



Mahoning Valley Amateur Radio Association

# Mahoning Valley Amateur Radio Association Voice Coil



March 2025

[mvara.w8qly@gmail.com](mailto:mvara.w8qly@gmail.com)

The Voice Coil - Volume 25-3

## MVARA Officers

<b>President</b>	Scott Wilton KE4UHC
<b>Vice President</b>	Ralph Streb K8TCP
<b>Secretary</b>	Rich Slutz KB8GAE
<b>Treasurer</b>	Nancy Brett KD8QNY



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<b>VE</b>	Mark Haverstock K8MSH

## President's Corner

**We had one of the hottest field days this past June and now we have had one of the coldest. On Friday I thought these guys were off their rockers for wanting to do this. Once the heating was figured out, they were off to the races on Saturday. They didn't do the 24 hours straight but put in several hours on the air. They made 319 CW contacts, way to go Rich. And with several different operators on 2 radios they made 547 contacts for a total score with bonuses of 1,167. All that I have to say is I was totally surprised at how well after a few hiccups it turned out. I'm really proud of these guys who pulled this together. I hope we do it again next year.**

## Upcoming MVARA Events

Date	Event	Location
March 13, 2025	MVARA Meeting	Boardman

## March Club Program

Our program for the March club meeting is our annual State of the Club presentation by the Officers, Trustees, and Committees. During this meeting we will take a brief look at what we did in 2024 and talk about our plans for 2025. This is your yearly chance to talk to the club leadership, get your ideas in front of the members, and ask questions.



## Contest Calendar

We have had a steady stream of new members for the past year or so and many of them are not stopping with their Tech license. When you become a General one of the questions to answer is, OK, now what do I do? One low-stress option that will rapidly give you experience making contacts is the QSO Party. Every month clubs throughout the country put on operating activities like a contest but in a more casual atmosphere. Participants call CQ inviting contacts from all that can hear them. The contact consists of exchanging information such as your state and a report of the signal quality. Each month Dave N8NB puts a list of the QSO Parties in our newsletter. This list will show you who will be on the air and when to look for them. Dave gets the information from the website [www.contestcalendar.com](http://www.contestcalendar.com). There is lots more information available and this website is one of the tools like [www.qrz.com](http://www.qrz.com) that should be in every Ham's toolbelt. Check it out!

## MVARA 2025 Renewals Are Open

Yep, it's time to renew your membership with MVARA. You can renew in person at the January meeting or online with PayPal. A fillable PDF is on the website here with details:

<https://www.mvara.org/mbrshpfrm/2025%20Membership%20Form.pdf>

## Winter Field Day

# Winter Field Day 2025 Certificate of Participation

presented to Amateur Radio Station

## W8QLY

for their active and invaluable participation during the 2025 Winter Field Day Event. The WFDA, gratefully thanks you for your effort and recognizes your dedication to improving your operating skills, which may be crucial during an emergency event.

Contacts Logged: 857



We passionately believe that Ham radio operators should practice portable emergency communications in winter environments as the potential for freezing temperatures, snow, ice, and other hazards present unique operational concerns. WFD is formatted to help increase your level of preparedness for disasters and improve your operational skills in subpar conditions.

Marvin Turner, President  
Winter Field Day Association

## **MVARA 24/7 Club Connection**

**Did you know the MVARA is on Groups.io?**

**Groups.io is a modern internet platform designed to help people organize and share knowledge. There are no advertisements, and your data is never tracked. It is a supercharged email system that uses a forum/topic format to organize**

**posts. Many Ham clubs around the country have found Groups.io very useful to share experiences and organize activities.**



**The MVARA group is a private group limited to club members only. No one else will be able to view our files or posts. You can have all the posts sent to your email address or set your account to no emails and view all the posts with your web browser.**

**Topics can be anything about ham radio. Club activities, Parks on the Air, Solar Cycle 25, EmComm, Special Event Stations, Contesting, Public Service, and Swap and Shop are all welcome.**

**All club members are invited to join our group. You will need to have a Groups.io account and then apply for membership in the MVARA group. There is a video on our website at <https://mvara.org/videos.html> by Dave KD8NZF that shows how to use and join the 24/7 Club Connection.**

**Here is the link to obtain a Groups.io account**

**<https://groups.io/register>**

**If you already have a Groups.io account you can join the MVARA group here: <https://groups.io/g/mvara>**

**Hope to see ya on the Club Connection.**

**Rich, KB8GAE**

## Amateur License Refresher

It's probably been a while since you took your Amateur License exam. Here are a few sample questions from the current question pools just to keep those synapses firing.

