



The RELAY)))

May
2024

The Official Publication of the Arrowhead Radio Amateur Club

A.R.A.C. Inc.

P.O. Box 7164 Duluth MN 55807-7164

<http://www.thearac.org>

Dues: Member \$20/Family \$25

INDEX

| | |
|------------------|----|
| Hamfest History | 1 |
| Board Minutes | 2 |
| Club Mtg Minutes | 4 |
| Prez Sez | 5 |
| Testing Sessions | 5 |
| CW Abbreviations | 6 |
| Band Plan | 6 |
| Nets | 7 |
| Repeaters | 8 |
| Members' Email | 10 |
| Calendar | 11 |
| Committee Chairs | 12 |
| ARAC Hamfest | 16 |
| Contest Calendar | 17 |

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Kim & Steve Waller

Kim - KEØNQS Steve - KEØNQT
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SPRING 2024



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Hamfest History

Marking One Century of Hamfests

A look back in history shows a variety of terms for annual or semi-annual gathering of hams in a region. Ham convention, ham swap meet, ham rally—all have been used in the past to describe an event for amateur radio enthusiasts to enjoy food and music, participate in crazy stunts, hear ham news, tell stories, swap advice—and sometimes trade radio equipment.

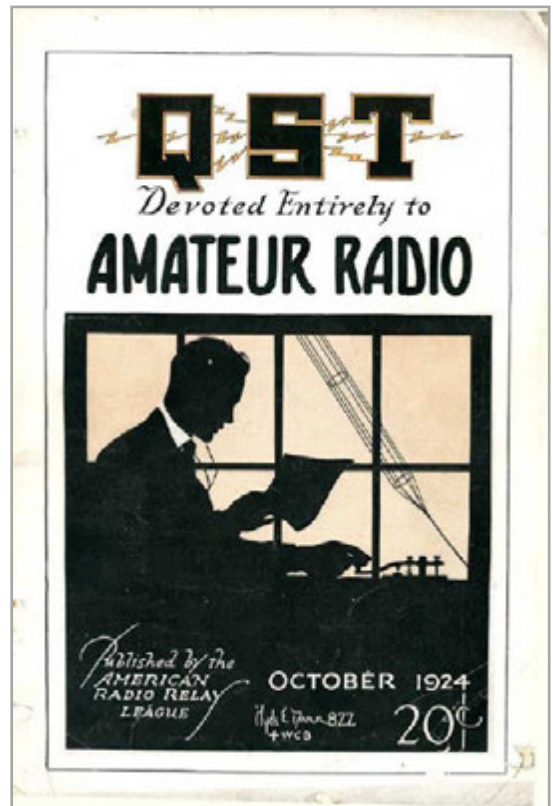
It was *QST Magazine*, however, that first published one of these special festivals as “*Hamfest*” in the October edition of 1924. Reporting on one of several such regional events, a headline on page 40 said:

“The Midwest Division Hamfest

Forty enthusiastic members of the Midwest division attended the banquet held under the auspices of the Citizen Radio Club of Omaha on August 9th at the Conant Hotel.”

The article went on to report that the Midwest Director L.B. Laizure was the distinguished speaker who “broke much-looked-for news of his first directors meeting in Hartford.” This of course refers to a directors meeting of the **American Radio Relay League (ARRL)**, headquartered in Hartford Connecticut.

The ARRL directors meetings were convened by legendary ARRL President **Hiram Percy Maxim**. Educated at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Maxim was an inventor and radio pioneer who, on April 6, 1914, co-founded the ARRL, with **Clarence Tuska**. A brilliant radio experimenter, Tuska was creator, owner and editor of *QST* from its inception in 1915 until he officially sold the publication to ARRL in 1919. To view PDFs of *QST* magazines from 1915 through 1969, visit <https://www.worldradiohistory.com/QST.htm>



Aptly named “QST” is amateur radio shorthand for “Calling All Stations.”

Continued on Page 13



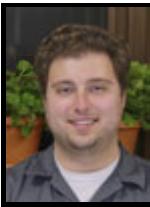
ARAC Board of Directors

PRESIDENT



NØVRM
Gene Ellefsen
3710 Chambersburg Ave
Duluth, MN 55811
218-390-3272
lspitech@mail.com

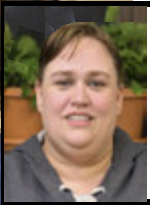
VICE PRESIDENT



KØDJP
David Pyrlík

david.pyrlík@gmail.com

SECRETARY



KFØGJW
Melinda Nelson

jonbeeyore@outlook.com

TREASURER



KEØYTM
Sam Frey

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AAØAW
Doug Nelson

aaøaw@arrl.com

2ND YEAR BOARD



AAØAC
Dave Davis

218-348-6649
aaøac@outlook.com

1ST YEAR BOARD



KD9VKI
Justin Cheever

PHOTO
COMING
SOON!

Board Meeting Minutes - April 2, 2024

Present:

Board Members

Gene Ellefsen – NØVRM, Dave Pyrlík – KØDJP, Melinda Nelson – KFØGJW, Dave Davis – AAØAC, Doug Nelson – AAØAW, Sam Frey – KEØYTM, Justin Cheever – KD9VKI

Board Advisors (Non-Board Members)

Randy Wabik – KRØB

Guest: Diane Saunders – KØDSL, and Robin Davis

Meeting called to order by President Gene – NØVRM at 18:35 (6:35 pm)

Minutes:

Minutes were sent via email. Motion to approve Gene Ellefsen – NØVRM. Seconded by Justin Cheever – KD9VKI, motion passed.

Treasurer's Report:

No report due to not being able to get on the portal.

Repeater:

Randy Wabik – KRØB Received the repeater last Friday. Will get with Dave Pyrlík and set up a time to go up and install it.

HamFest:

Coming up in May. Need a check for \$600.00 for the rent of the curling hall. Currently have 43 tables reserved. Still looking for donations for hourly prizes and Volunteers.

Testing:

The next big one will be at the HamFest on May 4th. Another test session on June 11th. After the General Class is done. As always if you are looking to test or upgrade, or know of anyone that is interested in testing please contact Doug Nelson at AAØAW@arrl.net

Continued on Page 3



ARAC Board of Directors

Name Tags:

Stewarts will do it for \$8.00 per badge. If we have a group of badges that go at one time then he will drop the price to \$6.00 per badge. With them local and competitive Doug made a motion to go with Stewarts. Seconded by Melinda Nelson – KF0GJW. Motion passed.

