

TENNESSEE CONTEST GROUP

VOL. 3, ISSUE 1

APRIL 2020

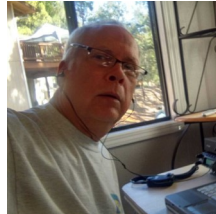
Top stories in this newsletter



Election Results



Contest Scores and
Upcoming Contests



Member Spotlight
Mark K0EJ Speck



TCG Elections



THANK YOU to all who participated in the recent Tennessee Contest Group elections. In case you missed it... the election. Results of the election are posted below:

- President - Hunter Mills - K3IE (2nd Term)
- Vice President - Juan Lopez Jr. - AC6ZM
- Treasurer - Mark Speck - K0EJ (2nd Term)
- Secretary/Event Coordinator - Cathy Goodrich - W4CMG

Upcoming Contests

Contesting is a way of life for members of the Tennessee Contest Group. Check out the Contest Scores and Upcoming contest pages for contest scores from the prior month. "Upcoming contests" will highlight contests and special events coming up soon.

Member Spotlight

As I started to work on the next TCG newsletter, I heard a suggestion that perhaps it would be interesting - and fun - to find some common ground (besides contesting, of course). Our first **Member Spotlight** features none other than Mark Speck, K0EJ, TCG Treasurer. Care to share your story in a future edition? Email Cathy Goodrich at w4cmg.dx@gmail.com with your info, or to get more details.

World Amateur Radio Day

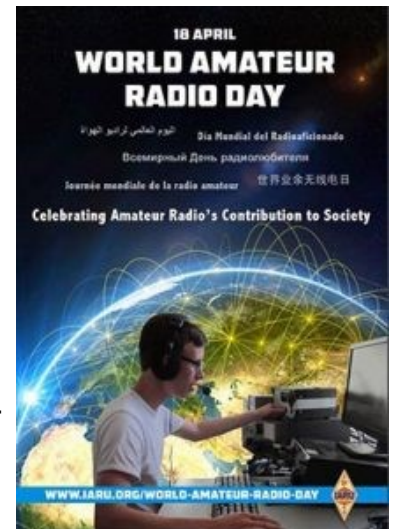
Every year on April 18, Radio Amateurs worldwide take to the airwaves in celebration of Amateur Radio and to commemorate the formation of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) on April 18, 1925. Read more about the upcoming event in this issue. For information about how the Radio Club of Canada is celebrating World Amateur Radio Day, see <https://www.rac.ca/operating/world-amateur-radio-day-april-18/>

World Amateur Radio Day

The following information is courtesy of the [International Amateur Radio Union](#) and [Radio Amateurs of Canada](#).

Every April 18, Radio Amateurs worldwide take to the airwaves in celebration of [World Amateur Radio Day](#). It was on that day in 1925 that the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) was formed in Paris.

Amateur Radio experimenters were the first to discover that the short wave spectrum — far from being a wasteland — could support worldwide propagation. In the rush to use these shorter wavelengths, Amateur Radio was “in grave danger of being pushed aside,” the IARU’s history has noted. Amateur Radio pioneers met in Paris in 1925 and created the IARU to support Amateur Radio worldwide.



Just two years later, at the International Radiotelegraph Conference, Amateur Radio gained the allocations still recognized today — 160, 80, 40, 20, and 10 metres. Since its founding, the IARU has worked tirelessly to defend and expand the frequency allocations for Amateur Radio. Thanks to the support of enlightened administrations in every part of the globe, Radio Amateurs are now able to experiment and communicate in frequency bands strategically located throughout the radio spectrum. From the 25 countries that formed the IARU in 1925, the IARU has grown to include 160 member-societies in three regions. IARU Region 1 includes Europe, Africa, the Middle East, and Northern Asia. Region 2 covers the Americas, and Region 3 is comprised of Australia, New Zealand, the Pacific island nations, and most of Asia. The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) has recognized the IARU as representing the interests of Amateur Radio.

