



# *ARRL Affiliated Club Coordinator June 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: [ARRL May News](#)

### **ARRL Latest QST Issue Link**

[June QST Issue](#) – Field Day addition!

### **ARRL Systems Service Disruption – 05/31/2024**

Our phone system has been returned to service. ARRL may be reached at 1-860-594-0200 or 1-888-277-5289 (toll-free in the US), Monday through Thursday from 8 AM to 7 PM Eastern Time, and until 5 PM on Fridays. Members can also email general inquiries to [hq@arrl.org](mailto:hq@arrl.org).

The ARRL International Digital Contest is this weekend, June 1 - 2, 2024, and the ARRL June VHF Contest is June 8 - 10, 2024. The ARRL Contest Portal will be available with limited functionality at [contests.arrl.org](http://contests.arrl.org). Log submission pages will continue to be available at [contest-log-submission.arrl.org](http://contest-log-submission.arrl.org), and logs received can be viewed at [contests.arrl.org/logsreceived.php](http://contests.arrl.org/logsreceived.php). The log submission links are also available on the contest landing pages at [www.arrl.org/arrl-digital-contest](http://www.arrl.org/arrl-digital-contest) and [www.arrl.org/june-vhf](http://www.arrl.org/june-vhf).

Members are reminded that the June 2024 issue of QST magazine, the special ARRL Field Day edition, can be viewed online. Members may also access digital editions of QST dating back to 2012. Access to archives for QST issues older than 2012, which are accessed through the ARRL website, is not presently available. For On the Air, QEX, and NCJ magazines, members may access the current issues and previous issues back to 2020. Visit [www.arrl.org/arrl-magazines](http://www.arrl.org/arrl-magazines) for links to all four magazines and to download the ARRL Magazines app.

Work is continuing to publish the July 2024 issue of QST magazine. We anticipate an on-time delivery of the digital edition, and delayed delivery for those who subscribe to the printed magazine.

We have heard from members asking if they can renew their membership at this time. Members can renew online at [www.arrl.org/join](http://www.arrl.org/join) or by phoning ARRL. As reported earlier this week, ARRL Store orders ([www.arrl.org/shop](http://www.arrl.org/shop)) have resumed shipping.

### ***International Amateur Radio Union 2024 Election Results***

The International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) has re-elected Timothy Ellam, VE6SH/G4HUA, as President and elected Thomas Wrede, DF2OO, as Vice President. Both will serve 5-year terms that began May 9, 2024.

Ellam begins his fourth term as President. Wrede has been active in IARU matters for several years and has managed the Deutscher Amateur Radio Club (DARC) international affairs team since 2009.

The International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) is the worldwide federation of national amateur radio organizations. The membership of the IARU consists of more than 160 member-societies in as many countries and separate territories. ARRL is the IARU International Secretariat.

## ***2024 ARRL Field Day is June 22-23***

It's June and you know what that means..... FIELD DAY SEASON !

Field Day is ham radio's open house. Every June, more than 40,000 hams throughout North America set up temporary transmitting stations in public places to demonstrate ham radio's science, skill and service to our communities and our nation. It combines public service, emergency preparedness, community outreach, and technical skills all in a single event. Field Day has been an annual event since 1933, and remains the most popular event in ham radio.

For a printable flyer to share with the public on "What is Field Day". Click on the following link: [\*\*\*What is Field Day\*\*\*](#)

To get the most out of this year's Field Day, visit the ARRL website at: [\*\*https://www.arrl.org/field-day\*\*](https://www.arrl.org/field-day)

One last thought. Please appoint a **Safety Officer** and **Public Information Officer**. Safety should be top priority at every amateur radio public event. The Safety Officer is your “eyes and ears” to keep track of the little things that could result in really bad things happening. The Public Information Officer is your best source for visiting with the public and insuring a warm and inviting atmosphere for everyone to enjoy. These two positions are key to a fun, safe, and successful Field Day or any other amateur radio public event.

I wish everyone a fun and safe Field Day this year! 73.

## **47% of Amateurs Are Technician Class Only in TN.** **Why?**

First, let me provide you with some interesting statistics from the FCC:

749,568 – Amateurs in USA  
371,744 – Amateur Technicians (49.5%)  
19,857 – Amateurs in Tennessee  
9,332 – Amateur Technicians in Tennessee. (47%)

It is great to see that in TN the percentage is lower than the national average but the number is still very high. Now, there can be many reasons as to why these Technicians never advanced beyond their initial ticket, but I have a few thoughts that may shed some light on the issue.

**Operating Privileges:** Technician-class licenses grant full operating privileges on all amateur bands above 30 MHz and limited privileges in portions of the high frequency (HF) bands. However, some band segments often used for long-distance contacts are not included. Those who obtain Technician-class licenses might find the operating privileges offered by this class less interesting than what General class or Amateur Extra class licenses provide.