New Business:

Diane Saunders – K0DSL is requesting permission to use the Club call sign and QSL cards for a special event on June 1st. “Museum Ships Weekend 2024”. There will be a station set up on the William A. Irvin for Saturday. Starting at 10:00 AM and going till 5 or 6 pm. Also, looking for volunteers who would be interested in operating during the event and setting up.

Grandma’s Marathon:

We have a slight conflict of issue with Field Day being the same weekend as Grandma’s Marathon. If you have had a spot last year please let Doug Nelson – AA0AW know if you are going to be able to make it again this year to volunteer. Please register on Grandma’s Marathon Site. Password is Ham24. If you have any questions please contact Doug Nelson – AA0AW.

Motion to adjourn by Doug Nelson – AA0AW. Seconded by Sam Frey – KE0YTM, motion passed at 19:01 (7:01 pm)





ARAC Club Meeting Minutes

April 11, 2024

Minutes approved and seconded.

Treasurer report

Checking=\$1212.34

Savings = \$3255.72

Repeater=\$1371.12

Total cash=\$5839.18

CD=\$1748.93

Total overall=\$7588.11

- Approved - Justin

- Second - Paul D

Name/call sign badge announcement

- We have a vendor again - see Sam for requesting a badge, free for first badge, \$5 for replacements

Ham Fest Announcements

- We need: morning volunteers to start at 6, kitchen help, door prizes

We purchased a Yaseu DR2 repeated for the Duluth-Mahtowa link.

A repeater and antenna for the 94 has been bought but we want to also replace the feed line and will need to have a tower climb so more funds are needed.

Drawing to Justin



CLUB REPEATER

WØGKP

146.94 (-)

CTCSS TONE

103.5



Prez Sez ...

Hello Everyone,

Grandma's Marathon is rapidly approaching and this is Club's biggest event of the year. Now is the time to get out your radios and check to see they are operating correctly. If you need to replace batteries there is plenty of time to get them before **June 22**.

If you are a new Ham or have not volunteered before and would like to, please contact **Doug Nelson AA0AW** and he will get set up. **All Volunteers** must go to the Grandma's website as follows:

- ◆ Go to <https://grandmasmarathon.com/support-us/volunteer/>
- ◆ Click the green button that says:

REGISTER TO VOLUNTEER FOR THE 2024 GRANDMA'S MARATHON

- ◆ In the white password box, type **HAM24** and click the **Submit** button.

Hope to have you all join us to volunteer. This is a fun event and we get to show off our Radio Skills!!

73, Gene Ellefsen NØVRM



LOOKING for an Amateur Radio License TESTING SESSION?

Schedule your own Testing Session TODAY!

Contact Doug Nelson-AA0AW at aa0aw@arrl.net or 218-391-5874

All Exam Candidates are REQUIRED to have an FCC Registration Number (FRN) before exam day, which will require your email address.

Not Currently Licensed? For New License Candidate FRN registration, go to: www.fcc.gov/new-users-guide-getting-started-universal-licensing-system-uls

Upgrading to General or Expert Class & not sure you have an FRN number?
go to

<https://wireless2.fcc.gov/UISApp/UISSearch/searchLicense.jsp>


UPGRADE CANDIDATES:

Please bring a copy of your current license to the exam session.

CW Abbreviations

| | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| AR End of Message | AS Pse QRX | BK Back to You | SK End of Contact |
| TU Thank You | PSE Please | K Invite to Transmit | |
| QST Calling all Amateurs | QRL Are You Busy? | QRU Have anything for me | |
| QRV Are You Ready? | QRX Standby | QRS Transit Slower | |

| | | | | | |
|---|--------|---|--------|---|-----------|
| A | ●■■■ | M | ■■■■■ | Y | ■■■■●■■■ |
| B | ■■■■● | N | ■■■● | Z | ■■■■●● |
| C | ■■■■●● | O | ■■■■■ | 1 | ●■■■■■ |
| D | ■■■■●● | P | ■■■■●● | 2 | ●●■■■■■ |
| E | ● | Q | ■■■■■● | 3 | ●●●■■■■■ |
| F | ●●■■■ | R | ■■■■● | 4 | ●●●●■■■ |
| G | ■■■■● | S | ●●● | 5 | ●●●●● |
| H | ●●●● | T | ■■■ | 6 | ■■■■●●● |
| I | ●● | U | ●●■■■ | 7 | ■■■■●●●● |
| J | ■■■■■ | V | ●●●■■■ | 8 | ■■■■●●●●● |
| K | ■■■■● | W | ■■■■●● | 9 | ■■■■●●●●● |
| L | ■■■■●● | X | ■■■■●● | 0 | ■■■■■■■ |



US Amateur Radio Bands

US AMATEUR POWER LIMITS

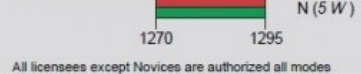
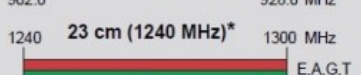
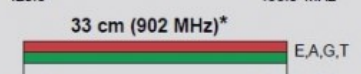
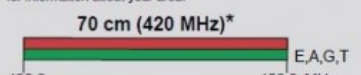
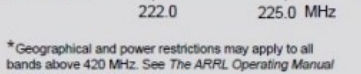
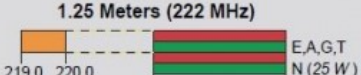
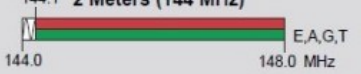
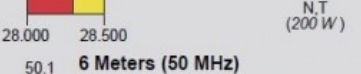
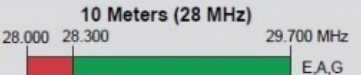
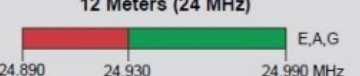
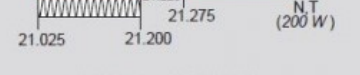
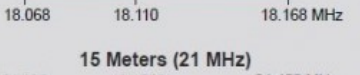
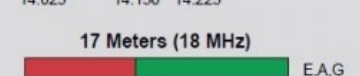
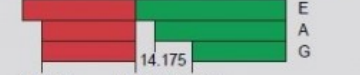
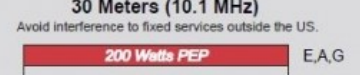
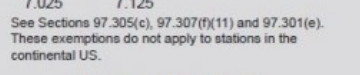
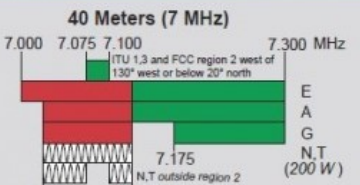
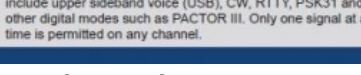
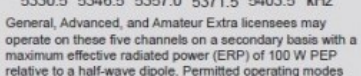
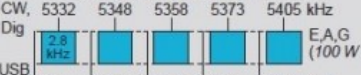
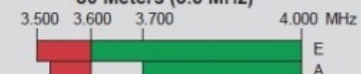
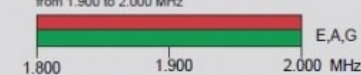
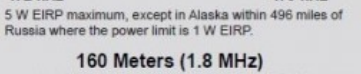
FCC 97.313 An amateur station must use the minimum transmitter power necessary to carry out the desired communications. (b) No station may transmit with a transmitter power exceeding 1.5 kW PEP.

