



Monthly Newsletter
April 16, 2025

❖ What's New ?

Florida QSO Party 2025 is having a SPELLING BEE.

There will be fourteen 1x1 Special Event Stations on the air using call sign suffixes that spell PIRATES.

The 1x1 call sign prefixes will be K4 and N4.
That gives you twice as many opportunities for a QSO compared to having just one station per letter.

The call sign suffixes are – P, I, R, A, T, E, S.
Contact at least one of each suffix letter spelling PIRATES to earn this award.

QSL the Florida QSO Party 1x1 stations via KU9C –with a SASE, direct to:

STEVEN M WHEATLEY
PO BOX 529
Mount Freedom, NJ 07970-0529

or via the ARRL Logbook of The World (LoTW)



Sample QSL card from QSO Party 2019

❖❖❖❖ **TABLE OF CONTENTS** ❖❖❖❖

Monthly Newsletter.....	1
Calendar Items.....	2
Meeting Agenda.....	5
Door Prize Ticket.....	5
Memoriam to Harry Fasick, K3EYL.....	6
Milestones, General Announcements.....	9
Leadership Reports.....	10-11
Unfinished Business, New Business.....	12-15
Next Meeting Info.....	16
Activity or Training Lesson.....	Published Elsewhere

❖ On-The-Air Events

April 2025	Local Dates
• SKCC Weekend Sprintathon (WES)	12 th -13 th
• New Mexico QSO Party	12 th
• South Dakota QSO Party	12 th -13 th
• Georgia QSO Party	12 th -13 th
• Nebraska QSO Party	19 th -20 th
• Michigan QSO Party	19 th
• Ontario QSO Party	19 th -20 th
• Quebec QSO Party	20 th
• ARRL Rookie Roundup SSB	20 th
• Florida QSO Party	26 th -27 th
• UK/EI DX Contest CW	26 th -27 th
• 10-10 Spring Contest Digital	26 th -27 th
• SP DX Contest RTTY	26 th -27 th
• Helvetia Contest	26 th -27 th
• Tiplayo DX Contest	26 th -27 th

May 2025	Local Dates
• 7 th Call Area QSO Party	3 rd -4 th
• Indiana QSO Party	3 rd
• Delaware QSO Party	3 rd -4 th
• New England QSO Party	3 rd -4 th
• SKCC Weekend Sprintathon (WES)	10 th -11 th
• Canadian Prairies QSO Party	10 th
• Arkansas QSO Party	17 th
• CQ WPX Contest CW	23 rd -25 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 April 2025, and later**

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 Testing Fee ! Pre-Registration, including your FCC FRN, is required.</i> Additional info at their web page: www.w3uu.org Follow the menu: Getting Started in...
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 Part 3	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. <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>
Ham Radio License Exam Testing Part 4	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 online payment required before license issuance.
Ham Radio License Exam Testing Part 5	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, 257 N. Hershey Road, West Hanover Twp, PA (Next to La Quinta Hotel)
Ham Radio License Exam Testing Part 6	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
License Exam Training Class	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.
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. https://www.n1fd.org/amateur-radio-license-class/
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
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

❖ 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 on 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>										
Morning Grind Net	<p>K3IR.org/morning-grind/ 9:00 a.m. Daily. Sunday is Informal – No Net Control. 145.23 MHz analog FM Repeater minus offset. PL 118.8 Hz Manheim, PA</p>										
21 Repeater Group	<p>145.210 MHz https://groups.io/g/21repeatergroup On occasion I tune to 145.210 PL 123.0 MHz and find something of interest.</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	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Ham Radio 2.0</td> <td>This is Jason, KC5HWB</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ham Radio Crash Course</td> <td>This site is maintained by Josh</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ham Radio Tube</td> <td>This site is maintained by Mike, K8MRD.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Search the site for DAVE CASLER.</td> <td>He usually has something good to say.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Search the site for ARRL HQ.</td> <td>You be the judge of what they have to say.</td> </tr> </table>	Ham Radio 2.0	This is Jason, KC5HWB	Ham Radio Crash Course	This site is maintained by Josh	Ham Radio Tube	This site is maintained by Mike, K8MRD.	Search the site for DAVE CASLER.	He usually has something good to say.	Search the site for ARRL HQ.	You be the judge of what they have to say.
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License Exam Practice Q&A	<p>https://hamradioprep.com/free-ham-radio-practice-tests/ If you navigate to their HOME page you may have difficulty finding the Free Ham Radio Practice Tests. Use the link we provided. Or, go to the end of the HOME page and the Site Map. Look for: RESOURCES Free Practice Tests.</p>										
License Exam Practice Q&A	<p>www.arrl.org/exam-practice Then follow the link ARRL Exam Review for Ham Radio.</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

