

# Hamvention 2026 Forums

Friday, May 15th, 2026

## HamSCI: The Ham Radio Science Citizen Investigation

9:15 - 10:50 AM in Room 1

Moderated by Dr. Nathan Frissell, W2NAF

HamSCI is an international project to bring together the amateur radio and professional space science communities to advance both science and ham radio. This year, we discuss new results for the Large Scale Traveling Ionospheric Disturbance Project, a version of the Personal Space Weather Station that you can build from scratch, Meteor Scatter QSO Party Results, and an upcoming collaboration with a NASA mission. HamSCI Speakers include Diego Sanchez (KD2RLM), Bob Reif (W1XP), Gary Mikitin (AF8A) and David McGaw (N1HAC).

## Lightning Protection, Generators and Inverters and RFI

9:15 - 10:50 AM in Room 2

Moderated by Jim Bacher, WB8VSU

Join Moderator Jim Bacher (WB8VSU) and Gary Bishop (NQ0V) for an informative forum dealing with the ins and outs of lightning protection, RFI, and Generator and Inverter information.

## Updates on the Elecraft K4 Radio and Suite of Upgrades

9:15 - 10:30 AM in Room 3

Moderated by Scott Wright, K0MD

Join Scott Wright (K0MD), Eric Swartz (WA6HHQ), Ed Muns (W0YK) and Bob Wilson (N6TV) to learn the tips and tricks to maximizing K4D performance, including Remote Operation with the K4/0 radio including So2R operation and operating via Star Link. Learn of the updates on planned improvements to the K4D.

## TAPR - Topics in Digital Radio

9:20 - 10:30 AM in Room 4

Moderated by Dave Larsen, KV0S

Join Dave Larsen (KV0S), Paul Elliot (WB6CXC), and George Byrkit (K9TRV) as they speak on development of a SDR receiver to be used with KA9Q radio software and choosing an antenna for WSPR daemon reception use (N6GN SaS variants vs DXE RSEAV1).

## Supersonic Heterodynes, Frequency Modulation, Brick Phones, 5G, and Cosmic Radiation — How RCA Members Changed History

10:40 - 11:50 AM in Room 3

Moderated by David Bart, W9DPB

Join Radio Club of America (RCA) President Alan Spindel (AG4WK) and RCA President Emeritus David Bart (W9DPB) for an engaging blend of history and technical exploration, tracing the remarkable contributions of RCA honorees Edwin Armstrong, Marty Cooper, Ted Rappaport, and Robert Wilson — individuals who reshaped radio technology and our understanding of the universe. Founded in 1909, the Radio Club of America is the world's oldest wireless organization. Come discover how we continue to influence amateur radio and science today. Door prizes including complimentary club memberships and more.

## DX Marathon: Record Growth, 2025 Results, and What's Ahead

10:40 - 11:50 AM in Room 4

Moderated by Mark Wohlschlegel, WC3W

Mark Wohlschlegel (WC3W) will delve into the DX Marathon Program as it continues to experience strong global momentum, achieving over 30% year-over-year growth in participation during 2025 - marking another year of double-digit expansion. This forum will review the key results and highlights from the 2025 program, including participation trends, geographic reach, and operating achievements by stations around the world.

## Taking Amateur Radio to New Heights

11:00 AM - 12:20 PM in Room 1

Moderated by Bill Brown, WB8ELK

Join The Rocket City Balloonatic, Moderator Bill Brown (WB8ELK), Tom Graham (WX8TOM), and Andrew Koenig (KE5GDB) for three balloon talks. Learn of the latest advances in Amateur Radio High Altitude Balloons, free payloads falling from the sky, converting radiosondes to the 70cm band with HORUS telemetry, Wnet image modes and going vertical, amateur radio signals from the sky.

## ARRL & Salty Walt's Portable Antenna Forum

11:00 AM - 12:20 PM in Room 2

Moderated by Walt Hudson, K4OGO

Join "Salty Walt" Hudson, K4OGO — of the popular Coastal Waves and Wires YouTube channel — for a lively, practical look at building portable antennas that really perform. Walt shows how to create simple, effective antennas you can take to a park, beach, or summit, and make contacts around the world. Drawing from his ARRL books, including Salty Walt's Portable Antenna Sketchbook and Salty Walt's NEXT LEVEL Portable Antenna Sketchbook, he shares designs, tips, and real-world insights you can use right away. Sponsored by ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio®.

## Radio Club of America and Viavi Test Equipment Tutorial and Workshop

12:00 - 12:50 PM in Room 3

Moderated by Alan Spindel, AG4WK

Co-sponsored by RCA and Viavi, Alan Spindel (AG4WK) and Gordon Beattie (W2TTT) bring their expertise in public safety communication to the Dayton Hamvention. Join us for this unique tutorial and workshop covering the test and measurement of amateur radio equipment using professional-grade Viavi service monitor equipment. Attendees will gain valuable insights into proper radio testing techniques and performance verification, followed by an interactive workshop where radio amateurs are encouraged to bring their handheld equipment for live testing during the forum. For those with larger pieces of equipment, or anyone who needs additional time, Gordon and the Viavi test equipment will remain available after the forum at the RCA booth. This forum brings together the Radio Club of America—the world's oldest wireless society, founded in 1909—and Viavi, a global leader in test and measurement and optical technologies for over 100 years. Come and get hands-on experience you can apply to your own station.

