



September 2019  
Our 100<sup>th</sup> Year  
Volume 57, Issue 9

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Website:

<http://www.mvara.org/>

*The Voice Coil*  
Award-Winning Newsletter of  
the Mahoning Valley Amateur  
Radio Association  
Established 1919

# The Voice Coil

## Prez Sez

There's lots to celebrate this month. Starting August 31-September 8, the ARRL will be celebrating Hiram Percy Maxim's birthday. Members of the ARRL can add /150 to their call. The September issue of QST, page 86, has all the information.

It's getting close to our 100th celebration dinner on October Tickets are still available from Nancy , KD8QNY. I would like see all our members there. The ARRL will be represented by several officers at the dinner. The MVARA has been a member of the ARRL for 94 years.

Got those projects finished yet? It won't be long before the weather starts to get just a little bitter. So if you are still putting thinks off, like John Wayne said in a movie, your burning daylight.

FYI, if you are working FT8 there have been some rule changes for working contests, WAS, DXCC, and other awards. It would wise to check out the change.

Hope to see you at the September meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> with our guest speaker, Gary, NA6O.

73,  
Jim, WB8UJS



Monday Night Net, 9 pm

### Next Meeting:

September 12,  
2019, 6:30 pm  
GOP Headquarters  
meeting room, 8381  
Market St.,  
Boardman, OH  
(in Adamas Plaza)

## 2019 Officers

President: Jim Stiffler, WB8UJS

Vice President: Wes Boyd,  
W8IZC

Secretary: (position open)

Treasurer: Nancy Brett, KD8QNY

Trustees: Dean DeMain, W8YSU

Gene A. Boccia, WQ8H

Jerry Goddard, KC8EFO

Mike McCleery, K8PRR

Newsletter Editor: Mark  
Haverstock, K8MSH

Awards Manager: Dave Fairbanks,  
N8NB, 330.759.6993, 4770 Logan  
Ave. Youngstown, OH 44505

The Mahoning Valley Amateur  
Radio Association, Inc, meets the  
second Thursday of every month.  
Location and time are subject to  
change. Dues are \$20.00 per year,  
\$10.00 each for additional family  
member. Contact Nancy,  
[kd8qny@zoominternet.net](mailto:kd8qny@zoominternet.net) for  
membership details.

The club call is **W8QLY**;  
equipment operated under this call  
includes a two meter voice  
repeater at 146.745 (-600, 110.9  
PL). Club email:  
[mvara.w8qly@gmail.com](mailto:mvara.w8qly@gmail.com)

MONDAY NIGHT NET operates  
every Monday at 9:00. PM on  
146.745 MHz.

SKYWARN NET - First  
Wednesday of the month at 8:30  
PM on 146.745 MHz as weather  
warrants.

ARES NET- First and third  
Mondays of each month at 8:30  
PM on 146.745 MHz; prior to the  
Monday Night Net.

# September Program



*Our speaker for September is Gary Johnson, NA6O,  
speaking on Killing Receiver Interference.*

Gary is an Electrical Engineer that worked and retired from the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Livermore, California. Gary has varied interests including anything electronic, metal working, woodworking, and of course Amateur Radio.

Professionally, Gary worked in measurement and control systems, electro-optics, communications, transducers, circuit design, and technical writing. He is the author of two books, LabVIEW Graphical Programming and LabVIEW Power Programming, and holds nine patents.

Gary enjoys operating CW and RTTY and describes himself as a fairly competent contester, member of NCCC, and regular operator at N6RO. . Sometimes operating remotely to N6RO, too, using the new Flex 6600M or a K3 there. He also has fun chasing SOTA activations with his K3 Rig, KPA500 amp, and KAT500 tuner.

Gary will tell you that his home station is severely crippled due to noise from neighbors LED Lights. He has made solving that issue a passion that has included involving the ARRL and the FCC. That passion led him to create a presentation on receiver interference and solutions that was presented to the Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club. Gary will reprise that presentation with a few updates when he speaks to us via a video connection at our next meeting.

Speaking of video, we have high hopes for a really great connection for our next meeting. We have moved to using the Zoom Video Conference platform and have tested it with Gary with excellent results.

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### License refresher:

E4E01 (A)

E4E02 (D)

G1B01 (C) [97.15(a)]

G1B02 (D) [97.203(b)]

# Current Activities

**Wednesday, September 4:** VE Testing, Boardman Library, 6:30 pm.

**Thursday, Sept. 12:** Club meeting, 7pm.

**Sat./Sun., September 21, 22:** 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration, MVARA and Boy Scouts

**Saturday, October 5:** MVARA 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner, A La Cart Catering, Canfield

## Contact Us:

**Email:** [mvara.W8QLY@gmail.com](mailto:mvara.W8QLY@gmail.com)

**Snail-mail:** MVARA, P.O. Box 14141, Poland, OH 44514

**Meeting ideas/ suggestions?** Contact Dave, KD8NZF, [KD8NZF@zoominternet.net](mailto:KD8NZF@zoominternet.net)

## Hamfest Calendar

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**09/08/2019 Butler County ARA Swapfest - Location:** Unionville Fire Department. 102 Mahood Road Butler, PA 16001 **Website:** <http://w3udx.org> **Sponsor:** Butler County Amateur Radio Association **Talk-In:** 147.36 (PL 131.8) **Public Contact:** Joseph Sciulli , N3WH, 1020 Bonniebrook Road Butler, PA 16002, Phone: 412-337-1687 **Email:** [n3whjoe@gmail.com](mailto:n3whjoe@gmail.com)

**09/08/2019 - Findlay Hamfest - Location:** Hancock County Fairgrounds - 1017 East Sandusky Street - Findlay, OH 45839 - **Website:** <http://www.findlayradioclub.org> - **Contact:** Bill Kelsey, N8ET - 3521 Spring Lake Drive Findlay, OH 45840 - **Phone:** 419-348-0457 - **Email:** [n8et@woh.rr.com](mailto:n8et@woh.rr.com) 09/22/2019

**Cleveland Hamfest and Computer Show - Location:** Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds - 164 Eastland Road - Berea, OH 44017 - **Website:** <http://www.hac.org> - **Sponsor:** Hamfest Association of Cleveland - **Public Contact:** Glenn Williams, AF8C - 4134 Stoney Ridge Road Avon, OH 44011 - **Phone:** 440-934-5566 - **Email:** [af8c@arrl.net](mailto:af8c@arrl.net) 11/03/2019

