier introduced using the period (.) to separate the integer part of a decimal number from the fractional part in his book on constructing tables of logarithms, published posthumously in 1620, the year of the Pilgrims' *Mayflower* landing in North America.

So in 1492 when Christopher Columbus first navigated to the Americas (to a small island in the Bahamas) he did not have the help of decimal fraction arithmetic, decimal fraction logarithms, and decimal fraction trigonometry to assist in his navigation. He visited several locations in the western hemisphere in 1492, 1493, and 1498; so he definitely got along without decimal fractions.

REMINDER TO ALL U.S. HAMS...

Do not forget that if you move or change your email address, mailing address, or other data that affects the FCC's database relative to your amateur radio license, you have 10 days to update the FCC regarding your changes. (See FCC news on this.) In not doing so, you risk loss of your license.

SILICON ENRICHMENT...

(Wikipedia®)

In early vacuum tubes, silicon was not an intended emitter material on cathodes, but rather an unintended contaminant that ruined tube life. Manufacturers used silicon as a trace additive in tungsten heater coils to make the wire easier to draw, which led to premature tube failures. In early vacuum tube designs (such as those developed for the 1951 US digital computer Whirlwind), engineers traced short tube lifespans to the evaporation of silicon from the tungsten heater wire. When the silicon evaporated, it reacted with the cathode's barium oxide coating to form a high-resistance layer of barium orthosilicate at the interface between the nickel sleeve and the coating. This high-resistance "cathode interface" layer drastically reduced the cathode current when the tube was switched, causing the computer to fail (sic). Meanwhile, to eliminate this failure mode, manufacturers like Sylvania (the company that produced the 7AK7 "computer tube") developed special-quality tubes. What the engineers missed were some qualities of silicon for "semiconductors". But AT&T Bell Labs did notice, and so their people invented the transistor and the rest is history.

ON THE DEMISE OF KIT BUILDING...

<https://spectrum.ieee.org/the-rise-fall-and-rise-of-electronics-kits>

"The Rise, Fall, and Rise of Electronics Kits
-Engineering will never outgrow hobbyists."
Robert Lucky December 24, 2013

In his article you can see a monochrome photo of a radio being assembled. Heathkit?

FUTURE MOON BASED HAM RADIO STORY AT DAYTON...

(from *Amateur Radio Newsline*)

ARISS ANNOUNCES PLANS FOR MOON-BASED HAM RADIO

May 22, 2026

The Morse Code transmitted more than two years ago by JS1YMG, the lunar ham station of the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency, is apparently just the beginning. Attendees at a Hamvention forum hosted by ARISS in Xenia, Ohio recently learned about a moon-based project called CAVIAR. That's an acronym for "Communications, Audio, Video and imaging using Amateur Radio." The feasibility of CAVIAR is being studied by ARISS and AMSAT through a partnership known as AREx, for Amateur Radio

Exploration. According to the early information being discussed publicly, the station could have support for voice, digital and video - with 10 GHz and 5 GHz links supported by a network of stations on Earth. More far-reaching goals can be found on the ARISS website, which describes AREx as [quote] an "international effort to develop and operate amateur radio systems for deep space, starting at the moon and later to Mars." [endquote]

RAC's ARRL DXCC HONOR ROLL SURVEY...

[The following article is from and for the Radio Amateurs of Canada. So, U.S. amateurs: please do not write back to John, VE1JS, with your comments. – de editor.]

ARRL Seeks Input on Qualifications for the DXCC Honour Roll

For immediate release | April 15, 2026
John Scott, VE1JS
RAC Representative on DX Advisory Committee
ve1js@rac.ca

The DX Advisory Committee (DXAC) is a group of DXers appointed by the American Radio Relay League's Divisions in the United States and by the Board of Directors of Radio Amateurs of Canada here in Canada. As the RAC representative, I have been meeting with the DXAC representatives every three weeks or so via Zoom for about a year as we are doing a complete review of the DXCC rules. There are a few items of concern to DXers such as the number of countries/entities required to make Honour Roll. At present, the rule is that to make the Honour Roll you must have been credited with a number of entities within the Top 10 possible.

