



ARRL Standard



Pray for our
Troops



God Bless America!

QUA/HAMnews

AUGUST
2021

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MARS STATION



Glenn E. Welman/KF4NB
Memorial BBS
145.010 and 145.090

Web Page: <http://www.bluegrassars.org>
E-mail: bluegrassars@hotmail.com

K4KJQ
146.160/.760

ATV Repeater: KY4ATV
Input: 439.250 // Output: 923.250

WA4HBM
147.765/.165

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QUICKY NOTES

Accessing the Club's web page: <<http://www.BluegrassARS.org>>.

Telephone Number for the Shack (basement of the Red Cross Building): (859) 231-0974.

Subscribe to ListServ: Send an eMail to: bars-request@lsv.uky.edu; in Subject line type Subscribe plus <your call sign>

Post notes to the Club List Serv: <bars@lsv.uky.edu>.

August General Membership meeting has been canceled. Zoom informal meeting on August 2, 2021.



Below you will find the Club's Ebay account for the sale of the surplus equipment. Copy the URL into your browser and take a look at the items we have up for auction.

<https://www.ebay.com/sch/bluegrassars/m.html>

QUA/HAMnews

AUGUST 2021

Meeting Notice

Bart Breeding/KB4FEE,
Chair, Newsletter Committee
Bluegrass ARS, Lexington, Kentucky

The general in person meeting of the Bluegrass Amateur Radio Society, Inc., scheduled for August has been cancelled.

Do you have a topic you would like a program on or a program you would like to present? Do you have a home brewed project you have built? Bring it and show it off! Question? Ask it! Maybe your question isn't one about a Club activity or function, maybe you are having a problem getting some newly acquired equipment set up and operating correctly, or you have an antenna with radiation problems. Regardless of your question, problem, or suggestion, bring it to the Club meeting.

The Club shack is currently closed due to the Covid-19. Bluegrass Amateur Radio Society's ham shack is located in the basement of the Red Cross building at 1450 Newtown Pike Lexington, KY 40511. Entrance is down the steps (look for the BARS banner hung on the railing) at the North Side of the building.

Fayette County ARES Coordinator - Jewell Vest

Jewell has agreed to become the new coordinator. Remember the Fayette County ARES net every Tuesday at 8:30 pm on the 146.94 repeater. We are looking for more folks that would help share in the net control. If you would like to Help, contact Bart/KB4FEE/859-644-2216

A new net has started, Wednesday evening at 8 pm and Saturday mornings at 8:45 am. This is a rag chew net and open for all amateurs. The NET is located on the 146.760 repeater. There is no PL tone. See you on the net.

**WELCOME
OUR NEWEST
MEMBER**

**SCOTT HACKNEY
KI4LE**

The BARS board of directors met Monday, July 19th in the BARS Education Center in the American Red Cross building.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by BARS president Brad James.

Board members present were:

President Brad James (RBJ) WA4HBM

First Vice-President Robert Brown (RB) KI4JWK

Second Vice-President David Richardson (DR) W9KHZ

Treasurer Bart Breeding (BB) KB4FEE

Secretary Chris Gay (CG) KU4A

Director-at-large Jewell Vest (JV) KO4EPJ

Director-at-large Tim Kunkel (TK) KF4MPM

This constituted the full seven-member board.

Others present were:

Harvey Frye AA4HF

Barry Jackson WB4N

CG moved, seconded by BB, that the meeting would be adjourned no later than 9:00 PM. Motion passed.

RBJ said that he had talked to Pastor Cox of the Arlington Christian Church, and thanked him for allowing the board to use the church's meeting area for several months. He invited the Pastor to our picnic, and also suggested he visit our shack sometime.

TREASURER'S REPORT

BB read a membership application. CG moved, seconded by RB, that the applicant be accepted by the club. Motion passed.

BB presented the financial report. CG moved, seconded by RB, that the treasurer's report be accepted. Motion passed.

BB reported that the \$80 donation to the VFW in honor of Bob Wilford, N4RO (SK) will be sent shortly. Re-imbursement of a member's \$13.76 expenditure for a new floor mat was automatically approved as it was under the limit of discretionary expenses for the month.

CG moved, seconded by TK, that the board approve the expenditure of approximately \$300 for Technician class license manuals. Motion passed.

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LINK TO BY-LAWS

<https://1drv.ms/b/s!AqEiE135zkdAjjacQsQea7LrQVzd>

Bluegrass Amateur Radio Society (BARS)
Open General Meeting Report for August 2021
Red Cross Building, Lexington, Ky.

The August 2021, BARS Open General Meeting was, postponed due to health related precautions in response to disease control measures associated with the current COVID-19 virus situation.

The BARS Open General Meetings are expected to resume in the future on their regular schedule of the first Monday of each month when the recommended restrictions on group gatherings are ended and the Red Cross Building is again available for BARS functions.

MAIL ADDRESS CHANGE

At the December meeting, the Board of Directors decided to get a post office box for the club at the Nandino Boulevard post office, which is “right around the corner” from the club shack. This will make it much easier for people to check the box while traveling to or from the shack.

Post office box fees are often paid six months at a time. I want to thank Jodie, WB4LKQ for donating the funds for the first six months of our new box.

Mail will continue to be received at the old box (4411) for several months, and then there will be a forwarding order in effect to forward mail from the old box to the new box for a year. But, we want to start moving over to the new box as quickly as practical.

Make note of our new address:

Bluegrass Amateur Radio Society, Inc.
Post Office Box 13206
Lexington KY 40583-3206

To emphasize, anything sent to the old box (such as 2021 dues - you have sent yours right? :-)) will be received OK.

Chris
KU4A

“I hope I shall possess firmness and virtue enough to maintain
what I consider the most enviable of all titles, the character of
an honest man.”
— George Washington

August ZOOM MEETING

We'll have our usual Zoom meeting at 7:30 pm, on the first Monday of August, August 2nd. There is no program yet lined up, so give consideration to whether or not you can make a presentation to benefit your fellow club members. Chris
KU4A

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/6813577284...>

Meeting ID: 681 357 7284

Passcode: 0r99sy

Topic: August BARS Zoom meeting has not been determined as of this date

(continued from page 2, July Director's Meeting)

SECRETARY'S REPORT

CG had made corrections to the club's promotional flyer and gave it to BB for revision. The flyer will then be available to give to people at license test sessions. There was also some discussion (but no formal action taken) of possible other ways of distributing the flyer to Fayette County hams who are not currently club members. It was suggested that once shack refurb is complete, an open house might be held in conjunction with distribution of the flyer.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Audit Committee, CG chair

no report

Executive Committee, RBJ chair

no report

Finance Committee, BB chair

no report

HIGH PRIORITY OLD BUSINESS

BB reported that the technician class will begin with an organizational meeting in the education center on Wednesday, August 4th at 7 PM. The class will then continue for several Wednesday nights. The class will be promoted in social media before then.

A discussion on the topic of surplus equipment broadened to a discussion of fund raising in general. No formal action was taken but it was suggested that a committee or "task force" be formed to oversee fund raising which would include estate sales. DR detailed his experience in the use of Bingo for fund raising. On the topic of the upcoming membership survey, all board members are expected to begin making their phone calls to members shortly.

DR reported on 2021 Field Day. Although a small number of QSOs were made due to the poor band conditions on Saturday, it was a success from a social standpoint as a large number of new members and UK students stopped by.

(continued on page 5)

(continued from page 4, Director's meeting)

On the subject of BARS-logo merchandise, DR reported that lapel pins will cost about the same per unit as the patches. He will get exact quotes in the near future. The goal will be to have them available as people begin paying their dues for 2022.

HIGH PRIORITY NEW BUSINESS

RBJ presented a proposal to make some changes to how sympathy expressions are handled. Flowers (or charitable contributions if the family prefers) would only be sent in the event the deceased is a member of the club at time of death. Sympathy cards could be sent under any circumstances to family members of deceased hams, or to local hams in the event of the loss of a family member. CG moved, seconded by BB, that the proposed changes be adopted. Passed by board.

The board then discussed the informal video conferencing currently being held on the first Monday of the month in lieu of the general membership meetings. It had been suggested that we switch from Zoom to Google Meet which would allow members to listen to the meeting on a telephone. DR pointed out that he thought there was a way to allow dial-in to Zoom meetings on the "free side". CG volunteered to investigate further.

The board discussed the proposed donation of an RBC-212 for use by the club for its transceiver remote-control operations. It was decided by acclamation that the current plan of using RemoteHams is satisfactory and the kind offer of the equipment will be declined.

RBJ proposed the appointment of Sal Dominianni, KM4PPV as the club's new Public Relations Chairman. DR moved, seconded by JV, that the appointment be approved. Passed by board.

CG moved, seconded by BB, that the meeting be adjourned. Motion passed at 9:00 PM.

Ham Radio Repeaters for Off Roading

As an off roader and avid 4x4 adventurer, repeaters are a massive part of why I got interested in ham radio to begin with. Repeaters are this magical machine that takes your radio transmissions, and repeats them to a wider range and bigger audience. If you get stuck somewhere in America, there is a very high chance that you will be within range of a repeater.

