



The RELAY)))

May
2026

The **Weather Issue**

The Official Publication of the Arrowhead Radio Amateur Club

A.R.A.C. Inc.

P.O. Box 7164 Duluth MN 55807-7164

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INDEX

Epic Valor	1
Board Minutes	2
Club Mtg Minutes	3
Prez Sez	5
Testing Session	5
CW Abbreviations	6
Band Plan	6
Nets	7
Repeaters	8
Members' Email	10
Calendar	11
Committee Chairs	12
Contest Calendar	19

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Spring

2026



Join us on
Facebook!

America's Epic Valor 250 Years of Armed Forces History

This is America's 250th year as an independent nation. Our history is full of hard-fought battles: Battles for the right to secure our borders as a sovereign nation, battles within our borders to preserve our union, and battles far from our shores in defense of vital national interests. At the birth of our military history stood a collection of soldiers and sailors who shared a sacred vision for the sovereignty and preservation of a young republic. We were unlikely outliers in the long sweep of human history — a tiny blip in Earth's timeline, yet to be fully tested.

Our armed forces began as small, cohesive bands and grew into larger, more disciplined forces that strove for excellence. They forged a dedicated brotherhood that laid the foundation for today's modern Armed Forces. This month's newsletter is written in honor of them all. This Memorial Day, in our 250th year, is a heartfelt celebration of the distinguished history of each of our six Armed Forces: Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Air Force and Space Force.

We begin with the latest chapter of proud service in our nation's history. The current joint operation of our armed forces in the Middle East is one for the history books.

In the following pages we tell the story of the most intricate and elaborate combat extraction in world military history. There are still details that cannot be told in this article, but yours truly has gathered facts from official military reports and retired individuals in various fields, to give you the most accurate depiction of this valiant operation possible.

Epic Fury: A New Chapter in America's 250-Year Legacy of Valor

In the early morning hours of April 3, 2026, the night sky over the Zagros Mountains was still ink-black when the roar of an **F-15E Strike Eagle** filled the air at a forward operating base in the Strait of Hormuz region. Call sign **Dude 44** was poised, its engines spooling up on the dimly lit runway as ground crews gave the thumbs-up. Afterburners flared like twin comets as the jet thundered into the sky, the base shrinking to a scatter of lights below. Soon the **USS Abraham Lincoln** carrier strike group out in the Arabian Sea looked like toy ships on a vast, moonlit ocean, their decks glowing faintly as the jet climbed.

Pratt & Whitney twin turbofan engines, each delivering 29,000 pounds of thrust, powered the exquisitely agile United States Air Force jet, capable of reaching Mach 2.5+, approximately 1,875 mph. Dude 44 rendezvoused with its support package: KC-46 tankers to top off fuel, EA-18G Growlers jamming enemy radars, F-35 escorts riding shotgun, and AWACS orchestrating the deadly ballet from afar.

Continued on Page 13



USAF F15-E Strike Eagle Image: United States Air Force



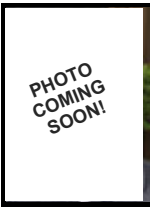
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Board Meeting Minutes—April 7, 2026

Present:

Board Members

Gene Ellefsen – NØVRM, Jon Nelson – NØUOZ, Melinda Nelson – AFØET, Randy Wabik – KRØB, Brian Beckman – KFØLFZ, Dave Davis – AAØAC

Board Advisors (Non-Board Members)

Doug Nelson – AAØAW, Grant Forsyth – KCØWUP

Guest:

Robin Davis, Rochelle Nelson

Meeting called to order by President Gene – NØVRM at 18:33 (6:33 pm)

Minutes:

Minutes were sent via email. Motion to approve Jon Nelson – NØUOZ, and Dave Davis – AAØAC, motion passed.

Treasurer's Report:

Checking: \$385.91
 Savings: \$4,361.76
 Repeater: \$5,803.39
Subtotal Cash \$10,551.06
 Cash on hand: \$155.63
Subtotal COH: \$155.63
 Outstanding Checks:
Assets Subtotal: \$10,706.69

Motion made by Melinda Nelson – AFØET to accept Treasurer's report as is, seconded by Jon Nelson – NØUOZ. Motion passed.

Testing:

There will be a test session at HamFest. Possibly June 2nd for the General Class.

There will be a change coming up with the VE program. It will be going digital for testing were the candidate will be taking the test online. There will be a meeting coming soon for all VE's.

Need a copy of the FRN number, an ID, and a copy of your licenses. As always if you are ready to test or know someone who wants to test, please get ahold of Doug Nelson – AAØAW at AAØAW@arrl.net.

HamFest

Motion to spend up-to but not exceed \$600.00 for Prizes, up-to but not exceed \$600.00 for food by Melinda Nelson – AFØET, seconded by Dave Davis – AAØAC. Motion passed.
 Looking for volunteers.

Repeater:

Randy Wabik – KRØB, Will be looking at getting new cans.

New Business:

HamFest is Coming up on May 2nd. Looking for Volunteers.
 Open Registration for Grandma's Marathon – Password HAM26. If interested please contact Melinda Nelson – AFØET at jonbeeyore@outlook.com or Doug Nelson – AAØAW at AAØAW@arrl.net.

Motion to adjourn by Jon Nelson – NØUOZ, seconded by Brian Beckman – KFØLFZ, motion passed at 19:23 (7:23 PM).





ARAC Club Meeting Minutes

April 9, 2026

Present:

President: Gene Ellefsen – N0VRM
Vice President: Jon Nelson – N0UOZ
Secretary: Melinda Nelson – AF0ET
First Year Board: Dave Davis – AA0AC
Second Year Board: Brain Beckman – KF0LFZ
HamFest/Education: Bob Schulz – KC0NFB
Special Events: Open/Gene Ellefsen – N0VRM (acting)
Repeater: Dave Pyrlík – K0DJP & Randy Wabik – KR0B
Parliamentarian: Grant Forsyth – KC0WUP
Testing: Doug Nelson – AA0AW
Property/Picnic: Scott Ahlgren – N0VYU

Absent:

Treasurer/Membership: Randy Wabik – KR0B
Third Year Board: Justin Cheever – KD9VKI
Newsletter/Historian: Kim Waller – KE0NQS
Newsletter/Historian: Steve Waller – KE0NQT
Web Site: Thomas Dorr – KE0RHA
Chaplin:

Meeting called to order at 18:03 (6:03 PM) by President Gene Ellefsen – N0VRM. Forty (40) members were in attendance.

Minutes:

Minutes are posted on the website and in the newsletter. Motion to accept by Alan Nordin – WB0DBQ, seconded by Rick Minotte – KB0YBA, motion Passed.

Treasurer's Report:

Checking: \$385.91
Savings: \$4,361.76
Repeater: \$5,803.39

Subtotal Cash \$10,551.06

Cash on hand: \$155.63

Subtotal COH: \$155.63

Outstanding Checks:

Assets Subtotal: \$10,706.69

Motion made by Rick Minotte – KB0YBA, seconded by Bob Schulz – KC0NFB. Motion passed.

Testing:

Next testing session will be held May 2nd during Swap Fest.
June 2nd for the General Class

Please make sure that you have the updated syllabus. As always if you are looking to test or upgrade or know of anyone that is interested in testing, please contact Doug Nelson – AA0AW at AA0AW@arrl.net.