**Non-Radio-Related Activities:** Some individuals prioritize other activities over advancing their amateur radio licenses. Whether it's work, family commitments, hobbies, or personal interests, they may choose not to invest the time and effort required for license upgrades.

**Contentment with Current Privileges:** Some Technicians may be content with their current privileges and find that they can achieve their desired communication goals without upgrading. If they primarily operate on VHF/UHF frequencies or participate in local events, they may not see a strong incentive to advance to higher classes.

Ultimately, the decision to upgrade depends on individual interests, goals, and priorities however, some of the reason could be lack of mentoring. Mentoring has long been the backbone of Amateur Radio. While technology constantly evolves, the human interaction

between hams will not be replaced and will always remain one of the hobby's strongest traditions. As licensed hams we are all ambassadors of Amateur Radio and we should always be looking at ways in which we can welcome newly licensed hams and project a positive image that will attract others to ham radio.

So, the question is how can we as experienced amateurs, VE testing volunteers, and Elmers do to improve things for the Technicians? We all can recall the excitement of getting our first ticket but have you ever asked yourself what made you advance in the hobby?

For me it is a simply answer. I had an "Elmer", a mentor that showed interest in helping me understand what I was doing and helping me gain experience and confidence enough to move forward. My elmer challenged me by inviting me to portable ops events at the local ARES group and putting me in front of the radio and handed me the mike. (YIKES!!!). I was constantly asked to join in all the local activities involving set exercises and Field Days. I was invited to fox hunts, antenna parties, cookouts, and various training classes. My elmer was constantly in contact with me and I really appreciated it. My elmer genuinely had an interest in my future as a HF "Ham". For this I am eternally grateful. Because of the time and interest of a total stranger (now a lifelong friend), I quickly moved on to General-class and expanded my amateur experience.

You see, it's possible a good segment of that 47% in TN could be General-class or Extra if someone had just taken the time and interest to help them. I wonder how many of that 47% lost interest in the hobby simply because no amateurs showed any interest in them? So, the next time your club or ARES group is having an event, find some Technicians and invite them to participate. Who knows you might light a fire that had gone cold.

One last thought. I think it would be great if at each VE testing event a club representative would assign an elmer to each person that passes their exam. Secondly, give them an application to the ARRL and explain the benefits their membership can provide. These two things could make such a difference in someone's amateur radio future.

Please make a difference and volunteer. Remember, mentoring is the backbone of Amateur Radio!

73,

**Dudley Pitts - KM4IYQ**  
**E. TN. ACC**



With all the storm activity we've recently experienced, the active weather pattern going on, and our predicted active hurricane season, I felt this would be a good time to highlight the SKYWARN program and how to get involved if you aren't already.

Skywarn® is the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) National Weather Service's (NWS) severe weather spotting program with nearly 290,000 trained volunteers nationwide. Since the late 1960s, trained Skywarn® spotters have helped support the NWS' primary mission of protecting life and property through the issuance of severe weather warnings. These dedicated citizens help keep their local community safe by conveying severe weather reports to their local NWS Forecast Office. Skywarn® spotters are integral to the success of our Nation's severe weather warning system. Every year the NWS conducts Skywarn® spotter training sessions. The NWS currently has 122 Weather Forecast Office's across the nation, each with a Warning Coordination Meteorologist, who is responsible for administering the Skywarn® program in their local area. There is no charge and a typical class takes about 2 hours to conduct.

The National Weather Service works with ARRL Section (ARES) Amateur Radio Emergency Service volunteers at the local level to establish Skywarn® radio networks, and/or other specialized weather emergency alert and relief systems. These local Skywarn® radio organizations act as communicators and spotters when severe weather and other disasters strike. The working partnership between NWS and ARRL is formally documented through a Memorandum of Understanding . NWS Warning Coordination Meteorologists are responsible for maintaining this working partnership with the local ARRL Skywarn® volunteers.

In addition, Skywarn® Recognition Day was developed in 1999 by the NWS and ARRL. It celebrates the contributions that volunteer Skywarn® radio operators make to our nation's severe weather warning system. During the day Skywarn® operators visit NWS offices and contact other radio operators across the world.

For more information on how you can get involved and participate in this growing program, click on the following link and find a class in your service area:

<https://www.weather.gov/skywarn/>

If you are already part of the Skywarn® program, here is a reminder of what can be reported to the National Weather Service offices. Remember to use the “TEL” method, Time, Event, and Location: *(from the Storm Spotter Guide)*:

**Tornado** - All tornadoes, include their duration and direction of movement.

**Funnel Cloud** - All funnel clouds, watch for rotation. Include their duration and direction of movement.

**Wall Cloud** - All wall clouds, include their duration and direction of movement.

**Hail** - 1/2 inch in diameter and larger. Hail needs to be one inch (quarter-sized in diameter) to be considered severe. Always report the largest hailstone you have observed and describe in terms of common objects such as pennies, quarters, golf balls, softballs, etc. The size of the hailstone will always be described in terms of the diameter. Also report hail that is accumulating and covering the ground.

