

January 26

ARKANSAS DIAMOND RADIO CLUB NEWS LETTER

Volume 47

Local Nets:

Petit Jean Mountain
Monday Night
7:30pm 146.685
141.3 Tone

ADARC Simplex
Thursday Night 8pm
146.51 No tone no
offset

CAREN Statewide Net
Thursday Night 7pm
146.940 - offset
no tone

FARC Conway
Thursday Night
7:30 pm 146.970 pl
114.5

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Next Meeting January 8th

North Fire Station

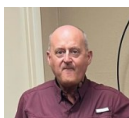
By the Hospital and Next to Colton's

5pm ish if you want to eat

6pm for the regular meeting

We will be discussing Winter Field Day, taking dues for 2026, and electing club officers. We will be also planning club activities for 2026.

From the PREZ!



2026 – Our 250th Year as The United States of America

QST

QST

QST

Well, here we are, 2026 is upon us, the two hundred fiftieth anniversary of our nation being founded. What will that bring for Amateur Radio in the coming year.

For the United States' **Semiquincentennial (250th anniversary)** Amteur Radio is participating in several historic and nationwide commemorative activities. Key programs include:

1. **AMERICA250.radio Special Event**

- **Website:** america250.radio
- This project celebrates **America's founding and Revolution** through radio.
- **Activities Include:**
- **Chasing Cornwallis Challenge:** Operators make on-air contacts corresponding to six pivotal battles of the Southern Campaign of the American Revolution (July 1–7, 2026). Successful participation in **5 of 6 events** earns a **Victory Certificate**.

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K4A Kilo4America Stations: Special stations activated nationwide for operators to connect.

Volunteer Net Control Operators: Participants can help coordinate on-air traffic to ensure smooth operation.

QSL Cards: Commemorative cards featuring Independence Hall and the Declaration of Independence, available as free or donor editions.

Educational Component: Learn about the historic Declaration of Independence, its signers, and the early founding of the United States.

2. America250 Worked-All-States (WAS) Event – ARRL

Host: American Radio Relay League (ARRL)

Duration: Year-long event in 2026

Format:

- Operators contact **W1AW portable stations** operating in all 50 states and several U.S. territories.
- W1AW portable stations operate **two separate 7-day activations** per state, split between early-year (Jan–Jul) and late-year (Jul–Dec) periods.
- Operators can also earn the award by contacting **ARRL Affiliated Club stations** in all 50 states.

Rules:

- Only RF contacts (excluding 60 meters) count — includes HF, VHF, UHF, and peer-to-peer simplex; repeater or linking systems are not eligible.
- All contacts are **confirmed via LoTW**. W1AW HQ direct contacts can be uploaded to LoTW or verified via QSL with SASE.

Awards & Recognition:

- Participants receive the **America250 WAS Award certificate**.
- Additional endorsements are available as stickers to mark progress and achievements.
- The program mimics prior ARRL national anniversary events such as the 2014 Centennial and recent “International Grid Chase” and “Volunteer On The Air” activities.

3. Community and Educational Engagement

- Local **Amateur Radio clubs** are encouraged to host events, educational programs, and open-shack experiences.
- New operators are invited **to join the hobby** and participate in historic commemoration activities, including live on-air events and challenges.
- Celebrations aim to **connect participants nationwide and globally**, highlighting both historical legacy and modern Amateur Radio culture.

Summary

The 250th anniversary of the United States sees Amateur Radio playing a central role through:

- **AMERICA250.radio:** Special event commemorations with challenges, certificates, and QSL cards focused on Revolutionary War history.
- **ARRL America250 WAS Event:** Year-long Worked-All-States award-driven operational activity across all U.S. states and territories.

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- **Community involvement:** Club activations, volunteering, and new operator engagement promote nationwide participation in a historic celebration of independence.

These activities collectively aim to **preserve history, encourage technical skill, and strengthen community** within the Amateur Radio hobby while honoring America's Semiquincentennial.

As we can see, there are numerous opportunities for Amateur Radio to participate in the 250th anniversary celebration of our nation.

Pick your preferences and make those contacts!