### Extra Pool

#### E2A01

What is the direction of an ascending pass for an amateur satellite?

- A. From west to east
- B. From east to west
- C. From south to north
- D. From north to south

#### E2A02

Which of the following is characteristic of an inverting linear transponder?

- A. Doppler shift is reduced because the uplink and downlink shifts are in opposite directions
- B. Signal position in the band is reversed
- C. Upper sideband on the uplink becomes lower sideband on the downlink, and vice versa
- D. All these choices are correct

### General Pool

#### G5A01

What happens when inductive and capacitive reactance are equal in a series LC circuit?

- A. Resonance causes impedance to be very high
- B. Impedance is equal to the geometric mean of the inductance and capacitance
- C. Resonance causes impedance to be very low
- D. Impedance is equal to the arithmetic mean of the inductance and capacitance

#### G5A02

What is reactance?

- A. Opposition to the flow of direct current caused by resistance
- B. Opposition to the flow of alternating current caused by capacitance or inductance
- C. Reinforcement of the flow of direct current caused by resistance
- D. Reinforcement of the flow of alternating current caused by capacitance or inductance

E2A01 (C)
E2A02 (D)
G5A01 (C)
G5A02 (B)

## Meet Our New Members

We recently started this section to introduce our new members and it has been well received, so we will continue it in each edition of the Voice Coil. We asked new members to give us a little background information and what they would like to see at the club in 2025. If you are a recent member and we missed emailing you, please drop us a note at [mvara.w8qly@gmail.com](mailto:mvara.w8qly@gmail.com).

**Paula Hendricks-Richards, KF8DIV.** I am a lifelong resident of Ellsworth Township and involved with our local historical society, as well as several other groups. For years I saw the table with all of the ham radio information at the Canfield Fair and it always seemed interesting to communicate to people over radio. Other activities include beekeeping, maple syrup making, antique tractors and hit and miss engines just for a start. We live on a small farm and I love to collect all things from the past.

(Careful what you say Paula! We just happen to know where there is a gas powered generator that has been with the club since the 1950's and needs some TLC! -ed)

**Joseph K. Suszczynski, KF8DBA.** I became interested in the hobby in December of 2024. I am still learning about the different gear, so I haven't done much on air activities yet. I want to learn more about the hobby, and I look forward to meeting others in the club.

(Joe is being modest. Seems lately every time we run a class there are one or two folks who get fired up and pass the test two weeks into the six week class. Here is part of an email from Joe on Jan 1, 2025. *I studied over the holidays and got my tech and general. So, I am not going to be attending classes.* I just checked QRZ and it's showing Joe as an Extra, so he went from zero to Extra since the end of December 2024. We better grab a hose as Joe is too hot to handle! -ed)

**Robert Johnson, KB8DLO.** I was first interested in Radio during the CB crash of the late 70's, I do not remember my callsign sadly. I found I like making wire dipole or vertical antennas and decided to pursue my Amateur Radio License.

So, I got my Novice ticket back in 1988 and finally earning Advanced in 1989. Extra maybe this year? My first setup was a pair of Drake Twins and a dipole, what fun those days were.

During my studies for the Novice, I found I liked CW and began working it almost exclusively. Straight key was my favorite. I enjoyed seeing who I could contact via CW on the HF bands

I also got involved with packet radio over VHF but never migrated to HF digital.

I was a volunteer Firefighter/EMT for both Warren Twp and Southington Twp in Trumbull County during the 1990's.

At one point I was a member of WARA but dropped out of the club and hobby during the 1990's due to family, work, volunteering and continuing education.

I spent 30 years in IT doing everything from Helpdesk to programming and finally teaching. In 2023 I decided it was time to begin prepping for retirement. So, in 2024 I bought some new gear for HF (FTdx10) and VHF (Icom IC-2730) and a couple Baofeng HT's and then I retired July 2024.