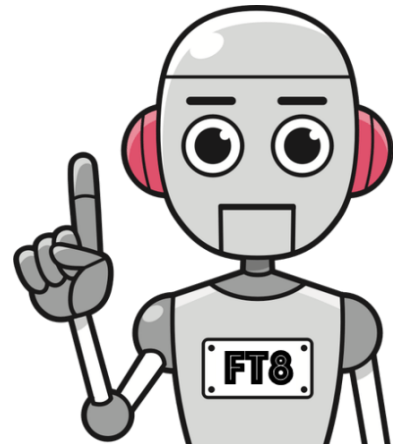
**Massillon ARC Hamfest - Location:** Massillon Boy's & Girls Club - 730 Duncan Street SW - Massillon, OH 44646 - **Website:** <http://www.w8np.org> - **Contact:** Terry Russ, N8ATZ - 3420 Briardale Drive NW Massillon, OH 44646 - **Phone:** 330-837-3091 - **Email:** [truss@sssnet.com](mailto:truss@sssnet.com)

**Know of any regional events that should be included in the Voice Coil? Send the information to:** [MVARAVoiceCoil@gmail.com](mailto:MVARAVoiceCoil@gmail.com)

# DXpedition to Use FT8 Robots?

*By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU*

It's inevitable. At some point, machines are going to render humans irrelevant. It's been a recurring theme in science fiction since before I was born (1955), and there are numerous predictions of the Singularity, the point in time when machines will be smarter than human, occurring between 2030 and 2045.



It may happen in amateur radio sooner than we think. A couple of days ago, one of my readers, sent me a link to a blog post by John, AE5X: [Automated FT8 “FoxBot” in upcoming DXpedition – confirmed](#). He wrote:

*A [DXpedition to Tokelau](#) will take place from 1 to 11 October and it will be your chance to work an FT8 robot operating in Fox/Hound mode.*

*Stathis SV5DKL has been working on a “FoxBot” for some time now, is listed as a partner to this DXpedition and has confirmed that the DXpedition will be using his FoxBot.*

John has since updated this post, noting “The SV5DKL logo has now been removed and the DX team will be in ‘full compliance’ with the mode.” Full compliance meaning following the rules set up by the ARRL DXCC rules.

The ARRL is, of course, against the use of robots. Contacts made via a fully-automated station will not be given DXCC credit. I guess they think that it's just not fair—at least not fair to all those guys who spent thousands to be able to work those rare ones.

As John says, however, the use of FT8 robots in the future is a certainty. Sooner or later, some DXpedition is going to use an FT8 robot without saying anything about it. How is the ARRL going to know that a DXpedition is using robots if the DXpedition operators don't tell them?

I'm wondering when some DXpedition is going to give up on SSB and CW altogether. Why bother with those modes when you can make hundreds or thousands more contacts by just operating FT8?

Another thought just occurred to me. If the ARRL gets its way and Techs are awarded HF digital privileges, how long will it take for some enterprising Tech to make the DXCC Honor Roll using FT8 exclusively. Oh, the horror of it! Watch for this in an upcoming blog post. :)

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*Dan Romanchik, KB6NU, is the author of the KB6NU amateur radio blog (KB6NU.Com), the “No Nonsense” amateur radio license study guides (KB6NU.Com/study-guides/), and is one of the presenters the ICQPodcast (ICQPodcast.Com).*

# MOMENTS IN MVARA HISTORY



MVARA has been a Special Service Club for many years. This is one of several certificates recognizing the MVARA.

## Station Loaner Program

If you're a new ham/newly upgraded and want to get on the HF bands, MVARA has a loaner program for club members. The club has two complete stations with radio, power supply, microphone, CW key, and antenna tuner. All you need to do is supply your own coax, antenna, and keep the equipment in good condition while you have it.

Loan period is up to 6 months. However, you will be responsible for returning the station temporarily for use during Field Day weekend in June.

With the new ARRL proposal, it looks like even Tech class amateurs may soon have more phone privileges on some of the HF bands. Contact MVARA at our email address: [mvara.W8QLY@gmail.com](mailto:mvara.W8QLY@gmail.com)

No Items for Swap and Shop submitted this month. Swap and Shop information/policies are listed on the last page of the newsletter.

# Handheld Direction Finding Loop Antenna for RFI Location

Gary W. Johnson, NA6O May, 2019

A good way to locate radio-frequency interference (RFI) in the HF bands is with a small direction finding antenna and a portable radio. Here is a simple antenna design that is effective from 3 to 22 MHz. Based on a resonant magnetic loop, it has high transducer gain (high sensitivity), and also very good directionality. You can build it cheaply from junk box parts.

The basic design is a simple resonant loop with a smaller coupling loop. Since this is only for receiving, there is no concern about achieving very high efficiency nor are there any high voltages, so component selection is simplified. Figure 1 shows the complete handheld antenna and Fig. 2 is a schematic for a good reproducible design.