**Near Continuous Cloud to Ground Lightning** – Severe in nature.

**Winds**—All winds greater than 45 MPH

**Heavy Rain**—Falling at a rate of 1” per hour or greater (1/2” in 30 minutes) , or more than 1” per day in winter. Rapidly falling heavy rain may be a precursor to flash flooding.

**Freezing Rain/Drizzle**—Any measurable freezing rain. This is one of the most dangerous winter weather hazards!

**Heavy snow**—1” per hour or greater, or storm total 4” or more, or snow causing road closures. Any snowfall in Western Nevada Valleys.

**Flooding** - Any water flowing where it normally does not or rivers flowing above their banks.

**Flash Flooding**—Report rapid rises in creeks and streams. Flash flooding occurs very quickly, and generally is of short duration ( < 3 hours)

**Low Visibility**—Visibility less than 1/2 mile for any reason (fog, haze, blowing dust, blowing snow, etc.)

**Any and All Weather Related Damage, Death, or Injury**—If weather causes any damage, death, or injury.

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## **2024 ARRL Youth Rally A Success at Dayton Hamvention !**



The second day of the 2024 ARRL National Convention, hosted at Dayton Hamvention® was a success and attendee turnout is impressive. The chilly, cloudy morning soon gave way to mostly blue skies and scorching sunshine.

The heavy attendance was especially apparent in the expo buildings, as hoards of hams flocked to the manufacturer booths – not only to escape the heat outside, but to browse the huge variety of equipment. The aisles are flanked by exhibitors like FlexRadio, ABR Industries, Begali Keys, Icom, GigaParts, DX Engineering, Ham Radio Outlet, and many more big names in amateur radio manufacturing.

At the ARRL exhibit booths, Eric Stoddart, K8ERS, stands aside the ARRL Momobeam Dual Band Antenna he had just purchased. *“Looks like it’s going to be a good antenna! Hopefully it will perform as well as it looks, and that in the next few weeks it’ll be on the air,”* he said before disappearing back into the sea of other hams, most of whom were also carrying new purchases.

The antenna is perfect for hams with limited space who would like to take advantage of the global operating opportunities propagation is affording near the peak of Solar Cycle 25. It features an integrated 10-meter Moxon and a 6-meter yagi.

Back in Forum Room 2, Carole Perry, WB2MGP, kicks off the highly anticipated ARRL Youth Rally headed by ARRL Education and Learning Manager Steve Goodgame, K5ATA, by thanking all those who helped make the rally possible. She told the audience – made up of young hams, their parents, sponsor representatives, and plentiful volunteers -- *“They say it takes a village to raise a child. Well, look around this room. It takes a team to support this youth forum.”*

The first youth presenter out of many was sixth-grader Cameron Frey, KD9VGV. In only 2 years since being introduced to amateur radio, he has become a General-class, fully fledged Parks on the Air® fanatic, and that's just part of his ham radio repertoire. *"I've done more than 100 central activations, and more than 40 different parks. I've also hunted more than 700 different parks,"* Frey said with pride.

The Youth Rally continued for most of the day with a slew of activities planned for the young hams. To break the ice, the young people were encouraged to catch a satellite pass outside of the forum room that just happened to be overhead at the start of the rally's next phase.

The Youth Rally was capped off with a forum about the ARRL Collegiate Amateur Radio Program [www.arrl.org/wewantu](http://www.arrl.org/wewantu) featuring speakers from many of the participating colleges and universities.

Another jam-packed Hamvention Saturday is in the books, and the final day of the event will surely be one to remember.

## **ARRL Learning Center Features Two New Emergency Communication Training Courses**



ARRL has released two new courses to train emergency communications (EmComm) operators for volunteering within the Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES®). Both courses are within the ARRL Learning Center.

The Basic EmComm course is designed to get a new volunteer started. It provides basic knowledge and tools for any emergency communications volunteer and contains three modules and 11 topics, including required prerequisites. It's expected to take approximately 10 - 20 hours to complete.

The Intermediate EmComm course builds on the lessons learned in the first course and equips volunteer radio amateurs with the tools needed to thrive in the fast-paced environment of public service communications and to understand the legal rights and responsibilities of



## **Handy ARRL Links**

- ARRL Home: [www.arrl.org](http://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](http://www.arrl.org/clubs)
- Find your ARRL Section: [www.arrl.org/sections](http://www.arrl.org/sections)
- Find a license class in your area: [www.arrl.org/class](http://www.arrl.org/class)
- Find a license exam in your area: [www.arrl.org/exam](http://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/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/w4udbarc/)

Campbell County Amateur Radio Club – Jonesboro, TN. [www.CCARClub.org](http://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.ETDXA.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 Amateur Radio Club – Johnson City, TN. [utarc@utk.edu](mailto:utarc@utk.edu)