## Kit Building Techniques For Success

12:00 - 12:50 PM in Room 4

Moderated by Joe Eisenberg, K0NEB

Join Joe Eisenberg (K0NEB) for an informative session dealing with techniques for helping beginners through kit building.

<b>SOTA - High Adventure for All</b>		
<b>12:30 - 1:50 PM in Room 1</b>		<b>Moderated by Keith Schlottman, KR7RK</b>
<p>SOTA provides an opportunity for hams of all ages and skill levels to experience Radio Adventure at the highest level - literally! Whether you are activating a mountain summit or chasing from anywhere, there are countless ways to enjoy the SOTA program. Our Speakers Paula USCain (K9IR) and Dean Blair (K2JB) will share tips and stories about their experiences. Information will be provided about how anyone can enjoy SOTA (you don't need to be an athlete or a youngster!), how you can combine it with other ham radio programs (for example a joint SOTA/POTA activation, or activating during a contest), how to participate when you don't live in the mountains, special SOTA events such as campouts and annual challenges, and more. Audience participation is encouraged!</p>		
<b>Our CW Journeys and How You Can Have One Too: LICW Members Talk Up Close and Personal</b>		
<b>12:30 - 1:50 PM in Room 2</b>		<b>Moderated by Howard Bernstein, WB2UZE</b>
<p>Join Howard Bernstein (WB2UZE) and Mike Padron (N1CC) as they speak about their CW journeys and how you can have one too. LICW members talk up close and personal in a candid, story-driven session where Long Island CW Club members share what it actually looked like to learn Morse code - what worked, what didn't, the plateaus, and the breakthroughs. You'll hear a range of journeys (brand-new learners through confident on-air operators), along with practical takeaways you can use immediately: how to start (or restart) the right way, how to practice without burning out, how to handle missed characters and keep flowing, how sending and receiving reinforce each other, and how a supportive community accelerates progress. If CW feels intimidating, this talk is designed to make it feel achievable - because it is - and to leave you with a clear path to begin your own journey, wherever you are today!</p>		
<b>System Fusion</b>		
<b>1:00 - 2:20 PM in Room 3</b>		<b>Moderated by Mark Thompson, WB9QZB</b>
<p>Join Mark Thompson (WB9QZB) and John Kruk (N9UPC) National Sales Manager of Yaesu USA as they discuss the History of WiRES-X Networking for System Fusion and the new WiRES-X version 2.0 software.</p>		
<b>RTTY &amp; Digital Contesting</b>		
<b>1:00 - 2:20 PM in Room 4</b>		<b>Moderated by Ed Muns, W0YK</b>
<p>Join moderator Ed Muns (W0YK) of RTTY and Tim Shoppa (N3QE) for an informative discussion delving into competing in the single-operator multi-transmitter category. Specifics include automating digital contesting to the max and tips for improving RTTY/ digital contest log checking.</p>		
<b>Antenna Forum</b>		
<b>2:00 - 5:00 PM in Room 1</b>		<b>Moderated by Tim Duffy, K3LR</b>
<p>Join Moderator Tim Duffy (K3LR) and Speakers Hal Kennedy (N4GG), Greg Ordy (W8WV), John Vogel (N1PGA) and Lee Barrett (K7NM) for a discussion on antennas. Specific topics include "Investigating the End Fed Half Wave (EFHW) Antenna &amp; What Makes a Good RF Connector", "The Yagi Turns 100", "Effective Antennas Without Towers", and "The C-Match Method of Phasing Verticle Antennas."</p>		
<b>FreeDV's RadioAutoencODer (RADE) HF Digital Voice</b>		
<b>2:00 - 2:50 PM in Room 2</b>		<b>Moderated by Mel Whitten, K0PFX</b>
<p>Join Mel Whitten (K0PFX) as he moderates the HF Digital Voice Forum. Walter Holmes (K5WH) will describe how RADE meets the challenges of HF propagation by providing Noise Free Communications with Clear Speech Quality. JJ Boyd's (KG4VCF) "Getting on the Air with FreeDV" will present a Quick Guide for Setting Up Great Audio and Smooth Digital Voice. Over-the-Air (OTA) recordings and videos will demonstrate RADE's robustness and how voice quality exceeds that of SSB while occupying only 1.5KHz of bandwidth.</p>		
<b>Amateur Radio &amp; the Law</b>		
<b>2:30 - 3:20 PM in Room 3</b>		<b>Moderated by Fred Hopengarten, K1VR</b>
<p>Join Fred Hopengarten, Esq. (K1VR) of AntennaZoning.com, Bob Famiglio, Esq. (K3RF), and John Robert Stratton, Esq. (N5AUS) for a discussion on current legal events affecting amateur radio.</p>		
<b>Hackers in Amateur Radio</b>		
<b>2:30 - 3:20 PM in Room 4</b>		<b>Moderated by Jeremy Hong, KD8TUO</b>
<p>Join Jeremy Hong (KD8TUO), Ed Wilson (N2XDD), Arsenio Menendez (KN4OIH), Terry Schanno (NV00) and Brian Raker (W4WWW) explore the overlap and coexistence of the amateur radio and hacker communities, and how each has influenced the other. We will discuss how modern tools and platforms like Software Defined Radio (SDR) and Meshtastic are enabling new experimentation, rapid prototyping, and open source collaboration in Amateur Radio. We will also highlight how hacker spaces and conferences are becoming major entry points into the hobby. Attendees can expect practical examples, community perspectives, and ideas for welcoming and collaborating across both worlds.</p>		
<b>Andy's Ham Radio Linux</b>		
<b>3:00 - 3:50 PM in Room 2</b>		<b>Moderated by Andy Stewart, KB1OIQ</b>
<p>Join moderator Andy Stewart (KB1OIQ) who has created a popular software collection called "Andy's Ham Radio Linux", which contains over 80 Free Software/Open Source programs for ham radio and Linux. Andy's talk will cover the computer requirements, supported flavors of Linux, and a high level overview of some of the available programs.</p>		
<b>The Latest from ARDC: Grants and 44Net</b>		
<b>3:30 - 5:00 PM in Room 3</b>		<b>Moderated by Rosy Schechter, KJ7RYV</b>