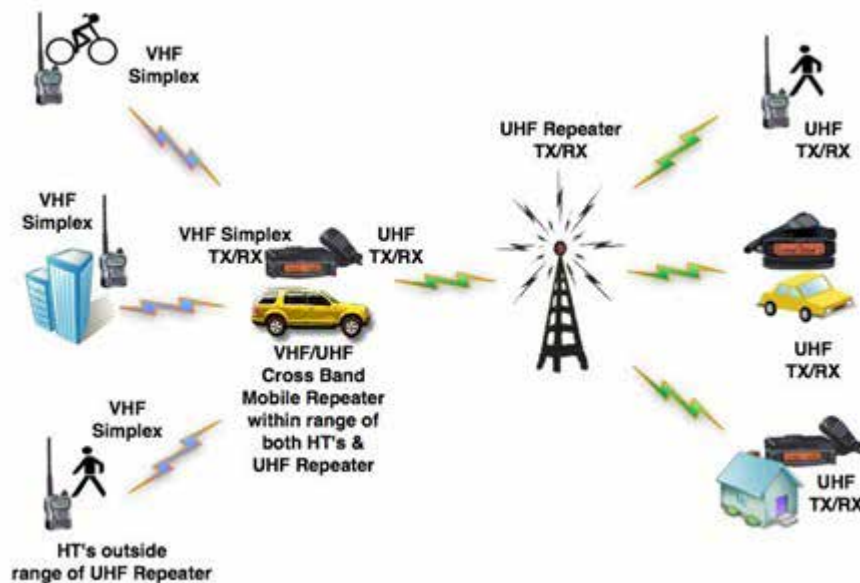
The nice thing about that, is, usually, people are monitoring repeaters... especially in the mornings and evening times. So, if you find yourself in a predicament while playing in your 4x4, if you can hit a repeater, you will most likely get help. Sometimes, you may need to leave the vehicle and hike up to the top of a ridge, but that beats having to hike all the way back to civilization.

What is a Ham Radio Repeater?

A repeater is an automatic controlled radio station that automatically takes an incoming signal and simultaneously repeats it out to a wide area. What makes repeaters work great, is they are usually situated at high altitudes, on mountains or ridges, and run higher power than your average handheld or even mobile ham radios. Thus, they effectively make your signal reach far further than your handheld or mobile ham radios probably can by themselves. Depending on the terrain, it is not uncommon to have repeaters get signals out over 200 miles away. Repeaters are the main reason that most backwoods adventurers get into ham radio. If you can have your signal hit a repeater, chances are, you will be able to find help for whatever problems you find yourself in while hiking the Pacific Crest Trail, by yourself, in a snow storm.

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(continued from page 5, What is a Ham Radio Repeater?)



In order for repeaters to receive a signal and transmit a signal simultaneously, they have to “listen” and “talk” on two different frequencies. The frequency that you will HEAR a repeater on is regarded as the repeater’s “home” or “transmit” frequency. This is where you will find the repeater in repeater listings and directories. This “home” or “transmit” frequency will be the frequency that the repeater transmits on, and you will LISTEN to it on.

A repeater’s listening frequency will be what YOU will transmit on to talk to IT. Luckily, the difference between a repeater’s listening and transmitting frequencies has been standardized for the United States (which is coordinated by your local Frequency Coordinator). This difference in the 2 frequencies is referred to as a repeater’s “split” or “offset”.

For the 2meter band (140 MHz frequencies), the standardized split or “offset” is .6 MHz or 600 KHz. Most programming software and repeater information sources will list it as .6 MHz, but the Tech License Exam likes to list it as 600 KHz. For the 70cm band (440 MHz frequencies), the standardized split/offset is 5 MHz. The offset can then go one of two directions... positive 5 MHz or negative 5 MHz, from the repeater’s reference frequency (its transmitting frequency). This positive or negative shift is called the “split direction” or “split direction”.

Are you still with us??? What we have gone over so far is the hardest part of conceptualizing how a repeater works. If you understand the above, then you are doing great. If you don’t understand the above, then don’t hurt yourself trying to understand it. We will go over some examples below that will help visualize it.

Along with having the correct split and split direction, almost all repeaters will be protected by a sub-audible tone called a CTCSS (Continuous Tone Coded Squelch System), or DCS (Digitally Coded Squelch). Most repeaters will use CTCSS tones nowadays. Without this sub-audible tone, the repeater will not pick up and re-transmit your signals. Thus ensuring that only communications that are supposed to go into the repeater, actually make it in and get repeated out. This CTCSS tone is also referred to as a “PL” tone in most repeater listings and directories.

So, in order to successfully talk on a repeater, you need to know its:

- a) Reference Frequency
- b) Offset
- c) Offset Direction
- d) PL Tone

(continued on page 7)

(continued from page 6, What is a Ham Radio Repeater?)



In the above picture, we see that the repeater's transmitting frequency is 145.330, it has a negative .6 MHz offset for its receiving frequency, and it requires a 131.8 PL Tone.

So, 145.330 MHz is what you would tune to in order to listen to the repeater. In order to talk to the repeater, you would need to tune to 144.730 MHz (which is 145.330 plus the negative offset of .6 MHz). It can be a huge pain and time suck to try and find repeaters in the areas that you are going to be adventuring in. To make life easier, My Off Road Radio has a collection of geographical repeater databases that you can purchase for your area. You receive a spreadsheet and reference booklet of up to 100 frequencies for just \$29.99. We can even connect to your computer from anywhere in the country, and upload the programming for you into your radio. To see more info, head to the Radio Programming section of the website

G160		WIN System-Las Vegas					
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
64	63	KINGNP	141.3	-	0.6	141.3	N6BYH - Kings Canyon National Park
65	64	KINGPK	146.88	-	0.6	103.5	WA6BAI - Kings Canyon National Park
66	65	SEQOIA	442.95	+	5	141.3	KK6AC - Sequoia National Forest, Buck Rock lookout
67	66	North Bay					
68	67	BERKLY	145.29	-	0.6	131.8	KB6LED-Berkeley, Grizzly Ridge
69	68	NAPUHF	441.9	+	5	151.4	W6CO-Mt. St Helena (Napa STH)
70	69	NAPVHF	147.18	+	0.6	151.4	W6CO-Mt. St Helena (Napa STH)
71	70	South Bay					
72	71	ECEGRP	441.3	+	5	100	WB6ECE Repeater Group - Monterey, Santa Cruz
73	72	ECEVHF	147.27	+	0.6	94.8	WB6ECE-Salinas, Mt. Toro
74	73	SALNS1	441.45	+	5	123	K6JE-FPRA, Salinas, Fremont Peak
75	74	SALNS2	145.47	-	0.6	94.8	K6JE-FPRA, Salinas, Fremont Peak
76	75	GLRYUH	442.975	+	5	100	K7DAA-Morgan Hill ARS (Gilroy)
77	76	GLRYVH	147.33	+	0.6	103.5	K7DAA-Morgan Hill ARS (Morgan Hill) !x
78	77	LOSGAT	145.45	-	0.6	100	K6FB-Los Gatos
79	78	LOMPRE	146.64	-	0.6	162.2	WR6ABD-Mt. Loma Prieta
80	79	MVARAA	442.125	+	5	162.2	WR6BAT-Mountain View ARA
81	80	MVARAB	441.55	+	5	100	W6VB-Mountain View ARA !x
82	81	SALUHF	441.65	+	5	123	N6SPD-Salinas, Mt. Toro
83	82	SALVHF	145.43	-	0.6	94.8	N6SPD-Salinas, Mt. Toro
84	83	SRTOGA	146.655	-	0.6	114.8	K6SA-Saratoga !x
85	84	SCCARA	146.985	-	0.6	114.8	W6UU-San Jose !x
86	85	SCVRS	146.76	-	0.6	151.4	WB6OQS-San Jose
87	86	STANFD	145.23	-	0.6	100	N6NFI-Stanford ARS
88	87	SANJOS	147.39	+	0.6	151.4	W6PIY-San Jose !x
89	88	HOLLIS	147.315	+	0.6	94.8	N6SBC-Hollister !x
90	89	East Bay					
91	90	LVRMR1	145.35	-	0.6	100	AB6CR-Livermore, Morgan Territory (LARK)
92	91	LVRMR2	147.12	+	0.6	100	AD6KV-Livermore (LARK) !x
93	92	CCRANT	147.735	-	0.6	107.2	WA6HAM; Antioch (Contra Costa)

Sheet1

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(continued from page 7, What is a Ham Radio Repeater?)

Crossband Repeat!

Some hardwired mobile radios have a “crossband repeat” function that turns your vehicle’s mobile radio into a mobile repeater. This works really well if you want to go for a day hike, and park the car in a spot where it can reach a repeater. You then take a handheld radio with you on your hike and talk to your car, which then repeats your signal to the repeater, which then repeats your signal out to whoever is listening. Doing this just gives you another layer of safety to ensure that wherever you go hiking, even if you get down into a canyon, that, if you can still hit your car, your car can hit the repeater.

EchoLink and IRLP



With how grand the internet is, a lot of repeaters are being linked together via the internet. This means, you can access a lot of repeaters directly from your house, or even your cell phone. The two main systems for doing this are IRLP (Internet Radio Linking Project), and EchoLink. Which are really handy systems to have.

Using EchoLink allows you to be camping in The Rubicon, and talk to the Rubicon’s repeater system. Your family could be vacationing in New York, and they could get on EchoLink and connect to the Rubicon’s repeater via the internet. You then get to have a nice chat with your family. And you don’t need a cell signal to do so. Check out our article on [How To Setup And Use EchoLink](#) for more info!

Thank you for reading! Feel free to leave any comments or questions below! If you want to keep in touch with us when we add new content, join our newsletter! We do special offers that only show up in the newsletter, so make sure you sign up below!

