



**ARRL** The National Association for  
**Amateur Radio®**

## IN-NEWSLETTER

January 7, 2022

Vol. 54, No. 1

Covering December 18, 2021 – January 7, 2022

### Upcoming Meetings and Events

Events listed below are subject to change at any time; information will be updated as soon as it becomes available. See also the ARRL [Contest Calendar](#) and [Hamfest and Convention Database](#).

February 2022 [digital edition](#) of QST goes live | January 7, 2022

Dayton Amateur Radio Association meeting: Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R is guest presenter | January 7, 2022

[RTTY Roundup](#) | January 8-9, 2022

[January VHF Contest](#) | January 15-17, 2022

March 2022 QST goes to press | January 17, 2022

New Director and Vice Director Orientation | January 18, 2022

ARRL A&F and PSC Committee Meetings, Windsor, CT | January 20, 2022

ARRL Annual Board Meeting, Windsor, CT | January 21-22, 2022

Winterfest, hosting the ARRL Midwest Division Convention, Collinsville, Illinois | January 22, 2022

Capital City Hamfest, hosting the ARRL Delta Division Convention, Jackson, Mississippi | Jan. 28-29, 2022

2022 [ARRL National Convention](#) at Orlando HamCation®, Florida | February 10-13, 2022

[School Club Roundup](#) | February 14-18, 2022

Yuma Hamfest, hosting the ARRL Southwestern Division Convention, Arizona | February 18-19, 2022

[ARRL International DX Contest](#) (CW) | February 19-20, 2022

[ARRL International DX Contest](#) (Phone) | March 5-6, 2022

Raleigh ARRL Hamfest (RARSfest), hosting the ARRL Roanoke Div. Conv., North Carolina | April 16, 2022

Dayton Hamvention, an ARRL-sanctioned hamfest, Xenia, Ohio | May 20-22, 2022

## Executive Office

We are pleased to announce the hiring of Josh Johnston, KE5MHV, into the role of Director of Emergency Management. Josh is from Ozone, Arkansas, and comes to ARRL with 16 years of experience as the Director of Johnson County (Arkansas) Department of Emergency Management. He will be working with staff and member-volunteers and coordinating with the ARRL Board's new Emergency Communications and Field Services Committee (EC-FSC). See [ARRL News](#).

Preparations for the January Board Meeting have been keeping everyone very busy.

A very snowy morning contributed to a delayed building opening at 10 AM on Friday, January 7, so the parking lot and walkways could be cleared, and allowing for safe travel in. Member Services Representatives were answering the phones beginning at 8 AM, allowing operations for our members to continue uninterrupted.

## Membership, Marketing & Communications Reported by Kathleen Callahan, KC1MBY

Work has continued to help promote registration for the 2022 ARRL National Convention Program, which will be held on Thursday, February 10; [www.arrl.org/expo](http://www.arrl.org/expo). Kathleen Callahan and Bob Inderbitzen meet regularly to co-coordinate various parts of this planning. They are also working closely with the team of staff and volunteers who will be supporting ARRL exhibits and activities throughout the National Convention and Orlando HamCation (February 11-13).

### **Advertising**

Janet Rocco, W1JLR

DX Engineering has been secured as the official sponsor of the 2022 ARRL National Convention Program.

### **Member Services**

Reported by Yvette Vinci, KC1AIM

Close to 100 tours of W1AW were given by our valued HQ volunteer tour guides since the resuming station visitors in July 2021.

Our team of Member Service Representatives handled 3,628 calls in December, versus 3,330 in December 2020. The team includes Margie Bourgoïn, W1MRG; Jon Faasen, AA1EZ; Liz Karpiej, KA1DTU; Kim McNeill, KM1IPA, and Cathy Stepina.

### **December 2021 Membership Statistics**

Reported by Yvette Vinci, KC1AIM

December ended with 158,601 members, 1,846 members behind year-to-date goal. This represents a gain from November of 810 members; a gain of 231 was forecast. A large part of this gain was due to the resumption of some mailings – and in particular, the membership solicitation mailing to lapsed and never members.

