



ARRL East TN. Affiliated Club June 2026 Newsletter



“Please distribute this newsletter to all your fellow club members. And remember, 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 for all.”

Announce Affiliated Club Special Events In This ACC Newsletter

If you would like to have your affiliated club's upcoming special events advertised in this newsletter, simply email the information to your ACC, Dudley Pitts at [“km4iyq@arrl.net”](mailto:km4iyq@arrl.net). Since the newsletter is written prior to the month's issue, please send your planned event info a month in advance so it can be included and distributed on time.

ARRL TN Section/Division/National/International News

ARRL Audio News

Listen to the latest audio news from ARRL at: [June 2026 News](#)

ARRL Digital Magazine Issues This Month

QST Link: [June 2026 Issue](#)

On The Air Link: [May / June 2026 Issue](#)

QEX Link: [May / June 2026 Issue](#)

National Contest Journal Link: [June / July 2026 Issue](#)

ARRL TN Section Newsletter

[Latest Issue of the ARRL TN Section Newsletter](#)

Tiles On The Air?

Tiles on the Air is another radio sport and kind of interesting. It's tied to Grid Squares. A Tile is a **Maidenhead subsquare**, roughly 5 × 7 km at mid-latitudes (about the size of a neighborhood). Every inch of the planet is inside some tile: a backyard, a park, a trail head, a beach, all tiles. Activate from anywhere as long as it's safe for you and others and you are allowed to operate there. There are about 32,000 in the US. For more information and details on how to participate, go to <https://tilesontheair.com/>

Senator Ted Cruz Praises Amateur Radio Volunteers for Emergency Preparedness

Senator Ted Cruz, in a strong pre-Memorial Day message, publicly highlighted the critical role that Amateur Radio Service volunteers play during disasters, praising and thanking ham radio operators who provide essential communications when storms and emergencies knock out power and cellular networks and communities are cut off. Sen. Cruz observed that in these emergencies it is ham radio operators who step forward, bringing with them the tools, expertise, and the commitment to reconnect people when it matters most. He noted this dedication was clearly demonstrated in 2017 when Hurricane Harvey's catastrophic flooding devastated communities across Texas and that it was demonstrated again more recently in the horrific Camp Mystic floods. He emphasized that as the Nation prepares for yet another summer storm season, ham radio's role remains just as vital as ever.

Watch video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4ZNeMXyCQ7Y>

Hamvention 2026 at Xenia Was A Big Success!

The report from the world's largest hamfest is summarized at <https://www.arrl.org/news/report-from-the-world-s-largest-hamfest>. The numbers are not in yet but the attendance was reported to be very high. For more photos and highlights, also go to the ARRL YouTube channel at [Hamvention Highlights](#). Or the Facebook page at [ARRL Facebook Page](#).

Interview with the ARRL CEO: Remote Operating

ARRL CEO David Minster, NA2AA, and Dick Strassburger, N9EEE, were guests on episode 94 of The DX Mentor (May 15, 2026) for a discussion about remote operating.

Strassburger led the discussion, which included Minster describing the contest station he frequently operates on the Caribbean island of Bonaire. For more go to: [DX Mentor Interview](#).



2026 ARRL America250 Worked All States

Calling all Hams! A Year-Long Worked-All-States Operating Event Celebrating the 250th Anniversary (Sesquicentennial) of the signing of the Declaration of Independence is going on right now. TN is looking for activators for this fun event. In similar fashion to the 2014 ARRL Centennial Celebration, and the 2018 International Grid Chase, and 2023 Volunteer's On The Air events, this event will be exclusively driven only by QSOs uploaded to Logbook of The World (LoTW).

Highlights of the Worked All States event:

Summary:

The America250-WAS begins as a Basic Worked All States Award by contacting all 50 States in 2026.

Endorsements:

- Contacting W1AW/Portable stations in all 50 States.
- Contacting ARRL Affiliated Club Call Signs in all 50 States.
- Contacting all 50 States on CW and Phone and Digital for a 'TRIPLE PLAY'.

Tennessee Section has a W1AW Coordinator for scheduling W1AW activators across the state, **Catherine Goodrich** w4cmg.dx@gmail.com. Clubs can sign up for multiple shifts on assigned dates. The specific times, bands and modes within the requested shifts will be assigned as we get closer to the event, and will be communicated around mid May. If your club would like to activate as a W1AW station, please contact **Dudley Pitts** at km4iyq@arrl.net or **Dale Darling** at w9wba640@gmail.com for scheduling a time slot. We hope your club will join in the fun this year!

“Come on everyone, there are still slots available!”



2026 ARRL Field Day is June 27 - 28

It's not too early to gear up and get ready for ARRL Field Day! Field Day 2026 takes place June 27 – 28 and will bring together more than 30,000 amateur radio operators for one of the most popular on-the-air events in the US and Canada.

This year's Field Day theme is "Amateur Radio: A National Resource." Combined with the ARRL Year of the Club, it provides the perfect opportunity for radio clubs to set up stations in public places to demonstrate ham radio's science, skill, and service to our communities and our nation.

All of the information you need to get started can be found on the Field Day web page, including how to join the ARRL Field Day Facebook Group, where you can share your plans, tips, and tricks for a successful Field Day.

The overall objective for Field Day is to contact as many stations as possible on the 160-, 80-, 40-, 20-, 15- and 10-meter HF bands, as well as all bands above 50 MHz, and to learn to operate in less than optimal conditions. Many clubs choose to set up in camp-style fashion with portable equipment, temporary antennas, and off-grid power sources.

