



# The *GLD* *Newsletter*

## *January 2024*

### What's inside...

- [From the Vice Director](#)
- [What's Hot – DX](#)
- [Club Commission Program](#)
- [2024 Division Hamfests](#)
- [Printing Your License](#)
- [Saving Your QST's To PDF](#)

### Scott's Stuff



Hi Gang,

Wow, I can't believe that it's 2024 already! Last year was an amazing year and what's coming up for this year is really gonna' knock your socks off for sure!

I do hope that you like the new format. I made a promise to all of you that I would change the look and feel of the newsletter, and I aim to keep my promises.

I've also made some changes to the Great Lakes Division website as well. If you haven't explored the website yet, I do encourage you to do just that. In fact, one of those other promises I made to you appears on the website now. It's a short questionnaire. Yes, I do want to hear from you and what's on your mind.

>>[Click Here](#)<< to go directly to the questionnaire.



Scott, N8SY

As I'm sure you can imagine, Roy and I are busy getting things ready for the upcoming Board of Directors meeting. Roy is going out to Connecticut a day early, as he has a full schedule with his Vice Director orientation and getting to know his way around at Headquarters. I've got several committee meetings scheduled to attend and the board meeting itself is shaping up to be a long one for sure.

Welp, that's going to do it from me. I hope that you had a wonderful holiday and that the New Year will bring you prosperity, but most of all, peace.

73,

Scott Yonally, N8SY  
Director  
Great Lakes Division  
[n8sy@arrl.org](mailto:n8sy@arrl.org)

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## *From Roy, W8REH*

The new Great Lakes Division Vice Director – Who Is He?



*Roy, W8REH*

Scott asked me to introduce myself since you might not know me or understand how my election was not the contest you probably expected. It began as a discussion with Scott at a hamfest last August where I expressed my frustration with some friends complaining about the state of our hobby, but without offering solutions or answers to the issues they saw. With no apparent candidates available, and not wanting to appear hypocritical, I received support from many friends to quickly file the necessary papers to become sole candidate for Vice Director and contribute anything I can for the next 1096 days.

I have met no one who works as hard as Scott in support of our hobby and have observed the tremendous influence he has had as Vice Director. There are those who claim that the Vice Director position isn't important because only Directors have a Vote on the Board.

Scott has demonstrated the influence the Vice Director can have, and I believe with positive support from you, our clubs and the general Amateur Radio population we can have significant influence and success.

I have been in club leadership roles over the years and clearly understand how vitally important our clubs are. After retiring from Wendy's in 2016 I have placed more focus on our hobby. We need to first clearly identify, understand and accept the things we believe need to change but can't. I believe from the comments I hear these issues are well identified. We must now focus on the things we can truly change.

I believe deeply that the ARRL is the only viable tool we have to navigate the constant political, social, technological, and environmental changes we are constantly being dealt. Our hobby has been a major influence all of my life, being originally licensed as a novice in 1966, upgrading to General the next year and Extra in 2013. I don't have all the answers but do have a big picture vision not easily shared, focused on preserving our hobby. Following my Ohio State University graduation in 1973, I worked in an engineering role for nearly four decades under the direction of Wendy's, Dave Thomas learning much from him and many business and hobby mentors.

It may be easier to describe myself by pointing out first what I am not. I am not a DXer, contester or many of the other things good hams are extremely passionate about. I grew up as a tinkerer amazed by the magic of radio. Amateur Radio has clearly defined my life and circle of long-lasting friendships. From my weekly HF schedule with a high school ham buddy over 500 miles away, to a group of pilots and ham enthusiasts that for 30 years embarked on an annual fishing trip to North Country, ham friends tend to be forever. I often find Einstein's thought-provoking insights just what I need, "We cannot solve our problems with the same thinking we used when we created them".

I often hear a comparison of our hobby to many other organizations having similar struggles. We have a huge advantage in that our hobby has a massive variety of aspects driven by some of the most intelligent and passionate people in the world. That advantage can also be a struggle where it is human nature to feel that one's individual passion is the most important.

We must not let that intensity drowned out others, especially those with new passions foreign to many of us left to steward the hobby. My vision: "To harness the passion of Amateur Radio for all generations".

73,

Roy Hook, W8REH  
Vice Director  
Great Lakes Division  
[w8reh@arrl.org](mailto:w8reh@arrl.org)

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## *2024 Division Hamfests*

January starts the hamfest schedule all over again. Here in the Great Lakes Division, we have over 50 hamfests a year, including the largest one in the country, Hamvention. This year Hamvention will also be the ARRL's National Convention as well, which means that there will be some very special things happening there. So, if you haven't started planning your hamfest schedule yet, you really need to start now.