Continued on Page 4



ARAC Club Meeting Minutes continued

New Business:

HamFest is Coming up on May 2nd. Looking for Volunteers.

Open Registration for Grandma's Marathon – Password HAM26. If interested please contact Melinda Nelson – AF0ET at jonbeeyore@outlook.com or Doug Nelson – AA0AW at AA0AW@arrl.net.

Silent Key: (Please keep their family in your thoughts)

New members/Returning members (Please welcome them when they get on the radio):

Door Prize: was won by Grant Forsyth – KC0WUP

Motion to adjourn by Rex Gibbs – N-KXT, seconded by Theresa Dall – KA0CDO, motion passed at 18:10 (6:10 PM).

2026 Program:

May – Intro to Race Volunteering

June – Grandma's Marathon by Grandma's Marathon Team Melinda Nelson – AF0ET and Doug Nelson – AA0AW.

July – Intro to Fox Hunting

August –

October –

November –

December – Christmas Party

If you are interested in seeing a program, or would like to host a program, please reach out to Jon Nelson at jonbeeyore@outlook.com or 715-817-1986.



CLUB REPEATER

WØGKP

146.94 (-)

CTCSS TONE



Prez Sez ...

Hello Everyone,

Hamfest is now history until next year!! Thank you to all who volunteered!!

A big shout out to Jon Nelson N0UOZ For stepping up running the Kitchen and his helpers Bruce KN0NUL, Jeff Webber studying for his test, Ted AD0TI and his wife, and John KC0AFE.

The kitchen is a money maker for us!! Thanks again everybody we will do it again next year!!

Gene Ellefsen NØVRM



LOOKING for an Amateur Radio License TESTING SESSION?

Schedule your own Testing Session TODAY!

Contact Doug Nelson-AA0AW at aa0aw@arrl.net or 218-391-5874

All Exam Candidates are REQUIRED to have an FCC Registration Number (FRN) before exam day, which will require your email address.

Not Currently Licensed? For New License Candidate FRN registration, go to: www.fcc.gov/new-users-guide-getting-started-universal-licensing-system-uls

Upgrading to General or Expert Class & not sure you have an FRN number?
go to

<https://wireless2.fcc.gov/UlsApp/UlsSearch/searchLicense.jsp>

UPGRADE CANDIDATES:

Please bring a copy of your current license to the exam session.

CW Abbreviations

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| AR End of Message | AS Pse QRX | BK Back to You | SK End of Contact |
| TU Thank You | PSE Please | K Invite to Transmit | |
| QST Calling all Amateurs | QRL Are You Busy? | QRU Have anything for me | |
| QRV Are You Ready? | QRX Standby | QRS Transit Slower | |

A	●■■■	M	■■■■	Y	■■■■●
B	■■■■●	N	■■■●	Z	■■■■●●
C	■■■■●●	O	■■■■■	1	●■■■■■
D	■■■■●●●	P	■■■■●●	2	●●■■■■
E	●	Q	■■■■■●	3	●●●■■■
F	●●■■■	R	■■■■●●●	4	●●●●■■
G	■■■■●●	S	■■■■●●●	5	●●●●●■
H	●●●■■■	T	■■■■●	6	■■■■●●●
I	●●	U	■■■■●●	7	■■■■●●●●
J	■■■■■●	V	●●■■■■	8	■■■■●●●●
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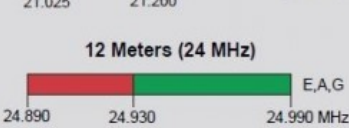
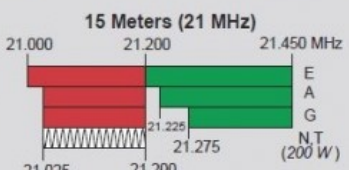
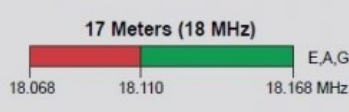
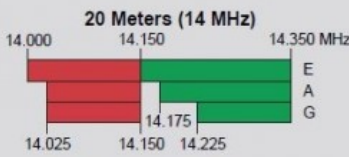
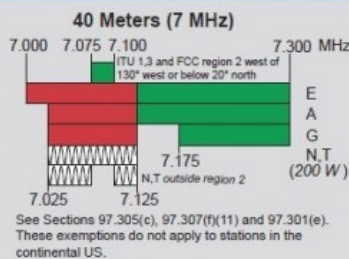
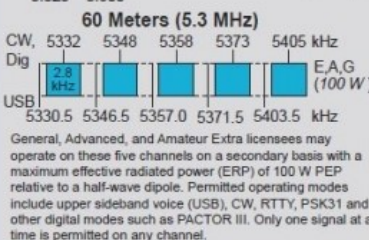
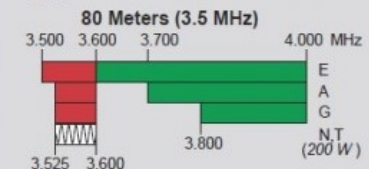
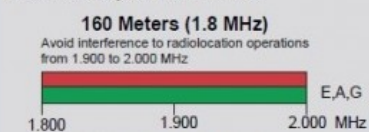
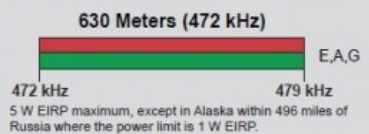
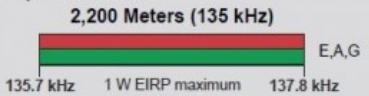


US Amateur Radio Bands

US AMATEUR POWER LIMITS

FCC 97.313 An amateur station must use the minimum transmitter power necessary to carry out the desired communications. (b) No station may transmit with a transmitter power exceeding 1.5 kW PEP.

On March 28, 2017, the Federal Communications Commission adopted rules that will allow Amateur Radio access to 472-479 kHz (630 meters) and to 135.7-137.8 kHz (2,200 meters). However, amateurs cannot use these frequencies until 30 days after the Report and Order is published in the Federal Register and the final procedures for registering stations with the Utilities Telecom Council (UTC) have been approved and announced. At the time this chart was created, the Report and Order had not been published and the UTC online registration site is not yet available. Follow ARRL news for further information. New charts will be published at www.arrl.org/graphical-frequency-allocations when the bands are fully available for use.



Effective Date for
2,200 and 630 Meters
to be announced



ARRL THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR AMATEUR RADIO

KEY

Note: CW operation is permitted throughout all amateur bands.

MCW is authorized above 50.1 MHz, except for 144.0-144.1 and 219-220 MHz.

Test transmissions are authorized above 51 MHz, except for 219-220 MHz

- = RTTY and data
- = phone and image
- = CW only
- = SSB phone
- = USB phone, CW, RTTY, and data
- = Fixed digital message forwarding systems only

- E = Amateur Extra
- A = Advanced
- G = General
- T = Technician
- N = Novice

See ARRLWeb at www.arrl.org for detailed band plans.

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email: news@arrl.org

Exams: 860-594-0300 email: vec@arrl.org

NETS

Have a favorite HF/6m/2m/1.25m/70cm net that you check into or listen in on? Also, please send corrections and we will add it to the list below - Kim KEØNQS at my email KEØNQS.mn@gmail.com.