73s,

W5WUP

David

HF Nets other than Razorback and Mockingbird Nets

By Roger Alabach

Well one night around 11:00 PM I could not sleep and so I decided to cruise around on the 40 meter band. I ran across the 3905 Century Club Net. It was interesting because it was different than most Nets. When you checked in, they logged you in net logger, an online application that net control operators use to record check ins. By using Net Logger, you can see various people that have already checked in. And so, I checked in and my name popped up on the net logger. I realized this was a different type of net. It wasn't your typical traffic net. What they do when it is your turn is give you the opportunity to call two other people who have checked in. Or if you wanted to, you could call CQ and let them jump in on you. Hopefully you could have a little mini pile up going. And so, when it was my turn, I worked the two best stations that I heard on the net. Also, people were calling me. As it turned out I had made 10 contacts in less than an hour. What I like about this type of net is people from all over the country are on this net and you can kind of decide which ones to work or to attempt to work. From that you can tell where your antenna is reaching out where it's not. Also, the people on this net give you a more precise and honest signal report. For more information check out their website at <https://www.3905ccn.org/index.php>.

Other HF nets:

Knotheads Net 14.320 8am Monday – Saturday.

I don't know much about this net. The name got my attention.

Awful Awful Ugly Net 3.855 8pm <http://w5mz.com/aau/>

This is your basic rag chew type of net. You will be given a chance to comment.

The 3916 Nets 3.916 7pm – 1am <http://www.tailgatersnet.com/> This has different nets on the 3.916 frequency. The first net is called the Rag Chew Crew. There's no net control station on The Rag Chew Crew...just an opportunity to pass it around, swap stories, get signal reports and talk about the news of the day. Following the Rag Chew Crew is the Tailgaters net which has a trivia challenge Monday through Saturday at 9pm. Again, net control is passed between stations. And then for all you night owls there is the Freewheelers Net from 10pm to 1am. These folks sponsor a Hamboree at Branson every year in May. Check out their website for more details.

OMISS Net

This net meets on 7 different bands throughout the week. Their schedule is on the website [OMISS Net](http://www.omiss.net). It is like the 3905 century club net. Participating with these folks will give you a wide range of frequencies to test your station's capabilities.

I HATE BEING
SEXY
BUT I'M A
HAM RADIO
OPERATOR
SO I CAN'T HELP IT

New To Ham Radio? Here's What NOT To Do.

[Chris Warren](#) May 25, 2025

Both sides now.

Anyone who experienced even modest exposure to amateur radio has probably seen many articles and videos about how to get started, what equipment to buy, reading material, etc. Whether or not this advice is good is outside our purpose here. I recently noticed that of all the suggestions floating around for those new to ham radio, almost none of them discusses the other side: What *not* to do.

If you are a longtime amateur, don't click away! Keep these points in mind as they will help you help others.

Don't buy the best, most expensive equipment.

It's tempting to shell out a lot of money on a high end radio, but for beginners that's usually not a good idea. Such radios have many complex features and functionality that may lack utility or be confusing to a beginner. There will be plenty of opportunities to bust the bank later. Do your homework and check out the reviews and YouTubes for a middle-of-the-road model. If possible, meet up with a ham who already has one and can demonstrate it for you.

The same applies to off grid power. Do you really need to run out and buy a new 15,000 watt generator? Or a dozen or more solar panels? You might at some point, but as a beginner, not likely. Bigger is not always better.

Don't buy the cheapest, most low-end equipment.

At the other end of the scale, buying the cheapest, most low-end equipment seldom results in a positive situation. I completely understand the appeal. The market is flush with cheaply made, cheaply priced gear that looks like a great deal to a newbie. But the cliché is true. You really do get what you pay for. Let me smack some sense into those who need it: There is no such thing as a decent [handheld radio for sixteen dollars](#)! Nor should you expect much from a [four dollar solar controller](#)!

The delusion ends right now. Let the fanboys on YouTube gush over their favorite flavor of cheap junk; they might even trash on me for calling them out. *Off Grid Ham* has no sponsors and carries water for no one, so this blog has nothing to gain by feeding its readers shovelfuls of...you know what.