For example, at present there are 340 entities on the DXAC list so the Honour Roll means at least 331 credited entities. I would like to hear your opinions so that I can provide the views of Canadian Amateurs to the committee. Please tell me:

Should the number of such entities be reduced? If so, how far?

a) 300 b) 315 c) 325 d) Not at all

THE DXcellence Award ...

NCDX Recognizes Dxpeditions with Remote Operations

May 17, 2026 by Colin Butler

Two recent DXpeditions that featured remote radio operations have been recognized by the Northern California DX Foundation, which is presenting both activations with the DXcellence Award, now in its fifth year. The foundation's board of directors chose the KP5/NP3VI Desecheo DXpedition and the PJ6Y Youth DXpedition to Saba Island. Both adventures included remote radio operations. The KP5 operation was 100 per cent remote, as well as being solar powered. The team's media officer, Steve N2AJ, said in a press release that having the first fully solar-powered, fully remote DXpedition was a "groundbreaking achievement", adding that "advanced technology and careful planning can deliver world-class results while maintaining an exceptionally low environmental footprint. The PJ6Y Youth DXpedition was chosen for its involvement of 30 young operators from around the world who spent two weeks on the island of Saba.



THE DX SCENE...

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

Call, Start Date End Date, DXCC Entity

5Z4,2026 Apr19,2026 Jun16,Kenya
 FO,2026 May05,2026 Jul20,French Polynesia
 3G0Z,2026 May19,2026 Jun05,Juan Fernandez Is
 V5,2026 May20,2026 Jun19,Namibia
 ZL7IO,2026 May25,2026 Jun04,Chatham Is
 CP7DX,2026 May26,2026 Jun06,Bolivia
 PJ4CB,2026 May27,2026 Jun08,Bonaire
 OJ0,2026 May30,2026 Jun06,Market Reef
 C91RU,2026 Jun01,2026 Jun07,Mozambique
 VJ2L,2026 Jun01,2026 Jun14,Lord Howe Is
 XX9TXN,2026 Jun02,2026 Jun09,Macao
 5H3VW,2026 Jun03,2026 Jun10,Tanzania
 5H1KB,2026 Jun03,2026 Jun12,Tanzania
 9X5KM,2026 Jun04,2026 Jun13,Rwanda
 5H3DX,2026 Jun08,2026 Jul07,Tanzania
 T88RR,2026 Jun10,2026 Jun18,Palau
 FS,2026 Jun10,2026 Jun24,St Martin
 V47JA,2026 Jun11,2026 Jun22,St Kitts & Nevis
 D4OL,2026 Jun12,2026 Jun22,Cape Verde Is
 PJ2,2026 Jun12,2026 Jun29,Curacao
 D44EC,2026 Jun17,2026 Jun24,Cape Verde Is
 T88TB,2026 Jun19,2026 Jun22,Palau
 EK,2026 Jun20,2026 Jun22,Armenia
 3G0YM,2026 Jun20,2026 Jun27,Easter Island
 FP,2026 Jun27,2026 Jul14,St Pierre & Miquelon
 SV9,2026 Jul04,2026 Jul23,Crete
 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
 J3,2026 Sep01,2026 Sep12,Grenada
 RI1FJL,2026 Sep01,2026 Sep14,Franz Josef Land
 9T0MD,2026 Sep30,2026 Oct11,Dem Rep Congo
 H49A,2026 Oct07,2026 Oct21,Solomon Is
 S9R,2026 Oct17,2026 Oct31,Sao Tome & Principe Is
 KH8A,2026 Oct29,2026 Nov13,American Samoa
 C8K,2026 Nov09,2026 Nov20,Mozambique
 T88SM,2027 Jan08,2027 Jan14,Palau
 3Y0L,2027 Feb01,2027 Feb28,Peter Is

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

COMMITTEES

FIELD EVENTS
 COMMITTEE –
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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