

Hamvention 2026 Forums

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

11:15 AM - 12:10 PM in Room 1		Moderated by Brian Bathe, AD8FD
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.		
Reinventing Ham Radio Education - A New Model		
12:00 - 12:50 PM in Room 3		Moderated by Michael Burnette, AF7KB
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.		
VHF/UHF/Microwave Forum		
12:00 - 12:50 PM in Room 4		Moderated by Tony Emanuele, K8ZR
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.		
Reimagining RACES and ARES Programs, Bridging the Gap with Emergency Management		
12:10 - 1:00 PM in Room 2		Moderated by Michael Stitley, KE2CIE
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.		
Failures & Lessons learned from DXing in Adverse Conditions		
12:15 - 1:20 PM in Room 1		Moderated by Brian Bathe, AD8FD
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.		
The MFJ Story		
1:00 - 1:50 PM in Room 3		Moderated by Preston Booth
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.		
ARRL Youth Rally Activities		
1:00 - 4:00 PM in Room 4		Moderated by Steve Goodgame, K5ATA
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 www.arrl.org/expo . The Youth Rally is sponsored by ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio®. Moderated by Steve Goodgame (K5ATA), ARRL Director of Education and Learning.		
ARISS: Celebrating 25 Years on ISS and Pioneering New Spaceflight Opportunities for Hams and Youth		
1:10 - 2:20 PM in Room 2		Moderated by Frank Bauer, KA3HDO and Rosalie White, K1STO
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.		
Contest Forum		
1:30 - 3:40 PM in Room 1		Moderated by Doug Grant, K1DG
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.		

Running a First Class Field Day Operation		
2:00 - 2:50 PM in Room 4		Moderated by Mitch Stern, W1SJ
<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>		
AMSAT		
2:30 - 3:40 PM in Room 2		Moderated by Drew Glasbrenner, KO4MA
<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>		
Introduction to Operating on the 630 Meter Band		
3:00 - 3:50 PM in Room 4		Moderated by Paul Dobosz, K8PD
<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>		
The TinySA: The Perfect Companion to the NanoVNA		
3:50 - 5:00 in Room 1		Moderated by Eric Nichols, KL7AJ
<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>		
Remote HF		
3:50 - 5:00 PM in Room 2		Moderated by Michael Walker, VA3MW
<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>		
Predicting Six Meters Openings - You Must Be Present to Win		
4:00 - 5:00 PM in Room 3		Moderated by Bruce Smith, AC4G
<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>		
ARRL Collegiate Amateur Radio Meetup		
4:00 - 5:00 PM in Room 4		Moderated by Tony Milluzzi, KD8RTT
<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 & 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>		