Field Day is open to all amateurs in the areas covered by the ARRL/RAC Field Organizations and countries within IARU Region 2 (North and South America). DX stations residing in other regions may be contacted for credit, but are not eligible to submit entries. Each claimed contact must include contemporaneous direct initiation by the operator on both sides of the contact. Initiation of a contact may be either locally or by remote.

Also check out the Field Day site locator page to help find participating stations near you. As an added incentive for anyone participating in ARRL's yearlong America250 Worked All States (WAS) Award, contacts made with ARRL Affiliated Radio Clubs all year, including during Field Day, will count toward your America250 WAS Affiliated Club Endorsement. Check out those details at www.arrl.org/america250-was.

For more information about ARRL Field Day, visit <https://www.arrl.org/field-day>. And don't forget to order your shirts and other swag items from the ARRL Shop before time runs out.



Registration Is Open for the 2026 ARRL National Convention in Huntsville, Alabama!

ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio® and the Huntsville Hamfest will host the 2026 ARRL National Convention and Huntsville Hamfest, August 21 - 23, in Huntsville, Alabama.

The convention will kick off on Friday, August 21, with a series of day-long ARRL Training Tracks and a National Convention Luncheon at the Embassy Suites by Hilton Huntsville. Then join ARRL on Friday night for a very special National Convention Dinner under a full-size Saturn V rocket at the nearby U.S. Space & Rocket Center. Access to the museum is included along with dinner and special speakers. Proceeds benefit the ARRL Education & Technology Program, and additional sponsorships are available.

Registration is now open for Friday's National Convention program. Registrants can select a Training Track (includes the luncheon) for \$90. The National Convention Dinner at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center is \$100, and includes dinner, museum, and a \$25 tax-deductible donation to the Education & Technology Program. The National Convention Training Tracks are workshops providing an in-depth learning experience in one of the three Track topics. Attendees will select a Training Track when completing their online National Convention registration.

Training Track #1: Mini Contest University. This marks the first time Mini Contest University (CTU) is coming to Huntsville. Registrants will learn from some veteran amateur radio contesters. This Mini CTU will appeal to new and veteran contesters alike who are looking to hone their skills. Presenters cover general contest operations, contesting skills, and many resources and tools to get more out of contesting. The Mini CTU Track Leader is Tim Duffy, K3LR. Presenters TBD. This training is sponsored by DX Engineering.

Training Track #2: Emergency Communications Academy. Emergency Communications presenters will cover topics including Future Proofing ARES® — the ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Service®, PACE planning, relationship building, digital communications, emerging technologies, and other topics designed to enhance your emergency communications knowledge and preparedness. Participants will learn the skills and roles needed to become more effective volunteers.

Training Track #3: Salty Walt's Portable Antenna Workshop. This workshop, led by Walt Hudson, K4OGO, with additional presenters, will feature practical information for portable antenna-building, deployment, and operating.

The rest of the celebration continues at the Huntsville Hamfest on Saturday and Sunday, August 22 – 23, at the Von Braun Center (South Hall), which is connected by sky bridge to the Embassy Suites. Known as “The World’s Friendliest Hamfest,” this air-conditioned all-indoor event attracts a large list of commercial exhibitors, notable forum presenters, flea market, youth activities, and W1AW America250 Special Event Station. Tickets for the Huntsville Hamfest are sold separately and are available now.

For further details, visit the 2026 ARRL National Convention web page at [ARRL Expo Webpage](#) and the Huntsville Hamfest website at <https://hamfest.org/>

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 <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.

Special Events Stations Resource

If you like to chase Special Event Stations there is an easy resource available for you and easy to use. Go to the ARRL Special Events page and search for planned upcoming special events. Go to: <https://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations> and set your search criteria and dates and a list of all the special events for that period will be generated.

TN Hamfests/Conventions

The 2026 Ham Fest Calendar is populating fast and schedules being set. It's time to make your travel plans. Here are the events planned for 2026 so far including the ARRL National Convention:

06/13/2026 - Knoxville Hamfest, ARRL Convention – Knoxville, TN.

<https://www.arrl.org/hamfests/knoxville-hamfest-arrrl-tennessee-state-convention-2>

07/11/2026 – Greater Nashville & Middle Tennessee HamQuest – Lebanon, TN.

<http://midtnhamquest.com/>

07/18/2026 – McMin County ARC Ham Fest – Athens, TN.

<https://mcminnarc.github.io/mcarc-website/>

08/21/2026 – ARRL National Convention – Huntsville, AL. & Huntsville Hamfest.

<https://www.arrl.org/arrrl-expo> <https://hamfest.org/>

09/19/2026 - W4DXCC by SEDCO – Pigeon Forge, TN.

<https://www.arrl.org/hamfests/w4dxcc-by-sedco-2>

10/17/2026 – Short Mountain Repeater Club Hamfest – Wartrace, TN.

<https://www.smrclub.com/>

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

Radio Sports and Contests

ARRL contests for each month is featured here, along with resources for world-wide contesting information. A generic ARRL contest calendar is also provided that gives the dates for all our events, to assist with long-term planning of your contest operations. ARRL contests this month: <https://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar>

6-7th International Digital Contest - <https://www.arrl.org/arrrl-digital-contest>

13-15th June VHF Contest - <https://www.arrl.org/june-vhf>

20th Kids Day - <https://www.arrl.org/kids-day>

27-28th Field Day - <https://www.arrl.org/field-day>

For a printable PDF copy of the ARRL Contest Calendar for the year go to:

<https://www.arrl.org/files/file/Contest%20Calendar/ARRL%20Contests%20Calendar%202025-2026.pdf>

For a PDF of all contests going on in June go to: <https://www.arrl.org/files/file/Contest%20Corral/2026/June%202026%20Corral.pdf>

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. <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/

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.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://seviercountyards.info>

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/>