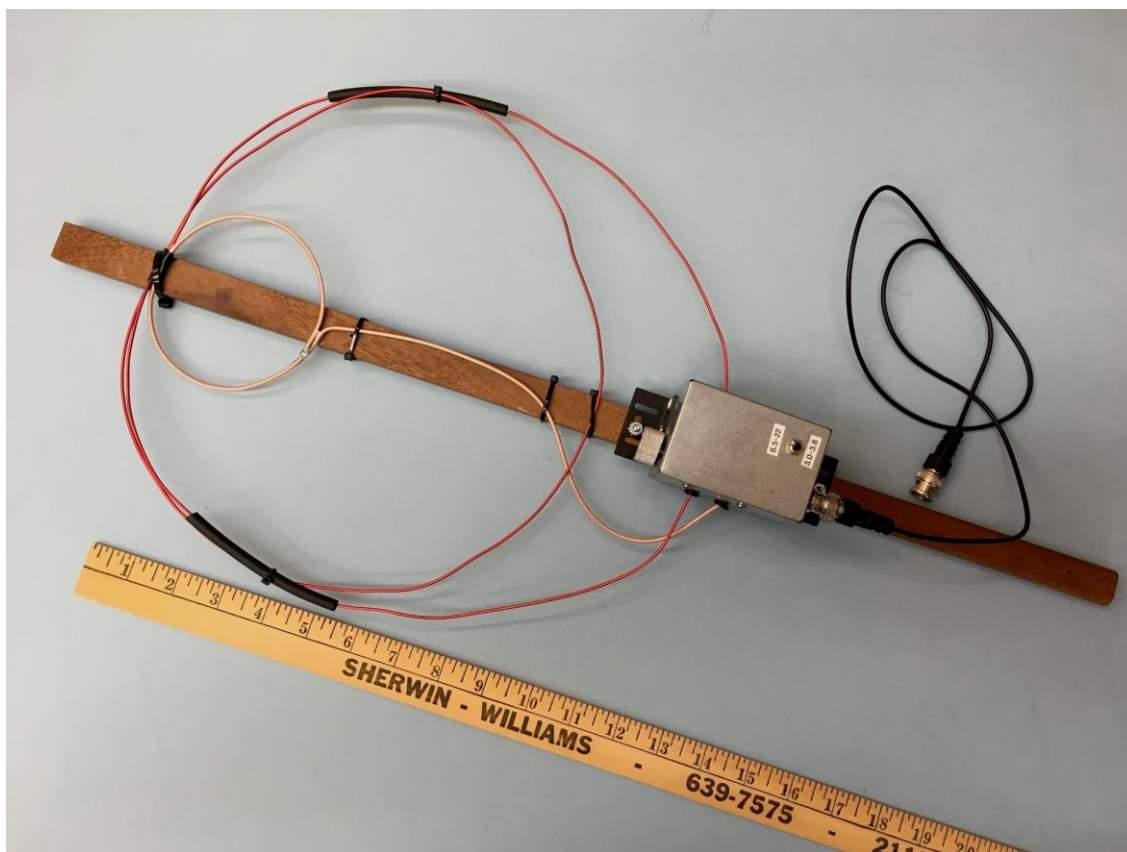
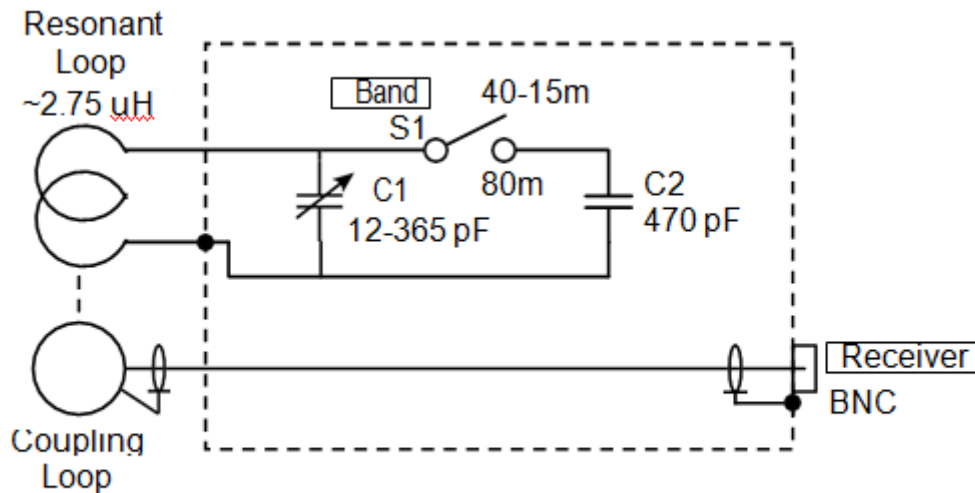


Figure 1. The complete antenna.



**Figure 2. Direction finding antenna schematic.**

## Resonant Loop

The tricky part is finding a compromise loop diameter (wire length) that will cover the desired frequency range with reasonable capacitor values. This takes some experimentation. I ended up with 73 inches of 14 ga magnet wire (any insulated wire is fine), wound into a two-turn loop. The outer loop is about 12 inches diameter and is a bit egg-shaped to connect with the tuning box. Be sure the overlapping parts don't short to one another. Net inductance is around 2.75 uH.

## Tuning Capacitors

The graph in Fig. 3 shows the approximate capacitance values for various frequencies. A single-section 365 pF variable capacitor will cover roughly 5-25 MHz. Then switch in a fixed 470 pF capacitor to cover 3-4 MHz. Something from an old transistor radio such as a plastic Polyvaricon will work, as will a common 12-365 pF air variable. Those are easy to find on Ebay or Amazon. If you can find one with gear reduction that will make tuning easier because the resonance is pretty sharp. (Or just use a larger knob.) The one I actually used was a rather different two-section variable but had a similar capacitance range. My band switched ranges ended up covering 3-4 and 6.5-22 MHz.

You could add additional capacitance to reach 1.9 MHz or even lower but the tuning range will be very limited. A larger loop and/or one with more turns would work better there. Similarly, if you are only interested in higher frequencies, a single-turn loop will let you reach 30 MHz or higher and will be easier to tune.

(A version of this will be demonstrated at the Sept. meeting—for more details, download the PDF at: [http://wb9jps.com/Gary\\_Johnson/RFI\\_files/Handheld\\_DF\\_Antenna.pdf](http://wb9jps.com/Gary_Johnson/RFI_files/Handheld_DF_Antenna.pdf))

# MVARA Set for OSPOTA September 7th

MVARA, OSPOTA lots of abbreviations there but it simply comes down to the Mahoning Valley Amateur Radio Association (MVARA) again taking part in the 2019 Ohio State Parks on the Air (OSPOTA).

