



WELCOME TO THE

# **ARRL-ROANOKE DIVISION**

North Carolina · South Carolina · Virginia · West Virginia

**FALL 2025**

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***PLUS MUCH, MUCH MORE.....***



***SPECIAL TOWN HALL—THIS MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, AT 8:00 PM.***

***LOOK FOR LOGIN INFORMATION ON YOUR EMAIL SHORTLY***

**Monday, September 29, 8:00 PM**

## **ROANOKE DIVISION TOWN HALL**

**Streaming LIVE - Join Us**

**LIKE & SUBSCRIBE**



**SPECIAL GUEST:**

**JOHN ROBERT STRATTON**

**ANTENNA RELIEF CAMPAIGN**

**COORDINATOR**



# **ARRL Launches All Out Grassroots Campaign To Get *Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act* Passed**

- **Goal Is To Have Freedom To Operate From Wherever You Live**
- **All Hams, Whether ARRL Members Or Not, Can Participate**



(WASHINGTON, DC) - For the past six years, ARRL officials and representatives have been steadily meeting with members of Congress to find a way for licensed Amateur Radio operators who live in neighborhoods with private land restrictions to erect outdoor antennas without penalties. Over time, federal laws have restored rights for satellite dishes, broadcast TV antennas and flag poles for homeowners in private subdivisions—now the time has come to permit federally licensed Amateur Radio operators to have the freedom to have the antennas they need to get on the air. The result of lengthy negotiations with congressional staffs is the *Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act*. The climate is ripe to get support and co-sponsorship from elected Congressional members, but they won't endorse the bill unless you and your fellow licensed Hams ask them. It's easy—either type this hyperlink in your browser

**[www.arrl.org/hoa](http://www.arrl.org/hoa)**

Or scan the following QR code :



**Don't Wait—Do It Now !**

**Send A Copy Of This Page To All Your Fellow Hams  
And Urge Them To Act Now!**



## SPECIAL EVENT STATION N2G TO HONOR FIRST AN- NIVERSARY OF HURRICANE HELENE RESPONSE

*Special role played by Mt. Mitchell repeater 145.19 will be recognized September 26-October 3 . Memories and reflections are encouraged.*

**M**any Appalachian mountain Hams won't soon forget the final weekend of September last year, and the many weeks of sorrow and hardship which followed, some of which remains. As tragic as the damage was, Amateur Radio shined in its instantaneous and sustainable response in supplying emergency communications. Most impressive were the multiple platforms of response, both formal and informal. They were:

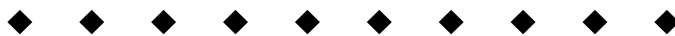
**AUXCOMM**—North Carolina Emergency Management (NCEM) opened its Western Branch office employing an ESF-2 (Emergency Support Function—2 “Communications”) response within FEMA’s AUXCOMM (AUXiliary COMMunications) standards. Amateur Radio filled key gaps until remote StarLink nodes and commercial cell sites could be restored.

**ARES®** - Although western North Carolina took the brunt of damage from Hurricane Helene in the Roanoke Division (eastern Tennessee in ARRL’s Delta Division was also hard hit, along with portions of Georgia in ARRL’s Southeastern Division), ARES groups (Amateur Radio Emergency Services®) in Virginia and South Carolina addressed pockets of damage.

**NTS®**—Operators in ARRL’s National Traffic System® joined in health & welfare checks as families and friends sought information on the status of loved ones.

Most impressive of all was the fluid interchange of Hams informally stepping up and working with one another, both through the formal channels above and informally among each other. Nothing exemplified the commitment of Amateur Radio during this crisis than N2GE, the Mt. Mitchell repeater. Located atop the tallest peak east of the Mississippi River, the Mt. Mitchell repeater did not lose power in the hurricane’s aftermath. More importantly, its traffic was available to listen on Broadcastify.com. Hams far away with VHF beams complemented HF stations by moving traffic into and out of the impacted zone through the repeater.