Currently I'm only doing SSB on the HF, some VHF, but my goals are to get back into CW, but I also want to get involved in ARES and HF Digital modes as well.

So, club wise I would like to pick members brains to help get go on the air with digital modes and I would like to support the club in ARES activities.

Some of my other hobbies include Woodworking, Model trains, RC Airplanes and WWII Naval History, just to name a few.

Welcome aboard to all our new members, it's such a thrill to see the new faces and interests. Please don't hesitate to ask if there is something we can help you with.

This is also a good time to mention that the club has several loaner HF radios available to members for temporary use. They include a power supply and external antenna tuner if the radio does not have it internally. Most also come with a multiband dipole antenna. Drop us a note to [mvara.w8qly@gmail.com](mailto:mvara.w8qly@gmail.com) if you are interested in using one of the radios.

# Upcoming Contests and QSO Parties

**Dave Fairbanks N8NB**

**Contests:**

Source is [contestcalendar.com](http://contestcalendar.com)

## March 2025

+ ARRL Inter. DX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Mar 1 to 2400Z, Mar 2
+ Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest	0100Z-0159Z, Mar 4
+ AGCW YL-CW Party	1900Z-2100Z, Mar 4
+ QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Mar 5
+ VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest	1700Z-2100Z, Mar 5
+ Mini-Test 40	1700Z-1759Z, Mar 5
+ Mini-Test 80	1800Z-1859Z, Mar 5
+ CWops Test (CWT)	1900Z-2000Z, Mar 5
+ Weekly RTTY Test	0145Z-0215Z, Mar 7
+ Novice Rig Roundup	0000Z, Mar 8 to 2359Z, Mar 16
+ DIG QSO Party, SSB	1200Z-1700Z, Mar 8 (20m-10m) and 0700Z-0900Z, Mar 9 (80m) and 0900Z-1100Z, Mar 9 (40m)
+ Stew Perry Topband Challenge	1500Z, Mar 8 to 1500Z, Mar 9
+ Oklahoma QSO Party	1500Z, Mar 8 to 0200Z, Mar 9 and 1500Z-2100Z, Mar 9
+ TESLA Memorial HF CW Contest	1800Z, Mar 8 to 0559Z, Mar 9
+ Idaho QSO Party	1900Z, Mar 8 to 1900Z, Mar 9
+ North American Sprint, RTTY	0000Z-0359Z, Mar 9
+ UBA Spring Contest, 2m	0700Z-1100Z, Mar 9
+ YOTA Contest	1000Z-2159Z, Mar 9
+ Classic Exchange, Phone	1300Z, Mar 9 to 0700Z, Mar 10 and 1300Z, Mar 11 to 0700Z, Mar 12
+ Wisconsin QSO Party	1800Z, Mar 9 to 0100Z, Mar 10
+ Mini-Test 80	1800Z-1859Z, Mar 12
+ CWops Test (CWT)	1900Z-2000Z, Mar 12
+ PODXS 070 Club St Patrick's Day Contest	0000Z-2359Z, Mar 15
+ BARTG HF RTTY Contest	0200Z, Mar 15 to 0159Z, Mar 17
+ Russian DX Contest	1200Z, Mar 15 to 1200Z, Mar 16
+ Virginia QSO Party	1400Z, Mar 15 to 0400Z, Mar 16 and 1200Z-2400Z, Mar 16
+ AWA John Rollins Memorial DX Contest	2300Z, Mar 15 to 0300Z, Mar 17 and 2300Z, Mar 22 to 0300Z, Mar 24
+ NTC QSO Party	1900Z-2000Z, Mar 20
+ NCCC FT4 Sprint	0100Z-0130Z, Mar 21
+ FOC QSO Party	0000Z-2359Z, Mar 22
+ CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Mar 29 to 2359Z, Mar 30



+ Classic Exchange, CW

1300Z, Mar 30 to 0700Z, Mar 31 and  
1300Z, Apr 1 to 0700Z, Apr 2**DX Information**

