



ARRL Affiliated Club Coordinator December 2024 Newsletter

“Get the most from your ARRL membership by distributing this newsletter to all your fellow club members. And as always, I'm here to help you with all your ARRL needs!”

73,

Dudley KM4IYQ – ARRL E. TN. ACC

“Helping to preserve the future of Amateur Radio.”

ARRL TN Section/Division/National/International News

ARRL Audio News

Listen to the latest audio news from ARRL at: [December Audio News](#)

ARRL Latest QST Issue Link

Be sure and be logged into the ARRL Website: [December Issue](#)

An Important Reminder to all ARRL Affiliated Clubs

It's quickly approaching the end of 2024 and many memberships to ARRL and club dues will be coming due. Here are a couple things to make note of they you may want to take advantage of over the next couple of months:

1.) Club Commission Program:

One of the benefits of being an ARRL Affiliated Club is a commission for recruiting new ARRL members and securing timely ARRL member renewals. The commission structure has been updated and the process has changed to make it more lucrative and easier for the clubs. All membership dues are sent to ARRL to be processed and the club receives a commission

payment directly from ARRL. No more complicated adjusting funds around credit cards, checks and cash. ARRL does all the processing. As a result, your club could earn money while promoting the many benefits and programs of ARRL to ensure that amateur radio is protected and continues to be strong.

Q. What is the ARRL Affiliated Club Commission Program?

A. The ARRL Affiliated Club Commission Program allows ARRL Affiliated Clubs to earn a commission on new and renewing STANDARD memberships.

Q. How much commission does the club earn for new and renewing members?

A. Each new ARRL STANDARD membership earns the club a \$20 commission (family, student/youth, and blind memberships are not eligible). New members are defined as never having been a member or a returning member that has not been a member for two years. Each renewal now earns the club a \$5 commission. There is no limit to the amount a club can earn in this program.

Q. What is the process for the club?

A. The club will follow the process for both new and renewal applications

1. Each new or renewing ARRL member should fill out a membership application form: [ARRL Membership Application Form](#)

2. Payment in FULL can be made to ARRL by check, credit card, or cash.

3. The club then sends all applications with FULL payment along with the Club Commission Reconciliation Form to ARRL for processing. [Club Commission Reconciliation Form](#)

4. The memberships are processed once received by ARRL, and the club receives the commission.

5. Commission payments can be made by check to the club or Direct Deposit.

2.) Updating Your Affiliated Club Database Record:

The club update area is now active. This section allows you to edit information in your club record and also upload photos of your club activities. The club update is your [Annual Report](#).

You must update your club record at least once per year even if nothing changes to your officers. The club update is how we know that the club is still in business and keeps the contact information current for ARRL and prospective hams to get in touch with your club. Should two years pass without an update your club will be listed as inactive.

Follow this link for an instructional overview of how to use the editing system. https://www.arrl.org/files/file/Clubs/Club%20Update%20Online_20150806.pdf

Note: You must be logged into the ARRL web site to use the editing system

2025 Youth on the Air Camp Application Period Open

Applications are now being accepted for campers interested in attending the 2025 Youth on the Air Camp. Licensed amateur radio operators, ages 15 through 25, who want to attend are encouraged to apply online at YouthOnTheAir.org. The camp is scheduled to take place June 15 - 20, 2025, in Thornton (Denver), Colorado and the Denver Radio Club, an ARRL Affiliated Club, is the local host.

The current application period is for the fifth camp for young amateur radio operators in North, Central, and South America. For the best chance at being selected, applications should be submitted by 2359Z on January 15, 2025. Campers will be selected by the working group and notified by February 1.

To encourage attendance from across the Americas, allocations for campers are being held open for various areas of North, Central, and South America. If countries do not use their allocation or should someone within an allocation decline acceptance, those positions will be filled from the remaining pool of applicants. As this will be an ongoing process, everyone will not receive notification of acceptance at the same time. Preference will be given to first-time attendees.

Applications will continue to be accepted through May 1 and up to 50 campers will be accepted. The application process is free, but a \$100 USD deposit is required upon acceptance. Should a potential camper be unable to pay the \$100 deposit, they may apply for a scholarship or waiver. Campers are also responsible for their own arrival and departure transportation to the camp location. Travel assistance may also be available, especially for those traveling from outside of the USA and Canada. Travel during camp events is provided. For details about the camp, visit the camp web page at <https://youthontheair.org/> or email Camp Director Neil Rapp, WB9VPG, at director@youthontheair.org.

Santa Is On The Air !