<p><b>01/14/2024 - <a href="#">Sunday Creek Amateur Radio Federation Hamfest</a></b>  <b>Location:</b> Shade, OH  <b>Type:</b> ARRL Hamfest  <b>Sponsor:</b> club members  <a href="#">Learn More</a></p>	<p><b>02/10/2024 - <a href="#">Cherryland ARC 50th Anniversary Swap-N-Shop</a></b>  <b>Location:</b> Traverse City, MI  <b>Type:</b> ARRL Hamfest  <b>Sponsor:</b> Cherryland Amateur Radio Club  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://cherrylandarc.com/?page_id=56">http://cherrylandarc.com/?page_id=56</a>  <a href="#">Learn More</a></p>
<p><b>02/17/2024 - <a href="#">Livonia Amateur Radio Club Annual Swap &amp; Shop</a></b>  <b>Location:</b> Livonia , MI  <b>Type:</b> ARRL Hamfest  <b>Sponsor:</b> Livonia Amateur Radio Club  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://livoniaarc.com/larc-annual-swap-and-shop">http://livoniaarc.com/larc-annual-swap-and-shop</a>  <a href="#">Learn More</a></p>	<p><b>03/02/2024 - <a href="#">Cave City Hamfest</a></b>  <b>Location:</b> Cave City , KY  <b>Type:</b> ARRL Hamfest  <b>Sponsor:</b> Mammoth Cave ARC  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.ky4x.org">http://www.ky4x.org</a>  <a href="#">Learn More</a></p>
<p><b>03/10/2024 - <a href="#">WINTERHAMFEST</a></b>  <b>Location:</b> Elyria, OH  <b>Type:</b> ARRL Hamfest  <b>Sponsor:</b> Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://winterhamfest@noars.net">http://winterhamfest@noars.net</a>  <a href="#">Learn More</a></p>	<p><b>03/17/2024 - <a href="#">Toledo Mobile Radio Association Hamfest and Computer Fair</a></b>  <b>Location:</b> Perrysburg, OH  <b>Type:</b> ARRL Hamfest  <b>Sponsor:</b> Toledo Mobile Radio Association  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.w8hhf.org">http://www.w8hhf.org</a>  <a href="#">Learn More</a></p>
<p><b>04/13/2024 - <a href="#">Mid-Ohio Valley Amateur Radio Club</a></b>  <b>Location:</b> Bidwell, OH  <b>Type:</b> ARRL Hamfest  <b>Sponsor:</b> Mid-Ohio Valley Amateur Radio Club  <a href="#">Learn More</a></p>	<p><b>04/13/2024 - <a href="#">Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club 68th Hamfest</a></b>  <b>Location:</b> Cuyahoga Falls, OH  <b>Type:</b> ARRL Hamfest  <b>Sponsor:</b> Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club, Inc.  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.w8vpv.org/hamfest">http://www.w8vpv.org/hamfest</a>  <a href="#">Learn More</a></p>
<p><b>04/28/2024 - <a href="#">Athens Hamfest</a></b>  <b>Location:</b> Athens, OH  <b>Type:</b> ARRL Hamfest  <b>Sponsor:</b> Athens County Amateur Radio Association  <b>Website:</b> <a href="https://www.ac-ara.org/">https://www.ac-ara.org/</a>  <a href="#">Learn More</a></p>	<p><b>05/05/2024 - <a href="#">Lucas County ARES Trunk Sale &amp; Swap Meet</a></b>  <b>Location:</b> Toledo, OH  <b>Type:</b> ARRL Hamfest  <b>Sponsor:</b> Lucas County ARES  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://lucasares.org">http://lucasares.org</a>  <a href="#">Learn More</a></p>
<p><b>05/16/2024 - 05/19/2024</b>  <b><a href="#">Four Days In May</a></b>  <b>Location:</b> Fairborn, OH  <b>Type:</b> ARRL Convention  <b>Sponsor:</b> QRP Amateur Radio Club International  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://qrparci.org/fdim">http://qrparci.org/fdim</a>  <a href="#">Learn More</a></p>	<p><b>05/17/2024 - 05/19/2024</b>  <b><a href="#">Dayton Hamvention</a></b>  <b>Location:</b> Green County Fairgrounds  <b>Type:</b> ARRL National Convention  <b>Sponsor:</b> Dayton Amateur Radio Association  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://hamvention.org">http://hamvention.org</a>  <a href="#">Learn More</a></p>