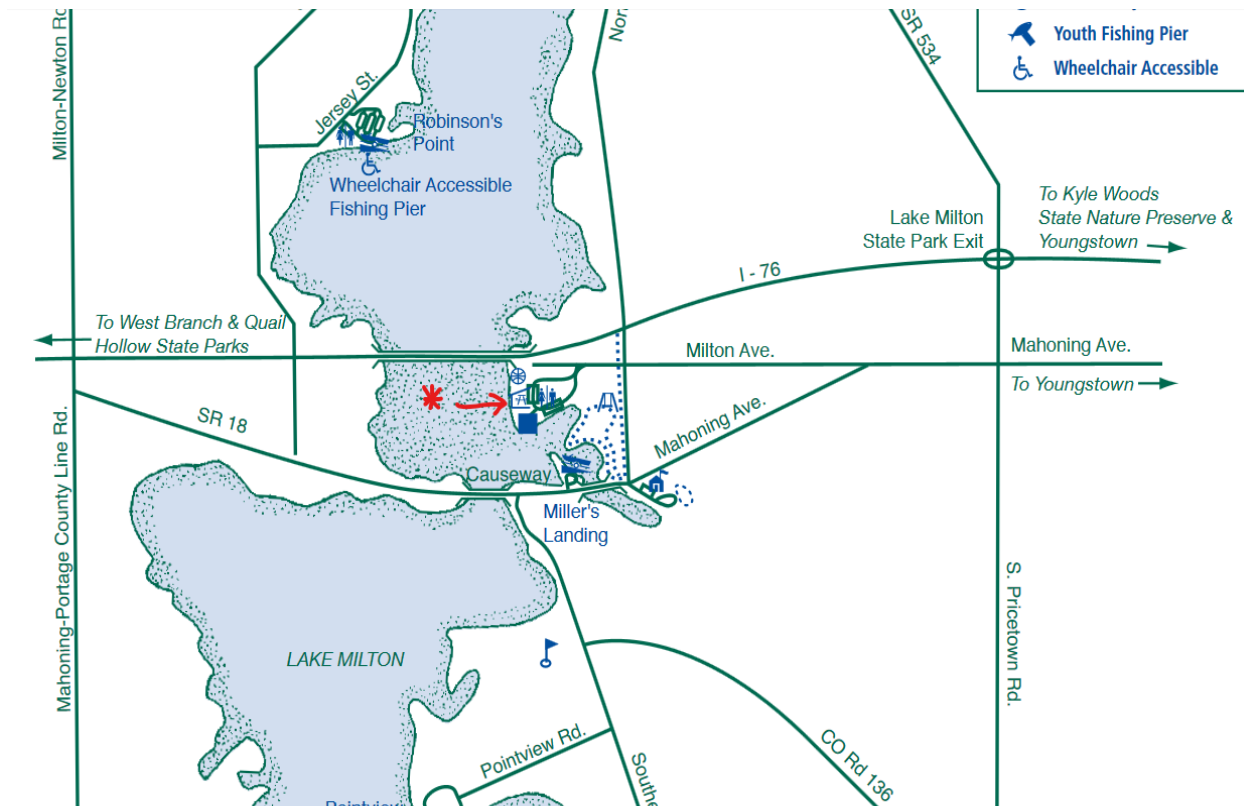
This is the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual OSPOTA first launched by the Portage County Amateur Radio Service in 2007. At the time it was the first ever state parks on the air “contest”. We put contest in quotes as the purpose of OSPOTA is:

- To promote public awareness of amateur radio and Ohio’s beautiful state parks system;
- To contribute to the recognition that Ohio has a very diverse and wonderful ecology;
- To promote camaraderie within the ranks of Ohio’s Amateur Radio Operators

As you can see OSPOTA is really more of an amateur radio event that we can all enjoy, especially if you live in Ohio.

The MVARA will be activating and operating from the Lake Milton State Park. W8QLY will be a sought after call as contacting a park is what the event is all about and the parks are multipliers for scoring purposes. We will set up shop in a pavilion at the Harry Meshel Picnic area on the east coast of Lake Milton, a 20-30 minute drive from Youngstown. See the map below.

OSPOTA is a voice only event so everyone can get in on the fun. Come out Saturday, September 7<sup>th</sup> any time from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and have fun in the park and enjoy amateur radio with your MVARA friends.





## ARRL Knight Distinguished Service Award

The Board designated Ohio Section Manager Scott Yonally, N8SY, to receive the 2019 ARRL Knight Distinguished Service Award, which each year recognizes a distinguished Section Manager. Yonally also has served as a Section Emergency Coordinator. The Board said Yonally “is tireless in his efforts to be present and visible all over the state, representing the ARRL and Amateur Radio with a positive and forward-thinking attitude.”

The Board also noted that Yonally edits the monthly *Ohio Section Journal* and a weekly edition *Postscript* to provide Ohio Section ARRL members with the latest information on happenings throughout the League and the Ohio Section. Yonally also was at the forefront of improving ARES in his Section by identifying and initiating the early the need for FEMA NIMS training, and he’s been a valuable resource in the development and implementation of the ARES-Connect initiative, the Board said.

## France Stands its Ground on 144 – 146 MHz Aeronautical Mobile Sharing Proposal

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A French “annex” to its proposal to have the Aeronautical Mobile Service (AMS) share 144 – 146 MHz with Amateur Radio doubles down on that country’s determination to secure AMS access to that spectrum, although no longer on a primary basis. The annex was submitted ahead of a European Conference of Telecommunications and Postal Administrations (CEPT) Electronic Communications Committee (ECC) Conference Preparatory Group (CPG) meeting that gets under way on August 26 in Turkey. The meeting will consider CEPT ECC positions for World Radiocommunication Conference 2019 this fall. In the annex, France counters contrary International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) assertions and insists that spectrum sharing is possible.

“France recognizes the wide range of amateur applications hosted by the 144 – 146 MHz band,” the French annex document said. “The band will remain available for all these applications after WRC-23. However a clear vision of the band segmentation per application and associated occupancy rates will be necessary for the sharing and compatibility studies carried on during the WRC-23 preparation cycle. Such studies are essential for assessing the possibilities of frequency sharing and establishing, where appropriate, the conditions that will ensure the continuity of operation and the protection of existing services.”

Since France submitted its initial proposal in June, the IARU and its Region 1 (Europe, Africa, and the Middle East) member-societies have made the matter a top priority. If the French proposal gets a thumbs up by at least 10 CEPT countries at the CPG meeting — with not more than 6 opposing — the proposal could appear on the agendas of WRC-19 and WRC-23, where a final decision will be made.

At this point, the French proposal remains an ITU Region 1 matter, and action during the CEPT CPG meeting August 26 – 30 will determine whether it gains traction on the world stage.

