ARRL Affiliated Club Coordinator June 2025 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: May/June 2025 News

ARRL Digital Magazine Issues in April
QST Link: June 2025 Issue
On The Air Link: June 2025 Issue
QEX Link: May/June 2025 Issue
National Contest Journal Link: May/June 2025 Issue

Museum Ships On-the-Air Weekend Coming in June
If you like ships and are an amateur radio operator, 100 ships will be **on the air from June 7th - 8th** for the annual Museum Ships Weekend event. For more information on all the ships and call signs, go to: Battleship New Jersy website.

Locally in TN, the Big South Fork Amateur Radio Club will be sponsoring an 'On the Air Special Event Station' for the Museum Ship Weekend. The special event station will be operating under the call sign of W4BSF at the U.S.S.BB43 Battleship World War II Memorial Museum located on the Scott High School campus in Huntsville, TN from approximately 9:00am to 5:00pm Eastern time.

The Big South Fork Amateur Radio Club in cooperation with the Museum of Scott County will operate live from the museum. The club's members will be operating various amateur or ham radios and making contacts around the world as one of approximately 100 special event stations.

To receive a commemorative QSL card please include your Name, Call Sign, Date of Contact, the Band/Mode used for the contact and a self-addressed stamped envelope (No QSL required card) to Big South Fork Amateur Radio Club, Attn USS TN QSL, 2486 Leatherwood Road, Oneida TN 37841. Cards are expected to be sent out in late September 2025.

Next Generation DXing Track Videos Available

ARRL has published an 8-video series about the Next Generation of DXing. The all-day seminar was captured at the 76th International DX Convention, held April 11—13, 2025, in Visalia, California. It featured expert panelists with deep knowledge of the current state of the art in the DXpedition world.

The group of panelists covered everything from financing and planning of a DXpedition to getting permits, arranging logistics, planning out equipment, managing both remote and local operators, dealing with problems, and much more. The latest technology being used in DXpeditions was explained in detail, including the Radio in a Box (RIB), Starlink, software-defined radios, and the latest digital modes such as FT-8 SuperFox.

The content is available on the ARRL YouTube channel as a playlist.

Highlights from 2025 Dayton Hamvention

ARRL interacted with thousands of members at 2025 Dayton Hamvention®, held May 16-18 in Xenia, Ohio. There were many ARRL programs and services available to visitors to the ARRL Expo area. The ARRL Youth Lounge was busy throughout the event, and *"the kids were loving it,"* according to Education and Learning Manager Steve Goodgame, K5ATA, who pointed out that the young visitors were building code keys from 3D-printed kits and testing them out by sending messages. Saturday's ARRL Youth Rally saw several dozen young people get engaged with a day of ham radio fun. The Youth Rally actually extended into Sunday, with the kids contacting skydiver Carlos Ortiz, K9OL, as he parachuted to the ground with a handheld radio. A little later, they launched an APRS-equipped balloon, W1AW-11, on a hopefully round-the-world trip. It flew into Africa on Thursday afternoon after crossing the Atlantic Ocean. Back at Hamvention, the ARRL Collegiate Amateur Radio Program booth was a flurry of activity with young adult hams for the whole weekend.

ARRL Reports: Amateur Radio Has a Bright Future!

Hamvention 2025 was a great demonstration of a bright future for amateur radio. Matter of fact attendance was up by over a 1,000 from 2024! If one had taken the time to really look around at Hamvention one would easily have seen how many people are working hard to advance this hobby for the next generation. All one had to do to see this demonstrated for themselves was to stop by the ARRL Collegiate Amateur Radio Program booth where a large number of college students were congregating and engaged in deep discussions. How

refreshing to see such a large group of college students engaged and discussing things with older hams, building relationships. These types of relationships between the youth and seasoned amateurs, one should feel secure that amateur radio has a very bright future! After all, they are our future.

ARRL Seeks Entry-Level HF Privileges

As a result of the Delete, Delete, Delete FCC Press Release, the ARRL has filed comments, advocating for a modernization of the Part 97 Amateur Radio Service regulations. Their proposals include both previously submitted items and new requests that the ARRL said is centered on updating the rules to reflect technological advancements while preserving the foundations of traditional amateur radio practices.

“The soldering iron and discrete physical components used in past experiments often are replaced by a personal computer and coding knowledge to experiment with new techniques and functions,” ARRL stated.

For example, digital technologies like FT8, RTTY and PSK31 have become integral to the Amateur Radio Service, entry-level Technician class license privileges have not been updated. Granting Technicians access to HF frequencies where digital modes are prevalent, would be beneficial for introducing Technician class hams to the fundamentals of low-power communication and emergency communication skills. “The youth attracted to amateur radio today will become the wireless engineers and space scientists of tomorrow that are critical to our nation’s future if given a chance.”

In the ARRL February 2018 petition, requests were made to include phone privileges in the 3.900 to 4.000 MHz, 7.225 to 7.300 MHz and 21.350 to 21.450 MHz bands, as well as RTTY and digital privileges within current Technician allocations on the 80, 40 and 15-meter bands.