There are situations when buying cheap, low-end gear may be a reasonable decision :

- Equipment that will be used only once or twice a year, such as for Field Day or a special event.
- For a kids' science fair, school, or scout project.
- Loaner equipment that you don't care if you get it back in one piece or not.
- Fox hunting transmitters, ballon/wind tracking, model rocketry, or any situation where there is a good chance you'll never see the equipment again.

Experimenting/tinkering where you don't want to sink a lot of money into a project that may fail.

Don't quit over bad experiences.

Amateur radio has a long history of being a very polite and gentlemanly hobby. This reputation is accurate, but as with anything, it's not 100%. The small minority of gatekeepers, snobs, narcissists, trolls, potty-mouths, and unhelpful, petty, unpleasant people (particularly on social media) are much louder and attract more attention than their numbers warrant.

You would not quit driving because someone cut you off in traffic or poached your parking spot, even if these offenses happened regularly (which they do). And so it is with amateur radio. When you have a negative encounter (and you will), simply brush it off and move along. It may be insensitive to say "get over it", but yes, get over it. The concentration of numbskulls in

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no greater than it is anywhere else in your life.

Amateur radio clubs can be a mixed bag too. If your local club is not a good match, and there are no others nearby, strike out on your own. Consider collaborating with a small group of carefully selected amateurs; basically your group could function as a club without formally organizing. Club affiliation is not essential to being a successful ham. Many hobbyists “fly solo”.

Don't let yourself stagnate.

I've been an active ham for over four decades and still don't know even ten percent of all there is to know about ham radio because the hobby is so deep and wide. If you simply memorize test answers to pass a licensing exam and do nothing beyond that to expand your knowledge, you're seriously cheating yourself. There are many sub-specialties within amateur radio and chances are real good that at least one of them will excite and inspire you.

Joining a club or group is a great way to pick up (and pass along) skills. Learning on your own from YouTube and other internet sources is a great idea if there are no other options, but you will not form the personal connections and relationships that naturally evolve from face-to-face interactions. In my experience, nearly all of the people who leave the hobby soon after being licensed never made an honest effort to discover everything it has to offer.

Don't air your (our) dirty laundry before the whole world.

You would not (or should not) blab about your relationship, workplace, or personal problems to random strangers. Yes, of course many people do it anyway. This phenomenon is endemic on social media and I honestly feel sorry for those who make the unforced error of oversharing their drama.

Amateur radio likewise has issues & problems. Talk about difficult situations on a “need to know” basis. I'm not saying everyone should be secretive or elusive. I am saying you should be aware of who is listening, where your statements could eventually go, and how they might be perceived by outsiders. Shooting your mouth off to people who cannot help resolve your concern (and may even make it worse) is pointless. And of course idle gossip and overtly provocative statements or actions are never acceptable.

I would hope any serious hobbyist would want to present a positive image of amateur radio. Keep your business, your business.

This list could be a lot longer.

Most of this list is related to human behavior and attitudes. Because of that, It could go on for hundreds of pages. Yet, the entire concept we're trying to promulgate can be reduced to a simple statement: Use your head, and don't be a jerk.

Reprinted from: <https://offgridham.com/2025/05/new-to-ham-radio/>

General Exam Review Questions just for fun

G0A01

What is one way that RF energy can affect human body tissue?

- A. It heats body tissue
- B. It causes radiation poisoning
- C. It causes the blood count to reach a dangerously low level
- D. It cools body tissue

G8B03

What is another term for the mixing of two RF signals?

- A. Heterodyning
- B. Synthesizing
- C. Frequency inversion
- D. Phase inversion

Answers found on Page 6

Answers from page 5:

G0 A01: A. It heats body tissue

G8 B03 A. Heterodyning

Meeting January 8th: Don't miss our meeting.

Program: Regular business meeting and election of officers.

Tech night: November: We had a zoom meeting with Greg Mihran, KJ6ER.

December: We built and tested a Coax stub.

Hamfests: Indian Nations Hamfest Henryetta, OK January 10th

<https://www.arrl.org/hamfests/indian-nations-hamfest>

Winterfest. Hoxie AR. February 21st.

