



# *ARRL Affiliated Club Coordinator October 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: [October 2025 News](#)

### ***ARRL Digital Magazine Issues This Month***

QST Link: [October 2025 Issue](#)

On The Air Link: [October 2025 Issue](#)

QEX Link: [September / October 2025 Issue](#)

National Contest Journal Link: [October 2025 Issue](#)

### ***Government Shutdown and VE Testing Status***

ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (ARRL VEC) Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM, said the FCC will not be processing any amateur radio license applications during the shutdown, which includes individual, club, and exam session (new and upgrade) applications.

*“But ARRL Volunteer Examiners should continue giving exam sessions,”* said Somma. *“Keep doing what you’re doing. Keep serving new and upgrade candidates for amateur radio licenses.”* Somma also urged that Volunteer Examiners continue to promptly forward session results from their exams to the ARRL VEC.

*“Please do not hold your session results. Send your sessions to us, and ARRL VEC will continue to queue all applications as they are received. Once the federal government reopens, ARRL VEC will promptly resume submitting applications to the FCC for processing. So, keep sending sessions to the ARRL VEC.”*

The FCC’s shutdown notice indicated that CORES registration system would remain available for certain activities, but **New Registrations are currently not being accepted. This means that new applicants cannot register for an FRN.** This has created a temporary barrier for individuals who wish to take an amateur radio exam but do not yet have an FRN. Existing users can still log in and access their accounts and applicants who already have an FRN can test without issue.

For more information on this issue and procedures to follow go to <https://www.arrl.org/news/amateur-radio-licensing-update-during-us-government-shutdown>

### ***ARRL Foundation Still Accepting Grant Applications in October***

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 October grant period are accepted through October 31.** 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 <https://www.arrl.org/amateur-radio-grants>.

## ***CALLING ALL HAMS! There's Still Time To Act!***

As promised, it has begun! Our legislative efforts to get some relief for our fellow amateurs living in restrictive areas is now underway. Many of you have already received a message from our Section Manager detailing our efforts.

### ***YOU CAN HELP US CHANGE THE LEGAL RIGHTS OF ALL HAMS!***

The ARRL is focused on reducing legal restraints on the ability of American Amateur Radio Operators to engage in the active practice and enjoyment of Amateur Radio. One of the most insidious and increasing threats to the survival of Amateur Radio and our ability to serve our communities and Nation, as we are required to do by Federal regulation. It is the proliferation of private land use restrictions that prohibit the installation of outdoor antennas and that

sometimes actually deny Federally licensed Amateurs from operating any amateur radios, regardless of where their antennas are located in their attics, hidden in trees, or mounted on their vehicles.

Federal law since 1996 has guaranteed to every American — **except Amateur Radio Operators** — the right to erect antennas outside or on their residences for the purpose of TV reception, satellite TV and internet access, wireless internet access and even wireless internet redistribution. But Amateur Radio operators are denied the equal right to erect comparable antennas.

Since 2005 Federal law has also guaranteed to every American the right to proudly display the American Flag by installing flagpoles in their yards. But, despite that right to install vertical poles in their yards — American Radio Amateurs are denied the right to use those vertical flagpoles as vertical antennas.

We believe the denial to licensed Amateur Radio Operators of the rights guaranteed to all non-Amateur Radio licensed American homeowners the right to install antennas on the land they own is without justification and should not be permitted to continue.

To eliminate these private land use restrictions, the ARRL has worked over the past several years with our elected officials to draft Congressional legislation — H.R. 1094 in the U.S. House of Representatives and S. 459 in the U.S. Senate — that when passed will extend to all Hams the right to operate from their homes and the right to install antennas on the land they own. **We have bipartisan support for this legislation at this time.**

***BUT, WE NEED YOUR HELP TO PASS THIS LEGISLATION!!!***

How can you help? By sending a letter to your Representative and Senators asking that they co-sponsor and support H.R. 1094 and S. 459. But don't worry we have made it so easy for any Ham to do! It literally takes only 15 seconds!