Rosy Schechter (KJ7RYV) and John Burwell (K15QKX) will let you know what ARDC has been up to and some new ways to get involved. We'll cover updates on ARDC's grantmaking activities, including its priority areas for funding and examples of projects supporting experimentation, education, and open technology in amateur radio and digital communications. The discussion will also provide context on how these efforts fit into ARDC's broader work supporting innovation and learning across these communities. They will also cover recent 44Net and related technology developments, including 44Net Connect – a newly released system and the easiest way to get started with 44Net using modern networking tools. 44Net address space through 44Net Connect is freely available for non-commercial use by licensed hams. Additional updates will highlight ongoing work by volunteers to support the 44Net's continued evolution, expanding opportunities for experimentation with TCP/IP in amateur radio and digital communications.

### **Women Building Community Through Amateur Radio**

**3:30 - 5:00 PM in Room 4**

**Moderated by Anne Manna, WB1ARU**

The Young Ladies Radio League (YLRL) is pleased to present an interactive forum for all women attending Hamvention, whether licensed or not. Moderator Anne Manna (WB1ARU) and Diane Ortiz (K2DO), President of YLRL, will have presentations that encourage women in building community through the adventure of amateur radio. There will also be time for networking and meeting other YLs.

### **Arduino and Microcontrollers - Going The Distance**

**4:00 - 5:00 PM in Room 2**

**Moderated by Glen Popiel, KW5GP**

Join Glen Popiel (KW5GP) and discover how to add remote control to your microcontroller projects. Learn about the various RF modes and methods available to microcontrollers, including Bluetooth, Bluetooth LE, LoRa, Wi-Fi, and mesh networking. Learn the features and advantages of each, and how to choose between them to create your own remote control projects.

## Saturday, May 16th, 2026

### Ham Nation and Friends

**9:15 - 10:05 in Room 1**

**Moderated by Josh Nass, KI6NAZ**

Join Josh Nass, KI6NAZ, the HamNation crew and friends of the program as they bring HamNation live to Hamvention.

### Logging Portable Operations on your Phone

**9:15 - 10:20 AM in Room 2**

**Moderated by Sebastian Delmont, KI2D**

Join Moderator Sebastian Delmont (KI2D) of Ham2K and explore the pros and cons of logging on a handheld device. Learn how to use Ham2K Portable Logger to have the best portable operation experience possible. This is an important forum if you have considered operating Portable, doing Parks on The Air, or Summits, or Bunkers, or Castles, or Lakes.

### Radio Club of America - Youth Forum

**9:15 - 10:50 AM in Room 3**

**Moderated by Jim Storms, AB8YK**

Join Moderator Jim Storms and some impressive young hams. Webelos Scout Adam Grubb (KF8EKW) is currently building a 70cm EME station for his school science project. Carsten Glasbrenner's (KQ4SJM) main interests are satellites and DIY projects, such as home brew antennas and simple soldering kits. Haley Pendell (KE2EVX) is active operating POTA, contesting with her radio club friends, and participating in nets, serving as net control for her local 2m net on Saturdays, and building DIY antennas. Maggie Dill (KR4FTN) is active in POTA activations and hosting nets on the local repeaters on her own. She has participated in Field Days and state QSO parties as an operator for the local Charlotte club (W4BFB) of which she is a member. She is sharpening her CW skills and can send/receive up to 25 WPM at the moment, and enjoys activating parks in CW.