Share the magic of Ham Radio and Santa Claus with your children, grandchildren, and neighborhood kids. The Santa Net is held every evening between Thanksgiving and Christmas on 3.916 MHz at 7:00PM Central Time (check-ins open 1/2 hour before).

For the 16th consecutive year, The 3916 Nets will be presenting The Santa Net on 3.916 MHz. Good girls and boys can talk to Santa Claus, via amateur radio, nightly at 7:00 PM (Central) starting Friday, the day after Thanksgiving, through Christmas Eve, December 24th.

So join in the fun! For more info visit <https://www.cqsanta.com/>

ARRL Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology Now Accepting Applications for 2025 Cohorts

The ARRL Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology (TI) continues to grow. Fresh off a highly successful YouTube telethon that raised more than \$41,000 for the program, some of next year's dates have been announced. Applications are now open.

The program is growing, and educators will have the opportunity to attend sessions around the country. *"We love having the teachers here at ARRL Headquarters, but we wanted to bring this program nationwide,"* said ARRL Education and Learning Manager Steve Goodgame, K5ATA. Dates and details of the regional sessions are still being determined, but the hope is to touch many areas of the United States. The application process is straightforward. Interested educators can find the web form at <https://www.arrl.org/teachers-institute-on-wireless-technology>. ARRL covers all the costs of the TI, including travel, but there is a \$100 application fee if the teacher is accepted.

The success generated from the program is demonstrable. *"The teachers leave TI with energy and knowledge. They've taken that and built tremendous programs in their schools,"* said Goodgame. The program isn't necessarily designed to get young people licensed, but rather to get them thinking about radio in their other areas of study. Teachers work amateur radio and radio technology into science, technology, engineering, and mathematics lessons. Amateur radio is presented as a pathway to get hands-on with the concepts, and to use them in the real world.

There are 16 cohorts planned for the 2025 ARRL Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology. *"The growth we're seeing in TI is a result of the teachers' experiences with the program, and the donors who enable it,"* said Goodgame. The TI is funded entirely by donations to the ARRL Education & Technology Fund.

Winter Field Day is coming!

Check out the details at <https://winterfieldday.org/>

TN Hamfests/Conventions

Time to ramp up for 2025. Ham fests are being scheduled and reported to ARRL. See below for what is on the schedule so far:

2025 Dayton Hamvention® Announcement -2025 Dayton Hamvention® will be held at the Greene County Fairgrounds in Xenia, Ohio, on May 16, 17, and 18. The theme for 2025 will be “Radio Independence”. Dayton Hamvention is the largest hamfest in the country. Find tickets and more information at www.hamvention.org.

03/07/25 – 03/08/25 : MTARS Tullahoma Hamfest – Tullahoma, TN - <https://www.qsl.net/mtars/>

03/22/25 – West TN Hamfest & Swapmeet – Trenton, TN - hcarc.na8x@gmail.com

06/21/25 – Knoxville Hamfest & TN ARRL Convention – Knoxville, TN - <http://WWW.W4BBB.ORG>

End of Year Comments - Dudley Pitts, KM4IYQ E. TN ARRL ACC.

What a great year in Amateur Radio it has been. The Bands have been pretty good overall and we're now entering Solar Maximum. This should provide us 2-3 more years of extremely good propagation before things start cooling down.

New radios have been introduced and technology continues to improve our diverse modes of communication. I've often commented that I'm glad in a way that I waited until my retirement years to really get into the hobby because the radios are so much better. However, I have to admit that I still like the late night glow of vacuum tubes and that smell of warm circuits that just is hard to replace. Ever once in a while I just have to fire up an old Hallicrafters and relive the old days.

And how about those ham fests! Wow, it was really great to see them finally come back to a decent level since Covid 2020. It was great meeting so many of you in person, too. They still are not to the level as pre-covid but things are improving and continue to do so. I suspect 2025 will be even better than 2024 and with all the new radios on the market, one will find some really good deals at the swap tables next year.

ARRL had some big challenges this past year but we made it through and overcame some big obstacles, one being the cyber attack. We appreciate everyone's patience through all that mess. I see 2025 being a growth year for ARRL and clubs in general. Recent changes should provide even greater support to the amateur community in 2025. We still need your help by adding more members and grow ARRL memberships. So please continue to take advantage of the financial benefits to your club when ARRL memberships are added and renewed.

The 2024 disasters this year has demonstrated the importance of the Ham Community and ARES. Hams stepped up when governments were overwhelmed and made a difference and solved many communications problems. Thank you for showing the world what we are capable of. It's just sad we have to wait for a disaster to make our abilities known. Going forward I feel we should use 2025 to build on that and make our preparedness even stronger. If there is one constant I've learned over the many years of working disasters is that they just keep coming. Who knows what may be on the horizon in 2025. Are you ready?