How can you send these letters? It is easy. Go to — <https://send-a-letter.org/hoa/>— enter your call sign and click on “Send My Letters” and your letters will be created and delivered automatically to our Washington legislative team for hand delivery to your Representative and Senators. **It's that easy!**

***Does your individual letter matter? YES!***

Our lobbyists and legislation team needs a list of constituents to present to your Representative and Senators to let them know that the passage of this legislation is important to you and hundreds of thousands of Amateur Radio operators across America. Your letter could be the difference in whether we are able to pass H.R.1094 and S. 459.

Go to — <https://send-a-letter.org/hoa/> — and help us by sending your letters to your Representative and Senators right now! Also we are asking all the clubs in the Delta Division to send a letter on behalf of their club. I will email you further details under a separate titled email Bulletin next week to all clubs. It is very important that all Presidents of our clubs act quickly and get the letters out!



## **ARRL Year of the Club Website Contest — Call for Submissions!**

A club website can keep members informed of news and upcoming events, keep them interested between meetings and activities, teach them about ham radio skills and technology, or even make them laugh, remember, or set an operating goal — the sky's the limit! As part of ARRL's Year of the Club celebration in 2026, ARRL wants to see your club's website.

Enter the Club Website Contest for the chance to have your website honored in QST. [Here are the rules and requirements:](#)

The Club Website Contest is open to ARRL Affiliated Clubs that maintain a club website. Submissions must include a completed Club Website Contest Submission Form, which asks for information about your club and its website, as well as a 500-word statement on the purpose or goals of your website, and how the features and configuration of the website fulfill the purpose/goals. Part of the judging process will include a comparison of your statement with the website itself. Winners will be notified in May 2026, with awards presented at Huntsville Hamfest in August 2026.

Winners will be announced in a 2026 issue of QST, as part of ARRL's Year of the Club celebration. The QST article may present material from the 500-word statements supplied in the winners' Club Website Contest Submission Form. Please note that winners may be asked to supply high-resolution files of specific website pages.

Submission Deadline: Friday, January 30, 2026, 4 p.m. Eastern time.

**NOTE:** Once you send your Submission Form, you may update content (text, images, data) on your website as needed, per your club's normal operation, but you may not make significant changes to the site's structure or functionality until April 1, 2026.

## **FCC Announces Intent to Delete Minor Part 97 Provisions**

As part of a much larger overhaul focused on deleting almost 400 obsolete wireless regulations, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has announced plans to delete or modify four minor provisions of Part 97.

ARRL's Washington Counsel has reviewed the proposal and agrees that the deletions are to obsolete rules and will have no impact on today's modern Amateur Radio Service. One of the deletions was suggested by ARRL as part of an earlier FCC request for public input on rules ripe for deletion.

The proposed regulatory changes are to:

- 1.) Delete § 97.27. This provision relates to the FCC's right to modify station licenses. The Commission rationale for deletion is that it duplicates Section 316 of the Communications Act. Its deletion will result in no substantive change to the right of the FCC to modify a station license.
- 2.) Delete § 97.29. This provision specified the procedure to replace paper licenses. The FCC stopped producing paper licenses at the end of 2020, having implemented a system that allows any licensee to download license originals using the password-protected area of the FCC's ULS computer database system that is web-accessible. The ARRL proposed deleting this section in comments filed earlier this year.
- 3.) Delete § 97.315 (b)(2). This provision grandfathered HF amplifiers purchased before April 28, 1978 by an amateur radio operator for use at that operator's station and also grandfathered those manufactured before April 28, 1978 for which a marketing waiver was issued. The applicability of this rule has long passed.
- 4.) Delete § 97.521(b) and Appendix 2. This rule and appendix relate to VEC regions, which were based on the traditional amateur call sign areas. The FCC no longer limits VECs to regions and there is no reason for doing so given the nature of remote exams.

"Direct Final Rule" proceedings such as this are limited to rules that are no longer applicable because they have sunset by operation of law; govern an expired event; regulate an obsolete technology; regulate virtually a null set of FCC licensees; regulate an outdated market structure; or otherwise are no longer used in practice or otherwise in the public interest. The deletions will become effective 60 days after publication in the Federal Register unless the Commission finds that adverse comments filed within 20 days of publication raise significant issues that merit additional consideration.