Effective Date for
2,200 and 630 Meters
to be announced



ARRL THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR AMATEUR RADIO

On March 28, 2017, the Federal Communications Commission adopted rules that will allow Amateur Radio access to 472-479 kHz (630 meters) and to 135.7-137.8 kHz (2,200 meters). However, amateurs cannot use these frequencies until 30 days after the Report and Order is published in the Federal Register and the final procedures for registering stations with the Utilities Telecom Council (UTC) have been approved and announced. At the time this chart was created, the Report and Order had not been published and the UTC online registration site is not yet available. Follow ARRL news for further information. New charts will be published at www.arrl.org/graphical-frequency-allocations when the bands are fully available for use.



KEY

Note: CW operation is permitted throughout all amateur bands.

MCW is authorized above 50.1 MHz, except for 144.0-144.1 and 219-220 MHz.

Test transmissions are authorized above 51 MHz, except for 219-220 MHz.

- = RTTY and data
- = phone and image
- = CW only
- = SSB phone
- = USB phone, CW, RTTY, and data
- = Fixed digital message forwarding systems only

E = Amateur Extra
A = Advanced
G = General
T = Technician
N = Novice

See ARRLWeb at www.arrl.org for detailed band plans.

ARRL We're At Your Service

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Toll-Free 1-800-326-3942 (860-594-0355)
email: news@arrl.org

Exams: 860-594-0300 email: vec@arrl.org



Have a favorite HF/6m/2m/1.25m/70cm net that you check into or listen in on? Also, please send corrections and we will add it to the list below - Kim KEØNQS at my email KEØNQS.mn@gmail.com.

- **Northland Weather Group Net:** Mondays 2000 on the ARAC repeater (146.940 MHz with a tone of 103.5 and standard offset).
- **Minnesota D-Star Net:** Sundays at 19:30 on Reflector 53A
- **Minnesota Section Net** 1200 and 1730 on 3.860 [Net Manager: NØYR] http://www.mn-section.org/dept_stm.html
- The non-non-net: Evenings 2000 144.200 USB except for Sunday evenings.
- Badger WX Net: 0500-0715 on 3.985. Give 24 hour high/low/current temperature, precipitation and snowfall.
- **PICONET:** 3.925 from 0900-1100 CT Mon-Sat and 1600-1700 CT Mon-Fri. Info at: <http://www.piconet3925.com>
- Michigan Upper Peninsula Net: 1600 (CST) on 3.921 MHz Sun-Sat and 1200 Sun. Info: <http://www.michupnet.com>
- Great Lakes Marine/Maritime Mobile Net: Morning 07:30 - 3.932; 08:15 - 7.261 MHz and evening 18:30 - 3.1730927; 19:15 - 7.268 MHz. Weekend extra net: 10:00 - 7.261/7.268 MHz. All CST, LSB and +/- QRM. See: <http://www.sailblogs.com/member/glimmnet/>
- MIDCARS: 07:30-13:00 - 7.258 MHz. See: <http://www.midcars.net>
- Iowa snowbird net on 14.257MHz, M-W-F at 10:00 am Local Time. This is an open net.
- Spider Web Net (Marco Island FL) on 14.347 every morning at 0730 CST/CDT: <http://www.spiderwebnet.net>
- Maritime Mobile Service Network: Daily at 1100—2100 Central on 14.300. <http://mmsn.org> and <http://www.14300.net>
- RV Radio Network: Every day at 1900 Central on 7.265 MHz. Web site: <http://www.rvradionetwork.com>
- Upper Midwest Ten Meter Net: Every Thursday Evening @ 8 PM – 28.480 MHz USB
- Wisconsin Sideband Net: Daily @ 5:15 PM – 3985 [or 3982.5] KHz LSB
- Hobby Helpers Net - Tuesday @ 8 PM – 28.330 MHz USB (Isanti MN) LSB [Net Manager: WOØA].
- Northstar Trader Net: 3.908 +/- at 0830 CST Sundays
- WARFA: 3.908 +/- Sun/Tue/Thu nights at 2200 CST, <http://warfa.org/>
- Youth Net: 14.320-14330 Sundays 1800-1900 UTC, Net Control: AC8PI
- YACHT: Saturdays 1900 CST on EchoLink #481872, <http://yachthams.webstarts.com>
- Northwestern Ontario ARES Net: Evenings at 20:15 (Central) on +/- 3.750Mhz
- The Iron Range Net: Saturdays at 0800 Central time on or near 3.919 Mhz. Look them up on Facebook!
- FORX Net: Mondays at 1900 Central at 3.941 Mhz +/- QRM. WAØJXT — Grand Forks, North Dakota
- HF CW: Fridays 08:00 CST, 7.112 MHz. Informal slow speed CW Net. W8IRT NCS. Email: w8irt@aol.com
- Minnesota ARES Digital Net: Thursdays at 2000 CST, 3.5835 MHz USB +/- QRM, Mode: Olivia 8/500.
- SARA Digital Net: Sundays at 1900 Local, 3.582.150 MHz USB +/- QRM, Mode: BPSK31/BPSK63
- Spider Web Net (Marco Island FL): 14.347 every morning at 0730 CST/CDT: <http://www.spiderwebnet.net>
- Broadcaster Net: 7.231 or 3.855 M/W/F @ 1500 UTC. 14.255 M-F @ 2130 UTC. <http://www.cbsretirees.com/ham.htm>
- Old Military Radio Net: 7.268 +/- nightly at 0200z. Other times/Frequencies too. See: <http://www.mrca.ar88.net/>
- Rag Chew Crew/Tailgaters/Freewheelers Nets: 3.916 +/- nightly at 1900 CST, <http://www.tailgatersnet.com>
- North South Net: 7.214.6 +/- at 0700 CST, Monday-Saturday