You can also join the community forums and ask questions and see what adventures everyone else is up to!

Join the Off Road Ham Radio Community!

Also, if you don’t have your Ham Radio Technician License, head over to our [Online Ham Radio Class](#) and study up! Remember, 15% of your registration goes back into keeping our trails open!

Author: K6TLR

<https://myoffroadradio.com/what-is-a-ham-radio-repeater/>

Beginners Guide to Repeaters

A Beginners Guide to Repeaters

What is a repeater?

A repeater is a receiver/transmitter that listens for your transmission and re-transmits it. Repeaters usually enjoy the advantage of height and power to extend the range of your transmission. Repeaters listen on one frequency and transmit on another. The separation between these two frequencies is referred to as the offset.

What is an offset?

In order to listen and transmit at the same time, repeaters use two different frequencies. On the 2-meter ham band these frequencies are 600 kilohertz apart. As a general rule, if the output frequency (transmit) of the repeater is below 147 MHz then the input frequency (listening) is 600 kilohertz lower. This is referred to as a minus, (-) offset. If the output is above 147 MHz then the input is 600 kilohertz above. This is referred to as a plus, (+) offset.

Virtually all radios sold today set the offset once you have chosen the (- or +). As an example the main WCARC repeater output is 146.940 MHz. The input or the frequency it listens on is 146.340 MHz (600 Kilohertz below). If you have your radio tuned to 146.940 MHz and have entered the “-” offset, when you push the push to talk (PTT) switch, it automatically transmits on 146.340 MHz. When you release the PTT to listen, the radio reverts back to 146.940 MHz to listen on the repeater’s output frequency.

Note: There are exceptions to the rule so check local repeater listings.

Where to get repeater listings? A good on line source is <http://repeaterbook.com>

Why do repeaters use an offset?

Most repeater installations use the same antenna for transmit and receive. Without having an offset of 600 KHz the repeater would simply hear itself when it was transmitting on the same frequency it was listening on. Even with the offset, the two frequencies are close enough that some isolation is required. Isolation is achieved by placing a device referred to as a duplexer, cavities, or cans into the coax lines. This is designed to pass a very narrow range of frequencies and reject others. The input duplexers are adjusted to pass only the input frequency and reject or “notch” others out. The output duplexers are adjusted to pass only the output frequency. There is some loss to the system because the duplexers contain many parts such as adjusting rods, short coax lengths and connectors. However, the advantage of being able to use a single antenna outweighs the drawbacks.

How do you call someone on a repeater?

First, listen to make sure that the repeater is not already in use. When you are satisfied that the repeater is not in use, begin with the call sign of the station you are trying to contact followed by your call sign. Example: “KD7ABC this is WØABC”. If you don’t establish contact with the station you are looking for, wait a minute or two and try again.

Remember, you don’t really need to ID the person you’re calling... you just need to ID your station... so the following is perfectly fine. “Dave are you around? WØABC”. If you don’t get a reply you have 3 options. Make the call again, say “WØABC clear”, or simply don’t do anything... you have already ID’d your station on your last transmission. Everyone listening on the repeater knows that you didn’t get a reply so phrases like “nothing heard” or “no contact” are just a waste of time... Simply a “WØABC clear” is much better.

(continued on page 10)

(continued from page 9, Beginners Guide)

If you are just announcing your presence on the repeater just a call sign is fine... "WØABC" or "WØABC Mobile". Remember to pause a bit after your key your mike before you start talking to let the repeater wake up. This will avoid you chopping off the beginning of your transmission.

If the repeater you are using is a busy repeater you may consider moving to a simplex frequency (transmit and receive on the same frequency), once you have made contact with the station you were calling on the repeater, move to some simplex frequency.

Repeaters are designed to facilitate communications between stations that normally wouldn't be able to communicate because of terrain or power limitations. If you can maintain your conversation without using the repeater, going "simplex" will leave the repeater free for other stations to use. This is typically not a problem with most repeaters on the western slope but it's still a good exercise to move to simplex now and then.

Repeater etiquette

The first and most important rule is LISTEN FIRST. Nothing is more annoying than someone that "keys up" in the middle of another conversation without first checking to make sure the repeater is free. If the repeater is in use, wait for a pause in the conversation and simply announce your call sign and wait for one of the other stations to acknowledge your call.

When you are using the repeater leave a couple of seconds between exchanges to allow other stations to join in or make a quick call. Most repeaters have a "Courtesy Beep" that will help in determining how long to pause. The courtesy beep serves two purposes, a repeater timeout function and it allows other to join in or make a call. Repeaters have a time out function that will shut down the transmitter if the repeater is held on for a preset length of time (normally three minutes). This ensures that if someone's transmitter is stuck on for any reason, it won't hold the repeater's transmitter on indefinitely.

When a ham is talking and releases the PTT switch on their radio, the controller in the repeater detects the loss of carrier and resets the time-out timer. When the timer is reset, the repeater sends out the courtesy beep. If you wait until you hear this beep (normally a couple of seconds), before you respond, you can be sure that you pause a suitable length of time. After you hear the beep, the repeater's transmitter will stay on for a few more seconds before turning off. This is referred to as the "hang time". The length of hang time will vary from repeater to repeater but the average is about 2 or 3 seconds. You don't have to wait for the "hang time" to drop before keying up again, but you should make sure that you hear the courtesy beep before going ahead.

Note: If you don't wait for the beep and allow the time-out timer to reset, or run on longer than the timer is set for, you will time-out the repeater. The repeater will not function till you allow the timer to reset.

Note: Some repeaters do not use a courtesy beep (or tone). Listen closely to the repeater after you ID or listen to a conversation on the repeater and you can find out if the repeater uses a courtesy tone or not.

Note: Some repeaters use the presence or absence of a courtesy tone to tell users what "MODE" a repeater is in... for example. Is the repeater running on backup power or not... or is the repeater linked to another repeater or not. If you hear a courtesy tone sometimes and no tone another, ask if there is a "control operator" on the air and have him/her explain what the differences mean.

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NOTICE TO MEMBERS

The Treasurer's Report or any financial reports will not appear in the Newsletter. The Treasurer's reports are available to any BARS members in good standing. You will need to request the report that you would like to have. Send a letter to BARS Inc. PO Box 13206, Lexington, KY 40583 with your request.

(continued from page 10, Beginners Guide)

If you are wondering if you can access a repeater, just key your radio and ID "WØABC".

Basic repeater traffic priorities:

1. Emergency and Priority traffic
2. Public service such as Search & Rescue
3. System testing and maintenance
4. Mobile and Portable stations
5. Fixed stations

Remember, nothing is private on a repeater. If you have something of a private nature to talk about, both parties need to use the phone. There is no need to say "no contact", "nothing heard", or "clear" after making a call. Everybody monitoring the repeater has heard your conversation and knows you didn't contact someone. Do not repeat what you hear on a police frequency. There are laws controlling disseminating information you heard on a scanner.

Before you leave on vacation, DO NOT announce your intentions over the air. You never know who is listening to your conversation and is waiting for you to leave town.

In cases of emergency, hams should use the word "emergency" between exchanges if the repeater is being used. By using the word above, you should be heard by the people using the repeater and you will be given the time to do what ever you need to do..

Above all, be courteous, kind, and helpful. This is a great hobby and everybody who uses the repeaters are human and should be treated the way you would like to be treated.

What is doubling?

When two stations try to talk at the same time the signals mix in the repeater's receiver and results in a buzzing sound or loud squawk. When you are involved in a roundtable discussion (more than two people in the conversation) it is always best to pass off to a specific person rather than leave it up in the air. Example: "KØXYZ to take it, this is WØABC" or "Do you have any comments Joe?" or "Over to you Al". Failing to do so is an invitation to chaos and confusion.

Signal reports

If you request a signal report from someone on a repeater remember that all you will get is an indication of how well you are "getting into the repeater". The signal strength report you receive will be a report of the repeater's performance, not yours!

I have actually heard stations say, "You are full scale here", when asked for a signal report. You're not full scale, the repeater is! If you are testing with different radios or antenna systems, you would be better off finding a station to work simplex (direct contact on a single frequency). Then any changes you make while you are testing will be directly reflected in the signal report relative to that station.

What is full quieting?

When you hear a station tell another station that their signal is full quieting it means that they are getting into the repeater with no noise on their signal. You will notice that weaker signals will have what is often described as "white noise" sounds in the background. If your signal is strong enough to fully quiet the repeater's receiver when there is no audio (your voice) then you are full quieting.

Inversion or Ducting

From time to time, particularly in the summer, VHF signals are transmitted far beyond their normal range. This is caused by changes in temperature and humidity at different levels of the atmosphere and this phenomenon is called Sporadic E. Without going into a lot of technical reasons, the signal effectively

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gets trapped between these layers much like air is trapped in a heating duct. When the signal escapes it can be many hundreds of miles away.

This presents an interesting problem for repeaters. Many repeaters share the same pair of operating frequencies, but because they are so far away from each other, they don't normally interfere with each other. When there is an inversion (or ducting) all bets are off. It is not uncommon for a station to "bring up" several repeaters hundreds of miles apart with one transmission. The resulting confusion can make for some interesting long distance contacts.