ARRL will continue to engage with the FCC in the regulatory and rulemaking process as part of our mission to promote and protect the art, science, and enjoyment of amateur radio, and to develop the next generation of radio amateurs.

## *Ed Hare, W1RFI, Long time ARRL Lab Engineer, Passes Away*



Edward F. “Ed” Hare, Jr., W1RFI, who spent decades as an employee of ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio®, has become a Silent Key. He died on October 10, 2025, at the age of 75 after an illness.

Hare first earned his Amateur Radio Service license as a teenager as WN1CYF (later WA1CYF and KA1CV) and was active in ham radio throughout his life. He was an avid QRP (low power) operator, earning his Worked All States certificate with 250 milliwatts on CW. In his professional life, he was an accomplished product test engineer and a leading expert on radio frequency interference (RFI). After an industry career in product testing, he came to work for ARRL in 1986.

During his tenure, Hare led the technical aspects of many important advocacy efforts taken on by the ARRL Lab, including the successful fight against Broadband over Power Line (BPL). Hare's extensive technical studies and solid factual data effectively supported ARRL's Court of Appeals submissions against the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), thus contributing substantially to ARRL's victory in causing the FCC's flawed BPL rules to be remanded to the FCC.

Hare developed a waiver process in cooperation with the United States military to allow amateur radio access to the 70-centimeter band near several high-power radar sites. He also

started the ARRL RFI Program, which helps members resolve interference to their station. He was also instrumental in ARRL's 2023 defense against the high-speed stock traders' petition that would risk significant interference to amateur HF bands.

Hare was a prolific author about RFI, from articles for QST and The ARRL Handbook to articles about the practical aspects of Electromagnetic Compatibility (EMC) that appeared in professional trade journals. He was also one of the editors and authors of The ARRL RFI Book, and the author of ARRL's book on RF exposure, RF Exposure and You.

Hare held a seat for amateur radio on many industry committees, including several of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) and on the American National Standards Committee C63, which develops standards for testing and measuring EMC. Many radio clubs may recall Hare's popular "Stump the Speaker" feature that he held after giving presentations. Hare would allow the audience to try to stump him with radio questions and trivia. It was rarely successful.

He retired from ARRL as Laboratory Manager in 2023 but continued to serve in the Lab as a volunteer until the time of his passing. He frequently mentored members of the ARRL staff on improving their operating skills and encouraged them to grow as radio amateurs. He was especially fond of creating new CW operators.

Hare was a member of the ARRL Diamond Club and the A1 Operators Club. The ARRL Board of Directors bestowed the ARRL Technical Merit Award on Hare in 2008 for his work on BPL, an honor that, before Hare, was last awarded in 1976 and has not been given since.

Services for Ed Hare will be held:

**Sunday, November 9, 2025 at 2:00 PM Unity of Greater Hartford,  
919 Ellington Rd, South Windsor, CT 06074**

The family has asked that *"Anyone attending needs to bring a drum or instrument so we can wish Ed a great sendoff."*

## ***Planning a Hamfest or Convention?***

If your club is wanting to host a convention, hamfest, tailgate, or swapfest, please consider applying for it to be an ARRL-sanctioned event. To learn what it means to be an ARRL sanctioned event, and to get some ideas on how to plan for and conduct a hamfest or convention, visit <https://www.arrl.org/arrl-sanctioned-events> for a planner and all the rules.

To have your event sanctioned, complete the online application at [www.arrl.org/hamfest-convention-application](http://www.arrl.org/hamfest-convention-application). The ARRL Hamfests and Conventions Calendar can be found online at <https://www.arrl.org/hamfests-and-conventions-calendar>. In addition, the Convention and Hamfest Calendar that runs in QST each month also presents information about upcoming events.

## **Healthy Radio Clubs Are Just The Best**

Let's face it, clubs are vitally important to the future of Amateur Radio. It is the clubs that provide the motivation and support for fundamental activities as recruiting new hams, sponsoring radio classes, volunteer testing, and mentoring new licensees. Clubs are the best organizers and financiers of our all important repeater systems, hamfests and emergency communication programs. However, clubs must constantly recruit new members to insure their survival. Members leave for various reasons and unfortunately some become Silent Keys, and without a plan to replace them, clubs will stagnate and eventually disappear. And Fall season is a great time to take stock of things and plan for next year. Elections usually begin this time of year and it a good time to stop and evaluate where you want to be in the coming year.