Notables:

- Acquisition activity hit a record high in December. Year to date acquisitions were up 11%.
- A series of holiday-themed membership email solicitations returned 245 new and lapsed members.
- Yearend membership totals in 2021 had increased from previous years (158,494 members in 2020; 156,755 members in 2019; 156,899 members in 2018).

Below is a snapshot of the ARRL membership dashboard.

| ARRL Association Dashboard     | JAN     | FEB     | MAR     | APR     | MAY     | JUN     | JUL     | AUG     | SEP     | OCT     | NOV     | DEC     | YTD     | AVG     |
|--------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Membership Change %            | 1%      | 2%      | 2%      | 1%      | 0%      | 0%      | -1%     | 0%      | 0%      | 0%      | 0%      | 0%      | 0%      | 0%      |
| Current Member Total           | 158,984 | 159,386 | 159,659 | 159,423 | 158,119 | 157,791 | 157,132 | 157,481 | 157,123 | 157,364 | 157,791 | 158,601 | 158,238 | 158,238 |
| Previous Year Member Total     | 156,681 | 156,516 | 156,659 | 157,626 | 157,530 | 157,880 | 158,049 | 157,943 | 157,828 | 157,820 | 157,841 | 158,494 | 157,488 | 157,572 |
| New Member Change %            | 26%     | 3%      | -7%     | -10%    | -30%    | 0%      | 25%     | 58%     | 57%     | -6%     | 23%     | 32%     | 11%     | 11%     |
| Current Year New Members       | 2,647   | 2,572   | 2,562   | 2,155   | 1,783   | 2,100   | 2,190   | 2,940   | 2,603   | 2,066   | 2,336   | 3,063   | 29,017  | 2,418   |
| Previous Year New Members      | 2,106   | 2,497   | 2,769   | 2,399   | 2,533   | 2,100   | 1,750   | 1,866   | 1,661   | 2,192   | 1,901   | 2,317   | 26,091  | 2,174   |
| Conversion %                   | 50.15%  | 46.00%  | 44.76%  | 41.67%  | 41.44%  | 37.85%  | 37.90%  | 42.52%  | 45.37%  | 43.29%  | 39.64%  | 47.46%  | 43.09%  | 43.09%  |
| Conversions (Actual)           | 503     | 472     | 419     | 425     | 421     | 422     | 423     | 432     | 358     | 371     | 331     | 495     | 5,072   | 423     |
| Conversion Candidates (F)      | 1,003   | 1,026   | 936     | 1,020   | 1,016   | 1,115   | 1,116   | 1,016   | 789     | 857     | 835     | 1,043   | 11,772  | 981     |
| Y2+ Renewal %                  | 77.27%  | 73.82%  | 71.96%  | 66.78%  | 66.77%  | 64.20%  | 64.24%  | 70.60%  | 69.35%  | 74.32%  | 70.50%  | 76.24%  | 70.41%  | 70.51%  |
| Y2+ Renewals                   | 6,649   | 5,996   | 5,753   | 6,232   | 6,208   | 5,298   | 5,301   | 4,529   | 4,127   | 4,872   | 5,314   | 6,480   | 66,759  | 5,563   |
| Y2+ Renewal Candidates (not F) | 8,605   | 8,122   | 7,995   | 9,332   | 9,297   | 8,252   | 8,252   | 6,415   | 5,951   | 6,555   | 7,538   | 8,499   | 94,813  | 7,901   |
| Total Renewal %                | 74.44%  | 70.70%  | 69.11%  | 64.31%  | 64.28%  | 61.07%  | 61.10%  | 66.76%  | 66.54%  | 70.74%  | 67.42%  | 73.10%  | 67.39%  | 67.46%  |
| Total Renewals                 | 7,152   | 6,468   | 6,172   | 6,657   | 6,629   | 5,720   | 5,724   | 4,961   | 4,485   | 5,243   | 5,645   | 6,975   | 71,831  | 5,986   |
| Total Renewal Candidates       | 9,608   | 9,148   | 8,931   | 10,352  | 10,313  | 9,367   | 9,368   | 7,431   | 6,740   | 7,412   | 8,373   | 9,542   | 106,585 | 8,882   |

