



Monthly Newsletter
September 18, 2024

❖ What's New ?

1.) We have something new in the IMMEDIATE GRATIFICATION Door Prize bag. A packet of Gardner-Bender Wire Markers is now among the goodies. If your ham radio shack has not yet converted to wireless operation you may find these wire markers are helpful for identification purposes.

2.) What is this? Answer appears on Page 7.

dah di di di di dah or —••••—

Hint: It involves Morse code.

3.) Your Technology Department has been working on implementing a MEMBER CHAT ROOM.

The Chat Room can be found on the club website: <https://www.RadioClub-CARC.com> in the password protected MEMBER AREA >> MEMBER CHAT ROOM. The Chat Room password will be different than what we use in the rest of the Member Area.

We will use the new Chat Room for the September 21, 2024 60th Anniversary Special Event, if not sooner. Until then, I've closed the Chat Room.

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❖ More What's New ?

Some of the club webpages have been revamped to offer improved organization and ease of use.

- Operating Your Amateur Radio Station
- Managing Your Amateur Radio Station

❖ On-The-Air Events

September 2024	<u>Local Dates</u>
• Tennessee QSO Party	1 st
• SKCC Weekend Sprint-a-Thon	14 th -15 th
• Iowa QSO Party	21 st
• New Jersey QSO Party	21 st
• Texas QSO Party	21 st -22 nd
• WA State Salmon Run QSO Party	21 st -22 nd
• CQ WW DX RTTY Contest	27 th -29 th
• Maine QSO Party	28 th -29 th

October 2024	<u>Local Dates</u>
• SKCC Weekend Sprint-a-Thon	12 th -13 th
• Nevada QSO Party	11 th -13 th
• Arizona QSO Party	12 th -13 th
• Pennsylvania QSO Party	12 th -13 th
• South Dakota QSO Party	12 th -13 th
• New York State QSO Party	19 th -20 th
• Illinois QSO Party	20 th
• ARRL School Club Roundup	21 st -25 th
• CQ WW DX Contest SSB	25 th -27 th




Check the dates. Some contests begin at 0000Z which is Saturday morning UTC, but late Friday night local time.