One area that can really help a club grow is promotion. Keeping the club name before the public and other hams should be a continuing effort. Use news releases regularly to announce club meetings, Field Day, ARES emergency drills, new officers and social events. Invite newly licensed hams to your club meetings (there are online resources for that). Have a membership drive to encourage your current members to recruit new members and offer a prize. Create a newsletter and mail it to area hams with a special invitation to a future meeting. Encourage your members to bring guests. Opportunities to promote membership are limited only by a club's imagination and resources.

The most important position every club should have in their organization is a PIO (Public Information Officer). An active PIO can ensure public recognition of all mentioned above and understanding of the Amateur Radio Service. If your club doesn't have one yet, I encourage you to create that position. You will never regret it! The one common element to every successful club has been an active PIO officer. The facts just speak for themselves.

You know, life can be difficult and busy. We all have stresses at work and home due to our daily responsibilities. Club meetings should be a place to unwind and have some fun and enjoy a distraction from our everyday pressures. One thing that can hamper club membership is way too much business discussion at meetings. Stop and ask yourself, If you had a hard day and a choice to go spend a couple of hours at another business meeting or attend a program on building antennas, which one would you attend? What if your a new ham and are looking forward to a night of learning more and meeting other hams and enjoying the fellowship? I think the answer is pretty obvious! There is nothing worse for a visitor than a "boring" club meeting listening to drab business discussions. Would you go back again?

Now, I know clubs must conduct some business, but keep it to a minimum. This is where "committees" can really help this problem. Form committees that will conduct and take care of the various business needs of the club behind the scenes. Let the committees do the "heavy lifting". Then when it becomes meeting time, the chairperson of each committee can report status and conduct votes where needed, limiting valuable meeting time. By allowing committees to do the work, meetings will no longer be all business. A fun fact: it has been noted that successful clubs usually limit their business portion of the meetings to 15 minutes and places the "Presentation" portion of the meeting as priority. In fact the presentations

should always be at the beginning of the club meeting. If your club is experiencing reduced attendance at meetings and lack of volunteers and enthusiasm, it most likely time to make a change.

Here's a few ideas for club programs:

- Bring in a guest speaker. Topics can include ARES, Skywarn, antennas, radio history, solar energy, tools, tips and tricks, radio sports like SOTA and POTA, etc.
- Show a video on a topic of interest. ARRL Learning Center is full of topics plus so is YouTube.
- Have an auction. Club members can bring items, with a portion of proceeds going to the club.
- Go on a field trip. Visit local radio or TV stations, electronics firms or Emergency Mgmt centers.
- Radio trivia games. Ask questions relating to radio, with prizes for most correct answers.
- Show and Tell. Members bring items and demonstrate them.
- Have a Home Brew night. Members bring a radio construction project and describe it.
- Have a QSL night. Cards are shown and stories told relating to unusual or unique contacts.
- Technology updates. Details of new modes (digital, APRS) and circuits etc.
- Equipment reviews. Owners of new ham equipment describe and evaluate it.

The possibilities are endless. Just remember that club meetings are suppose to be **fun!** If your club meetings are not fun, then it may be time to change things. Just because “*you've always done things a certain way*” does NOT mean you're doing things right and in the best interest of your fellow club members. Change is good when a club is struggling and always promotes new energy and enthusiasm among the membership. Don't fear it. Embrace the change and go forward!

Always remember, there are two things that are absolutely contagious in a meeting setting; laughter and enthusiasm. And what sparks these things? **Fun.** Amateur Radio is the best hobby in the world. So, go out and have some fun!

## ***TN Hamfests/Conventions***

The Ham fest season has pretty much wound down. It was a really good season and next year is already shaping up to be a good year.

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

## **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. <http://tnpost104.org/al4us/>

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.etchedxa.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](mailto:utarc@utk.edu)

University Amateur Radio Club – Johnson City, TN. [info@etsu.edu](mailto:info@etsu.edu)

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