<p><b>07/21/2024 - <a href="#">Van Wert Hamfest</a></b>  <b>Location:</b> Van Wert, OH  <b>Type:</b> ARRL Hamfest  <b>Sponsor:</b> Van Wert Amateur Radio Club  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://w8fy.org">http://w8fy.org</a>  <a href="#">Learn More</a></p>	<p><b>08/10/2024 - <a href="#">Cincinnati Hamfest</a></b>  <b>Location:</b> Owensville, OH  <b>Type:</b> ARRL Hamfest  <b>Sponsor:</b> Milford ARC  <b>Website:</b> <a href="https://CincinnatiHamfest.org">https://CincinnatiHamfest.org</a>  <a href="#">Learn More</a></p>
<p><b>08/18/2024 - <a href="#">Warren Hamfest</a></b>  <b>Location:</b> Cortland, OH  <b>Type:</b> ARRL Hamfest  <b>Sponsor:</b> Warren Amateur Radio Association  <b>Website:</b> <a href="https://www.w8vtd.com/">https://www.w8vtd.com/</a>  <a href="#">Learn More</a></p>	<p><b>09/07/2024 - <a href="#">Greater Louisville Hamfest 2024</a></b>  <b>Location:</b> Shepherdsville, KY  <b>Type:</b> ARRL Hamfest  <b>Sponsor:</b> Greater Louisville Hamfest Association  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://LouisvilleHamfest.com">http://LouisvilleHamfest.com</a>  <a href="#">Learn More</a></p>
<p><b>10/27/2024 - <a href="#">2024 MARC Hamfest at MAPS</a></b>  <b>Location:</b> N. Canton, OH  <b>Type:</b> ARRL Hamfest  <b>Sponsor:</b> Massillon Amateur Radio Club  <b>Website:</b> <a href="https://www.w8np.net">https://www.w8np.net</a>  <a href="#">Learn More</a></p>	

## National News



### ARRL's Year of the Volunteers Success

2023 has been a remarkable year for amateur radio. There were many noteworthy opportunities for hams to use their license privileges for the greater good. An annular solar eclipse saw [radio amateurs engaging in projects of scientific research](#) about our ionosphere, devastating firestorms gutted entire cities and [saw Amateur Radio Emergency Service member-volunteers rise to activate](#), [hurricanes threatened life and property](#), bicycle races [spread across the desert](#) necessitating robust communications provided by hams, and high school students [led and executed contacts with the International Space Station](#). Many amateur radio operators stood to serve in ways that made headlines, and all of them were volunteers.

Still, tens of thousands of others did work that never made the pages of [QST](#), didn't become the lead story on the local news, and didn't become fodder for online forums. Perhaps it was the ARRL VE who administered tests, welcoming the next generation of hams into the hobby, or the National Traffic System net manager who handled traffic from hams checking in. It could've even been the mentor who took the time to show a learner how to solder. These are the unsung heroes of the Amateur Radio Service -- these are the volunteers.

ARRL has nearly 60,000 volunteers within its membership, without whom it could not function. They are the lifeblood of this hobby. ARRL designated 2023 as the [Year of the Volunteers](#) to recognize their efforts, encourage new prospective volunteers to follow their lead, and call existing volunteers to reach one rung higher on the ladder of service.

The [Volunteers On the Air \(VOTA\)](#) operating event has been popular among hams, with some operators making nearly 30,000 QSOs throughout the yearlong activation.

A young man from north Texas emerged as a leader. Sam Lovett, KI5RSV, is just a teenager but has been awarded the 2023 Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Award for his success with developing interest in amateur radio among his peers. He leads a youth net and has been instrumental in building a strong ham culture in his Trail Life USA troop. A video interview with Sam will be featured in the February 2023 digital edition of QST.



Sam Lovett, KI5RSV



(l to r) Dale, WA8EFK Great Lakes Division Director, Lyn Alfman, N8IMW – Philip McGan Recipient

Lyn Alfman, N8IMW, of Norwich, Ohio, was honored for her volunteer work in the public information space. She received the 2023 ARRL Philip J. McGan Memorial Silver Antenna Award. The proclamation issued by the ARRL Board of Directors says that Lyn "exemplifies the skills and depth of understanding [needed] to convey to media outlets the fascinating world of amateur radio."

ARRL's George Hart Distinguished Service Award honors the work member-volunteers put in to use their license privileges to serve others. Jo Ann Keith, KA5AZK, of Diana, Texas, is the 2023 recipient.