- **Northland Weather Group Net:** Mondays 2000 on the ARAC repeater (146.940 MHz with a tone of 103.5 and standard offset).
- **Minnesota D-Star Net:** Sundays at 19:30 on Reflector 53A
- **Minnesota Section Net** 1200 and 1730 on 3.860 [Net Manager: NØYR] http://www.mn-section.org/dept_stm.html
- The non-non-net: Evenings 2000 144.200 USB except for Sunday evenings.
- Badger WX Net: 0500-0715 on 3.985. Give 24 hour high/low/current temperature, precipitation and snowfall.
- **PICONET:** 3.925 from 0900-1100 CT Mon-Sat and 1600-1700 CT Mon-Fri. Info at: <http://www.piconet3925.com>
- Michigan Upper Peninsula Net: 1600 (CST) on 3.921 MHz Sun-Sat and 1200 Sun. Info: <http://www.michupnet.com>
- Great Lakes Marine/Maritime Mobile Net: Morning 07:30 - 3.932; 08:15 - 7.261 MHz and evening 18:30 - 3.1730927; 19:15 - 7.268 MHz. Weekend extra net: 10:00 - 7.261/7.268 MHz. All CST, LSB and +/- QRM. See: <http://www.sailblogs.com/member/glimmnet/>
- MIDCARS: 07:30-13:00 - 7.258 MHz. See: <http://www.midcars.net>
- Iowa snowbird net on 14.257MHz, M-W-F at 10:00 am Local Time. This is an open net.
- Spider Web Net (Marco Island FL) on 14.347 every morning at 0730 CST/CDT: <http://www.spiderwebnet.net>
- Maritime Mobile Service Network: Daily at 1100—2100 Central on 14.300. <http://mmsn.org> and <http://www.14300.net>
- RV Radio Network: Every day at 1900 Central on 7.265 MHz. Web site: <http://www.rvradionetwork.com>
- Upper Midwest Ten Meter Net: Every Thursday Evening @ 8 PM – 28.480 MHz USB
- Wisconsin Sideband Net: Daily @ 5:15 PM – 3985 [or 3982.5] KHz LSB
- Hobby Helpers Net - Tuesday @ 8 PM – 28.330 MHz USB (Isanti MN) LSB [Net Manager: WOØA].
- Northstar Trader Net: 3.908 +/- at 0830 CST Sundays
- WARFA: 3.908 +/- Sun/Tue/Thu nights at 2200 CST, <http://warfa.org/>
- Youth Net: 14.320-14330 Sundays 1800-1900 UTC, Net Control: AC8PI
- YACHT: Saturdays 1900 CST on EchoLink #481872, <http://yachthams.webstarts.com>
- Northwestern Ontario ARES Net: Evenings at 20:15 (Central) on +/- 3.750Mhz
- The Iron Range Net: Saturdays at 0800 Central time on or near 3.919 Mhz. Look them up on Facebook!
- FORX Net: Mondays at 1900 Central at 3.941 Mhz +/- QRM. WAØJXT — Grand Forks, North Dakota
- HF CW: Fridays 08:00 CST, 7.112 MHz. Informal slow speed CW Net. W8IRT NCS. Email: w8irt@aol.com
- Minnesota ARES Digital Net: Thursdays at 2000 CST, 3.5835 MHz USB +/- QRM, Mode: Olivia 8/500.
- SARA Digital Net: Sundays at 1900 Local, 3.582.150 MHz USB +/- QRM, Mode: BPSK31/BPSK63
- Spider Web Net (Marco Island FL): 14.347 every morning at 0730 CST/CDT: <http://www.spiderwebnet.net>
- Broadcaster Net: 7.231 or 3.855 M/W/F @ 1500 UTC. 14.255 M-F @ 2130 UTC. <http://www.cbsretirees.com/ham.htm>
- Old Military Radio Net: 7.268 +/- nightly at 0200z. Other times/Frequencies too. See: <http://www.mrca.ar88.net/>
- Rag Chew Crew/Tailgaters/Freewheelers Nets: 3.916 +/- nightly at 1900 CST, <http://www.tailgatersnet.com>
- North South Net: 7.214.6 +/- at 0700 CST, Monday-Saturday



DULUTH AREA REPEATERS

ARAC System WØGKP

Frequency	Offset	Tone	Location	
146.940	minus	103.5	Duluth	
146.940	minus	107.2	Lakeside (recv)	
146.940	minus	151.4	Two Harbors (recv)	
146.940	minus	100.0	Gary-New Duluth (recv)	
146.940	minus	110.9	Cloquet (recv)	Not Operating
147.000	minus	103.5	Mahtowa	
444.100	plus	103.5	Duluth UHF Link	

N9MMU/N9QWH System (WI)

145.310	minus	110.9	Duluth
145.490	minus	110.9	Solon Springs
147.255	plus	110.9	Hayward
145.110	minus	110.9	Rice Lake
147.345	minus	136.5	Holcombe
145.230	minus	110.9	Eau Claire

WECOMM – WI Statewide Linked System WE9COM

147.075	plus	110.9	Meteor Hill (closest repeater to Duluth)
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LSAC System – some may work/some may still be linked

147.330	plus	151.4	Proctor	Not Operating
147.270	plus	114.8	Two Harbors	
147.270	plus	103.5	Wales	
147.090	plus	114.8	Silver Bay	Not Operating
147.300	plus	114.8	Isabella	
145.150	minus	103.5	Washburn, WI	
146.700	minus	103.5	Bayfield, WI	
443.850	+5.00	none	Bayfield, WI	
147.165	plus	110.9	Hurley, WI	
146.640	minus	151.4	Ely	Not Operating
443.500	+5.00	141.3	Gilbert	
147.060	plus	103.5	Virginia	
147.360	plus	162.2	Cook	Not Operating
147.165	plus	114.8	Coleraine	
443.925	+5.00	110.9	Brainerd	
443.200	+5.00	114.8	Tamarack	
147.360	plus	203.5	Aitkin	
146.865	minus	146.2	Giese	Not Operating
443.325	+5.00	146.2	Isanti	

Rev. KCØWDQ as of 12/01/24 For ARAC Newsletter

Continued on Page 9



DULUTH AREA REPEATERS, continued

NARC System NAØRC

147.135 plus 103.5 Knife River
 147.135 plus 114.8 Duluth (rcv)

Stand Alone Repeaters

145.210 minus 110.9 Clam Lake, WI
 146.880 minus 123.0 Grand Rapids, MN
 146.910 minus 146.2 Duxbury, MN
 146.955 minus 146.2 Askov, MN
 147.105 plus 110.9 Chaffey, WI
 444.850 +5.00 141.3 Cloquet, MN

Fusion

Fusion (Analog has tone and C4FM digital with no tone)

147.150 plus 151.4 NTØB Gilbert, MN Fusion Repeater
 145.170 minus 110.9 WA9KLM Superior, WI – Douglas County RACES/ARES Fusion Repeater
 (Digital only) Fusion Room 28373

145.250 minus 103.5 KBØYHX Cloquet, MN – Carlton County RACES/ARES Fusion Repeater

444.300 +5.00 103.5 NØEO Duluth, MN – Spirit Valley Amateurs Fusion Repeater WIRES-X
 NØEO (Analog only) Fusion Room 40494

444.400 +5.00 103.5 NAØRC Knife River, MN – Wires X Connected to NØEO Room 40494
 444.500 +5.00 103.5 NØLCR Two Harbors, MN – Wires X Connected to NØEO Room 40494
 444.600 +5.00 103.5 NØLCR Silver Bay, MN – Wires X Connected to NØEO Room 40494
 444.800 +5.00 103.5 NØLCR Grand Marais, MN – Wires X Connected to NØEO Room 40494
 440.400 +5.00 110.9 WØLSA Maple, WI – Wires X Connected to NØEO Room 40494

D-Star

147.375 plus NØEO D Star
 442.200 plus NØEO D Star

Rev. KCØWDQ as of 12/01/24 For ARAC Newsletter

Elmers

El-mer / el-mər/ [el-mer]

1. a male given name: from Old English words meaning "noble" and "famous."
2. an adhesive used to bond like or unlike materials
3. An experienced ham radio operator who mentors new and prospective hams.