Sub audible tones (CTCSS, tone squelch, and PL tone)

You will often hear hams refer to a certain repeater that has tone on it. What they mean is that the repeater has to detect a sub audible tone, transmitted by your radio, before you can use the repeater. Check with the sponsor of the repeater to see what tone they use. A good source for this type of information is <http://radiobook.com> or the ARRL repeater directory that is updated once a year. Tone squelch on your receiver is a very valuable feature if you are in an area plagued with a lot of interference, sometimes referred to as "intermod". By programming the code for tone squelch into your radio receiver (check your operating manual) you can eliminate all the interference. Your radio's receiver will only open up for the repeater it is set for and no others. Again check with the repeater sponsor to see if this feature is offered.

Ham lingo

When listening to the local repeater a new ham may be greeted with all kinds of strange "ham" terms. Probably the most common will be the use of "73" when stations are signing off. "73" is a holdover from the days of landline telegraph and is generally accepted as meaning "Best Regards". I prefer to skip the ham lingo and just say what I mean... "have a nice day".

You will also hear the use of Q-codes. Q-codes were meant to speed up Morse code transmissions by using abbreviations for the phrases most frequently sent by hams. Most hams now feel that Q codes have no place on FM communications especially those that work around public service agencies that would have no clue what the Q code means.

Common Q-Codes

QTH – What is your location? Or my location is.

QSL – I understand or can you acknowledge receipt?

QSY – I'm changing frequency to, or can you change frequency to?

QRZ – Who is calling me?

QRT – I am finished transmitting or please stop transmitting.

QSO – Can you communicate? Or I can communicate.

QRM – I am experiencing interference (man made).

QRN – I am experiencing interference (natural).

Again, it's much easier to just say what you mean in English and not go through the exercise of translating what you want to say into a Q code. On the other hand, it's an advantage to at least know what the common Q-Codes mean if you run into an operator that insists on using them.

It is also recommended that new hams brush up on the phonetic alphabet. (Alpha, Bravo, Charlie...etc.). When working a weak station and trying to pass information it goes a lot easier if you are both using the standard phonetic alphabet.

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At a minimum, know your own call sign in phonetics so if people have a hard time understanding your call... you can tell them your call in a standard they will recognize.

Refrain from the use of non-standard "custom" phonetics...

Amateur Radio Terms

APRS – Automatic Position Reporting System

Auto Patch – A device that allows repeater users to make phone calls through the repeater

CTCSS – Continuous Tone Coded Squelch System

DTMF – Dual Tone Multi-Frequency – Touchtone

Multimode Transceiver – A Transceiver capable of SSB (side band), CW (code) , and FM and sometimes AM operation

Packet cluster – A network of automated packet radio stations

Vertical Antenna – An omni-directional antenna

Yagi – A beam or directional antenna, usually rotatable and has multi elements

Final notes

Like most things in life, a little common sense goes a long way. When using a repeater, be mindful of the fact that many others may be listening. Don't say anything on the air that you may regret later. If in doubt, don't say it! Keep your conversations brief. No one likes to have someone monopolize a repeater for hours on end.

Make sure your equipment is working properly. Check all your connections and your antenna system frequently to make sure that you are not causing interference or irritating noises on the repeaters. If you are using a power supply, make sure it has the proper filtering for radio use. A power supply with inferior filtering can generate a very annoying AC hum.

Don't be afraid to give HONEST signal reports. If another ham wants to know how his radio is working, try to be as descriptive as possible. Tell him if his signal is noisy or not or if there seems to be a hum on his audio, etc etc. You do no one any favors if you hear a possible problem and don't let the operator know about it.

Always ID on your final transmissions and never key a repeater without IDing (kerchunk) just to see if you are in range.

Ignore those that cause interference as they usually do this to get attention.

And last but not least, it takes many hours of dedication and expertise to maintain an effective repeater. If you find you are using a repeater frequently, offer to help support those that own/maintain the repeater or take out a membership with the club that sponsors the repeater.

AI WA4HND

<https://www.w0rrz.org/beginners-guide-to-repeaters>

"Associate yourself with men of good quality, if you esteem your own reputation; for 'tis better to be alone than in bad company."

— George Washington

Call for Nominations - Ernie Farmer Memorial Award

Nominations are requested for the person you feel meets or exceeds the below-listed qualities as related to amateur radio and its many diverse and varied activities. Nominations should be sent to Brad James/ WA4HBM, President, Bluegrass ARS, Inc., PO Box 13206, Lexington, Kentucky 40583..

The person selected from your nominations will be honoured during a special award ceremony held during the annual picnic September 13, 2021. Many arrangements must be made, so do not put this off.

Rules

1. This award is to be presented during the annual picnic.
2. The call for nominations must be published in the Bluegrass ARS newsletter three consecutive months prior to the deadline for nominations, which is thirty (30) days prior to the picnic. Any nominations received after that date (August 13, 2021) will not be considered.
3. Nominations must be in writing and signed, or by e-mail with submitters name clearly shown, with specific and adequate information describing why the nominee should be considered.
4. Areas of consideration:
 - a. Involvement in public relations.
 - b. Operating excellence.
 - c. Involvement in public service.
 - d. Assistance to prospective and/or licensed amateurs.
 - e. A combination of these for the general furtherance of amateur radio.
5. The President shall appoint a committee of no less than three to consider nominations and select the winner. The committee shall select the winner within two weeks after the deadline and procure an appropriate plaque in sufficient time to permit presentation at the picnic. Also, the committee will write a letter of commendation outlining the reasons for the award. This is to be presented along with the plaque.
6. The winner will be notified prior to the hamfest to permit acceptance of the plaque and the letter and attendance at the picnic.
7. The name of the winner and the contents of the commendation letter will be published in the Club newsletter following the picnic.

The Central KY ARRL Hamfest (BARS) scheduled for August 14, 2021 has been cancelled.

Due to the virus, many vendors were still reluctantly not participating in hamfest.

We will be looking to again hold our Hamfest next year.

Previous Winners of the Ernie Farmer Memorial Award

The following persons have previously been selected by their fellow Hams as possessing the characteristics listed in the Call for Nominations. You probably recognize many of the names and call signs because they are always there when needed and do not hesitate to get involved.

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| 1979 - Sam Humphries/WA4KKV | 2012 - Pete Clough/WD4GPO |
| 1980 - William Alcock/W4CDA (Danville) | 2013 - Pat Hayden/AI4W |
| 1981 - Bill Shepherd/W4AUZ | 2014 - Glenn A. Dawson/AK4HA |
| 1982 - Mike Mahlbacher/WA4UQA | 2015 - No nominations received |
| 1983 - Ed Bono/WA4ONE, and
Harry Bradshaw/W4TPB (SK) | 2016 - Joseph Wallace/KE6IVK |
| 1984 - Bill DeVore/N4DIT | 2017 - Christopher Gay/KU4A |
| 1985 - Ed White/KD4TQ (SK) | 2018 - David Richardson/W9KHZ |
| 1986 - Scott Hackney/KI4LE | 2019 - Bart Breeding/KB4FEE |
| 1987 - Nan Muth/AA4UN, and
John Boyers/W8OM (Plain City, Ohio) | 2020 - No nomination determined |
| 1988 - No nominations received | |
| 1989 - Bill Woodward/KC4CHF (SK), and
Jim Odom/WA4GHQ (now AC4FP, SK) | |
| 1990 - John Thernes/WM4T (Covington) | |
| 1991 - John Crutcher/KC4DUU | |
| 1992 - Bobby Rolph/KB4QNR | |
| 1993 - Ralph Herndon/KN4DF | |
| 1994 - Johnie Watson/KC4JNR (now NA4J) (SK Feb 2013) | |
| 1995 - Paul Mitchell/N4DUE | |
| 1996 - Bill Fuqua/KO4WW (now WA4LAV) and
Jim Muth/N4CGQ | |
| 1997 - Steve McCallum/K4URX (W2ZBY) (SK) | |
| 1998 - Harry Sparks/KN4S | |
| 1999 - None awarded | |
| 2000 - Ron Ritchie/KF4MOM | |
| 2001 - Ron Dodson/KA4MAP (Webster, Kentucky)
- James Craig McKechnie/KE4FFQ | |
| 2002 - Lou Berry/AG4LB, and
Pat Spencer/KD4PWL | |
| 2003 - John Bell/K4RBH (Honorary Presentation, SK),
Fernie Williams/KE4MAI and
Jerry B. Young/WA4WWH | |
| 2004 - Tom Mansfield/KG4TND | |
| 2005 - Darryl Bennett/KD4CSW | |
| 2006 - Greg Cross/WA8FJK | |
| 2007 - Margueritte Williams/KE4MAJ | |
| 2008 - Jeanie Dalton-Pugh/KB8QLC | |
| 2009 - No nominations received | |
| 2010 - No nominations received | |
| 2011 - Brad James/WA4HBM | |

Countdown to W4DXCC

September 24th and 25th, 2021, Pigeon Forge, TN

Breaking News!

Hello Friends and Club Officials

Please pass along this W4DXCC Convention announcement to your club members and friends.

We are EXCITED to report that the W4DXCC DX and Contest Convention WILL hold it's 16th convention September 24-25th, 2021!!

We have an awesome group of presenters this year that I know will interest everyone.

Friday is the Ham Radio Bootcamp where we do our best to provide the knowledge to New and Experienced Hams alike.

Saturday is the main convention where we have numerous well known presenters, giving you the inside scoop on what is going on in amateur radio. Following each presentation we have time for questions if you would like to know more.

We have the leading radio and equipment manufacturers setup in the lobby with the latest gear for you to twist the knobs. More importantly you can have a one on one to ask questions about the gear with the company representative in a relaxed environment.