**Development**

Reported by Melissa Stemmer, KA7CLO

We are pleased to welcome Daryl Staehle, W7TAE, of the Northwestern Division, Barrie Britton, W6DX, of the Southwestern Division and Chester Barney Scholl, K3LA, of the Atlantic Division as the 329th, 330th and 331st members of the Maxim Society. We are also pleased to welcome ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, and Holly Roderick of the Delta Division and Carl Young, K5HK, of the Pacific Division into the Ambassador Class of the Maxim Society.

The 2022 ARRL Foundation Scholarship Program applications closed at midnight on December 31, 2021. References may submit their letters of recommendation until midnight on January 31, 2022.

The next ARRL Foundation Grant Program proposal submission period will open on February 1, 2022, and close on February 28, 2022. Following the October 2021 grant submission period, the ARRL Foundation Board voted to approve funding for five grant proposals.

- The Miami County Amateur Radio Club received a \$2,000 award to put together six complete soldering kits to allow up to twelve club members to participate in hands-on electronics projects at club tech nights. Their vision is that instructing new and older hams in the hands-on side of amateur radio will encourage the electronics and science side of the hobby.
- An \$850 award was given to the Amateur Radio Club of Columbia County (ARCCC), Inc. for equipment for their HAM 101 program. The program’s audience is the youth of Columbia County, Georgia and its purpose is to foster an interest in amateur radio, to teach amateur

radio-related concepts, and to support youth understanding of the subjects taught in school and recognize the potential real-world applications.

- The Sussex County Charter School for Technology in Sparta, New Jersey was awarded \$1,500 for equipment and activities in support of establishing the school's first Amateur Radio Club, KD2YAQ. Establishing the amateur radio club is a major goal of the school's program in radio and space technology, stemming from their selection as an ARISS program contact with the International Space Station astronauts this spring.
- A grant of \$3,000 was awarded to Comunidad del Bo. Quebradas, Inc. of Yauco, Puerto Rico to support their Amateur Radio Youth Program. The club will offer an amateur radio course of theory to obtain the first amateur license and will be complemented with simple projects applying basic electronics, radio science, and other sources in today's technologies to encourage the interest of the participants. The participants will have to make a final project to participate as a team integrating the knowledge learned with their creativity and leadership skills.
- Finally, ARISS-USA received a grant of \$47,533 to fund the first year of their ARISS \*STAR\* Keith Pugh Memoriam Project. This is a brand-new two-year STEM education program providing opportunities for junior high and high school students with undergraduates involved. The first year of the program will focus on systems development and initial validation. University faculty and undergraduates will undertake hands-on radio and robot lessons and learn about amateur radio. They will then develop and operate engineering hardware and software and engage with ARISS radios on the ISS, leading to \*STAR\* youth teams trying hands-on robot and radio lessons and learning about the advantages of having an amateur radio license.

### ARRL Lab

**Reported by Ed Hare, W1RFI**

The Lab has two staffing changes to announce. ARRL's Product Review Test Engineer, Paul Cianciolo, W1VLF, has left our employ to work for a company closer to home. We wish him well. Until we can hire someone to do this job, Ed Hare will once again put on his test-engineer hat. Ed was hired in 1986 as ARRL's test engineer, so he will be able to pick up on this fairly easily.

The Lab also welcomes Steve Anderson, W1EMI, as ARRL's new RFI Engineer. Steve comes to us with a background that includes a lot of amateur radio experience and, more importantly for the diverse nature of this job, experience working with government agencies at multiple levels, with manufacturers and installers of major solar-project equipment. He will be working closely with Ed to learn the ropes of the job, ranging from working with hams, their neighbors, FCC and manufacturers.

### Field Services

The second issue of ARRL Club News was emailed to subscribers on December 21; <http://www.arrl.org/club-news>. The monthly newsletter, edited by Mike Walters, W8ZY, is also emailed to ARRL-affiliated clubs (via club presidents and newsletter editors), Affiliated Club Coordinators, and Section Managers.