Also, ARRL has ephsized the increasing use of digital modes leading to an imbalance within the 80- and 75-meter amateur bands. To better accommodate the demand for digital modes, the 2016 petition requested adjustments to the subband boundaries. It was proposed shifting the lower edge of the phone band upward to 3.650 MHz, allowing RTTY data in the 3.500-3.650 MHz range. This change better lines up with the ACDS subband with international activity at 3.600-3.615 MHz. This would and grant Novice and Technician licensees CW, RTTY and data privileges in the 3.600-3.650 MHz portion of the band, with General and Advanced licensees also gaining access.

ARRL Renews Defense of the 902-928 MHz Amateur Radio Band

ARRL, in a recent filing encouraged the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to listen to industry stakeholders about the detrimental impacts that changes to the 902-928 MHz band would have for current users.

The FCC is considering a petition by NextNav, Inc., a licensee in the 900-MHz Location and Monitoring Service (LMS), to reconfigure the 902-928 MHz band to obtain more spectrum for itself and replace the LMS with high-power 5G cellular and related positioning, navigation, and timing (PNT) services that would supplement GPS. ARRL filed comments opposing NextNav's proposal in September 2024.

Read more: NextNav's proposal on ARRL News (8/15/2024)
Read more: ARRL Defends 902-928 Amateur Radio Band (9/12/2024)

ARRL's latest filing was submitted on May 13, 2025, by the association's Washington Counsel in response to an inquiry initiated by the Commission to consider more broadly ways to improve and harden GPS. ARRL's response echoes concerns of many others and underscores the need to improve and harden the current GPS system in a manner that doesn't impact radio amateurs and other users of the 902-928 MHz band. The band supports an extraordinary number of unlicensed consumer devices used by consumers both inside and outside the United States with which radio amateurs co-exist.

ARRL strongly agrees with the many parties that point out in the record of this proceeding that, in working with its sister federal agencies on this issue, one of the Commission's primary goals should be to ensure that existing services already operating in the spectrum, such as in the crowded 902-928 MHz band, should not be disrupted by complementary PNT if equal or better means are available. Many billions of unlicensed devices are in use to provide hundreds of applications and functionalities to the American public, and the number of devices and the functionalities that they provide continue to grow.

These devices coexist with amateur radio operations in the 902-928 MHz band but they as well as amateur radio operations would be displaced if a 5G-like PNT service was authorized to use this spectrum.

In the instant proceeding the FCC addresses GPS concerns holistically that also are being addressed by multiple other federal government agencies under the direction of the President. ARRL emphasized the FCC's expertise and role in making the best use of the spectrum resource.

"We commend the Commission for initiating this proceeding to take a holistic approach to the problem and possible solutions thereto, rather than a piece-meal approach that might have led to systems that would unnecessarily use valuable spectrum with inferior results and take years longer to construct from scratch. The Commission is the civilian spectrum expert among the collection of agencies that are addressing this issue. We rely on the Commission to make

clear the value of each megahertz of spectrum and the trade-offs in designating any particular band for the purpose of complementary PNT."

ARRL's filing is intended to emphasize the public interest in protecting amateur and others' access to the 902-928 MHz band and to highlight that other, less disruptive options are available for PNT.

ARRL will continue to defend amateur access to this and other threatened amateur allocations.

Amateur Spectrum Addressed in US House Reconciliation Bill

ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio® reports that early this morning, May 22, 2025, the US House of Representatives passed a massive Reconciliation bill with the below spectrum provisions relevant to Amateur Radio.

- **Within two years not less than 600 megahertz must be identified from between 1.3 and 10 GHz for reallocation to commercial use for broadband services.**

- **The identified spectrum must be auctioned by the FCC for such services on an exclusive, licensed basis as follows: not less than 200 megahertz within three years (mid-2028) and the remaining spectrum (at least 400 megahertz) within six years (mid-2031).**

- **Excluded from spectrum that could be reallocated for these purposes is 3.1 – 3.45 GHz (which includes the temporary secondary Amateur band at 3.300 – 3.450 GHz) and 5.925 – 7.125 GHz.**

With regard to Amateur spectrum, the bands that potentially could be subject to consideration for reallocation under this legislation are 13 cm (2300 – 2310 & 2390 – 2450 MHz) and 5 cm (5650 – 5925 MHz). At this time a number of bands have been mentioned informally for consideration, none of which include Amateur spectrum. But the bands under consideration could change and ARRL will closely monitor the evolving situation.

Additionally, some government operations may be required to consolidate in current Amateur secondary spectrum that is already shared with those government uses. In select instances this might constrain Amateur operations if such consolidation occurs.

It is to be emphasized that these provisions have been passed by the House, but key US Senators have not agreed to some aspects and have stated their intention to modify these provisions as the bill moves through Senate consideration. The stated goal for final enactment is by July 4, 2025.