### Securing the Airwaves: Cybersecurity for Radio and Beyond

**9:20 - 10:50 AM in Room 4**

**Moderated by Brian Kowal, K1FFO**

Brian Kowal (K1FFO) from Ohio Cyber Reserve will educate amateur radio operators, engineers, technology enthusiasts, and youth on how cybersecurity and communications intersect. This forum emphasizes threats and defenses related to radio systems, digital modes, and critical infrastructure, while inspiring the next generation of cybersecurity professionals and community responders.

### The 3Y0K Bouvet DXpedition

**10:15 - 11:10 AM in Room 1**

**Moderated by Brian Bathe, AD8FD**

Returning to Bouvet after 3Y0J was something we felt the DX community deserved. In 2023, operators were forced to swim to the island with minimal gear, drastically limiting the activation. For 3Y0K, the team planned a full-scale effort to land safely with the radios, antennas, and amplifiers needed to put strong signals on the air and hear callers across the globe. Dennis Ward (KT8X) and Bob Ronk (W9AP) share the behind-the-scenes preparation, the challenges of mounting a second attempt on one of the world's most remote islands, and how the team overcame logistics, weather, and equipment constraints. This presentation highlights what changed, what worked, and what it took to bring Bouvet back to life for DXers everywhere.

### Parks on the Air: The Board Reports on the Past Year and the Year Ahead

**10:30 AM - 12:00 PM in Room 2**

**Moderated by Kevin Thomas, W1DED**

Join Moderator Kevin Thomas (W1DED), Mark Torigan (K8MST), Mike Case (W8MSC), Rick Parent (W0ZAP), John Ford (AB00), Thom Martin (W8TAM), and Tom Suggs (N4MTE) as they discuss Parks on the Air's year of extraordinary expansion, now approaching 50 million QSOs, more than 84,000 registered operators, over 85,000 parks, and activity spanning 236 DX entities worldwide. Growth at this scale brings both opportunity and responsibility. In this session, the POTA Board of Directors will present a comprehensive review of the past year's progress. The Board will examine key participation trends, explain how growth is shaping strategic decisions, and discuss the increasing intersection of POTA with DXpeditions, contesting, and rapid growth international operating activity. Attendees will also receive an update on major governance initiatives, structural refinements, and infrastructure improvements designed to strengthen transparency, scalability, and long-term sustainability. Looking ahead, the Board will outline its priorities for the coming year and the initiatives intended to support the program's continued evolution. Bring your questions!

### ARRL Membership Forum

**11:00 - 11:50 AM in Room 3**

**Moderated by Scott Yonally, N8SY**

Join Moderator ARRL Director Great Lakes Division Scott Yonally (N8SY), ARRL President Rick Roderick (K5UR), and ARRL CEO David A. Minster (NA2AA), and learn what's next for ARRL—and for you as an active radio amateur. Gather with ARRL leaders for a look at how the organization is working to promote, protect, and grow amateur radio. Hear updates on outreach to students and educators, the momentum behind the Year of the Club, ARRL's partnership with America250, and the latest legislative advocacy shaping your operating future. Director Scott Yonally will share a Great Lakes Division update. Whether you're a long-time member or just getting started, you're invited to bring your curiosity and interest to help ARRL advance amateur radio across the country – and around the world. Sponsored by ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio®

### Fast Scan Amateur Television Forum

**11:00 - 11:50 AM in Room 4**

**Moderated by Art Towslee, WA8RMC**

Join Art Towslee (WA8RMC), Darco Banko (OE7DBH), Joel Wilhite, (KD6W), Mike Collis (WA6SVT/VP6MC), and Dave Pelaez (AH2AR), for a discussion on Ham digital TV equipment and DATV transmitters. There will be a followup on last years discussion of digital ATV and information about DATV repeater concepts. The speakers will cover a range of different DATV coding/modulation techniques and repeater concepts, DVB-T2 installation on Pitcairn Island, as well as some interesting activities on the island. EXCELLENT DX will also be discussed.