## Mahoning Valley Amateur Radio Association



You are cordially invited to join us for our  
**100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner celebration**

Saturday, October 5, 2019

Al A Cart Catering  
 429 Lisbon Street  
 Canfield, OH 44406

**\$22.00 per person**

<b>Meet &amp; Greet</b>	<b>5:00 pm to 6:00 pm</b>
<b>Dinner</b>	<b>6:00 pm to 7:00 pm</b>
<b>Program</b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>

**Please purchase tickets before September 20, 2019**

**Please make checks payable to MVARA**

**Mail to P.O. Box 14141, Poland, Ohio 44514**

# Contest and Special Event Operating Information

Dave Fairbanks N8NB

Data below as well as more information courtesy of the following website:

<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html>.

## September 2019

+ Tennessee QSO Party	1800Z, Sep 1 to 0300Z, Sep 2
+ RSGB FT4 Contest Series	1900Z-1959Z, Sep 2
+ MI QRP Labor Day CW Sprint	2300Z, Sep 2 to 0300Z, Sep 3
+ ARS Spartan Sprint	0100Z-0300Z, Sep 3
+ Phone Fray	0230Z-0300Z, Sep 4
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Sep 4 and 1900Z-2000Z, Sep 4 and 0300Z-0400Z, Sep 5
+ UKEICC 80m Contest	2000Z-2100Z, Sep 4
+ G3ZQS Memorial Straight Key Contest	2300Z, Sep 4 to 2300Z, Sep 6
+ NRAU 10m Activity Contest	1700Z-1800Z, Sep 5 (CW) and 1800Z-1900Z, Sep 5 (SSB) and 1900Z-2000Z, Sep 5 (FM) and 2000Z-2100Z, Sep 5 (Dig)
+ SKCC Sprint Europe	1900Z-2100Z, Sep 5
+ NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Sep 6
+ NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Sep 6
+ Russian RTTY WW Contest	0000Z-2359Z, Sep 7
+ All Asian DX Contest, Phone	0000Z, Sep 7 to 2400Z, Sep 8
+ CWops CW Open	0000Z-2359Z, Sep 7
+ Wake-Up! QRP Sprint	0600Z-0629Z, Sep 7 and 0630Z-0659Z, Sep 7 and 0700Z-0729Z, Sep 7 and 0730Z-0800Z, Sep 7
+ SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	1200Z, Sep 7 to 2400Z, Sep 8
+ Nebraska QSO Party	1300Z, Sep 7 to 0100Z, Sep 8
+ RSGB SSB Field Day	1300Z, Sep 7 to 1300Z, Sep 8
+ IARU Region 1 Field Day, SSB	1300Z, Sep 7 to 1259Z, Sep 8
+ Ohio State Parks on the Air	1400Z-2200Z, Sep 7
+ AGCW Straight Key Party	1600Z-1900Z, Sep 7
+ PODXS 070 Club Jay Hudak Memorial 80m Sprint	2000Z, Sep 7 to 2000Z, Sep 8
+ North American Sprint, CW	0000Z-0400Z, Sep 8
+ WAB 144 MHz QRO Phone	1000Z-1400Z, Sep 8
+ Swiss HTC QRP Sprint	1300Z-1900Z, Sep 8
+ 4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Sep 9
+ RSGB 80m Autumn Series, SSB	1900Z-2030Z, Sep 9
+ Phone Fray	0230Z-0300Z, Sep 11
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Sep 11 and 1900Z-2000Z, Sep 11 and 0300Z-0400Z, Sep 12
+ NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Sep 13
+ NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Sep 13
+ WAE DX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Sep 14 to 2359Z, Sep 15
+ FOC QSO Party	0000Z-2359Z, Sep 14
+ SARL Field Day Contest	1000Z, Sep 14 to 1000Z, Sep 15
+ Texas QSO Party	1400Z, Sep 14 to 0200Z, Sep 15 and 1400Z-2000Z, Sep 15

+ Russian Cup Digital Contest	1500Z-1859Z, Sep 14 and 0600Z-0959Z, Sep 15
+ Alabama QSO Party	1500Z, Sep 14 to 0300Z, Sep 15
+ ARRL September VHF Contest	1800Z, Sep 14 to 0300Z, Sep 16
+ North American Sprint, RTTY	0000Z-0400Z, Sep 15
+ Classic Exchange, CW	1300Z, Sep 15 to 0700Z, Sep 16 and 1300Z, Sep 17 to 0700Z, Sep 18
+ BARTG Sprint 75	1700Z-2059Z, Sep 15
+ Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0100Z-0300Z, Sep 16
+ Phone Fray	0230Z-0300Z, Sep 18
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Sep 18 and 1900Z-2000Z, Sep 18 and 0300Z-0400Z, Sep 19
+ RSGB 80m Autumn Series, CW	1900Z-2030Z, Sep 18
+ NAQCC CW Sprint	0030Z-0230Z, Sep 19
+ NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Sep 20
+ NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Sep 20
+ AGB NEMIGA Contest	2100Z-2400Z, Sep 20
+ Collegiate QSO Party	0000Z, Sep 21 to 2359Z, Sep 22
+ ARRL EME Contest	0000Z, Sep 21 to 2359Z, Sep 22
+ ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest	0600 local, Sep 21 to 2400 local, Sep 22
+ SARL VHF/UHF Digital Contest	1000Z, Sep 21 to 1000Z, Sep 22
+ All Africa International DX Contest	1200Z, Sep 22 to 1200Z, Sep 22
+ Scandinavian Activity Contest, CW	1200Z, Sep 21 to 1200Z, Sep 22
+ SRT HF Contest SSB	1300Z, Sep 21 to 1300Z, Sep 22
+ Iowa QSO Party	1400Z, Sep 21 to 0200Z, Sep 22
+ AGCW VHF/UHF Contest	1400Z-1700Z, Sep 21 (144) and 1700Z-1800Z, Sep 21 (432)
+ QRP Afield	1500Z-2100Z, Sep 21
+ New Hampshire QSO Party	1600Z, Sep 21 to 0400Z, Sep 22 and 1600Z-2200Z, Sep 22
+ Washington State Salmon Run	1600Z, Sep 21 to 0700Z, Sep 22 and 1600Z-2400Z, Sep 22
+ New Jersey QSO Party	1600Z, Sep 21 to 0359Z, Sep 22
+ Feld Hell Sprint	1800Z-1959Z, Sep 21
+ Classic Exchange, Phone	1300Z, Sep 22 to 0700Z, Sep 23 and 1300Z, Sep 24 to 0700Z, Sep 25
+ 144 MHz Fall Sprint	1900 local - 2300 local, Sep 23
+ SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Sep 25
+ Phone Fray	0230Z-0300Z, Sep 25
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Sep 25 and 1900Z-2000Z, Sep 25 and 0300Z-0400Z, Sep 26
+ UKEICC 80m Contest	2000Z-2100Z, Sep 25
+ RSGB 80m Autumn Series, Data	1900Z-2030Z, Sep 26
+ NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Sep 27
+ NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Sep 27
+ CQ Worldwide DX Contest, RTTY	0000Z, Sep 28 to 2400Z, Sep 29
+ Maine QSO Party	1200Z, Sep 28 to 1200Z, Sep 29
+ QCX Challenge	1300Z-1400Z, Sep 30 and 1900Z-2000Z, Sep 30 and 0300Z-0400Z, Oct 1

