

FORUMS

FRIDAY December 12, 2025

Forums, locations and times are subject to change. Please check the schedule on a regular basis to keep yourself informed of the latest changes.

START TIME	EXPO Building	Stadium Meeting Room	ARRL Booth in the Expo Building	
12:00	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	
12:30	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	
1:00			DXCC/VCUU WAS/IARU Card Checking	
1:30			DXCC/VCUU WAS/IARU Card Checking	
2:00			DXCC/VCUU WAS/IARU Card Checking	
2:30			DXCC/VCUU WAS/IARU Card Checking	
3:00			DXCC/VCUU WAS/IARU Card Checking	
3:30			DXCC/VCUU WAS/IARU Card Checking	
4:00			DXCC/VCUU WAS/IARU Card Checking	
4:30			DXCC/VCUU WAS/IARU Card Checking	
5:00			DXCC/VCUU WAS/IARU Card Checking	
5:30			DXCC/VCUU WAS/IARU Card Checking	
6:00	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	

FORUMS

SATURDAY December 13, 2025

Forums, locations and times are subject to change. Please check the schedule on a regular basis to keep yourself informed of the latest changes.

START TIME	EXPO Building	Stadium Room	ARRL Booth EXPO Building
8:00			DXCC/VCUU WAS/IARU Card Checking
8:30			DXCC/VCUU WAS/IARU Card Checking
9:00	Dave Rockwell W4PXE National Traffic System		DXCC/VCUU WAS/IARU Card Checking
9:30	Dave Rockwell W4PXE National Traffic System		DXCC/VCUU WAS/IARU Card Checking
10:00	West Central Florida Section Meeting	License Exams ALL CLASES	DXCC/VCUU WAS/IARU Card Checking
10:30	West Central Florida Section Meeting	STARTS AT 10 AM SHARP	DXCC/VCUU WAS/IARU Card Checking
11:00	West Central Florida ARES Meeting	ARRL VEC PROVIDED BY	DXCC/VCUU WAS/IARU Card Checking
11:30	West Central Florida ARES Meeting	EAST PASCO AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY	DXCC/VCUU WAS/IARU Card Checking
12:00	West Central Florida ARES Meeting	K0NEB Joe Eisenberg PRESENTS	DXCC/VCUU WAS/IARU Card Checking
12:30	West Central Florida ARES Meeting	KIT BUILDING TECHNIQUES FOR SUCCESS	DXCC/VCUU WAS/IARU Card Checking
1:00	Ground Loop Suppression Paul Krahmer KA4IOX	K0NEB Joe Eisenberg PRESENTS	DXCC/VCUU WAS/IARU Card Checking
1:30	Ground Loop Suppression Paul Krahmer KA4IOX	PIRATE, SPY AND CLANDESTINE RA- DIO	DXCC/VCUU WAS/IARU Card Checking
2:00	RF Common Mode Choke Performance: Paul Krahmer KA4IOX	NWS SkyWarn	DXCC/VCUU WAS/IARU Card Checking
2:30	RF Common Mode Choke Performance: Paul Krahmer KA4IOX	NWS SkyWarn	DXCC/VCUU WAS/IARU Card Checking
3:00			DXCC/VCUU WAS/IARU Card Checking
3:30			DXCC/VCUU WAS/IARU Card Checking
4:00	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED

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National Traffic System

Formal message traffic handling is a skill all public service operators should be comfortable with. The formal messages or radiograms as we call them have been part of amateur radio since it's inception. Today we rely on digital modes to send most public service traffic, but sending radiograms by voice is a fallback mode all amateurs should master. This forum will introduce the ARRL Radiogram format and explain each block on the form. We will review proper message handling and give an overview of the National Traffic System. Given by Dave Rockwell, W4PXE, ARRL WCF Section Traffic Manager.

KIT BUILDING TECHNIQUES FOR SUCCESS

By Joe Eisenberg K0NEB

Joe will show lots of hints and ideas to give the kit builder the best chance for success. He will go over tools and things necessary to make this happen and give some very low cost options. He'll also show some examples of kits good for all levels of building skills.