<https://w5wra.org/>

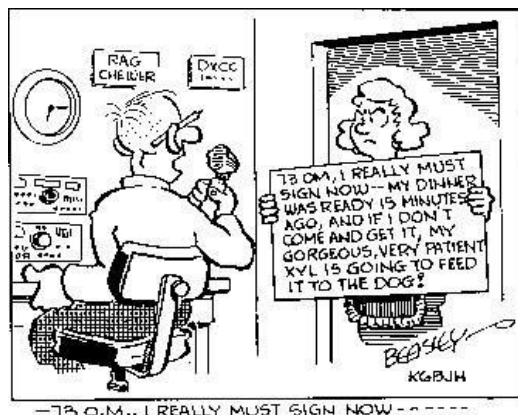
Arkansas River Valley Hamfest. Dardanelle. March 7th.

<https://sites.google.com/view/arv-hamfest/home?authuser=0>

Green Country Hamfest. Claremore, OK. April 10th & 11th

<https://sites.google.com/view/arv-hamfest/home?authuser=0>

Please comment or make suggestions concerning our newsletters. kf5sde@gmail.com



73 O.M., I REALLY MUST SIGN NOW--

Here are a couple of Special Event Stations that might be of interest.

- 01/10/2026 | Operation Desert Storm
Jan 10, 1700Z-2359Z, NI6IW, San Diego, CA. USS Midway Museum Ship. 14.320 7.250 14.070
PKS31 DSTAR on Papa System Repeaters. QSL. USS Midway Museum Ship, 910 North Harbor
Drive, San Diego, CA 92101.
- 2/14/2026 | 6th Annual Pluto Discovery Anniversary S.E.
Feb 14-Feb 22, 0000Z-2359Z, W7P, Flagstaff, AZ. Northern Arizona DX Association. 14.266
21.366 28.366 7.266. Certificate & QSL. W7P -Pluto Special Event, 6315 Townsend Winona Rd,
Flagstaff, AZ 86004. www.nadxa.com
- 02/14/2026 | Ice Station WØJH - Frozen Minnesota Lake Portable
Feb 14-Feb 16, 1600Z-2300Z, WØJH, Stillwater, MN. Stillwater (MN) Amateur Radio Association
- SARA. 21.360 14.260 7.260 3.860. Certificate. Shel Mann, 1618 Pine St W, Stillwater, MN
55082. www.Radioham.org
- 02/14/2026 | Valentines Day Special Event
Feb 14, 1700Z-2300Z, AB5ER, Romance, AR. North Central Arkansas Amateur Radio Service .
14..260. Certificate. Roger Gray, North Central Arkansas Amateur Radio Service , PO Box 166,
Searcy, AR 72145-0166. <http://www.ncaars.org>
- 03/14/2026 | David Sarnoff Radio Club PI Day
Mar 14-Mar 15, 1800Z-0100Z, N2RE, Mount Laurel, NJ. David Sarnoff Radio Club. 14.031
14.314 7.227 7.031. QSL. Donald G Corrington, 7 Pinewald Lane, Burlington, NJ 08016-
3421. <https://n2re.org>

For a more complete list of upcoming special event stations go to: <https://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>

Get on the air!

Arkansas Diamond Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 1262
Morrilton, AR 72110.

The Arkansas Diamond Radio Club
(KE5FSY) of Morrilton News Letter
This bulletin is published 4 times a
year for the promotion of HAM radio.
Ham radio is for enjoyment and is
the emergency back bone of
communication for the communities.
When all else fails we will be there,
we have in the past and will be in the
future. Editors are KF5SDE Roger
Alabach kf5sde@gmail.com All HAM
related stories are welcome.


Organization

Club Officers

David (W5WUP) is the Club President, Conway County ES
Training & Resource Officer, County Emergency Coordina-
tor for ARES/RACES/AUXCOM.

Roger (KF5SDE) is the Club Vice-President and the Deputy
Communications Officer for Conway County ES/911. He is
also in charge of the quarterly newsletter.

Steve Beavers (KF5DIF) is the Club Treasurer and Director
of Conway County Office of Emergency Services/911

We are on the web

<https://arkansasdiamondarc.com/>

DXpedition schedule.

I copied and pasted this information. It is not in a very readable format, however, I simply wanted to pass this on to you the reader.