From September 26 through October 2, Hams are encouraged to share recollections and reflections on the Mt. Mitchell repeater, either directly or through the W4FTK-R EchoLink reflector 367365. For more details, look at callsign N2G at [www.QRZ.com](http://www.QRZ.com)



## ARRL OPENS VIRTUAL MUSEUM

After five years of painstaking cataloging, ARRL’s virtual museum known as Radio Alpha is now open. There are over one thousand pieces of radio equipment to view, many with not only pictures from all angles, but also operating manuals and schematics. More gear will be added, so if your favorite boat anchor or modern transceiver isn’t posted yet, be patient. Check out the collection at: [www.arrl.org/museum](http://www.arrl.org/museum)



## 2026 WILL BE YEAR OF THE CLUB....

With the successes of Parks On The Air (POTA) in 2016 and Volunteers On The Air (VOTA) in 2024, ARRL has designated 2026 as the Year Of The Club. A year long operating event is being designed which will bring 365 days of fun to all by contacting as many clubs as possible. There are over 2,900 ARRL affiliated clubs in the U.S., and 237 in the four states of the Roanoke Division. This is one of two year long operating events in 2026. See the Semi quincentennial event below for #2.



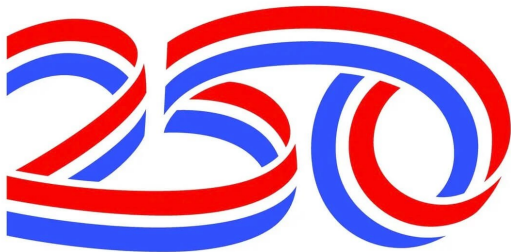
In addition to the operating events, a webpage is being developed on how to make your club into a "high performer".

Clubs are the glue which hold Amateur Radio and ARRL together at the local level. Making them stronger is in everyone's best interest. Already underway is the *Marconi Project*, a collection of case studies of successful programs and efforts undertaken by clubs. You can view these files by going to [www.arrl.org/marconi-project](http://www.arrl.org/marconi-project)



## ....And 2026 WILL BE A YEAR LONG SEMIQUICENTENNIAL EVENT TOO

# AMERICA



The United States will celebrate the 250th anniversary of its founding as a nation in 2026, an event known formally as the country's semiquincentennial. In addition to the year long operating event celebrating 2026 as the ARRL Year Of The Club, ARRL is also designing a year long operating event to celebrate our nation's 250th birthday. Details about rules and awards will be announced in the 4th quarter. Get your gear tuned up to participate in these two great simultaneous events.



## HAM RADIO AT THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE FAIR

Thanks to the Johnston County Amateur Radio club (JARS) for hosting a Ham Radio trailer for the full duration of this year's North Carolina State Fair in Raleigh, October 16-26. Almost all 66 volunteer slots are filled. A tip of the hat to Travis Russell, KN4WJL, for making this possible and showcasing Amateur Radio to the public.



## CHANGES AND TRIBUTES TO ROANOKE DIVISION REPRESENTATIVES TO ARRL'S DX ADVISORY COMMITTEE (DXAC)

Whether you enjoy casually chasing DX, or you're an ardent pursuer of rare entities, ARRL has spent the last century working with its counterpart radio societies around the globe to make DXing accessible and fun for all Amateur Radio operators. Constantly shifting boundaries for both natural and political reasons, along with evolving technologies, means that rules for DXing need to change with the times. Representing ARRL members in each of the League's 15 divisions are members of ARRL's DX Advisory Committee (DXAC). The purpose of the DXAC is to analyze the state of DX and recommend changes, when warranted, to ARRL's Programs and Services Committee (PSC), the committee which in turn makes recommendations to the full board on DX as well as other aspects of Amateur Radio operating procedures. DXAC members are appointed by their respective directors. As you would expect, these representatives are accomplished DX operators in their own right, and thoroughly understand the intricate workings of DX and eligible entities.

Serving the Roanoke Division as DXAC representative for 36 years until 2024 was Gary Dixon, K4MQG, from Fort Mill, South Carolina. First licensed in 1957, Gary has kept his original callsign and with it reached 380 countries to earn #1 on the DX Honor Roll. He was inducted into the CQ DX Hall of Fame in 2013, and was a founding member of the International DX Association (INDEXA) and has served as its vice president, president and as a director. He also has earned 8 band Honor Roll, 10 Band DXCC, 8 Band WAZ and has achieved DXCC Honor Roll on every band 80-10 meters. You can find Gary actively on the air and as a faithful QSL card checker at many hamfests in North and South Carolinas.



When Gary indicated he wanted to step down as the Roanoke Division's DXAC representative, Director Jim Boehner appointed Lou Dietrich, N2TU, from Mooresville, North Carolina. Sadly, shortly after this appointment, Lou was diagnosed with a terminal disease. In his almost year as the Roanoke DXAC representative, he championed new DX awards which reflect the challenges many Hams face with restricted antenna access. Besides earning DXCC Honor Roll and 10 Band DXCC, Lou participated in many DXpeditions, among them CYoS Sable Island, NH8S Swains Island, K1N Navassa Island and K5P Palmyra. He also operated from U.N. headquarters and the Vatican. He said he chose the vanity callsign N2TU because he wanted to thank everyone (TU) in our wonderful hobby. Lou became a Silent Key (SK) August 15, 2025

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## DXAC CONTINUED....