❖ Radio Contests for Saturday April 26, 2025

These April 26-27, 2025 contests take the place of CARC Derby Day contests which had been scheduled as the first Saturday of May to coincide with the Kentucky Derby. Frank Mellott proposed we need a new name for this year's event. Your editor offered **Chernobyl Remembrance Day**.

Contest rules can be complex. If you are genuinely interested in any of these contests I recommend you obtain your own copy of their complete Rules.

Florida QSO Party (The Sunshine State)

Work as many Florida stations as possible.

Begins 1600Z Saturday (Noon EDT)
Ends 0159Z Sunday UTC (9:59 p.m. Saturday)
Begins 1200Z Sunday (8:00 a.m. EDT)
Ends 2159Z Sunday (5:59 p.m. EDT)

Phone, CW, Mixed – No Digital

Exchange In-State: RS(T) and Florida County

Exch: Out of State: RS(T) and STATE

1x1 Call Signs spell PIRATES for award.

<https://floridaqsoparty.org>

UK/EI DX Contest (United Kingdom and Ireland)

UK/EI: EI, G, GD, GI, GJ, GM, GU, GW

Everybody Else is "DX"

Everybody can work Everybody

Begins 1200Z Saturday (8:00 a.m. EDT)

Ends 1200Z Sunday (8:00 a.m. EDT)

CW, SSB

Exchange in UK/EI: RS(T), Serial Numb, District Code

Exchange in DX: RS(T), Serial Numb.

Log Serial Number 0 if the other station doesn't give.

No Self-Spotting

<http://www.ukeicc.com/dx-contest-rules.php>

Helvetia Contest (Switzerland)

Everybody can work Everybody.

"HB" 10 points Same Continent 1 pt, Diff Cont. 3 pts

Begins 1300Z Saturday (9:00 a.m. EDT)

Ends 1259Z Sunday (8:59 a.m. EDT)

CW, SSB, Digital

HB Exch: RS(T) and 2 letter canton

DX Exch: RS(T) and Consecutive Serial Number

The contest website requires User to open an account with password. I declined, therefore I have no rules.

<https://www.uska.ch/events/uska-helvetia-contest-concours-helvetia-hf>

10-10 Spring Contest Digital

Digital Only BPSK and RTTY – No Phone, No CW
Ten Meters Only

Begins: 0001Z Saturday (8:01 p.m. Friday EDT)

Ends: 2359Z Sunday (7:59 p.m. Sunday EDT)

Exchange (Member) Call Sign, Name, 10-10 Number, QTH (State/Province/Country if DX)

Exch. Non-Member Same but send 0 as 10-10 Num.

10-10 Members can submit logs and compete for awards. Non-Member logs will be treated as Check Logs without awards.

<http://www.ten-ten.org/index.php/activity/2013-07-22-20-26-48/qso-party-rules>

SP DX Contest RTTY (Poland)

RTTY Only – No Phone, No CW

Everybody can work Everybody

Russian QSOs earn zero points and no multipliers

Begins:1200Z Saturday (8:00 a.m. EDT)

Ends: 1200Z Sunday (8:00 a.m. EDT)

SP Station Exch: RST and 2 letter poviat abbreviation.

DX Station Exch: RST and Consecutive Serial Number.

<http://www.pkrvg.org/>

Tipalayo DX Contest SSB (Indonesia)

SSB Only – No CW, No Digital

80, 40 and 10 Meters

Begins: 0800Z Saturday (4:00 a.m. EDT)

Ends: 1159Z Sunday (7:59 a.m. EDT)

Indonesia call sign prefixes are YB-YH and 7A-7I

Bonus Station for 25 points is 7C8C

Exchange: RS(T) and Consecutive Serial Number

This is my best guess. See below.

<https://tipalayo-orlokporman.id>

Indonesian translated into English rules were found.