January January

2026 Jan01	2026 Feb16	Grenada	J38WG	LoTW	OPDX
20251025	By WE9G fm IOTA NA-024 (FK92ef); 160-6m; mainly FT8, some CW SSB; QSL via Club Log OQRS or WE9G (B/d)				
2026 Jan02	2026 Jan06	French Polynesia FO			
NEW	LoTW	OPDX			
20251229	By JI1JKW as FO/JI1JKW fm IOTA OC-066; 40 20 17 15 12 10 6m; SSB CW FT8; 200w; QSL via JI1JKW; holiday style operation				
2026 Jan06	2026 Feb06	Benin	TY5GG	LoTW	OPDX
20251004	By F5NVF fm Godomey, Abomey-Calavil HF; Spiderbeam, multiband dipole; QSL via F5RAV direct; operation to continue until 6 Apr 2026				
2026 Jan07	2026 Jan15	Palau	T8	Home Call	DXW.Net
20251215	By JA6KYU as T88HS, JA6EGL as T88SM, JH6OPP as T88XE fm Koror; 160-6m; CW SSB AM FM				
2026 Jan10	2026 Jan22	Lakshadweep Is	VU7RS	M0OXO	DXW.Net
20251006	By VU2RS (Leader) VU2ADX VU3DXA VU3GDS VU2AR EY8MM DL6KVA YT1AD R7KW DJ5IW VU2DWA fm Agatti I; 160-6m, focus on low bands; CW SSB + digital				
2026 Jan11	2026 Jan29	Aruba	P40AA	LoTW	DL4MM
20251220	By DL4MM; HF; CW FT8 SSB; QRV for CQ 160m Contest; QSL via DL4MM or Club Log OQRS				
2026 Jan12	2026 Feb15	San Felix & Ambrosio	3G0XQ	M0URX	W2OR
20251023	By remote team fm San Ambrosio I (IOTA SA-013); 160-10m; CW SSB FT8 w/ focus on CW and FT8; see Web for full QSL details				
2026 Jan13	2026 Jan21	Sint Maarten	PJ7	LoTW	OPDX
20251022	By IZ2DPX as PJ7/IZ2DPX; also fm St Martin using FS/IZ2DPX /m; 60-6m; SSB FT4 FT8; 100w; vertical, dipoles; QSL via Club Log OQRS or IZ2DPX (B/d)				
2026 Jan13	2026 Feb10	Desecheo I	KP5		
NEW	LoTW	DXW.Net			
20251226	By NP4G and team as KP5/NP3VI fm FK68gj; 160-6m, incl 60m; CW SSB FT8; QSL via M0OXO; dates unclear/approximate				
2026 Jan15	2026 Feb28	Kenya	5Z4	LoTW	OPDX
20251223	By OZ6ABL as 5Z4/OZ6ABL fm Watamu (LI06ap); 80-6m; CW SSB FT8 FT4; holiday style operation; QSL via OZ6ABL or Club Log OQRS				
2026 Jan18	2026 Jan24	Maldives	8Q7JI	LoTW	DXW.Net
20251105	By DS1TUW fm Dhaalu Atoll; 80-10m; CW FT8; QSL via DS1TUW direct				
2026 Jan18	2026 Jan30	Barbados	8P9CB	LoTW	OPDX

2026 Jan19	2026 Jan26	Maldives	8Q7EL	IW5ELA	DXW.Net
20251222	By IW5ELA fm Vaavu Atoll; HF; mainly CW; holiday style operation				
2026 Jan20	2026 Feb10	Guadeloupe	FG4KH	LoTW	OPDX
20250915	By F1DUZ; 80-10m; SSB; QSL via F1DUZ (B/d)				
2026 Jan22	2026 Jan28	Micronesia	V6	Club Log OQRS	DXW.Net
20250912	By JA1XGI as V6HUCHIDA fm Chuuk I (IOTA OC-011,QJ57wj); 160-10m; CW SSB + digital; QRV for CQ 160m CW				
2026 Jan22	2026 Mar31	Curacao PJ2		LoTW	OPDX
20250908	By W2APF as PJ2/W2APF; 80-10m; CW SSB FT8; QSL via W2APF direct				
2026 Jan30	2026 Feb03	St Kitts & Nevis	V47JA	LoTW	W5JON
20251207	By W5JON fm Calypso Bay; 160-6m; SSB FT8; yagi, verticals; QSL also OK via W5JON direct				