❖ **General Interest and Calendar Items September 2024, and later**

<p>Ham Radio License Exam Testing Part 1</p>	<p>Harrisburg Radio Amateur Club (HRAC) test dates are 3rd Saturdays, EVEN Numbered Months, starting at 9 a.m. <i>Location: Vietnam Veterans of America, 8000 Derry Street, Harrisburg, PA</i> <i>Laurel VEC = No Testing Fee ! Pre-Registration, including your FCC FRN, is required.</i></p> <p>Additional information at their web page: www.w3uu.org Look for the link: License Exams.</p>
<p>Ham Radio License Exam Testing Part 2</p>	<p>South Mountain Radio Amateurs (SMRA) conducts license testing at the Public Safety Center off Claremont Road, Carlisle, PA. Exam sessions are scheduled monthly at 6 p.m. on the third Tuesday of the month. Preregistration is required. Our readers are encouraged to perform their own due diligence to validate any exam session in which they have an interest. Contact: n3tw@arrl.net or smraham@gmail.com There is a modest fee for this testing service. Additional details at their web page. http://n3tw.org/links/getting-licensed/smra-testing-policies/</p>
<p>Ham Radio License Exam Testing Part 3</p>	<p>Keystone VHF Club (KVHF) conducts license testing at the York County Department of Emergency Services. Exam sessions are scheduled the 2nd Saturday, ODD Numbered Months, starting at 10 a.m. Visit https://www.w3hz.com/laurel-vec-testing/ for additional information.</p> <p><i>Location: York County Department of Emergency Services, 120 Davies Road, York, PA</i> <i>Laurel VEC = No Testing Fee ! Pre-Registration, including your FCC FRN, is required.</i></p>
<p>Ham Radio License Exam Testing Part 4</p>	<p>Cross Keys Village Amateur Radio Club in conjunction with Adams County Amateur Radio Society conducts license testing in the Cross Keys Village Harmony Ridge Community Center, Encore Room. Exam sessions are offered on the Third Saturday of Odd Numbered months between 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. Pre-Registration, including FCC FRN, is required. Online Form at: https://www.w3kgn.org. Look for “VE Examinations” in the left-side menu bar. Laurel VEC does not charge a testing fee for administering license exams. FCC \$35 fee payment required before license issuance.</p>
<p>Ham Radio License Exam Testing Part 5</p>	<p>Capital Area Testing Group Schedule: First Tuesday at 6 p.m. Contact: Paul E. Rokoff 717.657.7652 eMail: CapitalATG@yahoo.com Testing Location Manada Hill Diner, West Hanover Twp, PA</p>
<p>Ham Radio License Exam Testing Part 6</p>	<p>Nighthawk VE Team Schedule: Last Saturday of certain months at 9 a.m. Contact: Joshua Burleigh 570.220.5443 eMail: kc3olo@arrl.net Testing Location: usually Greenvillage Church of God, 5164 Philadelphia Ave. Chambersburg, PA</p>
<p>License Exam Training Class</p>	<p>Ralph Brandt, K3HQI offers license exam training classes from time to time as part of the Keystone VHF Club and perhaps in conjunction with other organizations and events. Contact Info: Ralph Brandt, K3HQI eMail: K3HQI@arrl.net 717.885.3063 or Google him.</p>
<p>License Exam Training Class</p>	<p>The Nashua Area Radio Society (Nashua, NH) offers license exam training classes on a frequent basis. Some are online. Others are conducted in-person. Check their website for current information. https://www.n1fd.org/amateur-radio-license-class/</p>
<p>License Exam Training Class</p>	<p>If you know of any upcoming License Exam Training classes please let AF3I know so that they can be listed here. The ARRL website has a search tool. The classes I found were listed behind the keyword “online”. http://www.arrl.org/find-an-amateur-radio-license-class</p>
<p>CARC Weekly Coffee Time</p>	<p>Every Thursday at 10:00 a.m. Location: Sometimes at Caffe 101 in Boiling Springs, PA. On the corner, across from the clock-tower and diagonally across from the Boiling Springs Tavern. Sometimes conducted as a Zoom Meeting. Check with Richard Johnson N3EPY for info.</p>

If you have Calendar items that you would like to share with your fellow CARC Members please send them to the Newsletter Editor – Andrew Forsyth AF3I. He can be reached by eMail sent to:
AF3I@RadioClub-CARC.com

❖ Nets, YouTube Channels, and Web Sites of Interest

CARC Two Meter VHF Digital Net	<p>Every Sunday evening at 6:00 p.m. local time. 146.490 MHz FM Simplex. Most likely we will be using OpMode THOR 22.</p> <p>If you have experience using Sound Card Digital Modes you will feel at home with this digital net. Mostly informal in terms of conversation topics.</p> <p>If you have not yet experienced the pleasure of using Sound Card Digital Modes you are invited to seek assistance. CARC Members have all kinds of skills tucked away in remote corners of their universe. Some of these members maintain a low profile. However, if you ask they will spring forth and share their experiences with you. You could send an eMail message to ELMER@RadioClub-CARC.com and one of us will crawl out of our den to help you.</p>
CARC Two Meter Phone Net	<p>Every Sunday evening at 7:00 p.m. local time. 2 meter band. 146.490 MHz FM Simplex. Also available through EchoLink Node 259045 or search for station AF3I-L. EchoLink is great for licensed Amateur Radio operators who have no transceiver and/or no antenna. EchoLink is equally great for anyone who resides or travels outside our local area and wishes to stay in touch. Visit www.echolink.org as a starting point.</p>
CARC Ten Meter Phone Net	<p>Every Wednesday* at 8 p.m. local time. 10 meter band. 28.400 MHz USB In case of other activity of that frequency tune up or down the band a few kilo-Hertz looking for us. *Except Monthly Meeting Night on the third Wednesday of the month.</p> <p>Editor's Note: We could use some new faces on this net. Attendance has dwindled to record low numbers. Give it a try. If even one of us can hear you that person can relay your comments.</p>
21 RepeaterGroup	<p>145.210 MHz https://groups.io/g/21repeatergroup On occasion I tune to 145.210 MHz and find something of interest. They draw a large crowd.</p>
Website	<p>http://www.kb9at.com/ AF3I writing: I use this site because it contains a link to the FCC License Search site. You might find other interesting content on this site.</p>
Website	<p>https://www.k8zt.com/ Anthony Luscre has more information packed into this website than Carter has pills. Even if you don't need his information today, you probably will need it sometime soon.</p>
RigPix	<p>https://www.rigpix.com/ Steve Hancock N3FWE recommended this site. Your Editor visited the site as part of his due diligence process. It is there. Steve was correct.</p>
YouTube.com	<p>Ham Radio 2.0  This is Jason, KC5HWB</p>
YouTube.com	<p>Ham Radio Crash Course  This site is maintained by Josh</p>
YouTube.com	<p>Ham Radio Tube  This site is maintained by Mike, K8MRD.</p>
YouTube.com	<p>Search the site for DAVE CASLER. He usually has something good to say.</p>
YouTube.com	<p>Search the site for ARRL HQ. You be the judge of what they have to say.</p>