DULUTH AREA REPEATERS

ARAC System WØGKP

| Frequency | Offset | Tone | Location |
|-----------|------------|-------|------------------------|
| 146.940 | minus | 103.5 | Duluth |
| 146.940 | minus | 107.2 | Lakeside (recv) |
| 146.940 | minus | 151.4 | Two Harbors (recv) |
| 146.940 | minus | 100.0 | Gary-New Duluth (recv) |
| 146.940 | minus | 110.9 | Cloquet (recv) |
| 147.000 | minus | 103.5 | Mahtowa |
| 444.100 | plus 103.5 | | Duluth UHF Link |

N9MMU/N9QWH System (WI)

| | | | |
|---------|------------|-------|---------------|
| 145.310 | minus | 110.9 | Duluth |
| 145.490 | minus | 110.9 | Solon Springs |
| 147.255 | plus 110.9 | | Hayward |
| 145.110 | minus | 110.9 | Rice Lake |
| 147.345 | minus | 136.5 | Holcombe |
| 145.230 | minus | 110.9 | Eau Claire |

WECOMM – WI Statewide Linked System WE9COM

| | | | |
|---------|------------|--|---|
| 147.075 | plus 110.9 | | Meteor Hill (closest repeater to Duluth) |
|---------|------------|--|---|

LSAC System # 1

| | | | |
|---------|------------|-------|---------------------------|
| 147.330 | plus 151.4 | | Proctor |
| 147.330 | plus 103.5 | | Duluth (recv for Proctor) |
| 147.270 | plus 114.8 | | Two Harbors |
| 147.270 | plus 103.5 | | Wales |
| 147.090 | plus 114.8 | | Silver Bay |
| 145.410 | minus | 114.8 | Finland |
| 147.300 | plus 114.8 | | Isabella |
| 145.150 | minus | 103.5 | Washburn, WI |
| 146.700 | minus | 103.5 | Bayfield, WI |
| 443.850 | +5.00 | none | Bayfield, WI |
| 147.165 | plus 110.9 | | Hurley, WI |
| 146.640 | minus | 151.4 | Ely |
| 443.500 | +5.00 | 141.3 | Gilbert |
| 147.060 | plus 103.5 | | Virginia |
| 147.360 | plus 162.2 | | Cook |
| 147.165 | plus 114.8 | | Coleraine |
| 443.925 | +5.00 | 110.9 | Brainerd |
| 443.200 | +5.00 | 114.8 | Tamarack |
| 147.360 | plus 203.5 | | Aitkin |
| 146.865 | minus | 146.2 | Giese |
| 147.570 | simplex | 146.2 | Hinckley |
| 444.575 | +5.00 | 146.2 | Hinckley |
| 443.325 | +5.00 | 146.2 | Isanti |



DULUTH AREA REPEATERS, continued

NARC System NAØRC

147.135 plus 103.5 Knife River
 145.450 minus 114.8 Park Point (rcv)
 147.135 plus 114.8 Knife River - Park Point (rcv)

Stand Alone Repeaters

145.210 minus 110.9 Clam Lake, WI
 146.880 minus 123.0 Grand Rapids, MN
 146.910 minus 146.2 Duxbury, MN
 146.955 minus 146.2 Askov, MN
 147.105 plus 110.9 Chaffey, WI
 444.850 +5.00 141.3 Cloquet, MN

Fusion

Fusion (Analog has tone and C4FM digital with no tone)

147.150 plus 151.4 NTØB Gilbert. MN Fusion Repeater
 145.170 minus 110.9 WA9KLM Superior, WI – Douglas County RACES/ARES Fusion Repeater (Digital only) Fusion Room 28373
 145.250 minus 103.5 KBØYHX Cloquet, MN – Carlton County RACES/ARES Fusion Repeater
 444.300 +5.00 103.5 NØEO Duluth, MN – Spirit Valley Amateurs Fusion Repeater WIRES-X NØEO (Analog only) Fusion Room 40494
 444.400 +5.00 103.5 NAØRC Knife River, MN – Wires X Connected to NØEO Room 40494
 444.500 +5.00 103.5 NØLCR Two Harbors, MN – Wires X Connected to NØEO Room 40494
 444.600 +5.00 103.5 NØLCR Silver Bay, MN – Wires X Connected to NØEO Room 40494
 444.800 +5.00 103.5 NØLCR Grand Marais, MN – Wires X Connected to NØEO Room 40494

D-Star

147.375 plus NØEO D Star
 442.200 plus NØEO D Star

Rev. KCØWDQ as of 10/1/22 For ARAC Newsletter

Elmers

El-mer / el-mər/ [el-mer]

1. a male given name: from Old English words meaning "noble" and "famous."
2. an adhesive used to bond like or unlike materials
3. An experienced ham radio operator who mentors new and prospective hams.

| Name | Call Sign | Expertise |
|--------------|-----------|--|
| Jeff Nast | KCØMKS | APRS, EchoLink, WinLink, Fusion, Contesting |
| Bob Schulz | KCØNFB | Contesting |
| Jim Anderson | NØJWA | QsoNet |
| Doug Nelson | AAØAW | HF, VHF/UHF, Contesting, Packet, APRS, Morse Code, VE testing, Echolink, Allstar, EmCom... |



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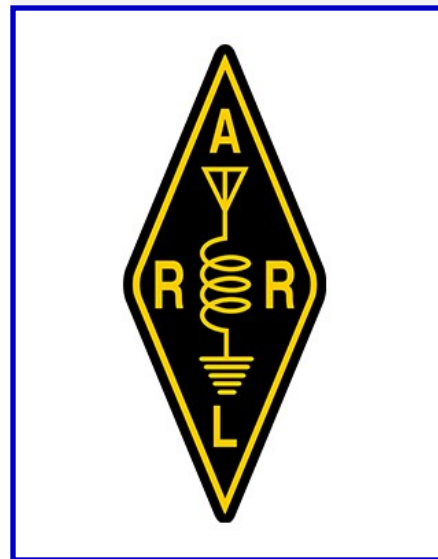
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Members, please check your name and email address for accuracy. If you are not on this list and want to be on the list, contact us with your info. If you need to make a change, please let us know at KE0NQS.mn@gmail.com OR KE0NQT@gmail.com