### Desecheo 2026 DXpedition: The First All Solar Powered Unattended DXpedition in History

<b>11:15 AM - 12:10 PM in Room 1</b>		<b>Moderated by Brian Bathe, AD8FD</b>
Join Otis Vicens (NP4G) and Ez Prado (HI3R/NK4DX) as they tell the story of bringing KP5 back on the air using a fully remote, solar-powered DXpedition platform. Operating for more than 40 days and logging over 100,000 QSOs, the team relied on Remote Digital Units engineered for continuous, unattended operation on Desecheo Island. The speakers will outline the permitting, planning, logistics, and engineering behind this groundbreaking activation. They will explain how battery management, solar strategies, and propagation modeling shaped the daily schedule, including data on peak European and JA openings, and how multistream FT8 maximized output while conserving power. Attendees will also hear the personal side of the operation - teamwork across time zones, adapting to weather and solar conditions, and maintaining family life while running a world-class DXpedition remotely.		
<b>Reinventing Ham Radio Education - A New Model</b>		
<b>12:00 - 12:50 PM in Room 3</b>		<b>Moderated by Michael Burnette, AF7KB</b>
Join the author of the Fast Track series of license courses, Michael Burnette (AF7KB), as he brings the experiential learning model to ham radio in a fully realized program including how to advertise your classes, how to prepare the students, and a series of practical exercises to get them past the barriers that stand between "I got my license!" and "I'm a ham radio operator!" Michael even offers a slide deck and training manual for a complete Technician Class training that fits into a weekend. He will even offer ideas on how to present the entire program via Zoom, including the practical exercises.		
<b>VHF/UHF/Microwave Forum</b>		
<b>12:00 - 12:50 PM in Room 4</b>		<b>Moderated by Tony Emanuele, K8ZR</b>
Join Tony Emanuele (K8ZR), Carl Luetzelschwab (K9LA), and Rus Healy (K2UA) as they delve into Cycle 25 and 6-Meters going forward . They will also give updates on the current topics in VHF/UHF/Microwave Contesting.		
<b>Reimagining RACES and ARES Programs, Bridging the Gap with Emergency Management</b>		
<b>12:10 - 1:00 PM in Room 2</b>		<b>Moderated by Michael Stitley, KE2CIE</b>
Join Michael Stitley (KE2CIE) and Jamie Arnold (W2GPR) of the Tompkins County, NY, Department of Emergency Response, Office of Emergency Management as they present a practical framework for revitalizing emergency communications through stronger relationships, strategic collaboration, and program development. Through a Tompkins County, NY, case study, Michael will show how a traditional RACES team reinvented its role to serve broader emergency management needs. Attendees will learn proven approaches for stakeholder buy-in, targeted recruitment and retention, grant leveraging, equipment readiness, activation protocols, and ongoing engagement (Bluesky Days). Michael's goal is to equip Emergency Managers and RACES/ARES leaders with actionable strategies to build sustainable, effective, and networked emergency communications programs.		
<b>Failures &amp; Lessons learned from DXing in Adverse Conditions</b>		
<b>12:15 - 1:20 PM in Room 1</b>		<b>Moderated by Brian Bathe, AD8FD</b>
Brian Bathe (AD8FD) and Paul Ewing (N6PSE) share that not every DXpedition goes as planned, and those experiences often teach us the most. Paul shares a candid look at operations affected by weather, equipment failures, logistics, and human factors. This session examines what went wrong, why it happened, and how teams recover when conditions turn against them. Attendees will leave with practical insights for planning future activations, mitigating risks, and turning setbacks into hard-earned expertise.		
<b>The MFJ Story</b>		
<b>1:00 - 1:50 PM in Room 3</b>		<b>Moderated by Preston Booth</b>
Filmmaker Preston Booth discusses his documentary about Martin F. Jue and MFJ Enterprises through interviews, archival footage, and behind-the-scenes access. Martin F. Jue (K5FLU) founded MFJ Enterprises and helped shape modern amateur radio. This documentary talk explores his life, his work, and the people who built MFJ alongside him: preserving a uniquely American story of ingenuity, labor, and community.		
<b>ARRL Youth Rally Activities</b>		
<b>1:00 - 4:00 PM in Room 4</b>		<b>Moderated by Steve Goodgame, K5ATA</b>
Young hams – this is your rally at Hamvention! Connect with others your age and jump into hands-on amateur radio activities, from foxhunting and pico balloon launches to making a contact with a parachute mobile station. It's an afternoon of learning, experimenting, and having fun on the air and in the field. Bring a 2-meter handheld radio if you have one. This session is limited to students ages 11 – 21. Pre-registration is recommended at <a href="http://www.arrl.org/expo">www.arrl.org/expo</a> . The Youth Rally is sponsored by ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio®. Moderated by Steve Goodgame (K5ATA), ARRL Director of Education and Learning.		
<b>ARISS: Celebrating 25 Years on ISS and Pioneering New Spaceflight Opportunities for Hams and Youth</b>		
<b>1:10 - 2:20 PM in Room 2</b>		<b>Moderated by Frank Bauer, KA3HDO and Rosalie White, K1STO</b>
ARISS celebrates 25 years of continuous operations on the International Space Station (ISS) this year. Come learn about our past accomplishments on ISS and hear about our exciting, new, lifelong learning initiatives in store for youth and hams from Frank Bauer (KA3HDO), Rosalie White (K1STO), Jackie Blumer (KC9LEH), Jim Reed (N4BFR), and Astronaut John Schoffner (KO4MJC). Learn about our pioneering efforts to secure human spaceflight ham radio opportunities on future space stations in Low Earth Orbit after ISS retires in 2032, and missions in Lunar orbit and/or on the Lunar surface. Expect some surprise guests and new announcements.		
<b>Contest Forum</b>		
<b>1:30 - 3:40 PM in Room 1</b>		<b>Moderated by Doug Grant, K1DG</b>
Join Doug Grant (K1DG), Mark Haynes (M0DXR), Tim Duffy (K3LR), Jim Idelson (K1IR), Rudy Bakalov (N2WQ), Valery Zhitkovich (EW6W/CQ9A), and Bill Fehring (W9KKN), Victor Androsov (VA2WA) and Craig Thompson (K9CT) for many interesting subsets of contesting. Forum includes a talk on a WRTC2026, an update on WWROF - The Contest Foundation - integrating propagation information with Cluster spots, contesting as a way of life, and the RTC Contest: The New Era of Contesting.		