February February

2026 Feb05	2026 Feb20	Sao Tome & Principe	S9BV	Club Log OQRS	DXW.Net
20250912	By S53BV; 60 40 30 15m; CW SSB; holiday style operation				
2026 Feb06	2026 Feb19	Cape Verde Is	D4VR	DDD0VR	DXW.Net
20251202	By DD0VR; HF; QRP; Feb 6-11 fm Boa Vista I (IOTA AF-005); Feb 11-19 fm Sao Tiago I (IOTA AF-086)				
2026 Feb07	2026 Feb14	Falkland Is	VP8TDX		
NEW	Club Log OQRS DXW.Net				
20251227	By NE8Z fm Port Stanley; 40-6m; CW FT8 FT4; windom antenna; QSL via NE8Z				
2026 Feb10	2026 Feb17	Greenland	OX7AKT	LoTW	OZ7AKT
20251028	By OZ7AKT as fm Kangerlussuaq; 160-10m; SSB CW FT8				
2026 Feb14	2026 Feb28	Falkland Is	VP8TM	LoTW	OPDX
20250816	By DC8TM fm IOTA SA-002; HF; SSB FT8; QSL via DC8TM (B/d)				
2026 Feb15	2026 Mar14	Bouvet I	3Y0K	M00XO	DXW.Net
20250815	By LA7GIA and team; begin and end dates subject to change; see Web for full QSL details				

[ARRL International DX Contest, CW](#) (Feb 21-22, 2026) Check here for pericontest activity too. [ARRL International DX Contest, CW](#) (Feb 21-22, 2026) Check here for pericontest activity too. [ARRL International DX Contest, CW](#) (Feb 21-22, 2026) Check here for pericontest activity too. [ARRL International DX Contest, CW](#) (Feb 21-22, 2026) Check here for pericontest activity too. [ARRL International DX Contest, CW](#) (Feb 21-22, 2026) Check here for pericontest activity too. [ARRL International DX Contest, CW](#) (Feb 21-22, 2026) Check here for pericontest activity too. [ARRL International DX Contest, CW](#) (Feb 21-22, 2026) Check here for pericontest activity too.

2026 Feb21	2026 Feb28	Barbados	8P9XB	VE2XB	OPDX
20251210	By VE2XB; 160-6m; holiday style operation				
2026 Feb21	2026 Mar07	St Kitts & Nevis	V4	LoTW	DXW.Net
20251210	By WA7RAR as V4/WA7RAR fm St Kitts; 20-10m; SSB CW; QSL via WA7RAR direct				

March March

2026 Mar13	2026 Mar15	Svalbard	JW8EKA	LA8EKA	OPDX
20251124	By LA8EKA; @JW5E; 20-10m; SSB RTTY PSK31 FT8				

2026 Mar16 20251210	2026 Mar27	Belize	V31ZY	VE2XB	TDDX	
	By VE2XB; 160-6m; holiday style operation					
2026 Mar19 20250919	2026 Mar31	Sable I	CY0S	LoTW	425DXN	
	By WA4DAN W0GJ + ops; HF; QSL via Club Log OQRS or WA4DAN direct					
2026 Mar25 20251223	2026 Apr02	Martinique	FM	LoTW	EA1BP	
	By EA1BP as FM/EA1BP; HF; mainly SSB; QRV for WPX SSB using TO7O; QSL via EA1BP Buro and Club Log OQRS					
2026 Mar26 20251222	2026 Mar30	Palau	T88KH	Club Log OQRS	OPDX	
	By JP1RIW fm Koror I (IOTA OC-009, PJ77fi); HF; QRV for CQ WPX SSB					
2026 Mar30 20251030	2026 Apr06	Canary Is	EA8	LoTW	OPDX	
	By DA2DX as EA8/DA2DX fm Fuerteventura I (IOTA AF-004); HF; CW SSB RTTY FT4 FT8; holiday style operation; QSL via Club Log OQRS or DA2DX direct (no EQSL, no Email QSL)					