**Radiosport**  
**Reported by Sharon Taratula**

| <b>Processing Time</b>           | <b>Most Recent Week</b> | <b>Difference Since Dec 15, 2021, Report</b> |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Paper/Fieldcheck Processing Time | 2 Weeks                 | -2 Weeks                                     |
| Logbook Processing Time          | 5 Business Days         | +2 Days                                      |
| <b>YTD Applications</b>          |                         |  |
| 2021 DXCC Applications           | 11,227                  | +877   |
| 2021 WAS Applications            | 3302                    | +192   |
| 2021 VUCC Applications           | 1749                    | +73  |
| 2021 WAC Applications            | 125                     | +7   |
| 2021 WPX Applications            | 969                     | +28  |
| 2021 WAZ Applications            | 873                     | +52  |

**Product Development, Public Relations, and Outreach**  
**Reported by Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R**

Bob Inderbitzen has drafted a survey seeking feedback from purchasers of our end-fed half-way antenna kit offering, introduced last year. A cross-functional team is reviewing the survey before it's turned over to Marketing and Communications to administer and distribute.

A PR Committee meeting was held (via Zoom) on Wednesday night, January 5.

Recent posts via our social media channels contributed to some excellent engagement over the last weeks.

- Each week, Steve Goodgame, K5ATA, posts an Education and Learning "Tuesday Tech Tip." Recent tips and topics have included the end-fed half-wave antenna, toroids, and grounding & bonding.
- Posts were made promoting 2022 ARRL National Convention at Orlando HamCation.
- Posts were made to highlight Cycle 25 and the K7RA Solar Update featured regularly in ARRL News.
- A Christmas Eve post included a selection of vintage December *QST* magazine covers.

Rosalie White, K1STO, reported that NASA has recognized Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) in its 2021 year-in-review! Bob Inderbitzen shared the good news with ARRL PIOs and PICs, and for attention via ARRL News. Here are the NASA media hits:

- A 2.5-minute NASA video on Twitter recognizes ARISS in two of its "Best Space Station Science Pictures of 2021". (at 1.57 minutes and 2.02 minutes);  
<https://twitter.com/i/status/1476589898673143814>
- NASA's web site featuring best 2021 ISS science pictures has the photos, too:  
[https://www.nasa.gov/mission\\_pages/station/research/news/best-space-station-science-pictures-2021](https://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/station/research/news/best-space-station-science-pictures-2021)

## Publications and Editorial

The following is a summary of e-newsletter subscribers.

- **ARRL Letter** (January 6); 113,044 members and 1,822 90-day website guest accounts
- **ARRL Club News** (December 21); 68,095 subscribers, including 6,780 club officers
- **ARES Letter** (December 15); 38,782 members and 274 guests
- **ARRL Contest Update** (December 22); 26,001 members and 172 guests

The February 2022 [digital edition](#) of *QST* went live Friday, January 7.

## W1AW

**Reported by Joe Carcia, NJ1Q**

Thanks to David Minster, NA2AA, and Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R, for operating W1AW during the 2022 Straight Key Night (SKN). They made 85 QSOs on 40, 20, and 15 meters.

W1AW took part in monitoring the SSTV transmissions from the International Space Station (<http://www.arrl.org/news/iss-sstv-transmission-set-for-late-december>). While some of the ISS passes did not offer clear SSTV pictures, two relatively decent images were received.



Joe installed and enabled the VARA modem protocol (<https://www.winlink.org/tags/vara>) on the W1AW HF Winlink (WL2K) system. It's now in the testing stages. Once VARA testing is complete, and the protocol is active, attention will turn to activating the ARDOP protocol ([https://www.winlink.org/content/ardop\\_overview](https://www.winlink.org/content/ardop_overview)).

Scott Gee, WB9RRU, worked on slow and fast code practice files for the week. He also processed one (1) paper and thirty-two (32) electronic VUCC applications for a total of 2489 credits.

*Edited by Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R, Director of Public Relations and Innovation*