<b>Running a First Class Field Day Operation</b>		
<b>2:00 - 2:50 PM in Room 4</b>		<b>Moderated by Mitch Stern, W1SJ</b>
<p>ARRL has designated 2026 as the Year of The Club. Each June, many clubs and groups take part in Field Day. Field Day runs the gamut from large scale operations to other operations where the dinner menu is of primary importance. Setting up a Field Day operation to serve the interests of a multitude of participants is particularly tricky. In this presentation, Mitch Stern (W1SJ) will discuss the W1NVT Field Day operation, a fairly small two transmitter effort in Vermont which produces consistent winning results. Forum details will include organizational planning, antennas, equipment, housing, safety, and other concerns. Attend the forum and learn how to bring your Field Day game up to new levels!</p>		
<b>AMSAT</b>		
<b>2:30 - 3:40 PM in Room 2</b>		<b>Moderated by Drew Glasbrenner, KO4MA</b>
<p>Drew Glasbrenner (KO4MA), AMSAT President, will highlight recent activities and discuss some of our challenges, accomplishments, projects, and late breaking news. Jerry Buxton (N0JY), AMSAT Vice President for Engineering, will talk about the current and upcoming satellite missions. Alan Johnston (KU2Y), AMSAT Vice President for Education Relations, will talk about the AMSAT CubeSat Simulator. Carsten Glasbrenner (KQ4SJM), and Mark Hammond (N8MH), AMSAT Vice President Operations, will discuss current satellites and operations. Frank Karnauskas (N1UW), Vice President of AMSAT Development, will report on the AMSAT Youth Initiative and its features.</p>		
<b>Introduction to Operating on the 630 Meter Band</b>		
<b>3:00 - 3:50 PM in Room 4</b>		<b>Moderated by Paul Dobosz, K8PD</b>
<p>Ever since the 630-meter band was opened to US amateur use in March 2017, obstacles in transmitting and receiving have kept many hams from operating on this medium-wave band. Paul Dobosz (K8PD) discusses ways to overcome those obstacles and successfully operate on 630 meters. It is actually easy to overcome the lack of commercial equipment and get on the band. The 630 meter band is underutilized, but only because it is a well-kept secret and most hams think it is out of reach. The objective of the forum is to introduce the band, review the basic steps to get on the band, and share how commercially available transceivers can be easily modified to operate legally on 630 meters.</p>		
<b>The TinySA: The Perfect Companion to the NanoVNA</b>		
<b>3:50 - 5:00 in Room 1</b>		<b>Moderated by Eric Nichols, KL7AJ</b>
<p>Join Eric Nichols (KL7AJ) and learn how excellent low-cost test equipment has changed Amateur Radio. Most hams are now familiar with the NanoVNA Vector Network Analyzer and its kin, but are less familiar with the similar TinySA spectrum analyzer. The TinySA is a marvel of engineering at about one percent of the cost of available equivalent equipment just a couple of decades ago. We will explore some of the hidden "nooks and crannies" of the TinySA to reveal its amazing capabilities. No ham should be without one.</p>		
<b>Remote HF</b>		
<b>3:50 - 5:00 PM in Room 2</b>		<b>Moderated by Michael Walker, VA3MW</b>
<p>Join Michael Walker (VA3MW) and George Zafiroopoulos (KJ6VU), as they take the stage to talk remote ham radio operation. Whether you're just getting started or looking to upgrade your current setup, these two operators bring real-world ideas and practical solutions to the table — plus a look at some brand-new hardware and software designed to make building and running your remote station easier than ever. If remote operating is on your radar, this is the session you won't want to miss. Michael Walker (VA3MW), an Ontario-based ham who has been licensed since 1974, is a well-known voice in the SDR community who currently works with FlexRadio Systems. Mike is a co-host on the popular Ham Radio Workbench Podcast, where he covers everything from networking and remote operation to the latest advances in software-defined radio. George Zafiroopoulos (KJ6VU), has been a licensed ham since 1972, bringing decades of hands-on experience in home brewing, QRP, repeater building, and HF operation. He is the designer of the Sierra Radio Systems repeater control systems and the PackTenna line of portable antennas, and is the host of the widely followed Ham Radio Workbench Podcast, with over 250 episodes produced since 2016.</p>		
<b>Predicting Six Meters Openings - You Must Be Present to Win</b>		
<b>4:00 - 5:00 PM in Room 3</b>		<b>Moderated by Bruce Smith, AC4G</b>
<p>Join Bruce Smith (AC4G) of the North Alabama DX Club and learn about a formula Bruce came up with after years of observation to predict 6m Sporadic-E openings from his QTH in Grid: EM65 in southern, middle Tennessee. These findings produce positive results most of the time for the hams in Northern Alabama.</p>		
<b>ARRL Collegiate Amateur Radio Meetup</b>		
<b>4:00 - 5:00 PM in Room 4</b>		<b>Moderated by Tony Milluzzi, KD8RTT</b>
<p>Since its launch in 2017, the ARRL Collegiate Amateur Radio Program (CARP) has been growing our community of participating students and ham radio clubs at colleges and universities. Meet others who share your interests, exchange ideas, and help shape the future of amateur radio on campus. We're (re)inspiring ham radio among our nation's colleges and universities, meeting other students, and developing career connections. Students, alumni, and faculty are all welcome! The ARRL Collegiate Amateur Radio Program is sponsored in part by the W1YSM Snyder Family Collegiate &amp; ARRL Affiliated Club Endowment Fund. This forum is moderated by Tony Milluzzi (KD8RTT), Advisor, ARRL Collegiate Amateur Radio Initiative. Speakers include Andy Milluzzi (KK4LWR), Advisor, ARRL Collegiate Amateur Radio Initiative, Bob Inderbitzen (NQ1R), Staff Liaison, ARRL Collegiate Amateur Radio Initiative and Steve Goodgame (K5ATA), Staff Liaison, ARRL Collegiate Amateur Radio Initiative.</p>		