Name	Call Sign	Expertise
Jeff Nast	KCØMKS	APRS, EchoLink, WinLink, Fusion, Contesting
Bob Schulz	KCØNFB	Contesting
Jim Anderson	NØJWA	QsoNet
Doug Nelson	AAØAW	HF, VHF/UHF, Contesting, Packet, APRS, Morse Code, VE testing, Echolink, Allstar, EmCom...



Membership Email Directory

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Co-Editors,
Kim & Steve Waller
KEØNQS & KEØNQT



SUNDAY NIGHT NETS
 1930 - CW - 28.125 MHz USB-CW
 2000 - USB 28.450 MHz
 2100 - Southern St. Louis County
 Emergency Services Net
MONDAY NIGHT NETS
 2000 - Northland WX Net - ARAC Repeater

MAY

CLUB EVENTS

TUESDAY NIGHT NETS
 2000 - Douglas Cty 145.490 MHz
 2030 - Central Carlton County
WEDNESDAY NIGHT NETS
 1900 - Lake County - LSAC1
 2nd & 4th Wednesdays
 2100 - BWAR

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 May Day  Friday Night 6 meter Gag-Chew 50.125 USB 7 PM	2 ARAC HAMFEST 9AM-1PM Head of the Lakes Fairgrounds Superior WI
3 CW 1930 NØPDG USB 2000 KRØB ES 2100	4 WX 2000 KCØMKS	5 ARAC BOARD MEETING Sammy's Pizza 6:30 pm DC Net 2000 CC Net 2030	6 2100 - BWAR	7	8 Friday Night 6 meter Gag-Chew 50.125 USB 7 PM	9
10 Mothers Day  CW 1930 AAØAW USB 2000 NØVRM ES 2100 AAØAW	11 Douglas County ARES/RACES Mtg 1900 DC E WX 2000 KCØMKS	12 DC Net 2000 CC Net 2030	13 Lake County ARES/RACES Meeting 1800 Lake County LSAC1 1900 2100 - BWAR	14 ARAC Club Meeting Coppertop Church 7 PM	15 Friday Night 6 meter Gag-Chew 50.125 USB 7 PM	16
17 CW 1930 NØPDG USB 2000 AAØAW ES 2100 KØDSL	18 WX 2000 KCØMKS	19 DC Net 2000 CC Net 2030	20 2100 - BWAR	21	22 Friday Night 6 meter Gag-Chew 50.125 USB 7 PM	23
24 CW 1930 AAØAW USB 2000 KB9WLB ES 2100 KD9VKI	25 Memorial Day  WX 2000 KCØMKS	26 DC Net 2000 CC Net 2030	27 Lake County LSAC1 1900 2100 - BWAR	28 Carlton County ARES/RACES Meeting 1900 CC EOC	29	30
31 CW 1930 NØPDG USB 2000 K9KDK ES 2100 KCØWDQ						

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Email Doug AAØAW at
aa0aw@arrl.net

Next Club Meeting:
May 14, 2026 - 7 pm
Coppertop Church

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Control Operators:

AAØAW - NØKXT - KCØNFB

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Waller

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Testing:

Doug Nelson AAØAW

Field Day:

Picnic Chair:

Scott Ahlgren, NØVYU

Repeater Chairs:

Randy Haglin NØBZZ
Randy Wabik KAØJZV

Contest Calendar at www.contestcalendar.com

National Contest Journal at www.ncjweb.com

QSO Party Note: State/Province/National QSO Parties are abbreviated with the 2 or 3 letter abbreviation for the state/province/national designation followed by QP for QSO Party:

Examples: Minnesota QSO Party is MNQP
British Columbia QSO Party = BCQP

QRZ web site at www.qrz.com

VHF Propagation site at www.aprs.mountainlake.k12.mn.us

Reminder: The Contest Corral monthly listing of contests can be found in each issue of QST. ARRL sponsored contests can be found in Contest Corral, highlighted, or on the ARRL's web site at arrl.org.

Epic Valor continued from page 1

The pilot, call sign Dude 44 Alpha, was in front. A battle-tested colonel served as Weapons Systems Officer, call sign Dude 44 Bravo, in back. The crew had planned to be airborne for several hours on a deep-strike mission. Dude 44 sliced through the thin mountain air as the sapphire-black sky was beginning to soften with the first promise of sunrise—a thin rose-gold band kissing the eastern horizon.

“Dude 44, cleared hot on target package,” came the crisp radio call. The Strike Eagle peeled off smoothly, diving toward fixed Iranian missile production sites near Yasuj, the capital of Kohgiluyeh and Boyer-Ahmad Province in the rugged Zagros Mountains of southwestern Iran. The jet’s conformal tanks added extra fuel for the long-range mission and its JDAM GPS-guided bombs were ready to deliver precision hell.

Then it happened.

A lucky shoulder-fired MANPADS—a low-tech heat-seeker missile, the kind that lies in wait, hidden in mountain caves even after the big S-300s and Bavar-373 batteries have been turned to scrap—lanced upward from a ridgeline. The missile locked onto the port engine’s heat signature and slammed home. The jet shuddered violently, fire blooming in the intake. Alarms screamed. The pilot fought the controls with everything he had, nursing the crippled Eagle westward toward friendlier skies over Iraq. Over the intercom he made the call every combat aviator trains for but never wants to utter:

“Eject! Eject! Eject!”

Explosive bolts — small, powerful charges built into the jet — fired in a split second. Both canopies blew off, and the pilot and his Weapons Systems Officer rocketed into the freezing pre-dawn air. Two parachutes blossomed against the fading stars as Dude 44 spun downward in flames toward the jagged peaks below. The crew landed miles apart.

But this was not the only aircraft America lost that day.

In the harrowing hours immediately following the F-15E shutdown, an A-10 Thunderbolt II flying in the traditional “Sandy” role — the dangerous mission of providing low-level armed escort and suppressive fire to protect downed aircrews and rescue teams — had been thundering over the contested zone. A part of the rapid-response **Combat Search and Rescue (CSAR)** task force scrambled to protect the downed crew, its massive **GAU-8 Avenger 30mm rotary cannon** — capable of firing up to 3,900 rounds per minute — roared as it hugged mountain ridgelines to keep Iranian forces at bay.



USAF A-10 Thunderbolt II Image: United States Air Force

A burst of ground fire found the Warthog. The pilot—cool under fire—continued the mission, nursing the heavily damaged jet westward across the border until the disabled aircraft became unmanageable. As the lone crewmember, he ejected safely over allied territory near the Strait of Hormuz, and the A-10 cartwheeled into the Gulf below. Shortly after, U.S. quick reaction rescue assets extracted the pilot and brought him to safety.