# DX Operating Information

Dave Fairbanks N8NB

Credit for the below information and further information on these operations and others can be found at the following website: <http://www.ng3k.com>

September						
2019 Sep01	2019 Sep30	<b>Somalia</b>	<a href="#">6O7O</a>	LoTW	<a href="#">DXW.Net</a> 20190719	By LA7GIA; 160-10m; mainly CW, perhaps SSB, digital; QSL also OK via M0OXO, logs to Club Log; 14 days in Sep, dates TBA
2019 Sep02	2019 Sep09	<b>Fiji</b>	<b>3D2VR</b>	DD0VR	DE3BWR 20180830	By DD0VR as TBD; HF; SSB; QSL OK via DARC Buro or direct
2019 Sep02	2019 Sep15	<b>Kyrgyzstan</b>	<a href="#">EX6QP</a> <b>NEW</b>	Club Log OQRS	SP9FIH 20190815	SP9FIH SP9TCE SP9HVV; HF; CW SSB RTTY FT8; inverted L, phased verticals, spiderbeams
2019 Sep06	2019 Sep09	<b>Palau</b>	<b>T88PB</b>	LoTW	<a href="#">DXW.Net</a> 20190630	By JA0JHQ fm Koror; HF; QSL also OK via JA0JHQ
2019 Sep06	2019 Sep09	<b>USA</b>	<a href="#">K7TRI</a>	Club Log OQRS	<a href="#">DXNews</a> 20190803	By N3QQ VE3LYC VE7NY KO8SCA fm Tillamook Rock (Oregon, IOTA NA-211); 2nd ever activation; 40-17m; CW SSB; 2 stns; QSL via; support sought
2019 Sep06	2019 Sep15	<b>West Kiribati</b>	<a href="#">T30L</a>	LoTW	<a href="#">DXW.Net</a> 20190731	By YL2GM YL1ZF YL2KL YL3JA fm Tarawa (IOTA OC-017); 160-6m; CW SSB RTTY FT8; QSL also OK via Club Log OQRS and YL2GN
2019 Sep06	2019 Sep22	<b>Corsica</b>	<b>TK19IOTA</b>	LoTW	<a href="#">425DXN</a> 20190810	By F8BBL fm IOTA EU-100, EU-104, EU-164; mainly CW; QSL also OK via F8BBL (Buro or direct)
2019 Sep07	2019 Sep12	<b>Bonaire</b>	<b>PJ4</b>	K5SL	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20190812	By K5SL as PJ4/K5SL; 40-17m; CW; perhaps 17m SSB
2019 Sep08	2019 Sep16	<b>South Cook Is</b>	<b>E51SFS</b> <b>NEW</b>	DH5FS	DH5FS 20190817	By DH5FS fm Rarotonga I (IOTA OC-013); 40-10m; CW FT8; 100w; ground plane; holiday style operation; QSL OK via DARC Buro or direct
2019 Sep08	2019 Sep20	<b>Antigua</b>	<b>V26K</b>	LoTW	<a href="#">DXNews</a> 20190803	By AA3B fm IOTA NA-100; HF; mainly CW; spare time operation; QSL also OK via AA3B and Club Log OQRS
2019 Sep08	2019 Sep21	<b>Ghana</b>	<b>9G5QU</b>	N4GNR Direct	<a href="#">DXNews</a> 20190728	By KB1QU; 40 30 20m; CW FT8 FT4
2019 Sep09	2019 Sep16	<b>Samoa</b>	<b>5W0VR</b>	DD0VR	DE3BWR 20180830	By DD0VR; HF; SSB; QSL OK via DARC Buro or direct
2019 Sep12	2019 Sep18	<b>Liechtenstein</b>	<b>HB0</b>	LoTW	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20190701	By DL4APJ as HB0/DL4APJ, DJ2AX DL5ARG likewise; 80-10m; CW SSB PSK RTTY FT8 FT4; holiday style operation; QSL also OK via DARC Buro, DL4APJ direct, or eQSL