SUNDAY NIGHT NETS
 1930 - CW - 28.125 MHz USB-CW
 2000 - USB 28.450 MHz
 2100 - Southern St. Louis County
 Emergency Services Net
MONDAY NIGHT NETS
 2000 - Northland WX Net - ARAC Repeater

MAY

CLUB EVENTS

TUESDAY NIGHT NETS
 2000 - Douglas Cty 145.490 MHz
 2030 - Central Carlton County
WEDNESDAY NIGHT NETS
 1900 - Lake County - LSAC1
 2nd & 4th Wednesdays
 2100 - BWAR

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | 1 May Day  2100 - BWAR | 2 | 3 | 4 Hamfest 9 am—1 pm Head of the Lakes Fairgrounds 4700 Tower Ave Superior, WI |
| 5 CW 1930 NØPDG USB 2000 K9KDK ES 2100 KCØWDQ | 6 DC ARES/ RACES Mtg 1900 DC EOC WX 2000 KCØMKS | 7 ARAC BOARD MEETING Sammy's Pizza 6:30 pm DC Net 2000 CC Net 2030 | 8 Lake County ARES/ RACES Meeting 1800 Lake County Net 1900 2100 - BWAR | 9 | 10 ARAC Club Meeting Coppertop Church 7:00 PM | 11 |
| 12 Mothers Day  CW 1930 AAØAW USB 2000 NØVRM ES 2100 NØVRM | 13 DC ARES/ RACES Mtg 1900 DC EOC WX 2000 KCØMKS | 14 DC Net 2000 CC Net 2030 | 15 St Louis County ARES/RACES Meeting 1800 2100 - BWAR | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 CW 1930 NØPDG USB 2000 NØPDG ES 2100 KEØYTM | 20 WX 2000 KCØMKS | 21 DC Net 2000 CC Net 2030 | 22 Lake County Net 1900 2100 - BWAR | 23 Carlton County ARES/RACES Meeting 1900 CC EOC | 24 | 25 ARAC Club Breakfast The Chalet 8 am |
| 26 CW 1930 AAØAW USB 2000 AAØAW ES 2100 AAØAW | 27 Memorial Day  WX 2000 KCØMKS | 28 DC Net 2000 CC Net 2030 | 29 2100 - BWAR | 30 | 31 | |
| | | | | |  | |

Get this newsletter *faster*
via email!

Email Doug AAØAW at
aa0aw@arrl.net

Next Club Meeting:
Thursday,
May 9th, 2024 - 7 pm

ARAC Committee Chairs



Club License Trustee:

Ray Barnes KEØZN

Control Operators:

AAØAW - NØKXT - KCØNFB

Newsletter/Historian:

Kim KEØNQS & Steve KEØNQT
Waller

Education Chair:

Bob Schulz KCØNFB

Hamfest Chair:

Bob Schulz KCØNFB

Chaplain:

Rollie Bockbader KBØCK

Visiting Chaplin:

Parliamentarian:

Grant Forsyth KCØWUP

Website:

Thomas Dorr KEØRHA

Membership:

Sam Frey KEØYTM

Property Chair:

Scott Ahlgren NØVYU

Testing:

Doug Nelson AAØAW

Field Day:

Picnic Chair:

Scott Ahlgren, NØVYU

Repeater Chairs:

Randy Haglin NØBZZ
Randy Wabik KAØJZV

Contest Calendar at www.contestcalendar.com

National Contest Journal at www.ncjweb.com

QSO Party Note: State/Province/National QSO Parties are abbreviated with the 2 or 3 letter abbreviation for the state/province/national designation followed by QP for QSO Party:

Examples: Minnesota QSO Party is MNQP
British Columbia QSO Party = BCQP

QRZ web site at www.qrz.com

VHF Propagation site at www.aprs.mountainlake.k12.mn.us

Reminder: The Contest Corral monthly listing of contests can be found in each issue of QST. ARRL sponsored contests can be found in Contest Corral, highlighted, or on the ARRL's web site at arrl.org.

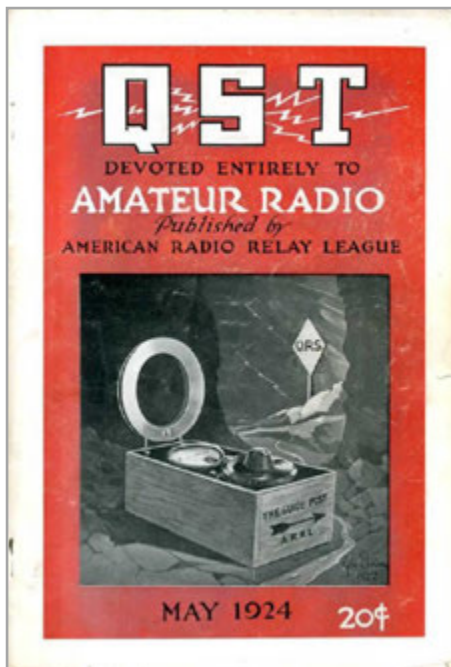
Hamfest History continued from page 1

From the beginning of ARRL history, these ARRL regional festivals and Club events were an exciting gathering of what would best be described as the “technology nerds” of their day. This is term is not meant to belittle at all, for many of these are giants in technology history, especially in (but not at all limited to) amateur radio. These men were dedicated to teaching radio technology to an eager public, for the good of humanity. This is not an understatement of their goals, as **they firmly believed that communication technology is essential to the future health, safety, convenience and enjoyment of civilization.**

Those were the days that amateur radio operators usually gathered individual parts to build their own stations. They savored advice on the newest understanding of power, reception, and transmission. The public therefore also served as “citizen scientists”, experimenting with various components and situations and submitting their observations of success or failure to other hams, including occasional publication in **QST** magazine.

Until the internet, **QST** was arguably the most important way to gather the amateur radio community virtually in “one place.” The publication would set the tone for hamfest program content for at least 7 decades.