We have a fully operational Ham Shack setup where you can come learn and make QSO's in different modes.

It is time to make your Hotel reservations for this years convention. You can NOT make Online reservations for this event!

Call them on the phone at 865 428-8350 and be sure to tell them you are with W4DXCC to get the special rate.

Convention Registration will open soon including Online Ticket Purchasing. Coming Soon.

Check out the Website and learn about the W4DXCC DX and Contest Convention. Go Here [W4DXCC Convention](#) See you soon,

Dave Anderson, K4SV

Convention leader

Dave@w4dxcc.com

Best 73

Richmond Hamfest

Did you miss us in 2020? We sure missed
you! Come see us in 2021
Sept 18 2021

Sponsored by the
Central Kentucky Amateur Radio Society
September 18, 2021

8:00 AM – 1:00 PM (Eastern time)

REMINDERS

If you have not paid your dues for 2021 yet, please do so. You will not be able to vote in the upcoming club officer election. You must be a paid member to participate in the election. It is important that your voice is heard and you have a voice in how the club is operated.

All members with 2021 paid dues can pick up a free club patch. Also, as long as they last you can purchase 2 additional patches for \$5.00. Please bring exact change (we can't make change).

The annual dues run during a calendar year, January to December. If you join during the year, the dues are pro rated based upon when you join. Also, dues are \$20.00 per year, with a 60-day grace period ending on the last day of February. If you pay for multiple years, you get a discount:

2yrs. is \$38
3 yrs. is \$55

Fayette County ARES Coordinator - Jewell Vest

The Fayette County ARES net has resumed. Remember the Fayette County ARES net every Tuesday at 8:30 pm on the 146.94 repeater.

We are looking for more folks that would help share in the net control. If you would like to Help, contact Bart Breeding, KB4FEE at KB4FEE@arrl.net

New Rag chew net on Wednesday evening at 8:00 pm and on Saturday morning at 9 am. The net is located on the 146.760 repeater with a negative offset and no PL tone.

SEE YOU THERE!!!

Please find below the link to the Club's Ebay Account. Copy it into your browser and check out the items the club has up for auction.

<https://www.ebay.com/sch/bluegrassars/m.html>

BARS E-BAY SALES AND AUCTION SALES OF SURPLUSSED EQUIPMENT

The BARS Board of Directors has adopted a method for the disposal of all items in our donated equipment inventory through the transfer of ownership by making them available for purchase by open public auctions and sales. We have determined that it is to the optimum benefit of BARS that we try to obtain the maximum amount for each item, or related sets of items, by accepting only the highest value received through as fair, and as equitable, and as impartial a public process as reasonably possible. In this way we endeavor to eliminate any impressions of advantage or disadvantage to anyone or group wishing to obtain by purchase any item or items.

Our process in operation now is to periodically, and more-or-less continuously, move a somewhat small and easily manageable group of equipments, selected to some extent at random, from a storage facility to the BARS room at the Red Cross Building. At the BARS room, the equipment is basically evaluated (maybe even "smoke" tested) to determine a reasonably accurate and reliable description of its condition. Any equipments that we envision may be of utility to the Club are retained for use in the shack or the shop. Those items that are marked for sale through E-Bay are weighed and photographed, and then researched in an effort to determine their histories and current comparative values. After that, the equipment's descriptive file, including our asked and reserve price, is up-loaded to the E-Bay sales website under our "Bluegrassars" account to make our intentions universally known that the equipment is publically available by timed auction or instant fixed-price purchase. In this way we are trying to keep up a simple uninterrupted cycle of listings, purchases, and shipments which will eventually deplete our inventory of donated and surplus items and eliminate our need and the expense for a rented storage facility.

The current (and previous) BARS Bylaws in its Preamble is specific in its intention that "*No part of the resources, and/or property, and /or net earnings of the corporation, if any, shall inure to the individual benefit of, or be distributed to, any of its members, trustees, directors, officers, or other private persons...*". In order to insure our own compliance with our own rules, no offers for purchase of any Club owned items will be considered that are not conducted in an open public venue or setting by the methods currently adopted by BARS. This prevents any perception of preference to any purchaser, including Club members, and provides an element of assurance that the Club realizes a monetary amount that was determined by as fair a market demand value attainable at the time of the sale. We generally consider this approach is of the overall advantage to BARS, its members, as well as any others involved in these types of financial transactions with the Club. In addition, the Club has established a reputation through E-Bay of reliable and highly-rated service which has allowed us to increase our listings due to our so-far proven credibility. The Club intends to maintain this commendable level of association with E-Bay as our outlet for sales of our major surplus'd electronics equipment.

There is a prior knowledge of the items that will be coming to sale by some of the Club members who assist and help with the moving from the storage unit to the BARS room. During the interim period between transporting, preparation, and posting for sale on E-Bay, the items are normally "on display" in the BARS room except for those of exceptional condition and value that are securely stored away to prevent damage or theft. Also, once an item is posted on E-Bay and before its final sale, it is available by appointment for a hands-on, non-destructive, inspection by anyone interested in attaining the item only through the E-Bay venue. The E-Bay sale amount transaction includes the final accepted item price, plus applicable sales tax and estimated shipping costs based on weight and method, that will all be paid by the buyer. The Club receives a net amount after E-Bay listing fees and financial transaction fees are deducted. The difference between the E-Bay assessed and the Club's actual shipping costs are subsequently reconciled by BARS. A local or nearby buyer can forego the E-Bay determined shipping costs by opting for a local in-person pick-up arrangement scheduled at the BARS room with proper purchase confirmation paperwork.

Minor items and equipments that have been judged and determined to be of relatively low nominal value and demand and that probably will not be successfully sold on E-Bay, have been set aside for simpler disposal but still by fair public sales methods. Various assortments of the Club's recently attained donated and then surplus'd items have been sold at the silent auctions conducted at our Hamfests in 2019 and 2018, where the Club deducted the applicable sales tax from the winning bid price rather than add the sales tax on to the buyers cost. A pleasant situation occurred recently when one, if not two, hamfest attendees offered a one-price, take-it-or-leave-it-right-now, amount for some equipment before the close of the silent auction. We could not in good conscience change the rules in fairness to those who had and would be actively bidding on the same item(s). The prospective purchaser was encouraged to place his bid on the auction sheet (with a contact number) as others had, and then see how the offers proceeded. At the end of the auction, the winning bid was from the "one-price" buyer whose unbeaten offer was less than the on-the-spot price he originally proposed. Should BARS have held him to his first bargain? The Club retained its honor and reputation, and our patron retained the difference in his wallet.

The decision of the Board of Directors to respectfully not accept offers for privately arranged purchases of BARS property reflects our position to consider the best interests of BARS and its members and other stakeholders who rely on the Club as an organization to operate with the knowledge of all concerned constituents in an open and visible, even if less than an expedient and seemingly unaccommodating, unbiased and objective manner.

Schedule for Volunteer Examinations in 2021

Harry Spark/KN4S,*
Bluegrass Volunteer Examiners
kn4s@kn4s.com

The exam schedule for 2021 follows nearly the same format as past years. The scheduling is for Lexington/Fayette County and the sessions in Danville, Georgetown, Winchester, and Richmond hamfest. The Bluegrass Amateur Radio Society-sponsored ARRL exams will continue to be held on the second Saturday of the second month of each quarter (except the August Session will be the date of the Central Kentucky ARRL Hamfest in Lexington), and the WCARS sessions remain as they were last year, Tuesday evenings quarterly.

Test Session Locations

Lexington*	Winchester**	Danville	Georgetown
Red Cross Building	Clark County EOC	Amer Legion Post 46	Georgetown Police Dept
1450 Newtown Pike	200 Maryland Ave	45 Spears Lane	550 Bourbon Street
Lexington KY 40509	Winchester KY 40391	Danville KY 40422	Georgetown KY 40324

* August, Bluegrass ARS Hamfest, Eastland Shopping Center, Lexington, Kentucky
** September, Richmond Hamfest, Madison County Fairgrounds, Richmond, Kentucky

Contact Information

ARRL VEC: Lexington and BARS ARRL Hamfest test sessions - Liaison **Fernie Williams/KE4MAI**, ke4mai@arrl.net, 859-652-3393
(www.bluegrassars.org)
Danville - Liaison Harold Miller/AF6MB, 541-602-6535
, Wilderness Road ARC, <http://www.wrarc.com>
Georgetown - Liaison **Ron Malinowski/WX4GPS**,
wx4gps@arrl.net, 502-542-8252
WCARS VEC: Lexington - Liaison **Marguerite Williams/KE4MAJ**,
ke4maj@arrl.net, 859-489-6274 (www.bluegrassars.org)
W5YI VEC: Winchester - Liaison **Darrell Epperson/AC4YD**,
AC4YD@arrl.net, 859-771-1834

TEST SESSION FEE: ARRL - \$15; WCARS - \$10; W5YI - \$14

Date and Time	VEC	Location
Saturday, September 11, 2021 12:00 pm (ARRL VEC)		Georgetown Police Department
Pre-registration Required		550 Bourbon St, Georgetown KY 40324
Further information, contact		
Ron Malinowski/WX4GPS 502-542-8252		
Pre-register here: https://hamstudy.org/sessions/wx4gps		
Saturday, September 18, 2021 12:30 pm (W5YI VEC)		CKARS Hamfest
Pre-registration Required		Madison County Fair Grounds
CKARS Hamfest		Richmonds, KY
for info go to http://www.ckars.org/hamfest		
Further information, contact Darrell Epperson/AC4YD 859-771-1834		
Pre-register here: https://hamstudy.org/sessions/ac4yd		

Bruce Draper, AA5B, aa5b.corral@gmail.com

Contest Corral

August 2021

Check for updates and a downloadable PDF version online at www.arrl.org/contest-calendar.