Jo Ann is net manager of the 7290 Traffic Net, a public service traffic net that has been in operation since 1953. She has a long history of volunteer work, dating back to her youth when she served as a candy striper. Like tens of thousands of others, Jo Ann uses amateur radio in the spirit of service.

These are just a few stories that can be told from the Year of the Volunteers. There are so many other stories out there, and we encourage you to tell your own.

While the Volunteers on the Air event closes on December 31, 2023 at 2359 UTC, the spirit of this year will continue as long as there are hams standing to serve others through amateur radio.

From all of us at ARRL, thank you!



(l to r) John Stratton, N5AUS - West Gulf Division Director, Jo Ann Keith, KA5AZK - George Hart Recipient, Steven Lott Smith, KG5VK - West Texas Section Manager



## What's Hot in DX

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by The Daily DX, 425 DX News, DXNL, Contest Corral from QST and the ARRL Contest Calendar and WA7BNM web sites. Thanks to all.

RODRIGUES ISLAND, 3B9. Luca, IV3JVJ and Ivan, IK3ZQA are QRV as 3B9AT until January 6, 2024. Activity is on 80 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, and FT8. QSL via IV3JVJ.

VIET NAM, 3W. A group of operators are QRV as 3W9IL, 3W9LSV, 3W9TXR, and 3W9YAQ from Hanoi until December 30. Activity is on 80 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY, and FT8. QSL via operators' instructions.

MOROCCO, CN. Yannick, CN2YD is QRV as CN2YD/p from Molitor Island, IOTA AF-065, until March 15, 2024. QSL via F6FYD.

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, DA. Special event call signs DB100FK, DC100FK, DD100FK, DF100FK, DL100FK, DM100FK, DQ100FK, DR100FK, DM100MW, and DR100PE will be active from January 1, 2024 to May 31, 2024 to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the formation of the Deutsche Funk-Kartell, a federation of clubs of radio enthusiasts during the early days of amateur radio in Germany. QSL via LoTW.

FRENCH GUIANA, FY. Pierre-Jean, F4GPK is QRV as TO2FY from Kourou until January 16, 2024. Activity is on the HF bands using only SSB. QSL direct to home call.

WALLIS AND FUTUNA ISLANDS, FW. Jean-Gabriel, F4CIX is QRV as FW1JG from Wallis Island, IOTA OC-054, until January 2024. Activity is on 40 to 6 meters using SSB and FT8. QSL via LoTW.

HAITI, HH. Members of the Radio Club d'Haiti will be QRV as HH220Y from January 1 to 31, 2024 to celebrate the 200th anniversary since the declaration of the former colony's independence. QSL via N200.

THAILAND, HS. Brad, VK2BY is QRV as HS0ZNR until January 14, 2024. QSL direct to home call.

OGASAWARA, JD1. Harry, JG7PSJ is QRV as JD1BMH from Chichijima, IOTA AS-031, until January 1, 2024. Activity is on 40 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, and RTTY. QSL direct to home call.

SVALBARD, JW. Jack, M0PLX will be QRV as JW/M0PLX from Spitsbergen Island, IOTA EU-026, from January 1 to 5, 2024. QSL via SP7DPJ.

AUSTRIA, OE. Special event station OE100RADIO is QRV during all of 2024 to celebrate the centennial of radio broadcasting in Austria. QSL via operators' instructions.

BELGIUM, ON. Members of the Radio Club de Luettich will be QRV with special event station OR100LGE during 2024 to celebrate the club's 100th anniversary. Activity will be on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, FT8, and FT4. QSL via ON6YH.

EAST KIRIBATI, T32. Members of the Rebel DX Group are QRV as T32TT from Christmas Island, IOTA OC-024, until January 12, 2024. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, FT8, and FT4. QSL via OQRS.

GABON, TR. Roland, F8EN is QRV as TR8CR until February 28, 2024. Activity is on 30 to 10 meters using CW. QSL via F6AJA.

NAMIBIA, V5. Eric, F5LCX is QRV as V5/F5LCX until January 11, 2024 from several locations here. QSL to home call.

INDIA, VU. Operators VU3GWN, VU3CIQ, VU3TBU and VU3UZD will be QRV with special event call sign AT3POG from Karnataka from January 1, 2024 to March 31, 2024. QSL via VU3GWN.

VIET NAM, XV. Operators JA6FWJ and JN3JBC are QRV as XV9HS and XV9KL, respectively, from Hanoi until December 30. Activity is on 80 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY, and FT8. QSL via operators' instructions.