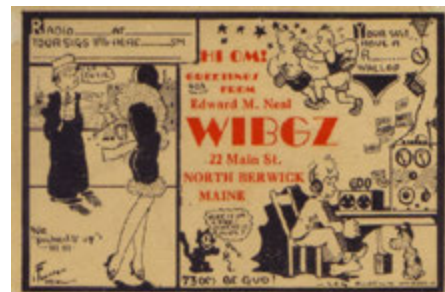
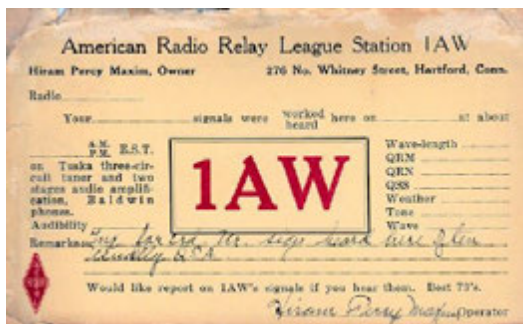
In the early days, hamfests were considered prestigious members-only events, sometimes a 2- or 3-day duration. They incorporated things like ticketed “waffle breakfasts” benefitting a local orphanage or Salvation Army. They listened to a keynote speaker for insights on new technology development, the predecessor to our modern “trade show rep” at a vendor table iteration. They did silly contest stunts like running a race against each other with a spoon and a uncracked egg to win prizes. They had sit-down dinners with musical accompaniment, whether live musicians from the ham community or an amplified radio show. They viewed each other’s QSL Card designs, laughed, made new friends, and renewed “lapsed” friendships from prior years.



Typical QST article content (right) with project diagrams for hams to build or improve their stations. See description “Pyrex strip cut from pie plate” which we loved, & outlined in red!

This block contains several technical diagrams and text from a QST article. It includes:

- Monitoring the Wave:** A circuit diagram for an oscillator with a plate circuit and a grid circuit. Text explains the importance of monitoring the wave and provides instructions for adjusting the circuit.
- 5 METER OSCILLATOR CIRCUIT:** A circuit diagram for a 5-meter oscillator, including a transformer and various components.
- Keying System:** A circuit diagram for a keying system, showing a key connected to a transmitter circuit.
- Pyrex Strip:** A diagram showing a strip of Pyrex glass cut from a pie plate, used as a component in a circuit.
- 5 METER OSCILLATOR CIRCUIT:** A detailed circuit diagram for a 5-meter oscillator, including a transformer and various components.
- Keying System:** A detailed circuit diagram for a keying system, showing a key connected to a transmitter circuit.



After World War II ended on September 2, 1945, “pre-assembled” amateur radio component manufacturing became much more common place and assembling your choice of commercially available components for your station became the standard, rather than building your station “from the ground up”. This naturally gave rise to hamfests that featured a trade show/swap meet format, whether outdoors or inside. Vendors showed the latest ready-made ham radio components and some of them would even take your old **Continued on Page 14**

Hamfest History continued from page 13

gear as trade-ins. Hams set up tables with their used gear to sell or trade with other hams and talked for hours about various exciting aspects of the hobby. Many hamfests became family-style events that had indoor exhibit tables at a community center or other location along with outdoor swap tables, picnic tables, and tables with lemonade, baked goods or hot dogs for sale. Adjacent parking lots had cars with mobile stations to show to one another. Hamfests became the number one way to sell or trade your used amateur radio equipment and upgrade to a newer item.



Hamfest History Images

Upper Left: 1939 Boston Hamfest Token & W1UP Registration Tag

Upper Right: 1956 ARRL New England Convention, Cranston, RI

Above Photo Credits: Skip Youngberg K1NKR, <https://hamxposition.org>

Lower Left: 1950 Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association Hamfest

Photo Credit: Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Assoc. www.qsl.net/sccara

Lower Right: 1977 Rockhill, SC Hamfest – Press Release Photo

Photo Credit: Knight Publishers Newspapers



Nowadays, the number one way to sell your used ham radio equipment is on the internet. Ebay, Facebook Marketplace, Craigslist and Community pages commonly list items to pick up locally year round. This has changed the dynamics for many Amateur Radio Club Hamfests, as vendor table sales for used goods decreases. Virtually all of the Club websites & blogs I've visited observed this clear trend.

Continued on Page 15

Hamfest History continued from page 14

Not to worry! Hamfests are adapting to this in a variety of ways. Some have Club members sponsor tables as exhibits of ham radio history, which is a LOT of fun. Showcasing your vintage collection of items and manning the table to tell attendees about them is great. Exhibiting your Dad's or Grand Dad's vintage station is wonderful, along with their collection of QSL cards or other items. All of these things tell the story of those who came before us in the hobby and ignited us to join in too! See our [ARAC 2024 Hamfest](#) on page 16.

Many hamfests are now featuring several technical **"How To" sessions** where elmers present cool projects they've done step-by-step, and audience Q&A is encouraged throughout. Young hams get to learn about an aspect of the hobby they've never tried, while seasoned hams get ideas and pointers too.

Some Clubs are shifting focus to robust trade-show style hamfests, even joining forces with other Clubs to create a larger regional event that includes live demos and food vendors. These have already been common in the bigger cities' convention centers & are often advertised as "ham conventions", featuring new products.

Other hamfests have shifted to a outdoor ticketed family-focused festival atmosphere with home-grown music, local food trucks or vendor tables, kid-friendly activities, and family exhibit tables to swap and/or sell used ham radio items and other miscellany.

Many Clubs are simply doing a ticketed BBQ Hamfest instead of food trucks, where Club members make the various food selections, along with a Best Dessert contest and raffles. A couple of years ago there was one that included a pie contest at an extra ticket price and paying pie tasters got to rank the pies on a ballot for blue ribbon, red ribbon and white ribbon. Another hamfest had an ice cream social that attracted their community and was the Club's biggest fundraising year.



Glacier Waterton Hamfest

"The oldest continuous running annual hamfest in the world! Every year since 1934! 90 years and counting."

Glacier Meadow RV Park and Campground, East Essex, MT
Visit <https://www.gwhamfest.org/>

This beautiful annual outdoor hamfest attracts U.S. and Canadian families and features an ice cream social, outdoor BBQ, tailgate swap meet, raffles, "historic beer bottle auction & more!

All photos Credit Elizabeth Simon

All of this reminds me of the 1950 SCCARA Hamfest BBQ invitation we saw on page 14, and how so many clubs are just returning to a relaxed form of outdoor hamfests that attract the community around them. Like the post-WW2 era, we've all been through a lot the past few years. But we're going to continue to keep gathering together, indoor or outdoor, what ever it looks like, laugh, tell our stories, and realize we have great hope and a bright future.