Refer to the contest websites for full rules, scoring information, operating periods or time limits, and log submission information.

Start - Finish Date-Time	Date-Time	Bands	Contest Name	Mode	Exchange	Sponsor's Website
1 1400	1 1700	3.5-14	SARL HF Phone Contest	Ph	RS, serial	www.sarl.org.za
2 0000	2 0100	1.8-14	K1USN Slow Speed Test	CW	Max 20 WPM. Name, SPC	k1usn.com/sst.html
3 0100	3 0159	1.8-50	Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest	Ph	RS, age group (OM, YL, or Youth)	wwsac.com/rules.html
3 0100	3 0300	3.5-28	ARS Spartan Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, power	arsqrp.blogspot.com
3 1700	3 1900	3.5-14	RTTYops Weekspoint	Dig	Other's call, your call, serial, name	rttyops.com
4 0230	4 0300	1.8-21	Phone Weekly Test — Fray	Ph	Name, SPC	perluma.com/Phone_Fray_Contest_Rules.pdf
4 1300	4 1400	1.8-28	CWops Mini-CWT Test	CW	Name, mbr or SPC	cwops.org/cwops-tests
4 1700	4 2000	144	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest	Dig	4-char grid square	ft8activity.eu/index.php/en
4 1900	4 2000	1.8-28	CWops Mini-CWT Test	CW	Name, mbr or SPC	cwops.org/cwops-tests
5 0300	5 0400	1.8-28	CWops Mini-CWT Test	CW	Name, mbr or SPC	cwops.org/cwops-tests
5 1700	5 1900	3.5-14	RTTYops Weekspoint	Dig	Other's call, your call, serial, name	rttyops.com
5 1700	5 2100	28	NRAU 10-Meter Activity Contest	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), 6-character grid square	nrrlcontest.no/index.php
5 1900	5 2000	3.5, 7	EACW Meeting	CW	RST, name, mbr or EA province or country	www.eacwspain.es
5 1900	5 2100	1.8-50	SKCC Sprint Europe	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or "none"	www.skccgroup.com
6 0100	6 0230	14	QRP Fox Hunt	CW	RST, SPC, name, power	www.qrpfoxhunt.org
6 0145	6 0215	1.8-21	NCCC RTTY Sprint	Dig	Serial, name, QTH	www.ncccsprint.com
6 0230	6 0300	1.8-21	NCCC Sprint	CW	Serial, name, QTH	www.ncccsprint.com
6 2000	6 2100	1.8-14	K1USN Slow Speed Test	CW	Max 20 WPM. Name, SPC	k1usn.com/sst.html
7 0000	8 2359	3.5-28	Batavia FT8 Contest	Dig	4-char grid square	batavia-ft8.com
7 0001	8 2359	28	10-10 International Summer Contest, SSB	Ph	Name, mbr or "0," SPC	www.ten-ten.org
7 1200	7 2359	1.8-28	European HF Championship	CW Ph	RS(T), 2-digit year first licensed	lea.hamradio.si/~scc/euhf
7 1200	8 2359	1.8-50	SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or "none"	www.skccgroup.com
7 1300	7 1330	144	Two-Meter Classic Sprint	CW Ph	Serial, 4-char grid square	fwrc.info
7 1600	7 1800	3.5-28	FISTS Saturday Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or "0"	fistsna.org
7 1800	8 0559	1.8-28	North American QSO Party, CW	CW	Name, state/DC/province/country	www.ncjweb.com
7 1800	8 1800	222 and up	ARRL 222 MHz and Up Distance Contest	CW Ph Dig	6-char grid square	arrl.org/222-mhz-and-up-distance-contest
9 0000	9 0200	1.8-28	4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint	CW Ph	RS(T), SPC, mbr or power	www.4sqrp.com
11 0030	11 0230	3.5-14	NAQCC CW Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or power	naqcc.info
11 1500	13 1459	144	MMonVHF 144 MHz Meteorscatter Sprint	CW Ph Dig	Signal report	mmonvhf.de/ctestinfo.php
11 1700	11 2000	432	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest	Dig	4-char grid square	ft8activity.eu/index.php/en
14 0000	15 2359	3.5-28	WAE DX Contest, CW	CW	RST, serial	darc.de/der-club/referat/referat-conteste/worked-all-europe-dx-contest/en
14 0800	14 1100	1.8-28	QRP ARCI European Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or power	qrparci.org/contest
14 1200	14 1300	7	SARL Youth Sprint	Ph	RS, age	www.sarl.org.za
14 1400	14 2200	3.5-28	Kentucky State Parks on the Air	CW Ph Dig	KY park abbreviation or SPC	k4msu.com/kypota
14 1400	15 0400	1.8-432	Maryland-DC QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	Entry class, county or SPC	w3vpr.org/mdcqsop
14 2300	15 0300	50	50 MHz Fall Sprint	CW Ph Dig	4-char grid square	svhfs.org
15 1400	15 1700	3.5-14	SARL HF Digital Contest	Dig	RST, serial	www.sarl.org.za
15 1700	15 2100	3.5-28	NJQRP Skeeter Hunt	CW Ph	RS(T), SPC, skeeter # or power	www.qsl.net/w2lj
15 2100	15 2300	3.5-28	FISTS Sunday Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or "0"	fistsna.org
15 2300	16 0100	1.8-28	Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or power	qrptest.com/pigrun
21 0000	22 1600	3.5-28	SARTG WW RTTY Contest	Dig	RST, serial	www.sartg.com
21 0600	22 2359	10 GHz to light	ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest	CW Ph Dig	6-char grid locator	www.arrl.org/10-ghz-up
21 0800	22 0800	1.8-28	Russian District Award Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), RU district code or serial	rdaward.org/rdac1.htm
21 1200	22 1200	1.8-50	Keyman's Club of Japan Contest	CW	RST, JA prefecture code or CQ zone	kcj-cw.com/e_index.htm
21 1600	21 1759	1.8-50	Feld Hell Sprint	Dig	RST, mbr, SPC, grid	sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub
21 1600	22 0400	1.8-28	Ohio QSO Party	CW Ph	RS(T), OH county or SPC	www.ohqp.org
21 1800	22 0559	1.8-28	North American QSO Party, SSB	Ph	Name, state/DC/province/country	www.ncjweb.com
22 1800	22 2359	3.5-28	ARRL Rookie Roundup, RTTY	Dig	Name, 2-digit year first licensed, SPC or XE province	arrl.org/rookie-roundup
25 0000	25 0200	1.8-50	SKCC Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or "none"	www.skccgroup.com
28 0400	30 0400	1.8-28	Hawaii QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T) HI district or SPC	hawaiiqso.org
28 0600	29 0559	3.5-28	ALARA Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), serial, mbr, name, YL or OM	alara.org.au/contests
28 1200	29 0300	1.8-50	WVE Islands QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), USI/CISA Island Designation or SPC	usislands.org/qso-party-rules
28 1200	29 1200	1.8-28	YO DX HF Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), YO county or serial	www.yodx.ro/en
28 1200	29 1200	1.8-28	World Wide Digi DX Contest	Dig	4-char grid square	ww-digi.com
28 1400	29 2000	3.5-50	Kansas QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), KS county or SPC	ksqso.org
29 1400	29 1700	3.5-14	SARL HF CW Contest	CW	RST, serial	www.sarl.org.za

There are a number of weekly contests not included in the table above. For more info, visit: www.qrpfoxhunt.org, www.ncccsprint.com, and www.cwops.org. All dates refer to UTC and may be different from calendar dates in North America. Contests are not conducted on the 60-, 30-, 17-, or 12-meter bands. Mbr = Membership number. Serial = Sequential number of the contact. SPC = State, Province, DXCC Entity, XE = Mexican state. Listings in blue indicate contests sponsored by ARRL or NCJ. The latest time to make a valid contest QSO is the minute listed in the "Finish Time" column. Data for Contest Corral is maintained on the WA7BNM Contest Calendar at www.contestcalendar.com and is extracted for publication in QST 2 months prior to the month of the contest. ARRL gratefully acknowledges the support of Bruce Horn, WA7BNM, in providing this service.

American Red Cross

In the spirit of community service, and with thanks for the years of support.

The Bluegrass Amateur Radio Society, Inc., Board of Directors has agreed to starting a new program beginning January 2022. The Board has agreed that all donations made by club members to the American Red Cross, Bluegrass Chapter, through the BARS club, that they will match the total amount given by the club members, up to a total of \$1,200.00 for the year.

Additional information on how to participate in this program, will be published later.

Program Schedule for 2021

Brad James, WA4HBM, Chair, Program Committee
Bluegrass ARS, Lexington, Kentucky

The following programs are scheduled for 2021. Your input and suggestions for programs for 2021 are needed. Call Brad James at 859-293-5893 or e-mail at sophie16@twc.com/.