**A**fter the untimely passing of Lou Dietrich, Director Jim Boehner, N2ZZ, asked renowned DXer Hal Turley, W8HC, from St. Albans, West Virginia if he would serve as the Roanoke Division DXAC representative, and Hal graciously accepted. Like his immediate two predecessors, Hal has earned DXCC Honor Roll and 10 Band DXCC. He has served as ARRL West Virginia Section Manager and is the past president of the West Virginia DX Association. Hal's passion is orchestrating and participating in DXpeditions, including N5J Jarvis Island, CBoZA Robinson Crusoe Island, E51D North Cook Island, KH8RRC Tutuila Island in American Samoa, VP6A Ducie Island, 9G4X Ghana, JW0A Svalbard, K7K and KL7RRC in the Aleutian Islands of Alaska and VP6R Pitcairn Island. Coming up this November he'll be traveling to the Republic of Burundi as part of the 9U1RU team. Hal brings a unique perspective from both a home based operator and as a DXpeditioner in understanding the challenges DXers face. We are fortunate in the Roanoke Division to have three consecutive accomplished DX experts representing our members. ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦



## TRIDENT—NEW DX AWARD

Based on the popularity of the Triple Play Award, ARRL has created the DXCC Trident Award. Many active Hams will find to their delight they may already qualify for the new award. Like the Triple Play Award, where you must earn at least one confirmed QSO in each of the 50 states in three modes—phone, CW and digital—the Trident Award is the international equivalent. You need at least 100 confirmed contacts from via LoTW each in phone, CW and digital from different eligible DX entities to qualify—a total of 300 contacts. Like the Triple Play Award, the Trident Award is an LoTW only award. The countries do not have to be the same or match as long as they are 100 eligible countries per mode. Endorsements are available for 200 and 300 entities, and towards DX Honor Roll. Details on the new award can be found at: <https://www.arrl.org/dxcc-trident-award>





# HAMFESTS

## 4th QUARTER 2025

### **SEPTEMBER 27**

LEXINGTON HAMFEST  
LEXINGTON, NC

### **OCTOBER 4**

ROCK HILL HAMFEST  
SOUTH CAROLINA SECTION CONVENTION  
ROCK HILL, SC



### **OCTOBER 11**

DUTCH FORK SWAP MEET HAMFEST  
LITTLE MOUNTAIN, SC

### **OCTOBER 11**

PARKERSBURG/WOOD COUNTY HAMFEST  
MINERAL WELLS, WV

### **OCTOBER 12**

MAYSVILLE HAMFEST  
MAYSVILLE, NC

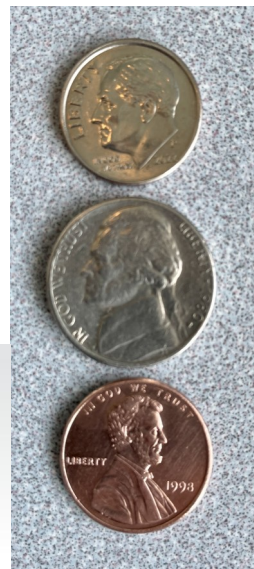
### **OCTOBER 18**

WINSTON-SALEM HAMFEST  
WINSTON-SALEM, NC

### **NOVEMBER 16**

JARSFEST  
BENSON, NC

# HOW MUCH DOES IT COST TO BE AN ARRL MEMBER? **16¢ Per Day !!**



Your Membership Supports These **Benefits, Services, and Programs**



- Four Digital Magazines (QST, On the Air, NCJ, and QEX) plus e-newsletters
  - ARRL Learning Center (Training and Webinars)
  - Logbook of The World, Contests, and Award Programs
- ...and more



**NOT CURRENTLY A MEMBER, OR  
MEMBERSHIP ABOUT TO EXPIRE ??**

**JOIN or REJOIN NOW: <https://www.arrl.org/membership>  
Help Amateur Radio Thrive In The 21st Century**

*Have A Happy And Safe Fall Season*

*73 from*



**Director**  
**Jim Boehner**  
**N2ZZ**

**Vice Director**  
**Bill Morine**  
**N2COP**