We really do, so believe it. ***The best is yet to come.*** ★

Arrowhead Radio Amateur Club 2024 Hamfest

Saturday May 4th, 2024 9am – 1pm

HEAD OF THE LAKES FAIRGROUNDS, MULTI-PURPOSE BUILDING

4700 Tower Ave (WI HWY 35), Superior WI 54880

The fairgrounds are located next to the Superior Airport

Admission \$10 (12 and under FREE)

Free parking for most vehicles

Used and like new radios, electronic equipment,
tools, vendor reps, parts, and computer items.

<<QSL card checking for ARRL awards programs by: Mike Cizek W0VTT>>

Mike's Email: mgcizek@gmail.com



This is an A.R.R.L. sanctioned event.

Come meet your ARRL representatives!

Talk-in on W0GKP Repeater:
146.940 (-) [103.5] Duluth
146.940 (-) [151.4] 2 Harbors
147.000 (-) [103.5] Mahtowa

Dealer / Vendor Tables:
4 foot table: \$5 8 foot table: \$10
Vendor setup starts at: 7am

Testing on site!

10am 4-H Building
Contact: Doug AA0AW
218-391-5874
AA0AW@ARRL.NET

Table Reservations

Robert Schulz, KC0NFB
115 Eden LN, Duluth, MN 55805-1533
218-390-5000 (please use email below)
arac_hamfest@charter.net

WWW.THEARAC.ORG

Hourly Drawings! Grand Prize: \$500



Contest Calendar - May 2024

| | |
|--|--|
| + Phone Weekly Test | 0230Z-0300Z, May 1 |
| + A1Club AWT | 1200Z-1300Z, May 1 |
| + CWops Test | 1300Z-1400Z, May 1 |
| + AGCW QRP/QRP Party | 1300Z-1900Z, May 1 |
| + Mini-Test 40 | 1700Z-1759Z, May 1 |
| + VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest | 1700Z-2100Z, May 1 |
| + Mini-Test 80 | 1800Z-1859Z, May 1 |
| + CWops Test | 1900Z-2000Z, May 1 |
| + Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest | 0000Z-0100Z, May 2 and 0200Z-0300Z, May 3 |
| + CWops Test | 0300Z-0400Z, May 2 |
| + CWops Test | 0700Z-0800Z, May 2 |
| | 1800Z-1900Z, May 2 (CW) and 1900Z-2000Z, May 2 (SSB) and 2000Z-2100Z, May 2 (FM) and 2100Z-2200Z, May 2 (Dig) |
| + NRAU 10m Activity Contest | 2000Z-2200Z, May 2 |
| + SKCC Sprint Europe | 0100Z-0130Z, May 3 |
| + NCCC FT4 Sprint | 0145Z-0215Z, May 3 |
| + Weekly RTTY Test | 0230Z-0300Z, May 3 |
| + NCCC Sprint | 2000Z-2100Z, May 3 |
| + K1USN Slow Speed Test | 0001Z, May 4 to 2359Z, May 5 |
| + 10-10 Int. Spring Contest, CW | 0300Z-0859Z, May 4 |
| + RCC Cup | 0600 local, May 4 to 2359 local, May 5 |
| + SBMS 2.3 GHz and Up Contest and Club Challenge | 0800-1400 local, May 4 |
| + Microwave Spring Sprint | 1200Z, May 4 to 1159Z, May 5 |
| + ARI International DX Contest | 1200Z, May 4 to 1200Z, May 5 |
| + F9AA Cup, PSK | 1300Z, May 4 to 0700Z, May 5 |
| + 7th Call Area QSO Party | 1500Z, May 4 to 0300Z, May 5 |
| + Indiana QSO Party | 1700Z, May 4 to 2359Z, May 5 |
| + Delaware QSO Party | |

Continued on Page 18



Contest Calendar - May 2024

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| + New England QSO Party | 2000Z, May 4 to 0500Z, May 5 and 1300Z-2400Z, May 5 |
| + MIE 33 Contest | 2300Z, May 4 to 0300Z, May 5 |
| + WAB 7 MHz Phone | 1000Z-1400Z, May 5 |
| + K1USN Slow Speed Test | 0000Z-0100Z, May 6 |
| + ICWC Medium Speed Test | 1300Z-1400Z, May 6 |
| + OK1WC Memorial | 1630Z-1729Z, May 6 |
| + ICWC Medium Speed Test | 1900Z-2000Z, May 6 |
| + ARS Spartan Sprint | 0000Z-0200Z, May 7 |
| + Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest | 0100Z-0159Z, May 7 |
| + ICWC Medium Speed Test | 0300Z-0400Z, May 7 |
| + Phone Weekly Test | 0230Z-0300Z, May 8 |
| + A1Club AWT | 1200Z-1300Z, May 8 |
| + CWops Test | 1300Z-1400Z, May 8 |
| + Mini-Test 40 | 1700Z-1759Z, May 8 |
| + VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest | 1700Z-2100Z, May 8 |
| + Mini-Test 80 | 1800Z-1859Z, May 8 |
| + CWops Test | 1900Z-2000Z, May 8 |
| + CWops Test | 0300Z-0400Z, May 9 |
| + CWops Test | 0700Z-0800Z, May 9 |
| + QRP Minimal Art Session | 1400Z-2200Z, May 9 |
| + NCCC FT4 Sprint | 0100Z-0130Z, May 10 |
| + Weekly RTTY Test | 0145Z-0215Z, May 10 |
| + NCCC Sprint | 0230Z-0300Z, May 10 |
| + K1USN Slow Speed Test | 2000Z-2100Z, May 10 |
| + FISTS Saturday Sprint | 0000Z-2359Z, May 11 |
| + SKCC Weekend Sprintathon | 1200Z, May 11 to 2400Z, May 12 |
| + CQ-M International DX Contest | 1200Z, May 11 to 1159Z, May 12 |
| + VOLTA WW RTTY Contest | 1200Z, May 11 to 1200Z, May 12 |
| + Canadian Prairies QSO Party | 1700Z, May 11 to 0300Z, May 12 |