Month	Topic	Presenter(s)	Comments
✓ January	"Winter Field Day" January 30-31, 2021	David Richardson/W9KHZ	
✓ February	cancelled due to virus		
✓ March	SkyWarn Presentation byway of ZOOM	Brad James	see zoom notice page 19
✓ April	DBJ-1 and DBJ-2 antenna	Ed Fong	zoom meeting see page 6
✓ May	Zoom meeting May 3, 2021 7:30 pm	see page 4	
✓ June	cancelled due to virus	Field Day June 26-27, 2021	
✓ July	NOT DETERMINED		
✓ August	Hamfest cancelled General Meeting Cancelled		Zoom meeting Aug. 2, 2021
September	Annual Family Picnic September 13, 2021		
October	NOT DETERMINED		
November	NOT DETERMINED		
December	Election	Brad James	

25 years ago in BARS, August 1996/Chris Gay KU4A

The club was getting ready for its annual hamfest on Sunday, August 11th at Western Hills High School in Frankfort. The grand prize was a Ten Tec Scout with 10 and 40 meter modules. (KU4A note: To change bands on the Scout, you had to plug in a module for a specific band). Other prizes included a Yaesu dual-band handheld, Butternut vertical HF antenna and a Astron 30 amp power supply. Among the many forums to be held was the ARRL/Kentucky Emergency Services Forum conducted by Kentucky Section Manager Steve Morgan WB4HNO. (KU4A note: Steve is Kentucky SM now, too, 25 years later!).

Several members got new call signs through the fairly new FCC vanity callsign program:

Bill Fuqua KO4WW became WA4LAV

Doyle Embs KS4SG became WA4BBR

Steve McCallum K4URX became W2ZBY

Newton Noel KF4JNM became W2HIP

Steve McCallum wrote an article for the newsletter in which he explained that he passed the "class B" ham test in New York City in 1949 and was assigned the call W2ZBY. When he moved to Kentucky from New Jersey in 1957, the FCC assigned him the callsign K4URX (KU4A note: The FCC did not permit "out of area" callsigns in those days). The phonetics for his original call were "Want 2 Zero Beat You". Steve recalled his ham career writing articles for QST, editing the publication "GE Ham News" (KU4A note: We have some issues of this in the BARS library), his work as an Emergency Coordinator and Section Emergency Coordinator of Kentucky in the 1960s, his teaching radio classes and his on-the-air experience as one of the first to use the new "single sideband" voice mode.

Skip Strippelhoff, W4WYX, thanked the 22 hams who provided communications for the Children's Charity Golf Classic. (KU4A note: The Golf Classic was an interesting way to see/meet interesting celebrities from around the area, as well as provide much-needed communications).

From "The ARRL Letter" came word of major solar flares on July 8 and 9 of 1996.



QST cover August 1996

Meeting Schedules for Area Clubs, Exam Sessions, etc.

Volunteer examinations are held in or near Lexington on a schedule that has tests in central Kentucky every month of the year. Schedules for area sessions, plus meetings, etc., are as follows:

The Bluegrass Amateur Radio Society, Inc. (Lexington) - (Fernie Williams/KE4MAI (ARRL - \$15.00) and Margie Williams/KE4MAJ(WCARS- \$10.00)), with Darrell/AC4YD in Winchester and Richmond (W5YI), John/K4FT in Danville (ARRL), and Ron/WX4GPS in Georgetown (ARRL - \$15.00), have a schedule to offer an exam monthly in Lexington/central Kentucky. (See schedules on page 10 of this newsletter). ARRL sponsored tests are held the second Saturday of the month, 10:00 AM in the Red Cross Building, Meeting Room "B", 1450 Newtown Pike, Lexington (except the August session is the Saturday of the second weekend of the month and is held at the site of the Central Kentucky ARRL Hamfest), and WCARS sponsored sessions are held the third Tuesday of the scheduled month, 7:00PM in Meeting Room "A" in the Red Cross Building, 1450 Newtown Pike, Lexington. Contact Margie/KE4MAJ at 859-489-6274 or email to ke4maj@arrl.net. Go to <<http://www.lexkywcars.org>> for information.

Winchester (W5YI VEC) - They are located in the Clark County EOC, 200 Maryland Avenue, Winchester, Kentucky. Their 2019 schedule (10:00AM): Saturday, January, 12, Saturday, April 13, Saturday, July 13, and Saturday, October 12. Contact Liaison Darrell Epperson/AC4YD, AC4YD@arrl.net, 859-771-1834

Danville (ARRL VEC) - Test sessions are fourth Saturday in January, April, July and October at 10:00 AM. Liaison Harold Miller/AF6MB, harod.p@miller.org, 541-602-6535, Wilderness Road Amateur Radio Club, American Legion Post 46, 45 Spears Lane, Danville, KY 40422 - Repeater 145.310 (100 pl).

Georgetown (ARRL VEC) - Liaison Ron Malinowski/WX4GPS, wx4gps@arrl.net, 502-542-8252, Georgetown Police Dept, 550 Bourbon St., Georgetown (for dates see schedule on page 4 of this newsletter).

Radio Theory and Construction Workshop - Each Saturday 1:00-3:00 PM in the Bluegrass ARS Education Center, basement of the Red Cross Building, 1450 Newtown Pike, Lexington. Contact Bill Fuqua/WA4LAV at (859) 272-9523 or wa4lav@arrl.net.

Versailles/Woodford County - The Woodford County Amateur Radio Club meets the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM in the Versailles Fire Station No. 2 on Big Sink Pike (38°3'34" N 84°43'11"W). Anyone interested in amateur radio is cordially invited. Also, visit their web site at <<http://www.ky4wc.org>>. You may contact Todd Rose/KE4YAH (atrose@windstream.net).

Fayette County ARES Net - Tuesday, 8:30 PM, 146.940 (-600 Tone 88.5) repeater.

Amateur Television and Specialized Communications Net

- An informal meeting is held every Sunday evening at 9:00 PM (local time)

on the 146.760 (-600 offset) repeater in Lexington.

Kentucky Six-Shooters Net - Wednesday evenings at 9:00 PM six meters FM on 52.525 MHz (vertically polarized). David Jordan/KI4AWZnet control; and, Daily Six-Meter FM Ragchew net 7:00-9:00 PM on 52.525MHz (vertically polarized). James Peel/KG4VAR net control.

KY-QRP - Suspended for the time

Scott County Amateur Radio and Emergency Service Club (SCARES) - Meetings are the third Saturday each month, 9:00 AM in the Solarium room at Georgetown Community Hospital, 1140 Lexington Road, Georgetown. Check in to their weekly simplex net Tuesdays at 7:00 PM on 146.685 (PL 141.3).

Central Kentucky ARS (Richmond-Berea) - Meet the Third Thursday each month in the Madison County EOC, Richmond, Kentucky, at 7:00 PM. Talk-in on 146.865 (-600, PL-192.8 Hz) and 145.370 (-600, PL-192.8 Hz) repeater for location, directions to meeting site, or other information.

Greater Mason County ARA meeting, 7:00 PM, second Tuesday each month, Maysville-Mason County EOC (station call KY4MME on QRZ). 668 Kenton Station Road, Maysville, KY 41056.

Pioneer ARC (Winchester) - Fourth Tuesday each month, Golden Corral Restaurant, 7:00 PM (eat at 6:00), except March 17 meet at Christview Christian Church (SkyWarn). Talk-in/info on 145.430 (-600, T-203.5).

Jessamine Amateur Wireless Society (Nicholasville) - Meet Second Monday each month, 7:00 PM, St. Joseph/R.J. Corman Ambulatory Care Center, 1250 Keene Road (U.S. 27 Bypass south to intersection with 169; turn at the light.) Talk-in on the 145.490 (T-123.0).

The Jessamine County ARES Net - Tuesdays at 7:30 PM, 145.490 Repeater, Gary Britten W4GNB net control.

The Madison County ARES Net, Monday at: 7:00 PM, 146.865 (pl 192.8). Everyone is invited to check in. . . Wilderness Trail Emergency Net, Wednesdays, 8:30 PM, 146.715 (pl 100.0). . . Glenn/KO4OL.

District 9 ARES Net Thursdays with early check-ins starting around 6:45 PM ET and the formal net starting at 7:15 PM ET on 147.180(+) PL 74.4 and 146.745(-) PL 100 [both in London]; 146.835(+) TSQ 100 [Pineville]; 224.960(-) TSQ 203.5 [Pine Mountain]; 442.850(+) PL 103.5 [Cumberland Gap] and 444.250(+) TSQ 107.2 [Black Mountain]. The net is also available on the following VOIP connections: EchoLink KE4GJG-R, KK4MJZ-R, WA4ROB-L, KK4WH-R, WA4ROB-R, or AF4Y-R; YSF node 75056, DMR TG 312128 and Hamshack Hotline Extension 94031

Cumberland Valley VOIP Weather Net each Sunday starting at 8 PM ET on 147.180(+) PL 74.4 and 146.745(-) PL 100 [both in London]; 146.835(+) TSQ 100 [Pineville]; 224.960(-) TSQ 203.5 [Pine Mountain]; 442.850(+) PL 103.5 [Cumberland Gap] and 444.250(+) TSQ 107.2 [Black Mountain]. The net is also available on the following VOIP connections: EchoLink KE4GJG-R, KK4MJZ-R, WA4ROB-L, KK4WH-R, WA4ROB-R, or AF4Y-R; YSF node 75056, DMR TG 312128 and Hamshack Hotline Extension 94031

Please send any changes or corrections to these notices to my attention, Bart Breeding/KB4FEE, in care of Bluegrass ARS, Inc., PO Box 13206 Lexington, KY, or e-mail to KB4FEE@arrl.net

**The annual Family Picnic for the
Bluegrass Amateur Radio Society, Inc.
will be held on
September 13, 2021
at the Shillito Park shelter #2.
Mark your calendars and plan on
attending with your friends and family.
The fun starts around 5 pm.
See you there.**

The Bluegrass Amateur Radio Society, Inc will be offering a Technician licensing class with a organizational meeting on Aug. 4, 2021. The meeting will be held in the BARS shack learning area located in the basement of the Red Cross Building, at 1450 Newtown Pike, Lexington, KY. The meeting will start at 7:00 pm.