Now, with an Eagle shot down and its crew scattered, an epic extraction operation began deep in the mountains of Iran. The pilot, Dude 44 Alpha, was plucked to safety within seven hours. Dude 44 Bravo, the colonel WSO, was injured but unbreakable. He spent the next nearly 48 hours evading Iranian Revolutionary Guard hunters and local militias, using skills honed through intense **SERE** training (**Survival, Evasion, Resistance, and Escape**). This elite program, required for all U.S. Air Force

aircrew, teaches airmen how to survive isolation in hostile territory. He hiked razorback ridgelines under cover of darkness, wedged himself into narrow mountain crevices for concealment, carefully rationed his emergency beacon and radio transmissions to avoid detection, and moved only when safe — classic evasion tactics drilled into every pilot and weapons systems officer long before they ever climb into a cockpit.

What followed was the most complex combat search-and-rescue operation in military history.

CIA operators launched a sophisticated two-pronged operation. First, they executed a masterful deception campaign, flooding Iranian communications and intelligence channels with false reports that the colonel had already been located and was being extracted in a ground convoy toward the coast for a maritime rescue. Fake search-and-rescue activity was simulated in seven different locations across the region using B-1 bombers, F-22s, F-35s, F-16s, additional F-15s, and A-10s to draw Iranian Revolutionary Guard hunters and local militias away from the real hiding spot.

Continued on Page 14

At the same time, the Agency deployed a **Lockheed Martin Skunk Works** capability known as **Ghost Murmur** — a classified quantum-magnetometry system that can detect the faint electromagnetic signature of a specific human heartbeat at long range. Using this exquisite technology, they quietly isolated the colonel's cardiac rhythm amid the vast mountain terrain, confirming his exact location even while he remained hidden and silent in his narrow crevice.

In a remarkable twist amid the flurry, local Iranian civilians in the rugged Dehdasht region, where Dude 44 went down, chose to help rather than hunt. Even as the IRGC offered large bounties — reportedly up to \$60,000 or more — for information leading to the capture of the downed Americans, Iranian civilians risked arrest and reprisal by blocking mountain roads day and night with vehicles and human chains. These spontaneous acts of defiance deliberately delayed IRGC convoys and Basij militia, buying precious hours for the evading colonel while U.S. forces closed in for the rescue.

On the night of April 5, U.S. special operations forces repurposed an abandoned agricultural airstrip roughly 14 miles north of Shahreza, a city in Isfahan Province in central Iran. Two **MC-130J Commando II aircraft** inserted **Delta Force** and **DEVGRU (the elite Navy SEAL Team 6)** operators, equipment, and fuel. Inside those MC-130Js were disassembled **MH-6 Little Bird helicopters** from the **160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment "Night Stalkers,"** the U.S. Army's legendary special operations aviation unit renowned for flying daring nighttime missions in the world's most dangerous places. Once on the ground, the Night Stalkers rapidly reassembled three Little Birds in under ten minutes.

With the WSO's position fixed, the Night Stalkers launched in the MH-6 Little Birds for the final close-in extraction under the cover of a massive overhead air armada of more than 150 aircraft. After a daring pickup from a narrow crevice high on a jagged 7,000-foot ridgeline in the Zagros Mountains, the precision teams rendezvoused back at the makeshift forward base on the valley floor. With the injured colonel safely aboard, they loaded the special operators, sensitive equipment, and support personnel into the two waiting MC-130J Commando II aircraft. The powerful turboprop engines roared to life, the pilots pushed the throttles forward — but the rain-soaked soil turned treacherous. Both heavily loaded "130s" sank into the soft terrain, wheels bogging down, unable to gain enough speed for takeoff. Precious minutes ticked away as Iranian forces began converging on the valley.

In a calm but urgent voice, the ground commander called for immediate backup extraction aircraft. Three "follow-on special operations" fixed-wing aircraft — lighter, high-performance turboprops from **Air Force Special Operations Command** optimized for short, unimproved runways — answered the call. They swooped in under the cover of darkness, executed a flawless combat extraction, and lifted the rescued WSO, the Special Forces teams, support personnel, and all critical equipment out of the hostile valley before the enemy could close in.

The two immobilized MC-130Js—along with several of the MH-6 Little Birds that could not be loaded onto the lighter extraction aircraft—were deliberately destroyed in place by U.S. special operations forces on the ground. This was to prevent sensitive technology, avionics, weapons systems, and classified equipment from falling into Iranian hands.

For two days our nation waited on pins and needles for word of our missing WSO. When the news finally broke that he too had been safely recovered, Americans across the country breathed a collective sigh of relief and cheered with pride and gratitude. All three of our ejected airmen in the mission were safe.

The world had watched in awe as American military excellence demonstrated our unrelenting resolve. We would expend any amount of treasure and resources to bring our men home. Once again, America had kept its sacred pledge to every single service member of our Armed Forces: **No One Left Behind.**

Continued on Page 15



Wreckage of MC-130J cargo aircraft and MH-6 Little Bird helicopters
These aircraft were destroyed on the ground by U.S. Special Ops before final extraction

This extraordinary rescue in the skies over Iran stands as a powerful reminder that the spirit of American military excellence remains as strong today as it was at our nation's founding. From the earliest of days in Valley Forge to the mountains of the Zagros, the men and women of our Armed Forces have answered every call with courage, innovation, and unwavering commitment. As we mark America's 250th year of independence, it is fitting to pause and honor the proud history of our six branches — the **United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Air Force, and Space Force**. Each has played a unique and indispensable role in shaping our nation, defending our freedoms, and advancing the cause of liberty. Their legacies form the bedrock of who we are — and who we will continue to be.



United States Army

June 14, 1775

Motto: This We'll Defend

In the sweltering summer of 1775, as musket fire still echoed from Lexington and Concord, the **Second Continental Congress** gathered in Philadelphia and took a bold step that would forever shape a young nation. On June 14, they resolved to form the **Continental Army**, uniting ragtag colonial militias under a single banner to stand against the might of the British Empire. **George Washington**, a Virginia planter with a quiet resolve and battlefield experience, was named commander.

What began as a patchwork force of farmers, merchants, and idealists evolved into the professional United States Army after the **Revolutionary War**, reestablished under the new Constitution in 1784. The Army's earliest trials forged its character. During the Revolutionary War, soldiers endured the brutal winter at Valley Forge, where Washington's leadership turned suffering into steel. They marched to victory at Yorktown in 1781, securing independence through sheer perseverance against a professional foe. In the years that followed, the Army defended the fragile republic in the War of 1812, repelling British invasions at New Orleans under Andrew Jackson and securing the Great Lakes in naval-army cooperation.

The Mexican-American War of 1846–1848 saw troops under leaders like Winfield Scott capture Mexico City, expanding the nation westward across vast territories that would become states. **The Civil War** tested the Army's soul like no other conflict—brothers against brothers, yet the Union Army emerged victorious at Gettysburg and Appomattox, preserving the nation and ending slavery at the cost of over 350,000 lives.

Post-war, the Army fought the **American Indian Wars** from 1784 to 1890, securing frontiers while grappling with complex moral and strategic challenges. **The Spanish-American War** of 1898 thrust it onto the global stage, with Rough Riders charging up San Juan Hill and forces liberating Cuba and the Philippines.