2019 Sep12	2019 Sep20	<b>Palau</b>	<a href="#">T88MK</a> <b>NEW</b>	JO3LVG	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20190813	By JO3LVG; 160-6m; CW SSB JT65 JT9 FT8 FM; QSL OK via JARL Buro or direct, also eQSL
2019 Sep13	2019 Sep16	<b>Ceuta &amp; Melilla</b>	<b>EA9</b>	DL2JRM	DL2JRM 20190704	By DL2JRM as EA9/DL2JRM; HF; QRV for WAE SSB Contest; QSL OK via DARC Buro or direct
2019 Sep14	2019 Sep25	<b>Palau</b>	<b>T8</b>	Home Call	<a href="#">DXNews</a> 20190427	By JA6UBY JO3LVG JH6DUL JL1HYH JM1LIG JI6NCY as T88RR T88MK T88VV T88HY T88FM T88NC, respectively fm Koror I (IOTA OC-009; 160-6m; CW SSB RTTY
2019 Sep15	2019 Sep22	<b>Mariana Is</b>	<b>WH0RU</b> <b>NEW</b>	LoTW	<a href="#">DXNews</a> 20190818	By JG7PSJ fm Saipan I (IOTA OC-086); 40-10m; CW SSB RTTY; QSL also OK via JG7PSJ direct
2019 Sep15	2019 Sep30	<b>eSwatini</b>	<a href="#">3DA0AO</a>	HA5AO Direct	<a href="#">DXNews</a> 20190325	By HA5AO; 80-10m; CW RTTY FT8; OQRS available on Web page
2019 Sep16	2019 Sep21	<b>Tonga</b>	<b>A35J4</b>	DD0VR	DE3BWR 20180830	By DD0VR; HF; SSB; QSL OK via DARC Buro or direct
2019 Sep16	2019 Sep25	<b>Nauru</b>	<a href="#">C21W</a>	LoTW	<a href="#">DXW.Net</a> 20190731	By YL2GM YL1ZF YL2KL YL3JA fm IOTA OC-031; 160-6m; CW SSB RTTY FT8; QSL also OK via Club Log OQRS and YL2GN
2019 Sep20	2019 Sep25	<b>South Cook Is</b>	<b>E51SFS</b> <b>NEW</b>	DH5FS	DH5FS 20190817	By DH5FS fm Aitutaki I (IOTA OC-083); 40-10m; CW FT8; 100w; ground plane; holiday style operation; QSL OK via DARC Buro or direct
2019 Sep20	2019 Oct03	<b>Crete</b>	<b>SV9</b>	LoTW	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20190301	By PH2M as SV9/PH2M; holiday style operation; QSL also OK via PH2M (Buro or direct)
2019 Sep21	2019 Sep27	<b>Isle of Man</b>	<a href="#">MD</a>	M0URX	ON4ANN 20190507	By ON4ANN + NB DX Team as MD/OP2D; 160-6m, focus on low bands; SSB CW FT8 RTTY
2019 Sep21	2019 Oct07	<b>Belize</b>	<b>V31US</b>	V31DX	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20190720	By V31US fm Orange Walk; 80-20m + 10m; SSB + digital; spare time operation
2019 Sep23	2019 Sep27	<b>Fiji</b>	<b>3D2</b>	DD0VR	DE3BWR 20180830	By DD0VR as TBD; HF; SSB; QSL OK via DARC Buro or direct
2019 Sep24	2019 Oct06	<b>Tonga</b>	<a href="#">A35JT</a>	LoTW	<a href="#">DXW.Net</a> 20181218	By VK5GR VK5XDX VK5AKH VK5SFA fm IOTA OC-049 (AG28hw); 160-6m; SSB CW FT8 RTTY 6m EME; QRV for OCDX SSB & CQ DX RTTY contests; QSL also OK via M0OXO
2019 Sep24	2019 Oct08	<b>St Pierre &amp; Miquelon</b>	<a href="#">FP</a>	LoTW	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20181128	By KV1J as FP/KV1J fm Miquelon I; 160-6m; mainly SSB RTTY FT8; some CW; QSL also OK via KV1J (Buro or direct) and Club Log
2019 Sep25	2019 Sep30	<b>Minami Torishima</b>	<a href="#">JD1BNA</a>	JL1UTS Direct	<a href="#">DXNews</a> 20190706	By JD1BNA fm Marcus I (IOTA OC-073); 160-17m; CW SSB FT8
2019 Sep29	2019 Oct05	<b>Tanzania</b>	<b>5H3MB</b>	IK2GZU	<a href="#">DXW.Net</a> 20190705	By IK2GZU; HF; SSB CW RTTY; QSL OK via I Buro or direct, also Club Log OQRS

# HAM CLUB SQUABBLE OVER FIELD DAY PREP ENDS WITH FISTICUFFS



**GOLDEN SPIKE, Montana** – The monthly meeting of the Gold Diggers Amateur Radio Club ended abruptly last night at the local Sizzler when insults and yeast rolls were hurled.

Lou Rodden, the club president, says it began as the club was discussing Field Day preparations.

Club member Junior Brown says someone else can handle ordering food for Field Day this year. “We just made it through the first trip to the buffet line when it escalated out of control. There’s bad blood and tension among members after the fiasco of last year.”



Previously, club members brought “pot-luck” food and shared their contributions with others. However, last year, the club majority voted to cater a meal, rather than prepare on-site.

“Unfortunately, Junior Brown – the person responsible for the catering last year – forgot to order it. It was like working QSOs at a funeral wake after that,” says Rodden.

Watonga County Sheriff’s Deputy “Diamond Jim” Simpson investigated the disturbance at the Sizzler last night.

“Someone said quote, ‘Eat hearty. There won’t be any food at Field Day if Junior is involved.’”

“It really was a mess. They knocked \$50 worth of sirloin tips off the cutting board, landed a big cloverleaf roll in the French dressing and spilled two pots of vegetable soup onto an elderly lady celebrating her 80th birthday.”

No arrests were made, but the group was issued a warning for unruly conduct and advised to hold meetings elsewhere from this point forward.