## Sunday, May 17th, 2026

### POTA Hacks: Little Things Add Up to Big Success

9:15 - 10:15 AM Room 1

Moderated by Michael Martens, KB9VBR

Over years of portable ham radio operation, we've all collected little tips and tricks that make life easier. Michael Martens (KB9VBR) will share some of his favorite Parks on the Air operating tips or hacks and engage the audience for theirs.

### Ten Meters for Techs - Guide to Getting on HF for Newer Hams

9:15 - 10:15 AM in Room 2

Moderated by Anthony Luscre, K8ZT

Join Anthony Luscre (K8ZT) for a forum for newly licensed Technicians and Hams of all license classes who have not explored HF operations. This forum will cover the basics in an easy to understand style. We will also provide numerous reference resources for you to utilize after the session. Many newly licensed Technicians limit their operations to FM, VHF, and UHF. Typically, using the local 2m or 440 cm repeaters. Unfortunately, they are missing out on opportunities for worldwide communications on the HF (High Frequency) bands. The HF band with Technician privileges on Voice, Data and CW is 10 meters. Ten meters can be rather fickle, depending on the sunspot cycle, with limited availability during its low points. The good news is that this is not the current situation. Having recently peaked the 11-year cycle, it should continue to provide numerous opportunities for worldwide contacts. But time is limited; in two to three years, we will return to very infrequent and limited 10 meter openings. So the time to get on HF via 10 meters is NOW!

### Building a Radio Scouting Committee Lessons Learned

9:15 - 10:15 AM in Room 3

Moderated by Shawn Grubb, KE8BBC

Join Shawn Grubb (KE8BBC) of the Dan Beard Council, Scouting America, and explore how to build and sustain a successful Radio Scouting Committee, an initiative that supports the mission of Scouting America to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law. This forum offers practical steps for launching a committee, including recruiting volunteers, partnering with local radio clubs, running engaging activities, and working in alignment with council and unit goals. Drawing on lessons learned from real programs, the session covers both successes and setbacks, highlighting ways amateur radio can strengthen character, citizenship, leadership, and personal fitness in Scouting. Attendees will take away actionable ideas for integrating amateur radio into Cub Scout, Scouts BSA, and STEM programs—helping more youth experience adventure and growth, in line with Scouting America's vision.

### A Mathematical Proof of How Antenna Tuners Actually Work

9:20 - 10:20 AM in Room 4

Moderated by William 'Corey' Brown, WB0RXQ

In this forum Corey Brown (WB0RXQ) will examine exactly how antenna tuners work. From simple 1/4 wave matching networks to complicated lumped circuit tuner designs, this forum will dive into the realities of signal reflections and re-reflections and will provide a mathematical proof of exactly how an antenna tuner actually presents a 50 ohm load to your station's transceiver.

### Parks on the Air 2.0: Preparing for the Next Phase of Growth

10:25 to 11:25 in Room 1

Moderated by Kevin Thomas W1DED

Together, Kevin Thomas (W1DED) and Mike Case (W8MSC) will outline the key improvements in POTA 2.0 and discuss how this next phase of development positions Parks on the Air for sustained global growth and the next generation of amateur radio operators. Over the past year, POTA Developer Lead and Enterprise Architect, James Linden (VE3JLN) has led the development of a comprehensive new version of POTA.app—an architectural evolution designed to support the continued expansion of Parks on the Air, which now includes more than 84,000 registered operators and millions of QSOs annually. This session will be grounded in both history and forward vision. Mike Case (W8MSC), co-founder of Parks on the Air and a driving force behind its original IT development, will reflect on the early technical foundations that allowed POTA to scale from a small program into a global phenomenon. Building on that legacy, POTA 2.0 introduces a modernized, technical framework with improved performance, enhanced data handling, and infrastructure designed for long-term scalability. While preserving the simplicity and accessibility valued by activators and hunters, the new platform significantly strengthens reliability, transparency, and operational resilience behind the scenes.