Continued on Page 19



Contest Calendar - May 2024

| | |
|---|--|
| + 50 MHz Spring Sprint | 2300Z, May 11 to 0300Z, May 12 |
| + K1USN Slow Speed Test | 0000Z-0100Z, May 13 |
| + 4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint | 0000Z-0200Z, May 13 |
| + ICWC Medium Speed Test | 1300Z-1400Z, May 13 |
| + OK1WC Memorial | 1630Z-1729Z, May 13 |
| + ICWC Medium Speed Test | 1900Z-2000Z, May 13 |
| + RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB | 1900Z-2030Z, May 13 |
| + Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest | 0100Z-0159Z, May 14 |
| + ICWC Medium Speed Test | 0300Z-0400Z, May 14 |
| + DARC FT4 Contest | 1900Z-2000Z, May 14 |
| + Phone Weekly Test | 0230Z-0300Z, May 15 |
| + A1Club AWT | 1200Z-1300Z, May 15 |
| + CWops Test | 1300Z-1400Z, May 15 |
| + VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest | 1700Z-2100Z, May 15 |
| + Mini-Test 40 | 1700Z-1759Z, May 15 |
| + Mini-Test 80 | 1800Z-1859Z, May 15 |
| + CWops Test | 1900Z-2000Z, May 15 |
| + Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest | 0000Z-0100Z, May 16 and 0200Z-0300Z, May 17 |
| + NAQCC CW Sprint | 0030Z-0230Z, May 16 |
| + CWops Test | 0300Z-0400Z, May 16 |
| + CWops Test | 0700Z-0800Z, May 16 |
| + NTC QSO Party | 1900Z-2000Z, May 16 |
| + NCCC FT4 Sprint | 0100Z-0130Z, May 17 |
| + Weekly RTTY Test | 0145Z-0215Z, May 17 |
| + NCCC Sprint | 0230Z-0300Z, May 17 |
| + K1USN Slow Speed Test | 2000Z-2100Z, May 17 |
| + UN DX Contest | 0600Z-2100Z, May 18 |
| + NZART Sangster Shield Contest | 0800Z-1100Z, May 18 and 0800Z-1100Z, May 19 |

Continued on Page 20



Contest Calendar - May 2024

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| + EU PSK DX Contest | 1200Z, May 18 to 1200Z, May 19 |
| + His Maj. King of Spain Contest, CW | 1200Z, May 18 to 1200Z, May 19 |
| + Arkansas QSO Party | 1400Z, May 18 to 0200Z, May 19 |
| + Feld Hell Sprint | 1600Z-2000Z, May 18 |
| + Baltic Contest | 2100Z, May 18 to 0200Z, May 19 |
| + FISTS Sunday Sprint | 0000Z-2359Z, May 19 |
| + Run for the Bacon QRP Contest | 2300Z, May 19 to 0100Z, May 20 |
| + K1USN Slow Speed Test | 0000Z-0100Z, May 20 |
| + ICWC Medium Speed Test | 1300Z-1400Z, May 20 |
| + OK1WC Memorial | 1630Z-1729Z, May 20 |
| + RSGB FT4 Contest | 1900Z-2030Z, May 20 |
| + ICWC Medium Speed Test | 1900Z-2000Z, May 20 |
| + Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest | 0100Z-0159Z, May 21 |
| + ICWC Medium Speed Test | 0300Z-0400Z, May 21 |
| + SKCC Sprint | 0000Z-0200Z, May 22 |
| + Phone Weekly Test | 0230Z-0300Z, May 22 |
| + A1Club AWT | 1200Z-1300Z, May 22 |
| + CWops Test | 1300Z-1400Z, May 22 |
| + Mini-Test 40 | 1700Z-1759Z, May 22 |
| + Mini-Test 80 | 1800Z-1859Z, May 22 |
| + CWops Test | 1900Z-2000Z, May 22 |
| + RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data | 1900Z-2030Z, May 22 |
| + CWops Test | 0300Z-0400Z, May 23 |
| + CWops Test | 0700Z-0800Z, May 23 |
| + NCCC FT4 Sprint | 0100Z-0130Z, May 24 |
| + Weekly RTTY Test | 0145Z-0215Z, May 24 |
| + NCCC Sprint | 0230Z-0300Z, May 24 |
| + K1USN Slow Speed Test | 2000Z-2100Z, May 24 |
| + CQ WW WPX Contest, CW | 0000Z, May 25 to 2359Z, May 26 |
| + K1USN Slow Speed Test | 0000Z-0100Z, May 27 |

Continued on Page 21



Contest Calendar - May 2024

| | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| + QRP ARCI Hootowl Sprint | 0000Z-0100Z, May 27 |
| + ICWC Medium Speed Test | 1300Z-1400Z, May 27 |
| + QCX Challenge | 1300Z-1400Z, May 27 |
| + OK1WC Memorial | 1630Z-1729Z, May 27 |
| + ICWC Medium Speed Test | 1900Z-2000Z, May 27 |
| + QCX Challenge | 1900Z-2000Z, May 27 |
| + Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest | 0100Z-0159Z, May 28 |
| + ICWC Medium Speed Test | 0300Z-0400Z, May 28 |
| + QCX Challenge | 0300Z-0400Z, May 28 |
| + Phone Weekly Test | 0230Z-0300Z, May 29 |
| + A1Club AWT | 1200Z-1300Z, May 29 |
| + CWops Test | 1300Z-1400Z, May 29 |
| + Mini-Test 40 | 1700Z-1759Z, May 29 |
| + Mini-Test 80 | 1800Z-1859Z, May 29 |
| + CWops Test | 1900Z-2000Z, May 29 |
| + CWops Test | 0300Z-0400Z, May 30 |
| + CWops Test | 0700Z-0800Z, May 30 |
| + RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW | 1900Z-2030Z, May 30 |
| + PODXS 070 Club Three Day Weekend Contest | 0000Z, May 31 to 2359Z, Jun 2 |
| + NCCC FT4 Sprint | 0100Z-0130Z, May 31 |
| + Weekly RTTY Test | 0145Z-0215Z, May 31 |
| + NCCC Sprint | 0230Z-0300Z, May 31 |
| + K1USN Slow Speed Test | 2000Z-2100Z, May 31 |

Our thanks to **Bruce Horn, WA7BNM** for use of this calendar!
 Visit Bruce at www.contestcalendar.com/contestcal.html

The ARAC RELAY



Published monthly and distributed free to members, "The RELAY" is the official publication of the Arrowhead Radio Amateur Club, Inc. Members are encouraged to submit articles, opinions, and classifieds. Your submission will be placed as soon as possible providing it does not conflict with the bylaws of the Arrowhead Radio Amateur Club, Inc. The editors reserve the right to omit any submission that is not a required item. If a submission is questionable, it will be presented to the Board of Directors at the next scheduled board meeting for authorization.