World War I brought doughboys into the muddy trenches of Europe; the Meuse-Argonne Offensive in 1918 helped turn the tide, proving American resolve. **World War II** saw the Army swell to over eight million soldiers, storming beaches from Normandy's D-Day to the Pacific's island campaigns, liberating continents and defeating tyranny alongside allies. **The Korean War** introduced frigid mountain fights at the Pusan Perimeter and the daring Inchon landing, ending in a hard-won stalemate. **Vietnam** tested endurance amid jungles and controversy, with soldiers adapting to guerrilla warfare while supporting South Vietnamese forces.

The Gulf War's Operation Desert Storm showcased modern mechanized power, routing Iraqi forces in a swift 100-hour ground campaign. **Operations in Afghanistan and Iraq** after 9/11 highlighted adaptability—from counterinsurgency in rugged terrain to nation-building—while humanitarian missions, disaster relief at home like **Hurricane Katrina**, and peacekeeping abroad underscored the Army's role as both warrior and guardian.

Today, the Army stands as the largest and oldest branch, embracing multi-domain operations with advanced technology, cyber capabilities, and joint integration. From the frozen hills of Valley Forge to the digital battlefields of tomorrow, the Army has been the steadfast backbone of American freedom, evolving through every era while upholding duty, honor, and sacrifice. Its soldiers have trained at places like **West Point**, innovated with everything from rifled muskets to Abrams tanks, and served in every major conflict, often first to answer the call. In every uniform, every generation, the **United States Army** has defended not just land, but the very idea of liberty. ***We remain forever grateful for their courage, hopeful that their vigilance will light the path to a peaceful future, and proudly united as one nation under the stars and stripes they have so bravely protected.***

Continued on Page 16



United States Navy

October 13, 1775

Motto: Honor, Courage, Commitment

Picture a crisp autumn day in 1775: the **Continental Congress**, facing a powerful British fleet blockading colonial ports, voted to outfit two swift vessels for war. Thus, on October 13, the **Continental Navy** was born, its captains and crews—ordinary sailors turned privateers—harassing enemy supply lines and proving that even a fledgling nation could challenge an empire at sea. After the **Revolution**, the Navy disbanded, but threats from French privateers and Barbary pirates prompted its rebirth in 1794 with the construction of legendary frigates like the USS Constitution under the Naval Act.

The War of 1812 cemented its legend: “Old Ironsides” blasted British warships in single-ship actions, and Captain Oliver Hazard Perry’s victory on Lake Erie inspired the rallying cry, “We have met the enemy and they are ours.” Steam power revolutionized the fleet in the mid-19th century, while **the Civil War** introduced ironclads like the USS Monitor in epic duels and riverine warfare that split the Confederacy.

By **the Spanish-American War**, the Navy projected power across oceans, destroying Spanish fleets at Manila Bay and Santiago.

In **World War I**, it escorted convoys and fought U-boats in the Atlantic, laying the groundwork for global operations. **World War II** saw the Navy grow into the world’s mightiest fleet—carrier task forces, island-hopping campaigns, and epic battles like the Coral Sea, Midway, and the largest naval battle in history at Leyte Gulf turned the tide in the Pacific. Over 1,600 warships flew the Stars and Stripes by war’s end.

The Cold War brought nuclear submarines patrolling silently beneath the waves and global carrier patrols that deterred Soviet aggression. **Korea and Vietnam** tested new doctrines of naval aviation and amphibious assault, with carriers launching strikes from the sea. **Operations Desert Storm and Iraqi Freedom** showcased precision strikes from the sea, while humanitarian aid after disasters and counter-piracy missions highlighted versatility.

Today, the Navy patrols vast blue-water domains, deters adversaries with advanced submarines, aircraft carriers like the Ford-class, and cyber capabilities. Sailors embody the sea’s timeless call: to explore, protect, and serve. From wooden ships and canvas sails to nuclear-powered carriers and hypersonic missiles, the Navy has guarded the waves that connect our world, enforcing freedom of navigation and supporting allies worldwide.

We offer heartfelt thanks for their selfless voyages, look forward with hope to seas of peace they help secure, and celebrate the enduring freedom their courage has won for every American.



United States Marines

November 10, 1775

Motto: Semper Fidelis (Always Faithful)

In a smoky Philadelphia tavern on November 10, 1775, the Second Continental Congress resolved to raise two battalions of Marines—tough, adaptable fighters who would serve both at sea and on shore. Captain Samuel Nicholas led the first recruits, and by early 1776, Marines were raiding New Providence in the Bahamas, capturing gunpowder and supplies vital to the Revolution. Disbanded after the war, the Corps was reborn in 1798 for the Quasi-War with France and earned its stripes in the Barbary Wars, where Lieutenant Presley O’Bannon raised the first American flag on foreign soil at Derna.

The 19th century saw Marines in **the Mexican War**, **Civil War** shipboard actions, and expeditionary operations across the globe, from Asia to Latin America. **World War I** brought the legendary Battle of Belleau Wood, where “Devil Dogs” earned respect from friend and foe alike through ferocious close-quarters fighting. **World War II** immortalized them on Guadalcanal, Tarawa, Iwo Jima, and Okinawa—amphibious assaults that defined Pacific victory and cost thousands of lives in brutal island-hopping campaigns. **Korea’s** Chosin Reservoir

Continued on Page 17

saw Marines fight through subzero temperatures and Chinese hordes in one of history's greatest retreats; Vietnam's Hue City and Khe Sanh tested their mettle in bitter urban and jungle warfare.

In the **Gulf War, Somalia, Afghanistan, and Iraq**, Marines were often first to fight, securing beachheads and urban strongholds with speed and precision. Humanitarian missions—from earthquake relief to noncombatant evacuations—showcased their expeditionary ethos.

Today, the **Marine Corps** remains the nation's rapid-response force—expeditionary, agile, and ever faithful. From crisis response to humanitarian missions, Marines embody “first to fight” while upholding traditions of honor, discipline, and brotherhood forged in taverns, trenches, and foxholes. The United States Marine Corps has answered every call with unyielding loyalty. ***We are deeply grateful for their faithful service, optimistic that their warrior spirit will continue safeguarding our freedoms, and proud to stand with them as Americans united in resolve and gratitude.***



United States Coast Guard

August 4, 1790

Motto: Semper Paratus (Always Ready)

On August 4, 1790, **President George Washington** signed the Tariff Act, authorizing Alexander Hamilton's vision of ten swift revenue cutters to enforce customs laws and combat smuggling along the young republic's coastline. The Revenue Cutter Service—later renamed—became the nation's first continuous maritime force. In wartime, it transferred to the Navy; in peace, it protected commerce, saved lives, and enforced laws. By 1915, it merged with the Life-Saving Service to form the modern **Coast Guard**, with further integration of the Lighthouse Service in 1939.

World War I saw cutters hunting U-boats in the Atlantic; **World War II** brought convoy escorts, amphibious landings, and the heroic sinking of enemy submarines, with over 200,000 Coast Guardsmen serving. **The Cold War** era expanded roles in search-and-rescue, icebreaking in polar regions, and environmental protection. **Vietnam's** Operation Market Time interdicted enemy supplies along the coast, while domestic missions—from Prohibition-era “Rum War” patrols to **Hurricane Katrina's** massive rescues and oil-spill cleanups like Deepwater Horizon—showcased its unique blend of military readiness and civilian service.

