



ARRL The National Association for
Amateur Radio®

IN-NEWSLETTER

Covering December 9 – December 15, 2023

*Director of Marketing and Innovation Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R
and edited by Executive Assistant Danielle Biologlowy*

Upcoming Meetings and Events

Christmas (HQ closed) | December 25

VOTA: Badges On the Air (final push for VOTA) | 0000 UTC – 2359 UTC, December 31

New Years Day (HQ closed) | January 1

[Straight Key Night](#) | January 1

[Kid's Day](#) | January 6

[RTTY Roundup](#) | January 6 – 7

[North American QSO Party](#) CW | January 13 – 14

New Vice Director Orientation | January 17

Board Committee Meetings | January 18

Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors | January 19 – 20

[North American QSO Party](#) Phone | January 20 – 21

[January VHF Contest](#) | January 20 – 22

[Winterfest](#), hosting the ARRL Midwest Division Convention, Collinsville, Illinois | January 27

[North American Sprint](#) CW | February 4

[Orlando HamCation](#), hosting the ARRL Florida State Convention, Orlando, Florida | February 9 – 11

[North American Sprint](#) RTTY | February 10

[School Club Roundup](#) | February 12 – 16

[ARRL International DX Contest](#) CW | February 17 – 18

Presidents' Day (HQ closed) | February 19

[North American QSO Party](#) RTTY | February 24 – 25

[Greater Houston Hamfest](#), hosting the ARRL West Gulf Div. Convention, Rosenberg, Texas | March 1 – 2

[ARRL International DX Contest](#) Phone | March 2 – 3

Education and learning

Reported by Steve Goodgame, K5ATA

Steve Goodgame, K5ATA, travelled to Erie, Pennsylvania for an ARISS contact at Harbor Creek High School. The teacher at HCCHS is a recent ARRL Teachers Institute graduate and has had twenty six of his students earn their amateur radio licenses. This contact was especially notable because the entire contact was run by students. Students assembled and installed antennas, installed and programmed the radios, and conducted the contact. The students were interviewed by the NBC Today Show host Harry Smith for a feature piece due to come out early 2024. ARRL Education staff as well as Joe Carcia, NJ1Q have supported the Harbor Creek students extensively over the past 18 months as they built their program. The program is successful enough the school district is building a radio laboratory as a part of a renovation project. Read the story on [ARRL News](#).

Retail Sales and Marketing Operations

Reported by Jackie Ferreira, KB1PWB, and Jason Leonard

ARRL wrapped up seven days of deals this week, a series of seven holiday-themed emails that were distributed December 8 – 14 to members subscribed to receive publication announcements and special offers.

ARRL has implemented a new international shipping service with FedEx: FedEx International Connect Plus (FICP). Most of our standard international sales commerce will ship via the new service and will result in considerable savings for members/customers and ARRL.

With help from Alex Norstrom, KB1MOI, the December issue of *The Current*, featuring the January issue of *QST*, and the November/December issues of *On the Air*, *QEX*, and *NCI*, was distributed to 91,390 members with subscriptions to the newsletter.

Jason Leonard finalized work to revise direct mail marketing materials for membership. Additional work is ongoing to revise emailed direct marketing materials, and to finalize revisions for new ham membership marketing. All of these materials reflect 2024 dues rates and related subscription fees.

Designs are being completed to create a consistent look for Division and Section logos. The graphics will support Division and Section websites, newsletters, and email communications.

Advertising

Reported by Janet Rocco, W1JLR

Sponsorships totaling \$15,000 have been secured for the next run of ARRL reusable shopping bags. The new bag is black with white imprinting. The sponsors are Chatt Radio, LDG Electronics, Begali Keys, and RF Parts (promoting Diamond Antenna). The artwork has been submitted to the manufacturer and bags will debut with our exhibit at Orlando HamCation in February.

Emergency Management

Reported by Josh Johnston, KE5MHV

Ken Bailey, K1FUG, and Jeremy Dunkley, KC1SIV, have been continuing to move forward with updating Emergency Communications courses for ARES. The Basic EmComm course has been sent to editorial. Subject Matter Experts (SME's) are being contacted for content creation for the Advanced course. They also continue to manage all member, customer, and client needs for the Emergency Management Department and course assistance.

Publications and Editorial

Becky Schoenfeld, W1BXY

The December 2023 episode of the On the Air podcast, "More About Bits and Baud," was released on December 14.

Public Relations and Outreach

We have been preparing items contributed by IARU Secretary Joel Harrison, W5ZN, reporting on happenings from WRC-23 in Dubai, UAE. This week's news item included a summary of the acceptable conclusion reached on the 23-centimeter issue. Read [ARRL News](#).

Field Services

Reported by Steve Ewald, WV1X

When this fall's Section Manager nomination period concluded on December 8, Leona Adams, W1LGA, reported that Louisiana and Pacific Sections will have balloted elections this coming winter season. Members in the Pacific Section will vote for either incumbent SM Alan Maenchen, AD6E, or Kevin Bogan, AH6QQ. Members in Louisiana will have a choice between incumbent SM Matt Anderson, KD5KNZ, and Houston Polson, N5YS. Leona will be preparing candidate statements and ballots for the local printer, and ballots are scheduled to be mailed out by January 2.

Hank Blackwood, K4HYJ, will become the Georgia Section Manager on April 1. He was the only nominee to step up during a re-solicited nomination period for the Georgia SM position. Blackwood will take the reins from Section Manager David Benoist, AG4ZR, who decided not to run for another term of office.

The following incumbent Section Managers will begin their new terms of office on April 1, 2024, because they are not facing any opposition during this election cycle: John Fritze, K2QY (Eastern New York); Bob Wilson, W3BIG (Eastern Pennsylvania); Marvin Hoffman, WA4NC (North Carolina); Dave Kaltenborn, N8BKC (San Diego); Chris Stallkamp, KI0D (South Dakota), and Jack Smith, KE4LWT (Virginia).