Why the YouTube content listings? I thought there might be some ham radio hobbyists among us who otherwise would be unaware of what exists out in cyber space. I invite you to enjoy what you find. I encourage sharing. Tell me about your discoveries and I will post them for the benefit of our readers.

Or, post your discoveries on the club's groups.io/g/RadioClub-CARC site

❖ Contest Exchange Corner

To help stimulate interest in some upcoming contests I am listing their Contest Exchange – what you should receive and what you should send.

Note: The abbreviation S/P/C, when used in conjunction with a Contest Exchange, refers to US State, Canadian Province, or DX Entity (Country)

Contest	You Receive this from “The Other Guy”	You Send this...
Iowa QSO Party Sep 21	RS(T) Iowa County There are 99	RS(T) S/P/C
NJ QSO Party Sep 21	RS(T) NJ County There are 21	RS(T) S/P/C
TX QSO Party Sep 21-22	RS(T) TX County 4 Ltrs There are 254	RS(T) S/P/C
WA QSO Party Sep 21-22	RS(T) WA County There are 39	RS(T) S/P/C
ME QSO Party Sep 28-29	RS(T) ME County There are 16	RS(T) S/P/C
CQ WW DX SSB Sep 27-29	RS(T) CQ Zone We are Zone 05	RS(T) CQ Zone We are Zone 05

❖ Jargon You Probably Never Heard Before Corner

California Train – A caravan of vehicles driven by Ham Radio Operators for the purpose of entering a contest as MOBILE and making QSOs with each other as the train enters each new county. The purpose is to rack up a big score without much effort.

Captive Stations – Radios operated by passengers in a vehicle that travels a preplanned route for the purpose of entering many new counties where the passengers make QSOs with each other. The purpose is to rack up a big score without much effort.

❖ What is ADIF? Why is it important to Frank?

ADIF is the acronym for Amateur Data Interface Format.

ADIF is found in ham radio PC applications where it is used to easily move data from one log book to another. You can EXPORT ADIF from your at-home log and Frank can IMPORT ADIF into the club’s Special Event log.

ADIF is a recognized standard honored by Contest Logging apps (e.g. N3FJP, N1MM+, DX Labs Suite), Logbook Apps (e.g. QRZ.com, eQSL.cc, ARRL LOTW, ClubLog) and some Contest Sponsors (the Cabrillo standard is more commonly used by Contest Sponsors).

You can learn even more about ADIF by visiting and reading what you see at www.ADIF.org Or, you could be bored to near-death and wake up hours later wondering “Where am I? and What just happened?”

Here is one QSO from our K3IEC Special Event, represented as ADIF data. Please Enjoy.

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<Call:6>PY2FRQ
<QSO_Date:8>20240824
<Time_On:6>000000
<Time_Off:6>000700
<Band:3>20M
<Comment:12>Skcc #17623S
<N3FJP_COMPUTERNAME:6>WA3KCP
<Cont:2>SA
<Country:6>Brazil
<DXCC:3>108
<My_Cnty:13>PA,Cumberland
<CQz:2>11
<Freq:8>14.04500
<My_Gridsquare:4>FN10
<MY_State:2>PA
<N3FJP_Initials:3>JRL
<ITUz:2>15
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