Today, the Coast Guard patrols 95,000 miles of coastline, interdicts drugs, enforces fisheries laws, and responds to disasters with cutters, aircraft, and courageous crews. Its motto, “Semper Paratus,” rings true in every storm-tossed rescue and every interdiction at sea. The Coast Guard is the unsung guardian of America's maritime frontier—part sailor, part lifesaver, always ready—operating under the **Department of Homeland Security** in peacetime yet ready to join the Navy in war. From enforcing quarantines in the 1800s to modern cybersecurity and Arctic operations, it has safeguarded ports, mariners, and the environment for over two centuries. We cherish the United States Coast Guard's selfless dedication and remain hopeful that their vigilant watch will keep our shores safe and prosperous. ***With grateful hearts, we salute their service and the enduring American spirit they embody.***



United States Air Force

September 18, 1947

Motto: Aim High ... Fly-Fight-Win

Though its roots trace to the **Army's 1907 Aeronautical Division** and the daring pilots of World War I, the United States Air Force officially took flight as an independent branch on September 18, 1947, under the **National Security Act**. **World War II's Army Air Forces** had already proven airpower's decisive role—thousands of bombers darkening European skies, P-51 Mustangs escorting daylight raids, and B-29s delivering the final blows in the Pacific. Independence recognized that the skies demanded their own service. The Berlin Airlift of 1948–1949 demonstrated humanitarian airpower, with C-47s and C-54s sustaining a blockaded city.

Korea introduced jet combat with F-86 Sabres dueling MiGs; **Vietnam** refined close air support, strategic bombing, and air mobility amid dense jungles. **The Gulf War's** “Highway of Death” showcased precision-guided munitions, stealth technology like the F-117, and overwhelming air dominance that paralyzed

Continued on Page 18

tenemy forces. **Post-9/11 operations in Afghanistan and Iraq** combined global reach with drone surveillance, rapid strike capabilities, and intelligence integration.

Today, the Air Force dominates the skies with advanced fighters like the F-35 and F-22, bombers, tankers, and satellites, while supporting space operations and delivering aid worldwide. Airmen innovate at the edge of technology—from supersonic flight breakthroughs like Chuck Yeager’s X-1 in 1947 to hypersonic weapons and cyber defense—training the next generation to soar higher.

From biplanes in the **Signal Corps** to global strike commands, the Air Force has commanded the vertical dimension of warfare and peace, evolving through every conflict while pioneering aviation milestones. We stand in awe of the United States Air Force’s pioneering legacy and extend our deepest gratitude for their guardianship of the skies. ***With hopeful hearts, we trust their continued excellence will keep America strong and free for generations to come.***



United States Space Force

December 20, 2019

Motto: Semper Supra (Always Above)

On December 20, 2019, the **National Defense Authorization Act** created the **United States Space Force**—the first new armed service branch in 73 years—recognizing space as a warfighting domain amid rising global threats. Born from the **Air Force Space Command** (established 1982), the Space Force inherited decades of heritage: the 1950s space race, Cold War missile warning systems, GPS development in the 1970s–1980s, and satellite constellations that revolutionized navigation, communication, and intelligence. Pioneers like General Bernard Schriever laid foundations for intercontinental ballistic missiles and early satellites.

Guardians now protect America’s interests “in, from, and to space.” They track orbital debris, deter adversaries with resilient satellite networks, ensure GPS III accuracy for civilian and military use, and support joint forces on Earth. From launching national security payloads on Falcon Heavy rockets to defending against anti-satellite weapons, the Space Force operates at the final frontier—quietly safeguarding technologies that power daily life, from weather forecasting to precision strikes.

Reestablishment of U.S. Space Command in 2019 underscored the need for focused leadership. Though young, its mission is ancient in spirit: to explore, defend, and secure the high ground. With a growing budget for next-generation systems like Space Based Infrared, the Space Force blends cutting-edge innovation with timeless duty, training Guardians at places like the **U.S. Air Force Academy** while partnering internationally.

The United States Space Force stands vigilant above us all, blending cutting-edge innovation with timeless duty. ***We are profoundly grateful for the United States Space Force’s bold new chapter and remain hopeful their watchful presence will guide humanity toward a safer, more united future among the stars. United in pride and patriotism, we celebrate their service to the enduring American dream.***

And now dear friends, as we look forward to the dust finally settling over the Zagros Mountains and our warriors returning home, we’re reminded once again that the spirit which built this nation still burns bright. The daring rescue of our airmen in Operation Epic Fury was not an isolated miracle — it was the latest chapter in a 250-year legacy of courage, sacrifice, and unbreakable resolve written by the soldiers, sailors, Marines, airmen, Coast Guardsmen, and Guardians--of our six Armed Forces.

From the frozen trenches of Valley Forge to the vast reaches of space, each branch has carried the torch of liberty through our darkest hours and greatest triumphs. They have defended our borders, preserved our union, and stood as beacons of hope for the world.

Today, as we celebrate America’s 250th year as a free nation, we stand in awe of the extraordinary privilege we share — to live in the land they defended, to raise our children under the flag they protected, and to breathe the air of liberty they secured with their lives.

May our hearts overflow with gratitude. May our eyes fill with patriotic tears. And may we forever honor those who came before us by living lives worthy of their sacrifice.

God bless our Armed Forces. God bless America. 



Contest Calendar - May 2026

+ NCCC FT4 Sprint	0100Z-0130Z, May 1
+ Weekly RTTY Test	0145Z-0215Z, May 1
+ NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, May 1
+ AGCW QRP/QRP Party	1300Z-1900Z, May 1
+ K1USN Slow Speed Test	2000Z-2100Z, May 1
+ RCC Cup	0300Z-0859Z, May 2
+ SBMS 2.3 GHz and Up Contest and Club Challenge	0600 local, May 2 to 2359 local, May 3
+ Microwave Spring Sprint	0800-1400 local, May 2
+ ARI International DX Contest	1200Z, May 2 to 1159Z, May 3
+ F9AA Cup, PSK	1200Z, May 2 to 1200Z, May 3
+ 7th Call Area QSO Party	1300Z, May 2 to 0700Z, May 3
+ Indiana QSO Party	1500Z, May 2 to 0300Z, May 3
+ Delaware QSO Party	1700Z, May 2 to 2359Z, May 3
+ New England QSO Party	2000Z, May 2 to 0500Z, May 3 and 1300Z-2400Z, May 3
+ WAB 7 MHz Phone	1000Z-1400Z, May 3
+ K1USN Slow Speed Test	0000Z-0100Z, May 4
+ ICWC Medium Speed Test	1300Z-1400Z, May 4
+ OK1WC Memorial (MWC)	1630Z-1729Z, May 4
+ ICWC Medium Speed Test	1900Z-2000Z, May 4
+ MIE 33 Contest	2300Z, May 4 to 0300Z, May 5
+ ARS Spartan Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, May 5
+ Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest	0100Z-0159Z, May 5
+ ICWC Medium Speed Test	0300Z-0400Z, May 5
+ Phone Weekly Test	0230Z-0300Z, May 6
+ A1Club AWT	1145Z-1300Z, May 6
+ CWops Test (CWT)	1300Z-1400Z, May 6
+ VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest	1700Z-2100Z, May 6
+ Mini-Test 40	1700Z-1759Z, May 6