The entrance to the shack is located on the North side of the Red Cross Building toward the rear. Parking is located in the area adjacent to the Better Business Bureau.

We will be ordering books for the class.

The class will run about 1 to 1 1/2 hours. At this time we expect the class to be held on Wednesday evenings at 7 pm and should last about 8-10 weeks.

Hope to see you there.

Question should be sent to: Bluegrassars@hotmail

Call 859-644-2216

Bart and David

KB4FEE and W9KHZ

QUA/HAMnews is published monthly by the Newsletter Committee of the Bluegrass Amateur Radio Society, Inc., and is distributed by e-mail only.

Letters to the editor, technical articles, items of interest to the Ham community and guest editorials are invited and will be published at the discretion of the editor. Items for sale by members of the Society will be advertised without charge for one issue, and may be resubmitted as often as desired. These ads must be non-commercial in nature.

Articles published in QUA/HAMnews do not necessarily represent the views of the Officers, Board of Directors, editor, or Society membership, nor does publication thereof represent concurrence by the Officers, Board of Directors, editor, or Society membership of the contents of the article. No article will be published unless it is accompanied by the name(s) of the person(s) submitting the material.

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Annual Dues (January 1 - December 31)

Payable using Pay Pal - Go to <<http://www.BluegrassARS.org>>, Click on

"Membership," click on the option for your preference as below:

Regular Membership: One year - \$20.00; two years - \$38.00; three years

- \$55.00 (Additional family member(s) at the same address \$1.00 each per year)

Associate Membership - \$15.00 (for those who reside farther than 50 miles

from Lexington)

Full-Time Student Membership - \$12.00 (for those 21 and under, and no

other Club member in the family)

Shack telephone: (859) 231-0974 web page: <http://www.BluegrassARS.org/>

Calendar of Ham Radio Activities for AUGUST 2021

Sun	1	Television & Specialized Communications Net, 9:00 PM (146.760 Repeater)
Mon	2	
Tue	3	Amateur Swap Net 145.370 (T-192.8) 8:00 PM; "Casual Communicators Net," 9:00 PM Eastern, KY-QRP Net suspended; Fayette County ARES Net 8:30 PM 146.940 with a PL tone of 88.5
Wed	4	Open Rag chew Net 8:00 pm 146.760 neg offset no PL tone; Wilderness Trail Emer Net, 8:30 pm, freq. 146.715, PL 100; Six Shooters Net, 9:00 PM on 52.525 MHz FM (vertically polarized);
Thu	5	Jessamine Cty ARES Net, 7:30 PM, 145.490 Repeater, Gary Britten W4GNB net control.; District 9 ARES Net Thursdays with early check-ins starting around 6:45 PM ET and the formal net starting at 7:15 PM ET on 147.180(+) PL 74.4 and 146.745(-) PL 100 [both in London]; 146.835(+) TSQ 100 [Pineville]; 224.960(-) TSQ 203.5 [Pine Mountain]; 442.850(+) PL 103.5 [Cumberland Gap] and 444.250(+) TSQ 107.2 [Black Mountain]. The net is also available on the following VOIP connections: EchoLink KE4GJG-R, KK4MJZ-R, WA4ROB-L, KK4WH-R, WA4ROB-R, or AF4Y-R; YSF node 75056, DMR TG 312128 and Hamshack Hotline Extension 94031
Sat	7	Shack closed; Open Rag chew Net 9:00 am 146.760 neg offset no PL tone;
Sun	8	Amateur Television & Specialized Communications Net, 9:00 PM (146.760 Repeater);
Mon	9	
Tue	10	Amateur Swap Net 145.370 (T-192.8) 8:00 PM; "Casual Communicators Net," 9:00 PM Eastern 443.325+ MHz; Fayette County ARES Net 8:30 pm on the 146.940 repeater with a PL tone of 88.5;
Wed	11	Open Rag chew Net 8:00 pm 146.760 neg offset no PL tone; Wilderness Trail Emer Net, 8:30 pm, freq. 146.715, PL 100; Six Shooters Net, 9:00 PM on 52.525 MHz FM (vertically polarized);
Thu	12	Jessamine Cty ARES Net, 7:30 PM, 145.490 Repeater, Gary Britten W4GNB net control.; District 9 ARES Net Thursdays with early check-ins starting around 6:45 PM ET and the formal net starting at 7:15 PM ET on 147.180(+) PL 74.4 and 146.745(-) PL 100 [both in London]; 146.835(+) TSQ 100 [Pineville]; 224.960(-) TSQ 203.5 [Pine Mountain]; 442.850(+) PL 103.5 [Cumberland Gap] and 444.250(+) TSQ 107.2 [Black Mountain]. The net is also available on the following VOIP connections: EchoLink KE4GJG-R, KK4MJZ-R, WA4ROB-L, KK4WH-R, WA4ROB-R, or AF4Y-R; YSF node 75056, DMR TG 312128 and Hamshack Hotline Extension 94031, PL 100; Six Shooters Net, 9:00 PM on 52.525 MHz FM (vertically polarized);
Sat	14	Shack closed; Open Rag chew Net 9:00 am 146.760 neg offset no PL tone;
Sun	15	Amateur Television & Specialized Communications Net, 9:00 PM (146.760 Repeater);
Mon	16	
Tue	17	Amateur Swap Net 145.370 (T-192.8) 8:00 PM; "Casual Communicators Net," 9:00 PM Eastern,; Fayette County ARES Net 8:30 PM 146.940 with a PL tone of 88.5
Wed	18	Open Rag chew Net 8:00 pm 146.760 neg offset no PL tone; Wilderness Trail Emer Net, 8:30 pm, freq. 146.715, PL 100; Six Shooters Net, 9:00 PM on 52.525 MHz FM (vertically polarized);
Thu	19	Jessamine Cty ARES Net, 7:30 PM, 145.490 Repeater, Gary Britten W4GNB net control.; District 9 ARES Net Thursdays with early check-ins starting around 6:45 PM ET and the formal net starting at 7:15 PM ET on 147.180(+) PL 74.4 and 146.745(-) PL 100 [both in London]; 146.835(+) TSQ 100 [Pineville]; 224.960(-) TSQ 203.5 [Pine Mountain]; 442.850(+) PL 103.5 [Cumberland Gap] and 444.250(+) TSQ 107.2 [Black Mountain]. The net is also available on the following VOIP connections: EchoLink KE4GJG-R, KK4MJZ-R, WA4ROB-L, KK4WH-R, WA4ROB-R, or AF4Y-R; YSF node 75056, DMR TG 312128 and Hamshack Hotline Extension 94031 PL 100; Six Shooters Net, 9:00 PM on 52.525 MHz FM (vertically polarized);
Sat	21	Shack closed; Open Rag Chew Net 9 am 146.760 neg offset and no PL tone;
Sun	22	Amateur Television & Specialized Communications Net, 9:00 PM (146.760 Repeater);
Mon	23	
Tue	24	Amateur Swap Net 145.370 (T-192.8) 8:00 PM; "Casual Communicators Net," 9:00 PM Eastern, 443.325+ MHz. KY-QRP Net suspended; Fayette County ARES Net at 8:30 PM on the 146.940 repeater and PL Tone of 88.5,
Wed	25	Open Rag chew Net 8:00 pm 146.760 neg offset no PL tone; Wilderness Trail Emer Net, 8:30 pm, freq. 146.715, PL 100; Six Shooters Net, 9:00 PM on 52.525 MHz FM (vertically polarized);
Thur	26	Jessamine Cty ARES Net, 7:30 PM, 145.490 Repeater, Gary Britten W4GNB net control.; District 9 ARES Net Thursdays with early check-ins starting around 6:45 PM ET and the formal net starting at 7:15 PM ET on 147.180(+) PL 74.4 and 146.745(-) PL 100 [both in London]; 146.835(+) TSQ 100 [Pineville]; 224.960(-) TSQ 203.5 [Pine Mountain]; 442.850(+) PL 103.5 [Cumberland Gap] and 444.250(+) TSQ 107.2 [Black Mountain]. The net is also available on the following VOIP connections: EchoLink KE4GJG-R, KK4MJZ-R, WA4ROB-L, KK4WH-R, WA4ROB-R, or AF4Y-R; YSF node 75056, DMR TG 312128 and Hamshack Hotline Extension 94031, PL 100; Six Shooters Net, 9:00 PM on 52.525 MHz FM (vertically polarized);
Sat	28	Shack closed; Open Rag Chew Net 9 am 146.760 neg offset and no PL tone;
Sun	29	Television & Specialized Communications Net, 9:00 PM (146.760 Repeater)
Mon	30	
Tue	31	Amateur Swap Net 145.370 (T-192.8) 8:00 PM; "Casual Communicators Net," 9:00 PM Eastern, KY-QRP Net suspended; Fayette County ARES Net 8:30 PM 146.940 with a PL tone of 88.5