### Big Event Comms: Ham Radio To The Rescue!

10:25 - 11:25 AM in Room 2

Moderated by Chris Perry, KY4CKP

Join Chris Perry (KY4CKP), Brian Perry (KY4BDP), and Mike McRoberts (KY6MM) to learn about Big Event Comms. Rally races all over the world need emergency communications and many times take place outside of cell phone range. Amateur radio fills the void for many races. LCARA was contacted to see if we could (and were interested in providing comms for a new local race. We said YES! There are all kinds of opportunities for radio clubs to use their gear and experience to solve real world problems and be better prepared when disaster strikes.

### Teaching a One-Day Tech Class

10:25 - 11:25 AM in Room 3

Moderated by Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

Join Dan Romanchik (KB6NU) of ARROW, and learn why is it important to teach ham radio classes. He will address why it is better to teach a one-day class instead of a traditional multi-session class, where can you hold the class, publicizing the class, possible fees, timing, teaching techniques, and student follow up.

### Raspberry Pi Designs - Easy, Medium, & Hard

10:30 - 11:30 AM in Room 4

Moderated by John Wiseman, WT3J

Join John Wiseman (WT3J) for an in depth examination of The Raspberry Pi series of single-board microcomputers, which offers the radio amateur the ability to easily design and implement sophisticated high-level shack functions on a very low cost platform. This forum will demonstrate some of the capabilities of the Raspberry Pi by describing a trio of Raspberry Pi Microcomputer-Based Amateur Radio Designs - Easy, Medium, & Hard - each with very different applications.

<b>CWops and CW Academy: The Proven Path to CW Mastery in Today's Amateur Radio World</b>		
<b>11:35 AM - 12:35 PM in Room 1</b>		<b>Moderated by Bob Carter, WR7Q</b>
<p>Join Moderator Bob Carter (WR7Q) of the CW Academy as he highlights the history of Morse Code and CWops' CW Academy program, which has helped thousands of operators successfully learn and advance their CW skills through a proven, structured mentoring approach, that has an exceptionally high success rate. Whether you are new to CW, returning after years away, or seeking to elevate your operating proficiency, this session will demonstrate why CW and CWops continues to be relevant and valuable for the Amateur Radio Community. CW is experiencing a global resurgence, driven in part by the explosive growth of programs such as POTA and SOTA. The mode provides efficiency, reliability and performance especially for portable, low-power, and compromise antenna stations. CWops stands at the center of this momentum with a vibrant international community dedicated to advancing CW operating skills, mentoring and on-air excellence.</p>		
<b>3D Printing And Portable Operations - Lighter, Faster, Further</b>		
<b>11:35 AM - 12:35 PM in Room 2</b>		<b>Moderated by Richard Rieben, KE4WLE</b>
<p>Why settle for generic, off-the-shelf equipment when you can produce custom solutions right on your workbench? Richard Rieben (KE4WLE) explores the intersection of the "home-brew" amateur radio spirit and modern additive manufacturing. Richard will begin by demystifying the technology, covering everything from the basic mechanics of FDM printers to selecting the right filaments - like UV-resistant ASA or rugged PETG - that can actually survive the rigors of field use. You'll learn how to navigate the workflow of finding existing designs online and the basics of "slicing" them for a successful print. We will cover the usefulness of 3D printing for portable operations such as POTA and SOTA, where weight and organization are everything. See how 3D printing can revolutionize your portable kit with ultra-lightweight wire winders, antenna components, cases and enclosures, and specialized power solutions. Whether you are looking to de-clutter your desktop shack or shave ounces off your SOTA pack, you will leave with a clear roadmap of how 3D printing can become the most versatile tool in your amateur radio arsenal.</p>		
<b>A Modern Overview of HF Digi-Modes Operation</b>		
<b>11:35 AM - 12:35 PM in Room 3</b>		<b>Moderated by Sholto Fisher, K7TMG</b>
<p>Join Moderator Sholto Fisher (K7TMG) of West Mountain Radio for an introduction to the world of digital mode operation on HF. Learn about what people are actually doing on HF with digital modes in 2026 - not just FT8! The talk will feature the sights (and sounds) of signals you're likely to encounter on the HF bands today.</p>		
<b>Countrywide Black Swan Events</b>		
<b>11:40 AM to 12:40 PM in Room 4</b>		<b>Moderated by Don Rolph, AB1PH</b>
<p>Join Don Rolph (AB1PH) for information on how the NTS digital team has been reviewing approaches for amateur radio to provide support using a severe countrywide Black Swan events. Black Swan events are when both electricity and communications (including internet and satellites) are down for 12 hours or more. The example case is the Spanish outage in April 2025 where electricity and all communications were effectively down for 12 hours, but there are a variety of posited potential causes (CME for one).</p>		