Today, Amateur Radio is more popular than ever, with over 3,000,000 licensed operators!

World Amateur Radio Day is the day when IARU Member-Societies can show our capabilities to the public and enjoy global friendship with other Amateurs worldwide.

We have provided a poster for World Amateur Radio Day. Any club may download it and use it to promote WARD in their area. The poster comes in two sizes: [61cm x 91cm](#) and a [small \(A4\) flyer](#).

Groups should promote their WARD activity on social media by using the hash tag [#WorldAmateurRadioDay](#) on Twitter and Facebook. The IARU will list all WARD activities on this page. To have your WARD activity listed, send an email to IARU [Secretary](#) David Sumner, K1ZZ.

April 18 is the day for all of Amateur Radio to celebrate and tell the world about the science we can help teach, the community service we can provide and the fun we have.

We hope you will join in the fun and education that is World Amateur Radio Day!

For more information visit the World Amateur Radio Day webpage at <https://www.iau.org/on-the-air/world-amateur-radio-day/>

Source: [The International Amateur Radio Union](#)

Upcoming Contests



Contest Calendar Links

There is a LOT of activity through the end of the month, for both CW and other mode operators! See the "short list" below, and check these links to some of the commonly used websites more information:

Date	Contest Name	Mode
17-Apr	Holyland DX Contest	CW, Ph, Dig
18-Apr	ES Open HF Championship	CW, Ph
18-Apr	QRP to the Field	CW, Ph
18-Apr	EA-QRP CW Contest	CW
18-Apr	Texas State Parks on the Air	CW, Ph, Dig
18-Apr	Michigan QSO Party	CW, Ph
18-Apr	Ontario QSO Party	CW, Ph
19-Apr	ARRL SSB Rookie Round-up	Ph
20-Apr	Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	CW
22-Apr	SKCC Sprint	CW
25-Apr	FL QSO Party	CW, Ph
27-Apr	QCX Challenge	CW

- ⇒ CQ Amateur Radio: For links to Contests, plus tips for New Hams, Awards, Amateur Radio Club Listings and more: http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com/cq_hobby_radio_links/cq_hrl_contest_links.html
- ⇒ April Contest Corral is available at: <http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Contest%20Corral/2020/April%202020%20Corral.pdf>
- ⇒ DX Zone Contesting Calendar listing: <https://www.dxzone.com/catalog/Contesting/Calendars/>
- ⇒ WA7BNM Contest Calendar: <http://www.contestcalendar.com/> - 8-day, 12 month, etc.
- ⇒ Annual CQ Contest Calendar: http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com/cq_contests/cq_annual_contest_calendar/cq_annual_contest_calendar.html
- ⇒ DX Zone Contest Calendar: <https://www.dxzone.com/catalog/Contesting/Calendars/>

Rookie Roundup SSB

April 19, 2020

[Source: <http://www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup>]

Rookie Roundup is a contest aimed at Amateurs licensed for three years or less. This six-hour event is held three times per year (April, August and December). Rookies can contact anybody, while "Old Timers" make contact with only Rookies. Mentoring is a big part of this event! In the Rookie Roundup, a Rookie is defined as having been first licensed in the current calendar year or the previous two calendar years, regardless of license class.

New for April 2017 and after: If you were licensed before the referenced period, you can also be a Rookie if you haven't made any contacts on the contest mode (SSB, CW, or RTTY) before the Rookie Roundup contest (if you qualify as such, send the current year in your exchange). Either of these reasons qualify you as a Rookie for just one year. See more information here: <http://www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup>

Interested in???

Is there a new mode (FT4, FT8, RTTY...) that you might be in? Or do you have an active interest in a radio-related topic that you would like to share with our TCG members? In today's world of Virtual meetings via Zoom, MS Teams, freeconferencecall.com and many other modes (not to mention some VERBAL radio discussions) let's find some common interests and get a group together. If you are not interested in meeting, but would like to see a topic in print, or have an article to share, we can do that too! Please send you ideas to topics to learn, or to share, to Cathy Goodrich at w4cmg.dx@gmail.com, or post them on the TCG Reflector to start the conversation.

