



Monthly Newsletter
June 21, 2023

❖ What's New ? Not Much.

Instead, let's say a few words about Field Day.

Each year Amateur Radio Operators submit questions to the ARRL Field Day Facebook page. Every question is interesting. I love to read the questions because they give me something to think about.

A fairly common question is "What is my ARRL Section?". Hams located in the USA or its territories have an ARRL Section. There are 71 ARRL Sections.

Hams located in 40 of the 50 states will find their ARRL Section is the same as the name of their State.

The following are exceptions to the concept that ARRL Section = State Name:

Hams located in these 8 states (CA, FL, MA, NJ, NY, PA, TX, WA) will need to know their county in addition to their state in order to identify their ARRL Section.. ARRL Sections follow the county lines without splitting the county.

Visit www.ARRL.org/section-boundaries to see a complete list of ARRL Sections with their associated counties, if applicable.

Do you know your county? If not, try this web site: <https://whatcountymiin.com>

Let's use Pennsylvania as our example. Pennsylvania consists of two ARRL Sections.

- **Eastern Pennsylvania (EPA)**-- the counties of **Adams**, Berks, Bradford, Bucks, Carbon, Chester, Columbia, **Cumberland**, **Dauphin**, Delaware, Juniata, Lackawanna, Lancaster, Lebanon, Lehigh, Luzerne, Lycoming, Monroe, Montgomery, Montour, Northhampton, Northumberland, **Perry**, Philadelphia, Pike, Schuylkill, Snyder, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga, Union, Wayne, Wyoming, **York**
- **Western Pennsylvania (WPA)**-- the counties of Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Bedford, Blair, Butler, Cambria, Cameron, Centre, Clarion, Clearfield, Clinton, Crawford, Elk, Erie, Fayette, Forest, Franklin, Fulton, Greene, Huntingdon, Indiana, Jefferson, Lawrence, McKean, Mercer, Mifflin, Potter, Somerset, Venango, Warren, Washington, Westmoreland
- Hams located in Maryland or the District of Columbia are located in the ARRL Maryland/DC (MDC) Section.

Now it gets tricky...

- Hams located in Hawaii are located in the ARRL PACIFIC Section.
- Hams located in Puerto Rico are located in the ARRL PUERTO RICO Section.

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- Hams located in the US Virgin Islands are located in the ARRL VIRGIN ISLANDS Section.

Let's keep this discussion focused on ARRL Field Day. However, depending on the operating event, the three locations listed immediately above, in addition to the State of Alaska, may be considered to be DX Countries rather than ARRL Sections for Contest Exchange and logging purposes.

Adding another layer of complexity, hams located in Canada have RAC Sections that are often used similarly to the way ARRL Sections are used. RAC Sections are assigned under the authority of the Radio Amateurs of Canada. There are 14 RAC Sections. This is the recently updated list.

The RAC Sections are:

- AB Alberta
- BC British Columbia
- GH Golden Horseshoe
- MB Manitoba
- NB New Brunswick
- NL Newfoundland, Labrador
- NS Nova Scotia
- ONE Ontario East
- ONN Ontario North
- ONS Ontario South
- PE Prince Edward Island
- QC Quebec
- SK Saskatchewan
- TER Northern Territories.

As if there wasn't enough complexity, please note that the annual RAC Canada Day contest does not use this list of 14 sections. They have their own list of 13 sections.

Rule of thumb: Always read the Contest Rules and understand the Contest Exchange.

❖ What's New ? More.

The other ARRL Field Day topic that generates a lot of questions is the Entry Class. Briefly...

Class A – Groups of 3 or more people who set up their Field Day Operation at a portable location away from Home.

Class B – One or two people who set up their Field Day Operation at a portable location.

Class C – A Mobile Operation in the sense that the station is capable of operating and normally used while in motion.

Class D – An At-Home Station operating from a Commercial Power source.

Class E – An At-Home Station operating from an Emergency Power source.

Class F – A station operating at a recognized Emergency Operations Center.

❖ On-The-Air Events

Contesting takes a break about this time of year. Look at how short the Contest Calendar has become.

June 2023	(post publication dates)
• West Virginia QSO Party	17 th
• ARRL Kids Day	17 th
• ARRL Field Day	24 th -25 th

July 2023	Just the first weekend.
• RAC Canada Day Contest	1 st
• HRAC Firecracker Hamfest	1 st
• Murgas Hamfest	2 nd

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

❖ General Interest and Calendar Items June 2023, and later

Club Website Event Calendar	www.RadioClub-CARC.com/calendar/ We have a pretty good Event Calendar plug-in on our website. If you are looking for events, this might be the right place. If you know of worthy events that we should list in our Calendar please share the <i>Who, What, Where, and When</i> information with AF3I@RadioClub-CARC.com
Ham Radio License Exam Testing Part 1	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 Fee! Pre-Registration, including your FCC FRN, is required.</i> HRAC VE Testing Dates appear on our EVENTS CALENDAR: Additional information at their web page: www.w3uu.org Look for the link: License Exams.
Ham Radio License Exam Testing Part 2	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/
Ham Radio License Exam Testing	Look for LICENSE EXAM on our website THINGS-TO-DO Calendar View. We have entries for SMRA, Keystone VHF, Cross-Keys Village, HRAC
License Exam Training Class	SMRA announced they will be conducting a Ham Radio License Exam Training Class over the course of five Saturday afternoons beginning February 04, 2023. The classes will take place at the Bosler Library in Carlisle from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
License Exam Training Class	Ralph Brandt, K3HQL offers license exam training classes
License Exam Training Class	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. www.n1fd.org
License Exam Training Class	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
Ham Radio Lunch	The last Thursday of each month. Informal lunchtime gathering at the Hibachi Grill and Buffet. 5080 Jonestown Road -- Route 22, Harrisburg, PA Best guess -- Noon. to 1:30 p.m.
CARC Weekly Coffee Time	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.

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

❖ Cumberland Amateur Radio Club Nets

<p>CARC Two Meter VHF Digital Net</p>	<p>Every Sunday evening at 6:00 p.m. local time. 146.490 MHz. Most likely we will be using OpMode Domino EX 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 come out 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>
<p>CARC Two Meter Phone Net</p>	<p>Every Sunday at 7 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 those who have no transceiver and/or no antenna, but who do have a PC and an Internet connection. 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>
<p>CARC Ten Meter Phone Net</p>	<p>Every Wednesday* at 8 p.m. local time. 10 meter band. 28.400 MHz USB *Except Monthly Meeting Night. on the third Wednesday of the month.</p>

❖ Answers to the Puzzles

Answer to the License Plate Puzzle that appeared on Page 1

There was no license plate contest this month. Visit again in July.

Words of Wisdom...

A fanatic is one who can't change his mind and won't change the subject.

Winston Churchill

Words of Wisdom...

I am not young enough to know everything.

Oscar Wilde