ST. HELENA, ZD7. Chris, HB9FIY and his wife Agata are QRV as ZD7CA and ZD7AA, respectively, until January 14, 2024. Activity is on 40 to 10 meters using SSB and various digital modes. QSL via EA5GL.

THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO. Stew Perry Topband CW Challenge, NCCC FT4 Sprint, NCCC Sprint, K1USN Slow Speed CW Test, RAC Winter Contest, YOTA Contest, Original QRP Contest and the Bogor Old and New SSB Contest are all scheduled for this last weekend of the year.

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## *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.

### **FAQ New ARRL Affiliated Club Commission Program**

**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 regular memberships.

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

**A.** Each new ARRL member earns the club a \$15.00 commission. 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 \$5.00 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 the membership application for Affiliated Clubs](#).
2. Payment in **FULL** can be made to ARRL by check, credit card, or cash.
2. The club then sends all applications with **FULL** payment along with the Club Commission Reconciliation Form to ARRL for processing.
3. 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.

**Q.** Can the club keep the commission from the applications before sending them to ARRL?

**A.** No, the applications must have full payment, and the commission is then paid to the club.

**Q.** Can the member combine the Club Commission with a premium or incentive offered separately by ARRL or at a Hamfest?

**A.** No, the member will not be eligible to receive a gift or incentive if the club collects a commission on the membership.

**Q.** Which memberships are eligible for a commission?

**A.** Only regular memberships. Multiyear memberships earn only one commission. Life, Family, International, Blind, and Student memberships are not eligible for a commission.

**Q.** How quickly should the club expect to get a commission check?

**A.** A club should receive a payment within two to three weeks of ARRL receiving the forms.

**Q.** If we have a question on how to process the forms, who do we contact?

**A.** Questions can be directed to [clubs@arrl.org](mailto:clubs@arrl.org) or contact Member Services at ARRL.

This is a really great opportunity for your club to receive “FREE” money with very little effort, and it helps the ARRL as well.

Follow this link for the [Club Commission Reconciliation Form](#).

Follow this link for the [membership application for Affiliated Clubs](#)

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## Printing An Official Copy Of Your License

For many years I have been asked just how you can print off an official copy of your Amateur Radio License. I want to thank Anthony Luscre, K8ZT for putting together this little instruction guideline. If you follow it exactly, you will be able to print off a really good and “official” copy of your license.

Print an Official or Unofficial Copy of Your Amateur Radio License Information provided by Anthony Luscre, K8ZT As of February 17, 2015, the FCC no longer routinely issues paper license documents to Amateur Radio applicants and licensees.

The Commission has maintained for some time now that the official Amateur Radio license authorization is the electronic record that exists in its Universal Licensing System (ULS).



The FCC will continue to provide paper license documents to all licensees who notify the Commission that they prefer to receive one. Licensees also will be able to print out an official authorization — as well as an unofficial “reference copy” — from the ULS License Manager.

Anthony has created a set of instructions on how you can request an “official” printed copy of your license. >> [Click here to download the instructions](#) <<

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## Saving Your QST's

A number of you have asked the question on social media... “ Can I download the digital QST magazine and read it offline and keep it? “

The answer is YES!!! You can download the desired issue to your device and keep it forever. Since it is downloaded onto your device, you can transfer it over to any device that can read a PDF file. No more storing paper magazines that get torn, wet or chewed up by a little critter that you didn't invite into your shack.

Want a high-resolution copy of your QST or any of the other magazines that are included with your membership?

Many PCs include a printing option to print-to-PDF (look for a free software utility if your computer does not already include a PDF printer application). Try “printing” an entire issue to PDF. I do this with every edition. Doing this will generate an excellent resolution PDF file that will be very close, if not equal to that of the paper copy, and each PDF can be stored and accessed offline for personal use anytime you want.

I will add that the file can be rather large when doing it this way (300 to 500 megabytes) for each edition, but if you have disc space, this will give you the best option for reading and saving. But, if your computer doesn't give you that option, you can still select the download option on the blue tool bar at the top right corner of the screen... This option gives you a much lower resolution copy, but it takes about a third of the time to download the magazine.



I have all the QSTs from 2012 forward stored on a portable hard drive that I can take with me anywhere. You can expand the text if you have trouble reading smaller fonts. The best thing is that you can do a search and go directly to whatever you have searched for. No more digging through multiple issues to try to find that one article that stuck in your head.