Continued on Page 20



Contest Calendar - May 2026

- + Mini-Test 80
- + CWops Test (CWT)
- + VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest-NA
- + Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest
- + CWops Test (CWT)
- + CWops Test (CWT)
- + NRAU 10m Activity Contest
- + SKCC Sprint Europe
- + NCCC FT4 Sprint
- + Weekly RTTY Test
- + NCCC Sprint
- + K1USN Slow Speed Test
- + Flemish Windmill Contest
- + VOLTA WW RTTY Contest
- + CQ-M International DX Contest
- + SKCC Weekend Sprintathon
- + Canadian Prairies QSO Party
- + 50 MHz Spring Sprint
- + 4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint
- + K1USN Slow Speed Test
- + ICWC Medium Speed Test
- + OK1WC Memorial (MWC)
- + RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB
- + ICWC Medium Speed Test
- + Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest
- 1800Z-1859Z, May 6
- 1900Z-2000Z, May 6
- 0000Z-0500Z, May 7
- 0000Z-0100Z, May 7 and
0200Z-0300Z, May 8
- 0300Z-0400Z, May 7
- 0700Z-0800Z, May 7
- 1700Z-1800Z, May 7 (CW) and
1800Z-1900Z, May 7 (SSB) and
1900Z-2000Z, May 7 (FM) and
2000Z-2100Z, May 7 (Dig)
- 2000Z-2200Z, May 7
- 0100Z-0130Z, May 8
- 0145Z-0215Z, May 8
- 0230Z-0300Z, May 8
- 2000Z-2100Z, May 8
- 0600Z-1000Z, May 9
- 1200Z, May 9 to 1200Z, May 10
- 1200Z, May 9 to 1159Z, May 10
- 1200Z, May 9 to 2400Z, May 10
- 1700Z, May 9 to 0300Z, May 10
- 2300Z, May 9 to 0300Z, May 10
- 0000Z-0200Z, May 11
- 0000Z-0100Z, May 11
- 1300Z-1400Z, May 11
- 1630Z-1729Z, May 11
- 1900Z-2030Z, May 11
- 1900Z-2000Z, May 11
- 0100Z-0159Z, May 12

Continued on Page 21



Contest Calendar - May 2026

+ ICWC Medium Speed Test	0300Z-0400Z, May 12
+ DARC FT4 Contest	1900Z-2029Z, May 12
+ Phone Weekly Test	0230Z-0300Z, May 13
+ A1Club AWT	1145Z-1300Z, May 13
+ CWops Test (CWT)	1300Z-1400Z, May 13
+ VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest	1700Z-2100Z, May 13
+ Mini-Test 40	1700Z-1759Z, May 13
+ Mini-Test 80	1800Z-1859Z, May 13
+ CWops Test (CWT)	1900Z-2000Z, May 13
+ VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest-NA	0000Z-0500Z, May 14
+ CWops Test (CWT)	0300Z-0400Z, May 14
+ CWops Test (CWT)	0700Z-0800Z, May 14
+ QRP Minimal Art Session	1400Z-2200Z, May 14
+ NCCC FT4 Sprint	0100Z-0130Z, May 15
+ Weekly RTTY Test	0145Z-0215Z, May 15
+ NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, May 15
+ K1USN Slow Speed Test	2000Z-2100Z, May 15
+ UN DX Contest	0600Z-2100Z, May 16
+ NZART Sangster Shield Contest	0800Z-1100Z, May 16
+ His Maj. King of Spain Contest, CW	1200Z, May 16 to 1200Z, May 17
+ EU PSK DX Contest	1200Z, May 16 to 1200Z, May 17
+ Arkansas QSO Party	1400Z, May 16 to 0200Z, May 17
+ Feld Hell Sprint	2000Z-2359Z, May 16
+ Baltic Contest	2100Z, May 16 to 0200Z, May 17
+ Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	2300Z, May 17 to 0100Z, May 18
+ K1USN Slow Speed Test	0000Z-0100Z, May 18
+ ICWC Medium Speed Test	1300Z-1400Z, May 18
+ OK1WC Memorial (MWC)	1630Z-1729Z, May 18
+ RSGB FT4 Contest	1900Z-2100Z, May 18

Continued on Page 22



Contest Calendar - May 2026

+ ICWC Medium Speed Test	1900Z-2000Z, May 18
+ Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest	0100Z-0159Z, May 19
+ ICWC Medium Speed Test	0300Z-0400Z, May 19
+ Phone Weekly Test	0230Z-0300Z, May 20
+ A1Club AWT	1145Z-1300Z, May 20
+ CWops Test (CWT)	1300Z-1400Z, May 20
+ VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest	1700Z-2100Z, May 20
+ Mini-Test 40	1700Z-1759Z, May 20
+ Mini-Test 80	1800Z-1859Z, May 20
+ RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data	1900Z-2030Z, May 20
+ CWops Test (CWT)	1900Z-2000Z, May 20
+ VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest-NA	0000Z-0500Z, May 21
+ Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest	0000Z-0100Z, May 21 and 0200Z-0300Z, May 22
+ NAQCC CW Sprint	0030Z-0230Z, May 21
+ CWops Test (CWT)	0300Z-0400Z, May 21
+ CWops Test (CWT)	0700Z-0800Z, May 21
+ NTC QSO Party	1900Z-2000Z, May 21
+ NCCC FT4 Sprint	0100Z-0130Z, May 22
+ Weekly RTTY Test	0145Z-0215Z, May 22
+ NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, May 22
+ K1USN Slow Speed Test	2000Z-2100Z, May 22
+ Real Time Contest	1600Z-2000Z, May 24
+ QRP ARCI Hootowl Sprint	0000Z-0100Z, May 25
+ K1USN Slow Speed Test	0000Z-0100Z, May 25
+ QCX Challenge	1300Z-1400Z, May 25
+ ICWC Medium Speed Test	1300Z-1400Z, May 25
+ OK1WC Memorial (MWC)	1630Z-1729Z, May 25
+ QCX Challenge	1900Z-2000Z, May 25

Continued on Page 23



Contest Calendar - May 2026

+ ICWC Medium Speed Test	1900Z-2000Z, May 25
+ Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest	0100Z-0159Z, May 26
+ QCX Challenge	0300Z-0400Z, May 26
+ ICWC Medium Speed Test	0300Z-0400Z, May 26
+ SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, May 27
+ Phone Weekly Test	0230Z-0300Z, May 27
+ A1Club AWT	1145Z-1300Z, May 27
+ CWops Test (CWT)	1300Z-1400Z, May 27
+ Mini-Test 40	1700Z-1759Z, May 27
+ Mini-Test 80	1800Z-1859Z, May 27
+ CWops Test (CWT)	1900Z-2000Z, May 27
+ CWops Test (CWT)	0300Z-0400Z, May 28
+ CWops Test (CWT)	0700Z-0800Z, May 28
+ RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW	1900Z-2030Z, May 28
+ NCCC FT4 Sprint	0100Z-0130Z, May 29
+ Weekly RTTY Test	0145Z-0215Z, May 29
+ NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, May 29
+ K1USN Slow Speed Test	2000Z-2100Z, May 29
+ CQ WW WPX Contest, CW	0000Z, May 30 to 2359Z, May 31
+ Romanian Diaspora SSB Contest	0500Z-1700Z, May 31

Our thanks to **Bruce Horn, WA7BNM** for use of this calendar
 Visit Bruce at www.contestcalendar.com/contestcal.html

The ARAC RELAY



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