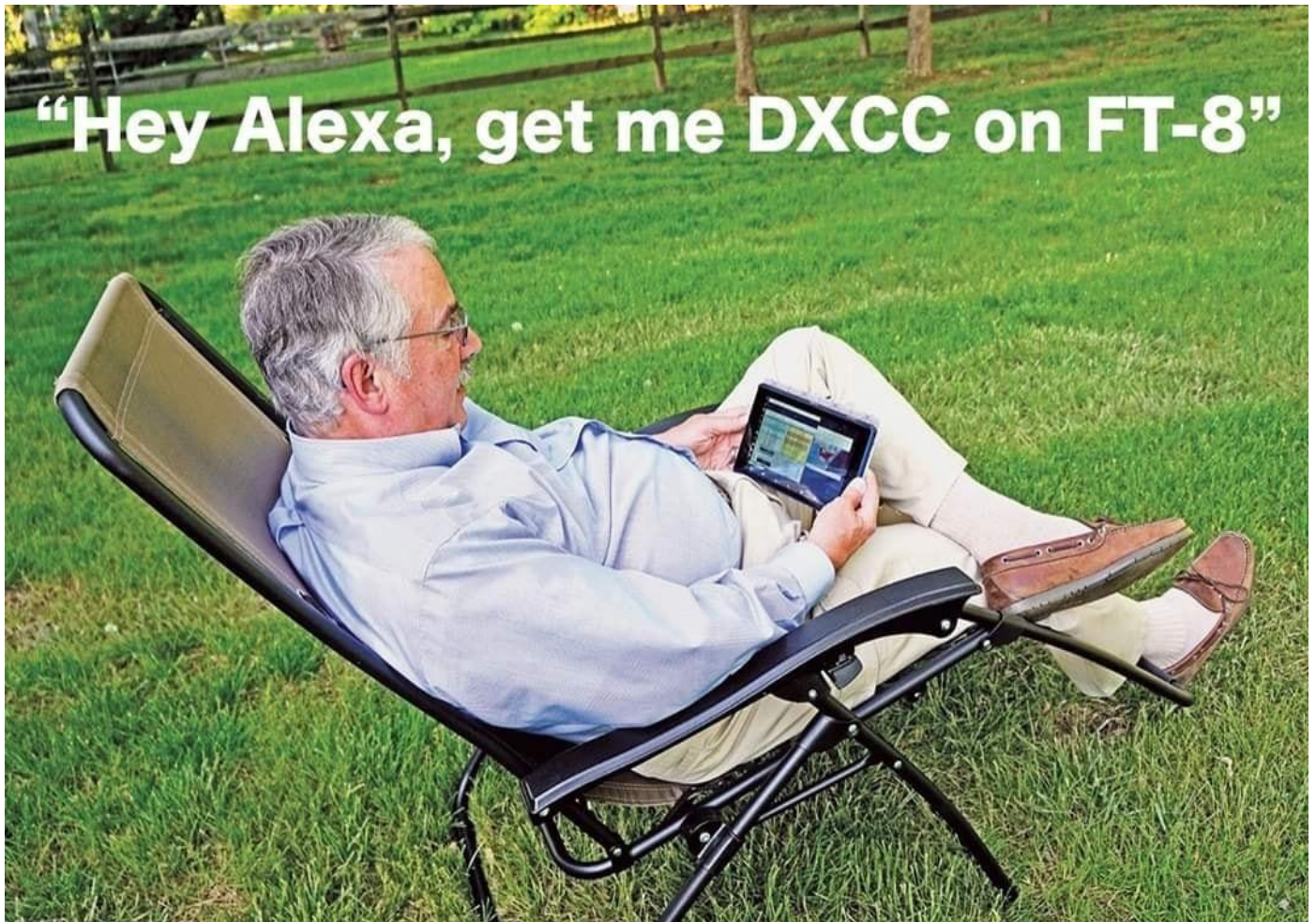
Rodden says they’ll resume Field Day discussions tomorrow when the club meets at St. Mary Francis Parochial School at 7:00 p.m.

By [WBØRUR](#), on the scene

## Car Show/ MVARA Special Event Station

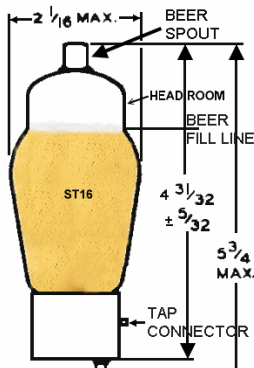


Great weather, QSOs, and classic cars. What else could you ask for? The MVARA had its yearly special event station, W8R, and also ran a second special event station, W8QLY, to celebrate MVARA's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary at Boardman Park on August 4th.





# Amateur License Refresher Dave, KD8NZF



It's probably been awhile since you took your Amateur License exam. Here are a few sample questions from the current question pools just to keep those synapses firing. *Please note the General questions are from the new General Question Pool that was effective July 1, 2019.*

## Extra Pool

E4E01

Which of the following types of receiver noise can often be reduced by use of a receiver noise blanker?

- A. Ignition noise
- B. Broadband white noise
- C. Heterodyne interference
- D. All of these choices are correct

~~

E4E02

Which of the following types of receiver noise can often be reduced with a DSP noise filter?

- A. Broadband white noise
- B. Ignition noise
- C. Power line noise
- D. All of these choices are correct

## General Pool (

G1B01

What is the maximum height above ground to which an antenna structure may be erected without requiring notification to the FAA and registration with the FCC, provided it is not at or near a public use airport?

- A. 50 feet
- B. 100 feet
- C. 200 feet
- D. 300 feet

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G1B02

With which of the following conditions must beacon stations comply?

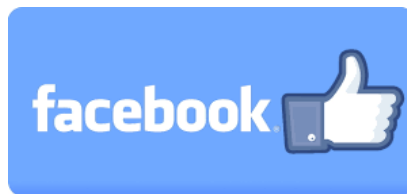
- A. A beacon station may not use automatic control
- B. The frequency must be coordinated with the National Beacon Organization
- C. The frequency must be posted on the internet or published in a national periodical
- D. There must be no more than one beacon signal transmitting in the same band from the same station location

(Answers Pg. 2)

## ***THE LAST WORD***

### **No Old Age in this Hobby (or Ham Radio keeps you young)**

We all lament about the lack of young people in the hobby today and it is a concern for the future of Amateur Radio. However, the hobby has never been about gray hair, old age or standing still. This hobby uses your mind and keeps it active. This hobby is always moving forward at the speed of technology. Look at all the new things constantly being developed by us amateurs. The list is ever increasing. Learning about these new developments and using them has always been what Amateur Radio is all about. It's what keeps Amateur Radio "young".



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The ***VOICE COIL*** is the monthly publication of the Mahoning Valley Amateur Radio Association, Inc. (MVARA) and is intended to present news, issues and opinions of interest to MVARA members and the Amateur Radio Community. We encourage contributions of articles, letters to the editor, etc. and welcome newsletter exchanges with other clubs from around the country and around the world. Permission is granted to reprint material contained herein as long as proper credit is given to this newsletter and the author. Ideas for and contributions to the ***VOICE COIL*** should be submitted to:

[MVARAVoiceCoil@gmail.com](mailto:MVARAVoiceCoil@gmail.com)

Submissions must be received **no later than the 24th** of the month prior to the month of issue, unless otherwise specified. **Submissions should be in MS Word format or ASCII text—no PDF, please!** Material received after the deadline will be used in the next month's ***VOICE COIL*** if it is still current and /or newsworthy.

#### ***Swap and Shop Policies***

Swap and Shop listings are open to all licensed Mahoning Valley Hams, based on space available—you don't need to be an MVARA member. Please submit your list to [mvara.w8qly@gmail.com](mailto:mvara.w8qly@gmail.com) **AND** [mvaravoiccoil@gmail.com](mailto:mvaravoiccoil@gmail.com) for placement in both ***Voice Coil*** and website. MVARA assumes no responsibility for transactions made or inaccuracies in ads. You are responsible for checking your ad and notifying us of any corrections. Ads will run for two consecutive issues unless notified otherwise.

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