



# WEST VIRGINIA SPLATTER

## JULY 2024

### 60 Years Ago: Amateur Radio Operators Stamp

Sixty years ago, the U.S. Postal Office issued the 5¢ Amateur Radio stamp. The stamp honored all amateur radio operators in America. Issued on the 50th anniversary of the founding of the ARRL, it pictures a radio broadcast wave and radio dial.

The first day of issue was on December 15, 1964 in Anchorage, Alaska. In March 1964, the largest earthquake in the history of the United States struck Alaska. The earthquake, 8.3 on the Richter scale, caused widespread destruction. It and the ensuing tsunami (tidal wave) it caused took 125 lives.

The members of the ARRL and other Amateur radio operators provided essential emergency communications, which greatly aided relief and rescue operations. The stamp honors all those who took part during this emergency.



### WEATHER SPOTTER TRAINING

The National Weather Service will be giving a weather spotter class at the July 12 KARC meeting. This meeting will be the **SECOND** Friday of July to avoid the holiday weekend.

The class starts at 6 PM and should take about an hour. Everyone is invited regardless of club affiliation. To avoid overcrowding we ask that you please let Terry Sanner, WV8V know if you plan to attend at [terry.sanner@frontier.com](mailto:terry.sanner@frontier.com).

### LOCAL CLUB WEB SITES

The KARC web page has moved to [www.qsl.net/w8gk](http://www.qsl.net/w8gk).

The WVAR web page is located at [www.wv8ar.com/](http://www.wv8ar.com/)

The West Virginia DX Association maintains its web page at <https://wvdx.com>.

WV Section Roanoke Division of ARRL has a web page at <https://wvarrl.com>

## **WHO IS YOUR DX COMPETION? GUEST EDITORIAL Charlie Young, N8RR**

**I was talking to a friend on 75M about how he is not into collecting and accumulating confirmations for ARRL awards, DXCC and Challenge. Yet, he is very active on the air and chases DX all the time. It could have been me talking up until about 20 years ago. I have been licensed since 1962, but my official DXCC record has nothing in it from the 1970's, maybe less than a handful of credits from the early 1980's. Yet the bulk of my activity, when there was operating time, was working DX.**

**Reason? I liked the chase. Liked operating in a DX pileup. Really enjoyed working the rare ones. The spotting networks diminished the chasing/finding aspect somewhat, but then I focused on spotting rare DX for others. This was a kick, and I was successful at it.**

**I was doing it for the sheer love of DXing and did not feel the need to PROVE to anyone that I worked a rare one. It was enough for me to know. I did not live in a place where my local friends were DXers. Even those active on the air were mostly on 75M nets or ragchews with occasional rare ragchews on the DX bands. Dxing for me was a lone activity. This started to change when I moved to CRW in the early 80's but my activity was limited. It was in the early 1990's that I started casually collecting DXCC confirmations. I really got serious about it in 2008 from this QTH, after retirement.**

**My advice to my friend, for what it's worth, is that you are essentially me 30 years ago. Today, I regret my laid back approach to QSLing and confirmations. I would have them ALL confirmed and would have made Challenge 3000 years ago. I suggested that he start seriously QSLing NOW.**

**His reason for not doing it now is that he is not competitive. Who are we competing with? We are competing with ourselves. You can't compare your results with someone who has been doing this 20 years longer than you. Every new one we confirm is a personal achievement and victory for ourself. Every time someone in WVDXA works a new one, it is a personal achievement that we all celebrate. To the extent we help each other on the DX journey, an achievement for one is an achievement for all.**

**I have never viewed the gang in WVDXA as competitors, even when I first got serious about this. In my time here, I have done everything within my power to assist others to work and confirm DX. Many others take the same approach. So the way to look at this is, these are your personal successes achieved with the support of your WVDXA peers. At the end of the day, as Jim Justice would say repetitively, you made the QSO. It is your achievement. I get a lot of satisfaction, of a different kind, to see folks I have helped working the DX.**