Dave Fairbanks N8NB

Source is www.ng3k.com,

March					
2025 Mar01	2025 Mar01	<b>Antigua &amp; Barbuda</b>	<b>V26MN</b>	DF8AN	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20241031
2025 Mar01	2025 Mar09	<b>Montserrat</b>	<b>VP2MMN</b>	DF8AN	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20241031
2025 Mar03	2025 Apr01	<b>Turks &amp; Caicos</b>	<b>VP5</b>	LoTW	<a href="#">OPDX</a> 20250123
2025 Mar04	2025 Mar11	<b>Cocos Keeling</b>	<a href="#">V<b>K9CU</b></a>	LoTW	DL2AWG 20240911
2025 Mar05	2025 Mar16	<b>Barbados</b>	<b>8P9CB</b> <small>NEW</small>	WA7RAR Direct	<a href="#">LNDX</a> 20250212
2025 Mar08	2025 Mar29	<b>St Kitts &amp; Nevis</b>	<b>V4</b> <small>NEW</small>	LoTW	<a href="#">LNDX</a> 20250212
2025 Mar09	2025 Mar10	<b>Antigua &amp; Barbuda</b>	<b>V26MN</b>	DF8AN	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20241031
2025 Mar09	2025 Mar19	<b>San Andres &amp; Providencia</b>	<b>HK0A</b>	LoTW	<a href="#">DXW.Net</a> 20250204
2025 Mar09	2025 Apr05	<b>Sint Maarten</b>	<b>PJ7AA</b>	LoTW	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20240725
2025 Mar10	2025 Mar11	<b>St Martin</b>	<b>FS</b>	DF8AN	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20241031
2025 Mar10	2025 Mar25	<b>Andaman Is</b>	<a href="#">V<b>U4AX</b></a>	M0URX	<a href="#">DXW.Net</a> 20240723
2025 Mar12	2025 Mar24	<b>Jamaica</b>	<b>6Y7EI</b>	M0OXO	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20241206
2025 Mar17	2025 Mar31	<b>Grenada</b>	<a href="#">J<b>38XB</b></a>	VE2XB Direct	<a href="#">DXW.Net</a> 20250103
2025 Mar18	2025 Apr01	<b>Micronesia</b>	<b>V6WG</b>	LoTW	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20241216
2025 Mar18	2025 Apr08	<b>Tanzania</b>	<b>5H3MB</b> <small>NEW</small>	LoTW	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20250214
2025 Mar24	2025 Apr05	<b>Rodrigues I</b>	<b>3B9DJ</b>	LoTW	<a href="#">DXW.Net</a> 20240919

March 2025		<a href="mailto:mvara.w8qly@gmail.com">mvara.w8qly@gmail.com</a>			Volume 25-3
2025 Mar24	2025 Mar31	<b>Cyprus SBA</b>	<b>ZC4MK</b>	G0KOM	<a href="#">DXW.Net</a> 20241221
2025 Mar24	2025 Apr04	<b>St Barthelemy</b>	<b>TO1P</b> <small>NEW</small>	Club Log OQRS	SP9FIH 20250213
2025 Mar30	2025 Apr06	<b>Honduras</b>	<a href="#">HR9</a>	LoTW	<a href="#">OPDX</a> 20250130

Follow/Like us at:

<https://www.facebook.com/mahvalradio>

Website: The MVARA is on the web at [www.mvara.org](http://www.mvara.org). It is the place to go for club events, classes, newsletters, VE exams, swap and shop, repeaters, history, documents, and contact information.

24/7 Club Connection: The MVARA is on groups.io at <https://groups.io/g/mvara>. Members are invited to hang out with us there and discuss any ham related topic that interest them such as, Club Activities, Parks on the Air, Solar Cycle 25, EmComm, Special Event Stations, Contesting, Public Service, and Swap and Shop. There is video on our website at <https://mvara.org/videos.html> by Dave KD8NZF that shows how to use and join the 24/7 Club Connection.

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: [mvara.w8qly@gmail.com](mailto:mvara.w8qly@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--you don't need to be an MVARA member. You can include a picture for your listing. Please submit your list to [mvara.w8qly@gmail.com](mailto:mvara.w8qly@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 we are notified otherwise.

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 members. Contact Nancy, [nanceanne34@gmail.com](mailto:nanceanne34@gmail.com) for 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 - 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.

***Disclaimer***

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