PIRATE, SPY AND CLANDESTINE RADIO

By Joe Eisenberg K0NEB

This seminar will cover the world of the mystery signals that inhabit the shortwave spectrum. I'll give hints on where and when to tune in to these stations and what to look for. We will look at the real "cloak and dagger" world of spies and the funny world of pirate radio. Note: Some of the pirate radio content is rated PG13.

GROUND LOOP SUPPRESSION

By Paul Krahmer KA4IOX

Learn how to support proper power grounding, RF grounding, and lightning grounding, and still eliminate RF loops that impact amateur radio station performance. External RF signals from other amateur or commercial transmitters will cause common mode currents on the exterior of antenna coax shields. This common mode current produces a magnetic field, which couples with charges on the inside of the coax shield causing receiver desensitization and interference. Learn how to identify ground loops in your station and how to mitigate their effects.

RF COMMON MODE CHOKE PERFORMANCE

By Paul Krahmer KA4IOX

Learn how to select and construct efficient RF common mode chokes that eliminate RF ground loops, and RF in the Shack which impact amateur radio station performance. Practical common mode choke testing methods are presented, along with actual test results of numerous common mode choke designs. Learn how to use these test results to select common mode chokes.

ARRL Section Meeting,

Come see your Section and Division leaders and hear about the latest goings on. Since the start of Covid the ARRL is not sending staff as guest speakers.

You can also meet your elected and appointed officials at the ARRL booth just inside the front door of the Expo building.

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SKYWARN

On Saturday afternoon the National Weather Service will present the Skywarn class.

AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE EXAM REQUIREMENTS

1. A legal photo ID (driver's license, passport).
2. When no photo ID is available, **two** forms of identification must be presented:
 - non-photo ID/driver's license (some states still have them)
 - birth certificate (must have the appropriate seal)
 - library card
 - utility bill, bank statement or other business correspondence that specifically names the person; or a postmarked envelope addressed to the person at his or her current mailing address as it appears on the Form 605
3. Students may bring any of the above items and/or a school ID, minor's work permit, report card, or a legal guardian may present a photo ID.
4. Bring your FCC issued Federal Registration Number (FRN). VECs are required by the FCC to submit your FRN with your license application form. You should register **before** exam day on the FCC's Universal Licensing System (ULS) to get your FCC issued FRN. For instruction on how to register with the FCC and receive your FRN visit the [FCC's FAQ](#) page and the [FCC's registration instructions](#) page.
5. If applicable, bring the original and a photocopy of your **current amateur radio license and any Certificates of Successful Completion of Examination** (CSCEs are valid for 365 days) you may hold from previous exam sessions. The photocopies will not be returned to you. **Note: no copy machine is available at the Hamfest.**
6. Two #2 pencils with erasers and a pen.
7. A calculator with the memory erased and formulas cleared is allowed. You may not bring any written notes or calculations into the exam session. Slide rules and logarithmic tables are acceptable as long as they are free of notes and formulas. Your cell phone must be silenced or turned off during the exam session and the phone's calculator function may **not** be used. In addition, iPhones, iPads, Androids, smartphones, Blackberry devices and all similar electronic devices with a calculator capability may **not** be used.
8. The current exam session fee of \$15.00 cash or check made out to ARRL VEC.

COMMERICAL LICENSES,

FCC Commercial License Exams are available on a reservation only status. Send an email to Commercial License Testing using the contact form on this hamfest website. Some advanced notice is required. Testers are affiliated with National Radio Examiners. Information and fees are on the NRE website. <http://nationalradioexaminers.com/>

DXCC/VUCC/WAS/IARU Card Checkers will be available at the ARRL booth inside the EXPO building all day both days.

Bring your ARRL DXCC completed Application and Record Sheet (if needed), cards sorted in proper format determined by the application used, check or credit card number for fee payment and an envelope with sufficient postage to mail the application addressed to:

DXCC Desk, ARRL HQ

225 Main Street

Newington, CT 06111-1400

Field Checkers may check current and deleted entities including 160m QSOs.