Finally, I wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Take time to spread some love to those less fortunate. This season, help out a fellow ham with a project and mail out those QSL cards you been aiming to do and keep putting off. Relax and enjoy the season. I always look at the Winter season as a time to “recharge, restore, and plan for the coming year.

So, my Christmas wish for all of you this year is to have peace and joy in everything you do.

73,
Dudley KM4IYQ

Handy ARRL Links

- ARRL Home: www.arrl.org
- ARRL Property/Liability Club and Personal Insurance: <https://www.arrlinsurance.com/>
- Find help with RF assessments: <http://www.arrl.org/rf-exposure>
- Find an ARRL Affiliated Club: www.arrl.org/clubs
- Find your ARRL Section: www.arrl.org/sections
- Find a license class in your area: www.arrl.org/class
- Find a license exam in your area: www.arrl.org/exam
- Find a hamfest or convention: [Hamfests Calendar](#)
- ARRL Teachers Institute: [Teachers Institute](#)
- ARRL Learning Center: [Learning Center](#)

East Tennessee Affiliated Club Links

The following is a list of all the affiliated amateur radio clubs in the eastern half (my area) of TN.:

American Legion Amateur Radio Club – Sevierville, TN. <https://www.legion.org/hamradio3>

Andrew Johnson Amateur Radio Club – Greenville, TN. <https://ajarc.org/>

Amateur Radio Club of the University of TN – Knoxville, TN.

<https://www.utarc.org/p/home.html>

Big South Fork Amateur Radio Club – Huntsville, TN. <https://bsfarc.org/>

Bristol Amateur Radio Club – Bristol, TN. www.facebook.com/groups/w4udbarc/

Campbell County Amateur Radio Club – Jonesboro, TN. www.CCARClub.org

Carter County Amateur Radio Association – Elizabethton, TN. <http://www.wr4cc.org>

Chattanooga Amateur Radio Club – Hixson, TN. <https://www.w4am.net/>

Cleveland Amateur Radio Club – Cleveland, TN. <http://www.carc.cc/>

Cumberland Plateau Amateur Radio Club – Crossville, TN. <http://CPARC.net>

Dekalb-Cannon County Amateur Radio Club – Smithville, TN. <http://www.dccarc.org>

East Tennessee DX Association – Knoxville, TN. <http://www.etsdx.net>

Hawkins Hancock Amateur Radio Team, Inc. – Rogersville, TN.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/536078334756112/>

Johnson City Radio Association, Inc. - Jonesborough, TN. <https://jcara.org/wp/>

Johnson County Amateur Radio Club – Mountain City, TN. <https://www.w4mct.com/>

Kingsport Amateur Radio Club – Kingsport, TN. <http://w4trc.org>

Bays Mountain Radio Club – Kingsport, TN. <http://w4trc.org>

Lakeway Amateur Radio Club – Talbott, TN. <https://www.facebook.com/lakewayamateurradio/>

Macon Area Amateur Radio Society – Lafayette, TN. <http://MaconHamRadio.com>

Middle East Tennessee Emergency Radio SE – Knoxville, TN. <http://www.metersinc.org>

Oak Ridge Amateur Radio Club, Inc. - Oak Ridge, TN. <http://www.orarc.net>

Off-Grid AuxComm Radio Club – Knoxville, TN. <https://off-gridauxcommradioclub.com/>

Plateau Amateur Radio Club – Monroe, TN. <http://parcltn.com/>

Radio Amateur Radio Club of Knoxville – Knoxville, TN. <https://www.w4bbb.org/>

Rhea County Amateur Radio Club – Dayton, TN. <https://www.rheacountyarc.org/home>

Roane County Amateur Radio Club – Kingston, TN. <http://www.ke4rx.org>

Sevier County Amateur Radio Society – Sevierville, TN. <https://seviercountyars.com/>

Smoky Mountain Amateur Radio Club – Maryville, TN. <https://w4olb.org/about>

Tellico Lake Amateur Radio Club – Lenoir City, TN. <https://tlarc.org/>

Unicoi County Amateur Radio Association – Unicoi, TN. <http://www.ucara.org>

University of Tennessee Amateur Radio Club – Knoxville, TN. utarc@utk.edu

University Amateur Radio Club – Johnson City, TN. info@etsu.edu

Wilson Amateur Radio Club – Lebanon, TN. <https://wilsonarc.org/>