“Radio Connects” - 2025 ARRL Field Day

ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio® has released the logo and theme for this year’s **ARRL Field Day, June 28 – 29, 2025.**

Improve Your Club’s Message Fair Using the Radiogram Gateway!
Your club is planning to staff a table at a local community fair or event. Offer to send radiograms. Recruit volunteers to explain what a radiogram is and, later, send the messages. Who in your radio club is active on the traffic nets? How many members know the radiogram format or know how to send a radiogram message on the air? Fear not! Your club can put its best foot forward and hold an amateur radio message fair with minimal traffic-handling skills using an exciting new tool: the Radiogram Portal!

“It’s not a problem if your club lacks an active traffic handler to check into the traffic nets,” says Phil Temples, K9HI, who chairs the ARRL EC-FSC NTS subcommittee. *“You merely set up a laptop at your message fair using a Wi-Fi connection and allow members of the public to enter their own messages. Later, a skilled traffic handler in your area will pull the message off the portal and send it in a timely fashion.”*

For more information on the Radiogram Portal, visit : https://nts2.arrl.org/radiogram/

And Don’t Forget the Swag!
2025 ARRL Field Day Radio Connects merchandise is available for preorder from the ARRL Store. For more information about 2025 ARRL Field Day and the “Radio Connects” theme — or to start planning your activation. Go to : https://www.arrl.org/field-day

Radio Club Stagnation & Declination

Radio clubs are fun, enjoyable, and rewarding associations with fellow hams. They provide a wonderful setting to discuss issues, explore projects, ask questions, get advice, learn, and work on community projects together. One of the best services clubs provide is support for new radio enthusiasts pursuing a license and looking for mentors and training. VE testing and mentoring is the best service a club can provide the ham community. This one-on-one time together is priceless. It motivates and keeps people radio active.

However, even the best clubs can get a little tired, boring, and in some extreme cases even become inactive for various reasons. Key individuals become SK (silent keys) and this can damper enthusiasm. Those individuals' roles can be hard to replace, too. I've visited and come to know many clubs and it's really sad when I find a club that is suffering from some of these issues. In extreme cases, clubs even degrade to nothing more than a place to complain and commiserate and that's just not healthy for anyone and it can turns people off.

Let's take a look at some of the symptoms to watch out for that are indicators that your club might be heading in the wrong direction:

1.) Declining club meeting attendance.
2.) Reduced inflow of new radio enthusiasts and young people into the membership.
3.) Lack of quality programming and presentations during club meetings.
4.) Meetings becoming more about business than radio activities.
5.) Leadership not following rules & regulations, bylaws, and ignoring good meeting protocol and discipline.
6.) Lack of involvement of club members in Field Day exercises.
7.) “Seasoned Hams” becoming “gatekeepers of the club”, negative minded, potty-mouths, unhelpful, petty, and just unpleasant to be around. (extreme cases).
8.) Lack of club community involvement activities and outings for members to participate in, outside of the monthly meetings.

These are some of the worse symptoms that can do the most harm and run off members and visitors (prospective members). However, it's comforting to know that clubs having these symptoms are rare, but they do exist. Every club should take a moment throughout the year and examine the status of the club to see of any of these symptoms are showing up. As Barney Fife exclaimed, *“You have to nip it.... Nip it in the bud!”* I agree. If you discover some of these symptoms, take action immediately and make a positive change to remedy the issue. Then, later on assess the change to see if it corrected the issue.

Radio clubs should always be fun, entertaining, educational, and provide support to the radio community in a setting for fellowship and camaraderie. If your club concentrates on those key goals and govern negativity within, your club will remain healthy and thriving for years to come!

73,
Dudley Pitts KM4IYQ
ARRL E. TN. ACC.

ARRL Foundation Accepting June Grant Applications!

The ARRL Foundation is accepting grant applications from amateur radio organizations for eligible amateur radio-related projects and initiatives, particularly those focused on educating, licensing, and supporting amateur radio activities. To grow amateur radio's future, youth-based projects and initiatives are especially encouraged.

The ARRL Foundation grants program accepts proposals on a cyclical model three times a year: in February, June, and October. Proposals for the June grant period are accepted through June 30. Awardees will be notified approximately 1 month after the closing of each cycle.

The ARRL Foundation carefully manages a portfolio of endowments where donors have provided specific goals for their gifts, and that portfolio is invested and managed in a way that it can continue to support those goals for many years to come. Additional information and a link to the grant application can be found at http://www.arrl.org/amateur-radio-grants

TN Hamfests/Conventions – Let's Go!

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

07/19/25 – Greater Nashville & Middle Tennessee HamQuest – Lebanon, TN - http://midtnhamquest.com

07/19/25 – MCARC Hamfest – Athens, TN - https://mcminnarc.com/

08/23/25 – Cedars of Lebanon Hamfest – Lebanon, TN - http://smrclub.com

To search for all other ham fests go to: https://www.arrl.org/hamfests/search

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 – Elizabethan, TN. http://www.wr4cc.org

Chattanooga Amateur Radio Club – Hixon, 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 Mountian 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/