**I would do this if a formal DXCC did not exist, and know there are others. Competitiveness with others may be a minor motivation for some, but it is self motivation to do something difficult which you love to do that is the main driver.**

## LOCAL NETS

*Sundays at 8:00pm*  
*KARES net on 145.350 PL 91.5*

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*KARC net on 145.350 PL 91.5*

*Sunday at 7:00 PM*  
*Northern Panhandle Amateur Radio Club*  
*Sunday night digital net 441.825*

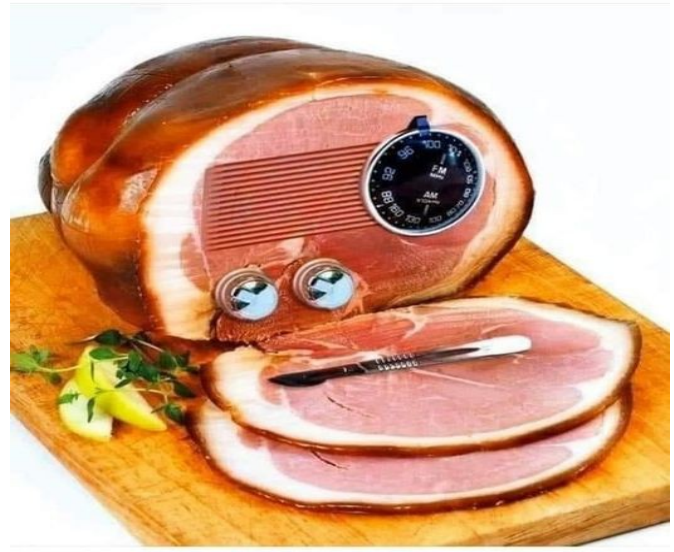
*Tuesday at 8:30 P.M.*  
*WV8AR - 147.270 PL Tone 123.0*

*Thursday 8:00 P.M.*  
*Country Roads Net, WV Link Room 46488*  
*WVAR 441.825 Scott Depot, or*  
*WB8CQV 147.21 South Charleston*  
*Hot spots use US-WV-LINK (19941)*

*Saturday 10:00 AM*  
*Ohio Valley ARES Net 441.825*

## AN INTERNET MEME

Yep, it's a Ham Radio.



## ARTICLES FOR FUTURE EDITIONS

If you know of an event or news related to amateur radio, or wish to submit a guest editorial to SPLATTER, please contact me at [nettlescreek@frontier.com](mailto:nettlescreek@frontier.com).

## MEETINGS

**KARC Meets on July 12**  
**The Trinity Lutheran Church**  
**1600 Kanawha Blvd. E**  
**Charleston WV 25311**  
**Topic will be Weather Spotter Class**  
**Greetings @ 6:00 PM - Meeting @ 6:30 PM**

**WVDXA Breakfast Every Tuesday**  
**Join WVDXA and friends for breakfast at**  
**Bob Evans on Jefferson Road in South**  
**Charleston. Gather at 8:15 order at 9:00.**

**WVAR Meets on JULY 8**  
**CAMC Teays Valley**  
**1400 Hospital Drive**  
**Hurricane, WV 25526**  
**Education Room at 7:00 PM**

**KARES Meets on July 20**  
**Kanawha County 911 Center**  
**200 Peyton Way (Off Corridor G)**  
**Charleston, WV**  
**Meeting @ 6:00 PM**

## WWSA FM 96.9

**WWSA is the low powered FM radio station (96.9) located in St. Albans. Since May 31 they have been playing the PSA recorded by Jim Damron, N8TMW, about Becoming an Amateur Radio Operator.**

**This station can be heard in Western Kanawha County and most of Putnam County. If you are in the area you may want to listen. You might hear a familiar voice.**

**Also, Buzz Browning, the WWSA General Manager will be interviewing local amateur radio operators about Field Day, what is required to be a ham and different aspects of our hobby. We hope this will become a regular session. The first interview will be Wednesday, June 19, 2024 between noon and 12:30 PM**