Member Spotlight

Meet our Treasurer, Mark, K0EJ Speck

Mark was kind enough to offer to be the first member to be featured in the TCG Member Spotlight. Getting together was harder than you might think, since Mark speaks in CW, and I didn't quite keep up with his speed, so we opted for a bit of "virtual interview" in the spirit of Social Distancing!

Name, Call Sign: Mark K0EJ

Different places you have lived/worked: WN0URW/WA0URW in MN. 1968-1977. Got K0EJ in '77. lived/operated from: K0EJ/7 (ID), K0EJ/1 (ME and CT), K0EJ/6 (CA), K0EJ/4 (SC and TN)

DX operations: K0EJ/VP2M SOLP 1984 ARRL SSB, V44/K0EJ and V49A several operations during last solar minimum ARRL DX (CW) SOLP

SWLed /MM in CQWW zones 5,8,9, 11, 14, 15, 16, 40

Places he has visited: all 50 states and a bunch of countries in Europe

Other hobbies: Cooking, novice woodworking (TQP plaques), herb gardening, travelling, reading (non-fiction science/technology, history, biography). Listening to music (almost anything but a long-time Grateful Dead fan!)

Careers: Navy submariner (20 years), Educator (10 years – some overlap), USNRC power plant inspector (13 years),

Currently mostly retired. a (very) part-time consultant in the commercial nuclear industry helping licensees deal with NRC regulatory issues. I also volunteer tutor at a local elementary school (reading and math) and am active in my church

Married to Judy for almost 39 years. 1 daughter, 1 son

Mark's Amateur Radio Interests: "Though I used to be quite active in EMCOMM and traffic handling, almost all of my current amateur activities are as a contester. Not a DXer but according to LOTW, I have 5BDXCC and 6BWAS"

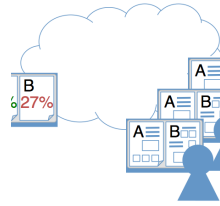
Other Amateur Radio interests: "I love station building. The current station development is a story in itself"

Attached pix include most of current antenna farm, the SO2R cockpit hidden behind a few visitors (including TCGer W4EEH) during a multi-op a few years back, and K0EJ/6 playing in last year's CQP.





TCG Website
Maintenance—
Volunteers Needed!



Remote VE Testing



Contact us

Contact Us!

VOLUNTEER HELP NEEDED!

We are looking for someone to take over managing the TCG web site. We need someone with the interest and time to keep the TCG web site regularly updated. Tasks would include maintenance of the official TCG Roster, the Photo Gallery, TCG Newsletter postings, and any other pertinent information useful to TCG.

Knowledge of the Wordpress content management system would be a huge plus, but anyone with knowledge of computers could learn the tasks. Assistance will be readily provided along the way.

Please contact k4ro@k4ro.net directly to enquire.

REMOTE VE TESTING SESSIONS

[Source: <http://www.arri.org/rookie-roundup>]

Most members of TCG have already earned their Amateur Extra Class license, but there may be a few who are still looking to upgrade their license class to get the “Extra” privileges that come with this license class. OR you may know someone who have been looking to take an Amateur Radio license exam but are not able to because of the COVID-19 restrictions.

HERE IS THE OPPORTUNITY that they have been waiting for – REMOTE VE TESTING!!!

The schedule of upcoming VE sessions is listed here (THANKS to Scott N3JFP who sent the original notification, and Bert Noll W4KW who sent it our way!): <https://hamstudy.org/sessions/>

If you are a member of a VE team and would like to offer remote texting, here is the system they are setting up for VEs: <https://www.examtools.org/>

Please pass this along to those who might be able to earn their upgrade, or get their first “ticket” using this new mode for taking exams!

CONTACT INFO:

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Next edition: MAY 2020